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Kennedy spring squads enter playoffs

By Managing Editor May 22, 2014

It was a busy week of baseball for Kennedy last week. The Eagles managed to win two of five games during that hectic period.

Kennedy's overall record is 7-12 after defeating Lakeville South and Eagan but losing to Burnsville, Prior Lake and Eastview.

Kennedy, 4-12 in the South Suburban Conference, will open the Section 3AAA playoffs Friday, May 23. Tournament pairings were not available as this issue went to press. Kennedy must win its first-round game to advance to the double-elimination portion of the playoffs.

Michael Fobbe was the hitting standout in Kennedy's 7-5 triumph over Lakeville South May 12. He contributed two home runs to the cause. Fobbe connected for a three-run shot and added a two-run homer. He was also the winning pitcher. Mason Kackman aided the victory by collecting three hits and driving in one run.

"Fobbe pitched a good game and came up big with his two home runs," said Kennedy coach Matt Hanson. "Kackman had three key hits.

"We played well defensively in the win over Lakeville South."

Burnsville beat Kennedy 6-1 May 13 as the Eagles were limited to five hits. Max Simmons provided two of those hits. Jon Sodergren was the losing pitcher despite allowing only two earned runs.

"We made physical and mental mistakes that cost us runs in the loss to Burnsville," said coach Hanson.

Kennedy rebounded from that game to defeat Eagan 7-3 May 14. Neil Oxborough and Robbie Huber shared pitching duties. Huber was credited with the win.

Grant Barland led the Kennedy offense with three hits and two RBIs. Sodergren and Fobbe provided two hits apiece.

Kennedy lost 7-1 to Prior Lake May 15. Barland had two hits for the Eagles. Huber and Fobbe added one hit each.

The Eagles dropped a 4-3 decision to Eastview May 17. Kennedy trailed 4-1 before cutting the deficit to one run (4-3), but it couldn't push across the tying run.

"We had our scoring chances but didn't come up with key hits," said Hanson. "Fobbe pitched a complete game and threw the ball well.

"Brandon Grund led us offensively with two hits."

Girls golf

Providing leadership for the Kennedy girls golf team are senior Molly McMurchie and junior Abigail Trudell. Junior Jennifer Larson is the Eagles' other returning letterwinner.

Kennedy's varsity newcomers are juniors Mykenna Choudek, Madelyn Haeg, Katharine Hauge, Kori Remer and Nicole Tincher.

"We have an awesome group of young ladies who are working hard and improving their golf games every week," said Eagle girls golf coach Todd Kennedy. "They are great students and excellent representatives of Kennedy High School athletics.

"Our team GPA is over 3.7 and our top student-athlete is Hauge. Our three returning letterwinners have competed in three South Suburban Conference tournaments so far this spring. McMurchie has been our best scoring golfer and is able to compete with the best golfers in the conference.

"Trudell and Larson have improved each match. Other girls have greatly improved their game and will be counted on in the future," added Kennedy.

Kennedy is assisted by Jack Cavanaugh.

Kennedy softball

The Eagles had a busy softball schedule last week preparing for the section playoffs. The Eagles were scheduled to play Park of Cottage Grove in first-round action May 19.

Lauren Sapp came through with two hits as Kennedy dropped a 12-2 non-conference decision to Benilde-St. Margaret's May 15.

Morgan Garbrecht, Bridget Lotzer and Sami Reis provided one hit apiece. Kennedy pitcher Ashley Nagel allowed only four earned runs.

Kennedy lost 14-0 to Prior Lake May 14. Alexa Miller was the losing pitcher. Miller and Mariah Propes had one hit each..

The Eagles were defeated by Lakeville North May 13 in a South Suburban Conference doubleheader. Kennedy lost a pair of 10-0 decisions to the Panthers.

In the first game, Miller handled pitching duties and allowed seven earned runs. Miller, Garbrecht and Cassie Anderson had one hit apiece. Nagel pitched the second game. Sapp and Nagel came through with two hits each.

Eastview blanked Kennedy 19-0 May 12. Eagle hits were provided by Miller, Nagel, Garbrecht and Propes.

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