

McQuaid enjoys record-breaking week; BK drops two

By Richard A. Kiley
Managing editor

ROCHESTER — Before the high school lacrosse season began in April, first-year McQuaid coach Tony Levin said he knew his Knights were going to take their lumps.

He was right. Entering last week's action, McQuaid had dropped 12 of its 13 games this season, with the only win coming against woeful Bloomfield.

But the Knights, who began playing at the varsity level three years ago, showed signs of better days ahead with back-to-back wins last week. In the process, McQuaid set three school records in lacrosse.

The Knights (3-12) showed poise and character in a come-from-behind, 8-7 win at Medina (Section 6) Saturday, May 19. The win set a school record for wins in lacrosse. It also marked the first time McQuaid had won two consecutive lacrosse games after the Knights blasted Bloomfield 9-1 on Monday, May 14.

After leading 6-5 at the half in Saturday's game, McQuaid fell behind 7-6 early in the third quarter, when Medina struck for two quick goals.

"We were a little down after they got two goals on their first two shots, but we really wanted to turn things around," said Levin, who thought six wins was realistic before this season started.

After McQuaid knotted the score at 7-7, senior Scott Cottier got what turned out to be the winning goal late in the third quarter.

"He (Cottier) has really been coming on strong," Levin said. "His skills and leadership have helped us improve."

Levin and his players had to survive some anxious moments late in the final quarter. The Knights received three penalties in the final minutes — including a three-minute, unreleasable penalty late in the quarter when a McQuaid player was called for an illegal stick.

In addition to Cottier, sophomore attacker Rob Warren (three goals) and junior Steve Paul (three goals, two assists) stood out offensively for the Knights. Paul leads



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer

As his Bishop Kearney teammates listen to coach Tom Coons during a third-quarter timeout, goalie John Werner kneels to collect himself during the Kings' 12-2 loss to Penfield May 19. The Kings (6-8) suffered a tough week against two of the county's best lax teams, losing 16-2 to Irondequoit on May 14 as well.

the team in scoring this season with 19 goals and five assists. Erik Pederson also scored a goal against Medina.

Levin cited the defensive play of freshman Ben DeLuca, sophomore Rich Rund and sophomore Ryan Walsh with preserving the win over the Section 6 opponent.

Paul Magerkurth (eight saves) and Ben Hirokawa (10 saves) both played well while splitting the goaltending duties.

McQuaid set a school record for most goals in a lacrosse game during the 9-1 rout of host Bloomfield earlier in the week. Cottier led the way with four goals. Paul also scored twice. Magerkurth played a strong game in goal as the Knights completed their season sweep of Bloomfield.

McQuaid will try to continue its winning ways as the Knights close out the regular season against visiting Williamsville (Section 6) on May 22 and at Bishop Kearney

on May 23.

While McQuaid turned things around last week, Kearney (6-8) dropped two games to a couple of Monroe County's best lacrosse teams.

The Kings, who are battling for a spot in the upcoming sectionals, lost to Penfield (12-5), 12-2, on May 19, and Irondequoit (12-2), 16-2, on May 14.

Details of the losses were not available as of press time.

Nazareth wins first-ever title in softball; ND thrashes Corning East

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

The softball season for diocesan teams seems destined to end not with a bang, but a downpour.

Poor weather forced the cancellation of many games, producing a mad scramble as teams attempted to squeeze in as many games as possible before sectionals begin.

The good news for Nazareth (5-1, 13-3) is that the Lazars won their first-ever Private-Parochial League title in softball.

The bad news is how.

Bishop Kearney (3-4, 6-7) provided the damper on the Nazareth celebration, handing the visitors a 7-6 loss on May 14.

Michelle Pinckney fired a four-hitter as the Kearney pitcher completely shut down Nazareth over the last four innings. Pinckney also drove in a run. Sandy Supple lashed a two-run double for the winners.

Despite the loss, however, Nazareth was able to clinch the league title when Mercy upended visiting Aquinas 16-6 on May 14.

The Little Irish (3-4 in league) had to win all of their games to have a shot at the title, but the Monarchs (2-4, 3-10) threw a wrench into Aquinas' plans by unveiling a new pitcher.

According to Monarch coach Mike Baxter, third baseman Nikki Lebel approached him before the Aquinas game and asked for a chance to pitch. Mercy's pitching has suffered control problems all season, as Monarch hurlers have averaged between 15 and 20 walks a game.

After Baxter agreed to the move, Lebel pitched a complete game. She also didn't walk a batter.

Lebel got the support she needed from Tracy Tegg (4-for-4), Sheila Doyle (2-for-3) and Brenda Seitz (3-for-4, 2 RBI).

In other action from last week, Kearney

traveled to Livonia on May 19 and lost 9-5. Coach Paul Forte noted that his team played well, but was unable to generate much offense. He did praise his team's defensive play, particularly third baseman Chris Kluchko and center fielder Kate Dillon.

Mercy, meanwhile, enjoyed another strong pitching performance from Lebel against host Rush-Henrietta on May 18, but the Monarchs still lost, 10-3.

Mercy's defense committed numerous errors behind Lebel.

All four of the Private-Parochial League teams will be trying to squeeze in as many games as possible before the regular season ends May 25. Nazareth, Aquinas and Kearney appear to have locks on sectional berths. Nazareth has a good chance of securing the top seed in Class A.

Mercy, however, is on the bubble. The Monarchs were scheduled to play five games. According to Baxter, his team probably needs at least two or three wins to get into the sectionals.

But getting two or three wins might be tough. Mercy was scheduled to play two games against visiting Nazareth on May 22 before hosting Kearney on May 23. The Monarchs were also scheduled to travel to Penfield on May 24 and Marshall May 25.

The DeSales Saints raised their league and overall record to 6-4 with an 8-4 win at home over Bloomfield on May 19. DeSales

trailed 2-0 going into the fourth inning, but then scored eight runs. The key to the rally was a two-run triple by Megan Jenkins. Danielle Boncaro earned the win.

DeSales, which appears certain to get into the sectionals in Class D, was scheduled to try to squeeze in four home games — Honeoye on May 21, Naples on May 22, Red Jacket May 23, and Dundee May 24.

Elmira Notre Dame (7-4) slipped to third in the state Class C-D poll, but the drop didn't seem to hurt the team's play on the field as the Crusaders thrashed visiting Corning East, 10-1, on May 14.

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