

Sports

McQ, Mercy track teams top the field



File photo
McQuaid Jesuit's Steve Foley ran on a slick track during the 1,600 meter race at the sectional qualifiers in May.

By Richard A. Kiley

Although one is an all boys' school and the other all girls, McQuaid Jesuit and Our Lady of Mercy high schools have a lot in common.

How so? Well, both private schools boast rich academic traditions, a strong emphasis on the arts, and you can't mention high school basketball in the area without mentioning one or both institutions.

The similarities don't end there, though. Both McQuaid and Mercy feature some of the top track and field athletes in Section 5, and have been leaving opposing runners in the dust since the turn of the decade.

For McQuaid, this spring was nothing short of spectacular, as Bob Bradley's Knights ran impressively all the way to the New York State Public High School championships in Baldwinsville, where the 3,200-relay team won a state title. The win marked the first state championship for McQuaid since 1976, when Tom Horton was the 800-meter champion.

Mercy's spring did not end as gloriously, as the 1,600 relay team and Laura Young failed to qualify for the state championships. Young, who is only a junior, was the most impressive runner for coaches Beth DelPlato and Tim Jones. The highlight in a season of many high points for the fleet-footed Monarch was a first-place finish in the 400 meters at Geneseo State a week before the states. The race featured a showdown between Young — who finished with a time of :59.33 — and Brighton's Rachel Hosmer, usually a top finisher in national races when she enters.

The 1,600 relay team, which featured two savvy senior runners in Susan Mazurowski and Nikki LaMagna, had run well at Geneseo but faltered at Baldwinsville a week later in the state qualifying races. The team of Mazurowski, LaMagna, Shannon O'Neill and Young took the 1,600 meter relay at Geneseo State with a time of 4:08.32.

In their run for the roses at the states, the relay team of Chris Cusack, Chris Adin, Scott Romanowski and Brad Sumner

finished in 7:50.16, nearly six seconds faster than second-place Somers' John F. Kennedy of Section 1. While obviously asserting themselves as the state's best 3,200 relay team, the Knights were also rated one of the best in the country by *USA Today*.

McQuaid's success this year was a credit to the runners, of course, but even more so to Bradley, who was back coaching the Knights after a two-year hiatus. The McQuaid coach has a wealth of knowledge when it comes to track and field, and he doesn't achieve success by wearing down his runners, either.

This spring, the Knights won big by using a system based on pace grooving and oxygen-debt tolerance, which allowed them to finish strong in several indoor and outdoor relays. McQuaid won six out of nine races in which the "Fab Four" of Cusack, Adin, Romanowski and Sumner ran as a unit. In addition to their victory at the states, the Knights' impressive run for glory also included victories at the Eastern States, the Penn and Aquinas Relays and at the Nationals indoors. At the Big E Relay track meet in April, the Knights took three times to win the large-school team championship.

Bradley's system enabled his runners to finish their 800-meter legs in the 3,200 relay almost as quickly as Mike Tyson finishes off his opponents. All four of his runners broke

the two-minute mark this spring. Sumner (1:52.4), Cusack (1:54.4) and Adin (1:59.9 at the Penn Relays) had finished in under 2:00 at different times this season, while Romanowski waited for the best occasion to break the barrier for the first time when he ran a 1:57.7 leg at the states.

The four Knights weren't just achieving success in the 3,200 race, either. The McQuaid quartet ran a school record time of 3:21.5 in the 1,600 meter race at the Eastern States Championships on Randall Island near New York City last month and also won several championships in the process, including victories at the Penn, Aquinas and Big E relays. The Knights captured the title in the Meet of Champions as well.

McQuaid had the fastest time at the state qualifiers in the 1,600 — finishing with a time of 3:23.5 — but could only muster a fourth-place finish in that race (3:29.19).

Justin Berko-Boateng was also a standout for Bradley this spring. The McQuaid senior finished out his career by qualifying for the states in the triple and long jumps, while setting several school records on the way. Berko-Boateng is now at the top of the McQuaid record book in the long and triple jumps indoors, the triple jump outdoors and the 1,600 relay indoors.

Class reunions planned for Cardinal Mooney High

Cardinal Mooney High School has planned upcoming reunions for its alumni.

The Class of 1968 will hold its 20-year class reunion on August 27, at Sibley's Downtown Tower Restaurant. The cost is \$25 per person. For reservations, call Paul Montabello at (716)461-9116 or 238-8711.

The 15-year reunion of the Class of 1973 has been scheduled for July 30, beginning at 4 p.m. at the Barnard Exempt Pavilion, 360 Maiden Lane, Greece. The cost is \$10 per person. For reservations, call Vicki (Follaco) Weaver at

(716)865-4029.

The Class of 1978 has planned its 10-year class reunion for November 26, at The Party House on Beahan Road. The cost is \$25 per person. For reservations, call Marybeth (Schaber) Powley at (716)663-0852 or Karen (Chambers) Norris at (716)225-7170.

The five-year reunion for the Class of 1983 will take place on August 13, at the Mapledale Party House. The cost is \$25 per person. For reservations, call Carmen Magnotta at (716)663-3520.

Golf tourney nears

Seton Branch 85 of St. Mary's Hospital is sponsoring a benefit golf tournament on Friday, July 15, at the Webster Country Club. Proceeds are earmarked for St. Mary's Hospital.

The cost of the tourney is \$35, which covers greens fees, awards, dinner and more. Call (716) 586-2557 for information.

Mooney-MCC connection

Several Cardinal Mooney High School graduates, led by All-American Ray Huff, contributed to the success of the Monroe Community College baseball and softball teams this spring.

As a sophomore left-hander, Huff was named a third team All-American by the National Junior College Athletic Association. He was also an All-Northeast District pick as well as an NJCAA All-Region III first-team selection. Huff, who compiled a 5-1 record this season with a microscopic 1.89 earned-run average, led the Tribunes in strikeouts with 72 in 47 2/3 innings.

In his two-year career at MCC, the Mooney grad has accrued a 10-1 record with 120 strikeouts in 83 1/3 innings. Huff was the ace on staff of the 1984 Cardinal team that reached the Section 5 Class AAA finals.

Freshman Steve Meisenzahl was another Mooney grad on this year's MCC team, which set a school record for wins in a season (29). Meisenzahl appeared in 33 of 35 games, mostly as a pinch-runner. He stole 11

Hole-in-one contest to benefit St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation

The third annual hole-in-one contest to benefit St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation in Elmira will tee off on Friday, July 15, and continue through Sunday, July 17.

The contest will take place on the putting green of the Mark Twain Community Golf Course from 4 to 9 p.m. on July 15, and from

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bases.

Two former softball players at the Catholic high school in Greece, freshman shortstop Lori Padulo and sophomore outfielder Josette Riola, made the All-Region III second team. Both standouts for the Lady Tribunes hit .383.

Two other Mooney graduates, freshmen twin sisters Cathy and Theresa Nietopski, started at second base and center field, respectively. Padulo and the Nietopskis were members of Mooney's 1987 Section 5 Class AA championship team.

The Lady Tribunes also set a school record for most wins in a season by posting a 15-6 mark.

10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on July 16 and 17. The top prize of \$1,000 will be awarded for a hole-in-one. Consolation prizes will also be given for balls landing within three measured circles adjacent to the pin.

The tournament is co-sponsored by Elmira-area merchants and is underwritten by their participation. All proceeds derived from the three-day event will benefit St. Joseph's Hospital through the St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation.

Advance tickets may be purchased through the Community Relations Office at St. Joseph's Hospital, 555 E. Market St., Elmira.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael De Socio are co-chairing the contest.

Annual basketball camp for boys on tap at DeSales in July

The third annual DeSales boys' basketball camp for sixth- through ninth-graders will take place Monday through Saturday, July 11 to 16.

The camp will take place at DeSales High School in Geneva from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Enrollment will be limited to 48 campers.

Conducted by boys' basketball coach Tony Alvaro, the camp will stress individual and

New coach named

Ron Bartlett, a former player and assistant for the Nazareth College men's soccer team, has been named head women's soccer coach at the East Avenue school. Bartlett, 28, replaces Jacklin Randall-Ward, who resigned this year after compiling a record of 56-27-10 in five seasons.

A native of Penfield and a 1977 graduate of Penfield High School, Bartlett played goalie, midfield and forward for the Nazareth men's team in 1984 and 1985. For the Golden Flyers in 1985, Bartlett scored three goals and added four assists in helping Nazareth qualify for the ECAC Upstate Tournament.

In addition to serving as an assistant men's soccer coach at Nazareth last year, Bartlett has also been a boys' and girls' summer soccer coach in Penfield for the past 10 years.

Bartlett, who has also gained experience as a soccer referee, will be inheriting a Nazareth team that finished 10-6-3 in 1987. It was the Golden Flyers' fifth consecutive winning season.

Bartlett, an art education major while at Nazareth, teaches art at Williamson Middle School. He and his wife, Johanna, live in Fairport.

Golf classic slated

The Ninth Annual Ralph P. DeStefano Golf Classic will take place on Monday, Sept. 12, at Ridgmont Country Club. Tournament organizers have set a \$25,000 fund-raising goal.

All proceeds will benefit the Park Ridge Foundation, which provides financial support to Park Ridge Hospital, Park Ridge Chemical Dependency, Park Hope and Park Ridge Nursing Homes, and Park Ridge Mental Health Center.

Early registration is encouraged. Call (716)225-7900 for information.

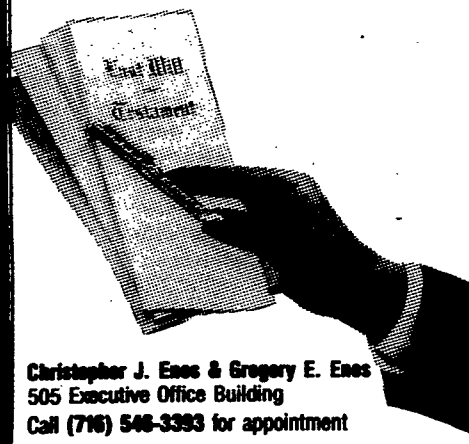
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