

C-J Sports

Crusaders rock 'n' roll; Saints struggle

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strength was going to be our hitting and fielding," said a mystified Pane. "My pitching has been real good, though."

Pane said his pitching staff was helped immensely when Paul Richardson, who is a senior at DeSales but never went out for the team before, decided to try out. The Saints' coach said he didn't want to imagine how his club would be doing without the services of the senior hurler.

Richardson and Phil Sindoni combined for a one-hitter against Dundee last Friday, May 8.

But winning consistently has been a problem with this year's DeSales team, mainly due to a lack of hitting and some unwise running on the base paths.

"We lost one to Romulus (on Wednesday, May 6) and we just ran ourselves out of that one," said Pane, who is also an assistant coach to Steve Muzzi for the Lady Saints' girls' varsity basketball team. "But our pitching has been good most games."

Recently, the DeSales coach said, the hitting of Kevin Powers, Richardson, Phil Anastasi and Steve Vedora has come around, but if the team wishes to make the sectionals, it needs to generate more offense.

The Saints will close out their regular season with games against Finger Lakes West titans Naples and Honeoye, as well as an improving Red Jacket club.

"We figure we have to win at least four or five games to make the sectionals," Pane said.



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Notre Dame pitcher Bob Grosvenor pitched five strong innings before he was relieved in the seventh.

Girls' softball

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The Lady Crusaders, who battle it out with mostly Class A schools in the rugged STC, will also undoubtedly have that as an advantage. They have seen top-notch pitching all season, and according to Coburn, "there's not a girl around here who is going to throw the ball by us."

That much could also be said about the girls' softball teams at DeSales. While DeSales (5-5) has seen its own scores rise above single digits this season, first-year coach Pat Luzzi has had a tough time holding down opponents' scores.

Quite frankly, the outcome of DeSales' games have sounded more like football scores this season.

That could be attributed to Luzzi's quest to find a consistent pitcher, a search that ended when he moved Kris Guinan from the

centerfield position to the pitching mound. Guinan, an All-League outfielder last year, has brought stability to the mound.

"I tried a few (pitchers), but she has become my leading pitcher," said Luzzi, who, before he came to DeSales, was active with youth softball leagues in the Geneva area.

"She most definitely can carry us; she's a tough individual," Luzzi continued. "She wants to be involved more in the game and she knew it (pitching) was somewhere where she could be in control. She never gives up, even when she's behind the batter."

The Lady Saints had been averaging 16 walks a game early in the season before the switch to Guinan, but that number has dwindled to three bases on balls since Guinan took over the pitching chores.

Luzzi has also taken Babette DeVaney from her familiar shortstop spot, and has put her behind the plate. Not surprisingly, Guinan and DeVaney have developed into quite a battery.

But Luzzi has also been dealing with instability elsewhere. Jeneane Donahue,

moved by the DeSales coach to shortstop to replace DeVaney, recently injured her ankle in a collision with teammate Sara Radford and is most likely lost for the season.

It was a case of winning one and then losing one for Luzzi, until his squad put together consecutive wins against Bloomfield and South Seneca in the seventh and eighth games of the schedule, to improve to 5-3. DeSales is once again at the .500 mark, though, after consecutive losses to Romulus and Dundee.

Against Romulus on May 6, the game in which Donahue suffered what is believed to be a season-ending injury, Luzzi's girls trailed 13-8 going into the seventh inning, before rallying for four runs. The Lady Saints were unable to get the tying run.

DeSales also suffered a setback against Dundee last Friday, May 8. Dundee jumped out to a 17-0 start, and the Lady Saints were unable to recover.

In all though, Luzzi is pleased with where the team stands now. "Our goal for the first part of the season was to finish in the top half of the league. That's just where we are now. Now we have to avoid injuries"

Aquinas students visit Spain

Easter vacation was a memorable occasion for 21 Aquinas students and 11 chaperones who spent 10 days in Spain.

The tour began with a bus ride to Toronto to board a plane that took the group to Madrid, Spain. From Madrid, the group traveled to Barcelona, where they saw the Montjuic Hill overlooking the city and harbor, and watched the craftsmen working in Pueblo Espanol.

During a side trip to Tangiers from the Costa del Sol, Aquinas students saw the Casbah, the Mosque and the Sultan's Palace. From there they went to Granada to see the Alhambra.

A train ride to Seville highlighted this leg of the tour, which included a trip to the tomb of Christopher Columbus and a visit to the Moorish fortress Alcazar.

Back in Madrid, the group toured the Plaza de Espana, the Royal Palace of the Bourbons and the Prado Museum. The trip concluded with a one-day excursion to Toledo to see work by El Greco and the decorations at El Transito Synagogue.

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