

# AQ girls earn soccer title with win over Mercy

By Lee Strong  
Staff writer

The girls soccer team at Aquinas claimed its first-ever Private-Parochial League soccer crown with a 5-2 win over visiting Mercy, Thursday, Oct. 12.

For the Little Irish (5-1, 11-4-1), the title is not only their first soccer championship, but the first crown by any girls' team at Aquinas.

Coach Greg McMaster attributed the win to his defense, which tamed Mercy's Sheila Doyle — the league's leading scorer with 14 goals — and to his deeper bench.

Mercy (3-1-1, 7-5-1) came into the game undefeated in league play. The Monarchs handed the Little Irish their only league loss back in September. Mercy came from behind to win that game, 3-2, on a last minute goal by Doyle.

Aquinas' Kim Mason started the scoring in the title-clinching game with a goal 10 minutes into the first half. A goal by teammate Marci Meagher later in the half gave the Little Irish a 2-0 bulge.

But even though the Aquinas defense stopped Sheila Doyle, her sister, Amy, managed to break through and score to pull Mercy to within one goal at the end of the first half.

Fifteen minutes into the second half, Mason scored again but Amy Doyle responded with her second goal of the game to make the score 3-2.

Christy Prame scored off a rebound from a corner kick, and Michelle Khuns headed in yet another corner kick to earn the Little Irish the 5-2 win.

Aquinas goalie Kathy Byrne registered 9 saves.

The victory capped an amazing week for Aquinas, which defeated league foe and host Nazareth, 4-0, on Tuesday, Oct. 10, and upset visiting and state-ranked Lewiston Porter, 2-1, on Monday, Oct. 9.



Linda Dow Hayes/Catholic Courier  
Aquinas Institute earned their first-ever Private-Parochial-League title in soccer as they played host Thursday, Oct. 12, to visiting Mercy. The Little Irish went deep into their bench to wear down the Monarchs taking the crown with a 5-2 win. At left, Jill Banaszewski (8) takes control of the ball from Mercy's Anne Carney. Above, Kristin Nesta (left) and Marci Meagher (2) battle for possession.

Lewiston Porter (9-2-1) came into the game ranked fourth in the latest state poll of girls' Class B teams.

Linda Oliver scored 24:05 into the second half to give Aquinas a 1-0 lead. But with seven minutes left in regulation, Lewiston Porter tied the game on a penalty kick. Khuns then scored the winning goal two minutes into overtime.

Mercy, on the other hand, had an up-and-down week. On Saturday, Oct. 7, the

Monarchs lost to Pittsford Sutherland 2-1, but bounced back to register a 2-0 win over Bishop Kearney Oct. 10.

In the game against the Kings, Sheila Doyle and Gabby LaMagna scored for the Monarchs.

Boughton predicted that Mercy will do well in the sectional Class A playoffs because of the tough schedule the team has played, and because many of the teams in that class haven't seen her Monarchs play.

Exactly where Mercy will be seeded will be decided by games this week against Webster (Oct. 16), Nazareth (Oct. 17) and Leroy (Oct. 20). All three games will be played on the road.

Aquinas, meanwhile, appears to be one of the top seeds in the Section 5 Class BB tournament. Its seeding will be determined by the outcome of games this week at Livonia (Oct. 18) and at home against Greece Athena (Oct. 20).

## Kings qualify

Continued from page 10

28 will probably decide the Knights' playoff hopes.

Victories over Wilson and Aquinas could possibly earn the Knights the top seed in the Class AAA playoffs.

### DeSales 14, Romulus 6

DeSales (2-4) is a team trapped in a sectional logjam. The Saints must win their final two games — and hope several other teams lose — in order to earn a trip to the Section 5 Class D playoffs.

The visiting Saints kept their slim playoff hopes alive Saturday, Oct. 14, by downing Romulus, 14-6.

In the second quarter, DeSales registered the first score of the game on a three-yard run by John Connors to culminate a

65-yard drive. The score remained 6-0 after the kick failed.

On the ensuing kickoff, Romulus scored on a 97-yard return. But the DeSales defense blocked the point-after kick, and the score remained 6-6 at the half.

Connors scored again in the third quarter — this time on a one-yard plunge — and Frank Pane connected with Jeff Taney on the two-point conversion pass to give DeSales a 14-6 lead.

The Saints' defense stifled Romulus the rest of the way to preserve the win.

Chris Ike provided the bulk of the Saints' 210 yards on the ground, rushing for 111 yards on 24 carries. Steve Cannulli netted 49 yards on just three carries.

Pane was 4-for-11 passing for 56 yards. Fifty of those yards came on two passes to Taney.

The Saints host Bath this Saturday, Oct. 21, needing a win to stay in the sectional race.

### Aquinas 17, Wilson 0

Aquinas (2-1-1, 2-3-1) has already been eliminated from playoff consideration in the loaded Class AA, but the Little Irish can still achieve a winning season.

As has been the case throughout the season, the Aquinas defense played a strong game as it smothered Wilson, 17-0, on Saturday, Oct. 14.

The visiting Wildcats were held to just 52 yards in total offense. The Aquinas offense — paced by Alva Royston's 61 yards on 14 carries — mustered only 138 yards.

After a scoreless first quarter, the Little Irish scored on two runs by Royston — one from five yards out, the other from four —

in the second quarter. Both point-after kicks were successful, and Aquinas led 14-0 at the half.

Jim Fisher's 22-yard field goal in the fourth quarter completed the scoring.

The Little Irish will seek their second consecutive win this Saturday, Oct. 21, when they host Marshall (2-4).

### ND game canceled

Elmira Notre Dame (2-0, 4-1) had its scheduled game against Chenango Valley cancelled Saturday, Oct. 14, due to the sudden death of a Chenango Valley football player by spinal meningitis on Oct. 12.

Crusader coach Mike D'Aloisio said Section 4 officials will decide whether to give Notre Dame — which is in contention for a playoff berth — a victory by forfeit.

Notre Dame is scheduled to host Windsor this Friday, Oct. 20.

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The winner was Craig Hinchcliffe of McQuaid.

**SPORTS TRIVIA**

**This week's question:**

What two baseball teams have met 11 times in World Series matchups?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_

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