SPORT SHORTS Big Mooney center

Nazareth-bound

he

155

ng

)a-

31

nts

JU

ne

?ei

ec

22

Mike McGwin, a 6-foot-9 center from Cardinal Mooney, has announced plans to attend Nazareth College in the fall.

As a senior last winter, McGwin averaged 16 points and 12 rebounds per game for the Cardinals. Mooney finished with a record of 8-12 under coach Ed Nietopski. McGwin was a first-team City-Catholic League all-star in 1988-89.

In addition to his scoring and rebounding skills, McGwin averaged better than five assists and two blocks per game. He is described by Nietopski as "one of the best passers for a big man in the area."

"He's really just brushed the surface of his potential," Nietopski said. "I think he could develop into a dominating force (at Nazareth)."

McGwin will join a Nazareth program that enjoyed its ninth consecutive winning season in 1988-89. The Golden Flyers finished 14-12 and participated in the ECAC Upstate Tournament for their sixth consecutive post-season tournament appearance. Nazareth graduated just one senior from this year's team.

"I hope to be able to contribute to their success," said McGwin, who will major in accounting. "From what I've seen, we have the potential to be a very good team next year."

Staten Island standout will play hoops at Fisher

Jacqueline Martino, a 6-1 senior center with the Curtis High School girls' basketball team on Staten Island, will join the St. John Fisher Lady Cardinals next season.

Martino, who helped lead her high school team to a 16-5 record and the Staten Island championship, averaged 14.5 points, 15 rebounds and 5.7 assists per game last season.

"Jackie has proven to be an outstanding basketball player who will make an instant impact on our program," said Phil Kahler, who coached the 28-3 Lady Cardinals in March to their thirdconsecutive New York State Women's Collegiate Athletic Association title. "She is a talented inside player who has played in a strong league and program. I am looking forward to coaching Jackie for the next four years."

Martino, who played four years on the varsity and was named to the *News*day all-borough and *Daily News* all-star teams, is interested in studying history and political science at Fisher.

Saints advance to semis; Mooney upset

ports

By Richard A. Kiley Staff writer

It hasn't taken long for Pat Luzzi to make his mark on the girls' softball program at DeSales High School.

The third-year coach of the Saints, who vowed to turn a losing program around when he accepted the job before the 1987 season, is in a position to take his Saints (14-4) to the Section 5 Class D championship game for the second consecutive year after resounding wins over Belfast and Friendship.

Fifth-seeded DeSales was scheduled to play No. 9 Arkport (10-5) in one semifinal game at Cohocton on Tuesday, June 6. The winner of that game will advance to the Class D championship against the winner of the other semifinal between No. 3 Bradford (13-2) and No. 7 Elba (10-7). The Class D championship game is scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday, June 9, at Cohocton.

The Saints outscored No. 4 Belfast (14-3) and No. 12 Friendship (7-8) by combined scores of 35-13 to reach the Class D semis. According to Luzzi, his Saints have been opportunistic in their first two sectional games.

"Our success has been a combination of poor pitching (by opponents) and good hitting," said Luzzi, whose DeSales team lost to Avoca — which has since moved up to Class C — in last year's Class D final.

Debbie Combs had the big hit for De-Sales in its 16-8 win over Belfast. Combs came through with a three-run home run in the top of the fifth inning to turn a 6-5 lead into 9-5.

DeSales benefited from 15 walks against Belfast to go along with seven hits.

The Saints got offense from a multitude of players in their 19-5 win over No. 12 Friendship at Cohocton on Tuesday, May 30. Tara Brague (four hits) and Danielle Boncaro (three hits) led the DeSales onslaught.

Boncaro has pitched well for the Saints in their two sectional wins. The sophomore pitcher walked just two batters against Belfast, and she has been backed up by some outstanding defensive play.

"Defensively, we've been making great catches at important times," said Luzzi, who cited junior left fielder Stacie Cook a transfer from Geneva — and Brague at shortstop for their defensive play in the sectionals.

Bradford is the highest-seeded team remaining in Section 5 Class D after three of the top four seeds were eliminated in the quarterfinals. In addition to DeSales beating No. 4 Belfast, Elba and Arkport recorded upsets in the quarterfinals. Elba nipped No. 2 Whitesville, 7-5, at Letchworth last Friday, June 2, and Arkport held on to beat top-seeded and host Richburg (17-3), 8-6.

The Saints are the only diocesan girls' softball team still alive in the Section 5 tournament. Second-seeded Cardinal



Mooney pitcher Cheryl Lennox allowed only five hits in the Friday night game.

Mooney was upset in the Class AA quarterfinals by seventh-seeded Irondequoit, 4-3, at McAvoy Park last Friday, June 2. The Cards finished the season at 23-2.

The loss ended Mooney's hopes for a sectional title in softball, the last chance for the school — which is closing its doors later this month — to win a championship patch in any sport.

Mooney, which beat Irondequoit 7-0 back on May 20, could not generate much offense after the first inning. The Cards scored one run on three hits off of Indians' pitcher Lori Ginsberg in the first inning, but they could muster just single runs in the second and sixth innings the rest of the way. Irondequoit (15-6) got to Mooney pitcher Cheryl Lennox for three runs in the first inning. Nikki Izzo delivered the big hit with a three-run double. Chris Schoenwitz drove in what turned out to be the winning run when she plated Izzo in the fourth inning.

Lennox allowed just five hits for the game.

Irondequoit was scheduled to meet defending champion and third-seeded Webster (15-4) in one Class AA semifinal game at McAvoy Park on Wednesday, June 7. No. 1 Brockport (23-1) was scheduled to play No. 5 Fairport (15-5) in the other semifinal. The Class AA championship game is set for McAvoy Park on Friday, June 9 at 8 p.m.

Four other diocesan teams were beaten in the Section 5 tourney last week.

In Class AA, Brockport beat No. 16 Mercy, 14-1, at McAvoy Park on Tuesday, May 30. Patti Gay pitched a threehitter for the Blue Devils, who were spurred on offense by Liz Goetz (three hits, three RBI) and Michelle Burley (two hits, three RBI).

Three diocesan teams lost in the Class A bracket. Fourth-seeded and host Pittsford Sutherland (14-7) beat No. 13 Bishop Kearney, 14-3, on Tuesday, May 30. Dave Riesenberger's Kings finished the season at 7-11.

Aquinas — seeded 15th in this year's tourney — came up just short in an upset bid of No. 2 Livonia (18-2), which came from behind to beat the Little Irish, 9-8. Carol Jones finished her first year as AQ coach at 6-14.

Sixth-seeded and host Nazareth Academy was upset by No. 11 Geneva, 4-3, on Wednesday, May 31. Dave Pisano's club Continued on page 20



Cardinal Mooney coach Paul Forte and his softball players look on in dismay as they watch Irondequoit celebrate its 4-3 win over the Cards during the Friday, June 2, Class AA quarterfinal game.



ong m's ner rial on sti-

js,

nai

ityced

ba-

Лe-

in

ion ley

ier