



GARY CASKEY/staff photographer

A leaping Dave Plunkett catches a pass during a Brother Rice preseason practice session.

Jefferson, DeLaSalle seek blue-chip season

By Marty Budner
staff writer

There's no doubt the Central Division of the Catholic League is one of the Michigan High School Athletic Association's top football circuits. It consistently courts blue-chip talent and competitive intensity.

Central Division fans forever insist balance from top to bottom is what makes the competition so tough. It's unusual when any one of the six division teams is picked as a prohibitive favorite to win the title.

Normally, it's take your pick of the 'Big 3' — Birmingham Brother Rice, Detroit Catholic Central or Warren De La Salle — and beware of upstarts like Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher and Notre Dame and Redford Bishop Borgess.

This year, though, is different.

In a pre-season poll, the division's coaches not-so-surprisingly selected defending champ De La Salle as the team to beat. Oh, there were mutterings about Catholic Central as a dark horse, but, without hesitation, the Pilots were unanimously picked as favorites for the prestigious 1985 division championship.

"De La Salle is everybody's favorite," CC's veteran coach Tom Mach said.

Catholic 'Central'

Says Gallagher coach George Sahadi: "It's a vicious league. . . you see improvements by teams like us which make it tougher. But, De La Salle has to be favored."

DE LA SALLE: Ray Barr, who took over this fall for John Maranto, is somewhat aghast people think so highly of De La Salle considering this is his first year as coach.

But the bottom line is this: Barr was an assistant under Maranto — who left over the winter for the head coaching job at Massillon High School in Ohio — for 11 years, plus the Pilots return a tremendous crop of senior players from last year's 5-0 Central Division championship team, which was 8-1 overall. The Pilots are led by surefire All-State candidate Alon Jefferson, a powerful and speedy running back.

"I've never been a head coach before so I really don't know how we can be ranked No. 1 (in some pre-season newspaper polls)," Barr said. "Whatever recognition we've already won is by what John and the kids have done in the past."

The only blemish on De La Salle's otherwise perfect season last year was a loss to Dearborn Divine Child in the Catholic League championship game. It not only prevented a perfect season, but a trip to the post-season Class A playoffs as well.

Please turn to Page 13

New! Fall & Winter Sunshine Vacations

All Prices
Include Air,
Hotel, Transfers
& More!

Acapulco
TKTS
AS LOW
AS
\$269

Saturdays starting November 16.
Choice of 6 hotels. Prices from \$260 to \$970.

Aruba
TKTS
AS LOW
AS
\$399

Saturdays starting November 16.
Choice of 6 hotels. Prices from \$329 to \$1,129.

Cancun
TKTS
AS LOW
AS
\$329

Fridays starting November 16. Choice of 10 hotels. Prices from \$329 to \$1,049.

St. Thomas
TKTS
AS LOW
AS
\$499

Sundays starting November 17.
Choice of 6 hotels. Prices from \$499 to \$1,399.

Casa de Campo
TKTS
AS LOW
AS
\$459

Saturdays starting November 16.
Choice of 4 types of accommodations. Prices from \$439 to \$979.

Santo Domingo
TKTS
AS LOW
AS
\$399

Saturdays starting November 16.
Choice of 3 hotels. Prices from \$399 to \$999.

San Juan
TKTS
AS LOW
AS
\$469

Sundays starting November 17.
Choice of 5 hotels. Prices from \$469 to \$1,219.

PLUS . . . Soon to be Announced
Puerto Vallarta — Thursdays beginning December 19th
Jamaica — Sundays beginning December 22nd
St. Maarten — Mondays beginning January 20th

Your Travel Agent
Has Full Details

SamsonTours

KENSINGTON ACADEMY

1020 East Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48013

SMALL CLASSES ALLOW INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION

OPENINGS

for qualified students



Pre - K - K
Cocod

Grades 1 - 8
Boys

Features of our lower school program:

- strong basic curriculum . . . language arts . . . social studies . . . math . . . science . . . 12 to 1 pupil teacher ratio
- computers . . . operation . . . programming exposure
- Off music program . . . autoharp . . . musical productions
- physical education . . . 4 times a week . . . class size never exceeds 20 . . . introduction to team and individual sports
- skills laboratory . . . fully equipped for enrichment of . . . math . . . language arts . . . use of individual audio visual instructional aids
- art . . . emphasizing creativity . . . originality . . . risk taking . . . using design principles . . . elements of design
- field trips . . . educational . . . cultural
- library . . . great books program

For further information call . . . Donna Pas . . . Admissions . . . 647-8060