

### *Chiefs sweep doubleheader from Southwood*

The Natchitoches Central Chiefs' baseball team dominated a doubleheader Saturday on the road against the Southwood Cowboys winning Game 1, 18-2, and Game 2, 12-1.

The Chiefs (18-4, 6-2 in 1-5A) took advantage of 13 walks and four hit-by-pitches from Southwood pitching in Game 1 as they roared out to an 18-2 lead after three innings. Yancy Spillman led the Chiefs with three RBIS while Owen Smith, Dillon Braxton and Kyron Payne each drove in two runs as NCHS rolled to the win.

Benji Kilgore and Braden Woods pitched all three innings of the 15-run rule win for the Chiefs with Kilgore allowing one hit, one walk, one earned run and striking out four. Woods pitched the final inning striking out two hitters.

In the second game, the Chiefs opened up a 4-0 lead after two innings. Titus Williams hit an RBI single followed by a two-run double by Andrew Odom in the first inning. Brock Laird added to the lead with a sacrifice fly in the second.

The Chiefs continued to pull away as Logan Wyatt and Lannon Collum both hit RBI singles in the third inning to push the NCHS lead to 6-0.

The Cowboys (2-15, 0-8 in 1-5A) only real threat of the game came in the bottom of the third when they loaded the bases with two outs. However, Gavin Hoffpauir came in relief and got a strikeout to end the inning.

Hoffpauir then singled home a run in the top of the fourth then Collin LaGrange and Kaiden Vallery hit RBI-doubles in the sixth to make it 9-0 NCHS. Blaine Mitchell added a two-run single, and LaGrange followed it up with an RBI single to make it 12-1

NCHS finished Game 2 with 17 hits led by McCollum, LaGrange and Odom with three each while Wyatt and Vallery each had two.

The combination of Odom, Hoffpauir, Owen Smith and Christian French combined to hold the Cowboys offense in check. The group combined to allow just one unearned run, four hits, three walks and recorded 12 strikeouts.

Next up, the Chiefs will face Captain Shreve (15-7, 4-3 in 1-5A) Tuesday at home at 6 p.m. in district 1-5A action.