

Lehman girls' team lacks depth this year

The Lake-Lehman's girls' basketball team has 15 girls out for this year's team but only five are returning lettermen and of these, only three are seniors. Co-captains Debbie Levi, Janene Kasarda and Diane Jachimowicz are seniors and Pam Coolbaugh and sophomore Carolyn James are the other two lettermen on coach Joe Martini's squad.

Senior Kim Weidner and Junior Stacey Croman are also out for the team. The remaining girls include Sophomores Michelle Lukas, Karen White, Shelly Barcheski, Erin Brady, Cindy Gunton, Leesa Sorber, Lori Dobil and Kris Nordfors, the last three having only one year of basketball experience.

Coach Martini said the team is, at this stage of pre-season play, not developing the maturity needed to win championships. The team's strong points to date appear to be its overall shooting ability and the ability

to run the offense to get the open shot, but rebounding needs to improve as the season progresses.

Defensively, the girls will have to stay away from certain situations since they appear to be somewhat slow.

Martini is the kind of a coach who recognizes his players' ability and says if they can learn from their early season mistakes, his girls can be contenders for the league championship.

"Lack of improvement in our weaker areas will put us right in the middle of the pack as an also-ran," said Martini. "Maybe our season depends on two words — 'desire' and 'determination.'" Those two words can cover a lot of weaknesses."

No matter, Martini will have his team in there fighting in their first exhibition game set for Dec. 5 at 6:30 p.m. at Montrose.

— CHARLOT M. DENMON

Biddy League set to begin

The Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center will again hold a Junior Biddy Boys Basketball League on the CYC 8 foot baskets, according to Ed DeMichele, Athletic Director. The league is open to any boys from ages 6 to 9 years old. CYC House Teams will be formed so individuals could join the league and be placed on a team. Teams are also invited to enter the league. Games will be played on Saturdays on the CYC side Basketball courts. The first scheduled game will be January 3, 1987. The CYC 8 foot baskets are an excellent way to learn the proper form of shooting because children are able to reach the basket.

Registrations start now! Call 823-6121 or stop by and see our 8 foot and 10 foot baskets at 36 S. Washington St., Wilkes-Barre. Rev. John S. Terry is Director of the CYC, an Agency of the United Way of Wyoming Valley.

Lady Mountaineers confident of successful cage season

By JOHN HOINSKI
Staff Writer

The Dallas High School girls' basketball team has been involved in post-season play for the last seven years. This season you could already pencil in No. 8.

Returning six lettermen from last year's 18-11 squad that advanced to the quarterfinals in the state playoffs, the Lady Mountaineers, along with Crestwood and Seton Catholic, should seriously challenge for the Wyoming Valley Conference title.

Joann Cook, who is versatile enough to play guard, also. Junior Sue Starolis has looked very good in practice and Eileen Walsh, described as a "real team player" by Karuza, will also be counted on as will Tammy Daveski and Eileen Kalinowski. All six led the team in scoring in one game or another last year.

spread it (scoring) around. She said. "Let's win the championship."

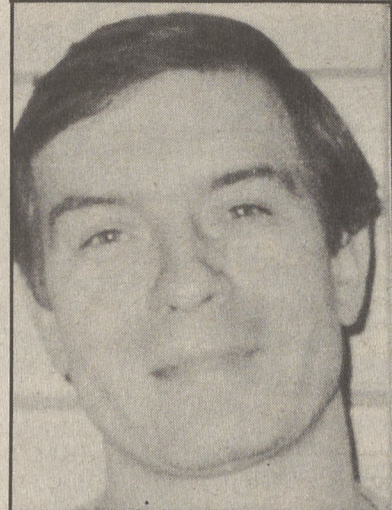
"We did and she averaged over 18 points per game. She didn't win the Most Valuable Player Award (Crestwood's Diane Madl did) but we became a more balanced team. And that's what we want."

Karuza, now in his eighth year at the Lady Mountaineers' helm, says he plans to use eight to 11 players this season, including Renee Balberchak, a junior, Patty Covert, a sharpshooting guard, and Patty Sudol, whom Karuza says may be more important to the team down the stretch than she realizes. Lisa Hite, Jennifer Floedman, Tracy Karuza and Angela Chiarucci are also expected to see some action.

But if the Lady Mounts are to capture the title, Karuza says they will have to improve on defense. And, he's got a plan for that, too.

"We're going to use what we call a kamikaze defense at times," he explained. "Hopefully, we can achieve two things with it. One, we hope to create disturbances, to force the tempo and to create turnovers and two, it will give the starters a rest. And we're going to use different combinations, also."

That should create enough havoc to vault the Mounts right into the playoffs.



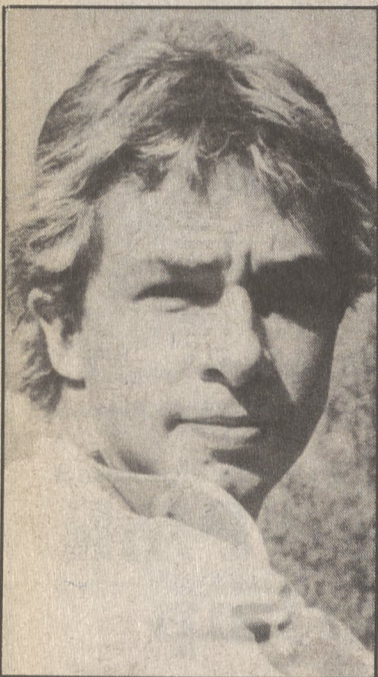
KIT KARUZA
Dallas cage coach

"We have a veteran squad coming back and we should have a little more speed this year," Dallas coach Kit Karuza said. "We're going to run a little more, but our half court game should also be better than in the past."

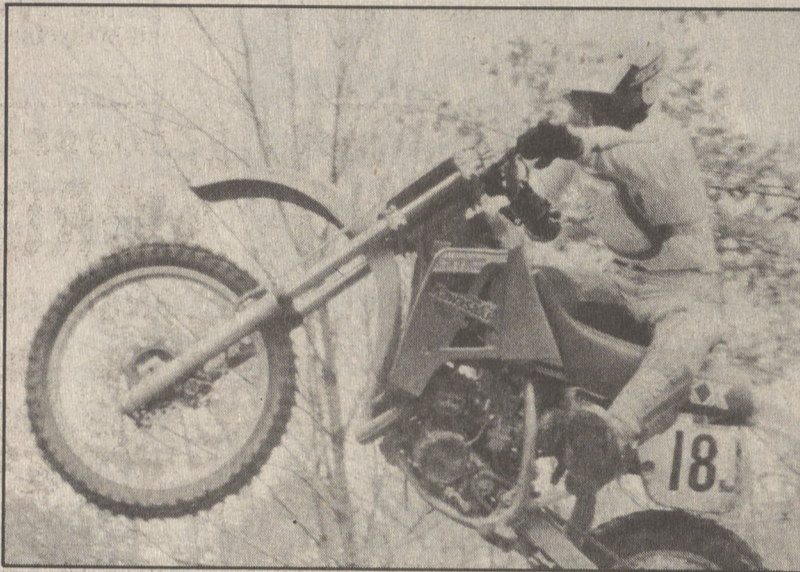
"Other teams are going to have to stop us. It won't be the other way around. That's not being cocky," Karuza explained. "But we can do more things against other teams than they can do against us. They are going to have to prevent us from scoring."

And Karuza has the horses to back up his words. Captains Lori Brokenshire, a guard, and Angie Kern, a swingman, have been starting for the past two and three years, respectively, and will anchor this year's squad along with inside threat

"We had a girl here a few years ago by the name of Cheryl Gavigan," Karuza continued. "She was a legitimate 25 point-per-game scorer. No question about it. I told her you can either score 25 a game and win the league MVP, or we could win the championship and



JAMIE OPALICKI



Dallas Post/Jane Rynn

Whoa, Nellie!

Jamie Opalicki displays a rather daring move on his Kawasaki as he performs a jump that earns a motocross racer several points during a real contest.

Moto

(Continued from page 11)

"The faster you go, the harder you fall. I don't fall as much, but it hurts more now than when I first started out."

Opalicki hasn't broken any bones yet, despite the horror stories he can tell about other bikers.

"I've gotten stitches a lot, and dislocated stuff...I've gotten run over."

That's enough to make a mother faint — but Jane Cummings, Opalicki's mother, often goes to see him race and has yet to faint.

"You can't tell him 'no' because that's all the more reason he's going to want to do it," she said. "You have to have the practice; you have to have the concentration. And it does take a lot of concentration and a lot of skill...and he can do that."

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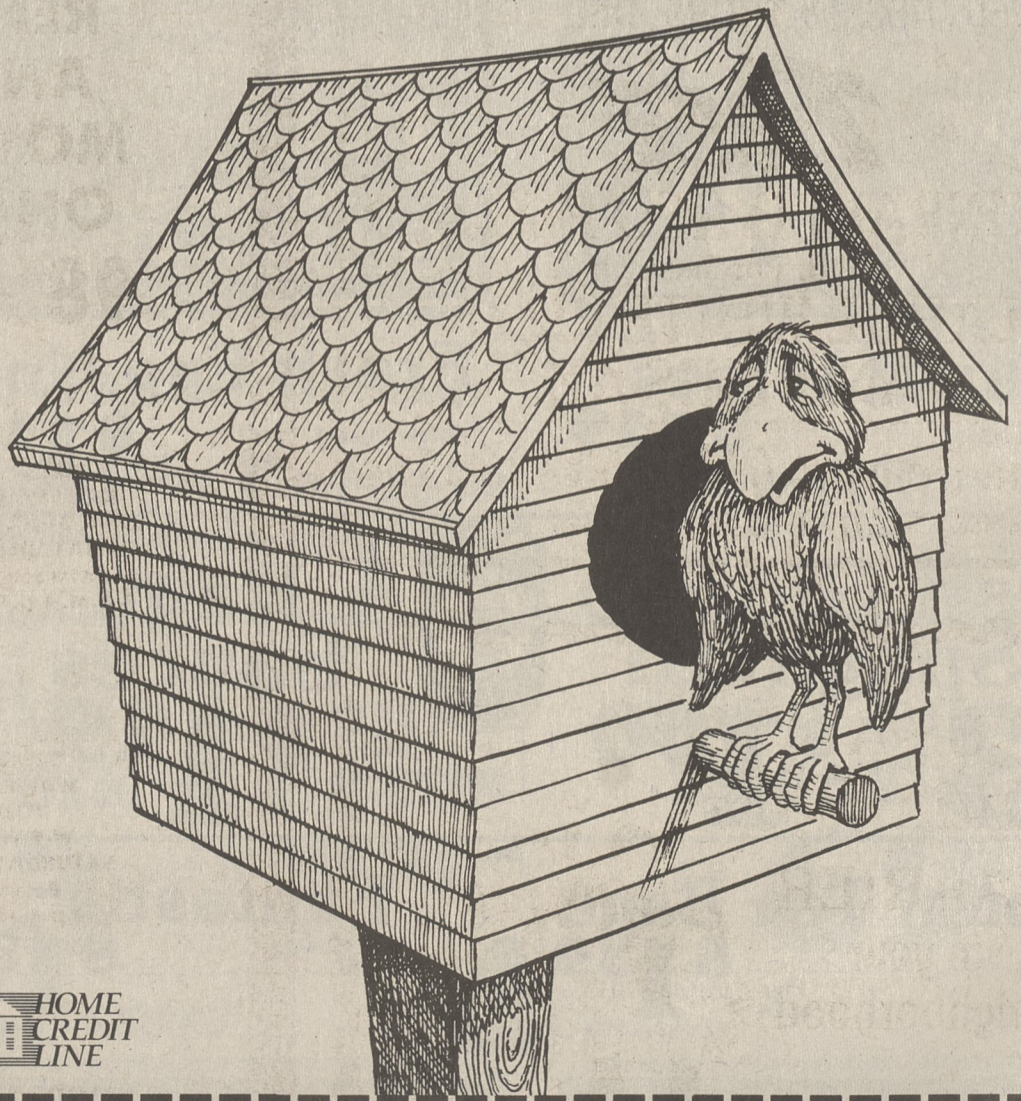
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