

# No. 1 in Basketball: Immaculata College?

New York [RNS] — It's almost a secret, folks, but the best team in collegiate basketball represents a Roman Catholic college for girls.

Immaculata College of Immaculata, Pa., defeated Mississippi College, 68 to 53 in the finals at Manhattan, Kans., for the U.S. women's collegiate championship.

It was almost a secret. One of

the great newspapers of the U.S. gave Immaculata's victory almost 1 1/2 inches of space on the Sunday sports page (it was only the third national championship for Immaculata in three years).

Move over, John Wooden, of UCLA, coach of national men's championship team for eight straight years — but beaten this year. Immaculata has won three straight titles.

Were it not for Immaculata church-related basketball, would be dead at the end of the season. Dayton, a Marianist college, took UCLA to three overtime periods before losing in the NCAA tournament. Other defeated church-related NCAA teams included Notre Dame, Creighton, San Francisco and Oral Roberts. Only Marquette, a Jesuit school, survived, and it lost to North Carolina State in the NCAA final.

While Immaculata was "quietly" — no publicity — beating Mississippi College, the following Catholic-related teams were going down the drain to defeat in the National Invitational Tournament in New York — Cincinnati, Providence, St. John's Fairfield, LaSalle, Manhattan and Boston College.

Sixteen top women's teams, winners in regional playoffs, took part in the tournament in Manhattan, Kans. The "Mighty Macs" defeated William Penn College, 57-55, in the semi-finals, a tight-squeeze victory before clinching the championship.

"It was a very nice tournament. Nicely run. The first couple of days we were a bit sloppy, but we played very well in the last game," said Cathy Rush, who coaches the Immaculata team.

The Mighty Macs finished the regular season with a 20-1 record, losing only to Queens College in New York by a point, and averaging 64 points per game. The girls play four 8-minute quarters.

Craig Brown, a spokesman for Immaculata, said three busloads of fans made a 27-hour bus ride to Kansas to see the Macs play, and provided a "crucial factor" in the game against William Penn.

The Macs were playing poorly, dragging behind until the last three minutes of the game. The "place was going crazy," Brown said. "But the fans just wouldn't let them lose."

Theresa Shank of Glenolden, Pa., a senior and co-captain, led the Macs with 15.4 points a game in the regular 13-game season, plus 146 rebounds.

## St. John's CYO Girls' Champs

St. John's "B" team won the CYO girls' basketball league championship with a 7-0 record, and won the girls' tournament by defeating Holy Cross 32-18 on Sunday, March 24, at the Holy Cross gymnasium.

The tournament win left St. John's undefeated with an overall record of 10-0. Leading scorers in the championship game were Cynthia English and Irene Eckels with 10 points each.

In the tournament's consolation game, St. James defeated St. Michael's 20-14 to capture third place.

## Bank Expands Cage Tourney

The annual Lincoln First Bank of Rochester intercollegiate basketball tournament will be expanded in 1975 to include seven area teams.

Varsity basketball teams from Alfred University, the State University College at Geneseo, and Hobart College will join the tournament, in which teams from St. John Fisher College, Rochester Institute of Technology, the State University College at Brockport, and Robert Wesleyan have competed for the past eight years.

## SCHOLASTIC NOTEBOOK



Sister Seraphine beams, holding check for \$5,000, with Jack Palvino, left, and Eugene C. Dorsey.

Jean Giambone, Times-Union sportswriter, has been a dues paying member of the Rochester Press-Radio Club for 15 years.

Jean, who has covered everything for the T-U from golf, bowling and schoolboy (and girl) sports to new homes, shocked members of the PR Club last week by attending her first meeting.

"I always felt a little out of it, like all the meetings were stag parties," Jean said. 1974 may be different, however.

Jean, a member of St. Ambrose Parish, is on the PR Club's publicity committee for the September Kodak Celebrity Golf Classic. There's probably no more knowledgeable golfer in town since the D&C's Bruce Koch went from sports to copy editing a few years ago.

Part of the reason for being at the otherwise all-male meeting, no doubt, was the presence of Sister Seraphine and Sister Pius, mainstays of the School of the Holy Childhood on Buffalo Road.

The sisters thanked the PR Club for its \$5,000 gift via pro-athlete-of-the-year winner O.J. Simpson from the recent Gannett Rochester Press-Radio Club dinner.

"It's a good thing for us O.J. liked Buffalo Road," Sister Seraphine explained. "The Press-Radio Club is a very special group to us. Our (mentally handicapped) children think this club is tops. Many years ago kids like ours were placed in a forest and left to die."

"We pray for the club and all its members every day at one o'clock. If you ever visit us the children would grab you by the leg and never let go because they love you. We have one of the happiest places in Rochester," she said.

As an afterthought Sister Seraphine added that raising funds is not an easy experience, but pointed out the nuns had recently sold \$45,000 worth of Fanny Farmer candy for Easter.

"Put her on a committee," came a voice from the rear of the room. Not at all a bad suggestion.

### Name Dropping

St. Agnes' Barbara Shields won two individual events and was second in the all-around competition to help Section 5 win the first intersectional gymnastics tournament for girls at Binghamton. St. Agnes doesn't have a gym team, so Barbara practiced with the Deaconettes Gymnastics Club before the tournament. Rush-Henrietta coach Paula Summit, who coached the Section 5 girls, said "They didn't figure us to do anything down there but people we didn't even know said it was a pleasure to watch the way we acted as a team."

Barbara won the vaulting and floor exercise as Section 5 totaled 150.4 points to runnerup Section 1's (Westchester County) 143.28.

Chris Gorman was Aquinas' fighter of the night after defeating defending champion Mark Kolmer in the annual Aquinas Boxing Bouts (formerly Mission Bouts). Freshman fighter of the night was Tom Bo and best bout of the night was between Tim Murphy and Russ Thurston which Murphy won on a split decision.

McQuaid's two-mile track team took second among 14 schools at the 23rd annual Fordham Relays in NYC. Quartet of Paul Shafer (2:01.3), Tim Lawrence (2:00.1), John Farrell (2:00.5) and Tom Lott (2:01.6) led until the final leg when All Hallows High from the Bronx took the lead to win.

Aquinas sophomore Mike Parker was named to the New York-Pennsylvania Junior Hockey League All-Star team as first-team goalie. Mike played for the Rochester Monarchs this season and has high hopes of making it next year with a higher class of icers in Toronto or Kingston.

Mike may very well become Rochester's first home-produced pro hockey player.

## IN THIS CORNER

The way I read it most places, the new World Football League will have it made in another season or so. Merger with the NFL Establishment, filthy rich TV contract, and all the fixings. Excuse the word.

It did happen that the old American Football League executed that format on its way to success and merger with the original NFL.

But the World hasn't got the same shot.

First of all, the TV picture.

The new league is going with Hughes Sports Network, which doesn't rate with any of the three alphabetical networks. The new clubs will receive something like \$100,000 each in 1974, as compared to a couple of million each for the Establishment teams.

Now the matter of talent.

It first was suspected that the WFL would force the price of football livestock right through the roof. Negative.

The guys who expected to put themselves in the delicious middle of a bidding war for their services have already been disappointed.

The new league is not throwing around oodles of money just to bring in some names. There have been no outlandish headline-grabbing long-term no-cut contracts for the jocks coming out of the college market.

Take the case of Gary Marangi, Boston College super star. All the credentials. The WFL's phantom franchise, Boston or New York or Mexico City, nobody really knows for sure, needed Gary Marangi.

He went to Buffalo, which is hardly noted for attracting starry-eyed talent.

Now take the case of John Cappelletti, college football's No. 1 boy for 1973. Heisman winner, Penn State.

Cappelletti was offered a \$500,000 term contract from Philadelphia Bell of the WFL. He took the offer out to Carroll Rosenbloom of the Los Angeles Rams, for negotiating strength.

"We don't pay unproven players big money, at the expense of veterans who've helped us win games," said Rosenbloom to a stunned Cappelletti, who went back to University Park, Penn., to ponder this treatment.

A week later Cappelletti made his decision — for a standard NFL contract with Los Angeles.

The World League reacted to this affront by conducting its first draft.

Probably the biggest difference in WFL prospects and those handled by the old American League is bankroll.

The WFL owners are not throwing money around like crazy for one very good reason: They don't have that kind of bread.

The old AFL pioneers were mostly ultra rich. Ralph Wilson (Buffalo) is heir to one of the world's great trucking and insurance fortunes. Bud Adams was Phillips Petroleum. Barton Hilton was Hilton Hotel, rich enough to sign in Zsa Zsa Gabor on a short-term contract.


Lamar Hunt had a rich father, H.L. Hunt, but young Lamar had some clout of his own at the corner bank.

An AFL official warned the old man, that his kid was eligible to lose a cool \$1 million his first year in football.

"Bad news," said the father, "because at that rate the kid'll be broke in 150 years."

### SEDER SUPPER

Dansville — St. Mary's families are invited to partake of a Seder supper at 6:30 this evening in the school auditorium. The traditional Jewish Passover meal will be explained as it proceeds. Our Lady's Guild and the parish liturgy committee are sponsors.



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