

Softball

East beats Hamburg in dramatic fashion

Williamsville East defeated Hamburg, 3-2, on Friday at Hamburg to move into first place in ECIC Division II softball.

East scored in the top of the second when Chelsea Horne singled, moved to second on a ground out, to third on a wild pitch and scored from a Karen Kingsley fly ball to center field.

After Hamburg scored an unearned run in the fourth, the Lady Flames scored twice in the fifth. Kelly Rusin hit a single between third and short. Kingsley pushed a bunt passed the Hamburg third baseman as the corners rushed to play the bunt for a single. After a ground ball to second moved the runners to second and third, Courtney Hawkins singled over the third baseman to score Rusin and Taylor Klun

singled home Kingsley.

In the bottom of the seventh, Hamburg's leadoff batter walked. With one out, a throwing error put runners on second and third. Third baseman Rachele Arenos fielded a ground ball, checked the runner on third, and threw to first. The runner broke home and the relay from Rusin to Klun was in time for Taylor to tag out the runner. The throw to first by Arenos was not in time for the out.

With runners again at second and third, Kingsley struck out the last Hamburg batter for a dramatic finish. Kingsley scattered seven hits over seven innings and struck out three. East managed nine hits.

Earlier in the week, East beat Lake

Shore, 7-2, last Wednesday and Tonawanda, 3-2, last Thursday, both at Transit Middle School.

Rusin pitched well for the win against Lake Shore, allowing one run over five innings. Meagan Allers pitched two innings and gave up no runs. Kingsley allowed one run.

In the first, Bridget Steele singled, stole second base and scored on a single by Taylor Klun.

Four runs were plated in the fourth. Arenos singled and scored on Jessica Windnagle's home run. Rusin walked, moved to third on Hawkins' single and scored on Steele's single. Klun singled home Hawkins.

Two more runs were added in the fifth

with singles by Arenos, Windnagle, a fielding error and a single by Anna Stolzenburg.

East put itself in a 2-0 hole with Tonawanda but rallied in the bottom of the sixth. Arenos had a bunt single and stole second base, Hawkins singled, Klun grounded out to score Arenos, Windnagle singled home Hawkins and Ally Kotz singled home Windnagle.

East (5-1, 3-0) played at Maryvale on Tuesday but the result was unavailable before The Bee went to press. The Lady Flames play at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday at Iroquois, host Amherst at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday at Transit Middle School and play at 4:30 p.m. on Friday at West Seneca East.

Lady Billies post first league win of season

The Williamsville South softball team posted its first ECIC Division II victory of the season after defeating Iroquois, 12-7, on Monday, April 21 at South.

The Lady Billies scored three runs in the first inning on hits by Sam Strapason, Kate Kurzanski and Megan Hull.

South put the game out of reach in the second by scoring six runs on five hits. A Lauren Falzone home run sparked the offense. Hits that followed came from Danielle Giancarlo, a double by Devon Powers, several walks, and singles by Kurzanski and Hull.

Single runs were scored in the fifth, sixth and seventh inning on hits by Falzone, Powers, Kurzanski, Stephanie Shanin and Giancarlo.

South finished the game with 17 hits. Kurzanski had four singles. Falzone, Giancarlo, Hull and

Shanin each hit two singles. Powers singled and doubled. Emma Markley also singled.

Elisa Frazier tossed a four-hitter with four strikeouts.

The Lady Billies dropped its other league games last week, falling to Sweet Home, 5-4, at Sweet Home on Tuesday, April 22 and West Seneca East, 6-2, last Wednesday at West Seneca East.

South scored against Sweet Home in the first inning when Falzone led off with a single and Strapason tripled her in.

South scored in the fourth on singles by Hull and Shanin and a RBI single by Giancarlo.

The Lady Billies took a 4-2 lead into the bottom of the fifth when they scored two runs on a two-out hit by Kurzanski, a double by Hull and a Nikki Karchensky single.

Sweet Home rebounded with single runs in the fifth, sixth and

seventh to win a close game.

Frazier threw 10 strikeouts in a losing effort.

South had 10 hits in the game. Strapason singled and tripled, Hull doubled and singled and Falzone, Giancarlo, Powers, Kurzanski, Karchensky and Shanin all had singles.

West Seneca East avenged a loss to South in the Section VI Class A final. South's defense proved to be their downfall for the second day in a row.

The Lady Billies committed four errors and had various mental mistakes that led to four unearned runs.

South scored its two runs in the sixth on a hit by Falzone, several walks and a West Seneca East error.

Hull led South's offense with two hits. Markley and Shanin also hit.

The Lady Billies closed out the week by beating Sweet Home, 3-1, at the 25th North Tonawanda Varsity Invitational Softball Tournament on Saturday at the Edward Belbas Fields in North Tonawanda.

South scored in the first inning on a walk by Kyle Plimpton followed by a Powers sacrifice and a single by Strapason.

The Lady Billies managed two hits in the second by Markley and Karchensky but left both runners stranded.

South had a lone hit in the third inning by Plimpton but could not score.

In the fourth, a long home run by Kurzanski gave South a 2-0 lead.

In the bottom of the fourth, three walks and a base hit plated Sweet Home's only run.

South's third run came in the

sixth on a triple by Strapason and a perfectly executed suicide squeeze by Markley.

Kurzanski made three outstanding catches in center field and Frazier provided clutch pitching to preserve the victory.

South also received good defensive plays from Falzone, Shanin and Kristen Lynett.

Strapason finished with two hits, including a triple and an RBI. Falzone, Plimpton, Markley, Karchensky and Shanin each recorded a hit.

South finished 2-1 at the NT tournament.

South plays Lake Shore at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Hamburg at 5 p.m. on Friday. They play Lancaster at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday at Walden Pond in the 11th annual Wildcat Invitational Softball Tournament at Walden Pond.

Sacred Heart's woes on offense continues

Runs have been hard to come by for the Sacred Heart softball team and the trend continued last week.

The Sharks beat Mount Mercy, 2-1, on Wednesday at Cazenovia Park but fell to Immaculata, 2-1 on Friday at Immaculata.

Brianna Brink scored on an error in the first inning against Mount Mercy. Jenn Martin was driven in by Allison Gravelle in the sixth for the game-winning run. It was Gravelle's second hit of the game.

Martin finished with two hits. Katie Salisbury tripled in the fifth.

Pitcher Pam Formoso threw a six-hitter and struck out three.

Martin scored from third on a throwing error in the first for Sacred Heart's only run against Immaculata.

Immaculata scored a run in the fourth and another in the seventh with two outs.

Salisbury, Brink, Gravelle and Formoso singled. Formoso tossed a four-hitter and struck out eight.

Sacred Heart (2-2) plays at Niagara Catholic at 4:15 p.m. on Thursday and Roy-Hart at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday at the Depew Wildcats Tournament at Walden Pond.

North softball

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Kennery and Attea combined on a two-hit shutout against West Seneca West. Genovese smashed a home run, scored three runs and had four runs batted in.

Robin and Tricia Kennery had doubles and Riegel had three hits.

North (7-4, 3-1) played at Kenmore West on Tuesday but the result was unavailable before The Bee went to press. The Lady Spartans host Jamestown at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Clarence at 4:45 p.m. on Thursday and Orchard Park at 4:30 p.m. on Friday.

North plays Niagara-Wheatfield at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday in the 11th annual Wildcat Invitational Softball Tournament at Walden Pond.

The Lady Spartans play at 5 p.m. on Monday, May 5 at Frontier.

Sweet Home experiences roller coaster week

It was an up and down week for the Sweet Home softball team.

The Lady Panthers went 2-3 last week, splitting games with Williamsville South, beating Lake Shore and losing to Iroquois and Williamsville East.

The team's most recent game was a 3-1 loss to Williamsville South on Saturday in the 25th North Tonawanda Varsity Invitational Softball Tournament.

Sweet Home scored its only run in the top of the fourth inning. Amanda Cannizzo led off with a walk, stole second and with the ball overthrown, made her way to third. After Jessica Forti walked to put runners on first and third, Forti sacrificed herself on a steal for Cannizzo to score on the throw to second.

Cannizzo hit 1 for 2 with a walk, stolen base and a run. Lauren Prentice went 1 for 3. First baseman Carol Skoney recorded six putouts on defense.

On April 22, Sweet Home beat South, 5-4, in a league game at Sweet Home.

Jillian Reeser hit 2 for 4 and drove in Forti in the bottom of the seventh. Forti also hit 2 for 4. Cannizzo scored twice, hit 2 for 4 and pitched a complete game.

Last Friday, Sweet Home beat Lake Shore, 8-2, at Lake Shore.

With two outs in the first inning, Cannizzo

started the rally with a single. Forti followed with a triple to score Cannizzo. Reeser answered with a single, scoring Forti.

In the top of the fifth, Prentice started with a single, followed by hits from Kelly Weber and Natalie Vazquez. With the bases loaded and no outs, Cannizzo hit a sacrifice fly, scoring Prentice. Forti followed with a long single, scoring Weber and Vazquez.

In the top of the sixth with one out, Devin Gonzalez and Prentice singled followed by a fielder's choice hit by Weber. With two runners on and two outs, Vazquez ripped a home run, scoring three runs.

Cannizzo pitched a four-hitter with 12 strikeouts. Vazquez hit 2 for 4 with three RBIs and a home run. Forti went 2 for 4 with three RBIs. Prentice hit 2 for 3 with two runs.

Sweet Home lost to Iroquois, 4-1, at home last Wednesday.

Cannizzo hit 2 for 3 and scored a run. Jesse Lewandowski went 1 for 3 with one RBI. Forti hit 2 for 3 and stole one base.

Sweet Home opened the week by losing to Williamsville East, 4-2, on Monday, April 21 at Transit Middle School. Vazquez hit a home run. Lewandowski had one hit while scoring a run.

Sweet Home plays at 5 p.m. on Wednesday at Hamburg and doesn't return to action until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 5 at South.

St. Greg's 'A' softball wins home opener

The St. Greg's varsity "A" softball team earned a convincing 15-2 victory in five innings in the home opener against St. John's of Kenmore.

Cougars starting pitcher Hannah O'Sullivan struck out 12, scored three runs and had three hits. Siohban Dwyer pitched one inning and earned two strikeouts,

scored three runs, and had four hits.

MaryKate Comer and Emily Ludwig (one run each, three hits),

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