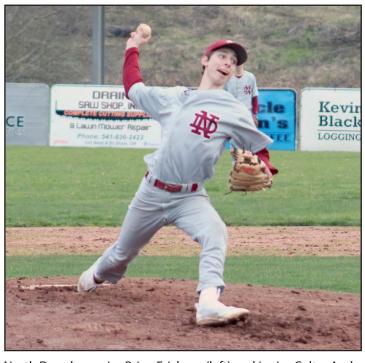
# Pitching propels North Douglas





North Douglas senior Brian Erickson (left) and junior Colter Anderson (right) gave up just one hit and struck out 10 batters against Lowell in the team's home opener.

Warriors 10-run Lowell in opening game of the season

> By Zach Silva zsilva@cgsentinel.com

If the first game of the season was a test, then North Douglas

passed with flying colors.

"Way more good than bad today. I mean, if I went down the punch list, let's say we give ourselves an overall score, this is an A-plus for game one," said North Douglas head coach Jeff Davis after last Thursday's 10-0 home victory over Lowell.

For the Warriors, it all started with pitching. In the five-inning game, it was senior starter Brian Erickson and junior Colter Anderson combining to give up just one hit while recording 10 strikeouts (five apiece) in the

"I got a little nerves get to me just because it was my first year starting and I'm the ace. It kind of got to my head a little bit and I was a little bit nervous," said Erickson. "Didn't pitch as well as I wanted to but Colter came in and he finished it off for us and did a really good job on the

son strikeouts followed by being thrown out stealing third. "Bryan was our number two last year and he's good enough physically to beat anybody. I think his stuff is good enough and he's come far," said Davis. Adding that Anderson, who missed last season with a torn ACL, "Is going to make us better. Side arm kid, about 6-1, right around the plate. I was real

> Offensively, the Warriors paired their ability to get on base with aggressive base-running. North Douglas had a pair of hits from Caleb Parks, Austin Frieze and Erickson. Additionally the team drew 11 walks. With runners constantly on base, it led to 16 stolen bases including four from both Austin Frieze and Koldan Frieze.

pleased with his performance."

The pair of pitchers controlled

the game as the Red Devils were

unable to get anything going

with their bats. Lowell's best

chance of any offense came in

the first inning with runners on

first and second and no outs but

were stopped by a pair of Erick-

"I think we do have some

good team speed and we'll try to manufacture runs in games where we can't hit it. And a lot of people will only stand there and we won't do that. It's not always the most popular thing in the world to do, but you've got to do what you've got to do," said

But for the Warriors, the biggest takeaway was that they were able to close out the game. Davis estimated that the team lost at least "a half dozen" games in the final two innings last season. But on Thursday, the team was able to close out the fifth inning with a hit from Parks to drive in Erickson.

"I got the base hit and I stole and Cal was able to hit me in and it felt like a connection. We weren't able to do that last year and we were able to do that today. It seems like we're going to have a lot more chances of doing that then we were last year," said Erickson.

The Warriors take on the Red Devils again tomorrow, Thursday March 21, on the road at

### **DUCKS** from B1

of this Oregon team: any game could bring any result.

In the Pac-12 Tournament everything came together in the best way possible. Ehab Amin became central to the team, Louis King wouldn't let an injury stop him, Kenny Wooten tried his hardest, I guess, and Payton Pritchard refused to lose. And, most unexpectedly, recorded a dunk. And now this team is going to the NCAA tournament. "Hahahahahahahaha oh my" still seems as if it is the best way to sum up what this season has become.

Now, as we fill out brackets, the conversation shifts to what will the Ducks be able to do at the big dance? As a 12 seed can they pull the classic 12-5 upset? Sure they won the Pac-12 but the Pac-12 is embarrassingly bad, so what does that really mean? Yet again there is uncertainty around the team that is now facing a top-25 team in the Wisconsin Badgers.

From high expectations to low expectations to a great unknown heading into the tournament

All I know is I'm done doubting these Ducks.

### WARRIORS from B1



North Douglas freshman Halli Vaughn records a hit on Saturday against Glide.

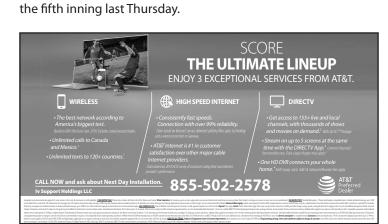
Hope Morgan and Derrick to start the inning. All three batters scored in the inning to tie the game.

"This team, these girls, they're aggressive baserunners and we work on that. We said you capitalize on every mistake because you never know if you're going to get that chance again," said Rice.

The Warriors had 11 hits while Morgan, along with leadoff Sofia Alcantar, each finished the game with three. Vaughn had two hits on the

"I think the thing that impressed me the most today was our bats," said Rice noting that Glide's pitcher, senior Jordan Williams, is a top pitcher at the 16U level. "So I was really impressed with our offense because we, like I said, we started with three freshman and we've got some solid defensive players. But to have the offense come on like that, I was really happy."

North Douglas plays again today, Wednesday March 20, at home against Pleasant Hill at 4:30 p.m.



North Douglas senior Cal Parks records the game-winning hit in







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1:00 p.m. Softball vs. Tillamook 3:00 p.m. Softball vs. Tillamook 3/25

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10:00 a.m. Baseball @ South Umpqua (Hidden Valley Tournament)

10:00 a.m. Baseball @ Sutherlin (Hidden Valley Tournament) 2:00 p.m. Baseball @ Hidden Valley

### **NORTH DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL**

3/20

4:30 p.m. Softball vs. Pleasant Hill

4:30 p.m. Baseball @ Lowell

### YONCALLA HIGH SCHOOL

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