

Aquinas, Kearney score big in hockey wins

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — The Bishop Kearney and Aquinas hockey teams both scored in double figures to advance in the Section 5 Hockey Championships, but McQuaid lost despite outshooting its opponent.

Although Kearney's first-round win in Class B against Webster (2-15) at Genesee Valley Rink on Feb. 17 came as no surprise — the Kings beat Webster earlier this season — the final score wasn't expected.

Normally a strong defensive team, Kearney (7-11-2) allowed seven goals. But the Kings — who normally are a low-scoring team — registered 12 goals of their own.

Ahead 7-5 in the third period, Kearney allowed Webster to score twice to tie the game. Coach Lou DiMartino called a timeout with approximately six minutes left, and told his players to relax.

The Kings went back on the ice and completely dominated play, scoring five times.

Greg Phillips (two goals, four assists) led the Kearney attack along with Chris Accorso (one goal, five assists), Dan

The Feb. 17 game was a far cry from the teams' last meeting, which Kearney won, 2-0.

Five of the Kings' goals came in a flurry at the end of the third period.

McGuinn (six assists), John Werner (five goals), and Marcus Pace (two goals, two assists).

Kearney was scheduled to play Genesee on Feb. 20 at Genesee Valley Rink. The two teams met back on Dec. 21, when Genesee (14-7-1) won that contest, 7-6.

There was nothing surprising about third-seeded Aquinas' 11-0 win over sixth-seeded Pittsford (0-17) Feb. 17 at Lakeshore Ice Rink.

The Little Irish (14-6-1) completely dominated the Class A contest, scoring in the first two minutes and outshooting Pittsford, 57-3, for the game.

Tony Ewing registered two goals and three assists for Aquinas. League-scoring leader Dave Perrotta had two goals and two assists, while Jeff Nuccitelli and Grady

Monks each had two goals.

Aquinas was scheduled to continue its quest for the Class A title with a game against second-seeded Batavia (13-6-1) at Lakeshore on Feb. 21. Batavia won two of three games from AQ this past season, but Aquinas came away from the final meeting — Feb. 8 at Lakeshore — with a resounding 8-1 win.

In its Class A battle with Greece on Feb. 17, McQuaid did all the right things according to coach Al Vyverberg.

The Knights (6-13-1) outshot Greece 27-16, and most of the play was in Greece's end.

But McQuaid still fell 6-1.

Greece (12-6-1) built a 5-0 lead before McQuaid's Mike Sawyer scored a goal in the third period.



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer
McQuaid's Felix Medero (top) puts the squeeze on Brockport's Ben Stinebiser during the early rounds of the Class A sectional wrestling championships at Rush-Henrietta High School on Feb. 16. Medero, who wrestles at 112 pounds, won the match, but later lost in the tournament.

Voci, Knauss take sectional titles

Five wrestlers from diocesan high schools advanced to the Section 5 SuperSectionals, which are slated for Feb. 24 at Webster.

In the Section 5 Class A Championships, held at Rush-Henrietta High School on Feb. 17, McQuaid's Mark Voci (91 pounds) and Bryan Knauss (126) won sectional titles in their weight classes.

Alton Turner (250) finished fourth, advancing him to the state tournament qualifier at Webster because the top four finishers in each class at the sectional competitions compete in the qualifiers.

As a team, McQuaid finished seventh.

Meanwhile, Bishop Kearney's Gracen Porrecca (98 pounds) and Dave Bell (215 pounds) each advanced to the SuperSectionals after losing in the finals of their

respective weights in the Class B championships at Geneva High School.

Kearney, which won the City-Catholic League title this year, finished 11th in the Class B team standings.

Voci (31-4) entered the Class A tournament as the top seed in his weight class. Knauss (32-2) was seeded second in his class, and won the title by beating top-seeded and previously unbeaten Shawn Bauer of Gates-Chili. Turner (20-13) was seeded fourth in his weight class.

The Bishop Kearney Kings entered the Class B tournament with seven wrestlers among the top four seeds in their individual weight classes, but only Porrecca — who was seeded No. 1 — and Bell (second-seeded) advanced beyond the first round.

— Lee Strong

Saints

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upset in the first round last year by Brighton, and shouldn't take first-round opponent Irondequoit (4-16) lightly. McQuaid was scheduled to play the 13th-seeded Indians at Hilton on Feb. 20.

Going into the sectionals, the only question mark for the Knights is 6-10 center Jason McKinney, who has been hampered in recent weeks by a lingering flu bug. McQuaid has been forced to rely in recent games more on the outside shooting of Mike Montesano, Ted Naylor, and point-guard Kevin Brown.

In Section 4, Elmira Notre Dame (13-7) appears ready to return to the Class C finals, where it lost to Whitney Point last year.

This time around, the top-seeded Crusaders are the favorite to win.

Playing against larger schools most of the season has prepared Notre Dame for

the sectional-type games. And early-season injuries to such key players as Rob Agan and Lee Heyward means that ND Coach Mike D'Aloisio was able to give some of his reserves a lot of playing time.

Agan and Heyward are back in time for the sectionals, and the rest of the team is healthy. In addition, the presence of 6-6 transfer Rich Shaw may make ND too much for other teams to handle.

In its final regular-season game, Notre Dame destroyed Hornell 80-59.

According to D'Aloisio, the chief threats to Notre Dame's chances are second-seeded Whitey Point (15-4), third-seeded Walton (16-4) and fourth-seeded Sherburne Earleville (14-5).

D'Aloisio said he is also concerned about the Crusaders' first-round opponent, No. 16 Dryden (10-10).

The two teams were scheduled to play at Notre Dame, where they met last Nov. 30. Notre Dame won that game 84-70, but D'Aloisio said that Dryden played without some key players.

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What is the nickname of the current Heavyweight Boxing Champion, James Douglas?

A: _____

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