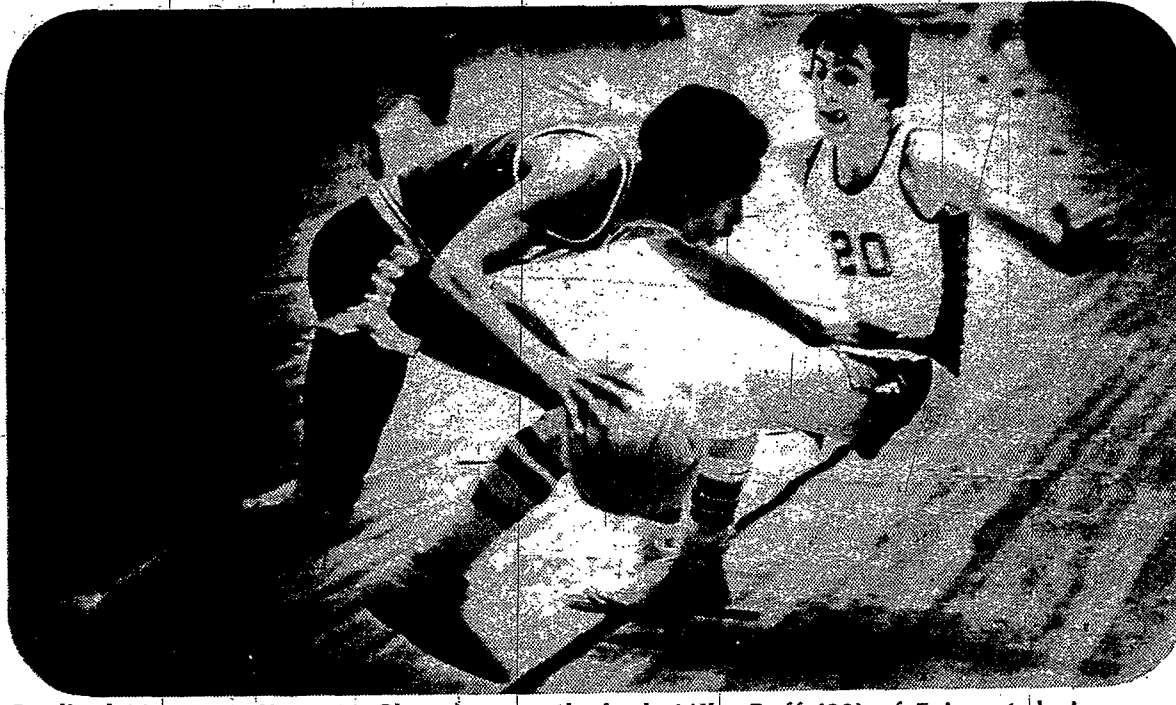


nd Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap



Mooney's Virgil Cotton and refreshing pause in Fairport game.



Cardinal Mooney's Haze McClary apparently fouls Mike Ruff (20) of Fairport during quarterfinal AAA action in Section 5 basketball at the War Memorial. Fairport ousted Cardinal Mooney, the last Catholic team to tumble in the tournament, and went on to win title.

Photos by Susan McKinney

Rood Hat-Tricks Irish To County Hockey Title

By JOHN DOSEK

It seems only appropriate that Wayne Rood, one of two unanimous choices for the Monroe County Hockey League's North Division All-Star team, should explode for the three-goal hat-trick to lead Aquinas to a 5-3 win over Irondequoit in the Monroe County Hockey League championship game Saturday at RIT.

The game, which was televised over WXXI-TV, Channel 21, completed Coach Bill Lukaszonas' first year at the helm of the Irish icers who finished with an overall record of 14-2-2.

Rood, who scored a league record 40 goals for the Irish during the regular season, and Webster's Stu Seedhouse, who totaled 52 points for the Ridgemen, were the unanimous North Division choices for the division's all-star team.

The 5-8, 155-pound junior scored two goals in Aquinas' midweek, 6-3 win over Webster in the semifinals, and roared back with three more in the title match against the Indians.

He is of more than average interest to Rochester Monarchs' coach Andy Laing, who surely would love to have the Aquinas sharpshooter on his roster next year — but — Rood has indicated to Lukaszonas that he expects to play his senior year for the Dewey Avenue icers.

"We could have used Wayne Rood," Laing said a few weeks ago.

"He has one of the quickest

shots around. He was invited to try out, but he wanted to concentrate on his studies."

Rood has explained that he doesn't regret turning down the Monarchs.

He said his grades haven't been that good to compensate for the time the Monarchs are away from home.

Irondequoit owned control of the title match until Aquinas turned on the juice late in the second period.

The Indians, who finished third in the North Division behind Webster with a 9-4-2 record, forced the Irish to play the Tribe's game and it was mostly the Luck of the Irish which kept Aquinas even through the first period and a half.

Irondequoit's Kevin Fitzpatrick opened the game's scoring with a goal at the five-minute mark by beating Aquinas goalie Tom D'Ambrosia with a low slam to D'Ambrosia's glove side.

It only took Rood 26 seconds to even the score for Aquinas. Rood stole the puck, skated past defenseman Rick Sterrett, and put the puck behind goalie Dan O'Brien with a neat backhand.

Irondequoit moved ahead, 2-1, at 12:27 of the first period when a pass was deflected by D'Ambrosia back to Fitzpatrick who picked his spot in the Irish net.

Aquinas scored the only goal in the middle session when Dan Horn connected on a power play. O'Brien managed to stop a blast from AQ defenseman Tom

Derbini, but Horn was in the right spot to bang in the rebound and tie the game at 2-2.

Dave Leaderer gave the Irish a 3-2 edge in the third period with Rood scoring the eventual game winner next, while Aquinas was a man short.

Rood's second goal came on a breakaway set up by an excellent pass from North Division All-Star defenseman Scott Gossert. Rood's shot was up and in the net for a 4-2 Irish lead.

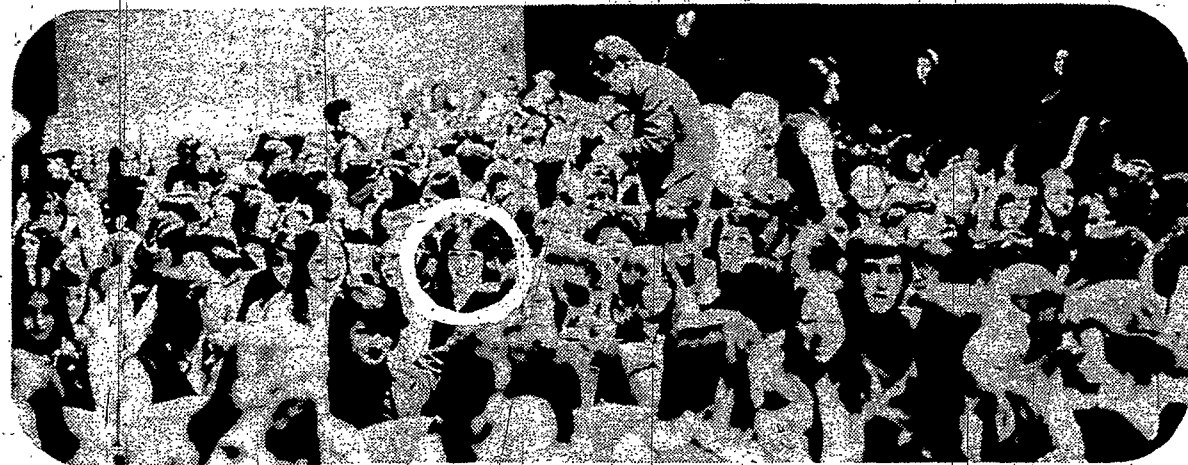
Jim Spencer hit at 10:48 of the finale for Irondequoit to cut the score to 4-3, but Rood's third goal of the game at 13:52 on a feed from Horn put the contest out of reach.

O'Brien and D'Ambrosia, both of whom played exceptionally well in the nets, totaled 20 saves each through the first two periods, but O'Brien was called to work on no less than 17 Aquinas shots in the third period while D'Ambrosia responded to only six.

The championship was the first for Aquinas since 1971.

In the semifinal game against Webster, Wayne Rood scored twice and the Irish received single goals from Terry Rood, Mike Lesio, Gossert and Horn.

The game pitted the league's two most prolific scoring lines against each other but the Webster Seedhouse Line didn't do much damage. Seedhouse did connect twice, but his second goal came with 1:55 remaining in the game.



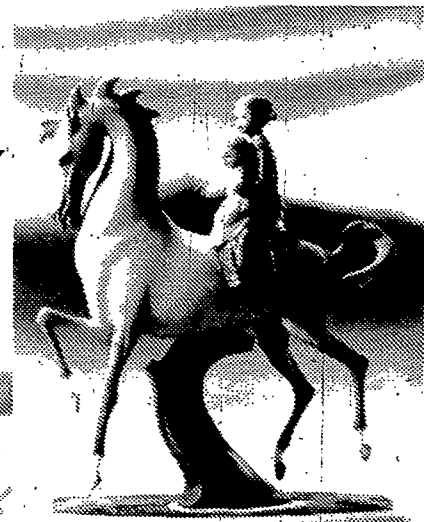
Winner's Circle

RapAround weekly will run a photo of a group of students taken somewhere in the diocese. One person will be circled and if that person brings the clipping to the Courier-Journal before noon of the Tuesday following publication date, he or she will receive \$5. This week's photo was taken at Cardinal Mooney during an assembly. The person circled above should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith Courier-Journal, by noon, Tuesday, April 1 to receive \$5.

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