

Grid Future Exciting

By John Doser



The new exciting City-Catholic Football League has a schedule which has been approved by coaches and officials and it's for real — the four Rochester Catholic high schools will play six Rochester public high schools in football this fall for the first time.

Teams from both leagues have scrimmaged off and on before. Aquinas did meet and beat Madison (26-24) in 1945 at Edgerton Park. But beyond that, the two loops have never gotten together.

The Monroe County Football League composed of 16 suburban public schools has also reorganized — it's now three divisions instead of two. Rush-Henrietta now can finally play its neighbors but let's hope the Comets don't start asking "who's No. 1" come next November. They had a chance to find out but the county league turned it down.

Because of previous schedule commitments, Aquinas and the six city schools each have one open date. The city schools play each other once (five games) and two Catholic opponents (two more) and now are shopping around for a finale.

Talk generating around town after the county announced its realignment had the latter possibly dropping the eighth game of its league members to facilitate some games with C-C opponents. Just talk.

The Public-Catholic bit is a strange breed only in the Rochester area. Out in the Midwest there are Catholic teams in Lutheran leagues, Catholic teams in public school leagues etc. etc. Syracuse has Catholic teams in its public school league. DeSales of Geneva competes in the Wayne-Finger Lakes League.

THOMAS O'NEILL, 67, 138 Dufferin Drive, Greece, died earlier this month. Mr. O'Neill was a member of the 1924 Aquinas basketball team which set a national record that has never been broken.

The '24 Irish, coached by the late William McCarthy, held Cathedral High of Sioux Falls, S.D., scoreless, 30-0, in a first round National Catholic High School, Tournament basketball game in Chicago.

Mr. O'Neill, who worked at Baasch & Lomb, played semi-pro basketball in Rochester and later coached boys' teams at St. Charles Borromeo and Barnard Elementary schools.

BOBBY WANZER'S St. John Fisher Cardinals are very much for real as both RIT and Brockport State cagers will attest. The Cards extended Brockport to the final minutes before succumbing in the Lincoln Rochester tournament and knocked off the Tigers, 84-82.

Three cagers partly responsible for the Cards' success this season are Bill Heppeler, Paul Bussell and Rick Sydlo. Heppeler, from Syracuse, made the ECAC Division III All-Star team a week ago; Bussell from Horseheads, was honorable mention; and Sydlo, from Elmira, was an outstanding sophomore choice.

BRIAN CHADWICK'S Bishop Kearney wrestlers, didn't win the City-Catholic title but McQuaid must credit the Kings with helping them, win it.

BK upset Madison 30-14 to knock the Wilson Parkers out of the running but the fired-up Parkers came back with a 23-17 win over Cardinal Mooney — which needed the win to tie McQuaid for the title.

McQuaid wound up 10-1; Mooney and Madison finished 9-2; Kearney was 8-3.

Joe Theismann Dinner Speaker

Joe Theismann, Notre Dame's star quarterback for the past three football seasons, will be the principal Sports Night speaker at Christ the King parish, Thursday, March 4.

The annual event, a dinner for fathers and sons, will begin at 6 p.m. in the parish hall. Guests will include George Siler, International League president; Joe Cullinane, Red Wing announcer, and Ron McDole, all-conference lineman with the Buffalo Bills. Eddy Meath of WHEC will be master of ceremonies.

Irish Take Hockey First

Aquinas took over first place in the Monroe County Hockey League standings last Saturday by defeating McQuaid 2-0 at RIT's Ritter Memorial rink.

The Little Irish are now 11-1-0. McQuaid is now deadlocked for second place with Pittsford, who whipped Bishop Kearney Friday night 4-1. Both teams stand at 10-2-0.

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