

Returning Sweet Home keglers possess right mix

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

Despite losing three of the team's top four "A" bowlers to graduation, Sweet Home coach Kathy McDonald is confident her returning keglers can pick up the slack this season.

As of this writing, the Panthers' "A" team will be junior Peter Schaefer leading off followed by senior John Grunzweig, sophomore Ryan Kaminski and senior Dan Kaminski at anchor.

Ryan Kaminski led Sweet Home in average as a freshman with a 201, a 39-pin improvement from his eighth grade season. He was anchor on "B" last year.

"He's a really dedicated practice bowler," said McDonald. "If he has an off day, he dedicates his time in practice getting his game back on track. From start to finish, he's all business."

Ryan's older brother Dan is the team's only captain. Dan was fourth on the team in average (190.7).

"Dan's really our leader," said McDonald. "I let the kids vote for who is captain and out of the twenty some years I've coached, this is the first year that every single kid voted for one person as captain. Dan keeps the team up, leads by example, never quits, and holds the group together."

Grunzweig and Schaefer, 182 and 177 averages, respectively,



Dan Kaminski captains this year's Sweet Home's boys bowling team.
Photo by Joe Eberle

last year, each made changes in their game which should help them this season.

"John used to point the ball pretty much up to the pocket. Now he's getting a lot of side roll on it," said McDonald. "Peter has a better arm swing."

The Sweet Home "B" team could be freshman Brett Kreiss leading off with seniors Josh Terech and Bill Klein, and anchor Aaron Klein.

McDonald said Terech and Bill Klein's game improved so much from the Coburn Clinic at Manor II Lanes that each made the team for the first time as seniors. Aaron Klein and junior Shawn Louis also attended. The Coburn Clinic, a hands-on instructional clinic over the summer, is run by McDonald's parents, Frank and Doris. The clinic is also offered at Airport Lanes. Frank was recently honored by Bowlers Journal International as one of the top 100 coaches for youth and school in the country.

Last year, Aaron Klein averaged 180.9 and was Sweet Home's alternate bowler at last year's Section VI Championships. Sweet Home finished tied for fifth at the event. He shot a 678 series at the Maryvale Holiday Tournament on Dec. 4.

"He's kind of the spark of the team and gets everyone going," said McDonald. "He always has a positive attitude and works hard

in practice."

Kriess, who bowls out of Tonawanda, won a three-game roll-off to make the team and is very receptive to instruction, McDonald said.

Juniors Brian Barnas and Jonathan LoPresti return. Sophomore Steven Daniels-Robinson is new.

The Sweet Home boys, like the girls team, moves down from ECIC I to ECIC II. In 2004, Sweet Home went 10-0 for the first time in school history and won ECIC II.

"I've got a real good mixture on both teams so I expect that they're both are going to do well this season," said McDonald.

Sweet Home

2006-07 Schedule

12-13 at Hamburg (Legion) 4 p.m.
12-19 at Iroquois (Lancaster) .. 4 p.m.
1-3 South..... 4 p.m.
1-8 East..... 4 p.m.
1-10 at W.S.East (Wimbledon) 4 p.m.
1-17 Hamburg..... 4 p.m.
1-22 Iroquois..... 4 p.m.
1-31 at East 4 p.m. (Transit)
2-5 W.S. East..... 4 p.m.
2-12 at ECIC Rolloffs (Thruway Lanes).....TBA
2-15 at Section VI Championships (Thruway Lanes)TBA
*All home matches are at Manor II Lanes.

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Sweet Home beats South in league opener

Sweet Home boys bowling came out victorious in their first match at Transit Lanes, winning 4-3 against Williamsville South last Thursday.

Sweet Home moved down from ECIC Division I to ECIC II.

The match was very close as Sweet Home won by 57 pins, 4782-4725, but the Panthers stayed tough and came through with the victory. South won two "A" team matches and one "B" match.

Sweet Home captain Dan Kaminski led his team to victory with games of 235, 264, 198 for a 697 set. Ryan Kaminski had games of 226, 235 and 173 for a 634 set.

John Grunzweig also had a 600 series with games of 202 and 247. Shawn Louis was steady in his first outing with games of 200,173, and 219 for a 592 series. Bill Klein bowled 200-581, Aaron Klein had 202-561 and Brian Barnas stepped into the match and shot a 257.

Alex Petrie (674), Adam Petrie (611), Russ Scheiss (653) and Collin Ballou (643) bowled for South's "A" team. Justin Maggio (548), Andy Vitale (518), Matt Petrie (547) and Tony Cirbus (531) rolled for the Billies' "B" team.

Maryvale Tournament

Sweet Home had a great showing in the Maryvale Holiday Tournament on Dec. 4 at Airport Lanes.

The Panthers finished eighth among a field of 38 teams. They totaled 3012 for the three games.

High for Sweet Home was Aaron Klein with games of 213, 229 and 238 for a 678 total. This was not only high for the team, but a personal high for Klein.

Captain Dan Kaminski was not far behind Klein with a 663 set. Kaminski had games of 193, 225 and 245.

John Grunzweig had a 600 series with 207 and 226 games. Josh Terech had a 223 game.

Roster numbers down for South swimming

Williamsville South finished 4-6 last year but with eight swimmers returning, it could be an uphill battle this season for the Billies.

"With team numbers so low, winning meets will be extremely difficult but hopefully we will run into a few teams with the same amount of numbers," said South coach Richard Grampp. "Other than that, the goal of this team will be to improve our best times every time we enter the water. Even if we don't win a swim meet the season, it can still be a success as long as personal goals are all met and that is what we will concentrate on during the year."

Senior Drew Rogers, who qualified for the New York State Championships in the 100 and 200-yard freestyle, returns to lead the squad.

"He's setting his sights on breaking a few school records and repeating and improving his standing at the state meet," said Grampp.

Senior Aaron Bitner will also be counted on to help out more this year in the freestyle events and the 100 fly, Grampp said. South's other senior, Louis Cascino, brings a lot of leadership and enthusiasm to the team, said Grampp.

"He will also be looked to help in the sprint free and the 100 breaststroke," said Grampp.

Sophomore Greg Frank is a complete swimmer who will be used in every event this year,

said Grampp.

Rob Gardner returns from last year's team and will be needed to step up quite a bit in the sprints and 100 back, Grampp said.

Freshmen Nick Herr, Ryan Rodems, and Benjamin Sternberg will be asked to improve at a tremendous rate to help a South team with few numbers, said Grampp.

South 2006-07 Schedule

12-15 at Lackawanna 4:30 p.m.
12-18 Maryvale..... 4:30 p.m.
1-3 at Starpoint..... 4:30 p.m.
1-5 at Eden..... 4:30 p.m.
1-9 Tonawanda..... 4:30 p.m.
1-12 at Cheektowaga 4:30 p.m.
1-16 at Amherst (Sweet Home) 5 p.m.
1-19 East Aurora..... 4:30 p.m.
1-26 at Depew..... 4:30 p.m.
1-30 Alden..... 4:30 p.m.
2-2 at Springville..... 4:30 p.m.
2-17 ECICs at Clarence - warm-ups - large schools 9 a.m., small schools 1 p.m.
2-22 Section VI Championships at Sweet Home, swimming warm-ups..... TBA
2-23 Section VI Championships at Sweet Home, diving warm-ups..... TBA
2-24 Section VI Championships at Sweet Home, diving and swimming finals..... TBA

Sports briefs

East Amherst's Kaeli Abdo won the 1- and 3-meter dives in the Canisius College women's swimming and diving 147-76 home loss over St. Bonaventure on Sunday. Abdo won the 1-meter with 224.48 points and the 3-meter with 225.08.

Registration has already begun for a six-week spring training 2007 baseball program at Medaille College for players in grades 1-12 from January 28 to March 4.

Medaille College head coach Ron Nero and coach Tony Sekuterski will direct the program in conjunction with Midwest Baseball Academy.

Sessions are offered in advanced hitting and pitching at a cost of \$98 for six weeks.

For more information, visit www.baseballacademy.net or call 1-866-MBA-HITS.

Amherst Central High School graduates Jon Kenney and Mike Pizzuto were named to Inside Lacrosse magazine's Face-off Yearbook list of pre-season Division III preseason All-Americans.

Kenney, a senior defenseman at Washington College, was named to the First Team. Pizzuto, a junior at Geneseo State College, made Honorable Mention. The list features 90 of the top lacrosse players in the country.

University at Buffalo redshirt freshmen Andrew Stella, a Sweet Home High School graduate, capitalized on an early takedown and an escape to force a 4-3 decision over Edinboro's Daryl Cocozzo. Stella earned his first career dual match victory, scoring three team points to make the score 6-4 after three matches. UB lost 31-6 overall. Edinboro is ranked 12th nationally.

East

(Continued from page 18)

place in the league, and knock a few records off the record board at Sweet Home.

Sweet Home is also the host for the 2006-07 Section VI Championships. Sectionals have been held in recent years at Erie Community College's Burt Flickinger Center. ECICs, normally at Sweet Home, were moved to Clarence.

Sweet Home

2006-07 Schedule

12-12 at Orchard Park..... 5 p.m.
12-15 W.S. West..... 4:30 p.m.
12-19 at Jamestown 6 p.m.
1-2 at Hamburg..... 5 p.m.
1-9 at Lake Shore 4:30 p.m.
1-12 W.S. East 4:30 p.m.
1-16 at East(Transit Middle) 6 p.m.
1-19 Iroquois..... 4:30 p.m.
1-26 at Frontier..... 5 p.m.
1-30 Lancaster..... 4:30 p.m.
2-2 Clarence 4:30 p.m.
2-17 ECICs at Clarence - warm-ups - large schools 9 a.m.,

small schools 1 p.m.

2-22 Section VI Championships at Sweet Home, swimming warm-ups TBA
2-23 Section VI Championships at Sweet Home, diving warm-ups TBA
2-24 Section VI Championships at Sweet Home, diving and swimming finals..... TBA

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