

[https://www.hometownsource.com/sun\\_current/community/richfield/spartans-softball-breaks-through-big-against-cooper/article\\_ebacd0c6-6c2d-11e9-93d8-7bdee0c9c72d.html](https://www.hometownsource.com/sun_current/community/richfield/spartans-softball-breaks-through-big-against-cooper/article_ebacd0c6-6c2d-11e9-93d8-7bdee0c9c72d.html)

## Spartans softball breaks through big against Cooper

by Jason Olson [jason.olson@ecm-inc.com](mailto:jason.olson@ecm-inc.com) Apr 30, 2019

### ***Softball team uses homers from Olson, Christian in 11-6 win***

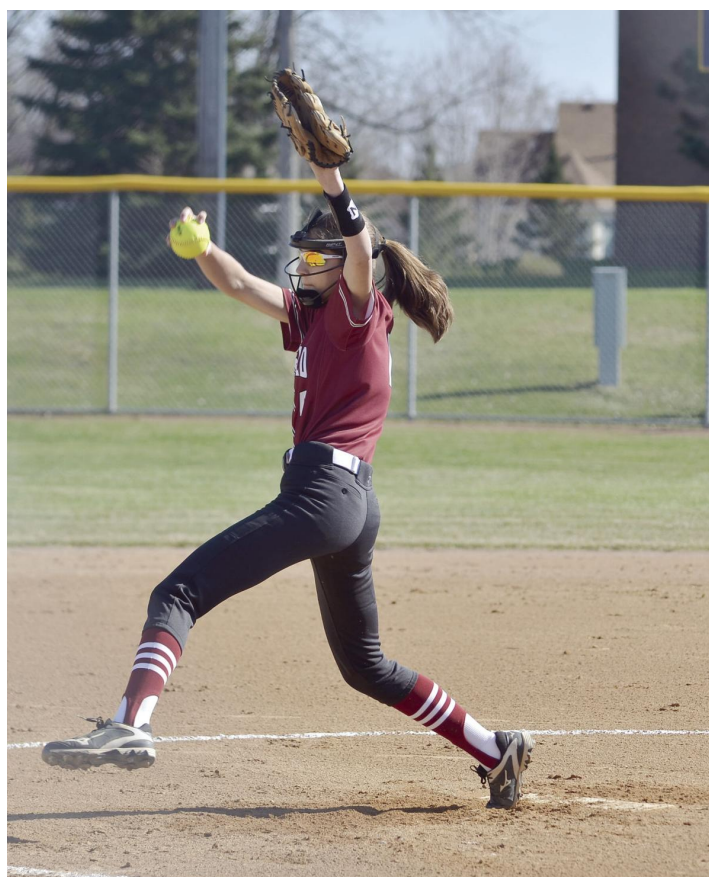
Richfield softball pounded out 15 hits against Robbinsdale Cooper for an 11-6 win at Richfield Middle School on Thursday, April 25.

Behind a 4-for-4 performance at the plate by junior catcher Anna Jensen, the Spartans scored in five-of-six innings including three runs in the second and again in the third innings for the first win after an 0-2 start in 2019.

Eight different batters recorded a hit and seven rounded the bases at least once in support of pitchers Baylee O'Donnell and Bella Jurewicz who combined to strike out 10 Hawks batters. Each gave up two earned runs on five hits as O'Donnell worked four innings before Jurewicz took over for the final three innings of work.

Noelle Olson and Ahna Christian each hit a home run and Olson went 3-for-4 scoring twice.

Jensen along with Grace Anderson collected not only a double but also a triple. Jensen and Olson also stole a base to keep the pressure on Cooper.



Spartans sophomore pitcher Bella Jurewicz had three strikeouts in six innings against Kennedy on April 23. She added four strikeouts in three innings of the April 25 win over Cooper.

(Sun Newspapers staff photo by Jason Olson)

One day earlier, Richfield hosted Benilde-St. Margaret's in the home opener during a busy stretch of three games in three days.

BSM returned a bulk of its team that went to the Class 3A state tournament last season (and in 2016).

The Red Knights limited Richfield two hits including a double from Olson, while Jensen continued an impressive start to the season by drawing two walks to go along with a base hit. Christen also picked up a walk as the Spartans stranded seven runners on the bases.

The stretch began with a hard-fought 2-0 loss at Kennedy on Tuesday afternoon at Kelly Playfields.

Going against one of the top pitchers in the state in Kennedy junior Courtney Kopischke, Spartans leadoff batter Rynne Skof drew a walk to start the game but Kopischke retired the side in order with a sac bunt and two strikeouts.

Skof walked again in the third inning and led off the sixth inning with a single.

O'Donnell broke up the no-hitter with a line drive to left field to begin the fifth inning.

Jurewicz gave up one earned run on five hits with three strikeouts and four walks over six innings.

Kennedy scored both runs with two outs including the first inning and again in the fifth inning. Bella Fiero scored in the first inning then came through with an RBI double in the fifth inning to secure the win.



Richfield eighth-grader Grace Anderson, left, tags Kennedy's Cordelia Ruch out at third base during the second inning April 23.

(Sun Newspapers staff photo by Jason Olson)

Follow Jason Olson on Twitter at @SunSportsJason.

Copyright © 2019 at Sun Newspapers/ APG Media of East Central Minnesota. Digital dissemination of this content without prior written consent is a violation of federal law and may be subject to legal action.

---

## Jason Olson

Sports Editor