

Team play hasn't hurt Fond du Lac star's stats

BY JIM MUFF 2-20-87
Staff writer

Ed Misquadace has the gaudy numbers most high school boys basketball stars don't hesitate to rattle off.

Twenty-seven points, 12 rebounds. That's star quality all right, but the Fond du Lac senior doesn't act the part.

"You wouldn't believe it looking at his statistics, but Ed's a team player," said first-year Ogichida Coach Joe Curran. "He's so coachable. He sure has a lot of pure talent, and he uses it to help the team in any way he can."

Misquadace has helped turn a

second-year program into a winner after a rough first season. The Ogichida, who finished 2-13 last year, are 8-5 with two games remaining on their independent Class A schedule.

"I worked out a couple of times a week in the off-season, and I think I've improved a lot since last year," Misquadace said. "We've lost some close games, but we're definitely a better team this year."

The Ogichida have relied on the aggressive inside play of Misquadace, a 6-foot-3 center, and Dan O'Leary, a 6-2 senior who transferred from Carlton last fall.

"Ed has a great inside game, but

if another school gears its defense to stop him inside, he'll go outside and make shots from there," Curran said. "He's pretty dominating."

Misquadace has played well above most of his competition, which has made college scouts both curious and suspicious about his talent.

Fond du Lac principal and former basketball coach Phil Minkinen said only the smallest schools in northern Minnesota and Wisconsin have agreed to schedule the Ogichida. Consequently, some folks have wondered if Misquadace can mix it up with the big

boys.

The prevailing attitude is he can.

"Ed Misquadace can play basketball at quite a few colleges," UMD assistant coach Butch Kuronen said.

Misquadace, a B-minus student who's hoping to continue his basketball career at a small college, has been offered financial assistance from Rainy River Community College.

"I want to play more basketball, and I'll get a chance to play guard for a change in college," Misquadace said. "This season, though, I think we'll take a couple

of games in the district (26) and surprise some people."

