

Nazareth repeats as girls' champs

Mike Latona/Catholic Courier

Different opponent, same result. Nazareth Academy had won three straight Section 5 girls' basketball titles by defeating Livonia each time. This year the Lasers faced Waterloo in the championship game — and despite the Indians' No. 1 seed, they could not control Nazareth's potent offense.

So make that four straight sectional trophies for the Lasers, this time by a 67-54 count. The title contest was played March 8 at Rochester's Blue Cross Arena.

Nazareth improved its record to 19-4 and now moves on to the state Class B quarterfinal round. The team will face Fredonia of Section 6, in a contest scheduled for March 13 at 2 p.m. at Wayland-Cohocton High School.

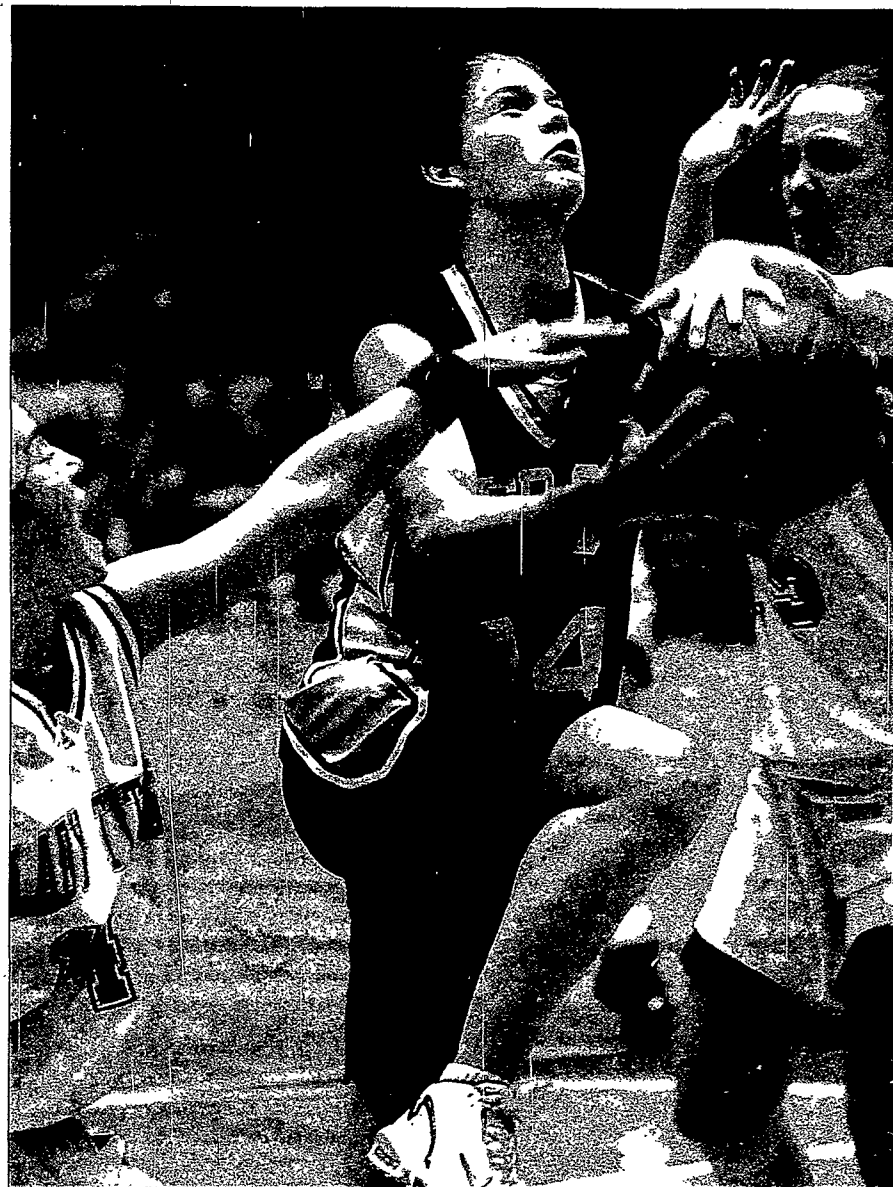
Also playing in a Section 5 title game March 8 was Our Lady of Mercy, in Class AA. However, the Monarchs (16-7) incurred a 56-48 defeat at the hands of Greece Arcadia at Blue Cross Arena.

Whereas Nazareth and Mercy enjoyed championship-round appearances, two other teams from Catholic high schools in the diocese fell one game short. Geneva DeSales (13-7) lost 53-45 to Prattsburgh in a Section 5 Class D semifinal played March 2 at Livonia High School, and Aquinas Institute (17-6) suffered a 54-47 loss to Pittsford Mendon in Section 5 Class A semi action March 3 at Canandaigua Academy.

NAZARETH 67, W-LOO 54

The third-seeded Lasers led 19-14, 37-27 and 51-39 at the quarter breaks, and withstood a mild second-half rally by the Indians to successfully defend its sectional crown.

Spurring Nazareth's attack was Sjerra Speed, a sophomore guard who totaled 19 points. Also reaching double figures were Nikki Lockhart with 14 points and Rachel Boice with 10.



Karin von Voigtlander/Catholic Courier

Our Lady of Mercy High School senior Mary Carpenter (center) struggles against Greece Arcadia defenders Nicole Gibaud (left) and Samantha Roth during the Section 5 Class AA championship game at Rochester's Blue Cross Arena March 8.

Nazareth had earned its way into the title game by stopping No. 2 School of the Arts, 56-47, in a semifinal played March 3 at Red Jacket High School. Lockhart had a huge effort that night, finishing with 18 points and 12 rebounds, while Speed

had 13 points as the Lasers overcame a 22-20 halftime deficit by outscoring the Silverhawks 21-5 in the third quarter.

Sports

ARCADIA 56, MERCY 48

The third-seeded Monarchs seemed headed for an upset win over the top-seeded Titans, leading by seven points in the second quarter. But Arcadia rallied to go up 28-26 at halftime and pulled away in the second half. Betsy Jacobsen topped the Monarchs in scoring with 14 points, and Mary Carpenter and Joanna Dobeck each contributed 10.

Mercy had earned its spot in the final by defeating No. 2 Canandaigua Academy, 48-36, in semifinal play March 2 at Rush-Henrietta High School. The Monarchs' defense was perfect in the second quarter, as Mercy outscored the Braves 15-0 to take a 31-13 halftime lead. Carpenter led Mercy's balanced offense with 12 points.

MORE RESULTS

Geneva DeSales, the No. 2 seed in Section 5 Class D, nearly made a successful comeback against third-seeded Prattsburgh. The Saints cut a second-half deficit from 11 points to four, 42-38, midway through the fourth quarter before the Vikings pulled away. Krista Turnbull's 10 points led the Saints in scoring. Prattsburgh went on to lose to No. 4 Lima Christian, 57-49, in the Class D final March 5.

Aquinas, the No. 4 in Section 5 Class A, outscored No. 1 Pittsford Mendon 17-9 in the second quarter to rally for a 21-21 halftime tie. But the Vikings ended the Little Irish's season by holding a 16-7 scoring edge in the third quarter. Ali Sharpe and Anna Bonkowski carried most of AQ's scoring load, totaling 21 and 17 points, respectively. Mendon went on to fall to No. 2 Honeoye Falls-Lima, 65-43, in the title game March 8.

Answers from page 13 (No. 36)

A	D	A	M	S	T	A	M	P	R	A	D	S			
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