

**Free basketball coaches clinic at South on Friday**

The Basketball Coaches Association of New York is holding a free basketball clinic for any boys or girls basketball coach at any level from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, June 1 at Williamsville South High School, 5950 Main Street, Williamsville. Speaking will be Rob DeGrandpre (Hilbert College men's coach), Tom Parotta (Canisius College men's coach), Bill Agronin (Niagara University women's coach), Reggie Witherspoon (University at Buffalo men's coach), and Mike McDonald (Medaille College men's coach). A social for all coaches will take place at 9 p.m. at Jack's Place, 1424, Millersport Hwy., Williamsville. For more information, call BCANY President Al Monaco at 627-3058.

*Boys tennis*

**Amherst's Binder wins his first section title**

by **PATRICK J. NAGY**  
*Reporter*

Ari Binder can no longer say he hasn't won a Section VI boys singles title.

The Amherst senior defeated Hamburg sophomore Matt Kane, 6-0, 7-6 (4) for his first section crown on Wednesday, May 23 at Lancaster High School. Binder has been runner-up at sectionals the last two years.

"It's a great feeling to go out with a win in my senior year," said Binder, who is 68-0 lifetime in ECIC league play. "I was playing well pretty much the whole tournament."

"I'm ecstatic," added Amherst coach Eric Damiani. "It's what he's been shooting for all year."

Binder said he would have liked the chance to avenge last year's section final loss to Southwestern's Chris Post, but unfortunately Post lost his semifinal against Kane, 3-6, 1-6, and had to withdraw from his third-place match with Maple Grove's Dusty Nelson because of flu-like symptoms.

Binder and Kane are no strangers to each other. They have faced each other several times in practice sets at the Village Glen Tennis Club, once when Amherst and Hamburg were in the same division (Binder won), and a week earlier when Binder defeated Kane, 6-4, 6-2, for his fourth straight ECIC singles crown.

While Binder owned the first set of the



**Amherst Central's Ari Binder** defeated Hamburg's Matt Kane, 6-0, 7-6 (4) to win his first Section VI singles title. The event was held on Wednesday, May 23 at

Lancaster High School.

*Photo by Joe Eberle  
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final, he had to climb out of a 3-0 deficit in the second-set tiebreaker to claim victory.

"After I was down 3-0 in the break, he missed a couple of forehands in a row and I could see he was getting tight," said Binder, who will play tennis at Division III

Williams College. "Once I got the three points back, that's when I knew all I had to do was get one point on serve because I was winning on my service points. I got the break at 5-3 and I felt confident I had the match."

"If I would have hit a few shots in the

tiebreaker, it could have put me up 5-0. Instead it turned out to be 3-2," said Kane. "Then he just served real well and there was really nothing I could do about it."

Binder beat Nelson, 6-3, 6-4, in the semifinal. In earlier rounds, Binder defeated Allegheny's Bryce Barker, and Kenmore East's Bryan Papaj by 6-0, 6-0 scores. In addition to defeating Post, Kane beat City Honors' Jerome Bunkley, 6-0, 6-1, and Ezra Bernstein, 6-1, 6-0.

Binder, Kane, and Nelson will compete at the New York State Championships which run Thursday, May 31 through Saturday, June 2 at the National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows, N.Y. Binder expects a low seed and would like to advance to at least the quarterfinals or possibly the semifinals.

Sweet Home's Ian Carr beat Medina's Steve Lin 6-4, 7-5 before losing to Nelson, 1-6, 2-6, in the quarterfinals.

In doubles, Williamsville East sent two duos to sectionals but neither advanced to states. Matt Kweiler and Jerome Luo beat Maple Grove's Tyler Beaton and Will Nelson, 6-1, 6-4 before falling to Clarence's Ryan Clover and Jarrett Regier, 1-6, 1-6. Joe Buran and Taylor Deer lost to Niagara-Wheatfield's Tom Sheehan and Scott Sobiegray, 2-6, 4-6, in the first round.

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*Baseball*

**North, East upset; Sweet Home bows out in prequarters**

by **PATRICK J. NAGY**  
*Reporter*

The top two seeds in Class AA and A baseball are out of the Section VI Tournament.

The Spartans, seeded first in Class AA, and who had beaten their quarterfinal opponent, eighth-seed Orchard Park, 21-14, and 11-4, in back-to-back games during the regular season, were pounded by the Quakers, 14-4, at home on Friday, May 25. The same day, Williamsville East, the No. 1 seed in Class A, lost, 14-13, at home to 16th-seed Lewiston-Porter.

North scored a run in the first inning (Taylor Gahagen by Alex Calderon single) but trailed 7-1 after the second inning.

The Spartans added three runs in the fourth. Gahagen doubled in Pat Dwyer and Austin Benschadle and Gahagen scored on a John Ticco sacrifice fly.

North left 12 runners on base throughout the game. Max Zimmerman was 3 for 4 with three singles.

OP pitcher Tim Klein allowed eight hits and two earned runs to record the win on the mound.

"We just didn't play well and OP had hot bats," said North coach Jerry Scarcella.

North, ECIC Division I champions, finishes 17-6 and loses 13 seniors, eight of which were starters.

"We had a good season," said Scarcella. "The kids played well for the most part. We have a good JV team coming up (18-3 this year) who should help us next year."

Lew-Port led East, 14-9, in the bottom of the seventh before the Flames answered with four runs of their own, two runs coming by a home run from Eric Charlton. East coach Jerry Gasz said Lew-Port out-hit his team, 17-14. Jared Flock singled, doubled, and hit a two-run home run for Lew-Port.

Nick Kanutsu (.487) had three hits and scored three times for East. Mark Guenther chipped in two singles, a two-run home run, and scored three times. Chris Schiumo also had three hits, including a three-RBI double. Gary Styn (.533) scored three times and contributed two hits.

The loss snaps East's 11-game winning streak. It's the second straight year East (18-5) has bowed out in the prequarterfinals. Last year, they lost 4-1 to Tonawanda.

The Flames ended the regular season with an 8-5 win over Sweet Home on Tuesday, May 22.

Kanutsu pitched the first five innings and was credited with the win. He allowed three runs in the first inning on five hits and yielded only two hits over the next four innings, striking out five. Justin Andreozzi and Zach Miller pitched the last two innings.

Mike Zeoli paced East's nine-hit attack with a single and double, knocking in two runs, and scored twice.

Zeoli, Miller, Kyle Smith, Mike

Terryberry, Andreozzi, Kanutsu, Matt Graci, Charlton, and Mike Ferguson are seniors. Several of those players were in the state tournament two years ago.

Sweet Home scored three runs in the first inning on a two-RBI single by Ryan Maxwell and a RBI single by Corey Sykes. The Panthers added a run in the sixth (Mike Wolcott single scored Brian Pappagallo) and another in the seventh (Aaron Klein walked,

scored on Craig Young fielder's choice).

Sweet Home finished with eight hits. Ryan Gutt was 2 for 2.

Casey Kacz and Wolcott held East to no runs over the final four innings.

**Sweet Home**

The Panthers are another Town of Amherst team that was shown the door in postseason competition. Sweet Home, seeded twelfth

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**Sweet Home catcher Derek Wisner** watches the ball as Lancaster's Kenny Wojnowski scores the Redskins' fourth run in the Panthers' 5-2 Section VI Class AA

prequarterfinal road loss on Thursday, May 24.

*Photo by Patrick McPartland  
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