



By EARL WATT

• Leader & Times

If the Lady Redskins were not young enough, they went even younger against Stanton County.

AN injury to the pitching hand of sophomore Brittany Granger forced coach Pat Knott to pull up freshman Sarah Bayouth to varsity.

Bayouth kept the ball in the zone, but Stanton County was able to belt out 16 hits to go along with seven Liberal errors for an 11-1 Lady Trojan win.

Liberal's defense gave up two big innings, a five-run third and a four-run sixth.

Liberal, on the other hand, struggled to get runners on base, and when they did, they could not push them across the plate.

In the fourth inning trailing 7-0, Liberal loaded the bases but did not score.

Libral added a run in the bottom of the fifth, but Stanton answered with four in the sixth, and the Lady Redskins did not answer in the bottom, and the game ended by run-rule, 11-1.

“Bayouth gave us what we needed and that was a chance,” Knot said. “Now we can grow from this and maybe stay more competitive.”

Callie Milsap and Bayouth each had a 2-for-2 performance at the plate.

Liberal was more competitive in the nightcap in an 18-11 loss.

Bayouth returned to the mound for the start, and the Lady Trojans scored four in the first.

Liberal responded with three runs in the bottom of the inning.

But after Bayouth struggled in the top of the second, Knott put Granger in the circle, and Stanton County finished the inning with seven runs for an 11-3 lead.

Liberal responded with four runs in the bottom of the second to cut the lead to 11-7.

Granger put together back-to-back no-run innings, but the Lady Redskins were only able to score one run in the bottom of the fourth to cut the lead to 11-8.

Granger walked back-to-back batters in the fifth, and Knott went back to Bayouth.

“Bayouth is going to have to pitch some for us down the road, and I wanted her to have the feel of coming back in and try to hold the lead where it was,” Knott said.

But Stanton County scored four runs and added three more in the sixth for an 18-8 lead.

Liberal scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth to cut the lead to 18-11, but neither team scored in the seventh.

Granger, Jordan Urban, Bayouth and Emily Castaneda each had two hits in the second game.

“We put some good innings together offensively and the two innings of solid defense when we needed it was good to see, and getting off the field was a plus for us,” Knott said. “We will take what we learned from this and get ready for Hays.”

Liberal (0-12) will travel to face the Lady Indians Tuesday.