

Soccer Team Enters Playoff Stretch

By David A. Scopinich

This year's Hazleton soccer team is a very interesting club to follow. The team is loaded with potential, but there are only three returning players. The team had a rough time adjusting to each others' styles of play. This has caused 1-2 in the conference and a 2-4 overall, but their record does not show the enormous amount of talent on this team.

Coach Chris Kokinda has brought the team along very far in a very short amount of time. Coach Kokinda brought together twelve sophomores and five freshman. Coach Kokinda hopes that his team can continue what has already been a successful beginning

for him at Hazleton.

Coach Kokinda has been here for two years and he has already played for the championship and also went to the semi-finals. When asked about this year's team Coach Kokinda said, "We have a good squad with players with great potential. The team has key players at key positions which makes the transition from offense to defense very fluid. The team plays aggressively, and hustles at all times but has just gotten some bad breaks. This makes them an enjoyable group to coach." Coach Kokinda also said that the team should make the playoffs if they play

intelligent ball.

The team consists of sixteen players: Ryan Schlagheck-goalkeeper, Aaron Diehl, Aaron Hort, Frank McCormick, and Mike Greenstreet are the fullbacks. The halfbacks are Todd Duelly, Jed Slezak, Ryan Smith, Joe Chyko, Dorothy Barret, Rob Venema, Gary Cornelisse and Sean Ott. The positions of striker are filled by Lea Robinson, Neil McGillis, and Brian Brushwood. Chris Kokinda is the head coach, Doug Harders is the Assistant Coach and Ellen Van Haute is the manager. The team has three games left and student cheering sections are always a plus.

Volleyball Hits Hard, Plays Hard, Wins Big

By David A. Scopinich

The Volleyball team has been winning so consistently that it's tough to miss them. The Volleyball team by far is the strongest sports team on the Hazleton campus. The team is 13-3 and is in a close race for a playoff berth.

The team, coached by Mrs. Jago, is one of the strongest in their conference and team to be reckoned with. The team is loaded with veterans with seven of the ten players being sophomores. The team consists of: Heidi Rittenhouse, Beth Reibeling, Liz Munford,

Sue Francis, Sharon Reilly, Connie Cardillo, Jennifer Zeifass, Michelle Metz, and Aprille Davis.

When asked about the team, Coach Jago said that this year's volleyball team is one of the best that she has coached. Also, she stated that they are a great group to coach. When asked who is the team leader, Coach Jago replied that it would have to be Sue Francis who leads the team in kills. Good luck to the Volleyball team in the playoffs.

Lions Roar Back to Gain Playoff Berth

By David A. Scopinich

The Penn State Hazleton baseball team finished their baseball season in a big way. They won all of their last four conference games to gain their first playoff birth in eight years. The team ended up finishing a very respectable third place in the CCAC Conference. The Lions lost to Penn State Berks 11-1 but both Coach Falatko and the team believe that with playoff experience under their belts, the team will be stronger and much improved next year.

When asked about what brought the team together in the final stretch of the season, Coach Falatko said that it was the attitude of the team that was the key. Coach Falatko said that this season's success was because of a total team effort and that all of the players were to be commended.

Coach Falatko also mentioned that credit should be given to Anthony Scotese for com-

ing on strong in the final stretch of the season and also to Jason Molli for consistently being the most solid player on the team.

The team is stocked with Freshman talent and this leads Coach Falatko to believe that the team will be a dominating force in the CCAC next year. The freshman on the baseball team are: Mike Behr, Paul Chiodo, Paul Battaglia, Kyle Kubica, Michael Kresge, Richard Carter, Anthony Scotese, Shawn Shank, Howard Clinese, and Anthony Cusat. The sophomores, who are the veteran leaders of the squad are Jason Wishnefsky, Roger Andras, Chad Schaeffer, Scott Hoffman, Jeff Angstadt, and Jason Molli.

Coach Falatko also mentioned an injury to Anthony Scotese who pulled a knee ligament in the end of the season. Hopefully Anthony can return next season. Congratulations to the whole team and coaching staff for a successful turnaround.

Sports Profile: Brushwood Outstanding in His Soccer Field

By David A. Scopinich

The purpose of this feature is to profile a sports player who sets an example towards other players and students by his or her work ethic on and off the field.

Brian Brushwood is from Phoenixville, PA and is a freshman at Hazleton and also a starting striker on the soccer team. Brian says the adjustment to college soccer from high school has been lessened by the fact that he played Center Halfback, the most demanding position, in high school and now he plays striker, which is less complicated position than halfback. Brian says that the hardest part about going from high school to college is adjusting to a whole new group of players and their different styles.

When Brian isn't hustling to score goals on the field, he is back in his dorm hustling to keep up his grades as an engineering major. Brian deserves a lot of credit for not only being able to be a very good soccer player but for also keeping his grades as good as his performance on the field.

WANTED: REPORTERS-The Pottsville REPUBLICAN is seeking part-time correspondents to cover news and sports in the Hazleton area. Interested students should send a resume to: The Pottsville REPUBLICAN, 111 Mahantongo Street, Posttsville, PA 17901, attention Vicki Terwilliger.