SECTION B

INDEPENDENT SPORTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2023

Wildcats clinch North **Central Conference** baseball championship!

Humboldt edges Webster City, 4-3 **By PHIL MONSON**

Led by a gutty pitching performance from Ty Gargano and some timely hits, the Humboldt baseball team clinched the North Central Conference championship by edging the Webster City Lynx, 4-3 in Humboldt last Friday night (June 23).

With league games remaining this week against CGD (June 26), St. Edmond (June 28) and Iowa Falls-Alden (June 29), Humboldt can win the NCC outright this week with a victory in any one of those contests.

"That was a gutty pitching performance by Ty Gargano. He did a phenomenal job on there all night long and batcoach Jason Thurm said. The victory improved the Wildcats' record to 19-3 overall, 11-0 in do make a mistake, it's not put the NCC.

Humboldt went 14-0 and fin-

Humboldt blanks Cowboys to claim outright championship!

The Wildcats claimed the outright North Central Conference championship by shutting out the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Cowboys, 11-0 Monday night (June 26) at Clarion.

Humboldt, 20-3 overall, 12-0 in the NCC, was led by Jayden Gargano, who pitched a no-hitter. Corey Dettmann tripled and singled and Christian Lee drove in three runs for the Wildcats.

"In both the sixth and seven

ished 25-8. They were third a Thurm said. "It's about grindyear ago at 10-4 and were secing it out. A phenomenal effort ond in 2019, 2020 and 2021. tonight."

"Defensively it was a little bit of a struggle for us tonight. innings we had situations. In Uncharacteristically we put the sixth we thought we had a up some numbers up there in chance to end it with a double the third (error) column, and play and we couldn't get the ball out of the glove," Thurm the mound for us. He went out yet, we were still making plays out there in the field, which is said. "Josh made a heads up tled," Humboldt's 24-year head what we've done all year long," play and that's something, if you watch our pre-game in-Thurm said.

"The big thing is, when we field, it's something we work on, that infield fake. Time after your chin down and feel sortime after time of doing it, it It is Humboldt's first NCC ry for yourself. It's flush and came to fruition there. We did crown since 2016, when move on to the next play and a nice job with the rundown for that's what good teams do," the out."

NORTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE BASEBALL STANDINGS As of June 25

Conf All Humboldt 11-0 19-32 Clear Lake .8-3 12-9 Webster City .7-4 12-14 Algona. .6-5 11-14 Hampton-Dumont-CAL .6-5 13-11 Clarion-Goldfield-Dows.. .3-9 8-18 FD St. Edmond .. .3-9 3-14 Iowa Falls-Alden .1-10 4-13

The Wildcats finished with seven hits on the night as Evan Hatcher went 3-for-3 with two doubles and a single. Mason Van Pelt hit a triple and Josh Thurm also doubled.

Trailing 3-1 after three innings, Christian Lee led off for HHS in the fourth and was hit by a pitch. Hatcher followed with a double to leftfield. Coen Matson struck out in the next at bat then Van Pelt followed by slugging a triple to the leftfield corner to score two runs and tie the game at 3-3.

Dettmann scored the goahead run for Humboldt in the bottom of the sixth on a sacrifice fly to centerfield by Josh Thurm. Dettmann opened the sixth when he reached on a

SEE BASEBALL, 2B

Humboldt senior pitcher Ty Gargano pitched all seven innings in the Wildcats' 4-3 victory over Webster City on June 23 in Humboldt. The triumph clinched a share of the North Central Conference championship with three league games left in the season this week. Independent photo by Phil Monson. To buy this photo and more from our gallery, visit our website at www. humboldtnews.com.



Wildcat girls stay in NCC contention with 4-3 victory

Humboldt will host Algona in 3Aregional opener July 6

we ever lost confidence."

then we continued to put on

runs and give ourselves a lead.

(June 30).

By PHIL MONSON

Before the current high school softball team began, Humboldt head coach Erica Post talked about playing fundamentally sound and setting high goals.

Entering the final week of the regular season, Post and to lift the Wildcats over the her Wildcats continue to im-Lynx. press and surprise others as they contend for the North Central Conference title.

Last Friday night (June 23) in Humboldt, the Wildcats cleared a big hurdle by handing the Webster City Lynx a 4-3 setback, avenging a 4-2 loss at Webster City back on June 5.

The triumph improved Humboldt to 14-9 overall, 9-2 and in a tie with Fort Dodge St. Edmond for first in the league standings. Humboldt can win

Humboldt pitcher Reagan Lee (left) and her teammates celebrate after the Wildcat softball team defeated Webster City, 4-3 in Humboldt on June 23 to stay in the hunt for a North Central Conference title. Independent photo by Phil Monson. To buy this photo and more from our gallery, visit our website at www.humboldtnews.com.

the title outright this week When they tried to cut the lead in half to make it 4-3, our kids with victories at Clarion (June 26), St. Edmond (June 28) and were solid. They played great defense and continued to put at home with Iowa Falls-Alden pressure on them offensively and that's all you can ask for," Gracie Lyon's sacrifice bunt in the bottom of the sixth in-Post said.

The Wildcats collected ning scored Addie Thompson six hits in the game as Paige Opheim led the way by going "We came out tonight know-2-for-3 at bat with a double ing we had to win the game to and an RBI. Reagan Lee homcontinue to be in the race for ered. Jayden Kutschara, Addie the conference title," Post said. Thompson and Mia Schluter "We had a little of a rough first each had a hit for the Wildcats. inning. We were a little nervous The 12-15 Lynx plated two

and gave up those two runs and runs in the top of the first infell behind. But I don't think ning before Humboldt added two in the fourth. Humboldt "I went out and told them we tacked on two more runs in the bottom of the fifth inning had to score to win and the girls came back and tied the game, before the Lynx added a run in

> the sixth to make it 4-3. Humboldt junior pitcher Reagan Lee threw all seven innings and gave up six hits, two earned runs, no walks and struck out four. Post says her young team has

shown maturity and focus as they take it one game at a time. "We can't look ahead. If you

SEE SOFTBALL, 3B

Clarion-Goldfield-Dows2-10	5-14
Iowa Falls-Alden1-10	2-15

Conf All

.9-2 18-11

9-2 14-9

.8-3 12-15

.6-5 7-9

.5-6 7-13

.4-7 7-10

in front of you will get you. We'll get right back at it the next week on our drive to win the North Central Conference championship. We have to be ready night in and night out. One team at a time," Post said

NORTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

SOFTBALL STANDINGS As of June 25

HHS 8, Tigers 5

FD St. Edmond

Humboldt

Webster City

Hampton-Dumont-CAI

Clear Lake

Algona

Paige Opheim hit two homers and drove in five runs to lead the Wildcats past Spencer, 8-5 in non-conference play at Spencer on June 22.

Opheim led an 11-hit Wildcat attack that included a home run by Elsie Hubbell. Opheim also hit a double for the Wildcats.

Reagan Lee pitched seven innings scattering 13 hits and striking out five with no walks.

look ahead, somebody right

Check out the HUMBOLDT

INDEPENDENT

each Thursday for photos, recaps and upcoming schedules of all Wildcat Athletics!

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Baseball CONTINUED FROM B FRONT

fielder's choice, advanced on a walk to Van Pelt and Jayden Gargano was hit by pitch to set up the fly ball by Thurm. Gargano was caught on the basepath to end the threat.

Webster City loaded the bases in the top of the seventh on two consecutive errors. The third batter flew out to center and the fourth batter grounded out, which Josh Thurm was able to turn into a double play to end the game.

"We put the first two Lynx runners on base in the seventh and we get a fly ball out and rolled a grounder which we turned into a double play. Just a great effort all the way around," Thurm said.

"We got a share of the league title tonight but we aren't finished, we want to finish it as outright champions. We are getting down to the end of the season. We don't want any letups. We want to continue to improve each time out," Thurm said.

Humboldt scored the goahead run in the sixth when Corey Dettmann reached base on a fielder's choice, advanced when Van Pelt was walked and Javden Gargano was hit by a pitch, then scored on Josh Thurm's sacrifice fly to centerfield.

Humboldt stranded seven base runners. The Lynx (12-4, 7-4), who had no errors on defense, stranded seven runners on base.

Gargano, senior а righthander, pitched all seven innings allowing four hits, one earned run, no walks, two hit batters and two strikeouts.

HHS 8, Lions 2

Isaiah Busick pitched a three-hitter and Humboldt totaled 10 hits at the plate in beating the Clear Lake Lions, 8-2 at Clear Lake on June 21.

The victory was Humboldt's second over the Lions this season and moved the team closer to winning the conference title outright.

Humboldt took a 4-1 lead after three innings and added two more in the fifth and two in the seventh for their decisive victory.

Josh Thurm homered and singled for Humboldt at the plate. Riley Sorensen, Busick and Trever Beach each had two hits for the Wildcats.

Humboldt 4. Webster City 3 Webster City 120 000 0.

Humboldt 001 201 x. Josh Thurm ss Rilev Sorensen 2b 0 Ty Gargano p Isaiah Busick dh Trever Beach rf Christian Lee 1b 0 Evan Hatcher c Corey Dettmann cf Mason Van Pelt 3b Jayden Gargano If 0 Carter Westre pr 0 0 Coen Matson cr 20 4 7 4 Totals. 3B-Van Pelt. 2B-Hatcher 2. Thurm. HBP-

Thurm. Lee. Gargano. SF-Thurm. Busick. SB-Busick R ER BB K

Ty Gargano W 7 4 3 1 0 2 Hit batters: 2.

Humboldt 8, Clear Lake 2

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Busick W 732115 Hit batters: 2. Estherville-LC 2, Humboldt 0

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Estherville-LC 002 00	0 x	2	3	0	
HHS	ab	r	h	bi	
Josh Thurm ss	3	0	0	0	
Riley Sorensen 2b	3	0	1	0	
Ty Gargano p	0	0	0	0	
Isaiah Busick dh	3	0	0	0	
Chase Hansen p	0	0	0	0	
Trever Beach rf	4	0	2	0	
Christian Lee 1b	2	0	1	0	
Evan Hatcher c	2	0	0	0	
Corey Dettmann cf	3	0	2	0	
Mason Van Pelt 3b	3	0	0	0	
Jayden Gargano If	3	0	0	0	
Coen Matson cr	0	0	0	0	
Totals	. 26	0	6	0	
2B-Lee. HBP-Bus	ick.	Hato	her.	S	B-
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IP H	I R	ER	BB	Κ	
	2 2	0	1	3	
Hansen 2 2	2 0	0	0	2	
Van Pelt 1.2 C) ()	0	1	3	
Hit batters: Gargano, Van Pelt.					

Humboldt 030 320 x

HHS	ab	r	h	bi	
Josh Thurm ss	4	1	1	2	
Riley Sorensen 2b	4	1	1	2	
Ty Gargano 3b	0	0	0	0	
Isaish Busick dh	2	1	1	1	
Trever Beach rf	3	0	0	0	
Christian Lee 1b	3	0	1	1	
Evan Hatcher c	2	0	0	1	
Corey Dettmann cf	3	1	0	0	
Mason Van Pelt If	3	2	2	1	
Jayden Gargano p	2	0	0	1	
Coen Matson cr	0	1	0	0	
Keegan Groat cr	0	1	0	0	
Totals	26	8	6	8	
2B-Sorensen. Van	Pelt. S	Sac-	J. G	argai	r
			_		

Busick Lee Hatcher SB-



Humboldt's varsity baseball team after winning the North Central Conference championship in outright fashion Monday night, June 26, at Clarion. Front row (I-r): Gabe Flatau, Carson Sleiter, Trever Beach, Corey Dettmann, Ty Gargano, Jayden Gargano, Chase Hansen and Trey Al-Hameed. Middle row: Braden Axtell, Grant Dieleman, Mason Van Pelt, Valley Davis, Elijah Moore, Coen Matson, Mack Harklau, Christian Lee, Carter Westre and Cyler Cirks. Back row: assistant coach Jacob Thurm, Evan Hatcher, Riley Sorensen, Landon Halverson, Kyle Caquelin, Parker Sleiter, Isaiah Busick, Josh Thurm, Keegan Groat and head coach Jason Thurm. Submitted photo.



Humboldt's Evan Hatcher watches a base hit at the plate in a recent home game for the Wildcat baseball team. Independent photo.



"It was just a great team effort overall. We were seeing a top-notch pitcher so we knew that the importance of seeing pitches and extending at-bats was crucial," Thurm said.

"The goal was to get to their bullpen, but early on it didn't look like that was going to happen. Theiss was at 17 pitches after two innings. We had an impressive third inning offensively. We were able to work some counts and extend at-bats and forced their guy to throw 33 pitches that inning," Thurm said.

"We took control after that and ended up making it a convincing win. Isaiah was efficient on the mound as he has been all season for us and our defense was sharp again," Thurm said.

"The quality of our at-bats really stood out. Their guy was really good and he got his strikeouts, but offensively it this year," Thurm said.

ELC 2, HHS 0

Estherville-Lincoln (16-5),

Busick. E-Ty Gargano. Busick IPH RERBBK Rusick 0 0 7 6 1 0 J. Gargano W 65 Hit batters: Busick. Gargano.

2022, snapped Humboldt's 13-game win streak with a

2-0 shutout victory over the Wildcats on June 20 at Estherville in non-conference action.

A two-run third inning was all the Midgets needed as they got a six-hitter from sophomore pitcher Preston Crees, who struck out eight and walked two.

Humboldt starting pitcher Ty Gargano took the loss. He threw the first 2.1 innings allowing two hits, two runs, one walk and three strikeouts. Eighth grader Chase Hansen pitched the next two innings

and allowed no runs on two hits with no walks and three strikeouts. Mason Van Pelt was as good as we have been threw the final 1.2 innings and struck out three and walked

one. Humboldt totaled six hits and were led by Christian Lee a Class 2A state runner-up in with a double. The Wildcats

loaded the bases in the sixth inning but weren't able to generate any runs as they hit

into two straight groundout fielder's choices and ended the threat on a strikeout.

"It was a tough night. We saw a pretty good pitcher and had trouble putting things to-

gether offensively. We had a chance in the sixth when we loaded the bases with no outs, but were unable to get a timely hit," Thurm said. "We had one bad inning

defensively, which has been uncharacteristic of us, but it ended up costing us. Our pitchers, Ty, Mason and Chase did a great job. They kept us in it but it just wasn't our night," Thurm said.

HHS 8, Algona 7

Humboldt rallied from an early deficit to upend the Algona Bulldogs, 8-7 in NCC action in Humboldt on June

The victory, Humboldt's second of the season over Algona, saw the Wildcats score two runs in the bottom of the

fifth inning to take the lead for good after Humboldt trailed 5-3 after two innings and 7-6 after four.

> Humboldt finished with six hits as Riley Sorensen hit a double and drove in two runs. Josh Thurm singled in two runs.

Jayden Gargano earned the win pitching as he worked the first six innings allowing seven runs on five hits, four walks and struck out four. Isaiah Busick entered the seventh inning and struck out two to end the threat despite walking two batters.

"We gave up that five-run second inning and the kids never gave up. We responded the right way and came back in and our guys stayed alive by answering with three runs. I thought that was huge," Thurm said.

"They came back and put a couple more runs on and we kept chipping away at it. This team is resilient and that's what it takes to be able to ride the roller coaster of emotions.

This group does a phenomenal job of that," Thurm said.

"Jayden didn't have his best stuff tonight but he gutted it out and made it through six for us. I thought he was dealing with a small strike zone all night long," Thurm said. "He kept answering each inning with it. That was huge. We wanted the seventh to be a little cleaner and quicker than that. It is what it is."

"If you look at the big picture, this is a big win for us in terms of trying to win the conference. Each win is important as we go further," Thurm said.

Humboldt hosts Storm Lake on Monday, July 3, and travels to Spencer on July 5, to end their regular season. Postseason tournament play begins on July 7. Pairings will be announced this week. Look for daily news and

boldtnews.com.

scores online at www.hum-

The Wildcats' Christian Lee considers whether or not to run to home plate as a teammate put the ball into play from the plate in a recent home game for the Humboldt baseball team, which won the North Central Conference championship. Independent photo.



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JV boys in 14-1 victory at Clear Lake

boys' baseball team got back into the win column with a lopsided 14-1 victory over Webster City on June 23 in Humboldt.

Cyler Cirks pitched all four innings to get credited with the win for the Wildcats, who moved to 17-1-2 overall on Central Conference. Coen Matson led the Wildcat

offense with two singles and two runs scored. Carson Sleiter hit two singles and also scored twice. Jack Harklau hit a double and scored a run.

Humboldt suffered its first loss of the season in an 8-2 setback at Clear Lake on June 21.

Keegan Groat went 2-for-2 at bat with two doubles to pace Halverson pinch-ran and stole

Humboldt's junior varsity the Wildcats. Gabe Flatau also a base and scored the game-tyhit a double. Grant Dieleman ing run in the seventh for HHS. hit an RBI single. "We were down 3-0 after

Humboldt and Esthervillethe first two innings and the Lincoln Central tied 3-3 in non-conference action at

Estherville on June 20. Valley Davis pitched four solid innings striking out two the season, 10-1 in the North and allowing three runs. Carter Westre relieved and threw three no-hit innings with four strikeouts.

> Offensively, Gabe Flatau was 2-for-3 with two singles. Westre had two hits, including the game-tying RBI double in the top of the seventh inning. He also stole a base.

guys did a great job of fighting and clawing their way back in the game to get the tying run across in the seventh," HHS

coach Jacob Thurm said. Humboldt picked up another conference victory over Algona on June 19 in Humboldt, winning 6-1.

Cyler Cirks pitched the first two and two-thirds innings

Keegan Groat hit a double and drew a walk. Landon two singles.

and gave up only one run with two strikeouts. Coen Matson hit a double and scored for the Wildcats on offense. Parker Sleiter drove in two runs with

Middle school baseball update Game one: 15-2 victory.

June 21 vs. Webster City Game one: Won 10-3. Scoring runs: Dawson Sleiter, Hayden Devers, Caden Fredin, Brady Roth 2, Tate Kirchhoff, Carter Strait 2, Landon Hilton, Kyzer Kirchhoff. Pitching: Braden Downs,

Grant Goodell. Game two: Won 9-5.

Scoring runs: Trevor Roberts, Mason Frideres, Miles Zeman, Caleb Vinsand 2, Sawyer Kirchhoff, Carter Meier, John Blanchard, Adrian Foster.

Pitching: Carter Meier, Adrian Foster, Landon Hilton. Also playing: Andrew Flatau, Tyler Adams, Keegen Andrew Fiengo.

June 19 at Algona Game one: 5-5 tie.

Scoring runs: Caden Fredin, Edmond.

innings and cemented their

lead by scoring two runs in the

top of the sixth and four in the

seventh.

the dugout."

Braden Downs, Grant Goodell, Brady Roth 2. Pitching: Brady Roth, Caden Fredin.

Also playing: Dawson Sleiter, Hayden Devers, Tate Kirchhoff, Dane Clark, Carter Strait, Landon Hilton, Kyzer Kirchhoff.

Game two: lost 8-7. runs: Trevor Scoring Roberts 3, Mason Frideres, Sawyer Kirchhoff, Adrian Foster, Keegan Fiengo. Pitching: Carter Strait,

Dawson Sleiter. Also playing: Andrew Flatau, Miles Zeman, Caleb Vinsand, Carter Meier, Tyler Adams, John Blanchard, Henry

Kramer, Keegen Fiengo.

June 15 at Fort Dodge St.

Scoring runs: Dawson Sleiter 3, Hayden Devers, Caden Fredin 3, Brady Roth 3,

Braden Downs, Tate Kirchhoff, Carter Strait, Landon Hilton, Kyzer Kirchhoff. Pitching: Brady Hayden Devers.

Ålso playing: Grant Goodell, Dane Clark.

Game two: 5-2 victory. Scoring runs: Caleb Vinsand Sawyer Kirchhoff, Andrew

Clark, Pitching: Dane Braden Downs.

Trevor Also playing: Roberts, Miles Zeman, Carter Meier, Tyler Adams, John Blanchard, Adrian Foster, Henry Kramer, Keegen Fiengo.

gional has Greene County of

Jefferson hosting Cherokee

and Southeast Valley hosting

OABCIG. The regional final

the highest ranked remaining

Humboldt 7. Clear Lake 1

Claire Dieleman If

Reagan Lee p

Claire Olson cr

Paige Opheim 1b

Mia Schluter 2b

Gracie Lyon cf

Elvse Olson rf

Haley Satern dh

Totals

Thompson 2. Dieleman.

Reagan Lee W 7 6

Hit batter: Lee 2.

Algona 002 010 0

Elsie Hubbell c

Reagan Lee p

Claire Olson cr

Kiera Anderson cr

Claire Dieleman If

Paige Opheim 1b

Abby Armitage 3b

Addie Thompson s

Mia Schluter 2b

Gracie Lvon cf

Elyse Olson rf

Totals ..

Reagan Lee W 7 5

Hit batter: 1.

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Elsie Hubbell c

Reagan Lee p

Kiera Anderson cr

Claire Dieleman If

Paige Opheim 1b

Mia Schluter 2b

Gracie Lyon cf

Elyse Olson rf

Totals

Abby Armitage 3b

Addie Thompson ss

Jayden Kutschara dh

Anderson 2. E-Armitage.

Webster City 200 001 0.

Humboldt 000 220 x ...

Elsie Hubbell c

Reagan Lee p

Claire Olson cr

Paige Opheim 1b

Abby Armitage 3b

Addie Thompson ss

Jayden Kutschara dh

Hubbell. Schluter. E. Olson.

Mia Schluter 2b

Gracie Lvon cf

Elyse Olson rf

Totals ...

Claire Dieleman If

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Humboldt 200 030 x

bby Armitage 3b

Addie Thompson ss

ab 3

. 30 2B-Lyon. Sac-Hubbell. Dieleman. E-

Humboldt 5, Algona 3

ab

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IP H R ER BB K

2B-Hubbell, SF-Opheim, HBP-Dieleman

Humboldt 8, Spencer 5

HR-Opheim 2. Hubbell. Sac-Dieleman.

Reagan Lee W 7 13 5 5 0 5

Humboldt 4, Webster City 3

ab

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HR-Lee. 2B-Opheim. Sac-Sac.

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ab

Thompson. Lyon. E-Armitage. Schluter.

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Flatau, Mason Frideres.

Roth,

Humboldt middle school softball team battles NCC foes

by Beth Short, is nearing the final week of their sea-

19 and won 4-1 in the first game and lost 7-6 in the second game.

gles for the Wildcats. Jayci Fuller hit two singles and drove in a run. Jazzie Dodd singled. Hayden Graaf had one single and two RBIs. Ava Girres also hit a single.

In the second game, Jayci Fuller and Hayden Graaf double.

Humboldt visited Webster City on June 21 and won 9-5 in the opener and followed with an 8-7 victory in the second game.

In the opener, Landry Lash singled. Sadie Hubbell hit a triple and Jazzie Dodd hit two singles. Adelyn Goodell had one hit. Salem Bonnstetter doubled in singles from Sadie Hubbell, Hayden Graaf (two), Jayci Fuller, Salem Bonnstetter, Ava Girres and Adelynn Goodell.

Humboldt met Fort Dodge on June 22 and ended up in a tie with the Dodgers in the first game, 6-6.

Sadie Hubbell belted three singles and drove in two runs to pace Humboldt in the first game. Jazzie Dodd singled in a run. Hayden Graaf hit two singles and drove in one run. Jayci Fuller drove in a run. Ava Girres, Addison Coleman and Elizabeth Heider each had one single.

"Fort Dodge started off with five runs in the first inning and we were able to chip away each inning and get runs on the board," coach Short said.

Humboldt scored three runs in the first inning, two in the second and one in the third inning.

"I'm really impressed with how we played with that level of competition," coach Short said.

Fort Dodge won the second game, 9-1. Humboldt got hits from Landry Lash, Sadie Hubbell, Jayci uller, Adelynn Goodell and Elizabeth Heider (double).

Humboldt swept Clarion-Goldfield-Dows in two games at Clarion on June 23. The Wildcats won the first game, 17-0, as Sadie Hubbell handled the pitching for Humboldt and only gave up one hit in four innings of play. She walked one. "She's done a remarkable job of pitching this season. I look forward to what she can do for the program in the future. She is so mentally tough and has high energy and is really a go-getter with every single pitch in every game," Short said.

"Jazzie Dodd is also a phenomenal pitcher for us as well. She is very focused and can lock in really well from the pitching circle," coach Short said.

Humboldt senior Haley Satern (left) slugs a base hit in this at-bat

for the Wildcat softball team in recent action. Claire Dieleman

made a base hit in a home contest. Independent photos by Phil

Monson. To buy this photo and more, visit our photo gallery at

(above) is determined to reach third base after a teammate

www.humboldtnews.

"Jazzie is also our number one catcher, too. She goes after everything and loves to do what she needs to do to be successful. She blocks the ball so well and is really good with her glove," Short said. "I look forward to seeing her in the future pitching and catch-

"Landry Lash is another good pitcher who can consistently throw strikes. She's focused and can play any position I ask her to play," Short said. "She can play infield or outfield, too. She's a great asset to the program and I look forward to seeing what she can

"Hayden Graaf is another pitcher on our squad. She is so excited about pitching. She's always asking to pitch and is willing to do what is necessary to do fill in the gaps. She's eager to be on the field. She has put in a lot of time in the off-season to be the level of pitcher that she is," Short said. "I'm looking forward to watching her develop in the program."

"Jayci Fuller is a catcher for us and does a great job behind the plate. She was eager to learn and grow as a catcher. I appreciate her stepping in and being a big asset to the wins we had," Short said.

Softball CONTINUED FROM B FRONT The Wildcats led 2-1 after four reached base on singles with Armitage scoring on Addie Thompson's single. Gracie Lyon was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Haley Satern drew a

walk which scored Claire Olson who was running for Opheim. Hubbell flew out to centerfield to end the threat.

scoreless sixth inning.

"The kids have been batthat lead and the girls ended tling this season and with this up getting four runs so that we win we have battled back into could keep the winning run in contention for a North Central Conference championship," coach Post said. "We had to win tonight to stay alive and the kids are really motivated for that."

in a first round regional tournament game on Thursday, July 6. The winner will advance into a July 8 semifinal round game against No. 7 ranked Saydel or Harlan. The other half of the re-

"We went over to Spencer to see some good pitching and some good hitters from a bigger school. We need to get that experience," Post said. "We got

Humboldt shut down the behind and then came back to Bulldogs over the final two intake the lead. Spencer came nings of play. The Wildcats left will be on July 11, hosted by back to re-take the lead on us. two runners on base in their In that seventh inning, we were

team. Humboldt 012 012 1 ... Clear Lake 000 001 0 HHS Elsie Hubbell c Kiera Anderson cr

Humboldt's middle school softball team, coached son.

Last week Humboldt traveled to Algona on June

ning, with two outs, Ava Girres started off a rally with single and we proceeded to get five more consecutive singles," coach Short said.

"We were down most of the game until the fifth in-Landry Lash and Sadie Hubbell each hit two sin-

(RBI) each had a single at bat. Adelynn Goodell hit a

"That was a great win. The kids had to battle and that's what it will take to get used to the pressure of games like that and different situations. In the post-season here coming up, we will face that and the girls really came through," Post said.

playing just to get one run. Get

"We are hitting the ball well and playing good defense. We are on the right track," Post said. HHS 7, Lions 1

Humboldt remained in contention for the NCC title by Lions, 7-1 in Clear Lake on June 21.

The Wildcats collected seven hits at key moments during the game and Reagan Lee pitched a six-hitter with six strikeouts.

Abby Armitage went 3-for-4 at the plate with an RBI double and a run scored. Dieleman, Lee and Thompson had the other singles for the Wildcats, who beat the Lions for the second time this season.

"The girls came ready to play. They did a great job of executing offensively. Defensively we made a few errors but were able to reset and not let them hurt us," coach Post said. "This was a good, hard-fought victory."

HHS 5, Algona 3

Reagan Lee scattered five hits pitching and Humboldt delivered at the plate and on recognition. defense in a 5-3 victory over the Algona Bulldogs on June 19 in Humboldt in NCC action.

The Wildcats had six different players with one hit apiece, including a double by Elsie Hubbell.

Humboldt scored two runs in the bottom of the first inning before Algona tallied two in the top of the third to tie the game at 2-2. Humboldt loaded the bases in the bottom of the fourth but ended up stranding all three runners.

In the Wildcat fifth inning, Claire Dieleman was hit by a pitch and scored on Paige Opheim's sacrifice fly. Abby Armitage and Mia Schluter

"They made good plays and even when we got down, they dug deep and found a way to get the lead and never gave it back," Post said.

Post was pleased with her team's response when the Bulldogs put pressure on the Wildcats both offensively and defensively.

"In recent games it seemed like we had a hard time getturning back the Clear Lake ting that third out to end the inning. We let some games get away from us. We did not do that tonight. When some girls got a hit and got on base, the girls found a way to get that last out and shut the opposing team down," Post said.

The Wildcats end conference play at home on Friday, June 30, when they host Iowa Falls-Alden. It will be the Coaches vs. Cancer game as the Humboldt County Relay for Life event will also be taking place at the sports complex in Humboldt.

There will be no admission charged for the game but instead, a free-will donation to go towards Relay for Life. Survivors will be recognized at the start of the varsity game and visiting teams and fans are

encouraged to take part in the Humboldt will also be trying to pink out the stands so please wear pink to the game if you

would like to do so. Other events that night include a meal, a silent auction

(bids close at 8 p.m.) and a luminary sign can be purchased in honor or memory of someone who lost their battle with cancer, beat cancer or is currently fighting back against it. Humboldt plays at Greene

County of Jefferson on Monday, July 3, in their final game of the regular season. Class 3A regional tournament play begins on July 6. Regional egional IP H R ER BB K Humboldt will host Algona Reagan Lee W 7 6 3 2 0 4

two runs and Addison Coleman hit a double with one RBI

"We played really well in this game. Our defense was rock solid. We were really able to give ourselves the right opportunity to score. I'm really impressed with where they have come from at the start of the season," coach Short said.

"We were a little hesitant when we played Webster City early in the season but this time around, we were ready to play good defense and hit the ball," Short said. "It was a fun game to be a part of."

In the second game with the Lynx, Humboldt got

Jazzie Dodd hit two doubles with five runs batted in. Hayden Graaf drove in a run with a single. Adelynn Goodell tripled in two runs. Ava Girres singled twice with an RBI. Addison Coleman hit one single.

Humboldt ends its season this week. The Wildcats host Fort Dodge St. Edmond on Thursday, June 29, in their final games of the season.

"We are looking forward to finishing our season well this week. We have bounced back from our mistakes and have shown a lot of improvement from the start of the season," Short said. "All of the girls are having fun. That's the most important part of softball, having fun being around each other and learning the game along the way."

Wildcat JV softball team falls to Lynx, Tigers

Humboldt closed out last week's junior varsity softball slate by falling at home to hit. Webster City, 15-1.

Elvse Olson pitched the first three innings for the Wildcats against the Lynx and allowed 10 runs. Claire Dieleman threw one inning allowing five runs.

Offensively for Humboldt, Jayden Kutschara and Keira Ludolph each had a hit. Adalee Nolting scored a run for the Wildcats.

Humboldt fell 8-0 at Spencer on June 22. Abby Armitage pitched the first three innings allowing four runs and three hits. Nolting pitched the final two innings and allowed four runs and three hits.

Area auto racing results

Chad Palmer, Stock Car Class: June 16 at Britt, 15th in feature. June 15 at Algona, 8th in feature. June 12 at Britt, 10th in feature.

Zayn Feaster, Stock Car Class: June 12 at Britt, 11th in feature race (did not finish). June 8 at Algona, 8th in feature.

Calvin Lange, Stock Car Class: June 11 at Mason City, 17th in feature (did not finish). June 15 at Algona, 15th in feature. June 16 at Fort Dodge, 6th in feature.

Humboldt's batting lineup was led by Nolting with one

Humboldt fell 10-3 in a road contest at Clear Lake on June 21. Elsie Hubbell pitched the first four innings allowing seven runs and one hit. Claire Dieleman pitched the last inning and allowed one run and one hit.

Kiera Anderson scored two runs for the Wildcats on offense. Danica Diedrick singled and scored a run. Adalee Nolting and Elyse Olson also scored. Ava Newton doubled and singled. Hayden Smith also singled. Humboldt will wrap up its

season at home on Friday, June 30 against Iowa Falls-Alden.

feature race. June 11 at Mason

Kamdyn Haggard,

June 16 at Fort Dodge, 11th in

Colton Monson, Hobby

Nate Hughes, Modified

Class: June 8 at Algona, 4th in

City, 9th in feature.

8th in feature race.

feature race.

feature race.

Humboldt native Joe Swanson, who now resides in Indiana, last weekend became a National Hot Rod Association winner in an event held at Norwalk, OH. Swanson won in the Top Dragster Jade Lange, Hobby Stock

division. Joe and his wife, Afton, the former Afton Harvey of Goldfield, comprise Swanson Motor Sports. They are sponsored by their company, Swanson Hydrographics, along with FUEL. Class: June 16 at Fort Dodge, Submitted photo. 11th in feature (did not finish). June 15 at Algona, 12th in

Humboldt football camp

Humboldt Wildcat football camps are set to take place July 31 through Aug. 4 at the high school practice field. Wildcat head coach Derrick Elman announced.

Camp for youth entering grades 5-6 in the fall will be Monday, July 31, and Tuesday, Aug. 1, from 6:30-8 p.m. Cost is \$20 per player if registered by July 1. \$30 afterwards. Cost covers camp t-shirt.

Camp for youth entering grades 7-12 in the fall will be held Wednesday, Aug. 2, through Friday, Aug. 4, from 6-8 p.m. Cost is \$30 per play-er if registred by July 1. After July 1 is \$40. Cost includes camp t-shirt.

Registration forms can be picked up from head coach Derrick Elman online or email at delman@humboldt. k12.ia.us.

Humboldt girls' basketball camps В Modified/Mini Modified Class:

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Humboldt girls' basketball tering grades 6-8 in the fall from Wildcat head coach camps will take place July 12-14 in the high school gym. Stock Class: June 8 at Algona,

The elementary camp for girls entering grades 3-5 will run from 8-10 a.m. The middle school camp for girls en-

will run from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The high school camp for girls entering grades 9-12 will be from 1-3 p.m.

Rodd Mooney. Entry fee is \$40. Return entry fees to the school office by July 1 to ensure receiving a camp t-shirt.

Entry forms can be picked up at the school offices or