

Black Knight boys, girls in state playoffs

By DAVE KONOPKI
Sports Correspondent

The opponents become tougher and tougher. The pressure continues to mount. Win, and you advance. Lose, and you go home.

But as Roger Bearde and Joe Martini will quickly tell you, this is where the fun begins.

Bearde and Martini will both lead their respective Lake-Lehman basketball teams into the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association Class AAA state basketball playoffs this weekend. Bearde's boys will play the number one seed from District 4, as will the Lady Knights, under the direction of Martini.

The boys will play on Friday night, most likely against Shamokin at Shikellemy High School at 8 p.m. Shamokin must first beat Mifflensburg in the District 4 title game.

The Lady Knights will play the winner of the Danville/Milton game on Saturday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. at Shikellemy High School.

The "Blizzard of '93" over the weekend played havoc with the District 4 championships and the definite matchups, times and sites of the games were not known at presstime.

Ironically, not only are both teams playing the number one seed from District 4, but both advanced by beating Berwick. The girls' ad-

vanced with a 50-28 thrashing of the Lady Bulldogs last Thursday night. Cherub Honeywell and Heather Gray led the Knights with 14 and 13 points, respectively.

The boys' advanced with a 48-36 win over the Dawgs. Lehman placed three starters in double figures, led by Rich Davis's 21-points. Jesse Martin and Dave Clancy tallied 15 and 12 points, respectively.

"I'm really happy that we're going to the next level," said Beard, who is assisted by Clarence Ozgo. "What we're doing now is saying, 'Hey, let's make some noise'. We're coming out of one of the best leagues in the state. Now, we not only represent our school and the Back Mountain, we also represent our

league. Our teams (the Wyoming Valley Conference) have always done well. So we have to uphold that tradition."

Martini, like Bearde, is looking to have some fun.

"We wanted a road trip," said Martini. "We don't care who we play or where we play. We'll go to Pittsburgh if we have to. At this time of the year anything can happen."

"Deep down inside I feel that we're not a bad basketball team," continued Martini. "I feel that we can play with anybody. From now on motivation is not a factor, it's what kind of talent you have."

Should Shamokin — 17-6 overall and 7-5 in the Skuylkill League

Division I — advance in the boys' bracket as expected, Lehman will have a decided height advantage in the game.

The Indians' starting lineup includes junior guard Chad Richie (5-7, 6 ppg), sophomore guard Greg Klebon (5-8, 8 ppg), senior forward Jeff Hodrick (6-1, 5 ppg), senior forward Mark Moyer (6-2, 5 ppg) and senior center Tony Carnuccio (6-3, 15 ppg). Junior guard Joe Bridy (5-6, 5.5 ppg) and Todd Annis (5-7, 4.5 ppg) come off the bench for head coach Joe Klebon.

"We saw Lake-Lehman play in Saturday's game against Berwick," said Klebon, who is in his fifth year at the helm of the Indians. "Their three big guys (Davis, Clancy and

Martini) can really shoot. Their guards don't shoot a lot but they do what they have to do in order for the team to win. I can see why they've been so successful."

"We really haven't shot the ball that well," added Klebon, downplaying his team and sounding like a vulture fattening up his prey for the kill. "We'll have to slow the game down and hold onto the ball. We don't have any size so the shots we take have to be good ones. We don't get that many rebounds."

Shamokin advanced to the eastern state quarterfinals last season before losing to Nanticoke. The Indians own a win over the Trojans during the exhibition season.

Misericordia will dedicate Anderson Center March 20

By DAVE KONOPKI
Sports Correspondent

A decade ago it was nothing more than a dream. Two years ago, that dream took shape in the form of a blueprint.

On March 20, that blueprint will become a reality.

College Misericordia will officially open the new Anderson Sports-Health Center with a dedication ceremony on the college campus. The ceremony is an invitation-only affair. The center is named for Dr. and Mrs. Robert S. Anderson, in honor of their significant and continuing commitment to education and athletics at Misericordia.

The \$5.5 million, 75,000-square foot facility will house many of the college's athletic programs, as well as classrooms and laboratories for the nursing, occupational therapy and physical therapy programs.

"The entire college community is happy and excited about the event," said Gail Smallwood, Director of Public Relations and Marketing for the school. "It's been very exciting watching the building take shape since construction started in December of 1991. We're looking at this as a way to provide the college with the opportunity to develop programs for both the school and the community."

The building, in addition to the classrooms and labs, includes a Student Health Center, gymnasium/field house, one-tenth of a mile indoor jogging track, three racquetball courts, an aerobic/dance studio, a weight/fitness room and the college's athletic offices.

Also, the facility will be equipped with a six-lane, NCAA-regulation swimming pool, the only indoor pool of its kind in the Back Mountain.

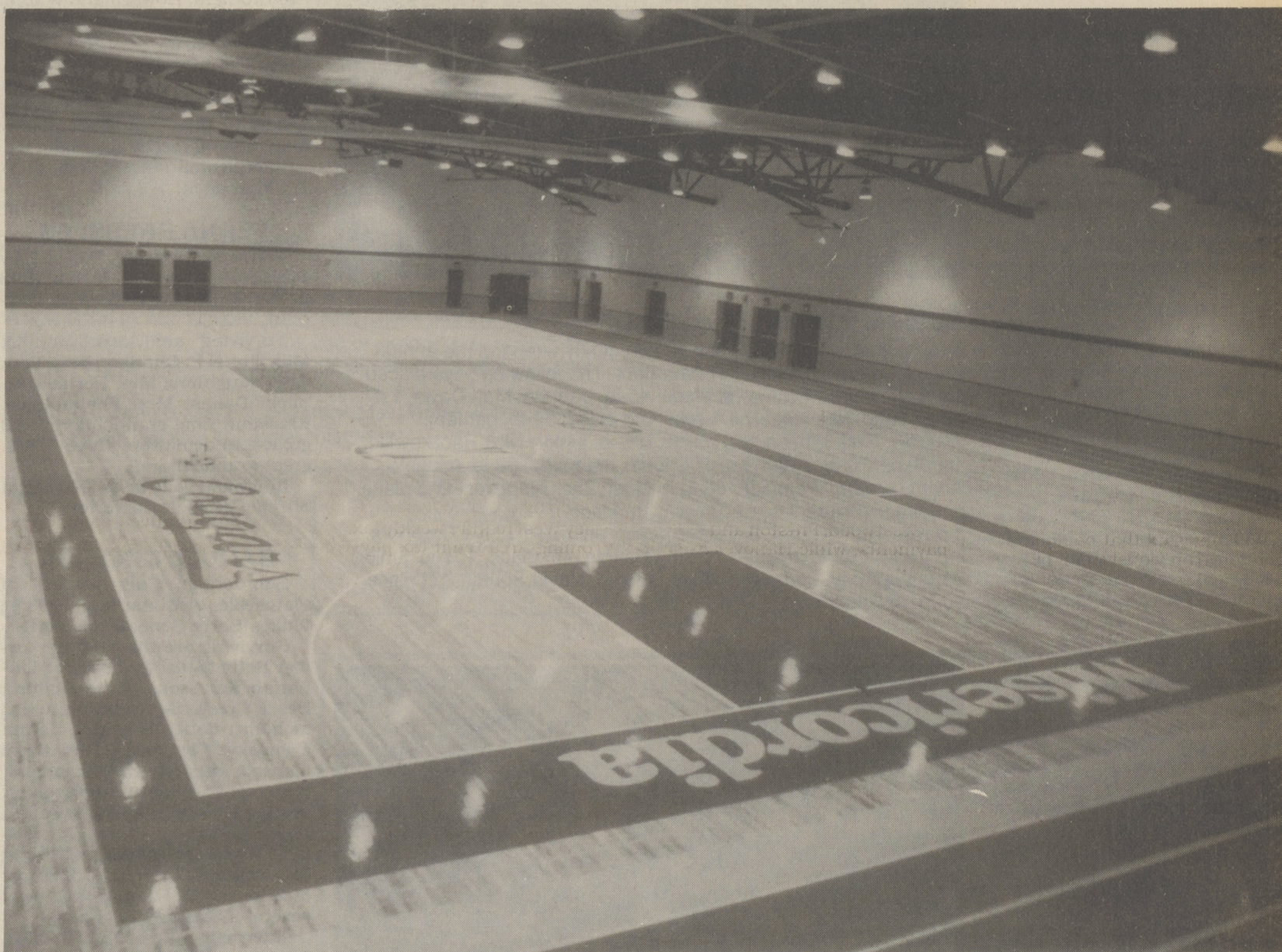
The pool will be available to the public, on a trial basis, from April 3 to June 1, 1993. The public can use the natatorium on Saturdays and Sundays from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The fee will be \$2 for adults, \$1 for students and children ages 5-18. Students from any college or university must present their student ID.

"This trial period gives the College an opportunity to determine how to best serve the needs of its students and the community," said Misericordia president Dr. Carol A. Jobe. "We are pleased with the public's interest in the facility and see this as a chance to involve the community with the College while evaluating policies and procedures for the center."

The gymnasium has a seating capacity of 1,500, ten times the capacity of the old gymnasium. Officials at the school are confident that the new gym will be a great asset in recruiting. The basketball team has been playing the majority of their home games at the Dallas Middle School over the past few seasons.

The complex, built by High Construction Inc., of Lancaster, is the largest construction project on the Dallas campus since 1972. It is also complete with a comprehensive audio system, designed by Clair Brothers Audio Enterprises. The dance studio, natatorium, gym and fitness center each have their own audio system. There is also a PA system throughout the entire building.

The Anderson Center is also fully handicapped accessible. The building has a motorized front door, two color signs with Braille lettering, along with handicapped facilities in the restrooms and the pool.



ROOM TO GROW - College Misericordia's new Anderson Sports-Health Center will be dedicated Saturday. Among its features is a

basketball court with seating for 1,500. The court is surrounded by a running track.

POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Morgan wrestles to states

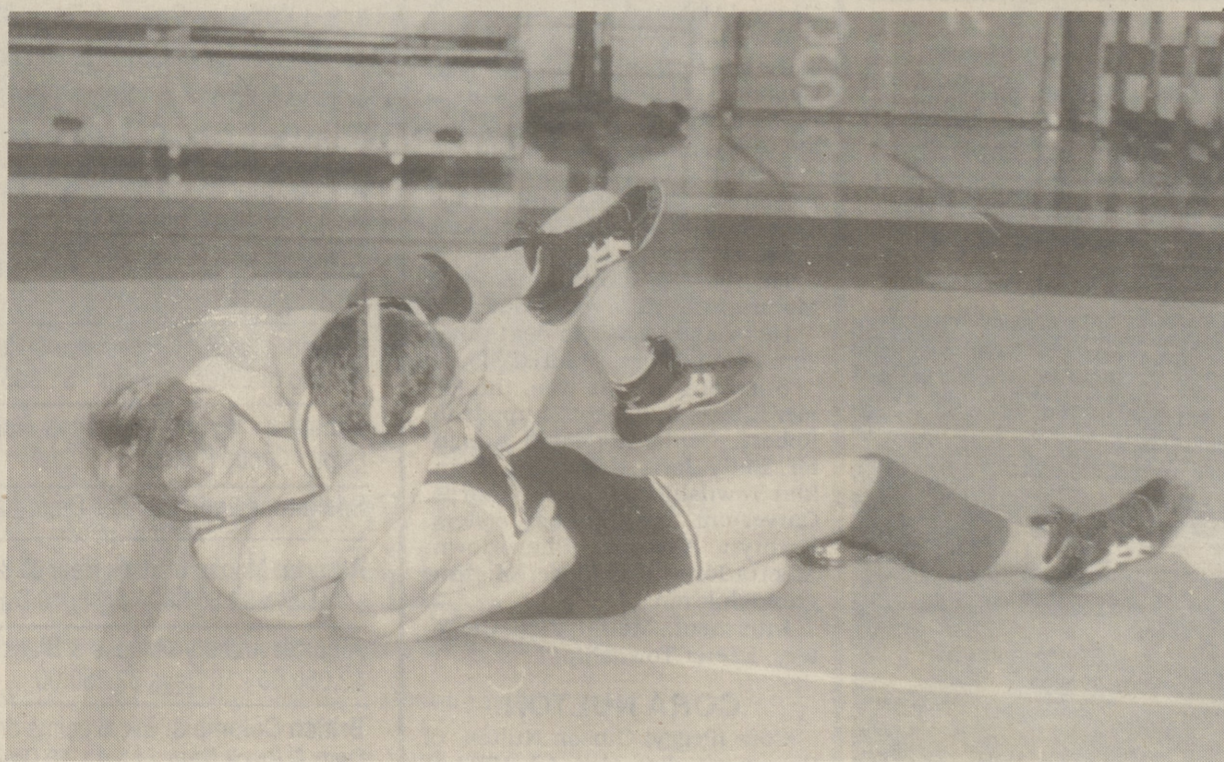
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And then there was one. Lake-Lehman and Dallas High schools combined to send 10 wrestlers to last weekend's Northeast Regional wrestling championships in Williamsport. Now, just one is advancing to states.

Lake-Lehman's Burt Morgan captured third place in the regional tournament's 135-pound weight class, earning a trip to the state wrestling championships this weekend in Hershey. Dallas's Mike Vavrek and Lehman's Tim Sayre each captured a fourth place medal.

Morgan, 27-5, advanced to the state meet with a 6-4 decision over Warrior Run's Andy Gemberling in the consolation finals. Morgan decided Mark Weader of Danville in the first round of consolations.

The Lehman junior just missed a shot at wrestling for a gold medal when he dropped an overtime decision to John Fogarty of Central Columbia. The two ended their six-minute match in a 1-1 tie. After one scoreless overtime period with both wrestlers standing, Morgan won the coin toss and chose to take the bottom. Morgan could not escape or reverse Fogarty in the allotted



FINE FORM - Dallas wrestler Mike Vavrek finished fourth at regionals. He is shown above during a meet against Berwick during the regular season.

POST FILE PHOTO

30 seconds and, therefore, Fogarty was declared the winner. Fogarty went on to win the regional title.

"Burt has come a long way in the last year," said Lehman co-coach Tom Williams. "Last year he wasn't even in the district lineup. He wrestled pretty good (at regionals). We always tell our kids that if they can place in the northeast regionals, they can place at states."

Morgan's quest for a state medal begins this Friday with his first-round match against Wilson's Steve Class. Class is the southeast regional runner-up.

Vavrek, 25-4, was also the re-

ipient of some bad luck. In the consolation finals for third place and a trip to states, Vavrek dropped a heart-breaking and controversial 4-3 decision to defending regional champion Craig Necci of Warrior Run. With just three seconds remaining in a scoreless first period, Necci, the state's third-ranked 130-pound wrestler, was awarded a takedown and two back points as the buzzer sounded. There was much controversy as to whether the buzzer sounded before the points were earned.

Trailing 4-0 in the final period, Vavrek escaped and took down

Necci to cut the lead to 4-3. Vavrek then began to roll Necci onto his back but time expired.

"I thought that Mike wrestled very well," said Dallas coach Steve Kaschenbach. "He hung right in there with a guy who was ranked number three in the state and he gave him all he could handle. Mike had an outstanding tournament."

Sayre missed the opportunity to advance to states when he dropped a 10-4 decision to Matt Clutter of Northeast Bradford. Sayre, who finished an outstanding year with a record of 24-4, and Clutter were tied 4-4 entering the final period.

Local swimmers will compete in Eastern Championship meet

Six Back Mountain swimmers will be representing the Wilkes-Barre YMCA Dolphin Swim Team on March 20 and 21 at the Eastern District YMCA Swimming Championships. This prestigious swim meet will be held at the La Salle University Natatorium and hosted by the Upper Main Line YMCA.

The Wilkes-Barre YMCA swimmers include Megan Daney, Matthew Schweitzer, Shannon Gaffney, Kyle Baker, Connor Fetting-Smith and Carey Fetting-Smith.

Megan and Matthew are both fifth grade students in the Dallas School District. Megan attends the Westmoreland Elementary and Matthew attends the Dallas Elementary School. Shannon Gaffney is a fifth grader at Gate of Heaven School in Dallas.

Kyle Baker is a freshman at Dallas High School. He along with Dean Evans recently represented Dallas at the PIAA AA-Division

District Swim Meet. Dean and Kyle finished in the top 15 for each of their events at the high school district meet.

Carey and Connor Fetting-Smith attend Wyoming Seminary. Carey is a fourth grader and Connor is a fifth grade student.

Megan, Matthew, Shannon, Carey and Connor will be competing in the 10- and under age group. Kyle will be part of the 14 and under age group.

The top nine finishers in each event at La Salle will advance to the Pennsylvania State YMCA Championships. The East-West Pennsylvania State Swimming Championships will be held at the Penn State McCoy Natatorium on March 27 and 28.

The Dolphins are coached by Jerry Rynkiewicz and Bill Boyle. Nicole Gfeller is the aquatic director of the Wilkes-Barre YMCA and Bernie Hargadon is the executive director.

Rydzewski completes PGA training

Four Seasons Golf Club PGA golf professional, Rick Rydzewski, recently completed the PGA Advanced Professional Training School in Philadelphia.

Rick received 20 continuing education credits in subjects such as golf industry trends and various other current golf subjects. Rick is available for private lessons (indoor or outdoor), golf schools and clinics, golf club fitting and repair by calling Four Seasons Pro Shop at 655-8869. Rick will also be attending a PGA Psychology of Playing Seminar in March.