

C-J Sports

SportS shorts

Mooney's minor league

While Joette Abbey's Cardinals were in the process of capturing their second sectional title in three years, Paul Forte's Mooney squad was wreaking the same havoc on opposing teams on the junior varsity level.

Forte — more prominently known for the job he has done coaching the boys' varsity soccer team at the Greece high school — and his team went 13-4 this spring, with one of those wins coming against Hilton, 12-7.

The Mooney coach, who works in the Kodak Park Athletic Association junior softball program in the summer, called Midlakes the best team he saw all year. It's easy to see why. Midlakes held Mooney to four runs in a 14-4 win. Games like that tend to happen to teams made up mainly of freshmen and a few sophomores.

Shortstop Gia Cuccinelli, one of the five sophomores on the team, batted .444 with 39 RBIs. Other standouts included captain Patti Heydens (.384, 37 RBIs), pitcher Dawn Pickering (.425, 24 RBIs), and the other captain and second baseman, Julie Roman (.419, 20 RBIs).

A slew of players helped keep the team's batting average at a very respectable .371. Among those were Kim Andolina (.400, 8 RBIs), catcher Shannon Barry (.280, 23 RBIs), right fielder Regina Browne (.305, 13 RBIs), Vicki Fontana (.363), outfielder Liz Furey (.360, 19 RBIs), Kelly Gaffney, Kris Kluchko (.346), Kristin Knight (.500), infielder Michelle Loewke (.388, 13 RBIs), third baseman Michelle Long (.296, 9 RBIs), Angel Miller (.500, 8 RBIs), infielder Marisa Shakelford (.365, 17 RBIs) and Michelle Vandeweghe (.347, 18 RBIs).

Forte's squad outscored opponents 414 to 163 for the season.

Another sectional champ in the making?

Coach steps down

Bishop Kearney baseball coach Carm Urzetta recently announced his retirement from coaching after 16 years.

I had the privilege of meeting the Fighting King coach for the first time this past baseball season, and I was impressed with his sincere dedication to the players he coached. His reason for retiring was so he could spend more time with his family. I'm more impressed with that.

The former Kearney coach, who also officiates at Division III college basketball games in the winter, compiled a 238-114 record over his 16 seasons. His 1974 Kearney squad won the sectional title.

This year's Fighting King team won Division I of the City-Catholic League with a 10-2 mark.

He would have gone out a winner regardless.

Summer football camp

Under the direction of Aquinas football coach Chris Battaglia, the Little Irish Football Camp is scheduled for August 10 to August 14 at the Catholic high school on Dewey Avenue in Rochester.

Battaglia has lined up Rochester-area grid coaches to assist his staff with the five-day camp.

Hours for the camp, which will cost participants \$65, will be 6 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. The camp is open to students in grades eight through 12.

Call Battaglia at (716) 254-2020 or 663-2318 for information.

All-stars named

The City-Catholic Division I all-star team was announced last week.

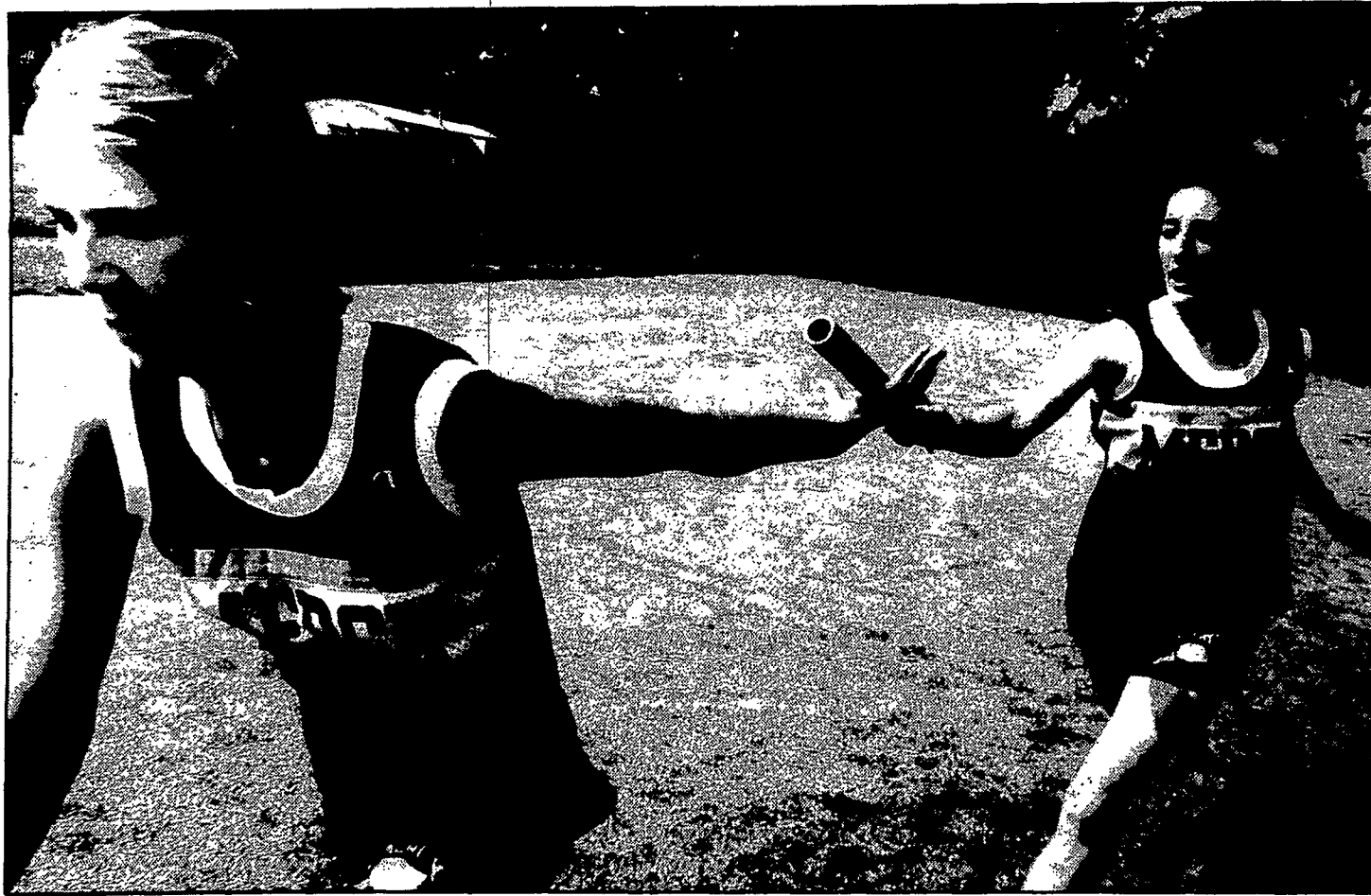
Mooney's Craig Banaszewski and Bishop Kearney's Steve Arriola were named as the league's top pitchers.

Among infielders named to the squad were Kearney first baseman Joe Falbo, all-purpose infielder Rodney Griffin from Franklin, McQuaid's Chip Golembeski, and Brian Monteleone of Aquinas.

Outfielders tabbed were AQ's Mark Chapman, Matt Knight of Edison and Mooney's Paul Brescia.

Catcher Ray Schmitt from Edison was also named to the team of standouts.

Engineer Coach Dick O'Toole was named Coach of the Year.



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Mercy's Katie Seeman, left, and Susan Mazurowski hope to pass the word on to opponents next year that the Monarch track and field team is a force to be reckoned with, both inside and outside the Private-Parochial League.

Mercy's Monarchs seek respect in the field

By Richard A. Kiley

One could compare the problem plaguing the Mercy track and field team to that of comic Rodney Dangerfield. Both have been enjoying a good deal of success of late, but haven't been getting much respect.

And although the tie-jerking comedian seems destined to go out that way, Monarch runners are trying to get the notoriety they feel they deserve.

Among the Catholic schools in the diocese, Mercy is the queen of track and field. A convincing 87-45 win over Cardinal Mooney last May gave the Monarchs their seventh consecutive Private-Parochial League title. Mercy has had league opponents running scared since the turn of the decade.

It's outside of their league that the Monarchs aren't really taken seriously. But Coaches Beth Carpenter and Tim Jones are doing all they can to change that.

"We can run with anybody in any league," said Jones, who also started up the cross-country program at the all-girls' school on Blossom Road two years ago.

The Monarch coach isn't just running off at the mouth, either. In track and field competition this season, Mercy finished at 9-0 overall, with two of its victories coming against Webster (79-43) and Brighton (79-53), two traditionally strong track schools in Roches-

ter. Brighton's 26-point defeat against the Monarchs marked the closest any opponent came to beating Mercy all season.

Rochester-area runners are also finding it hard to keep up with Jones's cross-country team. In its first two years, Mercy has yet to lose a dual meet. In the sectionals, the Monarchs finished a respectable fifth.

Recognition has come harder than winning, though.

"Webster decided to pull out its top runners against us so they could run in a meet the next day," said Jones, who is a two-time runner of the Boston Marathon. Jones estimates he's finished 20 marathons in all. "I really think we could have beaten them, anyway."

And why not? Included among several fleet-footed runners this past season was Laura Young, who became the first Our Lady of Mercy student ever to compete in the state tournament.

Jeannine Muoio broke the school record for the 3,000-meter run three consecutive times. The occasion she used to smash the school mark the first time was during qualifiers for the sectionals at Edison Tech on May 18.

The Monarchs continued their assault on individual school records during the sectionals, which were held at SUNY College at Brockport. Lisa Ryan threw her personal best in the shotput with a 28'5" toss, before Susan Mazurowski and Katie Seeman broke the

school marks for the high jump. Seeman would later set a new mark of 5'0" later on in the competition.

Muoio broke her mark in the 3,000-meter run for the third consecutive time, when she recorded a time of 11:26.0 during sectional competition.

At the Meet of Champions on May 30, the 1,600-meter relay team of Nicki Lamagna, Katie Seeman, Mazurowski and Young finished the event in second place, and just missed qualifying for the state tourney. Disappointment turned to ecstasy, though, when Young placed third in the 400-meter dash final, which was a good enough finish to send her off to the state competition.

"If you put her last, she'll find a way to win," Jones said. "She's just a sophomore, but right now I would consider her in the top three (in Section 5)."

While Mercy has been a force to be reckoned with in track events, it has lagged in field events.

Carpenter wants that to change. "Each girl had to practice a field event — the high jump, long jump, discus or whatever (this year)," said Carpenter, who earned a degree in physical education from Russell Sage College before coming to Mercy three years ago. "We want to improve in the field events." And get a little more respect, too.



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Kearney's Jeff Hall looks to make a move toward Waterloo's goal during the regular season. McQuaid will make its own move to the lacrosse ranks next spring.

McQuaid to play lax in Spring '88

Knights will compete as a 'Varsity B' team; coach yet to be named

By Richard A. Kiley

In one form or another, McQuaid Jesuit High School will field a lacrosse team for the first time ever next spring. McQuaid and Bishop Kearney are the only Catholic schools in the diocese to compete in the increasingly popular spring sport.

The question of the level at which McQuaid's team will compete has created a perplexing situation, though.

According to Tim Jordan, who just completed his 19th year as athletic director at McQuaid, plans to start up the program had been in the works for several years, and school administrators believed now was as good as time as any to get the lakmen's cleats wet.

School studies have revealed that interest in the program is high among McQuaid juniors and seniors, however, and administrators have had to consider beginning the program at the varsity level instead of competing against other schools' junior varsity teams for a couple of seasons.

"We're going to have a 'Varsity B' program, which is a midpoint between the two (varsity and junior varsity)," said Father Paul Nochelski, SJ, who was a member of McQuaid's first graduating class. "A lot of the interest is coming from seniors."

Father Nochelski estimated the number of students interested in the lacrosse program to be between 25 and 35. A coach has yet to be named.

Jordan would prefer to see the program begin at the JV level, and believes it will be "extremely difficult" to schedule games against schools that will have nothing to gain from playing McQuaid's "Varsity B" team.

Continued on Page 15