

Softball

Williamsville East loses in tournament final

Williamsville East was perfect against Section VI competition in the 10th annual Wildcat Invitational Softball Tournament but no match for Section V.

The Lady Flames lost 8-0 against Section V's Victor in the Bracket B final of the tournament, held on Saturday, May 5 at Walden Pond in Lancaster.

Starting East pitcher Karen Kingsley allowed five runs, three earned, with seven innings in four innings of work. Sophomore Britney Rung threw three innings, giving up four hits and three earned runs.

Bridget Steele, Jessica Windnagle, Courtney Rung, and Ally Kotz were the only Lady Flame batters to hit singles.

Prior to the loss, East performed well in the tournament, defeating Orchard Park, 5-1, in the quarterfinals, and Depew, 4-0, in the semifinals.

Kelly Rusin pitched a six-hitter against OP and struck out six.

The East offense didn't score against the Lady Quakers until the third when Anna Stolzenburg tripled and scored on a Steele single. Steele advanced to second on the throw to the plate. With one out, Courtney Rung sacrificed Steele to third and she scored on a passed ball.

Steele walked in the top of the fifth and moved to second on a sacrifice by Windnagle. Courtney Rung doubled home Steele.

In the top of the sixth, Kotz singled, Jenna Larkin sacrificed her to second and Chelsea Horne drove a double to right center to score Kotz.

With the score 4-0 in the top of the seventh, Steele led off with a walk, stole second, and scored on Courtney Rung's triple.

OP scored its only run in the bottom of the seventh on four consecutive singles. The East de-



Williamsville East's Anna Stolzenburg grabs a ground ball at first base during the Lady Flames 5-1 quarterfinal win over Orchard Park in the B Bracket of the Wildcat Invitational Softball Tournament held on Saturday, May 5 at Walden Pond in Lancaster. East defeated Depew, 4-0, in the semifinal before losing to Section V's Victor, 8-0, in the final. Running and out on the play is Orchard Park's Kate Mankowski.

Photo by John Rusac

Purchase color photos at www.BeeNews.com

defense held tight for the third out.

Steele led East, hitting 1 for 2 with an RBI and three runs scored. Courtney Rung was 2 for 3 with two RBIs. Horne was 1 for 1 with an RBI.

Sophomore pitcher Megan Allers got her first varsity start as the team played Depew. Depew had five hits over the first three innings but Allers and the East defense made the defensive plays

to prevent any runs.

In the top of the fourth, Steele led off with a single, stole second, was moved to third on a sacrifice bunt by Windnagle and brought home by a Courtney Rung single. Taylor Klun then singled, Kotz reached base safely on an error at third, Larkin executed a suicide bunt squeeze to score Courtney Rung, and Stolzenburg singled home Klun and Kotz to give East

a four-run lead.

Ellers pitched stronger as the game went on, striking out four of the last six batters she faced. She finished with six strikeouts, no walks and allowed eight singles over seven innings. Steele was 3 for 4 with a run scored. Courtney Rung was 2 for 3 with a run scored and an RBI. Stolzenburg was 1 for 1 with an RBI.

In ECIC Division II league games earlier in the week, East defeated Amherst, 12-5 and 6-5, in a doubleheader at Amherst on Wednesday, May 3.

In Game One, Steele led off with a bunt, stole second and scored on a Klun double. Amherst followed with two runs when Liz Reid doubled home, Mollie Lang, who led off with a double and moved to third on an error and Eva Lankes, who reached on an error.

East came back in the top of the second with three consecutive singles by Horne, Kingsley and Stolzenburg (RBI). A fly ball by Steele scored another run and a fielding error allowed Rachele Arenos to drive in another.

With the score 4-2, Amherst plated its third run after Becca Masters singled, advanced to second on a sacrifice and scored on a Lang single.

East scored twice more in the third. Klun, Kotz and Courtney Rung singled. Horne reached first on a fielder's choice as Klun was out at the plate. Kingsley hit her second single (4 for 4) to score two.

Amherst scored two more runs as Jessica Banning and Reid singled and Masters doubled them both home in the third.

In the top of the fourth, Arenos led off with a bunt single, Windnagle sacrificed her to third as third base was left uncovered, and Arenos scored on a passed ball.

East did not allow another Amherst player to score but East added runs. In the top of the sixth, Windnagle doubled, was sacrificed to third by Kotz and scored on Courtney Rung's single. Kristen Gaglione and Kingsley's singles drove in Rung.

Three more runs crossed the plate in the seventh. Arenos singled and scored on Klun's double. Kotz reached safely on an error and Klun and Kotz scored on Courtney Rung's double.

Rung hit 3 for 5 with three RBIs and scored two runs. Kingsley (4 for 4, two RBIs), Klun (3 for 4, two RBIs), and Steele (2 for 5, RBI) also contributed towards East's win.

Lang was 2 for 4 RBI, and scored a run for Amherst. Banning was 2 for 4. Reid and Masters each hit 2 for 3 with two RBIs. Katy Tirella tossed a nine-hitter and struck out one.

In the night cap, Amherst scored two runs in the top of the first — Lang on a Banning double and Kelly Dixson on a Banning

single.

Steele led off the bottom of the first with a walk, stole second and advanced to third on an Arenos sacrifice bunt. Windnagle's ground ball to second was misplayed, scoring Steele. Klun singled moving Windnagle to second. Kotz also hit to second and reached safely. Courtney Rung hit a one-out double to score Windnagle and Klun. Rusin's fly ball to center field scored Kotz.

Amherst scored again in the top of the third when Lankes reached first on a fielding error, moved to third on Banning's single and scored on a Dixson fielder's choice.

East scored twice in the bottom of the fourth. Courtney Rung singled and moved to third on Kelly McNamra's single. McNamara moved to second on the throw to the plate and scored on Steele's single. Relief pitcher Allers pitched the last three innings.

Amherst scored its last run in the top of the sixth when Sam Sweeney was safe on an error, stole second and pinch runner Dana Ruh scored on a Lang single. Allers (five hits, two strikeouts, unearned run) and the defense kept Amherst from scoring again.

Rusin allowed five hits, three runs, one earned, and struck out two.

Courtney Rung led the offense, hitting 2 for 3 with two RBIs.

Banning (two hits, RBI), Dixson (two hits, two RBIs), Reid (4 for 4, double), Lang (hit, RBI), and Lankes, Masters, Sweeney, Katie Bardak and Julie Halm (single) contributed to Amherst's offense. Banning tossed a six-hitter and struck out four.

East (4-3, 3-3) played at Hamburg on Monday, May 7 but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. They host Williamsville South at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9, and are at Lake Shore and Iroquois for 5 p.m. starts on Thursday, May 10 and Friday, May 11.

Amherst Central

Amherst's other games last week were a 9-0 loss to Williamsville South on Tuesday, May 1 (see South story) and a 3-1 defeat to Iroquois on Friday, May 4.

Amherst's only run against Iroquois came in the sixth when Banning led off with a single, stole second and Bardak hit a sacrifice fly to drive her in.

Amherst left five runners in scoring position.

Banning and Lang each hit 2 for 4. Lankes was 1 for 3 with a triple. Sweeney hit 2 for 3. JV call-up Erin Dixson allowed eight hits, two earned runs and struck out six.

Amherst coach Mike Chatelle said defensively, his team needs to improve early in games. Iroquois' first batter and South's first two batters reached on errors.

"We're consistent at the plate," he added. "If we can pick up our defense, hopefully, we'll turn the season around."

Amherst is 4-8 overall but 1-7 in league play. Amherst played at Tonawanda on Monday, May 7 and at Williamsville South on Tuesday, May 8 but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. Amherst hosts West Seneca East at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9 and Hamburg at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 11.

(Patrick J. Nagy contributed to this story.)

Sweet Home splits league games, tournament

The Sweet Home varsity softball team recorded their fifth straight ECIC Division I league victory winning at Jamestown, 4-0 on Thursday, May 3.

Amanda Cannizzo pitched a complete game, striking out five and only allowing five hits.

The Lady Panthers scored early keeping their lead throughout the entire game. Leading the way offensively were Cannizzo (3 for 4, two runs scored), Jillian Reeser (2 for 4, two RBIs), Kelly Weber (1 for 3, run scored), Rachel Cimerman (1 for 4, run scored), and

Krista Prentice (1 for 3, two RBIs).

The league win streak ended on Friday, May 4 when they lost 10-1 against Orchard Park.

Sweet Home went 1-1 in the Bracket B of the Wildcat Invitational Softball Tournament on Saturday, May 5 at Walden Pond in Lancaster.

Sweet Home lost the opener 11-1 to Section V's Victor, the eventual tournament champion.

In the second game, the Lady Panthers defeated Niagara Wheatfield, 5-4, in eight innings.

In the bottom of the eighth, Cannizzo had the game-winning double, scoring Devin Gonzalez and Carol Skoney (game winning run).

Cannizzo led the day offensively, going 3 for 4 with two doubles, two RBIs and scoring two runs.

Also adding key hits were Weber (2 for 4, run scored), Heather Kolbas (2 for 4, RBI), Jesse Lewandowski (2 for 4, run scored), Lauren Prentice (1 for 2), Devin Gonzalez (1 for 3, run scored) and Krista Prentice (RBI).

Sweet Home plays Williamsville North, West Seneca West, Lancaster and Frontier this week.

Williamsville North (Continued from page 27)

cluding four in the team's first meeting with Lockport.

Minnuto also lauded the ground ball work and intensity of attack wing Leigh Schreiner and speedster Maddi Genovese (five goals).

Goalie Courtney Peterson has also stepped up her game. She had save percentages of 60 and 73 against Lockport, 69 percent versus Sweet Home and 65 percent against Lancaster.

North's other recent games this season include losses to Clarence, 14-9 - was trailing 7-6 at halftime - and Niagara-Wheatfield, 17-10.

North, 3-5 in league play, played Clarence on Monday, May 7 and Lancaster on Tuesday, May 8 but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. They host North Tonawanda at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 11 and Williamsville South at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 12.

e-mail: pnagy@beenews.com

North softball (Continued from page 26)

In the consolation game North defeated Iroquois, 7-1. Kayleigh Galliher went the distance and received the first varsity win of her career. Galliher scattered seven hits and struck out five for the victory.

Offensively, North was led by O'Brien, who scored two runs with one hit and a walk and Kennery with two runs batted in.

North returned to league play against Sweet Home on Monday, May 7 but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. The Lady Spartans are at Orchard Park on Wednesday, May 9 and Lancaster on Friday, May 11, Both games are 4:45 p.m. starts.