

C-J Sports

SportShorts

The Hollywood Allstars Celebrity Softball team will make its first appearance in Rochester on Sunday, May 31, when a team of Buffalo Bills challenges the Allstars to nine innings of celebrity softball.

All proceeds from the game will benefit the Adam Walsh Child Resource Center, a non-profit local agency dedicated to the prevention of child sexual abuse and abduction.

The Bills players include wide receiver Jerry Butler, running back Robb Riddick, corner back Charlie Romes, linebacker Eugene Marve, wide receiver Mitchell Brookins and linebacker Hal Garner. Hollywood celebrities Carlo Imperato from "Fame," Adrian Zmed from "Dance Fever," Brian Patrick Clarke from "General Hospital," Paul Regina from "Brothers," Corbin Benson from "L.A. Law" and Drake Hogestyn from "Days of Our Lives" are scheduled to attend.

Best known for their competitive style of play, the Hollywood Allstars have participated in more than 175 games and have raised more than \$500,000 for various charities from coast to coast. Some of their opponents have included the N.Y. Met Oldtimers, the Philadelphia Flyers, the Los Angeles Lakers and Kings and the Edmonton Oilers.

In order to qualify for a tryout for the Allstars, an actor must currently appear on a weekly series or a series in syndication or have appeared in a major motion picture. After qualifying, the actor must then make the team based on his athletic ability.

General admission tickets are \$4 per person in advance at the Red Wing ticket office, at all Ticketron outlets and at Sportecular. Tickets will be sold for \$5 at the ballpark on the day of the game. The gates will open at 11 a.m. and the game will start at 1 p.m.

Yet another Catholic school coach in the Rochester diocese has been nominated for Coach of the Year honors in Region 1. Just weeks after Cardinal Mooney's Ed Nietopski was nominated for high school baseball coach of the year, the National High School Coaches Association has nominated McQuaid veteran cross-country coach Bob Bradley as coach of the year in his sport. Bradley, who has guided the Knights' distance-running program for 25 years, will be going to New Orleans in June.

This marks the second time Bradley has been chosen as a nominee. In 1983, he received a regional award at the annual NHSCA convention in Albuquerque, when the national award went to a Colorado coach. Since then, Bradley's Knights have captured three sectional titles, won their first-ever state championship — as well as being named runners-up for a second time — and have run their unbroken stint of dual-meet victories and league championships to 15 years.

In addition to attending the awards banquet, Bradley will be one of eight cross-country clinicians at the three-day convention.

Choice of the national winner is based on tenure, the success of teams — especially at the higher levels of competition — and a coach's service to the sport. Since 1962, Bradley's teams have chalked up 65 invitational championships and have been runners-up in scores of others. Since Rochester Catholic schools became eligible for Section 5 competition in 1973, his teams have garnered seven titles in cross-country and three in track. In competition on the state level, the Knights earned championship honors in 1984 and were runners-up in 1981 and 1985.

Bradley has headed the McQuaid Invitational from its inception in 1965 to its present status as one of the premier meets in the nation. More than 4,200 runners from 186 schools in six states and Canada made the trip to Genesee Valley Park for the meet's 22nd running last year.

Bradley, 57, teaches English and Latin at McQuaid, and has no plans to retire from coaching in the near future.

Mooney wins third consecutive league crown

Lady Cards rebound from loss to Hilton with recent victories

By Richard A. Kiley

The Cardinal Mooney girls' softball team clinched its third consecutive Private-Parochial League title with a 9-3 win at home over Mercy on Wednesday, May 20.

The game was Mooney's second since its winning streak was snapped at 10 by Jim Buck's awesome Hilton team (18-0). Coach Joette Abbey's squad quickly rebounded from the loss to the Cadets, to beat Gates Chili Saturday night, May 16, 18-7.

Against the Monarchs, the Lady Cards (8-0 league, 13-1 overall) broke open a 2-2 contest in the fifth inning by scoring five runs.

The battle between league foes was scoreless until Abbey's girls scored twice in the bottom of the second inning. Julie Kolb plated the first Mooney run with a double to left-center field, scoring Cheryl Lennox from second base. Kolb came home later in the inning to make the score 2-0 after two innings.

Coach Paul Walker's Monarchs did not go down easily, however, and tied the game, 2-2, in the top of the third inning.

Mooney pitcher Noel Feeney started the inning by walking Laura Wambach on four pitches. Wambach then stole second base, before Jenni Baxter laid down a perfect bunt, putting Mercy runners on first and second with no one out. After another wild pitch moved runners to second and third, Wambach came home on a single from her older sister, Beth, cutting Mooney's lead to one, 2-1.

The Monarchs scored to tie the game on Beth Hebert's ground ball to Mooney second baseman Cathy Nietopski, whose throw home arrived too late to get a sliding Baxter.

The Lady Cards broke the game wide open in the bottom of the fifth inning with five runs off Baxter, who did well to hold Mooney under 10 runs. Abbey's squad took advantage of some timely hitting and costly Mercy errors, as seven consecutive batters reached base.

Cathy Nietopski started the Mooney rally by reaching on an error. After Nietopski stole second base, she went to third on her sister Theresa's bunt. Mooney catcher Mary Beth Progn followed with a hard single to center field, scoring both Nietopskis and giving the Lady Cards a 4-2 lead.

After Cheryl Lennox's double put runners on second and third, Lori Padulo cleared the bases with a triple to right-center field, giving Mooney a 6-2 bulge. Tracy Schmidt's double then scored Padulo, upping the lead to 7-2.



Michael N. Aydogan

Mooney's bats were quiet until the Private-Parochial League champs pounded out four hits and five runs in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Mooney added two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning, and Mercy scored once in its final at-bat, to account for the 9-3 final.

The Lady Cards finished the year with a perfect slate in the Private-Parochial League by edging a pesky Nazareth Academy team, 12-11. Despite the one-run win, an unnerving situation has surfaced for Abbey in recent games.

Nine of Nazareth's 11 runs in the league game on Thursday, May 21, were the direct result of walks. And in the game against Mercy, bases on balls enabled the Monarchs to tie Mooney at one point in the game.

Abbey is perplexed.

"My pitching had been pretty consistent, but lately they (her pitchers) have been out of their groove," said Abbey, whose lone game remaining in the regular season was scheduled to be played against Fairport as a rematch of the 1986 Class AA semifinal game. "We were lucky because we were able to come through at the plate. Noel and Tracy are really going to have to bear down and concentrate (in the sectionals)."

With all due respect to Nazareth (11-5 overall, 3-4 league), that may not be the case against a team with strong pitching — like Hilton.

The 13th-year Mooney coach knows that in order to beat the Cadets, her girls will have to play error-free defensively, and will also need to come through with more offensive punch — something the Lady Cards could not do in a 10-3 loss against the undefeated team from County West.

"We could have been out of the first inning, but they scored five runs on some freak plays," said Abbey, who was also without the services of Lennox, her leading



An errant throw pulls Mooney first baseman Tracy Schmidt (17) off the bag.

hitter this season (.580), during the early stages of the game. "She had to attend a wedding rehearsal."

Abbey is not one to make excuses, however.

"(Hilton is) tough, and their pitching has a lot to do with it," the Mooney coach said. "But they're beatable. We just can't get away with the mistakes that we've had in other games."

Division 1 title goes to Kearney after win over McQuaid

By Richard A. Kiley

During the few weeks prior to the recently completed regular season for high school baseball, almost everybody in City-Catholic League Division 1 was picking Carm Urzetta's Bishop Kearney squad as the team to beat.

They were right — well, sort of. Kearney (10-2 league, 15-6 overall) clinched the Division 1 league title with a come-from-behind 4-2 win at home over McQuaid (5-7, 8-10) last Thursday, May 21. But the reason most people gave the Fighting Kings the edge was senior Steve Arriola, who had pitched brilliantly during his junior season. Kearney's awesome lefthander struggled this season however — although his 3-4 record was somewhat deceiving because his ERA was a slight 1.65.

No, Arriola wasn't the sole reason Urzetta and his Kearney team could add yet another title to its credit. It was also because of guys named Davison, Weigand and Falbo.

And you might as well add Valyear and Viola to that list. For it was Scott Valyear who earned Kearney its league-clinching win against Tim Jordan's Knights, as the gutsy righthander scattered four hits and struck out three. And Paul Viola, who made some key contributions

would have been watching the regular-season ending game from the bench, keyed the Fighting King comeback with a clutch two-run single in the fourth inning. Viola was playing because Urzetta had benched Aaron Williams, the regular left fielder for Kearney, for disciplinary reasons.

For awhile it looked as if the Fighting Kings would squander the opportunity to win the league title outright, after they clinched at least a tie for the crown by beating Cardinal Mooney 7-6 earlier in the week.

The Knights jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the top of the second inning, when shortstop Angelo Ponticello smashed a hard single to right-center field, scoring both Peter Kowal and Sam Owens.

McQuaid pitcher Chip Golembeski was cruising in the game's early innings, until the Kings got to him for all four of their runs in the fourth inning.

Scott Thompson appeared to lead off the inning with a ground out to Kowal at shortstop, but catcher's interference was called on Owens and the Kearney second baseman was awarded first base. Urzetta's squad then loaded the bases when Don Weigand walked and

Joe Falbo was hit by a pitch.

Right fielder Peter Wolak followed by fighting off an inside pitch and laced a single to center field, scoring Thompson from third to pull Kearney to within one, 2-1.

Viola then followed by smashing a 0-2 pitch by Golembeski to right-center field, to put the Kings ahead for good, 3-2.

Kearney added its fourth run when Owens threw the ball past McQuaid's Todd Tonucci and into right field, as Owens was trying to get Viola at first base.

After McQuaid's Bob Wynne opened the top of the seventh inning with a towering triple to left field, Urzetta opted for Arriola to halt any hopes of a Knight comeback. The Kearney senior got Keith Boeck on a line drive to Falbo at first, and struck out both Ponticello and Dan O'Mara to secure the Kearney win.

The strong outing by Valyear enabled Urzetta to rest Rich Davison and Arriola, who will both be depended upon heavily in the upcoming sectionals.

"Scott Valyear hadn't really pitched well all year, but he's looked better in his last two starts," said Urzetta, who is in his 16th year

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