

McQuaid Runners Set Two School, Meet Records

Six McQuaid indoor track men combined their talents for two school records, two meet records, and 48 points to place second among 12 Class A schools at the annual Hamilton College Invitational last Friday night.

Senior Chris Cusack started the Knights off with a last lap surge that brought him from fifth place to an eyelash victory over Corcoran High's Eric Welling in the 1600-meter race.

Two other Section 5 runners, John Horkheimer of Pittsford and Jeff Emmons of Brighton, placed a close third and fourth to Cusack's winning time of 4:28.7, his indoor best by almost 10 seconds.

McQuaid coach Bob Bradley described the race as one of the most unusual he's seen. "Chris ran his first half in 2:20 and his last half in 2:08. The pace was so slow that Emmons took off going into the third quarter and the first five runners in the field were really moving from then on. Chris ran his last quarter in 62 and beat Welling with a lean right at the line."

The meet's next race saw junior Brad Sumner and Scott Romanowski team

up for 18 points with a 1-2 finish. Sumner led from the gun on his way to a meet record of 1:23.3, which also lowered the school mark of 1:25.1 he set in the season's first meet. Romanowski also had a personal best with a 1:26.5 as he held off Section III's top middle-distance man, Baldwinsville's Joe Saraceni.

McQuaid's other 20 points came from a pair of first-place relays. Cusack anchored the 3200M team and was able to coast home in 8:28.1 with a big lead fashioned for him by soph Jason Fahy (2:05.1), junior Mickey Stone (2:07.6), and senior Chris Adin (2:06.8).

Sumner did the anchor chore for the sprint medley team that set meet and school records with a 3:44.5. Romanowski had the key lead-off leg of 400 meters, and he gave McQuaid a 15-yard lead with a 52.6. Fahy and Adin combined for a second 400 of 50 flat, and Sumner pulled away early on his 80 leg to run 2:01.9 for the record.

In good non-scoring efforts, senior Clay Berardi had the fast legs on both the 800M and 1600M relays, and junior

Greg Roberts broke the five-minute barrier for the first time with a 4:59 1600 meters.

At meet's end, McQuaid's 48 points placed it behind Henninger of Syracuse's 62 and just ahead of Utica Free Academy's 45 and Baldwinsville's 44. Brighton had 22, and Pittsford and Aquinas tied with 16 apiece.

This weekend will have McQuaid and a number of other Section 5 schools in Troy for Saturday's annual Engineer Games at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. One of that meet's top races should be the 1000 meters, where Sumner will go against Bill Gather of Colonie, who won the 800 meters in 1:57.3 at Yale two weeks ago.