

Diocesan grid teams gear for sectional run

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

As the high school football season enters its sixth week, some diocesan grid teams are beginning to make up for the shorter days by lighting up the scoreboard.

McQuaid 37, Buf. St. Joe's 6

McQuaid's Knights went to Buffalo Saturday, Oct. 7, expecting a tough game against a St. Joseph's team that had crushed Aquinas the week before.

Instead, the Knights (4-0, 5-0) did some crushing of their own, routing St. Joe's, 37-6.

McQuaid scored on its first two possessions. Quarterback Andy Dvonch — who finished the game with 127 yards on 6-for-10 passing — connected with Keith Gibbs for a 45-yard touchdown. The Knights scored again moments later on a 35-yard run by Bernie Lippa.

But St. Joseph's (3-2) fought back in the second quarter, scoring on a two-yard run to cut the lead to 14-6 at the half. McQuaid also suffered a blow when Gibbs was sent to the hospital with a severe ankle sprain.

Junior Doug Gaudieri was pressed into service to play Gibbs' strong safety position, and responded with 11 tackles and the key play in the game.

St. Joseph's was heading for a possible score in the third quarter when the Knights'



Defensive end Joe Vedora of DeSales brings down Golden Eagles' running back Randy Rice.

Todd Dorschel (10 tackles) forced a fumble and Gaudieri pounced on the ball. McQuaid then drove down the field and scored on a 10-yard pass to Matt Palmesano, increasing its lead to 21-6.

The Knights' defense then stopped St. Joseph's deep in its own territory, forcing a punt. But a high snap from center went out of the end zone, and the safety gave the Knights a 23-6 lead.

Early in the fourth quarter, McQuaid's Sam Owens — who recorded a game-high 13 tackles — ran an interception back 30 yards. Dvonch then connected on a 35-yard touchdown pass to Scott Cottier for a 30-6 lead. Reserve quarterback Mark Campoleito closed out McQuaid's scoring with a 15-yard run.

McQuaid's offense compiled 357 yards, with Lippa contributing 114 yard on 23 carries. Jamal Dunbar added 75 yards on 19 carries.

McQuaid coach Tom Sprague also singled out kicker Jim Flanagan, who booted one kick-off into the end zone and another out of the end zone.

The Knights return to Rochester this Saturday, Oct. 14, to host Webster (3-2).

Kearney 36, Canisius 0

After facing the stifling defense of Midlakes on Sept. 30, Bishop Kearney (3-1-1) apparently found some fresh air at Canisius (1-4), winning 36-0, on Saturday, Oct. 7.

Kearney entered the game with two thirds of its running game — Lamin Masquai and Greg Mikell — on the sidelines because of injuries.

Only six minutes into the first quarter, however, reserve fullback Keith Osier plunged into the end zone on a three-yard run. The touchdown was the first of two on the day for Osier, who also kicked four extra points.

His second touchdown came on a one-yard run in the second quarter.

The bulk of the Fighting Kings' 360 yards was provided by running back Rene Ingoglia, who rumbled for 215 yards on 20 carries. He scored Kearney's second touchdown on a 55-yard dash in the first quarter. He found the end zone once again in the third quarter, when he scored on a 95-yard kickoff return.

Steve Miner added a one-yard touchdown run in the third quarter to end the scoring.

The Kings — who have played four of their first five games on the road — will be at home this Friday evening, Oct. 13, against Palmyra-Macedon (0-5).



DeSales quarterback Frank Pane Jr. throws down field in the Saints' 44-14 loss to Clyde-Savannah on Saturday, Oct. 7. Pane finished the day 11-for-30 in the passing department.

ND 35, Whitney Point 14

Notre Dame was a rude host to Whitney Point Friday, Oct. 6, drubbing its guests 35-14.

The Crusaders (2-0, 4-1) recorded the only score of the first quarter moments after recovering a Whitney Point fumble. Geoff Woodworth culminated a 45-yard drive with a three-yard touchdown run. The extra point made the score 7-0.

In the second quarter, Mike Bennett — who finished the day with three touchdowns and 124 yards on 18 carries — raced into the end zone from the 22-yard line to up the score to 14-0. Whitney Point then scored to cut the lead to 14-7 at the half.

Notre Dame extended its lead to 22-7 on a one-yard run by Bennett in the third quarter. Whitney Point came right back, however, scoring on a blocked punt to pull to within seven points, 22-14.

The game's turning point came five minutes into the fourth quarter when Whitney Point had the ball inside the Notre Dame 10. On a second-and-five play, Crusader linebacker Brian Sheehan (game-high 16 tackles) dropped a Whitney Point runner for a four-yard loss.

On the next play, Woodworth intercepted a deflected pass and scampered 95 yards for a touchdown to give Notre Dame a 28-14 lead.

"It broke their backs," Crusaders' coach Mike D'Aloisio said of the play. "That put (the game) out of reach."

Bennett gathered in his third touchdown of the game on a 41-yard run later in the final quarter.

In his first start of the season, sophomore quarterback Brion Woodworth completed eight of 17 passes for 67 yards. His brother, Geoff, carried the ball 8 times for 71 yards.

This Saturday, Oct. 14, the Crusaders travel to Chenango Valley (4-1).

Edison 9, Aquinas 7

Aquinas (1-1-1; 1-3-1) continued to struggle on offense, suffering a 9-7 homecoming loss to Edison (4-1) on Saturday, Oct. 7.

As the offense continued to sputter, the Little Irish's defense played yet another strong game. Aquinas held the Inventors to just 12 yards passing and 126 rushing.

Unfortunately, 74 of those rushing yards came on a single play — a touchdown run

in the second quarter that gave Edison a 6-0 lead.

A 30-yard field goal later in the quarter gave the Inventors all the points they needed.

The Little Irish did move the ball, but key turnovers and penalties ended several threats. The most damaging errors came in the first period when Aquinas had the ball on the Edison five.

A clipping penalty threw them back to the 20, and a subsequent fumble gave the ball back to Edison.

Aquinas managed to move the ball in the fourth quarter, advancing to the Edison 27-yard line with eight minutes left. But a field goal attempt failed.

The Little Irish finally got on the scoreboard with 2:55 left in the game on a one-yard run by Alva Royston, culminating a 60-yard drive. Royston finished with 66 yards on 16 carries. Teammate Kareem Patterson recorded 65 yards on 15 carries.

This Saturday, Oct. 14, Aquinas will play host to winless Wilson.

Clyde-Sav. 44, DeSales 14

On Saturday, Oct. 7, the DeSales Saints (1-4) faced a task which may become a recurring nightmare in the years ahead: playing Clyde-Savannah (5-0).

The Golden Eagles, who joined the Finger Lakes West League this season and who are seeking their seventh consecutive sectional crown, routed the host Saints, 44-14.

The game was basically decided in a two-minute span of the first quarter.

The Golden Eagles scored a touchdown five minutes into the game. The Saints fumbled away the subsequent kickoff, and Clyde-Savannah scored again to increase the margin to 12-0.

An interception on the Saints' next possession led to an 18-0 Clyde-Savannah lead before the first quarter ended. The lead ballooned to 32-0 before the half.

In the second half, DeSales did something three consecutive opponents had failed to do against Clyde-Savannah: they scored.

Jeff Taney snared a 21-yard scoring toss from Frank Pane in the third quarter, and Chris Ike rumbled into the end zone for a score from 25 yards out in the fourth quarter.

Pane finished the day with 149 yards on 11-for-30 passing. Taney accounted for 100 yards on five receptions. Ike compiled 57 yards on five carries.

The Saints travel to Romulus this Saturday, Oct. 14, hoping to keep alive their slim chances of getting a sectional bid.

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SPORTS TRIVIA

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What's the nickname of the Clemson football team?

A: _____

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