

Second-half goals stymie Little Irish girls, 2-1

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

IRONDEQUOIT — Cardinal Mooney High School may no longer be open, but its spirit was certainly felt on the Bishop Kearney soccer field Saturday evening, Nov. 7.

That's where Aquinas Institute faced Webster in the Section 5 Class A girls' soccer finals. AQ featured several players whose older siblings had competed for some strong Mooney squads under Scott Morrison. Coincidentally, Morrison happens to be Webster's current head coach.

"I knew almost more Aquinas parents at the game than I did Webster parents," said Morrison, who took over the Webster program after Mooney closed in 1989. He also taught at Aquinas during the 1989-90 school year.

In an extremely well-played contest despite a slippery, frost-covered field, Webster scored two second-half goals in less than three minutes to overcome the Little Irish for a 2-1 victory.

The loss for Aquinas marked its second straight one-goal defeat in a sectional final. Last year, in the Class BB championship game, the Little Irish were edged 4-3 in overtime by Brighton.

Aquinas finished its 1992 season with a 13-2-1 record. The Little Irish won the Private-Parochial League championship and went on to outlast their league foe, Our Lady of Mercy, by a 1-0 count in an overtime shootout during sectional semifinal action on Nov. 3 at Brockport High.

In the Class A championship game,



Babette G. Augustin/Photo editor

Alicia Burton of Aquinas Institute passes to a teammates during the Little Irish's 2-1 loss to Webster in the Section 5 Class A final at Bishop Kearney High School Nov. 7. Burton scored the game's first goal.

second-seeded Aquinas overwhelmed No. 5 Webster throughout most of the first half. The constant pressure led to the game's first goal, when, with 27:35 remaining, AQ senior midfielder Alicia Burton tucked a rebound past Warrior goalie Kerstin Babbitt.

Webster notched the equalizer with 33:48 left in the second half, when Warrior defender Jessica Milne launched a shot through a crowd that flew past AQ netminder Mary Beth Bell.

Just 2:31 later, another Webster defender, Michelle Urbanski, poked a slow-rolling shot as she was falling down. The ball trickled by Bell for what proved to be the winning goal.

Despite the loss to Webster, Page is proud of his team's performance over the past couple of seasons.

"We were 30-5-3 in two years, and that's pretty good. Now we're graduating eight seniors; we're going to miss them for a long time," Page acknowledged.

In the semifinal win over No. 3 Mercy (12-6-2), the Little Irish outscored the Monarchs 4-2 during the five-player shootout behind goals from Michelle Khuns, Ariana Martinez, Tricia DiQuattro and Lindsay Hopkins. Mercy's scorers were Mimi LaMagna and Melanie Heeder.

Mercy's Halligan swims to sectional MVP honors

In a busy weekend of Section 5 action, the Our Lady of Mercy swimmers turned in some championship performances.

Meanwhile, Mercy was eliminated from last week's sectional volleyball semifinals — as were the Aquinas Institute girls and McQuaid Jesuit boys.

Mercy's Maureen Halligan was named outstanding swimmer of the Section 5 Class B meet, held Friday, Nov. 6, at the University of Rochester. She captured two events: the 50-yard

freestyle and the 100 free.

Also winning individual titles for the Monarchs were Nicole Piersa, who took the 200 free; and Katie St. Martin, who won the 100 butterfly.

In girls' volleyball, chances of an AQ-Mercy final went out the window during Section 5 Class BB semifinal action at Edison Tech on Nov. 3.

Sixth-seeded Canandaigua upset No. 2 Aquinas by scores of 15-1, 10-15, 15-11 and 15-9; and top-seeded Victor

defeated Mercy, the No. 4 seed, 15-11, 15-5, 6-15 and 15-4.

AQ finished its season with a 16-5 record, while Mercy ended at 15-8.

McQuaid was knocked out of the Section 5 boys' volleyball semis on Nov. 7 at Edison.

Top-seeded Webster swept the Knights, seeded No. 4 in Class A, by scores of 15-8, 15-10, 16-14. McQ's final record was 15-7.

— Mike Latona

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