



Sports



Local women in playoffs

By John Rodgers
Staff Correspondent

The Lady Highlanders stepped into the N.A.I.A. District 19 playoffs for the first time in 23 years posting a 13-5 record.

Wins this past week were over Baptist Bible, Keystone Junior College and a loss to Cabrini.

In the Keystone match, Sue Sharp and Liz Eife combined for 20 first half points to take a 38-30 lead.

In the second half Kim Stetzar took over for Misericordia and scored 16 of her 20 points to ice the victory, by a final of 76-57.

In all four players scored in double figures for the Blue and Gold, Sue Sharp 24, Kim Stetzar 20 and Liz Eife and Kim Vermullen 10 apiece.

Doreen Hine had 25 for Keystone. In their second outing Miseri was put to the test against Baptist Bible (N.C.C.G.A.A. Champ past 3 years) and gained a 62-52 overtime win.

Led by a balanced attack and a packed 2-3 zone defense Baptist Bible led at half 21-17.

Fighting back behind Stetzar's 8 points and Sharp's six Miseri forced an overtime period with the score knotted 49-49. A desperation shot by Huckaby of Baptist hit the back of the rim with 2 seconds remaining in regulation.

Four crucial free throws by Stetzar and a big bucket by Kim Vermullen was the key in the overtime period as the Highlanders outscored their opponent 13-3.

Their next test was against division rival Cabrini on their home floor.

The game was a classic regular season finale.

Coming out of the locker to the tune of "Celebration" "It's time to come together" the Highlanders sparred by Terri Middleton's six straight points, the Miseri girls took a quick 23-16 lead at the 10 minute mark and a 41-36 halftime lead.

Miseri maintained their lead until the 3:52 mark when a bucket by Kim Kozeniewski put the Cavaliers ahead 54-53. The lead changed hands several times when at 1:18 Cavalier Coach Mike Tenaglia was ejected after a technical foul. During the mele the referee announced Miseri had won, due to the fact Tenaglia would not leave the gym.

Showing a fine display of sportsmanship Coach Davis of Miseri elected to play the game out. "I would rather win the game on the floor, in games this close sometimes you lose self control, it's not way to determine a winner."

The game ended in an 80-80 deadlock after regulation forcing the second overtime game of the week, for the Highlanders.

Paced by six points by Kozeniewski who led all scorers with 40 points, the Cavs earned a 90-88 victory.

Terri Middleton poured in 22 points for Miseri mainly on outside jump shots. Kim Stetzar added 18 and Sue Sharp 15.



Fitness Test winners

The Dallas Junior High School seventh and ninth grade girls physical education classes, under the direction of Mrs. Anne Seitz, recently participated in the President's Council Physical Fitness Test. In order to receive the award, the girls had to qualify in six fitness components. Scored varied according to the age of the participants, however, all girls scored in the 80th percentile or better on the national level. Shown here are those girls who participated in the program. From left, first row, Veronica Bauter, Jean Novitsky, Roseanne Rostock, Amanda Kauffman, Megan Kozemchak and Erika Bullock. Second row, Wendy Hozempa, Heather Davey, Shannon Cleary, Lori Warneka, Lynn Bednar, Mrs. Anne Seitz.

Play Honesdale tonight

Lady Mountaineers 'must win'

By Charlot M. Denmon
Staff Correspondent

"It's a 'must win' situation for each game for now on," said Dallas girls basketball coach Kit Karuza. "We play Honesdale Wednesday (Feb. 27) at GAR and if we lose we're finished. If we win, we play March 1, probably against Nanticoke, unless Meyers upsets them in their game Wednesday."

Honesdale is the third seed team from the Lackawanna County League and, according to Karuza, is one of the tallest teams that Dallas has come up against. They have a girl 6'1", one 6' at point guard, one 5'11" and several 5'10" or 5'9".

The Dallas team is also tall but, overall, the Hornets have a couple inches over the Lady Mountaineers. Karuza does not consider that a big disadvantage and said it might be better because sometimes it is beneficial if teams are comparable in size.

The Hornets are not quite as fast as the Lady Mountaineers but their point guard, Heidi Robbins, is very impressive. She is good at rebounding and at passing the ball and has a good deal of patience.

The Mountaineers will have to be competitive and try to control Robbins. Honesdale plays man-to-man, two-three or one-three-one defense but Karuza said his girls will adjust if and when necessary, something Dallas has been able to do this season.

"I believe whatever defense the Hornets use, they will have to go to the zone eventually," said Karuza. "We're slightly better than they are at shooting and have more rounded shooting, even from our bench. The key factor will be who is getting the offensive rebounds."

Karuza said he saw the Hornets play and they used only two players off the bench in the entire game. That is typical of the league in Lackawanna County, where most of the teams go with six kids, according to Karuza.

"The teams in the Scranton League play differently. They press a lot more than the teams in our league and use it all of the time even when they are way

ahead. Their philosophy is "Make yourself competitive or get burned," said Karuza.

In Division 2 of the Wyoming Valley Conference, Crestwood and Dallas are the only two teams who used the press a lot so the Mountaineers are used to it. Scranton teams play at night so Honesdale girls are accustomed to large crowds and more cheering which could give them a slight advantage, at least in the opening period.

Although Robbins is a stronger point guard than the Mountaineers' point guard, Dallas has made some changes to combat that. Both teams are good at getting offensive rebounds but Honesdale appears to have a little trouble handling the press which Dallas can use to advantage.

Karuza said Dallas will try to play consistently for the four quarters rather than go for the big one. He expects a high-scoring game, about 60 points which is unusual for a girls game.

He is optimistic about the game and believes the Hornets will have trouble handling Dallas in the middle, especially Gavigan and Vloedman. The Dallas girls are loose, they're not worried, which is to their advantage.

"We're taking one game at a time," said Karuza. "If we lose, we're out. If we win, we go for the next round March 1."

Honesdale, coached by Bill Bush, has a 17-5 record. They have at least two seniors but like Dallas, they are a young team. They do not have as much playoff experience as Dallas.

Dallas, coached by Kit Karuza and assistant Michelle Kravitsky, is 17-2 in league this season. For some of the seniors on the team, the playoffs are their last games. Some are going to colleges where they won't play and some are not going to college.

If the team gets through Districts, it will be one of 32 teams remaining from a total of 180, who were in the first round of competition.

Their first task is to win over Honesdale in the first game of a triple-header, Wednesday, Feb. 27, 6 p.m., at GAR. They can't look beyond that.

Mountaineers get second seeding

By Charlot M. Denmon
Staff Correspondent

Dallas High School boys basketball team finished the Wyoming Valley Conference Division 2 season with a 14-4 record to give it a second seeding in the AAA playoffs with Lackawanna County for the District II title.

Coach Clarence Ozgo's Mountaineers will play third seed North Pocono, Thursday, Feb. 28, at the CYC in Scranton. "If we win we play against the winner of another game on March 5; if we lose we're finished," said Ozgo. "There is no second chance."

Ozgo has seen the North Pocono team play and said that physically they are a strong team. Under the direction of their new coach, Daniel Kopcza, the Pocono boys played a zone defense for most of the game Ozgo scouted, but in the last period switched to a man-to-man defense.

"They have three kids inside, who are very good," said Ozgo. "A boy by the name of Pehanick, 6'1", plays inside and is their best. He did a lot of the scoring. They also have a boy 6'2" by the name of Huff, who is good on the inside. P.J. Kelly, 5'10", a guard, plays outside and is a fine shooter. He handles the ball very well and could give us some trouble."

The Dallas Mountaineers are taller than the Scranton team but the Pocono boys are heavier. Ozgo said his boys are a little quicker and will try to counteract their opponents strength by using speed.

"Our kids will have to be aggressive and keep them (North Pocono) off the boards," said Ozgo.

He does not believe North Pocono is as strong at guard positions as Dallas but concedes that Pocono may be slightly stronger on the inside. If his boys execute, get the offensive rebounds and play aggressive defense, Ozgo believes they can win.

North Pocono has an overall league record of 7-7 and 12-9 for the entire season.

Coach Kopcza said this is his first year as coach at North Pocono and has not had an opportunity to see Dallas in action. "I'm hoping to get a scouting report from someone before the game," he said. "I understand that they are a good team and are well coached."

The North Pocono team is predominantly seniors, two of them starters from last year. Kopcza does not consider them a young team.

Both teams know that it will be a "must win" game to keep them in the playoffs and they will be fighting for it.

Back Mountain Baseball sets registration

Back Mountain Baseball Inc. will conduct its final registration of players on Saturday, March 9, 1985 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Shavertown United Methodist Church.

Children are eligible to register for Little League hardball, ages 7-12; girls softball, ages 9-15, and teener league, ages 13-15. Any 13 year old not making the teener league team will play on the 13 year old team. First time players must present birth certificates and all players must be accompanied by an adult.

Twelve year old Little League players and 15 year old girls softball players from the 1984 season may pick up their pins at this registration.

Managers, coaches, umpires and other volunteers are needed by the organization.



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Softball meeting scheduled

Back Mt. Baseball Inc. will hold a softball meeting on Tuesday, March 5 at the Dallas American Legion beginning at 8 p.m.

All girls softball managers, coaches and interested volunteers for the 1985 season are asked to attend.

Baseball group sets meeting

Back Mt. Baseball Inc. will conduct a meeting on Monday, March 4 at the Dallas American Legion beginning at 8 p.m.

All managers, coaches and interested volunteers for the 1985 season are asked to attend.

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