

**By ROY ALLEN**

• *SCCC Sports Information Director*



The Seward County Lady Saints opened their 2011 home schedule Thursday afternoon at Lady Saints Field and pulled off a pair of one run wins over Northern Oklahoma, 8-7, 9-8 in front of a good home crowd. In game one Seward would get on the board first as they would make the Lady Mavs pay for a leadoff error and would cash in two runs in the third to take a 2-0 lead. They would get two more in the fourth inning on a 2-RBI double from Lynda Musick to go up 4-0 but Northern Oklahoma would tie the game in the top of the fifth at 4-4. A solo home run would put the Lady Mavs up 5-4 in the top of the 6th but Seward would respond with four runs in the bottom of the inning including Jill Grounds second 2-RBI single of the game to go ahead 8-5. In the seventh, Northern Oklahoma would make things interesting, scoring a pair of unearned runs and putting two runners on with two outs as they threatened to take the lead by Sydney Cicchetti would get a ground ball to get out of the mess and lock down the 8-7 win for Seward. Grounds would lead the way for the Seward offense going 2-for-4 with the four RBI's while Musick would set the table at the top, going 3-for-4 with a pair of RBIs and a run scored in the win.

In the back end of the double dip it was again Seward getting on the board first as they would get a run in the first and five in the second highlighted by a 2-RBI single from Musick followed by a 2-RBI double from Leah Sitter to make it 6-0 Lady Saints. The Lady Mavs would chip away with two in the top of the third and Seward would get one in the bottom of the inning to make it 7-2 Lady Saints.

Northern Oklahoma would break their bats out in the top of the fourth frame as they strung together four straight hits and got a clutch two out knock to score four runs and bring themselves to within one at 7-6. Each team would get a pair of runs in their next at bats and to the bottom of the fifth the score was 9-8 in favor of the Lady Saints.

After all of the offensive excitement in the first 4-½ innings, the final two would be rather uneventful as both teams would go without a hit and Seward would come away with the 9-8 win.

Breanna Diaz, Tiffany Santistevan, and Sitter all had two hits in the win for Seward while Musick, Sitter, and Grounds each had two RBIs. Blaire Taylor would pick up her first win as a Lady Saint, going all seven innings while striking out four and walking just two.

Seward moves to 3-1 overall on the young season and will be at home again on Saturday afternoon when they welcome the Beavers of Pratt to Lady Saint Field. Game one with Pratt will begin at 2 p.m. with game two to follow shortly.