

# Aquinas' thrilling season ends in state semis

## L'il Irish thwarted by sudden-death goal, finish 20-2

By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

In some respects, Aquinas Institute's inexperience in state boys' soccer playoff games really showed.

First, the team had scheduled its season-ending banquet five days before the last game was actually played.

In addition, AQ Coach Gary LaPietra had not looked far enough ahead to know the dates and sites for any of his state games.

"I just kept going wherever they told me to," admitted LaPietra. "At the beginning of the year we decided we wanted to be sectional champs, but we had never even thought about the states."

However, one area that the Little Irish looked as if they were proven veterans was in their style of play at the state level. It took a sudden-death goal in the tournament's Class B semifinal game to finally end AQ's most



S. John Wilkin/Photo Intern  
Oliver Eisenhart of Aquinas (right) and East Syracuse-Minoa's Chris Helsel battle for control of the ball in the state Class B semifinal game at Oneonta's Wright field Nov. 20. The Little Irish lost to the Spartans, 1-0, in sudden-death overtime.

successful soccer season in school history.

The 1-0 loss to East Syracuse-Minoa, in a game played last Friday, Nov. 20, broke the Little Irish's 16-game winning streak. The match was played at Oneonta's Wright Field, site of the National Soccer Hall of Fame.

Aquinas' final 1992 record was 20-2. The club's road to the state Final Four began with a 1-0 victory over Pittsford Sutherland in the Section 5 Class BB championship game. That was followed by a 4-1 decision over Honeoye Falls-Lima in the regional Class BB and B qualifier, and a 2-1 overtime win over Lewiston-Porter of Section 6 (Buffalo area) in the state quarterfinals.

In the game against East Syracuse-Minoa of Section 3 (Syracuse area), both schools were victimized by a snowy, slippery field which limited both teams' scoring opportunities — only 14 shots on goal were taken in the game, with Aquinas holding a 9-5 edge.

Because AQ's game is built on fitness, LaPietra believed that the poor surface worked heavily against his team.

"Nobody had a really great game because of the conditions. Our game is  
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# Knights settle for fifth-place showing at Federation run

By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

Quite literally, this was a team that got lost in the crowd.

One week after winning the state public school championship, the McQuaid Jesuit cross-country team was hoping to cap its tremendous 1992 season with a victory in the state Federation Meet.

Due to a human traffic jam as the race began, however, McQuaid had to settle for a fifth-place finish. The meet was held Saturday, Nov. 21, at Bowdoin Park in Wappingers Falls, near Poughkeepsie.

According to Knights' Coach Bob Bradley, his squad's problems started almost immediately. Approximately 250 runners lined up at the starting line, and then became bunched together as the course quickly nar-

rowed.

While jockeying for position, Knight junior Adam Reitz tripped and fell. Although Reitz quickly recovered and completed the race, Bradley felt the incident was a big setback because of the race's highly competitive field.

"We knew we had to get out well. When you've got that much talent in a meet, you can't give the other teams anything," Bradley remarked.

McQuaid ended up with 177 team points. St. Anthony's of Long Island placed first with 99 points, while the remaining top-five schools were closely grouped. The Knights finished 22 points out of second place and only four points out of third.

"It was kind of disappointing. We thought we had a crack at winning it," said Bradley, whose team entered the Federation Meet ranked No. 1 in the state while St. Anthony's was ranked

second. It was the first meeting between the two teams this season.

"St. Anthony's won convincingly, but on another day I felt we could have run with them," Bradley added.

Senior Eric Garsin closed out his McQuaid career as the Knights' top finisher on Saturday. He completed the 5,000-meter course with a 15th-place time of 16 minutes, 57 seconds.

Rounding out McQuaid's top five were: junior Dan Lesser, 20th place, 17:05; Reitz, 30th, 17:21; senior Tim Kelley, 35th, 17:24; and senior Matt Bunce, 77th, 18:02.

A week before the Federation Meet, McQuaid had captured the New York state Public High School Athletic Association Class A title at Long Island's Sunken Meadow State Park. The win marked the school's second-ever state championship in cross-country, with the other coming in 1984. The Knights

were also this year's Section 5 Class A champs.

Although McQuaid is finished for the year as a team, three members — Reitz, Lesser and Kelley — will be a part of some high-level individual competition when they run in the Kinney Northeast Regional meet this Saturday, Nov. 28. The race will be held at Van Cortlandt Park in New York City, with the top-eight boys and girls advancing from this competition to the Kinney Nationals on Dec. 12 in San Diego, Calif.

Bradley said that big finishes are not the chief intent for bringing his Knight trio to the Kinney race. "I want Adam (Reitz) and Dan (Lesser) to gain some experience in case they run in this again next year, and I'm bringing Tim (Kelley) because he likes the course," Bradley explained.

# Halligan places 14th at state meet

Our Lady of Mercy swimmer Maureen Halligan ended her strong 1992 season with a pair of 14th-place finishes at the state championships last Saturday, Nov. 21. The meet was held at Nottingham High School in Syracuse.

Halligan took 14th in the 50-yard freestyle, posting a time of 25.78 seconds. She also ended up 14th in the 100 freestyle, with a time of :56.20.

Halligan was part of an extremely strong contingent representing Section 5 at the meet. In sectional team scor-

ing, Section 5 compiled a first-place total of 588 points — more than twice the amount of runner-up Section 2, which had 289.

Two weekends prior to states, Halligan was named the Section 5 Class B championship meet's outstanding swimmer. She placed first in the same two events — the 50 and 100 free — and broke school records in those events as well. Her efforts helped Mercy to a fourth-place finish among 13 teams.

# Proceeds from LPGA tourney total \$281,435

PITTSFORD — Proceeds from the 1992 Rochester International LPGA golf tournament totaled \$281,435, according to a recent announcement by tournament chairman Michael Stoudt.

The money will be distributed in equal portions of \$140,717.50 to two Monroe County-based charities for disabled children: Camp Haccamo in Penfield, and Sunshine Camp in Rush.

Over the last 16 years, the Rochester International has raised more than \$2.7 million for the camps. The tournament is held annually at Locust Hill Country Club, 2000 Jefferson Road.

The 1993 International is scheduled for June 14-20. Defending champion is Patty Sheehan, who shot a record four-round total of 269 in 1992 for her third career title at Locust Hill.

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