

Hilton deals Cards first loss, 4-2

By Richard A. Kiley
Staff writer

The 13th game of the season for the Cardinal Mooney girls softball team turned out to be an unlucky one for the second consecutive season.

The Cardinals, winners of their first 12 games this spring, lost to Hilton, 4-2, before only a handful of fans who braved the chill at McAvoy Park last Saturday night, May 6.

Hilton, which also handed Mooney its first loss 13 games into last season, improved to 9-1 for the season.

Eileen Mee struck out six and did not allow a walk en route to a four-hitter for Hilton.

The Cards wasted a strong performance on the mound by Cheryl Lennox, who pitched despite a sore back. The Mooney senior struck out seven and walked only one batter, but she was victimized by four errors and her teammates' lack of hitting in key situations. The Cards left eight runners on base.

"We left runners on base, and they took advantage of the errors we gave them," said head coach Paul Forte, whose Cards were ranked No. 8 in the latest New York State Sports Writers Association ratings of Class B girls' softball teams. "We did not make the plays we had to."

Mooney had runners on first and third with one out in the second inning, but failed to score. Hilton, meanwhile, scored an unearned run in the second inning.

The Cadets scored three more runs in the sixth inning. Christy Jones had two hits and two RBI to lead Hilton offensively.

Lennox played a large part in Mooney's scoring. She doubled home one run and then scored on a single by Liz Furey.

Mooney had kept its season-opening winning streak alive with wins over Greece Olympia, Bishop Kearney and Irondequoit.

During their 23-8 win over visiting Greece Olympia on Friday, May 5, several Cardinals had big offensive games. Patti Heydens scored five runs for Mooney and Marisa Shackelford collected three hits and six RBI to propel Mooney.

Among other offensive stars were Gia Cucinelli (2-for-3, four walks, scored five runs, two RBI) and Margie McGuire (3-for-4, three RBI).

Lennox sat out the game as she nursed a sore back.

Against host Bishop Kearney on Thursday, May 4, Lennox and Dawn Pickering combined for a two-hitter to beat the Kings, 13-2.

Lennox struck out eight in three innings. She also enjoyed a big day at the plate with three hits, including a triple, and three RBI.

Shackelford had a double, a triple and two RBI, and Shannon Barry was 2-for-4 and had one run batted in for Mooney.

Against visiting Irondequoit on Wednesday, May 3, the Cards scored four runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to beat the Braves in a sectional-type game, 7-5.

Cucinelli had the key hit for Mooney with a two-run triple. She later scored on a single by McGuire.

Kearney falls to Marshall; DeSales remains unbeaten

By Richard A. Kiley
Staff writer

The biggest question coming into this week's high school baseball action is what effect last weekend's heavy snow will have on a full slate of games.

A doubleheader featuring the four Catholic high schools in the City-Catholic League was scheduled for Silver Stadium on Tuesday, May 9. McQuaid and Kearney were to face each other in a 4:15 p.m. game, and Cardinal Mooney and Aquinas were to battle in the nightcap.

Aquinas and McQuaid will be coming off non-league losses to Greece Athena and Canandaigua, respectively.

Athena sophomore pitcher Lou Rothman allowed only four hits and struck out seven

Nazareth Academy (5-2 league, 10-3 overall) continued its strong play this season with wins over Bishop Kearney and Aquinas.

Nazareth beat the Kings, 13-7, in a Private-Parochial League game on Friday, May 5. Amy Attridge, who coach Dave Pisano reports was hitting .608 heading into this week's action, was 2-for-3 with three RBI.

Renee Gambatti (4-for-5, three RBI) and Nicole Olley (three hits, three RBI) were also offensive stars for Nazareth.

Michelle Morgan improved her record to 4-2 for the season with a five-hitter. She also struck out four batters.

Nazareth edged Aquinas, 7-4, in another league game on Thursday, May 4. Olley improved to 4-1 for the season by pitching a two-hitter for five innings.

Attridge, who came on to relieve Olley in the sixth inning, had three hits and three RBI. Kristen Mattle and Caitlin Culligan had two RBI each for Nazareth.

According to Pisano, Attridge, a junior utility player, has 17 hits in her last 20 at bats. "It's the best hitting streak I've ever seen," he said.

Nazareth and Cardinal Mooney were scheduled to play a key league game at Mooney on Monday, May 8, but Forte and Pisano were forced to postpone the game because of the freak snow storm. The game may be played later this week.

In other Private-Parochial League action from last week, Our Lady of Mercy (3-2 league, 4-7 overall) scored seven runs in

the second inning to beat host Aquinas (1-3, 1-6), 12-10, on Friday, May 5.

Elizabeth Kowal (three RBI), Kristin White (two RBI) and Lisa Pellgrino (two RBI) led Mercy offensively.

Over in Class D, Geneva DeSales (3-1, 5-1) dropped its first game of the season, 14-4, to Red Jacket (6-0) on Wednesday, May 3.

Maureen Meehan, who had four hits to lead Red Jacket, pitched an eight-hitter. She struck out seven and walked seven.

Courtney Romeiser and Kelly Aber had three hits apiece for the Indians, who opened up an 8-0 lead in the first inning.

Danielle Boncaro and Mary Ellen Chilbert paced the DeSales offense with three hits each.

In Section 4 Class C, Elmira Notre Dame (4-3, 7-4) rebounded from back-to-back losses to Corning West and Hornell earlier in the week by blanking Elmira Free Academy, 8-0, at home on Friday, May 5.

The Crusaders broke out of a scoring slump by pounding EFA for six runs in the first inning. ND benefited from six walks during the game.

Bobbi McMail, who struck out six batters, threw a two-hitter for Notre Dame. The freshman pitcher also had a two-run single.

Erin Kernan had a two-run double for the Crusaders, who were ranked No. 6 in the latest New York State Sports Writers Association ratings of Class C-D softball

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Mooney's second baseman Michelle Long (11) is about to snag a line drive during the Cards' 23-8 romp over Greece Olympia on Friday, May 5.



Linda Dow Hayes/Catholic Courier

A Greece Olympia runner reaches third base before Marisa Shackelford can make the tag.

to lead the visiting Trojans to a 2-1 win over the Little Irish on Saturday, May 6. The winning margin for Athena came on a bases-loaded walk in the fourth inning.

McQuaid dropped a 3-0 decision to host Canandaigua on Saturday, May 6. C.T. Dick pitched a five-hitter and struck out eight Knights to carry the Braves. McQuaid also dropped a 7-5 league game to East last week.

Marshall has the upper hand in the race for the league title after beating host Bishop Kearney, 5-1, on Friday, May 5. The Jurists are 7-0 in the league and 8-1 overall this season. The Kings, 15-4 winners over Northstar the day before, dropped to 6-2 in the league and 8-3 overall.

Mike Infantino (home run, three singles, two RBI) and Dave Weiss (two singles, two RBI) were the offensive stars for Marshall.

Cardinal Mooney (2-2, 5-7) continued its fine play after a slow start with a 13-0 win over visiting Northstar on Friday, May 5. The Cards were 1-7 at one point this season.

Senior right-hander John Carnevale pitched a one-hitter for the Cards, who were boosted offensively by Charlie Sciortino (home run, three RBI) and Scott Hylas (three RBI).

Aquinas blasted visiting Franklin, 11-4, on Friday, May 5, behind the two-hit pitching of Todd Moore, and the hitting of Brendan Pickett (three RBI) and Darren

Diehl (two hits, two RBI).

Over in Class D, Geneva DeSales was 5-0 in the Finger Lakes West at the beginning of the week after wins over Honeoye and Red Jacket. Both games featured stirring comebacks by the Saints.

DeSales got three runs in the top of the seventh to defeat host Honeoye, 6-3, on Saturday, May 6. The Saints started the rally with one out in their half of the seventh.

Jim McDermott reached on an error, stole second and scored on Aaron Montagna's single. Montagna later scored on a single by Steve Vedora, who was brought home on a single by Frank Pane Jr.

The Saints were successful on six of seven steal attempts.

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