

Chris Davis follows through as he belts a single during the Norton K-18's 13-4 win over Plainville here on Tuesday evening. Davis went 2 for 3 at the plate in the game. Norton also won the opener of the doubleheader by a 5-0 score.

# K-18 team wins doubleheader

### By DICK BOYD

The Norton K-18 baseball team avenged a doubleheader loss to the Cardinals on June 22 when they defeated Plainville in a doubleheader on Tuesday at John Ryan Field in Norton.

Norton won the opener 5-0, then

blasted the Cardinals 13-4 in the

#### First Game

Norton scored its first run in the bottom of the first when Todd Bolt singled, Logan Keiswetter and Todd Zink both doubled and Keiswetter scored.

The Blue Jays added two more in the bottom of the second when Aaron Daniels was hit by a pitch, Pat Burton singled and Daniels and Burton came home.

The final two Norton runs came in the bottom of the third when Bolt walked, Keiswetter singled, Zink doubled, Blake Wolf singled and Bolt and Keiswetter scored.

Chris Davis was the winning pitcher. He scattered four hits, struck out four and did not walk a single batter.

The losing pitcher was Brungardt. He gave up seven hits, walked two and did not strike out any batters.

Leading hitters for Norton were Zink and Keiswetter. Zink blasted two doubles in two times at bat and Keiswetter hit a double and single in two times at the plate.

#### **Second Game**

top of the first on five hits. Norton David Counter and Dole walked; scored just one in the bottom of the first to trail 3-1.

Keiswetter singled and Zink doubled him home.

one in the top of the second to make it 4-1. The Blue Jays added six of their

own in the bottom of the inning to take a 7-4 advantage. Travis Ray walked; Daniels

singled; Burton walked; Zach Dole walked; Davis and Bolt both singled; and Ray, Daniels, Burton, Dole, Davis and Bolt all scored.

Plainville was held scoreless the rest of the game and Norton added five more runs in the bottom of the third and one in the fourth.

In the third, Blake Wolf and Plainville took a 3-0 lead in the Daniels both singled; Burton, Davis and Bolt both singled and Keiswetter doubled. Wolf, Burton, Counter, Dole and Davis scored.

In the bottom of the fourth, Zink Plainville added to its lead with walked and scored Norton's last run. Plainville's scoreless top of the fifth made the final 13-4 in favor of Norton.

Keiswetter was the winning pitcher. He gave up ten hits, struck out four and walked one.

The losing pitcher was Dix. He gave up 10 hits, walked nine and struck out just two. Leading hitters for Norton were

Davis, Bolt, Keiswetter and Daniels. All went two for three at the plate. All hit singles except for Keiswetter's double in the third.

# K-18 baseball team begins post-season play today

The Norton K-18 baseball team will begin post-season play to- day and Sunday will depend upon night in Stockton in the Sub-Regional Tournament.

Norton is the No. 4 seeded team from the north and will play will advance to the Regional Tour-Russell, the No. 1 seeded team nament next Friday, Saturday and

Game time for Norton on Saturtoday's results in the double-elimination tourney.

The top five teams in the tourney from the south, in a 6 p.m. game. Sunday in Smith Center.

# Hitting troubles give Legion two losses

## By DICK BOYD

The Norton American Legion baseball team had trouble hitting on Tuesday evening in Plainville

and the result was two losses. First game

The Blue Jays had only two hits in the first game and no runs as Plainville blanked them 9-0.

The Cardinals scored one run in the bottom of the first inning, one in the bottom of the second, four in the bottom of the third and three in the bottom of the fourth.

Nuss. He walked no batters and struck out eight.

Bailey. He gave up nine hits, to take a 4-3 lead. The Cardinals plate.

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#### out three. Second game

of the first inning when leadoff hitter Josh Green walked and scored. Plainville tied the score at 1-all in the bottom of the inning.

Neither team scored in the second inning. Norton scored two runs in the top of the third stanza. He gave up seven Norton hits, Green singled, Denton Bailey doubled him home, David Schlegel singled and Drove in Winning pitcher was Kendall Bailey. McChesney doubled but He gave up seven hits, walked four

died on base and Norton led 3-1. Plainville scored three runs in Losing pitcher was Denton the bottom of the third, however, for Norton. He went 2 for 3 at the

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walked just one batter and struck added another run in the bottom of the fourth stanza to make it 5-3.

The Blue Jays added another run Norton took a 1-0 lead in the top of the fifth inning to make it 5-4. Schlegel singled and

> Plainville scored eight more runs in the fifth inning to make the

walked three batters and struck out

Schlegel was the losing pitcher.

was driven home on a hit by Look.

final 13-4. Garcia was the winning pitcher.

and struck out six batters. Schlegel was the leading batter By DICK BOYD

The Norton American Legion baseball team defeated Stockton in a weather-delayed finish of a

game played July 5 in Stockton and lost two close games to the Tigers at John Ryan Field in Norton on Monday.

#### **Broke tie to beat Stockton**

doubleheader at Stockton. The Blue Jays lost 5-4 in the opener. The nightcap was tied 9-all at the end of regulation but the contest did not go into extra innings due to inclement weather. The game was completed Monday night and Norton won 12-9 in three extra

Kai Mann walked to start the bottom of the tenth inning. Leadoff batter Josh Green singled and Dan Roeder singled to drive in Mann. David Schlegel singled and Brock McChesney doubled to drive in Green and Schlegel to give Norton the 12-9 win.

Roeder was the winning pitcher. He gave up three hits, walked two batters and struck out three.

B. Kriley was the losing pitcher. he gave up five hits, walked two batters and struck out four. None of the Norton players had more than one hit. McChesney's double was the only extra-bases hit by a

#### **Second Game**

Legion team battles Stockton

In the first full game of the evening, Norton lost 4-3. Stockton scored in the top of the second inning and Norton tied it at 1-all in 2. the bottom of the second when Schlegel walked and scored when Korey Look doubled.

Stockton added two more runs On July 5, Norton played a in the top of the third and Norton added one run in the bottom of the stanza to make the score 3-2. Josh Green singled, Denton Bailey got on base via an error, Roeder walked and McChesney got on base via an error. Green was the only Norton player to score.

Norton tied the score at 3-all in the bottom of the fourth inning when Jared Mindrup walked and Kai Mann batted him home. Stockton scored the winning run

in the top of the fifth inning when C. Kriley belted a home run. Norton had players on base in the bottom of the sixth and seventh innings but couldn't get any of them home. Winning pitcher was B. Kriley.

He gave up three Norton hits, walked six and struck out six bat-Roeder was the losing pitcher.

He gave up four hits, walked four and struck out six batters in five innings. He was relieved by Tyler Rutherford who gave up two hits, times in three times at bat.

walked none and struck out four batters in two innings.

### **Third Contest**

In the nightcap, Stockton won 6-

Norton scored first in the game. The Blue Jays took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the second inning when Roeder blasted a home run over the center field fence!

Stockton tied the score at 1-all with a run in the top of the third. The Tigers tallied three more

runs in the top of the fourth to make the score 4-1. One Norton run in the bottom of

doubled and Schlegel singled him Two more runs by Stockton in the top of the fifth went unanswered by Norton in the bottom of

the fourth made it 4-2. Roeder

the fifth and Stockton took the 6-Winning pitcher was Stithem. He gave up eight Norton hits, walked one batter and struck out

Rutherford was the losing pitcher. He gave up five hits, walked three batters and struck out

Leading hitters for Norton were Roeder and Rutherford, Roeder hit a home run and double in two times at bat. Rutherford hit two

## Legion team loses to Holdrege By DICK BOYD He relieved Rutherford and

The Norton American Legion baseball team played their final regular season game on Wednesday against an outstanding Holdrege, Neb. team and lost a hard-fought 9-5 contest.

Holdrege took an early lead with one run in each of the first two innings. Norton took a 3-2 advantage in the top of the third inning when Tom Graham, Denton Bailey and Josh Green singled, Eric Burton and Tyler Rutherford walked and Bailey, Green and Burton scored.

Holdrege tied the score at 3-all with one run in the bottom of the

Norton regained the lead with two runs in the top of the fifth inning. Burton singled and stole second. Rutherford got on base via a fielder's choice as Burton came home. Dan Roeder singled and Rutherford scored.

Holdrege came right back in the bottom of the fifth stanza to score one run and cut Norton's lead to 5- left us with many wins, but we feel and Sun., July 22-25 in Colby.

The Blue Jays were unable to score the rest of the nine innings but Holdrege tallied twice in the bottom of the sixth inning, twice in the bottom of the seventh and once in the bottom of the eighth to make the final score 9-5.

J. Grimm was the winning pitcher. He allowed eight Norton hits, walked four batters and struck out nine.

Rutherford pitched four innings for Norton. He gave up five hits, walked three batters and struck out one. Bailey was the losing pitcher.



pitched three innings. He gave up four hits, walked three and struck out two. Roeder relieved him in the final inning. He gave up one hit, walked one and struck out

Norton. He went 2 for 3 from the plate. Bailey was 2 for 4 and Green "We've struggled offensively the last several weeks," said

Norton Coach Brandon Gay. "Our pitching has remained strong all season, but our hitters haven't been hitting as well as they can. Fortunately, the bats are starting to come around. Several guys started coming out of slumps in the last game with Plainville and then we hit the ball well at Holdrege. "We played very well early in

the season against some tough teams, but not always quite well enough to beat them and then we struggled later in the season against easier teams. That hasn't

good about where we are heading into the Zone Tournament. Our pitching will keep us competitive and the hitters are coming around.

"Holdrege was good practice for the Zone Tournament. They have a 32-14 record and have been Burton was leading hitter for beating teams like Kearney and Hays, so they're tough. "The Holdrege game was the

first time all season we've been able to put almost the entire team on the field. Jared Foley is still recovering from his shoulder injury, but he's able to play. Brock McChesney has a finger injury that is painful and requires two fingers to be taped together. he can't get a good grip on the bat or ball, but he's a tough kid and he's going to play. We also got Eric Burton back from an illness. For those reasons and the players' other activities, we've been short-handed all season.

### **NEXTACTION**

The Norton American Legion's next games will be in the post-season Zone Tournament on Thurs., Fri., Sat.

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