

McQuaid runners defeat Aquinas

◆ Knights place third at Greenman Invitational.

Two big races in the same week were one too many for McQuaid Jesuit's running Knights as they ran their best against traditional rival Aquinas on Tuesday and leveled off to a third-place finish on Saturday over the hilly and chilly Ely Park golf course in the Greenman Invitational at Binghamton.

Knowing that Aquinas had two strong runners capable of beating the entire McQuaid team in their Cobbs Hill dual meet, the Knights threw an eight-man group at the Little Irish duo and split them completely in two. Aquinas sophomore Dave Hryvniak did indeed outrun all the Knights, but Aquinas' No. 2 beat none of them, finishing in 10th place. Result, a 20-43 victory, extending McQuaid's long-standing dual-meet streak to 204, dating back to 1971.

Junior Pat Sullivan and senior Steve Holland led the pack, both clocking 17:31, their season's best, to Hryvniak's 17:26. Then came Conor Hickey and Drew Kassmann, both breaking 18 minutes, Chip Galusha at 18:06 and Ian McBride, Matt Evinger and Ryan Dougherty.

"They were determined to break up AQ's 1-2, and they did

it better than I thought they could," said coach Bob Bradley after the meet.

By contrast, Saturday's frigid outing at Ely Park saw Aquinas' Mike Mellas rebound with an 11th-place finish, and Hryvniak was 13th, both ahead of another tight McQuaid group: Holland (14), Sullivan (18), Hickey (25), Dougherty (28) and McBride (31), all within 20 seconds.

"We ran a good team race, but that extra spark was missing," Bradley said. "I think it will be back for sectionals."

The undefeated McQuaid junior high squad got their spark from a strong challenge by Ithaca, and responded with a 40-52 victory, their sixth invitational win in a row. Freshman Matt Jones (second) paced the field until the last quarter mile, with classmates Dave Dougherty (fourth), Matt Dugan (fifth), Dan Sullivan (14th) and Dave Yahooodik (15th), giving him more than enough support. In junior high B, three more freshman - Jordan Parker, Nate Clancy and Eric Mittereder - all placed in the top 10.

McQuaid's JV squad placed a respectable fourth at Binghamton, with senior Matt Evinger (fifth) running strongly all the way and Dan DiCesare (16th), Matt Payne (19th) and Mike Coast (20th) posting good races as well.

McQuaid runners place 5th at LeMoyne

◆ Knights continue rivalry with Syracuse's Corcoran.

McQuaid Jesuit's cross country men had a crack at a new meet and new course on Saturday and managed a fifth-place finish among 17 schools in the Syracuse City Schools Invitational at LeMoyne College.

Still lacking the front strength to make their group more effective, the Knights had Conor Hickey (18), Drew Kassmann (20), Ryan Dougherty (25), Chip Galusha (31), and Pat Sullivan (33) for their scorers. Their 127-point total left them trailing Ithaca's 53, Corcoran's 104, Cicero-North Syracuse's 113, and Utica Proctor's 124.

One of McQuaid's goals was to beat Corcoran, a one-point winner over the Knights at Auburn two weeks ago. Though they put six men ahead of Corcoran's fifth at LeMoyne, they couldn't break up the front three, and the Syracuse team finished comfortably ahead.

The Knights fared slightly better in the junior varsity race, placing third behind Ithaca and C-NS. Senior Matt Evinger (7) led his team all the way, sophomore Sunil Narayan had his best race so far in 10th, and John Bringer (16), Dan DiCesare (17), and Jake Sciandra (20) completed the scoring group.

McQuaid's strong junior high team again dominated its race, putting six men in the top seven. Trevor Alvut took individual honors, running 9:08 for the 1.6-mile course. Close behind were Matt Jones (2), Jerry Van Strydonck (4), David Dougherty (5), Matt Dugan (6) and Dan Sullivan (7).

On Friday, at Harris-Whalen Park, in the Penfield-Irondequoit Invitational, coach Bill Dodd's second modified group surprised with a second-place finish to Honeoye Falls-Lima. Scoring for the Knights were eighth-grader Scott Rubino (11), freshman Bill Galusha (16), seventh-grader Mike Ansaldi (17), Gus Cost (23) and freshman Eric Mittereder (24), with Dino D'Angelo (26) a strong sixth man.