

# Lady Thunder on the road for double-headers

By Dick Boyd

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The Norton Thunder 16 and Under Girls Softball Team was busy playing double-headers out of town on Monday and Tuesday of last week.

On Monday, they traveled to Smith Center where they lost their opener 10-9 and came back to win the nightcap 14-6.

On Tuesday, they went the other way, playing at Oberlin. They again lost their opener, this time by just 7-6, then defeated the Lady Red Devils 34-2 in the nightcap.

## Smith Center

In the opener against Smith Center, the Thunder scored once in the top of the first inning when Skylar Davis singled and scored later. Smith Center scored four runs in the bottom of the inning and added one more in the second to lead 5-1.

The Lady Thunder tied the score at 5-all with four more tallies in the top of the third inning on six walks. Jena Risewick, Shelby Mulford, Kendra Cadwalader, Bri Karnopp, Rikele Green and Skylar Davis all drew a base on balls and all but Green and Davis scored.

Smith Center responded with four more runs in the bottom of the third to make it 9-5.

Both teams were scoreless in the fourth inning. In the top of the fifth, Norton took advantage of seven more walks to score four more runs and tie the score at 9-all. Karnopp, Green, Davis, Ashley Hildebrand, Kim Bradshaw, Sabre Plante and Risewick all walked and the first four scored.

The Lady Red broke the tie in the bottom of the inning with three straight singles to win 10-

9.

Norton had just two hits but 15 bases on balls and two strike outs. Davis and Burge got the Lady Thunder's hits.

Losing pitcher was Bradshaw. She gave up 11 hits, walked just three and struck out four batters.

In the nightcap, Norton got started with five runs on seven walks and one hit in the top of the first. Karnopp walked, Green singled, Davis, Hildebrand, Bradshaw, Burge, Plante and Cadwalader all walked. All but the last three scored.

Smith Center made it close, scoring four runs in the bottom of the inning.

But Norton was on a roll and scored seven more runs in the top of the second to lead 12-4. Karnopp walked, Green and Davis both singled. Hildebrand, Burge, Plante and Risewick walked, Mulford singled, Karnopp walked for the second time in the inning and Green walked. Karnopp, Green, Davis, Hildebrand, Burge, Plante and Risewick all crossed home plate.

Smith Center managed two more runs in the bottom of the second to make the score 12-6.

Norton also tacked on two more runs in the top of the third when Bradshaw tripled and Burge, Plante and Risewick all walked and Bradshaw and Burge tallied.

Smith Center was three up, three down in the bottom of the inning to end the game with a 14-6 score. Only three innings were played due to a time limit.

Norton had five hits, 18 walks and two strike outs. Green was 2 for 2 with the bat.

Winning pitcher was Kristen

Burge. She allowed four hits, walked five and struck out three batters.

## Oberlin

At Oberlin, Norton started with one run in the top of the first stanza. Karnopp led off with a double and scored later in the inning.

Oberlin scored four runs in the bottom of the inning to take a 4-1 lead.

The Lady Thunder tied the score at 4-all with three runs in the top of the second. Tara Brachtenbach singled, Plante, Risewick and Cadwalader all walked, Karnopp singled and Green walked. Brachtenbach, Plante and Risewick all scored.

One more Norton run in the top of the third made it 5-4. Burge walked and scored later in the inning. Oberlin added one run in the bottom of the third to tie the score again, this time at

5-all.

Norton did not score in the top of the fourth and the Lady Red Devils added two more runs in the bottom of the inning to edge ahead 7-5.

The Lady Thunder had four walks in the top of the fifth but no hits and just one run. Green, Davis, Burge and Brachtenbach all drew a base on balls but Green was the only one to score and Norton came up one run short at 7-6.

The Lady Thunder had three hits, 11 walks and eight strike outs. Karnopp was 2 for 3 at the plate.

Rikele Green pitched two-thirds of the first inning and was relieved by Kim Bradshaw. Oberlin got seven hits, had five walks and five strike outs.

The nightcap was a lot more fun for the Lady Thunder as they took advantage of 29 walks by

Oberlin pitchers to win 34-2.

Norton scored 14 runs in the top of the first, three more in the second and 16 more in the third.

The Lady Thunder had four hits and four strike outs. Shelby Mulford was 2 for 2 at the plate.

Kristen Burge was the winning pitcher. She allowed one hit, walked two and struck out three batters.

## Coach's comments

"We were short-handed this week," said head coach Brandon Gay. "We were missing three infielders and a pitcher and had a couple of players trying to play with injuries. But, that really isn't an excuse. We feel like we should have won all four games."

"Both nights, we just didn't play well in the first game and we lost two close games. It's

frustrating but we are committed to using those two losses as motivation for next week and the rest of the season.

"Hopefully, our two games at Oberlin will be a turning point for us. We didn't play well the first game but turned it around in the second games. We would like to have a better record than 3-3 but we will be back to full strength next week so we're optimistic."

## Next action

It won't be long before the Lady Thunder gets to play Oberlin again. In fact, tonight (Tuesday), they will host the Lady Red Devils at Blue Jay Field, beginning at 7 p.m.

Then, on Thursday, June 21, the Lady Thunder will travel to Phillipsburg for a double-header, also beginning at 7 p.m.

## Legion team splits with Phillipsburg

By Dick Boyd

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The Norton American Legion baseball team split a double-header with Phillipsburg at John Ryan Field on Friday night.

The Blue Jays lost the opener 9-3, then came back to defeat the Panthers 12-8 in the nightcap.

"We pitched well in both games against Phillipsburg," said Norton head coach Scott Ellis. "We just made a lot of physical errors."

## First game

Despite eight hits, Norton scored just three runs in the opener. In the bottom of the first, Trever Lewis walked, Dalton Miller got on base on a fielder's choice, Tug Keiswetter walked and Lane Bigge singled. Miller scored.

Phillipsburg scored once in the top of the second to make it 1-1. Norton edged ahead 2-1 in the bottom of the second when Jacob Brooks, Lewis and Andrew Ellis singled in succession and Brooks scored.

The Panthers had a big top of the third and scored four runs on two hits to take a 5-2 lead. Three more runs on two more hits in the top of the fourth extended the Panthers' lead to 8-2.

Norton's final run came in the bottom of the fifth when Miller and Keiswetter both singled and scored.

Phillipsburg added one final run in the top of the sixth on two walks and no hits.

Norton had eight hits, three walks and eight strike outs. Leading hitter for the Blue Jays was Tug Keiswetter who went 3 for 3 at the plate.

Losing pitcher was Dalton

Miller. He allowed just four hits, walked six and struck out eight batters.

Winning pitcher was Seth Derr.

## Second game

Both teams got five hits in the second game but Norton took advantage of 16 walks compared to only five by the Panthers.

Phillipsburg scored once in the top of the first and added five in the top of the third to take a 6-0 lead after three innings.

The Blue Jays won the game with a big nine-run bottom of the fourth. Lewis and Ellis walked, Miller was hit by a pitch and walked, Bigge and Wahlmeier both walked, Travis Cressler and Drew Schrum both singled, Zach Hartwell walked and Lewis, Ellis and Miller all walked for the second time in the inning.

All scored and Lewis tallied twice as Norton moved ahead 9-6.

Phillipsburg narrowed the Norton lead to 9-8 with two more runs in the top of the fifth but Norton scored three more runs in the bottom of the fifth for the four run victory. Bigge got on base via an error, Jacob Brooks singled, Wahlmeier, Cressler, Hartwell, and Lewis all walked and Bigge, Brooks and Wahlmeier all scored. Norton had five hits, 16 walks and five strike outs.

Leading hitter for the Blue Jays were Cressler, who was 2 for 3 and Brooks who went 2 for 4.

Tig Keiswetter was winning pitcher. He allowed five hits, walked five and struck out eight.

**ROOFMASTERS  
ROOFING CO., INC.  
& SHEET METAL**

**PROUDLY SERVING  
NORTON  
AND NORTHWEST KANSAS FOR  
OVER 30 YEARS!!!**

**OFFERING FREE ESTIMATES  
ON ALL STYLES OF RESIDENTIAL  
AND COMMERCIAL ROOFING**

**GIVE US A CALL TODAY!!**

**1-800-536-6642  
1-785-462-6642**

**425 E. HILL, COLBY, KS**

**LICENSED – BONDED – INSURED  
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED**

Don't fall victim to the "storm chasers" and the weekend roofers.  
Hail or no hail, ROOFMASTERS is here for NW Kansas!  
Put your trust in a time tested contractor  
with industry leading standards!

## NEEDING TO ADVERTISE?

Send your Ad to The Norton Telegram via FAX or EMAIL  
All We Need is Your Contact Information!



OR



EMAIL ADDRESS:  
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com  
or dpaxton@nwkansas.com

FAX NUMBER:  
Norton Telegram  
785-877-3732

THE NORTON  
**TELEGRAM**

215 South Kansas Avenue  
Norton, Kansas, 67654  
Phone: 785-877-3361