

Scholastic Notebook

Big Year For DeSales

By John Doser



It's a perfect marriage, this arrangement between DeSales High of Geneva and football coach Harry Furman.

Furman moved to Geneva five years ago as assistant grid coach at Hobart. He later stepped down a coaching notch or two to become head coach at DeSales, a school not known for overwhelming its Wayne-Finger Lakes opponents, at least not in football.

DeSales' players, parents, boosters, etc., got tired of losing and did something about it. Attitudes changed; the boosters provided additional equipment — and DeSales began to win some football games.

Last year DeSales did everything wrong according to Furman and the Saints didn't go anywhere.

This year DeSales did everything right and the Saints won the W-F-L championship.

ONE OF THE LONGEST two-paragraph letters ever written was sent to Central Western Conference football officials last week by Father Joseph F. Gersitz, McQuaid principal and president of the Diocesan Association of Secondary School Administrators.

The letter explained that the recent "Aquinas vs. Rush-Henrietta" newspaper brush-fire" (really an exchange of remarks made to a reporter by Aquinas coach Bob Rosmarino and Rush-Henrietta football players) was strictly Rosmarino's opinions only, not those of the four Catholic schools' principals or athletic directors.

Rosy, controversial AQ head coach whom many of his counterparts in Monroe County consider a thorny (not fiery) taskmaster, challenged Rush-Henrietta to a showdown ballgame to determine which of the two schools really is No. 1 in the Greater Rochester area.

Rosy said he'd cancel his last game (against Syracuse Tech)

if R-H would cancel its last game (Penfield).

The letter reaffirmed the Catholic schools' acceptance of public school and state regulations and practices etc., while Rosmarino insisted that no one could deny him the right of free speech.

Aquinas won the Times-Union poll; Rush-Henrietta won the Democrat and Chronicle poll; R-H took fifth in the state poll; Aquinas was 12th. R-H won all eight of its games including a 74-0 victory over Penfield, the most lopsided score this season in New York State schoolboy football. (Rosmarino predicted a 60-0 R-H victory over Penfield; shows how bright he is!). Aquinas finished 7-1.

THE ODDS ARE VERY SLIM that R-H and AQ will play next year. The Monroe County circuit is expected to reorganize because of the withdrawal of Canandaigua and R-H and Pittsford are frequently mentioned as joining the league's eastern division. Should Brockport move from east to west where it belongs the result would be two divisions with eight teams in each — just right for seven league games and a non-league crossover.

But this set up will be obsolete in a year when a second Webster High wants in and the following year with Pittsford's second entry ripe for membership. And Hilton and Spencerport are talking about adding football to their programs. What then?

Public school coaches in and out of the city talk a lot off the record — and their pitch is always the same — Catholic schools must close their open boundaries and stop their summer conditioning camps.

Again, we ask, if these are the only real obstacles, what would happen if the Catholic schools carved Monroe County into quadrants and scrapped camps?

CYO to Initiate Annual Bowling Tourney

Rochester area elementary schools, represented by 20 teams, will participate Saturday, Nov. 23 in the first annual CYO Elementary School Bowling Tournament at North Park Lanes, Rochester, starting at 1 p.m.

Boys and girls bowling teams including grades 6 through 8 will compete in separate divisions.

"The tournament evolved as a result of the CYO's desire to encourage wholesome activity, such as bowling which has reached wide popularity with youths in the area," Michael G. Ordway, tournament director, said.

"All our activities are youth oriented and the CYO sponsors other activities of similar nature such as the annual state-wide Cheerleader Tournament, the diocesan-wide Basketball Program and the annual Diocesan High School Tournament.

"It offers the boys and girls an opportunity to develop school spirit by representing

their school and a personal sense of accomplishment by winning a trophy for himself and his team," Ordway said.

ANTIQUe TALK

Marvin D. Schwartz, antiques columnist for the New York Times, will present an illustrated talk "Touchmarks and Hallmarks" at the Memorial Art Gallery Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 10:30 a.m. The talk is a discussion of American silver of the 18th and 19th centuries.

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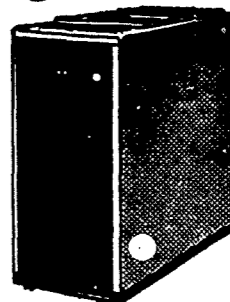
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