

Lose to North Schuylkill

Dallas girls' title hopes dashed

By RICK ROGERS
Sports Correspondent

Before Saturday night's Class AAA Eastern quarter-finals girls' basketball game between North Schuylkill and Dallas, Dallas Coach Kit Karuza was not wringing his hands or offering prayers to St. Patrick as his 18-10 Mountaineers faced the 27-0 Spartans.

Coach Karuza's philosophy was simple and stoic: "We have nothing to lose because we probably shouldn't be here. There are only eight teams playing now, and we're glad to be one of them." The veteran coach added, "Hopefully, I'll have a smile on my face after the game."

By the middle of the second half, the pressure for Dallas — the District Two entry — to win was off; the

after-game smile for Coach Karuza was permanently off, and the North Schuylkill Spartans were off to the semi-final round with a 74-64 victory.

But the Spartans' 28th victory was certainly not one of its easier wins.

In the first period, Dallas used its superior height and eight points from Karen Vloedman to surge to a 12-6 lead. But the Spartans fought back and closed the margin to 14-12 by the end of the first period.

In the second period, North Schuylkill changed tactics by employing a full-court press which upped the tempo of the game and spelled the difference in the contest.

The Spartans' ball-hawking defense came up with two steals that paved the way for a 6-1 spurt and a 20-15 lead, before Dallas' JoAnn Cook broke the drought with a basket at the four minute mark.

Dallas rallied, outscoring the Spartans, 10-4, in the last three minutes, and trailed by four, 29-25, at the half.

The third period saw North Schuylkill stretch its lead to as many as 11 points. Kim Rinehimer of Dallas connected on two long jumpers to cut the Spartan lead to eight, but the stanza ended with Dallas on the short end of a 47-37 score.

The Spartans kept the pressure up in the final period, and Dallas found itself down 54-41, with only 5:35 to play. But the Mountaineers refused to quit. And, with a little more than two and a half minutes remaining to be played, Dallas was only down by seven with a chance to make it a five point game.

But the Spartans turned their game up a notch with Melissa Minakowski and Lesley Seitzer hitting baskets that choked off any hope of an upset. The game ended

with North Schuylkill on top 74-64.

Somehow, Karuza was still able to manage a smile after the game. "I'm very pleased with the finish our team had this season. In four of the last five games, we've played well," said the veteran coach.

"We were probably 20 or 25 point underdogs, and we played them within a few points most of the game. North Schuylkill shot very well and used the quicker tempo to their advantage. They are a very talented team," the coach concluded.

Dallas was led by Karen Vloedman's game high 26 points. JoAnn Cook contributed 15 for Dallas in a losing effort.

North Schuylkill placed four starters in double figures. Minakowski and Seitzer scored 22 and 23 points respectively.



Sports



Let's rid ourselves of drugs

By RICK ROGERS
Sports Columnist

Integrity - something you don't miss until it's not there anymore. Kinda like parents and comic strips.

Donald Fehr, baseball players' association director, must have been skulled by a foul ball in spring training.

Why else would he and the players' association fight baseball owners over mandatory drug testing?

At a time when sports in America are being shaken to their very foundations by drug scandals, you would think that baseball players, who have had more than their fair share of drug scandals, would welcome the opportunity of drug testing to scream their innocence from the highest foul poll.

But, apparently, Fehr and the players' union are willing to sit this dance out — if they can. Their bone of contention is that mandatory drug testing is an invasion of the players' privacy. The union's position is that it will stop drug testing — if it can.

That the testing is an invasion of privacy is a fact. If drug testing was ever broched on Wall Street, there would be such an outcry that the street would have to be renamed Rubble Street due to the vibrations caused by all those leather and alligator shoes running for the nearest lawyer.

But, baseball is a cleaner game than big business. At least it always has been and it needs the invasion of drug testing — a necessary and saving invasion.

Unfortunately, it has become all too clear that baseball players, professional athletes for that matter, have about the same tolerance to vice as anyone else, with the exception that they have a lot more money to spend on their vices than most.

Of course, they can't spend their large sums on beer or alcohol because they would wind up fat or insane, or both. So, a few buy cocaine and other drugs to help them spend their money and exercise their vice. Drugs are a wonderful way to get rid of excess money.

The problem is that America's game is supposed to be played by players who have both feet on the ground and not by those with powdered noses.

It comes down to a question of integrity, a seldom heard word these days in sports. Integrity is Pete Rose knocking the stuffing out of a guy by breaking up a double play, even when his team is down, 10-1, in the ninth. Integrity is being slapped in the face for getting fresh on the first date.

Ty Cobb, although he was as mean as a snake on the baseball field, had integrity. Babe Ruth, who was something of a womanizer and a tipper, had integrity. Bob Gibson, who would knock you down with a pitch if you got too cocky, had integrity.

Somehow, integrity has become the odd man out in baseball and in all professional sports. It's been shoved to the back and buried until it's just another word in the dictionary (stuck between integrated circuit and integument — so Webster tells me.)

Drug testing, in all sports, is just the tonic to cure the malaise, no malady, that has infected sports. So when the players, if the players, fill up their little sample/bottle, they shouldn't think of it as an invasion of their privacy; they should think of it as the first shot, heard around the sports world, in the war against drugs in sports. That way we can get this drug business behind us — hopefully.

(Rick Rogers is a sports columnist for The Dallas Post.)



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Winning wrestlers

Shown here are members of the Back Mountain Wrestling Club who recently won during a YMCA Wrestling Tournament. From left, first row, Rick Finnegan, second place; Charlie Roper, fourth place; Ray Holcomb, first place. Second row, Mike Geurin, first place; Gary Masters, first place; and Jason Naugle, first place.

Bonomo's Sports Center is a better place to be

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Something is different at Bonomo's Sports Center, Memorial Highway, Dallas.

The place is brighter, the lanes shinier and an air of friendliness and efficiency impresses the bowlers. The video machines still line the far end wall, billiard tables still occupy the same section they always did and the same familiar faces are behind the desk but there is a difference.

Gone are the dozens of boys and girls ranging in age from 10 through 18 or 19 crowding the entranceway or loitering in the lockerrooms, many of them courting trouble. In their place are better behaved young people who spend time at the billiard tables or on the lanes and then leave.

Outside the rows of cars parked in front of the building and along the outer area of the parking lot belong to the bowlers competing in league play or open bowling. The lot is brightly lit, discouraging loitering and fighting and young people congregating in groups are soon dispersed by the owners or by the police, who are encouraged to patrol the property on a regular basis.

Responsible for these changes are the new proprietors, Richard and Anthony Bonomo, Jr., sons of the late Anthony Bonomo, owner of the lanes for 25 years.

Richard and Tony, Jr. grew up with bowling for 35 years ago since their dad managed the Eagles bowling lanes. Later, he owned and operated the former Modern Lanes in Exeter until 1961 when he purchased the Dallas Crown Imperial Lanes from Robert Hanson, who opened the business in 1956.

When their father died in 1985 and left the lanes to them, Richard and Tony decided to continue the operation and introduce some of the ideas they had.

"We are operating the lanes generally the same as our dad did," said Rich and Tony, "But we recognize that, in many ways, the world has changed and, to be successful, it is necessary that we do some things differently."

Nesbitt plans Fourth Annual 5-Mile Run

The fourth annual Nesbitt Memorial Hospital 5-Mile Run will be held Saturday, April 12, at 10 a.m. All runners pre-registered will receive a T-shirt.

Fifth five awards will be presented in 11 male and seven female age categories. All entrants

receive a \$5 gift certificate to Esposito's, Exeter and a copy of the Runner's Gazette with complete race results. A random merchandise drawing will be held following the awards presentation.

Dr. Arnold Fedor will present a lecture on Friday, April 11 at 7:30

p.m. entitled "The Use and Effectiveness of the Electro-Dynograph in Evaluating Foot Disfunction."

Applications may be obtained at the hospital's Cardiac Rehabilitation Clinic, 534 Wyoming Avenue, Kingston or by calling 288-1411, extension 4773-4774.

Five-Mile Walk scheduled for April 12

The first Nesbitt Memorial Hospital 5 Mile Walk will be held on April 12 at 9:30 a.m.

All pre-registered walkers will receive a T-shirt. Certificates of

participation will be presented to all entrants completing the walk. A community Health Fair and a demonstration of the new Orthofeet Orthotic Machine will be presented in conjunction with the walk.

Applications may be obtained at the hospital's Cardiac Rehabilitation Clinic, 534 Wyoming Avenue, Kingston or by calling 288-4111, extension 4773-4774.

Lehman wrestlers get sixth places

By RICK ROGERS
Sports Correspondent

Neither one of the two Lake-Lehman wrestlers who participated in last week's AA State Tournament at Hershey came home empty-handed.

Both Jeff Austin, at 105 pounds, and Joe Smith at 126 copped sixth place finishes. Austin, who placed fifth in last week's State tourney at 98 pounds, made it to semi-finals, before he got caught in a headlock and was pinned by the eventual second place finisher, Bob Simpson of Warrior Run.

Austin then lost a heartbreaking 1-0 David McMillian of Westmont-Hilltop, 3-2 to finish sixth.

Smith, who Lake-Lehman Coach Ed Ladamus called a below-average wrestler when he was a sophomore,

lost his quarterfinal match to Eric Snyder of Mifflinburg, who finished fourth, before beating John Husick of Tussey Mountain, 5-2, in the first consolation round.

However, Smith was beat by Jared Daum of Susquehanna, 8-3, in the battle for fifth and sixth place.

Coach Ladamus said, "We would have liked to do a little better, of course, but Austin and Smith were in two of the tougher weight classes (at the tournament). I'm happy for them because a lot of guys never got here at all and a lot of guys never place."

Coach Ladamus was especially pleased with Smith. "Smith really came on," Ladamus said. "He really improved a lot. When he was a sophomore, I would say that he wasn't even an average wrestler, but he worked hard and got lots better."

Sports shorts

Hasay urges support of efforts

Rep. George C. Hasay is urging residents of the 117th District to support the efforts of Susquehanna River Watch in keeping the river pollution-free.

Hasay said that individuals who witness illegal dumping should:

- Get the license number, color and make of the vehicle;
- Get a description of the individual or individuals committing the act;
- Mark down the date and time the dumping was observed;
- Mark down the location and landmarks where the action took place;
- Get samples, if possible, of items being dumped. For example, envelopes or stationary with a name or address would be helpful.

Hasay also urged residents to participate in the River Festival sponsored by Susquehanna River Watch. This year's festival will be conducted June 21 and 22.

"The river is a valuable recreational and economic resource for the residents of our area," Hasay said. "Everyone of us has a responsibility to continue the fight against litter for present and future generations."

Locals aid Spinners'

Four local girls can be proud of their performance for the Greater Wilkes-Barre YMCA Spinners gymnastics team, even though their team suffered its first set-back of the season, 119.5 to 101.5, to the hosting Scranton Astronauts club team.

Rachael Holthaus, a 14 year old 9th grade student at Dallas Junior High, was the only Spinner to crack to Scranton domination of the 13-and-over age group.

Holthaus took second on the balance beam, in the floor exercise and in the all-arounds. She also placed third on the uneven bars.

Michelle Sandstrom, a 10 year old 5th grader at Lake Noxen Elementary, didn't place in the top three in any of the four events but was balanced enough to place third in the all-around point totals in the 10-and-under class.

Emily Slaff, seven years old from White Birch Lane, Dallas and Jennifer Birt, eight years old from Harveys Lake, also competed in the 10-and-under class.

Slaff completed in floor exercise and Birt competed in both floor exercise and balance beam.

Wrestlers travel to YMCA

Back Mountain Wrestling Club traveled to the Y.M.C.A. for the 14th Annual Elementary Wrestling Tournament held at Wilkes College.

Three hundred and sixty wrestlers including 220 walk ins from several states participated.

Seven Back Mt. wrestlers placed. They are: Roy Holcomb at 46 lbs. took 1st; Rick Finnegan at 52 lbs. took 2nd; Aran Gingo at 72 lbs. took 2nd; Michael Gervin at 87 lbs. took 1st; Charlie Roper at 87 lbs. took 4th; Jason Naugle at 92 lbs. took 1st; Gary Masters at 122 lbs took 1st.

Cummins leads King's team

Coach Robin Cummins' King's College women's basketball team posted a 15-11 record for the season and was 11-8 in the Middle Atlantic Conference. The Lady Monarchs made the MAC playoffs and lost at Elizabethtown.

King's averaged 66.1 per game to 61.8 for all foes. The team shot 42.8 percent from the field to 41.2 percent, and from the foul line hit for 62.1 percent to 61.8 percent.

Junior Kathy Walsh of Dallas led the scoring derby with 334 points to average 12.8 per contest. The rebound crown was retained by junior Patti Thomas of Palo Alto with 244 retrieves and 9.3 a contest.

Freshman Maureen Fahey of Luzerne led in field goal accuracy with 52 percent. Junior transfer Mary Ann Mozal of West Pittston paced foul shooters at 68.1 percent.

Reaching the 1,000-point plateau in the season were Thomas and senior Maureen Ryneski of Kingston, co-captains. Ryneski also annexed honors as the career playmaker by registering more than 400 assists.

Individual scoring averages: Walsh, 12.8; Thomas, 12.2; Ronda Hudzik, Sweet Valley, 9.6; Ryneski, 9.5; Cheryl Gavigan, Dallas, 8.1; Fahey, 7.5; Diane Ratchko, Hazleton, 5.7; Mozal, 4.4; Michelle Schuermann, Westfield, N.J., 2.1; Debbie Eddinger, Center Valley, Pa., 1.2; and Terry Covert, Denville, N.J., 0.6.