

WILKES-BARRE FATS

Do the Knights dominate Dallas?

by Lee L. Richards

Another Super Bowl is in the record books and it was a solid football game won by the team with the better personnel, Pittsburgh. The rout that most of the experts predicted never came off. Sure the Steelers covered the line if you gave 11-points, but they got it on a gift by the Zebras and in the closing seconds.

When is the last time you saw a pro football game and there wasn't one flag for holding? It was obvious the refs weren't going to toss the flag unless it was a flagrant violation.

Like the previous other Super Bowl wins for the Steelers, QB Terry Bradshaw was the difference. I've always respected his ability, especially how he shakes off an interception or a poor throw. He's remarkable because he calls his own plays. His traps weren't going real well, yet he kept making the call and giving his linemen the opportunity to knock heads. This aided his deep throws off play-fakes.

Meanwhile, like we said, the Rams did match up with the Steelers very well in several areas. Vince Ferragamo is my kinda QB. He threw the high percentage pass early. Naturally, the Steelers adjusted and forced him to throw down the middle.

I was reminded last week of a comment I made here last year: "Pat Hayden wasn't the caliber of QB that could take the Rams to the Super Bowl." Ferragamo has much stronger arm. He's more accurate and puts more velocity on the ball.

Rams are weak deep. Steelers proved that when they needed big plays. Two safeties are just a step too slow. I couldn't understand why they didn't double up on Salloworth when Swann was on the bench?

Do I detect the Steelers are becoming a little more image conscious? I saw Joe Green grab one of his mates on the sideline when he was about to take a cheap swipe at a Ram. They didn't appear to be doing any late hitting either.

Another thought about the greatness of the Steelers. They play in Pittsburgh and not New York or Philly. If they had those two press corps behind them they'd be all world. They are on the same level as the Packers!

Had a good visit with former Lake-Lehman coach George Curry prior to the Bloom-Clarion wrestling match Wednesday. George is doing well at Berwick, but is very much interested in getting into coaching on the college level. He's got enough experience now to make a move and we told him we'd keep our ears open.

We saw a bunch of mat fans from the Valley at the big meet. Clarion topped Bloom, 21-12. Coach Bob Bubb wasn't too optimistic about his teams' chances because of all the injuries, but they responded to the challenge. Asst. coach Jack Davis told me Clarion only had 13 people out for practice on Monday. Flu and injuries left them with several holes in the lineup.

Former Lake-Lehman grappler, Tom Williams, was in the press area operating the video-tape machine for Bloom coach Roger Sanders. We had a chance to chat with him. Tom wanted to know why Wilkes wouldn't wrestle Bloom in a dual meet? He said he couldn't believe two schools 40 miles away couldn't get together.

I told Tom it wasn't Bloom's fault—that Wilkes claimed they got robbed in a meet back in the early 1960s and they broke off all ties. It's a bit ridiculous and would be like King's and Wilkes not getting together in basketball.

We had several changes in our second Eastern Mat Poll this week. Here's how the East's Elite shaped up: 1-Lehigh, 2-Bloomsburg, 3-Penn State, 4-Clarion, 5-Wilkes, 6-Temple, 7-Slippery Rock, 8-Tie-Navy and Hofstra, 10-Rhode Island. Members of our panel this year are: Thad Turner, Lehigh; Rich Lorenzo, Penn St.; John Johnston, Princeton; Bob Bubb, Clarion; Doug McDonald, Centre Daily Times; Jim Buss, Allentown-Call; Bob Kinney, West Point; Buck O'Reilly, Lock Haven.

This is the 12th year of our poll and it's based strictly on dual meets. This is the first year on the panel for Coach Lorenzo. He replaces Pitt's Dave Adams, who'll assume the duties as athletic director at San Jose State next month.

The Baltimore Sun did a splendid feature on the recruiting of Maryland coach Gib Romaine. Most of the story revolved around Coughlin's Ron Solt and his mom and dad. Solt is considered by most as one of the top prospects in the state.

Checking out most of the teams around the Eastern Wrestling League we can't believe all the good young wrestlers on most of the teams. We're looking forward to the EWL tournament at Clarion next month. I've got a hunch the EWL is only going to get stronger in the future.

Lake-Lehman took another boys contest from rival Dallas. Football, basketball, and wrestling. Knights sure appear to be dominating the Mountaineers of late. That's how high school sports goes. They run in cycles.

Coach Shorty Hitchcock's grapplers hung a 37-19 trimming on the Big D lads. Knights did it the same way Meyers did it, in the lower weights.

Surprise of the meet had to be Jeff Sodroski of Dallas whumping Mike Leskowski, 8-2. Jeff appears to be getting a mite more aggressive. Rick and Rocky Bonomo are much improved in their techniques, too.

A couple of roundball buffs inform me Dallas' Jim Thomas, Paul Jobson and Walt Weir are three of the best pure shooters in the division. Mounts ripped Seton on Friday. Pittston school obviously missed their top gun, Paul Leonard. I gotta hunch Dallas and Lake-Lehman are gonna be right in the thick of the race in both halves. To win, they've got to beat GAR when they get 'em on their home court.

Had a nice visit on the phone with a couple of the Temple grid coaches. The Garden State Bowl people really treated the Owls well. They each received a blanket, watch and travel bags. Coach John Brunner says the Owls will be respectable again next season. Coach Wayne Hardin and his staff sure have put that program together.

Lake-Lehman's Mark Boyle is recovering nicely according to reports. He sustained an injury while wrestling. We hope he's back on his feet real quick.

Eastern Football Writers selected Pitt Coach Jackie Sherrill Coach of the Year. I'm sure he's going to pick up a lot of support in the Football Writers of America balloting, too. After re-evaluating our choices, we cast our vote for Coach Sherrill.

Ski race planned in Sullivan County

A X-country ski race is being planned for Sunday, Feb. 10 at Eagles Mere, Pennsylvania at Hanley's Happy Hill Ski Area, running courses of approximately 11.5, 7, and 2.25 kilometers.

The courses will be looping, beginning and ending at the same point. The trails will be "set" before the race and practice runs may be made on Saturday the 9th of February.

There will be two classes for the long race, mens and womens open. For the middle and short races there will be three classes each; mens, womens and youth. All races will be a mass start.

Registration fees: adults (ninth grade and up), \$3 and those younger \$1.50.

Some other items of interest to contestants; if more than five people enter any one class, there will be medals awarded to the first three finishers; if less than five in any one class only one medal will be awarded.

A trophy will be

awarded to the person who finishes first in the middle race from Sullivan County.

For last minute snow details regarding race day please contact the Sullivan Review during business hours (717) 928-8136.

The race is being co-sponsored by Hanley's Happy Hill and the Sullivan Review.

Schuler

'Our kids spirits were broken'

"Coughlin is a pretty tough team and I believe our kids spirits are broken with our past three meets with Meyers, Valley West and Lake-Lehman. Especially under the circumstances and the situation being what it has been," said Dallas mat coach Larry Schuler after Saturday's meet with the Crusaders. The Crusaders took eight of 11 bouts to defeat the Mountaineers 41-14.

"Bill Rudick made one mistake in his bout," said Schuler. "He was leading in the final period with about 30 seconds on the clock when he went for a takedown. He made a Twp. firemen complete renovations

The Jackson Township Volunteer Fire Department has recently completed renovations of the interior of their fire company building. All work was planned and performed by the volunteer members of the fire company.

Anyone interested in renting the facility for group or social affairs can obtain additional information by contacting Barry Aston at 696-1506.

poor execution which cost him the bout. I agreed with his going for the takedown but he made a mistake.

"If Jeff Sodrosky had wrestled Solt like he wrestled in the Lake-Lehman meet I believe he would have won. That doesn't mean we'd come near winning the meet but it would have been better."

Dallas took the 119-lb., 132-lb. and 138-lb. bouts while 145-lb. Bob Eyet wrestled to a 0-0 draw with John Saia.

In the 98-lb. bout Bill Rudick lost a close 9-8 bout to Lou Ercolani. 105-lb. Joe Patrizi clamped Jerry Ross in 5:42 and 112-lb. Mike Emerick turned over Edison Culver in 3:28.

Rick Rogers put the first three points on the board for the Mountaineers by decisioning 119-lb. Chuck Obeid 6-3.

The Mountaineers hopes for a win by Nick Giordano were quickly dashed when he gave up a 6-2 bout to 126-lb. Crusader Bob Nagle.

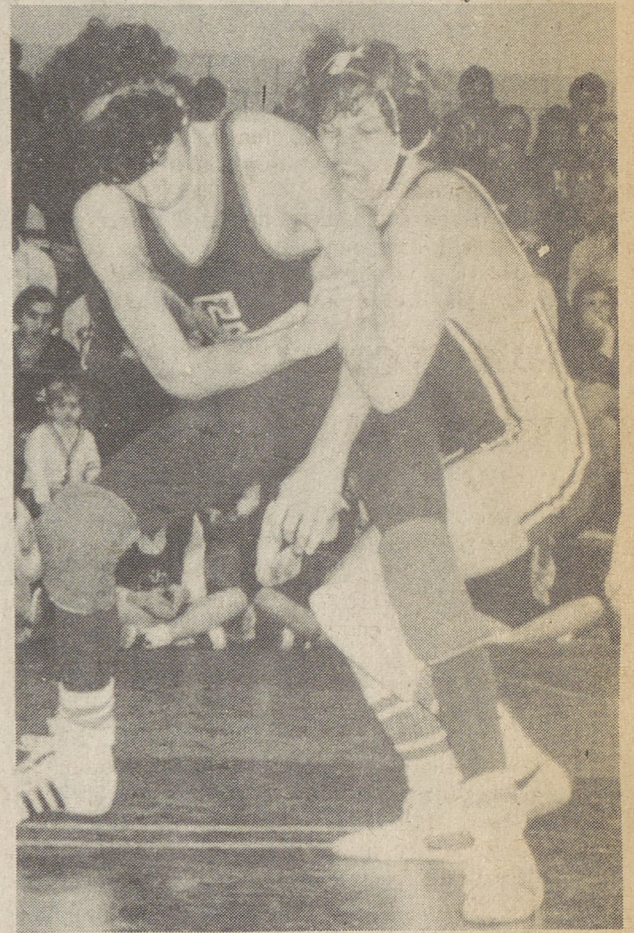
Mount Scott Rosenberg moved the team score to six by outwrestling 132-lb. Eric Banaszek 5-2.

138-lb. Andy Pinter continued undefeated in league competition by turning over Wayne

Cardoni in 4:44. Bob Eyet wrestled to the 0-0 draw with Coughlin's 145-lb. John Saia.

The remaining bouts went to the Crusaders with 155-lb. Dave Banashefski clamping

Matt Kravits in :51 seconds. 167-lb. Lou Bocci upended Jim Gemberling in 5:18. 185-lb. Walt Yurchak flattened Ed Yakobovitz in 1:31 and Hwt. Ron Solt decisioned Jeff Sodrosky 4-1.



RODGERS BOUT—Coughlin's Chuck Obeid tries to get loose from Mount Rick Rodgers but Rodgers held on and won the bout 6-3 in Saturday night's meet. (Photo by Mark Moran)

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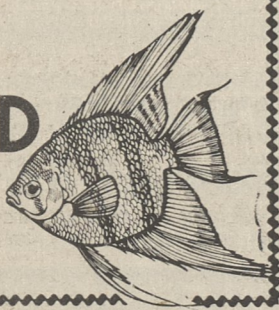
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