



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Nazareth College's Brent Rothfuss (right) and Tom Fritz put pressure on Ohio Wesleyan's Vince McGeehan during an NCAA Division III national semifinal game May 21 at Nazareth. Rothfuss scored one goal in the Golden Flyers' 22-13 championship-game loss to Salisbury State May 28 at the University of Maryland.

National title eludes Golden Flyers

Perhaps nobody was surprised by the final score of this lacrosse game.

Yet neither did Nazareth College concede defeat before it took the field.

The Golden Flyers, heavy underdogs against Salisbury State (Md.), endured a 22-13 loss to the Sea Gulls in the NCAA Division III lacrosse finals. The contest was played Sunday, May 28, in front of a record championship-game crowd of 15,768 and a national television audience on ESPN-2.

Nazareth lost for the first time this

year after reeling off 14 wins. Salisbury State, meanwhile, completed its second straight perfect season (17-0) while defending its national crown.

The Golden Flyers stunned their many thousand viewers by surging out of the gate for a 4-1 lead. Junior attackman Neal Powless was the catalyst, scoring his third goal with 3:09 left in the first quarter to put Nazareth up by three.

Salisbury State rallied to make it 4-4 by the period's end. Nazareth took its last lead at 6-5 on Trent Brown's goal

with 9:48 to go before halftime.

However, the Sea Gulls ruled from that point on as their attackmen repeatedly maneuvered for in-close goals past helpless Nazareth goalie Ben Wineburg. The score was 10-7 at halftime, and Salisbury State put the game away by outscoring the Golden Flyers 8-2 in the third quarter.

Powless led the Golden Flyers with five goals, and senior attack Ed Geary finished with three.

- Mike Latona

McQuaid, Aquinas fall in opening round

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

The pressure of sectional play demands more than physical talent and regular-season accomplishments.

Unfortunately, the mental side was not clicking for the McQuaid Jesuit or Aquinas Institute lacrosse teams in their opening-round playoff contests.

McQuaid, the No. 4 seed in Section 5 Class A, suffered a 9-5 home loss to No. 5 Penfield in a game played Saturday, May 27. The Knights ended their season with an 11-7 record.

The Knights fell behind 5-1 midway through the second quarter before goals by Pat Holden and Mike Kehoe narrowed the margin to 5-3 at halftime. Then the Chiefs held McQuaid scoreless in the third quarter, and Jeff Clayton's fourth goal with 5:17 left in the game gave Penfield - which had lost twice to McQuaid during the regular

season - an insurmountable 8-3 edge.

"Quite honestly, we didn't come to play. It was the biggest game of our lives, and we came out flat," said Coach Tony Levin.

Holden led the Knights with two goals. Other McQ goals came from Greg Waters as well as senior midfielder Chris Schiller, who was named a high school All-American last week. Schiller finished with 39 goals and 21 assists this season.

Despite the loss, Levin said he's confident about the future of the eighth-year Knights' program, which recorded the most wins in school history in 1995.

"Right now we're at the point where we can reload instead of rebuild," Levin remarked.

Aquinas, the No. 5 seed in Section 5 Class B, fell 13-5 to host and No. 4 Mynderse Academy May 27. The Little Irish finished with a 9-10 record this spring.

Although AQ had multiple man-up situations early, the Irish trailed 5-2 at

halftime and could not close the gap. Aquinas goal-scorers were Kevin Callahan, Shane Kavanagh, Andy DiMaria, Frank DiLiberto and Phil DeCamilla.

"It was a new experience for us. We'll be better for being there; I don't think we're ever going to be nervous again," said Coach Dave Stein.

Meanwhile, in girls' lacrosse, the first-year Geneva DeSales squad was seeded eighth in an 11-team field (all Section 5 schools with a varsity program automatically qualified.)

The Saints (3-7) were scheduled to face No. 9 Eastridge in a first-round contest May 30, with the winner taking on No. 1 Irondequoit June 1.

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Individual titles abound in track

As far as diocesan schools go, the 1995 Section 5 track championships were extremely well-rounded.

Although the highest team finish was recorded by Our Lady of Mercy - third in girls' Class A - individual event titles were won by the Monarchs as well as the Nazareth Academy, Geneva DeSales and Aquinas Institute girls. On the boys' side, Bishop Kearney secured three events.

Mercy's 3,200-meter relay of Jessie Dugan, Lindsay Wegman, Danni LaMagna and Christine DeMott, posted a winning time of 10 minutes, 9.1 seconds in the May 27 Class A meet at Gates-Chili. The relay will next run in the Section 5 Meet of Champions state qualifier Saturday, June 3, at Hornell.

Other top Mercy finishers at sectionals were DeMott, second in the 100 hurdles and high jump; and Wegman, second in the 1,500.

Nazareth's Karen Scozzafava won the girls' 3,000 run in Class B competition May 27 at Hornell. Her time was 10:43.2. Scozzafava also finished third in the 1,500.

DeSales' Stephanie Nearpass won her fifth and sixth career individual sectional crowns in the girls' Class D meet May 26 at Hornell.

The Saint senior captured the 1,500 for the third straight year in 5:00.6, and she also won the 800 in 2:26.3.

Aquinas' Shola Owodunni won the girls' Class A title in the 100 with her time of :12.1. She also finished third in the 200.

The Kearney boys, who competed in Class B May 27 at Hornell, finished fourth in team scoring. Individual champs included the 400 relay of Tony Colon, Vernon Banks, Kevin Goode and Pat Goode (:44.4); Kevin Goode in the long jump (20 feet, 7 inches); and Pat Goode in the 100 (:11.0). Pat Goode also took second in the 200.

McQuaid Jesuit, the defending boys' Class A champ, had to settle for fifth place May 27 at Gates-Chili. Top Knight finishers, all taking second place, were Tim Tyre in the 400 run; Greg Schlachter in the pole vault; and the 1,600 relay.

- Mike Latona

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