

The Norton American Legion's Spencer Shirk connected solidly with a pitch thrown to him during the Blue Jays' doubleheader win over Smith Center on Thursday at John Ryan Field. The ball hit the fence and the left fielder ran into the fence. By the time he got up and threw the ball into the infield, Shirk had rounded the bases for an inside-the-park home run!

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



K-18 splits games with Ness City a 4-3 advantage. Miller singled,

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com The Norton K-18 baseball team split a doubleheader with Ness City on Friday evening at John Ryan Field in Norton.

Each team had one big scoring inning in the game they won.

In the opener, Norton tallied 11 runs in the second inning and was victorious 17-7. Ness City won the nightcap by a score of 17-4 and scored 13 of their runs in the third inning

Opener

Ness City took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning.

Norton tallied once in the bottom of the inning when Trever Lewis got on base via an error, Travis Cressler walked and Lewis scored.

Ness City scored four times in the top of the second to take a 6-1 lead but Norton left no doubt about the winner of the contest when they scored 11 times in the bottom of the inning!

Brant Cox walked, Kobie Unterseher singled, Noah Johnson walked, Garret Otter and Clint Cole got on base on errors, Lewis singled, Toby Nickell got on base via an error, Travis Cressler reached first base after being hit by a pitch, Kendall Miller singled, Brant Cox came to bat for the second time in the inning and singled, Unterseher was up again and was hit by a pitch, Johnson walked for the second time in the inning.

Cox and Unterseher each scored twice in the inning while Johnson, Otter, Cole, Lewis, Nickell, Cressler and Miller each tallied once. That boosted Norton into a 12-6 lead.

Ness City's final point came in the top of the third to make it 12-7 but the young Blue Jays added three more runs in the bottom of the third and two in the bottom of

In the third stanza, Lewis singled, Nickell walked and Miller

In the bottom of the fourth, Norton scored twice more when Unterseher was hit by a pitch, Schrum walked and Otter singled them home.

Norton had six hits, nine walks and four strike-outs. Lewis was leading hitter for

Norton; he went 2 for 3 at the Nickell and Lewis shared pitch-

ing duties; they allowed just three hits, walked nine and struck out six batters.

L. FellLoelter pitched for Ness

Nightcap

In the second game, Ness City scored three runs in the top of the first inning. Norton answered with just one run in the bottom of the inning when Lewis tripled and scored later in the inning.

The visitors did not score in the top of the second and the young Blue Jays added three tallies in got on base on an error. All three the bottom of the inning to take

Stutsman, Unterseher and Alec Hager all walked and Justice Snyder doubled. Miller, Stutsman and Unterseher all scored Ness City put the game out of

reach for Norton with 13 runs in the top of the third to take a 16-4

Norton did not score again; Ness City added one more run in the fourth.

Norton had just four hits, three walks and eight strike outs. Lewis, Nickell, Miller and Snyder each had one hit. Pitching for Norton was Cole;

he was relieved in the fourth inning by Stutsman. Ness City had 12 hits, nine

walks and four strike outs. C. Lee was the Ness City pitch-

Next action

Norton will play a doubleheader this evening at Plainville, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

top of the fifth.

By DICK BOYD

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The Norton American Legion

Norton won 7-5 in the opener

Opener In the first game, Smith Center

Norton took a 3-2 lead in the

The Redmentied it at 3-all with

Norton answered with a run in the

bottom of the inning to retake the

lead at 4-3. Spencer Shirk and

Kaid McKenna both singled and

5-3 with another run in the bot-

tom of the fourth when Dakota Dreher tripled and Brett Terrell

Smith Center made it a one-run

game again with one tally in the

Norton stretched the lead to

Shirk scored.

singled him home.

Norton also scored once in the bottom of the fifth when Shirk hit a blast to left field. The ball hit the fence; the left fielder also hit the fence. He got up and threw the ball into the infield but Shirk had already rounded the bases for an inside-the-park home run!

The Redmen kept it close with another run in the top of the sixth inning to make it 6-5 but Norton added another run in the bottom of the inning when Dreher was hit by a pitch and Miller singled him home to make the final 7-5.

The Norton bats were really booming in the game. The Blue Jays had 12 hits, one walk and only four strike outs. Miller was 3 for 4 at the plate, Shirk was 2 for 3 and Maddy was 2 for 4.

Keiswetter was the Norton pitcher. He gave up just four hits, walked two and struck out eight Linn was the Smith Center

pitcher.

Nightcap

The second game between these two longtime rivals was also close until Norton scored eight runs in the bottom of the fourth inning en route to a 10-2 Smith Center scored once in

the top of the first but Norton

answered with two runs in the bottom of the inning. Terrell singled, Miller walked and Shirk singled. Terrell and Miller both crossed home plate.

In the top of the fourth, the Redmen scored once to tie the score at 2-all.

The Blue Jays pulled away for the 10-2 win with eight runs in the bottom of the fourth. Keiswetter, Andrew Ellis, Trey Millan and Dreher all singled. Tyler Cook walked, Terrell, McKenna and Shirk all singled and Ellis singled for the second time in the inning. All scored.

Norton had 10 hits, two walks and four strike outs. Terrell, Shirk and Ellis were each 2 for 3 with the bat.

Shirk was the Norton pitcher. He allowed just two hits, walked two and struck out two batters.

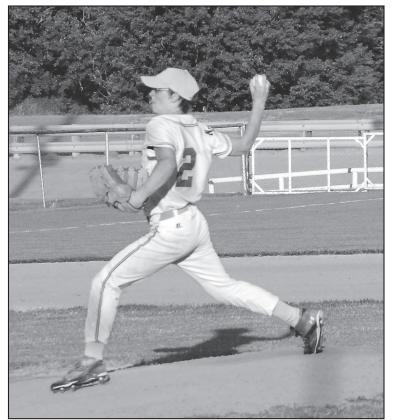
M. Atwood was the Redman pitcher.

Coach's comments

"Tug and Spencer pitched very well tonight," said Norton head coach Scott Ellis. "We were also very aggressive

and disciplined at the plate!" **Next action**

Norton hosted WaKeeney on Sunday afternoon and will travel to Colby this evening to play games at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.



Norton K-18 pitcher Trever Lewis strides forward off the mound to deliver the baseball during the young Blue Jays' 17-7 win over Ness City on Friday at John Ryan Field. Lewis and Toby Nickell shared pitching duties in the win.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Blue Jays edge out win over WaKeeney in first game but lose second

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com The Norton American Legion baseball team split a doubleheader with WaKeeney on Sunday evening at John Ryan Field in Norton.

The Blue Jays edged the Golden Eagles 13-11 in the opener but the visitors prevailed 12-11 in the nightcap.

Opener

Norton took an early lead with three runs in the bottom of the first inning. Dakota Dreher, Dalton Miller, Tug Keiswetter and Kaid McKenna all walked, Chris Maddy and Trey Millan both got on base via an error. Dreher, Miller and McKenna all scored.

WaKeeney scored once in the top of the second, four more times in the top of the fourth and twice more in the top of the fifth to take a 7-3 lead.

Norton went back ahead 8-7 with five runs in the bottom of the fifth. Millan and Brett Terrell both singled, Dreher was hit by a pitch and walked, Miller received

a base on balls and Shirk singled. ing pitcher. All five players scored.

In the top of the sixth, the visitors tallied their final four runs to jump back ahead 11-8.

The Blue Jays were equal to the occasion and scored five more runs in the bottom of the inning to win 13-11. Maddy got on base on an error, Brock Morgan singled, Tyler Cook walked, Terrell singled, and Dreher, Miller and Shirk all walked. All except Miller and Shirk scored.

and six strike outs. Leading hitter came when Millan singled and for the Blue Jays was Terrell who went 3 for 5 at the plate.

Millan pitched five innings for Norton. He gave up five hits, walked six and struck out six batters. Dreher pitched in one inning. He gave up one hit and walked one. Shirk finished on the mound for Norton in the last two innings and was the winning pitcher. He allowed two hits, walked one and struck out four batters.

WaKeeney had four different pitchers. Derek Carr was the los-

Nightcap

The nightcap could have gone either way but a rally by Norton in the bottom of the fifth fell two runs short of a victory.

WaKeeney scored two runs in the top of the first inning but Norton scored three in the bottom of the first. Terrell and Maddy both walked, Shirk doubled and Andrew Ellis walked. Terrell, Maddy and Shirk all scored.

Both teams scored one run in Norton had eight hits, 14 walks the second inning. Norton's run

Two runs by WaKeeney in the top of the third gave them a 5-4 lead.

Norton answered with three more runs to go ahead 7-5. Shirk

McKenna doubled, Ellis got 2 for 4. on base via an error and Dreher walked. Shirk, McKenna and Ellis all scored.

a 12-7 lead.

Norton did not score in the bottom of the inning but held batter. WaKeeney scoreless in the top of the fifth.

The Blue Jays rallied with four runs in the bottom of the inning but fell short of the win. Ellis walked, Millan tripled, Morgan doubled, Terrell walked, Cook and Shirk both singled and Keiswetter walked. Ellis, Millan, Morgan and Terrell all scored.

Norton had seven hits, ten walks and three strike outs. Millan went

was hit by a pitch and advanced, 2 for 3 with the bat and Shirk was

McKenna pitched four and

one-third innings for Norton. He gave up eight hits, walked seven Seven runs by WaKeeney in the and struck out three batters. Miller top of the fourth gave the visitors relieved him for two-thirds of an inning. He gave up four hits, walked two and struck out one

> Dustin Zahn was the winning pitcher.

Coach's comments

"In the first game, we continued to hit the ball very well," said Norton head coach Scott Ellis. "Trey Millan also pitched very well.

"We played hard in the second

game and made an excellent comeback with a chance to win at the end but we hit the ball right at them.

"We are a very physically tough baseball team but we are not always mentally tough, which is my fault. WaKeeney is a very good hitting team and hit Texas leaguers all night long."

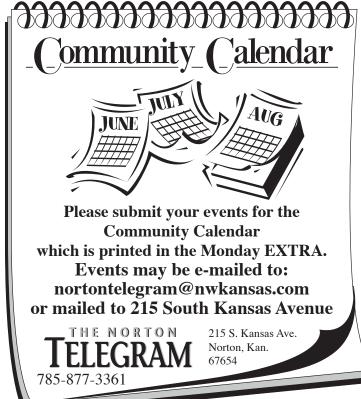
Next action Norton was scheduled to play

at Colby this evening with games beginning at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. On Thursday, Norton will host

Goodland in a doubleheader at John Ryan Field.

Come and support your local Ball teams





JUNIOR GOLF Starts Monday, July 11 Junior golf will start on Monday, July 11

with registration at 5:30 and begin at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.and run every Monday thereafter in July

Aug. 1 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 \$20.00 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: Tyler Rutherford, 506 West St., Norton, KS 67654, 785-202-0214 or Connie Miller, 806 N. Valley Vista Dr., 785-877-5649 with the name, age, and shirt size of the partici-