

McQuaid runs to Jesuit championship

Though they involve schools from five states and the District of Columbia, the annual Jesuit cross-country championships in New York City have much the flavor of a traditional cross-town rivalry. So it was with a special satisfaction that McQuaid Jesuit's team took top honors in the recent 44th renewal of that competition.

Packing four runners well up in the race and hanging on until their fifth man came home in 28th place, the Knights scored a 48-56 victory over

Loyola High of Baltimore and eight other Jesuit schools at Van Cortland Park's hilly 2.5-mile layout.

It was the 11th time in the 26 years Coach Bob Bradley has been taking his squad to New York for the meet that McQuaid has emerged the winner, putting it atop the victory totals for the long series. Brooklyn Prep, a Jesuit school that closed in 1972 (and the first winner of the McQuaid Invitational in 1965), had been even with the Knights at 10 victories apiece.

McQuaid won with almost exactly the same combination that clicked earlier in the season at the York Invitational. Senior Brad Sumner led the way with a 30-yard victory (13:23) over the 70-runner field in his first crack at the Van Cortland hills. It marked the first multischool win for the first-time cross-country man.

"Brad ran a smart, confident race," said Bradley. "He's really gotten the feel for handling distance." This in-

door season Sumner will defend his 1,000-meter title, and outdoors he'll try to repeat as 400- and 800-meter champion.

A lot of McQuaid's winning margin came from its next two runners, junior Steve Foley (third in 13:34) and senior captain Dave Dugan (fourth in 13:40).

When Loyola popped a tight 6-7-8-9 group, the Knights' win was in jeopardy, but junior Jason Fahy came on strong in the last half-mile to finish 12th and keep the Baltimore team from narrowing the margin drastically.

With McQuaid leading, 20-30, after four men, the meet came down to the fifth men's places. Loyola's crossed first, in 26th place, but senior Mickey Stone was only two places further back, and the Knights' win was assured. McQuaid's other two runners, juniors Andy Reitz and Matt Salata, finished 33rd and 38th in their first varsity race at Van Cortland.

In the non-scoring JV race, juniors Charlie Sadler and Peter Millard finished 12th and 13th and sophomore John Whittaker was 21st. McQuaid's four junior high entries also medaled by finishing in the top 25, with eighth-grader Dave Rimlinger taking second in 9:26 over the 1.65-mile course. Eighth-graders Brian Holmes and Rob Bradley were 16th and 20th, and freshman Larry Albertsen was 22nd.

The meet climaxed a season that saw McQuaid capture three invitationals and take runner-up honors in two others in addition to winning the City-Catholic and Jesuit championships. "Our sixth-place finish in the sectionals was a disappointment," said Bradley, "but it made the Jesuit win all the sweeter."