



SISTER MARY RUTH GILLIGAN

Sister Mary Ruth's Coach, Sports Fan

By JOHN DOSER

"A school is no better than its athletic administration."

These are not the words of a coach or an athletic director; they're the words of Sister Mary Ruth Gilligan, a reading specialist and senior English teacher at Cardinal Mooney High.

Sister Mary Ruth is also a genuine Mooney sports fan who hasn't missed but four or five basketball games in the past four years and has seen most of Mooney's football games, home and away, over the same period of time.

She's also been the classroom coach of Glenn Hagan, Larry Lane and Tony Shaw, while the All-Star trio learned their basketball and football from coaches Ed Nietopski and Tony Merola.

She may be a greater fan of Glenn Hagan, but that's because he's headed for St. Bonaventure,

her Alma Mater (master's degree in English).

"These three kids had something special to want to come out of the inner city to go to school at Mooney," Sister Mary Ruth said.

"They took a lot of name-calling and guff to come here every day," she added. But the three stuck it out, carved their academic and athletic successes, and will be the first blacks to complete four years of education at Mooney in June.

Sister Mary Ruth said at first the boys thought just being an athlete was "being a nobody."

"I told them that they can't be an athlete and be stupid, so let's get on with it," she said. And they did.

She credits Nietopski and Merola for teaching all their athletes to be Christian gentlemen. "A school is no better than its athletic administration," she reminded again.

AQ Appeal Starts Phase II

Aquinas Institute began Phase II of its seventh annual Alumni Appeal this week with the slogan, "Do a Little More in '74."

Loyalty to the school, and keeping the activities program in the school budget, without extra charge to the students, are the themes of this year's appeal.

More than 10,500 Aquinas alumni are being contacted. All are being asked for a donation of \$10-\$25. Phase I Report showed a total of \$15,046.00 after three weeks of a direct mail appeal by Father Albert Gaelens, CSB,

principal, '50; Thomas Falk, chairman, '48; and Lawrence Oberlies, Vice-Chairman, '53.

The '74 alumni committee chairmen are assisted by six decade chairmen: John Mattle, '14; Al Steinwachs, '28; Art Mance, '39; Gerald Dorsey, '40; Donald Miller, '52; Wayne DeHond, '63; and four Assistant Decade Chairmen: Emmett Muldoon, '35; Louis Ricci, '47; Peter Donnelly, '58; Michael J. Piehler, '64.

The third, and final, phase of the appeal will begin May 13 with a workers' dinner at the school to

kick off a three-night phonathon, involving more than 250 Alumni.

The goal of this year's drive is \$50,000 and 100 per cent participation by the alumni. "We have all benefitted from our training and education under the Basilian Fathers, and are grateful," said Falk. "If everyone gives something, we will exceed our goal with no problems. So, let's all do a little more in '74."

GEM Slates Education Seminar

"Religion and Public Schools" will be the topic for a clergy and sisters seminar to be held at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, South Fitzhugh Street, Friday, May 3, 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Dr. Blaine Fister of the National Council of Churches of Christ and Dr. Charles Melchert of Colgate Rochester Divinity School/Bexley Hall/Crozer Seminary will be seminar leaders.

Dr. Fister and Dr. Melchert will discuss present legal limits, as well as the opportunities, to conduct religious education classes in public schools.

IN THIS CORNER George Beckon

The blown-up newspaper photograph showed big Bob McAdoe recoiling from contact with Jo Jo White, who is flat on his back. The basketball, fired by White, is in the air. The clock is shown clearly at the top of the picture. Time remaining: :01.

The officials had blown the foul and White rolled in a pair of free throws as players from both teams left the floor of the Buffalo Memorial Auditorium. Boston 106; Buffalo 104.

The season suddenly was all over for the young Braves of Buffalo, who became a winning team and made the National Basketball Association playoffs in one quick build-up season for an expansion team.

Except it wasn't over. What happened to that :01 on the scoreboard clock? The official game clock?

Nobody knows yet, least of all the Braves and their 18,000 fans who were robbed of a second of playing time, enough to inbound the ball (no time charged until it reaches a second player) and get off a potential tying basket.

Outside the referees' dressing room the Buffalo owner was pounding on the door, hollering for that last second of play. No dice.

He filed a formal protest with the league office, and was told, in effect, to forget it.

Still the NBA playoff game was not completed, and agitator that I am, I suggested the fans sue the league office for a refund on tickets for an incomplete game.

The owner's pounding on the officials' door was a throwback to the old days of the NBA and the NBL. Oshkosh, Sheboygan, Moline, Fort Wayne, Syracuse and, yes, Rochester.

Basketball was synonymous with rhubarb. A visiting team had to play outstanding ball to win on the road. Referees were intimidated by the fans crawling, almost literally, on their backs.

The late coach of the New York Knicks, the great Joe Lapchick, had a standard pre-season speech for his troops. "Do not," ordered Lapchick, "come around growling about 'homer' and bad calls when you get the worst of it on the road! Just make up your minds that if you're going to get jobbed, you'd better be 15 points better on a given night on the road, to win by one point. Get the job

done well enough to overcome the bad calls."

Lapchick would have been shaken up in Buffalo. Or even just by seeing the newspaper photo. More often than not, instant replays or stop-action shots of controversial sports calls are not really conclusive evidence. Camera angles, mostly, can distort things.

But not in the case of the unfinished basketball game in Buffalo. It is something the NBA must live down. Or with.

There is an alarming trend in the NBA, which has worked so hard for so many years to clean out the "homers" in the whistle-tooting ranks.

The complaints are reversing. The home teams are starting to cry foul. Because the NBA is breeding a new type of referee. The one who feels he must prove in a hurry he will not be intimidated by partisan crowds. He proves it by nailing the home team on every borderline call.

If this is progress, the NBA has come full circle.

SCHOLASTIC NOTEBOOK John Doser

Name Dropping

Edison Tech, thought to be an all boys' school all these years, will field girls' teams next school year in varsity bowling, and JV volleyball, basketball and softball.

City-Catholic Coaches Association, whose president is Mooney's Tony Merola, announced that City-Catholic League women coaches have agreed to join the men's association.

Private-Parochial schools' girls' softball league chairman for this season is St. Agnes' Joanne Myskow.

Cardinal Mooney's Gary Urbonas, offensive and defensive tackle, will attend the University of Georgia on a full scholarship. He's also a wrestler.

Syracuse CBA needs a football game for the 6th week. Ditto Buffalo's Sweet Home High for the 9th week.

Brockport State's Mauro Panaggio and Edison Tech's Vito Costanza will hold a basketball camp for three weeks, including one week for girls, at Keuka Sports Camp, Penn Yan, from July 14-Aug. 3.

A football camp is also slated from Aug. 4-10 with these coaches on hand: Barney Sullivan, Brighton; Don Quinn, East Rochester; Nick DerCola, Clyde-Savannah; Pat Stark, U of R; and George Davis, Hobart.

Brockport State wrestling coach Don Murray and MCC's Roscoe Hastings will direct a training camp in August for the U.S. world's freestyle wrestling team. The U.S. team will be chosen on the basis of the camp and in subsequent wrestle offs, according to Murray.

Al Cervi's annual basketball camp is scheduled for Aug. 20-27 at Camp Eagle Cove on Fourth Lake near Inlet, N.Y., in the Adirondacks, for the 14th year in a row.

Rochester area coaches helping Cervi out include Al Masino, Eastridge; George Monagan, MCC; Ron Mack, ex-Aquinas; Bill Carey, RIT; Tony Alvaro, Romulus; George Glamack, ex-Rochester Royal; Tom Pope, Genesee State; Clarence Mephram, Brighton; Gene Baker, Livonia; and Tom Flood, Marcus Whitman.

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