

SPORTS

Laura Poynton and Jennifer Besecker lead Lady Mountaineers this season

Two seniors give direction to team

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

If the two senior co-captains on Dallas girls varsity basketball are successful in their efforts, this year's Lady Mountaineers team will end the 1990 season with the best record the team has had in three years.

Jennifer Besecker and Laura Poynton are the only two seniors on the team but they are quick to explain that there are some outstanding athletes on this year's squad.

"They are dedicated and hard-working and in general they have a lot of natural ability," said Laura Poynton. "They are willing to follow orders and as a result we are playing with better team effort than in the past."

Jennifer Besecker agreed and said if the team continues as it has, they should finish better than in past years.

Laura, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Poynton of Dallas, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Besecker, also of Dallas, have been playing basketball since they were in fifth grade.

They started with the Back Mountain basketball league, then moved up to junior high school where they played under coach Tom Kilduff. During that time, the junior high team took the championship in the Junior High league each year.

In senior high, both girls have played varsity since 10th grade and both play swing guard posi-

tions on both offense and defense. Records for the team since they have been on varsity are 3-15 in 1988, 6-12 in 1989 and 4-4 to date for the first half of this season.

This year the girls' team has five or six good shooters, with Laura and Jennifer among them. Laura has a career total of 810 points, 175 of which she has scored this year. Jennifer has scored 588 points, 182 of them this year.

Both Jennifer and Laura have been active athletes for many years, and not only in basketball.

Laura has also been on the senior high school girls softball team since she was in ninth grade. She has pitched each year and going into this season has a record of 31-4 over three years. During those years, the team won districts in her freshman year, advanced to the state quarter-finals when she was a sophomore, and went to the final playoff last season.

While in junior high, Laura was a member of the hockey team in eighth grade, on the track team in seventh and eighth, and ran cross-country in ninth. When she is not studying or participating in high school sports, Laura spends her leisure time biking or swimming. She also participates in the Keystone Games and in the summer works as a counselor at the Rec Center.

Jennifer has been a participant in track since she was in eighth grade and plans to try out for track again this year. This year, however, she plans to try to play girls soccer and also throw the javelin



Laura Poynton and Jennifer Besecker
Dallas Girls Basketball co-captains

The team is working toward its best record in three years

for the track team.

She also enjoys sports when she has leisure time and participates in the Keystone Games. Jennifer works part-time at McDonald's which takes up much of her leisure time, but she does find time to work on the yearbook staff.

Both seniors expect to attend College Misericordia after graduating although they did not plan it that way.

Laura will attend with the aid of

a softball scholarship while Jennifer - if she definitely makes up her mind to attend Misericordia - will be aided with a basketball scholarship.

Both girls have participated in a variety of sports, but they are very definite about their favorite. Laura's is softball and Jennifer's is soccer, hard decisions to make since they both enjoy basketball so much.

Laura has two older sisters, neither of whom were athletes. Jennifer has two brothers, Robert and Raymond, and a sister Joann. She was preceded in sports by her brothers who played both baseball and basketball so she is following in their footsteps.

Dallas boys sport best record in three years

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

After getting off to a losing start this season, the Dallas Mountaineers regrouped and ended the first half with a 5-4 record. That gives them more wins than they had in the two previous years.

The Mounts ended the first half last week with two wins, defeating Tunkhannock 53-49, and taking Berwick 78-60 last Tuesday night.

In their game with Tunkhannock Friday night, the Mountaineers came out strong in the first period outscoring the Tigers 19-7, but in the second quarter the Tigers outscored the Mounts 17-8.

But the Dallas boys then played a strong defense and held down the hard-playing Tigers Eric Nardone led the Mountaineers with 20 points, tossing nine through the nets from the field and hitting 2-for-5 from the foul line. Ray Russin followed with 14 points and Damon Lisnow put in 10 for the winning team. Russin was a perfect 5-for-5 from the charity stripe. Russin

and Medura each had a three-pointer for the Mountaineers.

In the game with the Berwick Bulldogs, Lisnow dropped in a game high 28 points Tuesday night on the loser's court. Lisnow scored 17 in the first half to give Dallas a 38-18 lead at halftime. Jeff Tinner put in 15, six from the floor and 3-for-4 from the free throw stripe. Ray Russin and Eric Nardone scored 12 points each with Russin putting in a three-pointer.

"We have been pleased with the way our boys have been playing this season," Coach Clarence Ozgo said. "They've worked hard and have won more games than they did in the past two years. They are playing more aggressive and their rebounding is good."

"The boys are playing together. Their defense has come together and they don't give up. They have won their last three games and they know that they can win. They are doing a good job."

The Mountaineers open the second half this week at Hazleton Friday night.

Dallas girls end first half 4-5

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Tunkhannock defeated the Dallas girls' team 64-60 Thursday night behind Sherry Grigas' 22 points and Pam Yanora's 20. Grigas hit an added honor as she scored her high school career 1,000th point in the game.

The Lady Tigers took an early 29-14 lead in the first half before the Mountaineers rallied in the second half and used a full court man-to-man press which began to take its effect on the Lady Tigers.

But Grigas and Yanora pulled Tunkhannock to the win with key foul shots. Grigas hit 12-for-16 from the free throw stripe during the game.

Aria Pierson had 15 points for the Lady Mountaineers and Jen Besecker came through with 15. Laura Poynton added 12 points and played outstanding defense for the Dallas team. She hit for two three-pointers in the game while Besecker hit one.

The Dallas girls open the second half hosting Hazleton Thursday.

Black Knights carry 8-2 record into second half

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Lake-Lehman Knights defeated Meyers 76-64 and Crestwood 70-62 to end the first half of the boys basketball season with an 8-2 standing.

The Knights used balanced scoring and two scoring spurts to lead them to their win over the Mohawks Friday night at the Meyers court.

Ben Haughney tossed in 19 points to lead the Knights, who had four players in the double

figures column. Rob Wilson tossed in 15. Glenn Nisson 14 and Mike Strutko 11.

The Mohawks took an early 17-13 lead in the first period but the Knights came back in the second period to outscore the Mohawks 21-13 and hold a 34-30 lead at halftime.

Coach Rodger Bearde's boys played a strong defense against their opponents and outscored them 15-13 and 27-21 in the second half. Mike Strutko scored a three-pointer and Nilsson hit for two three-pointers for the Knights.

Lady Knights finish first half with 6-4 record

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Lake-Lehman's Lady Knights won one game last week and lost another to end the first half with a 6-4 record. That left them tied for first place with Crestwood and Meyers the two teams they played.

The Lady Knights hosted the Mohawks Thursday and despite Meyers Kim Maguire tossing in 35 points, the Black Knights defeated them 61-43 behind Wendy Skibitsky's 31 points.

The Lady Knights took a 30-16

halftime lead with Skibitsky the only Knight hitting the double figures. She was hot on the nets tossing in 14 from the field and dumping in 3-for-4 from the free throw stripe. She scored 12 more points in the third period and added nine in the fourth. Alyson Davis added eight points and Jen Smith put four through the nets from the field.

Maguire made all of the points for the Mohawks except eight, four of which were made by Herrick and two each by Stempleski and Norton.

Dallas matmen whip Hoban

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
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The Dallas Mountaineers won their first bout of the season Wednesday night by defeating Bishop Hoban matmen 48-13.

The Dallas grapplers used six falls and three forfeits to earn their trouncing of the Argents.

103-lb. Eric Williams and 112-lb. Jon Shaffer won their bouts by forfeit. 119-lb. Rick Hoyes pinned Chad Haines in 2:18 and 125-lb. Pat Morris decisioned Dan McGowan 9-7 and 130-lb. Bob Jesse decisioned Mike Crawford 14-6.

Dallas' 145-lb. Pat Farrell pinned John Hallat in 2:25 and 152-lb. Jamie Walsh pinned Hawk Brian Lohman in 2:19. 160-lb. Rob Zevney took a decision from Bernie Stoko. Dallas took the next three bouts with 171 Jamie Janosky pinning Rich Ales in 55 seconds, 189 Wade Post pinning Joe Pudlosky in 47 seconds and Hwt. Dave Pitcavage winning on a forfeit.

The Mounts host Crestwood Wednesday and meet Pittston aRea away Saturday.

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Little League Baseball - Boys & Girls ages 6 to 12
(T-Ball, Minor League and Major League
Girl's Softball - Div. I and Div. II ages 9 to 15
Teener's 13 year old league
13 to 15 year old league
Players must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. First time players are required to have a Birth Certificate to register.
This year's registration cost: one child \$20.00, two children \$25.00, three or more \$30.00
There will be a second registration on Saturday, February 10, 1990, 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the Shavertown United Methodist Church.
A late registration fee of \$5.00 will be charged for any child who registers after February 10.
Please notify relatives, friends and neighbors to register early

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