

SPORTS

Pitching not there against Trojans

Chap staff allows 48 runs during Sunday's games

By Bob Bajek
Sports Editor

Baseball is a sport that has to deal with various elements. Games can be rained or even snowed out. Hot weather frequently exhausts players.

Wind doesn't do any of that but it can make for a lot of offense and give pitchers nightmares.

Nightmares occurred when 40 mph wind gusts contributed to a 28-17 DuPage loss at home to region rival Triton Sunday in the second game of a doubleheader.

Chap starting pitcher Mitch Smith had a 7-6 led going into the fifth inning. Smith struggled with his command and gave up three hits and a hit batsman.

Trojan Frank Kucera jacked a three-run homer that was greatly assisted by a strong guest the next at bat. This began an eight run rally that chased Smith from the game.

Triton was able to repeat their success in the six and seventh innings by scoring eight and six runs, respectively.

The wind aided the Trojan offense all game. Triton hit three home runs and hit several hard grounders that would bounce high in the air and passed the infielders.

"I think we were a little inconsistent and struggling with command," head



Photo by Aldo Blanco

Left fielder Zak Krisciunas connects for a hit against the Trojans Saturday in the second game of a doubleheader. Krisciunas and his teammates scored 17 runs on the windy day but the Chap pitching staff allowed 28 runs in the loss.

coach Dan Kusinski said. "That stuff happens. It just is a tough game to pitch in with wind that strong."

Kusinski's squad had to go through four pitchers. Position players Tim Delany and Zak Krisciunas pitched. According to the pitchers, there are only six active throwers on the team. Kusinski doesn't think the shortage should affect performance this much.

"They shouldn't be getting tired," Kusinski said. "They've been trained to go seven innings without a problem."

Throughout the long game, catcher Casey Carpenter had to communicate with his pitchers in a positive way.

"I tell the pitchers that you have to calm down and keep the ball low," Carpenter said.

Carpenter had a hard time behind the plate. He allowed four passed balls that allowed Trojan base runners to advance and score on subsequent hits.

He said that even though dust was in his eyes from the wind, it was poor play on his part.

The Chap offense played well in the game. They scored 17 runs and had 20 hits. Nine runs crossed home for the Chaps in the sixth. However, that was when they were down 22-7.

First baseman Jake Francis had two

hits and had a team leading four RBIs. He said that it was hard to comeback with a large deficit.

"No one likes giving up 16 runs in two innings," Francis said.

In the first game, DuPage lost 20-5. Carpenter said that he is confident that the pitchers will get back on track.

"They have to keep the batters more off balance and keep their pitches down," Carpenter said.

These losses push DuPage's record to 19-19 and 8-6 in region IV play. Olive-Harvey is their next opponent Saturday at home. The game begins at noon.



Photo by Aldo Blanco

Field athlete Leah Kuzmicz works on hurdle rotations at Monday's practice. Kuzmicz won Women's Field MVP at the regional meet Saturday.

Track team excels at regionals

By Bob Bajek
Sports Editor

The Chaparral track team traveled to Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa to compete against Harper for regionals Saturday. They knew what they had to do and did it.

The women's team won regionals while the men had some very strong performances.

Field athlete Leah Kuzmicz was the Women's Field MVP of the meet. She was region champion in the long, triple and high jumps, pole vault and 400-meter hurdles.

Despite these accomplishments, Kuzmicz said she is most proud of the 4x100 relay win she had with teammates Kendall Cimaglia, Deb Youngs and Ashley Majors.

"We had a distance runner (Majors) and a thrower (Youngs) in it," Kuzmicz said. "They were doing it for the team."

Teammate Kristen Heckert was region champion of the 5000-meter run. Cimaglia was region champion in the 100 and 400, respectively.

The distance team for the men performed very well. Dan Benton was champion in the 200 and 400, respectively.

Benton took away Men's Track MVP of the meet honors.

Distance runner Justin Jones was region champion in both the 800 and 1,500. He was also part

of the 4x100 and 4x400 relays with Benton, Nate Lovik, Ricky Green and Ben Kerrigan that each won first at regionals.

"I think we ran excellent," Jones said. "We came there to compete and compete we did. In the distance events, we destroyed them."

Distance runners Alan D'Ambrogio and John Fisher also took home honors. D'Ambrogio won the 3,000 steeplechase and the 10,000 while Fisher won the 5,000.

High jumper Michael Wilhite cleared a jump of 6' 4", which was a six-inch personal record. Wilhite beat last year's national high jump champion Tyler Austin of Harper.

Teammate Tim Wagner was third in the region jumping 6' 4" also while Michael Blane had a personal best of 5' 8".

"We knew our jumpers were jumping well but they surprised me," head coach Jane Vatchev said. "We knew they had the talent for it."

The track team will travel this Saturday to compete in the Butler Invitational at Indianapolis, Ind. Nationals will be at Delhi, N.Y.

Wilhite said he knows the importance of the next practices.

"We take things serious," Wilhite said.

"Everything to do in the season is to get to this point and leave it all there."

"We are kind of the underdogs but we are gearing to do great things," Vatchev said.

"I think we ran excellent. In the distance events, we destroyed them."

JUSTIN JONES,
DISTANCE RUNNER

Athlete of the Week



Name: James Winkle
Sport: Men's Tennis
Major: Pre-Med
Year: Sophomore
Age: 19



Photos by Aldo Blanco

Q: When did you start playing tennis?

A: I started six years ago.

Q: What was your best match?

A: One of the best was at Elmhurst this year. It was really hot and my opponent was a lefty.

I won 7-5, 6-3.

Q: What is challenging about tennis?

A: It's always the mental game. I've definitely been better at that this year.

Q: Who inspires you?

A: Many of the pros like Roger Federer and Raphael Nadal and coach Jim Bowers.

Q: What do you love about tennis?

A: I definitely like it's an individual sport in singles. Your mistakes are your own. I also like the movement.

Q: What is your favorite stroke?

A: Backhand volley cause I've always had a problem with it and I finally got it down.

Q: Are you planning on attending a four-year school?

A: I'm transferring to the University of Illinois at Champaigne-Urbana next fall.

Q: Do you have any hobbies?

A: I play ping-pong and chess.

Q: Have you won any awards?

A: I won the David Webster Doubles Classic for the last two years and a bunch of awards at Marmion.

Sport Schedule Spring '08

BASEBALL

FEBRUARY

Thu., 7 at Delgado CC L 5-8
 Fri., 8 vs. Pensacola at Delgado CC L 0-9
 Sat., 9 vs. Pensacola at Delgado CC L 5-11
 Sat., 9 at Delgado CC L 0-8
 Sun., 10 at Delgado CC W 9-5

MARCH

Sun., 2 at John A. Logan L 7-14, L 4-14
 Mon., 24 at Lincoln Land W 8-4, L 7-3
 Wed., 26 at Moraine Valley W 7-6
 *Sat., 29 JOLIET L 12-11, W 1-11
 *Sun., 30 at Joliet L 0-10, L 4-14

APRIL

Wed., 2 at Oakton W 22-4
 Thu., 3 WAUBONSEE W 5-3
 Sat., 5 KANKAKEE W 9-8, L 4-8
 Sun., 6 CARL SANDBURG W 5-4, L 2-12
 Wed., 9 at Aurora W 10-5
 *Sun., 13 HARPER L 5-6, W 4-3
 *Mon., 14 HARPER W 7-2, W 5-4
 Tue., 15 SOUTH SUBURBAN L 7-21
 Wed., 16 PRAIRIE STATE W 15-14.
 Thu., 17 at Waubensee L 4-9
 Fri., 18 McHENRY W 4-3
 *Sat., 19 at Rock Valley W 6-4, W 13-2
 *Sun., 20 ROCK VALLEY W 10-4, W 8-0
 Mon., 21 NORTH CENTRAL L 6-8
 Tue., 22 at Benedictine W 14-9
 Wed., 23 MORAIN VALLEY L 9-11
 Thu., 24 at Kishwaukee 3 p.m.
 *Sat., 26 TRITON L 5-20, L 17-28
 *Sun., 27 W 10-3, L 5-12
 Wed., 30 W 6 p.m.

MAY

Sat., 3 OLIVE-HARVEY 12 p.m.
 Thu., 8 REGION IV TOURNAMENT
 Sun., 11 at Waubensee TBA
 Sun., 17 NJCAA Division III World Series
 Sun., 24 at Tyler, Tx. TBA

SOFTBALL

MARCH

Sat., 22-29 at Snowbird Classic W 9-8, W 9-0, W 24-2,
 Myrtle Beach, S.C. W 10-1, W 4-1, W 9-1,
 W 7-4, L 2-6, L 1-5

APRIL

*Thu., 3 JOLIET L 3-5, L 8-10
 Fri., 4 at Madison Area Tech L 6-13, W 6-3
 Sat., 5 at Judson Tournament W 9-1, W 3-2
 *Wed., 9 ROCK VALLEY L 2-5, W 6-2
 Fri., 11 PRAIRIE STATE W 17-10, W 8-2
 *Mon., 14 W W
 Tue., 15 HARPER W 10-0,
 Thu., 17 at South Suburban W 9-0, W 11-0
 Fri., 18 MORAIN VALLEY L 7-4, L 8-7
 *Sat., 19 at Rock Valley W 8-0, W 6-1
 *Mon., 21 W 7-6, L 9-5
 Tue., 22 at Lake County L 4-7, L 6-7
 Wed., 23 ELGIN W 12-3, W 9-1
 Thu., 24 L 0-10, L 0-6
 *Sat., 26 W 7-6, L 8-14
 *Tue., 29 at Joliet W 11-7, W 13-2

SOFTBALL CONT

MAY

Fri., 2 REGION IV TOURNAMENT TBA
 Sat., 3 at Joliet
 Thu., 15- NJCAA Division III Nationals
 Sat., 17 at Rochester, Minn.

TRACK AND FIELD

FEBRUARY

Sat., 2 at Carthage College (Kenosha, Wis.) 11 a.m.
 Sat., 9 at Lewis University (Romeoville, Ill.) 11 a.m.
 Fri., 15 Chicagoland Women's Indoor Championship (Lewis University) 5 p.m.
 Sat., 16 Chicagoland Men's Indoor Championship (Lewis University) 11 a.m.
 Sat., 23 at University of Chicago 11:30 a.m.

MARCH

Fri., 7 Gill Athletics Last Chance Meet at Carthage College (Kenosha, Wis.) 5 p.m.
 Fri., 14 COD INTERSQUAD
 Fri., 21
 Sat., 29 Viking Olympics at Augustana College (Rock Island, Illinois) 12 p.m.

APRIL

Thu., 3- Chicagoland Championships TBA
 Sat., 5 Men's Results at North Central College
 Fri., 11- Wheaton Invitational at TBA
 Sat., 12 Wheaton College
 Fri., 18 Wheaton Twilight Meet TBA
 Sat., 19 Eagle Invitational at Benedictine University 10 a.m.
 Sat., 26 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Loras College (Dubuque, Iowa) TBA

MAY

Sat., 3 Butler Twilight at IUPUI (Indianapolis, Ind.) TBA
 Thu., 8- NJCAA Division III National
 Sat., 10 Tournament at SUNY-Delhi (Delhi, New York) TBA

MEN'S TENNIS

MARCH

Mon., 17 at Elgin W 6-3

APRIL

Sat., 5 DAVID WEBSTER CLASSIC 9 a.m.
 Wed., 9 OAKTON W 7-2
 Thu., 10 at Rock Valley W 7-2
 Mon., 14 at North Central W 9-0
 Thu., 17 at Elmhurst W 5-4,
 Sat., 19 U. of ILLINOIS (club) cancelled
 Mon., 21 at Waubensee W 9-0
 Thu., 24 at Calumet College of St. Joe's W 8-0
 Sat., 26 N4C & REGION IV TOURNAMENT at Rock Valley W 7-2

MAY

Sun., 11- NJCAA Division III National
 Fri., 16 TOURNAMENT at Pano, Tex. TBA

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All hiring will be done by the editor-in-chief after the OPEN HOUSE held from 10am-2pm, Wed., Aug. 13, in SRC1560. Resumes and writing samples should be provided by students attending the open house.

PAID STAFF TRAINING BEGINS ON AUG. 18.

Chaps win Region IV crown



Photo by Aldo Blanco

Player Jamon Malan works on his return volleys during Tuesday's practice. Malan lost his singles match in three sets against Rock Valley at regionals Saturday but won his doubles match with partner James Winkle 6-1, 6-1.

**By Bob Bajek
Sports Editor**

The men's tennis team hasn't won regionals since 2005. They had mediocre teams that couldn't get over the hump.

This year, they did. The Chaps beat Rock Valley 7-2 Saturday to win the Region IV title and improve their record to 8-0.

"They've surprised me and it's showing in their results," head coach Jim Bowers said.

Player Jamon Malan won his doubles match with partner James Winkle by defeating Rock Valley 6-1 in both sets. Malan said he is excited with winning regionals.

"We're all going into nationals very confident and hoping we'll place first," Malan said.

Doubles partners Hector Guerra and Slob Jevtovic had a difficult match against Rock Valley's Bobby Price and Jesus Roman. They lost to Price and Roman April 10.

This match decided who was going to win regionals. Guerra said that he and his partner had an advantage facing Price and Roman again.

"We were prepared for that match," Guerra said. "We focused on what we had to work on and it worked."

Regional Results

<i>Singles</i>	<i>Doubles</i>
Nate Munier L 1-6, 1-6	Slobo Jevtovic and Hector Guerra W 7-5, 3-6, 6-3
James Winkle W 6-0, 6-0	Nate Munier and Carlo Victuelles W 6-3, 6-1
Slobo Jevtovic W 6-0, 6-4	James Winkle and Jamon Malan W 6-1, 6-1
Hector Guerra W 6-1, 6-2	<i>DuPage won the Region IV tournament and will compete in nationals for first time since 2005.</i>
Carlo Victuelles W 6-1, 6-1	
Jamon Malan L 3-6, 6-2, 3-6	

Guerra and Jevtovic lost the second set and moved to the decisive third. Guerra said that they handled the pressured third set well and won 6-3.

"We didn't go for big shots but focused on consistency," the sophomore said. "Execution was key to the victory."

Bowers said that the dramatic turnaround from the last two seasons was the work ethic. He said that all his players are extremely talented, but they also took advantage of practices.

"I tell the guys that the one

thing you can control is your effort," Bowers said. "As long as you could put it out there, you aren't going to have any regrets."

The national meet will be held in Plano, Texas from May 11 through 16. Malan said that the team will work extensively on their serves to prepare for the big meet.

Bowers said that the best advice that he gives his team before nationals is to be positive and enjoy the game.

"If you stay positive, good things will happen," the coach said.

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Bullpen comes through in huge region win

By Bob Bajek
Sports Editor

The softball team was in a battle Saturday at home against region rival Triton.

The game was 6-6 in the sixth inning. Starting pitcher Trisha Stock was lifted after a shaky fifth. It was up to relief pitcher Megan Schroeder to not let Trojan Nicole Hreha score from second.

Schroeder pitched out of the jam and helped the Chaps win game one of the doubleheader 7-6.

Schroeder struck out Trojan left fielder Roxanne Kavanagh and got third baseman Laura McDermott to end the sixth. The reliever then retired three batters in a row in the seventh to get the save.

Stock said that she appreciated Schroeder's ability to bail her out in the sixth.

"It's really great because she saves me and whenever I'm not doing well she picks me up," Stock said.

Stock pitched well the first four innings but then ran into trouble in the fifth. Second baseman Amanda Brandenburg mishandled a grounder for an error with one out.

That miscue opened a Trojan rally. RBI hits by Trojan Amy Jankowski and pitcher Allison Hernandez gave Triton four runs to tie the game.

"They started hitting me wherever I was throwing it," Stock said.

The Chap defense stepped up after the error. Left fielder Danielle Curylo fielded Trojan Kelley Teteak's hit and threw the ball to home plate.

Catcher Cara McCoy then applied a sweeping tag to get base runner Angie Collazos out to end the fifth.

In the bottom of the fifth, Chap Lauren Schramm led the inning with a hit. She reached third base on two fielders choice grounders.

McCoy then hit the ball passed the pitcher to drive Schramm home for the 7-6 advantage.

The Chaps opened the first with a



Photo by Aldo Blanco

Outfielder Danielle Curylo narrowly avoids a tag by Triton's Angie Collazos Saturday. Curylo and her teammates won the first game of a doubleheader 7-6 before falling in the second game 14-8.

four-run inning. Designated hitter Lindsey LaDew hit a screaming 2-run homer off Hernandez. LaDew said that the wind helped her homer sail a good 30 feet out of the park.

LaDew then had a hit in the second. After that, the Trojans elected to intentionally walk LaDew in her next two at bats.

"Most people feel good about (being walked) but I get mad because I like to hit," LaDew said.

DuPage lost the second game 14-8. This moves their record to 25-14 overall and 8-6 in region IV action

Head coach Ryan Connell said that he is pleased with his team beating their conference foes at this point of the season.

The coach said that the Chaps lost three of their first four conference games but have won seven of their next 10.

The softball team will compete in the region IV tournament this Friday and Saturday at Joliet. Connell said that he is confident that his team will do well.

"It's gonna be a good battle between Joliet and us," the coach said.

—SportsBriefs—

Baseball

The men's baseball team lost to Moraine Valley 11-9 Wednesday at home.

On Sunday, Kusinski's squad again faced rival Triton on the road.

The Chaparrals won the first game of the doubleheader 10-3 but fell in the second game 12-5.

This moves DuPage's record up to 20-20 overall and 9-7 in region IV play.

Softball

The softball team beat Joliet on the road Tuesday. They won the first game of the doubleheader 11-7 and triumphed in the second 13-2.

The wins push DuPage's record to 27-14 overall and 10-6 in region IV action.

Men's Tennis

The Chaps defeated Calmut College at St. Joe's in Indiana by a score of 8-0. One of the matches was a win awarded by forfeit.

The strong showing boosts DuPage's record to a solid 7-0 on the season.

Tennis Carnival

There will be a Tennis Carnival on May 21, 6:30 p.m. until late at night at the COD tennis courts.

You will be able to practice your game and meet fellow tennis players in your community while playing competitive live ball games, round robin matches, and learning a thing or two on the drill courts.

If you have any questions email Coach Jim Bowers at:

bowers@cod.edu or just come on by at 6:30pm. There might even be a few prizes!

Women's Tennis

The Chaps will compete in nationals at Tucson, Ariz.

The tournament will be held from this Saturday through May 9.

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To use the athletic facilities students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours and have a P.E. pass.

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Obtain a student I.D. in the PE building for \$5. You can obtain a pass from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday.

You can also get an athletic pass for \$10. The I.D.'s are both convenient and versatile. The card can be used as a library card, as a PE pass, and as a student I.D. for local discounts.

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