

Knights work overtime to win title

McQ takes home sectional trophy

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

GENEVA — It was Midnight Madness at Hobart College, with an extra hour thrown in for good measure.

Not until 1 a.m. could a tired, yet excited, McQuaid Jesuit indoor track team finally rejoice in its Section 5 Class A championship.

The meet began on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 19, and lasted more than eight hours. Competition didn't conclude until about 12:30 a.m., and McQuaid was then forced to wait another 30 minutes while the final point totals were tabulated.

However, said Coach Dave Warth, each team member stuck around to celebrate.

"They were all there. Twenty-three guys took a victory lap with the trophy," Warth remarked.

Six first-place finishes carried the Knights to a title which they had last won in 1992. McQ accumulated 114 points to beat out defending champion Fairport, which collected 106 points. Twelve teams competed in the meet.

Event winners for the Knights were Greg Schlachter, who leaped 12 feet, 6 inches to take the pole vault; Dan Lesser, who ran the 3,200 meters in a time of 9:52.8; Shawn Watts, who took the 600 in 1:23.6; Adam Reitz, who won the 1,600 in 4:27.9; Brian Kubiak, who high-jumped 6 feet, 1 inch; and the 3,200 relay quartet of Lesser, Jim Barnum, Reitz and Watts, which turned in a time of 8:15.6.

Warth pointed to the high jump, which came midway through the meet, as the evening's turning point. Fairport had no entrants in that event, while McQuaid placed first, third and fifth to earn 17 points.

"That totally changed the complexion of the meet," said Warth.

The McQuaid coach added that the big point-swing gave some crucial momentum to his entire team. "We started out slowly. But when something like that



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

McQuaid Jesuit's Dan Lesser (right) takes the lead early in the 3,200-meter Section 5 Class A championship race at Hobart College Feb. 19. Lesser won the event with a time of 9:52.8.

occurs, I honestly feel that there's a feeling that goes through the athletes — that they can sense what's happening."

Several McQuaid athletes will now compete in the sectional state-qualifier meet this coming Saturday, Feb. 26. That competition will be held again at Hobart.

Aquinas Institute, meanwhile, competed in the Class B sectionals at Hobart on Feb. 19. The Little Irish earned a fourth-place finish out of 13 teams.

Leading the Little Irish was Joe Hayes,

who successfully defended his shot put championship with a throw of 48 feet, 10 inches — the best toss in Section 5 this season.

Other Aquinas notables were Gabe Bauza, who took second in the 55 hurdles; and Shola Owodunni, who finished second in the girls' 55 hurdles.

For Bishop Kearney, Tobias Zahlman led the Kings at the Section 5 Class B meet with a second-place finish in the boys' 1,000-meter run.



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer
Aquinas Institute's Joe Hayes defended his title with a throw of 48 feet, 10 inches in the Class B shot-put championships.

ND settles for third place at sectionals

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

As usual, the Elmira Notre Dame wrestlers staged an excellent showing at the Section 4 Class D championships.

Yet the Crusaders did not perform quite well enough to capture their third straight title. ND walked away with a third-place finish at the 11-team meet, which was held Feb. 19 at Harpursville High School.

ND finished with 133 1/2 points, while Deposit took top honors with 164.

"Deposit was probably the team to beat going in. I told our kids we'd need some upsets, but Deposit had a great tournament," Coach Steve Weber commented.

Notre Dame didn't do so bad, either. Nine Crusaders earned top-four honors and thus qualified for the Super Sec-

tional state-qualifier meet this weekend.

Dan Wilson took first place at 167 pounds, pinning Edison's Pete Mastrononio 1:22 into the finals. Wilson will be the No. 2 seed at Super Sectionals, which comprise all four sectional classifications.

Wilson's brother, Kevin, took first place at 138 by decisioning Edison's Jeremy Hooey, 6-2, in the finals. Other top-four finishers for ND included Alex Jordan, second place at 119 pounds; Paul Tuite, third, 112; Ben Saks, third, 177; Howard Hodder, third, 215; Chris Jordan, fourth, 98; Pat O'Kane, fourth, 145; and Eric Byland, fourth, 250.

More sports results

McQuaid Jesuit placed ninth among 19 teams in the Section 5 Class A wrestling meet on Feb. 18-19 at Fairport High School. Four Knights advanced to

Fifth-grader advances to Hawaii competition

ROCHESTER — Some people win trips to Hawaii by entering raffles or appearing on game shows. Brian O'Dell, on the other hand, used a strong arm and leg to gain some fun in the sun.

Brian, a fifth-grader at St. John the Evangelist School, 150 Floverton St., recently earned his way into the National Football League's Punt, Pass and Kick finals.

Brian began his journey to the finals by capturing two preliminary competitions locally. He then qualified for the championship round with a winning performance at Rich Stadium in Buffalo.

The finals were held at the Pro Bowl on Feb. 6 in Hawaii. Brian ended up in third place in the 10-year-old division.

Two clinics offered at St. John Fisher College

PITTSFORD — St. John Fisher College, 3690 East Ave., has scheduled two upcoming clinics, one for softball players and another for football coaches.

The softball clinic is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 26 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Girls ages 10-17 may take part in the clinic, which will be held in two sessions: 9:30-11:30 a.m. for pitching and catching skills, and noon-4 p.m. for hitting and defensive skills. The fee is \$20 per person. For details, call Adrienne Cali at 716/385-8309.

The football clinic will take place on Friday, March 4, and Saturday, March 5. To obtain information and/or a brochure, call 716/385-8000 or 624-5555.

Team's goal is service

HENRIETTA — The Rush-Henrietta Catholic Youth Organization high school basketball team, representing Good Shepherd Church, did not limit its efforts to the gymnasium this past season.

Early in the season, the team offered its time to work on a landscape project at the church rectory. The CYO squad also donated money at both Thanksgiving and Christmas, and assisted with an intramural basketball league at Good Shepherd.

On the court, the team recently completed its 1993-94 campaign with a 6-5 record.

the Super Sectionals: John Zicari, third place at 138 pounds; Jamie Fishgold, third, 215; Adam Lehmann, fourth, 167; and Erik Mack-Davis, fourth, 177.

In boys' swimming, McQuaid's Doug Kazley was named the meet's outstanding performer during the City-Catholic League championships, held Feb. 16 at East High School. Kazley won the 50-yard freestyle and 100 free events, and he competed on the winning 200 free relay which also included Andy Stirling, Chris Stirling and Bryan Kazley. Chris Stirling added victories in the 200 and 500 free, and Aquinas Institute's Steve Martini placed first in the 100 butterfly.

In boys' bowling, McQuaid won the City-Catholic League championship with a 25-8 record. The Knights' Brad Tucker recorded the league's high two-game series with a 463 total.