

Rapp Leads McQuaid To Newark Title

Senior Steve Rapp's first individual victory in his four-year career led McQuaid Jesuit's cross-country men to a close win over Brighton last Saturday at the annual Newark Invitational.

The last time Rapp toured the hilly 5K course at Stuart Park was a muddy day last November when he finished far back as a non-scorer on the Knights' sectional championship team. Saturday, though, he moved to the head of the 80-runner field at the halfway mark, and teammates Chris Lyboldt and Rob Smillie went right with him to give McQuaid a 1-2-3 combination for the next mile. Brighton's formidable front three challenged in the final three-quarters of a mile, but Rapp, a 1:59 half-miler in track, had enough

left to outkick the Barons' leader, Tim Heinle, for the top spot.

Lyboldt won a similar duel with Phil Levinson to take third place, and Smillie hung on to sixth place ahead of Brett Yost, who finished ninth. Inches behind Yost came McQuaid's Brian Mack, a junior making his varsity-1 debut. Senior Dave Warth completed the scoring group in 15th place.

"I didn't expect Steve to win," said Coach Bob Bradley. "Usually we concentrate on getting a good group and let the front of the race take care of itself. So having three guys right up there was a big plus for us. Actually, Mack's race was even a bigger plus. Newark's a tough course to break in

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McQuaid Runners Capture Fayetteville Invitational

Their third invitational victory of the season unexpectedly proved to be the closest so far for McQuaid Jesuit's cross-country men at Fayetteville-Manlius last Saturday.

Only eight points separated the Knights (51) and Henninger (59) of Syracuse, a team they'd beaten easily at New Hartford a month ago. "Henninger has three real tough runners, and they all got into the top 10," said Coach Bob Bradley. "With only seven schools in the race, their fourth and fifth weren't as far back as they usually are, so the score wound up close. But I thought our team had the race under control all the way."

McQuaid's scoring group was led for the third straight time by senior Rob Smillie, who clocked 16:22 for 5K and placed fourth. Junior Scott Paterson had another strong race in sixth, and David Warth (11), Steve Rapp (14), and Brian Mack (16) completed the scoring. It was Rapp's first race in two weeks, following an illness.

The Knights, in addition to winning the seeded varsity race for the first time at F-M, also placed fifth out of 12 schools in the unseeded varsity field and had winning performances in the sophomore and junior high races. Juniors George Schell (8) and Mark Wiltberger (17) led the Varsity-2 group, followed by seniors Mark Hickey (34)

and Brian Lang (52) and junior Judd Dry (53).

The sophs posted a tight 45-54 victory over Beaver River in their race, with Matt Smith (2) and Conor Cusack (3) showing the way. Dave Schickler had his best race so far to take sixth -- as did John Wilkin, who took 14th. Jeff Stone's 16th-place finish completed the group for the sophs, who duplicated their close win at their own invitational.

It was another runaway win for the unbeaten McQuaid frosh, who topped runner-up Cicero-North Syracuse by a 27-101 margin. Chris Cusack posted his first individual victory over the 2-mile course, and Mike Schmalzriedt (3), Tim Hess (4), Marc Dovi (8), and John Schell (11) gave Gary Jones's young Knights a winning group behind him.

This weekend, McQuaid will make its first appearance in four years at the "A" championship race of the Eastern States meet in New York City. The Knights took the "B" title last year, and this year will lead the New York entry against a select field of teams from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.

"We've never finished better than eighth in this meet, but we're shooting for the three his time," said Bradley. The rest of the McQuaid Squad will be in action at the Auburn Invitational.

Rapp

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on, but he was really charging at the end."

McQuaid's 35-46 margin over the 5th ranked Barons will keep the Knights in their spot atop the New York State rankings, with the tough competition of their own invitational coming up this Saturday.

In other races at Newark, sophomore Conor Cusack placed second and teammate Marc Lavellee 9th to head up McQuaid's second place JV effort against Fairport, 51-71, and Jeff Burkuit (20) and John Connolly (21) were the first Knights in the freshman race, also won by Fairport.

McQuaid's top frosh were in action at the East Aurora Invitational, and Mike Schmalzriedt was the individual winner as coach Gary Jones's Knights packed all seven men into the top 10. Junior George Schell was the top man for McQuaid's varsity-2 unit at East Aurora, placing ninth as McQuaid took third in a nine-school field.

Pittsford Plaza Honors Rapp

McQuaid's Steve Rapp was selected as this week's Pittsford Plaza athlete of the week.

Rapp placed first in Saturday's Newark Invitational and led the McQuaid Knights to a team victory.