

Sports



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Appreciation Day

Dallas Jr. High girls' basketball team commemorated Appreciation Day at the last home game of the season. In appreciation, team members, managers, coaches and parents were presented carnations. It was a day of celebrating as the varsity squad and JV squads finished the Wyoming Valley Jr. High League with an unblemished record, and clinched the Division II overall championship. The team now moves into district playoff action against the Division I champion. The team is coached by Maryann Mihalick assisted by Debby Wysocki. Pictured are members of the Dallas Jr. High basketball team and coach at the conclusion of Appreciation Day festivities.

Season ends for local wrestlers

By John Rodgers
Sports Correspondent

Wyoming Valley Conference wrestling ended this past week with Lake-Lehman finishing right behind Meyers and Tunkhannock for the title, and Dallas showing promise for the future.

The race for the league title is over and P.I.A.A. Districts start this Friday and Saturday at King's College gym.

Expected strong showings from Lehman (AA) and Dallas (AAA) will be in weight class order 98 lbs. (AAA) Brian Mathers of Dallas could place, he will have to contend

with either Kevin Kalmanovich (Tunkhannock) or Bob Hawkins (Hanover).

A.A.-Lehman's Jeff Austin looks like the one to beat could get push from Jim Fonzo (Meyers).

105 lbs. (AAA) Bill Mathers of Dallas could win it, if he can handle Mike Gacha (Tunkhannock).

A.A. Only if Jeff Austin decides to wrestle hi weight.

112 lbs. A.A. Dave Guzinski of Lehman is a tough wrestler and could surprise.

132 lbs. A.A. If Norm Clancy of Lehman stays at this weight he should bring home a district title.

138 lbs. A.A. Once again it depends where Clancy wrestles.

145 lbs. A.A. Mark Yapple has had an excellent year and can win it all. Competition though will come from Dave Kuhl (Meyers) and Bonomo (G.A.R.).

155 lbs. A.A. Lehman's Don Spencer could surprise, if he can get by Eric Viola of Bishop O'Hara.

167 lbs. A.A. Bill George of Lehman could be sleeper.

185 lb s. A.A. Lehman's Ed Stratford had a great year and could keep on going. Look for rival Norton out of Meyers to contend.

Hwt. A.A. Lehman's Mr. Everything Chris Van Gorder was last year's winner and should repeat, should be contended by Daryl Boich of Meyers.

Lady Knights are No. 1 seed

By Charlot M. Denmon
Staff Correspondent

Coach Joe Martini's Lake-Lehman girls basketball team finished the Wyoming Valley Basketball Conference with an 11-7 league record to go into the AA District 2 playoffs, March 1, as Number One seed from Wyoming Valley.

"We won't know till after Monday, (Feb. 24) who we play from Lackawanna County," said Coach Martini. "If Bishop O'Hara defeats Carbondale, we play Riverside but if Carbondale wins we play Bishop O'Hara."

Martini said his team scrimmaged O'Hara last season but both schools have lost varsity players since then. O'Hara is a strong team and plays a variety of zones, according to Martini. He scouted them in their game with Mid Valley

Spartanettes and said that they make adjustments better than the other teams in their division.

"They (the Bruins) are most unpredictable. We will have to prepare for all kinds of defenses because if we end up playing Riverside they use a variety of zone defenses."

The Bruins have senior guard-forward, Maria Rossi, 5'7", who is outstanding. She drives, rebounds, passes, and shoots well. Without a doubt, she is their best all-around player. Inside they have a tough 5'9" senior, who is tough and

aggressive. She is an excellent rebounder and when she gets the ball she goes right up with it for the basket. Senior Ann Kelly is only 5'5" but she is a great shooter. Other than those three, the Bruins are a young team. They have a girl by the name of Sandi Reno, who although only a sophomore, is their second best all-around player.

If the Knights play Riverside, Martini said he doesn't know as much about them except that they have two six foot players, who are great wing shooters. They usually play a variety of zone defenses.

Robinson to be honored

All-time baseball great and Hall of Famer Brooks Robinson will be honored by the Luzerne County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame on Saturday, March 9.

The affair, being billed as "a social evening" will start at 6 p.m. at Gus Genetti's Best Western in Wilkes Barre.

Robinson, representing Busch Beer, had a sparkling career that spanned some 23 years in the big leagues. He is considered one of the sharpest fielding third basemen that has ever stepped foot on a baseball diamond. This is easily backed up by his 16 consecutive "Gold Glove" awards and his 18 appearances as an American League all-star.

Robinson played all 23 years as a Baltimore Oriole and was honored by Baltimore fans as the "Most Memorable Personality in Oriole History." In 1964, he was voted the American League's Most Valuable Player and in 1970 his fantastic fielding and clutch hitting earned him MVP of the World Series as the Orioles beat the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Robinson was not only a magician with a mitt but wielded a deadly bat also. He nailed 2,842 hits in 2,896 regular season games, crushed 268 home runs and drove in 1357 runs.

Today, Robinson is still involved with baseball as he is a color commentator for Oriole telecasts while doing public relations for a local oil company.

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Rodgers on sports

Taking a look at women's sports

By John Rodgers
Sports Correspondent

I would like to use this brief lull in Back Mountain sports (with wrestlers awaiting District meets, basketball teams awaiting playoffs etc)

to come to the aid and defense of women's sports in the area.

First of all we have the Lady Mountaineers of Dallas winning the Wyoming Valley Conference with a 17-2 mark.

The key to this team was "team work" and the desire to win.



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As expressed by Coach Kit Karuza and assistant Michelle Kravitski, "It's not a one star team. This year's team is a team of consistent players."

Also expressing the desire to win aspect, co-captains Cheryl Gavigan and Karen Vloedman aren't hypocritical to pass along praise along with the ball.

"We're a good team because we have more all around talent than previous years. Everybody helps each other out." The entire team wanted to win from the start and that they did.

Next example is the turn around of the Misericordia women's program after a 2-3 record last year and 2-14 the year before, they turned in a 13-5 record and made the N.A.I.A. playoffs for the first time since 1962.

As captain Terry Middleton stated, "We, will do anything to win. We have more depth than previous years, and play as a team, we all have our jobs to do, we're more than a basketball team."

Coach Davis put it a little differently. "I love these girls, they do everything needed and more, they want to win."

Dr. Fink, Dean of the School isn't surprised by the turn-around. "We recruited hard and found some good young girls, they represent our school, as well as the sport."

The main thing here is the way these women respect the sport. These girls no longer fire up air balls or dribble it off their own feet. They play well, hard disciplined ball with both finesse and sweat.

They have come a long way, and could show us men a lesson or two.

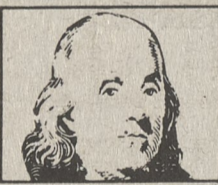
Boxing returns

Professional boxing acting returns to Scranton on March 8 when world rated heavyweight Jimmy Clark faces Reggie Gross in a 10 round main event bout from the Catholic Youth Center.

Clark currently sports a 16-0 record with 14 knockouts and is considered by experts to be a fighter to be reckoned with in the near future. As an amateur star, he holds victories over current WBC No. 6 ranked Tony Tubbs, former World Heavyweight Champion "Big" John Tate, and current WBA Heavyweight Champion Greg Page. His wins over Tubbs and Page occurred in the same day. His amateur record was 147-18 upon turning professional.

A resident of Coatesville, Pa., the 6'3" and 220 lb. Clark recorded the biggest win of his career with a savage 10 round decision over Bermudian Heavyweight Champion Clarence Hill last year in Madison Square Garden. Many experts contended that they felt it was "The Fight of the Year." Clark is currently rated 10th in the world by "Fight Beat" magazine and is managed by veteran cornerman Al Braverman who claims "1985 will see Jimmy Clark as the new Heavyweight Champion of the World."

Gross is the owner of a 15-3 record and is well known as a power-punching heavyweight with the ability to end a fight at any moment of the contest. The Baltimore, Maryland resident knows full well that this fight is a golden opportunity for him. A victory over Clark would certainly be the biggest of his career and could then vault him into the high rankings of the heavy-weight division.



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