

LSCA ALL STAR WEEK-END NEWS ARTICLES

MAY 17 & 18 2013

Alexandria Town Talk by Warren Hayes



Live Oak's Brooke Morris (3, center) of the East team tags second for an out against Leesville's Chelsi Alexander (15) of the West team during the LHSCA All Star game held Saturday at Louisiana College. The game ended in a tie, 3-3. / Melinda Martinez/mmartinez@thetowntalk.com

PINEVILLE — Leesville's Chelsi Alexander and Anacoco's Marci West both agree that athletes sometimes forget to have fun when playing a sport.

That wasn't the case on Saturday when both were teammates on the West squad and bonded with their other teammates, and members of the East squad, in the second game of the Louisiana High School Coaches Association All-star softball game at Louisiana College.

"I had a blast," said Alexander, who will play softball for McNeese State. "The talent level is amazing. Playing in a game like this will make me miss playing high school softball."

The game ended in a tie, 3-3.

Marci West, who will play for Lamar, was 1-for-2 with a base hit in the second inning.

“Everyone on the team is good and we didn’t have a weak player on the team,” she said. “We blended well. I will definitely cherish this moment.”

St. Amant’s Kasey Nielson started the scoring for the East in the top of the first inning when East Ascension’s Bailey Landry, who was on second base, scored on Nielson’s sacrifice fly to center fielder Camille Quebodeaux of Teurlings Catholic.

The East scored its final two runs in the third inning when Landry was on third base and Kendall Smith of Northwood-Shreveport was on second base.

Nielson was at bat when a passed ball allowed Smith to score, and Landry scored on a wild pitch while Nielson was still at bat.

The West began their scoring in the first inning when Sam Houston’s Baylee Corbello reached first on a throwing error by Neilson, allowing Quebodeaux to score.

The final two runs came for the West in the third inning when Corbello was on third base and Abigail Ohlin of Berwick was on first base. Sarah Arceneaux of St. Thomas More hit a 2 RBI double to score Corbello and Ohlin, who finished 2-for-3.

Most Outstanding Player awards were given to a member of the East and member of the West team.

Left fielder Kendall Smith of Ruston received the award for the East, and Hali Williams of Comeaux received the award for the West.

“It was a blessing because a lot of the girls out here are talented,” said Smith, who signed to UL-Lafayette. “It’s just nice to have your accomplishments recognized by playing in this game.”

“This was a lot of fun for me and a lot of great girls are out here,” said Williams, who will play softball and volleyball for the University of Texas-Tyler. “I didn’t expect to hit that home run Friday. There’s nothing but winners out here on this field.”

East assistant coach Darlene Wiley said it’s always fun to coach a lot of talent.

“This is these girls last game and it means a lot to them,” said Wiley, who’s also the Buckeye softball coach. “Kendall had the game saver for us. Kendall is consistent and well-deserving of the honor.”

LHSCA All-Star Softball game: West ties East 3-3 in final all-star game

By RODRICK ANDERSON, randerson@sulphurdailynews.com

May 19, 2013



Sam Houston senior Baylee Corbello pitched five innings of one-hit ball on Saturday in the LHSCA All-Star game at Louisiana College. Corbello struck out eight and allowed three runs with one walk and one hit batter.

PINEVILLE -- The West squad opened up the LHSCA Softball All-Star doubleheader on Friday at Louisiana College with a 10-4 thumping of the East squad but could only manage a tie in the second game on Saturday. Sam Houston senior Baylee Corbello started on the mound for the West and pitched the first three and final two innings. She gave up just one hit on a one-out bunt by Bailey Landry (East Ascension) in the first inning and struck out eight with one walk and one hit batter but gave up all three runs. After Landry reached base, she was able to steal second and later score all the way from second on a dropped third strike for a 1-0 East lead.

The West tied it up in the bottom of the first when Maggie Davidson (Cedar Creek) committed a throwing error trying to get Corbello out at first allowing Camille Quebodeaux (Teurlings Catholic) to score. The East's starting pitcher Kasey Nielson (St. Amant) and Corbello both pitched shutout second innings before giving up a pair of runs each in the third.

Corbello struck out Megan Smith (Family Christian) to start the third but East MVP Kendall Smith (Ruston) reached on a bunt single. She later scored on a passed ball while Landry scored on the same play after catcher Baylee Shephard (Evangel Christian) over threw third for a 3-1 East lead. Sarah Arceneaux (St. Thomas More) provided the offensive punch for the West in the bottom of the third with a single to shallow left field that scored Hali Williams (Comeaux) and Abigail Ohlin (Berwick) to tie the game. Neither team sent more than four batters to the plate from the fourth to the sixth inning.

The West had a chance to score the winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning. Shephard loaded the bases with an infield single but Chelsi Alexander (Leesville HS) hit fly ball right to center fielder Jessica Johnson (Buckeye HS) to end the game. Kendall Smith (Northwood-Shreveport) pitched the fourth inning for the West while Marci West (Anacoco) pitched fifth inning. Destin Vicknair (Riverside) pitched the final four innings for the East. She gave up no runs on five hits while striking out three.

Sam Houston's Allie Fields started at first base and struck out in her only at bat of the day in the second inning. Sulphur's Casey Fitts hit a single between the third base and shortstop gap in her final at bat of her career but was forced out on the next play in the fifth inning. In Friday's game, Fitts went 1-2 with an RBI single in the seventh inning. Williams was named the MVP of the West squad after going 4-for-4 with two runs scored, three RBIs and a solo homerun to left field in the first inning. After falling behind, the East tied the game on Friday in the bottom of the third but the West scored seven unanswered runs. Sarah Sapeda (Live Oak HS) led the East going 3-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored while Smith and Aleah Craighton (Dutchtown HS) both went 2-for-4. Craighton also had an RBI in the first inning.

East All-Star team

Coordinator • Darlene Wiley, Buckeye Head coach • Brad Woodward, Grant

Asst. coach • Darlene Wiley, Buckeye

Roster • Kendall LeBlanc, False River; Haley Hayden, West Monroe; Maggie Davidson, Cedar Creek; Katie Flowers, Central; Aleah Craighton, Dutchtown; Sloan Smith, Quitman; Destin Vicknair, Riverside; Megan Smith, Family Christian; Nicole Sanders, Pineville; Sarah Gandy, Sterlington; Jessica Johnson, Buckeye; Bailey Landry, East Ascension; Sarah Sepeda, Live Oak; Brooke; Morris, Live Oak; Ashton Russell, West Ouachita; Kasey Nielson, St. Amant; Kendall Smith, Ruston.

West All-Star team

Coordinator • Eddie Wade Strother, Southwood Head coach • Beth Domingue, Sam Houston Asst. coach • Kelly Kaiama-Goodwin, Leesville

Roster • Baylee Shephard, Evangel; Haley Reeves, Oberlin; Hali Williams, Comeaux; Casey Fitts, Sulphur; Kristen Kurtz, Vanderbilt Cath.; Kendall Smith, Northwood-SH; Alexandra Peltier, Rayne; Chelsi Alexander, Leesville; MaKella Pena, Vanderbilt Cath.; Camille Quebodeaux, Teurlings Cath.; Morgan Angelle, Teurlings Cath.; Abigail Ohlin, Berwick; Jaclyn Johnson, Belle Chasse; Marci West, Anacoco; Sarah Arceneaux, St. Thomas More; Allison Fields, Sam Houston; Baylee Corbello, Sam Houston; Samantha Little, Hackberry.

East, West play to 3-3 tie in softball all-star game

BY WARREN HAYES

Special to The Advocate

PINEVILLE — The second game of the Louisiana High School Coaches Association's All-Star weekend featured some big plays. But there was no winner.

The East and West squads played to a 3-3 tie on Saturday at Louisiana College because the rules for the games make no provision for extra innings. The West won the first game played Friday night 10-4. It was the second straight year that the teams played to a tie on Saturday.

Ruston High's Kendall Smith (East) and Comeaux's Hali Williams (West) received the Outstanding Player awards.

St. Amant's Kasey Nielson started the scoring for the East in the top of the first inning. East Ascension's Bailey Landry, who was on second base, scored on Nielson's sacrifice fly to center-fielder Camille Quebodeaux of Teurlings Catholic.

The West also scored in the first inning. Sam Houston's Baylee Corbello, an LSU signee, reached first on a throwing error by Nielson that allowed Quebodeaux to score.

The East scored its final two runs in the third, when Landry was on third base and Smith was on second. With Nielson at the plate, both runners scored — one on a passed ball and other on a wild pitch.

Landry, also an LSU signee, went 2-for-3.

The West's final two runs also came in the third. Corbello was on third base and Berwick's

Abigail Ohlin was on first base when St. Thomas More's Sarah Arceneaux smacked a two-RBI double. Ohlin went 2-for-3.

The East's Smith made a diving catch on Evangel Christian catcher Baylee Shephard's pop up to left field for the second out of the seventh inning. Smith said she was surprised to receive the honor.

"It was a blessing because a lot of the girls out here are talented," said Smith, a UL-Lafayette signee. "It's just nice to have your accomplishments recognized by playing in this game."

East assistant coach Darlene Wiley said it's always fun to coach a lot of talent.

"This is the last (high school) game (for the players), and it means a lot to them," said Wiley, also Buckeye's coach. "Kendall had the game-saver for us. Kendall is consistent and well-deserving of the honor."

Comeaux's Williams went 4-for-5 and had a home run in the first game Friday night. She had only one at-bat Saturday.

"This was a lot of fun for me, and a lot of great girls are out here," said Williams, who will play softball and volleyball for the University of Texas-Tyler. "I didn't expect to hit that home run Friday. There's nothing but winners out here on this field."

West assistant coach Kelly Kaiama-Goodwin said Williams was easy to coach.

"Hali always had a good demeanor and was respectful and I'm happy she received the honor," said Goodwin.

Softball All-stars square off

BY ROBIN FAMBROUGH

First, it was the regular season, and then it was the postseason. The 2013 season for Louisiana High School Athletic Association softball players concludes this weekend with the Louisiana High School Coaches Association All-Star games at Louisiana College in Pineville. Players for the East and West squads report between 10 and 11 a.m. Friday for the two-day event. Both teams are scheduled to practice in the afternoon before taking the field for the first of two games at 7:30 p.m. Friday. The second game is set for 1 p.m. Saturday. Coach Brad Woodard of Grant, has an East squad packed with Baton Rouge-area players. The list includes False River Academy's Kendall LeBlanc, Central's Katie Flowers, Dutchtown's Aleah Craighton, Family Christian's Megan Smith, East Ascension's Bailey Landry, Live Oak's Sarah Sepeda and Brooke Morris, Lutcher's Kassidy Zeringue and St. Amant's Kasey Nielson. Riverside Academy's Destin Vicknair is the lone New Orleans-area player on the East team. The West squad of Sam Houston's Beth Domingue features Sam Houston star Baylee Corbello, the 2012 Miss Softball award winner and an LSU signee. Three New Orleans/bayou players are part of the West squad: Belle Chasse's Jaclyn Jones and the Vandebilt Catholic duo of Kristen Kurtz and MaKelle Pena. Last season, the West won the first game 10-3, while the second game ended in a 2-2 tie.

BY ROBIN FAMBROUGH

Advocate sportswriter

LHSCA All-Star softball game: Fitts, Corbello and Fields to play one more time

By RODRICK ANDERSON, randerson@sulphurdailynews.com

May 17, 2013 8:00AM



PHOTO/ Rodrick Anderson/Southwest Daily News Casey Fitts • Sulphur HS • Center fielder

They may have wrapped up their stellar high school softball carriers earlier this month but Sulphur's Casey Fitts and Sam Houston's Baylee Corbello and Allie Fields will get one more chance to showcase their talents. The trio of seniors will be playing for the West All-Star team this weekend at the LHSCA Softball All-Star game at Louisiana College's (Pineville, La.) Coca-Cola Field. The first game is scheduled for today at 7:30 p.m. with the second game slated for 1 p.m. on Saturday.

All three were named to the 3-5A All-District first team this year.

Fitts batted .351 as a senior and backed up her play up at the plate with plenty of acrobatic catches in the outfields. Fitts broke into the Lady Tors' starting lineup midway through the district season during her freshman year at left field. She moved to center field as a sophomore.

Fitts has been named to the 3-5A All-District team four times and to the first team three times. She earned a spot on the LHSA Academic Class 5A All-State team this year with a 3.7826 GPA.

"It is good," Fitts said. "I am excited to play for the last time.

"I am really excited about getting to play with other players from my district. I learned how to work with other people and deal with adversity (while at Sulphur High School)."

Corbello and Fields have played a major roll for the Lady Broncos as they won three consecutive state softball championships, Class 4A in 2011 and Class 5A in 2012 and 2013.

Corbello has been Sam Houston's starting pitcher for four years and has totaled over 1,000 strikeouts despite not being able to pitch for most of her senior season while recovering from an injury. She has been named an all-district player all four years along with three all-state awards, three state MVP awards and was the Gatorade Louisiana Miss Softball award winner last year. Corbello, who has signed with LSU, batted .610 this year and pitched two no-hitters in the playoffs while giving up just three runs. Fields has started for the Lady Broncos for three years playing at first base and has batted as the designated hitter. She averaged .429 at the plate this year. Fields was also recently named to the LHSAA Academic All-State Composite team with a 4.0 GPA. The trio's head coach for the weekend will be Sam Houston head coach Beth Domingue who has led the Lady Broncos to four consecutive state title game appearances. Also playing for the West squad from Southwest Louisiana will be Hackberry's Sami Little, Anacoco's Marci West and Leesville's Chelsi Alexander.

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Milestone time for LOHS' Morris

All-star game, graduation next for Live Oak SS

BY ROBIN FAMBROUGH

Advocate sportswriter

Some players quit playing a sport because of an injury or because they no longer like it. For Live Oak High's Brooke Morris, it was a practical decision.

"I played a lot of basketball when I was younger," Morris said. "But when I was in junior high and I was 5-foot-2, I figured out it might not be the best sport for me. That's when I started playing fast-pitch softball."

Just a few years removed from that "ah ha" moment, the LOHS shortstop is preparing for two milestones. On Thursday, Morris graduates from high school and then on Friday she'll take her game to another level by playing for the East squad in the Louisiana High School Coaches Association's All-Star softball games at Louisiana College in Pineville.

Players report between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Friday and will have an afternoon practice before the first East vs. West game set for 7:30 p.m. Game 2 is set for 1 p.m. Saturday.

Morris is no stranger to the limelight. She's earned district, all-metro and all-state honors before. As a senior, Morris led the Eagles to their first berth in the Class 5A semifinals by hitting .423 with a .486 slugging percentage, 24 RBIs and 12 stolen bases.

Still, the Nicholls State signee goes into the LHSCA All-Star games looking to prove herself.

Some might say she's driven, but those who know her, like Live Oak coach Michelle Morris, say that's Brooke's way.

"Brooke has been joy to coach," Michelle Morris said. "She came in and played as a freshman and there were

many times when we had put her in the lion's den. More often than not she succeeded.

"From there, she's continued to grow and get better every year. You're not going to find a player who works harder. And she's a great teammate and leader, she proved that this year with the four freshmen we started. She knew how to talk to them and work with them."

But it's the task at hand, the LHSCA All-Star games, that drives Morris, who is set to play either shortstop or second base at Nicholls.

"I see these games as being a transition to college," Morris said. "You've got the best of the best players on the two teams. The top pitchers and the best hitters. Because of that, I think it will be a little like playing on the college level. I'm anxious to see how I do."

In the spirit of full disclosure, Morris noted her other two motivations for wanting to succeed in the LHSCA games. First, she is following in the footsteps of a player she admires, former Live Oak teammate Natalie Fernandez, who is now plays for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. It was Fernandez, then the LOHS shortstop, who mentored Morris three years ago.

A bout of recurring tendinitis in her throwing shoulder will make the LHSCA games her first and last of the summer. She is scheduled to rest and undergo therapy before heading to Thibodaux for fall classes at Nicholls.

Though she transformed herself from being primarily a slap hitter into more of a power hitter during her high school career, Morris said improving her offensive skills remains a priority. So in some ways, the LHSCA games offer one final exam.

"Everybody out there is going to be an all-star," Morris said. "It's a little bittersweet because this will be my last high school games. But you've got to be ready to compete and be the best you can be. That's the challenge."



Advocate staff photo by CATHERINE THRELKELD

Live Oak shortstop Brooke Morris throws to first base in a Class 5A regional playoff game against Pineville last month.