

## Sports

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Shorts

## Challenging coach

St. John Fisher College soccer fans are hoping history will repeat itself, now that former Fairport coach Steve Smith is on board as the college's new men's head coach.

It was Smith, a former member of the American Soccer League's Syracuse Suns, who turned a Fairport High School program around soon after his arrival. Inheriting a team that had won only one game the previous season, the Mendon resident uncorked a winning tradition that saw the Red Raiders named among the top teams in Section 5 throughout much of the 1980s. Smith will once again have the opportunity to play miracle worker, this time with the 1-18 Cardinals.

"There's a challenge here — a big challenge," Smith said. "Bob (Ward, Fisher athletic director) said he wanted a more disciplined and a more competitive team here. I think I have the capabilities to bring both of those to Fisher."

One glance at Smith's past tells you it's not only possible but likely.

An all-county, all-star selection his junior and senior years at Pittsford High School, Smith received all-conference honors at the State University of New York College at Brockport, where he helped lead his team to two NCAA regional championships. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in physical education, Smith took a job at Fairport as an elementary-school gym teacher, while also playing soccer with the Suns until the team folded in 1975.

In addition to successfully guiding the Fairport varsity squad for 12 years, Smith has also coached in the Empire State Games, where his teams have earned a bronze medal, two silver medals and — just this summer — a gold medal.

Smith, who is married and has two children, said he talked the matter over with his family before deciding to trade his past for an unknown future.

"I've run myself ragged with the high school program," the 39-year-old Smith said, adding that he felt frustrated not being able to shape his rosters through recruiting. "It's going to be a challenge for me, but at this point in my life, I want a challenge."

That challenge starts with putting together a team almost from scratch.

"There are some good players here, but we're going to need a lot more good players," Smith said. "I'm going to have to do a lot of recruiting."

Smith isn't too concerned, though. He's made a lot of soccer connections down through the years, and he's also confident that his diverse experience will come in handy.

"With my soccer background, I know I have the tactical knowledge to coach a competitive collegiate team, and I think once I get the players, I'll be able to do that," he said.

Although Smith is officially a part-time coach and will continue his physical education work at Fairport, he plans on working year-round to restore Fisher's once-proud men's soccer program.

## Villa golf tourney

The seventh annual St. Joseph's Villa Golf Tournament will take place on Monday, September 19, at Ridgemont Country Club in Greece.

Past tournaments have raised more than \$90,000 for St. Joseph's Villa of Rochester. This year's proceeds will be used toward the cost of constructing a classroom in the villa's new school.

Tournament events will run from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. The entry fee, which includes lunch, golf, cart rental, refreshments and dinner is \$175. A special package including hole sponsorship and participation in all tournament events is available for \$250.

Lou Bianchi and Elaine Tascione are once again organizing the event this year.

St. Joseph's Villa is a non-profit agency which provides a variety of mental health services and support services to children, adolescents and their families.

For more information, contact Mary Ellen McArdle, director of community relations, at (716)865-1550.

## D'Aloisio making name for himself

By Richard A. Kiley

Mike D'Aloisio fulfilled a lifelong dream earlier this month as he became Elmira Notre Dame High School's new athletic director, replacing an institution in former Athletic Director Mike Johnston.

Johnston, who has held the top job in the athletic department for the past 12 years, has been named vice principal. He succeeds Larry Spaulding, who left the assistant principal's position to teach English at Corning West High School.

D'Aloisio's knowledge of the ND sports program runs deep. In addition to guiding Notre Dame's junior varsity basketball from 1975 to 1985, he has earned immense respect in recent seasons for the job he has done on the football field as varsity head coach. The Elmira native is 37-27 since his tenure began back in 1981, including a record-breaking 7-2 mark last year.

Although D'Aloisio — who is a graduate of ND's long-time nemesis, Elmira Free Academy — had a strong hunch he might someday inherit the job from Johnston, the new athletic director is surprised his chance has come so soon.

"I've always wanted to be athletic director at Notre Dame, and I felt my chances were pretty good," said D'Aloisio, who several years back took a year-and-a-half hiatus from his coaching and teaching duties at ND. "That's one of the reasons I came back. It just came a lot sooner than I expected."

For Johnston, the decision to accept the administrative post was not easy. He has been en-

sconced in the athletic department since returning from a tour of duty in Vietnam.

"(The decision to leave) was very difficult," said Johnston, who is taking a wait-and-see approach to his new job before deciding whether or not he will stay on as head coach of the varsity basketball team. "I've been such a major part of the athletic department since I returned here in 1971."

Under Johnston's term as athletic director, Notre Dame — which competes in the Sullivan Trail Conference (STC) in most sports — has become a David among a conference filled with Goliaths. His basketball teams won sectional titles in 1976, 1977, 1979, 1980 and 1987, and the 1978 team won the Class A state championship — a remarkable accomplishment in that the Crusaders were a Class B school.

"There is a mutual admiration and respect among teams that we compete against in our league, and the A.D.s have been extremely cooperative when it comes to scheduling," said Johnston, who is often referred to as the dean of athletic directors in the STC. "It speaks well for why our league has done so well in the sectionals and state tournaments. Once we stop battling each other on the field, we are all extremely cooperative with each other."

In that same spirit, Johnston and D'Aloisio are now working together to put together ND's 1988-89 sports schedules. The fall and winter slates have already been established, leaving D'Aloisio the task of scheduling the spring sports teams.

D'Aloisio doesn't mind following in a legend's footsteps. "We've been very close.

Mike, to me, is the best coach-teacher in the area," said D'Aloisio, who added that he and Johnston played touch football together before their days at Notre Dame. "I've learned so much from him, and he's still in the school if I need information from him."

D'Aloisio added, however, that it is important that he quickly make a name for himself. "I'd like to renew some of the rivalries with Southside, Elmira Free Academy and Horseheads," he said. "I'd be a fool to think we could play those three schools in one year, but I think we could bolster attendance at football games if we started to play one of them once a year."

"Mike's going to have his own style ... trying to re-schedule local rivalries is a great idea," Johnston said.

D'Aloisio would also like to bulk up the weight program at Notre Dame, an idea he initiated two years ago.

"I'd like to improve the weight program because I want our student-athletes going to college to be as physically developed as athletes from other high schools," D'Aloisio said. "We've had people donate equipment to the program already."

And although he is still very new to the job, D'Aloisio admitted that he has become "quite comfortable" with the task before him.

"The camaraderie that they have here is just great. Everybody knows everyone," D'Aloisio said. "They try to be the best in the classroom and on the athletic field. For years they've won so many games they shouldn't have won and that's a credit to all the people involved."



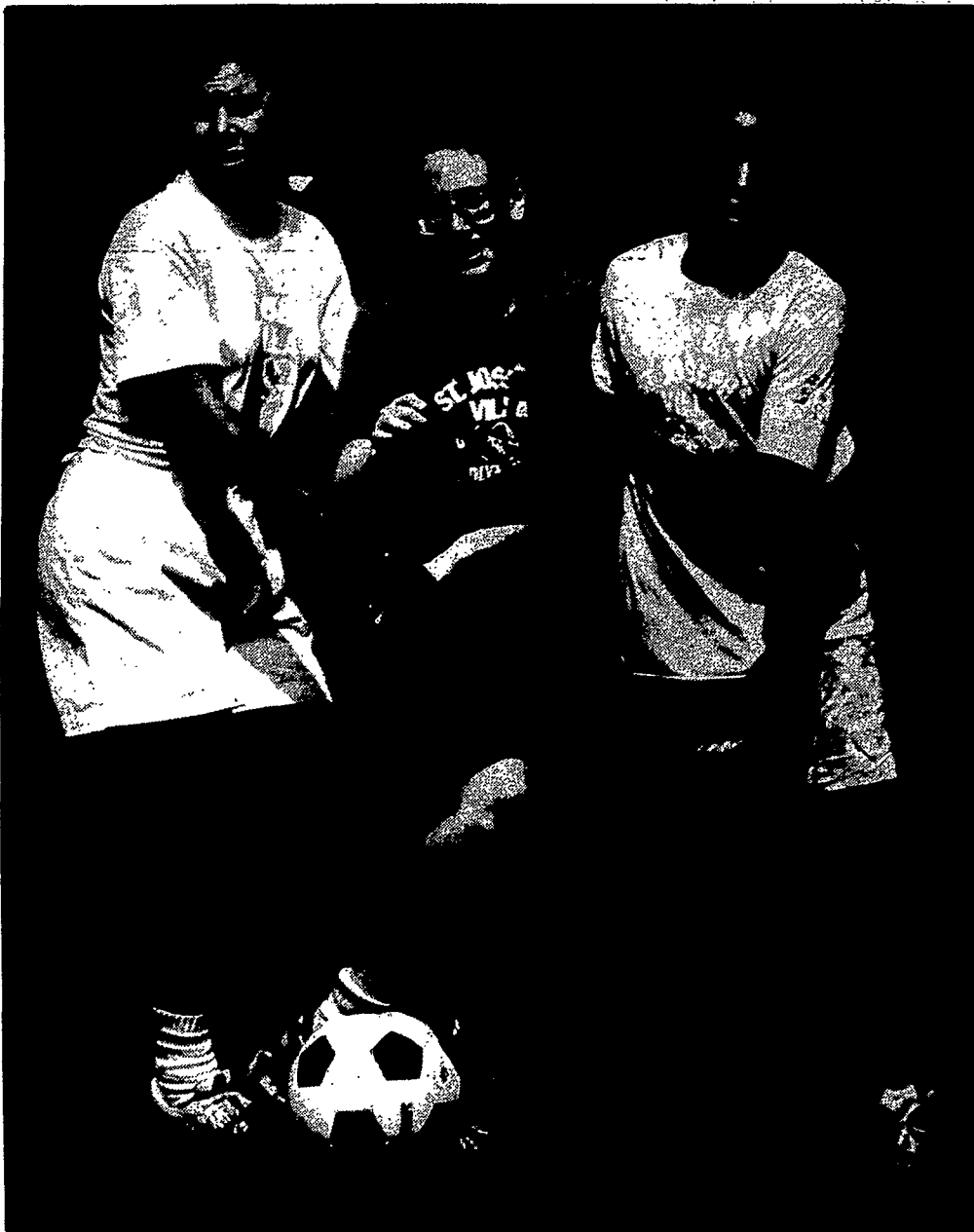
Bonnie Trafelet/Courier-Journal  
Staff member Linda Kozlowski readies herself for the start of a relay race as Paul Gugino looks on during the 20th annual olympics.

Clients win  
hearts, medals  
at villa games

Have you ever heard of Bucket Brigade, Human Pulse or Danger Zone? No, they aren't the three latest rock groups to hit the social scene. They're a few of the events that took place on the campus of St. Joseph's Villa in Greece last week, as clients and staff participated in the 20th annual St. Joseph's Villa Summer Olympics.

The games — which took place on August 11 and 12 this year — traditionally mark the end of the summer school session at the villa. Clients and staff were broken up into three color-coded teams, and competed in a variety of events ranging from track-and-field events and swimming races to such games as speed ball and Frisbee throw.

More than 150 villa staff members and residents as well as clients of the facility's day-treatment program participated in games, which began with opening ceremonies on Thursday, August 11 and concluded with an awards ceremony on Friday.



Bonnie Trafelet/Courier-Journal  
Speedball, a cross between football and soccer, is one of the more popular games for villa clients and staff year after year.

"This was really an outstanding year," said Mary Ellen McArdle, community relations director at the villa. "The kids and staff were very positive."

With temperatures climbing into the mid-90s both days, the most popular events not surprisingly turned out to be the swimming events, according to McArdle.

## DeSales basketball clinic to feature renowned coach

The second annual DeSales Basketball Clinic, featuring renowned hoop coach Ken Jones, will be held on Sunday, September 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at DeSales High School, 90 Pulteney St., Geneva. Registration will take place from 9 to 10 a.m.

Jones has been a successful coach from the intermediate to the college level. His em-

awards were given to clients displaying the best sportsmanship and enthusiasm and to those who proved to be the best team players.

Although the two days featured a multitude of winners, clients and staff members making up the purple team emerged as champions of the annual celebration by accruing the most points.

A fee of \$17 for coaches and \$10 for players is required. The pre-registration is \$13 for coaches and \$8 for players. Pre-registration fees can be sent to DeSales Basketball, Anthont Alvaro, DeSales High School, 90 Pulteney St., Geneva, NY 14456.