

SB-L GIRLS SOFTBALL WEEK #7

Sergeant Bluff-Luton 9, Spencer 0 (5 Innings)

Addison Wheeler led the offensive charge for Sergeant Bluff-Luton, collecting two doubles and an RBI. Emma Crooks earned the win in the circle, supported by appearances from Jalee Jacobson and Brooklyn Ocker. Crooks pitched three innings, allowing just two hits.

The Warriors came out strong, scoring six runs in the top of the first. Wheeler opened the game with a double, followed by consecutive walks to load the bases. Ocker was hit by a pitch to bring in the first run, and Crooks singled to make it 2-0. Joleigh Hensley walked to force in another run, and Makena Nelson followed with a two-run single. Wheeler capped the inning with a sacrifice fly, making it 6-0.

SBL added a run in the third when Hensley reached on an error and later scored on a Bailey Ball groundout.

In the fifth, the Warriors sealed the run-rule victory with two more runs. Hensley singled and scored on a Chloe Book single, and Book came home on Wheeler's second double of the game.

Sergeant Bluff-Luton 7, Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson 4

On Senior Night, the Warriors secured a sweep and clinched a share of their fourth consecutive MRAC title.

Four SBL players recorded multiple hits: Joleigh Hensley and Brooklyn Ocker each had three singles, while Bailey Moreau and Makenna Nelson added two hits apiece. Moreau's hits included a double and her seventh home run of the season.

SBL got on the board in the first when Addison Wheeler reached on a dropped fly ball and scored on a Lily Delperdang fielder's choice.

The Warriors added three more in the second. Nelson scored on a wild pitch, Ball crossed the plate on Wheeler's sacrifice fly, and Moreau doubled in Chloe Book.

In the third, base hits from Ocker, Hensley, and Nelson produced another run.

Moreau extended the lead to 6-2 in the fourth with a solo home run.

SBL's final run came in the fifth, as singles from Hensley, Nelson, and Book plated another. TJ added a run in the seventh, but the Warriors held on for the 7-4 win.

Ocker earned the complete-game win, allowing six hits and striking out three.

Sergeant Bluff-Luton 18, Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson 0 (4 Innings)



The Warriors exploded for 13 runs in the first inning to dominate the nightcap and complete the MRAC doubleheader sweep.

Brooklyn Ocker led the offense with three singles and three RBIs. Wheeler (2 RBIs), Crooks (1 RBI), and Book (1 RBI) each added two hits.

SBL racked up 10 hits in the first inning alone.

Ocker, Crooks, Book, and Nelson each had RBI singles the first time through the line-up. Moreau and Wheeler followed with RBI doubles, and Delperdang launched a home run to make it 11-0. Hensley added an RBI double, and Van Otterloo scored on a wild pitch to make it 13-0 after one.

The Warriors tacked on five more in the third. Faith Zeleny doubled and scored on a Delany Griebel RBI single. Van Otterloo added an RBI on a fielder's choice, followed by three straight RBI singles from Panowics, Ocker, and Crooks to make it 18-0.

Crooks picked up her 16th win of the season, pitching three innings and allowing just two hits.

SBL finished the MRAC schedule tied for first with Sioux City East at 23-5, and ended the regular season 32-6 overall.

Sergeant Bluff-Luton 4, Le Mars 2 (Regional Semi-Final)

In a tense regional semi-final, the Warriors edged Le Mars to keep their season alive.

Le Mars struck first, scoring in the top of the first on a throwing error. SBL responded in the bottom half when Wheeler doubled and scored on an Ocker double.

The game remained tied until the fifth, when Crooks singled up the middle to score Bailey Moreau and give SBL a 2-1 lead.

The Warriors added two more in the sixth. Nelson singled and advanced on a sacrifice bunt by Ball. A throwing error allowed Nelson to score, and Book followed with a double off the top of the fence. She later scored on a Moreau single to make it 4-1.

Hensley and Wheeler each had two hits in the game.

Ocker earned her 16th win of the season, striking out four and allowing five hits.



Addison Wheeler gets the nod for a go-ahead run to 2nd. The SB-L girls won 4-2 to advance to the substate finals..jpg



Lily Delperdang of the Warriors tags 2nd way ahead of the throw vs. Le Mars, Saturday. (Photo Wayne Dominowski).

On the LEGAL SIDE

New Iowa Law Prohibits Courts From Requiring Divorced Parents to Pay College Expenses

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(SBA) - Anyone with a child in college or who has attended college themselves knows how expensive the cost is. For the 2024-2025 academic year, the average tuition and fees of in-state public Iowa colleges was \$10,669. Public in-state Iowa college tuition & fees are higher than the 2025 national average of \$9,118 per academic year. For decades, Iowa law had a somewhat unique law which allowed courts to require divorced parents to pay for part of their children's college education. Having practiced family law for more than eighteen years, I've seen numerous cases where clients go through a divorce case, only to be hauled back into the courtroom years later when their child reaches their senior year of high school. Either parent could petition the Court to require one or both parents to pay up to one-third of the child's state college tuition. This generally included tuition, room and board, books, and related expenses.

The amount of a court-ordered post-secondary education subsidy in Iowa was based upon: (1) the reasonable cost of attending an in-state public institution for study leading to an undergraduate degree and reasonable costs for necessary post-secondary education expenses; and (2) the child's financial resources including the availability of financial aid and the child's ability to work while attending school. The initial rationale of this law was to ensure children of divorced parents were not disadvantaged in their educational opportunities compared to children from intact families.

For years, the potential duty of paying up to one-third of a child's post-secondary education impacted how divorcing parents approached property settlements and custody arrangements, as they needed to consider potential future expenses once the child support obligation ended. However, this requirement is finally coming to an end. The new Iowa law addresses a

long-standing criticism that the previous law created an inequitable situation: only divorced parents faced court-ordered college expense obligations, while married parents did not have this legal responsibility. This was a controversial law which treated children of divorced parents differently from married couples, who could freely decide whether and how much to contribute to their child's college education.

Effective July 1, 2025, divorced parents will have the same discretion as other parents to decide whether to pay toward their child's post-secondary education. Governor Reynolds signed Senate File 513 into law on May 6, 2025. The new law completely eliminates the court's option to order postsecondary education subsidies in divorce cases. These changes will apply to any court order entered or pending on or after July 1, 2025. Significantly, the new law will not affect court orders entered before July 1st. This means that if your divorce decree was filed before July 1, 2025, and includes provisions for college education subsidies, these obligations remain in force.

Of course, parents can still voluntarily enter into legally binding contracts as part of their divorce or child custody case which require one or both parties to establish a college savings fund for a child or contribute to a 529 plan, for example. Some individuals may see this new law as a potential disadvantage to children of divorced parents. Others will view these changes as correcting an injustice of how the prior law treated various family structures. Regardless of one's perspective on the policy itself, divorce attorneys and their clients will need to adapt to this new legal landscape in the State of Iowa.

The information contained above is for informational purposes only, and is not legal advice or a substitute for legal counsel. You should not act or rely upon this information.

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