

Norton K-18 baseball team completes season

By DICK BOYD

The Norton K-18 baseball team completed their season by winning two of four games in the Sub-Regional Tournament on July 15, 16 and 17 in Russell and coming within two runs of earning a berth in the Regional Tournament.

The young Blue Jays opened the tournament with a 14-4 victory over La Crosse, then lost a 12-4 decision to Plainville. Next, they defeated Stockton 16-6 and played Ellis down to the wire before losing 9-8 and missing Regional competition.

"I'm so proud of these youngsters for never giving up this season," said Coach Ward Foley.

"We started slowly this season but beating Hays on July 5 gave us a lot of confidence. We continued improving and played our best baseball in the sub-regionals.

"Our win over Stockton was really big. They had beaten us three of four games during the season. All of our bats came alive against Ellis. We came within two runs of beating them and moving on. Home runs by Stanley and Bebb were highlights for all of us."

David Bainter was the assistant coach this season for the Norton K-18 team.

Sub-Regional play

In the tournament opener, Norton took a 3-0 lead over La Crosse in the top of the second inning. Matt Stanley got on base via an error, Hamel singled and Jordan Bebb got on base with a fielder's choice and all three scored.

The young Blue Jays added another run in the top of the third when Todd Bolt walked and scored later in the inning.

La Crosse tallied their first run in the bottom of the third to make it a 4-1 game.

Norton put together a four-run top of the fourth. Bebb and Austin Brown both walked, Travis Ray singled, Zach Bainter walked and Stanley tripled. Bebb, Brown, Ray and Bainter scored and Norton led 8-1.

La Crosse added one run in the bottom of the fourth.

Six big runs by Norton in the top of the fifth extended the Blue Jay lead to 14-2. Kaenon Keiswetter singled and Adam Myers brought him in with a home run! Ray and Bainter both singled and Bolt doubled. Keiswetter, Myers, Ray, Bainter, Bolt and Stanley, who got on base via an error, all scored.

La Crosse added two more runs in the bottom of the fifth to make the final 14-4 in Norton's favor.

Norton had eight hits in the game. Ray was leading hitter, going 2 for 4.

Hamel was the winning pitcher. He was relieved in the fifth inning by Bainter. La Crosse had just three hits, six walks and seven batters struck out.

Morgan was the losing pitcher. Plainville took a 5-0 lead in the top of the first inning of Norton's second tournament game.

The Blue Jays scored one run in the bottom of the inning. Bainter got on base with a fielder's choice and scored.

Norton scored again in the bottom of the second when Hamel, Ulmer and Keiswetter walked and Kyle Mindrup was hit by a pitch and walked. Hamel scored and it was 5-2.

In the top of the third, Plainville scored two more runs and added three more in the top of the fourth to extend their lead to 10-2.

Two more Plainville runs in the top of the fifth made it 12-2.

Norton tallied their final two runs in the bottom of the fifth. Bainter and Hamel both singled and Ulmer, Keiswetter and Bebb all walked. Bainter and Hamel scored to make the final 12-4 in favor of Plainville.

Norton had just two hits in the game. Hamel was 1 for 2 and Bainter was 1 for 3.

Bolt was the losing pitcher. He gave up 13 hits, walked two and struck out three.

T. Dix was the winning pitcher. In their third tourney game, Norton took a 3-0 lead over Stockton in the top of the first inning. Bainter got on base via an error, Bolt singled, Hamel and Ulmer both doubled and Bainter, Bolt and Hamel scored.

Stockton kept it close by scoring two runs in the bottom of the inning to make it 3-2.

Four more Norton runs in the top

of the second extended the Norton lead to 7-2. Keiswetter walked, Bebb tripled, Ray was hit by a pitch and walked and Bainter singled and all scored.

The Blue Jays tallied eight more runs in the top of the third to extend their lead to 15-2. Keiswetter singled, Bebb got on base via an error, Mindrup walked, Ray and Bolt got on base via an error, Stanley walked, Hamel got on base with a fielder's choice, Ulmer got on base via an error and Keiswetter doubled. Keiswetter, Bebb, Mindrup, Ray, Bolt, Stanley, Hamel and Ulmer all scored.

Stockton scored one run in the bottom of the third.

Norton tallied one final run in the top of the fourth when Bainter singled and Bolt doubled him home.

Stockton scored three final runs in the bottom of the fourth but it was not enough and Norton won 16-6.

Norton had 10 hits in the game. Bainter and Bolt were both 2 for 4 at the plate. Keiswetter was 2 for 2.

Hamel was the winning pitcher. He allowed just four Stockton hits, walked just two batters and struck out six.

Bosnedt was the losing pitcher.

In the finale against Ellis, both teams scored two runs in the first inning. Norton's runs came when Ray singled, Bolt doubled and Stanley singled and Ray and Bolt scored.

Norton took a 4-2 lead with two more scores in the second inning. Keiswetter walked, Ulmer doubled and both tallied.

Norton scored three runs and Ellis tallied four runs in the third stanza to narrow the Norton advantage to 7-6. Bebb blasted a home run to start the inning for Norton. Mindrup walked, Ray singled, Bainter doubled and Bolt singled. Mindrup and Ray both scored.

One Norton run and three Ellis runs in the fourth inning allowed the Railroaders to edge the Blue Jays 9-8. Norton's final run came on a solo home run by Stanley.

Norton had 10 hits. Ray was a perfect 2 for 2 at the plate. Stanley was 2 for 3.

Bolt pitched three innings; Hamel relieved him and was the loser. Ellis had just seven hits, walked five times and six Railroaders struck out.

Erbert was the winning pitcher.

Pre-tournament games

On July 1, Norton split a doubleheader with Phillipsburg in Norton.

Norton won the opener 14-4. Phillipsburg took a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning but Norton scored four runs in the bottom of the inning.

Mindrup was hit by a pitch and walked, Bainter doubled, Bolt got on base via an error and Hamel and Terrell Lane singled. Mindrup, Bainter, Bolt and Hamel scored.

The Blue Jays scored three more runs in the bottom of the second when Mindrup walked, Bainter got on via an error, Bolt walked and Zac Dreher singled. Mindrup, Bainter and Bolt scored to extend the Norton lead to 7-3.

In the bottom of the third, the Blue Jays tallied two more runs

when Mindrup, Bainter, Dreher and Hamel walked and Mindrup and Bainter scored to make the score 9-3.

Phillipsburg added one run in the top of the fourth but the Blue Jays tallied five more runs in the bottom of the inning to win 14-4. Zach Dole, Bebb and Mindrup all walked, Bainter singled, Bolt walked, Hamel got on base via an error and Ulmer singled. Dole, Bebb, Mindrup, Bainter and Bolt all scored.

Norton had six hits. Bainter was the leader; he went 2 for 3.

Bolt was the winning pitcher. He gave up just five hits, walked two batters and struck out six.

Ben Suchsland was the losing pitcher.

Norton lost the nightcap 17-2.

Phillipsburg scored three runs in the top of the first. Norton tallied two runs in the bottom of the second to make it a 3-2 game. Dreher and Hamel both walked and scored.

In the top of the third, the Panthers tallied 10 runs to take a commanding 13-2 lead. Phillipsburg added four more runs in the top of the fourth to make the final score 17-2.

A single by Bainter was Norton's only hit in the game.

Bolt, Ulmer, Bebb, Lane and Bainter shared pitching duties for Norton. The Panthers had 11 hits, nine walks and six of them struck out.

Split with Hays

A 6-5 win over Hays in Norton on July 5 was a big confidence builder for the Blue Jays.

Hays scored one run in the top of the first but Norton tallied two in the bottom of the inning to take a 2-1 lead. Bainter doubled and Bolt and Dreher both singled and Bainter and Bolt scored.

Neither team scored in the second inning. Hays scored three runs in the top of the third to lead 4-2.

Norton tallied one run in the bottom of the inning when Bebb, Bainter and Bolt walked and Dreher singled and Bebb scored to make it a 4-3 game.

In the bottom of the fourth, Norton scored two more runs to take a 5-4 advantage. Hamel, Keiswetter and Stanley walked and Bainter singled. Keiswetter and Stanley scored.

Hays tied the score at 5-all with one run in the top of the fifth but the Blue Jays won it with a run in the bottom of the fifth. Bolt and Dreher both singled and Ulmer walked and Bolt scored the winning run.

Norton had seven hits in the game. Dreher was leading hitter with a perfect 3 for 3. Bolt was 2 for 3 and Bainter was 2 for 2.

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

Spencer Scott was the losing pitcher.

The Blue Jays lost the nightcap 5-0.

Hays scored four runs in the top of the second and one in the top of the fourth.

Norton had no hits in the game. The winning pitcher was Rule. He struck out 11 Norton batters and walked four.

Bolt started on the mound for Norton. He pitched one and one-half innings and gave up two hits.

Bainter relieved him and pitched three and one-half innings. He gave up four hits.

Hosted Plainville in doubleheader

On July 8, Norton played Plainville a doubleheader in Norton.

The Blue Jays lost the opener 17-3.

Plainville tallied six runs in the top of the second inning, seven runs in the top of the third and four in the top of the fourth.

Norton's only runs came in the bottom of the first stanza. Bainter singled, Ray got on base via an error, Bolt singled and Hamel walked and Bainter, Ray and Bolt scored.

Norton had just three hits in the game. They were by Bainter, Bolt and Stanley.

Hamel was the losing pitcher. He gave up seven hits, walked 11 batters and struck out one.

T. Ruder was the winning pitcher.

Norton played much better in the nightcap but still lost 6-4.

Plainville scored one run in the top of the first and Norton tallied two in the bottom of the inning. Bainter walked, Ray doubled and Bolt and Stanley both walked. Bainter and Ray scored.

Plainville scored one more run in the top of the second to tie the score at 2-all.

The Cardinals added four more

runs to their total in the top of the fifth to give them a 6-2 lead.

Norton tallied two runs in the bottom of the fourth to make the final 6-4 in favor of the visitors. The Blue Jay runs came when Bolt singled, Stanley, Hamel and Lane walked and Bolt and Stanley scored.

Norton had just four hits in the game. They came from Ray, Bolt, Hamel and Lane.

Bolt was the losing pitcher. He gave up just two hits, walked one batter and struck out five.

J. Becker was the winning pitcher.

Played doubleheader at Phillipsburg

Norton played a doubleheader at Phillipsburg on July 12.

The Blue Jays lost the opener 10-6.

Norton scored one run in the top of the first when Bolt singled and tallied.

Phillipsburg tallied eight runs in their half of the first to take a commanding 8-1 lead.

The Blue Jays scored another run in the top of the second when Bebb singled and scored.

The Panthers scored their final two runs in the bottom of the second to take a 10-2 lead.

The Blue Jays tallied four runs in the top of the fourth to make the final 10-6. Stanley singled, Bebb got on base via a fielder's choice, Hamel walked, Ulmer singled and

Bainter walked. Stanley, Bebb, Hamel and Ulmer all scored.

Norton had five hits. Bolt was the leading hitter; he went 2 for 3.

Bolt was the losing pitcher. Phillipsburg had 10 hits, no walks and six Panther batters struck out.

Wood was the winning pitcher. The nightcap was much closer but Phillipsburg emerged a 7-6 winner.

Norton scored three runs in the top of the first inning. Bolt walked, Stanley and Hamel both singled and Keiswetter walked. Bolt, Stanley and Hamel scored. Phillipsburg scored four runs in the bottom of the second.

The Blue Jays tallied one more run in the top of the third to tie the score at 4-all. Stanley and Hamel walked and Stanley scored.

In the bottom of the fourth, the Panthers tallied twice to take a 6-4 lead.

Norton scored two more times in the top of the fifth to tie the score at 6-all. Stanley got on base via an error, Hamel walked and both scored.

The Panthers won it 7-6 with a final run in the bottom of the fifth.

Norton had four hits in the game. They came from Stanley, Hamel, Bebb and Mindrup.

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

Clint Capps was the winning pitcher.

Norton American Legion baseball team to play in Zone Tourney

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pitcher. Phillipsburg gained some revenge of their own with an 18-10 win over Norton in the nightcap.

Norton took a 3-0 lead in the top of the first when Foley walked and Keiswetter and McChesney both singled and Foley and Keiswetter tallied.

The Blue Jays extended their lead to 5-0 in the top of the second when Foley walked and Keiswetter and Daniels singled and Foley and Keiswetter scored.

Phillipsburg scored once in the bottom of the second and Norton tallied once in the top of the third when Davis and Mindrup walked and Davis scored to put Norton on top 6-1.

The Panthers scored six runs on seven hits in the bottom of the third to take a narrow 7-6 lead.

Four runs by the Blue Jays in the top of the fourth put them back on top 10-7. Keiswetter, McChesney and Durham all singled and Davis cleared the bases with a home run!

But, Norton was held scoreless the rest of the way as Phillipsburg added four runs in the bottom of the fifth and seven in the bottom of the sixth to win 18-10.

Norton had nine hits. Keiswetter was 3 for 4 at the plate and Daniels

and McChesney were both 2 for 4.

Bailey was the losing pitcher. He gave up 20 hits, walked eight and struck out five batters.

Wickham was the winning pitcher.

Split with Osborne

Norton shutout Osborne 7-0 in a doubleheader opener in Norton on Tuesday of this week but lost the nightcap 8-2.

The Blue Jays took a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning when Keiswetter, Daniels, Bailey and Burton all singled and Keiswetter and Daniels scored.

Norton tallied three more runs in the bottom of the third when Daniels walked and Davis, Bailey and Mindrup singled, and Daniels, Davis and Bailey tallied.

Norton's final two runs came in the bottom of the fourth when Foley was hit by a pitch and walked, Davis walked, Bailey doubled and Burton and Durham both singled and Foley and Davis scored to make the final 7-0 in favor of Norton.

The Blue Jays had 11 hits. Bailey was 3 for 3 at the plate. Burton and Mindrup were both 2 for 3.

Mindrup was the winning pitcher. He allowed only one Bulldog hit, walked one batter and

struck out five. Osborne got their only hit in the first inning; after that they were three up, three down the rest of the game.

Worley was the losing pitcher.

Osborne scored one run in the top of the first inning of the nightcap. Norton tied the score at 1-1 in the bottom of the inning. Foley and Keiswetter both singled and Foley tallied.

Osborne scored twice in the top of the second to take a 3-1 lead and three more runs in the top of the third to extend their lead to 6-1.

The Blue Jays scored their final run in the bottom of the third to make it 6-2. Bailey singled and McChesney tripled him home.

Osborne tacked on one run in the top of the fourth and one in the top of the fifth to win 8-2.

Norton had just six hits in the game. Bailey went 2 for 3 at the plate.

McChesney started on the mound for Norton. He was relieved in the second inning by Durham, who suffered the loss. Durham was relieved in the fourth inning by Keiswetter, who was relieved in the fifth inning by Bailey.

Osborne had eight hits, walked eight times and six Bulldog batters struck out. Michel was the winning pitcher.

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