

## Sports

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### St. Albert can't hit Kennedy

*A.L.'s sophomore pitcher freezes Saintes – again*

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Michaela Kennedy had three times the fun Monday against St. Albert.

The Abraham Lincoln sophomore pitcher defeated the Saintes for the third time this season, this time guiding the Lynx to a 3-1 triumph over their city rivals.

It was the first time in three starts that Kennedy allowed a run to the Saintes. She scattered three hits while striking out 13 in the complete-game effort.

"I knew they had some really tough hitters," Kennedy said. "I knew I had to bring my best game. They were going to be coming for us since we'd beaten them twice already. I was just ready to pitch."

A.L. is hoping Kennedy can maintain that kind of dominance the rest of the year. The Lynx have just three regular season games remaining before they open regional play Saturday against Thomas Jefferson.

"If we put it all together, we're going to be tough in the postseason," A.L. coach Pat Kroll said. "We've struggled in some different areas, and Michaela didn't pitch much last year, but if she can stay strong, we're going to be tough."

The Lynx gave Kennedy all the support she would need in the first inning. Taylor Anderson and Kristin Burhenne singled and advanced to second and third on a wild pitch. Chelsea Acosta's sacrifice fly scored Anderson, and a Lauren Rommel single plated Burhenne for a 2-0 A.L. advantage.

St. Albert cut the lead to one in its half of the first when Heather Campbell scored on a double steal, but Rommel added a key insurance run for the Lynx with her two-out solo homer in the third for a 3-1 lead.

From there, Kennedy took care of the rest.

"She had some big strikeouts at some key times," Kroll said. "Offensively, we weren't as tough tonight. But Rommel gave us that home-run insurance, and that was really big."

St. Albert, meanwhile, will now prepare for its regional opener Wednesday night against Stanton. It is believed to be the first postseason game in school history the Saintes will host.

"We're lucky we're hosting that district game because we've never, ever done it before," St. Albert coach Melissa Fidone said. "We get to come back on our home field again."

"We've seen Stanton play a couple times, and I think we match up really well with them."

St. Albert seniors Felicia Campbell and Becca Liston were honored before Monday's contest in their final regular-season game.

Liston reached base twice, and Campbell threw a complete game in the circle and also had one of the Saintes' three hits.

"I came into this program four years ago, and (Campbell) has pitched every single inning for me from that day," Fidone said. "Becca has worked her way up in this system and can play any position. She never second-guesses anything I tell her, and she's just a great kid."

Abraham Lincoln (13-18) 201 000 0 – 3 7 1

St. Albert (10-16) 100 000 0 – 1 3 0

W: Michaela Kennedy. L: Felicia Campbell.

HR: AL, Lauren Rommel.

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