

AQ nips McQuaid in OT; Kearney thwarts DeSales

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

Last week's action in boys' basketball was marked by an upset, a reversal of an earlier upset and the continuation of a winning streak.

Aquinas' 72-68 overtime defeat of previously unbeaten McQuaid on Friday, Jan. 5, may not have had the national impact of Villanova's 93-74 upset of Syracuse the previous Saturday, but Little Irish fans will likely savor the win for a while — or at least until the two City-Catholic League rivals meet again Jan. 26.

The Little Irish (11-1) made it clear from the opening tap in their home gym that they were not going to be intimidated by the Knights (11-1). Aquinas used its man-to-man defense from the outset to control McQuaid's outside shooting.

And under the basket, Dwayne Postell (10 rebounds) and Alcindor Coleman (seven rebounds) were able to control the boards and score 26 and 14 points, respectively.

Meanwhile, the Knights were hampered going into the game because 6-10 center Jason McKinney was feeling the effects of the flu. McKinney was only able to play half the game and scored a season-low two points.

The game was close throughout the first half, with Aquinas clinging to a 26-25 lead at intermission. In the second half, the Little Irish were able to build up their lead to 10 points with four minutes left in the fourth quarter.

But the Knights battled back to tie the

game, 57-57, after Kevin Brown (15 points) nailed a bank shot with four seconds left.

The game was knotted at 65 with 30 seconds left in overtime, when Aquinas began a parade to the foul line to build a seven-point lead.

Aaron Boucher turned in 12 points for the winners. McQuaid was led by Mike Montesano's 17 points. Jay Moore and Ted Naylon each tossed in 16.

Earlier in the week, Aquinas beat host Greece Olympia (3-9) 63-50 behind Postell's 20 points and eight rebounds. Coleman added 14 points and dished out 6 assists.

The Little Irish were scheduled to travel to Marshall on Tuesday, Jan. 16.

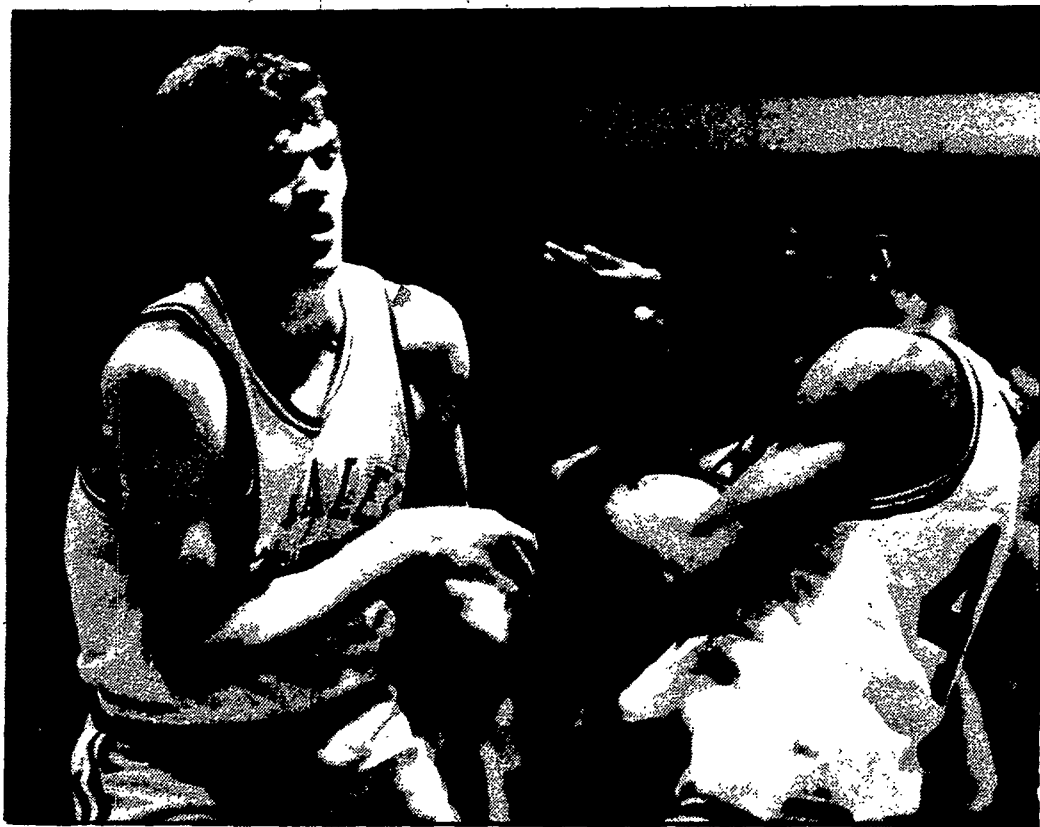
McQuaid not only suffered its first loss of the season last week, but the Knights also played what was probably their most frustrating game in a 44-24 win over visiting Bishop Kearney on Jan. 9.

The Kings (5-6) slowed the game down with a four-corners offense. Kearney's tactics held McQuaid to a 7-2 lead at the end of the first quarter and 11-5 at the half. In the second half, the Knights were able to overcome the stall and outscore the visitors 33-19.

"It's a good example of why we need a shot clock in high school (boys') basketball," McQuaid coach Joe Marchese said after the game.

McKinney led the Knights with 12 points.

The Knights were scheduled to play host to Wilson on Jan. 9.



Babette G. Augustin-Staff photographer

DeSales' Rob McFadden (left) and Bishop Kearney's Greg Mikell fight for the ball during Kearney's 63-50 win at home Jan. 13. Mikell finished with a game-high 15 rebounds, and McFadden led the Saints with nine.

Kearney, meanwhile, capped its week with a win over visiting DeSales, 63-50. The Saints (9-3) had upset Kearney — a Class BB team while DeSales is Class D — in overtime at DeSales, 65-64, on Jan. 3.

Much like the earlier meeting between the two schools, Kearney took the early lead 13-7 at the end of the first quarter. Full-court pressure at the beginning of the second quarter led to a 12-point Kings' run and a 25-7 lead. The Saints were never able to pull any closer than 13 points the rest of the way.

Greg Mikell combined 16 points, 15 rebounds and five blocked shots for the winners. Shaun Rhodes and Kevin Pawlak each added 11 points, and Rene Ingoglia tossed in 10.

The Saints were led by Rob McFadden, who had 19 points, nine rebounds and five blocked shots. Pat Mooney contributed 12 points.

The loss ended DeSales' four-game winning streak. In league contests earlier in the week, the Saints crushed host Romulus 82-42 on Jan. 10, and drubbed South Seneca at home, 58-33, on Jan. 12.

Chris Ike poured in 23 points to lead the DeSales attack against Romulus (0-8, 1-10). McFadden scored 21 points, and Ed Marsteiner had 11.

After beating South Seneca, Saints' coach Tony Alvaro said it was "as good a defensive game as we've played all year."

DeSales held the Falcons (4-5, 4-8) to 16 points in the first half and just two points in the third quarter.

Monarchs, Kings, Saints enjoy perfect week; Crusaders tumble

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

In diocesan girls' basketball, Mercy, Kearney and DeSales were perfect last week while Elmira Notre Dame suffered its first league loss.

Mercy was supposed to be tested Friday, Jan. 12, when the Monarchs played host to Notre Dame of Utica — the 12th ranked team in the state.

Instead of a test, the game was a lesson for Notre Dame (7-2) as the Monarchs (2-0, 10-0) posted a convincing 70-46 win.

Senior forward Catherine Robinson continued her strong inside play, leading the Monarchs with 20 points and 10 rebounds. Center Natalie White added 17 points.

Mercy began the week with a 58-20 win over host Franklin on Monday, Jan. 8. The Monarchs were led by Mary Beth Cleary with 11 points.

On Jan. 10, it was Sheila Doyle's turn to lead the Monarchs in scoring, as she tossed in 12 points during a 58-34 win over host East (1-7). White added 10 points.

Mercy was scheduled to play host to

McFadden again led the way with 16 points. Mooney and Marsteiner each added 10 points.

The Saints were scheduled to travel to Gananda for another league game on Jan. 17.

While the Saints' winning streak came to an end, Elmira Notre Dame continued its triumphant ways.

The Crusaders (4-2, 10-4) extended their string of victories to five after they beat Elmira Free Academy, 73-55, on Jan. 9, and Horseheads, 83-77, on Jan. 12.

The game at EFA (2-3, 3-7) was marred by a total of 48 turnovers by both teams. Fortunately for ND, those turnovers included a number of Crusader steals that led to baskets. Notre Dame led only 36-31 at the half, but built up a 15-point bulge in the third quarter before cruising to the win.

Brian Sheehan pumped in 26 points. Mike Bennett and Brian Shaw added 17 and 14 points, respectively.

In their league contest against visiting Horseheads (1-5, 1-11), the Crusaders fell behind early and trailed 22-17 after the first eight minutes. But Notre Dame outscored Horseheads 25-10 in the second quarter to take a 42-32 lead at the half. The Crusaders held the lead the rest of the way.

Bennett took scoring honors with 31 points. Sheehan dished out eight assists to go with his 20 points, and Shaw poured in 18 points while pulling down 15 rebounds.

Notre Dame was hoping to keep the win streak going with a home game against league-leading Corning East on Jan. 16.

Fairport on Jan. 17. Fairport gave Mercy its closest game of the season before falling in the final minutes 55-49 on Dec. 27.

Bishop Kearney remained hot on Mercy's heels in the Private-Parochial League, beating host Aquinas 54-36 on Jan. 11, and traveling to Wilson on Jan. 12 for a 73-57 victory.

The Kings (3-1, 10-2) dominated the boards against Aquinas (1-2, 7-4), as Marisa Shackelford and Eileen Jensen each snared 13 rebounds. Shackelford went 14 for 14 from the foul line on her way to 28 points. Jensen added 18 points.

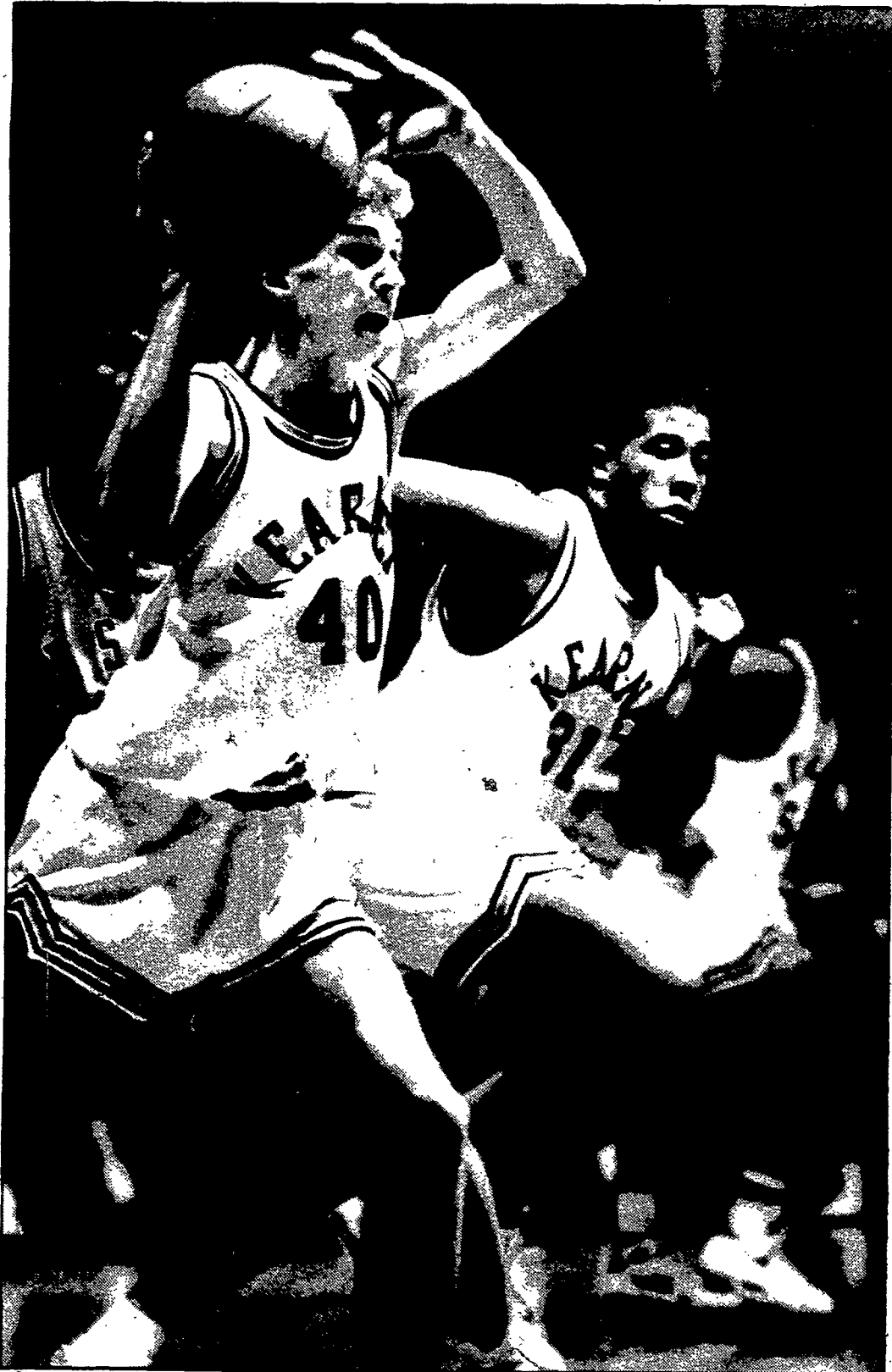
The Little Irish's Mary Radford pumped in 12 points.

Shackelford and Jensen again led the way against Wilson, scoring 26 and 23 points respectively. Sandy Supple also scored in double figures for the winners, adding 14 points.

Kearney was scheduled to play host to Rush-Henrietta on Jan. 16.

DeSales continued its turnaround, rais-

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Babette G. Augustin-Staff photographer

Kearney's Burt Richardson (31) is off to the races as teammate Kevin Pawlak (40) prepares to start the Kings' fast break against DeSales.