

Past trends reversed in basketball openers

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

For better or worse, this season is shaping up to be anything but a carbon copy of 1991-92 for boys' basketball teams at Catholic high schools in the diocese.

Geneva DeSales is off to an 0-2 start after tying for the Finger Lakes West championship last year and finishing with a 14-5 record. The Saints were dealt a pair of defeats in their own season-opening tournament: 47-36 to Harley Allendale-Columbia on Nov. 27, and 59-32 to East Rochester on Nov. 28.

On the positive side, two City-Catholic League squads appear to be significantly improved.

Aquinas Institute, which struggled to a 1-20 finish in 1991-92, opened up with an impressive 66-55 win over Pittsford Mendon in the Victor Tournament's opening round on Nov. 27. The Little Irish then lost to Honeoye Falls-Lima in the title contest, 52-47, on Nov. 28.

McQuaid Jesuit was dominant in its season opener on Nov. 28, dishing out an 87-47 defeat to visiting Bishop Walsh of Olean. The Knights are coming off a 10-12 finish in 1991-92 after they won the 1990-91 Section 5 Class A championship.

Meanwhile, Bishop Kearney and Elmira Notre Dame begin play this week. BK, which went 12-10 last season, participates in the Waterloo Tournament on Dec. 4-5; and Notre Dame, which finished with an 11-12

mark after reaching the Section 4 Class C final a year ago, hosts Greene on Dec. 3.

DeSales' four returners with varsity experience are senior guard/forward Todd Hardy, who scored in double figures in all but two games last season; senior guards Mike Broomfield and Todd Lush, and junior center Josh Kiley.

Also seeing significant playing time thus far are sophomore guard/forward Jayson Lamson, junior forward James Stoops (a transfer from Newark) and junior guard Ron Lawson.

Completing the roster are junior guard David Cox and sophomore forward/center Robert Rose.

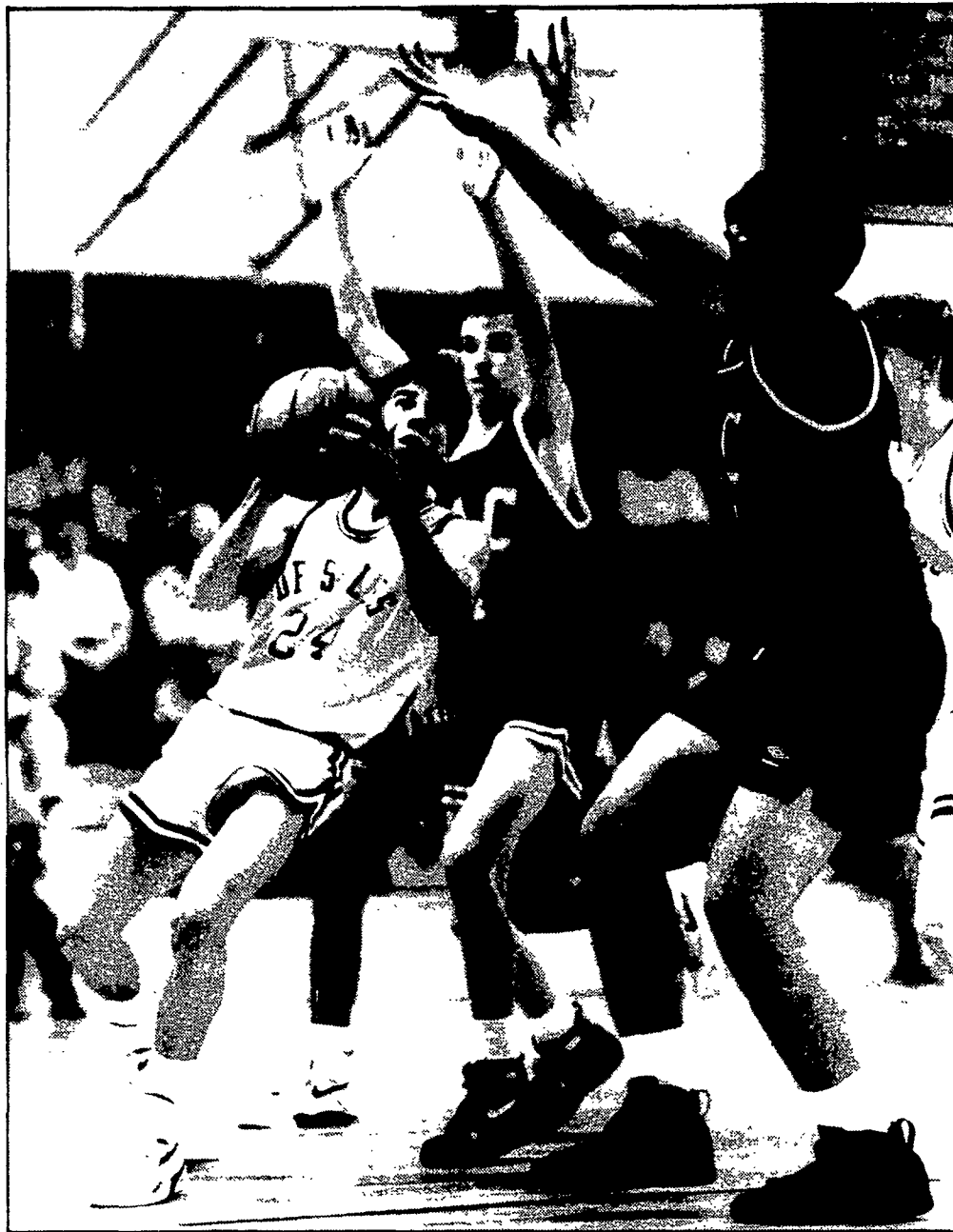
Lamson was the Saints' high scorer against Harley Allendale-Columbia with 15 points, and Broomfield led DeSales in the East Rochester loss with 11.

"We've got a long way to go yet; maybe things will work out. We can't get discouraged about what's happened," said Coach Tony Alvaro, in his 10th season at DeSales after spending 27 years at Romulus. "We just need to be a little more confident."

By defeating Mendon in its first game, Aquinas tied its entire victory total from last season.

"It was a big win for us — long overdue," said seventh-year Coach Mike Dianetti. "We're not even bringing up what happened last year. Now we're just taking everything one game

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Geneva DeSales junior Ronald Lawson dribbles his way through the Harley Allendale-Columbia defense on his way to the basket in a game at DeSales High School Nov. 27. In their season-opening tournament, the host Saints lost to HAC 47-36 and fell to East Rochester 59-32 on Nov. 28. The Saints' next game is scheduled for Dec. 4 at Honeoye.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION Saturday, December 12, 1992, 8:30a.m.

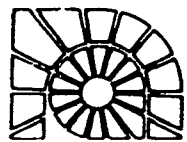


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