

# Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap A

## Notre Dame Takes Championship

By JOHN DOSER

**Editor's Note — This story was written prior to Notre Dame of Elmira's big win in last weekend's State High School basketball tournament in Rochester.**

Notre Dame head basketball coach Mike Johnston and his Crusaders visited Rochester early in the season to tackle East High, Section 5's red-hot Class AA entry in the state tournament.

He hopes this Rochester trip will be more satisfying since his club lost to East, 62-51.

"They certainly have a great, great ballclub," Johnston said about Coach Sal Rizzo's Orientals.

Notre Dame isn't the one-man team many observers make it out to be. "If we were, we wouldn't be in the state tournament," Johnston said.

He admits 6-2, 180-pound senior Lacey Fulmer, who has a ticket for St. Bonaventure, is a key performer, but validly points out the club didn't fall apart in its Central Conference title win over previously unbeaten Clinton.

Fulmer didn't score a point in the first half and was sitting on the bench with three fouls with 2½ minutes left in the second quarter.

"We were down 22-19 at that point and at halftime we were ahead, 27-22.

"We believe in the team concept and Fulmer, of course, has been the key to our program for the last three or four years.

"He believes the pass is as important as the score," Johnston explains.

Fulmer, who averaged 17 points, seven steals, and eight rebounds during the season, also averaged 12 to 14 assists per game.

"He's an unselfish kid and that's what he's given to our program. Everybody in this area realizes he could probably be scoring 30 points a game; he is scoring 17 and his teammates, including three of our other starters, are in double figures too."

The other three are 6-0, 160-lb. senior Jim Duncan (17 points); 5-9, 180-lb. senior Steve Ramich (14); and 6-2, 170-lb. junior Steve Agan (13).

The fifth starter, 6-3, 195-lb. junior Carl Schiefen, averaged eight points per game and the Crusaders' sixth, seventh and eighth men, John Kelly, Mike Gustin and Jeff Sobkowski, averaged between four and six points per game each.

Looking ahead to next year, Johnston said "We have seven real good kids coming up from the JVs, who have what we're looking for: defense first, hitting the open man, and hustle."

Notre Dame is accustomed to winning basketball and when Johnston succeeded Paul Manikowski the pattern didn't change. His teams are 69-21 since he took over four years ago.

Last year Notre Dame finished 21-2 and won the Central Conference title with a victory over Oneonta.

He describes last year's ND five as probably the best team in the Elmira area in the last decade.

Many former Notre Dame basketball graduates never experienced the taste of

sectional tournament basketball and ND has only been a Section 4 participant since 1972.

"It's a tremendous experience for our kids, great exposure for our program, and I'm just hoping we can represent our community in the way it should be represented," Johnston says.

The Sisters of Mercy teach at Notre Dame and the good sisters found sufficient reason (other than St. Patrick's Day) to shut down the academics last Friday and declare a school holiday on the occasion of ND's trip to Rochester.

"We'll have a big crowd from our place," Johnston said. "I took 500 tickets and we sold 440 of them; that's about half and half of the \$3 and \$4 tickets. We have five busloads of kids coming up to Rochester for the games."

Notre Dame enjoys tremendous parent support according to Johnston and he flatly states he doesn't know of any fans who are better than his. None at all.

"They just follow us all over the place. We're a very closely knit school with tremendous support by faculty, students and parents. That's what makes our place what it is."



Photo by Susan McKinney

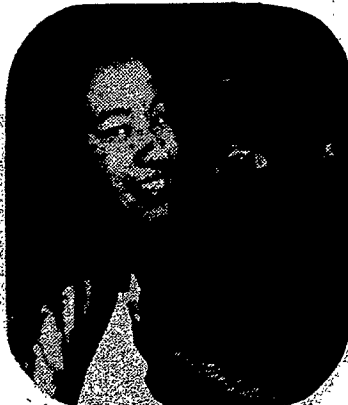
**Jim Duncan (11) takes aim for Elmira/Notre Dame as Byram Hills' Ted Virtue (22) attempts to block the shot. Notre Dame edged by Byram Hills 69-68 to advance to the state final where they handed Roosevelt High of Long Island an 85-67 defeat and clinched the Class A state championship, Saturday, March 18.**

### Honored Pianist

St. Agnes senior, Elizabeth Ouyang, was one of the nine high school seniors who were recently awarded the Howard Hanson Certificate of Merit, auditions for the honor were held at Nazareth College Arts Center, Feb. 12-16. The event was sponsored by the Rochester Chapter of the National Guild of Piano

Teachers. The Hanson award is given annually to area high school seniors whose pianistic abilities meet the requirements of the Guild.

The winners will present a free recital for the public on March 19, 3 p.m., at the Nazareth College Arts Center. Liz will perform the Bach Concerto in A minor.



LIZ OUYANG

### Family Dinner

The St. Agnes Parents' Club is sponsoring a family spaghetti dinner, Friday, March 31 in the school cafeteria. Reservations are necessary and can be made by calling the school at 424-1330; Carolyn St. James, 334-8214 or Kay Roehring, 442-2594. Tickets are \$2.25 for adults and \$1.50 for children. There will be two seatings, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.



- AQUINAS**  
March 22-27 — Easter recess  
Wednesday, March 29 — Vision testing, freshmen.
- DESALES**  
Thursday March 23 — Easter recess begins 11:46 a.m.  
Tuesday, March 28 — School reopens.
- NAZARETH**  
Wednesday, March 22 — Lenten Penance service; Easter recess begins, 2:30 p.m.  
Monday, March 27 — School reopens.  
Tuesday, March 28 — Northwest Regional Assembly, 7:30 p.m.; Adult Education classes, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
- NOTRE DAME**  
Thursday, March 23 — Easter recess begins.
- ST. AGNES**  
Wednesday, March 29 — Rochester Catholic Guidance Counselors' meeting in library.

## Pro Football Spot For DeSales teacher

By ALLIE D'AMICO  
DeSales  
Along with having an interesting past, DeSales' teacher Nick Quartaro has a very promising future. A 1973 DeSales graduate, he now teaches English 10, 12 and freshman physical education but his teaching career is temporary — in July Quartaro will begin training with the Buffalo Bills as a kicker.



NICK QUARTARO

Ever since childhood, Quartaro has been developing his kicking career. "I guess I became interested in kicking when I was seven or eight by watching several of my uncles who were also kickers," said Quartaro. "When I was 10 I made it a daily ritual to go across the street to the Hobart College practice field and kick."

He was scouted by the Chicago Bears in his senior year but couldn't play due to a torn muscle in his leg. In December of 1977, the Buffalo Bills contacted him and he signed with them.

His success in the National Punt, Pass and Kick competition indicated he had kicking skill. When he was 11 he made the eastern finals of the contest and performed at half-time during a Philadelphia-Pittsburgh NFL game. He also made it to the eastern semifinals the next two years.

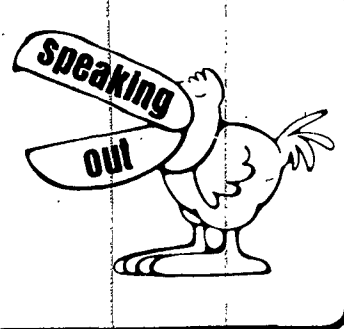
Quartaro says kicking has become much more specialized. "The value of a kicker doesn't come from a guy who makes a 68 yarder; it comes from a guy who can hit the 40 yarder consistently. The value of kicking is consistency and performance, not distance. A lot of people don't understand kicking but it's an art, a craft and I take it as seriously as anyone in the country."

As a junior at DeSales, he became a varsity kicker and reserve tackle and was the kicker and starting tackle the following year. After graduation, he enrolled at Xavier University of Cincinnati as a walk-on and wound up at Iowa University when Xavier dropped football.

He went on to explain that the hold and the snap of the ball can either make you look good or bad and that he has 1.2 seconds to get the kick off after the snap. He also emphasized that the toughest kick is one from around the 25 yard line which is close to the hash marks. "You have to hit it perfect," he stated, "or it won't be good."

At Iowa, Quartaro set four school kicking records. In speaking about his college career he said, "Big ten ball has a lot more pressure and I was baptized to the big time in the opener against Michigan in Ann Arbor. My first point after touchdown was a little shaky and I just made it but from then on I was a little more relaxed."

Quartaro has spread his talent around. During the Fall of '77, he coached football at Hobart College and if things don't go well with the Bills, he has been offered a graduate assistant coaching job at Iowa.



**BY KELLY ENRIGHT**  
Our Lady of Mercy

During the long winter months, we all seem to have the old feeling of drudgery. The gloomy days can often get us down. We seem to forget, however, that there are people who are worse off than us, all year long.

There are many people all over the world as well as right here in our own area who face the fears of not knowing where they're going to get the money to pay the rent, or even worse, where the next meal is coming from.

Various schools around the area have tried to get into the "mission spirit" by trying to help these people. Students have worked hard and have given of themselves to help those less fortunate. Not only are they helping the poor but they are helping themselves appreciate what they have and the things they can accomplish.

The poor of the world

don't consist only of those with physical needs but those with emotional needs as well. To me the emotional needs are our biggest mission. Emotional needs are in everybody not just those who have very little or no money at all. Having food, clothing etc., can hide what someone may really need deep down inside — love.

We should help those who don't have enough to eat, clothes to wear, or a place to stay but we shouldn't neglect those who don't have any love. For what are material things if we have no love? A person can't exist without love.

So all year long, but especially during the winter let us succeed in our mission. Let us try and help those who have physical needs and be more aware of those with emotional needs. Who knows, we ourselves may someday be in that position of being poor.