

McQuaid runners hold awards banquet

◆ Four seniors receive top awards.

Four McQuaid seniors took home the top varsity awards at McQuaid Jesuit's annual cross country dinner held last week for an audience of 160 people in the school cafeteria.

Four-year runners Colin Murtha and Brandon Smaglo were co-winners of the Lombardi Memorial plaque for their "exemplary dedication to faith, team, and sport." Soubh Raychaudhuri, who joined the team just last season, won the Royden Smith Jr. Memorial plaque as Most Improved Runner among a group of more than 40 sophomores, juniors, and seniors who had run the previous year. All three runners also were awarded their first cross country letters.

A third memorial award, in honor of Jeremy Abbot, class of '66, was presented to freshman Drew

Kassmann as the top junior high runner. Kassmann led coach Bill Dodd's squad in nine of their 10 races as the young Knights won four invitationals and captured nine of the top 10 places in the City-Catholic meet.

The Best Index award, given to the team's best varsity runner based on finish places during the season, went to co-captain Sanjay Narayan. He led the team in eight of his 10 races, including individual championships at the Greenman and Jesuit invitationals.

Best New Runner trophies on three levels went to junior Joe LaMagna, sophomore Tyler Lemcke, and freshman Pat Freytag. LaMagna also earned the Bob Bossert Memorial Cup, given annually to the top Catholic school finisher in the sectionals.

"Improvement is a way of life for

runners, so we try to recognize more than just one man," said coach Bob Bradley, referring to multiple Most Improved awards. Recipients were sophomores Rob Way (varsity), Tom Coleman and Will Payne (junior varsity), and freshmen Ryan Dougherty and Matt Evinger (junior high). "There were lots of others who would have been worthy winners, too," Bradley added.

Evinger also was one of five winners of Student-Athlete plaques. The senior winner was Raychaudhuri, Matt Witmer was top junior, Mark Bernal was top sophomore, and eighth-grader Conor Hickey was tops in McQuaid's Middle School.

Five runners received their City-Catholic all-star patches and certificates: sophomores John Ryan Magill, Jason Smith, Lemcke, and Way and senior Raychaudhuri. Most of McQuaid's varsity 1 contingent do not compete in the three City-

Catholic meets required to be eligible for those awards.

"For our top guys, the sectionals patches are the ones they're aiming for," Bradley said.

Previous to the dinner, four Knights had been honored with certificates as Section 5 second-team all-stars. Bradley noted that it was one of the few times that one school earned four spots among the top 10 of the section's 450-plus runners. "We did it in '92, and Fairport did it last year, but it doesn't happen very often."

Eight sets of senior parents also received "Thanks for Everything" momentos for their enthusiastic support of McQuaid cross country. This year, the program numbered 7 runners, largest ever under the coaching foursome of Bradley Dodd, Tony Trama, and Bradley's son, Rob, class of '93.