

sectional crowns in 1987, 1988 and last year as well as a state title in 1988.

BK relying on guards

Kearney's big strength is in the backcourt, where seniors Demond Mack and Scott Delgatti, along with junior Joe Ranievicz, provide veteran strength.

"I think they're exceptionally good ballplayers. They're the heart of our team," Nietopski commented.

Top frontcourt people are senior Dan Staub, juniors Jason Randall and Mike Coyle and sophomore Akin Ross.

Other BK players are senior guard Tom Kennedy, junior guards Chad Gunerra, Steve Canali and Scott Pecor, sophomore center Rich Cannon, junior forward Bob Hilburger and Marek Bertman, a senior exchange student from Poland.

Kearney has dropped out of the City-Catholic League and is now playing an independent schedule, but the Kings will still play many of their traditional foes as well as many other formidable non-league opponents.

"It's going to be a tough schedule, but we're looking forward to it. I think we'll get better as we go along," said Nietopski.

Irish face tough schedule

The quintet of Aquinas juniors with varsity experience include forwards Jeff Rice, Steve Spencer and Todd Gilenkirk; and guards Maurice Price and Shawn Barnett.

Price, the starting point guard, has a sprained ankle and will probably be replaced by Nick Reisinger for the



File photo

Shawn Barnett is slated to play guard for Aquinas this season. Above, Barnett dives for the ball during a game last season against East High School.

opening game. Another potential starting

Completing the roster are center Deider Becks, guards Tim Gibbons, Jim Brady and Michael McKeever, and forward Phil Wegman.

The competition, as usual, will be extremely challenging for the Little Irish. "I know this much: you'd better be ready to come play every night," Dianetti remarked. "But I'm optimistic. We want to play a rugged schedule. We get us ready for sectionals."

Woodworth will lead ND

Notre Dame is relying heavily on senior forward Bryan Woodworth, the Crusaders' lone returning starter.

"Bryan was the only starter who didn't average at least 12 points a game last year. He was our stopper

on defense, but we'll need more scoring from him this year so his role will be expanding," said D'Aloisio.

Senior Aaron Mekos will play point guard. Other leading candidates for backcourt playing time are seniors Chris O'Herron and Andy Cain, and juniors Luke Sheehan and Brian Murray.

Expected to make big contributions up front are senior Mike Steed and junior Bob Cavalier.

Other Crusaders are junior forwards John Violette and John Maio, and junior guards Mike Roberts and Pat Palmer. Roberts is a transfer from STC rival Elmira Southside.

"Woodworth and Mekos are our top players, and after that I think we have 10 guys who are very close to

each other in ability. We'll have numerous starting lineups throughout the season," predicted D'Aloisio.

The Crusaders should have no trouble getting motivated for their opener against Trumansburg, which knocked Notre Dame out of last year's sectional semifinals on a controversial basket at the final buzzer.

Big year for DeSales?

Suffice it to say that everybody on Geneva DeSales will see a good chunk of playing time this year. When you have only eight players, there's no other choice.

But Alvaro has often fielded squads low in numbers, and that's never seemed to be a hindrance. Entering his ninth year at DeSales, Alvaro has a 100-52 record with the Saints. Combined with 27 previous years at Romulus, his overall mark is 425-232.

Two starters, junior guard-forward Todd Hardy and senior forward Mark Higgins, are back from last year's dynamite club. Senior guard-forward Bill Sweeney and senior center Chris Dendis, both subs last season, have moved into starting roles. Completing the starting five is junior guard Mike Broomfield.

New to the varsity are junior guard Todd Lush, sophomore center-forward Josh Kiley and senior guard-forward Mark Avedisian.

"We've got a lot of hustle. They're also very good defensive players and very good shooters," said Alvaro. "I think these kids have talent."

AQ's Meagher tops soccer all-star list

Aquinas Institute's Marcie Meagher, a senior striker, leads the list of 1991 Private-Parochial League girls' soccer all-stars.

Meagher was named the league's Most Valuable Player, and her coach, Gary Page, was selected as Coach of the Year.

The league's other first team all-stars were as follows:

Aquinas — Melissa Page, Michele Khuns, Anne Marie Saporito, Ariana Martinez and Mary Beth Bell.

Our Lady of Mercy — Sheila Doyle, Mimi LaMagna, Julie Smith, Gabby LaMagna and Ellen Lennox.

Bishop Kearney — Janet D'Agostino, Sandi Shoniker and Megan Shackelford.

Nazareth Academy — Christine Staropoli and Tricia Umiker.

Making the all-league second team were:

Aquinas — Alicia Burton, Lynsey Hopkins, Nicole Pellitter and Lisa Sierk.

Mercy — Jenny Smith, Colleen O'Neil, Tiffany Pezzalo and Maureen McCarthy.

Kearney — Susan Kankaras, Dana Winterroth, Chris McIntyre and Gina Pascarella.

Nazareth — Donna Sergeant and Dianne Robinson.

SPORT SHORTS



Kearney Classic slated for War Memorial Dec. 8

Five Rochester-area high schools, along with a Buffalo school, will compete in the third annual Bishop Kearney Invitational Basketball Classic on Sunday, Dec. 8, at the Rochester Community War Memorial.

The classic will feature four games. The day's festivities will begin with a girls' game at 11 a.m. between Rush-Henrietta and Kearney, followed by three boys' games: Brockport vs. Rush-Henrietta at 1 p.m., St. Joseph's of Buffalo vs. Greece Athena at 3 p.m., and Kearney vs. Greece Arcadia at 5 p.m.

Tickets, which can be purchased at any participating school, are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door.

ND's Lou Holtz speaking at DePaul sports dinner

University of Notre Dame head football coach Lou Holtz will be the guest speaker at the DePaul Sports-Celebrity Dinner, set for Thursday evening, Dec. 11, in the Riverside Convention Center.

All proceeds from the banquet will benefit the DePaul Mental Health Services Adolescent Program, which provides counseling, drug and alcohol education, and residential services to teens with emotional or behavioral problems.

Ticket information can be obtained by contacting Tom Corrigan at 436-8020.

Special Olympics plans gala at city restaurant

The Special Olympics Holiday Party will take place Wednesday, Dec. 4, at the Top of the Plaza Restaurant in Rochester.

This fifth annual event will run from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The party's main focus will be the Athlete-Wish List, which contains requests by schools, agencies and organizations for a variety of items.

Tickets are available for \$20 by calling the Monroe County Special Olympics office at 586-7400. Tickets will also be available at the door.

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Last Month's Winner: Darryl Amato of Palmyra correctly identified **Ron Howard** as the director of both *Cocoon* and *Backdraft*.

RULES: ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MIDNIGHT, DECEMBER 13th. Random drawing of correct entries to be held DECEMBER 16th by Catholic Courier Representatives. Entries must be returned by mail to: Catholic Courier, Movie Trivia, 1150 Buffalo Rd., Rochester, NY 14624-1899. Winner will be notified by mail. Prize is one year of Wegmans Video Rentals (membership is free and is required). Prize is not exchangeable for cash or other merchandise.