

Irish stay tough; Saints plagued by scoring troubles

By Barbara Ann Homick
Staff writer

The varsity girls' soccer team at Aquinas Institute is riding a wave of success, with Elmira Notre Dame, Our Lady of Mercy, Nazareth Academy and Bishop Kearney sailing close behind.

Geneva DeSales, however, is having a hard time keeping its head above water after losing its last five games.

The Aquinas girls battled host Greece Athena to a 3-3 tie after two overtimes on Sept. 29. AQ's Marcy Meagher, who has scored 11 goals thus far this season, kicked in the first two scores of the game. The Trojans later cut the margin to 2-1 at the half.

Jill Banaszewski scored the third Little Irish goal in the second half, but Athena came back to score on a penalty kick to trim the lead back to 3-2. The Trojans later tied the score at 3-3.

Two days earlier, the Little Irish visited Private-Parochial League rival Nazareth and handed the Lasers an 11-0 drubbing. Mary Radford highlighted the game with a hat trick (three goals) for Aquinas. Several other Little Irish players got in on the scoring.

Goalies Mary Beth Bell and Cindy Smith combined on the shutout.

When Aquinas hosted Fairport in a non-league match on Sept. 25, the Little Irish again shut out their opponent. Most of the credit went to Meagher who broke a scoreless game in the second half with four goals in a 4-0 win.

Goalie Michelle Khuns kept the Red Raiders at bay during the match.

It only took one second-half goal — scored by Gina Pascarella with eight minutes left in the game — for visiting league rival Bishop Kearney to post a 1-0 win over the Aquinas girls on Sept. 20.

Kearney won the Private-Parochial League game despite getting outshot 32-2.

One of the best soccer teams in the state, Lewiston Porter, edged out visiting Aquinas, 2-1, on Sept. 19. The game heated up in the second half when Lewiston-Porter scored twice. AQ's Lisa Messuro scored to bring the Little Irish within a goal, but they couldn't get the equalizer.

Aquinas earned a dominating win when the Little Irish blanked host East, 12-0, in a non-league soccer match on Sept. 17. Jen Mahar paced the AQ offense with three goals. Messuro, Christy Prame and Julie Page each tallied two scores.

In addition to its 1-0 win over Aquinas, Bishop Kearney (6-4-1) beat previously undefeated and visiting Naples, 2-1, in a non-league game on Sept. 19. Undaunted by the rainy weather, sophomore Janet D'Agostino chipped in both BK goals — one at the 20-minute mark of the first half and the other with 18 minutes left in the second half.

Even though the Big Green Machine retaliated during the second half, they couldn't put another goal past goalie Jenny Vito. The Kings outshot Naples, 19-7.

The Kings hosted Mercy on Sept. 22 and



Christopher Millette
Mercy right wing Julie Roberts finds herself in a bit of a jam between Churchville-Chili's Julie Mautega (front), Julie Glanville (middle) and Jeanne Cabcic (rear). The Monarchs blanked the Saints, 3-0.

the league rivals battled to a 1-1 tie after two overtimes. Mercy outshot BK, 33-2. Ann Carney scored the Monarchs' goal with 20 minutes left in the second half. Megan Shackelford tallied for BK with only 53 seconds to go in the game.

Vito didn't allow Mercy scoring ace Sheila Doyle to score.

In the consolation game of the Bishop Kearney Tournament on Sept. 24, the Kings trounced Eastridge, 3-1. The Lancers notched their lone goal during the first half, but Kearney iced the game with three goals after intermission. D'Agostino scored at the 33-minute mark, and Pascarella notched the winning goal at the 28-minute mark. D'Agostino scored again with five minutes left in the game.

Kings' coach Leo Teerlinck said that beating AQ and tying Mercy helped the BK varsity program.

Mercy's Sheila Doyle had 25 goals after 10 games entering this week's action. The junior striker took host Churchville-Chili for a ride when she scored all three Monarch goals during a 3-0 win Sept. 29. She also scored all five of her team's goals when Mercy clobbered Irondequoit, 5-0, on Sept. 24.

Ellen Lennox snuffed out all scoring attempts against the Indians.

In addition to the tie with Bishop Kearney, the Monarchs recorded a 7-0 win over Nazareth. Doyle had two goals and Julie Sasso had one in the first half. Doyle, Carol Ganey, Gabby LaMagna and Sheila Lang each tallied one during the second half.

With a record of 8-1-1 overall and 2-0-1 in the league, Mercy coach Kathy Boughton said her team is on a roll. On average, the defense is giving up only one goal per game.

Despite the "good whooping" Nazareth received at the hands of Aquinas, Lasers' coach Dave Prophet thinks his team (4-5-2) is improving.

When the Lasers hosted Christian Central Academy of Buffalo on Sept. 25, they nipped CCA, 2-1, in non-league action. CCA scored the only goal in the first half off of a corner kick.

Despite heavy rain during the second half, Nazareth began passing the ball well and Corrine Strassner scored the first Laser goal. Jenny Olley later put in the winning shot.

In other action involving the Lasers, East visited Nazareth and the non-league game on Sept. 24 ended in a 1-1 tie after two overtimes. Olley collected the only Nazareth goal in the first half, with the

Oriental tying it up in the second.

Olley and Mary Starapoli earned the Lasers a 6-1 victory over visiting Wilson by popping in two goals each during the Sept. 21 non-league game.

The Lasers also absorbed two consecutive 6-0 shutout losses, one at Wayne in a non-league game on Sept. 19, and the other against league foe Mercy on Sept. 18. But thanks to a second-half goal by Olley, Nazareth blanked Northstar in non-league action on Sept. 17, 1-0.

Melanie Crisco and Jenni Fagan have been adding the scoring punch to Notre Dame's offense.

The Crusaders (11-1) took their first beating of the season when they traveled to Addison on Sept. 29. Even though they lost the game, 2-0, Notre Dame coach Steve Weber said his team played well.

An away match against Hornell on Sept. 27 ended in a 4-2 triumph for the Crusaders. Crisco and Kristina Brunner provided a 2-0 margin at the half for ND. Crisco and Fagan doubled the score in the second half.

Claire Ramich and Theresa Gardner each had one assist.

After losing to Horseheads for 10 straight years, the Crusaders finally snapped the Blue Raiders' streak with a 2-1 win. The Raiders scored two minutes into the game, but Crisco retaliated later in the first half. Fagan notched the winning goal nine minutes into the second half.

Fagan also played a key role in her team's 1-0 win at Bath on Sept. 22. The Crusader knocked in a goal with only one minute left in the game.

In another shutout match, Notre Dame walked all over visiting Southside High School, 6-0, on Sept. 20. During the first half alone, Fagan had three goals and one assist. Crisco collected one goal and two assists. Later in the game, Brunner and Ramich each scored to propel ND to the 6-0 win.

After traveling to Elmira Free Academy on Sept. 19, the Crusaders buried the Blue Devils, 8-2. Ramich and Brunner helped give ND a 2-1 lead at intermission. Crisco (four goals) and Fagan (two goals) dominated the second half.

Geneva DeSales' scoring troubles are resulting in a stretch of losses.

After Honeoye Falls-Lima trampled DeSales, 11-0, back on Sept. 17, the 4-0 loss to the Cougars on Sept. 29 didn't seem so bad, according to Saints' coach Greg Lavin. He said HF-L coach Sue Vigen commented that his DeSales players looked much better in the most recent game.

The difference is in the goaltending, Lavin said. He was forced to change keepers so now Krista DeVaney and Danielle Boncaro will be sharing goaltending duties.

The Saints sustained losses at Harley-Allendale Columbia, 7-0, on Sept. 26; against Bloomfield, 9-0, on Sept. 24; and against South Seneca, 2-0, on Sept. 21.

Lavin said his team is improving because the Saints are now able to stay in the game longer.

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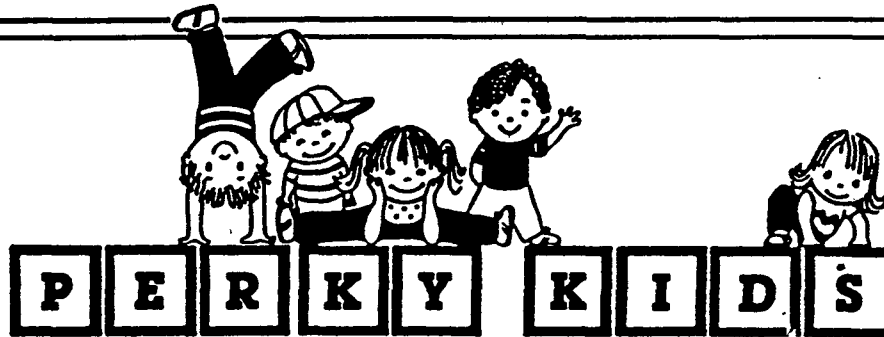


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