



After the dust settles...

The Norton Legion's Matt Stanley scored one of the Blue Jays' seven second-inning runs in their 14-10 win over Phillipsburg on Thursday evening the hard way, by taking on the catcher and another Panther player at home plate. As the dust cleared, the umpire called him safe! Watching with approval are teammates, from left, Blake Wolf, Todd Zink and Jordan Durham.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Legion takes two from Phillipsburg, 14-10 and 9-8

By DICK BOYD
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In front of a nice home crowd at John Ryan Field on Thursday evening, the Norton American Legion nine swept Phillipsburg 14-10 and 9-8.

Trying to find more pitchers for his team, Norton head coach Joe Durham pitched a lot of young men, five in the opener and two in the nightcap.

Brian Spooner started on the mound for the Blue Jays but had control trouble, walking three batters and hitting two. Garrett Tacha relieved him and the top of the first ended with Phillipsburg leading 2-0.

Norton was unable to score in the bottom of the inning. Luke Ninemire started the second inning on the mound but an injury forced him to yield to Todd Zink, who finished the second stanza and remained as the Norton hurler through the sixth inning. Landon

Hamel pitched the final two innings.

Phillipsburg scored three runs in the top of the second to extend the Panthers' lead to 5-0.

Norton had three hits and three walks in the bottom of the second and scored seven big runs to take a 7-5 lead. Logan Runnion doubled, Matt Stanley and Andrew Soderlund both walked, Zink singled, Blake Wolf got on base with a sacrifice, Tacha singled and Jacob Bracht walked. Runnion, Stanley, Soderlund, Zink, Wolf, Tacha and Bracht all scored.

Phillipsburg failed to score in the top of the third and the Blue Jays extended their lead to 10-5 with three runs in the bottom of the third. Stanley singled, Jordan Durham doubled, Wolf and Tacha both walked and Stanley, Durham and Wolf all tallied.

Phillipsburg scored three runs in the top of the fourth stanza to cut the Norton advantage to 10-8. In

the bottom of the inning, Norton scored one more run when Landon Hamel tripled and Aaron Pulec singled him home to make the score 11-8.

The Panthers went down one, two, three in the top of the fifth and Norton padded their lead with three runs in the bottom of the inning. Zink, Tacha and Skylar Harris walked, Spooner got on base on a passed ball and Cody Callaway singled. Tacha, Harris and Spooner all scored.

Phillipsburg scored two runs in the top of the sixth to narrow the Norton lead to 14-10. Norton was unable to score in the bottom of the stanza but Phillipsburg also went scoreless in the top of the seventh and the Blue Jays were 14-10 winners.

Pulec was leading hitter for Norton, going 2 for 2 at the plate. Getting single hits were Zink, Tacha, Runnion, Callaway, Stanley, Hamel and Durham.

Zink was the winning pitcher. Phillipsburg had three hits, 14 strike outs and 19 walks.

Losing pitcher was Hoft. He gave up nine Norton hits, walked ten batters and struck out nine.

Coach Durham went with Runnion on the mound to start the nightcap but, after five Phillipsburg runs, he relieved him with Durham, who finished the game. Norton tallied three runs in the bottom of the stanza. Zink walked, Jacob Riedel and Tacha both walked, Runnion got on base with a fielder's choice and Andy Horesky got on base via an error. Zink, Riedel and Tacha all scored.

Two runs by Phillipsburg in the top of the second extended the Panther lead to 7-3. Phillipsburg did not score in the top of the third and Norton added two more runs in the bottom of the inning to trail by 7-5. Tacha walked, Durham got on base via a passed ball, Horesky

and Brian Ulmer both singled and Tacha and Durham both scored.

The Panthers failed to score in the top of the fourth and Norton added one run to cut the margin to one run at 7-6. Soderlund was hit by a pitch and advanced and scored later in the inning.

In the top of the fifth, Phillipsburg added one run to take an 8-6 lead. The Blue Jays answered with two runs in the bottom of the stanza to tie the score at 8-8. Durham walked, Runnion doubled, Horesky, Ulmer and Stanley all singled and Durham and Runnion both scored.

Phillipsburg failed to score in the top of the sixth. The Blue Jays got the winning run when Bracht led off with a double and Hamel singled him home!

Leading hitters for Norton were Horesky and Ulmer, both going 2 for 3 at the plate. Norton had eight hits, seven Blue Jay batters walked and six struck out. Cole was the

losing pitcher.

Durham was the winning pitcher. Phillipsburg got just three hits, 12 Panthers struck out and nine walked.

"We have gone from looking for players early in the season to having 21 young men who want to play ball," said coach Durham. "In the two games tonight, we were able to play 19 of the 21. We have enough veterans that our young players are going to get plenty of playing time. Our veterans know that playing is the only way the young players will get better. That was what made our team successful last year when we had injuries."

Next action

The Norton Legion is scheduled to play at Stockton this evening. Games will begin at 6 and 8 p.m.

Norton will play in the Holdrege Tournament on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Norton K-18 claims two in makeup double header

By DICK BOYD
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The Norton K-18 baseball team hosted Stockton in a makeup double header on Friday night and defeated the Tigers 18-8 and 7-4.

In the opener, Stockton did not score until the top of the fourth inning. Meanwhile, Norton tallied four runs in the first, nine runs in the second and one in the third inning to take a 14-0 advantage.

In the bottom of the first, Landon Keiswetter singled, Spencer Shirk, Trey Millan, Ryan Blecha and Brett Terrell all walked and all but Terrell scored.

Norton's nine runs in the second inning came when the Blue Jays batted around on six hits. Robert Blecha and Keiswetter both singled, Shirk doubled, Millan tripled, Ryan Blecha singled, Zac Hartwell and Taylor Meder both walked, Robert Blecha got on base on an error, Keiswetter walked and Shirk singled. Scoring twice were Shirk and Robert Blecha. Scoring once were Shirk, Millan, Ryan Blecha, Hartwell and Meder.

The Blue Jays' single run in the bottom of the third came when

Ryan Blecha singled and scored later in the inning.

Stockton tallied seven runs in the top of the fourth and Norton added four more in the bottom of the inning. Meder, Robert Blecha and Keiswetter all walked, Millan and Ryan Blecha both singled and Terrell doubled. Meder, Keiswetter, Millan and Ryan Blecha all scored.

Stockton scored one run in the top of the fifth but it was too little, too late for the Tigers and Norton prevailed 18-8.

Leading hitters for Norton were Millan and Ryan Blecha, each 3 for 3; Keiswetter, 2 for 2 and Shirk, 2 for 3.

Norton had 12 hits, 11 walks and 4 strike outs. A. Weiden was

the losing pitcher.

Millan was the winning pitcher. He hurled for three and two-thirds innings, giving up two hits, striking out 10 batters and walking two. Hartwell relieved him and allowed six hits, struck out one and walked one batter.

In the nightcap, Norton took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning when Shirk got on base, Ryan Blecha walked, Terrell singled and Shirk scored.

Stockton scored three times in the top of the second but Norton tallied four in the bottom of the stanza to take a 5-3 lead. Robert Blecha and Keiswetter both walked and Shirk got on base. Ryan Blecha and Terrell both singled and Hartwell walked.

Robert Blecha, Keiswetter, Shirk and Ryan Blecha all scored.

Stockton narrowed the Norton lead with one run in the top of the third to make the score 5-4 but the Tigers did not score again and Norton added two more runs in the bottom of the fourth. Millan,

Ryan Blecha, Terrell and Hartwell all singled and Millan and Blecha both scored.

Norton had nine hits, seven walks and four strike outs. Losing pitcher was A. Smith. Leading hitters for the Blue Jays were Terrell, 3 for 3 and Ryan Blecha, 2 for 2.

Winning pitcher was Shirk. He gave up five hits, struck out seven and walked two batters.

Next action

The Norton K-18 nine will host Phillipsburg in a double header on John Ryan Field this evening. Games will begin at 6:30 p.m.

JUNIOR GOLF Starts Monday, July 7

Junior golf will start on Monday, July 7 with registration at 5:30 and begin at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and run every Monday thereafter in July

July 28 will highlight the year with a Pizza Party at 5:15, followed by a 9-hole golf tournament at 5:45 and a swimming party following golf

Cost this year is \$25.00 per participant aged 7 to 14. Registration this year will include a nice golf shirt. Come and learn the lifelong game of golf. Adults welcome to come, watch, and help mentor the junior golfers

Pre-register for only \$20.00 by mailing it to: Mark Keilig, 1005 Eisenhower Dr., Norton, KS 67654 with the name, age, and shirt size of the participant





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