

East holds off McQuaid; Notre Dame still perfect

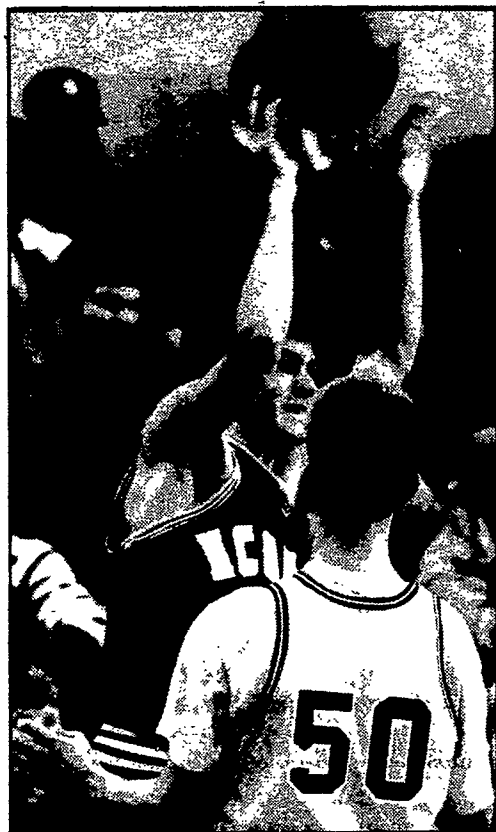
By Barbara Ann Homick
Staff writer

"You're not going to see a better game than this," remarked a McQuaid fan who attended the Dec. 14 City-Catholic League basketball game between the Knights and East.

He's probably right.

The two rivals played a furious-paced game before a sold out crowd at East High School on Friday afternoon. McQuaid supporters walked away disappointed as East rallied for a 72-69 win over the Knights.

The Orientals (5-0) carried the play early, leading 24-18 at the end of the first quarter and 37-36 at the half. East maintained its lead by combining a strong tran-



McQuaid's Ted Naylor launches a pass past East's Mark Gentner during the Knights' 72-69 loss to their unbeaten rivals.

sition game and by taking advantage of several McQuaid turnovers.

McQuaid (4-1) finally grabbed the lead in the third quarter. Then with 10 seconds left in the stanza, Ted Naylor broke away from a crowd of players, ran the entire length of the court and scored a basket to give the Knights a 54-50 lead heading into the final eight minutes.

The two rivals were neck and neck in the fourth quarter as the game came down to the final minutes. At the 3:26 mark, Naylor sunk a three-point shot from the corner, giving McQuaid a 62-58 lead. But the Orientals later tied it up with two quick baskets.

Naylor hit two foul shots with 2:58 left to give the Knights their last lead at 64-62. East tied it up again with 2:15 remaining. The Orientals then broke away for two fast

baskets to grab a 68-64 lead. Naylor then missed the front half of a one-and-one, allowing East to come up with a key rebound down the stretch.

Mike Montesano's two foul shots with 12 seconds left pulled McQuaid to within 70-66, but the Orientals scored again to make the score 72-66. With three seconds left in the game, Montesano sank a three-pointer but time wasn't on the Knights' side as the clock ran out.

Although McQuaid Coach Joe Marchese said he was disappointed with the way his team squandered the lead down the stretch, he said his players had nothing to be ashamed of in losing to a talented East team by just three points.

Montesano paced the Knights with 21 points, Jason McKinney — who dominated underneath but missed several key outside shots — poured in 20 points (including 8-for-8 from the foul line), and Naylor finished with 11. McKinney led McQuaid with 12 rebounds, followed by Jeff Reese with 11.

On Dec. 11, McQ routed host Marshall, 89-61, spurred by what Marchese called the best quarter in the history of McQuaid basketball.

Paced by Montesano's 18 points and Naylor's 13 points, the Knights poured in 39 points to the Jurists' 15 in the third quarter alone.

"We blew the game open," said Marchese.

Naylor led the Knights in scoring with 27 points, while Montesano tallied 25 points and McKinney poured in 21.

McQuaid recorded earlier City-Catholic League wins at home against Edison, 79-63, on Dec. 7, and Wilson, 84-62, on Dec. 4.

In other City-Catholic League games last week, Aquinas Institute (3-2) whipped host Bishop Kearney, 55-43, on Dec. 14.

The game was close until the fourth quarter. Kearney led the game 37-33 at the end of the third, but a strong Little Irish rally over the final eight minutes propelled AQ to the league win. Jeff Rice and Chris Valentino paced the AQ offense in the fourth quarter.

For the game, Aquinas' Jason Newton collected 14 points and eight rebounds. Aaron Boucher scored 14 points and Valentino tallied 12. Rice added eight points and three rebounds, and Rick Bardwell finished with seven rebounds and two points.

Dianetti credited his reserves for playing well after coming off the bench — especially after Boucher fouled out in the final four minutes of the game.

The Little Irish were 15-for-18 from the foul line. Rice was 6-for-6 from the charity stripe, while Valentino (6-for-9) and Bardwell (2-for-2) also came through down the stretch.

Aquinas was crushed by host Franklin, 75-50, on Dec. 11. Dianetti said that



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer
McQuaid guard Jeff Armbrister (left) and East High's Ricky Edwards, who both wear No. 15, scramble for the ball during the key City-Catholic League game won by the Orientals.

Franklin's size and speed were too much for the Little Irish, who committed 20 turnovers for the game.

Jason Carter paced the Quakers with 19 points. Aquinas' Boucher tallied 15 and Newton poured in 11 points.

Newton (20 points, 10 rebounds) and Boucher (15 points) propelled the Little Irish to a 66-46 win over host Bishop Cunningham (Section 3) on Dec. 5.

In addition to experiencing a scoring drought in the game against Aquinas, Bishop Kearney (2-3) fell to host Greece-Athena, 82-69, on Dec. 11.

The non-league ballgame was close throughout, with Athena leading 36-30 at the half. The Kings couldn't stop Athena's John Wallace, who scored 33 points — including 13 in a pivotal fourth quarter.

Kevin Pawlak poured in 25 points for BK. Kelly Ryan iced 18 points and Joe Raniewicz tallied 16.

The Kings handed host Wilson a 70-55 loss on Dec. 7.

In Class D action last week, Geneva DeSales (5-1) was plagued by foul troubles as the visiting Saints were clobbered by Honeoye's Cougars, 88-55, in a Finger Lakes West game on Dec. 14.

Due to a rash of injuries, the Saints came into the game with just seven healthy players. Things got worse when Bob McFadden and Ed Marsteiner both fouled out in the fourth quarter, leaving DeSales with just five eligible players.

McFadden finished with a game-high 31 points before he fouled out of the game.

In a Dec. 12 Finger Lakes West game at Red Jacket, the Saints secured a 70-50 victory.

The Saints were never challenged in the game. McFadden powered DeSales with

33 points. Marsteiner iced 20 points and Todd Hardy hit 11 points.

Over in Section 4 Class C, Elmira Notre Dame smothered visiting Corning East, 68-38, in a Sullivan Trail Conference game on Dec. 14.

Corning East entered this season as defending STC champions. Coach Mike D'Aloisio credited his bench with putting Corning away. D'Aloisio believes his team is now in synch after finishing up a long football season.

Eric Sira poured in 13 points, Mike Bennett tallied 12 and Geoff Woodworth scored 11 points.

A win at home against Southern Cayuga, 72-50, on Dec. 7, helped bring the Crusaders to 4-0 this season.

SPORT SHORTS



Mercy heading south for hoop tournament

ROCHESTER — Our Lady of Mercy High School's varsity basketball team will travel to Orlando, Fla., Dec. 27-29 for the annual Lady Hornet Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament sponsored by Bishop Moore High School of Orlando and the Knights of Columbus.

Two defending state champions and a city champion will compete in this year's tournament, which includes teams from Texas, Tennessee, Florida and Louisiana.

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We received 7 correct entries identifying the **Green Bay Packers** and the **Dallas Cowboys** as the two Super Bowl Clubs that Forrest Gregg plays for.

The winner was **Matthew Weinstein** of St. John the Evangelist, Greece.

SPORTS TRIVIA

This week's question:

What onetime Notre Dame star holds the NFL single-season scoring record with 176 points?

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.

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