Ports

DeSales grad marking final season on court

By Barbara Ann Homick Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Krissy Guinan has come a long way since taking her first shot at a basketball hoop on the playground behind her Geneva home.

She remembers taking that shot in the fourth grade, but Guinan didn't play organized basketball until two years later. Despite her late start on the court, Guinan will start this season for the women's basketball team at Nazareth College.

Guinan began playing basketball as a guard and forward for the sixth-grade team at St. Stephen's Church in Geneva.

After her three-year stint at St. Stephen's, she began what would eventually turn out to be an illustrious basketball career at Geneva DeSales High School. As a freshman, she played on the junior varsity team. Guinan moved up to the varsity squad by just her sophomore year. During her first year on the varsity, Guinan saw playing time as both a guard and forward.

As a junior starter for the Saints, Guinan averaged in double figures (approximately 10 points per game). By her senior year, Guinan improved her scoring average to around 18 points per game.

As one of the catalysts for an aggressive run-and-gun offense, Guinan and her fellow teammates enjoyed four years of post-season bliss at DeSales. The Saints



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer Krissy Guinan, a senior starter for the Nazareth College women's basketball team, enjoys a timeout in her dormitory room.

advanced to the Section 5 Class C finals all four years that Guinan played for DeSales, which earned sectional titles in 1985 and 1986.

But when she joined the women's basketball team at Nazareth, Guinan said she was surprised at how much time and effort was required to play for an established college program.

"In high school, it was more of a thrill and always exciting. You never had to worry about anything," the Nazareth senior said. "It's more of a task now because of other responsibilities."

Along with the hard work, Guinan has been experiencing much of the same postseason success she enjoyed at DeSales. During Guinan's first three years with the program, the Golden Flyers have put together three of their best seasons ever, according to Sports Information Director Joe Seil.

In each of the past three seasons, the Golden Flyers have qualified for the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Division III women's basketball tournament.

This year's team, however, has its work cut out for it. With the graduation of such key players as Shannon Dwyer and Tracy Cass, the Golden Flyers lost nearly half of the team's offense from last season.

Coach Mike Decillis is looking to returning players such as Guinan and Sandy DeWolf to fill the void created by those graduation losses. Guinan had been the first guard off the bench the past three years.

Last season, she averaged 8.5 points and five rebounds per game. Her current tally of 519 points puts her 17th on the all-time scoring list of women's basketball players at the East Avenue college.

Guinan and the Golden Flyers began their 1990-91 campaign on the right foot by capturing the championship in the John Jay in the championship game on Nov. 18.

The Golden Flyers advanced to the title game by cruising past Fitchburg State, 84-62, in a first-round game Nov. 17. Guinan scored 10 points in the championship game against John Jay after pouring in 14 against Fitchburg.

In a 64-56 win over the University of Rochester on Nov. 21, Guinan collected four points. Her current average of 9.3 points-per-game ranks Guinan second to DeWolf in team scoring.

Coach Decillis said that the former DeSales star will play a key role in Nazareth's offense this season. "She is the best pure shooter we have. I hope she keeps improving her stats as she has the past three years," he said.

Guinan added that she and her teammates are looking forward to this season with great anticipation. "We weren't ranked in the pre-season poll (NCAA Division III), but we are going to prove that we can do it," she said.

Continued on page 14



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Lady Cardinals ranked fourth in magazine poll

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ROCHESTER — The St. John Fisher College women's basketball team was ranked fourth in the nation in the 1990 NCAA Basketball Preview, released in October.

The Lady Cardinals, runners-up in last year's national tournament after a 31-2 season, were ranked behind Concordia (Minn.), Roanoke and St. Thomas (Minn.) in the NCAA's projected top 20.

Fisher lost three starters from last year's squad, including two-time Kodak All-American Susan Heidt. The NCAA Basketball Preview also named promising newcomer Roxanne Chupp (Byron), a 5-foot-10 forward, as one of five East

Kearney AD tabs coach for ice hockey team

ROCHESTER — Bishop Kearney Athletic Director Nick Teta recently announced the appointment of Robert Liberatore as the school's new varsity ice hockey coach.

A graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology, Liberatore replaces Lou DiMartino as coach of the Kings. Last season, Liberatore guided the Rochester Junior "B" Amerks.

Certification clinic set for men, women officials

ROCHESTER — Men and women interested in volunteering their time as American Boxing Federation officials may attend a certification clinic on Saturday, Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. to noon at the North Street Recreation Center, 700 North St.

For information contact Bob Marte, 716/728-5294, or Don Simkin,

