

# McQuaid (13-0) stages another win; showdown with East nears

By Richard A. Kiley

The scripts for victories by the McQuaid boys' varsity basketball team have become eerily similar of late. The Knights (13-0) thoroughly dominate their opponents in Act I, if you will, then let them think they have a chance of pulling off an upset as the game reaches its climax. But just before the curtain falls, the Knights rudely stave off their opponents' hopes of knocking McQuaid from the ranks of the unbeaten.

Cast as the antagonist in the latest drama was City-Catholic Division 2 Aquinas. The setting was the Knights' gym, where McQuaid entertained a packed house in a 68-49 win over the Little Irish. At 5-8 overall and 4-7 league, Aquinas just doesn't have the raw talent McQuaid is so rich in.

Coach Mike Dianetti's squad did pull to within 12 at 57-45 with 2:32 remaining, but was outscored 11-4 down the stretch. McQuaid's leading man was Greg Woodard, who scored 18 points and added 13 rebounds for the night.

Aquinas' Sean Schiano paced his teammates with 15 points.

McQuaid came out running in the opening quarter, outscoring the Little Irish 11-2 in the first four minutes. The lead swelled to 16-2 after Woodard (who left no doubts that his pre-season ankle injury has healed) scored one of his several uncontested layups for the night with two minutes left. The junior tapped in his ninth point of the first quarter with :05 left to put his teammates up 18-6.

McQuaid's lead continued to balloon in the second stanza, as 6'10" center Scott Martzloff began to assert himself, scoring eight of his 12 points for the game. Unbeknownst to Martzloff, a scout from Fairfield University was in the crowd to check out the big man's play. "I thought Scott Martzloff played the best game I've seen him play . . . He did a tremendous job for us in blocking shots and controlling the boards," said his coach, Joe Marchese. Unfortunately, Marchese said half-jokingly, the scout got tied up on his way to the game and missed the first 16 minutes. "I made sure I told him (the scout) that Scott played a tremendous first half!"

Martzloff sank two free throws in the final moments of the second quarter to give his team a 34-11 cushion at intermission.

"I was extremely pleased with the first half," Marchese said. "It was the best half of defense we played (this year), limiting them (Aquinas) to 11 points."

The McQuaid coach was not as pleased with his team's play in the second half, however, as Aquinas kept up with the Knights in the third quarter and outscored them in the final stanza.

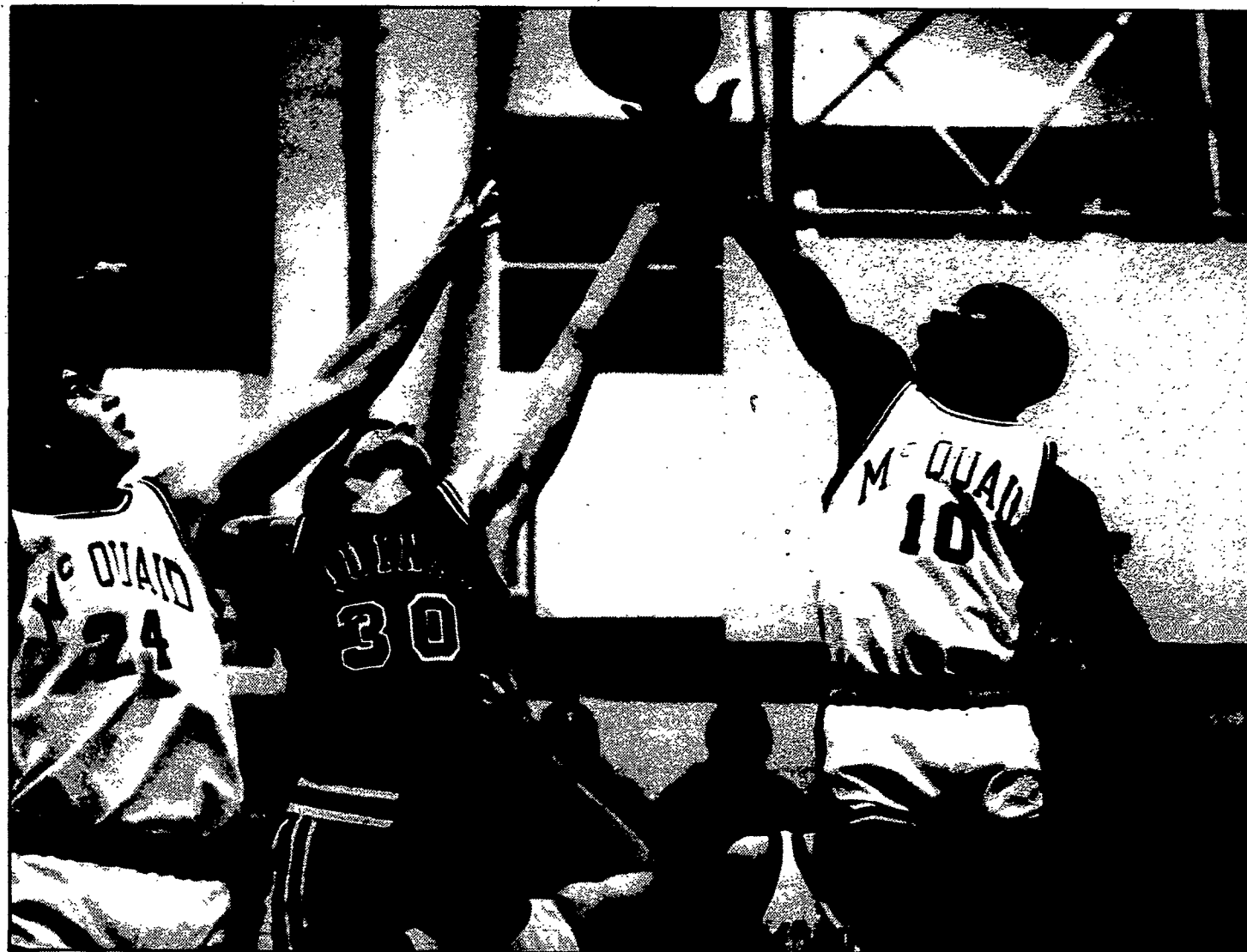
Dianetti switched from a triangle-and-one defense to man-to-man after halftime, a measure that considerably shut down the Knight's offense.

The change in the defense and a lack of intensity on the part of the Knights allowed AQ to pull within striking distance late in the game.

"We lost our concentration in the second half. The same thing happened to us against Marshall on Tuesday," said Marchese, referring to a 10-point win over Marshall. In that game, as in the one against AQ, McQuaid opened up a huge lead, only to see it diminish to just four points late in the game. McQuaid came on at the end to win, 73-63.

"It's tough keeping the same intensity when you're up by 20 points," Marchese noted. That's happened the last couple of games. Ironically, it's been the first team (the starting five) that's been in there when things start to get a little out of hand. They think they can coast."

As any coach will tell you, coasters keep the



McQuaid's Glenn Taggart, right, and Greg Woodard, left, battle for a rebound with Jim Livecchi of Aquinas. Woodard led the Knights in both scoring (18 points) and rebounds (13) as McQuaid won going away, 68-49.

table looking nice, but they don't win big games. And the Knights have big ones coming up, including away contests at Franklin and East.

"When we decide to play aggressively, I have to think we have one of the toughest defenses in the area. My players respond well; you just have to sit them down and let them know what's happening," Marchese said.

What was happening last Friday night was that AQ began to take the play from the Knights in the second half. The Little Irish trimmed a 19-point deficit to 14, and were aided by a technical foul on a McQuaid player who slapped the backboard after a Mike Whitfield layup. Schiano then scored six consecutive points to cut the lead to 12, before McQuaid closed out the game impressively.

It was the end of a long night for Dianetti, but it wasn't a total loss. His Aquinas coach, who, like Marchese, is in his inaugural season with his team, was proud of the way his squad hung tough even when it looked bleak.

"Because of the pride factor and because we were playing in someone else's gym, the kids played hard in the second half," Dianetti said. "I saw some things out there that I liked, though. We probably just played one of the best teams around, and I was happy with the way we kept up the pressure with our man-to-man (defense) in the second half."

Dianetti said he began the game with the triangle-and-one defense to limit the overall output of senior Michael Holton. The point guard is the key to the Knight offense.

"We were going to concede giving points to

Woodard and Glenn Taggart. We would have been happy if we could shut down Michael Holton. But I didn't like the way things were going, so I got out of it (the defense)."

Despite the close attention of various Aquinas defenders, Holton dished out 10 assists for the night.

For Dianetti and his team, the game against McQuaid also mirrored two recent losses, the most recent to Franklin.

"This was the second game in a row where we got taken out early," Dianetti said. "We're just not the type of team that can play two quarters of good basketball and win. We're playing well in the second half, but that's just not enough. You have to play four quarters if you want to win."

All tickets for the February 10 game between the fifth-ranked Knights (New York State high school basketball poll) and East will be sold in advance. McQuaid has been provided with 150 tickets for students, and 50 to 60 for parents.



Mark Chapman of Aquinas gets a piece of the Knights' Joe Williams as the McQuaid forward attempts a layup.

## SHEARSON LEHMAN BROTHERS Presents:

### "Funding For Life"

Planning for your child's future

A free public seminar addressing simplified ways to provide for the future financial needs of your children and grandchildren.

\*The tax law and changes in Uniform Gift to Minors Act (UGMA)

\*Ideal ways to build secure wealth for your child's future

**WHERE:** Nazareth College  
4245 East Avenue  
International Room-Otto A. Shults  
Community Center

**WHEN:** February 24, 1987 - 7:00 p.m.

For Seminar Reservations call  
(716) 987-6251 or 800-462-0152

For information and a brochure describing the "Funding For Life" program call  
Debbie Palumbos at either of the above numbers

## Automatic SPEED CONTROL

Your "silent chauffeur" for easy driving.

These custom control modules duplicate the factory controls incorporating set speed, resume, accel. decet., or coast. Windshield wiper, horn and headlamp functions where applicable. Full year warranty - no mileage limitation.

**A-R-A**

AIR CONDITIONING  
SOUND SYSTEMS  
DEFOGGER/  
DEFROSTERS  
RADAR DETECTORS

**TEMSTAD INC.**  
HOME OF PROFESSIONAL SALES & SERVICE  
777 Monroe Ave.  
behind Monroe Mess Gas Station  
461-8858