

1993

MR. BASKETBALL JON GARAVAGLIA

It must be a misprint.

As a sophomore, Jon Garavaglia averaged 19.8 points. As a junior, his average dropped to 19.2 and this season to 16.

What happened?

"Jon truly cares more about team accomplishments and team goals than individual goals," said Southgate Aquinas High coach Ernie Price. "We have a team with four starters averaging double figures. When you look at Jon's statistics, you also have to look at the 77 wins we've had with him."

This season, Aquinas was ranked No. 1 in Class C. And now Garavaglia the state's No. 1 player.

Garavagliis (pronounced gar-ah-VAHL-yah) is the winner of the 13th Hal Shram Mr. Basketball Award, given annually to the



state's top senior by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan in conjunction with the Free Press.

Garavaglia, a 6-foot-9 center, is the first Detroit Catholic League player to win the prestigious award. He will be the fourth Mr. Basketball to attend Michigan State. Sam Vincent (1981), Matt Steigenga ('88) and Anthony Miller ('90) are former winners who became Spartans.

Garavaglia was humble in accepting the award Monday, March 22, 1993, reading the names of his teammates and thanking them for making the award possible. "I'm sure there are a lot of players who deserve this as much as me," he said. "I feel very lucky and very fortunate to have this opportunity."

Although he began the season as the state's top-rated player, Garavaglia did not spend much time thinking about the award.

"I never thought of myself as the best in anything," he said. "I like to do my work quietly and to home."

Jon will play with the Michigan All Star team against Ohio's All Stars June 17 in Grand Rapids. He will wear jersey No. #1 which is worn by Mr. Basketball each year.

BCAM would like to congratulate Jon and wish him well as he continues his career in the Big Ten.

Photo and information courtesy of The Detroit Free Press. Special thanks to Mick McCabe (reporter).