

Scholastic Notebook

**How About
1 Big League?**

By John Doser



It's difficult to determine whether the great Catholic-Central Western Conference football experiment was successful.

Few athletic directors or coaches talk out loud about it; few want to be quoted; the rest aren't necessarily involved.

Few fans however will dispute the interest which the games aroused; the 14,000 who attended the Aquinas-Fairport scrap will testify to that.

The game was more than adequately publicized and the fans who viewed got their money's worth. Although the score was close, each team might have scored one or two more TDs; Aquinas, because of its many penalties; Fairport because it couldn't catch the ball. Aquinas won, 18-12.

The question before the house is this: will the CWC permit the four Rochester Catholic schools to join its grid circuit?

ONE THING for sure. The public school people consider two great obstacles to any "merger."

They violently object to the "open enrollment" of Catholic high schools which permits Cardinal Mooney, for example, to enroll boys, mostly Catholic, from as far away as Spencerport and Brockport.

This is the nature of the Catholic high school and we doubt this practice can be changed. But there are other changes Catholic schools might make if it meant "merger" with the public schools.

The other practice is the use of summer camps which ostensibly are for physical fitness — but which can be used to the advantage of the football coach.

Nothing can be done about Catholic school boundaries; but in order to eliminate the possibility of bending any rules with regard to the latter, we'd suggest throwing out the summer camps.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN next fall in football? Who knows. The present experiment was a

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Kearney Harriers

Defeat Mooney

The Bishop Kearney harriers outran Cardinal Mooney runners, 22-23, Tuesday, Oct. 6, at Mooney, to preserve Kearney's three-year unbeaten status in Catholic League cross-country action.

Senior Darrell Youngman and junior co-captain Kevin Hanna led the way for the Kings, tying for first place in 13:01. Senior Walsh (13:08), sophomore Matt Largess (13:23), senior Dick Hasenauer and sophomore Dave Versoky finished fourth, fifth, tenth and eleventh, respectively, to round out the scoring.

one-shot performance. We'd say generally that fan reaction and interest were quite good. We shudder at high scores but the same CWC teams are getting bombed by their own colleagues anyway.

One county coach suggested there will be another extensive reorganization after the present season with the Catholics possibly joining as associate members. We like that idea.

He also said (in addition to the two obstacles mentioned above) the greatest problem in his opinion was public relations. It doesn't help he said, to have a Catholic school coach sound off about "put up or shut up," even if the newspapers helped to fuel the fire.

Another item worth thinking about — the D&C's Jim Castor wrote recently that another obstacle to any merger was the "anti-Catholic" attitude of some CWC school administrators. We hope this sort of thing is rubbish in this day and age.

In the final analysis school authorities constantly preach about doing things in the best interest of students. That's what school is all about. We suggest one giant league with county, city and Catholic schools broken into three or four divisions based on boys' population (Class AA, A, Be and C).

Place the larger or tougher teams in the same division. Wouldn't Aquinas, Bishop Kearney, Fairport, Rush-Henrietta and a few other top poll/point getters make a tremendous division?

We'd then know what it really takes to be No. 1.

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