

Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around

Coach and Players Combine to Win

By JOHN DOSER

Our Lady of Mercy High School won its first six games in Private-Parochial softball this season and was hopeful about adding two more wins before colliding for the second time this campaign with Cardinal Mooney, Friday, at Mooney.

Mooney, which lost earlier to Mercy by one run, had won all its other games prior to an important scrap last week against Bishop Kearney — a team it defeated earlier by a one run margin according to Mercy coach Dick Myers.

Myers, in his first season as a softball coach, not to mention a girls' softball team, is a Mooney graduate who earned his bachelor's and master's at St. Bonaventure University. He teaches social studies at the 9th and 12th grade levels at Mercy.

He didn't participate too actively in Mooney sports himself, but apparently that lack of personal experience is unrelated to his coaching success — at least this early in his career.

"Most of the girls on the team have one or two years experience and they help me along — just as much as I have tried to help them," Myers explains.

He credits the combination of team experience plus fresh, youthful newcomers, as the reasons for Mercy's early 6-0 record.

"We have four seniors, five juniors, two sophomores and four freshmen on the team with members from each class in the starting lineup. It's been the seniors and juniors helping out the underclassmen with the underclassmen responding brilliantly at times," he says.

Myers is the only male

coach in the league, but he says he has not had any problems with opposing coaches. "They've all been great," he adds.

The glue that holds Mercy together is senior pitcher and co-captain Mary Ellen Weber who's also been involved in basketball, volleyball, and soccer at the Blossom Road school.

"She's one of the leaders on the team whom the underclassmen really look to — and she pulls through every game."

Weber owns four of the team's six wins and is an extremely accurate thrower who has allowed an average of only one walk per game. She hasn't logged too many strikeouts, but she keeps the ball down low and forces most batters to put the ball on the ground.

"We have such a good infield that we're able to throw them out nine times out of ten," Myers says.

Her batterymate is junior Sheila Taillie whom Myers converted to a catcher this year because she has a good throwing arm to second base and has thrown out a few would-be base stealers this season.

Margie Meath, another junior, plays first base and is another all-sports performer at Mercy. She is considered the team's steadiest hitter at close to .700 or .800.

"She doesn't hit a long ball but she constantly hits singles. Whenever we need a rally she either starts it or drives in the runs we need."

Maureen (Much) O'Heaney and Michelle Miller, junior and sophomore, respectively, alternate at second base. O'Heaney is an excellent fielder and fast on the bases; Miller's glove may be

somewhat less accurate, but she makes up for it by being the fastest player on the team.

Senior Colleen Cleary is the shortstop and new to the game this season. She has played soccer previously and Myers says she is an excellent glove and lead off hitter.

Freshman Diane Coleman holds down the hot spot at third, is a steady fielder, and owns Mercy's only home run so far this season.

"It was a good shot between right and center field against St. Agnes," Myers says.

Diane Schmidt, a senior, is the left fielder — she also plays soccer and basketball — she is probably the team's best defensive player with the excellent throwing arm needed for the left field spot.

Eileen Smith, who won a full volleyball scholarship to Syracuse University, is the center fielder. She is probably the most feared Mercy performer by opponents with regard to hitting and leadership. She also plays basketball and soccer.

Linda Kelly, a junior, is the right fielder. She's a good fielder who manages to handle what few hits land in right field.

Myers has able substitutes whom he can insert into the lineup at any time with usually good results.

They include freshman catcher Kathy LaForce, freshman pitcher Becky Kaltenbach who owns the other two Mercy victories, sophomore relief pitcher JoAnne Horvath, freshman outfielder Jeanne Cassidy, junior outfielder Cannire McElroy and junior infielder Betsy Fleche.

Nazareth Presents Ethnic Week

An assembly for the entire student body was one highlight of Nazareth Academy's Ethnic Week, sponsored by the Student Council. Introducing the May 3 assembly, Student Council President Peg Lober cited the great diversity of ethnic backgrounds as one of Nazareth's riches and invited each student to celebrate these gifts and to grow in appreciation of one another.

Freshman Corrine Connolly introduced a trio of Irish dancer, Mary Beagan, herself and her sister Eileen who performed a three-hand reel. According to Corrine, Ireland has no official dress because each of the five major Celtic tribes wore their own costumes, embroidered with various designs of needlepoint. Mary's cape carried a Celtic cross while Eileen and



Senior Anna Bizok dressed in Ukrainian national dress for school's Ethnic Week. Flowered headpiece is a vinok.

Students United presented their original choreographed interpretation of James Theldon Johnson's "Creation." Dancers included Nancy Jacque, Deda Hammer, Audrey Agee and Junie Dyck. Poem narrators were Deborah Allgood, Margaret Johnson, Jacquelyn Dobson and Dawn Siplin.

Junior Yvette Aponte introduced the Spanish performers Richy Diaz and Wanda Martinez who performed one of the most popular Latin dances, the Merenque.

With the help of two German born sisters who are presently teachers at Nazareth, Sisters Maria and

Magdalena, a group of students sang German folksongs. Sister Maria observed that whenever Germans gather in groups they like to sing. She narrated the story of each song and then accompanied the group on the recorder, a Baroque instrument which was a forerunner of the flute. Singers included Ann Weber, Mary Leister, Christine Wegman, Katie Hahn, Mary Ellen Bragg, Andrea Fuehrer and Barbara Kahmke.

Senior Kyla Kowal introduced the Italian skit which featured Tiny Giovanna Presta as the mouse, Pepino. Kyla then presented accordionist Karen Brunett; Carmel Alfano, Debbie Casserino, and Joanne Fargnoli who played the tambourines while Gina Cordaro, Rose Giarratano, Maria Meschino, Raffaella Corbosiero, Virginia Spinosa and herself danced the Sicilian version of the Tarantella.

Festivities came to a close with audience and cast singing, This Land is Our Land.

AQ Relays May 21

Under the direction of Father Michael Wesley the Aquinas Relays will be held on Saturday, May 21 at the University of Rochester's Fauver Stadium. Track and field events will begin at 11 a.m.

Local entries include Bishop Kearney, Monroe, Franklin, Madison, McQuaid, Charlotte, East, Marshall, Cardinal Edison, Mooney, Brockport Central, Penfield, Palmyra-Macedon and Rush-Henrietta. Several teams from the Buffalo area will also compete.

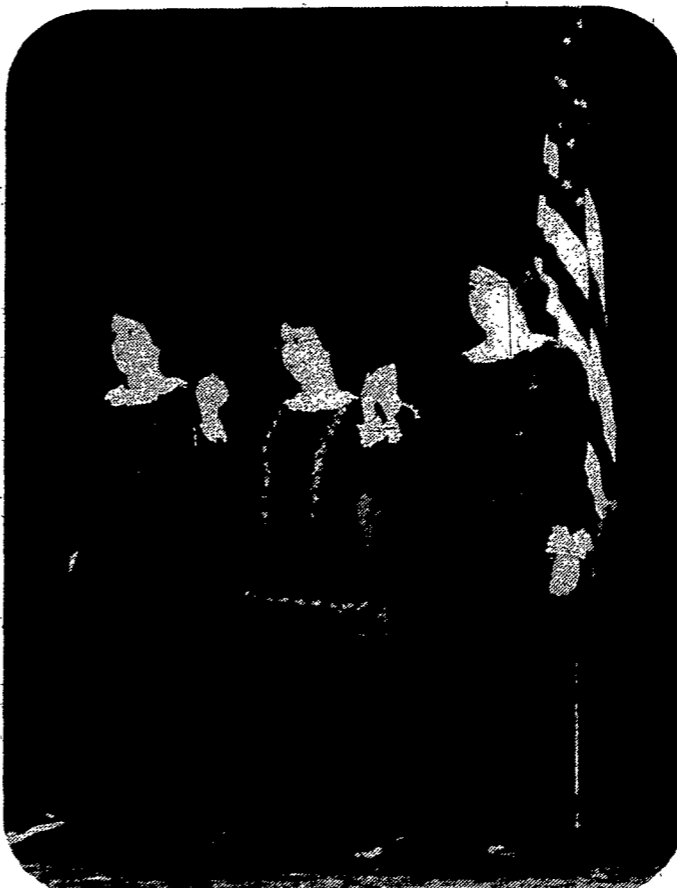


Nancy Jacque in "Creation."

Photos by Susan McKinney

Christine's had their family crest.

Against a stage setting of celestial bodies created by sophomore Bonita Davis and her committee, a group of eight girls from the Black



Corrine, Mary and Eileen entertaining with an Irish reel. Jigs, hornpiper and slipjigs are an important part of Irish tradition.

Mooney Explorer

Allan Fairbanks, a Cardinal Mooney senior, is President of the Monroe County Firematics Explorers. He is intensely involved along with fellow coordinator, David Greely from Syracuse in promoting and organizing a National Emergency Service Association whereby firematic and medical explorers would be trained and then utilized to work with law enforcement and fire departments during large scale emergencies.

Besides this endeavor, Al is kept busy with his duties with the Barnard Fire Department and the three and four nights he spends at the Boy Scout Center sharing his firematic knowledge and experiences with the scouts. He is also a member of Mooney's Action For People Association.

Intending to be a fireman, Al hopes to take the special courses offered at the University of Maryland.



ALLAN FAIRBANKS

Winners!

Joe Borreggine, a freshman at Cardinal Mooney High School, was the recipient of the Winner's Circle \$5 for the week of April 27.

James Hart, a student at Geneva DeSales High School, was the recipient of the Winner's Circle \$5 for the week of May 4.

Busy Musicians

The Bishop Kearney Kings Band has a busy performance schedule ahead of it. The Spring Concert will be held on May 26 and will feature the Jazz Ensemble, Concert Bands, Color Guard, Twirlers and the Marching Band. Debbie Tietbohl will be the featured clarinetist and there will be a special piano solo by Jim Young.

The band will then embark for New York City on Saturday, May 28 where they will perform in two Memorial Day parades and give concerts in area Christian Brothers schools. Their trip will include a tour of the city, an evening at Radio City Music Hall, and the musical "Godspell."

After returning to Rochester the band will perform for the St. Rita's Festival on June 3 and in the St. Anthony's Day Parade on June 11.

Susan McKinney
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