

## Flotilla 33 to hold safe boating course

Flotilla 33, Buffalo is presenting America's Boating Course from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 16 at St. Patrick's Church Hall, 1395 George Urban Blvd., Cheektowaga. This general boating course meets New York State education requirements for jet-ski operation and qualifies youth, ages 10 to 18 to legally operate a conventional vessel alone on New York State waters. Anyone who successfully completes the course is eligible to receive a discount on their boat insurance. For more information, call 681-5436.

# Class A champs

## South softball shuts out WS East, wins fifth straight section crown

Williamsville South, led by senior captains Chelsea Plimpton and Lisa Fronczak, helped the Lady Billies win the team's fifth consecutive Section VI Class A championship, shutting out seventh-seed West Seneca East, 2-0 on Saturday, June 2 at Niagara Falls High School.

It was South's sixth sectional championship in the past eight years.

South met Section V's Victor in the Class A Far West Regional at Brockport State College on Tuesday, June 5 but the result was unavailable before The Bee went to press.

"It's hard to imagine we're 27-1 but we continue to work on the little things that win games," said South coach Gerry Gentner. "It's all basic fundamental softball that has allowed us to advance."

Plimpton recorded 13 strikeouts, bringing her season total to 398 along with a 26-1 record. She holds the single-season state record for most strikeouts with 411.

South made the score 2-0 against West Seneca East in the top of the sixth inning when Fronczak doubled down the left field line, moved to third on a fielder's choice by Schaus and a wild pitch. Lauren Falzone, Devon Powers, and Elena Hozdic had hits for South along with a second hit by Fronczak.

South took a 1-0 lead in the second inning. Carolyn Schaus led off with a triple that rolled to



Williamsville South's Claire Gerlach slides into a base during the Lady Billies' 7-0 win over Iroquois in the Section VI Class A home quarterfinal win on Tuesday, May 29. South went on to beat Dunkirk, 3-0, in the semifinals and West Seneca East, 3-2, in the finals to win their fifth straight Section VI title.

Photo by Joe Eberle

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the fence and scored on a ground-out by Sam Strapason, who added two hits in the game.

The fourth inning proved pivotal. West Seneca East had a runner on second base with one out and cleanup hitter Michelle Latner at bat. The Lady Trojans attempted to steal third but a great defensive combination between Hozdic, at shortstop, and Fronczak, at catcher, threw out the runner on the attempted steal.

"Throwing her out was the best thing that's happened to us," said Gentner. "We always practice those kinds of plays but have never been tested."

South had strong outfield play between Nicolette Neenos, Claire Gerlach, and Powers.

West Seneca East threatened in the seventh on two singles but Plimpton struck out two batters and Hozdic caught a line drive to end the threat and secure the championship for South.

Plimpton threw four shutouts during the championship run, setting a state record for career shutouts with 78 and recorded 56 strikeouts, increasing her career total to 1,418.

Two of her four other shutouts occurred earlier in the week. Plimpton threw 14 strikeouts and a one-hitter in a 7-0 victory over ninth-seed Iroquois in the quarterfinals on Tuesday, May 29 and fired her state-record 10th career perfect game and 16 strikeouts in blanking fourth-seed Dunkirk, 3-0, in the semifinals on Thursday, May 31.

Against Iroquois, South scored in the first inning when leadoff batter Falzone walked, was sacrificed to second by Claire Gerlach and scored when Iroquois misplayed a fly ball by Fronczak. A great defensive play by an Iroquois center fielder robbed Strapason of a grand slam home run.

In the fourth, Powers hit a one-out triple and scored on a Falzone single.

Fronczak's leadoff home run in the fifth added South's third run.

Plimpton helped her own cause when she singled and pinch-runner Kate Kurchanski scored from first on a booming triple by Robin Donovan.

South completed its scoring in the seventh with three runs on singles by Falzone, a walk to Gerlach, and Fronczak's second hit of the game. Schaus also contributed a base hit.

Versus Dunkirk, Donovan provided South and Plimpton all of the offense when she launched a triple over the head of the Lady Marauder left fielder to score South's second run. Powers followed Donovan's triple with her own triple to add South's third run.

South broke a scoreless tie in the fourth when Falzone led off with a single, advanced to second on a Gerlach sacrifice, and scored on a Plimpton suicide squeeze. Donovan had her first hit in the third followed by the fifth inning triple.

## Girls lacrosse

# Lady Tigers put forth great effort, lose Far West Regional

by PATRICK J. NAGY  
Reporter

Since Amherst gained a girls lacrosse program 13 years ago, they've been the standard for Section VI excellence in the sport.

The Lady Tigers have won nine Section VI titles and earned championships the last three, including a dominating 18-5 rout over East Aurora for the Class C title last Thursday at Amherst. While the section titles are nice, the team wanted to accomplish what no other Section VI girls lacrosse team had been able to do - defeat a Rochester team for the Far West Regional title. Unfortunately, Liz Tice and East Rochester had other ideas. Tice scored the game-winning goal on a free position with 5:59 remaining as the Lady Bombers edged the Lady Tigers, 9-8, on Saturday at Monroe Community College.

Amherst's loss was the closest any Section VI girls lacrosse team had come to winning a Far West Regional. Including the East Rochester loss, Amherst is 0-7 lifetime in regional games.

The regional game began with East Rochester controlling the first draw, but a caused turnover in Amherst's defensive end gave the Lady Tigers possession.

Amherst quickly transitioned the ball downfield and scored 35 seconds into the game. Jodi Battaglia beat East Rochester's goalie low to the stick side on a feed from Abbie Gowen. Two minutes later, a second Battaglia goal was called back because of a crease violation.

East Rochester tied the game at 20:58, but Amherst answered back off the next draw, scoring 20 seconds later when Gowen assisted Jodi Battaglia.

The Lady Bombers then went on a three-goal scoring spree, the last goal recorded by Taryn Schawillie to go up 4-2 with 11:37 remaining. The two-goal deficit was the biggest lead of the game for either team.

(Please turn to page 22)



Amherst's Daisy Timlin flies past East Aurora's Lily Brennan and Caitlin Holbrook to the Lady Blue Devils' goal during first half action of the Lady Tigers' 18-5 Section VI Class C title win on Thursday, May 31

at Amherst High School. Amherst lost 9-8 to East Rochester in the Class C Far West Regional on Saturday, June 2.

Photo by Joe Eberle

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