

Catholic lax teams enjoy a 'Super Saturday'

By Richard A. Kiley
Staff writer

Last Saturday was a super one for all three diocesan high school lacrosse teams, as Cardinal Mooney and McQuaid posted first-ever wins on the varsity level, and Bishop Kearney got its season off on the right foot.

First-year Mooney coach Tom Kraft said last week that he didn't want to hear anything about the school's success — or lack thereof — at the JV level last spring.

Kraft has already made his mark on the varsity level, coaching the Cards to a 3-2 non-league win over host Bloomfield on Saturday, April 8.

Scott Bevilacqua scored two goals for the Cards (1-0), including the game-winning tally with five minutes left in the fourth quarter, to propel Mooney. Bevilacqua was the leading scorer for last year's JV Cards.

Senior attackman Craig Kenney scored the other goal for Mooney, which received a strong effort in goal from Greg Phillips (20 saves).

After being outscored by a combined 37-0 in losses to Irondequoit and Webster earlier in the week, last Saturday's 8-3 non-league win over visiting Medina was a welcome change for second-year McQuaid coach Mike Schepis and his players.

The victory was also the first ever for the Knights (1-2).

Eight individual McQuaid players scored against Medina (0-1), with David DiMarco's goal in the second quarter proving the game-winner.

The Knights controlled the tempo of the game, outshooting the visitors 27-18. Junior goalie Paul Magerkurth played a strong game in goal, recording 15 saves.

McQuaid played host to Fairport on Tuesday, April 11, before traveling to Penfield for a game on Thursday, April 13.

Bishop Kearney lacrosse coach Jim Burns said last week that his Cards would need to get a lot of goals from midfielder Beaver Smith and attackman Jon Hand if the Kings were to qualify for their first-ever trip to the sectionals.

Last Saturday, April 8, the two Kearney



Jon Hand (16) maneuvers past some Mynderse defensemen as the Kearney attackman heads toward the goal during Saturday's 8-1 win over the Seneca Falls school.

Linda Dow Hayes/Catholic Courier

lacrosse players obliged their coach when Smith scored four goals and Hand added three in the Kings' convincing 8-1 non-league win over visiting Mynderse.

The game was never in doubt, as Kearney jumped out to an early lead and used a smothering defense to frustrate Mynderse all day.

The Kings outshot Mynderse, 33-17.

Mooney

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of Carin Caravita (.397) and Stacey Marsteiner (.483) to graduation and of junior Jeneane Donahue, who will sit out this season after undergoing major knee surgery.

Brague, who hit .491 as a sophomore last season, will move from left field to shortstop this season. Long, who was named to the all-tournament team last June, will return to second base. Sullivan (.375) will see action at both pitcher and third base and center fielder Chilbert (.365) will be playing her third year on the varsity.

Top newcomers include junior left fielder Stacie Cook (a transfer from Geneva) and freshman right fielder Sarah Peters.

The Saints have already added one championship to their belts, winning the Romulus tournament last weekend with wins over Geneseo, 8-3, and Romulus, 13-7.

Yet another new coach, Bruce McMail, will take over an Elmira Notre Dame program that went to the sectional championship for three years in a row under the direction of Wayne Coburn. McMail's two daughters, Stacey and Bobbi, have played important roles in the success of the ND softball program.

Crusader fans will have to look hard to find players who were part of last year's sectional runner-up team. Gone from that team are All Sullivan Trail Conference first baseman Stacey McMail, catcher Jennifer Dewey, third baseman Tina Maloney, shortstop Lisa Boulas, centerfielder Nat Kozlowski and right fielder Leah Gruczowski.

Freshman Bobbi McMail, who was the ace of the staff as an eighth-grader last spring, will be depended upon heavily this season. The ND hurler attended a pitching clinic in Syracuse over the summer and has even added a few pitches to her already impressive arsenal.

McMail had 14 strikeouts and allowed just one hit against Athens in a 7-1 win by

Notre Dame last Friday, April 7.

Sophomore left fielder Melanie Crisco, junior shortstop Kathy Lynch and senior first baseman Heather Leljedal will be integral in trying to generate offense for ND.



Kearney's midfielder Jeff Failing (22) avoids a check by a Mynderse player as he retains possession of the ball.

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