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## Bruins handle A's at home

**By Jane White/Daily Sun sports editor**  
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In two earlier games this season against the Clarinda, Iowa, A's, the Beatrice Bruins baseball team split, winning on the road and losing at home.

Tuesday night, the Bruins defended their home turf, handing the A's an 8-4 loss at Christenson Field.

"It's always nice to beat Clarinda," Bruins manager Bob Steinkamp said. "This was a home game against some of the best competition we'll have, so I'm very pleased to win this game."

After a rough start, Steinkamp said the Bruins got "great" pitching from starter Shane Minks.

Minks gave up three straight singles to start the game.

Coupled with a fielder's choice, the A's took a 2-0 lead after half an inning.

After the first, however, Minks allowed just two more runs on five hits, giving up four runs and eight hits for the game. He hit one batter and struck out eight.

"Minks threw strikes and had good stuff," Steinkamp said. "He was in the low 90s."

Steinkamp said Minks has good "sink" on his fastball, which results in a lot of ground balls.

Minks, who plays for former Nebraska pitching coach Rob Childress at Texas A&M, did not walk a batter in seven complete innings of work.

"He (Minks) is a Rob Childress guy and Rob Childress hates walks," Steinkamp said. "He was outstanding."

With Minks forcing Clarinda to put the ball in play, Steinkamp said the Bruins defense did a good job of supporting their pitcher.

"We had a couple errors, but we also made some good plays," Steinkamp said.

Steinkamp said Texas outfielder Clint Stubbs ran down several balls in center field, which most outfielders "wouldn't have come close to catching."

Offensively, the Bruins showed good discipline at the plate Tuesday night, Steinkamp said.

"We have some guys who are really coming around," Steinkamp said.

Two new additions have also helped shore up the Bruins batting order.

Brodie Greene arrived from Texas A&M over the weekend and played his second game for the Bruins Tuesday night, while Nebraska's Craig Corriston also joined the lineup as the team's designated hitter.

"You can see what kind of hitter he (Green) is going to be as he had three line drive basehits," Steinkamp said. "He hit the ball very well."

Corriston is also a "quality hitter," Steinkamp said.

The Bruins offense responded to Clarinda's initial scoring effort in the top of the first in the bottom of the inning.

Joe Evans walked to lead off the inning for Beatrice and advanced to second on a groundout by Scott Gracey.

After a walk to Tyson Parks, both baserunners advanced on a double steal.

Brian Ruggiano walked to load the bases for Texas A&M teammate Greene.

Greene came through with a single, scoring both Evans and Parks and moving Ruggiano to third.

Ruggiano scored as Greene drew a throw from the Clarinda catcher as he stole second base.

After one inning, the Bruins led 3-2.

The Bruins added to their lead in the second inning.

With one out, Evans was hit by a pitch.

Scott Gracey singled on a hit-and-run play, advancing Evans to third.

A single by Parks scored Evans and moved Gracey to third base.

Kyle Lusson hit a sacrifice fly, which scored Gracey.

Ruggiano doubled, scoring Parks and putting the Bruins up 6-2.

Beatrice plated another run in the bottom of the third inning.

Greene led off with a single, stole second and advanced to third on an infield single by Corrison.

A sacrifice fly by Nick Wolfe scored Greene for a 7-2 Bruins advantage.

Clarinda scored one run in the top of the fourth inning on an error, two singles and a bases-loaded hit batter.

In the sixth inning, the A's made it a 7-4 contest on an error, a stolen base and a single.

The Bruins scored what would be the final run of the game in the bottom of the seventh inning with two outs. Ruggiano walked, stole second and third and scored on a single by Greene.

Greene led the Bruins offense with three singles.

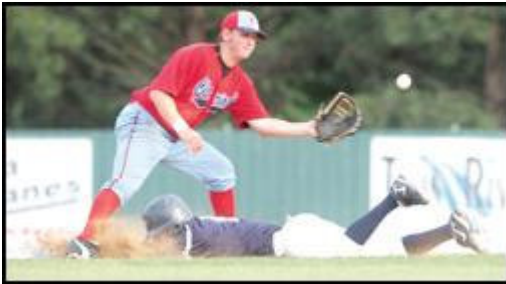
Ruggiano had a double, while Evans, Gracey, Parks, Lusson and Corrison added a single each.

Minks pitched the first seven innings with Randall Scott and Zach Herr each throwing an inning in relief.

Scott retired all three batters he faced in the eighth inning.

Herr gave up a single to start the ninth, but the runner was thrown out trying to steal second by Wolfe. He struck out the final two batters he faced.

Next action for the Bruins will be tonight (Wednesday) in Marysville, Kan., as they take on the Topeka, Kan., Golden Giants at 7 p.m.



Beatrice Bruins baserunner Brodie Greene steals second, sliding safely into the bag ahead of a throw from the Clarinda, Iowa, A's catcher during action Tuesday night at Christenson Field. Photo by Jane White/Daily Sun sports editor