

# Plimpton leads South softball to wins

Whenever Chelsea Plimpton is on the mound, Williamsville South always has a chance to win a softball game. That was certainly the case in games played last week.

Plimpton opened the week by tossing a no-hitter and striking out 13 batters in a 1-0 win over Amherst on Tuesday, May 8 and ended the week by throwing her ninth career perfect game in South's 11-0 win as part of a doubleheader with Lake Shore on Friday, May 11. It was Plimpton's second perfect game of the season and ties her for most career perfect games thrown in a career in New York State. The win over Lake Shore was South's 58th straight over league opponents.

Plimpton continues to dominate with 235 strikeouts for the season. She has 99 career wins and will go for win 100 on Monday, May 14 against Hamburg but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press.

South opened the scoring against Lake Shore in the second inning. Carolyn Schaus reached base on a Lake Shore error, Devon Powers singled and Elena Hozdic singled to score two runs. A Lauren Falzone single produced a third run.

In the fourth, Nicolette Neenos reached on an error, Hozdic singled and a two-RBI single by Falzone scored two more runs for South. Ashley Aurillo and Robin Donovan combined for two hits to add another run in the sixth.

South scored five runs in the seventh on hits by Stephanie Shahin, Falzone, Lisa Fronczak, Sam Strapason and Powers.

Strapason was 2 for 3 with a double and three RBIs. Falzone finished 3 for 4 with two RBIs. Hozdic was 2 for 3 with two RBIs. Fronczak hit 2 for 5 with an RBI. Donovan (two RBIs), Schaus, Powers and Shahin each hit.

In the first game of the doubleheader, South scored 13

runs in the first three innings to lift the Lady Billies to a 15-0 win.

In the first, a Falzone single, a Claire Gerlach home run, a Fronczak single, a Plimpton single and a final hit by Strapason scored three runs.

South continued its hot bats in the second. Another single by Falzone, a Gerlach single, and a Fronczak two-RBI triple added three more runs to make the score 6-0.

South scored seven times in the third on a triple by Aurillo, a single by Fronczak, a double by Plimpton and a Strapason single. Aurillo and Plimpton scored in the fourth to end the scoring for South.

Fronczak hit 3 for 4 with a triple and two RBIs. Plimpton was 3 for 4 with a double, triple and two RBIs. Strapason hit 3 for 4. Gerlach was 2 for 4 with a home run and two RBIs. Falzone was 2 for 2. Aurillo hit a triple for two RBIs. Hozdic singled.

Plimpton tossed a one-hitter with 14 strikeouts.

Against Amherst, South got more than it bargained for, needing to score in their last at-bats for a 1-0 victory.

In the team's first outing, Plimpton threw her eighth career perfect game as her teammates scored nine runs for her. This game was decided in the seventh. Schaus led off with a deep triple to left center field and scored on a clutch hit by Strapason. Other hits were provided by Fronczak (two singles), Donovan (single), and Powers (single).

Mollie Lang was hit by a pitch to lead off the game and Jessica Banning reached base in the fourth for Amherst's only runners on base. Banning tossed a seven-hitter and struck out two.

South's other game was an 8-3 road win at Transit Middle School over Williamsville East.

South scored four runs in the first. Falzone led off with

a single and Fronczak and Plimpton also hit singles to load the bases. Schaus hit a long triple to left field to clear the bases and plate three RBIs. Schaus attempted to stretch it to a grand slam but was tagged out at home plate.

South struck in the fourth on a Strapason leadoff single followed by a Hozdic RBI single to move the score to 5-0.

South added three insurance runs in the sixth. Neenos led off with a triple, Falzone singled and Gerlach hit a two-run home run.

Falzone finished 3 for 4 with an RBI. Gerlach was 3 for 4 with two RBIs and a home run. Plimpton hit 2 for 4 with a triple. Fronczak singled and Strapason, Neenos and Schaus (three RBIs) all tripled. Hozdic added a single.

Plimpton struck out 15 batters.

East scored a run in the bottom of the fifth. Chelsea Horne took a low pitch to deep right center for a home run. Karen Kingsley went to the mound for East in the fifth.

Sophomore Megan Ellers threw the last inning for East, giving up one hit and striking out two.

East scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh. Leadoff batter Jessica Windnagle reached first on an error and catcher Taylor Klun smacked a home run over the left fielder's head on a one-ball, two-strike count to plate two more runs.

Besides Hamburg, South (16-0, 11-0) hosts Clarence at 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, May 17 before competing in the James "Ace" Morabito Memorial Invitational Softball Tournament on Saturday, May 19 in Conklin, N.Y. South will play at 1 p.m. against Susquehanna Valley of Section IV. Plimpton threw a perfect game against Susquehanna Valley at last year's tournament as South won 1-0. South went on to lose against Section I's Brewster, 2-0, in the semifinals. Brewster went on to win the tournament.

## East comes from behind to defeat Hamburg

Williamsville East softball opened the week with a come-from-behind 4-2 win over Hamburg on Monday, May 7. In a previous game, East defeated Hamburg, 3-1.

Trailing 1-0, East scored their first run in the top of the fourth when Rachelle Arenos doubled to the opposite field, Jessica Windnagle sacrificed Arenos to third and scored on a passed ball.

In the top of the seventh, Hamburg pitcher Katie Medina walked Courtney Rung, and Ally Kotz slapped a ball for a single. Chelsea Horne grounded to third, but a throwing error to first scored Rung and put Kotz at third and Horne at second. Freshman pinch hitter Kelly McNamara sin-

gled to drive in Kotz for the winning run. Bridget Steele singled home Horne to give East a three-run seventh.

Relief pitcher Megan Allers finished the bottom of the seventh.

"The infield made great defensive plays," said East coach Ron Schumacher. "Rachelle Arenos caught a ball over her shoulder in shallow center field. Second baseman Ally Kotz robbed a hit up the middle in the bottom of the seventh to force the lead runner out at second. Karen Kingsley was very effective, moving her pitches around to keep the batters off balance."

East lost to Williamsville South, 8-3, on Wednesday, May 9 (see

South story).

With four division losses, East needed to sweep the last four games to clinch second place in ECIC Division II and get home field for the first playoff game. East started by defeating Iroquois, 8-3, on Friday, May 11.

East scored first against Iroquois. In the top of the second, Arenos reached safely on an error and after stealing second, Kelly Rusin singled her home.

In the top of the fourth, Arenos singled and stole second. Horne singled, moving Arenos to third. Horne stole second and Rusin hit a double to drive in both runners. Anna Stolzenburg singled to move Rusin to third. Steele singled home Rusin followed by a

two-RBI single from Rung to score Stolzenburg and Steele. The five-run fourth gave East a comfortable 6-0 lead.

Iroquois responded in the bottom of the fifth. Three singles and an error moved three runners across the plate.

Kingsley was not feeling well and was uncomfortable on the mound, said Schumacher. Allers came in relief with one out in the fifth to prevent Iroquois from scoring more runs. Allers allowed only two hits over the remaining 2.2 innings.

East scored two more insurance runs in the sixth. Rusin, who finished 3 for 3, singled to lead off the inning. Stolzenburg singled and both batters advanced on a

passed ball. Windnagle singled home Rusin, and Taylor Klun singled home Stolzenburg.

Rung hit 2 for 4 with two RBIs. Windnagle and Klun were 2 for 4 with an RBI each. Rusin hit 3 for 3 with three RBIs.

Through the South game, Steele is hitting .447, Rung is batting .419 with 11 RBIs and Klun is hitting .294.

East (8-4, 5-4) hosted Iroquois on Tuesday, May 8, but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. Lake Shore comes to East for a doubleheader on Thursday starting at 4:30 p.m.

They close out the regular season next week with non-league games with Sweet Home, Wilson and Tonawanda

## North rides another roller coaster week

The Williamsville North varsity softball team had another up and down week as the 2007 season winds down. The Lady Spartans defeated Sweet Home and Orchard Park but lost a heartbreaking game to Lancaster.

The Lady Spartans started the week on a high note as they defeated Sweet Home, 7-1, at home on Monday, May 7. Three Lady Spartans had three hits each as the team totaled 15 hits. Kaitlyn McNally, Lauren O'Brien and Amanda Maraschiello combined for nine hits, four runs scored and four RBIs. Krissy Flierl had two hits and Liz Dutweiler and Morgan McDowell each had one hit and one RBI.

Sweet Home's Amanda Cannizzo again proved why she has been all-league for three years as she hit a home run in the fourth inning and a triple in the sixth.

Tricia Kennery was excellent on the mound as she limited Sweet Home to Cannizzo's two hits. She struck out 12 and allowed no walks.

North traveled to Orchard Park on Wednesday, May 9 and returned victorious, 10-1.

The Lady Spartans continued their torrid hitting as they lashed out 15 hits again. McNally and O'Brien both had three hits. McNally had a single, double, and triple, scored twice and drove in three more. O'Brien had two singles and a double, scored twice and also had two RBIs. Kennery supported her pitching with a triple of her own. The hitting parade continued as Erica Stricko and Flierl both had two

hits apiece.

Kennery continued her outstanding pitching as she held Orchard Park to just four hits while striking out nine.

The Lady Spartans traveled to Lancaster on Friday, May 11 for a rematch with the Lady Redskins and first place on the line.

Lancaster opened up their half of the first inning by pushing across a run. North responded back with two runs of their own

in the third. Flierl led off with a slap hit in the hole at short and Kelly Jones was unable to make the play. O'Brien followed with a single up the middle. Stricko followed with a sacrifice bunt that was misplayed allowing Flierl to score and move O'Brien to third and Stricko to second. Kennery launched a fly ball to the warning track in straight away center field allowing O'Brien to score on a

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