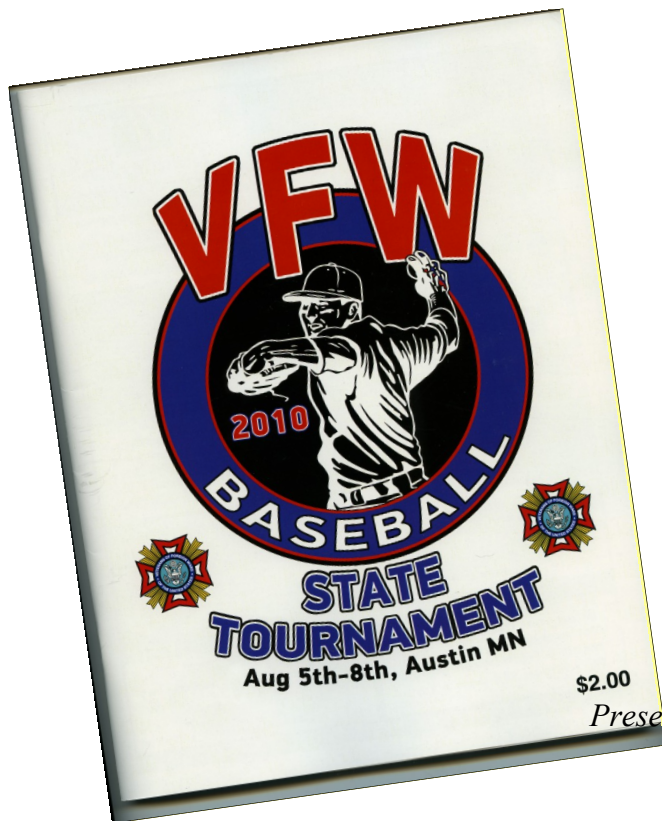


2010 State VFW tournament 4th place Champions

Austin, Minnesota Aug. 5-8

2010 Season Accomplishments Jr. Legion Baseball Team

Southwest League, 13-1, Season First Place
 Sioux Falls SD Mid-Summer Classic, 4-1, Second Place
 Southwest Sub-District, 4-0, First Place
 District 2 Tournament, 4-1, First Place
 Minnesota State VFW, 3-2, Fourth Place



Preserving New Ulm's past and present sports history



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



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Assistant Coaches: Mike Dove

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NEW ULM JUNIOR LEGION 2010 SEASON RECORD Incl. Southwest League Games & Tournaments

Day & Date	Time	Seq	Opponent	Cl	Type	Location	Site	JL	OS	Inn	W	League	Exhib	Other	All	Ref
Sat., 5/120/10	4:00 pm	1	Sleepy Eye	16U	League	H New Ulm	Mueller	8	-	5	7	W	1-0		1-0	3
Sat., 5/29/10		2	Sleepy Eye	16U	League	H New Ulm	Mueller	10	-	0	5	W	2-0		2-0	3
Wed, 6/2/10	6:45 pm	3	Springfield	16U	League	A Springfield	Riverside	4	-	2	7	W	3-0		3-0	4
Sat, 6/5/10	1:00 pm		Dassel (2) Postp.	16U	League	H New Ulm Pspd	Mueller	-	-	-						
Mon, 6/7/10	6:30 pm	4	Fairmont	16U	League	A Fairmont	Varsity	4	-	5	7	L	3-1		3-1	4
Tues, 6/8/10	6:30 pm		Arlington Postpon	16U	League	A Arlington Pspd	A's Field	-	-	-						
Wed., 6/9/10	6:00 pm	5	Glencoe	16U	League	A Glencoe	Vollmer	14	-	0	5	W	4-1		4-1	4
		6	Glencoe	16U	League	A Glencoe	Vollmer	8	-	3	5	W	5-1		5-1	4
Sat., 6/12/10	11:00 am		Holy Family		Tourn	A Mankato Cancelled	Wolverton	-							5-1	
	3:00 pm		Sioux Falls West		Tourn	A Mankato Cancelled	Wolverton	-							5-1	
Sun, 6/13/10	1:00 pm		Eden Prairie		Tourn	A Mankato Cancelled	Wolverton	-							5-1	
Tues, 6/15/10	5:30 pm	7	Springfield	16U	League	H New Ulm	Mueller	21	-	0		W	6-1		6-1	6
		8	Springfield	16U	League	H New Ulm	Mueller	5	-	2	7	W	7-1		7-1	6
Wed 6/16/10	6:00 pm	9	Hutchinson #1	16U	League	A Hutchinson	Vet's mem	11	-	1		W	8-1		8-1	7
Fri 6.18.10	5:30 pm	10	Mpls Southwest		Tourn	N Monticello	Hi School	6	-	3	7	W		1-0	9-1	7
Sat., 6/19/10	9:00 am	11	Columbia Hts		Tourn	N Monticello	Hi School	21	-	13	7	W		2-0	10-1	
Sat., 6/19/10		12	Maple Grove		Tourn	N Monticello		7	-	11	7	L		2-1	10-2	
Sun 6/20/10		13	Roseville		Tourn	N Monticello		5	-	11	7	L		2-2	10-3	
Wed 6/23/10	5:00 pm	14	Sleepy Eye		League	A Sleepy Eye		9	-	7	7	W	9-1		11-3	
Thur, 6/24/10	8:30 pm	15	Minnetonka	16U	Tourn	H New Ulm	Johnson	3	-	5	7	L		2-3	11-4	8
	6/25/10	16	Hutchinson	16U	Tourn	H New Ulm	Johnson	5	-	7	7	L		2-4	11-5	9
Sat., 6/26/10	1:00 pm		Rochester Canc.	16U	Tourn	H New Ulm	Johnson					-				
Sun., 6.27/10	TBD		TBD Cancelled	16U	Tourn	H New Ulm	Johnson					-				
Wed., 7/7/10		17	Hutchinson #2	16U	League	H New Ulm	Mueller	3	-	0	7	W	10-1		12-5	10
Tues., 6/29/10	6:00 pm	18	Hutchinson #2	16U	League	A Hutchinson	Vet's Mem	12	-	2	5	W	11-1		13-5	10
Thurs, 7/8/10	6 pm	19	Dassel	16U	League	H Dassel	Mueller	12	-	2	5	W	12-1		14-5	11
		20	Dassel	16U	League	H Dasell	Mueller	10	-	6	7	W	13-1		15-5	11
Fri., 7/9/19	8:00 pm	21	Watertown, SD	16U	Tourn	N Sioux Fls Classic	Harmadon2	9	-	1		W		3-4	16-5	12
Sat., 7/10/10	12:00 am	22	Sioux Falls South	16U	Tourn	A Siou xFls Classic	Harmadon4	15	-	2	5	W		4-4	17-5	12
Sat., 7/10/10	5:00 pm	23	Garretson, SD	16U	Tourn	N Sioux Fls Classic	Harmadon4	14	-	4	?	W		5-4	18-5	12
Sun., 7/11/10		24	Sioux Falls East	16U	Tourn	A Sioux Fls Classic		14	-	7		W		6-4	19-5	12
Sun 7/11/10		25	Sioux Falls West	16U	Tourn	A Sioux Fs Classic		7	-	10		L		6-5	19-6	12
Thur 7/15/10	1:00 pm	26	Wells	16U	Sub Dist	N St. James		24	-	2	6	W		7-5	20-6	13
Thur 7/15/10	4 :00 pm	27	St. James	16U	Sub Dist	N St. James		10	-	8		W		8-5	21-6	13
Fri 7/16/2010		28	Fairmont	16U	Sub Dist	N St. James		14	-	4	6	W		9-5	22-6	14
Sun 7/18/2010		29	Fairmont	16U	Sub Dist	N St. James		4	-	0		W		10-5	23-6	16

Disgtrict and State

Following Page



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NEW ULM JUNIOR LEGION 2010 SEASON RECORD Incl. Southwest League and Tournaments

Day & Date	Time	Seq	Opponent	Cl	Type	Location	Site	JL	OS	Inn	W	Leagu e	Exhib	Other	All	Ref
DISTRICT 2																
Thur 7/22/2010	10:00 am	30	Shakopee	16U	District 2 H	New Ulm	Johnson	3	-	1	W			11-5	24-6	
Fri 7/31/2010	1:00 pm	31	Hutchinson	16U	District 2 H	New Ulm	Johnson	13	-	1	W			12-5	25-6	
Sat 7/22/2010	1:00 pm	32	Mankato	16U	District 2 H	New Ulm	Mueller	8	-	1	W			13-5	26-6	
Sun 7/23/2010	1:00 pm	33	Rosemount	16u	District 2 H	New Ulm	Johnson	4	-	5	L			13-6	26-7	
Sun 7/23/2010	2:45 pm	34	Rosemount	16U	District 2 H	New Ulm	Johnson	9	-	2	W			14-6	27-7	
STATE																
Thur 8/5/2010	11:30 am		Alexandria	16U	State N	Austin	Howie Strey	4	-	9	L			14-7	27-8	
Thur 8/5/2010	7:30 pm		Forest Lake	16U	State N	Austin	Seltz Stradium	17	-	2	5	W		15-7	28-8	
Fri 8/6/2010	1:30 pm		Proctor	16U	State N	Austin	Howie Strey	12	-	11	W			16-7	29-8	
Fri 8/6/2010	5:00 pm		Red Wing	16U	State N	Austin	Seltz Stadium	5	-	3	W			17-7	30-8	
Sat 8/7/2010	4:00 pm		St. Paul Ran-View	16U	State N	Austin	Setz Stadium	3	-	15	L			17-8	30-9	

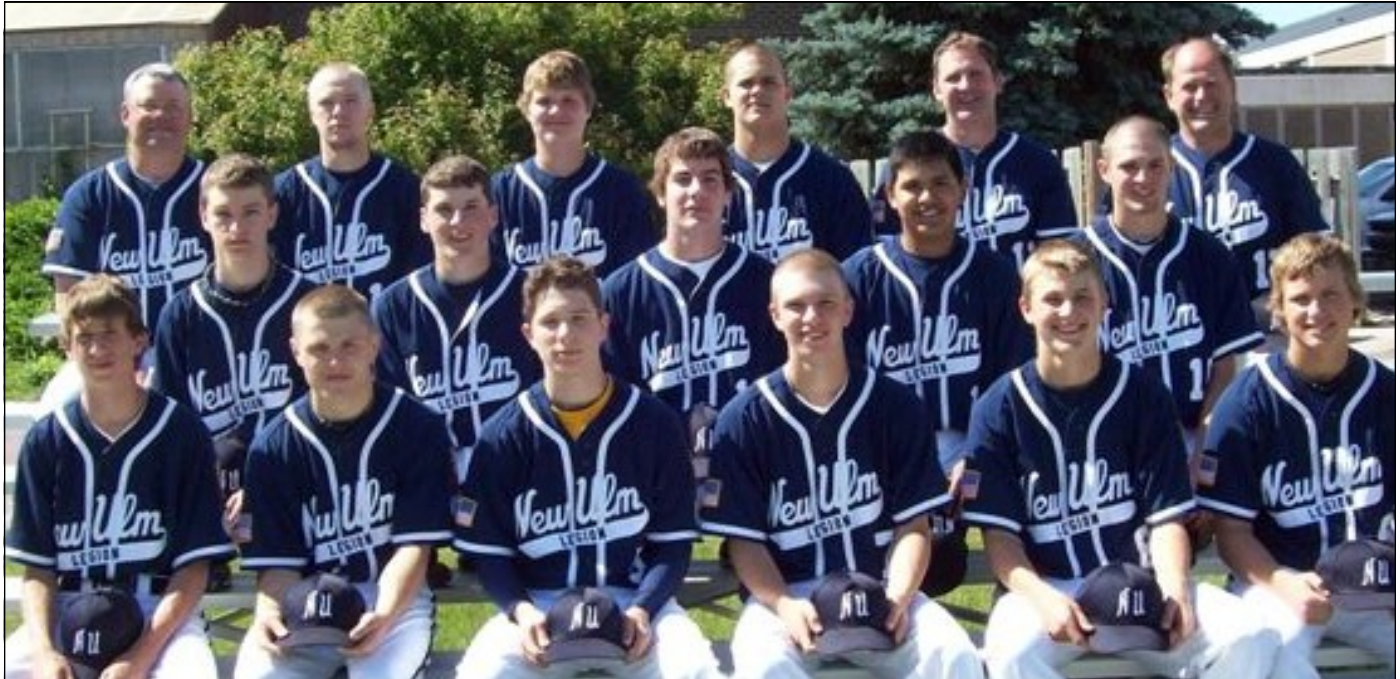


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2010 Team Roster for New Ulm Junior Legion

1	Jordan Guggisberg	P/2B	R/R	Cathedral
2	Ted Skillings,	OF	R/R	Cathedral
5	Brody Peterson	OF/P	R/L	New Ulm High School
7	Ben Wolf	P/SS	R/R	Cathedral
8	Tim Kehren	P/SS	L/R	New Ulm High School
9	David Schreckenber	3B	R/R	New Ulm High School
10	Collin Clyne	P/OF	R/R	New Ulm High School
11	Nate Roeder	2B/P	R/R	New Ulm High School
13	Erich Prokosch	P/1B	L/R	Cathedral
14	Jory Dove	P/3B	R/R	Cathedral
15	Matt Bergmann	P/1B	R/R	New Ulm High School
16	Matt Linscheid	P/OF	R/R	New Ulm High School
18	Connor Stark	C	R/R	New Ulm High School
20	Patrick Bock	P/C/3B	R/R	Cathedral
12	Mark Bergmann	Ass't Coach		
17	Mike Dove	Ass't Coach		
19	Bob Skillings	Coach		



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Jr. Legion sweeps Sleepy Eye 8-5, 10-0

POSTED May 30, 2010 *New Ulm Journal*

NEW ULM - New Ulm Jr. Legion opened the season with a sweep of Sleepy Eye Saturday at Mueller Park.

New Ulm won the first game 8-5 and took the second 10-0 in five innings.

In the first game, Connor Stark was 2-for-4 with a double and five RBIs. Brody Peterson had a double and two runs scored.

Jory Dove earned the win as he pitched four innings of relief with seven strikeouts and a run allowed. Collin Clyne pitched three innings and allowed four runs with four strikeouts.

Jordan Anderson took the loss for Sleepy Eye and as he allowed four runs in four innings of work. He was also the top bat going 3-for-4.

In the second game, Jordan Guggisberg earned the win as he pitched three innings and struck out five. Erich Prokosch pitched two innings with four strikeouts.

Matt Bergmann was 3-for-3 with two triples and four RBIs. Clyne was 2-for-2.

Kyle Krzmarzick took the loss for Sleepy Eye.

New Ulm Jr. Legion vs. Sleepy Eye - Game 1

								R	H	E	LOB
Sleepy Eye	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	5	8	2	8
New Ulm	2	2	0	0	0	4	X	8	5	5	8

Weiss (L), Anderson (3) and Mangen; Clyne, Dove (4) (W) and Stark

New Ulm Jr. Legion vs. Sleepy Eye - Game 2

								R	H	E	LOB
Sleepy Eye	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	0	1	3	2
New Ulm	2	7	1	0	X			10	9	0	3

Krzmarzick (L), Neid (3) and Mangen; Guggisberg (W), Prokosch (4) and Bock



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Jr. Legion wins 4-2 at Springfield

POSTED June 3, 2010 New Ulm Journal

SPRINGFIELD - New Ulm Jr. Legion stayed perfect on the season as it beat Springfield 4-2 in VFW play Wednesday.

Matt Linscheid earned the win as he pitched four innings with a hit and five strikeouts. Patrick Bock pitched three innings and allowed two runs on four hits with three strikeouts.

Jake Menage took the loss for Springfield he pitched a complete game and allowed all four runs on six hits.

Jr. Legion was led by Dylan Schreckenber going 1-for-3 with a run scored. Connor Stark was 1-for-1 with a run scored and Jordan Guggisberg was 1-for-3 with a run scored.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E	LOB
New Ulm	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	1	6
Springfield	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	5	1	3

Linscheid (W), Bock (5) (S) and Stark; Menage (L) and Portner

Jr. Legion falls to Fairmont

POSTED 6/8/2010 New Ulm Journal

FAIRMONT - Fairmont scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh to beat New Ulm Jr. Legion 5-4 in VFW action Monday.

Brody Peterson took the loss as he allowed two runs with four strikeouts in three innings of relief.

Matt Bergmann started the game and went the first four innings. He allowed three runs on six hits with six strikeouts.

Matt Linscheid was 3-for-3 with a run scored. Erich Prokosch was 2-for-3 with a double and two RBIs. Collin Clyne was 2-for-3 with two RBIs.

NU Jr. Legion Wins Twice

POSTED June 10, 2010 New Ulm Journal

GLENCOE - New Ulm Jr. Legion swept Glencoe 14-0 and 8-3 Wednesday. Both games were five innings.

Ben Wolf earned the win in the first game, pitching three innings and striking out three. Matt Bergmann was 2-for-3 with two doubles and three RBIs and Tim Kehren was 2-for-3 with two runs and an RBI. Matt Linscheid was 3-for-5 with two runs and an RBI.

In the second game, New Ulm was down 3-1 in the top of the fifth before scoring seven runs. Linscheid earned the win, pitching 2 2/3 innings and allowing one hit.

Brody Peterson was 2-for-3 with a run and a double and Dylan Schreckenber was 1-for-3 with a run and an RBI



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New Ulm then added eight more runs in the fourth. Doubles by Peterson and Dylan Schreckenber were the key hits in that inning.

Meanwhile, Dove did not let Springfield get any sort of a threat going as no Springfield runner advanced past first.

"Despite the score, Jory did not lose focus," Skillings said. "Our team has a lot of pitching and with the weather the way that it has been lately, we will use them as we have a good stretch of games coming up."

The Junior Legion continued to have good pitching in the second game as Guggisberg held the Tigers to just one hit through three innings -that coming on an infield single from Shawn Anderson.

Springfield collected all four of its next hits in the fourth inning when it scored two runs to take a 2-0 lead.

Consecutive singles off of Guggisberg by Alex Fink, Isaac Kirschten, Cooper Scheffler and Alex Portner made it a 4-0 Springfield game with Jake Menage in control.

"He held us to six hits when we played them in Springfield earlier [in a 4-2 win]," Skillings said. "He kind of has our number."

The Junior Legion, who was out-hit in the game 5-4, used three of those hits to score five runs. Guggisberg led off with a walk before Linscheid reached on an infield single. Peterson walked to load the bases and Prokosch followed with a three-run double to center field for a 3-2 New Ulm lead.

A Nate Roeder sacrifice fly and a passed ball gave New Ulm a 5-2 lead which Guggisberg held up in the win.

Linscheid had two of New Ulm's five hits.

Junior Legion tops Sleepy Eye

POSTED June 23, 2010

SLEEPY EYE -New Ulm Junior Legion defeated Sleepy Eye 9-7 in eight innings in VFW baseball action Wednesday.

Matt Bergmann had a home run and a two-run double that gave New Ulm the lead in the top of the eighth. He finished with three RBIs. Collin Clyne had two hits, a double, three runs and an RBI. Erich Prokosch scored two runs and had two RBIs.

For Sleepy Eye, Kansas Adams took the loss. He pitched four innings, allowing three runs and three hits. He walked two and struck out two.

Scott Salfer was 2-for-5 and Nolan Helget was 2-for-2 with an RBI.

John Mangen was 2-for-4 with a double and two RBIs. Sleepy Eye (10-4) plays New Ulm Gold at 6 p.m. today in the Junior Upper Midwest Classic at Johnson Park.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



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Jr. Legion rained out

POSTED June 13, 2010 *New Ulm Journal*

MANKATO - New Ulm Jr. Legion and Sleepy Eye were both rained out of the Mankato VFW Tournament Saturday.

Sunday's tournament games were also canceled.

Sleepy Eye will host Sioux Falls for a doubleheader starting at 2 p.m. today.

NU Jr. Legion sweeps Springfield

POSTED June 16, 2010 *New Ulm Journal*

By Jim Bastian — Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - There were a couple of things that were evident in the New Ulm Junior Legion's doubleheader sweep of Springfield Tuesday night at Mueller Park.

First and foremost was that New Ulm has a solid and deep pitching staff.

In the 12 innings played, New Ulm allowed just five hits - all of those hits coming in the second game after Jory Dove had no-hit the Tigers in the opener.

The second was that the Junior Legion can get a lead and build on it as it did in that opener or, as it did in the nightcap, come back late with some key hits.

Add those things together and you have wins of 21-0 in five innings and a come-from-behind 5-2 win in the second game.

"I think that we had all aspects come together," said New Ulm coach Bob Skillings, who saw his teams improve to 7-1 on the season. "Offensively we did well. We fielded the ball well [one error in the two games] and the pitching was outstanding tonight."

Especially in the first game when righthander Dove pitched a five inning no-hitter in the 21-0 blowout. Dove struck out five and allowed just three baserunners, all on walks.

And he was backed by a 15-hit attack that scored 10 runs in the bottom of the first inning alone.

Isaac Kirschten took the loss for Springfield, going just 2/3 of an inning. He gave up seven hits and 10 runs.

Connor Stark led the Junior Legion with three hits with Brody Peterson, Erich Prokosch and Matt Bergmann each collecting two hits. Prokosch drove in four runs with Matt Linscheid driving in three.

New Ulm sent 10 men to the plate in that first inning with Prokosch and Bergmann each getting RBI singles before Dove helped his own cause with a two-run single for a 4-0 lead.

Jordan Guggisberg's double, a Linscheid two-run double, a walk and the third double of the inning, this one from Prokosch, made it a 9-0 game.

The Junior Legion, which sent 41 batters to the plate in the game, added three more in the third when Springfield committed two errors with two outs.

A Connor Stark base hit, a wild pitch and a bases loaded walk after the errors made it 13-0.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

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VFW Gold, Junior Legion both win

POSTED June 17, 2010 New Ulm Journal

HUTCHINSON - With the game tied at two going into the top of the ninth, New Ulm Jr. Legion scored nine runs as it beat Hutchinson 1, 11-5.

Tim Kehren started the game and went 3 1/3 innings allowing two runs with three strikeouts. Nate Roeder pitched the next 2 2/3 innings with no runs allowed. Patrick Bock pitched the final three innings with four strikeouts.

Bock was 3-for-4 with two doubles. Jordan Guggisberg was 3-for-5 with an RBI. Brody Peterson had three hits and Tyler Stark had two hits with three RBIs.

New Ulm Jr. Legion loses to Roseville in Monticello tourney

POSTED June 21, 2010 New Ulm Journal

MONTICELLO — New Ulm Junior Legion lost the third place game to Roseville 11-5 Sunday in the Monticello tournament. Erich Prokosch took the pitching loss. He went six innings and gave up eight runs. Dylan Schreckenberg had one hit, and two RBIs; Matt Bergmann had one hit. Ben Wolf had one hit. In Saturday action, Junior Legion lost to Maple Grove in semi-finals 11-7. Jory Dove was the losing pitcher, giving up five runs. Patrick Bock had two hits, one double, one triple and scored three runs. Prokosch had two hits, one double and a triple. Jr. Legion's record is 10-3. New Ulm won over Southwest. New Ulm won the opening game (see below) and advanced with a slugfest 21-13 win over Columbia Heights (see details below).

New Ulm Junior Legion wins 6-3

POSTED June 19, 2010 New Ulm Journal

MONTICELLO - New Ulm Junior Legion defeated Minneapolis Southwest 6-3 in VFW baseball action Friday.

Collin Clyne earned the win and Ben Wolf was the starter. Wolf struck out 11 in 5 2/3 innings.

Erich Prokosch was 1-for-4 with a triple and two runs and Matt Bergmann was 2-for-4 with a double and an RBI. Clyne as a bases-loaded triple also.

Junior Legion wins slugfest

POSTED June 20, 2010 New Ulm Journal

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS - New Ulm Junior Legion defeated Columbia Heights 21-13 in VFW baseball action Saturday.

Matt Lindscheid was the winning pitcher, going six innings and allowing six runs.

Dylan Schreckenberg had three hits, three RBIs and three runs. Collin Clyne had three hits, four runs, and three RBIs and Erich Prokosch had three hits, three RBIs and a double and a triple.

Matt Bergmann had three hits and three RBIs and Jory Dove had three hits and three runs scored. Patrick Bock had two hits and a home run.



Tonka defeats Junior Legion

POSTED June 25, 2010 New Ulm Journal

By Jim Bastian

NEW ULM - The New Ulm Junior Legion is a team that normally takes advantage of their scoring chances.

But Thursday night, New Ulm squandered two scoring opportunities late in the game and it cost them as they fell to the Tonka Mudhens 5-3 at Johnson Park.

Matt Mattiacci got the mound win for the Mudhens. He went four innings and allowed four hits and two runs. Anders Samuelson permitted the final run.

Matt Lindscheid took the loss for New Ulm in relief of starter Patrick Bock. Bock went 2 2/3 innings and was charged with three runs. Lindscheid allowed the final two runs of the game.

Andy Shotwell led the 11-hit Tonka attack with three hits. Gabe Boyce added two hits.

Dylan Schreckenberghad two of New Ulm's five hits in the game.

"A break here or there, and it would have been a different story," New Ulm coach Bob Skillings said. "I am proud of the way that my team fought all game whether it was at the plate or in the field. But we just did not get that key hit."

New Ulm needed a key hit and it looked like they would have a good chance of erasing a then 4-2 Tonka lead in the bottom of the fifth inning.

The Junior Legion loaded the bases with no outs on a single from Brody Peterson and walks to Collin Clyne and Erich Prokosch.

But then the turning point of the game happened.

Bergmann lacked a groundball to first baseman Camerob Slimmer who fielded the ball cleanly and threw home to force out Peterson for the first out. Tonka catcher Matt Behounek's throw back to Slimmer to force out Prokosch hit Prokosch in the back and Prokosch was called out for running inside the base line for a double play.

The next batter, Connor Stark, grounded out to end the inning and the threat.

Tonka added an insurance run in the top of the sixth on a fielders choice, a stolen base and an RBI single from Behounek.

New Ulm had a chance to peck away at the lead in the bottom of the seventh when both Peterson and Clyne coaxed one-out walks off of Samuelson before Prokosch brought New Ulm a run closer with a run-scoring single to center field.

But Samuelson avoided further damage when he retired Bergmann and Stark on groundouts to preserve the win.

Tonka took a 1-0 lead in the first on singles from Boyce, Alex LaPorte and Shotwell.

New Ulm tied the game in the bottom of the second on consecutive doubles from Schreckenbergh and Jordan Guggisberg. But the Mudhens scored two runs in the third on an infield single, an error and three straight walks from Bock.

A Bergmann walk, a stolen base and an RBI single from Schreckenbergh cut the lead to 3-2. But the Hens added single runs in the fifth and sixth innings on a groundout and a Behounek single.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello New Ulm Junior Legion's Dylan Schreckenbergh slides safely into second as Tonka Mudhens' second baseman Mike Prochno looks for the ball during the Junior Upper Midwest Classic Thursday at Johnson Park in New Ulm. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



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Weather again plays role in Jr. Upper Midwest

POSTED June 27, 2010 New Ulm Journal

NEW ULM - Bad weather again made a mess of the Jr. Upper Midwest Classic Saturday.

Severe weather in the New Ulm area Friday forced the cancellation of eight games that were to be played as part of Saturday's pool play.

When severe weather rolled into the area again on Saturday night, more games were cancelled.

Jr. Legion's game with Rochester was halted in the second inning and will not be resumed.

Jr. Legion lost its other game 7-5 to Hutchinson and finished the tournament 0-3. Sleepy Eye won all three of its games, including a 12-2 victory over Mankato Saturday to secure the top spot in Pool B.

Creighton won Game 16 over Tonka Mudhens 6-0 after 4 1/2 innings were complete. That gave Creighton first place in Pool A.

Creighton will play Maple Grove, the runner-up in Pool B at 9 a.m. today at Johnson Park.

Sleepy Eye won Pool B and will face Tonka Mudhens at noon.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Game 8: Tonka Mudhens 11, Rochester 2

Game 10: Creighton 8, Osseo 1

Game 11: Luverne 7, New Ulm VFW Gold 3

Game 12: Hutchinson 7, New Ulm Jr. Legion 5

Game 13: Sleepy Eye 12, Mankato 2

Game 14: Osseo 7, Hutchinson 6

Game 15: Luverne 9, Omaha Gross 7, 8 inn.

Game 16: Creighton 6, Tonka Mudhens 0, 4 1/2

Game 17: Maple Grove 18, New Ulm VFW Gold 4

Game 18: Rochester at New Ulm Jr. Legion (cancelled)

Game 19: Luverne vs. Sleepy Eye (cancelled)

Game 20: Rochester vs. Creighton (cancelled)

Game 21: Maple Grove vs. Mankato (cancelled)

Game 22: Hutchinson vs. Tonka Mudhens (cancelled)

Game 23: VFW Gold vs. Omaha Gross (cancelled)

Game 24: Osseo at New Ulm Jr. Legion (cancelled)

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

Game 25: Creighton vs. Maple Grove, 9 a.m. Johnson Park

Game 26: Sleepy Eye vs. Tonka Mudhens, 12 p.m., Johnson Park

Game 27: Championship, 2:30 p.m., Johnson Park



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello
Members of New Ulm Junior Legion prepare to leave as the tarps are pulled out at Johnson Park Saturday evening. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com



NU Jr. Legion stops Hutch

POSTED June 29, 2010 New Ulm Journal

HUTCHINSON - New Ulm Junior Legion defeated Hutchinson 12-2 in five innings in VFW baseball action Wednesday. Collin Clyne got the win. He pitched two innings and allowed both runs. Ben Wolf struck out four in relief. Brody Peterson had three hits, a double and three RBIs and Patrick Bock had two hits, two runs and two RBIs. Dylan Schreckenber and Tim Kehren each had a hit and three runs scored.

Jr. Legion blanks Hutch

POSTED July 8, 2010 New Ulm Journal

By Jim Bastian

NEW ULM - Brody Peterson and Nate Roeder combined to pitch a five-hit shutout and New Ulm managed to score three unearned runs as the Junior Legion went on for a 3-0 win over Hutchinson Wednesday night at Mueller Park.

Peterson got the win for New Ulm. The lefthander went four innings and allowed just one hit while striking out five.

The righthanded Roeder allowed five hits and fanned two.

Connor Kern took the loss for Hutchinson despite allowing just four hits. But all three of the Hutchinson errors in the game led to New Ulm runs.

Erich Prokosch had two of New Ulm's four hit with one of the hits a double. Matt Linscheid also had a double with Linscheid, Prokosch and Jordan Guggisberg each driving in a run.

"After watching the first game tonight (between Hutchinson and the New Ulm VFW Blue) I expected that we would have more than four hits," New Ulm coach Bob Skillings said. "But their pitcher did a good job of throwing off-speed stuff and keeping us off-balance. We have had a week off so maybe our bats were a little rusty."

Even though New Ulm's bats may have not been as fine-tuned as Skillings would have wanted, the Hutchinson defense provided some help.

New Ulm scored its first unearned run of the game in the bottom of the third inning when Jordan Guggisberg reached on an error by Hutchinson third baseman Josh Goodwater to start the inning. Matt Linscheid coaxed a walk before Collin Clyne flew out to center field for the first out.

Prokosch followed with a double to center field that scored Guggisberg.

Junior Legion came back with two more runs - again both unearned - in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Connor Stark reached on a two-out error by Goodwater at third. Courtesy runner Ted Skillings stole second before with Guggisberg following with a single to left field that brought in Skillings for a 2-0 lead.

Guggisberg then raced home on a Linscheid double down the left field line for a 3-0 cushion.

Meanwhile Hutchinson, was getting men on base.

The problem was getting them home.



New Ulm Junior Legion catcher Connor Stark tags out a Hutchinson runner at home Wednesday at Mueller Park in New Ulm. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net

In the first inning, they lost a runner at home on a 2-3-2 double play to end the inning.

In the second, Hutchinson placed runners on first and third with two outs before Peterson fanned the final out of the inning.

The fourth inning saw Hutchinson place runners on second and third with two outs before Peterson got the final out on his fifth strikeout.

Not to be outdone, Roeder worked out of a jam in the fifth inning when he allowed a double and single with one out before he set down the next two Hutchinson batters to end another threat.

Skillings said that both pitchers did a great job of working out of trouble.

"We have a big tournament in Sioux Falls this coming weekend so I did not want to use my pitchers too much tonight," he said. "But the effort that I got from those two was excellent."

He also praised his defense that had just one error in the game and helped both pitchers to work out of trouble.

"We took advantage of their errors with some timely hits," Skillings said. "There have been times this season where we have looked for them but have not gotten them. Tonight we got them."

Jr. Legion sweeps

POSTED July 9, 2010 *New Ulm Journal*

By Jeremy Behnke, Journal Sports Editor

NEW ULM - After Wednesday night's game with Hutchinson, New Ulm Junior Legion coach Bob Skillings said that his team's bats were a bit rusty after having a long break in between games.

On Thursday, Junior Legion met up with Dassel and Junior Legion showed no signs of rust whatsoever in a 12-2, five-inning win in the first game at Mueller Park.

In the second game, the Junior Legion bats continued to put pressure on, scoring 10 runs in a 10-6 victory to complete the sweep.

In Game 1, Matt Bergmann earned the win as he pitched the first three innings and allowed two hits. Jory Dove pitched the final two innings and allowed both runs and two hits.

New Ulm took the lead from the start and never looked back. Nate Roeder and Jordan Guggisberg scored the first two runs of the game on Matt Lindscheid's RBI single up the middle.

New Ulm tacked on another run in the third inning before scoring three times in the fourth inning as Dassel's defense got sloppy, throwing the ball around the infield on several occasions to let New Ulm score three times in the fourth inning.

New Ulm put the game away in the bottom of the fifth when it scored six runs. Guggisberg, Dylan Schreckenberg, Lindscheid, Collin Clyne, Dove and Tim Kehren all scored to end the game early. The winning run came on Connor Stark's bases-loaded single to make it 12-2.

In the second game, New Ulm scored the first two runs of the game in the second inning. New Ulm scored four runs in the third inning and four more in the fourth inning to break the game wide open.

Guggisberg earned the win for New Ulm. He pitched the first three innings, giving up four runs and striking out three. Kehren and Erich Prokosch each pitched two innings in relief.

Bergmann had a two-run double in the fourth inning and Patrick Bock doubled him home. Bock finished with three hits and two runs scored and Bergmann had two doubles and three RBIs along with three runs scored.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello
New Ulm Junior Legion's Matt Lindscheid slides under the Dassel catcher to score a run during the first game of a doubleheader Thursday at Mueller Park in New Ulm. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net



Jr. Legion picks up win over Watertown

POSTED July 10, 2010 New Ulm Journal

SIOUX FALLS - New Ulm Jr. Legion won its first game over Watertown, S.D. 9-1 at the Sioux Falls Tournament Friday.

New Ulm won on a Brody Peterson triple that ended the game because of the eight-run rule.

Ben Wolf earned the win. He pitched four innings and struck out six, allowing one hit.

Matt Bergmann, Pat Bock and Dylan Schreckenberg each had two hits for New Ulm. New Ulm (16-5) plays Sioux Falls South and Garretson, S.D. today

Jr. Legion wins twice

POSTED July 11, 2010 New Ulm Journal

SIOUX FALLS - New Ulm Junior Legion went 2-0 Saturday at the Sioux Falls Tournament and advanced to today's championship round.

New Ulm defeated Sioux Falls South 15-2 in five innings.

Matt Lindscheid took the loss. He pitched four innings and allowed four runs and two hits.

Matt Bergmann and Connor Stark had three hits each and Stark had four RBIs. Erich Prokosch and Tim Kehren each had two hits.

New Ulm (18-5) then won 14-4 over Garretson, S.D. In the second game, Kehren earned the win. He pitched three innings and struck out two. Collin Clyne pitched the last four innings. Both gave up two runs.

Ted Skillings, Jory Dove and Brody Peterson each had three hits. Ben Wolf had two hits.

Junior Legion falls to Sioux Falls West in championship

POSTED July 12, 2010 New Ulm Journal

SIOUX FALLS - New Ulm Junior Legion fell to Sioux Falls West 10-7 in the championship game of the Sioux Falls Classic Tournament on Sunday.

Losing pitcher was Patrick Bock.

Brody Peterson had three hits and two RBIs; Connor Stark had three hits and two RBIs; Erich Prokosch hit a two-run home run.

In the first game of the championship round, Junior Legion defeated Sioux Falls East 14-7.

Ben Wolf was the winning pitcher, and he also had two hits and four RBIs.

Peterson had two hits and scored three runs. Dylan Schreckenberg had two hits and two RBIs.

Junior Legion finishes regular play with a 19-6 record.

NUSC Note: The loss in the championship game ended an eight-game winning streak for Junior legion, it's longest of the season.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net

Jr. Legion opens with rout of Wells

POSTED July 16, 2010 New Ulm Journal

By Michael Gassett — Journal Sports Writer

ST. JAMES - It wasn't a good day for pitching Thursday. Especially for pitchers wearing maroon.

New Ulm Jr. Legion pounded out 16 hits and scored 24 runs - 17 in the sixth inning alone - as it blew past Wells 24-2 in VFW Southwest Subdistrict action in St. James.

If it wasn't for that sixth inning, the score would have been a lot closer.

Jr. Legion held just a 7-2 advantage going into the sixth but then everything changed.

The first four batters reached base and before anyone knew it, New Ulm sent 22 batters to plate. Every New Ulm batter reached base at least once in the barrage. But New Ulm had just six hits in the inning and was helped by six free passes, two hit batters and two errors.

New Ulm jumped out to a 2-0 lead after the second and it tacked on four more runs in the third to go up 6-0.

Wells countered with its first run in the third and Jr. Legion made it 7-1 with a single run in the top of the fourth.

Wells then added its final run of the game in the bottom of the fifth to make it 7-2 before New Ulm blew up for the 17-run sixth inning.

"Our hitters didn't lose much focus in the game," Jr. Legion coach Bob Skillings said. "They gave us a good game up until the sixth inning. I'm glad the guys were focused and we had some good pitching."

Ben Wolf led the way for Jr. Legion in the ninth spot of the order. He reached base four times in the game and was 3-for-3 with two RBIs and two runs scored. Matt Linscheid had a triple and three RBIs. Connor Stark was 3-for-6 with two RBIs and four runs scored. Ted Skillings and Jory Dove each had two hits and two RBIs.

Brody Peterson scored three runs, Nate Roeder scored two runs and Erich Prokosch, Tim Kehren and Jordan Guggisberg each had an RBI.

Kehren earned the win. He pitched three innings and allowed a run on two hits with three strikeouts, six walks and two hit batters.

Guggisberg pitched the final three innings. He allowed one unearned run on no hits with two walks. He struck out seven of the 12 batters he faced.

Coleman Bushlock took the loss for Wells. He pitched 3 1/3 innings and allowed seven runs on eight hits with three strikeouts and three walks.

With the loss, Wells faces Blue Earth in an elimination game at noon today.

"We are hoping we can make a run here," Bob Skillings said. "And having a game like that, really gets us started."

Jr. Legion holds on

POSTED July 16, 2010 New Ulm Journal

ST. JAMES - New Ulm Jr. Legion advanced to the winner's bracket championship with a 10-8 win over host St. James Thursday night.

St. James rallied back from an 8-2 deficit to tie Jr. Legion at eight in the bottom of the fifth.

In the top of the sixth, Collin Clyne tripled and scored the go-ahead run when Dylan Schreckenber reached on an error. He scored when Jordan Guggisberg doubled.

Matt Bergmann earned the win in relief of Nate Roeder. Clyne had three hits, Roeder had two hits and Tim Kehren had a pair of hits including a triple.



Jr. Legion moves on to finals

POSTED July 17, 2010

Alex Berg — Journal Sports Writer

ST. JAMES - The New Ulm Jr. Legion defeated Fairmont 14-4 in six innings on Friday night.

Fairmont jumped ahead in the top of the first for a 2-0 lead, but ran themselves out of an even bigger inning by making two outs on the basepaths.

New Ulm wasted no time in getting back into the game, scoring three runs in the bottom half of the first. It scored all three runs with two outs. The rally was highlighted by Tim Kehren's two-out, two-run double.

In the fourth inning, New Ulm capitalized on control problems, a costly error and scored three times, on two hits.

Bryce Holm took the loss for Fairmont. He went 3 1/3 innings. He allowed six runs, three of them were earned, on five hits. He walked five and did not strike out a batter.

Ben Wolf picked up the win for New Ulm, going all six innings. He allowed four runs on eight hits and two walks. He recorded six strikeouts.

Wolf also led off the bottom of the sixth with a double to deep left field. This was the beginning of an eight-run inning that ended the game early.

New Ulm sent 10 hitters to the plate in the inning, getting six hits, and only making one out.

"I'm pretty happy right now, with my team." coach Bob Skillings said after his team's win. "They really showed that they were ready to play. Ben's been throwing the ball great all year and showed it tonight"

Kehren led the way for the New Ulm offense, going 2-for-4 with three runs batted in and two runs scored. Matt Linscheid, Collin Clyne, Brody Peterson, Dylan Schreckenber, and Nate Roeder also scored two times each.

"The way we continue to put pressure on teams makes it tough for them to come back against us." Skillings added.

Jr. Legion defeats Post 1222

POSTED July 17, 2010 Fairmont Sentinel

Jason Wilcox - Sentinel Sports Writer

ST. JAMES - A pair of two-out hits in the first inning was a winning formula for New Ulm Jr. Legion on Friday.

Tim Kehren's two-run double and Connor Stark's RBI single led New Ulm to a 14-4, six-inning win over Fairmont VFW Post 1222 in the winner's bracket of the Second District, Southwest Sub-District baseball tournament in St. James.

Fairmont (10-4) plays Blue Earth or Mapleton at 3 p.m. today in St. James. Blue Earth and Mapleton face each other in an elimination game at noon today.

Blue Earth downed Wells, 10-9, in eight innings Friday, while Mapleton downed St. James, 6-2.

New Ulm Jr. Legion (22-6) plays the survivor between Fairmont, Blue Earth and Mapleton at noon Sunday for the sub-district title.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

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Fairmont scored two runs in the top of the first, but New Ulm's three in the last of the frame turned the tables for good. The Jr. Legion wrapped up the game via the 10-run rule with eight runs in the last of the sixth.

"They had seeing-eye singles (in the sixth) - it was just one of those innings. They were the better team today, and we're just hoping to get another chance Sunday," said Fairmont coach Don Waletich.

In the first frame, New Ulm's Matt Linscheid and Collin Clyne led off by reaching via a walk and a single, respectively, off Fairmont starter Bryce Holm, before Post 1222 recorded two outs.

Kehren then doubled off the fence in left to score both runners and Stark added a single up the middle to score Kehren for a 3-2 lead after one complete inning.

New Ulm added three more in the fourth frame as a throwing error allowed Brody Peterson and Dylan Schreckenberg to score as they reached on a walk and a double, respectively.

A bases-loaded walk to Matt Bergmann later forced in Ben Wolf, who had walked for a 6-2 lead.

In the sixth frame, Kehren led the way with a two-run single to left. New Ulm used five other hits and three errors to score the other runs. Linscheid's one-out single over the shortstop allowed Schreckenberg to score the game-clinching run.

In the top of the first, Fairmont utilized three New Ulm errors to its advantage and two hits to score twice. Bryce Holm reached on an error and scored on a wild pitch, before Ross Wilken advanced to third base on a groundout that turned into a rundown at the plate for an out. Wilken later scored on a Ben Kain single.

Fairmont cut its deficit to 6-4 in the fifth as Levi Becker singled and scored on a Wilken single. Max Waletich then walked against Wolf, the New Ulm starter, before he scored on a Kain single.

Wolf picked up the win, allowing four runs on seven hits in six innings. He struck out five and walked two.

Holm took the loss, allowing six runs on five hits in 3 1/3 innings. He walked five. Becker allowed eight runs on six hits in two innings with one strikeout, three walks and a hit batter.

Fairmont 200 020 - 4 7 4

New Ulm Jr. Legion ... 300 308 - 14 11 3

Bryce Holm (LP), Levi Becker (4) and Andy Reiter. Ben Wolf (WP) and Connor Stark.

LOB-Fairmont 6, New Ulm Jr. Legion 7. 2B-Max Waletich (F), Tim Kehren (NUJL), Dylan Schreckenberg (NUJL), Ben Wolf (NUJL).



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net

NU Junior Legion defeats Fairmont

POSTED July 19, 2010

By CHARLIE SORRELLS Fairmont Sentinel Sports Editor

ST. JAMES - Right-hander Matt Linscheid tossed a five-hit shutout, while Connor Stark produced three RBIs on a pair of doubles to guide New Ulm Junior Legion to a 4-0 victory over Fairmont VFW Post 1222 during Sunday's Southwest Sub-District baseball finale in St. James.

New Ulm Junior Legion (23-6) and Fairmont (11-5) advance to the Second District tournament this week in New Ulm. The district host faces an opponent to be determined at 10 a.m. Thursday in New Ulm. Fairmont opens tourney action at 4 p.m. Thursday.

Post 1222, which lost a 14-4 six-inning semifinal game to New Ulm on Friday, earned a rematch with the Junior Legion by defeating Blue Earth, 12-3, in an elimination game on Saturday in St. James.

Blue Earth posted a 10-4 victory over Mapleton during Saturday's first elimination game.

New Ulm's air-tight defense turned two double plays to help Linscheid maintain his shutout bid.

After Fairmont starting pitcher Max Waletich retired New Ulm in order during the top of the first inning, Levi Becker legged out an in-field hit with one out to help Post 1222 threaten during the home half.

Becker swiped second base and wheeled to third when the catcher's throw skipped into center field. Waletich drilled a sinking liner to Junior Legion right fielder Matt Bergmann, who quickly fired the baseball to first baseman Erich Prokosch.

Prokosch then pegged a perfect relay to catcher Connor Stark to get the fleet-footed Becker at the plate.

Stark then staked New Ulm to a 1-0 lead by following teammate Patrick Bock's two-out double with an RBI double to deep center during the second.

Linscheid worked around Michael Forster's one-out single during the home half before assisting his own cause during the top of the third.

Linscheid lined a leadoff single just inside the third-base bag, advanced 90 feet on Collin Clyne's sacrifice bunt, took third on a passed ball and crossed the plate on Prokosch's RBI groundout.

Despite Ben Kain's leadoff single and a one-out walk to Alek Borchardt, Linscheid got a timely strikeout and a flyout to keep Fairmont off of the scoreboard during the last of the fifth.

The Junior Legion doubled its lead in the sixth when Bergmann singled with one out, Bock reached on a two-out error and Stark blasted a pivotal two-run double to the left-center gap.

Leading 4-0, Linscheid averted damage in the last of the sixth by getting a groundout on the heels of Ross Wilken's two-out double.

New Ulm second baseman Nate Roeder then delivered an accurate relay throw to the plate to end the game via a double play in the bottom of the seventh.

Kain lined a leadoff double before Andy Reiter walked with no outs before Linscheid recorded his fourth strikeout of the game.

The New Ulm right-hander got a fielder's choice groundout on the next pitch before Roeder threw out the runner trying to score from second on the play.

Linscheid, Stark and Bock each collected two hits to top New Ulm's seven-hit effort, while Kain recorded two hits to pace Fairmont's fifth-hit performance.

Linscheid struck out four and walked three in seven innings to earn the complete-game victory. Waletich allowed four runs - one earned - on six hits, struck out two and walked one in six innings to take the loss. Borchardt gave up one hit and walked one in closing the seventh.

NUJL ... 011 002 0 - 4 7 1

Fmt..... 000 000 0 - 0 5 1

Matt Linscheid (WP) and Connor Stark. Max Waletich (LP), Alek Borchardt (7) and Andy Reiter.

LOB-New Ulm Jr. Legion 7; Fairmont 6. 2B-Stark (NUJL) 2, Ross Wilken (F), Ben Kain (F), Patrick Bock (NUJL). SAC-Reiter (F), Collin Clyne (NUJL).



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net



State Tourney begins Thursday

POSTED Aug. 3, 2010 New Ulm Journal

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - The New Ulm Junior Legion baseball team has been having a lot of practice times as they prepare for the 2010 Minnesota State VFW Tournament that begins in Austin Thursday.

New Ulm, 27-7 will meet Alexandria II at 11 a.m. at Howie Strey Field.

It is New Ulm's first appearance in the State VFW Tournament since 2005.

New Ulm played its last game on Sunday.

That means that it will be 11 days since they have played in game-situations.

Staff photo by Steve Muscatello

New Ulm Junior Legion pitcher Jory Dove tosses a pitch during a recent game. New Ulm starts play in the state VFW baseball tournament at Austin Thursday. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com

"We have been practicing almost every day," New Ulm coach Bob Skillings said. "We have worked out our pitchers, taking regular batting practice."

drum.

But as any coach or player knows, doing the same hum drum things can get, well, hum

"So we have started to do some fun things at practice," Skillings said. "We heard that there will be a 'Home Run Derby' competition at the state tournament. So we went out to North Park and had our own Home Run Derby contest to prepare for that."

For the record, Matt Bergmann, Patrick Bock and Erich Prokosch have the home runs for New Ulm during the regular season.

Skillings said that the current lay-off of 1 1/2 weeks is not too bad.

"We had roughly a week off during the July 4th Holiday time," Skillings said. "And the fact that we are practicing every day - the guys come and do their work. They are having fun together but there is some anticipation of getting going again. We are making the most of this time off."

This year, New Ulm has had solid pitching and good hitting.

New Ulm's team ERA is 2.91 and the team is led by Matt Linscheid's 1.60 ERA and 6-0 mark.

Skillings said that Linscheid will get the start against Alexandria II on Thursday.

Ben Wolf is also 6-0 for Junior Legion. His ERA is just a shade above Linscheid's at 1.85.

Matt Bergmann is 3-0 with Jory Dove at 3-1.

Offensively, Linscheid leads the team with a .412 batting average with Bergmann close behind at .400.

Connor Stark (.393). Collin Clyne (.380) Patrick Bock (.368) and Jory Dove (.351) are New Ulm hitters above the .350 mark for the season.

Skillings said that this team set a goal when the year started but had to work through some slumps.

"Our first tournament this year was Mankato and that got rained out," Skillings said. "That took an edge off of our season. We went to Monticello, won the first two games and then lost games in the semi-finals and those kind of hurt. At that time, I was experimenting with different line-ups. Then we came to the New Ulm tournament and lost to Minnetonka and never recovered."

But Skillings said the Sioux Falls Tournament is where the team turned it around.



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But Skillings said the Sioux Falls Tournament is where the team turned it around. "We really bonded out there and played well and have been ever since."

And it re-focused the team on their pre-season goal.

"That was to get to the state tournament," he said. "This team is a motivated team. The guys have come together from two different schools and have blended well together. This was our goal from day one - to get to state and win the state championship."

Former VFW state champion players give 2010 contenders last minute encouragement

(Special presentation of New Ulm Sports Central with submitted photos)

Three players representing former New Ulm state champion VFW age baseball teams helped send off the New Ulm Junior Legion team to the state tournament starting Thursday in Austin at 11 a.m. The players met Wednesday before departing and heard present day baseball people who were on state champion VFW teams. A banquet Wednesday night will host all the tournament participants.

Greeting the team at the Wednesday morning practice were Ken Brueske, Bryce Boelter and Doug Bode, all of whom were on New Ulm's previous state champion teams. Boelter and Bode were on the VFW teams while Brueske was a player on the 1952 New Ulm Midgets which won the state Aquatennial title. Brueske later was manager of the state amateur champion Kaiserhoff team.

Coach Bob Skillings said the trio did a "fabulous job of sharing their thoughts about playing on a champion team and the qualities they felt were needed to be a champion team. Skillings felt his charges benefited greatly from the visit of the former players.



The 2010 VFW District 2 Champions held a final workout Wednesday before leaving for the state tournament at Austin. The team posed for a send-off picture which the three members of state champion VFW teams from New Ulm. They are in the back row with Ken Brueske standing at the left and Doug Bode in red shirt at right. Bryce Boelter is in a row by himself (fourth from left).



With team members listening intently, Doug Bode (in red shirt) tells how it felt to win a championship jacket when his team won the state title. Bryce Boelter and Ken Brueske, standing to Bode's right, also shared the memories of their playing days when they, too, won the state VFW and Midget titles. Brueske's 1951 team won the Minneapolis Aquatennial "state championship" before the VFW tournaments started.

2010 Team Only Third Team to Win 30 or More Games

When Jr. Legion defeated Red Wing in the state VFW tournament it was it's 30th victory against eight losses. The all-time mark is 36 by the 1987 team which finished with a 36-4 record and the state championship. The 2009 Junior Legion team won 34 and lost five. Records are based on data gathered and documented by Carl Wyczawski and New Ulm Sports Central. Some year's records, however, are not available because of lost information or incomplete data.



Jr. Legion battles back to stay in the hunt

POSTED Aug. 6, 2010 New Ulm Journal

By Jeremy Behnke — Journal Sports Editor

(Note: This headline was changed by NUSC to more appropriately reflect the situation)

AUSTIN - In its first game of the VFW State Tournament, New Ulm Junior Legion showed some rust offensively and scored only four runs en route to being sent to the loser's bracket.

The 9-4 loss to Alexandria sent New Ulm a message, and that led to a 17-2 crushing of Forest Lake in five innings at the campus of Riverland Community College.

Although things ended well for New Ulm, it didn't exactly get off to a great start. After falling behind 3-1 in the bottom of the third inning, New Ulm Junior Legion had to play catch-up the rest of the way against Alexandria in the first round at Howie Strey Field.

New Ulm did manage to tie the game in the top of the sixth, but Alexandria decided to put New Ulm away with a six-run sixth.

In the first game, New Ulm had what seemed like a long battle on its hands to tie the game up. New Ulm scored the game's first run in the top of the third when Brody Peterson doubled and later scored on a fielder's choice.

Matt Lindscheid was cruising along until the bottom of the fourth. There, he ran into some problems as Alexandria finally seemed to solve him as it scored three runs to go up 3-1 at that point.

New Ulm cut into the deficit in the top of the fifth after Dylan Schreckenber led off the inning with a walk and scored on Matt Bergmann's two-out hit.

New Ulm then tied the game in the sixth after Tim Kehren led off with a hit. He later scored on a double play.

But after battling back to tie the game, Alexandria clearly wanted to put the game out of reach in the bottom of the sixth and managed to do just that.

Alexandria got to Lindscheid once again, and he wasn't able to survive the inning after Alexandria sent 10 batters to the plate and scored six times to go ahead 9-3 at that point.

Craig Campbell had a double and Nick Knoblach tripled. Beau Backhaus later had an RBI that scored Knoblach and Ben Allen and Chris Anderson had RBIs in the inning.

"I didn't think Matt had lost much, he had a couple 0-2 counts and he hit the zone and they hit the ball," New Ulm coach Bob Skillings said.

New Ulm scored one more run in the top of the seventh for the final 9-4 margin. Lindscheid pitched 5 2/3 innings, allowing nine runs on nine hits.

Knoblach earned the win, going the distance and allowing eight hits and three runs. New Ulm couldn't seem to get the bats going, something that may be due to having a couple of weeks off since the last game.

"It sure appeared that way," Skillings said. "I didn't expect that. We've had some real good practices and we have hit against some live pitching, our pitchers, to give both sides work. But our bats were real flat and I think what really hurt us were some miscues in the field."

But in the second game, New Ulm tallied 20 hits and used them to score 17 runs. Peterson led the way offensively with four hits and four runs.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello New Ulm Junior Legion second baseman Nate Roeder jumps for the ball as Alexandria's CHRIS Anderson slides safely into the base during New Ulm's loss in the opening round of the VFW State Tournament Thursday in Austin. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



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It started with a run in the top of the first to put New Ulm up 1-0. New Ulm scored twice more in the second to grab a 3-0 lead, and that was a sign of things to come.

Junior Legion scored five runs in the third inning to take a comfortable 8-0 lead. Kehren, Stark, Lindscheid and Collin Clyne all added RBIs for New Ulm in that big third inning.

New Ulm then scored six more runs in the fourth inning to go up 14-0 at that point. Forest Lake scored two runs off New Ulm reliever Erich Prokosch, who came in for Ben Wolf.

Wolf pitched the first three innings and allowed two hits. Offensively for New Ulm, Peterson had four hits and four runs scored along with two RBIs. Kehren scored three runs and had two hits and Bergmann had two hits. Clyne had two hits and three RBIs.

New Ulm added to the lead by scoring three more runs to go up 17-2 and the game ended in five innings. Today, New Ulm will battle Proctor at 1:30 p.m. at Strey Field. If New Ulm wins, it will play again at 5 p.m. today.

New Ulm must battle its way through the loser's bracket now to stay in the tournament. Although Jr. Legion is down, it doesn't mean that it's out yet.

"There's no doubt that they're up to the challenge," Skillings said. "We're deep in pitching, so we should be able to do it. It'll be interesting to see how the boys come back."



Jr. Legion stays alive

POSTED August 6, 2020 *NewUlm Journal*

By Jeremy Behnke — Journal Sports Editor

AUSTIN - After a lengthy game with Proctor in which New Ulm Junior Legion saw a 12-5, seventh-inning lead disappear and nearly end its season, New Ulm needed a good outing from Ben Wolf against Red Wing to continue its journey through the loser's bracket.

New Ulm (30-8) got a complete-game performance from Wolf as the Junior Legion lived to play another day with a 5-3 win over Red Wing at the VFW State Baseball Tournament on the campus of Riverland Community College.

"Ben has been one of our top pitchers this season, and that puts us in position [for Saturday] because we have some pitchers that we haven't even used yet," New Ulm coach Bob Skillings said.

Wolf gave up seven hits and three runs in the win over Red Wing. New Ulm will continue its journey through the loser's bracket with a 4 p.m. game today. If New Ulm wins that game, it will play again at 7 p.m. for the right to advance to the state championship.

Staff photo by Steve Muscatello New Ulm's Matt Linscheid drives the ball during New Ulm's win against Proctor at the VFW State Tournament Friday in Austin. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com

On Thursday, New Ulm went 1-1 and got sent to the loser's bracket with a 9-4 loss to Alexandria before coming back with a 17-2 win in its second game.

New Ulm continued that hot hitting against Proctor, scoring 12 runs in what seemed to be a game that was put out of reach.

But Proctor rallied, scoring six runs in the bottom of the seventh before Collin Clyne got out of the jam to end Proctor's season.

New Ulm had the misfortune of having two fly balls that were dropped because of trouble seeing the ball due to the sun. With runners on first and second and two outs, Clyne got Evan Scherber to fly out to end the game.

Matt Lindscheid scored three runs for New Ulm and Dylan Schreckenber had two hits and an RBI. Matt Bergmann finished with three hits and an RBI and Tim Kehren had two hits and two RBIs.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net



New Ulm's big inning came in the third inning when it scored nine runs to go up 9-1 at that point. But while it seemed like New Ulm was going to cruise to another 10-run win, Proctor came back and made it interesting in the seventh before Wolf got the last out of the game and closed the door.

Clyne pitched 3 2/3 innings, giving up 10 hits and 10 runs. Patrick Bock pitched the first three innings and allowed only one run and one hit to earn the win. He struck out three and walked one.

The win meant New Ulm advanced to face Red Wing, which had lost only twice this season up until that point.

New Ulm scored four runs in the bottom of the second to give Wolf an early lead, and that seemed to make a big difference for him. New Ulm had four straight RBI singles by Schreckenberg, Wolf, Matt Lindscheid and Brody Peterson to make it 4-0. All of those singles came with two outs.

Red Wing managed to make it 4-1 after scoring a run in the top of the third, but New Ulm got that run back in the bottom of the fifth after Ted Skillings scored to give New Ulm a 5-1 lead.

Red Wing scored two runs in the sixth to close the gap to 5-3, but Wolf escaped any further damage in the top of the seventh after back-to-back singles with two outs. Wolf got Zach Garner to fly out to center to end the game.

THE 2010 STATE TOURNAMENT GAME TRACKER

Thursday's Results

Game 1: Alexandria 9, New Ulm 4
Game 2: Proctor 6, Austin 2
Game 3: Red Wing 10, St. Cloud 4
Game 4: Bemidji 17, Forest Lake 10
Game 5: Worthington 10, Alexandria 5
Game 6: St. Paul RanView 12, Proctor 1
Game 7: Austin 10, St. Cloud 4 (St. Cloud eliminated)
Game 8: New Ulm 17, Forest Lake 2 (Forest Lake eliminated)

Friday's Games

Game 9: Austin 8, Alexandria 4 (Alexandria eliminated)
Game 10: New Ulm 12, Proctor 11 (Proctor eliminated)
Game 11: Worthington 10, Red Wing 6, 8 innings
Game 12: Bemidji vs. 7, RanView 4
Game 13: Game 10 winner vs. Game 11 loser, n (loser eliminated)
Game 14: Game 9 winner vs. Game 12 loser, n (loser eliminated)

Saturday Games

Game 15: Game 11 winner vs. Game 12 winner, 1 p.m.
Game 16: Game 13 winner vs. Game 14 winner, 4 p.m. (loser eliminated)
Game 17: Game 15 loser vs. Game 16 winner, 7 p.m. (loser eliminated, winner advances to championship series)

Sunday's Games

Game 18: Game 15 winner vs. Game 17 winner, 11 a.m.
Game 19: Repeat of Game 18, if necessary



St. Paul Ranview ends Jr. Legion's season

POSTED Aug. 8, 2010 *New Ulm Journal*

AUSTIN - After dropping the first game of the State VFW Tournament to Alexandria, New Ulm Jr. Legion knew it would be a long road through the loser's bracket.

But Jr. Legion made the best of it as it staved off elimination three times coming into Saturday's consolation game with St. Paul Ranview.

That's where the rally stopped as Ranview ended New Ulm's season with a 15-3 victory in five innings at Dick Steltz Stadium on the campus of Riverland Community College.

"We played good baseball all summer and we had a few bumps along the road," New Ulm coach Bob Skillings said. "That first game we had a couple of miscues and they scored a bunch of runs at the end of the game and otherwise we were in that game. Clearly the next three games that we played we showed that we were the better team. We showed we are a good hitting team, our pitching has been one of our strengths."

Ranview scored at least one run in all five innings.

It jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning but really broke things open in the second when it sent nine batters to the plate and scored five runs on three hits.

St. Paul added to its lead with four more runs in the top of the third but none were bigger than Tim McClanahan's three-run homer.

"Ranview was just a good hitting team and they were aggressive and attacked the ball and scored runs that way," Skillings said.

New Ulm broke the shutout with two runs in the bottom of the third.

Matt Linscheid and Brody Peterson each reached to start the inning and Erich Prokosch doubled them in to make it 10-2.

St. Paul scored three more in the fourth and two in the fifth to make it 15-2.

Jr. Legion scored its final run in the bottom of the fifth. Peterson reached on a double and scored on Matt Bergmann's single. That was all the runs New Ulm got as it left bases loaded.

Sam Nieman earned the win for St. Paul Ranview. He went the distance and allowed three runs on six hits with a strikeout and three walks.

Jory Dove took the loss for New Ulm. He went the first 2 1/3 innings and allowed seven runs on six hits with a strikeout and three walks. Patrick Bock pitched the next two innings and allowed seven runs on eight hits.

St. Paul outhit New Ulm 14-6 in the game. Prokosch had two doubles and two RBIs. Bergmann had a hit and an RBI. Dylan Schreckenber and Bock each had hits and Peterson had a double for New Ulm.

Peterson and Ben Wolf were named to the State VFW All-Tournament team.

Ranview was sent to the loser's bracket Friday after it lost to Bemidji 7-4. It then beat host Austin 8-4 to earn the right to face New Ulm Saturday.

With the win, St. Paul Ranview improved to 29-2 and played Worthington in the consolation bracket finals at 7 p.m. New Ulm Jr. Legion ends its season at 30-9 and was one of the final four teams in the state.

"I told the guys after the game, had we known we would be the No. 4 team in the state this summer, that would have been great," Skillings said. "It was a great season, we had a lot of fun together. We spent three days here and we had fun winning."



All Tournament Honors to Brody Peterson, left, and Ben Wolf.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

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New Ulm Sports Central provided current updates during state

During the state tournament at Austin, New Ulm Sports Central provided updates to New Ulm games in progress. It continually updated an article in its center in its center news column. Score by innings were updated each half inning and in the final games significant plays were recorded as they happened and appended to the "story in progress." For the scrapbook buffs, the on-going coverage is reproduced below:

AUSTIN --- St. Paul Ran-View has taken 1-0 lead over New Ulm in state VFW tournament here. Bemidji earlier had beaten Worthington.

St. Paul Ran-View ... 1 5 4 - 3 2 _ _ --- 15 - 14- 1 - 8 LOB Ran-View ends 29-2-1 with this win.
New Ulm Jr. Legion . 0 0 2 - 0 1 _ _ ---- 3 -- 6 - 4 - 8 LOB New Ulm ends 30-8.
Dove, Bock (3), Guggisberg (5) and Stark.

STP1 - After two out, St. Paul scored on walk, stolen base and single. Walk and another infield hit has loaded bases. Jory Dove gets third out strike out.

NU 1 - New Ulm stands Erich Prokosch who doubled with two out.

STP 2 - Batter safe on error advances to second on ground out. Double off base of fence scores run. Two score on double to right center. Walk puts second runner on. Ground out to short. Single scores two more.

Peterson gets third out on fly to center.

NU2 - First out to shallow center. Bock fouls out to second baseman in foul territory. Stark walks. Clyne grounds to second.

SP3 - Single to short. Fly out right-center. Stolen base and error on throw sends runner to third. Guggisberg warming up for New Ulm. Pitching change for New Ulm. Patrick Bock comes in during mid-count. Sacrifice fly scores run. Error at second. Three-run homer out of park. Side retired.

NU3 - Schreckenbergh infield hit. Forced at second by Linscheid. Prokosch doubles in Linscheid and Brody Peterson. Pop out. Kehren grounds back to pitcher.

SP4 - Infield single to short. Double to right. Ground out to short. Infield hit. Hit up middle scores two. Runner caught at plate. Runner balked to third (Bock dropped ball while on rubber). Another run scores before third out registered.

NU4 - No runs

SP5 - Two hits, error, wild pitch and single scores 1. Jordan Guggisberg replaces Bock with runners second and third. Two runs score in inning.

NU5 - New Ulm faces elimination by 10-run rule, needing four runs to prevent ending the contest. Peterson doubles to center. Prokosch flies to center, Peterson tags to third. Matt Bergman Texas League single to right scores Peterson. Kehren flies to left. Bock singles. Stark walks. Clyne grounds to first. Game over.

Jr. LEGION TAKES 5-3 WIN OVER RED WING TO STAY ALIVE

5 August, 2010 - 11:59 — [Editor](#)

Editor's Note: Following represents updated final version of reports throughout the day for the Friday game of New Ulm Junior Legion in its quest for the state VFW state championship.

AUSTIN - New Ulm's Junior Legion two won two games Friday to move on in the state VFW baseball tournament, beating Proctor and then Red Wing, sending both teams out of the tournament.

A four-run second inning game New Ulm enough runs to win it with Ben Wolf protecting the lead. Jr. League had a 4-1 lead until Red Wing grabbed a pair of runs in the sixth to make it interesting, especially with Legion thinking about the near doomsday rally pulled off against them by Proctor.

Proctor scored six runs in the last of the seventh to come within one of ending New Ulm's season. Jr. Legion players lost three routine fly balls in the bright sun in that inning according to coach Bob Skillings.

Jr. Legion plays a 4 p.m. game Saturday with coach Skillings sending Jory Dove to the mound.

The win over Red Wing in the state VFW tournament it was New Ulm's 30th victory against eight losses. The all-time mark is 36 by the 1987 team which finished with a 36-4 record and the state championship. The 2009 Junior Legion team won 34 and lost five. Records are based on data gathered and documented by Carl Wyczawski and New Ulm Sports Central. Some year's records, however, are not available because of lost information or incomplete data.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



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A game inning by inning recap of sorts for Friday's games follows below.

New Ulm squandered an 11-2 lead and hung on to a 12-11 victory to stay alive against Proctor. New Ulm sent 15 batters to the plate to score nine runs in the third inning to take 9-2 lead in the bottom of the fourth.

Friday Austin eliminated Alexandria 8-7 to stay alive. Austin won the tournament last year but was granted host team status for this year. Worthington also won. Red Wing lost to drop into the loser's bracket against New Ulm. Other scores Friday included Bemidji beating favorite St. Paul Ran-View 7-4, St. Paul over Austin 8-4 and Worthington over Red Wing 10-6 in eight innings.

New Ulm vs Red Wing game got underway shortly after 5 p.m. Red Wing ends with 26-3 record, last two losses in state tournament after loss to New Ulm.

Red Wing ... 0 0 1 - 0 0 2 - 0 --- 3 -- 7 --- ? - ? LOB

New Ulm 0 4 0 - 0 1 0 - X --- 5 - 10 -- 4 - 4 LOB

Wolf winning pitcher, scattering seven hits.

Ben Wolf pitching for New Ulm. Strikes out three in first two innings. New Ulm pulls DP in first.

Pat Bock double with one out in second and scores after singles by Dylan Schreckenber and Ben Wolf. Two more scored on consecutive base hits. New Ulm ripped six hits to end up with four runs.

Red Wing countered with one on a hit and error in top of third.

New Ulm got three hits in third but wasn't able to score. New Ulm out hitting Red Wing 9-2 after three. Each team one error.

Red Wing goes down in order in fourth.

New Ulm threatened in fourth highlighted by Peterson's sixth hit of the day. A balk which scored a run was over-ruled.

Lead off batter got to second on single and error, moved to third on ground out, but doesn't score.

Red Wing changes pitchers in New Ulm fifth after hit and walk. Austin Meyer replaces David Johnson.

For New Ulm, Wolf drives in run. Two left.

Red Wing sends up top of order in sixth. One run scores on triple. Batter waved home for fake catch at third. Kehren to first double play ends inning.

New Ulm three up, three down in sixth.

Two out single keeps Red Wing alive. Infield hit puts second runner on. Line drive to short. Game over. New Ulm moves on!

New Ulm Jr. Legion 12, Proctor 11 (Line score not necessarily complete)

New Ulm 0 0 9 - 0 2 1 - 0 --- 12 - 15 - 3 - na

Proctor 1 0 0 - 1 1 2 - 6 --- 11 - 11 - 2 - 9

Pat Bock (W), Collin Clyne (4) Wolf (7)(S) (7th inning pitching incomplete) and Conner Stark; Jake Lewis (L), Sherurn (sp) (3), Scanlon (3) and Cody Dolson.

New Ulm leaves runner at third in top of first. Walk, single and ground out score first run for Proctor which leaves two on.

Bock strikes out side in second. Pat Bock doubles with one out.

New Ulm Jr. Legion 17, Forest Lake 2

AUSTIN - New Ulm Jr. Legion crushed Forest Lake 17-2 Thursday in the elimination bracket game Thursday night. The game was called at the end of the fifth by the 10 run rule. Jr. Legion will now play Proctor at 1:30 Friday in another elimination game. If it wins, it would go back into the winner's bracket with a game at 5 p.m. against the Worthington/Red Wing Winner.

Alexandria has also dropped into the elimination bracket.

New Ulm got six hits for five runs in the third and five more hits and an error to score another five in the fourth as the Junior Legion has come out with bats blazing. It added sixth in the fourth and three more in the fifth.

Erich Prokosch has taken over pitching in the fourth for starter Ben Wolf. After getting the first two outs, gave up two runs on four straight hits and left the bases loaded. New Ulm got four hits for three runs to go up 17-2 going into the last of the fifth.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



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New Ulm Jr. Legion 1 2 5 - 6 3 --- 17 - 20 - 2 - 6 LOB
Forest Lake 0 0 0 - 2 0 ---- 2 -- 6 - 2 - 6 LOB

Ben Wolf ((W), Erich Prokosch (4) and Connor Stark
New Ulm wins by 10-run rule.

New Ulm has scored twice with one out in the third. New Ulm put together six hits to score five runs in the third and six hits to score six in the fourth.

Game 1: Alexandria 9, New Ulm Jr. Legion 4

Earlier Thursday New Ulm Junior Legion fell to a six-run sixth inning in losing to Alexandria.

Alexandria got three hits in last of fourth to take 3-1 lead over New Ulm Jr. Legion in VFW state tournament at Austin. New Ulm came back with one in fifth to trail 3-2. Kehren's single, two Alexandria errors and a double play fielder's choice scored tying run.

Double, triple and bunt score first two in fifth inning in progress for Alexandria. Error scores third. Singles scores fourth.

Pat Bock replaces Linscheid on mound with runners aboard. Linscheid charged with nine hits. Wild pitch scores fifth run. Bock gets third out.

New Ulm scores once in seventh before being sent to elimination bracket 7:30 p.m. game tonight.

New Ulm Jr. Legion..... 0 0 1 - 0 1 1 - 0 --- 4 - 8 -- 4 - 7 LOB
Alexandria..... 0 0 0 - 3 0 6 - X --- 9 - 10 - 3 - 4 LOB
Linscheid (L), Bock (6) and Stark

Supportive Fans Recognized as Best Fans of the Tournament, Prominently Heard on KNUJ Radio Broadcasts

POSTED August 8, 2010 New Ulm Sports Central (Editor)

New Ulm fans attending the state tournament games were among the most supportive and vocal to represent their teams and were recognized as "best of the tournament" after New Ulm bowed out in the final game.

The fans were quite noticeable during the KNUJ raio broadcasts which were monitored by New Ulm Sports Central to provide the on-going information contained in this and the previous page.

Quite frequently they drowned out the KNUJ sportscaster, especially in games from Strey field where they must have been sitting immediately behind the announcer. You knew something good was happening judging from the background noise , but the broadcast details may have gotten lost in the process and led to possible lost or incorrect descriptions ion the interactive website. Importantly, their support was positive and represented great sportsmanship and support for their team.

Following the team was a pleasure, enriched doubly so by the second opportunity to document a state tournament managing experience for coach Bob Skillings who previously led the New Ulm Brewers into the 1991state amateur tournament and himself played for the state American Legion title team in 1978. Bob played outfield and leadoff hitter for Legion team that won state, Central Plains Regional in Rapid City, and competed as one of the top eight teams in the country at the Legion World Series in Yakima WA in 1978.



Henning shuts out Alexandria 10-0, Worthington advances in state tourney opener

POSTED Aug/ 5, 2010 Worthington Glove (Alexandria played Worthington after beating New Ulm)

By: [Aaron Hagen](#), Worthington Daily Globe

The Tournament
as Reported
in Other
Newspapers

AUSTIN — Blake Rogers had the best seat in the house.

The catcher for Worthington's VFW baseball team, Rogers watched as starting pitcher Lucas Henning dominated the Alexandria hitters in the opening day of the state baseball tournament Thursday.

"It's perfection when he's out on the mound," Rogers said. "He hits his spots and is under control. It's always fun when he pitches."

It wasn't much fun for Alexandria, who earlier won a wild game against New Ulm.

Henning threw a complete-game shutout and the Worthington offense did the rest in a 10-0 victory which was called in five innings due to the mercy rule.

"I'm grinning ear-to-ear," Worthington head coach T.D. Hostikka said. "That was fun; that was fun to coach. We scored every single inning. These guys focused and stayed focused and didn't stop. They did the little things to get the runs in."

Throughout the game, Rogers and Henning were in perfect rhythm.

"It's really fun because he barely ever shakes me off," Rogers said. "When I do call a bad pitch and they get a hit, he's always there for me."

Henning scattered seven hits while striking out seven and walking none. "It helps when you have runs," Henning said. "As a team, we all played good. Defensively, offensively, everyone played well."

"That was probably the most nervous I've been. This is state, I've never been to state before."

If there were nerves, it didn't show. The lefty was working his fastball in and out and his curveball often left Alexandria's hitters swinging — and missing — wildly.

"At the beginning, I just wanted to throw strikes," Henning said. "I didn't want to walk people. I hate walking people."

While Henning pounded the strike zone, not every pitch found its mark.

Enter Rogers behind home plate.

"Blake played one of his best games, not a single ball went past him," Hostikka said. "He was digging everything. They stole a lot in their first game. They didn't steal once."

Rogers' ability to block everything gave even more confidence to his starting pitcher. "It makes you feel more confident throwing the ball," Henning said. "You can throw any pitch and you know he'll catch it, even if it's in the dirt. Even with a guy on third base, I'll throw something in the dirt and I'm confident with it because I know he'll block it."

Henning didn't have to worry about it much, though. Only two runners were in scoring position the entire game. "Lucas pitched a phenomenal game," Hostikka said. "I feel comfortable getting three or four runs for Lucas. We keep getting runs and runs and runs and you feel very comfortable."

If Post 3958 only needed three runs for Henning, first baseman Jon Reller did more than that by himself. "We'll go back and concentrate and play hard," Reller said. "Hopefully we'll pitch strikes again and hit the ball like we have been."



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

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Reller was 2-for-3 and drove in four runs for Worthington, bringing his season total to 55. In the first inning, Reller had a two-run triple after AJ Hayenga and Henning each drew walks.

“I just kept my head in there, the pitcher threw me the pitch I liked,” Reller said. “I fouled off the ones I don’t like, and the pitch was there.”

Reller then scored as Deron Soderholm put down a sacrifice bunt, giving Post 3958 a 3-0 lead after the first inning.

“There is no guaranteed out, there just isn’t,” Hostikka said. “What’s guaranteed is that we’re going to hit the ball and we’re going to do well on two strikes, we’re going to minimize our strikeouts and we’re going to make them put the ball in play.”

Rylan Scholtes singled to lead off the second and Tanner Rogers reached on an error.

Tommy Hayenga then drove home Scholtes and Reller’s single plated both Rogers and Hayenga, giving Worthington a 6-0 lead.

Tyler Verdoorn added an RBI single in the third after Blake Rogers led off the inning with a double.

AJ Hayenga added a two-run single in the fourth as Post 3958 continued to build its lead.

“I think we played really well,” Blake Rogers said. “We hit the ball good, our defense was solid. They got some hits in the gaps, but we played pretty good.”

Meanwhile, the Worthington defense came up with a big play in the fifth.

With one out, leadoff hitter Ben Allen singled for the third time in the game.

However, Chris Anderson hit a liner to Tanner Rogers, who then doubled Allen off first for a nice double play.

Blake Rogers was hit to lead off the fifth, and the run later scored as Scholtes legged out a hard ground ball to short, ending the game in five with a 10-0 Worthington victory.

“It’s feeling great, actually,” Blake said. “That’s what we came here to do. We came here to play ball, play our hearts out and it wrked for us.”

“They haven’t lost too many games,” Hostikka said. “We just have to come and we have to play. We know they can hit. We’ll hope we can play good defense and do what we need to do.”

Red Wing defeated St. Cloud 10-4 earlier on Thursday.

Bemidji wins state opener

POSTED Aug. 5, 2010 Bemidji Pioneer

A 10-day layoff did not adversely affect the Bemidji VFW offense during the first round of the state tournament Thursday in Austin.

The Vets turned six first-inning hits into as many runs and continued that torrid pace the rest of the way. When the dust settled Bemidji outgunned Forest Lake 17-10 and advanced to today’s second round in the double-elimination tournament and a match-up against either St. Paul RanView or Proctor.

“We hammered the ball,” said VFW coach Brad Johnson. “It’s been 10 days since we played and we were a little nervous at the start. It didn’t help our pitchers that the strike zone was about the size of a nickel but it was that way for both sides.

“And from an offensive standpoint, that small of a strike zone was great,” Johnson said.

**The Tournament
as Reported
in Other
Newspapers**



VFW baseball: Red Wing advances at state tournament

POSTED Aug. 5, 2010 Red Wing Republican Eagles

By: [Ryan Nilsson](#), The Republican Eagle

AUSTIN, Minn. -- As the Red Wing VFW players mulled around in the dugout before Thursday's game against St. Cloud, assistant coach Neal Newman reminded them of his two maxims -- win the inning and find a way to contribute.

Once the game began, Red Wing applied the lessons they'd learned from their longtime coach: The team's No. 8 and 9 hitters combined for three RBI and a courtesy runner's aggression on the base paths provided a spark as Red Wing won 10-4 in its first game at the state tournament.

Red Wing advanced to play either Alexandria or Worthington at 11:30 a.m. Friday on the campus of Riverland Community College.

"The kids are pumped up and happy," Red Wing coach Jim Bohmbach said. "I think it's going to be a good weekend here."

Red Wing took control of the game with a six-run second inning. The rally was ignited by a hit-and-run executed to perfection. Mike Stegora took off from first, second baseman Jake Braegelmann went to cover the bag and Dayton Johnson hit the ball through the hole on the right side. Stegora reached third and scored on a single by Carsten Meyer, the No. 8 hitter.

Karsten Lampman followed with an RBI single of his own. Both Meyer and Lampman would score three batters later when David Goggin singled with the bases loaded.

Marcus Noesen ran for Goggin and took off on a pitch to Joel Newman. The ball got by Erik Jarosch, allowing a run to score and Noesen to move to third thanks to the ample foul territory at Strey Field. When Jarosch's throw to third was off the mark, Noesen came into score.

"We always talk about contributing," Bohmbach said. "At that time he was just the pinch runner, a designated runner, but he contributed, scored. ... That's a huge play. You could tell there after that they were all crabbing at each other, they were all frustrated. At that moment we kind of had them."

Noesen's speed caused more problems in the seventh. His bases-loaded infield single, which amounted to a bunt down the first-base line, drove in one run and a throwing error on the play scored another. Newman -- who was celebrating his 17th birthday -- also hit a two-run double that inning.

Red Wing starter Zach Garner didn't have the control he's accustomed to, walking four batters and surrendering eight hits. However, he helped himself out with a little trickery.

Garner shook off Goggin multiple times throughout the game, but it wasn't because he wanted to throw a different pitch. He did it by design.

"It throws the hitter off when I shake my head and stuff," Garner said. "They have no clue what's coming."

Garner allowed one run in the first and another in the fourth, getting out of the latter frame thanks to first baseman Jack Strusz and Newman turning a 3-6-3 double play.

After cruising through the first six innings, Garner ran into trouble in the seventh. With two runs already in and the bases loaded, Bohmbach brought in Dayton Johnson to get the final out.

"Zach got better as the game went on, except he got tired out a little bit that last inning," Bohmbach said. "Probably should have pulled him earlier."

Garner finished with two strikeouts and helped his cause by going 2-for-4. His courtesy runner, Preston Blaney, scored twice.

"When he throws strikes we play a lot better," Joel Newman said. "He did his job for sure."

... Red Wing was the only team not to remain in Austin after Wednesday's banquet, according to Bohmbach. The team returned to Red Wing after Thursday's game, too.



Not Everyone is in the Game ...

Reporting the state tournament on their website varies by newspaper. For instance, Austin's site carried only the Austin team's results. Major newspaper Rochester next door posted nothing. St. Cloud carried no mention of its two losses. Teams like Forest Lake, Proctor, Alexandria have non-daily newspapers and tend not to update websites until the mid-week publications are out.

**The State VFW
Tournament as
reported in web-
sites of other
newspapers**

Post 1218 drops into loser's bracket

POSTED Aug. 6, 2010 *Republican Eagle*

By: [Ryan Nilsson](#), The Republican Eagle

AUSTIN, Minn. -- The Worthington lineup came to life in the top of the eighth inning as it scored five runs off three Red Wing pitchers en route to a 10-6 extra-inning victory at the VFW state baseball tournament Friday.

Red Wing, which tied the game at 5 in the bottom of the seventh inning at Dick Seltz Field, scored one run and left a runner stranded at third in the eighth. Post 1218 will now play either Proctor or New Ulm at 5 p.m. Friday. Dayton Johnson is scheduled to start.

Carsten Meyer came on in relief of starter Joel Newman with his team trailing Worthington 4-1. Meyer allowed one run in his first inning of work, but he kept the visiting team off the scoreboard the next three. That run of zeroes came to an abrupt end in the eighth.

After walking the first batter, Meyer allowed three straight singles. Jack Strusz came on with two runs already in and walked both batters he faced, the second of which came with the bases loaded. Dayton Johnson had to come in and get the final three outs, but not before two more runs scored.

"I was struggling a little bit to find the strike zone," Meyer said. "It just got out of hand pretty quick."

Red Wing trailed by four runs, 4-0 and 5-1, on two occasions early in the game, but Post 1218 got back into it by plating three in the fifth to pull within a run, 5-4.

Zach Garner got the scoring started with an RBI triple -- one of two he had in the game. The next three batters also recorded a hit.

Post 1218 used a two-out rally to tie the game in the seventh. Newman reached on an error and Strusz followed with an infield single. Mike Stegora, who stepped to the plate 0-for-3 with two strikeouts on the day, drove in Newman with a single to left.

Stegora said he thought about Wiffle Ball before his big hit. The Red Wing team gathered at Stegora's home after Thursday's opening-round win and played Wiffle Ball for a couple hours.

"I was just thinking be positive, I guess," Stegora said. "I think the Wiffle Ball really pulled me through, though."

With runners on first and second, Johnson struck out to end the inning. Red Wing finished with 12 strikeouts.

Red Wing was outhit 18-11.



Red Wing's No. 2 hitter, Zach Garner, connects for a single in the first inning Friday against Worthington. He finished the game 4-for-5 with two RBI, two triples and a run scored. - R-E photo by Ryan Nilsson



Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net

Post 1216 stays alive with win over St. Cloud in state tourney

Published 2:43pm Thursday, August 5, 2010 Austin Daily Herald

Since it didn't have to win its way into the VFW state baseball tournament, Austin Post 1216 wanted to prove its worth as the host at Riverland Complex Thursday.

Austin did just that when it bested St. Cloud 10-4 in an elimination game after dropping a 6-2 contest to Proctor in the opening round.

Post 1216 scored nine runs in the first two innings against St. Cloud as the bottom of the order stepped up. Tommy Olmsted grounded a 3-2 pitch through the left side of the infield to score two runs and make it 3-0 Austin and Jake Martin drove in two more runs with a single to right field with two outs.



Austin VFW Post #1216 catcher Steve Serratorre tags Proctor's Jeremy Lopez who tried to score in the sixth inning Thursday during the first round of the State VFW Tournament at Riverland Community College. -- Eric Johnson/photodesk@austindailyherald.com

"We pulled it together all the way and hit through our lineup," Olmsted said. "I think that none of us wanted to go home in the first day of our own state tournament. We really pulled together as a team. It was really good for us and we got some great pitching from Steve (Serratore)."

Austin, which will play in another elimination game Friday at 11 a.m. at RCC, got a clutch two-out, two-run single up the middle from Joey Rasso to make it 9-0 in the top of the second.

While the offense got it started, Steve Serratore, who normally plays catcher, pitched a solid game on the mound —although it was just his third start of the summer. He scattered four hits, while walking one and allowed just two earned runs

"I tried to throw a lot of strikes and they picked up the ball for me," Serratore said. "This is a fun group of kids, they play the game right and they play the game hard. I think they're going to be a solid high school team in the future. It's fun to represent Austin in the state tournament."

Serratore is glad to have a chance to play with Austin at the state tournament this summer, because, come next spring, he'll be playing against the Packers for Rochester Mayo.

"A lot of them actually saw me play at Mayo Field when I hit a homerun to beat Austin," Serratore said. "It's kind of a weird situation, but they know where I come from and there's nothing to be said or done, you go out and play with each other."

As for Olmsted, who also stole two bases, he continued his solid outing with a single in the fourth that saw a run score on a throwing error.

"I've been having a pretty good time with my at-bats lately, I've been hitting the ball pretty hard," Olmsted said. "The ball just started dropping today and it was a good day."

Serratore played on last year's VFW team that won state and he hopes this year's group enjoyed getting a win in a state tournament game.

"This is a memory they should hold on to, I still remember every game from last year," he said.

In the first game, Austin couldn't make enough plays in a 6-2 loss to Proctor in the first round in Dick Seltz Field.



Austin VFW Post #1216 pitcher Jake Thompson follows his pitch to cover a bunt attempt during their first-round game against Proctor in the State VFW Tournament Thursday at Riverland Community College. -- Eric Johnson/photodesk@austindailyherald.com

Austin had three errors in the second inning that allowed Proctor to score twice and three errors in the seventh inning that allowed Proctor to score three times and break open a 3-2 game.



Post #1216 gets big win early, falls from VFW Tournament in nightcap

Published 12:02am Saturday, August 7, 2010

Austin Post #1216's run in the State VFW Tournament came to an end Friday night, falling 9-4 to St. Paul RanView in the consolation bracket.

The loss didn't come, however, before an impressive showing in the tournament by Post #1216 who came in as the host team with just a 8-10 record.

In the game prior against Alexandria, Austin pulled out a bottom of the seventh inning win, 8-7 on a RBI single from Jake Thompson. It was the team's second win of the tournament after falling in their opening game against Proctor 6-2.

"We didn't have a real good regular season to be honest," coach Andy Swank said after the loss to St. Paul. "But we knocked out a couple teams. We saved our best baseball for here."

In the first game, Austin's late -game heroics capped a furious comeback by Alexandria who, down early in the game, never really gave Post #1216 a chance to breath.

Tied 7-7, Thompson lined a pitch from pitcher Nick Knoblach down the left field line to drive Anthony Condit home for the winning run.

"I thought it felt pretty good," Thompson said. "I saw it was a curveball he left up and that's a pitch you can't do that with. Oh boy it felt good."

Austin took a quick 3-0 lead in the first over Alexandria, jumping on pitcher Ben Allen and taking advantage of an error and two wild pitches.

Marcus Stoullil and Gabe Kasek started with back-to-back singles and Zach Wilder reached on an error.

Stoullil scored on the error and Kasek and Wilder then scored on a two RBI single by Isaac Gorman.

Alexandria answered in the top of the second when Nick Knoblach scored on a single from Matt Pilgrim.

Austin's 3-1 lead held up until it was able to add two more in the bottom of the fourth when Tyler Belknap scored on a throwing error and Tommy Olmsted scored on an RBI single from Joey Raso.

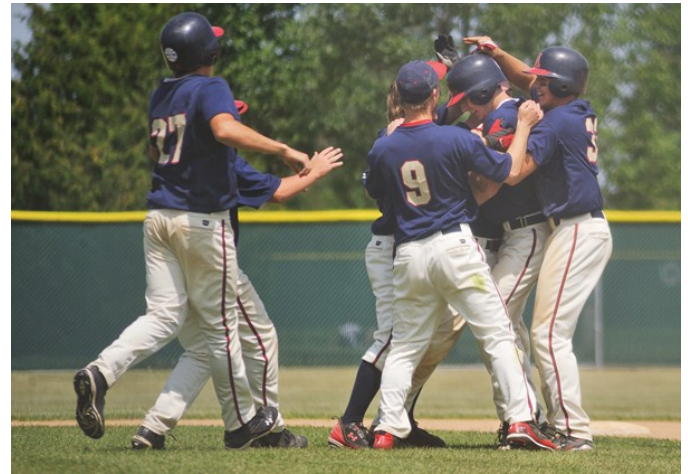
With a comfortable 5-1 lead, Austin got its first big challenge from Alexandria. With two outs, Alexandria rattled off a string of hits that seemed to find every gap on the field.

"They just started hitting some bleeders," Swank said. "Every game is going to have that. Give (Alexandria) credit. It's the state tournament. You're not going to have easy stick wins."

Starting with Grant Becker's double, Alexandria strung together four singles. The inning ended with the score tied 5-5

Austin got some insurance the very next inning with two runs, both coming off a botched rundown by Alexandria.

Leading 7-5, Austin again had to withstand Alexandria's bats. Alexandria scored once in the sixth coming on off a sacrifice fly and then again to tie it in the seventh when Zach Carlson, who kicked off the inning with a triple, scored on a wild pitch from Serratore.



Teammates mob Jake Thompson after his single drove in Austin Post #1216's game-winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning against Alexandria Saturday during the State VFW Tournament at Riverland Community College. - Eric Johnson/photodesk@austindailyherald.com



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net

Then came Thompson's single to finally seal the game away.

"They battled the whole way," Swank said. "It's been a pretty good tournament. We really have nothing to loose."

Serratore went the distance for Austin, gaining his second win of the tournament. He did, however, give up nine hits and six earned runs. He struck out four.

Stoulil had two singles for the game, and Gorman tallied two RBI's.

St. Paul 9, Austin 4

Austin fell behind early in the second game against St. Paul, 3-0 in the first inning, and despite playing with RanView for the rest of the game, just couldn't get over the hump.

Austin got a couple quick outs in the first, but then St. Paul started stringing hits together that led to the early deficit.

"They're a very good hitting team, one of the best in the state," Swank said.

Austin had some chances as well early, but left runners in scoring position in two of the first three innings.

"We left two runners on in the third and the bases loaded in the second," Swank said. "If we don't leave those runners then we could have played with them the entire game. We never gave it away though."

Austin was down 4-0 before Post #1216 was able to get on the board. Gorman led the inning off, reaching on an error, one of five St. Paul committed on the game. He later scored off a sacrifice groundball by Olmsted.

Then, down 5-1 going into the fifth, Austin was able to cut it to 5-3. Wilder drove in Gabe Kasak on a double and then scored himself off a sacrifice fly from Thompson.

However, the game turned out to be game of matching runs. Each time Austin scored, St. Paul would match it.

Austin's final score came in the sixth inning when Jake Martin scored off a Kasak double.

Marcus Stoulil took the loss for Austin, pitching five innings for Austin. Despite taking the loss, Stoulil was able to keep Austin in a position to win including striking out Kevin Miley in the second with two runners in scoring position.

"I would call it a gutsy performance," Swank said. "He gave us a chance."

Stoulil ended with a triple while Wilder and Kasak both added doubles and an RBI each.

Austin ends its season 10-12.

Scores from the second day

New Ulm 12, Proctor 11

New Ulm 5, Red Wing 3

Bemidji 7, St. Paul 4

Worthington 10, Red Wing 6, eight innings

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New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

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VFW baseball team's success continues at state

POSTED Aug. 6, 2010 Bemidji Pioneer

By: [Pat Miller](#), Bemidji Pioneer

The Bemidji VFW baseball team continued its success at the state tournament Friday as the Vets advanced to today's winner's bracket final with a 7-4 victory over St. Paul RanView.

Bemidji will meet Worthington at 1 p.m. today and that winner will be in the driver's seat for the state crown. The loser will move into the loser's bracket final and would have to claw its way back into the tournament championship series.

Already in the loser's bracket are Red Wing and New Ulm which met Friday night in an elimination game, and Austin and RanView. Those teams also battled late Friday.

The winners of those games will play at 4 p.m. today for the chance to face the loser of the Bemidji-Worthington contest. That game is set for 7 p.m. today and the winner will advance to Sunday's 11 a.m. game against the winner's bracket survivor.

A second game, if necessary, will follow.

"We are playing very well and it's fun coaching this team," said Bemidji coach Brad Johnson. "The team has come together and formed a family. Everybody, from the starters to the last guy on the bench, is into the team aspect. Everybody is running around, giving high-5s and supporting their teammates. And it's great to be a part of this."

Offense has been among Bemidji's strong suits during the tournament and Friday the Vets continued to attack, pounding 10 hits.

In the second inning the VFW opened the scoring as Cody Jenkins doubled, Connor McNallan walked and Sam Dwyer doubled both runners home.

RanView answered quickly, scoring twice in the top of the third. But the Vets responded with four in the lower half of the stanza to regain the momentum.

"It seems that when a team scores on us that serves as a trigger for us to respond," Johnson said. "As a coach, if I see that happen to us I'm deflated. And I'm sure us coming back with four runs right away deflated RanView."

Dom Hayle began the rally with a single and he moved to third on a stolen base and Mason Bellew's single.

Collin Leif plated Hayle with another single and, two outs later, McNallan drove in Bellew with an infield hit. Before RanView could escape the Vets would score two more runs on singles by Dwyer and Nick Conner.

The teams traded solo tallies in the middle innings. RanView scored in the fourth and in the sixth Bemidji used an error, Bellew's single and Leif's RBI groundout to collect its run and provide a 7-3 cushion.

"That run in the sixth was huge," Johnson said. "RanView had its 7-8-9 hitters coming to the plate in the seventh and the No. 7 hitter was the best hitter in their lineup. And he did it again with a line shot to center.

"He eventually scored but, because we had a 4-run lead, we could afford to give up that run."

Trent Baker started his second consecutive state tournament game and went the distance. In Thursday's opener Baker had trouble adjusting to a tight strike zone but Friday he relaxed and was in command. His numbers included eight hits, three strikeouts and four walks.

Ryan Hirt will get the starting nod today and Leif, Baker and Jenkins will be among the pitchers ready to relieve.

"We're 2-0 and we can't be in a better position in this tournament," Johnson said. "The game against Worthington is the biggest game of our season but I know we'll be ready. Our plan is single: take things one inning at a time and see what happens."

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Asninson (L), Flood (3) and Newton. K-3, BB-4

Baker (W) and Leif. K-4, BB-1



Worthington hands Red Wing 10-6 loss; Post 3958 just one win away from state finals

POSTED August 6, 2010 Worthington Daily Globe

By: [Aaron Hagen](#), Worthington Daily Globe

AUSTIN — Lucas Henning's arm feels as sore as it's ever been.

But a win Friday at the VFW state baseball tournament sure helped ease the pain.

Henning picked up his second win in as many days as Worthington kept rolling with a 10-6 victory against Red Wing.

"It's one of the worst it's ever felt," Henning said, while holding a bag of ice to his left arm. "It's hurting, but it feels so much better that we won. That makes it so much better. If we would have lost, it would be hurting a lot more."

A day after a dominant five-inning victory, Post 3958 proved it can win the close ones as well.

"We played probably the best we've played all year," Worthington designated hitter Rylan Scholtes said. "We just focused harder, I guess. We hit the ball like we were supposed to and did the job in the field."

Post 3958 sent 10 batters to the plate and exploded for a five-run eighth inning, advancing to the state semifinals today against Bemidji.

"To bat around and put up a five-spot, that is some very good baseball," Worthington head coach T.D. Hostikka said. "They should have a lot of confidence. They knew this was a good team. They were 25-1 and we just handed them their second loss of the season. You can tell they were 25-1 because they didn't give up. Even with two outs and down five, they kept going."

With Worthington ahead by a run in the bottom of the seventh inning, Hostikka went to Henning, who had thrown a five-inning shut-out the day before.

"I came in and I felt comfortable," Henning said. "But then they started hitting the ball. They had just little hits, but then they hit that one hard and it kind of got me nervous."

After recording two outs, Joel Newman reached on an error and later scored on Mike Stegora's single, tying the game and sending it into extra innings tied at 5.

"I just told them to have confidence in what they did," Hostikka said. "We knew where they were in their order and we knew where we were in our order. We were going 3-4-5 and if we had confidence against their pitcher and relaxed and didn't jump at the ball and stay balanced that we were going to hit the ball. We knew we were going to hit the ball and there wasn't anybody on the team that hadn't hit the ball."

Henning led off the inning by drawing a walk, and Jon Reller singled to put two on for Blake Rogers.

Rogers connected on a solid base hit, scoring Henning from second and giving Post 3958 the lead right back.

"People were saying that he was throwing all fastballs all the time," Rogers said. "So I jumped on the first one and got it in there."

But he would start a trend.

"The pitcher was taking a lot off of his pitches," Rogers said. "We adjusted and sat back on the ball and waited for our pitches and drove the ball."



AARON HAGEN/DAILY GLOBE Worthington VFW's Tanner Rogers (20) throws to first base after tagging out a Red Wing runner for an out during a state tournament baseball game on Friday in Austin. Post 3958 won the game, 10-6.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

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Deron Soderholm singled to score Reller as Worthington regained the momentum.

“We just started hitting the ball again after we were shut down for a few innings,” Soderholm said. “I was trying to hit the ball hard and put it in play and hopefully drive the runs in.”

Tyler Verdoorn drew a walk to load the bases for Scholtes.

The right-hander drew the second consecutive walk against Red Wing pitcher Jack Strusz — who entered in relief of Carsten Meyer — plating another run.

Meyer was then chased from the game as Dayton Johnson took the mound as the third pitcher for Red Wing in the inning.

Soderholm scored as Eric Koob reached on a fielder’s choice and Tommy Hayenga plated Verdoorn as Worthington scored five runs on four hits in the inning.

“I knew we could hit that kid,” Henning said. “We timed him up, so I knew we would hit him sooner or later.

“Then that last inning, I just threw strikes and let them hit it. I was a lot, lot more comfortable. I just had to throw strikes and let the defense help you and that’s what I tried to do.”

Red Wing scored a run on Zach Garner’s two-out triple, but Tommy Hayenga made a nice play at short to record the third out and an eight-inning victory.

“(The win) feels a lot better than (Thursday),” Rogers said. “This was a big game to win. If we win one (Saturday), we’re going to the ship.”

As the visiting team, Post 3958 had the opportunity to score first in the game — and it did.

Tommy Hayenga led off with a single and AJ Hayenga sacrificed him to second.

After Henning drew a walk, Reller hit a run-scoring single, giving Worthington a 1-0 lead.

“I think the team was more relaxed and they knew what they could do,” Hostikka said. “We know we’re hitting the ball. They know that, if they don’t get a good at-bat, then somebody else is going to get a good at-bat. Everybody is hitting.”

Soderholm then added a run-scoring single as Worthington took a 2-0 lead.

“We just went out and jumped on them,” Rogers said. “We were hyped for this game, so we went out and did what we do best, hit the ball.”

Reller (5 innings, eight hits, four runs, one walk, eight strikeouts) was able to keep RW off balance in the bottom of the frame as Post 3958 went to work again.

Henning drove in Tanner Rogers and Reller drove in Tommy Hayenga as Worthington jumped out to a 4-0 lead.

However, Worthington only scored one more run before the eighth inning. Henning singled in the fourth and later scored as Soderholm grounded into a double play after the Red Wing shortstop made a spectacular diving stop on a ball hit back up the middle.

Worthington would leave eight runners on base in the middle innings and 15 for the game.

“That’s definitely putting pressure on them, but maybe we could have had a couple more hits,” Hostikka said. “That allows them to stay in the game more if you put pressure on them but they’re able to squeak out of it. It also tells what a good team they are.”



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



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Meanwhile, RW was putting the pressure back on Worthington with a three-run fifth inning — chasing Reller from the game — and climbing back within one run, 5-4.

“I was getting kind of nervous because they are a good hitting team,” Tommy Hayenga said. “They were hitting the ball hard, but right to us in the first couple innings, and we were making plays. But Deron came in and did a good job of getting out of the inning. Then Lucas did a good job the last two innings to keep them to only two runs.”

Soderholm (one inning, one strikeout) threw the sixth before Henning finished the game.

“I was getting a little nervous once I first came in, but once I got that first out, I settled down a little bit,” Soderholm said.

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Post 3958 finished with 18 hits in the game, led by Scholtes, who was 4-for-4 in the game.

“I just did what I had to do,” Scholtes said. “I tried to focus at the plate. Overall, I think I did a great job.

“Being a DH is great. You can hit the ball and you don’t have to go on the field and run all the time.”

Reller also had four hits and drove in two runs, bringing his season total to 57. Tommy Hayenga and Soderholm each had three hits, while Henning had a hit, scored three times and drew four walks.

Now, Bemidji stands between Worthington and a shot at a state title. The two will square off today at 1 p.m.

“My goal was not to go two and out,” Hostikka said. “Last year, Marshall had a good team and they came here and the competition got them two games right away. I had another goal — I wanted to hit 30 wins. (Friday) was 30. Now, my goal is to keep it going and win a state championship. We’re two games away from that. I’m proud of the way the guys are playing, but we’re not satisfied.”

R H E

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VFW baseball reaches state title series

POSTED Aug. 8, 2010 Bemidji Pioneer

By: [Pat Miller](#), Bemidji Pioneer

Geographically, Bemidji and Worthington are about as distant as two Minnesota communities can be. Worthington is nestled in the southwestern corner of the state while Bemidji is the showpiece of north-central Minnesota.

Saturday morning at the state VFW baseball tournament in Austin another chasm between the communities was exposed as Bemidji dismantled Worthington in the winner's bracket final 16-0.

Saturday's victory advanced the Vets to today's championship series. The first game is set for 11 a.m. and Bemidji would capture the state crown with a victory. If the VFW loses, however, a second game would follow.

"We've only used two pitchers the entire tournament (Trent Baker and Ryan Hirt) and we're in very good shape for Sunday," said VFW coach Brad Johnson. "I think the other teams are starting to notice us. When we came here we might have been a little intimidated but Saturday you could tell that Worthington was intimidated by us. We've played the minimum number of games but everybody else is running out of pitching and no matter who we face in the final we should have an advantage."

Bemidji's opponent for the championship series was determined late last night. Saturday afternoon New Ulm battled St. Paul RanView in loser-bracket play and that winner faced Worthington for the right to tangle with Bemidji.

"It doesn't matter who we play," Johnson said. "We are playing very good baseball right now."

Saturday the VFW put together its best performance of the tournament as Hirt tossed a 2-hit shutout, the defense played flawlessly and the offense coaxed eight walks and pounded 11 hits.

"The guys are buying into the philosophy that if we put the ball in play and force the defense to react we will score runs," Johnson said. "We also preach scoring early in the game and never letting up once we get a lead." he Vets used that strategy to destroy Worthington as Bemidji had three runs on the board before Worthington had an at-bat. The VFW also shattered any hopes of a comeback by scoring seven runs in the third and three in the fourth and fifth.

"In the spring high school baseball B-team season and this summer the coaches have stressed that the job of each inning's lead-off hitter is to get on base," Johnson said. "It doesn't matter how you get on base. It can be a walk, a hit, an error, catcher's interference. It doesn't matter as long as you get on base."

Nick Hovila was the game's leadoff hitter and he took those words to heart by drawing a walk. Dom Hayle did the same and those free passes set the table for Collin Leif's RBI single and Hirt's 2-run double.

Hayle also walked to begin the Bemidji third and before Worthington knew what had happened the Vets scored seven runs. The inning featured singles by Mason Bellew, Leif, Sam Dwyer, Hovila and Hayle, an error and a 2-run double by Cody Jenkins.

By the fourth inning Worthington's goal was to save its pitching for the rest of the tournament and Bemidji scored six runs off the relievers. Half of the runs came in the fourth with the help of four walks and in the fifth Bemidji's bench produced three more runs.

Leif finished with a pair of singles and two RBI. Nick Conner contributed a double and three RBI while Jenkins, Hayle and Devin Barrett each had a pair.

Baker, who threw 2.1 innings against Forest Lake Thursday and went the distance Friday against RanView, is slated to start again today.

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New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net



Red Wing VFW eliminated from state baseball tournament

POSTED August 7, 2010 Rochester Post Bulletin

By [Pat Ruff](#)

The Post-Bulletin, Rochester MN

The Tournament
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AUSTIN — Worthington slipped past Red Wing 10-6 in the VFW state baseball tournament Friday. Red Wing followed that with a 5-3 loss to New Ulm.

The loss dropped Red Wing to 26-3 overall and eliminated it from the tournament.

Against Worthington, Zach Garner was 4-for-5 with two RBIs. Joel Newman and Jack Strusz each had two hits. Newman was the starting pitcher, working the first three innings. He allowed four runs, all of them earned.

Garner had three more hits against New Ulm, while Preston Blaney had two. Dayton Johnson was the starting pitcher, allowing four runs on 11 hits.



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Red Wing VFW ousted

POSTED August 7, 2010 Red Wing Republican Eagle

By: [R-E Sports Staff](#), The Republican Eagle

AUSTIN, Minn. — The most successful Red Wing VFW baseball team in 43 years has its roots in Wiffle Ball. The players helped construct a field in left fielder Mike Stegora's yard and faced off against one another in games. Sometimes they played multiple times in the same day.

Dayton Johnson said the spirited games helped him to pick up curveballs better. Stegora said it helped him with his fundamentals like staying down on the ball. It's a fun atmosphere where teammates give each other a hard time, but it also has taught the players to have a killer instinct, according to Stegora.

New Ulm showed they know something about that instinct in Friday's elimination game at the state tournament. Red Wing was down — it lost to Worthington earlier in the day and not many of its hitters had confidence, according to David Goggin — and New Ulm capitalized, scoring four runs in the second en route to a 5-3 victory at Dick Seltz Field.

Red Wing finished the season 26-3. Post 1218 reached the state tournament for the first time since 1967.

"We learned a lot," said Johnson, who suffered the loss. "We know that we have what it takes now to be a state-championship team. We can compete with them. Just taught us that we can't just show up. We have to actually play every game."

Goggin added that the Wiffle Ball games taught players to relax during their at-bats.

"We always say to each other, 'Just think it's Wiffle Ball,' 'cause we hit home run after home run after home run in Wiffle Ball," Goggin said. "We don't hit home runs here, but just hitting line shots into the gaps somewhere."

However, it's not easy to relax in the batter's box when you're playing from behind all day. Twice against Worthington and twice versus New Ulm, Red Wing found itself down by four runs.

Red Wing wasn't accustomed to being in that position. Having lost only one game during the regular season, Johnson only recalled trailing by a run or two in previous games.

Red Wing found itself in an early hole against New Ulm because it failed to execute the fundamentals like getting a bunt down and players missed signs. Twice Red Wing ran itself into inning-ending double plays.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010



Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net



Dayton Johnson delivers home against New Ulm on Friday. He gave up five runs and suffered the loss. - R-E photo by Ryan Nilsson

Red Wing scored two in the sixth thanks to an RBI triple by Karsten Lampman and threatened in the seventh. The third baseman fake tagged Lampman, he slid when he didn't need to and Lampman was awarded home plate by the umpire.

With two outs in the seventh, Erin Foley and Preston Blaney both singled. Zach Garner made solid contact with the next pitch, but he lined out to the shortstop to end Red Wing's season.

"It didn't help that we had to get the rally going late, which puts a lot of pressure on the guy up to bat," Goggin said. "... We hit the ball hard, we just put too much pressure on ourselves to have it be so late."

Those high-pressure situations presented the players with a learning opportunity.

"Today, even though we lost, this is going to help their football career," Red Wing VFW and high school coach Jim Bohmbach said. "This is going to help their hockey career. This is going to help their basketball career. And overall it's going to help us next year. We're going to be much stronger the next two years."

Bohmbach said he sees value in the Wiffle Ball too.

The players gathered at Stegora's field — which has an outfield wall made in part of neighbor Gary Iocco's old campaign yard signs — Thursday night after their victory over St. Cloud and played for a couple hours to relax.

**The Tournament
as Reported
in Other
Newspapers**

"They love the game and they love being around each other," Bohmbach said. "I think that's probably the coolest thing about this: Win, lose, whatever happens these guys are great friends and they'll be great friends for life."

Worthington takes 3rd place at state

POSTED August 8, 2010 Worthington Globe

By: [Aaron Hagen](#), Worthington Daily Globe

That's all that stood between Worthington and a shot at a state VFW baseball title.

But those three outs proved to be elusive as a tough St. Paul RanView team rallied in the seventh and eventually claimed a 10-5 eight-inning victory Saturday.

"I can't believe they came back," Worthington right-fielder Tyler Verdoorn said. "We thought we had them. We had some mental errors and I guess our season is over with."

While Post 3958 didn't get the state title shot it wanted, Worthington did take a third-place trophy back across Interstate 90.

"We never stop fighting," Worthington's Lucas Henning said. "We all love baseball and we all wanted that championship. We came up a little short, but we're still happy that we made it this far."

After suffering a discouraging 16-0 loss Saturday afternoon to Bemidji, Worthington head coach T.D. Hostikka challenged his team prior to the RanView game.

"We just got shelled in Game 1," Hostikka said. "We didn't look like us at all. I challenged them before batting practice and I said this is about pride, this is about hustling and this is about not letting anything get in front of you and letting it play you."

It was almost a sense of déjà vu for Worthington in the nightcap as RanView — just like Bemidji had done earlier Saturday — jumped out to a quick lead in the top of the first inning.



New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

Head Coach: Robert Skillings 507.354.7593 rskillings@comcast.net



“We hung in there,” Verdoorn said. “I thought at first we might get blown out because I thought our team wasn’t going to play the second game after the blowout in the first game.”

“Our team showed that they care about the game and we played a pretty good game.”

DJ Palmer singled and stole second, while Alex Evenson drew a walk to put two on base for St. Paul.

Palmer scored on a wild pitch and Evenson was plated after Alex Trierweiler singled, giving Post 6210 a 2-0 lead.

“I wasn’t worried about how they scored,” Hostikka said. “They didn’t score by us making a lot of mistakes. They scored because they hit the ball hard and we did all right. We didn’t make mistakes for them to score. I would have been really worried if we would have seen some of the flashbacks of that first game, but I didn’t.”

But then, it was time for the Worthington offense to respond.

Tommy Hayenga started the rally with a solid single.

“I was thinking the pitcher was going to throw it a little bit faster,” he said. “He threw a pretty good pitch and I swung at the first one and hit it down the line. That started off the inning for us.”

AJ Hayenga reached on an error and Henning followed with a single, loading the bases for Jon Reller.

Reller grounded into a double play, but plated Tommy from third, cutting the deficit in half.

Blake Rogers then hit an RBI single, tying the game at 2-all.

“We knew that we had to get some runs,” Tommy Hayenga said. “We wanted to get at least one run to get it to a one-run deficit. But we scored two and that was really huge for us. That got our confidence back up. It was really big to get those first two runs in the first inning.”

The next three innings saw nothing but zeroes on the Dick Seltz Field scoreboard.

Rogers threw the first three innings for Worthington and settled in after the first frame.

He allowed a hit in each of the second and third inning, but was aided by a nice catch in right field by Verdoorn.

Meanwhile, Worthington couldn’t get anything going offensively.

Verdoorn, who drew a walk in the eighth inning, had a double in the fourth, but was stranded as the next three hitters failed to bring him in.

“For some reason, I could see the ball really good (Saturday),” Verdoorn said. “That guy threw heat at the end and I could actually see it really good and walked. I felt really good at the plate.”

Post 3958 took the lead in the fifth.

AJ Hayenga singled and Henning drew a walk, putting two on for Rogers.

The right-hander delivered, hitting a deep double, plating both runners.

“Coach said I hacked at the first one,” Rogers said. “He said, ‘Get one you like and make contact with it.’ I guess I got a hold of it.

“It felt really good hitting that and going up 4-2.”



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Reller (three innings, no runs) threw a solid fifth, but was facing some trouble in the sixth.

After a strikeout and groundout to start the inning, RanView's Joe Newton and Nick Johnson each singled, putting runners on the corners with two outs.

Palmer then appeared to have a base hit to right, but Verdoorn made sure that wouldn't happen.

The right fielder made a nice diving catch, ending the inning and preserving the 4-2 lead.

"I don't think I've ever made catches like that before," Verdoorn said. "On the diving catch, I thought I had it right away and then the last moment, I had to make a dive for it. I guess it was pretty good."

Post 3958 went in order in the sixth and needed three outs to secure a spot in the state title game.

However, Evenson led off with a double, and after a strikeout, Tim McClanahan reached. Trierweiler cleared the bases with a deep double, tying the score at 4-all.

Following an error, Sam Nieman hit an RBI sacrifice fly, giving RanView a 5-4 advantage.

"We did what we're supposed to do and we have a two-run lead," Hostikka said. "We put up a zero in the sixth and in the seventh we just don't get it done."

Needing one run to tie and two to win, Tommy Hayenga led off the bottom of the seventh with a walk. AJ then sacrificed him to second.

With two outs, Reller walked to put two on for Rogers.

He hit a hard ground ball at the first baseman, who couldn't find the handle. Rogers was safe at first, but Tommy was still stranded 90 feet away.

"I didn't want to get the last out at home," Hayenga said. "I thought he picked it up cleanly, but he bobbled it."

But the chance was not lost.

The RanView pitcher threw a wild pitch, scoring Tommy and tying the game at 5-all.

"T.D. wanted to send me on the play before and I think I could have made it," Tommy said. "I was really hoping that we would score that run so then I wouldn't feel so bad about the loss. I think that was the most pumped I've ever been after I scored that run."

Heading into the eighth inning, Post 3958 was riding momentum.

RanView took it right back.

Johnson singled and was sacrificed to second to start St. Paul's inning. Evenson then singled, putting two on for Kevin Miley.

Facing a 1-2 count, Miley saw a good pitch and didn't miss. He hit a three-run home run to center field, deflating Worthington and giving RanView an 8-5 lead.

"I thought it was over with when he hit that home run," Verdoorn said. "He jacked it like 450 (feet) I thought."

Post 6210 added two more runs in the inning, taking a 10-5 lead into the last frame.

Verdoorn walked to lead off the inning, but the next three hitters went in order, sending Post 3958 to a third-place finish.



I couldn't be more proud of them," Hostikka said. "If somebody would have told me at the beginning of the season that you're going to go 30-11 and be third in the state, I would have said, 'OK, great, I'll take that.' It's a great accomplishment to get here and it's a great accomplishment the way they played."

After starting the tournament with a 10-0 five-inning victory, Worthington followed with an extra-inning win. But despite a tough loss to Bemidji earlier Saturday, Post 3958 never gave in to a talented St. Paul team.

"We showed a lot of fight," Tommy Hayenga said. "I think we represented Worthington pretty well. I'm proud of our team."

Game 1 R H E
Bemidji 307 33 — 16 11 0
Worthington 000 00 — 0 2 4

Game 2 R H E
RanView 200 000 35 — 10 14 2
Worth. 200 020 10 — 5 8 2

Bemidji VFW wins state championship

POSTED August 9, 2010 Bemidji Pioneer

By: [Pat Miller](#), Bemidji Pioneer



St. Paul RanView entered this year's state VFW baseball tournament with eight team titles in the 55-year history of the event. Collectively, Bemidji's District 9 had captured only two state crowns during the same span, one by Fergus Falls in 1960 and the other by Bemidji in 1985.

"RanView had all of the state tournament championship history and experience," said Bemidji coach Brad Johnson whose team faced RanView Sunday morning for the 2010 title.

"Joe Mauer won a state tournament with RanView. RanView is a regular at state and knows what it takes to win a title. And during it's 10-5 win over Worthington Saturday night RanView was playing great baseball.

"RanView was not going to be intimidated by us but we were not going to be intimidated by RanView," Johnson added.

Earlier in the tournament Bemidji stopped the St. Paul squad 7-4 but Sunday morning the teams staged the rematch in the title series. The Vets entered Sunday's action with a 29-5 record while RanView owned a 29-2-1 mark, one of the losses coming at the hands of Bemidji earlier in the tournament.

And Bemidji rose to the occasion once again, tripping RanView 6-3 in eight innings to capture its second state VFW title.

"There was no doubt that Bemidji and RanView were the two best teams in the tournament," Johnson said. "Even though RanView would have had to beat us twice on Sunday, I considered the first game as a must-win for us. We didn't want to deal with a second game and we threw our best lineup at them."

The best lineup included Trent Baker on the mound for four innings and Ryan Hirt for another four. Tournament rules limited any pitcher to 14 innings over three days and Baker and Hirt each had thrown 10 innings prior to Sunday.

"Both Trent and Ryan were willing and able to give us four innings and that's what they did," Johnson said.



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Baker started and he allowed only two runs while fanning six and walking two. Hirt relieved and went the rest of the way. St. Paul managed a single run off him while Hirt struck out three and walked one.

Bemidji's offense made Hirt the winning pitcher when it scored three runs in the top of the eighth inning to break a 3-3 stalemate after regulation.

RanView threatened in the lower eighth when it used a pair of singles to put runners at first and second with one out but Hirt stiffened, retiring the side with a fly ball to shallow right and a strikeout.

"I think Bemidji earned a little respect from everybody over the weekend," Johnson said. "Nobody really knew much about us when the tournament started. RanView was the No. 1 team in the state and was favored to win. But we knew we had a good team as well."

In the championship game RanView struck first as it used a walk, stolen base and a single to manufacture a run in the lower first.

"Every game that RanView played in the tournament, when it had a chance to score it would," Johnson said. "In the first inning the leadoff guy walked and before you knew it we were down 1-0."

The Vets answered with a run in the second as Collin Leif doubled and two outs later Connor McNallan singled home pinch runner Billy Baumgartner.

The VFW took a 3-1 lead in the fourth as Leif walked, Hirt was hit by a pitch and Cody Jenkins doubled both runners home.

St. Paul drew within 3-2 in the fourth on a pair of walks and a delayed double-steal with runners on the corners. In the fifth RanView tied the game on another walk, stolen base and double.

"After RanView tied the game I asked the players what they would have thought if I had told them at the beginning of the season that we would be 0-0 with two innings to play in the state championship game," Johnson said. "We'll, we were in that situation and I asked the players to get the job done."

The deadlock continued into extra innings but the Vets took their coach's request to heart and scored three runs in the eighth off relief pitcher Alex Trierweiler.

Mason Bellew started the rally by coaxing a walk on a 3-2 pitch. Leif executed a perfect sacrifice bunt and both runners were safe when Bellew beat the throw to second.

Hirt followed with a high chopper off the plate that landed just fair and the VFW had the bases loaded. A run scored on a wild pitch and an out later McNallan bounced a slow-roller to third baseman Sam Sontoya. Sontoya opted to try and nail the runner at the plate but the throw was wide and Bemidji had its second run of the stanza.

Sam Dwyer added an insurance tally when his sacrifice fly to center scored Drew Peterson who was running for Hirt.

RanView put two runners on base in the lower eighth but Hirt worked out of the jam. And when he whiffed Sam Nieman for the final out, Bemidji celebrated.

"I jumped up and down and the boys hog-piled each other," Johnson said. "When I looked at the RanView side of the field they looked as if they didn't think this was going to happen. They were dazed.

"This was a great game between two great teams. It's the best game I've ever been involved in as a coach," Johnson added.

The VFW ended the year with a sterling 30-5 record. Only one of the losses, a setback to Moorhead in the district playoffs, came against a VFW program. The other four were to Legion squads.

"Counting the B-team in the spring, it's been a six-month season for the coaches and the players," Johnson said. "I wish there was more to come. This is a great group of players who may never get the chance to play together as a team again. It's sad that the season has come to an end."



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But if the season had to end, the VFW could not have chosen a better way.

“Winning the state tournament is an experience the players, the coaches and the parents will never forget,” Johnson said. “It has been a great year.”

NOTES: Bemidji placed five players on the state All-Tournament team. Representing the Vets were Ryan Hirt, Trent Baker, Sam Dwyer, Cody Jenkins and Collin Leif. Leif also was named the tournament’s Most Valuable Player.

Bemidji 6, RanView 3, 8 innings

Bemidji 010 200 03 – 6 5 0

RanView 100 110 00 – 3 6 0

Baker, Hirt (5) (W) and Leif. K-9, BB-3

Flud, Trierweiler (8) (L) and Evenson. K-9, BB-5

Red Wing D-1 10

Game 3

1:20 p.m. Thur Aug 5

Howie Strey Field

St. Cloud East D-6 4

Red Wing 6

Game 11

11:30 a.m. Fri Aug 6

Dick Seltz Stadium

Worthington 0

New Ulm Jr Legion D-2 4

Game 1

11 a.m. Thur Aug 5

Howie Strey Field

Alexandria 0

Game 5

4:30 pm Thur Aug 5

Worth'ton 10

Alexandria D5 9

Howie Strey Field

Worthington 10 (5 innings)

2010 Minnesota VFW
Baseball Tournament
Austin, Minnesota



Proctor D-8 6

Game 2

11:30 a.m. Thur Aug 5

Dick Seltz Stadium

Austin - Host 2

Proctor 1

Game 6

5:00 pm Thur Aug 5

Dick Seltz Stadium

St. Paul 4

Game 12

2:00 p.m. Fri Aug 6

Dick Seltz Stadium

Bemidji 16

Bemidji 6

Game 18

11:00 a.m.

Sun. Aug 8

Seltz Stadium

Bemidji

8 innings

Game 18

If Nec.

2:00 p.m.

Sun Aug 8

Seltz

Stadium

St. Paul Ranview D-4 12

Bemidji D-9 17

Game 4

2 p.m. Thur Aug. 5

Dick Seltz Stadium

Forest Lake 10

Bemidji 7

Game 17

7:00 pm Sat Aug 7

Dick Seltz Stadium

St. Paul 3

Austin 10

Game 7

7:00 pm Thur Aug 5

Howie Strey Field

St. Cloud 4

St. Paul 9

Game 14

7:30 p.m. Fri Aug 6

Dick Seltz Stadium

Austin 4

St. Paul 15

Game 16

St. Paul 10

Austin 8

Game 9

11:00 a.m. Fri Aug 6

Howie Strey Field

Alexandria 4

Proctor 11

Game 10

1:30 p.m. Fri Aug. 6

Howie Strey Field

New Ulm 12

New Ulm 5

Game 13

5:00 p.m. Fri Aug 6

Dick Seltz Stadium

New Ulm 3

4:00 p.m. Sat. Aug 7

Dick Seltz Stadium

New Ulm 17

Game 8

7:30 pm Thur Aug 5

Dick Seltz Stadium

Forest Lake 2

Red Wing 3

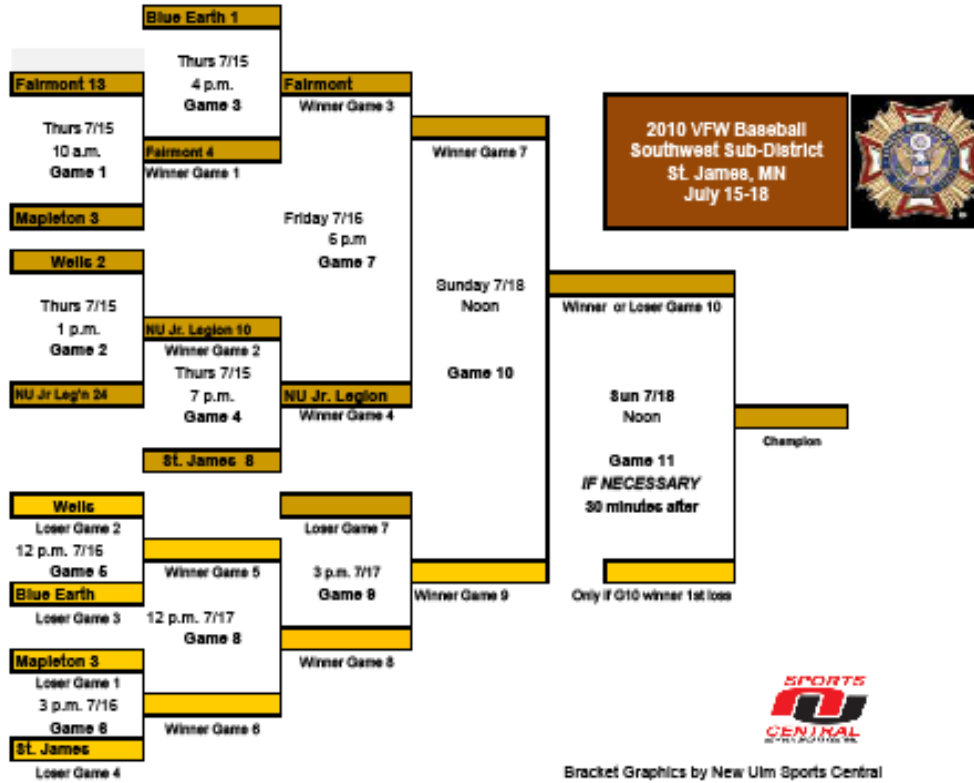
Unofficial brackets by





New Ulm Junior Legion (16U) Baseball 2010

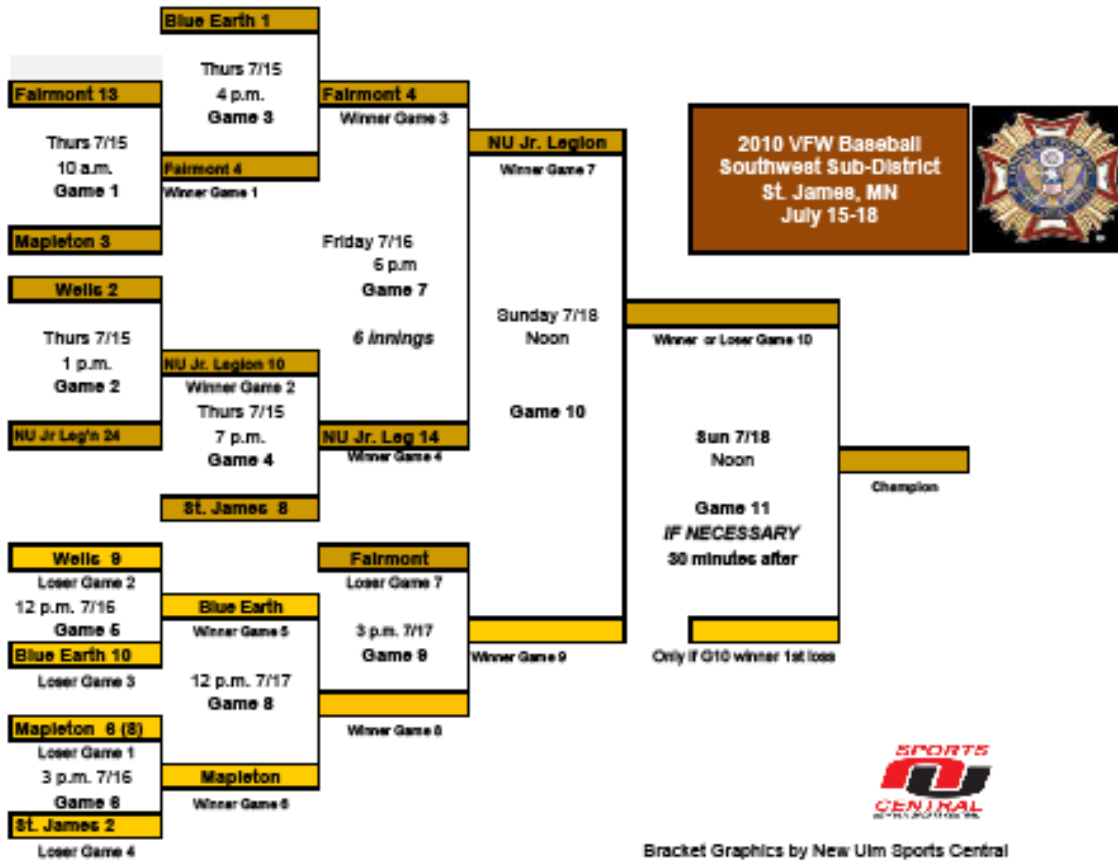
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† VFW 2010 SW Sub-District Bracket

TEST VERSION (Cropped and enlarged form original)