

## Sports

# McQuaid alive and well; ND gears for post-season

By Richard A. Kiley

To steal a line from Mark Twain, reports of the "death" of the boys' varsity basketball team at McQuaid Jesuit High School have been greatly exaggerated.

Just ask Aquinas and East High. The Knights turned back Aquinas' upset bid last Friday, Feb. 3, in a game that saw McQuaid shoot a dismal 27 percent from the field. Earlier in the week against East, McQuaid — especially Jay Moore — could hardly miss, as the Knights handed the Orientals only their third setback of the season.

McQuaid (6-3 league, 11-6 overall) is not the team it was last winter — then again, nobody expected them to be — but Joe Marchese's club proved last week that the defending state champions won't go down without a fight.

"A lot of people don't realize that so many of our games early on were away," said Marchese, whose team lost at home to Franklin in December before dropping an away game to East High. During Christmas break the Knights traveled to Florida where they lost two games during the invitation-only Kingdom of the Sun tournament. McQuaid's other two losses came



McQuaid's Jay Moore gets a hand on a shot by Aquinas' Alcindor Coleman as the Aquinas center drives to the basket.

## Heidt leading nation in scoring

Susan Heidt, a junior forward with the 14-1 St. John Fisher Lady Cardinals, leads the nation in scoring average, according to statistics in the latest issue of *NCAA News*.

Heidt held the top spot among Division III women's basketball players, with an average of 25.1 points per game. She also placed fifth in field-goal percentage (61 percent), and 19th in free-throw percentage (82 percent).

Not only is Heidt leading the Fisher women's team in scoring, rebounding, assists and steals, but she also has been twice named Player of the Week by the Eastern College Athletic Conference.

The ECAC, which is the nation's largest athletic conference, this week named Heidt to its weekly honor roll after she collected 94 points, 31 rebounds and 19 assists over four games.

## Exciting Eli

Fourteen Nobel-Prize winners have been associated with Yale University throughout its history, but only one Ivy League title in women's basketball (1978-79).

The gap could be narrowed this year, thanks in large part to 5-6 senior guard Anne Peacock, a native of Rochester and a former standout in basketball, soccer and softball at Our Lady of Mercy High School.

Peacock is one of four returning starters who could lead the Yale women to their first league title in a decade.

The Elis came within eight points of the title last year, losing four league games by three points or less and finishing 13-13, 7-7 in league play.

again to Franklin and then to Edison Tech, but the Knights were without star center Drew Henderson against the Engineers.

"People look at the record and think we're having a bad year," Marchese continued. "Six losses looks like a lot, but you've got to look at who we've played. I don't know how far we can go in the sectionals, but previous years have shown that anything can happen."

Anything can and usually does happen when two City-Catholic League teams meet as well. Aquinas, which took McQuaid into overtime last December before eventually losing, led 42-39 with two minutes left before Wade took matters into his own hands.

The senior guard completed a one-and-one with :26 remaining to give the Knights a 44-42 lead, and then converted two more free throws with :02 left to ice McQuaid's 46-42 win.

Wade ended up with 17 points, eight of which came in the final three minutes.

Alcindor Coleman led Aquinas with 13 points.

The Knights had an easier time against the visiting Orientals on Tuesday, Jan. 31, winning the non-league encounter 64-54. Jay Moore was a dominating force for the Knights, pouring in 18 points and grabbing 12 rebounds. Henderson played his typical game, finishing with 16 points, 15 rebounds and eight blocked shots.

The win avenged a 97-76 loss to the Orientals earlier in the season.

"We were humiliated in that game; we were down 28-11 early and never really recovered," Marchese said. "It was like we got sucker punched and it was over."

The key to last week's game against East was Moore, who helped the Knights jump out to a big lead. McQuaid led 34-20 at the half and ballooned the margin to 54-38 in the fourth quarter. That enabled the Knights to play an extended zone defense and contest many Oriental shots.

"Jay Moore had a great game for us," Marchese said. "He's been working himself into the lineup ever since the Florida trip."

McQuaid was scheduled to close out the regular season with a home game against Cardinal Mooney on Wednesday, Feb. 8. The Knights are in line for a No. 6 seed, putting them in the same bracket with possible-No. 2 East (10-1, 15-3) and likely-No. 3 Rush-Henrietta (15-3). Although it sounds like a tough bracket, McQuaid would probably prefer that one to the bracket consisting of No. 1 Webster (17-2), No. 4 Fairport (16-3) and No. 5 Franklin (15-3). Official bids are due out this week.

In City-Catholic League action from last Friday night, Cardinal Mooney edged Bishop Kearney, 60-50, in a game played at Mooney. Both teams are now 8-10 for the season.

Mike McGwin (29 points) and Tim Burgmaster (20 points) combined for 49 of Mooney's points. Seven of McGwin's points came in the

third quarter, when Ed Nietopski's Cards built on a 27-25 halftime lead.

Mike Ruff's Kings beat Geneseo, 75-64, in a non-league game played at Kearney on Tuesday, Jan. 31.

Kearney, which roared to an 18-point lead in the second quarter, led 37-25 at the half. The Blue Devils pulled to within three points as the third quarter drew to a close, but the Kings were able to squelch the comeback bid in the fourth quarter, as Bill Tehan scored eight of his team-high 15 points.

Kearney was scheduled to close out the regular season against Irondequoit on Tuesday, Feb. 7.

In another non-league game last week, host Rush-Henrietta ripped Cardinal Mooney, 74-55, on Wednesday, Feb. 1. McGwin had 20 points for Mooney.

**OVER IN CLASS C,** Geneva DeSales (8-6 league, 11-7 overall) continued its up-and-down campaign with a rout of Gananda and a disappointing loss against Naples in Finger Lakes West competition.

DeSales — which hasn't won at Naples in four years — led the host Big Green by 14 points, 41-27, at the half. The Saints could not maintain their advantage in the second half, however, as Rob McFadden and Pedro Rojas got into foul trouble, and Naples switched from a man-to-man defense to a trapping zone.

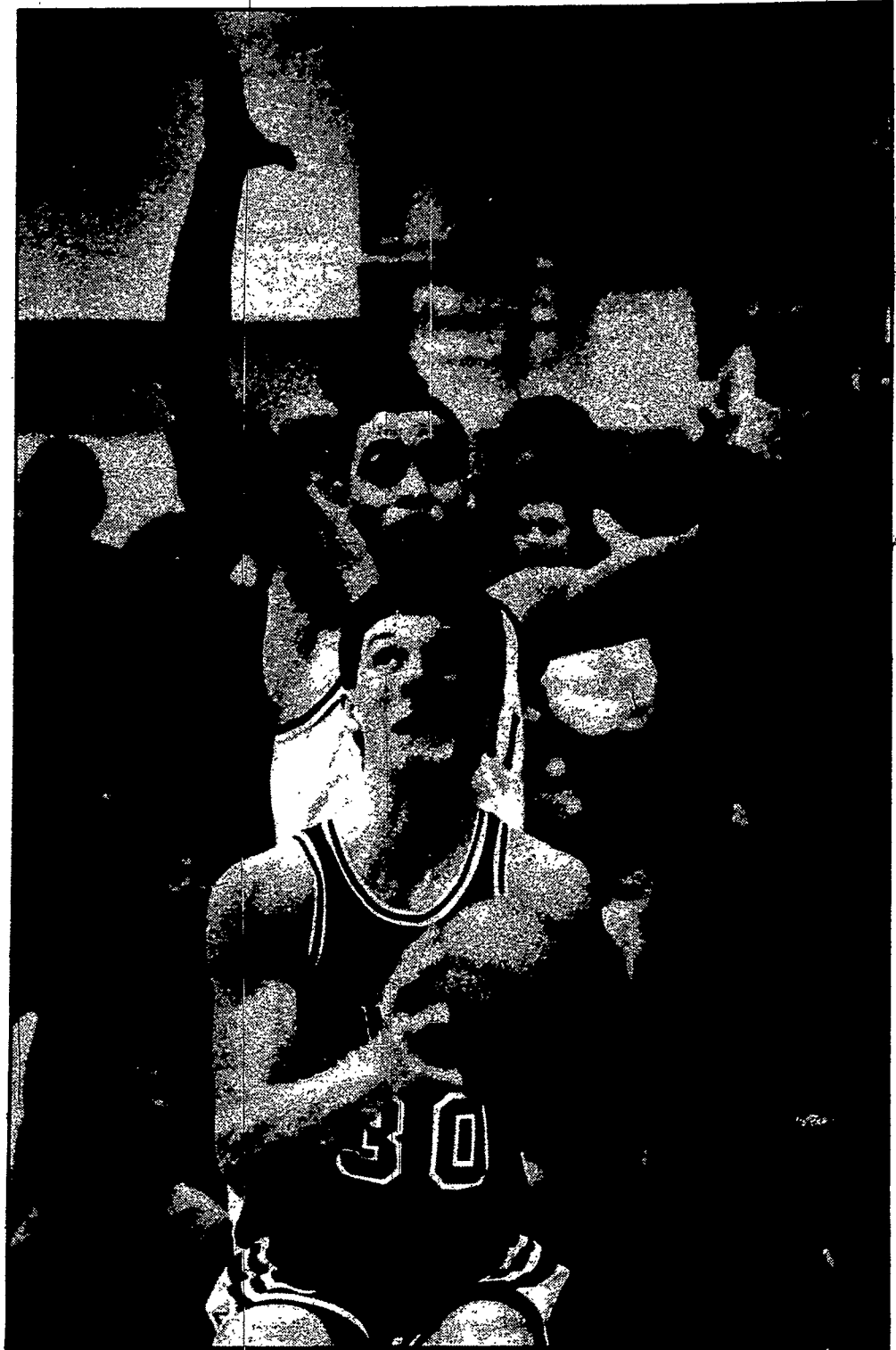
The Big Green chipped away at DeSales' lead in the third quarter, pulling to within six, 53-47, after three quarters. Naples then outscored the Saints, 22-11, in the final period to notch the come-from-behind win.

DeSales had 19 turnovers to Naples' 12.

Chris Ike led the Saints with 13 points. McFadden and Jeff Taney had 11 points each.

The game had originally been scheduled for Friday, Feb. 3, but was postponed due to heavy snow in the Finger Lakes area.

Against visiting Gananda on Wednesday, Feb. 1, the Saints doubled up the Blue Panthers 78-39. DeSales led 14-9 after one quarter, but increased the margin to 31-20 at the half. The Saints led 57-30 heading into the final quarter.



Linda Dow Hayes/Courier-Journal

Coming up from behind Aquinas' Paul Kucewicz is Reggie Wade of McQuaid, who attempts to block Kucewicz's shot. The two teams met Friday night, Feb. 3, with McQuaid pulling ahead in the final seconds to win, 46-42.

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McFadden paced DeSales with 20 points. Peter Parshall contributed 14.

The Saints close out the regular season against Dundee and Romulus this week. De-

Sales had no trouble with either team the first time around this season, defeating Dundee 74-46 and Romulus 87-52. Alvaro is hoping his team can pick up some momentum for the sectional tournament, as his Saints face such possible opponents as Prattsburg, Greenwood, Rushford and Wyoming.

**OVER IN SECTION 4 Class C,** Elmira Notre Dame is coming off two solid games, even though Mike Johnston's Crusaders (2-9, 7-12) only have one win to show for it.

Against host Elmira Free Academy (9-2, 13-6 overall) on Friday, Feb. 3, the Crusaders led after three quarters, but eventually fell, 62-57.

The key turn of events came with about a minute left on the clock, when Notre Dame's sophomore point guard, Brian Sheehan, had to leave the game after taking an inadvertent elbow in the face. ND led by one at the time, but EFA was able to pull out the win.

ND had led 46-43 heading into the fourth quarter. The game was tied, 28-28, at the half.

Although his team came up short, Johnston was pleased with the effort — especially defensively.

"We mixed our defenses up more than we had all year," said Johnston, whose club-lost to EFA, 77-55, earlier in the season. "We got the ball to the right people this time. Going over to their court and playing them so tough is going to give us a lift."

Geoff Woodworth led ND with 17 points. Bob Grosvenor and Sheehan had 13 and 12 points respectively.

Against visiting Corning West on Tuesday, Jan. 31, the Crusaders pulled out a 74-73 win. The Crusaders survived a late scoring run by CW, which trailed by six points with a minute left.

Sheehan led ND with 22 points. Woodworth had 18 and Mike Bennett had 16 for the Crusaders.

Seedings for the sectionals were due out Wednesday, and Johnston believes his team is in the right state of mind to make a run for the title.

"We've had to come ready to play every single night this season, and that's what you have to do in the sectionals," he said.

The top seed in Class C is likely to be Whitney Point, which is a perfect 19-0 this season.

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