Sports

Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Junior high tracksters
Shown here are members of the Dallas Junior High School boys' and girls' track teams. Shown in the photo at left are, from left, first row, John Astor, Mark Fries, Charlie Lamoreaux, Jim Farrell, Clark Van Orden. Second row, Jane Lane, Dave Mayeski, Aaron Tillman, Mark Amadei. Third row, John Greer, Chris Lesjak, Paul Slaybaugh, Phil George, Robert Mitkus, coach. Shown in the photo at right are, from left, first row, Sandy Corcoran, Jennifer Moranor, Vera Williams, Debbie Drasnin, Trisha Cominsky, Pam Baseski. Second row, Lisa Hite, Missy Margis, Laurie Lehman, Heidi Strazdus, Courtney Butler, Missy Pitcavage. Third row, Allison Berlew, Gretchen Schuler, Alison Dombek, Andrea Williams, Kendra Pacewicz. Fourth row, Jennifer Bloedman, Wendy Hozempa, Jean Novitsky, Laura Poynton, Robert Mitkus, coach.

Dallas girls lose first game to WVW

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

After running its record to 15-0 last Monday by defeating Wyoming Area 5-4, the Dallas girls' softball team lost to Wyoming Valley West 3-1, for its first loss of the year on Wednesday but edged Wyoming Seminary, 8-7, Friday at its home field. The Lady Mountaineers bowed to defeat again, Saturday, when they were defeated by the Nanticoke Trojans, 5-2, in a makeup game. The loss prevented the Mountaineers from being sole District 2 champ by dropping them to an overall tie with Lake-Lehman.

It was Trojans' pitcher Lynn Rasmus who picked up the win for Nanticoke by holding the Dallas girls to two hits. She had backup help from Shelly Williams when the Lady Mountaineers started a comeback.

Tracy Cave was the losing pitcher for the Mountaineers, but the Dallas girls were unable to hit Rasmus and collected only two hits in the game.

"It was a combination of errors on the part of our girls, and good hitting by the Trojans. We has six or seven errors in the third and fourth innings," said Coach Jay Pope. "Nanticoke was doing some good hitting."

In Friday's game, Tracy Cave came in to cut off a Wyoming Seminary rally in the seventh inning. Lisa Sharkness pitched six and one third innings for Dallas, who was leading 8-2 going into the final inning. Sharkness gave up eight hits and walked one in the game.

Coach Jay Pope's Mountaineers used a balanced hitting offense against the Blue Knights throughout the game but Kim Rinehimer knocked out two singles in the game to collect two RBI's.

The Lady Spartans scored a run in the first inning and two more in the bottom of the second for a 3-1 lead against the Mountaineers to hand Dallas their first loss Wednesday.

Chris Meyer walked for Valley West and stole second. Tammy Benner walked then Kim Kachmarsky rapped out a single to score Meyer. Joyce Tinner walked for Dallas in the top of the second and scored the Mountaineers only run on a fielders choice hit by Kristin Dougherty.

The Mountaineers'downfall was the bottom of the second when the Spartans scored two runs on a walk, fielder's choice, passed ball and a bunt single. The second run of the inning was scored on a high throw, wild pitch and a slap hit single to right field by Michelle Jankoviak.

The 3-1 lead was all Spartan hurler Tammy Benner needed. She gave up only five hits, only one of them out of the infield and fanned three. The Mountaineers rallied in the sixth inning when they loaded the bases but Benner forced Tammy Daveski to pop-up, fanned Lisa Sharkness and got out Rinehimer on a grounder to third. The Mountaineers also threatened in the top of the first on a single by Heidi Scholz but the Spartans fielding kept Dallas girls from scoring.

Tracy Cave was the losing pitcher but allowed only two hits, fanned three and walked only two.

In Monday's game with Wyoming Area, the Dallas girls pulled off the 5-4 win in the seventh inning when Lisa Sharkness scored on a bad throw to give Tracy Cave the win and aid in copping the Class AAA title.

Rogers on sports

Attacking fellow newspaper brethren is right up there with sucker-punching nuns or tossing puppies out in the snow on Christmas, but everything has its time to be said, and this is the time.

RICK ROGERS

Let's get to the bone. The newspapers' continued insistance to label high school athletes 'stars', 'standouts', or, God forbid, 'outstanding and in a class by themselves' is such foolishness that whoever writes such dribble should be made to eat the news copy raw.

Such labels, especially in this area, are frivolous at best and fictitious at worst and are bestowed upon unsuspecting kids by some of the biggest non-athletes in the world — sportswriters.

This star business is so much baloney that if it were a small business it would be closed down for false advertising.

A kid that is a star around here, and believes this, is in for a rude surprise when he goes to a large school and fails to make the grade.

"But coach, how can you cut me? I was an All-Star in high school."

"Where did you go to school, and what position did you play?"

"I was a linebacker at Glory Days High in Northeastern Pennsylvania."

"I thought something like that. You see that guy right there. He made All-City three times in Pittsburgh, and the Parade All-American second team in his senior year. Now he is a senior in college and he has only played four games in three years.

"You see that guy with the ball, he's got you by five inches and 25 pounds and he is our second string punter. Kid, you're in over your head."

"But I was outstanding, in a class by myself. They all said so. I was a star."

-O-

There should be a law against crummy teams trading away their first round draft choices to the powerhouses in the NBA.

About the only thing more ridiculous than the 76ers getting the first pick in the draft on June 17 is the Celtics getting the second pick.

If Los Angeles had the third pick, we could dispense with next season and start with the semi-finals: Boston vs. Phillies and Los Angeles vs. Houston.

Fortunately, with the eligibility of the undergrads, this draft should give everyone a talented palyer, if not a show stopper.

(Rick Rogers is a sports columnist for The Dallas Post. His column appears weekly.)

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