Friday, June 16, 2006

Norton Legion opens season splitting with Phillipsburg

By DICK BOYD

The Norton American Legion baseball team opened the 2006 season by splitting a doubleheader with Phillipsburg in Norton on Thursday, June 8, then losing three close games in the Goodland Tournament last Saturday and Sunday. This year's head coach is Joe

Durham. Assistant coach is Chris Bailev. Team members are Chris Davis,

Pat Burton, Aaron Daniels, Denton Bailey, Logan Keiswetter, Todd Zink, Jordan Durham, Andy Horesky, Jared Mindrup, Nate Morse, Blake Wolf and Brian Urban.

Games with Phillipsburg

In the season opener with Phillipsburg, Norton lost 6-0.

The visiting Panthers tallied two runs in the first inning, one in the third and fourth innings and two in the fifth inning.

Norton had just three hits. Zink, Mindrup and Wolf each went 1-2 at the plate. Winning pitcher was T. Willer.

Losing pitcher was Davis, who allowed eight hits and walked eight batters.

In the nightcap, the Blue Jay bats were more active as Norton pounded out 16 hits to win 8-4.

Norton took a 2-0 lead in the second inning when Durham singled and Davis walked and both scored. Wolf singled and Daniels doubled but neither made it past third base.

In the third inning, Norton added one more run when Keiswetter singled, Zink walked and Mindrup singled and Keiswetter scored.

In the top of the fifth, Phillipsburg scored their first two runs of the game. Norton answered with four runs in the bottom of the inning. Mindrup and Bailey doubled, Davis tripled, Wolf singled, Ulmer doubled and Daniels tripled. Bailey, Davis, Wolf and Ulmer scored to extend Norton's advantage to 7-2.

One final run in the bottom of the sixth made it an 8-2 contest. Zink tripled and Mindrup singled and scored.

it was too little, too late and Norton and Wolf was 2-3. won 8-4.

least one hit. Daniels was a perfect up just nine hits and walked six 4-4 at the plate and Mindrup was batters. 3-4. Keiswetter and Wolf were both 2-3.

test to Goodland.

3.

the bottom of the second inning. Norton tied the score at 2-all in the top of the third stanza. Morse, Mindrup, Daniels, Keiswetter and Burton all singled. Morse and Daniels both scored.

The Blue Jays moved ahead 4-2 in the top of the fourth. Durham, Wolf and Mindrup singled. Durham and Wolf both scored.

Goodland tallied one run in the

In the top of the fifth, Norton scored to extend the Blue Jay lead to 5-3.

Goodland rallied in the bottom of the fifth with two runs to tie the score at 5-all and send it into extra innings.

again. Goodland won the game in the bottom of the seventh with one run to make the final score 6-5.

Norton had 11 hits in the game; each player had at least one hit. Going 2-3 at the plate was Mindrup, followed by Daniels, 2-4.

T. Elder was the winning pitcher. Mindrup was the losing hurler. He allowed only six hits and gave up seven walks.

Next in the tournament, Norton lost a 7-5 contest to Imperial, Neb. Neither team scored in the first inning but both tallied one run in accurate. The Blue Jays recorded the second inning. Wolf and Daniels both singled and Keiswetter doubled and Wolf 2-4; Bailey, 3-3; Wolf, 2-3; Ulmer, came home in the bottom of the 2-3. inning.

scored five runs on five hits. In the bottom of the inning, the Blue Jays tallied four runs to make it a 6-5 game. Burton walked, Zink, Davis and Durham singled. Wolf and Daniels both doubled. Burton, Davis, Durham and Wolf all scored.

One more run came in for Imperial in the top of the fourth to make the score 7-5. Neither team scored again and the tally remained Imperial, 7; Norton, 5.

Again, Norton hitters were ac-In the top of the seventh, the tive. The Blue Jays had 10 hits.

Winning pitcher was E. Bartels Every Norton player recorded at and the loser was Davis. He gave our guys showed."

tripled him home, Mindrup The Cowboys took a 2-0 lead in doubled and Bailey singled to drive Mindrup home.

Neither team scored in the second inning. The Blue Jays extended their lead to 4-0 in the top of the third stanza. Daniels singled and Keiswetter tripled him home. Keiswetter scored when Mindrup hit a fly ball. Bailey and Davis both singled in the inning but did not score.

Scott City scored their first two bottom of the fourth to make it 4- runs in the bottom of the third inning

The top of the fourth saw Norton added one more run when Zink tally two more runs to take a 6-2 singled and Davis doubled and lead. Wolf singled and Ulmer tripled him home. Daniels singled to bring Ulmer across home plate.

Scott City had a big bottom of the fourth inning when they tallied six runs to take an 8-6 advantage.

The Blue Jays scored three runs Norton was unable to score in the top of the fifth inning to take a 9-8 lead. Bailey singled, Zink walked when he was hit by a pitch, Wolf singled and Ulmer tripled. Bailey, Zink and Wolf scored.

> Scott City tied the score at 9-all in the bottom of the inning.

Norton was unable to score in the top of the sixth inning. Scott City's G. Geyer led off in the bottom of the sixth and tripled to left field. C. Ames came up next and hit into left field to drive Geyer home with the winning run.

Once again, Norton hitters were 14 hits in the game. Leading hitters were Daniels, 3-4; Keiswetter,

Keiswetter was the losing In the top of the third, Imperial pitcher. He gave up 10 hits and walked just five batters.

> J. Geyer was the winning pitcher.

"We played some of the best ball you have ever seen in the Goodland tournament," said coach Durham. "We lost three games by a total of four runs. Two of the games went into extra innings and we lost by just one point in each.

"We had only 10 players on Saturday.

"Two of the teams we lost to have high school baseball so they Panthers added two more runs but Daniels was 2-4. Burton was 2-2 have already played a lot more games.

"I was very proud of the effor

Next action



Breyer Simmons slides in safe at home plate to score for Norton's K-18 team in the first game against Smith Center on Tuesday. Telegram photo by Charlotte Stephenson

K-18 team splits with Smith Center

By DICK BOYD

Norton's K-18 baseball team split a doubleheader at Smith Center on Tuesday evening. In the opener, the Blue Jays de-

feated the Redmen 18-6 but, in the nightcap, they lost 15-5.

Defeated Smith Center

Norton scored three runs in the opening stanza of the first game. Terrell Lane walked, Spencer Shirk singled to right field, Zach Bainter doubled to left field and all scored.

Smith Center tallied once in the first inning to make it 3-1.

Two more runs by Norton in the top of the second extended the Norton lead to 5-1. Breyer Simmons singled, Dakota Dreyer Leading hitters were Shirk, 3-4 and Lane both walked and Shirk singled. Simmons and Dreyer both scored.

The flood gates opened for Norton in the top of the third when the Blue Jays tallied 11 runs to extend their advantage to 16-1. Kaenon Keiswetter, Zac Dreyer, Troy Bainter and Luke Ninemire each walked twice in the inning. Lane walked once and singled. Shirk and Zach Bainter both singled and Adam Myers walked. advantage for the home team.

All except Myers scored at least once.

The Redmen added three runs to their total in the bottom of the third to make it 16-4.

Norton's final two runs came in the top of the fourth. Justin Griffith singled, Kaid McKenna walked and both tallied.

Smith Center added two runs to their total in the bottom of the Keiswetters and Blecha scored to fourth to make the final score 18-6 in favor of the Blue Jays.

Winning pitcher was Lane, who pitched two innings. Shirk hurled one inning. Smith Center had eight hits, six batters walked and six struck out.

Norton had 10 hits in the contest. and Zach Bainter, 2-3.

Lost nightcap

Thirteen walks helped Smith Center defeat Norton 15-5 in the nightcap.

Norton took an early 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Lane and Zach Bainter both walked and John Ryan Field. scored.

Three walks and three hits for the Redmen in the bottom of the inning led to four runs and a 4-2

Norton did not score in the second and third innings. Smith Center added six runs in the bottom of the third to extend their lead to 10-

In the top of the fourth, the Blue Jays scored three runs on singles by Kaenon Keiswetter, Landon Keiswetter and Ryan Blecha and a double by Lane. Both make it a 10-5 game.

The Redmen tallied five runs in the bottom of the inning to put the 10 run lead rule into effect and end the game with a 15-5 score.

Norton recorded seven hits in the game. Lane was leading hitter, going two for two at the plate.

Zach Bainter was the losing pitcher. Lane pitched to one batter in the first inning and struck him out. Smith Center had seven hits, 13 walks and seven struck out.

Next action

Norton will host Hays in a doubleheader tonight at 6:30 at

"They are a tough team but our pitching is improving as well as the rest of our team and we hope to give them two good games," said head coach Ward Foley.



Winning pitcher was Bailey. He allowed only four hits and walked six batters.

Goodland Tournament

Norton lost a 6-5 extrainning con- off with a single, Keiwswetter Cambridge, Neb., beginning at 6p.m

Norton's final game of the tour- can Legion nine will begin a three nament was another exciting one game home stand. On Saturday but the Blue Jays came out on the evening at 6 p.m., they will hos wrong end of an extra inning 10-9 Plainville at John Ryan Field. game with Scott City.

Norton took a 2-0 lead in the top Osborne at 5 p.m. In their first tournament contest, of the first inning when Daniels led

On Saturday, the Norton Ameri

On Sunday, they will hos

Next Thursday, Norton will hos

Lady Storm loses to McCook nine

By DICK BOYD

softball team traveled to McCook on Wednesday evening and lost two games to one of the best teams in the state of Nebraska.

"McCook is the best team we'll face all year, by far," said Norton team manager Darin Campbell. "It will be a big surprise to me if we play anyone as good as that team.

"Both of their pitchers were as fast as we'll see. They threw a lot of junk stuff. We hit the ball but usually right at one of their players. We were hitting into a 45 mile per hour wind and that didn't help

In the opener, Norton lost 7-1. better game in the nightcap before losing 3-1.

While only nine players saw field action for each team, the entire roster of each squad batted.

In the first game, McCook scored one run in the second inthe fourth stanza.

top of the fifth when Chantille Campbell walked and scored.

in the game. Karlie Boyd led off

for Norton in the top of the first it was effective. Norton's Lady Storm fast pitch inning and hit a single. Four Norton batters walked and eight struck out.

Winning pitcher was Marissa Wallace.

Losing pitcher was Amy Foster. She allowed only three hits, gave up just one walk and struck out four batters.

Norton had five errors in the game and, according to Campbell, they were costly.

us," said Campbell.

In the nightcap, McCook scored Class C. two runs in the bottom of the third inning and one in the bottom of the sixth.

The Lady Storm's only run the Russell ASA Father's Day The Lady Jays played McCook a came in the top of the fifth. Danielle LeClair walked and was driven home on a double by Campbell.

> game. Lacey Roe singled in the top of the sixth but did not score.

Foster pitched again for Norton. 3:30 p.m. on Field No.3. ning, three in the third and three in She allowed just six hits, struck out seven McCook batters and gave up will play again at 5 p.m. and 6:30 Norton's only run came in the one walk. Norton had three errors p.m. in the game.

The Lady Jays had only one hit Campbell. "We moved players championship contest is set for 1 around to different positions and

"I'm very happy with the way we played. Foster pitched wel again.

"This McCook team plays the entire year. In high school, they have both fall and spring softball then play in the summer. The placed second in the state of Ne braska in Class B last year. Since they did so well, they were el evated to Class A this year."

The Norton Storm, which wa "Foster pitched very well for reorganized this season after an absence of several years, plays in

Next action

The Norton Lady Storm wil play this Saturday and Sunday in Tournament.

At 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, they will play Colby Sweet Thunder of Field No.2. At 11 a.m., Norton wil Norton had just two hits in the play the Great Bend Rebels of Field No.3.

Norton will play Kansas Heat a

If Norton wins, the Lady Storn

On Sunday, the finals will be "We played well," said held, beginning at 9 a.m. The noon.

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