

# on the MOVE

Story by  
**MIKE  
LATONA**

Photos by  
**ANDREA  
DIXON**



McQuaid player dives on the floor for the ball during a turnover at the McQuaid/Franklin game.

## High-school title blitz

Some familiar Catholic school names have risen to the top in post-season sports action.

The Aquinas Institute hockey squad is in the state Division II semifinals after Brian Collins' overtime goal gave the Little Irish a 2-1 win over host Fulton in a quarterfinal game March 2. The Little Irish had earned their way into the states with a 5-3 win over Geneva/DeSales (14-11) in the Section 5 Class B final Feb. 24. It was Aquinas' fifth straight sectional title. The Irish, with a 19-6 record, are aiming for its third state championship in four years.

AQ boys' basketball has also repeated as Section 5 champions. The second-seeded Irish topped No. 1-seeded Pittsford Sutherland, 77-60, in the Class BB final held March 2 at Blue Cross Arena in Rochester. Jemel Williams and Dan Bozzelli led the effort with 24 and 20 points, respectively, as the Irish pulled away from a 37-35 halftime advantage. AQ hiked its record to 21-2 with the victory.

Meanwhile, top-seeded Nazareth Academy (21-2) won its second Section 5 Class B title in three years with a 40-39 victory over No. 2 Livonia March 3 at Finger Lakes Community College. Meghan Dahlman scored 18 points and Stephanie Herbst hit the game-winning basket with 18 seconds left. Dahlman also contributed 12 rebounds and four blocked shots.

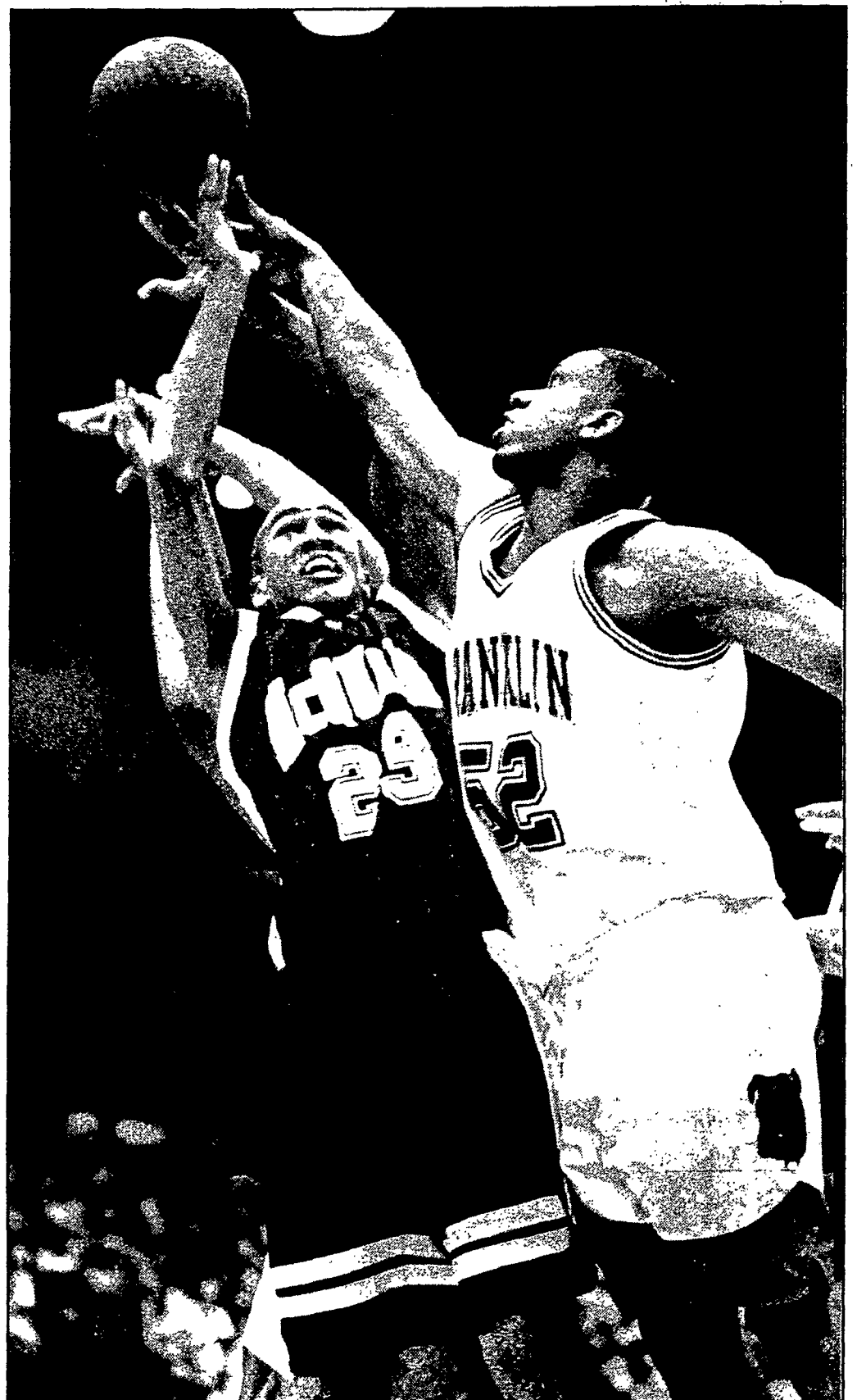
The two Aquinas teams, along with Nazareth basketball, were all due to play state tournament games this week.

Aquinas earned yet a third sectional crown, in girls' bowling, by taking the Class B team title on Feb. 24. AQ's Kelly Zapf also won individual honors with a three-game series of 670. She went on to throw the high game for girls, 253, at the state tournament March 3.

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Several individual athletes have also turned in championship performances this winter.

Topping the list is Our Lady of Mercy's Gabbi Buerman, who captured not one, but two state girls' skiing championships. She won the giant slalom Feb. 27, then the slalom race Feb. 28 during the state meet at Bristol Mountain.



McQuaid's Alfonso Evans (left) tries to grab a rebound before Franklin's Anthony Pritchett can get to it at the Section 4 Class A Boys Basketball Championship Game at the Blue Cross Arena on March 2. Franklin defeated McQuaid 64-54.

Aquinas' Mike Mellas won three first places (600 and 1000 meters, triple jump) and Phil Zakielarz (shot put) also got a first in the Section 5 Class B championship meet Feb. 24. These first-place finishes enabled the Little Irish to take second place in team competition. Mellas went on to take first in the 1000 meters at the March 3 Meet of Champions. He, along with Aquinas' Arel Gordon (45 meters) and McQuaid Jesuit's Luke Shafer (high jump) qualified for the state meet.

McQuaid Jesuit's Charlie Wu is this year's Section 5 Super Sectional wrestling champion. He defeated Attica's Clayton Conway 4-3 in the 130-pound finals Feb. 24 and is the Knights' all-time leader in wins.

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Other significant feats this winter season came from:

- McQuaid Jesuit boys' basketball, which reached the Section 5 Class A final before being stopped by top-seeded Franklin, 64-54, March 2. The

third-seeded Knights had reached the title game with a 60-50 semifinal win over No. 2 Churchville-Chili Feb. 27. McQ finishes at 13-9.

- Geneva DeSales girls' basketball, which reached the Section 5 Class D semifinals. The Saints post a final record of 12-10.

- Bishop Kearney boys' basketball, which reached the Section 5 Class B semis with a 45-40 upset win over No. 3 Hornell in a Feb. 24 quarterfinal game. BK ends with a 10-12 record.

- McQuaid hockey, which reached the Section 5 Class A semifinals. The Knights end up with an 18-7-0 mark.

- Aquinas girls' basketball, which earned the top seed in Section 5 Class BB but was upset by Victor in a Feb. 24 quarterfinal. AQ finishes at 15-6.

- Elmira Notre Dame boys' basketball, which compiled a 16-5 record this season.

**COMING NEXT WEEK:**  
Thoughts on retirement