

## WILKES-BARRE FATS

## 'Defense great, offense sorry'

by Lee L. Richards

CLIPBOARD NOTES: It took a little while longer than anticipated but here's our first Eastern Collegiate Mat Poll for this season: 1-Lehigh 90, 2-Clarion St. 81, 3-Bloomsburg 68, 4-Penn St. 54, 5-Syracuse 52, 6-Wilkes 47, 7-Temple 28, 8-Millersville 18, 9-Rhode Island 15, 10-Navy 14.

Others receiving points were: Cornell, Lock Haven, Rutgers, Montclair St., East Stroud, Trenton St., Army and Pitt. We've only got nine coaches and members of the media participating in this year's balloting.

We'll miss former Penn State Coach Bill Koll. He was a member of our panel for 10 years. This will be the 11th year of the Mat Poll and the first one for Eastern teams and is based strictly on dual meets.

--Lake-Lehman asst. grid coach, Bob Rogers, was one of the refs at the Wilkes Open. I guarantee you'll get a heap of experience quick, working two days of this tourney.

--Several college coaches made it a point to tell me what an excellent job the Wilkes people do in running the tourney with the huge field and how efficiently they keep it moving along.

--We had a good visit with out long-time pal Rich Lorenzo, new head coach of the Penn State grapplers. Rich was on the PSU team when we were assistant sports editor of the Centre Daily Times and covered the Lion matmen. Rich doesn't have a lot of quality talent on this year's team and has several of his best wrestlers red-shirting this season.

"It's my team and we'll get better as the season progresses. We're not that good right now, but we'll get better with more experience," said Coach Lorenzo. State had its second-teamers competing in the Wilkes Open, while the first squad went to the Midlands.

--Bloomsburg Coach Roger Sanders feels he's going to have his best mat team at the down-river college. The Huskies are currently third in our Eastern Mat poll. Roger says his team has "excellent balance."

--Despite an impressive start, Coughlin mat boss Dana Balum, confided his team hasn't been "tested" as "yet." The former Penn State grappler has done an outstanding job with the Crusader program and should battle it out with Valley West for the top slot locally. We gotta hunch Lake-Lehman will make its presence known in dual competition, too.

--It amazes us each year the amount of enthusiasm Dean George Ralston demonstrates in coordinating the Wilkes Open. What he's contributed to Wilkes College could fill a book and make for interesting reading.

--Our congratulations to golfing pal Bob Kopp who will turn the big 50 this Saturday. "Roberto" is one of the best competitors we've ever been around.

--Army is leaning towards former Texas A&M Coach Emory Bellard as its new grid mentor. That's latest report we've received.

--Feeling here it's about time Penn State takes a long look at its offensive philosophy if it ever hopes to win a national title. They have no outside speed and a quarterback that lacks mobility and is too easy to defend. An offense that can't dig out a yard in two cracks and a QB that is nailed six times for 68 yards in losses sure dies indicate a change.

--During St. Joe's reign at "Happy Valley" the Lions have only played 16 teams which wound up ranked in the final top 10 of both the AP and UPI Polls. They've only won THREE of these encounters!

--Based on their preparation and performance, we're casting our ballot for Coach Bear Bryant as Coach of the

Year with the Football Writers Association of America. We've said many times the Tide is perhaps the best prepared team in college football today--and they play with a confidence we've never seen.

--Enough credit can't be given to the Lion defense. They are a marvelous group and worthy of every accolade they get. They can go on the field with anyone.

--Aside to Lake-Lehman coaches Rich Gorgone and Bob Roberts, Alabama CAN run the football. They rushed for 208 yards against the Lions, which some didn't think was possible.

--Our pal George Champ expects to be given an interview for the Ohio State head position. He confided that he's still very much in the running for the vacant Army job, too. Champ called us New Year's Day. At the present time all of the assistant coaches at Ohio State are without a job since Coach Hayes was fired. Don't blame George for the sorry play calling in the Clemson game. Woody took that responsibility away from him after the PSU game?

--Here's our final Super Seven: 1-Alabama; played and defeated No. 1. 2-USC; beat Alabama early and still has best talent but something lacking. 3-Oklahoma; an awesome offense, maybe the No. 1 team? 4-Michigan; good QB and speed; 5-Notre Dame; super QB and running game. 6-PSU; defense great, offense sorry. 7-Nebraska; better than rest of pretenders.

--During the Alabama--Tennessee game one Tide scribe

made mention how he'd enjoy seeing the Bear get another shot at St. Joe. He pointed out how PSU cost themselves the title in '69 by not going to the Cotton Bowl.

--Quote of the week from Harrisburg's Ronnie Christ: "It is not going to be the end of the world if Penn State doesn't win. It is vital to the Penn State image, however, that the Lions play well. This, then, is the most important game Penn State has played in the Paterno era. No, make that the most important football contest in its long history."

"It offers the Lions a chance to once and for all silence their skeptics. A victory in this one and there will be no credibility gap, now or in the future." It appears he still doubts the PSU myth.

--How many times has PSU lost to an SEC team and the difference being in the kicking game? Check out its two losses to the Tennessee Vols.

--Despite what you've read or heard, Lou Holtz will be the new head coach at Ohio State. They can have him!

--Saw the last several minutes of the Cotton Bowl and Houston Coach Bill Yeoman pulled a real coaching blunder when he attempted to go for a foot on fourth down around his own 30. Irish held and Joe Montana did the rest with no time outs.

--Results of our bowl predictions were 11-3-1. Much improved over last year when we took a deep six.

--During Alabama-Tennessee game couple of Tide scribes told us they didn't believe they could beat USC again if they played nine more times. Trojans offensive line wiped out the Tide defenders.

## Bowling News

N. Stredny rolled a walloping 235-216 (626) to lead his Dallas Nursery team in taking three points from Baltimore Life in the George Shupp League. The rest of his teammates helped in the win with P. Jordan hitting 223 (596), J. Swingle rolling 214 (583), D. Eddy posting 532 and B. Weaver giving 528. S. Fielding slammed the pins for 221-232 (622) for the insurance men and T. Doughton hit for 210 (585). Stanton TV took all from Tamagnini's paced by J. Maculis' 567 and B. Hislop's 529. J. Shalata's 511 was best for the losing five. Disque Funeral Home men shut out Irene's Bar led by P. Basso's 516 and T. Heness' 514. B. Allen tumbled pins for 523 for the bar team. Fino's men blanked Harris Associates with R. Bonomo hitting the pins for 565 and J. Strazdus knocking them down for 534. A. Wendel was high for Harris with 533.

In the Ladies Country League the Castlettes took four from Daring's Market with A. Pickering showing the way with 175-178-194 (547) and R. Radzinski aiding the cause with 200 (504). A. Hospodar knocked down pins for 176 (480). G.H. Harris girls copped three points from Grotto Pizza sparked by M. Culver's 194 (488). Fashion Vending and David Ertley divided evenly with C. Smith topping pins for 175-

182 (517) and N. Buss registering 172. M. Fondo rolled 179 (500) and A. Corbett posted 180 for the vending girls.

Orange A dropped three games to East Dallas in the Back Mountain Church League despite their J. Mitchell tumbling pins for 578. P. Labar hit the strike zone for 228 (527) for the East Dallas men. Orange B took three from Dallas A paced by F. Cornell's 224 (576). F. Price put up 552 for the Dallas five. Trucks-ville C picked up three points from the Lutherans whose high scorer was B. Monk with 500. Shavertown B shut out Trucks-ville B and Carverton B picked up four points on a forfeit by Carverton A. K. Sickler rolled 528 for B team. Maple Grove and Shavertown A split 2-2 while Shavertown C grabbed three from Dallas B paced by C. Aicher's 510.

In the Thursday Girls League C. Brongo's 172 led the Violets to three points from the Daisies. The Iris copped three from the Daffodils whose A. Jordan hit 165. The Roses picked up four points by forfeit from the Tulips. The winning five had M. Carkhuff's 161. The Panisies took three from the Petunias.

The Mudwasps captured two and a half points from the Slickees to take the first half title in Our Gang League. The Sting picked up three from the Swamp Stompers to place second just half game behind the champions. They had B. Isaac's 160. The Misfits shut out the Pinheads paced by D. Hudak's 174 to come in third, one game behind the Sting. N. Ide rolled 164 and V. McCarty hit the pins for 203 (552) to lead the Short Shots in blanking Aw Fudge. The Holy Rollers shut out the Bad Taste Five.

In the Crown Major League Wesley's Garage shut out Hasay Chevrolet sparked by two 600 series. R. Bonomo smashed the pins for 208-214 (606) and K.

Youngblood scattered them for 222 (604). T. Nevel rolled 536. P. Jordan hit the pins for 233 (579) for Hasay. Gebhardt picked up three from Steele's Restaurant led by J. Kriel's 561, B. Gosar's 533 and R. Bonomo's 529. Army Recruiting took all from Franklin's Restaurant with K. Confer rolling 545 and C. Sorber topping pins for 539. Dallas Shopping Center took three from Shavertown Lumber paced by G. Cephalonis' 554, P. Hospodar's 549 and C. Williams' 546.

Lombardo Bakery gained one game in their lead in the Imperialette

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Comets 21-14. Thirteen of the Knights 21 points were made from the foul line as the Comets committed numerous fouls on an aggressive press against the Lehman cagers.

The Comets sent the Knights to the free line 34 times while the Knights gave up only 12 free tries.

Hitting the double figure column beside Lozo and DeCesaris were John Coulton with 14 and Dave Penkrot with 12 points. B. Guise and M. Jones scored 15 each for the Comets and

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Selinsgrove had 11 wrestlers going into the finals and came through with four firsts; Lewisburg and Dallas had three firsts and Mount Carmel had two. Dallas placed second in team by virtue of a second and three thirds. The Mountaineers will host North Pocono an

exhibition match, Thursday, Jan. 4, then open the league competition with Bishop O'Reilly, Saturday, Jan. 6. Members of the Back Mountain Elementary Wrestling team will wrestle Thursday night prior to the Mountaineers meet.

## CIT

Radnor hit for 12.

The Knights advanced to the finals by defeating Bishop O'Reilly 76-50 on Thursday behind Ed Lozo's 22 points and D. Penkrot and DeCesaris with 14 each.

The Knights took an early 17-10 and increased it to 39-24 at the half. The Queensmen were unable to turn back the Knights throughout the game.

Lake-Lehman made 20 of 30 tosses from the foul line while the Queensmen made 12 of 17.

## Lewisburg

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## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## Ken Kuderka

In the Post Spotlight at Dallas Senior High School this week is Ken Kuderka.

A senior in the general course, Ken is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kuderka of Orange. He is the youngest in the family having a sister, Nadine Howe, married and living in Pawtucket, Conn., and a brother, Ray, recently married and living in Wilmington, Del.

Ken is an outstanding athlete at Dallas. He played football in both junior and senior high school. Following in the footsteps of his father and brother both outstanding backs when in high school, Ken played fullback and linebacker on the senior high varsity team in 10, 11 and 12 grade.

He also wrestled when in junior high school and was a member of the senior high varsity squad in 10 and 11 grade, filling the 167-lb slot. He was a District 2 champ and moved up to regionals at Williamsport. This year he has decided not to wrestle. Ken says he doesn't feel it inside.

## Women's Christian Assn. to sponsor scuba class

The Wilkes-Barre Young Women's Christian Association is sponsoring a coed scuba class beginning Wednesday evening, Jan. 10, 7 to 9 p.m., at the Dr. Kistler Elementary School swimming pool, Old River Road, Wilkes-Barre.

Participants must be 16 years and older and have good swimming abilities. The class will be held for six weeks with three open

water dives. All equipment, textbook, audio-visual teaching system, and equipment is furnished for the course. Upon completion of the course you will be issued a national certification card.

For additional information call the physical department of the YWCA at 823-0181. The YWCA is a United Way Agency.

Ken is a member of the high school Gridiron Club. He also does most of the painting in the auto body program in the school's industrial arts course.

When not in school he works around the house doing odd jobs for his parents. In January, he will begin working after school and on Saturdays at a newly-opened auto body shop. He is looking forward to this since auto body work is his forte.

Ken also likes hunting for small game. Most of all, he enjoys spending time with his son Christopher, who is only several months old.

Ken said that the things he likes best about Dallas Senior High School is the excellent communication between teachers and students, and the choice of courses such as the auto body course. He also believes that the school spirit has greatly improved since his sophomore year.

He dislikes the attitude of a small minority of students who give the school a bad name. "They need to wise up", he said.

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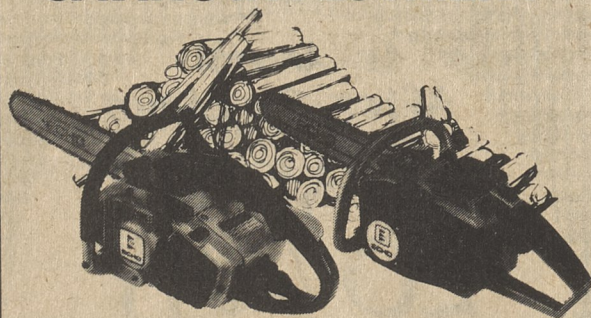
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