

C-J Sports

Bishop Kearney laxmen stick it to Waterloo in 10-4 victory

Burns' attack, defense too much for Indians in Fighting King win

By Richard A. Kiley

Early-season scheduling problems have been wreaking havoc on second-year Bishop Kearney lacrosse coach Jim Burns' squad.

The coach of the Kearney laxmen has already had four games postponed this season, for reasons ranging from bad field conditions to scheduling mix-ups.

The unsettling situation does have one positive note: the varsity and junior varsity lacrosse teams at Kearney have become quite familiar with each other through full-field scrimmages.

Between scrimmages, the Fighting Kings have managed to squeeze in two games against Waterloo. And despite the lack of "real game" experience, Burns likes what he sees so far.

In Kearney's two wins against the Indians, Burns' boys outscored Waterloo 21-5, to jump out to a 2-0 mark thus far this season.

The most recent win came last Saturday, April 11, in a game played at Waterloo. Under a blue and sunny sky, the Fighting Kings poured 39 shots on the Waterloo net and went on to win, 10-4.

The Kearney onslaught was led by attackmen Jeff Hall and Rich Shoap and midfielder Dave "Beaver" Smith. Hall and Shoap scored three goals apiece, while Smith added two goals and three assists.

The game was tied, 2-2, before the Fighting Kings scored twice in the final :38 of the first quarter, to start pulling away. After Hall's goal at 9:22 of the opening quarter, Kearney won the ensuing faceoff. The stickmen worked the ball around to Kevin Donalty, who beat Indian goalie Ed White on a low shot.

After Mike Johnson's goal at 7:56 of the second quarter closed the margin to 4-3, Burns' squad proceeded to score four goals in the final 7:06, to open up an 8-3 halftime cushion.

Hall began the deluge on the Waterloo goal with a nice sidwinding shot, beating White to the upper lefthand corner of the net to give Kearney a two-goal lead.

Shoap then took an outlet pass near midfield and weaved through the Waterloo defense before beating White up top, to increase the Kearney lead to 6-3.

Kearney closed out the scoring in the first half when Smith, a sophomore who transferred to the Catholic high school from Penfield, notched a man-up goal with 2:35 remaining before intermission, and some nifty sideline work by defenseman Pete Arena led to the Fighting Kings' eighth goal.

Shoap scored both Kearney goals in the second half to secure the win.



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Kearney's Kevin Donalty loses his stick while battling for a ground ball with Waterloo defenseman Les Marquart.

Kearney goalie Doug Lamendola was steady in the net for Burns, recording 18 saves for the afternoon. The Kearney coach knows that if his team is to see more wins this season, the senior netminder needs to come up with some big games.

"Doug is a three-year varsity starter who has gone to the Hobart lacrosse camp every summer," Burns said. "He has really been concentrating (on his play), with this being his senior year. He wants to do well and really shows his leadership on the field."

Burns added that Lamendola, who looked extremely sharp on bounce shots by Waterloo, has been staying after practice to get even more work in at the net.

The two lopsided wins over the Indians — whom Burns freely admits are in the process of rebuilding the lax program after some key losses to graduation — does prove one thing to the Kearney mentor.

The scores of both games have demonstrated a measure of consistency among his team members, said Burns, who played

lacrosse at Marshall before the city school dropped the program. "Even though they have been disappointed because of the scheduling problems, they were ready to play against Waterloo (on Saturday)."

And that also goes for the first game against Waterloo.

In that contest on April 2, Smith was the catalyst in the Fighting Kings' 11-1 win at Kearney. In that game, the middle poured in three goals and three assists. Shoap also scored three goals, and Hall contributed two goals and two assists.

Burns cited the defense for its near-perfect play — mainly Arena, junior Brian Haur and Craig Chodack. Kearney held leads of 2-0 after one quarter, 5-0 at intermission and 10-0 after three quarters, in rolling to the win.

Now, after playing just two games in the first two weeks of the season, Burns' squad must endure five games in the next seven days, the result of a pile-up of regularly scheduled and re-scheduled games.



Fighting King attackman Jeff Hall passes the ball from behind the Indian goal during second-quarter action.

Sport Shorts

Carey E. McDonald, executive director of the National High School Athletic Coaches' Association, recently announced that Cardinal Mooney's Ed Nietopski has been selected 1987 Baseball Coach of the Year for NHSACA Region 1.

Nietopski was tabbed as one of eight NHSACA regional nominees for the national award. The nomination was based on such criteria as work in the coaching profession, community and high school athletics in general, tenure, number of championships and win-loss percentages.

Nietopski will be honored with a plaque

at the 22nd annual NHSACA National Convention-Clinic National Awards Banquet on June 26, at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans. National awards will be announced and award rings or pendants will be presented to the national athletic director and national high school coach of the year.

The banquet is co-hosted by the National Football League and the Wilson Sporting Goods Company.

Both male and female coaches and athletic directors of college and high school teams will come from almost all 50 states to attend the convention, scheduled for June 20 through June 26 in New Orleans.

The NHSACA is an organization of high school coaches and athletic directors from all over the United States.

Rochester-area youths have an opportunity to absorb some of Nietopski's expertise at his 23rd annual baseball and basketball camp, scheduled for Mooney this July.

The only skipper in Mooney history to coach both baseball and basketball players, Nietopski has guided his teams to several league and Section 5 titles while also serving as athletic director at the Greece high school.

The baseball session, open to boys nine to 18 years of age, will run July 6-17, from 9 a.m. to noon. The session for boys ages 14 to 17 will run July 20-31, from 9 a.m. to noon. A girls' basketball session for ages 10 to 18, will run July 20-31, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Applications for the camps may be obtained by contacting Nietopski at (716)865-1000.

Birthright needs volunteers

Birthright needs volunteers to work in its clothing-distribution center. Volunteers will be assigned to wash, mend and sort clothing, and to pick up donated items. Volunteers who can knit and/or crochet are also needed.

Clothing sorters are asked to work a two-hour shift each month on Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. All other volunteers work at their convenience.

Such layette items as undershirts, rubber pants, blankets, sleepers and bottles, are desperately needed. Birthright also welcomes donations of children's clothing through size six and maternity clothes.

For information, call Linda at (716)342-3420 or Ellen at 865-9872.

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