

Knights have 50 matmen

Knights wrestling coach Shorty Hitchcock has 50 boys out for the team this year but only six returning lettermen. He lost most of his championship squad of last season through graduation including the Back Mountain's three first state champs, Rick and Rocky Bonomo and Mike Leskowsky.

The returning lettermen are Rusty Coolbaugh, Brad Hontz, Mike Scavone, Tracey Slocum, Frank Kutz and Al Martin.

"It's a young team," said Hitchcock, "Not many seniors, most sophomores and juniors. We have a lot of depth and

a lot of new faces but they have some experience. "Now we are strongest in our middle weights but we should get a lot of experience in the exhibition season."

In addition to the returning lettermen the other wrestlers include Aaron Shaw, Wayne Rosencrans, J.D. Pallante, Jody Pallante, Mike Moransky, Ryan Traver, Norm Clancy, Chuck Garnett, Todd McCarroll, Neal Colatoski, Rich Cundiff, Marty Brobst, Scott Crispell, Dan Duffy, Tom Ganis, Bill Geurin, Ed Hallda, John Headman, Troy Lubinski, Joe Mackiewicz, Tom

McEuen, Kevin McLaughlin, Randy Murphy, Vince Nar-savage, Scott Oakley, John Smith, Cy Spencer, Eric Traver, Dan Walsh, Chris Wargo, Joe Yanchunas, Glen Frantz, Mike Maceiko, Chris Van Gorder and Rick Brader.

"It's a balanced league in both divisions this season," said Hitchcock. "I'm looking forward to it. With so many graduated, coaching will be a challenge this year. We don't have so many stars. It will be interesting watching the kids develop."

The Knights open their exhibition schedule with N.E. Bradford and Elk

Lake at N.E. Bradford, Dec. 2, then meet W. Scranton and Wyalusing Dec. 4 at Scranton. They have a tri-meet with Sullivan County and Montoursville, away, Dec. 5 and Dec. 8, they meet Mountainview away.

The squad will host Berwick and Montrose Dec. 9 before entering the Tunkhannock Tournament Dec. 11 and 12. They have a double dual meet at Hanover Dec. 16, enter the Troy Tournament Dec. 19 and the Selingsgrove Tournament Dec. 30. They open the league season with Bishop O'Reilly, Jan. 6 at the Queensmen's gym, Kingston.

Dallas girls lose first two

Dallas Senior High Girls basketball team have lost their first two exhibition games but Coach Kit Karuza is not discouraged by the losses. The girls were defeated 66-36 by Riverside and 65-47 by Bishop O'Hara.

"I'm not upset by the losses," said Karuza. "We moved up a step in exhibition competition this season and added several Scranton schools to our schedule."

"Riverside was District 2 champs last year and Bishop O'Hara has made the division playoffs for the past several years. We also will play Scranton Tech and Carbondale, who is traditionally strong. We're hoping the exhibition schedule will strengthen the team for league play."

"This year's team has a good attitude. They don't like to lose and we have good leadership from Colette Feeney, Kerrie Lehon and Kathy Walsh. We look for a better team this year in league play."

Karuza has 16 girls on the roster this year, five seniors, six juniors, four sophomores and one freshman. Four are returning lettermen—Feeney, Lehon, Kim Reese and Judy Krispin. All four are starters with Kathy Walsh, last year's transferee from Bishop Hoban, the fifth starter.

The second team consists of Debbie Swaboski, Sheri Ciccarelli, Felicia Tucker, and Colleen Leaf. Other players are Chris Sobek, Donna Kupinski, Theresa Baseski, Julie Adams, Sharon Eyet, Denise Sitkowski and Leslie Billman. Karuza expects all of these girls to play varsity before the season ends.

The team was scheduled to play Bishop O'Reilly, Dec. 1, then Old Forge, Dec. 3 and Northwest Dec. 4. The girls will play Carbondale at home Dec. 7 in a night game before entering the CYC Tournament, Dec. 14 and 16. Their first opponent in the tournament

will be Meyers, highly rated this year.

Immediately following they will ply in the Tunkhannock Tournament, Dec. 17 & 19, with Tunkhannock their opponent.

The Dallas girls play 30 games this season, 12 in exhibition, 16 in league and two games with Nanticoke on bye Fridays.

"We don't have the speed we did the past two years," said Karuza, "but better experience and they are aggressive."

"In our scrimmages and games to date, we have played man-to-man. The trend seems to be that way in girls basketball. Most of the teams are playing man-to-man."

"We have some good shooters and they are an excellent defensive team. They are learning new positions and when to move to help one another. The starting five are excellent shooters although Feeney will set up more shots from point guard position."

Judy Krispin's improvement has been most impressive both on offense and defense.

Dallas is not a tall team. Their tallest girl is 5'8". There are several at that height. They will meet girls 6' and 6'1" in exhibition play.

"We will have to keep the big girls off the boards," said Karuza.

Short on experienced replacements, Karuza believes that experience will come as the season progresses. Billman, a freshman, has been a pleasant surprise. She has been doing some fine playing on the jayvees.

Karuza picks Seton Catholic as the favorite in Division AA. Hanover also is strong with four or five returning from last year's varsity and Lake-Lehman could be a dark

horse. This is Meyers first season in AA division but there's no doubt they will be small and quick. West Side Tech is at a disadvantage with no feeder system and Crestwood lost several fine players through graduation.

Wyoming Seminary is always a question mark

and GAR—it's too early to evaluate. Like their counterparts, the Grenadier girls can always surprise.

If Karuza is right, Dallas will surprise a lot of people this season. By the opening of the league season he expects his girls to be ready to win games.

Dallas cagers upset Wyoming 63-58

Dallas cagers pulled a mild 63-58 over Wyoming Area last Friday night on the Mountaineers court.

Dallas Coach Clint Brobst said he was pleased with the win and more so with the way the boys played together.

"It's the best a team has played together in a long time," he said.

The game was close all the way with the Warriors going out in front first to lead 7-0. The Dallas boys had several turnovers at the start before they settled down and rallied to make the score 7-6. The score was tied at 17 at the end of the first quarter but the Warriors pulled ahead 35-33 at halftime.

In the third quarter the Mountaineers 13-12 to pull in front 48-45 at the end of the third quarter. Down by three going into the

final period the Mountaineers rallied and outscored the Warriors 18-10 to win the contest.

The Mountaineers scoring in the fourth quarter with Mike Smith collecting eight, Dave Thomas four, Andy Manusky, Gary Kirk and Tim Guzek each two.

Mike Smith led Dallas in the scoring with 32 points and 16 rebounds. Dave Thomas collected 13 points, and Tim Guzek eight points and 11 rebounds.

"There was great team play by Kirk and Thomas," said Brobst, "with both setting up good scoring opportunities. They had five assists each and Kirk scored eight points in the game."

Both teams shot 50 percent or better from the foul line with Dallas five for 10 and Wyoming 10 for 14.

Coach Schuler: "I'm optimistic"

"I'm optimistic but it's too early to evaluate our potential," said Coach Larry Schuler of the Dallas wrestling squad.

It takes time for the boys to settle down and make the weights they should be.

"The kids are working and are concerned about their performance. They're a good bunch of kids and work well together. They are a dedicated and determined group."

"Our first competition will be the Hanover Tournament, Nov. 28, but it's still too early to determine weight positions. We haven't had any eliminations yet. The lineup in the Hanover tournament will not necessarily be the final line-up."

"We have as much if not more depth than ever before. This is the best balanced team I've ever coached. We have several boys at every weight class."

Schuler has about 35 candidates out for this year's wrestling squad. He won't have an accurate court until the football players are out. They were given a week off after the end of the grid season.

In the light weights he has T.J. Bagley, John Burke, Dusty Goble, Billy Rudick, Lenny Falcone, Mike Borton, Kevin Feeney, Mike Ramirez, range from 119 to 126.

Wrestling at 126 or 132 also are Don Dickson, Craig Rome, Jim Davis, Keith Furman, Ken Matchett, Edison Culver, Todd Grace.

Wade Curtis can weigh in at 132 or 138, as can Tom O'Connell or Rick

Kirshner. In the 145-154 weight range are Bill Griffin, Mark Kravits, Norm Bordley, Andy Pryn, Mark Metz and Bill Helgemo.

At 154-167 Schuler has Dave Curtis or Ed Jakubowicz 167-185. Candidates for 185 or heavyweight are Greg Dukinas, Ray Wall, or Paul Walsh, eligible this year after transferring to Dallas from Bishop Hoban in the 1980-81 school year.

"I have to see how many of the football players come out," said Schuler, "before we begin eliminations. The pre-season meets will give us a better perspective on the team and its potential."

It will also give the wrestlers an opportunity to get some experience and better determine a comfortable weight."

Following the Hanover tournament, the Mountaineers will meet Valley View and Berwick at home Dec. 2. They will enter the Easton Tournament, Dec. 4 and 5 and the Tunkhannock Tournament Dec. 11 and 12. There will be 16 teams in each of these tournaments.

Dallas will go to Mountain View, Dec. 16, then host a double meet, Dec. 19, with Coughlin and Slatington, Dallas and Northampton.

The Mountaineers will wrestle in the Gov. Mifflin

Tournament Dec. 29 and 30, 12 team competition, before meeting Coughlin, Jan. 6, in the opening of the league season. The Mountaineers wrestle two meets, Jan. 9, West Side Tech, at home 1 p.m., then Tunkhannock, away, at 7:30 p.m.

They will host Nanticoke, Jan. 13, then go to Pittston Area Jan. 16. Crestwood will come to Dallas Jan. 20 before the Mounts take to the road to meet Hanover Jan. 20 and Bishop O'Reilly, Jan. 27. The final meet in Jan. will be with Bishop Hoban,

home, Dec. 30.

The league schedule continues through February with Districts, March 4, 5 and 6, and Regionals March 12 and 13.

This year wrestlers will weigh in at noon the day of the meet instead of in the evening just prior to the meet. The athletes will weigh in at their own school with certification by the principal and athletic director.

Assistant senior high school coach is Stephen Kaschenbach, former Dallas varsity wrestler.

"Bag a buck" contest

The Dallas Post will provide deer hunters with a free photo and a free subscription to the first person who qualifies in the following categories:

1. You are the first to call the Dallas Post, 675-5211 or 825-6868, for a photo of you and your game; from 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, to 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4.
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You may either bring your game directly to the Post, which is preferred, or call for the Post photographer. The Dallas Post is located at 61 Gerald Ave.

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