

AQ, BK, McQ set for hockey championships

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

The Section 5 hockey championships begin Saturday, Feb. 17, for the three diocesan teams, with Aquinas and McQuaid competing in Class A, and Bishop Kearney in Class B.

The winner of each classification, as well as the top runner-up, will advance to the state tournament.

Aquinas (13-6-1) earned the third seed in Class A, and is scheduled to play sixth-seeded Pittsford at 2 p.m. at Lakeshore Rinks.

The Little Irish boast a potent offense featuring Dave Perrotta and Jeff Nuccitelli. Perotta led the team and Division 1 of the Monroe County Hockey League in scoring with 40 points (24 goals, 16 assists). Nuccitelli was second with 38 points (16 goals, 22 assists). Nuccitelli also set the Aquinas career scoring record with 152 points through the end of regular-season play.

In order for Aquinas to win Class A, the Little Irish will in all likelihood have to beat second-seeded Batavia (13-6-1) and top-seeded Irondequoit (17-1-1).

The Irish beat both teams during the regular season. They handed Irondequoit its only loss of the season.

And on Feb. 8, Aquinas trounced Batavia 8-1 at Lakeshore. In that game, Perrotta had three goals and two assists, and Nuccitelli scored one goal and two assists.

McQuaid (6-12-1) is seeded fifth in Class A, and will open post-season play at Lakeshore against fourth-seeded Greece (11-6-1). The game is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m.

The Knights lost to Greece, 9-4, at

Lakeshore on Feb. 6.

That loss came on the heels of what may have been McQuaid's best game of the season, a 2-1 upset win over Aquinas on Feb. 3.

McQ's week also included a 6-3 loss to Batavia on Feb. 7 and a 9-1 loss to Irondequoit on Feb. 10. Both games were played at Lakeshore.

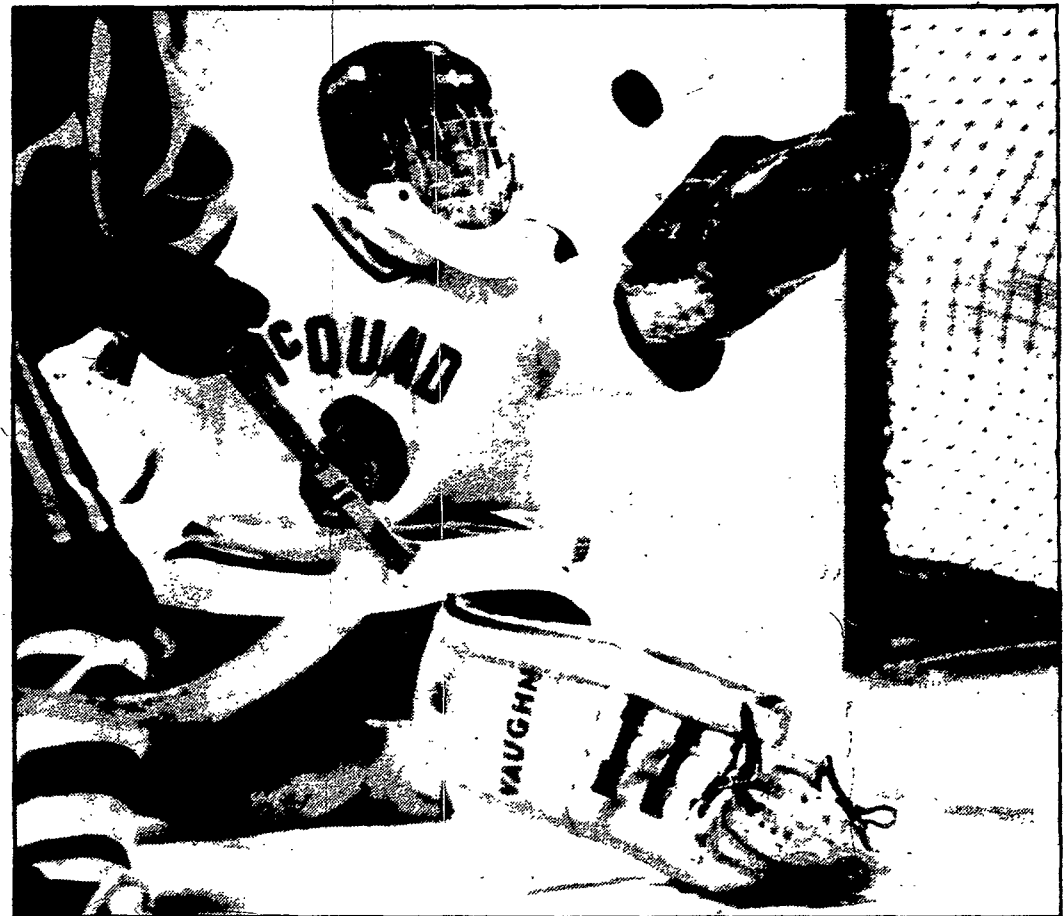
The Knights have a capable offense led by Paul Mertz and Dave Simpson. Unfortunately, the Knights have difficulty stopping opponents from scoring, as they have allowed 25 goals in their last four games alone. Inconsistent play may spell a short post-season for McQuaid.

In Class B, Kearney (6-11-2) earned the fourth seed and will take on fifth-seeded Webster (2-14) at Genesee Valley Rink at 1 p.m. The Kings defeated Webster 2-0 at Lakeshore during their last meeting on Jan. 27.

Kearney relies on its defense to stay close during its games. The Kings' offense has a hard time putting points on the board, however, having scored only seven goals in their last three games while giving up 20. Marcus Pace and Chris Accorso lead the Kings' attack.

Kearney appears likely to win its opening-round game, but with teams like Brockport (which beat the Kings 8-3 on Feb. 7), Gates-Chili (9-2 winners over Kearney on Feb. 3) and Fairport (which beat the Kings 6-2 on Jan. 20) also competing in Class B, Bishop Kearney will be hard pressed to advance far in the tournament.

If Kearney's defense can keep the contests low-scoring, however, it is fully capable of pulling off a couple of upsets.



Babette G. Augustin-Staff photographer

McQuaid will have to rely on the efforts of such players as goalie Jeff Ozminkowski if the Knights are to advance in the hockey sectionals.

Conlan heads DeSales Sports Night roster

GENEVA — Buffalo Bills' linebacker Shane Conlan, winner of the National Football League Rookie of the Year Award in 1987, is slated to speak at the DeSales Sports Night, scheduled for March 18, at Club 86.

University of Notre Dame quarterback

Tony Rice is also scheduled to speak.

Tickets for the dinner, which is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., cost \$25, and may be purchased at the National Bank of Geneva, Kenny Carpets and Murzy's.

The deadline for purchasing tickets is Feb. 28.

DeSales

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The Saints, who normally allow an average of 48 points a game, were unable to contain high-scoring Honeoye. By the fourth quarter, foul trouble became a factor for DeSales, which only suits up seven players.

Honeoye took an early lead, up 20-16 after the first quarter. The margin increased to 42-35 at the half.

Bob McFadden (24 points) poured in 16 points in the second half, but it wasn't enough as Honeoye gradually extended its lead. McFadden, who also had 16 rebounds, eventually fouled out, as did Jim McDermott.

Chris Ike added 11 points and Pat Mooney tossed in 10.

The Saints were scheduled to end regular-season play Feb. 13 against visiting Romulus. DeSales is on target for a fourth seeding when Class D sectional play begins.

Like DeSales, Bishop Kearney (8-10) began its week on an upbeat note, upsetting a hot Marshall squad, 66-61, at Kearney on Feb. 5.

Unlike DeSales, the Kings' week also ended on a high note with a last minute 64-62 win over host Irondequoit (4-13) on Feb. 10.

Unfortunately for Kearney, sandwiched

in between those two wins was a 62-56 loss to host Franklin on Feb. 9.

Against Irondequoit, the Kings found themselves down by six points with two minutes to play. But Burt Richardson (22 points) scored the last five points of the game — including the game-winning shot with 50 seconds left — to secure the win. Rene Ingoglia added 18 points.

Kearney was scheduled to finish regular season play against visiting Aquinas on Feb. 13.

Aquinas' Little Irish (14-5) were at the wrong end of a rout as they fell to visiting Wilson 75-47 on Feb. 6. Aquinas tried running with the Wildcats (17-2), and actually led 26-25 at the half. But Wilson handcuffed the Irish with a 1-3-1, three-quarter-court defense in the third quarter, limiting the Irish to just four points while scoring 26.

Edison (0-18) visited Aquinas on Feb. 6. The Little Irish once again led at the half, but this time they didn't let the game slip away as Aquinas claimed a 67-56 win.

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Alcindor Coleman earned a triple-double during the game as he collected 16 points, 17 rebounds and 10 assists. Dwayne Postell poured in 13 points, and Alan Schlageter and Matt Hill each added 12.

In Elmira, Notre Dame (6-5, 12-7) has a shot to be the top seed in the Section IV Class C tournament.

During the past week, the Crusaders geared for sectional play with three games. They won two but were also upset.

The upset came Feb. 6 against host Corning West, which hit 24 of 38 foul shots to cruise to a 61-49 win.

The Crusaders — who were led by Geoff Woodworth's 17 points — were only 3-for-11 from the line.

Against visiting Hornell on Feb. 8, the Crusaders played "probably the best 32 minutes of basketball we've played all year," noted coach Mike D'Aloisio. The result was a 76-51 win.

D'Aloisio said his players displayed patience, combining a half-court offense

with their usual up-tempo style. Woodworth took scoring honors with 20 points, and Rob Agan, who had been side-lined by an injury most of the season, celebrated his first game back with 10 points.

Elmira Free Academy almost turned a coaching decision into a nightmare for D'Aloisio as the visitors surged back from an 18-point deficit to within one point late in the fourth quarter before falling 67-59.

With the Crusaders leading 48-30 mid way through the third period, D'Aloisio pulled his starters to let his reserves get some playing time. The result was a 10-point Academy run.

D'Aloisio put his starters back in, but, he noted, they were "out of synch," and unable to stop EFA until the score was 59-58. Fortunately for D'Aloisio, the Crusaders outscored Academy 8-1 from there on to hold onto the win.

Notre Dame was scheduled to end regular-season play with a trip to Horseheads on Feb. 13.

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We received 14 correct entries identifying 3 goals as the number a player must score in a hockey game to earn a hat-trick. The winner was Mike Coleman of St. Peter & Paul in Auburn.

SPORTS TRIVIA

This week's question:
What company manufactures Top-Flite golf balls?

A: _____

Rules:
Each week, the Catholic Courier, in conjunction with Locker Room Sports will feature a Sports Trivia contest. All you have to do to enter is answer the question, fill in your name and address and the school you attend (if applicable), cut out the coupon and send it in to the Catholic Courier. If more than one correct entry is received, a drawing will be held and one winning entry will be drawn.
If yours is the winning entry, you will be mailed a certificate redeemable for \$10.00 OFF any purchase of \$25.00 or more at Locker Room Sports, 560 W. Ridge Rd.
All entries must be received within seven days of this paper's issue date. Winning names and answers will be printed the week following each drawing.

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