

L&T staff report



LAVERNE, Okla. — The Turpin Cardinals got their first look at a potential district tournament opponent Thursday, matching up against the Laverne Tigers. The Cards played a pretty decent double-header, losing the first game 5-4 in seven innings on a bases-loaded walk, before winning the nightcap, 18-8.

Javier Alvarez struck out 13 batters in a losing effort. Of Laverne's six runs against the Cards, four were unearned.

"They jumped out to a 3-0 lead on us and we came back and tied it in the fifth," Turpin coach Mario Mendoza said. "(Alvarez) gave up those three runs in the first, but with two errors."

Andrew Bowers got the win in game two as the Cardinal bats came alive. Alvarez was 3-for-4, Matt Mendoza 3-for-4 with two runs batted in. Clinton Toney was hit by a pitch three times in the game.

Turpin (5-3) will play host to Buffalo on Monday in what will be the second meeting between the two teams in the span of a week. Turpin swept the series at Buffalo last Monday.

Tyrone will visit Turpin the following day before the Cardinals hit the road to Hooker on March 31.

"Them, Laverne and Beaver are the ones we need to see because for district play, those are the ones we're going to have to compete against," Mendoza said.

• SHAWN YORKS