

# Sports

At Dallas and Lake-Lehman

## Basketball programs get underway

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

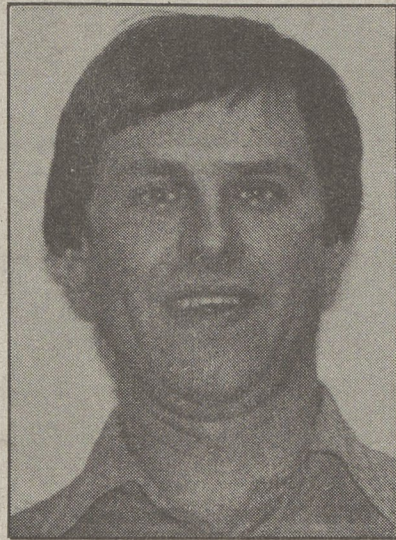
Back Mountain cage fans will have no opportunity to see local high school teams in action until this Friday when Dallas boys go against Nanticoke away and Lake-Lehman girls play in the Williamsport Tournament.

The first opportunity local fans will have to see a home game will be December 11 when Dallas girls play at home following their competition in the Tunkhannock Tournament, December 8 and December 10 away.

Lake-Lehman boys play their first game on December 11, when they travel to Elk Lake.

The new PIAA ruling, which shortened the basketball season, also brings about an earlier opening of the season with the Back Mountain schools beginning on December 18.

There will be a lot of new faces on the Dallas and Lake-Lehman boys teams since both Coach Clarence Ozgo of Dallas and Coach Rodger Bearde of Lake-Lehman lost most of their starters through graduation.



CLARENCE OZGO  
DALLAS BOYS COACH

returning at Lake-Lehman in his son, Bill, a 5'10" starter from last season, and Earl Weidner, 5'11" who saw quite a bit of action. The Knights lost five starters through graduation.

Bearde and Weidner will be the nucleus for the Knights with Coach Bearde having high hopes for T. Willy Cadwalader 6'2", Dave Janiczek 5'11", and Bill Boyle 5'10".

"We have an inexperienced team," said Bearde. "And you can plan to see a lot of changes in the lineup as the season progresses."

The Knights are a taller team this year and senior Dave Traver 5'8" is a real hustler. Sophomore Brian James 5'10" a hard worker, made the varsity and junior Paul Andes 5'11" has potential for an excellent rebounder and should be a scoring threat.

Other members of the varsity roster are freshman Carl Houck 6'4", junior Keith Kendall 6'5", and junior Jeff Ruzicki 6'3".

Dallas girls coach Kit Karuza has two starters returning from last year in seniors Cheryl Gavigan and Kim Rollman and three letterwinners in Jill Radzinski, Kim Rinehimer, seniors; and Karen Vloedman, a junior.

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He also has five starters from last season's undefeated junior high team in Angie Kern, Jo Ann Cook, Lori Brokenshire, and Eileen Walsh, sophomores and Melissa Kohli, freshman.

Karuza said he also sees great potential in Karen Wall, Michele Button, Angela Chiarucci, Tricia Chisner, Tammy Daveski, Kristell Kocher and Patricia Sudol.

"Our team has good size and a great deal of potential," the Dallas coach said. "As the players mature and gain experience, we believe we will have a quality team to take the floor."

Cheryl Gavigan and Karen Vloedman are the team captains.

Dallas goes into the Tunkhannock Tournament as the defending champions for the past two years and would like to continue along that path. Two of the better teams in the area play the girls at home when they host Nanticoke on December 11 and Benton on December 17.

They open the league competition on December 18 against Meyers.

The Lady Knights' Coach Joe Martini has 26 girls out this season with good senior leadership in Sandy Diction, Pam Solinski and Lori Lopasky. He said he is disappointed in some of the overall playing from some of the younger players who were out last season. He expects they will be about a month



KIT KARUZA  
DALLAS GIRLS COACH

late in jelling as a team.

The Knights have no one standout this year, but are a very competitive team. Cindy Slocum is strong and will probably be one of the starters. Sharing the guard posi-

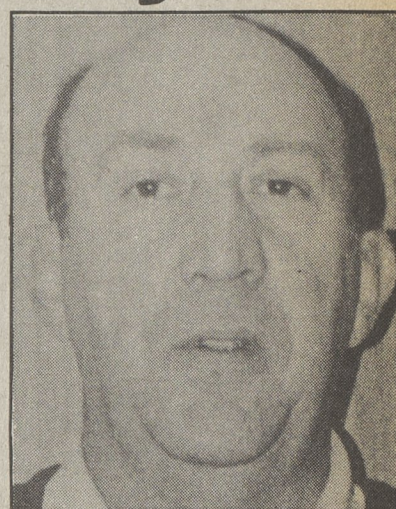
tions will probably be Kelly Wandel and Susie Slocum. Juniors Chris Wasculis and Cheryl Mushale will see play action. Sophomores Jeanine Kasarda, Diane Jachimowicz, and Debbie Lizzi also hav potential.

"I can't foresee one dominant player," said Martini. "But I have a lot of good interchangeable players who will get better as the season goes on."

Martini said he believes most of the teams in the league this year are in about the same position. They all seem to have a small number of senior leaders and, on any given night, any team can defeat any other team.

"There is better balance in the league and in the second half, you'll see a lot of improvement in them," Martini said.

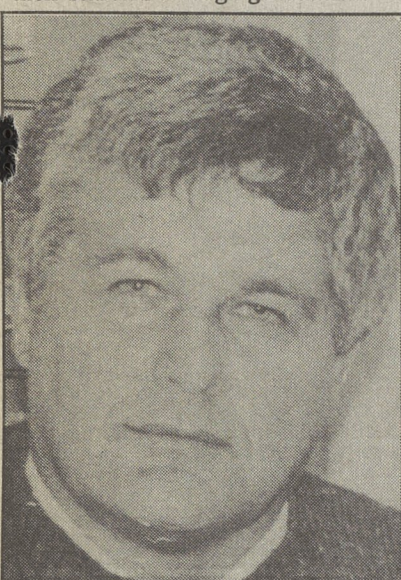
Despite a tough opener with Williamsport, Martini is looking forward to the beginning of action. He is certain his girls can play with the Williamsport team and keep close. He said it would be nice to bring



JOSEPH MARTINI  
LAKE-LEHMAN GIRLS COACH

home the trophy, but that's a plus. In the scrimmage he was impressed with some things, disappointed in others.

Like all coaches, Martini is looking forward to league competition.



RODGER BEARDE  
LAKE-LEHMAN BOYS COACH

Ozgo has only two lettermen returning in Mark Farrell and Steve Wilson, but he has 16 boys vying for positions, all of whom have been in the program as underclassmen in either senior or junior high.

In addition to Farrell and Wilson, Ozgo expects Joe Darling 6'6", Tim Lyons 6'1", Tim Moyer 6'2", Rich Long 5'11", Tim Cotter 6'4", Bob O'Donnell 6'4" and Tom Shalata 6'3" to be ready to see action.

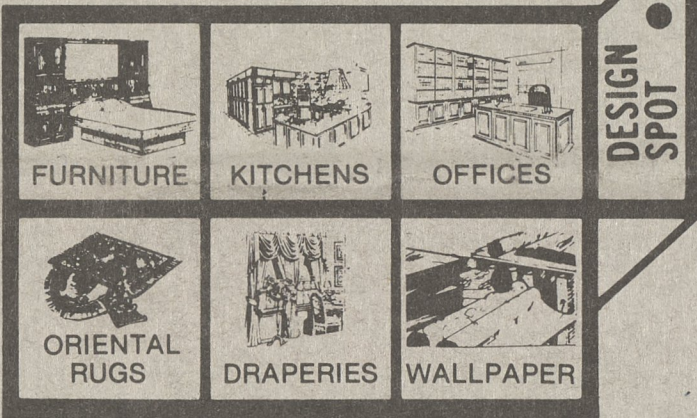
"There will be a lot of changes in our lineups before we decide on a starting team," said Ozgo.

The Dallas coach pointed out that the team is about the same height as last year, but not as strong physically. His guards are quick and Darling has the ability to run up and down the floor for long periods of time.

Ozgo said some of the inexperienced members of the team play inside and the quicker they develop, the better the team will be.

Bearde has only two lettermen

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