Hoop victories pile up at East Ave. colleges

By Mike Latona Staff writer

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PITTSFORD — There's a winning feeling all the way up and down East Avenue, thanks to the 1992-93 men's and women's basketball squads at St. John Fisher and Nazareth colleges.

The teams have posted a combined mark of 50-23, with all four above .500.

St. John Fisher's men concluded last week with a 14-3 record after winning 79-66 over host Keuka College on Thursday, Feb. 4. Two days earlier, the Cardinals lost 79-63 at Elmira College.

The Fisher women gained two road wins last week in boosting their record to 16-3: 76-61 over Elmira on Feb. 2 and 83-65 over Keuka on Feb. 4.

Nazareth's men lost 84-53 at SUNY College at Fredonia on Feb. 2, but bounced back for a 82-73 home win over Union College on Feb. 6. The Union victory improved the Golden Flyers' record to 11-9.

The Nazareth women, meanwhile, enjoyed a double-victory week at home: 74-72 over Roberts Wesleyan College on Feb. 2 and 72-40 over Utica College on Feb. 4.

Buoyed by several former high school stars from Section 5, the St. John Fisher men are putting together a strong bid for an NCAA Division III tournament berth next month.

Chris Sullivan, a junior forward from Avoca, is the team's leading scorer with 19.6 points per game. Close behind him is Lyons product Dean Schott, a senior guard, at 17.6 PPG; and Adam Moore; a junior forward from Hoosick Falls, N.Y., at 16.6 PPG.

Two graduates of diocesan high schools also dot Coach Bob Ward's roster. Sean Trapp, a graduate of the former Cardinal Mooney High, is a senior guard averaging 5.5 PPG. Kevin Brown, a junior guard from McQuaid Jesuit, holds a 2.1 PPG average.

Schott scored 24 points in the Feb. 4 victory over Keuka, while Sullivan and Moore had 18 each.

The Fisher ladies, under veteran Coach Phil Kahler, are looking for their eighth consecutive trip to the NCAA playoffs. Both the Lady Cards, and their male counterparts, were ranked No. 2 in the region in last week's New York State Coaches Association poll.

Any future success, however, must be attained without the services of Fisher's leading scorer, Becky Armstrong. The senior guard from Middletown averaged a team-high 17.7 PPG last year and was scoring 13 PPG in 1992-93 before suffering a seasonending knee injury in December.

Taking up the scoring void are senior center Paula Keith, a Naples native, with a 12.3 PPG average; and sophomore forward Erika Fryer, a Bellbrook, Ohio product, at 12.2 PPG.

Keith was her team's leading scorer in both wins last week, collecting 18 points against Elmira and 22 against Keuka.

Kahler, in his 19th season, is NCAA Division III's all-time leader in wins. He owned a 445-80 record entering this season.

Mike McGwin, a senior from Cardinal Mooney, has truly blossomed this season for the Nazareth Golden Flyers after finishing with 13.8 PPG as a junior.

The 6-foot-10-inch center was averaging 18.2 PPG through last week, along with 7.4 rebounds per game. McGwin went over the career 1,000-point mark in late January.

Another talented offensive player is junior guard-forward Bill Slape from Camillus, N.Y., with 16.2 PPG.

Also playing for Coach Mike Daley is Kevin Pawlak, a graduate of Bishop Kearney. The sophomore guard-forward has posted a 2.7 PPG average.

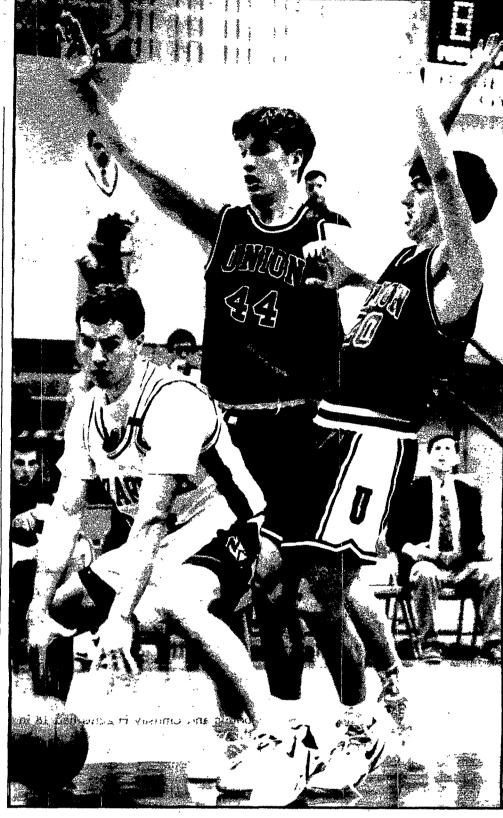
Slape led Nazareth in the victory over Union with 18 points, and McGwin contributed 14 in that game while Pawlak finished with eight.

Balance is the key for the Nazarethwomen, who feature five players averaging between 7.9 and 9.9 PPG.

Junior forward Nikki Penoyer, a Manlius, N.Y., native, has been the Golden Flyers' leading offensive threat. She was averaging 9.9 PPG through last week.

The only Golden Flyer with diocesan high school roots, senior guard Kathy Lynch, is done for the season. Lynch, an Elmira Notre Dame graduate, owned a 6.6 PPG average and was leading the club in steals when a knee injury last month brought a sudden end to her collegiate career.

Freshman guard-forward Ann Donnelly, from Otego, N.Y., fired in 25 points in Nazareth's Feb. 2 victory over Roberts Wesleyan. Sophomore guard-forward Diane Kelley, a Churchville native, led Coach Mike Decillis' squad against Utica with 14 points.



S.John Wilkin /Photo intern Nazareth College's Steve Ghezzi (left) attempts to drive around Bill Callahan (center) and Steve Evans of Union College during the Golden Flyers' 82-73 win over the visiting Dutchmen Feb. 6.

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Marty Reasoner totaled three goals and one assist against Fairport, and he added a three-goal, four-assist effort against Brockport. Sean Ritchlin also scored three goals in the Brockport win.

The Aquinas boys' swim squad received double-victory performances from Jeff Conte (200- and 500-yard freestyles) and Mike McNelis (200 individual medley, 100 breaststroke) during its pivotal Feb. 4 meet at Wilson. Despite those performances, however, AQ suffered a 47-39 team loss against the Wildcats. The Irish (5-3, 7-4-1) needed a win to tie Wilson for the City-Catholic League championship.

McQuaid (7-4) closed out its regular season in boys' swimming with two triumphs: 48-28 over host East on Feb. 2

and 46-24 over host Edison Tech on Feb. 4.

In boys' indoor track, McQuaid picked up three first-place finishes in the Section 10 Invitational, held Feb. 6 at St. Lawrence University. Joe Tiffany set a meet record of 7.9 seconds in winning the 55-meter hurdles, and the 1,600 and 3,200 relays were also triumphant.

The AQ boys' bowling team earned a 3-0 win over Wilson on Feb. 2 as Paul Wilson rolled games of 209 and 206.

In wrestling, Elmira Notre Dame (8-4) won 41-16 over host Hammondsport on Feb. 2 and 42-27 over visiting Groton on Feb. 5. The Crusaders' Brett Owen recorded a pin in each meet.

The McQuaid wrestling squad (5-4-1) won 45-18 over visiting Water-loo on Feb. 6 behind pins from Adam Lehmann and John Pernaselli.

Nazareth College appoints new women's soccer coach

PTITSFORD — Gail Mann, a former assistant women's soccer coach at the State University of New York College at Brockport, has been appointed to the head women's soccer post at Nazareth College, 4245 East Ave.

The 27-year-old Mann replaces Charles Salamone, who recently resigned after two seasons.

Mann is a former three-sport star at Spencerport High School. She went on to play soccer at SUNY College at Cortland, where she helped the Red Dragons reach the Final Four of the 1986 NCAA Division III tournament. Her coaching stint at Brockport State lasted five seasons.

In addition to her new role at Nazareth College, Mann is a health and physical education instructor for grades 4-8 at Seton Catholic Intermediate and Junior High Schools, 165 Rhinecliff Drive, Rochester.

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