

# Post sports arena Big D girls keep trying!



Dallas Post/George Poynton

**GAME STRATEGY** — Dallas girls basketball Coach Kit Karuza explains how he wants the girls to perform in the second half of Thursday's game with Wyoming. Listening are Sue Starolis (15), Renee Balberchak (13), Tracy Karuza (3) and Jennifer Besecker.



Dallas Post/George Poynton

**ON THE REBOUND** — Lady Mount Laura Poynton goes up and grabs the rebound before her Warrior opponents get to it. Jennifer Besecker (42) comes in to back up her teammate.

## Dallas lady cagers play a tough game

BY CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

Despite the Dallas girls basketball team ending the first half with a 2-7 record and losing to Wyoming Area in the first game of the second half last Thursday, Coach Kit Karuza is not discouraged with his team. He went into this week's game with Berwick and Tunkhannock knowing that his girls would have two tough games.

Karuza is pleased, however, because his girls work hard and never give up.

"We're a young team," said Karuza, "and although we got a lot of experience the first half, we have only one starter back from last season and our freshmen and sophomores still lack the consistency they need to win games in Division AAA.

"The girls didn't lose too many of their games by wide margins in the first half in spite

of being in their first year of senior high varsity play. Nanticoke really trounced us but they're a very impressive team, the best I have seen at high school level. The Pittston girls are much taller than our girls. Our tallest girl is 5'6". Most of the teams in the league this season are much taller than we are."

Karuza said in his opinion the systems that bring up freshmen give their players a chance to get the experience of juniors when they are only sophomores. This season Karuza has brought up two freshmen and they have surprised him with the potential they have shown.

He is also pleased with sophomore Laura Poynton, who he says is an excellent athlete and has been very impressive in scoring points. She scored 31 points in the team's first half game with Coughlin.

Karuza said the inconsistency of his young players should

improve as they gain experience. They start out well in a game but often fall behind, then they have to play catch up which is difficult.

"The girls don't quit, they put forth tremendous effort and our losses have not been due to lack of effort but due to inexperience. We have three girls back from last season but they were not leaders. Jennifer Besecker and Laura Poynton have been outstanding on offense but they need more experience on defense," Karuza said.

He explained that there have been times the team could be up six or seven points but break down and fail to go ahead. This season every team in the division has at least one of their outstanding scorers back. Most of these will be gone next season and the Dallas team members will be back.

The Dallas team is smaller than the others in the league but

they match the other teams height by their (Dallas) play. The coaches have the team members doing some difficult things. Poynton is usually guarding the tallest girls.

Although he knows they have some difficult games ahead, Karuza believes the team will play more consistently the second half. According to him, one taller girl would be a key to their success.

In the first half, against Coughlin the girls broke down and lost control. Against Valley West, they were down by 14 points and came back within seven points and earlier in the season against Benton, Dallas was down 16-4 and rallied to win in the final seconds. That gave the team some of the confidence they need to know that they can win.

When the girls played Pittston Area, they went into the game knowing the Patriots had a girl

6'4" and one 5'11" and against Bishop Hoban the smallest girl for the Artents was bigger than Dallas' biggest player.

"The kids are excited to watch play and Joyce Tinner, out this year after two years layoff is doing a fine job for us. I'm not too concerned with the girls loss against Wyoming Area last week. We lost one of our players in the second half against the Warriors and Jennifer Besecker went out on fouls. Wyoming also has two excellent scorers in Kopezca and Schultz, who teamed up to score 43 of

the Warriors 57 points."

Laura Poynton hit 15 points to lead the Mountaineers, who led 17-12 in the first quarter.

In the second quarter, the Warriors rallied behind the shooting of Kopezca and Schultz to outscore the Mountaineers 21-6 and never dropped back after that.

Coach Karuza refrained from commenting on this week's contests, knowing that his girls were going against two stronger and more experienced teams but as he has often commented, "anything can happen."

## Girl cagers keep trying

Lake-Lehman girls basketball team ended the first half with a 5-4 record after getting off to a bad start at the beginning of the season. They opened the second half Friday night against G.A.R. and lost 52-33, who ended the first half of the season with an 8-1 record.

The loss did not upset Coach Joe Martini to a great degree because he saw his girls do a lot of things right. The Lady Knights held a 12-11 lead at the end of the first quarter and Martini believes if they could have kept the Grenadiers at half-court they could have kept the score a lot closer.

He is optimistic about the games coming up this week, West Side Tech at home and Bishop O'Reilly away.

"Our girls are showing consistency now and are playing well. Sometimes they are out-manned but if they can keep their opponents half court, we'll have a chance at winning a few more games."

Pam Coolbaugh has been doing some excellent playing and scoring for the Lady Knights and Wendy Skibitsky has been coming off the bench and doing a good job for the team. Karen White has been a major key in the Knights improvement.

"White has a lot of basketball sense and she is great on the press offense. When she's told something she remembers it. Michelle Lucas and Michele Barcheski have come around. They've been playing when they're hurt, they have been giving their all.

### General Radio

DOES IT BETTER... FOR YOU

## EVERY SHARP CAROUSEL® II MICROWAVE OVEN ON SALE



**SHARP HALF PINT™ Compact Microwave Oven CAROUSEL® II**  
For Even Cooking!

**SALE \$99.95**



**FULL SIZE AUTO-TOUCH® MICROWAVE CAROUSEL® II ELECTRONIC TOUCH**

**\$199**



**SHARP CAROUSEL® II CONVECTION MICROWAVE OVEN**  
Browns Bakes Boils Crisps

**INSTANT CREDIT LARGEST SIZE \$329.95**



**TOP RATED VCR**

**GE VHS HQ TABLE MODEL VCR MODEL 9-7500**

- Quartz Tuning—Frequency Synthesized
- 100 Channel—Cable Compatible
- Special Effects in EP Mode
- 2 Event/7 Day Timer
- 14 Function Wireless Remote

Was \$299  
**Sale \$249**



**Nintendo® ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM IN STOCK**

**\$79.95**



**PELONIS DISC FURNACE**

- HEATS LARGE ROOMS
- THERMOSTATIC COMFORT CONTROL®
- EXCEPTIONALLY SAFE
- LOW OPERATING COSTS

**\$139.95**

LARGEST SELECTION OF LATEST NINTENDO GAME CARTRIDGES IN STOCK

OPEN MONDAY thru FRIDAY 9 to 8:30 P.M.  
SATURDAY 9 to 5:30

## GENERAL RADIO

587 SOUTH MAIN STREET, WILKES-BARRE  
824-7881  
5 BLOCKS FROM PUBLIC SQUARE  
FREE PARKING



## 40% OFF SKIS - BINDINGS - BOOTS - POLES XC EQUIPMENT!

\*Excludes Ski Packages & Those Items Already on Sale.

## 30% OFF

DUOFOLD CLOTHING SKI SWEATERS  
SKI JACKETS SKI GLOVES  
SKI PANTS WINTER VESTS  
SKI GOGGLES WARM-UP SUITS  
SKI RACKS SKI TOTES/SKI GRABBERS  
STANDARD SIZE RACKETBALL RACKETS

Purchase any Ski Suit or Ski Package & Receive FREE A Discount Coupon Book Worth Over \$2000.00 in Ski Values.

**REGISTER TO WIN A SKI VACATION IN VERMONT**

1st Prize — Five nights lodging for two (Double Occupancy) at the Hotel Jay, Jay, Vermont. Includes 5 days of lift tickets to all lifts.

2nd Prize — One Pr. Knieissl Pro Star Skis 175cm  
A \$235.00 Value

Drawing to be held Feb. 13th



## 40% OFF

Mfg. Suggested List On A Select Group Of

### NIKE & ADIDAS CLOTHING

Spalding #B9054

### Basketball Banking Board - Rim

Mfg. Sugg. List \$70.50

## SALE \$49.99

SAVE \$20.51

Includes 4 Yr. Limited Warranty

## LEWIS DUNCAN

NARROWS SHOPPING CENTER  
EDWARDSVILLE • 287-1181

Hrs.: Mon. thru Fri. 10-8:30 Tues., Wed. & Sat. 10-6

LEWIS-DUNCAN LEWIS-DUNCAN LEWIS-DUNCAN