



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer  
**Aquinas' Jeremy Giordano (22) scores midway through the first period to knot the game at 1-1 in the Little Irish's 8-3 thumping of Oswego during a state quarterfinal game at Brockport State March 3.**

# AQ thrashes Oswego in state quarterfinals

By Lee Strong  
 Staff writer

ROCHESTER — The Aquinas hockey team may want to consider changing its nickname.

Instead of the Little Irish, perhaps they should be called the Giant Killers.

Aquinas (17-6-1), ranked seventh in the latest state large school poll, crushed Oswego (ranked fourth) 8-3 at Brockport State College on March 3, advancing the Little Irish to the semifinals of the Class A hockey championships at Rome on March 10.

The Little Irish, who upset top-seeded Irondequoit to win the Section 5 Class A title Feb. 24 at the War Memorial, will have

to pull off another upset to advance to the state finals on March 11. AQ's semifinal opponent is Albany Academy, the top-ranked large school team in the state.

The two teams met in December at the Rome Tournament, and Albany Academy came away with a 5-2 win.

For now, however, the Irish can savor advancing to the semifinals — a feat no other Aquinas squad has achieved.

In the state quarterfinal game, Oswego (15-6) took an early 1-0 lead. Aquinas' Jeremy Giordano knotted the score at 1-1 midway through the first period. Oswego regained the lead, 2-1, but Dave Perotta (two goals, two assists) scored to tie the game at 2-2 at the end of the first period.

In the second period, Section 5 Class A Most Valuable Player Grady Monks (two goals, one assist) scored at the 2:09 mark on an assist from Jeff Nuccitelli (one goal, two assists). Twenty-five seconds later, Chris Schultz scored off an assist from Perotta to up the lead to 4-2.

Nuccitelli, the career scoring leader at Aquinas, scored on a wrist shot 8:34 into the period, and at the 9:44 mark Schultz registered one of his two assists when he fed John Roskosky (one goal, three assists) for a score to up the lead to 6-2.

Aquinas increased its lead to 7-2 in the third period on Monks' second goal, and — after Oswego scored its third goal — Perotta scored to account for the final margin.

Aquinas goalie Brian Kelly registered 28 saves in the contest, including 12 in the third period. Oswego outshot Aquinas 31-26 for the game.



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer  
**John Roskosky (left) grabs hold of an Oswego player during AQ's win that advanced the Little Irish to the state semifinals.**

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the semifinals of the Section 5, Class A tournament. The two teams had split during the regular season with each team winning at home.

But East led the entire way and rolled to a 75-62 win over the Knights.

East threatened to turn the game into a blowout early, grabbing a 20-10 first-quarter lead. At one point in the second quarter, the Orientals increased their lead to 28-10.

The Knights, on the other hand, were firing blanks from the outside. The Orientals, meanwhile, nearly shut McQuaid's inside game down as well. Jason McKinney, who was playing with a jammed finger, was held to just two first-quarter points, and four for the game.

But after a McQuaid timeout at the 6:41 mark of the second quarter, the Knights began to connect. Ted Naylon (20 points) scored McQuaid's next 11 points — including three three-pointers — and the Knights cut East's lead to 35-27 at the half.

After a relatively even third quarter, McQuaid reduced the lead to seven points, 47-40.

In the fourth quarter, Jay Moore came alive, scoring 13 of his game-high 21 points, and McQuaid found itself down just 58-55 with 3:25 left in the fourth quarter.

But East put on a 17-7 spurt down the stretch to put the game out of reach, advancing the Orientals to the Class A finals against second-seeded Webster. The East-Webster clash is scheduled for March 6 at the War Memorial in Rochester.

Kevin Brown added 10 points for the Knights in the losing effort.

The DeSales Saints (16-6) fell prey to foul trouble as their attempt to retain their

Class D title fell short in an 82-72 semifinal loss to top-seeded Prattburg (23-3) at Alfred University on Feb. 28.

Both forward Pat Mooney and center Rob McFadden (14 points) fouled out, depriving the fourth-seeded Saints of an inside game in the fourth quarter.

DeSales fell behind Prattburg early, but kept the game close throughout. The Saints trailed only 39-34 at the half. Prattburg — which later fell to second-seeded Whitesville 69-65 in the Class D finals on March 3 at the State University College at Geneseo — managed to build a 14-point lead in the second half, but the Saints kept battling back.

Todd Hardy led DeSales with 23 points. Ed Marsteiner chipped in 17 points.

## Girls' hoop camp slated for DeSales High in July

GENEVA — DeSales High School has added a girls' session to its summer basketball camp this year.

The session for girls is scheduled for July 16-21. Two sessions for boys are slated for June 25-30 and July 2-7. All three sessions will take place at the school, 90 Pulteney St., and will be led by Tony Alvaro, the varsity boys' basketball coach.

Enrollment in the session for girls (entering grades 6-10 this September) will be limited to 60. Each of the boys' sessions will accommodate 56 participants, and will be open to boys entering grades 5-9 in September.

Daily sessions will run from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$60 per participant.

For information or to register, call DeSales at 315/789-5111.

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We received 15 correct entries identifying "Buster" as the nickname of the current Heavyweight Boxing Champion James Douglas.

The winner was Tim Anderson of Fairport High School.

### SPORTS TRIVIA

**This week's question:**

What college basketball team does scoring-sensation, Lionel Simmons play for?

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**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.

**The Catholic Courier**  
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