

South baseball loses three of four games

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

Moving from ECIC Division III to Division II combined with some new faces in the lineup this season has not boded as well as Williamsville South would have liked. At 4-4 in ECIC II and 4-5 overall, the defending Section VI Class A champions are struggling as of late, including three losses out of four games last week.

South lost at Iroquois, 5-0, on Tuesday, May 1 and home games with Hamburg, 6-3, and Williamsville East, 6-5, on Wednesday, May 2 and Thursday, May 3, respectively. The Billies closed out the week on Friday, May 4 with a 2-1 victory in eight innings over Iroquois.

The team might be struggling for wins but South coach Dave Delisanti believes they are coming together as a team, especially against East.

"We talk about having each other's back and that was the game we actually were," Delisanti said.

East led 5-1 after five innings, four of the runs coming unearned by what Delisanti called "eight mistakes that caused them to score or caused us not to score."

"One of our players was picked off and another was hit with the ball on a line drive while running the bases," he said as examples. "(East's Mark Guenther) scored the winning run (in the top of the seventh) when we dropped

a force out at first."

The Billies chipped away at the lead to score four runs in the last three innings. Two runs came off a two-out single from sophomore JV call-up Tom LiSacchi in the fifth. LiSacchi finished 2 for 4 with a double and two RBIs. South had the tying run on first base in the seventh but was picked off at first.

Scott Steimer hit 2 for 3 and scored a run.

Frank Pieri picked up the loss on the mound South, striking out four and allowing two earned runs.

East coach Jerry Gasz said his team banged out 10 hits with Nick Kanutsu, Mike Ferguson, Eric Charlton, Chris Schiumo and Zach Miller with two hits each.

Gasz said Flames junior right-hander Josh Dimarco got credit for the win but needed help from Miller, who earned the save. The duo allowed only six hits.

The Billies did not play well defensively against Iroquois the first time and Hamburg.

Dan Lynch struck out seven and allowed all five runs against Iroquois but Delisanti said the team made a lot of mistakes in the field behind

him.

"We tried to pick someone off at third and we didn't get the out. Another time we threw to second and the infielder dropped the ball. We shot ourselves in the foot," said Delisanti.

South only had four hits against Iroquois and never advanced a runner past second base.

The Billies played the same type of game defensively versus Hamburg. Three of sophomore Matt Minervini's six runs allowed were unearned. It was Minervini's varsity debut.

"We did not play good defense behind him and did not make the routine plays like we should," said Delisanti.

Minervini allowed eight hits and walked only two. He also struck out the side in the first inning.

"For someone who has never started before, he pitched a good game," said Delisanti. "He kept the ball down and forced several batters into groundouts."

South had a hit in every inning except the fourth when they had two. They also left the bases loaded in the second and fourth and two



Williamsville East's Nick Kanutsu beat the tag of Williamsville South's Dan Lynch at first base during the teams' ECIC Division II game at South on Thursday, May 3. East won 6-5.

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Williamsville South's Alex Walkowski touches a base to elude the tag of Williamsville East's Mike Ferguson.

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runners on in the fifth.

Alex Walkowski (double, run, RBI) and Shane Hurley (3 for 3, walk, run) led South's offense.

By the time South faced Iroquois again, the team was in desperate need of a win and managed to pick up the victory.

"It was good for the team's confidence," said Delisanti. "It kind of made you forget about the other games."

Minervini, pinch running for Hurley, scored on a Greg Reed base hit in the second to move South ahead 1-0. In the eighth with two outs, Lynch singled, stole second, and scored after Walkowski hit a two-ball, two-strike base hit into right field.

Hurley was 2 for 3.

Steimer pitched 7.1 innings and allowed five hits and struck out eight. Lynch struck out two batters for the win. Delisanti also lauded the defensive work of Andy Esposito, center field, Nick Needham, right field, and Minervini, shortstop.

South played at West Seneca East on Monday, May 7 but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. The Billies host Amherst and Lake Shore on Wednesday, May 9 and Thursday, May 10 before traveling to the Pepsi Center for a rematch with Williamsville East on Friday, May 11. All games are 4:30 p.m. starts.

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North girls track continue historic season at Wildcat Relays

Williamsville North's outdoor girls team continued a great season by placing its highest finish at Wildcat Relays at Depew High School on Saturday, May 5.

North finished second with 51 points and did not enter the sprint medley, distance medley, 4x800-meter relay, or high jump.

North set school records in the shuttle hurdle and 4x200 relays.

Sarah Mikulski, Ashley Redino, Caitlin Triantafillou, and Amy Loud won the shuttle hurdle relay in 1:08.5. Kim Dohn, Meredith Kirby, Michele Bauman and Amy Loud were tops in the 4x200 relay in 1:50.5.

Bauman, Kirby, Lauren Triantafillou, and Dohn won the 4x400 relay in 4:18.3. Dohn, Mikulski, Redino and Loud was second

in the 4x100 relay (52.3). Kirby, Mikulski and Bauman came in third in the long/triple jump and Amanda Sheriff and Sarah Khan were third in the pole vault.

Lidia Yemchuk, Maureen O'Brien, and Laura Lonski were sixth in the shot put relay. Melissa Dobmeier set a personal record in the 1500 run with a time of 5:37.1.

North also competed on Saturday, May 5 at the Lockport JV Invitational.

It was not a scored meet but North coach Julian Blake said the team would have had 51 points.

The 4x100 relay of Jessica Little, Shelby Gray, Meghan Winkle, and Raven Baxter won in 55.25 and set a new freshman school record. North's second freshmen 4x100 team of Kayla Talty, Sherri Bauman, Mackenzie Miller, and Rebecca Castronova was fifth in 59.85.

Little won the 200 dash in 28:01. Baxter was second at 28.75. Talty (30.83) and Sherri Bauman (32.43) also ran the event.

In the 1500 run, Natalie Worley finished third in 5:55.93. Alex Nero was fifth in 6:04.52. Julia Marcusa came in 11th (6:20.17) and Stephanie Kranz was 17th (6:53.75).

In the 100 dash, Winke and Talty each ran 14.0. Miller ran 14.3. Sherri Bauman recorded a time of 15.1.

Gray finished sixth in the 400 dash in a time of 1:10.05. Miller was seventh in 1:12.96. Michelle Galluzzo came in 23rd in 1:18.72 and Rebecca Castonova was 25th in 1:20.07.

In the 800, Worley finished eighth in 3:03.28. Nero was 11th in 3:09.05. Marcusa came in 15th in 3:15.41.

Gray took third in the triple jump (29-5½). Sana Khan was third in the pole vault (6-0).

Galluzzo was eighth in the shot put in 23-10. Danielle Young was 11th with a throw of 22-4½. Anya

Giarrappa was 12th in 22-2.

Giarrappa threw the discus 63-9½ for seventh. Young was tenth (61-3), Galluzzo was 12th (58-2) and Kranz was 16th (54).

North ran at Lancaster on Tuesday, May 8 but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. North will compete Saturday at Starpoint in the Starpoint Team Challenge.

Amherst Central girls

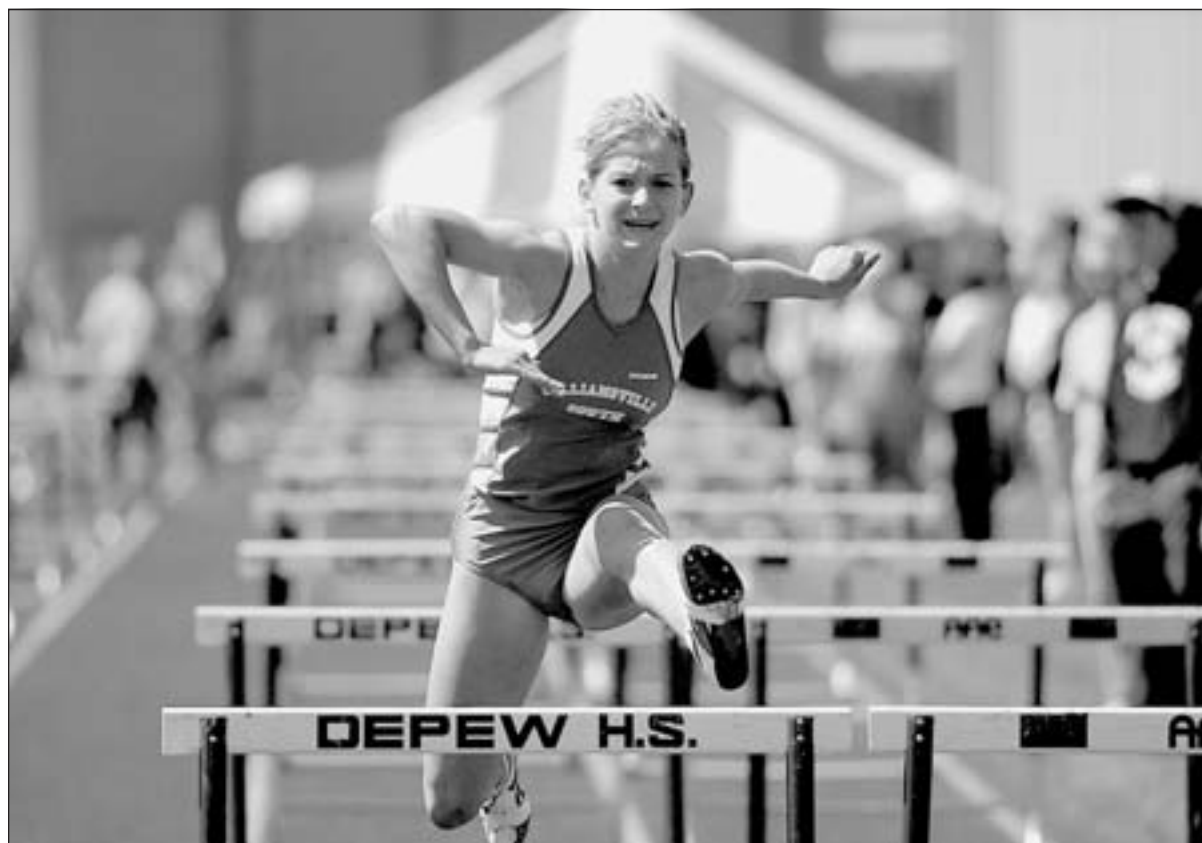
At Wildcat Relays, the Lady Tigers team of Erin Cotter (800), Katie Smith (400), Celia Alterio (1200) and Brenna Symoniak (1600) took second place in the distance medley relay with a time of 10:45. Symoniak took first overall in the open 1500 in 4:58. Amherst's 4x100 of Stephine Woods, Nasya Watson, Ariella Korn, and Allison Rogers finished third overall.

Amherst Central boys

The Tigers are 1-2 in dual meets, defeating Williamsville South, 110-27 and falling to Iroquois, 100-37 and Starpoint, 84-57.

In league meets, senior Willie Jones has won the 100 (11.2), high jump (6-6) and long jump (20-6). Junior Viron Hale has taken top honors in the 110 hurdles (16.4) and triple jump (40). Sophomore Bert Smith is also a double winner, taking first in the 100 (11.3) and 200 (23.5). Junior David Szymkowiak, (800, 2:07), sophomore Deshawn Hough (110 hurdles, 16.0) and freshman Dion Merrill (shot, 39-6) have also won.

At Wildcats Relays, Jones (6-0) and Hale (5-4) won the high jump.



CLEAR — Williamsville South's Allie Van Buren runs the shuttle medley relay at Wildcats Relays held at Depew High School on Saturday, May 5. South finished fifth overall in team scoring.

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