

SPORTS FEATURE

McQuaid grad stars for Nazareth College

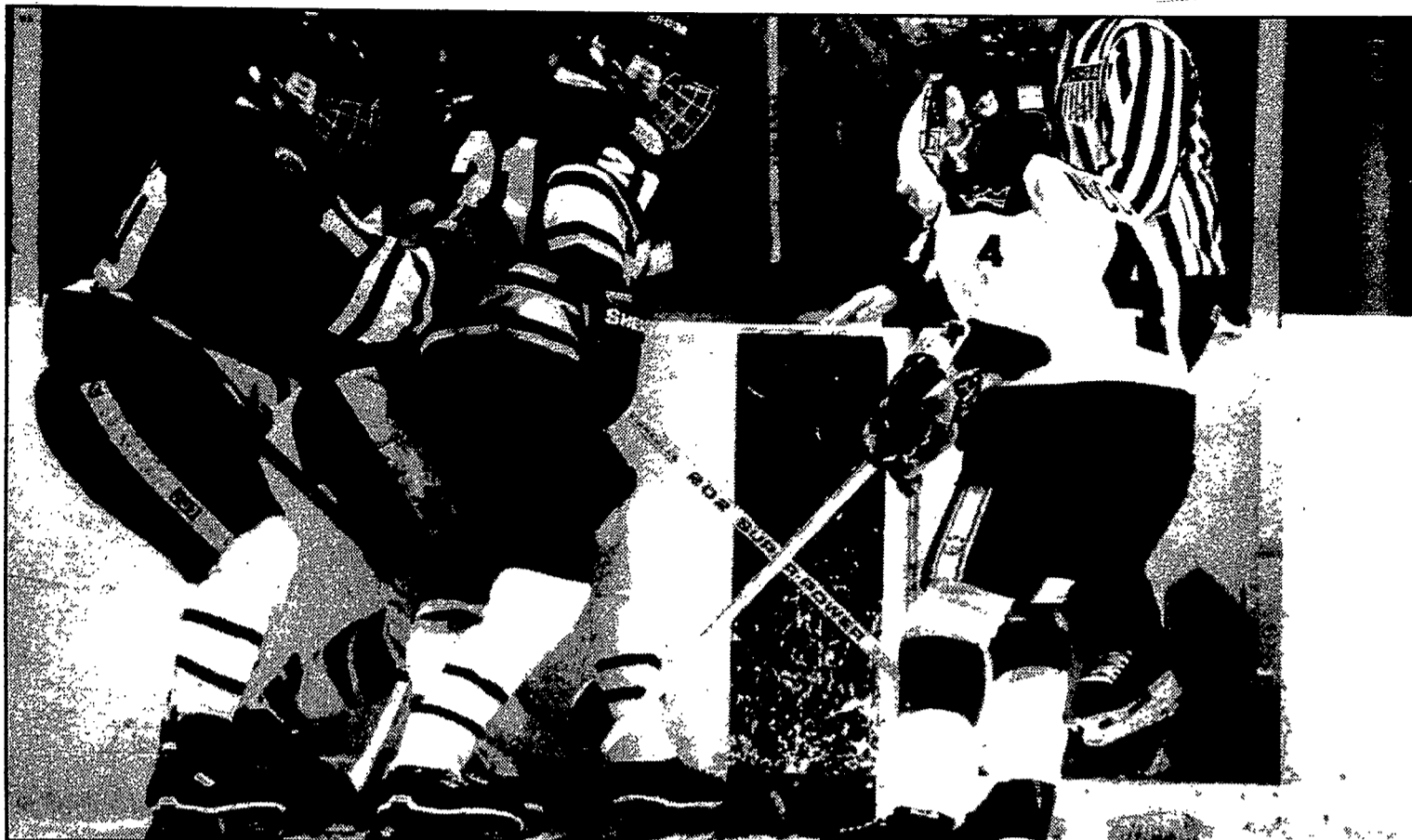
Chris Pegan, a McQuaid Jesuit High School graduate, is making a stunningly quick transition from high school to college basketball.

Pegan, who averaged less than three points per game last season as a backup center with McQuaid, has already blossomed into a key player for the Nazareth College varsity.

The 6-foot-7-inch freshman recently earned ECAC Upstate Rookie of the Week honors after he scored a combined 37 points in the Rochester Classic held at the Rochester Community War Memorial.

Pegan collected 18 points in a 69-50 first-round victory over Clarkson University on Dec. 2. He then added 19 during a 70-66 loss to St. John Fisher College in the Dec. 3 title contest. For the weekend, Pegan went 15-for-22 from the field and 7-for-7 from the foul line.

This year marked the 32nd and final edition of the Rochester Classic for tournament director and Rochester basketball legend Les Harrison.



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

(From left) Nick Berno and Mike Angeline of McQuaid Jesuit High School fight for control of the puck with Bishop Kearney's Justin Nucci during a Dec. 7 game at Rochester's Genesee Valley Ice Arena. The Knights defeated the Kings, 5-1.

Knights notch pair of hockey triumphs

McQuaid Jesuit didn't win all of its games last week, but Coach Al Vyverberg was feeling grateful rather than greedy after the Knights went 2-for-3.

"We'll take it, especially being as young as we are," said Vyverberg following his Knights' 4-2 hockey victory over Fairport on Saturday, Dec. 10, at Genesee Valley Ice Arena.

The Fairport win followed a 5-1 triumph over Bishop Kearney on Dec. 7 at Genesee Valley and a 7-3 loss to Pittsford on Dec. 8 at Lakeshore Rinks. McQuaid ended the week with a 3-2 record.

Although the Knights registered a four-goal decision over Kearney, the

matchup between these two Catholic high schools was tight most of the way. McQ led 1-0 after one period on a goal by Justin Lukaszonas, and Shawn Fowler made it 2-0 in the second period before BK's Rick Dobosz scored the Kings' only goal. The Knights finally pulled away in the final stanza as Tim Dever, Nick Berno and Kyle Hanford all scored.

Vyverberg praised Kearney goaltender Chris Ashton, who made 26 saves. "Ashton played great, or the score could have been worse," Vyverberg commented.

In the Fairport win, Hanford and Berno collected goals while Nate Lukaszonas and Mike Wiedemer also scored.

Kearney (1-5) followed the McQuaid game by losing 9-0 to Rush-Henrietta on Dec. 8 at Lakeshore and 4-2 to Spencerport on Dec. 10 at Genesee Valley. Charlie Nersinger scored both BK goals against Spencerport.

Aquinas Institute, meanwhile, played Brockport to a 3-3 tie on Dec. 10 at Brockport State. Goalie Mark Gugliuzza turned in a 23-save performance against the Blue Devils, who had entered the game with a 4-0 record. Also last week, the Little Irish (1-2-1) lost 4-3 to Fairport on Dec. 6 at Thomas Creek Ice Arena.

- Mike Latona

Wrestling

Continued from page 10

Saturday, Dec. 9. Their efforts helped the Knights to finish sixth among 12 teams.

Yet McQuaid's greatest success story may be built around Damian, who finished with a 3-17 record a year ago but has already begun the new season with a 5-1 mark. Teike also noted that four of Damian's six opponents thus far were wrestlers who competed in the Super Sectional state qualifier last winter.

At Bishop Kearney, Coach Vince Asito is excited about the potential of his young 15-member squad.

"We have good athletes and a promising future. These are good kids to build a program around," said Asito.

Because of the Kings' youth, they will compete in both varsity and JV meets depending on the skill level of their competition.

Team members are seventh-grader Pat O'Connell at 91 pounds; eighth-grader Mike Campanella, 98; freshman Andy Casale, 105; freshman Luke Stutzman, 112; sophomore Nace Keogh and freshman Ernie Brown, 119; sophomore Mike Adams, 126; eighth-grader Kenny West, 132; freshman Adam Crandall, 138; senior Chris O'Connell and freshman Will Colon, 145; freshmen Derek McCarthy and Steve Orchanski, 155; freshman Matt Metras, 177; and sophomore Tony Siragusa, 215.

Siragusa was BK's top finisher with a fourth-place finish at the East Invitational, held Dec. 10 at East High School. Pat O'Connell placed sixth at the tournament.

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