

Soccer teams look to extend 1993 success

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

His team had just endured a difficult 2-1 overtime loss to Pittsford Sutherland in the McQuaid Tournament's title game. Yet Knights' Coach Dan Schied was almost as elated as if his Knights had won.

"We had a great game, one of the most exciting games I've ever been involved with," Schied exulted. "The kids have shown the ability to realize that at no point is the game over."

Schied was referring to the second half of the Saturday, Sept. 3 contest, when junior forward Sean Crowley scored just five seconds after Sutherland's Brian Cosentino had registered the first of his two goals. One day earlier, the Knights had won 6-0 over Canisius Catholic in opening-round action.

The Knights are hoping that their resiliency will lead to another season such as in 1993, when McQ tied Aquinas for the City-Catholic League championship, reached the Section 5 Class A finals and finished with a 15-4-3 record.

Aquinas, meanwhile, posted an 11-6-1 record last year after winning the Section 5 Class BB title in 1992. The Little Irish opened their 1994 campaign with a 1-0 loss at Webster on Sept. 2.

Bishop Kearney hopes for another good run in the Finger Lakes East. As first-year members of that league last year, the Kings tied for second place and finished with a 10-7-1 overall mark. They were scheduled to open their 1994 season on Sept. 6 against Aquinas.

In the Southern Tier, Elmira Notre Dame is back at the varsity level after a one-year hiatus. It's been a triumphant return thus far, with the Crusaders capturing last weekend's Livonia Tournament. ND won 4-2 over Greenwood on Sept. 2 and 3-1 over Canaseraga the following day.

Knights rely on depth

Schied carries 24 players on the McQuaid varsity and is already going 18-deep with that roster.

Senior varsity veterans include goalie Adam Lehmann; forwards Greg Stevens, Pat Holden and Robert DiPrima; midfielder Austin Miller; and defenders Peter Merkel, Robert Penty and Vince Marcello (who also plays at midfield).

Other varsity veterans include junior goalie/defender Ken Perelli; junior midfielders Christian Garofalo, Kris Shields and Ryan Mooney; and sophomore defender Talisin Burton.

New talent at AQ

Despite only one returning starter, Aquinas Coach Gary LaPietra is optimistic about his program's future.

"This team is going to be pretty good," said LaPietra. "We also had a

great turnout — there were 26 freshmen. We've never had these kinds of numbers before."

Key Little Irish players are goalie John DiBattisto; junior sweeper Shane Kavanagh; senior defender Nick Valentino; senior midfielder Jason Weidert; senior forward/midfielder Mike O'Toole; junior midfielder Kevin Callahan; junior midfielder/defender Mike Marques; junior forward Kevin Cleary and junior defender Randy Thomas.

BK expects winning year

Although Bishop Kearney is also breaking in several newcomers, Coach Kevin Delehanty feels good about the upcoming season.

"It might take a few games for us to work together, but I think we will win the majority of our games," commented Delehanty, a former BK player who graduated in 1985.

Seniors Pete Kinsella and Chris Gilbert lead the front line, while midfield is handled by seniors Marc Ritter and Jacob Youngman as well as juniors Jaeson Rene and Mike DiGregorio. Ritter is an exchange student from Germany, and Rene is a McQuaid transfer.

Key defensive players are senior Jeff Smith and juniors Joel Zaleski, Jason Mersdorf and Terry Schmitz. Junior Bill Gruhn will play goalie.

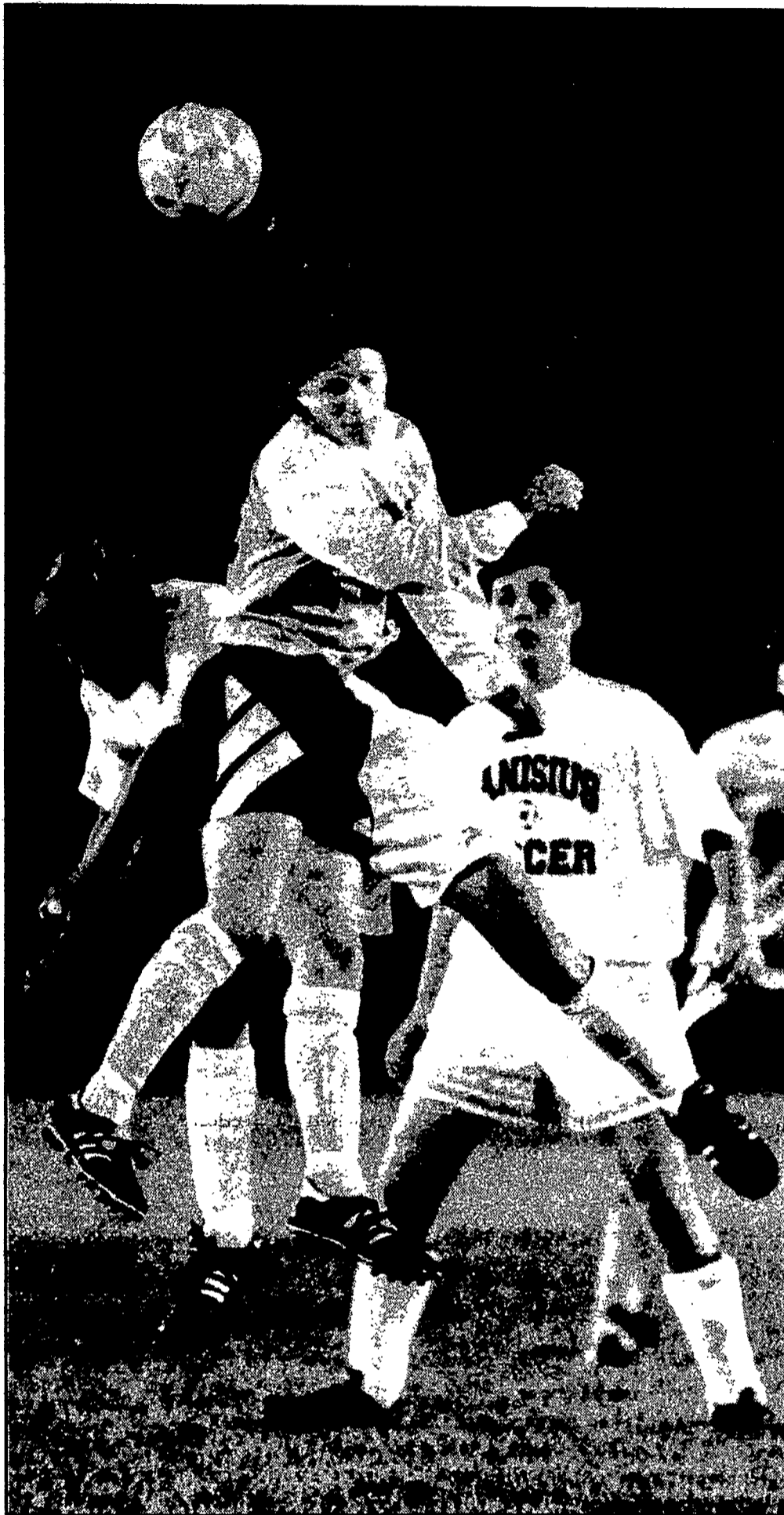
ND spreads it around

Although Elmira Notre Dame has a lively offense, the Crusaders probably won't feature any individual league leaders in the Sullivan Trail Conference: seven different players scored the Crusaders' seven goals at Livonia.

"I'm really happy with the fact that there's no one scorer we're relying on," said Chris Kamas, who will guide ND's varsity after coaching the JVs last year.

Top forwards are sophomores Neil Adamus and Rob Hurley, with midfield positions being filled by sophomore Chris Steed and seniors Nathan Adamus and Ben Cummins. Freshman Greg Cummins is a midfielder/forward, and sophomore Marty Wujastyk is a midfielder/defender.

Also on defense are juniors Peter Kamas, Pat Batterson and David Ayers; and sophomore Chris Jordan. Sophomore Justin Seeley is the starting goalie.



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

McQuaid Jesuit's Austin Miller has a mid-air collision with a Canisius Catholic player as Miller heads the ball during the McQuaid Tournament's opening round Sept. 2. After shutting out Canisius 6-0, the Knights lost 2-1 in overtime to Pittsford Sutherland in the title game Sept. 3.

Special Olympics to hold banquet for volunteers

ROCHESTER — The eighth-annual Monroe County Special Olympics Volunteer Recognition Dinner is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 9, at 6 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 125 E. Main St.

This banquet will honor volunteers,

community businesses and organizations that have supported Monroe County Special Olympics during 1994.





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