

## SPORTS

# Chaparrals walk off homerun ends game in fifth inning

By Eli Rodriguez  
Sports Editor

Chaps took on Rock Valley Wednesday in a conference match up. The starting pitcher for the Chaps was sophomore left hander Mitch Smith. RVC got an early 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning but DuPage came back with two runs of their own in the bottom of the first inning.

Leading of the top of the second was RVC outfielder Jeremy Breitbach. With the count 1-1 Smith left a ball too high in the zone and Breitbach hit a homerun giving the Golden Eagles the lead 3-2.

The next batter, Jake Nicholson got on base after the ball got passed the catcher on ball four. Nicholson then tried to steal second but was thrown out.

With one out Smith struck out the following batter and the next one popped out to first baseman.

RVC starting pitcher Justin Denniston made quick work of the first two batters by forcing a ground ball and striking out the other. But catcher Casey Carpenter kept the inning alive by hitting a ball

deep to center that was a few feet shy of a homerun. With Carpenter on second Denniston walked the next batter, Zak Krisciunas.

Roger Pope hit a ball out to left field for a two out two run single, giving the Chaps the lead. Brian Martin hit an RBI triple to deep center to extend the Chap lead. Denniston finally got out of the inning by forcing Andrew Brauer to pop out.

Smith got through the third inning with ease giving up just one hit. The Chaps did manage to put one more run on the board before Smith came out for the fourth inning.

In the bottom of the fourth Denniston ran into more trouble facing the Chaps' hitters. Krisciunas reached first base on an error after the shortstop was unable to come up with the ball. Pope was next and was hit by a pitch that ran too far inside.

DuPage called for a double steal and then Martin had a two run base hit. Then Isaac Rome hit a laser out to left center field for an RBI triple. Brauer was walked and Babchak hit a sacrifice fly to score Martin from third. Brauer stole second allowing



Photo by Amanda Kellermann

The team scored a total of 14 runs in five innings while allowing just three runs to score in Wednesday's victory over Rock Valley.

Sean Roberts to hit an RBI double. After a ground out and another walk Denniston was finally able to get out of the inning on a fielder's choice hit by Krisciunas.

Smith fielding a ball hit back to him for the first out and forcing two pop-ups to the next batters for the final two outs pitched a quick one, two, three inning.

At the bottom of the fifth inning it was the Chaps up 11-3.

Denniston got quick out to start the inning forcing Pope to pop out to center field. Martin got on base with a hit out to right center.

Denniston then walked Rome on five pitches. With the winning run on first base Brauer came up to bat. Denniston threw a high and inside ball that got away that moved up the runners to scoring position. The next ball was left over the heart of the

plate and Brauer crushed the ball out to right center field for a game-winning walk off homerun. With the mercy rule in effect the game was called and Chaps win the game 14-3.

With the win over RVC the Chaps improve their record to 21-17. DuPage's next game is at 3 p.m. Friday away against Elgin. Then the team is back at home at noon on Sunday against Lake County.

## Strong season so far for softball

By Eli Rodriguez  
Sports Editor

The Lady Chaps continue to put on an impressive display this season with a record of 21-7. The team took on three schools last week and won four of six games. First the Lady Chaps took on the Lady Spartans of Elgin and picked up two wins.

The first game was pitchers duel that ended 1-0 in DuPage's favor. The Lady Chaps had Jessica Franco on the mound, who pitched all seven innings giving up six hits and zero walks. Pitching for Elgin was Casey Holtz who gave up seven hits and one earned run while walking on two in seven innings of work. In the top of the fourth Lady Chaps' shortstop Erin Stankus hit a ball that brought in center fielder Lauren Schramm for the games only run.

In the second game against the Lady Chaps were able to put nine runs in just three innings

against pitcher Jessica Schue. Holtz who pitched the entire first game was needed pitch in relief for the remainder of the game. Lyndsey Payne pitched for DuPage giving up three runs on four hits while striking out nine. The Lady Chaps scored 14 runs of Elgin in the second game ending 14-9 and improving DuPage's record to 19-5.

The Lady Chaps hit a bump in the road the next day when they took South Suburban. DuPage lost both games to the Lady Bulldogs. The first ended 1-7 and the second 4-8. DuPage bounced back in their next series against Rock Valley.

The Lady Chaps won both games against RVC. The first ended in 4-3 in extra innings. And the second was called in the fifth inning with DuPage up 10-1.

DuPage's next game is at 3 p.m. Friday at home against Triton in a make up game. Then on Saturday the team heads to Kankakee.

## No signs of slowing down for track and field

Two meet records, 13 qualifications and 42 personal records in weekend meet

By Eli Rodriguez  
Sports Editor

DuPage track and field team competed in the Eagle Invitational at Benedictine University last weekend. The meet turned out to be one of the team's most successful of the year. "It is so impressive to see how well we did at this meet. With only regionals left before we go to nationals, it is great to see our team still has that desire to improve," head coach Jane Vatchev said.

And the DuPage coaches had much to be impressed with as the team had with 42 personal records and 12 qualifying times. Standouts Dan Benton and Troy Doris both set meet records in their events. Benton set a meet record in the 400-

meter run and Doris continues to dominate the long jump event by setting another record.

On the women's side Bethany Ester had a great meet by winning the high jump and qualified in the triple jump along with Elisa Stough. Ester also anchored both of the women's relays. Sara Pirano had good meet qualifying in the javelin. "Sara only trained for the javelin for maybe a week and that was outstanding for her to qualify. She was asked to do something for the team and she really stepped up," Vatchev said.

On the men's side some standouts were Emilio Salinas who qualified in the javelin and set a PR. Salinas also qualified in the discus. Brian Shaw continued to improve in the hurdles

dropping a second off his time. Chad Flint threw over 13 meters in the shot put placing in tenth. Eron Hodges ran a good race in the 200-meter run and finished with a qualifying time.

Now the team will head to Dubuque, Iowa to compete at regionals on Saturday. After that is the National Championship in New York. "We've trained hard and prepared well for this. We need to be mentally tough and our athletes need that desire and passion to win because the national competition will be tough this year and continue to get harder. Times that would of won nationals a few years back probably wouldn't get you in the top eight now. But it should be exciting," Vatchev said.

# Spring 2009 Sports Schedule

TRACK & FIELD	
APRIL	
Wed., 1	Troll Relays 4:00 p.m.
Sat., 4	Mike Poehlein Invitational 9:00 a.m.
Sat., 4	Elmhurst Invitational 0:00 a.m.
Fri., 10	Chicagoland Women's Championship 2:00 p.m.
Sat., 11	Chicagoland Men's Championship 9:00 a.m.
Sat., 18	Eagle Invitational 10:00 a.m.
Sat., 25	Regional Championship TBA

Wed., 15	McHenry 3:00 p.m.
Thu., 16	MORAIN VALLEY 3:00 p.m.
* Sat., 18	Rock Valley 12:00 p.m.
* Sun., 19	ROCK VALLEY 12:00 p.m.
Thu., 23	MATC-MILWAUKEE (WI) 2:00 p.m.
Fri., 24	Elgin 3:00 p.m.
Sat., 25	Prairie State 12:00 p.m.
Sun., 26	LAKE COUNTY 12:00 p.m.
Tue., 28	Robert Morris 7:00 p.m.
Wed., 29	MORTON 3:00 p.m.

*Tue., 21	TRITON 3:00 p.m.
Wed., 22	at MATC-Madison (WI) 3:30 p.m.
Thu., 23	WAUBONSEE 3:00 p.m.
Sat., 25	Kankakee 12:00 p.m.
Mon., 27	OAKTON 3:30 p.m.
*Tue., 28	HARPER 3:00 p.m.

BASEBALL	
APRIL	
Wed., 1	Oakton 6:30 p.m.
*Sat., 4	TRITON 12:00 p.m.
*Sun., 5	Triton 12:00 p.m.
Thu., 9	South Suburban 3:00 p.m.
* Fri., 10	JOLIET 2:00 p.m.
*Sat., 11	Joliet 12:00 p.m.
Sun., 12	OLIVE HARVEY 12:00 p.m.
Mon., 13	North Central JV 4:00 p.m.

SOFTBALL	
APRIL	
Wed., 1	McHenry 3:30 p.m.
Fri., 3	MATC-MADISON (WI) 3:30 p.m.
*Sat., 4	Triton 12:00 p.m.
Mon., 6	Moraine Valley 3:00 p.m.
*Tue., 7	Rock Valley 3:00 p.m.
Wed., 8	Prairie State 3:30 p.m.
*Sat., 11	JOLIET 12:00 p.m.
Wed., 15	Elgin 3:00 p.m.
Thu., 16	SOUTH SUBURBAN 3:30 p.m.
*Sat., 18	ROCK VALLEY 12:00 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS	
APRIL	
Thu., 2	WHEATON JV 3:00 p.m.
Sat., 4	DAVID WEBSTER 9:00 a.m.
	CLASSIC
Thu., 9	ROCK VALLEY 3:00 p.m.
Sat., 11	Elmhurst 9:00 a.m.
Sat., 11	U. of Illinois Club team at Elmhurst 12:00 p.m.
Mon., 13	WAUBONSEE 3:00 p.m.
Mon., 20	Oakton 2:30 p.m.
Wed., 22	Carthage JV TBA
Sat., 25	REGION IV TOURNAMENT at DuPAGE 11:00 a.m.

\* = Conference Games  
Home games in ALL CAPS

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# Wanted

## Athletes of the Year



The Courier would like to recognize those athletes that have exceeded in their respective sports.

Coaches will need to select one athlete from their rosters to be in the voting.

Nominations will need to include first and last name, COD email address, either a cell or home phone number and the reasons why the athlete is being nominated.

The nominees will need to be in by Wednesday April 29.

Voting for the athletes will be available online the following Thursday April 30 on the Courier homepage. Names of the nominees will be in next weeks issue.

After the Internet voting is complete on Tuesday May 5 a female and male athlete will be chosen for the 2008-2009 Athlete of the Year.

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