

Lady Chiefs overcome rain, early hole in 5-3 win over Converse

The Natchitoches Central Lady Chiefs softball team overcame a three-run hole and torrential rains to defeat the Converse Lady Wildcats, 5-3, Tuesday afternoon at PARC Natchitoches on the final day of the regular season.

The Lady Chiefs (18-12) found themselves down 2-0 after two unearned runs in the first inning. Converse (14-8) took advantage of two Lady Chiefs' errors in the first inning as they scored a pair of runs on two errors.

The Lady Wildcats scored another run in the third inning on a triple and a single to take a 3-0 lead. Despite NCHS's Sydney Terrell 13 strikeouts, the Lady Chiefs still found themselves in a 3-0 hole entering the bottom of the sixth inning as the rains began to pound the field.

After a single from Ehren Guidroz, the Lady Chiefs scored five runs with two outs. Skylar Braxton and Bre Hale walked to load the bases for Sadie Spillman. The senior lined a two-run single to center to score two runs. After a walk to Maggie Massia reloaded the bases, NCHS took advantage of three wild pitches to gain a 5-3 lead.

The game was called after the sixth inning as the weather became unbearable with winds gusting to 30 MPH and severe thunderstorm warnings echoing through the town.

"It was a hard-fought win," said NCHS head softball coach Jeramie Hale. "Conditions were terrible for both teams, but we found a way to get it done. We wanted to play because we didn't want a week off going into the playoffs so it's nice to go in with some momentum."

Terrell threw all six innings allowing just three hits, one earned run with 13 strikeouts while throwing 112 pitches.

NCHS entered Tuesday as the 11th-seed in Division I and will await their playoff fate as the brackets will be released Wednesday.