

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 Bailey.

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.

test to Goodland. The Cowboys took a 2-0 lead in 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 bottom of the fourth to make it 4-3.

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.

In the top of the seventh, the Panthers added two more runs but it was too little, too late and Norton won 8-4.

Every Norton player recorded at least one hit. Daniels was a perfect 4-4 at the plate and Mindrup was 3-4. Keiswetter and Wolf were both 2-3.

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

Goodland Tournament
In their first tournament contest, Norton lost a 6-5 extra inning con-

test to Goodland. The Cowboys took a 2-0 lead in 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 bottom of the fourth to make it 4-3.

In the top of the fifth, Norton added one more run when Zink singled and Davis doubled and 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.

In the top of the fifth, Norton tallied two more runs to take a 6-2 lead. Wolf singled and Ulmer tripled him home. Daniels singled to bring Ulmer across home plate.

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 third, Imperial 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.

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.

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On Saturday, the Norton American Legion nine will begin a three-game home stand. On Saturday evening at 6 p.m., they will host Plainville at John Ryan Field.

On Sunday, they will host Osborne at 5 p.m. Next Thursday, Norton will host Cambridge, Neb., beginning at 6 p.m.

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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.

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 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 10-2.

In the opener, the Blue Jays defeated the Redmen 18-6 but, in the nightcap, they lost 15-5.

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

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 Keiswetters and Blecha scored to make it a 10-5 game.

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

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

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.

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

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

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.

Norton had 10 hits in the contest. Leading hitters were Shirk, 3-4 and Zach Bainter, 2-3.

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.

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On Sunday, they will host Osborne at 5 p.m. Next Thursday, Norton will host Cambridge, Neb., beginning at 6 p.m.

Norton will host Hays in a doubleheader tonight at 6:30 at John Ryan Field.

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"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.

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