

SPORTS

Soccer squads steamroll into playoffs

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

There is only one No. 1 seed, yet several diocesan soccer teams are in excellent position to challenge for sectional titles.

Elmira Notre Dame's girls, with a final regular-season record of 13-3, are the top seed in Section 4 Class C. The Crusaders, who won sectionals in 1993 and finished as runners-up last year, were scheduled to play No. 8 Sidney in quarterfinal play Oct. 24. The winner plays No. 4 Unatego or No. 5 Bainbridge-Guilford Oct. 27. ND entered postseason play on a hot streak, winning its final six Sullivan Trail Conference games to go 8-2 in league play and tie for top honors with Horseheads.

Our Lady of Mercy's girls (16-1-1) are seeded No. 2 in Section 5 Class A. Mercy, which last won the Class A crown in 1993, will host either No. 7 Greece Arcadia or No. 10 Churchville-Chili in the Oct. 28 quarterfinals at 1 p.m. The Monarchs were perfect in Private-Parochial League play this year, going 6-0.

Bishop Kearney's girls (13-4-1) also earned a No. 2 seed and are seeking to regain the Section 5 Class CCC title they won two years ago. BK hosts No. 7 Le Roy in quarterfinal action Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.

McQuaid Jesuit's boys (13-2-2) are seeded third in Section 5 Class A, and will host No. 6 Spencerport or No. 11 Canandaigua Oct. 26 at 7:30 p.m. McQuaid clinched the City-Catholic League championship with a 2-1 victory over Aquinas Institute Oct. 17. The Knights finished with a 6-0 league record.

The Aquinas boys (12-4) gained the No. 3 seed in Section 5 Class BB. The Little Irish were scheduled to play No. 6 Newark in an Oct. 25 quarterfinal game.

AQ's girls (12-6) earned the No. 4 seed in Section 5 Class BB. AQ will play at No. 4 Brighton in quarterfinal play Oct. 28 at 1 p.m.

Bishop Kearney's boys (9-9) pulled down the No. 6 seed in Section 5 Class CC. The Kings will face No. 3 Marcus Whitman Oct. 26 at Cohocton in a 7 p.m. quarterfinal matchup.



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Nazareth Academy's Jenna Wischmeyer heads the ball away from Aquinas Institute's Sue Reifsteck during an Oct. 20 game at AQ. The Irish defeated the Lasers, 7-0.

The Geneva DeSales girls (5-11-2) have been seeded No. 10 in Section 5 Class D. The Saints were scheduled to play No. 7 Greenwood Oct. 25.

Also entering sectionals as the 10th seed were the Elmira Notre Dame boys, who were scheduled to play No. 7 Oxford Oct. 25 in a Section 4 Class C pre-quarterfinal game.

Nazareth Academy's girls, who finished with an 8-8-2 record, were the only diocesan squad not to qualify for postseason.

Crusaders win eighth straight

With a 25-point victory last weekend, the Elmira Notre Dame football team is one win away from reaching postseason play.

The Crusaders ran their record to 6-0 by outscoring host Bromontown 19-0 in the second half on route to a 45-14 win Friday, Oct. 20. In last week's game, the 194 yards and scored two touchdowns and backfield mate Paul O'Connell gained 100 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

Notre Dame now awaits an official matchup of the season. Even with their perfect mark, the Crusaders must win their home game against DeSaes Friday, Oct. 27, to make the Section 4 Class C playoffs. ND is also hungry to reverse its 1994 fate with DeSaes, which handed the Crusaders their only loss (52-14) and prevented them from gaining a playoff bid.

More football results

Aquinas Institute (1-7) and Geneva DeSales (1-7) both qualified for the Section 5 playoffs, but were knocked out in first round play.

AQ suffered a 42-0 defeat at Nelson Tech Monday, Oct. 23, in a Class BB quarterfinal contest. The Little Irish were seeded eighth, the Lasers held the No. 1 spot.

DeSales, the No. 9 seed, suffered a 35-0 loss to Cohocton in a 7 p.m. game Oct. 21.

Also closing out their regular season were McQuaid Jesuit (6-2-1) and Bishop Kearney (2-6), which completed their league contests.

McQuaid earned a 16-10 win at St. Henrietta Oct. 23. Greg Edwards made the game's decisive play, returning the second-half kickoff 90 yards for a touchdown to break a 10-10 tie.

Meanwhile, BK suffered a 25-0 home loss to Attica Oct. 20.

Mercy player earns Section 5 tennis championship

Our Lady of Mercy's Sue Ciccone enjoyed a successful reversal of fortune from last year's Section 5 girls' tennis finals.

Ciccone, a sophomore, rolled to a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Pittsford Sutherland's Leila Monajati in the sectional Class BB championship match Wednesday, Oct. 18, at

Canandaigua. The win enabled Ciccone to avenge a three-set loss in her 1994 title battle with Monajati.

Ciccone had made the finals by whipping her quarterfinal and semifinal foes Oct. 17 at Canandaigua. She downed Marcus Whitman's Lisa Hilton, 6-0, 6-1; and Midlakes' Sarah Walker, 6-1, 6-0.

Following the sectionals, Ciccone competed in state-qualifier play at Mid-Town Tennis Club Oct. 20 and was eliminated in the quarterfinals. She won 6-0, 6-0 over Alfred-Almond's Kelly Stutzman before falling to Harley-Allendale Columbia's Caroline Marshall, 6-2, 6-4.

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