



Treynor Baseball Clubhouse

Bob Mantell gave a tour of the new baseball clubhouse on November 7. Bob just finished his 10th year of coaching.

In 2008 the Treynor School District approved a bond issue that included construction of new

baseball and softball fields and the first games were played on the new fields in 2009. The baseball field is 325 feet to the fence on the left and right fields and 375 feet in the center, which is larger than most high school baseball fields. There is grass on the baselines, which is a new trend and is easier to maintain. There is also drain tile around the field to help keep it dry.

This fall they will expand the dugout, replace the warning track with agrilime, and add two new batting cages. They would also like to put a red windscreen around the fields.

The new baseball clubhouse was built without school funding. Bob Mantell and two assistant coaches built the clubhouse. It is 40x20 foot and has an upstairs press box. It has air conditioning and heating, but no plumbing. Plumbing would have doubled the cost.

They used artificial turf in the bottom of the clubhouse. They got it free, but paid \$150 to lay it. The chairs were donated by Mutual of Omaha. They used old baseball uniforms to cover the chairs. Bob says the clubhouse is as nice as in any college. It is open six days a week, April to August.

The school provides one set of uniforms. Since they play so many games each season, they use fundraising to buy other uniforms.

The baseball team had 21 boys in 2006 when Bob Mantell started. This year they had 35. Their record was 27-8 and they went to the state tournament for the second time in four years. They have won the conference eight years in a row.

Iowa is the only state that has summer baseball. Other states have baseball in the spring. In the spring you have to fight weather problems and in the summer you have a short season. Teams can play up to 40 games in the seven week season. Pitchers are limited to 16 innings a week (Sunday through Saturday). Normally they pitch 7-8 innings a week.

The Junior Varsity baseball team was 9-5 this year. The freshmen were 10-8. Bob said that he has had 7-8 of his baseball player's play in college.