

Scholastic Notebook

Tourney Dying?

By John Doser



It's winter sports time and school basketball clearly is the king.

Rochester's four Catholic schools are expected to be generally stronger than they were a year ago but outside the city other diocesan teams, what's left of them, may have tough sledding.

Cardinal Mooney coach Ed Nietopski, who's still betting on a Metro circuit but admits it'll take time, reports that the annual Diocesan Tournament, the next best thing for Catholic schools until Section 5 opens its tournament doors, may be kaput.

Mt. Carmel of Auburn and Padua of Watkins Glen have already locked their doors and thrown away the keys leaving only the Rochester quartet, DeSales of Geneva and Notre Dame of Elmira. What kind of excitement does a six-team play-off generate? None.

Coach John Uriah's Aquinas cagers have enough veterans returning, including 6-5 Brady Spetz to possibly offset anything Nietopski can produce at Mooney following a wholesale exit of somewhat taller graduates last June from the Maiden Lane school. Wouldn't count any Nietopski-coached team out of it however — not when there's still a Panaggio around — this time it's 6-1 sophomore Danny who's supposed to be the best one yet.

CATHOLIC LEAGUE football champion Aquinas placed nine members of its starting eleven on the 1970 All-Catholic football team. Three of the four backs named to the offensive squad were "Irish" — quarterback Ray Quercia, halfback Mike Palumbo and fullback Mark Schmidt. Bishop Kearney's Tom Snyder nailed the remaining halfback spot.

Quercia nosed out Kearney's Paul Adamo, one of the smoothest passers in town, by virtue of his two year record and all-around ball-handling.

Snyder was voted the outstanding all-around player by the four Catholic League coaches. Snyder, who also played defensive linebacker for the

Kings, made the All-Catholic squad first team for an unprecedented third time.

The offensive line included center Pete Messner, tackles Jim Segerson and Jim Kinsky and end Don Young of McQuaid; guard Bill Cinelli and tackle Mike Lester of Aquinas; and guard Gerry Campione of Kearney.

The defensive team: Aquinas — tackle Mike Craig, end Chris Fedick, linebackers Dave Nicodemus and Mark Piccone; Kearney — tackle Steve Mileo, end Jim Dooley, halfback Rick Gambatto; McQuaid — linebacker Scott Maxson and halfbacks Bernie Knauf and Jerry Tallo; Mooney — linebacker Bob Hetzler.

Two BK booters made the City-Catholic League All Scholastic soccer team — halfback Rick Eichner and forward Jeff McClellan, the latter who was second best scorer in the CC circuit with 20 goals. Honorable mention went to Aquinas' Mark McCaffery and John Savers, and Kearney's Tom Neary and Tom Weckesser.

AQUINAS JV football coach Hunk Vadas saw his troops win their fourth straight Catholic League JV championship in a row this fall. Vadas' team have won 24 of 29 games in the last four years including contests against some smaller varsities.

Mooney Bowlers Lead League

Cardinal Mooney High School bowlers are undefeated in 24 Catholic League games and top the scoring in all categories.

The Mooney team average as of Nov. 19 was 717, with McQuaid and Aquinas both at 701 and Kearney, 660. Leading the Mooney attack is Lyle Beach, with high individual series of 661, 652 and 619, and the league's highest average, 219.

Nov. 23 results were Mooney vs. McQuaid, 8-0; Aquinas vs. Kearney, 8-0. Kearney meets Mooney and Aquinas meets McQuaid Dec. 3.

CYO

The CYO will offer an 8-week course on Lifesaving Merit Badge for all Boy Scouts who have successfully passed the Swimming Merit-Badge requirements.

Classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings Dec. 3, to February 4, at the CYO pool on 50 Chestnut St., 6-7 p.m.

Emphasis will be on water skills, water safety practices and land drills. Boys passing this course must take a water and written examination. Final grades will be submitted to each Scout Master. The Boy Scout Lifesaving handbook is required, and a fee is charged.

The CYO has a football excursion to Buffalo slated Sunday, Dec. 13, for the game that pits the Buffalo Bills against the Baltimore Colts, with Johnny Unitas. The CYO will provide transportation and a smorgasboard at the Apple Grove Inn, Medina. For further information phone the CYO at (716) 454-2030.

Aquinas Hoopers Open

BY WHIT JOHNSON

Aquinas Institute lifted the lid on its 1970-71 varsity basketball season last weekend when the Little Irish invaded Batavia for a game with prestigious Notre Dame High School's quintet.

The season's schedule, released by athletic director and coach John Uriah, features 18 games including two contests in a Christmas Tournament sponsored by Aquinas.

Aquinas also will compete in the annual Catholic Diocesan Basketball Tournament at the end of the season.

Starting his second year as Irish mentor, Uriah is expected to field a strong, experienced club. With six returning lettermen, the Dewey Avenue boys are led by 6-foot senior Tom Rolwing, elected captain by his teammates. Other returning lettermen are 5-9 Tom Heil, a good outside shooter; 6-4 John Duignan, powerful under the boards, 6-3 Brady Spetz, hustler Larry Mitchell and Rick Millerick.

All Aquinas home games will



TOM ROLWING

be played at the old RIT gymnasium on Spring St. Home contests for the Irish will include Charlotte, Cardinal Mooney, Franklin, Jefferson, McQuaid, Monroe and Kearney.

Also playing a full schedule of games is the Aquinas Junior varsity squad, coached by Brendan Carmody, and the Aquinas freshman team, coached by John Clapp.

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