



Sports



Rodgers on sports

PSU's decision to drop basketball is painful one

By JOHN RODGERS
Sports Columnist

A sorrowful note came through the grapevine recently when, Penn State-Wilkes-Barre, located in Lehman. Athletic Director Jack Monick announced the basketball program there would be dropped.

The decision was not one made in haste, rather one of close scrutiny and studies over the last five years. It was a joint decision of the



RODGERS school's administration and board members.

Main reasons for the temporary elimination of the basketball program was lack of facilities. The Lake-Lehman Junior High gym was utilized, where problems of late evening practices combined with the fact that a large portion of the members were commuter students which made it difficult to run a top flight program. In January only six members were out for the team.

Monick, however, commented that the program will return soon, maybe as soon as three years.

"Money has been allotted for a multi-purpose gym facility, and as soon as we get the facility, basketball will return," stated Monick.

"The other sports will benefit just as much," he continued. Penn State's other sports programs, tennis, soccer, baseball, volleyball and cross country, will be upgraded as uniforms, training programs and travel plans will be improved in hopes of upgrading their quality.

In baseball alone, where Monick serves as head coach, they will compete in both a Spring and Fall league and they are planning a tournament on Sept. 14-15 with hopes of gaining eight teams.

The move by the school was very well laid out and should step up the quality and standards of play greatly. With all factors considered, it was a gutsy call and it will be a while before the fruits of the crop

can be harvested, but it should supply the Back Mountain with some more fine representation on the sports level.

Much credit and applause should be shown to the members who took the proverbial "Bull by the horns" to make such a decision in an effort to improve their existing programs and a tip of my hat goes out to them. Good luck and congratulations on a fine example of sacrifice and courage to make things better for all in the future.

On a different note, congratulations to Frank Chadwick Jr. on his appointment as head coach of Bishop Hoban's Soccer team.

The Argents will compete in the newly formed Wyoming Valley High School Soccer League, this Fall which begins Sept. 10.

Frank is president and one of the founding fathers of the Back Moun-

tain Youth Soccer Association Inc. and should supply Bishop Hoban with much knowledge and experience to establish a well rounded program as well as the new league.

Mr. Chadwick is also a certified referee through the U.S. Soccer League and will help the players with a full understanding of the rules. Mr. Chadwick is married to Phyllis Martz and is the father of five.

One other small note of interest, College Misericordia will be sporting a new look as they are having their gym redone, including a new basketball floor and according to good sources it will be just in time for the hanging of their K.A.C. championship banners won last year. Also sources state it has been a banner year for recruits, headed by Lake-Lehman's Billy Bearde.

Cheerleaders win ribbons

The Dallas High School junior varsity cheerleaders recently returned home from the Universal Cheerleading camp held at Penn State University, bringing back a championship trophy and several blue ribbons.

The squad, coached by Lynn Wilson, qualified for districts in both cheer and sideline divisions.

They took first place in the sideline competition. The girls also received a superior ribbon for their dance routine.

Members of the 1985-86 squad are: Shauna Griffin, Tracey Richardson, Molly Grasso, Lisa Gorman, Dawn Aeschbach, Tairon Batory, Amy Cutter, Carolyn Dillon, Kim Hall and Karen Tabor.

Champion to be decided

Back Mountain Baseballs minor league championship will be decided this Friday evening, August 16, at the Dallas Little League field beginning at 5:30 p.m. The two teams vying for first place are the John M. Randolph Sr. Giants vs. the Watkins and Medura Orioles. Both

teams have identical 9 and 1 records.

Any twelve year old little leaguer, or twelve and fifteen year old softball player leaving the program may pick up their pin at the concession stand during the game.

Bassmasters set Fish Derby

The Harveys Lake Bassmasters will conduct their Fifth Annual Kiddies Game Fish Derby on Saturday, August 24, at Harveys Lake.

Co-sponsored by McDonald's, Boscov's and the Bassmasters, the derby will feature prizes for the biggest fish, smallest fish, longest fish and the most total weight.

Prizes will also be awarded for the most species and a special prize will be given for the biggest bass.

Age groups participating in the derby are 10 and under and 11 to 15 years.

Weigh-in will be held at 2 p.m. at the Grotto Marina, Sunset.

Games

(Continued from page 13)

National Sports Festival at New Orleans.

Sheehan said that his experience playing soccer helped a lot and that, basically, hockey is the same as soccer except that in hockey you have a stick. Sheehan is also an experienced ice hockey player. He played left halfback in the games and Dombek played right halfback. Winner of three gold medals in the Games was junior high student Gerry Ogurkis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Ogurkis of Dallas.

Gerry won the gold medal at 150 lbs. by defeating Brian Wenner of Benton, 11-7. He won his first gold medal of the day by defeating Stan Marshall of Region 5, 15-3. He pinned Scott Clere of Region 1 in 2:40 to take his second gold medal. Since he and Wenner had each won two matches, they wrestled with Ogurkis, who finished as the gold medalist.

The experience is not new to Ogurkis since he took a gold medal at 90 lbs. in 1982 and a second gold medal at 125 lbs. in 1983. Last year he had to withdraw from competition because of heat exhaustion. The ninth grade student started his wrestling career at the age of six and has been a national champion three times. He plans to wrestle on

the Dallas Senior High Varsity team in the 1985-86 season.

Other individuals winning gold medals were Don and Cindy Jones of Dallas in the C-2 Mixed Class canoe-kayak 500 meter sprint in 2:36 and Andrea Harris of Dallas, who took first in the 100 freestyle and 100 butterfly swimming events. The Joneses also took a silver in the canoe-kayak marathon, and Harris took second in the 50 butterfly.

In girls field hockey, the scholastic and the open division Region 2 teams took bronze medals.

The scholastic team lost, 2-0, to Region 3 and 5-0 to Region 1 on Saturday, but on Sunday they made a comeback and defeated Region 3, 5-0. Sue Slocum of Lake-Lehman scored one of the winning goals while Linda King and Maureen Wisniewski played outstanding defensive games. The local girls said they played against better competition than they had ever come up against.

Jill Radzinski and Christi Strauser, both of Dallas, played on the Region 2 open team and also faced some strong competition. The team was defeated 5-0, Saturday morning, by the Region 3 team, then lost a squeaker, 1-0, to Region 1. Like the younger girls, they made a come-

back on Sunday to defeat Region 4 5-1.

Tracy Garinger, daughter of Marge and Arnie Garinger of Harveys Lake, was the volunteer official representing Region 2 in the games. Mark Ramirez and Mark Dombek, both of Dallas, were members of the Region 2 baseball team which captured a bronze medal. Despite a 2-1 record which tied the Region 2 team for first place with Region 1 and

Region 3 in the round-robin competition, the local team had to settle for the bronze because Region 1 and Region 3 had better run differentials which put them into the competition for the gold medal.

Gold, silver, bronze or no medals at all, local men and women athletes and their coaches returned home from the games on Sunday night, all of the same opinion — the Keystone State Games are an inspiration.

FISHING is FAMILY FUN!



Pennsylvania anglers are familiar with the "great white fleet" of stocking trucks that bring more than five million trout to the streams and lakes of Pennsylvania each spring, but how many of them are aware that those trout actually had their beginnings on a hot, hazy day two summers before?

The trout in the Pennsylvania Fish Commission's raceways are beginning to crowd the racks - the fence-like dividers used to separate groups of trout in the raceways. This trout behavior indicates that one of two events is taking place: The fish need oxygen, or they feel the urge to spawn. Because other groups of trout in the same raceways are remaining calm, it's an indication that the spawning season is about to begin. It's also the start of a busy season for the fish culturists at the Commission's nine trout rearing facilities.

According to Ken Corl, Chief of the Trout Production Section of the Commission, both males and females are taken from the raceways and gently placed in rectangular washtubs with fresh water containing a dab of anesthetic. The anesthetic lowers the metabolism of the trout and permits the fish culturist to take the trout from the water, remove the eggs or tilt, and possibly fin clip each fish, or insert a tag for future identification.

"The eggs are placed in a basin and milt from the male is added," said Corl. "The culturists then add a small quantity of water to activate the sperm. As the sperm is activated, it may enter the opening of the egg (the micropyle) and fertilization is completed. The fertilized eggs are washed in fresh, cool water and allowed to water-harden before they are placed in the incubator."

About the only similarity to an incubator for baby fish and one for baby chicks is that both must have a controlled temperature, although the temperature range for trout eggs is much greater than that of chicks. Water temperature for the trout eggs can range between 46 and 54 degrees and the duration of the incubation period depends on two factors - species and water temperature.

Normally most of the trout eggs hatch in September and October. Hatching percentages vary from 60 percent to 90 percent.

"Fish culturists must be extremely careful not to 'bump' the

newly-hatches eggs after they become two days old. The vitelline membrane, a delicate layer of cells within the eggs, may be broken and cause the egg to die," Corl noted.

During the incubation period, the eggs must be cared for constantly. The eggs are placed in either jars or trays and a continuous flow of fresh, cool, running water must pass over them. A preventive treatment with a fungicide is administered to prevent fungus from developing among the eggs.

Following the incubation period, little fish burst from the egg and become sac fry. This name essentially describes this little creature - a sac attached to a fry. The sac provides nutrition for the tiny body during the next two weeks while the sac slowly disappears.

Corl said it is at this period that the tiny fish (about 3/4 to 1-inch) become dependent on the fish culturists to provide their food. The culturists sprinkle a very fine, high-protein fish food crumble on the surface of the water.

"Throughout the life of the trout, it is essential that the culturist provide the proper diet and maintain a suitable environment," said Corl. "Small fingerlings of one to four inches are reared in nursery raceways containing adequate prime water. Their food continues to be high in protein because much

energy is required."

Fingerlings over four inches in length are taken from the nursery raceways and placed in production units and fed a pellet food in place of the crumbles. Trout are maintained in these units with occasional thinning and grading to prevent cannibalism. Grading fish for uniformity of length ensures better growth. Care must continually be taken to avoid stresses on the fish that could precipitate the onset of disease.

From the time the fry begin to feed on their own until they are stocked in your favorite stream or lake, a period of about 15 months has elapsed. With the proper care and diet for growth at .56 inches a month for 15 months at a temperature of 50 degrees and starting with a one-inch fry, you have the Fish Commission average sized stocked trout: 9.5 inches.

It's an exact science, raising those trout Pennsylvania anglers enjoy catching each spring, and the Pennsylvania Fish Commission is recognized throughout the nation for its modern, efficient trout production units.

The Commission welcomes visitors at any of their fish culture stations. These stations are open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

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