

Norton 12 and under nine are champions

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The Norton 12 and under baseball team completed a highly successful 2010 season by winning the championship of not one, but two tournaments.

They defeated Oberlin 11-3, Colby 3-2, Goodland 16-5 and Colby 13-1 to win the Quinter Tournament; then, outscored Ellis 13-12, lost to Plainville 10-1, defeated Ellis 10-5, beat Plainville 16-7 and won the Ellis Free Fair Tournament by outscoring Plainville 10-3 in the championship contest.

Oberlin

In the first round of the Quinter Tournament on Tues., July 13, Norton defeated Oberlin 11-3.

The Blue Jays got off to a great start with seven runs in the top of the first inning. Quinton Porter started things off with a double, followed by singles by Gavin Lively, Jacob Green, Alec Otter and Josh VanLaeys. Regan Kats cleared the bases with a home run! Jace Ruder followed with a solo homer!

Oberlin scored once in the bottom of the second to make it 7-1. Norton added two more runs in the top of the third when VanLaeys smashed a home run, Kats hit safely and both scored.

The Red Devils tallied their final two runs in the bottom of the third to cut the Norton lead to 9-3.

Norton scored once in the top of the fourth when Ward Hayes singled and Caden Kinderknecht singled him home and got their final run in the top of the fifth when Quinton Porter singled and scored later in the inning.

The Blue Jay bats were booming in the game. Norton had 13 hits, five walks and no strike-outs. Regan Kats was a perfect 3 for 3 at the plate and Josh VanLaeys and Quinton Porter were both 2 for 2. VanLaeys was the winning pitcher. He allowed four hits, walked three and struck out five batters.

Colby

Norton had a tougher time before emerging with a 3-2 win over Colby on Friday, July 16.

Colby took a 2-0 lead with their two runs in the second.

Norton tied it with two runs

in the fourth. Ruder doubled, Kats walked and Colton Greving singled and Ruder and Kats both scored.

The Blue Jays scored the winning run in the fifth inning when Quinton Porter doubled and Jacob Green singled him home.

Norton had eight hits, three walks and 10 strike-outs. Green was leading hitter, going 3 for 3 at the plate.

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

Goodland

On Saturday, July 17, Norton had little trouble defeating Goodland 16-5 to advance to the championship game.

Five Norton runs came across home plate in the top of the first. Quinton Porter, Lively, Green, Otter, Kats, Greving and Hayes all singled and all except Greving and Hayes tallied.

Goodland kept it close with three runs in the bottom of the inning.

Norton added one run to their total in the top of the second when Landon Porter walked and Quinton Porter singled and Landon scored.

Five more Norton runs in the top of the third extended the Norton lead to 11-3. Greving and Hayes both walked, Trenton Wright got on base on a fielder's choice, Landon Porter reached first on an error and Quinton Porter singled and all five scored.

Two more Goodland runs in the bottom of the inning made it 11-5.

Norton tacked on five more runs in the top of the fourth. Greving doubled, Hayes walked, Wright and Will Ellis both singled, Landon Porter got on base on a fielder's choice, Quinton Porter walked, Lively got on base on a fielder's choice and Green doubled. Greving, Hayes, Ellis, Landon Porter and Lively all scored.

The Norton bats were booming once again as the Blue Jays had 14 hits, 10 walks and only one strike-out. Quinton Porter was a perfect 3 for 3 at the plate; Green and Greving were both 2 for 2 and Kats was 2 for 3.

Green started on the mound

for Norton and was relieved by Lively. Goodland got just one hit, eight batters walked and seven struck out.

Colby

After edging Colby 3-2 earlier in the tournament, Norton left no doubt as to who should be the champion as they rolled over Colby 13-1 in the championship game later on Saturday.

The Blue Jays got on the scoreboard with two runs in the top of the second. Kats singled and Greving walked and both scored. Another Norton run came across home plate in the top of the third when Lively and Green both walked and Lively scored. Colby scored their only run in the bottom of the third to make the score 3-1.

It was all Norton after that, however, as the Blue Jays tallied four more runs in the top of the fourth and six more in the top of the fifth to win going away.

In the top of the fourth, Hayes singled, Wright walked, Landon Porter singled, Quinton Porter walked and Green singled. All except Green scored.

In the top of the fifth, Kats and Greving both singled, Wright and Ellis both walked and Quinton Porter, Lively and Green all singled. All except Green scored.

The Blue Jays had ten hits, eight walks and four strike-outs. Leading hitters for Norton were Quinton Porter, Green and Kats, all going 2 for 3 at the plate.

Green was the winning pitcher. He allowed just two hits, walked one and struck out 13 batters.

Ellis

On Monday, July 26, Norton began play in the Ellis Free Fair Tournament with a high-scoring 13-12 win over the home team.

Norton held a 4-1 lead after the first inning. Ruder, VanLaeys and Green all singled, Greving walked and Ellis singled. All except Ellis scored.

Ellis scored once in the second and Norton added two more runs. A friend from Plainville played for Norton since the Blue Jays needed another player. He walked, VanLaeys, Kats and Greving all singled. The Plainville player and VanLaeys tallied.

Ellis scored two more runs in

the third inning and six in the fourth inning. Norton did not score again until the fourth inning when the Blue Jays ran four more runs across home plate. The Plainville player and Ruder walked, VanLaeys singled and Green tripled. All four scored.

With the score tied 10-all going into the sixth inning, it was anyone's game but the Blue Jays tallied three times compared to twice by the Railroaders to win 13-12.

Ellis singled, Layton Miller walked and Ruder and VanLaeys both singled. All but VanLaeys scored.

Norton had another great hitting game. The Blue Jays had 16 hits, eight walks and six strike-outs. Leading hitters were VanLaeys, 4 for 5 and Ruder, Green and Ellis, each 3 for 4 at the plate.

Kats, VanLaeys and Ruder shared pitching duties for Norton. They allowed just five hits, walked 12 and struck out seven batters.

Plainville

On Tues., July 27, Norton met Plainville in what would be the first of three contests with the Cardinals and lost 10-1 to drop into the loser's bracket.

Plainville scored two runs in the second inning, four in the third, three in the fourth and one in the fifth.

Norton's only run came in the third inning when Green blasted a solo home run!

The Blue Jays had just three hits, three walks and nine strike-outs.

Green and Otter shared pitching duties for Norton, allowing just three hits, walking ten and striking out eight batters.

Ellis

On Wednesday, July 28, Norton met Ellis again and had an easier time with the Railroaders, winning 10-5.

Norton scored once in the top of the first when VanLaeys singled and scored later in the inning. Ellis scored once in the bottom of the stanza.

One more Norton run was scored in the top of the second. Hayes singled and scored later in the inning. Ellis scored three times in the bottom of the inning to take a 4-2 lead.

The Blue Jays took the lead for

good in the top of the third with five runs to make it a 7-4 ball game. A Hays player filling in for a Norton lack of players, Dylan Flegler, walked, Ellis singled, VanLaeys doubled, Green singled and Lively cleaned the bases with a home run!

Norton added three more runs in the top of the fourth. Miller singled, the Hays player doubled, Ellis singled, VanLaeys and Lively both walked. Miller, the Hays player and Ellis scored.

The Railroaders added one more run in the bottom of the fifth but it was too little, too late and Norton won 10-5.

The Blue Jays had ten hits, four walks and eight strike-outs. Ellis and Hayes were both 2 for 3 with the bat and VanLaeys was 2 for 2.

Kats and VanLaeys shared pitching duties for Norton. They allowed just one hit, walked five and struck out five batters.

Plainville

Norton met Plainville again later in the evening on Wednesday and this time the Blue Jays won 16-7.

Norton scored one run in the top of the first when Ellis doubled and VanLaeys singled him home. Plainville scored twice in the bottom of the inning.

The Blue Jays took a 4-2 lead in the top of the second when Miller walked, Flegler tripled, Ellis got on base on an error, VanLaeys walked and Green singled. Miller, Flegler and Ellis all scored.

The Cardinals tallied three times in the bottom of the second to move ahead 5-4. Norton edged ahead 6-5 with two more third-inning runs. Hayes and Greving both walked and Miller singled and Hayes and Greving tallied.

Plainville scored once in the bottom of the inning to tie the score at 6-6.

Norton took the lead for good with four more tallies in the top of the fourth. Ellis walked, VanLaeys singled, Green doubled, Lively tripled and Kats singled. All except VanLaeys scored.

Plainville scored their final run in the bottom of the fourth.

Norton finished the game with six more runs in the top of the fifth. Kade Unterseher and Flegler both

singled, Ellis walked, VanLaeys got on base on an error, Green, Lively and Hayes all singled. All except Hayes scored.

Norton had 14 hits in the game, eight walks and seven strike-outs. Green was 3 for 4 with the bat; VanLaeys, Lively and Flegler were each 2 for 3.

Lively, Green and VanLaeys shared pitching duties for Norton. They allowed just three hits, walked 12 and struck out 11 batters.

Championship game

Both Norton and Plainville each had one win and one loss in the tournament so they played again later on Wednesday evening to decide the champion and the Blue Jays prevailed 10-3.

Norton scored three runs in the top of the first inning. VanLaeys walked, Green got on base on a fielder's choice and Kats got on base on an error and all three scored. Plainville scored once in the bottom of the inning.

The Blue Jays took the lead for good in the top of the second with two more runs. Miller singled, Unterseher walked and both scored.

Four more Norton runs came across home plate in the top of the third to extend their lead to 9-1. Green singled, Lively walked, Hayes tripled, Greving walked and Miller singled. All except Miller scored.

Ellis and Green both singled in the top of the fourth for Norton's tenth run. Plainville added one more run in the bottom of the fourth and one in the fifth to make the championship final 10-3 in Norton's favor!

Norton had seven hits, four walks and five strike-outs. Green was a perfect 3 for 3 with the bat and Miller was 2 for 3.

Green and VanLaeys shared pitching duties for Norton. They allowed three hits, three walks and struck out eight.

Coaches

Coaches for this season's very successful Norton 12 and Under baseball team were Rick Green, head coach; Kyle Wright, assistant coach; Scott Ellis, assistant coach; Chris Henson, assistant coach.

West rallies to win the Kansas Shrine Bowl

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The West all-stars extended their win streak over the East all-stars to five straight games with an exciting 45-29 victory in the 37th annual Kansas Shrine Bowl All-Star Football Game played Saturday evening in Carnie Smith Stadium in Pittsburg.

The West now leads the series 23-13-1.

The final score does not portray the closeness of the contest.

The recently graduated seniors from the West got off to a great start with a 21-0 lead but turnovers eventually allowed the East all stars to get in the game.

Several West miscues allowed the East to rally and take their first lead at 29-28 with 4:54 left in the contest. After the ensuing kickoff, the West put together a 74-yard drive in six plays to score and regain the lead for good. Hutchinson running back Josh Smith, who scored three touchdowns, went into the end zone from 17 yards out with 3:55 left in the fourth quarter.

Smith's touchdown run was set up by a 34-yard pass from McPherson quarterback Joel Piper to Wichita Collegiate's Brett LeMaster. Two extra points came on a pass from Piper to Dodge City's Landon Head.

LeMaster caught three passes in the game for 80 yards.

Norton players and fans are very familiar with LeMaster who was a star player for Wichita Collegiate in the undefeated Class 3A state champions' playoff win over the Blue Jays in the fall.

After the ensuing kickoff, the

West got two more points on a safety to lead 38-29 with 3:48 remaining.

The West defense was equal to the occasion and got the ball back for their offense, who marched for another touchdown. Salina South quarterback Jason Seibel, scored for the second time in the game on a 3-yard run, making the final 45-29.

Smith Center's Colt Rogers, who played exclusively on defense, intercepted an East pass in the final minute to end any comeback chances by the East.

The total number of points scored by both teams was a Kansas Shrine Bowl record.

The West was also a big winner in the statistics category. They had 26 first downs compared to 10 for the East, rushed for 221 yards while the East had 86 and passed for 225 yards compared to 94 for the East. The West's total yardage was 446 yards compared to 180 for the East.

The negative side of the statistics for the West came on fumbles. They bobbed the ball away on three of five miscues. The East had one fumble but recovered it.

Josh Smith, who will play for the University of Kansas, was chosen the Outstanding Player for the West squad.

Topeka High's Sam Johnson, one of the quarterbacks for the East, passed for two touchdowns and ran for a third. Johnson, who will play for Kansas State University, was chosen the Outstanding Player for the East squad.

A number of area players were on the West squad, most of them linemen doing their job in the trenches. They were: Jay Cot-

ter, Goodland; Matt Erbert, Ellis; Jordan Funk, Scott City and Ethan Jirak, Oakley. Also on the West team, in addition to Smith Center's Colt Rogers, were Travis Pfannenstiel, Hays fullback, linebacker and Trent Raile, St. Francis halfback, defensive back.

Zach Nemechek, Quinter lineman who is heading to K-State to play football, was also a member of the West squad but was injured and did not play in the game.

Randall Zimmerman, Junction City head coach and former Phillipsburg head coach, was the head coach for the West team. He is married to the former Steph Hand of Norton. His assistants included Randall Rath of Oakley and Bill Messamore of Wichita

Collegiate.

Proceeds to hospitals

Proceeds from the game and all related events support the Shriners Hospitals for Children, a network of 22 hospitals that provide expert, no-cost orthopedic, burn and spinal care to children under 18.

Children are admitted free to Shriners Hospitals for Children without regard for race, religion, nationality, creed or relationship to a Shriner.

The players are chosen by vote of the Kansas news media with ties broken by a committee of news media personnel.

No more than one player is chosen from any high school so that more schools can be represented in the game.

Entries being accepted for Kansas Senior Olympics, which will be in Topeka

Entry booklets are now available for the 27th annual Kansas Senior Olympics, sponsored by Parks and Recreation of Topeka.

An estimated 750 athletes from around Kansas and the United States are expected to compete this year in the games in Topeka.

The 2010 Kansas Senior Olympics offers competition in 18 different sports for individuals who will be 50 and over by December 31, 2010.

These sports include: archery, badminton, 3 on 3 basketball (teams), bowling, cycling, golf, horseshoes, pickleball, racquetball, road races, shuffleboard, softball (teams), swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field and volleyball (teams).

For the not-so-serious athlete, there are also nine just-for-fun events.

The Individual and Doubles Competition will be held September 22-26. Team Sports will be September 30-October 3. Golf competition will be held October 1.

The early deadline for registration is Friday, August 6 with a cost of \$40 per athlete or \$250 for softball teams.

The final deadline will be Friday, August 20 with a cost of \$50 or \$300 for softball teams.

This year athletes will have the opportunity to qualify to attend the 2011 Summer National Senior Games presented by Humana in Houston, Texas.

For entry information, call the Kansas Senior Olympics office at (785)368-3798 or visit their website at <http://www.topeka.org/parksrec/specialevents.shtml>.



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