

# Late surge leaves McQuaid just shy

By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — In the game's final seven minutes, McQuaid Jesuit's level of play was arguably as good as any team in New York state.

McQuaid furiously put together a 17-7 scoring edge during that stretch against Niagara Falls LaSalle, the state's third-ranked squad in Class A. Much of what carried the Knights this far into the post-season was again instrumental: the dominance of their 6-foot-8 sophomore center, and some big buckets from their Division I-bound guard/forward.

However, despite herculean efforts by Chris Fox, who scored 12 of McQ's fourth-quarter points, and Rob Norris, who got the other five, the Knights fell two points shy of the state Final Four.

McQ lost to the Explorers, 55-53, in the Far West Regional title contest held Saturday, March 11, at the Community War Memorial. The defeat gave the Knights, ranked 25th in the latest state poll, a final record of 16-9. Meanwhile, LaSalle (24-0) moves on to the state Final Four this weekend in Glens Falls.

The Knights never led last Saturday after LaSalle opened up with a seven-point run. The Explorers held 15-8, 31-23 and 45-36 leads at the quarter breaks.

With the score 53-46, Norris hit a field goal and a three-pointer — the latter shot coming with 1:38 to go — to bring the Knights to within two.

The Explorers' Jody Crymes hit both ends of a one-and-one before Fox scored with 1:14 left for what proved to be the game's final points. LaSalle's Terry Rich missed the front end of a one-and-one



Wendy Longlade/Photo intern  
McQuaid Jesuit's Sean Finegan collides with Jody Crymes of Niagara Falls LaSalle during the Far West Regional Class A title game March 11 at the Rochester Community War Memorial. The Explorers nipped the Knights, 55-53.

with :27 to go, and McQ got possession of an ensuing jump ball.

Norris, however, missed a potential game-winning three-pointer with :05 left, and the rebound narrowly eluded Fox. Crymes missed another one-and-one with :03 left; but McQuaid was not able to get another shot off before the buzzer.

Fox finished with 26 points. Norris, who will attend Fairleigh Dickinson University next fall, followed with 13. Ben Wandtke and Cade Lemcke scored all the Knights' other points with seven each, and Wandtke added 11 rebounds. McQ had reached state-tournament

play with a 77-65 win over Rush-Henrietta in the Section 5 Class A finals. The fifth-seeded Knights knocked off No. 2 R-H after defeating top seed Greece Olympia in the semifinals.

Coach Joe Marchese called this year's sectional title "pretty gratifying" after McQuaid endured eight losses during a brutal regular-season schedule.

"I thought we were underrated all year long. Four or five of our losses were to top-rated teams," said Marchese. "As much as we would have loved for the team to go to Glens Falls, the pressure was to win sectionals."

# Mercy takes 8th in states

MINEOLA — Our Lady of Mercy's bowling team concluded a very successful 1995 season by placing eighth at the state tournament held Saturday, March 4, at Sheridan Lanes on Long Island.

Mercy's quintet exceeded its team average of 710 in all but one game, rolling scores of 743, 810, 830, 766, 793 and 697. Jen Delibert led the Monarchs by averaging 30 pins above her regular-season 136.39 average during the six-game block.

The strong state performance came one week after Mercy won its second consecutive Section 5 championship. In addition, the Monarchs won this year's Private-Parochial League crown with a 64-2 league record.

"The girls can be proud of what they have accomplished in such a short period of time. The team has four new bowlers this year, and everyone has improved," said Coach Rick Smith.

# McQ athlete finishes 3rd

Recording the best competitive effort of his high-school career, McQuaid Jesuit pole-vault specialist Greg Schlachter recently earned third place at the state indoor track championships.

Schlachter's vault of 14 feet, 0 inches was achieved on Saturday, March 4, at Cornell University. The senior's superb performance surpassed his previous-best height by six inches.

Other McQuaid athletes to participate in the state meet included Tim Tyre, who finished seventh in the 300-meter dash with a time of 36.41 seconds; Alan LaChapelle, who helped Section 5's inter-sectional relay squad place eighth in 9:35.44; and Jeff Clark, who finished 17th in the 3,200-meter run in 10:07.02.

The Knights' contributions helped Section 5 win sectional team scoring with 98 points. Section 1 finished second with 83.

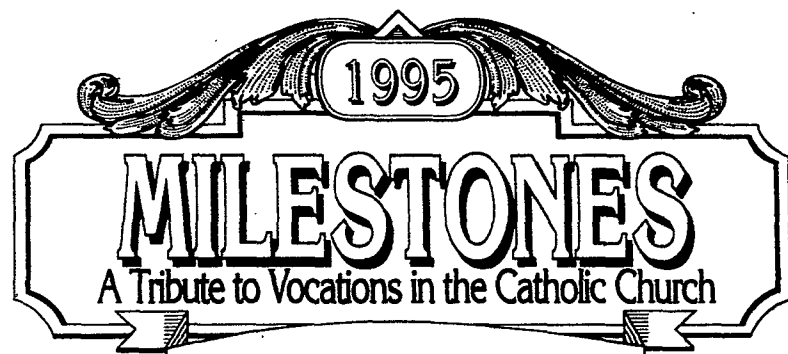
In the girls' state meet, also held at Cornell, Aquinas Institute was represented by Shola Owodunni. She finished 16th in the 55-meter dash in 7.53 seconds.

# Brown, relay lead Aquinas

ROCHESTER — Aquinas Institute's Todd Brown finished ninth in the 500-yard freestyle and AQ's 400-yard free relay placed 10th in Section 5 state-qualifier swim competition held Saturday, March 4, at the University of Rochester.

Brown posted a time of 5 minutes, 8.92 seconds in the 500 free. He also swam the third leg of the 400 free relay, which completed its event in 3:30.37. Other relay members were Jeff Conte, Wade Brown and Steve Martini.

Although neither Brown nor the relay swam fast enough to advance to states, both clockings were improvements over their times posted one week earlier at the Section 5 Class B meet. Brown swam 5:11.00 in the 500 free at sectionals, and the relay finished in 3:31.81.



The men and women religious and priests from the Rochester Diocese or who have served in the diocese and are celebrating significant jubilees in 1995 — as well as couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries — will be saluted in this special section. With its April 6 edition, the Catholic Courier will publish MILESTONES, a special supplement on vocations in the Catholic Church. It will provide biographical sketches of those in the diocese celebrating such milestones, and will focus on their vocations as models for others considering priesthood, religious life. In all, over 3,500 years of service to the church will be recognized.

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