

## HIGH SCHOOLS

# McQuaid cross country under scrutiny

## Sec. 5 investigates allegations runners exceeded meets

By Allen Wilson

Democrat and Chronicle

Section 5's executive committee is looking into allegations that some cross country runners at McQuaid Jesuit High School may have participated in more than the allotted number of races.

"All I can say at this time is that the matter is being investigated," said Section 5 executive director Ted Woods. "We don't have anything right now, but I don't anticipate any problems."

According to the New York State Public High School Athletic Association rules, cross country teams can not exceed 18 meets during the regular season.

McQuaid, one of the state's strongest programs, fields two varsity teams because of the large number of runners at its disposal. The state allows schools to field more than one varsity team in any sport as long as rosters are not mixed.

"If a person starts with one team, he must stay with that team," Woods said.

McQuaid won the Loyal Greenman Invitational last Saturday, but Coach Bob Bradley said the meet was the eighth for his Varsity I

team. They are ranked fifth in the state. The other squad, made up of younger runners, has run in 16 meets, he said.

"We checked this out to be on the safe side last year," Bradley said. "We have so many runners that we want as many of them competing at the varsity level as possible. Our Varsity II team usually runs our Tuesday schedule and our Varsity I kids run in the invitationals. We haven't done anything wrong."

This is the second time in two years that Bradley and a McQuaid athletic program has been scrutinized.

The boys' track team had to get a court injunction in 1989 to allow 13 suspended team members to compete after the City-Catholic League and Section 5 ruled them ineligible because McQuaid competed in 19 meets.

Bradley, the former track coach, downplays current allegations.

"This is a tempest in a teapot. It has little to do with nothing," he said. "This is disappointing. I don't know who brought this issue up, but they should not equate it with what happened in 1989."

Section 5 has the results of all McQuaid's meets and expects to have both varsity rosters in the next two days, Woods said.

"Obviously we are very concerned about this," Section 5 soccer chairman Dale Ladd said. "We have heard that he (Bradley) may have mixed his numbers. I don't know all the circumstances yet, but we will be following this closely."

If any runner is found to have exceeded the limit, he would be ruled ineligible for postseason action. The sectional meet is Saturday afternoon in Newark.

## NOTEBOOK

### Sec. 5 finds McQuaid kept to meet limits

By Allen Wilson

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Section 5 has ruled that McQuaid's boys cross country team has not exceeded the limit of meets allowed by the state.

Ted Woods, Section 5's executive director, made the decision after checking the rosters and schedules of McQuaid's two varsity teams. Woods found that some runners had competed on both teams, but none had gone over the limit.

"There are no problems with McQuaid or any of its runners as I expected," Woods said. "The matter is closed."

Questions had surfaced about the number of races McQuaid's runners had participated in. Schools are allowed to field more than one team as long as those teams or any of its members do not exceed 18 meets during the regular season, according to the New York State High School Athletic Association rules.

#### Up for grabs

A message for those participating in Saturday's Section 5 cross country championship: Expect the unexpected.

Fourth-ranked McQuaid is the team to beat in the boys Class A race, but the Knights will get a stiff challenge from No. 4 Greece Athena (Monroe County League champs), No. 7 Fairport and No. 8 Pittsford. Fairport is the defending champion and sectional winners three of the last four years. No. 6 Greece Arcadia and No. 20 Victor should battle for top honors in Class BB. Class CC should be a three-team race with East Rochester, Caledonia-Mumford and Oakfield-Alabama the front-runners. Bolivar could play the darkhorse role.

Fairport's girls, ranked eighth in the state, are strong favorites in Class A. The Class BB race should find No. 10 Victor or No. 13 Mercy in the winners' circle.

The run for individual titles in the boys Class A Division is wide open. Athena's Dan Cook and Greg Shuster have been 1-2 in recent races. McQuaid will counter

with Adam Reitz and Dan Lesser. Pittsford rests its hopes on Ben Ashfield and Matt Wilkens. Webster's Jason Hart has the ability to beat them all.

The girls to watch in Class A are Fairport's Nancy Heap, the Monroe County champion, Greece Olympia's Sue Yagielski, Pittsford's Marcy Hacidavas and Jenny Brant and Athena's Alison Rasbach. In Class BB, Livingston-Genesee Conference champ Tara Woodard of Wayland Central and Heather Swarts of Dansville will go at it with East Rochester's Kara Pezzimenti and Jen Sciaratta-providing the best competition. Swarts was runner-up to Spencerport's Becky Alfieri last year.

At least 600 runners are expected, according to Section 5 cross-country chairman Dale Ladd. Competition starts with the Class CC girls at 1 p.m. and boys at 1:30 p.m. Those races will be followed in order by the girls and boys in Class BB at 2 and 2:30 p.m. and Class A at 3 and 3:30 p.m.

The sectional meet will be at Stuart Park, formerly Ultra-Tech Park, in Newark.