

# 2014 ALL STAR GAME

## MAY 24, 25, 2014

# East pounds out 15 hits; Bourg selected MVP

Advocate staff report

**PINEVILLE** – Softball all-star games sometimes turn into a showcase for pitchers, but Saturday wasn't one of those times.

The East pounded out 12 hits en route to a 5-2 victory over the West in the second Louisiana High School Coaches Association Softball All-Star game played Saturday at Louisiana College's Coca-Cola Field.

With the win, the East swept the two games, including a 3-1 victory Friday night.

Northshore High's Sydney Bourg, who finished 2-for-2 on Saturday, was voted the MVP for the East squad. The LSU signee was 3-for-3 in the two games.

North Caddo's Kassidy Harris, who got three of the West squad's five hits, was selected as the West MVP. The Louisiana Tech signee was 3-for-3 on the day with a two-RBI double.

"I was 3-for-3 (Friday) but nervous because the talent level is high," Bourg said. "This game definitely helped me prepare for the type of competition I will see playing with LSU. It was an honor to be in the game."

East coach Felicia Hailey of Jena sees the LHSCA games as a showcase for Louisiana talent that can attract more than just the die-hard fans.

"This all-star game gives people a chance to see that Louisiana definitely has talent in the softball area," Hailey said.

"All these girls out here worked hard for their team and deserve the success they receive."

It looked like the West would

have the upper hand after jumping out to an early 2-0 lead.

The West scored both of its runs in the bottom of the third inning. North Caddo's Harris smacked a two-run double to score Arline's Katie Smith and St. John's Shelbi Strickland.

The East squad grabbed the lead by scoring three times in the top of the fifth inning. Ouachita's Katherine Lee hit singled in Bourg and Walker High's Grace DeLee scored on an error. West Ouachita's Allie Medlin then singled in the go-ahead run.

The East's final two runs came in the sixth inning. Jena's Darian Thacker hit a two-run double to score Buckeye's McKayla Brown, who was on second, and St. Amant's Ali Delaney, who was on third.

"The pitching in this game was good," said Brown, who finished 2-for-3. "We just loosened up, became comfortable and let the bats do the work."

Hailey said the East players made the correct adjustments on offense as the game went on.

"We just figured out the pitching at the right time," Hailey said. "Coaching the different players wasn't hard. They all worked hard and want to become better players."

**GAME NOTES:** Twenty-six players on the two teams are scheduled to play softball on the college level.

Bourg and Walker High's Taylor Lockwood are LSU signees who played for the East. St. Thomas More's Jamie Landry of the West and West Ouachita's Medlin from the East are both bound for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

# Camaraderie big part of Louisiana softball All-Star game

## Town Talk- Alexandria - May 25, 2014



Katie Brignac of John Curtis (front), playing for the East team, scrambles to throw to first to tag out a West team runner in the LHSCA All-Star games on Saturday at Louisiana College. / Tia Owens-Powers/towens@thetowntalk.com

Written by  
[Warren Hayes](#)

**PINEVILLE** — Buckeye pitcher Mikayla Brown stood on the Coca-Cola Field at Louisiana College with a sense of accomplishment Saturday after the conclusion of the two-day LHSCA All-Star game.

She was a member of the East team, which defeated the West, 5-2, and was proud of the friendships she made playing in the game.

“To be able to play with all this talent in the state of Louisiana is an honor,” said Brown, who will play for Northwestern State. “All of these girls out here are amazing and deserve to have success on the college level.”

East coach Felicia Hailey was excited to receive her first win as a coach in the all-star game.

Hailey said the all-star game is starting to peak the interests of individuals, not too familiar with softball.

“This all-star game gives people a chance to see that Louisiana definitely has talent in the softball area,” said Hailey, who coaches at Jena High. “All these girls out here worked hard for their team and deserve the success they receive.”

The East was held scoreless until Ouachita’s Katherine Lee hit a two-run double to score Northshore’s Sydney Bourge, who was on third, and Walker’s Grace DeLee, who was on second, to take a 3-2 lead.

The East’s final two runs came in the sixth inning, when Jena’s Darian Thacker hit a two-run double to score Brown, who was on second, and St. Amant’s Ali Delaney, who was on third.

“The pitching in this game was good,” said Brown, who went 2-for-3. “We just loosened up, became comfortable and let the bats do the work.”

The West finished with five hits, and East 12 hits.

“We just figured out the pitching at the right time,” Hailey said. “Coaching the different players wasn’t hard. They all worked hard and want to become better players.”

The West scored its two runs in the third inning, when North Caddo’s Cassidy Harris hit a two-run double to score Arline’s Katie Smith, who was on third, and St. John’s Shelbi Strickland, who was on second.

Harris led the West with a 3-for-3 performance and was also named West MVP.

Bourg, who will play for LSU, finished 2-for-2 and was crowned East MVP.

“I was 3-for-3 (Friday) but nervous because the talent level is high,” she said. “This game definitely helped me prepare for the type of competition I will see playing with LSU. It was an honor to be in the game.”

Brown has enjoyed her time with Buckeye and said she believes she left a legacy of hard work at Buckeye.

Brown has received several All-Cenla all-district and all-state honors with the Lady Panthers.

“I’m going to miss my high school teammates because the chemistry was good and we enjoy this game,” she said. “Winning is important but you also have to love the sport you play. I love this game. All the girls out here have a deep love for softball.”

# Bourg sparks East win in high school softball showcase at Louisiana College - Town Talk-Alexandria - May 24, 2014



West team's Karsen Kreps (left) tags out East team's Taylor Lockwood at first base in the LHSCA All-Star game at Louisiana College on Friday. / Tia Owens-Powers/ [tpowers@thetowntalk.com](mailto:tpowers@thetowntalk.com)

Written by  
**Bob Tompkins**

**PINEVILLE** — LSU signee Sydney Bourg of Northshore High School went 3-for-3 with two doubles to lead the East to a 3-1 victory over the West in the first game of a two-day doubleheader in the LHSCA All-Star Softball Game at Louisiana College's Coca Cola Field Friday evening.

The two teams will play again today at the Lady Wildcats' home softball field at 1 p.m.

Bourg's leadoff double in the bottom of the third, her second hit of the game, triggered a three-run inning, and with stellar pitching from starter Mikayla Brown of Buckeye and reliever Katherine Lee of Ouachita, that was all the runs the East needed to claim the victory.

"These are a great group of athletes, and they are fun to coach," said Felicia Hayley of Jena, who was scheduled to be an assistant to Riverside's Kristy Hebert but was promoted to head coach when Hebert had to pull out for personal reasons. "They're very aggressive and very smart on the bases. We converted at the right time, I guess."

Bourg, the daughter of Northshore football coach Mike Bourg, singled to left in the first inning, when the East stranded two runners without scoring a run. She led off the third with a double to deep right center, advanced to third on an error and scored on an infield hit by Lee.

Brown, who reached on a fielding error as the second batter of the inning, and Lee both scored on a two-out single up the middle by St. Amant's Ali Delany, who's headed to Northwest Florida State College.

Brown remembered her strikeout in her first at-bat in the previous inning.

"When I was going up for my second at-bat," said Delany, "I said to myself, I can't let that happen again because there are runners on base who need to be scored. I was just trying to play my hardest and show people I deserved to be here."

Brown, meanwhile, shook off a sluggish start on the mound, when she walked two of the first four batters she faced, and pitched a one-hitter with three strikeouts through four innings before giving way to Lee.

"At first I was nervous," said Brown, a Northwestern State signee and the All-Cenla Softball Player of the Year the last two years. "But then I told myself, I'm here for a reason, and I settled down and got my mind right."

Brown retired the side in order in the second inning, which included sending Leesville's Karsen Kreps to the dugout for the second out of the inning on a third strike looking. With a runner at second and one out in the third, she struck out Carlie Comeaux of Brusly and coaxed Hahnville's Taylor Hogan into an inning-ending ground-out.

After giving up a two-out double to Northwood-Shreveport's Jenna Blythe in the fourth and walking Kreps, she induced New Iberia's Sydney LaBiche into an inning-ending ground-out.

"It was an amazing experience to be playing with the top players from Louisiana, and knowing I'm one was a privilege," said Brown.

LC commitment Savannah Settle of Natchitoches Central pitched the first four innings for the West and gave up three runs (but just one earned run) on five hits and struck out three.

The West didn't score until the seventh inning, when Tristan Harvey of Anacoco reached on an error to lead off the inning and scored with two outs on a single to left by Shelby Strickland of St. John.

Strickland was put out at the plate, snuffing the West's comeback chances, trying to score on a double to left by Cassidy Harris of North Caddo.

Lee, in relief of Brown, gave up one run on three hits in three innings while striking out three and walking three.

“I thought our pitching was very good tonight,” said Hailey.

Bourg got to bat again in the bottom of the seventh, per the All-Star Game rules to allow both teams to have the same number of innings to bat, and stroked a double off a pitch by West reliever Abigail Leonards of Iota.

“I was happy I hit the way I did, especially in a game as big as this,” said Bourg, the picture of efficient energy throughout the contest.

“I’ve always played hard,” she said. “Playing hard comes easy for me.”

## Louisiana's softball all-stars to show skills in Pineville this weekend - Town Talk - Alexandria –

May 22, 2014



Louisiana-Lafayette signee Allie Medlin of West Ouachita (13) will be among the 36 players participating in this weekend's LHSCA All-Star Games at Louisiana College. / Gannet Louisiana file photo

Written by

[Bret H. McCormick](#)

Many of the state's top softball seniors will converge on Louisiana College this weekend for the annual Louisiana High School Coaches Association softball all-star weekend.

The annual "doubleheader" will feature a single game at 6 p.m. today at LC's Coca-Cola Lady Wildcat Field followed by a 1 p.m. contest on Saturday.

Nine Central Louisiana standouts — including a pair of Buckeye teammates — are among the 36 players who will participate in the two-day event. In addition, coaches from Buckeye and Jena comprise two-thirds of the East Squad's coaching staff.

"This is very rewarding for the girls to be able to go," said Buckeye coach Darlene Wiley, who is serving as the coordinator for the East Squad for the second time. "There's no pressure on them. They get to go play with girls at their level."

Wiley will be joined by the coach of her team's main district rival, Jena's Felicia Hailey, who will serve as the head coach on the East Squad. Hailey was slated to be an assistant to Riverside's Kristy Hebert, but Hebert had to pull out because of personal reasons.

In addition, two of Wiley's stars are among the 18 players on the East squad — pitcher and Northwestern State signee Mikayla Brown and first baseman Paris Hernandez.

"It's very, very special," Wiley said of having two of her players with her at the all-star game. "... I felt like the girls earned it, and the stats speak for themselves."

Hailey's star pitcher, Louisiana College commitment Darian Thacker, is also on the East squad along with Menard first baseman Rylee Ferguson and Georgetown pitcher Tanner Maxwell.

Ferguson said she will spend the weekend rooming with Thacker, Brown and Hernandez, three players she has played with and against since she was really young.

"I was really excited about it," Ferguson said of hearing she earned an all-star invitation, "because all the past four years I've seen all the seniors play. I was really wondering if I was gonna be able to make the all-star team. Now that I made it, it's really cool."

The West Squad features five Cenla standouts: Anacoco's Tristan Harvey, Leesville's Karsen Kreps, Many's Laken Ebarb, Natchitoches Central's Savannah Settle and Pine Prairie's Alyssa Jackson.

Among the other standouts who will play this weekend are:

- East — LSU signees Taylor Lockwood of Walker and Sydney Bourge of Northshore, Memphis signees and John Curtis teammates Katie Brignac and Brooke Lee, and Louisiana-Lafayette signee Allie Medlin of West Ouachita.

- West — Louisiana-Lafayette signee Jaime Landry of St. Thomas More, Louisiana Tech signees Cassidy Harris of North Caddo and Katie Smith of Airline, and Louisiana-Monroe signee Carlie Comeaux of Brusly.

Ferguson said even though it's an honor to play with the state's best at the all-star game, she intends to compete her hardest.

"I definitely want to win," she said, "but if we don't win, if I do my best, then I think that's good enough."