

SPORTS

Mountaineers look strong in Division 1

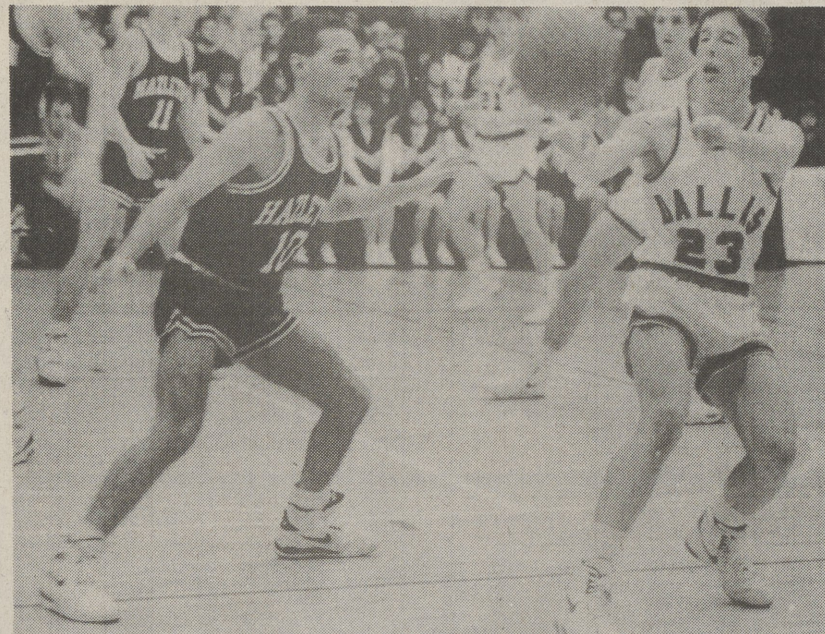
By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

The Wyoming Valley Basketball Conference opened this past week with Lake-Lehman playing Northwest in the opener and downing them 55-36 in Division II. Dallas lost to the strong Hazleton Mountaineers Saturday night.

Lake-Lehman Coach Rodger Bearde has 20 players out for the team this year, 11 dressing for the varsity and nine for the Jayvees. He has four returning lettermen: Rob Wilson, Mike Strutko, Bill Vigorito, and Ben Haughney, having lost Len Annetta and Frank Coslett to graduation.

"Wilson, Strutko, Vigorito and Haughney will be four of our starters," Bearde said. "Leo Filip, a senior who played Jayvee last season and Glenn Nilsson will be our other two starters. We will play six starting team this year and Bobby Jones will be the next player off the bench."

The Knights are a young team but four of the players, juniors have experience. They don't have a lot of height, though. Wilson is 6-3, Haughney 6-1, and the remaining players are under six feet. The team has decent speed and good ball handling which Bearde hopes will compensate for the lack of height.



RUSSIN TAKES PASS - Dallas' Ray Russin (23) takes a pass from a teammate and despite a strong Hazleton defense manages a shot for two for Dallas. (Photo by C.M. Denmon)

"I'm pleased with our defense," Bearde said. "GAR is the favorite in our division and whoever defeats GAR will probably win the championship. Crestwood and Bishop O'Reilly also have good teams this season."

"Our kids are aggressive and fast breaking and as the season progresses, I believe our inside and

outside shooting will be a plus for us," Bearde explained. "Last night we had four players in the double figures."

Eight years ago, Lake-Lehman defeated GAR to win the Division II title. Bearde is not making any predictions this early in the season. Only time will tell.

MOUNTS SPORT HEIGHT, SHOOTERS

Dallas Coach Clarence Ozgo has 21 out for the team this season, with 14 playing varsity and seven playing Jayvees. Two of the players play both varsity and Jayvee.

Ozgo has five lettermen returning: Ray Russin, Brent Gauntlett, Mike Farris, Jeff Tinner and Eric Nardone.

"This year's team is the tallest I've had since I have been coaching at Dallas and our shooting is good this year. We have more boys who can put the ball in the basket. These are two of the team's strengths."

"The kids are playing more aggressive but I'd like to see them get even more so. We need aggressiveness and good shooting with the four big powers in our division," Ozgo said. He was referring to Hazleton, Coughlin, Wyoming Valley West and Pittston, four schools with large enrollments.

"Defense and ball handling are my big concern, I worry about turnovers," Ozgo said.

"With a bigger team and better shooting I'm hoping that we will turn things around."

Gauntlett is 6-6, Damon Lisnow 6-4, Scott Thomas 6-3, Jeff Tinner and Eric Nardone each 6-2. Russin is 5-11 but he has good speed and three years experience.



UNICO TOURNAMENT - Schools participating in the 7th Annual Al Pisaneschi Invitational Basketball Tournament sponsored by Dallas Unico Club were represented at a special meeting by Jack Tinner, Tunkhannock; Gary Vanderburg, Wyoming Seminary, Clarence Ozgo, Dallas; and Jim Williams, Meyers. (Photo by C.M. Denmon)

Unico tournament set

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Members of the Unico Basketball Tournament Committee met at Joe's Grotto Pizza recently to make final plans for the 7th Annual Al Pisaneschi Invitational Basketball Tournament sponsored by Dallas Unico Club.

The committee met with coaches and officials of Meyers, Tunkhannock, Wyoming Seminary and Dallas to discuss plans for the two-

day tournament, Dec. 27 and Dec. 29, at the Dallas Senior High School.

Atty. Gifford Capellini, Tom Competa are co-chairmen of the committee, assisted by James Perugini, Joseph Paglianite, and Lou DeSanto. Representing the schools were Jack Tinner, Tunkhannock; Gary Vanderburg, Marvin Antinnes, Wyoming Seminary; Jim Williams, Meyers, and Clarence Ozgo, Dallas.

Lake-Lehman sports roundup

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Hafey takes Knights after four overtimes

Lake-Lehman Knights lost 86-85 to Bishop Hafey Saturday night at Hazleton at the end of four overtime periods.

Coach Rodger Bearde's Knights took a first period 17-10 lead and were in front 32-29 at halftime. In the third period Hafey outscored the Knights 22-20 to cut Lake-Lehman's lead to one point. Hafey outscored the Knights 17-16 in the final period to tie the score at 68-68.

Both teams remained tied in the first overtime when they each scored six points. In the second overtime both scored five points and the third overtime both teams scored four. In the fourth overtime, Hafey edged the Knights 3-2 to take the win.

Glenn Nilsson hit the double figures with 19 points and Rob Wilson hit the same number. Nilsson tossed in six goals from the field and went three for five from the foul line. Wilson tossed in six from the field and went a perfect three-for-three from the free line.

Lady Knights edge Bishop Hafey

Coach Joe Martini's Lady Knights ran their record to 2-0 Saturday, by edging Bishop Hafey 69-64 at the Lake-Lehman gym.

Wendy Skibitsky led the team in scoring with 31 points tossing in nine goals from the floor and hitting 11 for 14 from the foul line. Alyson Davis hit the double figures column with 17 points dumping in three for four from the free line and putting seven through the nets from the field.

The Knights took an early first period 16-14 lead but fell behind 40-33 at halftime when Hafey outscored them 26-17 in the second period. In the second half the Knights rallied and outscored Hafey 36-24 to win the game.

This week the girls are scheduled to play Seton Catholic and Hanover.

Knight matmen lose to Williamsport

P.J. Goodwin at 171 lbs. pinned his opponent in 1:44 and 189 lb. Ray Sencrans flattened his man in 3:52 but the Lake-Lehman Knights lost 39-26 to Williamsport.

103-lb. Mark Longmore gave the Knights six by a forfeit at the Knights gym but Charles Rober was pinned by 112-lb. Mark Manny in 3:37. Williamsport moved the score to 12-6 when 119 Don Snyder flattened Derrick Bologna in 5:45.

125-lb. Charlie Jacoby wrestled to a 5-5 draw with the Millionaires Jamie Mosteller.

Williamsport took the next four bouts with 130-lb. Brian Vollman decisioned Rich Peiffer 5-0, 135-lb. R. Bell took a major 12-2 decision from David Konopke 140-lb. Wade Bower took a major 13-3 decision from Steve Burke and 145-lb. John Manley pinned Jason Naugle in :29 seconds.

152-lb. Terry Martin wrestled to an 8-8 draw with Joe Potts and 160-lb. Mike Guerin took a major 14-6 decision from Quay Schaptell. Hwt. J.J. Konigus was pinned by Matt Neenan in 3:23.

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Dallas sports roundup

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Mounts test Hazleton before falling

Dallas Mountaineers gave the Hazleton team a hard fight early in last Saturday night's game at the Dallas gym and took a 16-9 lead at the end of the period. But they were unable to stop the aggressive Hazleton Mounts in the second and third periods as they outscored Dallas 24-15 and 21-12. In the final period the Hazleton boys outscored Dallas 14-13.

Brett Gauntlett and Damon Lisnow each scored 16 points for Dallas. Eric Nardone hit double figures with 10 points.

Gauntlett tossed in seven from the field and went 2-2 from the foul line. Lisnow dumped in six from the field and 4-4 from the foul line. Nardone tossed in five from the field. Russin and Lisnow made three-point throws.

Lady Mounts lose to Hazleton

The Lady Mountaineers stayed even with the Hazleton Mountaineers in the first half of their game at Hazleton Saturday night but they fell behind in the second half and the Hazleton offense outscored Dallas 30-23.

Jennifer Besecker and Aria Pierson led the Mountaineers with 14 points each and Laura Poynton hit for 11 but it wasn't enough to overcome the strong shooting of the Hazleton girls.

Dallas 2-2 overall, is now 0-1 in league play. They were scheduled to play Nanticoke and Wyoming Area this week.



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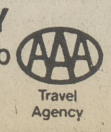
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