

**Scholastic Notebook**

**Who Is Number One?**

By John Doser



Soccer at Bishop Kearney High was slated for this space this week but it's tough to stay away from football.

Depending upon which newspaper poll one follows, the big question in recent weeks is "Who's No. 1 — Aquinas or Rush-Henrietta?"

The obvious way to resolve the problem is to put both teams on a field and find out. We'd guess that more than 14,000 (those who saw Aquinas beat Fairport a few weeks ago) would turn out for this one.

Of course it won't happen this year and if Rush-Henrietta coach Paul McKee doesn't change his mind, it will never happen.

The R-H coach, who has built a genuine football factory at Rush-Henrietta, has as many reasons for not playing Aquinas as Aquinas' Bob Rosmarino can supply for playing.

There's really one reason to play. Which team is better?

McKee must realize that even his coaching colleagues question the true potential of his R-H football squad while it runs over weak CWC western division opponents. Times-Union sportswriter Ray Buck is quite proper in asking what will happen if a realignment of the Central Western Conference sends R-H into the Eastern Division against tougher clubs like Fairport, Brighton and East Rochester. "It's time McKee's dynasty received some real testing," Buck wrote.

The T-U's high school columnist also pointed out that realignment would give R-H a choice for a non-league game and that Rosmarino wanted Aquinas to be that game.

Since McKee has stated in the past that Catholic schools must do something about enrollment boundaries and summer camps before he'd play them, we think there's little chance that the Comets ever will meet the Irish.

Realignment will result in two eight-team CWC divisions with room for a non-league contest but which almost certainly will be against another CWC rival. Which means Catholic athletic directors should start looking for two more games, out of town, in order to come up with eight-game skeds next season.

The "Big Experiment" where Catholic League teams and CWC-Eastern Division teams compete is over. CL clubs won six, lost one and tied one of the eight confrontations.

Getting back to those polls which coaches insist are meaningless, wastes of newspaper space, irritating, ridiculous etc.

The newspapers run them because they're the next best thing to actually playing. Think about it. If R-H and Aquinas were scheduled, would a poll be necessary?

One poll has more merit than the other, however. Poll A is based on a pre-season selection of seven coaches so that no

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**CYO Paddleball Tourney Slated**

The 10th annual doubles paddleball tournament for the CYO members only will begin Monday, Nov. 16, according to Howie Revans, program director.

To date, 10 teams have signed up to participate. The entry deadline is Monday, Nov. 9.

Any CYO members wishing to participate, may register at the CYO, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester.

**NATIONAL MERIT**



Michele Szembrot, a student at St. Agnes High School, was recently named a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Michele is a parishioner of Good Shepherd Parish, Henrietta.

Awarded letters of commendation by National Merit were two St. Agnes students: Mary Lou Guerinot, St. Augustine Parish, and Suzanne Schaeffer, St. Helen's Parish.

one league's coaches can dominate the outcomes. Poll B reaches all 30 possible coaches in the Rochester area and its results reflect the natural loyalty a coach has for schools in his own league.

What really frustrates us is the knowledge that some coaches still pick Fairport over Aquinas even though the Irish won, 18-12. (They argue that the Reds couldn't get up for a non-league game.)

Isn't that like insisting that Cincinnati is better than Baltimore even though the Birds won the Series? Like saying Quarry is better than Clay even though the latter easily won the bout.

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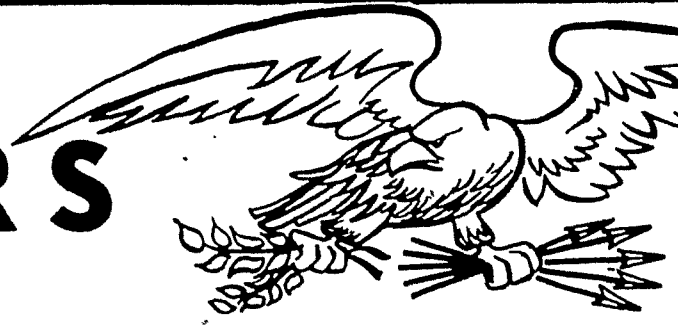
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