

Sports

Looking back on 1984 season

Coaches look for better records in 1985

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Reflections and Anticipations — a new song title? No, it's the reflections of Dallas Coach Ron Rybak and Lake-Lehman Coach Mark Kirk as they look back on the 1984 football season and their anticipation of the season of 1985.

At the beginning of the 1984 practice season, Coach Rybak predicted the Mountaineers had a long season ahead of them. With only two lettermen in the 13 seniors who were out for the team, Rybak and his coaching staff knew their job was to develop the 23 sophomores and 17 juniors who were on the squad.

"We lost our entire varsity through graduation, including backups in key positions and we knew that it would be a tough rebuilding year," said Rybak. "Our seniors were a dedicated, hardworking group who played to the best of their ability, but they were the first to admit they were not top football players. But, those kids gave me 200 percent in every game and a coach can't ask for more from anyone.

"We knew we weren't going to win many games, although I believed it would be more than one," Rybak



MARK KIRK

added. "We came close several times, but we never got the big plays. It was a painful season for

our coaching staff."

Rybak and his coaches followed their long-range plan — to develop as many of the younger boys as they could and he said that plan has paid off. In the beginning of the season, the younger players made a lot of mistakes and, although fans may not have been aware of it, each week sophomores and juniors were intermingled in the game with the seniors and they have come a long way.

"A major setback this past season was that we started with only three coaches," Rybak said. "We had to double up in teaching the kids and, as a result, we couldn't give specific attention where it was needed. Part way through the season, Paul Warchal came out to help us, but he told us from the beginning he would assist in taking the extraneous duties from us, but he wouldn't attempt to teach any of the boys. He did an excellent job in helping with discipline and those type of duties. It began to show in our daily practices."

Rybak said in looking toward next season, he has 23 players coming back — players who have played this season in key positions. He pointed out that, for the first time since he took over as head coach, he has three quarterbacks for next

season, all of whom can play in other key positions as well.

According to Rybak, these kids have developed and are tough and aggressive. He said they are coachable and are good athletes.

"They are going to be good football players," the Dallas coach said. "They have the experience; their attitude is good and next season the teams we play will find out we are a different ball club."

Rybak said with his young quarterbacks getting the experience they did, the Mountaineers will be able to go to the air, something they couldn't do too well this season. They also will have a good secondary and will be playing tougher games.

His first priority will be to work for a full coaching staff before the beginning of the practice season which will give the team the boost it needs.

Lake-Lehman Coach Mark Kirk, in looking back over the 1984 gridiron season, feels his Black Knights had a winning year with a 4-3 record in Division A and 4-7 overall. He said he was pleased with the way his team developed over the season.

"The kids showed lot of poise and maturity which they built into confidence," said Kirk. "During the first half of the season, they developed



RON RYBAK

maturity and, in the last half, they gained confidence and poise." Looking back, Kirk said he felt

the turning point was during Lake-Lehman's game with GAR. Although the Knights didn't win that game, Kirk felt their performance gave them the confidence they needed. They realized they had the ability to win and proved it against Crestwood and with Dallas.

"Few people realize it, but we have a lot of our kids coming back next season," said Kirk. He said he had some key positions to fill next season such as those of T. Willy Cadwalader, Chris Van Gorder, Bill Bearde, Dave Martin, Ed Gavlick and Earl Weidner, all of whom played both offense and defense this year.

Kirk has seven juniors returning next season and he claims they are a very dedicated group. He also has five sophomores and 11 freshmen returning, all of whom were on the team this season.

"I am looking forward to a better season next year," said Kirk, "possibly a championship team."

The Mountaineers roster listed 13 seniors, 15 juniors and 22 sophomores this year with only five key positions filled by seniors. The Knights roster listed 10 seniors, seven juniors, five sophomores and 11 freshmen with the 10 seniors, four juniors and one sophomore usually filling starting positions.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

State champions

Members of the Back Mountain Wrestling Club who were recently honored as state champions are shown here. From left, first row, Robert Farber, first place, AAU States; Ray Rosencrans, Keystone state champion; Rick Finnegan, AAU state champ. Second row, Charlie Roper, Northern Division Outstanding Wrestler Award; Jason Naugle, third place, AAU states.

Highlanders open in winning fashion

By JOHN RODGERS
Staff Correspondent

The Highlanders of College Misericordia started the 1984-85 basketball season in winning fashion as the men opened by defeating Gwynned Mercy College, 135-67. The 135 points scored by the Dallas boys was the highest point total in the history of Misericordia basketball.

Steve Daniels led the Misericordia scoring with 30 points, most of them coming on aggressive moves to the basket, while his teammate Monte Deyo had 29 points on hard inside play. Steve Dente, Phil Guare and Greg Kupp added 10 points apiece to the winning cause.

Joe Miller led Gwynned-Mercy with 25 points.

The second game of the year saw the Highlanders come up on the short end of a 98-72 score as the locals were defeated by Division II Muhlenburg College of Allentown.

The Muhlenburg team proved to be a little too strong for the locals as the visitors took a 45-32 halftime lead and never looked back. Led by Mike Abel's 23-point performance, Muhlenburg dropped the Blue and Gold to 1-1 on the year.

Steve Daniels kept his torrid scoring pace with 36 points while Phil Guare and Greg Kupp chipped in 11 points each.

The Lady Highlanders are sporting a perfect 3-0 record with impressive victories over Gwynned-Mercy, Penn State-Schuylkill and Division II Muhlenburg.

The Misericordia girls, led by Sue

Sharp's 20 points, upended Gwynned-Mercy, 82-42. Kim Stetzar had 14 points and Liz Schlegel added 12 for Misericordia while Kathy Webb led Gwynned-Mercy with 23 counters.

The Dallas women notched their second victory, equalling last year's total victories, by thumping Penn State-Schuylkill 71-46.

The locals placed four girls in double figures. Sue Sharp led the way with 23 points, Kim Stetzar had 14 and Kim Vermullen and Terry Milleton added 10 markers each.

The third victory proved the Lady Highlanders are a team to be dealt with. After 40 minutes of hard roundball, which saw the lead change 13 times and the score tied nine times, the Lady Highlanders finally defeated strong Division II Muhlenburg College, 56-55.

Kim Vermullen scored for Misericordia with just seven seconds remaining in the game, to seal the win while Kim Stetzar stole an inbound pass to secure the victory.

Kim Vermullen, a former Tunkhannock standout, paced Misericordia with 16 points while Terry Middleton had 15.

Post misery add 1

HIGH AND LOW POINTS: Steve Daniels is hitting the nets for better than 32 points per game...Team offense scoring well (135-72) averaging over 100 points per game...Defense is becoming suspect, giving up an average of over 80 points per game...The women's team is off to its best start in years with a balanced scoring attack (four girls in double figures) and a very aggressive player-to-player defense is the reason why...Foul trouble, however, could cause problems for the Lady Highlanders in the future. The last game proved this with key player Sue Sharp fouling out early in the second half.



Players honored

Dallas Senior High School hockey players and their parents were honored at an awards dinner, Sunday, Nov. 25, at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre. Varsity Coach Robyn Jones and members of her staff presented trophies to the outstanding players of the year. Shown with their trophies are, Jill Radzinski, seated, Most Valuable Offense Player and Most Outstanding Contributor to the team. From left, standing, Joyce Tinner, Rookie of the Year; Maureen Wisniewski, Most Valuable Defense Player; Linda King, Most Improved Player. Players of the week selected during the season receiving plaques were Lori Ogurkis, Kim Rinehimer, Linda King, Jill Radzinski, Maureen Wisniewski, Karen Wall, Joyce Tinner and Shaunna Griffin.

Hockey All-Stars live up to their title

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Wyoming Valley Field Hockey Conference Class AAA and AA All-Stars proved why they were named All-Stars last week when the teams played to a 0-0 tie at Wilkes-Barre Memorial Stadium.

The All-Stars, selected by the coaches from both AAA and AA, met Tuesday, Nov. 20, on the artificial turf at Meyers and lost no time in proving that they deserved the name All-Stars when they played at a fast pace throughout most of the game.

Crestwood's Diane Madl was named the AAA's Most Valuable Player and Lake-Lehman's Sandy Diction took the Most Valuable Player award for AA.

Despite Diction taking the AA MVP award, it was Mountaineer Jill Radzinski who passed to Diction for the shot Diction nearly made.

Both team played excellent field hockey, according to game official Marge Garinger who said she was amazed at how well all of the players were accustomed to the turf prior to Tuesday's game.

The game, which was sponsored for the first time by the Dallas Unico Club, drew the attention of more than a dozen Division I and Division III college coaches. Dallas High School Field Hockey Coach

Robyn Jones said it was a wonderful opportunity for the coaches to observe some of the outstanding players of the area.

Lake-Lehman Coach Jean Lipski and her assistant, Lynn Coury, coached the AA team. Lipski said she was proud to be selected as their coach and the girls made her very proud of them.

"It took them about five or 10 minutes to adjust to the turf and after that they turned in a fine performance," the Lehman mentor said. "The various college coaches who were there were very impressed with the girls' playing. They said they were better than the Lancaster-Lebanon competition. That means a lot because the Lancaster area has been the stronghold of field hockey."

Lipski said the game provided great exposure for the kids and what the coaches wanted — exposure for the players — was accomplished. All of the girls who were interested in going to college had an opportunity to talk with the numerous coaches who were there at the reception following the game.

Coaches from all of the local high schools selected the Most Valuable Players from each division.

"I hope we can continue this as an annual affair," said Lipski. "A lot of Division I coaches were at the game which gave the girls a great opportunity."

STRIKES AND SPARES

Lombardo Bakery took three points from Hoof N Paw to continue to lead the Imperialette League. S. Johnson hit pins for 184 for the bakery team. J. Mekeel rolled 202 and L. Johnson knocked down pins for 179 (485) for the losing five. Mahaffey Oil picked off three from Scavone Motors led by M. Fondo's 183 and Jean Shop took three from Humphrey's Apparel aided by D. Garnett's 180 and H. Dickinson's 175.

In Bonomo's Major League G.H. Harris shut out the Beach Combers with A. Wendel missing a perfect game by 10 pins as he scattered pins for 290 (654). G. Kazokas knocked them down for 210-200-204 (614). T. Doughton rolled 520 and M. Whiting 518. Brown's Oil took all from Charlies All Stars paced by J. Roan's 550, R. Bonomo's 545 and P. Thomas' 533. The All Stars were led by F. Cornell's 217 (590), K. Orkwis'

540, K. Spencer's 537 and B. Cyphers' 524 but the team was unable to overcome the handicap in two of the three games. Glen Mazer's 227 (579) and Gary Mazer's 535 set the pace for Sweet Valley Outfitters three point win over the Hambos whose high roller was S. Bonoml with 527. Back Mountain Sporting Goods copped three from the Bermudas with none of the men able to hit high scores.

Steele's Restaurant blanked Katyl TV in George Shupp League aided by Red's 227 (596) and J. Shultz's 537. R. Shoemaker's 545 was high for the TV men. Harris Associates shut out SCID sparked by D. Purvin's 540 and A. Wendel's 537. F. Adams walloped the pins for 232 (602) and R. Bonomo hit them for 231 (566) to lead Fino's Pharmacy to a 2-2 split with Gino's Shoe Store. C. Glasser added 247 (533). C. Kazokas rolled 574 for Gino's and T.

Doughton hit 534. B. Cyphers posted 525.

In the Ladies Country League A. Hospodar's 185 (488) set the pace for Fashion Vending's three points from Gordon Insurance whose F. Allabaugh hit a big 177-202 (503). Bonomo's Sports Center picked up three from Grotto Pizza led by L. Maciejcak's 199 (491). K. Scavone gave 182 (478) and M. Nelly rolled 183. D. Garnett's 175 was high game for the pizza team. Castlettes C. Smith posted 474 to lead the way to three points from G.H. Harris Associates.

Dallas A took all from Shavertown C in the Back Mt. Church League but none of the men were successful in hitting high scores. Shavertown B bowlers did better with B. Walko hitting the pins for 201-200 (581) and C. Kazokas rolling 568 to lead the team to three points from Carverton A. D. Wright added 530. C. Remley posted 224 (520) for the Carverton men. East Dallas took three from Trucksville B paced by R. Witkowski's 563. H. Shupp's 524 showed the way for Orange's three points from Carverton B. F. Hughes scattered pins for 220-209 (598) to aid Trucksville C in dividing evenly with Maple Grove.

In the Idetown Compact League LaBarons blanked the Camaros. B. May's 179 was high for the Capris who picked up three points from the Corvettes. D. Doty registered 506 and C. Doty rolled 187 (479) to lead Aries to a 2-2 split with the Firebirds. D. Kolankewicz contributed 174. C. Williams hit 503 for the Citations and B. Cross hit the pins for 474 for the Pintos as the two teams divided evenly.

Sunday night racing card will continue at Pocono Downs

Following a successful debut season, Sunday night racing will again be a regular part of the racing schedule at Pocono Downs in 1985.

Sunday night racing was reintroduced to the Luzerne County harness racing facility during the recently completed 1984 season and through there were no spectacular handle or attendance figures, Sunday became one of the most consistent days on the Pocono Downs racing schedule.

One feature that made Sunday night racing attractive to area fans was the 7 p.m. post time, one-half hour earlier than the normal 7:30 p.m. start. This allowed racing patrons to return home earlier on the night before the start of the work week.

Pocono Downs 1985 racing season will open on Friday night, March 29. The season will continue for 150 racing days and be completed on Sunday, Nov. 10.



SUSAN DICTON

Diction ends first season

Susan Diction, a freshman at Wilkes College has recently finished her first season as a member of the Lady Colonel field hockey team under the direction of coach Gay Meyers.

Diction, a graduate of Lake-Lehman High School, lettered three years as a left wing under head coach Jean Lipski.

As a Colonel, she also played left wing and tallied three assists on the season. Often a starter, she added speed and stickwork to the forward line.

Diction, the daughter of James Diction, Park Avenue, Fieldcrest, Shavertown, is a Computer/Science major at Wilkes.

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