

Baseball teams stumble in early-season games

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

The Easter recess provided very few breaks for the baseball teams from McQuaid, Bishop Kearney and Aquinas. The three diocesan schools were a combined 1-10 in games last week.

Elmira Notre Dame, on the other hand, parlayed good pitching, good defense, and some good fortune into two wins.

McQuaid (1-1) was the lone Rochester-area diocesan team to record a victory during the week — and that win came at the expense of City-Catholic League rival Bishop Kearney (0-5).

The Knights took advantage of several Kearney errors to claim a 7-3 victory over the host Kings April 16. McQuaid hitters rapped out seven hits — with third baseman John Dever and outfielder Jim Dzakowicz each leading the attack with two hits and one RBI.

McQuaid pitcher Andy Dvovich scattered three hits, and was backed up by a solid defense, noted coach Gerry Jaromin.

The Knights' defense was strong again on April 18, Jaromin observed, but the Knights were held to just four singles and fell to host Webster 5-1. Shortstop Scott Boeck provided half of McQuaid's offense with two hits against the Warriors (3-1).

McQuaid was scheduled to play five games this week, with games against Edison at home on April 23; Fairport at home on April 24; at Gates-Chili on April 25; at East on April 27; and at home against Canandaigua at home April 28.

Kearney continued to be plagued by errors in other games throughout the week, losing to visiting Greece Athena, 17-10, on April 17, visiting Rush-Henrietta, 13-12, on April 19, and a doubleheader to host Canandaigua on April 20, 9-8 and 8-6.

"What's hurting us now is our defense," coach Art Carlisi said. "We've had 19 errors in five games."

Carlisi added that the Kings have also been giving up a lot of walks, which — combined with shoddy defensive play — has put Kearney into the hole early.



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer
The pitching and hitting of Bishop Kearney's Marty Alexander were among the few highlights of the week for the Kings, who committed 19 errors during five consecutive losses. But Kearney did not suffer alone: Aquinas lost four consecutive games, and McQuaid split 1-1, as the three Rochester teams combined for a 1-10 record.

Against Rush-Henrietta, for example, Kings' pitchers gave up nine walks and recorded seven errors.

Carlisi said his team has managed to stay in its games because of strong hitting. The hottest hitter of the week was Brian Sergeant, who went 10-for-17 over five games.

Sergeant also pitched two scoreless innings, allowing just one hit in the second game against Canandaigua. That performance may get him a start, the coach said, as the Kings seek ways to hold the opposition in check.

BK was scheduled to host Franklin April 26, after traveling to Wilson on April 24. The Kings were also scheduled to play away games at Honeoye Falls (April 27) and Eastringham (April 28).

Aquinas (0-4) is also suffering from erratic pitching. Unlike Kearney, however, the Little Irish nine have not been hitting.

The week began for Aquinas with a 2-1 loss to host Victor on April 16. That loss was followed by a 19-1 drubbing by host Midlakes on April 18; a 12-0 loss to host Gates-Chili on April 19; and a 10-6 defeat at Brockport.

The Midlakes game was symptomatic of the Irish woes. Aquinas pitchers gave up 16 walks and threw 11 wild pitches, while Little Irish hitters managed just two hits.

Aquinas was scheduled to travel to Franklin April 24 and Batavia on April 26, before hosting Wilson (April 27) and Fairport (April 28) for two games.

In Section 4, Notre Dame (3-2) played three games — including two contests rescheduled from earlier in the season.

On April 14, host Canton scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth to edge the Crusaders 6-5.

ND used some late inning scoring of its own to beat visiting Athens, 6-5, on April 16, and visiting Elmira Free Academy, 3-2, on April 19.

In the eighth inning of the Athens' game, two errors allowed a Crusader runner to score from first base. The game against EFA — the Crusaders' first Sullivan Trail Conference contest — ended when a balk allowed Andy Latchford to score from third.

Mike Bennett won both games, raising his record to 2-0.

Notre Dame was slated to travel to Horseheads April 23 for a tough league contest.

Kearney battles Finger Lakes lax powers; McQuaid earns first win

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Bishop Kearney's lacrosse team faced a trio of Finger Lakes teams last week and came away with two losses. Meanwhile, McQuaid's lax team won its first game of the season by defeating another Finger Lakes school.

The Kings (2-2) began the week with a tough non-league loss at defending Section 5 Class B champion Geneva, 5-4, on April 17.

After the Panthers (4-2) scored the game's first two goals, the two teams played evenly the rest of the contest.

Nazareth pounds HAC, 18-9

Nazareth Academy (4-1) pounded host Harley-Allendale Columbia, 18-9, on April 19.

Julie Sojka (4-for-4, two doubles, five RBI) and Missy Creamer (5-for-6, three doubles, one home run, five RBI) led the attack. Winning-pitcher Lenore Suraci also contributed with her bat as she went 6-for-7 at the plate, including four doubles.

"We're hitting the ball a ton," coach Dave Pisano said. "We're getting stronger. I'm just worried about us lapsing."

Nazareth can't afford a letdown with its upcoming schedule. Pisano's team was set to begin its quest for the Private-Parochial League title with visits to Aquinas, April 24, and Bishop Kearney, April 25.

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The Kings trailed 2-1 at the end of the first quarter; 3-2 at the half; and 4-3 at the end of the third quarter.

Late in the fourth quarter, however, a Geneva player intercepted a Kearney pass, ran the length of the field, and scored to put the Panthers ahead 5-3.

Greg Phillips collected two goals and one assist for the Kings. Jim Ingrick and Ryan Kennerson each had a goal.

The Panthers outshot the Kings 22-18. Kearney goalie John Werner came up with 14 saves, including eight stops during one-on-one situations.

Werner was sharp again during a 9-6 win over host Mynderse (1-4), recording nine saves. Jon Hand, meanwhile, exploded for five goals, including the game-winner late in the third quarter to break a 6-6 deadlock.

Hand also had two assists in the game. Phillips had two goals, and Kennerson and Ingrick each recorded one goal.

On April 21, the Kings gave Penn Yan, the 15th-ranked Class B team in the state, all it could handle in a non-league encounter. Kearney led 4-2 in the second quarter, and the score was knotted 4-all at the half, but the Mustangs (3-1) pulled away in the second half for an 11-6 victory.

Once again, Werner played a strong game in the cage, stopping 12 shots, many of them at point-blank range, noted first-year Kings' coach Tom Coons.

Scoring for Kearney were Hand (two goals, three assists), Ingrick (two goals),

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A: _____

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