

C-J Sports

Kearney

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 coaching at Kearney. "He pitched well against Franklin (on May 11)."

But Urzetta knows that Davison (8-0) may be the reason for Kearney's championship season. The sophomore hurler was nothing short of amazing for Kearney, with the exception of a poor performance at Silver Stadium against Aquinas back on May 14.

"Thank God for Rich Davison; he pitched his guts out for us all year," Urzetta said.

Urzetta seems amazed by his team's accomplishments this year. He still honestly believes his squad is a year away from doing really big things.

"We're a real young team; we're really a sophomore- and junior-oriented team, with the exception of Weigand, Falbo and Arriola," Urzetta said. "I'm really overly pleased with these kids, because I still think we're a year away. The (baseball) future is very bright here."

One thing Urzetta can be proud of is the way his squad won the title, beating Mooney, Edison and McQuaid in the last week of the regular season.

"We really earned this; we didn't back in," Urzetta said.

Although the race for the league title was close throughout, Ed Nietopski's Cardinals seemed to be the team destined to take the crown.

Mooney was undefeated in league play at the halfway point of the regular season, and with the stellar pitching of Mike Magans and Craig Banaszewski, the Cardinals showed no signs of letting up.

But the Kings gained the upper hand in the race for the title last Monday, May 18, when they beat Mooney, 7-6, in a thrilling seven-innings of baseball.

Joe Falbo came home with the winning run during the league game at Kearney, when Ma-



McQuaid's Bob Wynne slides into third base with a lead-off triple in the top of the seventh inning.

gans delivered a wild pitch in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Kearney also defeated a tough Edison team 8-2 on Wednesday, May 20, to retain its slim edge over Mooney.

For Jordan and McQuaid, which won the sectionals back in 1981, it was the second consecutive season in which one-run losses were as common as rain in Rochester. According to the 19th-year coach and athletic director, six McQuaid games were lost by one run. With a break here or there, McQuaid's record could have been dramatically different.

Like Urzetta, Jordan had a team made up of mostly juniors — and even one freshman. But where the underclassmen from Kearney produced, McQuaid's didn't.

Once again this season, McQuaid's hitting was strong (.297 team batting average), but Jordan didn't get the hits when he really needed them.

In 110 innings, Knight batters left 120 runners on base. Like any coach, Jordan knows that the number of runners left on base is a crucial statistic.

"I had good hitting this year, but it wasn't really timely," Jordan said. "The guys batting one through five came through, but I didn't really see much production from the six-through-nine batters."

Golembeski, Dave Schroeder and Kowal were Jordan's men in the clutch, but even their hitting heroics were not enough to put the Knights over the .500 hump.

In all, though, Jordan said he enjoyed coaching this season, and he hopes it's not over. McQuaid could sneak in as the 15th or 16th seed in the upcoming sectionals, and will most likely draw Irondequoit or Fairport in the first round.

"All we need is a little 'lady luck,'" Jordan said. "Our beating Mooney 12-3 was not fluke, and we gave Fairport the game when we lost 6-5 to them. There is so much parity between the Monroe County schools and the City-Catholic schools. Anybody can beat anybody!"

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