

# Soccer teams gunning to capture league titles

By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

It looks like the trophy shops are going to get a lot of business from soccer teams at Catholic high schools in the diocese.

Several boys' and girls' squads are still in the running for league championships. Their strong records would indicate that sectional crowns are also well within reach.

McQuaid Jesuit (3-0, 8-1) continues to pile up soccer wins. The Knights remained atop the City-Catholic League with a 6-0 rout of visiting Edison Tech on Sept. 30. Two days later, McQ went into overtime before knocking off host Honeoye Falls-Lima, 1-0, in a non-league contest.

Senior forward Marshall Goldman got the deciding goal against HF-L, scoring with just five minutes remaining in the second 10-minute overtime on an assist from Tony Porretta.

"We finally started to play to our potential," said Head Coach Dan Schied. "We dominated the second half and overtime."

The Aquinas Institute boys (3-1, 11-1) are also on a hot streak. The Little Irish ran their victory streak to seven games by winning 8-0 over visiting Marshall on Oct. 2 and 5-1 over host Bishop Kearney (2-7) the following day.

Leading AQ scorers in those games were Lin Douangtavilay, who scored twice against Marshall; and Tad Valentino, who netted a pair against Kearney.

Thus far this year, Aquinas' only loss was a 3-1 overtime decision to McQuaid on Sept. 14. The two clubs will clash again on Oct. 20 at Aquinas.

Our Lady of Mercy (2-0-1, 7-3-1) stayed unbeaten in Private-Parochial League girls' soccer action with a 6-1 home win over Kearney (0-3, 3-9) on Sept. 29. Melanie Heeder led the Monarchs with three goals.

The Aquinas girls (1-0-1, 6-1-1) did not play last week. The Little Irish will travel to Mercy on Oct. 8. The two teams battled to a scoreless tie on Sept. 17.

Nazareth Academy, meanwhile, has posted a 6-3-1 record against a schedule of non-league opponents. The Lasers won 3-2 over visiting Lima

Christian Academy on Sept. 20, as Corinne Strassner scored the game-winning goal.

In action down in the Southern Tier, the Elmira Notre Dame girls scored a major win by downing visiting Horseheads, 4-1, on Sept. 30. Christina Brunner and Lori Spaziani scored two goals each as the Crusaders (4-0-1, 10-0-2) vaulted past Horseheads into first place in the Sullivan Trail Conference.

The Notre Dame boys (1-3, 3-7) have been playing well, but can't seem to find the winning formula. The Crusaders lost in overtime to Southside on Sept. 24 and again in OT to Horseheads on Oct. 1.

In high school football action, Notre Dame (4-0) kept its record unblemished with a 34-0 non-league romp over visiting Olean on Oct. 2.

The Crusaders took a 7-0 halftime lead on Joel Stephens' 56-yard touchdown run in the first quarter. Stephens added a 61-yard TD gallop in the third period, and ND tacked on three more touchdowns to complete the rout.

Stephens finished with 165 yards on 16 carries to lead the Crusaders, who were ranked 24th in last week's state Class C poll.

Other football teams in the diocese found the going rough over the weekend.

McQuaid (1-1, 2-2) made an admirable effort in its City-Catholic League clash at East on Oct. 3. But the Knights' offense never got going as the undefeated Orientals came away with a 12-0 victory.

Aquinas (1-3) dropped its second consecutive game, a 34-14 non-league decision to host Vestal on Oct. 3.

Also on Oct. 3, Geneva DeSales (0-4) could not field enough players and had to forfeit its game to host Canistota. According to Head Coach Mark McCheyne, a rash of recent injuries reduced his number of available players to 12.

DeSales has an open date this weekend. McCheyne expects that the Saints will have enough healthy bodies to play their Oct. 17 home game against Red Jacket.

Bishop Kearney (0-3-1) was still looking for its first victory after suffering a 41-14 defeat at Midlakes on Oct. 2.



Two members of Mercy's cross-country team embrace after the Class A seeded race. The Monarchs finished ninth as a team at the annual Invitational.

Photos By  
S. John Wilkin

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September 9, 1992

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