

Area teams win Smith Center all-star games

SMITH CENTER – With help from Colby and Golden Plains standouts, all-star basketball teams from northwest Kansas high schools won both the girls and boys games in the Sunflower Shootout at Smith Center on Saturday.

The teams played against all-stars from the Mid-Continent League, which includes Smith Center, Plainville, Phillipsburg and Ellis.

In the girls contest, Northwest defeated Mid-Continent 81-64. The team featured Colby High School's Kayla Hockersmith, who scored 10 points. Shaylenn Kaus of Hoxie scored 8 and Jordan Dreher of Decatur Community High School had 4.

The northwest girls were coached by Keith Kresin of St. John's Beloit/Tipton and Darren Grauerholz of Thunder Ridge.

The Northwest boys won 89-80.

Golden Plains senior Rilee Spesser scored 15 points. Fellow

Bulldog Tate Preston added 3, Decatur Community High School's Josh Ritter and Dakota Soderlund scored 9 and 4 points respectively.

The Northwest boys were coached by Kim Lohse of Hanover and Matt Hesting of Rock Hills.

The Sunflower Shootout was sponsored by the Smith Center Recreation Commission.

"It was a fun and exciting day for everyone involved," said Director Mike Hughes. "We were pleased with the turnout for this first-ever event, and I had nothing but good comments from everyone at the end of the day. We are already looking ahead and excited about next year's event."

"I also want everyone to know that the players conducted themselves like ladies and gentlemen all day long and they were great representatives of their schools and their communities. I was very proud of all of them."



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

Colby College sophomore Nathan Wilson, seen here sliding into second in a home game against Lamar last week, drove in two runners in the third inning against Northeastern Junior College on Wednesday in Colorado. He later hit a sacrifice fly in the ninth to seal the win for the Trojans.

Trojans rally late for 6-5 victory

A ninth-inning rally left the Colby Community College baseball team up by 1 to top the Northeastern Junior College Plainsmen in Sterling, Colo., on Wednesday.

Both teams were scoreless until the top of the third, when Colby freshmen Brandon Wilson and Austin Russell scored on an error. Wilson and Russel had gotten on base earlier in the inning on a pair of singles to left field. They advanced on an error but had to wait while freshman Nick Bata popped out and sophomore Kurtis Baker struck out looking.

Sophomore Robert Glover walked, loading the bases. Sophomore Nathan Wilson connected and got on base on an error by Northeastern's shortstop. The same error allowed Russell and Brandon Wilson to reach home, but Glover was out at second to end the inning.

Neither team would score in the fourth, but

Northeastern tied the game at 2 with a 2-run homer to right in the bottom of the fifth. The Colorado team pulled ahead in the sixth when a runner reached home on a fielder's choice.

The Plainsmen widened their lead to 4-2 in the eighth when a runner scored on a double to center.

The Trojans came back to life in the ninth, when Baker batted in two. Russell had been on third base, while freshman Cade Carter got to third on the play and kept going home on an error by the second baseman. Freshman Brandon Frank got to third on the error.

With the score tied at 4 and runners at the corners, Glover doubled, scoring Frank and advancing Baker to third. Nathan Wilson made a sacrifice fly to center field that sent baker home for Colby's fourth and last run of the inning.

Northeastern would score one more run in the bottom of the ninth, but the Trojans won 6-5.

Freshman K.J. Morales started the game for the Trojans, giving up 2 runs on 3 hits. He was relieved after five innings by freshman Andres Gimeno, who picked up the win. Gimeno got 4 strikeouts and gave up three runs on three hits. Freshman R-Jay Joe came in the bottom of the ninth to face two batters. He gave up 1 hit. Northeastern's Kyle Rynearson picked up the loss.

With the win, the Trojans advance to 12-9. They are scheduled to play two games against Butler County Community College in El Dorado on Saturday and Sunday. The team will end its road trip on Tuesday with a home game against McCook Community College from Nebraska at 3 p.m. at the college ball fields.

Royals snap streak with home runs

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) – Melky Cabrera, Alex Gordon and Lance Zawadzki each hit two-run homers and Kansas City broke a four-game spring losing streak.

The Royals trailed 4-0 before scoring nine straight runs, including five in the sixth. Pedro Feliz added a pair of RBI doubles and Bruce Chen gave

up four runs on five hits in six innings.

Seattle scored four runs in the bottom of the third, highlighted by three doubles, and four more in the ninth keyed by Saunders' two-run shot.

Righthander Doug Fister struggled in the last three innings of his start and gave up six runs on seven hits.

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*"Secondhand Smoke Exposure and Cardiovascular Effects: Making Sense of the Evidence," Institute of Medicine, October 15, 2009

A public health message from the Kansas Health Foundation.