

Northside Softball 2014



2014 Conference 31 and Blue Ridge District Champions

June 29, 2014

Congratulations to Our Vikings Selected for All Timesland

Congratulations to Morgan Bruce who was selected as the Timesland Player of the Year. Also, congratulations to Ruthie Williams selected Pitcher First Team and Madison Via selected Outfield First Team. Congratulations Girls! We are proud of you.

June 9, 2014

Blue Ridge District and Conference 31 All-Conference Team

Congratulations to our Vikings who were selected to the 2014 Blue Ridge District and Conference 31 All-Conference Teams.

Player of the Year

Morgan Bruce - SO

Pitcher of the Year

Ruthie Williams - SR

Coach of the Year

Lynn Richmond

Catcher - 2nd Team

Bailey Grubb - FR

Infielders - 1st Team

Morgan Bruce - SO

Katelyn Bowden - SR

Outfielders - 1st Team

Taylor Carter - SR

Madison Via - FR

Pitchers - 1st Team

Ruthie Williams - SR

Morgan Bruce - SO

Position Player - 2nd Team

Bailey Grubb - FR

June 5, 2014

Vikings Come Up Short in Region 3A West Semi-Final

Northside 2 Brookville 3

Losing Pitcher: Ruthie Williams - 5 Innings 0 Strike Outs 1 Walk 7 Hits 2 Runs
Morgan Bruce - 2 Innings 0 Strike Outs 0 Walks 3 Hits 1 Run

In a season marred by rain who would think the 3A West Regions would be any different? IT WAS NOT!!!!

Northside at 20-2 and Brookville at 23-0 were set to meet in the 3 A West Elite 8 tournament to determine a team that would qualify for the 3A VHSL State Tournament. The game did not disappoint. It was a pitcher's duel from the start. With Dail from Brookville and Williams from Northside throwing darts there were not many hits to brag about.

Madison Via for the Vikings got their 2 hits and scored both runs as she was the Vikings offense. Morgan Bruce and Taylor Carter brought high batting averages into the tournament but could not manage one hit while posting 5 strikeouts in 6 total at bats.

Meanwhile Brookville kept the Viking defense busy. The Bees put up 10 hits and if it were not for great defensive plays by Taylor Carter, Madison Via, Morgan Stanley, Katelyn Bowden and Carly Altizer the game could have been much larger than 3 -2.

The game was delayed several times due to lightning and rain and finally the game was postponed until Thursday ending in the bottom of the 7th with no outs and the leadoff batter to bat. With the first pitch in the restart of the game the Bees leadoff batter got a single to left field. The Vikings misplayed the ball giving the Brookville leadoff 2nd base. The next batter flied out to Carly Altizer at 3rd base. Then the #3 batter for Brookville hit a hard shot which bounced off of the Vikings shortstop into the outfield. The outfield made a good throw home but in the collision Bailey Grubb was not able to collect the throw and the Brookville runner was called safe and the Bees advanced to the 3A West finals against Turner Ashby.

Northside finished the season with a 20-3 record.

June 2, 2014

Vikings Down the Indians in 3A West Region Playoff

Northside 1 Fort Defiance 0

Winning Pitcher – Ruthie Williams – 4 strike outs 0 walks 2 hits 0 runs

HOW DOES INSIDE THE PARK HOME RUN SOUND??????



Ruthie Williams on the Mound and Carly Altizer in the Background

It sounds pretty good and that is exactly what Northside's left fielder Megan Hubbard did. After battling flu like symptoms all weekend, Megan felt well enough to play and hit a shot to the right field corner and proceeded to touch all of the bases for her home run. It would turn out to be all Northside needed to win their first round game in 3A West. Northside needs but one more win, to make it to the final eight of the state tournament.



Bowden, Stanley and Bruce Connect to Turn 2 to End the Game

There were other heroes as well. Ruthie Williams pitched a great complete game walking no batters and giving up 2 hits. Her composure under pressure was tremendous.

Taylor Carter also had a great defensive effort with 5 put outs.



TC Erases a Hit in Center Field

To finish the game in great style Katelyn Bowden, the Vikings shortstop, who had 5 assists for the day, scooped a hard ground grounder, tossed it to Morgan Stanley for one out at second who then turned the double play by throwing the runner out to Morgan Bruce at first.



Bailey Grubb Drives a Shot down the Left Field Line

The Vikings will play Brookville at Liberty High school at 5pm on Wed June 4, 2014 for a berth in the 3A State Tournament.

May 30, 2014

Vikings Claim First Conference 31 Title

Northside capped an undefeated Conference 31 season with 2 wins to take the first Conference 31 Softball Championship.



Conference 31 Semi-Final: Northside 7 Rockbridge 3

In the first game which was played over 2 days because of rain, Northside beat Rockbridge 7-3. Ruthie Williams picked up the win pitching 4 innings and giving up 3 runs on 6 strikeouts and no walks. Morgan Bruce came on in relief pitching 3 strong innings giving up no runs and no strikeouts and no walks.



Morgan Stanley of the Vikings blew the game wide open in the 6th inning with a home run. Katelyn Bowden went 2-3 with 2 doubles and 1 RBI. Madison Via and Ruthie Williams went 2-4.

Conference 31 Championship - Northside 9 Lord Botetourt 1

In the Championship game Northside never let Lord Botetourt in the game. Northside scored runs in the 1st, 3rd, 5th and 6th innings going up 9-0. The Cavaliers scored once in the 7th inning for their only run.



Catcher Bailey Grubb and SS Katelyn Bowden Connect to Deny the Steal

Ruthie Williams destroyed the Cavaliers pitching going 3-3 with 1 home run and 5 RBIs. Madison Via and Morgan Bruce also had big days at the plate having 3 and 2 hits respectively. Ruthie Williams pitched a complete game picking up the win giving up 1 run on 7 hits and 4 walks.



Taylor Carter Safe at 3rd

Northside went to 19-2 on the season and will play the second seed, Fort Defiance, from the Valley Conference at Northside on Monday June 2 at 5 pm in the 3A West Region first round.



May 23, 2014

Vikings Escape with a Win Over Rockbridge to Pick Up the Blue Ridge District Regular Season Championship

Northside 3 Rockbridge 2

Morgan Bruce – Northside: 4 1/3 Innings 5 hits 4 strike outs 2 walks

Ruthie Williams - Northside: 2 2/3 Innings 0 Hits 5 Strike outs 0 walks

Northside started quick and put up 3 runs in the first inning but their bats went silent and struggled to come away with a win. Rockbridge scored 2 runs in the second inning and that is the way it stayed, Northside 3 Rockbridge 2.



Morgan Bruce pitched the first 4 and 1/3 innings and struggled to find the strike zone. She did pick up the win for her 8th win of the year against no losses. Ruthie Williams came in and pitched for 2 and 1/3 innings and pitched well.



This was a normal game for Rockbridge but compared to normal standards the atmosphere was bordering on out of control. Several questionable calls on the field coupled with vocal spectators made the game one to remember. The important part was that the Vikings finished their first Conference 31 season with no conference losses and picked up the first seed for next weeks' tournament.



The Vikings moved to 17 – 2 overall and 12 -0 in Conference play. The Vikings will take on the winner of the 4th/5th place game on Thursday May 29 at 5pm at

Botetourt Sports Complex.



May 19, 2014

Vikings Win to Honor Our Seniors

Northside 10 William Byrd 0

Winning Pitcher ---Ruthie Williams 5 Innings 6 Strike Outs 2 Hits 1 Walk



Northside got its 11th conference win with a victory over William Byrd on their home field. The Vikings won 10-0. It was also senior day and gave parents, spectators and players a chance to recognize 5 seniors, Ruthie Williams, Taylor Carter, Brittany Mills, Katelyn Bowden and Carly Altizer. The players not only elevated the quality of the NHS softball program but elevated it through their integrity and commitment to Viking softball. We wish them the best in their future and thank them for all they have given to the game of softball.



Ruthie Williams went 2-2, Morgan Bruce went 3-3 and Madison Via went 3-4.

Northside went to 16 – 2 on the season and 11 - 0 in the conference. NHS plays Rockbridge at Rockbridge on Friday May 23 at 5pm.



May 13, 2014

Vikings Defeat Botetourt in Extra Innings

Northside 8 Lord Botetourt 5

Winning Pitcher – Morgan Bruce – 2 Innings Pitched 2 Hits 0 Walks 0 Strike Outs
Ruthie Williams – 6 Innings Pitched 4 Hits 2 Walks 7 Strike Outs



Northside held on to win a close Blue Ridge District – Conference 31 game 8 to 5 over Lord Botetourt. The Vikings did not play well defensively but found a way to win.



The Vikings Taylor Carter went 2-3, Morgan Bruce went 3-5 and Ruthie Williams and Bailey Grubb went 2-4.



LB tied the game in the bottom of the 7th inning but the Vikings came back in the top of the 8th to put the game out of reach.



Northside went to 15-2 on the season, 10-0 in Conference 31 and plays William Byrd at Northside at 5 on Thursday May 15.

May 9, 2014

Vikings Finish a 3-Game Week with a Win over Alleghany

Northside 4 Alleghany 1

Winning Pitcher – Morgan Bruce - 5 Innings Pitched 5 Strike Outs 3 Walks 3 Hits



Northside finished a big Conference 31 week with 3 wins and including a solid win over Alleghany. The Vikings put up 2 runs in the first inning and 2 more runs in the third inning. Alleghany put 1 run on the board in the 4th inning but the Vikings pitching staff kept their bats at bay.

Morgan Bruce went 2 for 2 with 2 runs scored and 1 RBI. Bailey Grubb went 2 for 4 with 1 run scored and 1 RBI. Carly Altizer went 2 for 3 with 1 RBI and 1 stolen base.



Northside took its record to 14 -2 overall and 9-0 in the conference.

The Vikings are away against Lord Botetourt on Tuesday May 13 at 5pm.

May 7, 2014

Vikings Go to 8 and 0 with Win Over Terriers

Northside 7 William Byrd 3

Winning Pitcher - Ruthie Williams 7 Innings 4 Strike Outs 8 hits 1 walk



After several rain outs, Northside finally got its conference game in with a victory over William Byrd on their home field. The Vikings won 7-3.

Northside warmed up sluggish and that is exactly how they started the game. The Terriers came out inspired and quickly put up a run in the first inning. After a single and 2 stolen bases by Brammer, she was driven in by a single from Spencer Biggs.

Finally the Vikings players were energized in the third inning by a home run from Carly Altizer. That was followed by a single from Madison Via and 2 stolen bases which put her in position to be driven in by Taylor Carter.



Northside put up runs in the fourth and fifth inning and their scoring was capped by a 3 run home run from Morgan Bruce in the seventh inning. That was Morgan's twelfth home run of the year.

Byrd tried to mount a comeback scoring 2 runs in the bottom of the seventh on 2 Viking errors, but Ruthie Williams made a great stop of a line drive for out 1, then struck out Ewers for the 3rd out.

The Vikings Williams pitched a complete game with good control and endurance.

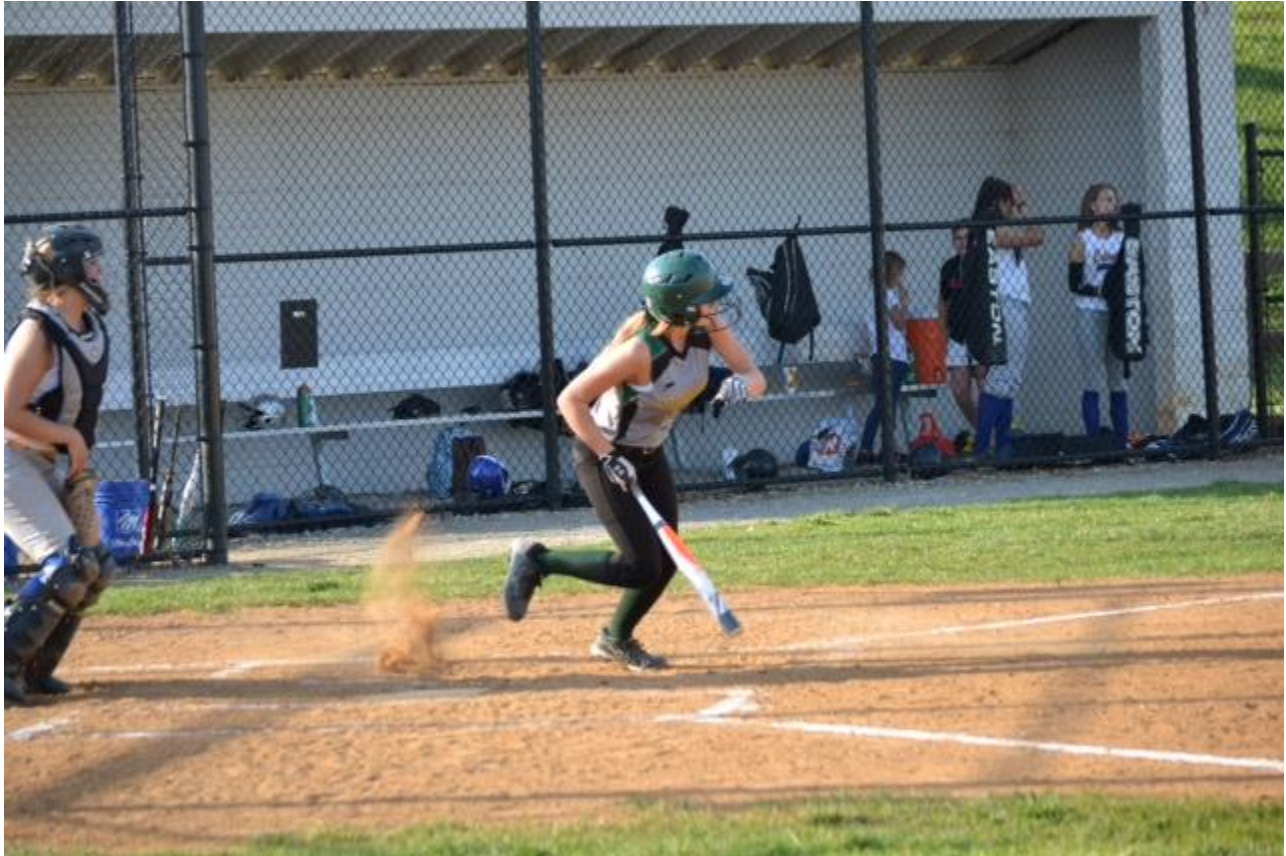
Northside went to 13 – 2 on the season and 8 - 0 in the conference. NHS plays Alleghany at Northside on Friday May 9 at 5pm.

Vikings Win Over William Flemming

Northside 26 William Flemming 0

Winning Pitcher – Ruthie Williams 3 Innings 7 Strike Outs 0 Walks 1 hit

Relief Pitcher – Morgan Bruce 2 Innings 5 Strike Outs 0 Walks 0 hits



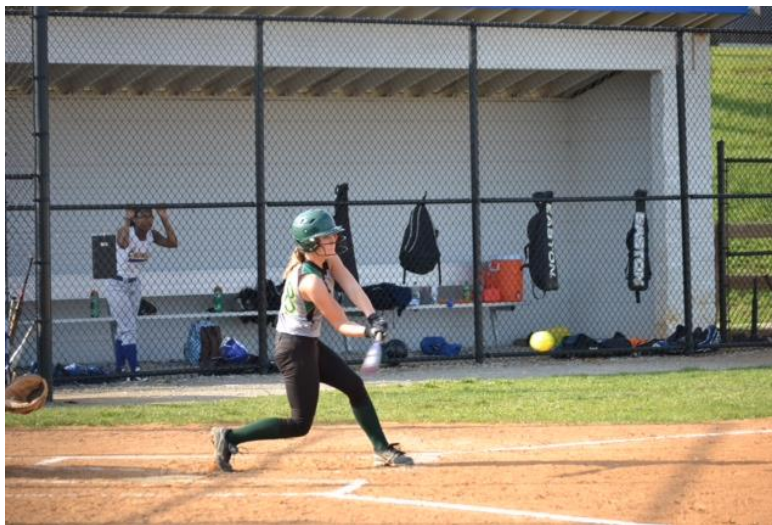
Northside again took it to William Fleming amassing 20 hits and 26 runs.

Morgan Bruce continued her home run pace hitting 2- 3 run home runs in the same inning giving her 11 home runs to date for the season. Madison Via and Taylor Carter had 3 hits each and Bailey Grubb, Ruthie Williams and Carly Altizer added 2 hits each.



Ruthie Williams and Morgan Bruce combined to throw a 1 hitter.

Northside went to 12-2 on the season and plays William Byrd at William Byrd on May 7 at 5 pm.



May 2, 2014

Vikings Win Over the Golden Eagles in 5

Northside 15 Staunton River 1

Winning Pitcher – Morgan Bruce – 5 k 1 bb 7 h



This was the Morgan Bruce show. Morgan picked up the win on the mound and also finished with 3 home runs, 2 – 2 run home runs and one Grand Slam home run totaling 8 RBIs.

Madison Via for the Vikings had a big day going 3-4 scoring 3 runs and getting 1 RBI. Taylor Carter was 2-3 with 2 RBIs.



Carly Altizer, Katelyn Bowden and Megan Hubbard all had 2 hits apiece.

Northside went to 11-2 and 6-0 in the conference. Northside plays again at William Fleming on Tuesday May 6 at 5 pm.



May 1, 2014

Vikings Tame the Wildcats

Northside 10 Rockbridge 0

Northside – Ruthie Williams 5 Innings 4 Hits 6 Strike Outs 0 Walks



Northside started quick and put up 2 runs in the first inning and 3 runs in the second inning to close the door on Rockbridge.

In the first inning Rockbridge walked Morgan Bruce to pitch to Bailey Grubb. Grubb made them pay as she hit a line shot to right field over the right fielder's head driving in 2 runs. In the 2nd inning Ruthie Williams hit a 2 RBI double for the Vikings. The Vikings put up 5 runs in the 5th inning to finish the game.



Ruthie Williams got the win for the Vikings pitching her best game of the year.

The Vikings moved to 10 – 2 overall and 6 -0 in district play. The Vikings will take on Staunton River at Northside at 5 pm on 5/2.



April 11, 2014

Northside Wins a Close One Against Lord Botetourt

Northside 4 Lord Botetourt 2

Winning Pitcher – Morgan Bruce – 7 Innings Pitches 6 Hits 0 Walks 5 Strike Outs

Northside held on to win a close Blue Ridge District game 4 to 2 over Lord Botetourt. The Vikings Madison Via went 2-2 with 2 runs scored. Ruthie Williams added 1 hit and 2 RBIs.

LB had a minor challenge in the 7th inning but Bailey Grubb, the Vikings catcher, made a heads up play getting the 3rd out at first, ending the game. LB left runners on 2nd and 3rd.



Northside went to 9-2 on the season, 4-0 in Conference 31 and plays William Byrd at William Byrd at 5 on Tues. April 15.

April 10, 2014

Northside Dominates Alleghany in Conference 31 Play

Northside 14 Alleghany 2



Winning Pitcher – Ruthie Williams - 5 Innings Pitched 4 Strike Outs 1 Walk 7 Hits

Northside started a big Conference 31 week with a solid win over Alleghany. They started big scoring 4 runs in the first and then scored in every inning of the game.

Madison Via went 3-3 with 1 RBI. Ruthie Williams went 3-4 with 3 RBIs, Morgan Bruce went 3-4 with a 3 run home run and 5 RBIs and Taylor Carter went 2-4 with 1 RBI.



Alleghany got potential runs on but could not get the key hits they needed.

Northside took its record to 8 -2 overall and 2-0 in the conference.





The Vikings are at home against Lord Botetourt on Fri April 11 at 5pm.

April 5, 2014

Vikings Take 3rd in Botetourt Bash

April 4th and 5th – Botetourt Bash at Botetourt Complex - Softball



In the first game against Blacksburg the Vikings took control in the 1st inning and never let up. Northside scored 2 runs in the 1st and 2nd inning and 6 runs in the sixth and 4 in the 5th inning. The Vikings put up 18 hits with Madison Via leading the way going 4 for 4 with 1 RBI. Morgan Bruce and Ruthie Williams added 3 hits apiece. Carly Altizer and Katelyn Bowden had 2 hits each and both played stellar defensive games. Ruthie Williams picked up the win on the mound.



In the second game the Vikings continued to apply the pressure beating Holston 7-4. Morgan Bruce had 2 home runs for the Vikings. Morgan Bruce also picked up the win on the mound pitching a complete game. Allie Barefoot, forced into action from the Vikings JV team, with an injury to Bailey Grubb, had a great debut. She had no passed balls and 2 singles and an RBI. The highlight of the game came from Taylor Carter. A ball hit by Holston had the appearance of being a home run, however Taylor crashed through the center field fence and kept the ball in the park. Clearly that play showed why Taylor was named to the AA all state team in 2013.

Even though Northside finished with no losses in the seeding rounds they did not get into the championship game. Northside advanced to the 3rd place game against Lord Botetourt. The Vikings started on a scoring tear going up by a score of 11-2. Due to a grand slam home run and a 2 run home run by LB they closed the gap to 11-10. Ruthie Williams picked up the win, but it was Morgan Bruce that came in relief and put a halt to the Botetourt run scoring.



Katelyn Bowden led the Vikings in hitting with 3 hits and an RBI. Ruthie Williams, Morgan Bruce, Madison Via and Taylor Carter had 2 hits' each.

Northside went to 7 – 2 on the season with their next game at Alleghany Tuesday April 8 at 5pm

April 2, 2014

Spartans Top the Vikings

Northside 3 Salem 4

Losing Pitcher – Ruthie Williams 7 Innings 4 Strike Outs 0 Walks 5 Hits



Northside took one on the nose with Salem putting down the Vikings 4-3. Northside left 10 runners on base as they could not get the key hits.

Ruthie Williams gave up one home run and 5 hits but pitched her overall best game of the year.

Northside got help from lead off Madison Via going 2 for 2 and a 2 run home run from Katelyn Bowden. Megan Hubbard added 2 hits and Ruthie Williams had a double and Morgan Stanley had 1 hit. The Vikings just could not get a hit when runners were in scoring position.



Northside went to 4-2 on the season and plays Blacksburg at the Botetourt Bash on April 4 at 6 pm. They also play Holston at 1pm on Saturday April 5 and another game either at 3 or 5pm on Saturday at The Botetourt Sports complex.

April 1, 2014

Vikings Hold off Staunton River

Northside 6 Staunton River 1

Morgan Bruce 4 Strike Outs 5 Walks 1 Hit 1 Run

Ruthie Williams 3 Innings 2 Hits 0 Runs 4 Strike Outs 0 Walks

Northside traveled to Staunton River in district play and came away with a win. The Vikings left 7 runners on base. Northside hit the ball hard but had trouble stringing runs together.

Morgan Bruce picked up the win, with Ruthie Williams pitching 3 strong innings in relief.

Taylor Carter led the Vikings with 3 hits.

The Vikings went to 4 – 1. Northside will play their next game on Wed April 2 at Salem.



March 28, 2014

Vikings Win Over Patrick Henry

Northside 16 Patrick Henry 0

Winning Pitcher – Ruthie Williams 5 inn 1 h 5 k 1 bb

Losing Pitcher – Stephanie Bauman



Northside and Patrick Henry played despite the threats of rain.

Ruthie Williams pitched a strong game and had a great day at the plate going 3 for 3 with 2 singles, a double, one RBI and 3 runs scored.



Northside amassed 20 hits with everyone getting into the act. Morgan Bruce went 4 for 4 with a home run, double and 4 RBIs. Madison Via went 3 for 4 with a home run and 4 RBIs.

Katelyn Bowden, Lindsey Spangler and Bailey Grubb all followed with 2 hits each.



Northside went to 3-1 on the season and plays Staunton River at SRHS on April 1 at 5 pm.

March 27, 2014

Northside Wins Rematch and Defeats Defending State Champion Cave Spring

Northside 9 Cave Spring 4

Winning Pitcher – Morgan Bruce 4 runs 1 Walk 8 Hits 2 Strikeouts

Losing Pitcher – Taylor Asimakopolis



Northside did not make errors as they did in the first game between the 2 schools and came away with a strong 9 – 4 victory. Northside got strong defensive performances from Katelyn Bowden at SS and Morgan Stanley at 2nd with a combined 18 put outs and assists.

The Vikings also got a good 7 innings from Morgan Bruce on the mound. While struggling with control all game she made great pitches when she needed to, keeping the Cave Spring bats at bay.



Bailey Grubb led the Viking offense going 3 for 4 with 3 RBIs and a run scored. Taylor Carter went 3 for 3 with 3 runs scored and Ruthie Williams went 2 for 3 with 2 RBIs and 2 runs scored. Morgan Bruce also hit her 2nd home run with a 2 run shot over the center field fence in the 1st inning.

Cave Spring tried to make a game in the 7th inning with a 3 run home run by Kylie Kent. However, NHS quickly got 3 outs after that to end the game.

Northside went to 2-1 on the season and plays Patrick Henry at Northside on March 28 at 5 pm.

March 22, 2014

Future Viking Softball Factory at Work!

Success of Northside Softball doesn't just happen, it begins with the Vikings giving back to the community that has supported them so generously through the years. Northside Varsity and JV teams worked in conjunction with North Roanoke Recreation Club this past weekend to host over 100 future Viking softball players at the NRRC Softball Clinic.



March 21, 2014

Cave Spring Slips by Northside

Northside 5 Cave Spring 6

Winning Pitcher – Taylor Asimakopolis

Losing Pitcher – Ruthie Williams 6 runs 2 bb 6 h 3 k

Northside and Cave Spring squared off early in the season, pitting 2 of the state hopefuls together. Both pitchers pitched strong games giving both teams an opportunity to win. Northside put up one run in the third inning, 3 in the 4th inning and 1 run in the seventh.

Cave Spring struggled to score putting up only one run in the fourth inning. However in the bottom of the sixth Cave Spring put together 4 hits coupled with 2 Viking errors and put 5 runs on the scoreboard.

Ruthie Williams and Taylor Carter both had 2 hits and Madison Via had 3 hits to lead Northside at the plate.

Northside went to 1-1 on the season and plays Cave Spring at Northside on March 26 at 5 pm.

March 20, 2014

Vikings Start Strong Against the Colonels

Northside pounded out 23 hits in running away with a lopsided 24-2 softball win over visiting William Fleming Thursday afternoon. The game was called after five innings due to the mercy rule.

Morgan Bruce had a home run in the third inning to lead the Vikings (1-0).

Dabnie Thompson was the losing pitcher for William Fleming (0-10). She also scored both runs for the Colonels taking a walk in the first inning and advancing to score on errors and in the third inning hitting a solo home run over the left field fence.

Ruthie Williams picked up the win inside the circle. She gave up one hit, walked one and struck out seven in three innings. Morgan Bruce pitched two innings in relief.

