

2A: Fastpitch: Another Year, Another District Title for North Mason

By Annette Griffus
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Larry Steagall | Kitsap Sun North Mason pitcher [Katelyn Stanley pitched back-to-back shutouts](#) Saturday as the Bulldogs won the Class 2A Wests Central District championship at Sprinker Recreation Center in Spanaway.

- SPANAWAY

Winning the West Central District title, whether at the Class 3A or 2A level, has almost become a habit for the North Mason Bulldogs.

The team from Belfair won its sixth tournament title with a 2-0 win over Fife at Sprinker Recreation Center on Saturday and advanced to the Class 2A state tournament in Selah next week as a No. 1 seed.

But does it ever get old?

"Oh no, it just gets better every year," said NM catcher Anna Heitstuman, who caught all 14 innings of two wins Saturday. "The feeling of winning and being with the girls doesn't ever change. It feels so good."

It's the ninth straight tournament appearance for the defending state-champion Bulldogs.

NM's [Katelyn Stanley](#) pitched a no-hitter in the Bulldogs' opener, a 2-0 win over Steilacoom. Stanley struck out seven and walked one against the Sentinels.

In the championship game, Stanley limited Fife to just four hits and struck out six.

"She loves the heat, she does so good," Heitstuman said. "It's incredible what she does and how she does it. She just impresses me everyday."

Heitstuman gave the Bulldogs (18-4) a 1-0 lead in the second, when her triple off Fife's Kristina Stadelman scored Cristy Norcross, who reached on a walk.

Freshman Alyssa Jensen followed with a sacrifice fly to center to bring home Heitstuman. That was all the run support that Stanley, who plans to play at Odessa Junior College in Texas next year, would need.

"Katie did a fabulous job," Grande said. "So that's definitely a testimonial to her pitching and great defense behind her."

NM turned two double plays against Fife.

North Mason 2, Steilacoom 0

Steilacoom 000 000 0—0 0 x

North Mason 000 200 x—2 x x

Beth Kassuhn, Marki Creger-Zier (4) and Mueller; Katelyn Stanley and Anna Heitstuman. **W**—Stanley. **L**—Kassuhn.

Leading hitters—Ste: None. **NM**: Cristy Norcross 1-3, Jennifer Hupper 1-2.

North Mason 2, Fife 0

Fife 000 000 0—0 4 2

North Mason 020 000 x—2 4 1

Kristina Stadelman and Kirsten Schumacher. Katelyn Stanley and Anna Heitstuman. **W**—Stanley. **L**—Stadelman.