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Charlevoix County News

Section B

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The Division 3 All-Star Red Team.

Boyne City duo finishes high school softball careers together at the MHSSCA All-Star game

MOUNT PLEASANT, MI – Rambler players Katie Hoth and Grace Wells collected several positive memories from the Division 3 MHSSCA All-Star Game on Wednesday, July 18.

Playing for the D-3 Red Team, the pair laced up the cleats together for the final time, as each player performed well, making plays

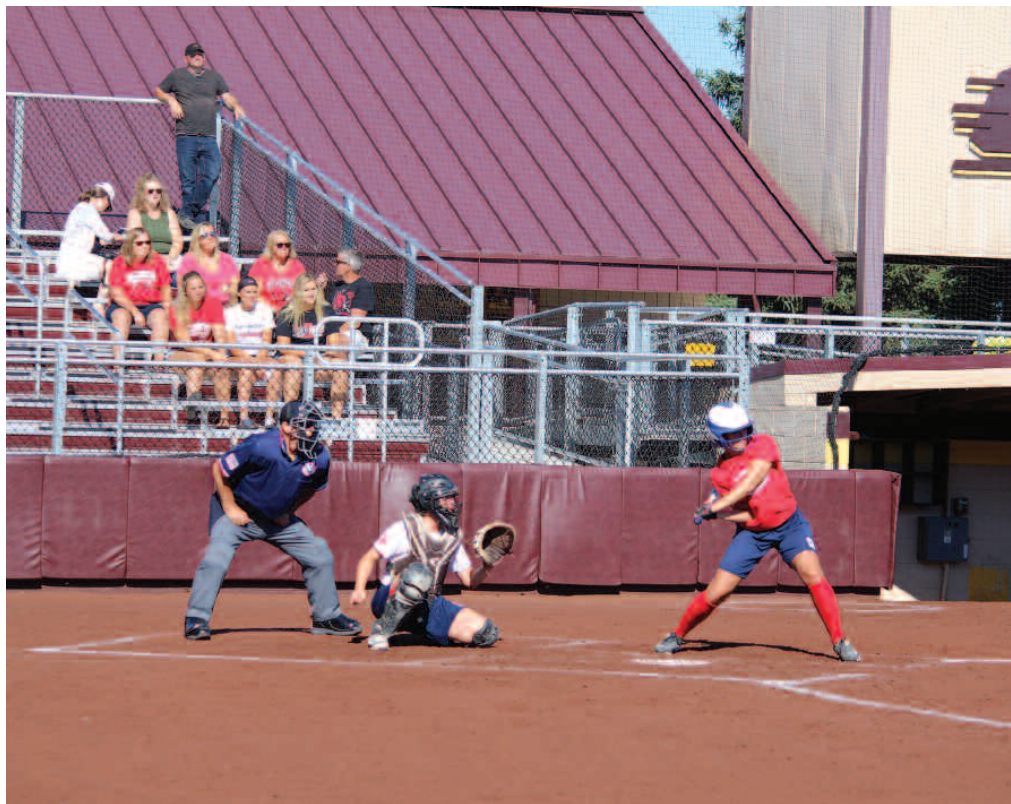
at the level they expected before they fell the White Team at Central Michigan University's Margo Jonker Stadium.

Hoth played outstanding defense for the Red Team, recording five putouts in the outfield, and by her standards, a subpar day at the plate, finishing 0-for-3.

"I kind of went into the



Boyne City's Katie Hoth takes a rip at this pitch during the Division 3 All-Star game at CMU.



Grace Wells of Boyne City waits on her pitch during the Division 3 All-Star game.

game maybe too relaxed. For me that's super uncommon because I'm usually a nervous wreck but I told myself like "hey you have nothing to lose, you're not here to impress anyone, you've had a good run, this is it," Hoth said. "With that being said I didn't play how I would have liked, but I had such a good time that isn't what I'll remember."

"This was the coolest experience of my high school career. Being able to play with girls at such a high level was super eye opening and humbling," Katie added. "The best way I can describe the connection all of us girls had is feeling like we're all



Katie Hoth of Boyne City makes a shoestring grab of this fly ball.

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ALL-STAR FROM PG. 1B

the same and I've known them my whole life. The minute I walked into my dorm to meet my roommates one of them asked if I happened to bring a speaker with me. I felt so at home in that moment. The whole team was on the same page for the 24 hours I spent with them. We listened to the same kinds of music, enjoyed the same activities, loved the same kinds of snacks, shared similar stories of what our life is like at home. I could go on and on about the connection we all shared aside from the common love for the game."

When asked about if there were any moments or highlights of the days events, she responded, "I'm not sure if there was one moment that truly stuck out as a highlight because the entire experience was a highlight for me. However, one moment that I recall distinctly as an individual is getting up to bat my first time and my neighbor (DeAnn Spaay), her daughter (Whitney Skop) and her grandson yelling my name. He's 5 years old and has been a fan of mine since he was big enough to walk. To me that was super special to turn around and see them sitting behind my family and friends who all made the drive to support me in one last "high school" game."

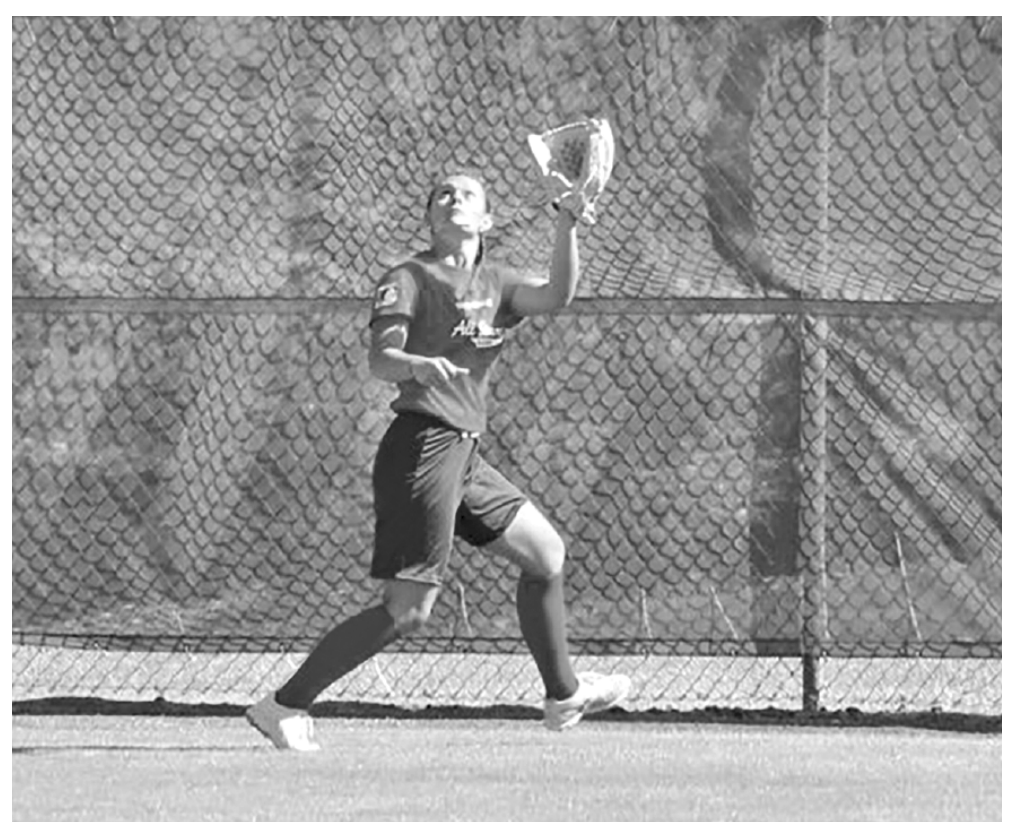
Wells saw time in the in-field and couldn't be reached for comment.

The White Team would defeat the Red by a score of 15-8.



ABOVE: Boyne City's Grace Wells gathers this pop fly.

RIGHT: Racing under a fly ball is Katie Hoth of Boyne City.



Northern Michigan Outdoors

BY PATRICK BEVIER

The warm, sunny weather this summer has made possible many opportunities to snap those camera shutters. Here are some captioned, camera conquests:



This Houghton Lake bullfrog appeared in front of me almost as if to say, "I'm ready for my close up!" Photo by Patrick Bevier



This Houghton Lake bullfrog appeared in front of me almost as if to say, "I'm ready for my close up!" Photo by Patrick Bevier



Showing off a splendid bunch of Northwest Michigan's most famous fruit, sweet cherries, is 15-year-old, Aiden Wisner, of Wolverine. Besides a banner crop of sweet cherries Michigan leads the nation in the production of blueberries and red tart cherries. Photo by Patrick Bevier



Two-year-old Lola Burkee, of Petoskey, had a blast playing at the Crooked Lake beach in Conway with mom Karissa. Besides providing fun for beach-lovers, Crooked Lake is at the head of the Inland Waterway. It's also one of the most popular fishing lakes in the region boasting excellent numbers of walleye, pike, perch, and bass. Photo by Patrick Bevier

