

# Healdsburg Prune Packers record now at 18-7 after strong wins

By Gus A. Morris Special to the Tribune | Posted: Wednesday, July 1, 2015 4:05 pm

The Healdsburg Prune Packers' offense came alive once again to score nine or more runs for the third consecutive game, powering them past the Auburn Wildcats 10-5 on June 26. After having their 10-game win streak snapped last by the Menlo Park Legends, the Packers scored 29 runs in three games.

Against Auburn, Healdsburg struck first and never looked back. They scored two runs in the bottom of the third courtesy of a Jake Scheiner sacrifice fly and an Anthony Bender double. The Packers then struck for three more runs in the bottom of the fourth off a costly error by the Wildcats. Dane Erbst drew a leadoff walk, then stole second. Kenny Corey followed that up with another walk before Troy Andersen reached second on an error that would score Erbst and allow Corey to advance to third, making the game 3-0. Corey would then score on an RBI single by Marcus Still, and a Matt LoCoco sac-fly would bring Andersen in, pushing the lead to 5-0.

The Packers would push two more runs across in the bottom of the fifth, before Auburn staged a short-lived rally. The Wildcats plated three runs in the top of the sixth, bringing an end to a stellar outing by Healdsburg starter Grant Gunning

Gunning went five and two-thirds innings of work, giving up three runs and striking out five along the way. The Wildcats would score two more runs in the game, one in the seventh and one in the ninth, but Healdsburg responded every time.

The Packers brought in solo runs in the sixth, seventh and eighth inning, stomping out any momentum that the Wildcats had created. Vijay Patel and Nick Viola finished the game out for the Packers, combining for three and a third innings in relief to seal the victory.

At press time, Healdsburg stood at 18-7, good enough for third place in the Don McCollough Division.



## Packer power

Pitcher Jerad Hawkins and batter Dan James show off why the Prune Packers are having a strong season.