GATORS SOFTBALL LOOKS TO RELOAD

Coming off consecutive state tournament appearances the BGMR Gators softball program will be looking to reload in 2012 and make another run at a section championship. The Gators are coming of a season in which they went 22-5 but took a disappointing two losses at the state tournament. BGMR took huge hits to their lineup due to graduation as the Gators lost their number one, three, four and five hitters. Lost to graduation were All-State player Erin Efta, Second Team All-State player Haley Price, All Conference player Mikaela Janicke, leadoff hitter Alissa Olson and utility player Chelsea Jacobson. Most teams would say they are in a rebuilding mode after suffering such huge losses to their line-up. The Gators however want to reload as they have several younger players who are jumping at the chance to get some varsity playing time. The parity in Section 8A softball continues to grow and whatever team puts their game together at the right time will be the team that advances come tournament time.

The Gators will be coached by Kent Christian who is in his seventeenth year and assisted by David Blazek and Kent Janicke. The Gators have 39 players in grades 7-12 who have been battling for playing time. Because of this there have been some hotly contested battles for every spot in the line-up. The Gator coaching staff will take a long look at each position as the regular season begins as there will be several untested players at key positions. Here is a position by position look at the Gators.

FIRST BASE: The Gators return senior Lynsi Emery to man first base. Emery had a solid junior campaign hitting .419 while blasting 2 home runs. Emery also provides solid leadership and experience to a rather young Gator team. There is a battle for the backup first basemen position. Sophomore Katie Langaas and Paige Taggart and freshmen Alyssa Wahl and Madison Truscinski have all been working out at first. Langaas has the most experience but is untested offensively. Taggert has shown offensive promise but lacks big game experience. Wahl and Truscinski both have talent but will need to commit themselves to becoming the best softball players they can be in order to see varsity time. Another potential backup to Emery is senior Kaitlynn Wilson. Wilson swings the bat with authority and will be counted on to carry a big load for the Gators. Wilson however will be looked at to man one of the outfield spots.

SECOND BASE: Gone is Mikaela Janicke who manned second base the past five years for the Gators. Janicke's experience and sound glove will be sorely missed. After having an outstanding summer Jaeden Blawat has the inside track for starting at second. Blawat is new to the position but is learning everyday and showed during the summer she can hit the ball. Sophomore Tori Mekash is perhaps the best defensive second baseman and will push Blawat for the starting spot. Mekash has to improve offensively to earn a starting spot. Several other younger Gators could enter into the mix. 8th grader Emily Anderson has been looking strong in preseason practice and freshman Molly Janicke has also improved a great deal. Replacing a five year starter obviously is a concern for the Gator coaching staff.

SHORTSTOP: The Gators lost another five year starter at short in Alissa Olson. Olson was a calming influence for the Gators and her athleticism will be missed. Junior, Bailey Bergeron has been patiently waiting her turn and the time has come. Bergeron is another good athlete who has to adapt to the speed of varsity softball. Bergeron will need to show a good glove at the crucial shortstop position and her hitting will need to improve. One thing is for certain and that is the work ethic and competitiveness of Bergeron is second to none. Also pushing for time at short is freshman Aunica Novacek. Novacek is a good athlete who has passion for the game. She also showed that she could hit faster pitching this past summer. Emily Anderson and Morgan Anderson could also enter into the mix if need be.

THIRD BASE: When she is not pitching, Tylynn McKeever is the Gator's starting third base person. McKeever is a pit bull at the corner spot and plays it as well as anyone. McKeever batted .373 last season and continued improvement in this area will be key to the Gators success. Backing up McKeever will be sophomore Lyndsey Anderson and senior Benita Novacek. Anderson is a hard-

nosed played who plays with a relentless attitude. Offensively Anderson shows some pop but needs to become more consistent. Novacek knows the game well but playing third will be a new experience. Novacek must show improvement with her bat as she is capable of being an offensive threat but has not shown it yet. Morgan Anderson could also see time at the hot corner if needed.
OUTFIELD: BGMR lost second team All-State player Haley Price and reserve Chelsea Jacobson to graduation. Price was a beast in the outfield and the Gators will have a tough time filling her shoes. Returning in the outfield is senior Janna Hall. Hall is a great athlete who can play anywhere on the diamond. The Gators will count on her to man centerfield and be a strong influence on the other Gator outfielders. Novacek has the inside track to start in leftfield. Again, Novacek gives the Gators an athletic presence in the outfield. Wilson will be looked at in right field. Wilson's bat is what is needed most and hopefully she will show some improvement with her outfield glove. Also vying for some time in the outfield will be senior Nicole Peterson and sophomore Katie Howell. Peterson has base running experience in big games but is untested both offensively and defensively. Howell is a good athlete but needs to become more consistent both offensively and defensively. Senior, Janica Stewart has come as far as any Gator player in regards to developing her skills. Stewart however looks to be a situational player for the Gators. Cody Rasmusson also is an athletic person who needs to gain more experience before seeing varsity time. Kelli Pernow and Nadja Melby are also athletic but they too need to gain experience at the J.V. level. The Anderson girls (Emily and Morgan) and Molly Janicke could also fight for some time if the Gators see that the job is not being done.
CATCHER: Novacek and Lyndsey Anderson will carry a bulk of the Gator catching duties. Novacek is a three year starter and is a great defensive catcher. Anderson has a huge upside but has to get used to calling a game and learning her pitchers. Freshman Corinn Balstad has also looked good in the preseason. Balstad has the athleticism to play a variety of spots which will aid her when it comes to trying to make the varsity team.
PITCHER: In fast-pitch softball a team is only as good as its pitching. The Gators lost All-State Player Efta who was the horse of the staff. Efta is the career hits leader for the Gators and her presence on the mound gave the Gators a lot of confidence. BGMR does return McKeever who has worked endlessly at trying to develop herself and Novacek who also had a nice summer. Also vying for time will be Bergeron, Taggart, Novacek and Langaas. What the Gators might lack in quality they make up for in quantity and this is an added bonus that any team would die for.

Section 8A Softball is becoming one of the most competitive softball sections in the state. Many teams will be looking to knock off the two time defending section champion Gators. The Gators have other ideas as they look for a repeat. BGMR might face some early season growing pains but they hope to be at their best and play at their best when tournament time comes around. The coaches have stressed a positive, hard working and fun atmosphere during spring training and the Gator girls have responded well. GATOR NATION needs to come out and watch this team as the season progresses. The Gator softball team is a hard working, hard nosed group who realizes the tradition that has been established with the softball program. Because of this they want to continue the winning ways and become the best team that they can be. The BGMR Softball Program would also like to take this time to invite you to view their website.
The address is: http://www.middleriver.k12.mn.us//Domain/87
This site will give you an inside view to the Gator program and current record holders, pictures, game schedule and other information. A person can also access the site by going to the GMR school website and clicking on activities and selecting softball.
Remember "GATORS SOFTBALL, WE DON'T REBUILD WE RELOAD!"

GATOR GIRLS WIN OPENER

The BGMR Girls Softball Team won their season opener with an impressive 11-2 victory over friendly rival Norman County East-Ulen Hitterdal. The Gators used an explosive first inning scoring 5 runs and did not look back in route to the victory. Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek combined with reliever Katie Langaas to limit the Titans to 7 hits and 2 runs with Novacek picking up the victory.

The Gator's lead-off hitter Aunica Novacek started the season off on the right foot for the Gators as she singled up the middle. Janna Hall than tripled to scored Novacek. After Lynsi Emery popped out Kaitlynn Wilson doubled to scored Hall. Tylynn McKeever reached on an error that also scored Wilson. McKeever and Novacek later scored on a single by Lyndsey Anderson.

The Gators pushed 2 more runs across in the third. Wilson singled and scored on a single by McKeever. After a ground out that moved McKeever to third Novacek helped her own cause laying down a perfect suicide squeeze bunt.

The Titans got on the board in the third with 3 consecutive singles all occurring with two outs. BGMR however put the game out of reach with two runs each in the sixth and seventh inning.

BGMR will now have some time off before their next game. The Gators are taking part in their conference scrimmage today in Thief River Falls. The scrimmage begins at 4:00 and the Gators will face 3 different teams. The Gators are also hoping to move up one of their games as the weather looks favorable this week. Stay tuned to any Gator Softball updates.

GATOR GIRLS PICK UP SECOND WIN OF SEASON

The BGMR Gators Girls Softball Team had their home opener on Thursday and although they got off to a slow defensive start the Gators managed to put early miscues behind them and rumbled to a 19-3 win over the Red Lake County Central Mustangs.

The Gators were able to wiggle out of a first inning jam as the Mustangs put their first two batters on base via hit batter and Gator error. BGMR then wasted little time offensively as they jumped on the Mustangs with 2 runs in the first, 1 in the second, 5 in the third, and blew the game open with an 11 run fourth.

Offensively Lynsi Emery and Bailey Bergeron had solid days. Emery went 2 for 3 and had 1 run batted in. Bergeron was also 2 for 3 with 3 rbi's. Lyndsey Anderson also collected a hit and scored 3 times.

Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever went 4 innings giving up 1 run and 1 hit. McKeever struck out 5 and walked 3. Freshman Aunica Novacek made her varsity pitching debut and after shaking off some early nerves was solid. Novacek pitched 1 inning and walked 3, hit 2 batters, and got her first career strikeout. She did give up 2 runs but both were unearned.

BGMR will start getting into the heart of their schedule. BGMR will face the Northern Freeze on Tuesday and the Rams from Roseau on Thursday. The weather looks a bit cooler but the Gator girls are getting better with each game. It should be an entertaining week of softball as the Gators will also host a junior high tournament next Saturday with games starting at 11:00. The Gators J.V. will travel to Warroad for a tournament. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and Gator Nation will be able to enjoy some fastpitch softball action.

GATORS HANDLE FREEZE

The BGMR Gator Softball Team was able to overcome a slow start in route to a 13-3, five inning victory over the Northern Freeze. The Freeze, who have a young and talented line-up, were playing their first game of the year and defensively committed some errors that the Gators took advantage off. After a shaky top of the first BGMR was able to settle in and played the way they are capable.

The Freeze came out clicking in the top of the first when the scored 2 runs on a pair of doubles and a Gator error. BGMR avoided further damage as the Gators managed to wiggle out of a bases loaded jam. The lead was short lived for the Freeze as BGMR scored 4 times in their half of the first. The Gators were aided a great deal by a couple of Freeze errors. The Freeze answered with 1 run in the second but BGMR would go on to score 3 more times in the second and 4 times in the fourth. The Gators were able to end the game via 10 run rule with 2 runs in the fifth.

Offensively the Freeze were led by Carly Safranski who had 2 hits and scored twice. Haley Kujava also had 2 hits for the Freeze. The Gators were paced by TyLynn McKeever and Jaeden Blawat who each had two hits. Lyndsey Anderson had a hit and 2 RBI's for the Gators. McKeever and Janna Hall scored 3 times each for BGMR. Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek pitched a solid game going all 5 innings. Novacek struck out 3 and walked 2 to push her record to 2-0.

The Gators will have a day of practice and will be back home again on Thursday when the rival Roseau Rams come to Gator Field. The Gators hope to continue to improve their play and a Ram team will be looking to knock off the Gators. Come on out and enjoy the nice weather. Have supper at the Gator Concession Stand and try the new Joel's Gator Burger. Over a pound of beef and plenty of cheese that will fill almost anyones tummy.

GATOR GIRLS SEND HUGE CROWD HOME HAPPY

With a huge crowd on hand the BGMR Gator Softball Team capitalized on some Roseau Ram miscues and raced to a 10-0 home win. The Rams were their own worst enemy as BGMR turned a costly two out error by the Rams into a 7 run second inning. BGMR later tacked on 3 runs in the fourth and held the Rams in the fifth to end the game because of the 10 run rule.

Although Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever struggled with her control early, McKeever buckled down and allowed only 2 hits for the game. With the win McKeever pushed her record to 2-0. Ram starting pitcher Emily Jerome pitched a nice game but was haunted by some Ram errors and was the tough luck losing pitcher.

Offensively the Gators were lead by Kaitlynn Wilson who was 2 for 3 with 3 rbi's. McKeever also helped her own cause with 2 hits and 2 rbi's.

The Gators will have a busy week coming up. The Gators host a junior high tournament tomorrow with action starting at 11:00. The Gator J.V. will also be traveling to Warroad for a tournament. Game time in Warroad is also 11:00. Monday the Gators will take on a challenging Thief River Falls team. The Prowlers are a big market club and have several outstanding players. All three Gator teams will be in action with games starting at 5:00. BGMR will venture back out onto the road on Tuesday when the go to Warroad. The Warriors are a well coached team that plays the game the way it suppose to be played. BGMR will finish off the week when the host the Coaches Classic next Saturday with several outstanding teams coming to town. We hope that Gator Nation can continue their OUTSTANDING support.

GATORS PREVAIL OVER PROWLERS

The BGMR Gator Softball Team used a 6 run third inning to upend the Thief River Falls Prowlers by a score of 10 to 5.

The Gators were in trouble early as the Prowlers pushed across single runs in both the first and second innings. The Gators averted further trouble as the Prowlers stranded a total of 4 runners in the first three innings. With the Prowlers leading 2-0 in the third inning the Gators broke loose. The big hit was a majestic 3 run home run by Lynsi Emery.

The Prowlers continued to fight as they scored single runs in both the fourth, fifth, and sixth innings. BGMR however managed to put the game out of reach with a 2 run fifth and a 2 run sixth.

Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek was outstanding on the day. Novacek went the distance allowing 9 hits while striking out 5. Novacek was especially solid on a day in which the Gator defense was struggling as the defense committed 5 errors.

Leading the offensive charge for the Gators was Aunica Novacek and Jaeden Blawat who had two hits apiece. Emery had three RBI's and Benita Novacek added a two RBI single.

The Gators will hit the road today as they travel to Warroad to take on a tough Warrior team. The Warriors are well coached and will pose a stiff challenge for the Gators. BGMR will need to improve their defensive play and will rely on starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever to keep them in the game.

GATOR GIRLS SUFFER FIRST LOSS OF THE SEASON

The weather was cold with a stiff wind coming off of Lake of the Woods but the BGMR Gator Softball Team had bats that were downright frigid as the Gators mustered only 1 hit in a 5-4 loss to the Warroad Warriors.

The Gators took a 1-0 lead in the second on three walks and a ground out. The Warriors however would take a 3-1 lead in the third when Kristin Monkman belted a 3 run homer. The Warriors would add to their lead with solo runs in the fourth and fifth innings. The never say die Gators went into the seventh inning without a hit and failed to get their leadoff hitter on. With 1 out the Gators began to make things interesting. TyLynn McKeever walked, Janna Hall was hit by a pitch and Lynsi Emery finally broke up the no hitter with a solid double scoring 2 runs. Emery would eventually score on a ball hit by Aunica Novacek that was misplayed by the Warriors. With the hit Novacek was able to move to second and was the tying run. Unfortunately for the Gators the rally fell short as Jaeden Blawat, who has been swinging a hot bat for the Gators, popped out to first base to end the game.

The story of the game was Warrior starting pitcher Emily Nelson who threw a complete game 1 hitter. Although Nelson did walk 8 and hit 2 batters she was able to pitch herself out of trouble as the Gators stranded 8 runners. Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever pitched well but the Warriors made their 9 hits count. With the loss the Gators fall to 5-1 and the Warriors improved to 2-0.

The Gators will have a couple days of practice and will host the Coaches Classic Softball Tournament this weekend. It should be an excellent day of softball with some outstanding teams coming in. The action starts at 9:30 and the tournament schedule for varsity and J.V. is attached. We hope to see you there as the tournaments features several outstanding teams.

MOTHER NATURE WINS

Despite a valiant effort by the Gator coaching staff, parents and some of Gator Nation the Coaches Classic Softball Tournament was cancelled after 2 games were played this past Saturday. Rain that would not go away and come back some other day forced the tournament to be halted after just 2 games.

The Gators were fortunate to get in their first game of the tournament. BGMR handled a young Win-E-Mac team in route to a 14-0 victory. Gator starting pitcher Bailey Bergeron was making her first varsity pitching start and whistled through the young Patriot lineup. Bergeron pitched a complete game 1 hitter. Bergeron struck out 11 but did walk 5 and hit 3 batters.

Offensively the Gators did not adjust well to the crafty Patriot pitching. BGMR managed only 5 hits on the day but were patient at that plate as they did walk 10 times. Bergeron and Jaeden Blawat had two hits apiece for the Gators.

Because the Gators had two games cancelled this weekend the team will be looking to pick up two more. BGMR however will continue their schedule tomorrow when they travel to Red Lake Falls to take on the Eagles. The Eagles are currently undefeated and have been ranked as high as 9th in Minnesota State Class A Softball. The game should feature two outstanding teams and a high level of softball is expected. The junior high game will start at 4:45 with the J.V. to follow. The varsity game will start at 5:00. We hope that Gator Nation can make it in full.

The BGMR Softball Program would like to take this time to thank all the parents and people who helped to try and make the tournament go this weekend. It was an outstanding effort. A special thank you to Dale Wicklund and D.W. Mechanical for bringing in the porta-a-poties on short notice. Another thank you for all the teams that traveled to try and make the tournament go. Several teams traveled a long ways and ended up heading back home.

GATORS ROLL TO WIN

The BGMR Softball Team showed that they could be a team to reckon with come tournament time as the Gators rolled to an 8-0 win over the previously unbeaten and third ranked team in the state Red Lake Falls Eagles. The Gator bats came out smoking hot as the Gators plated 4 runs in the first inning. The Gators would later add 2 runs in the fourth and 2 runs in the seventh to finish off the Eagles.

Offensively Lynsi Emery led the charge for the Gators. Emery went 3 for 4 and scored 2 runs. Jaeden Blawat also had two hits.

Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever labored through the first 2 innings as she threw 55 pitches in the two innings. After that McKeever and catcher Benita Novacek found a groove and mowed through the Eagles. McKeever ended the game with 12 strikeouts but did walk 4 and allowed 4 hits.

The Gators return home on Thursday as they take on East Grand Forks Green Wave. The Green Wave have struggled as of late but have always been able to hit the ball and score runs. It will be a tough conference match-up for the Gators but BGMR hopes to continue to improve its play. Game time is set for 5:00 with both the varsity and J.V. playing. The pitch, hit and run competition will also be taking place after school on Field 3. Any boy or girls who want to participate are more than welcome.

GATOR SOFTBALL CONTINUES WINNING WAYS

The BGMR Gator Softball Team used an 11 run third inning to run away with a 16-2 win over the Green Wave from East Grand Forks. Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek held a good hitting Green Wave team at bay limiting them to 5 hits over 5 innings. Novacek only struck 2 batters out but the Gator defense was almost flawless committing only 1 error.

Offensively for the Gators, Lynsi Emery continued her torrid hitting. Emery was 3 for 4 and was a home run short of hitting for the cycle. Paige Taggart collected her first varsity career hit and ended up going 2 for 4 on the day. Jaeden Blawat also collected 2 hits.

BGMR will continue its slew of games as the Gator were able to pick up two games this weekend. The Gators will travel to Fargo to take on Fargo Shanley on Saturday. Game time is set for noon with the game being a Mickelson Park diamond number 7. After the game the Gators will pack their bags and make the short trip to Glyndon. BGMR will take on the Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton Rebels with game time being approximately 3:30.

The Gators are hoping for a good weekend of softball as they continue this tough stretch in their schedule and start making their march towards the playoffs.

GATOR SOFTBALL DROPS PAIR TO REBELS

The trip south was a tough one for the BGMR Gator Softball Team as the Gators dropped a pair of games to the Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton Rebels. The Gators lost the first game by a score of 12-2 in a game that was much closer than the score but did end after 6 innings because of the 10 run rule. Game two was much closer as the Gator lost a heartbreaking 8-7 decision.

The Rebels showed that they will be a team to be reckon with in Section 6 Class 2A as they turned a game one second inning Gator miscue into 4 runs. After the Gators scored 2 runs in the fifth DGF answered with 1 run in their half of the fifth and ended the game in the sixth with 7 runs, all coming with 2 outs. Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever threw a nice game but was hurt by the Gator defense and untimely errors. McKeever gave up 11 hits and struck out 2. Offensively BGMR struggled as they managed only 3 hits against Rebel starting pitcher Makenzie Dukleth. The Gators were paced by Jana Hall who had 2 hits and Lynsi Emery who had the only other Gator hit.

The Gators were suppose to play Fargo Shanley earlier in the day but for reasons yet to be known the Deacons backed out of the game. Fortunately for the Gators the Rebels were more than willing to play a double header on a cold April day.

Game 2 saw the Gators jump out to an early 4 to 0 lead. This lead would be short lived as the Rebels plated 6 runs in their half of the second inning. BGMR fought back and tied the game in the third and took the lead in the fourth. The Rebels would again tie the game in the fifth and finished took the lead for good with a run in the sixth. The Gators could not muster a comeback in the seventh as all three batters sent to the plate struck out.

BGMR starting pitcher Benita Novacek threw a nice game. Novacek struggled in the 6 run second inning but settled into a nice groove and the Gator defense was solid. BGMR also hit the ball a little better as they managed 6 hits with the Rebels making several nice plays on other balls hit by the Gators. Aunica Novacek and TyLynn McKeever led the Gators with 2 hits apiece.

Although the Gators suffered two losses on the weekend they seemed to be productive losses. The Gators learned what is needed in order to beat a quality team. This experience should prove beneficial in the long run.

BGMR will start a busy week as the Gatos will host the Red Lake Falls Eagles on Tuesday. The Eagles will be looking for revenge. Last week the Gators broke the Eagles quest for an undefeated season. BGMR will travel to Lake of the Woods on Thursday and Newfolden on Friday. The J.V. and J.H. will continue the busy week when they participate in the tough Hawley tournament this coming weekend. The season is going fast and tournament time is just around the corner. Come on out and catch the Gators as they continue their March to defend their Section 8A Title.

GATOR BATS HEAT UP

The BGMR Gators Softball Team came out firing on all cylinders as the Gators pounded their way to a 12-2 victory over the Red Lake Falls Eagles. The Gators managed to score 1 run in the first, 5 in the third, 4 in the fourth and ended the game because of the 10 run rule with a 2 run fifth.

The Gators managed 10 hits on the day. BGMR was led by senior Kaitlynn Wilson. Wilson went 3 for 3 and had 5 runs batted in. Aunica Novacek had 2 hits and 3 RBI's and Jana Hall had 2 hits.

Defensively the Gators were sharp until a stomach turning, skunk spray infested fifth inning. BGMR managed to commit 3 errors in the inning and gave up 2 runs. Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek was sharp for most of the day and worked out of some early inning jams. Novacek limited the Eagles to 5 hits and had 4 strikeouts.

With the victory the Gators improved to 9-3 on the season. The Gator will not hit the road for games on Thursday and Friday. Thursday the Gators make the long trip to Baudette to take on the Lake of the Woods Bears. The Bears seem to have a strong offensive team and the Bears are always tough at home. BGMR will travel to Newfolden on Friday to take on the Northern Freeze. The Freeze are a young team who seem to be getting better each and every game. They are talented and coached extremely well so it will be a tough test for the Gators. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and the Gators can continue their good play as tournament time is just 3 weeks away.

GATOR SHOOT DOWN BEARS

The long trip to Baudette proved worthwhile for the BGMR Gator Softball Team as the Gators brought home a 13-1 victory over a pesky Bear team.

The Bears came ready to play and the Gators were on their heels early as both teams were scoreless after 2 innings of play. The Gators managed to score 3 runs in the third and a solo run in the fourth to take a 4-0 lead. BGMR would tack on 3 more runs in the fifth and blew the game open with a 6 run seventh.

Offensively the Gator charge was led by Nicole Peterson. Peterson had 3 hits on the day with two of them being triples. Lynsi Emery also racked up 3 hits and Kaitlynn Wilson had 2 hits.

Defensively the Gators were sharp against a solid hitting Bear team. Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek threw a solid game and benefitted from the solid Gator defense. Novacek threw 6 innings allowing 1 run on 3 hits while striking out 5. Bailey Bergeron relieved Novacek in the seventh and proceeded to hit a batter, and walk two. Bergeron however did strikeout 2 hitters.

The Gators won't have time to celebrate as they travel to Newfolden on Friday to take on a young and tough Freeze team. The Freeze have gotten better every game out and will pose a stiff challenge for the Gators. While the Gator varsity will take the day off on Saturday because of the holy day of prom, the Gator J.V. and J.H. will travel to Hawley for what appears to be an exciting tournament. It should be a good weekend for those two teams. BGMR will return home on Tuesday for a much anticipated rematch against the Warroad Warriors. Tuesday will also mark Parents Night for the Gator Softball Program. Gator Nation has been extremely supportive and the Gator Softball Program hopes that support can continue as the Gators make their march toward the playoffs.

GATORS COOL FREEZE

The BGMR Gator Softball team capitalized on some Northern Freeze mistakes early and used a 7 run sixth inning to bring home an 18-8 victory over the Freeze.

Freeze starting pitcher Carly Safranski struggled with her control early as she issued 4, first inning walks. The Gators turned those walks into 2 first inning runs. BGMR tacked on 4 runs in the second as the Gator bats came alive. The Gators had 4 hits in the inning and were aided by 1 Freeze error. BGMR proceeded to score 3 more runs in the fifth to open up a 11-0 lead. The never say die Freeze however scored 2 runs in their half of the fifth to avoid the 10 run rule. BGMR seemed to put the game out of reach as they had a 7 run sixth inning. At this point the black and green circus came to town as the Gators surrendered 6 runs in the bottom of the sixth. Luckily for the Gators they were able to shut down the Freeze and end the game because of the 10 run rule.

Offensively the Gators were paced by Benita Novacek. Novacek did her best Crystal Bustos imitation as Novacek belted 2 home runs. Novacek quest for a third home run was taken away as the Freeze made a leaping catch that took the outfield over the fence. Lynsi Emery continued her torrid hitting as she was 4 for 5. Janna Hall and TyLynn McKeever also had two hits apiece for the Gators.

Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever was cruising long until she put herself into trouble in the fifth and sixth innings. In the fifth McKeever walked two and hit a batter and in the sixth McKeever walked 3. Up until those two innings McKeever had not given up a hit and walked only 2.

The Gator quest will continue tomorrow in a much anticipated rematch as the Warroad Warriors come to Gator Field. The Warriors handed the Gators their first loss of the season 3 weeks ago and the Gator girls will be looking for revenge. It should be a hotly contested battle as the Warriors have been improving each week. On Thursday the Gators travel to East Grand Forks to take on the Sacred Heart Eagles. The Eagles have been playing outstanding ball as of late and have a dominate, young pitcher. It will be a good test for the Gator team. Saturday will mark the Gator Classic Softball Tournament. 8 varsity and 6 junior varsity teams will be coming to Gator Field with the action starting at 10:00.

GATOR GIRLS GET REVENGE

The BGMR Gator Softball Team was seeking revenge on a Warroad Warrior team that beat the Gators earlier in the season. The Gators came out on a mission and beat a young Warrior team 18-3. The Gators had a 3 run first inning, 13 run second, and tacked on 2 more in the fourth to bring home the victory.

Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever limited a tough hitting Warrior team to 3 hits. McKeever struck out 9 and walked 4.

Offensively the Gators were led by Jaeden Blawat who was 3-4 and Lynsi Emery who was 3 for 4 which included 2 doubles and a home run. Kaitlynn Wilson and Jana Hall each reached base 4 times with both combining for 6 runs scored.

The Gators will now hit the road for a match-up against the Sacred Heart Eagles. Thursdays game will pit two rival teams with the Eagles playing great ball as of late. It will be another stiff challenge for the Gators as the Eagles have some outstanding pitching. Saturday will mark the Gator Classic Softball Tournament. 8 varsity and 6 junior varsity teams will be coming to Gator Field with the action starting at 10:00. The regular season is coming to a close in a hurry. Gator Nation will be needed as the Gator Softball Program continues its quest to become the best that they can be.

GATORS TAKE DOWN EAGLES

In an intense game the matched two fierce rivals the BGMR Gator Softball Team brought home a hard fought 7-3, 8 inning victory over the Sacred Heart Eagles.

The Gators jumped out to an early 1-0 lead when they scored 1 run in the top of the first. Sacred Heart however made the Gator lead short lived as the Eagles produced two runs in the bottom of the first. BGMR would retake the lead with a pair of runs in the third. Sacred Heart scratched across 1 run in the fifth to tie the game and both teams were held scoreless until extra innings when the Gators plated 4 runs. The Gators where able to force the Eagles into some costly errors and plated the go ahead run. Up by one and with runners on second and third Gator starting centerfielder Janna Hall delivered the knockout punch with a 3 run home run. BGMR would allow a leadoff double in the eighth inning but would get the next three batters to end the game.

The Eagles outhit the Gators on the day with Sacred Heart collecting 8 hits and the Gators managing only 4. Eagle starting pitcher, eighth grader Hannah Reimer threw a nice game striking out 9 Gator batters but did walk seven. BGMR starting pitcher Benita Novacek was equally effective as Novacek struck out 6 and walked three. BGMR played solid defense with Gator starting shortstop Bailey Bergeron having perhaps her best defensive game as a varsity player.

Offensively with only 4 hits the Gators had a lot of girls not collect a hit. Lynsi Emery did get two singles and Hall had a single and the key home run. Offensively the Gators will need to do much better if they want to achieve the high goals they have set for themselves.

BGMR will now focus its attention on this weekend's Gator Classic Softball Tournament. Action begins at 10:00 with the Gator J.V. playing at that time along with 2 varsity game going on. The Gator varsity will take on Fargo Davies at 11:45 and will have another game against either Warroad or Minot Ryan immediately after their first game.

It looks like it will be a beautiful day for softball so come on out and catch the action. It will also mark the last regular season home games for a special group of seniors. Come on out and cheer the Gators to victory as the softball action will be hot. Also enjoy take a day off from cooking and have lunch and supper as Gator Head Chef Joel Erickson will be manning the grill.

GATOR GIRLS TAKE THIRD IN CLASSIC TOURNAMENT

With a picture perfect Saturday weather wise the BGMR Gator Softball Team went 2-1 on the day and secured a third place finish in the Gator Classic Softball Tournament.

The Gators opened tournament play with a 14-3 win over Fargo Davies, lost 9-5 to a strong Minot Bishop Ryan team and used late inning heroics to beat Norman County East-Ulen Hitterdal 9-8 in the third place game.

Game 1 saw the Gators sleeping walking in the first inning with Fargo Davies capitalizing on 3 Gator errors to take a 3-0 lead. BGMR would wake up a bit in the second when they scored 2 runs and used a 9 run third inning to blow the game open. BGMR would score 3 more in the fourth and would hold defensively in the fifth to win the game via 10 run rule.

Offensively the Gators were led by Lynsi Emery who was 3 for 4 with 2 runs batted in. Jana Hall was 2 for 3 with a home run and 4 rbi's and Kaitlynn Wilson was 2 for 4 with 2 rbi's.

BGMR starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever gave up 3 hits, walked 1 and struck out 2 to push her season record to 6-2. With the win the Gators advanced to semi-final play where they would take on Minot Bishop Ryan who was a 10-0 first round winner over Warroad.

Going against a solid Minot Bishop Ryan team the Gators were going to play nearly flawless to beat Bishop Ryan. Unfortunately for the Gators, they did not and Ryan advanced to the tournament finals with an impressive 9-5 victory over the Gators.

Bishop Ryan would score 1 run in both the first and second inning and would later add 3 runs in the third. BGMR would try and battle back by picking up 1 run in the third. Bishop Ryan would score 2 in the fifth but BGMR would score two of their own in the fifth and sixth innings. Trailing 7-5 going into the final inning the Gators were within striking distance. Bishop Ryan however would add 2 insurance runs in the seventh and shut down the Gators in the bottom of the seventh to preserve the victory.

Offensively Lynsi Emery continued her torrid hitting going 2 for 3 with 2 rbi's. No other Gator had more than 1 hit.

Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek threw a valiant game against a strong opponent. Novacek went the distance giving up 9 runs on 13 hits while striking out 5. Of the 9 runs Novacek gave up 5 of them scored when there were two outs.

Playing against their friendly foe NCE-UH for third place a person would think would be enough motivation to get any team going. The Titans however would pound the Gators early and take a commanding 8-2 lead into the fifth inning. The Gators would finally start playing ball like they know how and scored 4 runs in the fifth to pull with 8-6. After being shut down in the sixth BGMR would get some help from the Titans in the seventh. TyLynn McKeever would reach on an error, Janna Hall was walked and Lynsi Emery doubled to score Hall. Kaitlynn Wilson was intentionally walked and with the bases loaded Jaeden Blawat hit a sacrifice fly to tie the game. After another intentional walk Aunica Novacek hit a Texas league single to win the game.

Gator starting pitcher Bailey Bergeron labored through 3 innings. Bergeron gave up 7 runs (6 earned) while walking 2 and hitting 3 batters. With the bases loaded in the fourth inning Aunica Novacek relieved Bergeron and proceeded to give up a grand slam home run. After the blast Novacek and the Gator defense buckled down and held the Titans scoreless over the final three innings. With the Gator win Novacek was able to pick up her first varsity win as a pitcher.

The Gator Classic Tournament was huge success. Minot Bishop Ryan brought home the championship beating Red Lake Falls 12-0. Fargo Davies won the consolation championship with a 16-0 win over Deer River.

On the J.V. side the Gators went 3-0 on the day and won the championship with a victory over NCE-UH.

The Gator softball program would like to take this time to thank all those who attended the tournament and helped with field prep, concession stand and ticket taking. It was an outstanding day and without the help of Gator Nation holding a successful tournament would not have been possible.

BGMR will close out regular season play on Thursday when they travel to Roseau. The Gators will take their 15-4 record into Roseau against the arch rival Rams. It should be a good test for the Gators before they begin tournament play next week with a day and time yet to be determined. Playoff time is here and the Gators want to be at their best.

Quarterfinals:

Red Lake Falls 13 Roseau 3

Roseau 3 0 0 0 0 3 5 6
RLF 4 4 1 2 2 13 14 1

WP: Rachel Berdahl (RLF)
LP: Emily Jerome (Roseau)

Highlights: RLF- Britta Glass 4-4, Hailey Keller 2-4 w/3 RBI's, Molly Amberson 2-2
Roseau- Monique Haman 1-3 w/ 2 RBI's

Minot Bishop Ryan 10 Warroad 0

Bishop Ryan 0 0 7 1 2 10 7 1
Warroad 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1

WP: Hannah Stewart (Bishop Ryan)
LP: Molly McDonald (Warroad)

Highlights: Bishop Ryan- Hannah Stewart 1-3 w/HR, Maddie Lipp 2-3

Norman County East/U-H 13 Deer River 7

NCE/U-H 4 4 3 0 1 0 1 13 16 2
Deer River 0 1 2 0 1 0 3 7 8 3

WP: Ciara Austinson (NCE/U-H)
LP: Karri Humble (Deer River)

Highlights: NCE/U-H- Jane Varty 4-5, Madelyn Sather 4-4, Emily Pederson 2-4 w/HR, Kelsey Dalby 2-2 w/3RBI's
Deer River- Miranda Villenueve 2-4, Kate Box 2-4

BGMR 14 Fargo Davies 3

Fargo Davies 3 0 0 0 0 3 3 5
BGMR 0 2 9 3 X 14 12 3

WP: TyLynn McKeever (BGMR)
LP: Kendra Pahl (Fargo Davies)

Highlights: BGMR- Janna Hall 2-3 w/4RBI's & HR, Lynsi Emery 3-4 w/2 RBI's, Kaitlynn Wilson 2-4 w/2RBI's
Davies- Morgan Smith 1-2 w/RBI, Shelby Malmanger 1-2 w/RBI

Championship Semifinals:

Minot Bishop Ryan 9 BGMR 5

Bishop Ryan 1 1 3 0 2 0 2 9 13 2
BGMR 0 0 1 0 2 2 0 5 8 0

WP: Breann Backes (Minot Ryan)
LP: Benita Novacek (BGMR)

Highlights: Bishop Ryan- Anika Rovig 3-4 w/5 RBI's, Hannah Stewart 3-3, Maddie Lipp 2-4 w/2 RBI's
BGMR- Lynsi Emery 2-3 w/2 RBI's

Red Lake Falls 4 Norman County East/U-H 3

NCE/U-H 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 3 8 6
RLF 1 0 0 0 0 0 3 4 7 3

WP: Rachel Berdahl (RLF)
LP: Ciara Austinson (NCE/U-H)

Highlights: RLF- Britta Glass 3-4, Brianna Breiland 2-3
NCE/U-H- Jane Varty 2-4

Consolation Semifinals:

Fargo Davies 14 Warroad 4

Warroad 3 0 0 0 1
Fargo Davies 4 0 5 1 4

WP: Kendra Pahl (Fargo Davies)
LP: Emily Nelson (Warroad)

Highlights: Davies- Shayla Gustafson 2-3

Deer River 6 Roseau 5

Deer River 2 0 0 0 1 0 3 6 10 3
Roseau 3 0 0 0 0 0 2 5 9 2

WP: Miaja Erzar (Deer River)
LP: Emily Jerome (Roseau)

Highlights: Deer River- Miranda Villenueve 2-4, Miaja Erzar 2-4
Roseau- Monique Haman 2-4, Lexi Deming 2-4

Championship:

Minot Bishop Ryan 12 Red Lake Falls 0

RLF 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 3
Bishop Ryan 4 6 2 0 X 12 11 3

WP: Hannah Stewart (Bishop Ryan)
LP: Kadie Amiot (RLF)

Highlights: RLF- Kayla Schmitz 1-2
Bishop Ryan- Hannah Kraemer 3-3, Hannah Stewart 3-3, Sydney Marmon 2-3

Third Place:

BGMR 9 Norman County East/U-H 8

NCE/U-H 2 0 1 5 0 0 0 8 8 3
BGMR 2 0 0 0 4 0 3 9 8 3

WP: Aunica Novacek (BGMR)
LP: Ciara Austinson (NCE/U-H)

Highlights: NCE/U-H- Emily Pederson 3-4 w/6 RBI's, Ciara Grant 2-3 w/RBI
BGMR- Janna Hall 2-2, Lynsi Emery 3-4 w/ 2 RBI's, Kaitlynn Wilson 1-3 w/ 3 RBI's

Fifth Place:

Fargo Davies 16 Deer River 0

Deer River 0 0 0 0 0 0 4 7
Fargo Davies 5 9 2 0 x 16 13 1

WP: McKenzie Kjos (Fargo Davies)
LP: Carli Ohraet (Deer River)

Highlights: Fargo Davies- Kendra Pahl 2-3, Morgan Smith 2-3, Shelby Malmanger 3-4

GATOR GIRLS CLOSE OUT REGULAR SEASON WITH A WIN

The BGMR Gators Girls Softball Team closed out its regular season with a 13-4 win over the Rams from Roseau. BGMR jumped out to an early 7-0 lead after the second inning and had a 9-0 lead after 3 innings. The Gators however fell asleep for a bit and the relentless Rams chipped into the lead with 2 runs each in the fifth and sixth innings. BGMR would add 4 insurance runs in the seventh and shut down the Rams in their half of the seventh to bring home the victory.

Offensively the Gators struggled a bit. They managed only 8 hits with 4 of them coming in the seventh inning. They were however, aided by 5 walks and 7 hit batters. Aunica Novacek was the only Gator with more than1 hit as she went 2 for 4. Several Gators did manage to cross the plate and score 2 times.

Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever suffered from some control problems of her own but was able to work out of the jams she put herself into. McKeever threw 5 1/3 innings allowing 7 hits, striking out 4, walking 6 and hitting a batter. Aunica Novacek came in relief and did not allow a run of her own while pitching 1 2/3 innings. .

When many people thought the Gators would be rebuilding this year the Gator girls proved that they don't rebuild they reload and with the win against Roseau capped off a 16-4 regular season. BGMR now will head into the playoffs where they will face the winner of the Blackduck and Red Lake County Central game. The Gators will play that winner on Thursday in Baudette with game time being 4:00. It is playoff time and the Gators have prepared for this time of year. It should be an outstanding subsection and section tournament as the Gators look to defend their Section 8ATitle.

GATORS LOSE SUBSECTION CHAMPIONSHIP GAME; STILL MOVE ON TO SECTIONS

The BGMR Gator Softball Team started defense of their Section 8A crown with a 12-0 win over the Blackduck Drakes. The Gators proved to have too much punch for a young Drake team and the Gators took advantage of some wild Drake pitching and used timely hitting in route to the victory.

BGMR scored all the runs they would need in the first inning. BGMR scored 7 runs on 3 hits, 1 walk, 1 hit batter and 1 Drake error. The Gators would add 2 more runs in each of the second and third innings and 1 run in the fourth to put the game out of reach.

Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek threw a solid game as she threw 4 innings allowing 2 hits and striking out 9. Novacek was relieved in the fifth by Aunica Novacek who pitched 1 scoreless inning.

Offensively BGMR had 9 hits and were led by Jana Hall, Aunica Novacek and TyLynn McKeever who had 2 hits each.

With the win the Gators moved onto the subsection championship game where they would face Red Lake Falls who picked up a semi-final win over Lake of the Woods.

With two previous wins during the regular season against Red Lake Falls the Gators knew the Eagles would be looking for some revenge and revenge they would get. The Eagles used timely hitting and tough defense to beat the Gators 3-0.

The Eagles scored in the first as they had a pair of hits but were aided by a Gator error. Red Lake Falls would build their lead to 3 when they scored twice in the third inning.

BGMR would not manage much offense against Eagle starting pitcher Rachel Berdahl. Berdahl threw a complete game 4 hitter striking out 4. Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever was equally as tough. McKeever threw a complete game 5 hitter, striking out 6. McKeever did walk 5 and 2 of those walks ended up scoring.

The Gators advance to the double elimination section tournament with one loss. The Gators will take on a much improved Sacred Heart team who lost in the south half subsection championship game to Norman County East-Ulen Hitterdal. The Gators will take on Sacred Heart next Wednesday in a loser out game. Game time is set for 4:00 and is at Ada. If the Gators win they will take on the loser of the Red Lake Falls and NCE-UH game. If the Gators win their first game the second game will also be on Wednesday with game time being 6:00.

The Gator's backs are against the wall as they continue their quest for a trip to the state tournament. The Gator girls however will be up for the challenge and will need to take each game one at a time as the next Gators loss will end their season. It should be an exciting Section Tournament and one in which all of Gator Nation will be needed to help the Gator girls achieve their goal.

GATOR GIRLS ADVANCE TO SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP GAME(S)

Playing with their backs against the wall and facing elimination from the tournament with a loss the BGMR Gators Softball Team brought home a pair of wins and advanced to the Section 8A Championship game(s). The Gators will need to beat the Red Lake Falls Eagles twice on Thursday in order for the Gators to defend their Section 8A crown.

The first game for the Gators was against the always pesky Sacred Heart Eagles. The Eagles have been riding the strong pitching of 8th grader Hannah Reimer but the Gators showed up with their hitting shoes on and took a 3-0 lead after 1 inning of play. BGMR would build their lead to 5-0 after the second inning but managed to give the Eagles 2 runs in their half of the third on a costly throwing error. The Gator girls however did not get down and scored 2 more times in their half of the third. Sacred Heart would score once in the sixth but again the Gators matched that run with a run of their own in the sixth and brought home the 8-3 victory.

Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever went the distance allowing 7 hits, walking 3 and striking out one. The Gators defense rose to the challenge and committed only 1 error.

Offensively the Gators were led by Lynsi Emery who was 4 for 4, Aunica Novacek who was 2 for 2 with 2 walks and Kaitlynn Wilson who was 2 for 4.

The win propelled the Gators into another loser out game as the Gators would face their friendly rival Norman County East-Ulen Hitterdal Titans. The Titans lost to the Red Lake Falls Eagles 4-2 in the winner's bracket game and thus fell into the loser out match-up against the Gators.

In a game that saw more ups and downs than a Six Flags roller coaster ride the Gators and Titans battled like two high school teams should. After two scoreless innings the Titans surged ahead with 3 runs in their half of the third. BGMR would answer right back with 2 runs of their own in their half of the third. NCE-UH would add to their lead with a run in the fourth.

The Gators and Titans started to make it interesting in the bottom of the fifth. BGMR was able to score 5 runs to take a 7-4 lead. The never say die Titans would come right back with 4 runs in the top of the sixth to take an 8-7 lead.

BGMR looked poised to tie the game when they had a runner at third base with one out in the sixth. The Titan second basemen however made a nice catch on a popup and threw out Gator pinch runner Nicole Peterson, who had an excellent read on the popup, and tried to tag up and score.

The Titans looked to put the game out of reach when they loaded the bases in the seventh. BGMR managed to escape the inning without allowing a run and set the stage for the bottom of the seventh. Lynsi Emery led of the bottom of the seventh with a double. Emery advanced to third on a ground out by Kaitlynn Wilson. After a strikeout the Gators were down to their last chance when Paige Taggart strolled to the plate. Taggart showed that she had ice in her veins as she delivered a two out single to tie the game. After advancing to second on a wild pitch Taggart was replaced by pinch runner Lyndsey Anderson. Aunica Novacek continued her hot hitting as she roped a single to center and Anderson chugged around third and scored the winning run as the throw from the outfield was off the line and a HUGE Gator Nation crowd celebrated the come from behind win.

Struggling for the first few innings Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek eventually found her grove, settled down, and kept the Gators in the game. Novacek was relieved by Aunica Novacek in the sixth and Aunica pitched the remaining 1 1/3 innings to pick up the victory.

Offensively the Gators were lead by Taggart and Aunica Novacek who were each 2 for 4. Benita Novacek was also 1 for 2. The win moved the Gators record to 19-5 and pushed them into the championship game against the 21-3 Eagles. The Gators will have a tough road as they will need to beat the Eagles twice. Anything can happen in tournament play and the Gators showed they will not go down without a fight. For as big as the Gator crowd was, the Gators are hoping even more of Gator Nation can show up for the 4:00 game in Ada. The Section Champion will be determined and a State Tournament berth is on the line and Gator Nation will need to be as positive as they were to help the Gator bring home two wins.

GATORS FORCE SECOND GAME, LOSE IN CHAMPIONSHIP

Coming back in the losers bracket of any tournament is never an easy thing to do. The BGMR Gator Softball Program however is the only team in Section 8A who has forced a second championship game doing it 3 times throughout the history of double elimination tournament. This year the Gators had their backs against the wall as they lost in the subsection championship. Undeterred the Gator girls put up a valiant fight and won 3 games in a row. Unfortunately in order to defend their section title the Gators needed a fourth victory but came up just short losing 4-3 to the Red Lake Falls Eagles.

Coming into the championship game the Gators need to beat the Eagles in order to force a second game. The Gators came out on a mission as they scored 2 runs in the second and 1 in the third to build a 3-0 lead. The Eagles would bounce back with 1 run in the fourth but BGMR answered right back with 2 in the fifth. The Eagles would not go quietly as they would score twice in their half of the fifth to close the gap to 5-3. The Gators would blow the game open in the sixth, when with the bases loaded Lynsi Emery slammed her second home run of the game bringing home 4 runs. The Eagles would not challenge the Gators in the last two innings and BGMR brought home the 9-3 victory.

Gator starting pitcher TyLynn McKeever threw a solid game. McKeever went 6 2/3 innings allowing 3 runs on 10 hits while walking 4.

Offensively the Gators were led by Emery who had 2 home runs and was 2 for 3 on the day. Kaitlynn Wilson was 3 for 4 and Paige Taggart was 2 for 4.

With the Gator win the Gators and Red Lake Falls would have to have a 1 game winner take all affair that would determine the Section 8A Champion and would propel the winning team into the state tournament.

The title game start was a disaster for the Gators. In the bottom of the first the Eagles managed to score 4 runs aided in large part by 3 Gator errors. Down by 4 the Gators bounced back in their half of the second with 2 runs. Meanwhile Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek kept the Eagles off the board hoping her teammates could finish the comeback. Unfortunately for the Gators they could manage only 1 more run when Emery hit her third home run of the day, this one being a solo shot in the sixth. BGMR had their chance in the seventh when Aunica Novacek led off with a single. Benita Novacek hit a rocket that was right at the Eagle shortstop and was caught. Pinch hitter Katie Howell hit a ball hard that appeared to be headed for the right center gap but was caught by a leaping Eagle second baseman. The Eagles finished off the win when McKeever grounded out to end the game.

Gator starting pitcher Benita Novacek kept the Gators in the game and was extremely solid throughout. Novacek threw 6 innings, allowing 5 hits and walked 3. BGMR however was not able to muster much against Red Lake Falls starting pitcher Rachel Burdahl. Aunica Novacek was 1 for 2 and Emery, Wilson, and Jaeden Blawatt were each 1 for 3.

With the win the Eagles qualified for the State Tournament and will do an outstanding job representing Section 8A. The Gators finished their season going 20-6. The loss also closed out the careers on a solid group of passionate Gator seniors. Lost to graduation are Emery, Wilson, McKeever, Janna Hall, Benita Novacek, Janica Stewart, and Nicole Peterson. This was a special group of seniors and ones the will be sorely missed.

The Gators would like to take this time to thank all parents and fans who made this year special! Gator Nation was at their best and crowd support at games was phenomenal. There was also an incredible feat accomplished by a Gator player this year. Starting right fielder Kaitlynn Wilson went the entire year without striking out. This has never been done in Gator Softball history and is really an amazing accomplishment.

BGMR will now begin building for next season. There are several young players who want a taste of varsity softball. The Gators will hope to keep the motto “WE DON’T REBUILD WE RELOAD.”