

# und Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Cagers Open Friday

By JOHN DOSER

Catholic school varsity basketball gets under way this weekend with big questions at Aquinas, Cardinal Mooney, Bishop Kearney and McQuaid.

**At Aquinas:** Can the Irish win three games this year?

**At Mooney:** Can small size (again) produce more wins than losses?

**At Kearney:** What do you do now that Nick Urzetta's gone?

**At McQuaid:** Is everybody else really the team to beat?

Aquinas, coached by Bill Williams, opens Friday, 3 p.m. at Franklin; Mooney, coached by Ed Nietopski, opens Friday, 3 p.m., at Monroe; Kearney, coached by newcomer Doug Farrell, opens Friday, 3 p.m., at Edison; and McQuaid, coached by Tim Jordan, opens at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, at East.

The Little Irish, winners of only two games last season, have plenty of veterans back, relieving for the time being, any fears associated with inexperience.

Departed, however, is Rick Ricketts and his 17 points per game, who hopes to make a name for himself at Monroe Community College.

What Williams has coming back, however, puts him in a frame of mind he hasn't enjoyed since taking over head coaching duties at the Dewey Avenue campus two years ago.

Rick's brother Mike is back; he's a 6-2 senior who averaged 12.5 points per game last year. Williams says he is a better player this year.

Mike Kelly, another 6-2 senior, who started every game last year, is what college coaches are looking for, according to Williams. He hit about eight points a game last year.

John Montgomery at 6-3 stands No. 1 in height — he started half the games last year and Williams considers him to be Aquinas' most improved performer since last year.

Football end Matt Casale, a 5-11 senior, moved into the starting lineup around Christmas last year and has been there since. He averaged 10.7 points per game in Aquinas' last 13 games.

Williams has no fewer than seven prospects ready to fill the fifth starting slot, including 6-1 senior Alton James, 6-2 senior Ed Barry and sophomores Randy Benjamin and Chris McNeil.

It sounds like a broken record at Mooney, but Ed Nietopski is complaining again about having no height.

"If we can combat size," he repeats again this season, "we'll take anybody."

Nietopski has optimism, and should, considering his returning parade of veteran performers from a year ago when the Cards won 12, lost 6.

There's 5-11 Jim Eichas, 6-0 Don Drum, 6-0 Jim Panaggio, and 5-9 Mike Shoniker, the first three back as starters from a year ago and Shoniker the probable choice as the Big N's fourth starter.

Up for grabs is the final opening which could go to 6-4 Mike Moriarty, 6-4 Bruce Mitchell, 6-1 Paul Goodberlet, 6-1 Joe Pierce or senior Rick Lanpher.

Missing of course, are graduate heavyweights Ken Boddie (6-2) and Virgil Cotton (6-0) who nearly out rebounded the rest of the league all by themselves.

Grooming young players is part of the Nietopski Method. This year is no exception. Drum and Panaggio are juniors; Drum averaged 14 points per game last year and Panaggio about 12 ppg in his last four games (including sectionals).

Newcomer Doug Farrell, who learned his basketball ABCs at Mooney under Nietopski and

later at Niagara under Frank Leyden, must be bored with the question, "What are you going to do now that Nick Urzetta is gone?"

To say Urzetta left a void is as big an understatement as the void he left. Urzetta averaged 26.5 points per game last year and was an easy choice for Greater Rochester.

Farrell says he's less concerned with scoring than he is about the Kings defense.

He's got some height for a change (at BK) and figures the scoring will take care of itself.

BK has 6-2 senior Pete Reister, 6-3 1/2 senior John Gilman, 6-1 senior Steve Kryk, 6-1 1/2 senior Kyle Newport, 6-2 senior Mark Lewis and 5-10 Jim Dellavilla.

Lewis is considered a better than average performer who can dunk the ball with both hands, according to Farrell.

The biggest man on the club, and one of the biggest in the City-Catholic League, is junior Stan Milcarek, who tops 6-6, and is trying to put the pieces together.

McQuaid coach Tim Jordan said everybody in the league is the team to beat.

Football quarterback Pete Stone has a claim on one starting position, but Stone is recovering from the rigors of a vigorous grid season and may not be ready for the opener.

Jordan is high on 6-2 junior transfer Gene Goodlow from Buffalo whom he says can do just about everything and whom Jordan has designated the "Godsend."

Only other vet with any experience worth talking about is 6-4 Tim Thaney who hit double figures occasionally last year.

Others in the running for remaining starting spots include 6-2 1/2 senior Mike Wiese and 6-3 junior Tom Wiese, 6-2 junior John Zamites, senior Chris Ciaccia, and junior Pete Radell.



Photo by Ben Susso

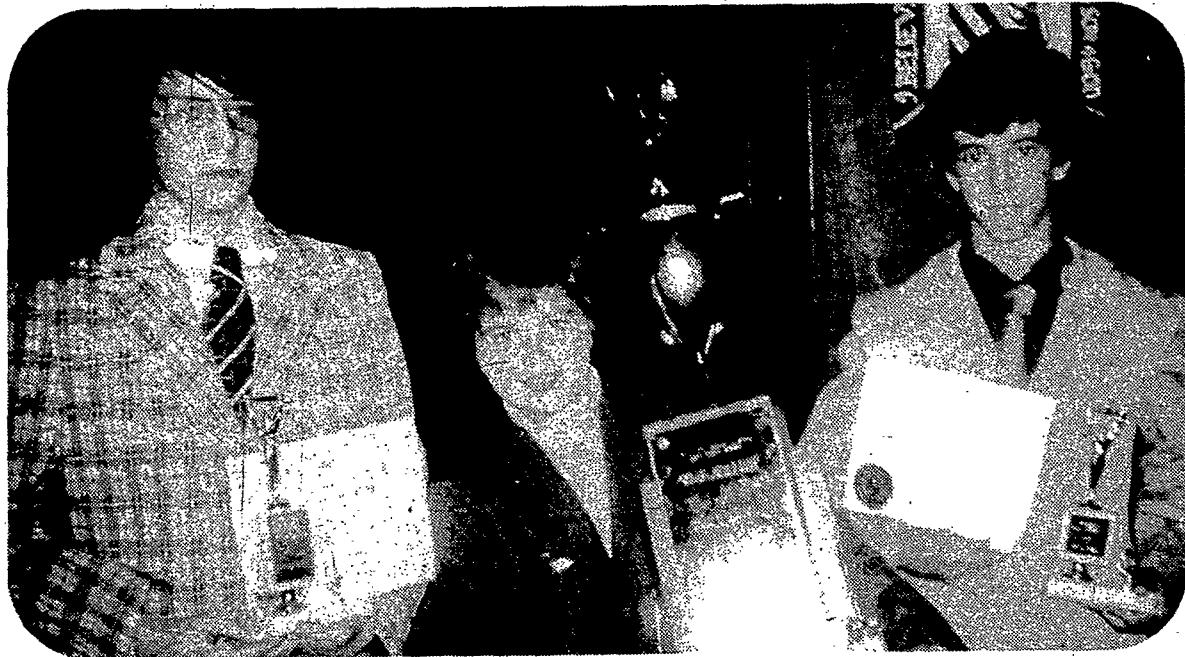
## One Giant Leap

Basketball practice at Aquinas is quite strenuous.

## Naval Academy Nominees Named

Peter J. Riester, a student at Bishop Kearney High School, and Roger M. Smith Jr. of McQuaid have been announced by Congressman Frank Horton's office as nominees for appointment to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

The next step will be an evaluation of the nominees by the Naval Academy Admissions Board. Academic records, leadership potential, aptitudes, physical fitness and extra-curricular activities are all considered.



## Winning Speakers

Winners in the Aquinas Institute Forensic Competition Nov. 23 are, left to right, Matthew Schultz, second place, from St. Lawrence school; Jonathan Thomson, first place, from St. Helen's School; Kevin Lynd, third place, from St. Ambrose School.

## BK Trombonist In All-State Band



PETER VAN WYK

Peter Van Wyk, a 16-year-old junior at Bishop Kearney High School, was one of five trombonists chosen from applicants throughout New York State to participate in the All-State State Band.

The 1975 All-State Conference will be at the Eastman School of Music, with rehearsals scheduled from Dec. 5-8 under the direction of Clem De Rosa, professional drummer and president of the

National Association of Jazz Educators.

They will give a concert Monday, Dec. 8 at 4:15 p.m. in the Eastman Theatre, which is open to the public.

Van Wyk is a member of the Bishop Kearney Marching Kings, the Kearney Concert Band and Stage Band, and also plays first trombone with the Barley Jazz Ensemble.



**AQUINAS:**  
Thursday, Dec. 4—Club Day activity, 2 p.m.  
Dec. 5-6—Presentation of "The Unexpected Guest," 8 p.m.  
Sunday, Dec. 7—Fall Sports Awards Banquet, Aquinas cafeteria, 6 p.m.  
Monday, Dec. 8—Junior-Senior retreat day  
Wednesday, Dec. 10—Freshman-Sophomore communal reconciliation service.

**CARDINAL MOONEY:**  
Saturday, Dec. 6—Guild Christmas Dance.  
Monday, Dec. 8—Feast of the Immaculate Conception, no classes; Student retreat at Canandaigua, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday, Dec. 10—Retreat ends.

**DeSALES:**  
Wednesday, Dec. 3—Bishop Joseph L. Hogan visits school.  
Monday, Dec. 8—Feast of Immaculate Conception, special schedule.

**McQUAID:**  
Dec. 4, 5, 6—Drama presentation, "The Detective."  
Monday, Dec. 8—Feast of Immaculate Conception, school in session.

**NOTRE DAME:**  
Saturday, Dec. 6—Walk-Along.  
Tuesday, Dec. 9—Pep Assembly, opening of basketball season.

**ST. AGNES:**  
Saturday, Dec. 6—Parents Club Christmas Dance.  
Monday, Dec. 8—Report cards.  
Tuesday, Dec. 9—Assembly, "The Importance of Being Earnest."