

McQuaid tops East in thriller, eyes top seed

INSTANT REPLAY



By Barbara Ann Homick
Staff writer

According to McQuaid basketball Coach Joe Marchese, his team's victory over East High on Feb. 8 tasted better than any of the other 15 wins his Knights recorded this season.

Regardless of which team wins the City-Catholic League title this week — McQuaid and East are both tied for first with 8-1 records — Marchese said he will savor the sweetness of the win over East for a long time to come.

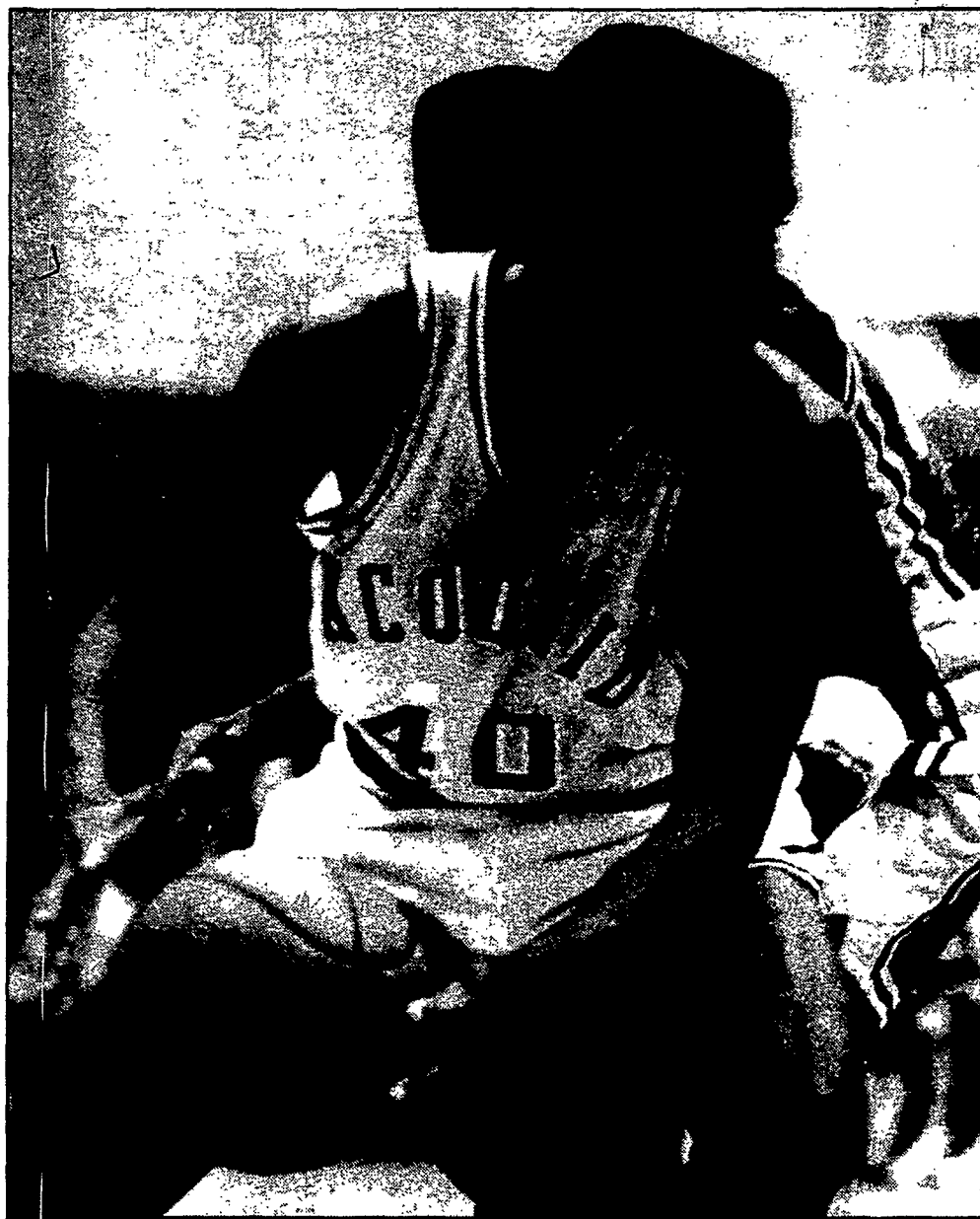
The Knights (46-2) upset the visiting Orientals, 69-58, thanks mostly to a third-quarter defensive switch and the scoring prowess of Lethal Weapon 3 — the name given to the trio of Jason McKinney, Ted Naylor and Mike Montesano.

After a sluggish start, East (17-2) picked up the tempo by employing an aggressive man-to-man defense early in the first quarter. The pressure enabled the Orientals to grab a 20-15 lead at the end of the quarter.

East's stingy defense held Montesano to just two points in the first half. Fortunately for McQuaid, McKinney and Naylor picked up the slack and poured in 12 and 11 points, respectively, to pull McQuaid within five points, 36-31, at the half.

The Knights ran into foul trouble early in the third quarter, when Jeff Reese got called for his third foul. But Jay Wandtke stepped in impressively for Reese.

McQuaid then took control of the game in the third quarter after the Knights switched from a 3-2 to a 2-3 zone defense. Marchese said he opted for the defensive change because the Knights were giving



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer

East High School's Darrell Barley attempts to steal the ball from McQuaid's Jeff Reese during the second half of the Knights' 69-58 upset over the Orientals on Feb. 8. Reese managed to get the ball off to Ted Naylor, who went on to score a basket for McQuaid. Reese clinched the pivotal league win with clutch foul shooting in the game's last few seconds.



McQuaid Coach Joe Marchese worked up a sweat on the sidelines while shouting instructions to his players.

lected 12 rebounds and three blocked shots. Naylor registered 18 points, dished out eight assists and made five steals. Montesano scored 17 points — including two three-point shots. Reese came through with 12 rebounds.

If McQuaid was able to defeat visiting Marshall on Tuesday, Feb. 12, Marchese said the Knights would be the top seed in the upcoming Section 5 Class AAA tournament.

It looks like Bishop Kearney (3-7, 9-9) will be seeded No. 5 in the Section 5 Class BB sectionals after two big wins last week.

On Feb. 8, the Kings defeated host Aquinas Institute, 52-42.

Although the Little Irish followed close on the Kings' heels throughout the game, they were unable to put Kearney away. Kelly Ryan scored 18 points and five rebounds for the Kings. Kevin Pawlak added 10 points and eight assists, while Demond Mack collected 12 points, eight rebounds and was 4-for-5 from the charity stripe.

In the only game of the week for Aquinas (1-8, 5-14), Chris Valentino poured in 20 points in the second half alone against Kearney. He also buried a trio of three-point shots in the game — including one trifecta at the final buzzer.

Aaron Boucher added 12 points and

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McQ's Ted Naylor, center, has his shot blocked by Darrell Barley of East (left) as Arthur Long waits for a rebound. Naylor finished with a total of 18 points for McQuaid.

East too many second and third opportunities.

"It really helped in rebounding. We stopped their penetration and forced them to take outside shots," noted Marchese, who said that the Orientals were getting most of their points in the lane.

Late in the third quarter, Reese came off the bench to take over after Montesano collected his fourth foul.

Yet despite nagging foul troubles, the Knights were able to outscore East, 20-6, in the third quarter and grab a 51-42 lead. Included in the Knights' offensive onslaught in the third quarter was a pretty 14-foot jumper by McKinney and a layup at the buzzer by Miles Webster.

In the fourth quarter, Marchese said he became uncomfortable when the Orientals applied their intense full-court pressure — the same press that led to McQuaid's 72-69 loss to East in the last meeting between the two teams in December.

But the Knights were able to handle the press and sink crucial free throws down the stretch. McQuaid converted 24 of 28 free-throw attempts — including 14 in the fourth quarter alone.

The game almost got away from the Knights, who were clutching to a 10-point lead with two minutes remaining. As Reese attempted to dunk the ball, he was rejected by Art Long. After the rejection, Reese grabbed the rim and the whistle blew. Although Marchese expected the referee to whistle Long for a foul, he was dismayed when Reese was given a technical for hanging on the rim.

East was able to slice McQ's lead to six after two free throws and a basket in the waning moments.

But Reese put the victory away for McQuaid as he hit both ends of two consecutive one-and-one situations in the final 26 seconds.

McKinney poured in a game-high 20 points for McQuaid. The center also col-

KEEPING PACE WITH Girls' Varsity Basketball

SCHOOL	DATE	RESULT
Aquinas Institute (4-1, 14-5)	Feb. 5	AQUINAS 57, Nazareth 29
	Feb. 8	AQUINAS 47, FRANKLINVILLE 42
	Feb. 9	WELLSVILLE 55, Aquinas 39
Bishop Kearney (1-3, 11-8)	Feb. 7	MERCY 48, Bishop Kearney 25
Geneva DeSales (2-11, 7-12)	Feb. 5	DUNDEE 57, DeSales 20
	Feb. 7	HONEOYE 68, DeSales 34
Our Lady of Mercy (5-0, 15-3)	Feb. 7	MERCY 48, Bishop Kearney 25
Nazareth Academy (0-5, 3-15)	Feb. 9	Nazareth 24, MARSHALL 28
Empire Notre Dame (2-9, 7-12)	Feb. 5	NOTRE DAME 58, Hornell 34
	Feb. 8	Notre Dame 37, DORNING WEST 45
	Feb. 9	Horsehead 58, NOTRE DAME 47

Varsity Hockey

SCHOOL	DATE	RESULT
Aquinas Institute	Feb. 6	Aquinas 6, Gates Chili 3
(15-1-2, 17-1-2)	Feb. 9	Aquinas 6, McQuaid 1
Bishop Kearney (6-8-4, 7-8-5)	Feb. 4	Pittsford 5, Bishop Kearney 4
	Feb. 5	Greece 9, Bishop Kearney 1
	Feb. 8	Bishop Kearney 8, Hilton 8
	Feb. 9	Bishop Kearney 3, Gates Chili 3
McQuaid Jesuit (5-9-2, 6-10-2)	Feb. 5	McQuaid 14, Hilton 2
	Feb. 7	Greece 2, McQuaid 1

Full record in league record book. First games are in regular season.