

Agate Baseball Faces Busy Travel Week

by John Sandstrom

The Agates completed a brief homestand on Monday evening with a tough loss to a strong Ashland Oredocker team and prepared for a week of away games including trips to Virginia, Eveleth, and Mesabi East. They return home to face Ely on Thursday, May 27th and Cook County the following day.

Ashland knocked off the Agates by a slim 8-7 score in Monday's game. The Agates rallied in the bottom of the seventh and almost pulled off a miracle win when Zach Bentley's long drive was caught at the left-center field fence. As co-head Coach Tim Bott stated, "A couple more feet and Zach's ball would have been out."

Bott says the Agates received a strong pitching performance from Peyton Koss and Nick Pearson. Trent Gomez was 2-3 with two rbi to lead the Agate offense.

Last week, the Agates powered past Wrenshall by a 14-4 score in five innings. Ethan Bopp pitched four and one third innings to gain the win. As Coach Bott said, "Ethan does what we expect from him. He throws strikes. He trusts his defense to help him and they do." The Agates played error free baseball which is no small feat (as the Twins can attest).

Bopp is a sophomore pitcher who also plays basketball and football. "I sure don't overpower batters, but I like to 'paint the corners' and make them hit my pitch. Our defense was great when I pitched against Wrenshall. Our team has improved a lot this year. We have good hitters and our pitching is strong. I hope we can get a few more wins and make a playoff run. It has been a lot of fun."

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