

2011 Upper Midwest Classic

American Legion Baseball— New Ulm, Minnesota
Game Coverage Including Photos on Following Pages



Eastview wins 2011 Classic

Posted July 5, 2011 New Ulm Journal
By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

EW ULM - In the Battle of Apple Valley, Eastview scored 11 runs in the top of the first inning and cruised to a 14-4 win over cross-town rival Apple Valley to win the 2011 Upper Midwest Classic at Johnson Park Sunday afternoon.

The game was stopped after five innings because of the 10-run lead rule.

Quinn Trusty went one inning to get the win for Eastview.

Chris Koenig took the loss for Apple Valley. He was charged with 10 runs in 1/3 of an inning.

Matt LeCovich led Eastview with three hits with Alec Knop, Cody Groskreutz and Stu Daly adding two hits. Matt Larson drove in three runs with a home run.

Games 36,37, 38
NU Johnson Park
Sunday
July 3, 2011

Casey Killebrew had two hits for Apple Valley.

Eastview, which finished second in the 2009 Upper Midwest Classic, used a double steal and a Cody Groskreutz single to take a 2-0 lead.

A Taylor Brandstad RBI single, a bases loaded walk and a two run-single from Knop made it a 7-0 game and a two-run single off of the bat of Matt Galloway upped the lead to 9-0. Will Niska took over for Koenig and was greeted by a two-run home run from Matt Larson.

Apple Valley scored one run in the bottom of the first on a Josh Johnson double and added three more runs in the second inning on a fielder's choice and a two-run triple from Reece GoPaul.

Eastview countered with two runs in the third on run-scoring singles from Groskreutz and Daly.

A fielder's choice in the fourth added the final run for Eastview.

Both teams reached the title games with wins earlier Sunday.

Eastview beat Creighton Prep 8-7 in eight innings with Quinn Trusty getting the win. Matt Galloway, Matt Larson and Daly each had two hits for Eastview.

Billy Lipari hit a grand slam for Creighton Prep.

Apple Valley edged Aonka 4-3 with Noah Seburg collecting two hits for Apple Valley.



Eastview celebrates 2011 Classic championship win over Apple Valley. Journal staff photo by Steve Muscatello.

2011 Upper Midwest Classic

American Legion Baseball— New Ulm, Minnesota
Game Coverage Including Photos on Following Pages



EXPANDED FIELD OF 16 OPENS MIDWEST CLASSIC RUN THURSDAY

Posted 28 June, 2011 - 21:57 — [Editor](#), New Ulm Sports Central

Four additional teams, an expansion to four pools and an additional fourth site marks the 2011 Upper Midwest Classic American Legion tournament starting in New Ulm Friday.

Sixteen teams are now aligned in four pools in preliminary games which will end Sunday with championships and place determinations. Searles has joined Johnson Park, Mueller Park and Essig as diamonds where the games will be played.

Pools advancing first and second place teams to the championship rounds include:

A POOL -- New Ulm Gold, Plover, WI, Escanaba, MI. and Burnsville.

B POOL -- Eastview, Roseville, Duluth Lakeview and Creighton, NE.

C POOL -- Mankato Nationals, Anoka, Moorhead, Lakeville.

D POOL -- New Ulm Blue, Sleepy Eye, Omaha, NE and Apple Valley.

Upper Midwest Classic begins Thursday

Posted June 28, 2011 New Ulm Journal

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - There will be a couple of new looks to the Upper Midwest American Legion Baseball Classic which begins its 32nd year

The tournament has been expanded from 12 teams to 16 teams. That means that another site had to be added to Johnson Park and Mueller Park in New Ulm and the Essig Baseball Park.

That site is the newly remodeled Searles Baseball Park which installed lights this season.

The 16-team tournament has also changed into a four team Pool Play format.

In Pool A is New Ulm Gold, Plover, Wisc., Escanaba, Mich. and Burnsville.

Pool "B" features Eastview, Roseville, Duluth and Creighton.

Pool "C" has Mankato, Anoka, Moorhead and Lakeville while Pool "D" has teams from New Ulm Blue, Sleepy Eye, Omaha and Apple Valley.

Each team will play three games in their respective pool and then determine a pool champion.

In the end the winner will meet on Sunday in the championship series.

MIDWEST CLASSIC SCHEDULE AND SCORES

CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY JULY 3, 2011

Semi-Finals

Eastview 8, Creighton Preps, NE 7

Apple Valley 4, Anoka 3

Championship Game(s) Follows

Eastview vs Apple Valley

RESULTS SAT. JULY 2, 2011

Final Pool Play

Creighton 2, Eastview 0

Anoka 3, Moorhead 2

Duluth Lakeside 11, Roseville 1

Mankato 21, Lakeville 0

Pool Third Place "Extra Games"

Plover, WI 6, Duluth Lakeside 2

Lakeville South 11, New Ulm Blue 0

Pool Fourth Place "Extra Games"

Roseville 10, Escanaba, MI 0

Moorhead 12, Sleepy Eye 8

Quarter-Finals

Apple Valley 4, Mankato Nationals 0

Anoka 5, Omaha 4

Eastview 4, New Ulm Gold 1

Creighton 9, Burnsville 8 (10 Innings)

RESULTS FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2011 - Pool Play

Eastview 12, Roseville 3

Mankato Nationals 2, Anoka 1

Apple Valley 9, Sleepy Eye 4

Burnsville 10, Plover 2

Creighton, NE 5, Duluth Lakeside 2

Lakeville Southside 7, Moorhead 2

Omaha, NE 11, New Ulm Blue 0

New Ulm Gold 10, Escanaba, 1

Omaha, NE 7, Sleepy Eye 5

Anoka 14, Lakeville 13

Roseville 8, Creighton 5

Mankato 8, Moorhead 3, Fri. July 1 game suspended, continued Sat. July 2

Eastview 10, Duluth 7

Plover, WI 7, Escanaba, MI 2

Roseville 8, Creighton 5

Mankato Nationals 8, Moorhead 3

Eastview 10, Duluth 7

Plover 7, Escanaba 0

Apple Valley 4, New Ulm Blue 3

New Ulm Gold 9, Burnsville 8

RESULTS THURSDAY JUNE 30, 2011 - Pool Play

New Ulm Blue 10, Sleepy Eye 8

Omaha, NE 13, Apple Valley 3

New Ulm Gold 10, Plover 3

Omaha, NE 13, Apple Valley 3

Burnsville 11, Escanaba, MI 1 (5 Innings)

Here is a short thumbnail sketch of some of the teams in this year's Upper Midwest Classic.

Duluth Lakeview comes in with a 6-2 record.

Coach Tom Simonson said that his top players are Mac Tobin, Mickie Keuning, Neal Walsh, Brody Olson and Aaron Grossman.

Olson and Walsh are going to St. Scholastica next year with Tobin attending Chicago State. Keuning is going to San Angelo State.

Omaha is compiled of players from Omaha Gross Catholic High School.

They are currently 13-13.

Mike Filipowicz is in his 21st year as head coach.

"We played in the 2003 Central Plains Regional that was played in New Ulm," Filipowicz said. "We were eliminated by Rochester who won the tournament. We were 51-10 that year.

"I am looking forward to returning to New Ulm again - it was a great experience," he said.

Joe Foral leads Omaha with a .364 batting average with Zach Kinsella hitting .333 and Luke Cunningham .328.

Zach Knicky leads the team in home runs with three.

Knicky also leads the Omaha pitching staff with 26 strikeouts in 35 innings. He has a 3-1 record.

Burnsville, under coach Greg Nesbitt is led by Justin Threkeld's .500 batting average and .500 on-base percentage. Brian Vanderwoude is hitting .467 with Tyler Hansen at .400.

Riley McAdaragh is the top pitcher with a 2-0 mark and an ERA of 1.29.

The Plover Black Sox are 12-3-2 coming into the Classic.

Ethan Fenkse leads Plover with a .578 batting average. Michael Jurgella has driven in 25 runs.

Ryan Roman is 3-0 on the mound for the Sox with an ERA of .280. Nick Nalbach and Cale Pieczynski are both 2-0 on the hill.

Mankato National enters the tournament with a 9-1 record. Mankato is led by Adam Geiger's .591 batting average and Jack Mages, who is hitting .485. Adam Athey and Jesse Munsterman are both hitting .444.

Here is a short thumbnail sketch of some of the teams in this year's Upper Midwest Classic.

Duluth Lakeview comes in with a 6-2 record.

Coach Tom Simonson said that his top players are Mac Tobin, Mickie Keuning, Neal Walsh, Brody Olson and Aaron Grossman.

Olson and Walsh are going to St. Scholastica next year with Tobin attending Chicago State. Keuning is going to San Angelo State.

Omaha is compiled of players from Omaha Gross Catholic High School.

They are currently 13-13.

Mike Filipowicz is in his 21st year as head coach.

"We played in the 2003 Central Plains Regional that was played in New Ulm," Filipowicz said. "We were eliminated by Rochester who won the tournament. We were 51-10 that year.

"I am looking forward to returning to New Ulm again - it was a great experience," he said.

Joe Foral leads Omaha with a .364 batting average with Zach Kinsella hitting .333 and Luke Cunningham .328.

Zach Knicky leads the team in home runs with three.

Knicky also leads the Omaha pitching staff with 26 strikeouts in 35 innings. He has a 3-1 record.

Burnsville, under coach Greg Nesbitt is led by Justin Threkeld's .500 batting average and .500 on-base percentage. Brian Vanderwoude is hitting .467 with Tyler Hansen at .400.

Riley McAdaragh is the top pitcher with a 2-0 mark and an ERA of 1.29.

The Plover Black Sox are 12-3-2 coming into the Classic.

Ethan Fenkse leads Plover with a .578 batting average. Michael Jurgella has driven in 25 runs.

Ryan Roman is 3-0 on the mound for the Sox with an ERA of .280. Nick Nalbach and Cale Pieczynski are both 2-0 on the hill.

Mankato National enters the tournament with a 9-1 record. Mankato is led by Adam Geiger's .591 batting average and Jack Mages, who is hitting .485. Adam Athey and Jesse Munsterman are both hitting .444.

Pitching-wise, Matt Anderson has an ERA of 2.50 and Nick Kaus has an ERA of 3.50 and has struck out 20 batters in just 10 innings of work.



Legion Blue holds on to beat Sleepy Eye

Posted July 1, 2011 New Ulm Journal
By Jeremy Behnke, Journal Sports Editor

NEW ULM - Despite giving up two runs in the top of the first inning against Sleepy Eye, New Ulm Legion Blue pitcher Ben Wolf wasn't too worried.

Wolf stayed calm, then watched as his team scored five times in the bottom of the first inning to grab the lead.

Blue built the lead to 9-2 after four innings, but Sleepy Eye rallied late, only to lose 10-8 in the first game of the Upper Midwest Classic Thursday at Johnson Park.

Wolf said he didn't get nervous at first despite the early deficit. He pitched five innings, allowing six runs on six hits to earn the win.

**Game 1
Johnson Field
New Ulm
6 p.m. Thursday
June 30, 2011**

SLEEPY EYE shortstop sean Mathiowetz leaps to avoid New Ulm Legion Blue base runner Javen Munce as he slides into second during the opening game of the upper Midwest Classic Thursday at Johnson Park in New Ulm.

"No I didn't [feel nervous], because I faced them three times during the year in school ball," Wolf said. "I had trouble with my curve ball and I've changed up my motion to come out over the top because I've been having elbow problems. I've been working with my uncle [New Ulm Cathedral assistant coach Sam Clyne] and I'm just a lot more confident."

Nathan Kral took the loss for Sleepy Eye. He was wild, allowing five walks in just 2/3 of an inning, and he was responsible for four runs.

Sleepy Eye scored twice in the first after Scott Salfer drove in Adam Sellner and Kral followed with an RBI grounder that eventually scored Salfer to make it 2-0. Blue took advantage of five Kral walks in the bottom of the first, and Jordan Guggisberg hit a two-run single to make it 5-2.

"It helps a lot - when you got these guys behind you and you get some runs, then you have confidence," Wolf said.

New Ulm added to the lead in the third inning, scoring two more times after Javen Munce and Guggisberg delivered RBIs. Guggisberg finished with three hits on the day and three RBIs.

Blue then went up 9-2 in the fourth inning when Matt Bergmann doubled, scoring Brody Peterson and Collin Clyne.

But in the top of the fifth, Sleepy Eye got back in the game after it scored four times to cut the lead to 9-6. The big hit came on Salfer's three-run double and Kral drove him in during the next at-bat.

New Ulm added a run in the fifth inning and Sleepy Eye scored twice more in the seventh inning when Salfer delivered another double, this time scoring two runs to make it 10-8.

Even though New Ulm had a seven-run lead at one time, it wasn't safe to assume Sleepy Eye was out of it.

"They're a great hitting team," Wolf said. "Their whole line-up can hit the ball, you gotta be on top of your game."

Salfer finished the game with six RBIs, two doubles, two runs, and a single. Sean Mathiowetz scored two runs and had two hits and Adam Sellner scored three runs and had two hits for Sleepy Eye.

New Ulm Legion Gold rolls to win

Posted July 1, 2011 New Ulm Journal
By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

**Game 2
Johnson Park
New Ulm
8:30 p.m. Thursday
June 30, 2011**

NEW ULM - Dan Blackstad was hitless in his first two at-bat against Plover, Wisconsin Thursday night.

But in the bottom of the sixth inning, he got his first hit of the game with a lead-off bunt single. He followed that with his second single of the game, in the same inning.



New Ulm Legion Gold sent 11 batters to the plate in the bottom of the sixth and scored seven runs as New Ulm opened play in the 2011 Upper Midwest Classic with a 10-3 win over the Black Sox.

Colin Wendinger got the win for New Ulm Gold. He went the distance and struck out four while allowing even hits. All three Plover runs were unearned.

Nick Nalbach took the loss for Plover. He was charged with six runs in six innings of work.

Zach Hoffmann, Blackstad and Tim Kehren each had two hits for New Ulm. Both of Hoffmann's hits were doubles. Patrick Bock had a triple with Jason Shaul adding a double. Hoffman drove in four runs with Aaron Pfaff driving in two runs.

"I liked the way that we hit the ball," New Ulm Gold coach Bob Weier said. "After the first time through the batting order we made a nice adjustment to their pitcher. We had a lot of fly ball outs [12 in the first five innings] but then we began to learn to set back a little bit. The kids made a nice adjustment."

New Ulm, which plays Escanaba, Michigan today at 12:30 p.m. at Johnson Park, took a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the third. Aaron Pfaff walked and Kevin Larson laid down a bunt single. Hoffman followed with a two-run double to centerfield.

But Plover scored three unearned runs in the top of the fourth. Kelvin Stroik reached on an error by second baseman Aaron Pfaff. Michael Jurgella followed with a base hit. After Wendinger fanned Bob Gregorich for the first out, Braden Hunkins singled to centerfield. And when the ball got by Blackstad, both Stroik and Jurgella scored.

After Willie Doll grounded out, Ethan Fenske stroked a triple to centerfield for a 3-2 Plover lead.

Gold tied the game in the bottom of the fourth when Erich Prokosch reached on a fielder's choice and scored on a Bock triple.

But in the sixth, New Ulm Gold made the adjustment that Weier wanted.

Blackstad led off with a bunt single and Kehren singled Blackstad to third.

An error scored Blackstad on a Colton Petron bunt. That ended Nalbach's night. Travis Pliska took over and walked Prokosch to load the bases.

After Bock struck out, Aaron Pfaff delivered a two-run single for a 6-3 lead. Back-to-back doubles from Hoffmann and Shaul made it a 9-3 cushion. Blackstad's second at-bat of the inning resulted in an RBI single for a 10-3 lead.

"I was happy with our offenses especially the drag bunts," Weier said. "We can do more than just get base hits. They can start rallies with those bunts. We had three drag bunts tonight. "And Colin got stronger as he went a long," Weier said. "He did a nice job."

Omaha Gross 13, Apple Valley 3

NEW ULM - Omaha Gross scored nine runs in the first two innings and never looked back as it beat Apple Valley 13-3 in a five-inning game to open Upper Midwest Classic play at Mueller Park.

**Game 3
Mueller Field
New Ulm
6 p.m. Thursday
June 30, 2011**

Apple Valley committed four errors in the game and two in the Omaha five-run first inning.

Nate Reagles took the loss for Apple Valley. He pitched the first inning and allowed five runs on two hits.

Luke Cunningham earned the win for Omaha Gross

Burnsville 11, Escanaba 1 (5 Innings)

NEW ULM - Burnsville scored nine runs in the top of the third as it defeated Escanaba in five innings at Mueller Park.

**Game 4
Mueller Field
New Ulm
8:30 p.m. Thursday
June 30, 2011**

Luke Chinn earned the win, allowing three hits and one run in five innings. Trent Schalbach allowed 10 hits and 11 runs in the loss. He lasted 2 2/3 innings.

Offensively for Burnsville, Andy Lissen was 2-for-3 with a double and Brian Vanderwoude was 2-for-3.

Games 5 thru 8 were not reported in detail by New Ulm Journal

Creighton Prep 5, Duluth Lakeview 2,

NEW ULM - Creighton Prep defeated Duluth Lakeview 5-2 on Friday at Mueller Park.

Kyle Kubat's solo home run in the bottom of the first gave Creighton an early 1-0 lead.

**Game 9
Mueller Field
New Ulm
9 a.m. Friday,
July 1, 2011**

Creighton held a 5-0 lead going into the seventh inning, when Matt Johnson and Justin Smith delivered RBI hits for Duluth.

Cory Bursh came in and nailed down the victory for Creighton.

Derek Petrich led Creighton's offense with a double and a triple.

Aaron Goyneb picked up the win for Creighton. He allowed two runs on five hits in six-plus innings. He struck out five and walked five.

Michie Keuning took the loss for Duluth. He allowed five runs on 11 hits. He struck out five and walked two.

Lakeville South 7, Moorhead Blues 2

NEW ULM - Lakeville South defeated Moorhead Blues 7-2 at Mueller Park on Friday.

Lakeville's six-run fourth inning was highlighted by a grand slam by Alex Continenza. Lakeville held that 7-2 for the remainder of the game.

Matt Erdal picked up two hits and scored a run for Lakeville. Garrett Delich scored two runs.

Brett Danielson led Moorhead's offense with a pair of hits. He drove in one run and scored once.

Nate Gelle recorded the win for Lakeville. He scattered seven hits in six innings. He struck four and walked two.

Brooks Miller was handed the loss for Moorhead. He allowed seven runs, five earned, on eight hits. He struck out four in his five innings of work.

Joe Sabal pitched a scoreless seventh inning for Lakeville

New Ulm Blue drops two

Posted July 2, 2011—New Ulm Journal

By Jeremy Behnke Journal Sports Editor

NEW ULM - New Ulm Legion Blue dropped a pair of games Friday at the Upper Midwest Classic, falling to Omaha 11-0 in the first game before losing a heartbreaker 4-3 to Apple Valley in the second game.

Matt Linscheid took the loss in both games. In the first game, he pitched two innings and gave up eight hits and seven runs. In the second game, he made a relief appearance and pitched two innings, giving up a bases-loaded single to Tate Erickson in the bottom of the seventh for the final 4-3 margin.

Ben Wolf, who earned the win against Sleepy Eye Thursday, went five innings against Apple Valley in his second start of the tournament. He allowed only two runs.

"He thought his arm felt good and I like him as a starter," Blue coach Bob Skillings said. "He kept us in the game and gave us five solid innings. Matt came in, and he also pitched earlier today, and only had about 50 pitches so he had something left."

In the loss to Apple Valley, both teams were scoreless until the fourth when Blue struck first. Matt Bergmann drew a bases-loaded walk to score Travis Kretsch, giving Blue the 1-0 lead.

Up until that point, Blue had the bases loaded in the first and third innings but failed to score a run.

"We left a lot of runners on early in the game, but like I tell the guys, it's more experience every time out, and we'll play better baseball for it," Skillings said.

Apple Valley answered with two runs in the bottom of the fourth after Casey Killebrew delivered a two-run triple to make it 2-1. Blue came back and took a 3-2 lead in the top of the sixth. Dylan Schreckenber scored on a wild pitch to tie the game at 2-2 and later Dan Reinke delivered an RBI single that scored Bergmann to give Blue the lead.

But Apple Valley loaded the bases against Linscheid and eventually won the game in the bottom of the seventh.

Earlier in the day against Omaha, Blue managed just five hits in the five-inning loss.

Game 10
Johnson Field
New Ulm
11:30 a,m Friday
July 1, 2011

Game 11 & 19
NU Johnson Field
9:30 and 3:30
Sat. July 1, 2011



Journal Staff Photo by Steve Muscatello

Game 17: Eastview 10, Duluth 7

Eastview prevailed with a 10-7 victory over Duluth on Friday at Mueller Park.

Eastview scored the first six runs of the game and held a comfortable 7-1 lead going into the bottom of the sixth.

Duluth rallied to score six runs and tie the game 7-7 heading into the seventh inning.

Eastview answered by scoring three runs and held on for a 10-7 win.

Eastview was led by Cody Grostreutz, who went 4-for-4 with a triple. He also scored three runs and stole two bases.

Joey Voss picked up the win in relief for Eastview. He worked 1 2/3 innings and did not allow a hit. He struck out two and walked one.

Tom Jerle took the loss for Duluth, he allowed three runs on four hits while recording just two outs.

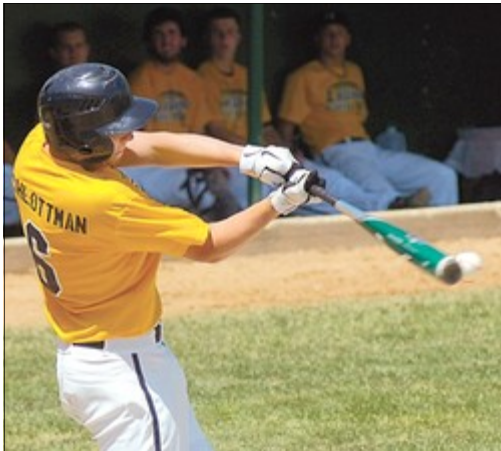
Gold wins twice

Posted July 2, 2011 by New Ulm Journal

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

Kevin Larson's hard groundball single off of the glove of Burnsville shortstop Matt Stemper in the bottom of the eighth inning - Larson's third hit of the game - scored Drew Pfaff from third and Dan Blackstad from second and lifted New Ulm Gold to a 9-8 win over Burnsville Friday night in the Upper Midwest Classic.

The win gives New Ulm Gold the Pool "A" championship. They will play the Pool "B" runner-up this afternoon at 4 p.m. at Johnson Park. That team will be determined this morning.



Journal Staff Photo by Steve Muscatello

For New Ulm Gold coach Bob Weier, it was a great comeback against a very good team.

"Burnsville is an excellent team," Weier said. "We did let them back in the game with some of our misplays but our kids never gave up. They were down to their last out. They just kept on battling and it did not matter who was at the plate for us."

Burnsville had broken a 7-7 tie with a run in the top of the eighth off of Dove.

Stemper led off the inning with a double. He moved to third on a Brian Vamderwoude fly out to centerfield. He scored on a Tyler Hanson infield single.

**Game 17
Mueller Field
New Ulm
3 p.m. Friday
July 1, 2011**

**Game 12 & 20
Johnson Field
New Ulm
12 noon & 6 p.m.
July 1, 2011**

Jory Dove got the win for New Ulm Gold in relief of starter Brett Gieseke. Gieseke went five innings in a game that was halted by a 1 hour and 42 minute rain delay.

Bo Hallquist took the loss for the Cobras also in relief.

Larson drove in four of New Ulm's runs.

Jason Shaul homered and drove in two runs with Drew Pfaff also driving in two runs.

Dan Motl and Tyler Hanson each had three hits for Burnsville, who will play at 6:30 p.m. tonight at Johnson Park against the Pool "B" champion.

New Ulm started its game-winning rally in the bottom of the inning when Mike Schlottman reach first on a wild pitch on a strikeout. Schlottman was forced at second on a Drew Pfaff groundball.

Pat Bock followed with a base hit to left field. Aaron Pfaff was safe on an error by Cobra second baseman Derek Johnson to load the bases. Blackstad came in to run for Bock.

Larson then hit a hard groundball toward Stemper at short. Stemper slipped and had the ball roll off his glove and into center field allowing two runs to score for the win.

"I really think that we had it in us tonight," Weier said. "It was fun to watch."

New Ulm had taken a 5-0 lead in the bottom of the second. Shaul walked and courtesy runner Colin Wendinger stole second. Tim Kehren singled and Erich Prokosch was safe on an error that allowed Wendinger to score. Drew Pfaff's double added two more runs before Larson doubled in Aaron Pfaff and Drew Pfaff.

But then the rain came and when play resumed, Burnsville came back.

The Cobras scored three runs off of Gieseke in the fourth. Tyler Hanson tripled in one run with Derek Johnson and Bryce Pruszinske each driving in a run.

Burnsville added another run in the fifth on a bases loaded walk to Scott Tyrell.

Shaul's two-run home run - his second of the day- scored Larson ahead of him for a 7-4 lead.

But the Cobras came back to tie the game with a run in the sixth on a Stemper single before tying the game in the seventh on a two-run double by Dan Motl.

New Ulm won its game earlier in the day 10-1 over Escanaba. Shaul hit a home run in that game.

Sleepy Eye rally falls short

Posted July 2, 2011 by New Ulm Journal

SEARLES - Sleepy Eye coach Alan Woitas says his team has a tendency to put on a late rally.

Unfortunately, the team also has a tendency to dig itself into a deep hole.

They did it earlier in the Upper Midwest Classic against New Ulm Blue, scoring six runs in the final two innings.

Then on Friday against Omaha Gross, the same thing happened. Omaha built a 7-0 but Sleepy Eye rallied back and scored five runs in the bottom of the seventh make the final 7-5.

"We have been doing that the whole tournament," Woitas said. "We keep digging ourselves holes and trying to get out of it. But they kept fighting and put some runs across in the seventh. We will take what we can get."

It was one big inning that did in Sleepy Eye. In the top of the fourth, Omaha sent 10 batters to the plate and scored five runs on just three hits. Sleepy Eye starter Caleb Hillesheim walked three and hit a batter in that inning.

"It was the first time Caleb threw for us this year," Woitas said. "He is a pretty good pitcher but he lost his control a little bit in that inning. They capitalized and it led to a big inning. If we can avoid the big inning, we can be competitive."

That made it 7-0, but from that inning, Jordan Anderson - replaced Hillesheim - shut Omaha down. Anderson pitched the final 3 1/3 innings and allowed just one hit and just two baserunners.

**Game 13
Searles
3 p.m. Friday
July 1, 2011**

"Jordan is throwing well," Woitas said. "He is primarily a VFW pitcher but he is on the legion team for that reason. He is throwing well, he fits the role perfectly and he did a nice job."

That allowed Sleepy Eye get back in the game.

John Mangen led off the seventh with a single and Nate Kral followed with a double. Anderson reached on an error to short which scored Mangen. Adam Sellner singled to left, which scored Kral. Matt Helget than singled to load the bases. Brady Hanson then doubled to center and Anderson and Sellner scored to make it 7-4. Sean Mathiowetz grounded out to score Matt Helget. Kyle Krzmarzick was hit by a pitch and Sleepy Eye had the tying run on first but Scott Salfer struck out to end the game 7-5.

Omaha jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the top of the first and added a second run in the third before the big five-run fourth put the game seemingly away.

Omaha finished the game with six hits. Paul Brousek had two RBIs. Marc Tangman and Zach Kinsella each scored two runs. Craig Missack earned the win. He pitched six innings and allowed five runs on six hits with four strikeouts. He walked one and hit one.

Sleepy Eye had six hits in the game and was led by Kral with two hits. Brady Hanson had two RBIs. Anderson, Mathiowetz and Sellner also had RBIs.

Sleepy Eye fell to Apple Valley in the first game 9-4.

Scott Salfer was 2-for-4 with two RBIs. Landon Zinniel was 2-for-3 and Kral had two RBIs. Adam Sellner took the loss as he threw five innings and allowed three earned runs. Matt Helget pitched the final two and allowed four runs, none of which were earned.

Sleepy Eye (2-7) finishes the tournament as the fourth place team from Pool D. "A lot of teams down 7-zip, in the seventh would have just fold," Woitas said. "You got to give the guys credit, they care enough to make the effort at the end and that's all you can ask for with the kids."

Games 14-16 were not reported in detail by New Ulm Journal

Plover 7, Escanaba 2

Plover scored three runs in the first inring and added two more in the second for a 5-0 lead and never looked back.

Zach Cloud was the winning pitcher for Plover with David Folish taking the loss.

Ethan Fenske had two hits and two RBI for the Black Sox.

Creighton 2, Eastview 0

NEW ULM - Creighton Prep's Kyle Kubat struck out five and allowed just one hit as Prep defeated Eastview 2-0 Saturday morning in the Upper Midwest Classic.

Matt Larson took the loss for Eastview. He allowed seven hits while squatting out three. Kevin Connelly had two hits for Creighton and scored a run. Connelly and Kubat each drove in a run.

Creighton scored a run in the first and seventh inning.

Eastview 10, Duluth 7

NEW ULM - Eastview prevailed with a 10-7 victory over Duluth on Friday at Mueller Park.

**Game 17
Mueller Field
New Ulm
3 p.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011**

Eastview scored the first six runs of the game and held a comfortable 7-1 lead going into the bottom of the sixth.

Duluth rallied to score six runs and tie the game 7-7 heading into the seventh inning.

Eastview answered by scoring three runs and held on for a 10-7 win.

Eastview was led by Cody Grostreutz, who went 4-for-4 with a triple. He also scored three runs and stole two bases.

Joey Voss picked up the win in relief for Eastview. He worked 1 2/3 innings and did not allow a hit. He struck out two and walked one.

Tom Jerle took the loss for Duluth, he allowed three runs on four hits while recording just two outs.

Plover 7, Escanaba 2

Plover scored three runs in the first inring and added two more in the second for a 5-0 lead and never looked back.

**Game 18
NU Mueller Park
5:30 p.m. Friday
July 1, 2011**

Zach Cloud was the winning pitcher for Plover with David Folish taking the loss.

Ethan Fenske had two hits and two RBI for the Black Sox.

Creighton 2, Eastview 0

NEW ULM - Creighton Prep's Kyle Kubat struck out five and allowed just one hit as Prep defeated Eastview 2-0 Saturday morning in the Upper Midwest Classic.

**Game 21
NU Johnson Park
10 a.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011**

Matt Larson took the loss for Eastview. He allowed seven hits while squatting out three. Kevin Connelly had two hits for Creighton and scored a run. Connelly and Kubat each drove in a run.

Creighton scored a run in the first and seventh inning.

Anoka 3, Moorhead 2

Moorhead scored two runs in the first inning on a two-run single from Zach Quaife,

But Anoka countered that with three runs in the bottom of the first and made that lead hold up.

Anoka scored its runs on an RBI base hit from Jake Nelson and an RBI fielder;'s choice. The eventual winning run came home on a throwing error.

Clay Anderson got the win for Anoka. He scattered three hits. Tyler Schoenborne took the loss for Moorhead.

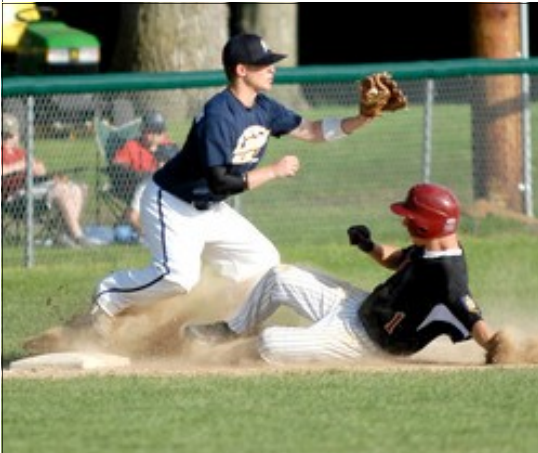
**Game 22
NU Mueller Park
10 a.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011**

Blue falls to Lakeville

Posted July 3, 2011 New Ulm Journal
By Alex Berg - Journal Sports Writer The Journal

Game 26
Searles
6 p.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011

SEARLES - New Ulm Legion Blue fell 10-0 to Lakeville South in its final game of the Upper Midwest Classic on Saturday at the Searles Ballpark.



New Ulm's starting pitcher, Brody Peterson, did not retire any of the seven batters he faced and Lakeville jumped ahead to an early 6-0 lead.

"If we are hitting the ball we can overcome that," said New Ulm Blue head coach Bob Skillings. "In the entire tournament we had 21 hits in four games, that makes it hard to win games."

The big inning was highlighted by a two-run triple from Alex Continenza and a pair of singles from Garrett Delich.

Continenza finished the game going 2-for-3 with a double, triple, and three RBIs.

Journal staff photo by Mark Newson

After adding a run in the second inning, Lakeville's top half of the order did even more damage in the third inning. Delich led off the inning with a triple and pitcher Luke Sather drove him in with a double. Continenza and Jake Miller added run-scoring hits to give Lakeville a 10-0 lead.

Delich went 3-for-4 with two runs scored.

The 10 runs was more than enough for Sather, who breezed through the New Ulm lineup, allowing only one hit.

Collin Clyne had New Ulm's only hit, a two-out single in the first inning.

In addition to his work on the mound, Sather went 3-for-3 with an RBI and two runs scored.

Matt Erdal also went 3-for-4 for Lakeville.

Nate Schoenherr pitched 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings of scoreless baseball in relief for New Ulm. He allowed three hits, walked two, and struck out one.

"Nate has thrown several games in relief for us this year," Skillings said. "He earned the save in our earlier win in this tournament. He has been throwing the ball well, and that is nice to see."

New Ulm concluded pool play on Friday with a third place finish in Pool D and ended the tournament with a 1-3 record. Lakeville was the third-place team from Pool C and went 2-2 at the Classic

"This is an outstanding tournament," Skillings said. "I have been to many tournaments over the past few years and this is hands down the best. My hat goes off to those who organize it and run it."

Roseville 10, Escanaba 0, 5 inn.

At Essig, Roseville scored three runs in the first inning and never looked back as it beat Escanaba 10-0 in five innings of the Upper Midwest Classic Saturday in Essig.

Roseville was the fourth place team in Pool B and Escanaba was the fourth place team in Pool A.

Roseville scored two runs in the second and third innings to go up 7-0 then ended the game with three runs in the bottom of the fifth to make it 10-0.

Game 27
Essig
3 p.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011

Sleepy Eye falls in finale

Posted July 3, 2011 New Ulm Journal

ESSIG - Moorhead Blues beat Sleepy Eye 12-8 in the final game for both teams at the Upper Midwest Classic Saturday at Essig.

Moorhead was the fourth-place team in Pool C and Sleepy Eye was the fourth-place team in Pool D.

Sleepy Eye jumped out to the early lead with three runs in the top of the first. That's the way it stayed until the third when Moorhead scored two runs and the Blues tied it up in the fourth with a single run.

Then things got interesting.

Sleepy Eye scored five runs in the fifth inning only to see Moorhead come back with four in the fifth and five in the sixth to pull out the 12-8 win.

Sleepy Eye committed five errors in the game and had nine hits. Moorhead had 12 hits and one error.

Adam Sellner led the way for Sleepy Eye going 2-for-3 with a triple, two RBIs and two runs scored. Kyle Krzmarzick was 2-for-4 with a double two RBIs and two runs scored. Scott Salfer had a hit and two RBIs and Landon Zinniel and Caleb Hillesheim each had an RBI.

Sean Mathiowetz took the loss for Sleepy Eye as he went five innings and allowed nine earned runs on 12 hits with two strikeouts and three walks. Salfer pitched an inning and allowed a run and two walks.

Chris Beach had the big bat for Moorhead. He went 2-for-4 with two RBIs and two runs scored. Zach Quaife and Jared Hendrickson each had two hits.

Cody Rahman earned the win as he pitched 2 1/3 innings of relief. He allowed a hit and struck out six. Dylan Deavy pitched the first 4 2/3 innings and allowed eight earned runs on eight hits with five walks and four strikeouts.

Classic's final four is set

Posted July 3, 2011 New Ulm Journal

The 2011 Upper Midwest Classic final four is set with three games to be played at Johnson Park today. East-view kicks things off by playing Creighton at 9:30 a.m.

Apple Valley will take on Anoka at noon and the winners of those games will play approximately a half hour after the conclusion of the noon game for the championship.

Game 28
Essig
5:30 p.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011

Apple Valley 4, Mankato 0

At Mueller Park, Apple Valley scored two runs in the bottom of the second and two more in the bottom of the sixth to beat Mankato 4-0.

**Game 29
NU Mueller
3:30 p.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011**

Apple Valley's Doug Parks led off the second with a single and Garrett Ganskie followed with a single. Both advanced on a throwing error and a Casey Killebrew single scored both runners.

Apple Valley scored its other runs on four singles and two Mankato errors in the fourth inning.

Josh Johnson earned the win for Apple Valley. He went all seven innings and allowed three hits with five strikeouts.

Charlie Sorenson took the loss. He pitched 5 1/3 innings and allowed four runs on eight hits with a two walks and two strikeouts.

Anoka 5, Omaha Gross 4

At Mueller Park, Anoka held off a late Omaha Gross rally to win the Upper Midwest Classic game 5-4 and advanced to today's final four.

**Game 30
NU Mueller
6 p.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011**

Anoka scored three runs in the top of the first when the first three hitters reached on a single, walk and a double.

Anoka added a run in the third when Kevin Persuitti scored on Sam Miller's two-out triple. Then it added a much needed insurance run in the fifth when Lance LaBaron scored on a sac fly by Jake Nelson.

Omaha scored four runs in the sixth when Zach Kinsella lead off the inning on a double and scored on a single by JJ?Labeda. Blake Scneiderwind made it 5-4 with a two-run double.

Nelson earned the win for Anoka as he went six innings and allowed four runs on eight hits with a walk and strikeout.

Zach Johnk took the loss. He went the distance and allowed five runs on eight hits with five strikeouts and two walks.

Eastview defeats New Ulm Gold to advance

**By Jim Bastian - Journal Sports Writer
Posted July 3, 2011 New Ulm Journal**

NEW ULM - After an emotional extra inning win over Burnsville Friday night, New Ulm Legion Gold may have suffered the proverbial let-down Saturday afternoon against Eastview.

**Game 31
NU Johnson Park
4 p.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011**

New Ulm Gold had a runner picked off first in the first inning and also stranded three runners in that inning and failed to capitalize on a one-out fourth inning threat as it fell to Eastview 4-1 in the Upper Midwest Classic at Johnson Park.

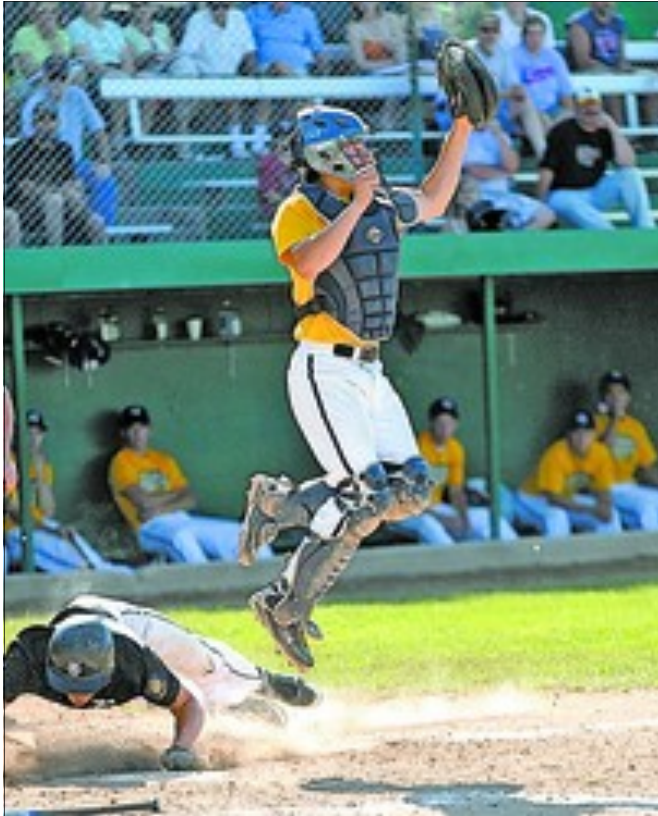
Alec Knop got the win for Eastview. He went four innings and scattered two hits while striking out six. Joseph Voss pitched the final three innings and permitted the lone run on three hits.

Colton Petron took the loss for New Ulm Gold. He went all seven innings and allowed nine hits while striking

Matt Galloway, Cody Groskreutz and Taylor Brandstad each had two hits for Eastview.

Kevin Larson had two hits for New Ulm while Erich Prokosch drove in the lone run.

Eastview will now play at 9:30 a.m. today at Johnson Park.



Journal staff photo by Mark Newsom

For New Ulm coach Bob Weier, it was a disappointing loss after that emotional win less than 24 hours earlier.

"We played so well last night and we put our heart into it and today the baseball gods were not with us," he said. "We could not catch a break - I thought that we hit some balls hard at times - we had some runners on base. But we could not get that clutch hit."

And the first inning may have been the story of the game for both teams.

Eastview scored two runs in the top of the first inning. Knop led off with a walk and stole second. Galloway legged out a bunt single and swiped second before a Matt Larson sacrifice fly scored Knop for a 1-0 lead.

Galloway raced home on a Cody Groskreutz base hit.

But in the bottom of the first inning, Gold got three walks and a single but failed to score.

Aaron Pfaff walked to start the inning but was picked off first by Knop. Kevin Larson followed with base hit to centerfield. Zach Hoffmann followed with a walk before Dan Blackstad coaxed a two-out walk to load the bases. But Knop whiffed Tim Kehren for the third out to end the threat.

"I think that if we could have had a good start, maybe things would have been different," Weier said. "We needed a good start to get us going emotionally. It did not happen and it was difficult for us to recover. They scored two runs and we had the chance to get one or two runs - they shut down our emotion part of the game right away."

New Ulm put a threat together in the fourth when Jason Shaul walked and Kehren laced a one-out single.

But Knop struck out Prokosch and Drew Pfaff to end the inning.

"Yesterday we got the key hits, today we did not," Weier said.

Eastview added two insurance runs in the top of the sixth on an RBI single off of the bat of Taylor Brandstad and a Stuart Daly sacrifice fly.

Gold finally broke through for a run against Knop in the bottom of the sixth when Blackstad doubled and came home on a Prokosch single.

"They played hard and did not quit," Weier said. "They stayed together nicely. They are a good group of kids and hopefully we can learn from this."

Creighton 9, Burnsville 8, 10 innings

At Johnson Park, Creighton beat Burnsville in a wild final game of the Upper Midwest Classic Saturday to advance to today's final four.

**Game 32
NU Johnson Park
6:30 p.m. Saturday
July 2, 2011**

Creighton, the winner of Pool B and Burnsville, the runner-up of Pool A were tied at four after nine innings.

Creighton then scored five runs in the top of the 10th and Burnsville nearly followed suit with a grand slam in the bottom of the 10th but it wasn't enough.

Tournament did not have games 33-35. Semi Finals and Championship games reported at front of scrapbook

