

**LONESTAR LITTLE LEAGUE**

A NEW MUSICAL

BY

KITTY BELETIC

c 1994 Shoebox Theatre  
2015 Old Orchard Drive  
Dallas, Texas 75208  
469-865-3753

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# LONE STAR LITTLE LEAGUE

## CHARACTERS

David Taylor - Star baseball player/Bobcats  
Michael Nash- Bottom of the batting order/LoneStars  
Ed Jones- LoneStar coach  
Bob Sanders- Bobcat coach  
"Frankie" - Umpire  
Celia Nash - Michael's mom  
Trudy Taylor - David's mom  
Harvey Franklin - LIFE magazine reporter  
Bobcats & LoneStars & "Baseball Crowd" - Chorus

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT I

"BATTER UP" - COMPANY  
"WHO IS THAT KID?" - COMPANY  
"IF YOU HAD A KID LIKE MINE" - CELIA & TRUDY  
"I MAKE THE RULES" - FRANKIE, COACHES

### ACT II

"BE A WINNER" and Reprisal - COACHES  
"STEPPING IN THE BUCKET" - COMPANY  
"THE OLD BALLGAME" - MICHAEL  
"WHO IS THAT KID?" - REPRISAL - COMPANY

**TIME:** Present

**PLACE:** Blink, Tx...a small town, rich in the tradition of baseball

### **NOTE FROM PLAYWRIGHT:**

Although it is a game, in many ways baseball is like life. There are times when the breaks are in your favor. Then there are times when the play of the game goes against you. A player who tries hard regardless of the score is developing good habits which will serve him well on and off the field. "Lone Star Little League" is a story based on two real-life friends, who, through playing baseball, discover what it takes to succeed.

### **DEDICATION:**

To Brian and Tom...baseball buddies and friends for life...

**ACT I**

**Scene I - The Strikeout**

**SETTING:** Baseball field

**AT RISE:** Entire town has turned out for game. Concession stand, bleachers, people with coolers...all are there to cheer respective teams. Lights are black as **STAR SPANGLED BANNER** begins.

(Lights up. Fans and teams stand with hand of heart, singing)

**ALL**

**OH SAY DOES THAT STAR SPANGLED BANNER YET WAVE  
O'ER THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE**

(Crowd cheers)

**FRANKIE**

Play ball!

(All freeze, except Harve, who comes centerstage to deliver monologue)

**HARVE**

If you know anything about baseball, you know that there are many ways to win the game. It's a sport as rich in tradition as America itself. A story about baseball, I thought....Little League would be good. Oh, I'm sorry, I've forgotten to introduce myself.

(Walks downstage to audience member. Hands his card and shakes hands)

**HARVE (Continued)**

I'm Harvey Franklin. I work for LIFE magazine and when Sal, my editor said, "Harve, I need a story. Something for families to read. Something meaty, Harve. I know you can find it."

(Walks, thinking)

**HARVE**

A story about baseball, I thought...Little League would be good. So I called around and found this

**(Points to field)**

**HARVE (Continued)**

They told me to come to Blink, Texas. They told me not to blink as I drove through it...or I might miss it. So here I am. It's bottom of the 7th, two people on base and the batter has a full count. Let's see what happens next....

**(Music cue. Turns to watch the action)**

**SONG - "BATTER UP" - COMPANY**

**BATTER UP BATTER UP LET'S PLAY BASEBALL  
PITCHER CATCHER FLY DISPATCHER I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR  
BATTER UP**

**BATTER UP BATTER UP EV'RY BODY  
TAKE YOUR PLACES STACK YOUR ACES RUN AROUND THE BASES  
BATTER UP**

**BATTER UP BATTER UP LET'S PLAY BASEBALL  
IN THE OUTFIELD OUT THE INFIELD GOT TO KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED  
BATTER UP**

**BATTER UP BATTER UP I LOVE BASEBALL  
READY FOR THE WIND-UP PITCH IT HAPPENS WHEN THE UMP YELLS  
BATTER UP**

**BATTER UP BATTER UP**

**FRANKIE**

**BATTER UP!**

**(Action begins. Crowd yelling, general noise as pitcher winds up, pitches, batter hits ball and gets to first base as all runners advance. Bases are now loaded. There is a cheer from the LoneStar fans and team)**

**ED**

Hey Michael! Yer up. Come on, guy. Get out there!

**FANS**

**(General mumbling and discussion among themselves.  
UMPIRE signals Freeze)**

**HARVE**

Well now, I need to give you a little more information. The team in yellow and black is known as the Bobcats. The catcher's Dad is sponsoring them. He is also the coach. Thus, the bee-you-tiful uniforms. They're ahead in this game. The team that's up, is called the LoneStars. They're sponsoring themselves. Thus, the bee-you-tiful T-shirts. They're two runs behind, but have a chance to catch up and win if this next batter...

**(HE looks at MICHAEL warming up)**

**HARVE (Continued)**

...his name is Michael Nash, can bring `em in. Michael's new on the team. The fact is, he wouldn't even be on it, if there had been any competition. He's got a lot of heart, though, and ya know, folks, sometimes heart can carry you a long way. A story about baseball? Oh, I found one all right. I think Sal's gonna like this one. I think you will, too...

**(Music cue. "Batter Up" underscores action. Lots of crowd noise. MICHAEL steps up to the plate. COACH JONES is encouraging. 1st pitch...MICHAEL swings and misses by a mile. FANS groan and cheer respectively. More encouragement from ED. 2nd pitch... MICHAEL swings way up high and misses. FANS groan and cheer respectively. Silence as the 3rd pitch is tossed. MICHAEL swings at the last minute and misses. BOBCATS cheer and LONESTARS groan. FAN from the Bobcat bench yells unkindly...)**

**BOBCAT FAN**

Who IS that kid?!!

.....

**ACT II**

**SCENE II - THE LOCKER ROOM**

**SETTING:** Baseball field

**AT RISE:** ED is laying bases, setting up for tournament. Enter BOB.

**BOB**

There you are, Ed. I've been calling all over town looking for you.

**ED**

I'm surprised you found me. I'm right where I'm supposed to be.

**BOB**

We haven't gone over these tournament rules yet, Ed. I called the Commissioner to tell him I wanted to have a breakfast meeting, you know, to go over the absolutes, make sure we're all on the same page before the game. His wife said he's recuperating from a migraine after our last meeting. That man should see a doctor...

**ED**

He's not the only one...

**BOB**

Anyway, who needs him. We're the IMPORTANT people in this game, aren't we, Ed?

**ED**

(Says nothing)

**BOB**

I brought the standard book of rules, just as a reference and then I did some spread sheets on statistics throughout the past 5 years for us...

ED

(Interrupting)

Bob....

BOB

...to look at. I thought you might take some notes while I review the stats starting from last year and working my way back...

ED

Bob!!

BOB

(Stops talking. Stares at ED in amazement)

ED

We're not doing it this year, Bob.

BOB

Not doing what?

ED

We're not reviewing any stats, we're not checking any rules, we're not standardizing ANYTHING! We're just going to get ready for the game.

BOB

Ed!!! What's the matter? We ALWAYS do this. It's standard operating procedure before the big game...it's part of the...

ED

It's YOUR tradition, Bob. And this year, we're doing something different. We're going to set up the field, we're going to SHARE that responsibility instead of me doing it all by myself, and we're going to talk about how great it will be to watch those kids ENJOY themselves playing baseball!

**BOB**

**Well.....sure, Ed.....Of course we share the responsibility and the kids always enjoy themselves.....I just need to prime the air a bit, Ed. You know, get that old adrenaline going with stats and rules and....**

**ED**

**Bob....don't you get it? This isn't about statistics and rules. It's about working towards a goal and developing skills that carry over into all parts of life and it's about....**

**BOB**

**...You're RIGHT, Ed! It's all about setting a goal and meeting it. Yes! It's about deciding to win, and then doing everything you can to make sure you do.**

**ED**

**That's not what I meant, Bob.**

**BOB**

**Of COURSE!!! You've hit the old nail on the head, Ed. Of course it's all about winning....because as we all know, those of us who have the passion, the drive.....WINNING IS EVERYTHING!**

**SONG - BE A WINNER/BOB & ED**

**BOB**

**WHEN YOU'VE BEEN A WINNER ALL YOUR LIFE  
YOU BECOME AN EXPERT AN EXAMPLE TO BE LIKE  
ASK ME HOW I KNOW ALL THERE IS TO KNOW**

**THE MOST IMPORTANT INGREDIENT TO BE A WINNER  
IS THAT A PERSON DECIDE HE IS GOING TO WIN!  
IT TAKES AN A-NUMBER ONE PERSON TO BE A WINNER  
YOU MUST BE WILLING TO FIGHT YOU MUST NEVER GIVE IN**

**SONG - BE A WINNER (Continued)**

**ED**

**I THINK YOU'RE MISSING THE POINT OF THIS WHOLE SITUATION  
ALTHOUGH I CANNOT DENY THAT IT FEELS GOOD TO WIN  
HAVE SOME OTHER IDEAS FOR CONSIDERATION  
IF YOU WILL LISTEN I'LL LIST THEM FOR YOU TO TAKE IN**

**BOB**

**(Spoken over music)**

**Oh Ed, everyone who's been a winner has felt the fire light in his very SOUL as he steps up to home plate. Reaching down deep inside himself he can understand that when he raises that bat to his shoulder, the only real thing to do is to knock the SNOT OUT OF THAT BALL, RUN AROUND THOSE BASES TRAMPLING EVERYONE IN SIGHT AND SLIIIIIDE INTO HOME PLATE, I DON'T CARE IF THE CATCHER DOES GET IN THE WAY.....STEP ON HIS NECK!!!!**

**(Sings)**

**AND AS THE CROWD STARTS TO SHOUT BOB! YOU ARE THE WINNER  
YOU KNOW YOU DID IT BECAUSE YOU DECIDED TO WIN  
AND THOUGH YOU SCRAPED AND YOU CLAWED ALL THE WAY FROM  
BEGINNER  
YOU LEARNED ITS EASY TO FIGHT IF YOU NEVER GIVE IN  
THE ONLY WAY TO BEHAVE IS TO WIN!**

**(Exit BOB in a flourish...ED watches him leave)**

**ED**

**Poor Bob...**

**SONG - BE A WINNER/ED - REPRISAL**

**HOW DO YOU GROW IF YOU ALREADY KNOW  
LEARNING TO WIN CAN BE PAINFULLY SLOW**

**THE MOST IMPORTANT INGREDIENT TO BE A WINNER  
IS KNOWING WHEN TO GIVE OUT KNOWING WHEN TO GIVE IN  
IT TAKES AN A-NUMBER ONE PERSON TO BE A WINNER  
AND THAT TAKES PRACTICE AND HEART AND SOME REAL DISCIPLINE**

**YOU GIVE YOUR BEST WHEN YOU'RE LEARNING TO WIN!**

**BLACKOUT**

