

SPORTS

Lions Look Ready

for '77-'78

By Jim Dino

INTRAMURAL SPORTS INITIATED

By Patty Marsh

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Highacres students and staff members, tired of the inactivity caused by study or weather conditions, are finding a release for their pent-up energy in the campus' intramural sports program.

Men's basketball has proven to be a favorite activity, with twelve teams involved on a revolving schedule. Women's basketball has begun play with three teams participating. Bowling, offered in three categories: three-man, five-man mixed, and mixed, is also popular, with six teams registered in each category. Co-ed volleyball has four teams registered but has not begun play yet. Initiation of the program is expected on Friday. The only outdoor intramural sport, ball hockey, has four participating teams.

Almost all aspects of the intramural program are being handled by students. The Intramural Sports Board sets the policy for the program. They decide what activities will be offered (on the basis of popularity) and determine the rules and regulations for the various sports. Work-study students act as officials for the games.

Only scheduling is decided by faculty members. Mrs. Jago and Mr. Bobby, physical education instructors, are handling the timetables.

In closing Mrs. Jago said, "Because of the limited space available and the little time remaining in the term, this (the aforementioned sports) will be all (the activities) for this term. But in the spring new activities will be introduced."

Although Highacres basketball is not enjoying the success it usually does, much hope can be held for the future. Coach Tom Caccese's Nittany Lions possess an abundance of freshman talent who lack only playing time together to have a winning combination.

The loss of talent from last season's squad as well as the lack of height the squad possess this season are other reasons for the unimpressive won-lost record, which as of January 20 was 3-10. Although small in height, the team can rely on quickness to make up for the lack of height.

At center, 6'4" Craig Rebold is a freshman with a lot of potential, who will be a key to the success of next year's club. At the forwards, freshman Rex Wirick and sophomore Greg Slusser start. Slusser recently became the career scoring leader for the team, scoring more points in his career than any other player in the history of the Hazleton team. Two sophomores, Jerry Cann and Greg Katzer, man the guard positions. Some good freshman players riding the bench this year, who will play a key role in the success of next year's ballclub, include Brian Imperial and Joe Stephansky.

The Nittany Lions faced a tough schedule thus far this season, not making it any easier. Some challenging exhibitions against clubs like Luzerne County Community College and tough league competition within the Commonwealth Campus Conference gave the squad a real test.

The loss of talent the such as the likes of Bob Gabriel, Joe Kovatch, and Eric Little have caused the team to rebuild with freshman. However, do not count this year's squad out yet. Coach Caccese attributes part of their problems to a lack of consistent defense, which the team has the potential to execute well. A wealth of freshman who next year will be experienced sophomores, leads one to believe that basketball success is back on it's way to Highacres.

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