



MATT FRYE/Liberty Tribune

Jordan Carlson, 8, takes batting practice at All Star Sports Center in Liberty on Monday, Jan. 4. Carlson, who lives just down the street from the new facility, used to have to drive to North Kansas City for indoor batting practice.

When fields of dreams are covered in snow

By Mark Johnson

New facility provides indoor site for athletes to hone their skills

As the city prepared for another round of snow the evening of Jan. 2 and continued frigid weather, people continued to come to All Star Sports Center, 7 W.

Mill St., preparing for the baseball and softball seasons that will come with warmer weather.

The facility, which features seven batting cages and four pitching tunnels,

has been open for close to a month, providing area players a place to work out when snow is covering their fields of play.

Co-owner Lee Midgett said the center is attracting

a wide age range of athletes with its offerings, which include instruction in addition to the batting cages and pitching tunnels.

Midgett also knows inclement weather works

to his advantage.

"We're hoping for a long winter and a wet spring," he said with a laugh.

Midgett said the site has proved to be ideal.

"We couldn't have asked

SPORTS: Business doing well

Continued from Page A1

for a better pre-existing building," he said.

Mackenzie Wood, who played softball for Liberty High School, is another fan of the facility.

"It's great," she said. "It's a lot bigger than the place we used to go to."

Wood was at All Star Sports Jan. 3, assisting her father, Chaz Wood, in instructing Amber Halliburton on the finer points of catching.

The Raymore teen's parents, Anh and Dave Halliburton, drove her to the Liberty location in hopes of taking their daughter's game to the next level.

THE DETAILS

■ For more information, call 415-0303 or

visit www.allstarsportscenter.com.

While acknowledging the snow and single-digit temperatures outside, the couple said the drive up wasn't too bad.

Judging from the vehicles in the parking lot at All Star Sports this past weekend, that appears to be a shared sentiment as

area residents have a new place to play.

All Star Sports Center is open from 3 to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 10 p.m. Sundays.

Senior writer Mark Johnson can be reached at 7814941



Giovanni's
-Italian Deli & Pasta-