

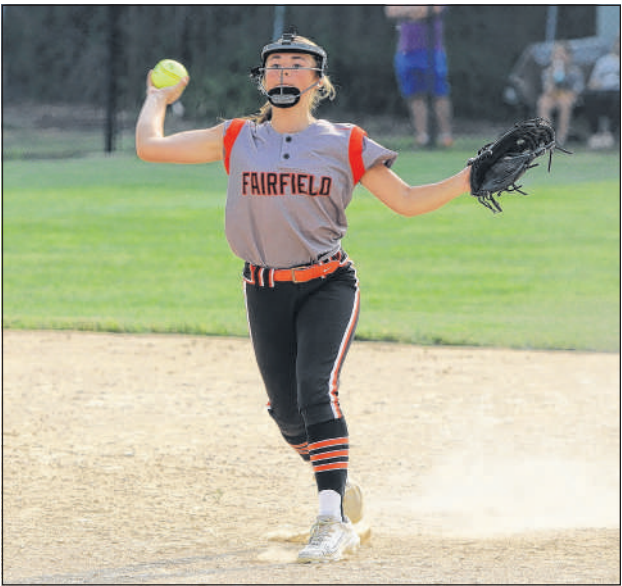
SPORTS



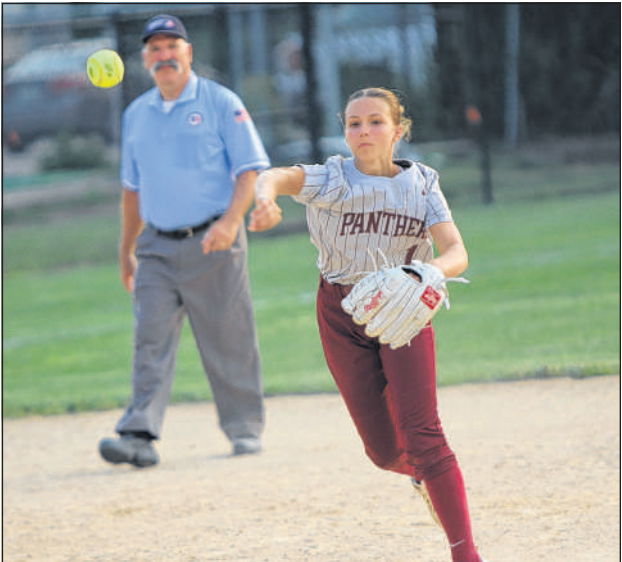
Fairfield softball sweeps Mt. Pleasant



Mt. Pleasant's Keagyn Coleman connects with a pitch against Fairfield on June 2, 2025. (Andy Krutsinger/The Union)



Fairfield shortstop Vanessa Kessel throws the ball to first base on June 2, 2025. (Andy Krutsinger/The Union)



Mt. Pleasant's Pru Callaway throws a runner out on June 2, 2025. (Andy Krutsinger/The Union)

By Andy Krutsinger,
Southeast Iowa Union

MT. PLEASANT — Day 1 of the Southeast Conference softball season came with two big road wins for the Fairfield Trojans.

Fairfield went into Mapleleaf Athletic Complex in Mt. Pleasant looking for a couple SEC wins, and that's exactly what they got in a conference-opening doubleheader. The Trojans won Game 1, 20-9, and Game 2, 9-1.

Fairfield scored eight runs in the first three innings of Game 1, but still found themselves in

a one-run hole after the fourth. Mt. Pleasant had rallied back from a five-run deficit to lead 9-8.

Fairfield's offense just kept slugging away, putting up an eight-run fifth to take the lead for good, then scoring four more in the sixth to put the Panthers away.

The Trojans were led by Leah Helmick, who finished the game 3-for-5 with two doubles and six RBIs.

"I have a lot of confidence," Helmick said. "And a lot of confidence in my teammates when they're getting on base."

Lilly Bergren finished 4-for-5 with two RBIs.

Laney Norris was 2-for-3 with three RBIs. Olivia Hollander was 3-for-5 with two RBIs. Vanessa Kessel knocked two in, and Aubrey Ryan picked up the win in the circle.

Mt. Pleasant's Izzy Sloat was 3-for-4 with two RBIs. Parker Coleman and Jolynn Martin each had two hits and two RBIs, and Keagyn Coleman finished with three hits and an RBI.

Game 2 was dominated by Helmick's pitching. After a wild opener, Helmick gave up just one earned run on one Panther hit in a five-inning complete game start.

Hollander was 3-for-

3 with a triple and two RBIs. Bergren had another big game, going 3-for-4 with a triple. Helmick and Faith Jones each knocked in two runs.

"I'm not gonna complain about the offense," said Fairfield head coach Bob Bradfield after the wins. "Our defense isn't looking very good, and we've got to get better."

Mt. Pleasant's lone hit was a single by Saige Burchett. Keagyn Coleman had the team's lone RBI.

The win moved Fairfield to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in conference play. Mt. Pleasant is now 0-6, and 0-2.



Fairfield's Faith Jones throws the ball across the diamond to get an out in Mt. Pleasant on June 2, 2025. (Andy Krutsinger/The Union)

Trojan bats explode in MP

By Andy Krutsinger,
Southeast Iowa Union

MT. PLEASANT — From the moment the Fairfield baseball team stepped to the plate on Monday night in Mt. Pleasant, the ball was flying off the bat.

Fairfield scored eight runs in its first at-bat, and 34 overall in a Southeast Conference doubleheader. The Trojans took Game 1, 20-7, and Game 2, 14-8.

"Everybody is lifting each other up," said Trojan leadoff hitter Dayson Workman. "The dugout is getting excited, and once the first guy gets going, we just keep going."

Fairfield held as much as a 12-run lead early on. The Trojans were ahead of the Panthers 12-0 midway through the second inning, but Mt. Pleasant cut the lead all the way down to five, at 12-7 by the end of the fourth inning.

The Trojans were able to buckle down and close things out in their next two at-bats. Fairfield scored three in the fifth and five in the sixth to end things one inning early.

"Hitting is contagious," said Fairfield head coach Josh Allison. "When you start getting a few, they build confidence throughout the lineup."

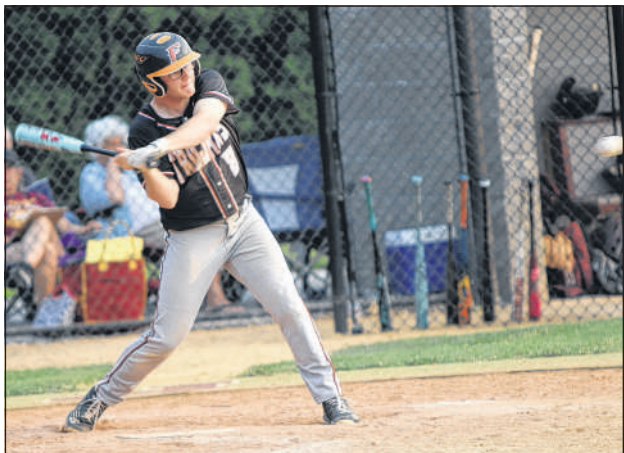


Fairfield's Zandrik Allison fields the ball while Mt. Pleasant's Zach Newton slides into home on June 2, 2025. (Andy Krutsinger/The Union)

Ethan Bisgard went deep in the game, finishing 3-for-4 with a home run and five RBIs. Workman had a huge game as well, going 4-for-5 with three doubles and two RBIs.

Voss Richardson had three hits in the game for the Trojans, and also picked up the win in the circle, giving up seven unearned runs over 4.1 innings. Dain Burkhart, Aiden Westercamp and Archer Kreuter each had two RBIs.

Mt. Pleasant had seven hits in the loss. Grayson Lowery led the way, doing 2-for-4, and Jaymisen Rich finished 1-for-4 with



Fairfield's Dain Burkhart looks in a pitch on June 2, 2025, in Mt. Pleasant. (Andy Krutsinger/The Union)

three RBIs.

Panther starting pitcher Zach Newton settled

the Trojan offense down temporarily in Game 2. Mt. Pleasant led 3-0 after

the first inning, and took a 5-4 advantage after an action-packed third.

Fairfield took advantage of some Panther miscues in the top of the fifth to put up five more runs. Mt. Pleasant responded with two, to cut the Trojan lead to 9-7, but the Panthers couldn't get any closer.

"If you score 15 runs in a doubleheader, you don't expect to give up 34," said Panther head coach Brent Broeker. "I thought we hit the ball

well, but our defense was atrocious."

Dain Burkhart went 4-for-5 with an RBI in Game 2, and also scooped up a win on the mound, giving up eight runs (two earned) over 6.1 innings.

Cason Miller had a triple and three RBIs for the Trojans at the plate. Workman finished 3-for-5 with a double and two RBIs.

Fairfield moved to 5-3 overall and 2-0 in SEC player with the win.

Libertyville Savings Bank is now taking sealed bids for this 2016 Ford F-150 XLT Silver with Sport Appearance Pkg. Truck has 164,XXX miles.

Bids must be received at 2000 W. Jefferson, Fairfield, Iowa, prior to June 26 at 12:00pm. CST.

Truck can be viewed at 20390 Highway 1, Keosauqua, Iowa 52565.