

Norton Lady Thunder team beats Smith Center

By **DICK BOYD**

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

Handicaps are not a normal thing in softball games but the Norton Thunder 18 and Under girls softball team played with one on July 2 in Norton and still won both games of a double header with Smith Center.

What was their handicap?

They were playing short of one player!

"We only had eight players because we found out 30 minutes before game time that one of our girls wasn't coming," said Norton Thunder head coach Brandon Gay.

"That meant we had to play with just two outfielders and take an automatic out in the ninth spot."

In the end, Norton won the first game 8-7 and the second contest 8-5!

Opener

Smith Center took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning but did not score again until the top

of the fourth inning. Meanwhile, the Lady Thunder tallied three runs in the bottom of the third to take a 3-2 lead. Shauna Gibson, Skylar Davis and Kristen Dole all walked to start the inning. Amanda Kessler singled and Sabre Plante doubled. Tara Bracktenbach walked. Gibson, Davis and Dole all scored.

In the top of the fourth, Smith Center scored five runs on three hits and three walks to take a 7-3 lead. The Thunder was equal to the occasion in the bottom of the fourth when they rallied with five runs to win 8-7!

Kirstin Georgeson, Davis, Dole and Kessler all singled, Plante doubled and Bracktenbach walked. All except Bracktenbach scored.

The Thunder had eight hits, six walks and one strike out. Leading hitters for Norton were Amanda Kessler, who was a perfect 3 for 3, and Sabre Plante, who was 2 for 3 with the bat.

Kirstin Georgeson was the

winning pitcher for the Thunder. She gave up four hits, walked six and struck out four batters.

"In the first two innings, we hit the ball hard several times but right at a fielder," said coach Gay. "We started the third inning with the automatic out and a grounder to third base. But we put together a little two out rally with a couple of key hits by Kessler and Plante.

"Smith Center had a big inning in the top of the fourth, which was the last inning due to the time limit. We started the bottom of the fourth with the automatic out, a single by Georgeson and another out. So, we were down by four runs with a runner on first and two outs. Davis, Dole, Kessler and Plante came through with clutch hits and Bracktenbach walked. That left the winning run on third with two outs and the automatic out on deck.

"Smith Center attempted to walk our eighth batter to get to the automatic third out so we

planned to steal home when ball four was on the way. Fortunately, ball three got past the catcher and Plante, who was getting a very ambitious lead on every pitch, was able to slide into home for the winning run!"

Nightcap

Smith Center got a great start in the second game by scoring five runs on one hit and six walks in the top of the first inning.

Not to worry, the Lady Thunder answered in the bottom of the first with four runs of their own to trail by just 5-4. Georgeson, Gibson and Davis all walked, Dole singled, Kessler blasted a triple and Bracktenbach and Ashley Hildebrand both walked. All except Georgeson, Bracktenbach and Hildebrand scored.

Smith Center was retired without any runs or hits in the top of the second.

The Thunder took the lead for good with four more runs in the bottom of the second. Gibson walked, Davis singled, Dole walked, Kessler, Plante, Bracktenbach and Hildebrand all singled. Gibson, Davis, Dole and Kessler all scored.

Smith Center was also runless, hitless and scoreless in the top of the third thinning, leaving the Thunder with an 8-5 victory.

Norton Thunder had six hits, six walks and no strike outs. Leading hitter for the Thunder was Amanda Kessler, who was a perfect 2 for 2 at the plate.

Kristen Dole pitched two-



thirds of the first inning, allowing one hit, walking seven and striking out two batters. Winning pitcher was Kirstin Georgeson, who allowed no hits, walked three and struck out four batters in two and one-third innings.

"We had a rough first inning, which put us in another hole," said coach Gay. "In the bottom of the first, we again had a runner on third with two outs and the automatic out on deck. Hildebrand worked a full count and we decided to take a chance on a straight steal of home. The last pitch was too far outside for Hildebrand to do anything with so she took it for ball four and Kessler got a great jump off third base. She slid into the back of the plate, just avoiding the catcher's tag. It was probably the most exciting play I've seen

on a softball field.

"The momentum from that play carried over into the second inning and our five hits put the game away.

"I was very proud of the way our girls kept battling in both of these games and came back to win both of them. Playing with eight was an obstacle but Georgeson pitched well and the offense just kept doing whatever it took to win the game."

Next action

Final regular season action for the Lady Thunder will be this evening at Stockton, beginning at 7 p.m.

The double header scheduled for this Sunday in Norton versus Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays has been canceled.

JENNINGS NEWS

A birthday celebration for Rachel Carter was held Sunday at the United Methodist Church. Rachel was 90 years young on July 4.

Stan and Ramona Shaw attended a birthday party honoring their great-grandson, Jackson Gillespie on Friday evening at the home of his parents, Aaron and Tara Gillespie, Hays. Grandparents attending were Chris Gillespie and Tom Neff, Marion; Dave and Donna Ward, Hays.

The Broken Wheel Café and

Bar in Jennings closed its doors on Friday, June 28. It is for sale.

Those enjoying cards at the Sunflower Senior Center Wednesday were: Agnes Wahlmeier, Carol Carter, Eleanor Morel, Diane Carter, Stan and Ramona Shaw, Wayne and Louise Cressler. We would welcome more people to come play cards on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

If you haven't checked out the new sidewalk south of the community hall and handicap approach to the senior center, take

a look. It is really nice. More dirt work will be done before the alley will be driven on.

Have you noticed when you mail a letter to some one around here, the letter goes to Wichita and then comes back? This takes several days sometimes. People mailing water payments may not get them to the city office by due date. You can always drop them off at the Bank or have a direct withdrawal.

LYLE NEWS

Two weeks ago, when Charles Keller pastored the Lyle Church, he asked about a few pieces of old pictures, etc., that we had been 'talking about' taking to the Oberlin Museum, but none of us had just done it. So, he said, "It's time" and took them. We hope they will interest people. One is a portrait of Lois Witham, who went from the Lyle community to China during the 30's and 40's as a missionary. I believe her main work was in nutrition. World War II caused much American work there to be shut down, and her own health finally caused her retirement. Charles also took them the picture of the four buildings used by the Lyle Church. They first met in dug-outs, including my great grandfather Samuel Andrews, then in a log church, then one of sod, then a frame building, and finally the one that still stands.

Charles served as pastor at Lyle again Sunday, as it was the fifth Sunday in the month. His wife, Inez, has been hospitalized, but expects to be home soon. We were happy to have visitors, Brian Kelly, Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen.

Joyce Sumner is home from her visit to her sister, Geraldine Everist, in Redondo Beach, Calif. She went somewhere every day and had a great time, and now it is good to be home. She was glad to have Sherry Regal meet her and bring her home from Denver on Thursday. Her granddaughter, Amy, is still waiting for a liver transplant.

MaLaura Hall, the lady who brought my sister, Dixie, to visit, is one of the most enthusiastic visitors I've had. She walked all over town, taking pictures and raving about the beautiful little town. We toured the museum, office, paper room, old high school and spent so much time looking at our senior pictures that we were almost too late for pie and ice cream at Dee Magers. Thanks so much, Dee, Bee and Jody for a fun afternoon.

Tom Baker and Cheryl Parrish put a second coat of paint on my porch and ramp on Saturday.

They do very good work. I went to Oberlin for my daughter, Carol's birthday. Other guests were Tracey Pershing, Tielia High

and Aubrey, Adrienne Vacura, Kylie and Skylar, and Mariah Bader.

TREASURER'S QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Published in The Norton Telegram, Friday, July 12, 2013 1(T)

TREASURER'S QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

CITY OF NORTON, KANSAS

For the Period From April 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013

Table with columns: FUNDS, 1 Old balances (last report), 2 Receipts, 3 Disbursements (warrants paid), 4 Net treasury cash. Rows include GENERAL OPERATING, EMPLOYEE BENEFIT, SPECIAL HIGHWAY, CEMETERY MAINTENANCE, etc.

Table with columns: Available Cash, FIRST STATE, THE BANK, FIRST STATE BANK. Total Available Cash: 9,193,390.71

LIABILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

Table with columns: NORTHDRIDGE HOUSING REFUNDING BOND (2003), AIRPORT REFUNDING BOND ISSUE, etc. Total: 12,677,069.24

I, Patty Rowh do hereby certify that the above statement is correct. Signed, Patty Rowh, City Treasurer

Public Notices

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING - CITY OF ALMENA

Published in The Norton Telegram, Friday, July 12, 2013 1(T)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of City of Almena will meet on August 5, 2013 at 7 pm at Almena Community Building for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at City Office and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2014 Expenditures and Amount of 2013 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2014 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

Complex budget summary table with columns: FUND, Expenditures, Actual Tax Rate, Current Year Estimate for 2013, Proposed Budget for 2014, Budget Authority, Amount of 2013, Estimate Tax Rate. Rows include General, Debt Service, Library, Special Highway, etc.

Stacy Whitmey City Official Title: City Clerk

Notice of Budget Hearing - Almena Irrigation District #5, Almena, KS

Published in The Norton Telegram, Friday, July 12, 2013 1(T)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of Almena Irrigation District #5, Almena, KS Norton and Phillips County will meet on the 23rd of July 2013 at 8 pm at the Irrigation District Office, Almena, Kansas for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of landowners related to the use of all funds. Detailed budget information is available at the Irrigation District Office and will be available at this hearing.

Budget summary table for Almena Irrigation District #5 with columns: Adopted Budget, Prior Year Actual 2012, Current Year Estimate 2013, Proposed Budget Year 2014. Rows include GENERAL FUND, Receipts, Resources Available, Expenditures, etc.

Table with columns: Non-budgeted Funds, Beg. Bal. 1/1/2012, Receipts, Expenditure, Ending Bal. Rows include Equipment Reserve, Distribution Works, Water Supply Reserve, etc.

David Van Patten Manager