

WILKES-BARRE FATS

Best in the East?

by Lee L. Richards

Who will be the best football players in the East this fall? One of my hobbies is trying to evaluate personnel at each football game we happen to see during the autumn battles. Based on what we saw last year, I gotta believe the players we've selected as our All-East team for Athlon's Eastern Football Magazine can hold their own against any All-Star team from any conference around the country.

We looked for size and speed. We've been a firm believer if you can't run you can't play. Looking at the down lineman we've got some super talent.

Our ends are Pitt's Hugh Green and PSU's Larry Kubin. Both are excellent performers. Green is one of the best athletes in football. Kubin hasn't received the recognition but he can play.

Our tackles are Penn State's musclemen, Bruce Clark and Matt Millen. Clark was the Lombardi winner. Neither can be handled one-on-one.

Rutger's Ed Steward is so quick at getting to the ball. He impressed us in the Garden State Bowl against Arizona St. What a nose-guard!

Our trio of linebackers is outstanding hitters and equally adept at pass coverage. Pitt's Jeff Pelusi will line-up in the middle, while Navy's Charles Thorton and Lance Mehl of Penn State give the team superb range and can aid in an outside rush in blitzing situations.

The secondary on this mythical team is a trio of ball-hawks. PSU's Pete Harris led the nation in interceptions and was on my All-American ballot last year. Gregg Milo of Navy is a heady player and while a step slow would complement any secondary. Our other defender is Pitt's Jo Jo Heath, an stellar man-to-man defender.

Maybe one of the most underrated performers in Eastern football is Temple's Casey Murphy. His punting alone is a most valuable asset to any team. He ranked 13th in the final NCAA stats.

Overall, I can't see too many conference all-star teams fielding a more outstanding contingent than the one we've selected for Publisher Jerry McCain of Athlon, Nashville, Tenn. We're looking forward to the coming football season and searching for members of next season's pre-season All-East team.

Next week we'll give you a brief look at our offensive team. We've got some surprises, too.

CLIPBOARD NOTES: Roger Bearde has already swung into action as the new roundball coach at Lake-Lehman. He's outlined his program to the squad and gave them several pointers on a program for over the summer.

I like the three-point hoop in pro basketball. It gives the game a little added excitement down the stretch. I'd like to see the two-point conversion back in the NFL. One thing I can't buy is the three foul shots to make two in the pros. That's too much for the best in the game. Two for two is more reasonable.

Chet Blazick carded an outstanding even par round of 72 to capture low gross honors in the 12th Masonic Golf Tourney at Irem over the weekend. Low net winner was Al Luff with a 64. A total of 50 golfers participated in the annual event. Luff had won the longest drive, too, but you can only claim one prize and that award was given to Bob Kopp.

Jack Allen won the closest to the pin on 17 with a shot of about two feet. Other top finishers were Bob Bachman with a 75, Jack Mascioli 77 and Jim Balmer with 77. In the net, Carl Dymond was second, Gordon Dietterick third and Arch Austin fourth. They all had 67s. Basil Dugan and Don Stevick did their usual superb job in coordinating the event.

Bruce Gover continued to play steady golf and captured the handicap club championship at Irem. Chet Blazick was second followed by Rich Saul and Andre Billings. Gover shot a 63 net on the final round to walk off with his initial title at the Back Mountain links.

Can't help but wondering how many experts gave Hale Irwin a chance to win the U.S. Open? If you read our column last week we predicted Irwin was one of our choices to win the title. The tougher the course, the better he plays.

He's been one of our favorites on the tour since we met him in Scranton several years ago. He's a fun person to be around and we tipped a few beers with him after his round. He's got all the shots. His iron game is what impressed us, especially for a place with small greens like Inverness.

Watch out for the team of Dave Williams and Bob Spencer on the links. They cleaned our clocks in the Tuesday Night League last week. Ed Rome and I couldn't get over some of the shots the duo pulled off. It was fun.

"Lefty" Bob Rogers cracked the 80 barrier Saturday and shot a 79 for his best round of the season. Now that school is out he'll get his game in shape.

Frank Wielding reminds us of the NBC peacock with his array of golfing attire. He takes some kidding about his flashy duds.

Speaking of razzing, Al Luff is the brunt of some quips, but I've got to tip my hat to him for winning the Masonic Tourney and really creaming his drive on 16.

A bunch of local gridders will be attending Pine Forest Football Camp in the Poconos this weekend. Coaches Gib Romaine and Terry Strock of Maryland will be part of the staff.

Every golf course has its critics. Some self-appointed. At Irem C.C. Jack Landis fits the bill. In the future I hope Jack will be a bit more discreet.

Billy Martin is coming back to the Yanks. While I'm not a Yankee fan anymore I feel Martin is dynamite as a manager, especially with all of the inflated egos on the Yanks. I gotta believe the Yanks are going to have problems as long as they've got Reggie Jackson around.

Bob Saul informs us several Dallas roundballers will attend Army's camp next month. Cadet Coach Mike Krzyzewski has one of the top camps in the East. We'd recommend it to any young cage prospect.

While NBC's coverage of the Open was top-shelf, I was a bit disappointed in not seeing some of the other top players on the tube. They dealt too much time to a certain group.

While on the subject of roundball, "Red" Jones name came up in a conversation recently. I'd rank "Red" as one of the most meticulous mentors to coach locally. He had a plan for every situation. I saw the St. Vincent's-St. Mary's game when Jack Cryan had the city team. It went five overtimes and rates as one of the best games I've ever seen.

Horlacher Majors to wind up season

Teams of the Major Division of the Bob Horlacher Memorial Little League were winding up their regular season of play early this week, getting in some makeup games that were rained out earlier in the season in preparation for the playoffs, which get underway this evening with the team finishing in fifth place meeting the Team which finished in fourth place for the right to continue in the playoffs for postseason honors.

Next week's schedule of playoff games on Monday evening will send the

winner of the 5-4 game of this evening against the Harveys Lake nine, and the second and third place finishers going at each other for the right to enter the finals.

Results of last week's games in the Majors division: Tuesday, Centermoreland 9, Noxen 8; Harveys Lake 10, Beaumont 4; Friday's games, Orange 9, Centermoreland 4, and Harveys Lake defeated Noxen. Score was not available.

Standings of the teams: Harveys Lake 10-1; Orange 6-5; Beaumont 5-6; Centermoreland 3-7; Noxen 3-8.



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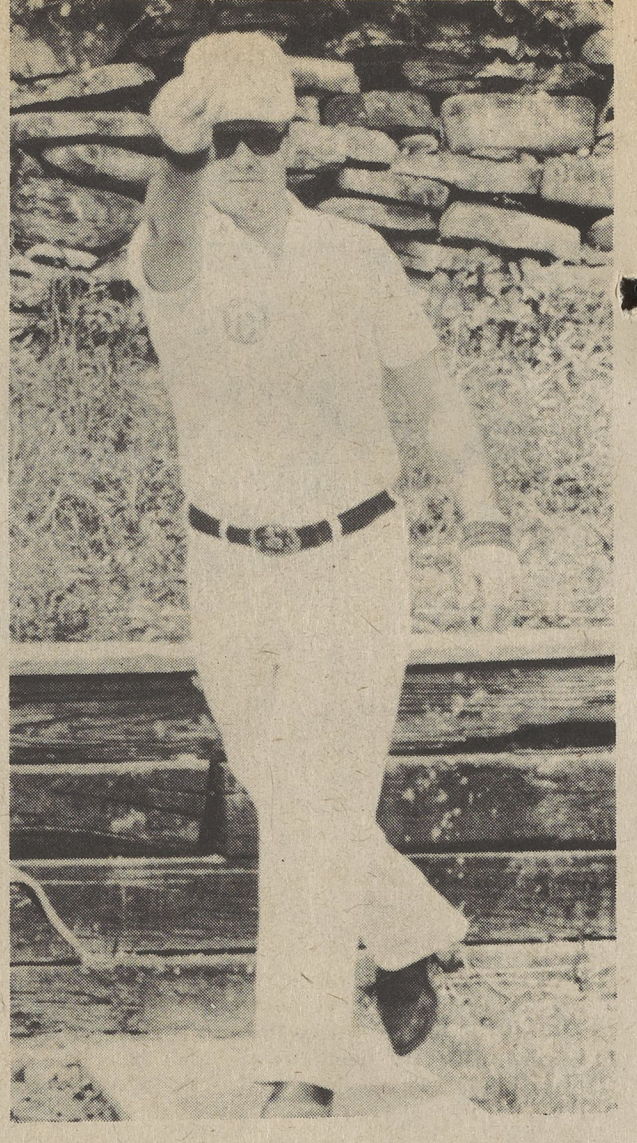
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SMOOTH FORM-Dick Wilson showing his smooth form during warm-ups for the horseshoe tournament at Dallas last weekend. Wilson was in 'B' Division of the competition. (Photo by Mark Moran)



PRACTICE SHOTS-Glenn Eppley in 'B' Division competition throws a few practice shots before the horseshoe tournament begins last Saturday at Dallas. (Photo by Mark Moran)



TOURNAMENT PRINCIPALS-Some of the principals in the horseshoe tournament last weekend were Ray Greenlaw, first vice president of Eastern Pennsylvania Association; Theresa Tranell, Marguerite Krupsha, refreshment stands; John King, director of Eastern Pennsylvania's Navy champions; and John Urbanc, president of Eastern Pennsylvania Association. (Photo by Mark Moran)

Horseshoe tourney success

The past weekend weather was perfect for the first Dallas Open Horseshoe Pitching Tournament held at the horseshoe grounds along Route 118. There were some outstanding games thrown both Saturday and Sunday and participants said it was one of the better tournaments ever held in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Spectators were treated to first class horseshoe pitching both days as well as fine home cooking and other refreshments.

Out-of-town pitchers found the ground in excellent condition and congratulated those who made the tournament possible.

The local horseshoe association expressed its appreciation to the Fall Fair Committee for providing a place for the first horseshoe tournament in the Back Mountain.

Winners by classes were Dan Bashore, New Cumberland 74 percent; Fritz Lutter, New Freedom 58.6 percent; Glenn Brown 54.9 percent; all Class A.

Class B, Glenn Eppley, Red Lion 45.3 percent; Dick Dart, Mt. Wolfe 42.7 percent; and G.W. Rubendall, Tower City 48.2 percent.

Class C, Alvin "Peanuts" Long, Dallas 34.2 percent; Gerard Harris, Dallas 35.4 percent; John King, Benton 30.7 percent; and Paul Kamont, Dallas 32.6 percent.

Teeners pennant on line

Pennant honors in the Teeners Division of the Bob Horlacher Memorial League will hinge pretty much on the outcome of Saturday's game between the Orange Yankees and Centermoreland Phillies on the latter's diamond, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Through last week's play, Centermoreland held a full game lead over the Orange nine as the two teams continued their straight season battle for top honors. In last week's games, Centermoreland trimmed the Yankees, 14 to

4, and Beaumont-Jenks finally solved the mystery of winning, beating Kunkle, 9 to 6, for its first win of the season.

In Saturday's games, Centermoreland defeated Kunkle, 13 to 5, and Orange had a field day, beating Beaumont-Jenks, 34 to 6.

In the second game on Saturday, Beaumont-Jenks will be guests of Kunkle in what will be the final game of the straight season.

Standings of the teams through last week's games: Centermoreland 8-2; Orange 7-3; Kunkle 4-6, and Beaumont-Jenks 1-9.

Kunkle clinches Minor title

Kunkle wrapped up honors in straight season play in the Minors Division of the Bob Horlacher Memorial Little League. The Kunkle nine had a perfect record of 10 wins and no losses through last week's play.

Only two more frames of games remain to be played in the Minors Division before the postseason playoffs begin on June 30. In Saturday's games,

Beaumont Dodgers will play at Centermoreland in a 2:30 start, Noxen will be guests of the Harveys Lake Bears, and Kunkle will play the Beaumont Bombers on the latter's field, both games scheduled for 4:30 starts.

On Tuesday, Centermoreland will be guests of the Harveys Lake Pirates, and Kunkle will windup the straight season at Orange, both games

scheduled to get underway at 6.

Results of last week's games: Noxen-Beaumont Dodgers, postponed; Harveys Lake Pirates 22, Centermoreland 4; Wednesday's games, Harveys Lake Pirates 18, Beaumont Bombers 14; Orange 23, Noxen 4; Saturday's results, Harveys Lake Pirates 19, Beaumont Dodgers 16; Orange 15, Harveys Lake

Bears 12; Orange 13, Harveys Lake Bears 8, and Kunkle defeated Centermoreland. No score available.

Standings of the teams: Kunkle 10-0; Orange 9-3; Harveys Lake Pirates 8-3; Beaumont Dodgers 7-5; Harveys Lake Bears 6-6; Beaumont Bombers 4-8; Centermoreland 2-10, and Noxen 0-11.

Rec sponsors men's basketball

The Dallas Borough Recreation Center is sponsoring a Basketball League for men 16 years of age or older to play on Sunday evenings.

For information call the Rec Center at 675-4833 or contact Bruce Riefenstahl at 675-3379.

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