

northeastern Sports

By DAVE GRIFFITHS

The All-State basketball teams recently announced by AP and UPI were the subject of much criticism here in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The AP selections seemed to stir up the most trouble especially at Elk Lake where their great star Jim Wallace was relegated to the third team. To every follower of the Warriors, who won the Class C PIAA championship, that was the error of the season.

Wallace had been named to the UPI's Little All State team which is limited to players who perform with Class B or C schools.

But area fans were pretty much in agreement that Jim Wallace was far and away the outstanding high school cager to come along since Steve Vacendak's glory days at Scranton Prep. Vacendak, you may remember, went on to collegiate stardom at Duke University. He captained the Blue Devils in his senior year, led them to their best record ever under Vic Bubas who gave up his coaching chores just recently.

Wallace, son of the Elk Lake coach, Mike (Red) Wallace, one of the greatest shooters we ever saw, has been flooded with offers from colleges and universities throughout the land. They recognize his skills.

He's big, 6'4", strong, and as the scouting reports indicate, he can do it all. A youngster with a future not only as a collegian but as a pro.

Why then did AP overlook Wallace until they got around to naming the third team choices? The answer to that question is easy. Those who vote in the poll don't know any better. Most of the ballots came from the so-called experts who never saw Wallace in action.

The system is one I've criticized for years. It just doesn't make any sense. As a result the All-State teams are merely post-season space fillers.

Consider, if you will, the method used to choose All-State teams and you'll understand its glaring weakness.

Sports writers, sportscasters, coaches and others who have "name" value are given ballots. They appear on every AP wire and on the UPI wire as well.

You simply fill in the blank spaces. Now, if you live in Pittsburgh and have a particular favorite, you write his name on your ballot. And if you really like the youngster, you contact the other newspaper and radio-TV people in your section and ask them to give your favorite a vote.

Result, the best players are, more often than not, completely overlooked.

That's what happened to Jim Wallace. He was handicapped, first, because he was playing for a Class C school. Most of the voters believe this means the calibre of play is sub-par. They don't know that class is decided strictly on school enrollment.

If they'd taken time to check, they would have noted that Elk Lake was unbeaten in a circuit, the Susquehanna League, where an "A" school, Abington Heights, finished second.

Abington Heights, let it be noted, gave Penncrest, rated best "A" team in the state by a Harrisburg paper, a real battle before bowing in defeat.

So the class designation refers not to quality of play but to school size. Jim Wallace was a giant on a Class "C" team. He would have been the top performer on any school in the state. He was that good.

Fortunately, for Jim Wallace, those who know basketball best, the coaches seeking the finest talent, pay no attention to the All-State selections.

They judge a player on his own merit. In judging Jim Wallace, they've given him an "A." He's an All-Stater without portfolio—but an All-American of the future, one of the truly great high school players in regional history.

He was overlooked by AP but looked over by the critics who really know the real measure of the youngster's greatness.

opening day at Harveys Lake



beaver harvest heavy, 1473 prime pelts taken

N. J. Molski, Supervisor of the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Northeast Division reported that beaver trappers in northeastern Pennsylvania enjoyed an excellent season taking 1473 during the '69 trapping season which closed in March. This was an increase of 308 over the 1968 season.

The high catch was accomplished despite adverse weather conditions, with 24 inches of ice in some areas.

The large numbers of slow moving streams, glacial lakes and ponds, combined with close proximity of suitable vegetation especially aspen and maple provides prime habitat for beaver in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Supervisor Molski cited the large catch of beaver as an example of the restoration of a prime wildlife resource in Pennsylvania. Unrestricted trapping had practically wiped out the beaver population around 1900.

Serhan listed on Huskies' baseball team

Marvin Serhan of Harveys Lake is listed on the Varsity Baseball roster at Bloomsburg State College.

Serhan, a 5 foot 9 inch junior at Bloomsburg, is vying for catching duties on the team. Don Deitterick is the only varsity returnee in the catching position. He is being pushed greatly by sophomore Gary Bloom.

The team will be out to improve upon the last two mediocre seasons of 7-7-1 and 6-5.

spring sports underway at Dallas Hi

Spring sports are underway at Dallas Senior High School. The baseball team already has five exhibition games behind them. They begin the league schedule today at 4 p.m. as hosts to Lake-Lehman on the Dallas diamond.

The baseball team played Wyoming Valley West, Pittston, Northwest, Hanover and Myers in exhibition games earlier this month.

The track team got their season underway on April 8 with an exhibition meet at home against Northwest. They hosted Myers in a league meet on Monday, April 14, then travelled to Wyoming Valley West on Wednesday for an official league meet.

The track team will compete against Wyoming Area in an away exhibition meet tomorrow, April 18.

Coach Al Husband's champion golf team starts off the spring season on Monday, April 21 against Coughlin and St. Mary's in league contests at Hollenbach.

The golfers meet Hanover and West Side Central at the Lehman Golf Course on Thursday, April 24 in league contests.

The Dallas baseball team plays again next Thursday at Nanticoke.

The Dallas athletes need the support of adult spectators as well as students. Spring sports take place on weekday afternoons which makes it hard for most parents. Those parents and alumni who are home in the afternoon will find that spending it as spectators at these contests can be fun. The boys will appreciate it, too!

Track and baseball games start at 4 p.m. and golfers tee off at 3:10 p.m.

Clinton Brobst coaches the track team and Gerald Stinson took over the duties as baseball coach after Ed Brominski's resignation.

Coach Clark Boler will be aiming to get the Huskies back in national contention. They went into the N.A.I.A. district playoffs in 1965 with a 13-4 record.

The Huskies travelled to Kutztown on Tuesday for their first game.

They will play host to Shipensburg on April 19 in a double-header beginning at 1 p.m.

Bowling News

By DORIS R. MALLIN

The leagues at Crown Imperial Lanes are back in action after a week off for the Easter holidays.

Crown Major League is featuring Automatic Cigarette in the top position with 38 points after taking another 4 from American Legion.

Three teams, Michael's, Birth's and Dallas Shopping Center, are tied in second with 30 points each.

Shavertown Lumber and Dallas Dairy are tied with 28 each and Wesley's is close with 27½.

The leader of the pack last Friday was Charles Nafus with 237, 589 for Shavertown Lumber. Tom Appel paced Birth's with 201-210, 580.

Tops for Dallas Shopping Center was Steve Bonomo with 202, 576. Dave Zimmerman led American Legion with 203, 569; Fred Stevens hit 564 for Automatic Cigarette and Dan Richards posted 212, 560 for the "lumbermen."

Harold Kocher Jr. gave a big assist to Birth's team with 572 pins.

Industrial A & P is in top position with 31 points while McCreary Tires with 29 and Adams' Market with 27 are vlose behind.

None of the keggers posted a 560 series last Wednesday but K. Youngblood chalked up a 211 and Earl Boston hit 201.

Neighborhood Disque Funeral Home is setting a fast pace for the Thursday night boys and has piled up 39 points to date to keep a firm hold on first.

Eleven points behind is Marine Corps with 28 and in third and fourth are Payne Printery with 27½ and Henry's Jewelry with 27.

Last week's top performance was turned in by Rich Bonomo with 212-223, 599 for Henry's. His teammate, B. Downs, had 213-201, 583.

Steve Bonomo led Disque's with 223-303, 580 and F. Krouse posted 564 for Payne.

Individual games of 200 or higher were chalked up by Eddy, Yankoski, Gesmondo, Klamovich, Heness, Youngblood, Roberts.

Country League Evelyn Roberts copped high scoring honors last Tuesday when she toppled 202-191, 511 for Daring's Market. Arlene Hospodar piled up 169-187, 501 for Joe's Pizza.

Doris Amos just missed a 500 series when she spilled 179-181, 499 for Pargas.

Other top scorers were Sally Riegel with 194, 493 and Anita Matte with 160-168-164, 492 for

Nelson Manufacturing. Libby Cyphers had 183, 466 for Daring's.

High games were posted by Peg Williams 164, Marie Bellas 173, M. Considine 173, Jane Lutson 176, Liz Weale 192, Rose Gula 167 and Lil Trudnak 161.

Nelson Manufacturing is way out in front with 37 points. Daring's, Joe's and Pargas are tied with 29½ each.

George Shupp Steve Bonomo, Bill Shalata and Haefel turned in 600 series. Steve led Freeman's Store to a 3 point win from Natona Mills with 229, 604. Bill's 233-201, 601 was tops for Natona. Haefel, with 217, 601, paced Cappy's Carpet's 3 point victory over Woodland Inn.

Other top scorers were Postupak with 222-211, 593; Price with 234, 580; Matte 207, 566; Stredny 568 and G. Boston with 213, 562.

Molley, Bonomo, Alexander, Downs, Wendel, Hrris, Neyhard had single games of 200 or higher.

Imperialettes Hozey-K still holds tight to the top spot with 39 points, after adding another 3 from Gordon's Friday night.

Elston's Dairy won 3 from Citgo and took over second place with 30.

O'Malia Laundry won 3 from Apex Auto Parts. Apex now has 28 points while O'Malia has 27. Garrity won all 4 from Goodman Florist.

Kate Sharpe took scoring honors with a beautiful series for Gordon's. Kate spilled 169-185-176, 530. At the same time, opposite her, Terry Morris was setting the pace for Hozey-K with 191-191, 524.

O'Malia featured two 500 bowlers Friday. Doris Mallin (yours truly) spilled 172-188, 507 and Marilyn Smith piled up 196, 506.

Tina Russell led Apex with 173, 481; Jean Agnew helped Gordon's with 196, 468 and Marilyn Morris led Elston's with 173, 462. Jewell Thompson's 169, 460 was tops for Garrity.

Patty Cosloskey chalked up the highest game of 202. Glenda Wagner had 175; Dot Lucas hit 171; Edie Shaffer posted a 192; Jo Berkey, Peggy Rocco, Flo Allabaugh had games in the 160's.

registration at Fernbrook

Registration for Fernbrook Little League will be held on Saturday, April 19, at 1 p.m. at the Fernbrook practice field. Boys from nine to twelve years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to be eligible for tryouts.

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