

# PITCH TOURNNEY

By JAKE DURHAM

It was a night to remember as the faithful gathered for the December Pitch Tournament.

Snow was not only in the forecast but was expected in huge amounts by morning but the topic of interest was the amazing conquest of the Wildcats over the No. 1 ranked Sooners and the probability of a major bowl bid.

It was also the 63rd anniversary of the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7th, 1941, and many present were heard discussing where they were and what they were doing when they had heard the news.

The Knock game was getting rowdy as the knockers seemed to be consistently under-cut as the game progressed but then that's all in the game. It was the last tournament of the year and although it wasn't a topic of discussion, it was on everyone's mind that it was the last chance of the year to capture a championship.

The Ladies Coalition was holding a caucus in the southwest corner, planning a celebration in lieu of a possible victory. Time was running out but there was one team short when some New Kids on the Block entered from the south door and signed in on the last line.

The Brown Eyed Girl immediately sounded the gong and the games were underway.

There had been some boast about setting new scoring records before the games began and evidently the idea was passed along as the early bidding seemed to be highly contested and as the hands were played out, the Turkey Rancher and the Print Queen came up with the high round honors and the initial lead and declared a new winning team in the making.

However as everyone knows, early leads disappear about as fast as fog after the sun comes up and as the second round came to a close, the Young and the Restless had captured the honors and found themselves in a tie for the lead with that often celebrated team of The Greens Keeper and Doctor Bones.

The gong rang out for the first break after round three and as the tallies were recorded, most watched with interest as the lead changed several times, the Muddy River Boys had captured the honors but the Young and the Restless held the lead. The Coach and the Score Keeper were in a tie for second place with The Greens Keeper and Bones, the Red Neck and the White Hat Kid were in fourth and Bug Man and the Exterminator were in fifth. From there on down scores began to spread out considerably.

The evening was young and loud talk and casual conversation filled the room. The Magician was showing some of his best card tricks while the Poet was engaged in his finest performance.

The gong sounded for the next round to begin and 48 settled in, determined to outdo their next opponent. The bidding was slower and more deliberate as every raise was seriously calculated as a couple of good scores could put any team in the lead. The Coyote Kings captured the honors on round four but the Young and the Restless held the lead for the third straight round and were now offering odds on the final outcome.

The Leading Ladies took the honors on round five which moved them up considerably, but the Kings were unshakable and retained the lead.

The gong sounded for the second break as round six came to a close and as the scores were posted, the Hat Man and the Auctioneer had taken sixth round honors and were in a tie for first place with the Young and the Restless. Bones and the Greens Keeper were in third, and the Ladies from Lyle were in a tie for fourth with the Leading Man and his Secretary. There was a seven point spread between the first and fifth place team and only nine points between the next five places. But there were four rounds left.

It was high level planning during the break as those low on the board needed to pull out all stops while those in favorable positions needed to preserve their positions. Under bidding could be just as fatal as over bidding.

The gong rang to start the seventh round and the level of concentration was evident. The Colorado

Connection took the honors as the Hat Man and the Auctioneer moved farther into the lead. The Young and the Restless made it a double for the evening as they took the honors on round eight and as the scores were posted they were one point behind the Hat Man and the Auctioneer who were still in the number one position.

By now the sounds of despair and exuberance were not uncommon and as the ninth round began the tension was almost audible. The Coyote Kings took the honors on round nine and the board still had the Hat Man and the Auctioneer holding on to the lead.

A catch-up break was announced and a rush to the score board was underway to assess the situation. Bones and the Greens Keeper had moved up to the number two position and they were now one point off the lead, The Young and the Restless were in a tie for third with the Leading Man and the Secretary and the Coyote Kings were in position number five.

The tenth and final round was coming up and once again it would be the deciding round. Bold moves, common sense, good cards and some good luck is what was needed, either one or all could do the trick. At least five teams were on the threshold of victory.

The gong rang to start the final round as mixed emotions filled the room. Those near the top of the board were noticed using breath control to relieve the tension while others were crossing fingers, gritting teeth and biting tongues.

The final round seemed longer than usual for those near the top of the board and very quick for those needing more time. As the scores were turned in and recorded, it seemed as though the lead changed with every entry and most stayed at the board to see the final outcome and as the last score was recorded, the Turkey Farmer and the Print Queen had taken the honors and made it a double but the main interest was on the lead and it was the Hat Man and The Auctioneer who had pulled it off with a two point victory.

The Victors accepted their accolades with dignity and as usual, vowed to return to defend their title.

Top ten places: 1. Dave Sheley and Jack Mechsner; 2. Doc Peterson and Eldon Vincent; 3. Ed Glennemeier and Jim Railsback; 4. Dee and Thelma Bushnell; 5. Ed and Kathleen Berlier; 6. Bill Johnson and Gary Lacy; 7. Tony Hildebrand and Larry Harman; 8. June Jolly and Margaret Magers; 9. Jason Breiner and Rusty Goss; 10. Ben Bolt and Dan Lauer. Winning score by Sheley and Mechsner was 124 points for an average of 12.4 points per round.

High round winners were: Bill Glennemeier and Mary Jane Wahlmeier; Ed Glennemeier and Jim Railsback; Coy Christy and John Hildebrand; Jason Breiner and Rusty Goss; Kim Gallentine and Stacy Breiner; Dave Sheley and Jack Mechsner; Ed and Kathleen Berlier. Highest single round score was 19 points by Sheley and Mechsner. Double high round winners were Bill Glennemeier and Mary Jane Wahlmeier, Ed. Glennemeier and Jim Railsback, Jason Breiner and Rusty Goss.

Other teams not previously mentioned were: Tim and Kelly Gill; Julia Roeder and Kay Harman; Kathryn VanMeter and Eleanor Jensen; Todd and Doyle Brooks; Merle Taylor and Dick Hemphill; Jerry Darling and Lynn Thiele; Fig Millan and Dan Hazlett; Barbara McKie and Donna Millan; Lothar Fuerstenau and Paul Schultz; Duane McEwen and Dennis McMullen; Gil Otter and Jake Durham.

As the evening wore on, conversations moved to topics of current interest, the Chiefs, the Wildcats and pheasant hunting, not necessarily in that order. The Grandmothers were scheduling practice sessions for Christmas caroling while others were relaxing to the tunes of the Great One.

The question of the next tournament was soon raised and a quick look at the calendar pointed to the first Sunday in January which would be on the 4th. So get into the action, bring your partner and sign in early. The games start at 7 p.m.



# DIRECTORY OF CHURCH SERVICES

## NORTON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Lew Van Der Wege, Pastor  
804 W. Wilberforce, Norton  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
5 p.m. Sr. UMYF  
7 p.m. Bridge Service

## EDMOND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Lew Van Der Wege, Pastor  
SUNDAY — 9 a.m. Worship Service

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Georgia Briery, Senior Warden  
102 E. Waverly, Norton  
SUNDAY — 8 a.m. Christian Education  
9 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Celebrant Fr. Dennis Gilhousen; Lay Reader Connie Johnson  
10 a.m. Coffee Host, Don and Connie Johnson  
3-4 p.m. God's Pantry, Mary Hicks

## COMMUNITY FULL GOSPEL CHURCH

Pastor Terry Laughlin  
e-mail: laughlin@ruraltel.net  
313 W. Lincoln  
SATURDAY — 7 a.m. Men's Prayer at the church  
SUNDAY — 9:15 a.m. Christian Education  
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship  
6 p.m. Royal Rangers  
WEDNESDAY — 7 p.m. "Created For His Glory" Bible Study

## ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

Father Vincent Thu Laing  
877-2234  
stfanci@ruraltel.net  
108 S. Wabash, Norton  
Mass Schedule  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
7 p.m. Communal Penance Service  
Monday 8 a.m.  
Wednesday 8 a.m.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

4 p.m. Saturday, 30 minutes before Mass or by appointment  
TUESDAY — 7 p.m. Bingo  
WEDNESDAY — 7 p.m. SYF (K-8)  
K of C Third Monday of Month 7:30 p.m.

## NORTON MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

Hospital chaplain, Monday through Sunday, Nielsen  
Sunday Services, 2 p.m. Andbe Home; 3 p.m., Norton Manor, Nielsen

## PRAIRIE VIEW REFORMED CHURCH

Rev. Jeffrey Van Der Weele  
410 Holland, Prairie View  
SUNDAY — 9 a.m. Morning Worship Services  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

## LUCTOR CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

2 miles east and 3 miles north of Prairie View  
Rev. Jeffrey Van der Weele  
SUNDAY — 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Choir practice  
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship Services

## REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Timm O. Meyer  
e-mail: timmomeyer@ruraltel.net  
805 W. Holme, Norton  
SUNDAY — 9:05 a.m. "Goodness From the Good Shepherd" Radio Broadcast, KQNK 106.7 FM & 1530 AM  
10 a.m. Communion Service  
11:10 a.m. Bible Study  
1 p.m. Evangelism Meeting  
2 p.m. Ladies Mission Society  
WEDNESDAY — 6:45 p.m. Choir practice  
7:30 p.m. Bible Study, Revelation

## NORTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Jeff Nielsen, Minister



## Mike Sander, Youth Minister

e-mail: ncc@us36.net  
208 N. Kansas  
SUNDAY — 8 a.m. Early Worship  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:40 a.m. Worship Service  
2:00 p.m. Andbe Home Service  
3:00 p.m. Manor Service  
4:30 p.m. "The Limit" Jr./Sr. High Youth Groups; Bible Bowl  
6:30 p.m. Sunday Nite Live  
WEDNESDAY — 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast  
9 a.m. Prayer and Fellowship  
6 p.m. AWANA supper  
6:30 p.m. AWANA, Bible Bowl, Sr. High School Bible Study  
7 p.m. Upper Room Prayer Group  
8 p.m. Elder's Meeting  
THURSDAY — 2 p.m. Women's Council

## FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

Pastor Terrill Worthington  
1010 Churchill Dr.  
SUNDAY — 9:15 a.m. Time of Prayer (Adults)  
9:30 a.m. Time of Prayer (Children in kitchen)  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship  
7 p.m. Evening Service  
WEDNESDAY — 7 p.m. Family Nite  
8 p.m. Board of Trustees

## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Rick Rostek  
814 N. Second, Norton  
SUNDAY — 9 a.m. Sunday School, Bible Class  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
WEDNESDAY — 7 p.m. Worship

## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ALMENA

Kirk Kasson, Pastor  
e-mail: congo@ruraltel.net  
SUNDAY — 8 a.m. Teacher Study  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Church Services  
MONDAY — No Men's Fellowship this month  
TUESDAY — 7:15 a.m. Teen Women

## ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, LOGAN

Father Joseph Thalanany  
SUNDAY — 8:30 a.m. Mass  
MONDAY — 5:30 p.m. Mass

## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF LOGAN

Pastor Troy Buss  
SUNDAY — 9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Church services  
WEDNESDAY — 7 p.m. Bible Study

## CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Kathy Aeillo  
SUNDAY — 10 a.m. Worship Service  
11 a.m. Church School

## LENORA CHURCH OF GOD

SUNDAY — 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
WEDNESDAY — 7 p.m. Bible Study

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

404 N. York Avenue, Oberlin  
SUNDAY — 9:30 a.m. Worship  
10:45 a.m. Fellowship and Educational Hour  
Holy Communion, first and third Sundays  
7:30 p.m. Congregation Council second Wednesday

## NORTON SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

105 S. Case Street  
Pastor Jim Nichols  
SATURDAY SERVICES — 9:45 a.m. Church Services  
10:45 a.m. Sabbath School

## LONG ISLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Shelly Cox  
554 Washington  
SUNDAY — 10 a.m. Sunday School  
11 a.m. Morning Worship  
FIRST SUNDAY — 12 noon Fellowship Dinner  
1 p.m. Administrative Council Meeting  
FIRST WEDNESDAY — 2 p.m. United Methodist Women's Meeting in Fall, Winter and Spring

## NORTON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Charles Ross  
112 S. Archer  
SUNDAY — 10 a.m. Sunday School  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
7 p.m. Evening Service  
TUESDAY — 7 p.m. Mid-Week Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

## LIVING HOPE FELLOWSHIP

One mile south of Norton at corner of PDRA road  
Pastor Jerry Cummings  
SUNDAY — 10 a.m. Worship and Praise Service  
7 p.m. Evening Worship and Praise Service  
WEDNESDAY — 7 p.m. Youth and Children's Programs  
7 p.m. Adult Home Bible Study  
THURSDAY — 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting

## THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Phillipsburg Branch  
Noel Krouse, Bishop  
620 7th Street  
SUNDAY — 10 a.m. Sacrament meeting  
11:15 a.m. Sunday School  
11:15 a.m. Primary  
12:05 a.m. Priesthood meeting  
12:05 a.m. Relief Society  
Visitors welcome.

## LOGAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Shelly Cox  
303 W. Church  
SUNDAY — 10:30 a.m. Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. Fifth Sunday song service  
FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAYS — 6:30 p.m. UMYF  
SECOND WEDNESDAY — 1:30 p.m. United Methodist Women  
THIRD WEDNESDAY — 7:30 p.m. Administrative Council Meeting

## UNITED PARISH OF LENORA

Rev. Jack Kersenbrock  
SUNDAY — 10 a.m. Sunday School  
11 a.m. Morning Worship

## LYLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Carol Woodmansee  
SUNDAY — 8:00 a.m. Worship Service

## MAPLE GROVE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

9 miles west  
4 1/2 miles north of Norton  
Pastor Leon Neher  
SUNDAY — 10 a.m. Sunday School  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
4th Tuesday, Women's Fellowship  
3rd Sunday, Noon, carry-in dinner

## ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH, NEW ALMELO

stjoseph@ruraltel.net  
Father Vincent Thu Laing  
Pastoral Administrator, Stan Chapin  
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass  
Friday and Monday 8 a.m. Scripture Communion Service  
Weekday Mass Tuesday 8:30 a.m.

## ALMENA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Kathy Aeillo  
SUNDAY — 10 a.m. Sunday School  
11 a.m. Worship  
WEDNESDAY — 7 p.m. Bible Study in Fellowship Hall  
2ND SUNDAY — Noon Fellowship Dinner  
1:00 p.m. Administrative Board Meeting  
3RD THURSDAY — 1:30 p.m. United Methodist Women in Fellowship Hall

## HENDLEY/WILSONVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

Minister, Rev. R.L. Malchow  
10 a.m. Sunday Worship Hour  
1st and 3rd Sundays, Hendley  
2nd and 4th Sundays, Wilsonville  
Coffee Fellowship after service  
3rd Thursday U.M.W.

## LIVING WORD BAPTIST CHURCH

308 West Crane  
Interim Pastor Terry Laughlin  
SUNDAY — 9 a.m. Morning Worship  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School  
6:30 p.m. Sunday Evening Service  
MONDAY — NO TFC  
WEDNESDAY — No Kids Klub  
THURSDAY — 7 p.m., Bible Study

## CHAPEL ON THE HILL

309 N. State, Norton, KS  
SATURDAY — 7 p.m. Special services and guest speakers

## WILSONVILLE UNITED BAPTIST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY — 9:30 a.m. Worship Service and Communion  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School  
1st Thursday, B.C.W. 9 a.m.

## NORCATUR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Kathy Aeillo  
SUNDAY — 9 a.m. Worship Service  
10 a.m. Sunday School