

## Beatrice Daily Sun

### Bruins win home finale

By Jane White/Daily Sun sports editor  
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Beatrice's Bruins baseball team went out in style Tuesday night, bidding Christenson Field farewell with a pair of wins over the Clarinda, Iowa, A's.

The Bruins downed the A's, 7-1, in a regularly-scheduled contest after starting out the evening by earning a 9-8 win in a game suspended last Thursday due to a poweroutage at Christenson Field.

With the wins, the Bruins wrapped up their final home season in Beatrice.

Bruins manager Bob Steinkamp, who has been a part of the program since it started 40 years ago, has decided to retire and disband the team at the conclusion of this season.

"This is a great way to go out," Steinkamp said. "We ended up beating Clarinda all six games this year."

Clarinda has been the Bruins' biggest rivals for the past 40 years, Steinkamp said, so there's been a lot of history between the two teams.

Steinkamp said the final game was a "little sad," but added he believes he's doing the right thing in shutting down the program.

"I'm happy with my decision," Steinkamp said. "Hopefully, we'll finish strong and that will be the end of it."

The Bruins have six road games remaining in the 2009 season.

Beatrice will play at the Topeka, Kan., Golden Giants Wednesday and at Junction City, Kan., Thursday.

Friday, the Bruins will have a doubleheader in Springfield, Mo., against the Ozark Generals and Saturday the team will play a twinbill at Sedalia, Mo., against the Sluggers.

"These games are important games for league standings," Steinkamp said.

Action in the suspended game was pickup up where it was when the lights at Christenson Field went out last Thursday.

The Bruins were batting in the bottom of the 12th inning with the game tied at 8.

Tyson Parks was at the plate with a 2-0 count and two outs.

When the game resumed Tuesday, Parks grounded out, ending the 12th inning with the teams still tied.

In the top of the 13th inning, the A's advanced a runner to third, but were unable to score.

Beatrice was able to finish off the game in the bottom of the inning.

Tyler Farst walked with one out, advanced to second as Travis Parker reached on a bunt single and took third as Scott LeJeune walked.

Anthony Bemboom reached first on a fielder's choice, which retired Farst at the plate, but left the bases loaded.

Adam Smith was then hit by a pitch, forcing home Parker with the game-winning run.

Minks earned the win in the game, throwing the final inning.

Thursday's regularly-scheduled game was a pitcher's duel early with neither team scoring through 3 1/2 innings.

In the bottom of the fourth, though, the Bruins broke through with a single run.

Randall Thorpe walked, advanced to second as Farst grounded out and scored on a single by Parks.

The Bruins broke the game open in the bottom of the seventh inning with a five-run effort.

Ryan Morgan walked to lead off the inning.

A single by Kevin Lusson moved Bemboom, running for Morgan, to second.

Bemboom stole third and then scored on a single by Adam Bailey.

Lusson advanced to third on Bailey basehit.

LeJeune singled, scoring Lusson and moving Bailey to second.

With one out, Thorpe doubled to right-center, scoring Bailey and LeJeune.

Clarinda made a throw to the plate on LeJeune, allowing Thorpe to take third on the play. He completed his circuit of the bases as the ball rolled away from the catcher and he was able to sprint safely home.

The three-run double put Beatrice up 6-0.

In the eighth inning, the Bruins added a final run.

Lusson singled, advanced to second as Bailey reached on an error and scored on a double by Smith.

The A's scored their only run of the game in the top of the ninth inning on a solo home run.

Steinkamp said it was “great” to win the team’s final home contest.

“We did everything right,” Steinkamp said. “Pitching and defense were solid and we hit the ball pretty well after the fourth inning.”

Once the offense started rolling, Steinkamp said “everybody hit the ball pretty good.”

“We hit the ball hard,” Steinkamp said. “We didn’t have a home run tonight, but we had a lot of line-drive singles.”

Ryan Hughes earned the win for the Bruins, throwing the first three innings.

Sean Potter relieved Hughes, throwing 4 1/3 innings, with Minks closing out the game, throwing the final 1 2/3.

Lusson led the Beatrice offense with two singles, while Thorpe and Smith had a double each.

Adding a basehit apiece were Jordan Etier, Farst, Parks, Bailey and LeJeune.

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