

Mercy, Aquinas gear for league showdown



By Barbara Ann Homick
Staff writer

As the girls' basketball season nears its midway point, Our Lady of Mercy and Aquinas Institute continue to dominate the opposition. That hasn't been the case, however, for Geneva DeSales, Nazareth Academy and Elmira Notre Dame.

In its only game last week, Mercy routed visiting Nazareth, 69-21, on Jan. 17.

Although the big numbers came from top players such as Sheila Doyle (16 points), Natalie White (15 points) and Mary Beth Cleary (12 points), Mercy Coach Kathy Boughton said every one of her players got in on the scoring.

"I played the bench a lot, so everyone got a chance to add some points to the game," said Boughton.

The Monarchs enjoyed a record of 3-0 in the Private-Parochial League and 11-3 overall heading into this week's action.

Host Aquinas won its first-round game of the Aquinas Tournament Jan. 19, when the Little Irish nipped Victor, 55-50.

Junior Amy Reynders — who entered the contest averaging 22 points per game — had a game-high 33 points for AQ. The Little Irish were scheduled to play Newfane of Section 6 (Buffalo area) in the

championship game on Jan. 21.

In action from earlier in the week, Aquinas traveled to Bishop Kearney Jan. 15 and handed their hosts a 54-34 drubbing.

Reynders had a game-high 24 points for the Little Irish, which didn't have any other players in double figures.

In a home game against Livonia on Jan. 17, Aquinas clobbered the Bulldogs, 62-31.

Reynders once again led AQ as she poured in a game-high 23 points. Kristina Dudley joined the scoring by adding another 14 points.

Aquinas was undefeated in the league (3-0) and 10-2 overall at the beginning of the week. In a game that will have league-title implications, Aquinas will host Mercy this Saturday, Jan. 26, at 8 p.m.

Nazareth Academy just can't seem to score enough points to win many games this season. Last week was no different as the Lasers (0-3, 2-9) lost three more contests, including the 48-point loss to the Monarchs.

Although no one reached double figures for Nazareth, Zumath collected eight points and 10 rebounds for a strong game against Mercy.

Nazareth traveled to Geneva DeSales on Jan. 19, renewing a rivalry dating back to the 1940s. The host Saints handed the Lasers a 40-23 setback.

Jennifer Zumath scored 12 of the Lasers' 23 points and added 10 rebounds to pace Nazareth.

Marshall visited Nazareth on Jan. 15, when the Jurists defeated the Lasers 43-29.

Nazareth Coach Walt Gordinier said his team's offense never got untracked against Marshall.

"We just can't score this season," said Gordinier, who added that his players were feeling the effects of not having any prolific scorers on the team.

Details of Bishop Kearney's games against Wilson-Magnet on Jan. 18 and against Rush-Henrietta in the second annual Bishop Kearney Invitational Basketball Classic on Jan. 20 were not available as of *Catholic Courier* press time.

Over in Ontario County, the DeSales girls are having their share of ups and downs this season.

The Saints appear to have success against Nazareth, however. DeSales' 40-23 win over the Lasers on Jan. 19 marked the Saints' second lopsided win over Nazareth this season.

In the earlier meeting between the two Catholic schools back in early December, DeSales crushed Nazareth, 60-35.

Danielle Boncaro poured in 19 points and Diane Reilly registered 12 rebounds in



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer
Aquinas Institute's Kristen Burgmaster hits the floor after trying to wrestle the ball from Kearney's Mandy Dariak during AQ's win Jan. 15.

the host Saints' win last week. DeSales Coach Steve Muzzi credited his team's strong defensive play for the win.

The Saints did not enjoy the same success earlier in the week when they took a 45-29 beating at the hands of visiting Romulus in a Finger Lakes West game played on Jan. 17.

Boncaro iced 14 points for the Saints, but several DeSales players — specifically Reilly — got into foul trouble and watched most of the fourth quarter from the bench.

DeSales began the week on the wrong foot when the Saints fell to host Red Jacket, 44-30, on Jan. 15.

Boncaro registered 14 points and Sarah Peters added another 10 for the Saints.

DeSales' record going into the week stood at 1-5 in the league and 5-8 overall.

Over in Section 4, even though Notre Dame lost its home game to Corning East on Jan. 18, Crusader Coach Jeff Sobkowski said his team's 50-49 loss served as "a character builder of a game."

During an exciting second-half comeback, the Crusaders made up a 21 point third-quarter deficit to pull ahead by two points in the fourth quarter.

But with seven seconds to go in the

game, a foul was called on Bobbi Jo McMail with Notre Dame clutching to a one-point lead. East's Jen Stamp — who poured in a game-high 21 points — subsequently made both ends of a one-and-one to put East ahead by a point with only a few seconds left.

Notre Dame's hopes to pull out a win were dashed when a pass was deflected to midcourt at the buzzer.

Junior Kristin Tarentino came off the bench to score 17 points for ND. McMail tallied 12 points and Jenny Fagan registered 11 steals. Although ND didn't win the Sullivan Trail Conference game, Sobkowski said his players showed more intensity than they had all season. He added that the game may prove to be an indication of things to come for ND.

Earlier in the week, Notre Dame succumbed to Elmira Free Academy, 49-35, in an STC game played on Jan. 16. McMail and Fagan paced the Crusaders with eight points each. Sobkowski said EFA's pressure defense took its toll on his team.

The Crusaders' record stood at 0-7 in the league and 4-10 overall entering this week's action.



BK's Janet D'Agostino squeezes past Marcy Meagher during the Little Irish's 54-34 victory.

SPORT SHORTS



Rink slates open hours for public ice skating

ROCHESTER — Open skating hours at the Genesee Valley Park Ice Rink, 131 Elmwood Ave., are as follows:

Monday-Friday, 9:15-10:45 a.m. (adult), and 11:15 a.m.-1 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 1:15-2:45 p.m. (skate and shoot); Monday and Wednesday, 6:45-8:15 p.m.; Friday, 10:30 p.m.-midnight; Saturday, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 5:30-7 p.m. and Sunday, 1-2:30 p.m., 3-4:30 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m.

Skating fees are \$2.75 for adults, \$1.25 for seniors and youths under 18, and \$7 for family. Skates may be rented for \$2.50.

Call 716/235-6684 or 428-6755.

Aquinas tabs Munno as new football coach

ROCHESTER — Joseph Munno has been named head varsity football coach at Aquinas Institute, school officials recently announced.

AQ's varsity offensive coordinator for the last two seasons, Munno has been coaching for more than 19 years. The current house administrator at Marshall guided the Jurists to the sectionals in 1983 and 1986.

In addition to his experience on the gridiron, Munno has also coached lacrosse among other sports. In 1976 he was named Monroe County Coach of the Year in lacrosse.

Munno earned a bachelor of science in history and a master's degree in educational administration from the State University of New York College at Brockport. Previous to his administrative position at Marshall, he was chairman of the Special Education Department for 12 years.

KEEPING PACE WITH ... Boys' Varsity Basketball

SCHOOL	DATE	RESULT
Aquinas (1-6, 4-11)*	Jan. 15	Franklin 58, AQUINAS 41
	Jan. 18	Marshall 49, AQUINAS 46
Bishop Kearney (2-4, 7-6)	Jan. 18	EDISON 68, Bishop Kearney 54
	Jan. 20	BISHOP KEARNEY 56, Greece Athena 54
DeSales (9-1, 13-1)	Jan. 14	DESALES 60, Bloomfield 57 (OT)
	Jan. 16	DeSales 57, DUNDEE 49
	Jan. 18	DESALES 75, Red Jacket 47
McQuaid (11-2)	Jan. 18	MCQUAID 83, Franklin 55
Notre Dame (11-2)	Jan. 15	NOTRE DAME 84, EFA 79 (OT)
	Jan. 18	Notre Dame 59, CORNING EAST 42
	Jan. 19	Notre Dame 65, TRUMANSBURG 57

*First record is league, second is overall.

Home teams are in capital letters.