

Bad day

Raiders sloppy in loss to N. Allegheny

By Derek Pyda

Eagle Staff Writer

JACKSON TWP — For the better part of two decades, George Trew has been the head coach of Seneca Valley's softball team. He knows how good North Allegheny is year in and year out and the kind of play it takes to defeat the Tigers.

He didn't see it Tuesday afternoon.

Four errors and four wild pitches doused the Raiders' chances in a 5-1 loss to the Tigers at Raider Field.

The teams entered the game tied atop the Section 3-6A standings with identical 3-0 records.

"That wasn't pretty," Trew said following the contest. "We didn't play well. It was a bad day all around."

Both starting pitchers — NA's Brooke Serbin and Seneca's Claire Zimmerman looked strong early as the game remained scoreless through two innings. The Tigers, however, plated

three runs in the top of the third frame to take control.

With one out, Zimmerman walked Maddy DeRubbo, who advanced to third base on Bri McDonough's base hit. DeRubbo scored on a wild pitch, McDonough came home on Serbin's single and, following an error, Anna Pilotta's sacrifice fly scored another run.

"When that happens, you have to take advantage of it," said NA coach Rick Meister of the Raider mistakes. "It's part of athletics."

Seneca seemed poised to fire right back with a big inning of their own in the bottom of the third.

A pair of singles from Maddison Hans and Julia Ehrman to begin the inning were followed by Morgan Aloi's groundout that put runners at second and third. But Hans was thrown out at home plate on a grounder off the bat of Mandy Magill.

SV (6-3, 3-1) salvaged one run when Elayna Nagy's single scored Ehrman, but Serbin

stranded runners at first and second when Karli Hacker's flyout ended the inning.

"That was huge," said Meister. "It took Seneca Valley out of their rally and kept momentum on our side."

The only other runs in the game were scored by the Tigers (4-1, 4-0) in the top of the fifth. NA managed just one hit in the inning, but a throwing error and two wild pitches allowed it to take a 5-1 lead.

"The wild pitches, you just can't have that," said Trew. "We are usually a pretty good team in the field. We're averaging about an error per game, so for us to have four in one game, that's not normal for us."

Zimmerman allowed only three hits in the game, Serbin just five. Both pitchers struck out one and walked one in seven innings.

Due to inclement weather, North Allegheny has already had six games postponed this season.

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“What I like so far is that when we have played, the girls have been ready,” he said. “That’s all you can

ask for.

“We know this section well and don’t take anything for granted.”

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| North Allegheny | 003 | 020 | 0 — 5 | 3 | 0 |
| Seneca Valley | 001 | 000 | 0 — 1 | 5 | 4 |

W: Brooke Serbin 7 IP (1K, 1BB). L: Claire Zimmerman 7 IP (1K, 1BB).

North Allegheny (4-1, 4-0): Brooke Serbin 1B R RBI, Anna Pilotta RBI, Maddy DeRubbo 1B 2R, Bri McDonough 1B 2R

Seneca Valley (6-3, 3-1): Mandy Magill 1B, Elayna Nagy 1B RBI, Maddie Schultz 1B, Maddison Hans 1B, Julia Ehrman 1B R