

# K-18 team opens season with doubleheader at Phillipsburg

By DICK BOYD

Coach Louis Keiswetter's Norton K-18 baseball team opened its 2004 season last Tuesday at Phillipsburg with a doubleheader.

Phillipsburg won the first game, 7-3, and edged the Blue Jays 6-5 in the nightcap.

The homestanding Panthers scored two on three hits in the bottom of the second but Norton tied the score at 2-all in the top of the third when Chris Davis and Pat Burton got on base and both scored on a double by Logan Keiswetter.

Phillipsburg took the lead for good in the bottom of the third when they scored four runs on four hits. Norton responded with one final run in the top of the fourth when Blake Wolf singled, advanced when Aaron Daniels

walked, then came home on a single by Travis Ray.

Phillipsburg's last run came in the bottom of the fourth inning on three hits.

Norton had six hits and Phillipsburg had 11. Leading hitters for Norton were Wolf, who was two for two and Keiswetter, who was two for three. Davis was the Norton pitcher.

In the second game, Norton scored two in the top of the first when Davis and Keiswetter both singled and scored. Phillipsburg tied it in the bottom of the inning with two runs. Norton was scoreless in the top of the second and Phillipsburg added one to take a 3-2 lead.

The Blue Jays took a 4-3 advantage with two runs in the top of the third. Aaron Daniels and

Keiswetter both walked and scored. Norton extended its lead to 5-3 in the top of the fourth when Aaron Husted walked and scored on a hit by Travis Ray.

Two runs by Phillipsburg in the bottom of the fourth tied the score at 5-all with one inning remaining. Norton was three up and three down, however, and Phillipsburg added a final run to win 6-5.

Norton had just three hits but took advantage of six walks. Todd Bolt was the Norton pitcher.

Coach Keiswetter's assistant coaches are Nick Daniels and David Wolf.

"Our boys played well for the first games of the season," said Coach Keiswetter. "We had a few errors that hurt us but we'll be okay."

# K-18 wins two from Stockton

By DICK BOYD

Coach Louis Keiswetter's Norton K-18 baseball team evened their early season record at 2-2 on Saturday with a doubleheader win over Stockton at John Ryan Field in Norton.

Norton won the opener 4-1 and the nightcap 5-4.

The Blue Jays received outstanding pitching in both games. Norton hurler Chris Davis allowed just one hit and struck out nine batters in the opener and Logan Keiswetter pitched a no-hitter and retired six batters.

In the first game, Stockton scored its only run in the top of the

first inning when Palmer reached base on an error and scored. Norton did not score until the bottom of the inning when Travis Ray got on base on an error, Pat Burton singled and Aaron Daniels drove both of them home with a double to left field.

Norton's other two runs came in the bottom of the fourth when Blake Wolf and Burton each singled and scored.

Norton had six hits. Leading hitter for the Blue Jays was Burton who was a perfect two for two at the plate.

Losing pitcher was N. Palmer. In the nightcap, Stockton scored

again in the top of the first to take a 1-0 lead. Norton tallied three in the bottom of the inning. Todd Bolt, Davis and Keiswetter singled and all three came home.

Stockton added another run in the top of the second to make it a 3-2 game in favor of Norton. The Tigers tied the score at 3-all in the top of the third inning.

Norton scored its final two runs in the bottom of the third when Keiswetter singled, Todd Zink tripled and Blake Wolf singled. Keiswetter and Zink both scored.

Norton held the 5-3 lead until the top of the fifth inning when Stockton tallied its final run.

Norton had eight hits in the game. Keiswetter was leading hitter for the Blue Jays with two for two at the plate.

Losing pitcher was J. Barnett. "Errors allowed them to score in both games," said Coach Keiswetter. "We're going to work on cutting down on errors."

### Next action

The K-18's next contests will be here on Thursday versus Smith Center. All regular season contests are doubleheaders, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

# Legion team to open season

By DICK BOYD

The Norton American Legion baseball team will open the 2004 season tonight at 6 p.m. when it hosts a doubleheader with Stockton at John Ryan Field.

Team members are Denton Bailey, Eric Burton, Jared Foley, Josh Green, Korey Look, Brian Luft, Kai Mann, Brock McChesney, Jared Mindrup, Dan Roeder, Tyler Rutherford, David Schlegel and Chris Wilson.

Coaches are Brandon Gay, Chris Bailey and Craig Foley. All games are doubleheaders and begin at 6 p.m..

"We're returning almost our entire roster from last season and have a few additions," said Coach Gay. "This season we have deeper pitching and a more experienced team. At this age level, a year of experience can make a huge difference."

"We have a number of areas where we need to improve but, fortunately, talent is not an issue. We don't have a lack of talent."

"It's always great to have a big crowd, especially for the first

game. This is a team that has always fed off emotions. Having that tenth man on the field (the crowd) is important."

### Norton American Legion Baseball Schedule

(more games planned)  
Tuesday, June 15 — Stockton here

June 18, 19, 20 — Holdrege Tournament

Tuesday, June 29 — Plainville here

Monday, July 5 — Stockton there

Wednesday, July 7 — Colby there

Tuesday, July 13 — Plainville there

### Holdrege Tournament Schedule

Friday, June 18: Norton vs. Hastings, 10 a.m.

Saturday, June 19: Norton vs. Phillipsburg, 3 p.m.

Norton vs. Holdrege, 8 p.m.

Sunday, June 20: Norton vs. Beatrice, 10 a.m.

Norton vs. Grand Island, 5:30 p.m.

# Almena takes win in Division II girls

The Division II girls softball teams were in action on June 8. Almena defeated 1st Choice Insurance 9-7.

**Almena 9, 1st Choice Insurance 7**

1st Choice Insurance got on the scoreboard first with three first inning runs. Kylie Nuzum and Kaitlyn Wolf walked and scored and Shelby Jones singled and scored.

1st Choice added two in the second and one in the third to give them a 6-0 lead. Kendra Engelbert, Jade Braun and Alexis Henson all walked and scored.

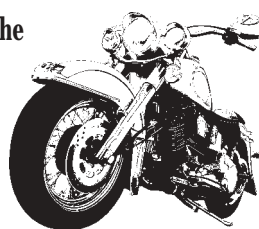
Almena scored a pair in the fourth to make the score 6-2. Scoring were Megan Cole, who reached on a single and Melissa Hawks, who reached on a walk. Abby Bainter reached base on an error and scored for 1st Choice in

the bottom of the inning.

Almena rallied for seven runs in the top of the fifth to take a 9-7 lead. Megan Cole singled and scored and Kenzie Stevens reached on an error and scored. Reaching base on walks and scoring were Karen Wentz, Ashley Constable, Sarah Whitney, Kenzi Husted and Hawks.

Abate of Kansas, District #2, and the Free Tomorrow Motorcycle Club would like to thank all of the associate sponsors of the motorcycle show in Norton. Approximately three thousand dollars was raised for the two cancer funds the show was held for.

Thank you again for your generosity.



Northern Valley's Ryan Shearer (No. 48) knocks an East offensive player out of the way and goes after the ball carrier during the 8-Man All-Star Division II Football Game on Saturday in Beloit.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

# Northern Valley senior plays in 8-Man All-Star football game

By DICK BOYD

Ryan Shearer, a six-foot, one-inch, 210-pound all-conference center and defensive player for Northern Valley High School, played for the West squad in the 19th annual 8-Man All-Star Division II Football Game on Saturday afternoon in Beloit.

Shearer, a three-year starter on defense for Coach Chuck Fessenden's Huskies, started for the West at nose guard. Although he was a first team All-Cheyenne Conference offensive selection at the end of this season, he played only one play in the contest at center.

Shearer was very aggressive from his nose-guard position and was in on a number of tackles. One of his stops came when he shed a blocker and threw the East ball carrier out of bounds for a 10-yard loss.

Shearer is a 2004 graduate of Northern Valley and plans to attend college and major in computer science. He is the son of Shelly and Mike Shearer, Almena.

The West took an early 20-6 lead in the game but the East recovered a fumble and rallied to make it 20-14 at halftime. The West fumbled the ball away on the second play of the third quarter and the East

scored three plays later to give them a 22-20 lead.

The West missed a great scoring chance on its next possession. After driving 64 yards in 10 plays to the East 1-yard line, they fumbled. The East recovered and marched 75 yards to score again. The East added another touchdown on a 68-yard run down the sideline to make the final score East 36, West 20.

The East also won the 8-Man Division I game which was played in the morning. They defeated the West 20-0, to record the first shutout in the game in the last 11 years.

# 12 and under team opens season

By DICK BOYD

Coach Louis Keiswetter's Norton 12 and under boys baseball team opened the season at Colby on May 21 with a doubleheader.

Norton lost the opener 15-13, then dropped the nightcap 7-1.

Members of the Norton team are Landon Keiswetter, Troy Bainter, J.D. Gall, Zach Bainter, Kaenon Keiswetter, Landon Hamel, Ashton Draper, Casey Robinson, Chris Maddy, Tyler Cook and Andrew Soderlund.

Assistant coach is David Bainter.

Colby took a 4-2 lead in the first inning of the opening game. Norton scored when Landon Keiswetter and Gall both singled and Zach Bainter drove them home with a double.

Norton added five in the top of the second to take a 7-4 advantage. Robinson and Cook both walked, Landon Keiswetter doubled, Soderlund walked, Troy Bainter singled and Gall doubled and Robinson, Cook, Keiswetter, Soderlund and Bainter scored.

In the bottom of the second, Colby added five of their own to take a 9-7 lead.

Norton was scoreless in the top of the third and Colby added five runs in the bottom of the inning to make it 14-7.

The young Blue Jays rallied in the top of the fourth and scored five to narrow the Colby lead to 14-12. Soderlund walked, Landon

Keiswetter singled, Cook tripled, Troy Bainter and Gall both walked and Zach Bainter singled and Soderlund, Keiswetter, Cook, Troy Bainter and Gall all scored.

Colby added one the bottom of the fourth inning to make it 15-12.

Norton was able to score only one run in the top of the fifth to make the final 15-13. Hamel

scored the final Norton run.

Landon Keiswetter was leading hitter for Norton with three for three. Gall was two for two and Zach Bainter went two for three.

Norton recorded nine hits and Colby had just six hits off Norton pitcher Zach Bainter.

In the nightcap, Colby scored three runs in the bottom of the first,

two in the second and one each in the third and fourth innings.

Norton's only run came in the top of the third when Landon Keiswetter singled and Soderlund singled him home.

Norton had five hits and Colby had seven.

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