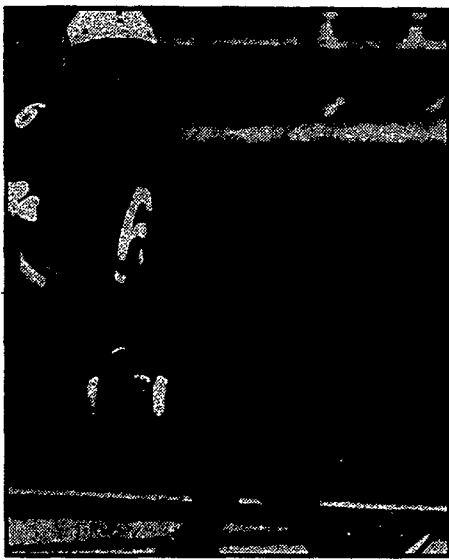


Aquinas wins state football title



Andres Dixon/Staff photographer

Shawn Jemison reacts to his winning touchdown catch during Aquinas' state-championship victory Dec. 2.

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

SYRACUSE — Had quarterback Mark Magliocco waited a split-second longer, he would have been sacked. Had his receiver, Shawn Jemison, been a split-second slower, he wouldn't have caught Magliocco's mighty heave.

But in its last two games, Aquinas Institute's football team found a burst of energy when it needed it most. Jemison stretched every bit of his 6-foot-1-inch frame, caught Magliocco's pass on his fingertips around the 20-yard line, and sailed into the end zone.

The 51-yard touchdown with 5 minutes, 13 seconds remaining broke a 15-15 tie and gave AQ the state Class A championship

as the Little Irish topped Horace Greeley of Section 1, 22-15. The final was held Dec. 2 at Syracuse University's Carrier Dome. Aquinas won its second state title in four years and finished with a 12-1 record.

"I just kept telling myself 'I need to make a big play, I need to make a big play,'" said Jemison, a senior. "I wasn't getting the ball early in the game, but I didn't care. I just knew if I got a chance, I could make a big play."

AQ's normally potent offense was held in check for most of the first half by Horace Greeley, which hails from Chappaqua, just north of New York City. The Quakers drew first blood early in the second quarter, going up 8-0 on a 40-yard pass play from Terence Higgins to Rosario Lardiere followed by a two-point conversion.

AQ got on the board just 44 seconds before halftime when Magliocco lofted a 7-yard scoring pass to senior receiver Kevin McMahan. Magliocco also passed to McMahan for a two-point conversion and the teams headed into the locker room tied at 8-8.

AQ got its first lead when Magliocco found McMahan again for a 61-yard scoring play. McMahan's high-floating pass was nearly identical to his first TD throw as the 6-foot-5 McMahan out-leaped a defender near midfield, made a nifty cut from the sideline to the middle of the field, and broke to the end zone with 8:55 left in the third quarter. Ian Goodberlet converted the extra-point kick to make it 15-8.

McMahan noted that it was actually
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Karin von Voigtlander/Photo Intern

Jamie Fazio (right), who received a master's degree from St. Bernard's Institute in 2000, now serves as full-time campus minister at SUNY Geneseo while working toward his master's in divinity at SBI. Here, he assists Father Daniel McMullin in administering the rite of acceptance — part of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults — to Stephanie Brown at the college Dec. 2.

Lay ministry on the rise

How important will lay ministry become in the years ahead? In Father Donald B. Cozzens' opinion, the statistics speak for themselves.

Father Cozzens, author of the 1999 book, *The Changing Face of the Priesthood*, predicts a 40-percent decline in the number of active priests across the United States during the next six to 10 years.

"For every 100 diocesan priests who die or resign, we're ordaining less than 50 — and the Catholic population is growing. Unless you have your head in the sand, lay ministry is going to be an important dimension," Father Cozzens told the *Catholic Courier*. A priest of the Diocese of Cleveland, he gave a lecture Oct. 18 at Nazareth College titled "The Shape of Ministry in the 21st Century."

The Diocese of Rochester is addressing that dimension through

St. Bernard's Institute. The school — which is changing its name to St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry — has offered an array of graduate degrees and certified programs in designated ministries since 1981.

Nearly 400 people have received graduate degrees from SBI. Many of them now serve as permanent deacons, religious-education coordinators, pastoral associates, pastoral administrators, liturgists, catechists, health-care ministers and campus ministers in the Rochester Diocese. SBI's president, Sister Patricia Schoelles, a Sister of St. Joseph, said the institute has offered increasingly diverse programs in recent years. Emerging fields of study include ministries to youth, migrant workers, prisoners and senior citizens.

"What we've been doing for 20 years is what other dioceses are

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