

Knights seek to be kings of Section 5 track

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

Barring anything unforeseen, McQuaid Jesuit or Fairport will capture the 1992 Section 5 Class A outdoor boys' track championship.

What's much harder to predict, however, is which of the two schools will come out on top — and a look at recent history doesn't offer much help.

McQuaid beat Fairport by more than 50 points to win this past winter's sectional indoor title, but the Red Raiders have had the Knights' number in two outdoor meets this spring.

McQ lost 72-69 in dual competition back on April 9, and Fairport also won the April 11 Pittsford Relays by five points (77-72) over the second-place Knights.

Interim Head Coach Dave Warth shrugs off the narrow defeats, pointing out that the May 23 sectionals at the State University of New York College at Brockport rank highest on the priority list.

"Everything we do as a team is targeted toward that," said Warth, a former star runner at McQuaid and the University of Notre Dame. "This is a two-school race. There's not another school that would even come close as far as sectionals go."

More recently, the Knights won the May 2 Hornell Invitational and also scored a 113-27 home win over Aquinas Institute on April 29 to raise their dual meet record to 5-1.

Aquinas (1-2) picked up its lone dual win of the year on April 15, edging Bishop Kearney, 76-75.

Kearney (0-5) ran in two dual meets last week, losing 79-52 to Marshall on April 29 at McQuaid and falling 72-39 to host Eastridge the following day.

Meanwhile, Elmira Notre Dame (0-7) fell 101-33 at Corning West on April 28.

McQ goes for sweep

Many current Knights were also members of the cross-country and indoor track teams that won sectional crowns earlier in the school year. Should McQuaid do it again this spring, it will be only the second sectional trifecta in school history (the other was in 1979).

"That's a very big motivator for my team," said Warth, who is overseeing the program for one year while veteran Coach Bob Bradley (who also coaches cross-country and indoor track) takes the spring off.

Seniors Kris Weldon and Mike Keogh are excellent middle-distance runners, and senior Damon Wade stands out in the sprints. Among McQuaid's other top performers are juniors Les Bernard (200-meter run), Tim Kelley (800 and 1,600), Eric Garsin (800, 1,600) and Joe Tiffany (110 high hurdles and 400 intermediate hurdles); seniors Steve Wampler (pole vault, discus, shot put and long jump) and Steve Parrish (high jump), and sophomores Adam Reitz (1,600, 3,200) and Dan Lesser (1,600, 3,200).

Softball

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The winning run came when Pat Palmer delivered a bases-loaded single in the bottom of the seventh inning.

In lacrosse, McQuaid (2-7) scored a 15-5 rout over host Bloomfield on May 2 behind a six-goal performance by Bob Warren.

In boys' tennis, Aquinas (5-0) was a 3-0 winner over visiting East on May 1 in a match of unbeaten schools that was



Erik Kunkel/Photo Intern

Bishop Kearney's Richard Cannon placed first in the triple jump with a distance of 40 feet during an April 29 meet against Marshall at McQuaid Jesuit High School.

First-place finishers in the Hornell Invitational for McQ included Weldon in the 400 hurdles and Keogh in the 400 run, along with the 1,600 relay.

Growing pains at AQ

Several freshmen and sophomore dot the Aquinas lineup, so Coach Tom Nicolay doesn't expect this unit to peak until at least next season.

"We're about a year away," Nicolay commented.

Leading AQ athletes are seniors Rob Smart (100, 200) and Donnie Harris (100, 200), juniors Shawn Dillon (shot put), Sean Hartman (400, 800), Steve Kersner (1,600, 3,200) and Rick Deegan (pole vault); sophomores Gabe Bauza (hurdles), Joe Hayes (shot put, discus), Pat O'Toole (jumps), Mike Farabell (jumps) and Dan Hofford (3,200); and freshmen Jason Hasert (1,600, 3,200) and Brian Harris (hurdles).

Hayes (shot put), O'Toole (triple jump) and Bauza (110 hurdles) were all event winners in the dual meet against McQuaid.

Relay leads BK

BK Coach John Walker is high on the potential of his 400-meter relay team, which is most often formulated from the quintet of senior Mark Tytler, sophomores Sherrard Sloan and Richard Cannon, freshman Patrick Goode and eighth-grader Kevin Goode.

"We're going to surprise some people in that event," Walker predicted.

Tytler (hurdles and 400), Sloan (100, 200), Cannon (jumps), Patrick Goode (100, 200) and Kevin Goode (400) excel in individual events as well.

Other top Kings include seniors Paul Blandino (intermediate hurdles, 400), Mark Campanella (shot put, discus)

shortened because of rain.

The Mercy girls' track team got a first-place finish from its 1,600-meter relay squad at the His and Hers Invitational held May 2, at Canandaigua Academy. Relay members, which posted a time of 4:10.7, included Gabby LaMagna, Colleen O'Neill, Jenny Smith and Amy Martin.

In a Private-Parochial League girls' track meet on April 28 at Mercy, Kearney (2-1) was a 68-48 winner over Nazareth (0-3) as Deanna Hindman won the shot put and discus events.

and Paul DeSarra (800, 1,600, 3,200); juniors Nick Crossed (800, 1,600) and Jason Thomas (jumps), and sophomore Steve Geier (pole vault).

Blandino led BK in last week's meet against Marshall, capturing the 400 run and intermediate hurdles. He also ran on the winning 1,600 relay.

Speed is ND's strength

Of Notre Dame's 13 members, five specialize in sprinting events: senior Wah Elliot, junior Bob Cavalier, soph-

omore Eric Schelling and freshmen Mike Jeronimo and Dan Van Dine.

Completing the roster are seniors Damian Saks (shot put, discus) and John Maio (shot put, discus), juniors Adon Allen III (high jump), Mark Kosty (1,600, 3,200) and Chris Kamas (pentathlon); sophomores Scott Cyr (400, 800) and Mike Tedone (shot put, discus), and freshman Bill Gaidys (400 hurdles).

Allen (high jump) and Saks (discus) took first places against Corning West.

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