

Sports

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Shorts

Primed for production

Rob Searl, the only soccer coach Nazareth College has ever had, was cautiously optimistic in 1987 that the Golden Flyers would keep themselves above the .500 mark.

When all was said and done, the Golden Flyers compiled an impressive 11-6-1 mark with a team predominantly composed of underclassmen.

As the 1988 season approaches, Searl expects even bigger things from a team with 15 returning players.

One glaring omission on this year's roster, however, is Pittsford's Mike Deckman, who graduated last spring as Nazareth's No. 3 all-time scorer with 25 goals and 12 assists for 62 points. He also was twice named to the New York State all-star team.

Despite Deckman's departure, Searl believes the Golden Flyers are stronger than last year's team, which was powerful defensively with four shutouts.

Senior co-captain Andy DuMont of Ithaca saw his 1987 season cut short by an injury, yet he still holds several school records, including the mark for most career shutouts with eight.

Sophomore Bill Thomson of Williamston filled in for DuMont and provided the Golden Flyers with stability in goal as he produced a 1.50 goals-against average with four shutouts.

"With DuMont and Thomson, I think our goaltending is the best around," Searl said. "I expect them both to play a lot."

Making life easier for both goalies will be part of senior co-captain John Viglucci's job. As the team's stopper last season, he was second in scoring with five goals and two assists. In 1988, however, Viglucci won't be looked to for scoring, but rather for leadership and defense.

Another area where the Golden Flyers appear solid is at midfield. Despite the loss of Deckman, the Golden Flyers have talented sophomores Alan Pascuzzi of Webster and Griff Hannel of Lake View returning. Both started every game for the Flyers in '87. Expected to join them is senior Ed Barrera, who started as sweeper last year.

One of the highlights for the Golden Flyers is a weeklong mid-October visit to California, where the team will play games against Masters College, Point Loma and the University of California at San Diego.

Nazareth will also play in the Buffalo State Tournament later this month.

Cross country coach tabbed

Rochester triathlete Kim Henshaw has been tabbed to head the cross country program at St. John Fisher College. She assumed the part-time coaching duties two weeks ago, just prior to freshman orientation.

"I want to do some recruiting and try to build a solid team if I don't already have one here," she said. "I don't really know what I have yet, but I know if I get the bodies, I'll be able to do something."

With the season's first meet scheduled for September 10, Henshaw knows she doesn't have the luxury of time, yet the 25-year-old is confident she can put her coaching skills to good use.

A native of Sands Marquette, Mich., Henshaw moved to Hamlin when she was six. She graduated from Brockport High School in 1981, and attended the State University of New York at Morrisville, where she earned an associate degree in biology. In 1986, she graduated from SUNY Brockport with a degree in physical education, then took a job teaching physical education to emotionally-disturbed children at St. Joseph's Villa, where she continues to work.

An accomplished athlete who regularly participates in Rochester-area track-and-field events, Henshaw recently placed ninth in the grueling Hamlin Triathlon.

"I've always loved running," she said. But her love for sports does not end there. Not only has she coached soccer at Nazareth and at Brockport High School, but also varsity softball and basketball at Greece Olympia High School. Following the conclusion of the cross country season this fall, she'll venture to Rochester Institute of Technology to assist with the women's basketball team.



Bonnie Trafelet/Courier-Journal
Compisi's leadership and ability could pay big dividends for AQ this fall.

LaPietra wants to build team around defense

By Richard A. Kiley

With the exception of three starting seniors from last year's Class B-2 finalist, Aquinas Institute will be a completely raw soccer team this fall — including the coach.

Gary LaPietra, 26, a 1980 graduate of the Dewey Avenue school, has been named head coach of the varsity boys' soccer team. He replaces Emilio Monti, who guided the Little Irish to the Section 5 Class B-2 championship in 1986 and to the 1987 final as well.

The head coaching position will be LaPietra's first stab at coaching organized soccer anywhere, a situation that doesn't seem to have him worrying too much.

"I'm not going to be concerned with the record this year. We're a real young team right now," said LaPietra, who has previously assisted up-and-coming players in the Gates Soccer League. "Right now I'm just telling my players, 'Let's just improve throughout the season.' It's going to be a rebuilding year."

And how. Much of the team's scoring punch graduated last June, leaving the new coach with little in terms of offensive fire power. But no team with a goalie the caliber of Mike Compisi, who was almost single-handedly responsible for the Western team's winning the gold medal at this summer's Empire State Games, can be taken lightly.

Knowing his team won't need a slew of goals to win soccer games, LaPietra is hoping his Lit-



Bonnie Trafelet/Courier-Journal
LaPietra (left) believes his young players get a real kick out of scrimmaging against him in practice while also learning more about the intricacies of the game.

tle Irish might "steal" a few victories this fall. "He's the best in the section; that's what I've been told, and I can see why by watching him," said LaPietra, who was a frequent spectator at AQ soccer games last fall. "With Mike in goal, we're trying to build a good defense in front of him and go from there."

And even though LaPietra's defensive backfield will be a little green, Compisi's presence and keen knowledge of the game should prove to be a great equalizer.

"It's a whole new defensive backfield, so I will be getting together with Mike and talking to him about his role back there," LaPietra said.

The Aquinas goalie also will be joining his coach on several scouting missions this fall, as LaPietra tries to familiarize himself with such

City-Catholic League team powers as Cardinal Mooney and McQuaid Jesuit.

"I really haven't had that many weeks to familiarize myself with my kids, let alone other teams," said LaPietra, who has frequently joined in scrimmages with his players. "If they see me doing the right things instead of me just telling them, they seem to enjoy that a little bit more."

The new AQ coach added that he may have already seen all he wants to of Dan Schied's McQuaid Jesuit team. "They looked like they've been playing together for a long time. I think they're the team to beat."

But LaPietra is not conceding defeat to any team that has to get the ball past the best goalie in Section 5.

Nazareth adds Monroe to coaching staff

Greg Monroe, a former basketball star at Syracuse University, has been named assistant men's basketball coach at Nazareth College of Rochester. Monroe will assist Mike Daley, who is in his third season as the Golden Flyers' head coach.

Monroe, 23, will replace Paul Clune, who was recently granted a leave of absence to become head coach of Team Harp Ballina in Ballina, Ireland.

Monroe is a 1983 graduate of Pittsford Mendon High School, where he led his team to a Section 5 Class B championship in his senior year. He earned first team all-state honors as a result of his efforts.

At Syracuse, Monroe played for four years under Orangemen coach Jim Boeheim, finally earning a starting role as a senior. He was co-captain his senior year, and averaged 12.9 points per game as the Orange's primary three-point shooter.

Syracuse had a record of 102-31 in Monroe's four seasons, including 31-7 his senior year, when the Orangemen advanced all the way to the NCAA championship, where they lost a heartbreaker by one point to Indiana.

Monroe has also had playing stints in the Continental Basketball Association and the summer pro league in California.

"Nazareth is a perfect place for me to start my coaching career," Monroe said. "It's a Division III school with a Division I attitude. I've

been coming to Nazareth to play and work out the last few summers, so I already know many of the people here."

Monroe, who graduated from Syracuse with a degree in speech communication, will also work part-time in Nazareth's Admissions Office.

The former Syracuse star joins a Nazareth program which has qualified for post-season play in each of the last five seasons. The Golden Flyers have compiled a record of 39-17 under Daley, and qualified for the NCAA Division III tournament in 1987.

"Greg will be a valuable addition to our staff," Daley said. "He's a tremendous person who will add a great deal to our program."

Clune, an assistant basketball coach at Nazareth College of Rochester for the past three years, will leave for Ireland on September 15 to prepare for the season which begins October 1 and runs through March.

"I'm looking at this as a great opportunity," said Clune, an Oneonta native, who played college basketball at Rochester Institute of Technology. "This is a move I felt I couldn't pass up."

In his three years at Nazareth, Clune served as an assistant to Bill Nelson for one year, and to Daley for two years. The Golden Flyers produced a record of 62-22 in that span, and made two trips to the NCAA Division III tournament. Clune also was head coach of

Nazareth's junior varsity team for two years and compiled a 22-12 mark.

In addition to assisting with the men's basketball team, Clune also worked part-time in the college's admission's office.

"Paul Clune has been a valuable part of our athletic program for three years," said Nazareth athletic director Bill Carey. "He'll be sorely missed, but this is a super opportunity for him."

Spanish advocacy group to celebrate anniversary

The Ibero-American Action League, Inc., and the Ibero-American Investors Corp. will be celebrating 20 years of advocacy and assistance on behalf of the Hispanic community in Monroe and surrounding counties at the Rochester Plaza Hotel on Friday, Sept. 16, with a semi-formal dinner/dance.

The keynote speaker for the gala will be the Honorable Joseph H. Rodriguez, who is a judge of the U.S. District Court in Camden, N.J. Jude Rodriguez is a former public advocate and public defender for the State of New Jersey and was the first Hispanic in the state's history to hold a cabinet-level post. In 1972, he was named the chair of the state Board of Education, and two years later, was named to head the State Commission of Investigation.

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