

The Dallas Post SportsWeek

- School news
- Calendar
- Classified

Mounts, Brady feted at banquet

By DAVE KONOPKI
Sports Writer

It's been nearly five weeks since the Dallas High School football team brought home the PIAA Class AA state championship from Altoona with a 31-7 rout of Washington.

Well, the football season may be over, but the awards keep on coming.

Head coach Ted Jackson and his troops were presented with the Team Achievement Award last Saturday night at the Killer Bees Athletic Club's annual banquet at the Ramada Inn in Wilkes-Barre. Each year, the organization honors the achievements of amateur athletes from the greater Wyoming Valley community.

"This is a great honor," said Jackson, of the award. "This is an outstanding organization run by many outstanding individuals. It's great to see the kids receive this kind of recognition. It's a terrific honor, really."

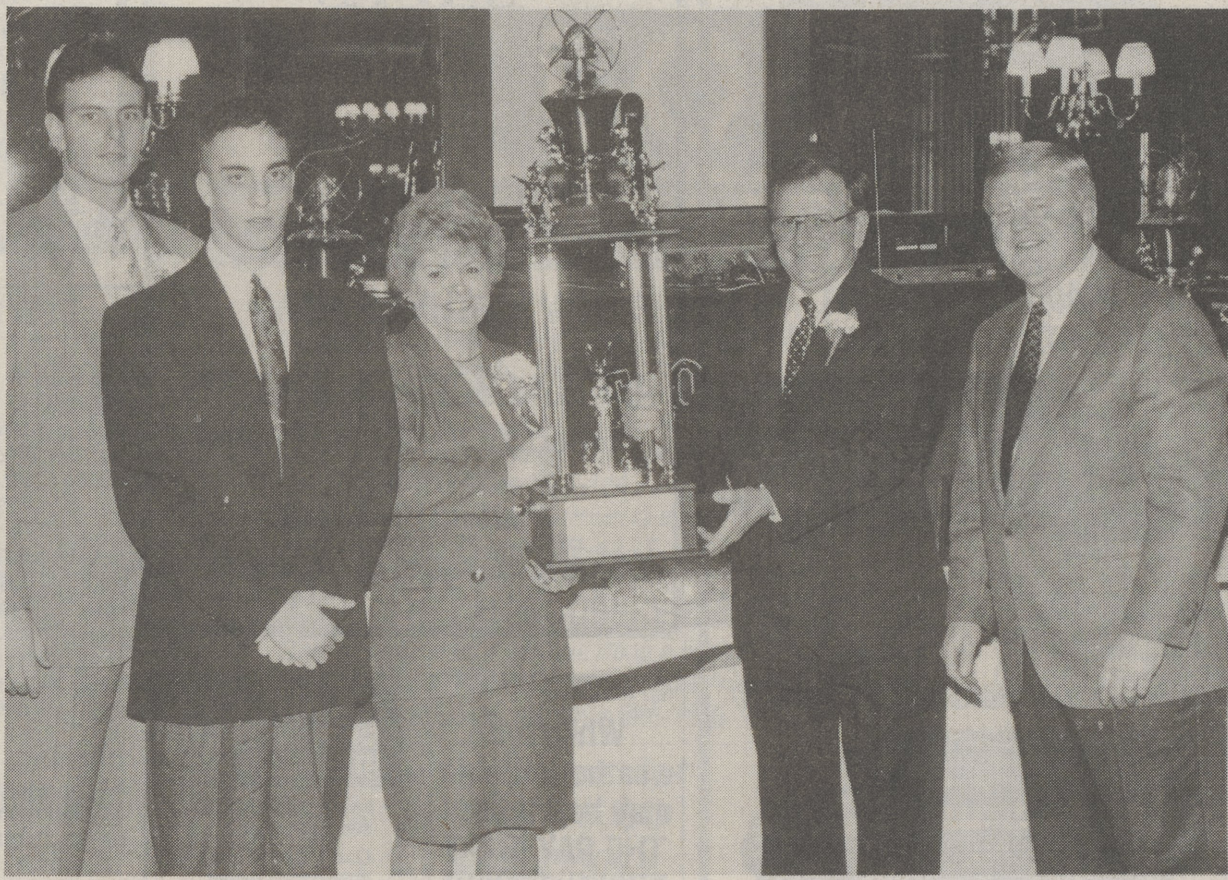
Senior Brian Brady received special recognition at the banquet. The all-state quarterback received the Joe Hoinski award as the outstanding scholastic male athlete of the year. Runners-up were Tunkhannock football standout Reuben Sherman, Crestwood three-sport standout Mike Graham and Bishop Hoban cross-country standout Ryan Buckley.

Former Lake-Lehman football star Lenn Annetta was a runner-up for the Hoinski award as the outstanding athlete in the open (post-high school) male category. Annetta recently completed an outstanding career at Salisbury State (Md.) College, where he set nearly every season and career passing record at the school (see related story this page). The Hoinski award was given to former Berwick High School and current West Virginia quarterback Jake Kelchner.

Previous winners of Hoinski awards include former Meyers High School and Notre Dame University football standout Raghilb "Rocket" Ismail.

According to the soft-spoken Brady, the quality list of previous winners makes receiving the award even more special.

"This award means a lot to me," said Brady, who threw for nearly 2,000 yards during his senior year and more than 3,800 in his career, "especially when you consider some of the people who have won the award in previous years.



ATHLETE OF THE YEAR - Dallas Mountaineer quarterback Brian Brady was named Athlete of the Year by the Killer Bees Athletic Club. Shown above presenting the Joe Hoinski trophy, from left, Alan Ashby, Brady, Mrs. Joe Hoinski and Joe Hoinski, Sr., parents of Joe Hoinski, for whom the award is named, Frank Paczewski.

PHOTO BY DAVE SCHERBENCO

Some of those athletes have gone on to play professional sports. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to win an award that so many great athletes have won."

But the son of Tom and Kathy Brady of Shavertown, who has also excelled in basketball and baseball during his years at Dallas, is quick to share the award with a group of guys who helped him achieve his success - his teammates.

"I have to share this award with the whole team," said Brady, who is undecided on where he will play football next season. "Without the team, we wouldn't have gone as far as we did and I probably wouldn't have been recognized. So the whole team should share in this award."

BANQUET POTPOURRI: It was nice to see such a large contingent of Dallas parents and fans present to see the Mountaineers receive their award...The Mountaineers certainly appeared to be a favorite with those in attendance. In fact, they received a long standing ovation when introduced...It was nice to see WBRE's Sid Michaels receive much-deserved recognition when he was presented with the Jim McCarthy, Sr. Media Award. Sid is a true professional, a good friend, and nobody in the business works harder...Dallas High School standouts who were previous recipients of awards, or finalists include Lori Warneka (field hockey), Brian Burd (football), Steve Oliver (cross-country), Mike Kaprowski (football), and Jerry Ogurkis (football/wrestling)...Next to the Dallas football team, the loudest ovation was given to



TOP TEAM - The Dallas Mountaineers were named the top team by the Killer Bees Athletic Club. Head coach Ted Jackson, left, is shown accepting the award from Joe Kelly of Wyoming Valley Health Services.

PHOTO BY DAVE SCHERBENCO

Wilkes-Barre City Councilman Al Boris...The Mountaineers were able to attend the function as a team because of the generous sponsorships of the following businesses: Rosen, Jenkins & Greenwald; Gino's Shoe Store; Wyoming Valley Health Care Services; Howell Benefit Services; Allied Contractors and Engineers; Franklin Life Insurance; R.N. Fitch & Sons Plumbing; Premium Brands;

Northeast Communications; plus the financial support of parents and fans of Dallas football...I may be a bit biased, but I think I was seated at the best table in the house for the event. Talk about a wide range of conversation topics, we ran the gamut. From football, to wrestling, to politics, to diets, to...And that doesn't include Keith Bicking's "Bobbitt Potato". You had to see it to believe it!

Len Annetta found the fire at Salisbury

By DAVE KONOPKI
Sports Writer

He was living the American dream. The kind of dream which fills the heart and soul of every red-blooded American boy who has ever held a football in his hands.

He was the BMOC - Big Man on Campus - your stereotypical All-American-type high school quarterback, blessed with a strong arm, rugged good looks and an academic performance usually reserved for those who wear thick glasses and pocket protectors. And now, after being a four-year starter in high school, a promising collegiate career loomed on the horizon.

But Len Annetta was not a happy person. In fact, he was downright miserable. And the world around him, including...no, especially his football world seemed to be crashing down before his eyes.

After his successful high school career at Lake-Lehman, Annetta had accepted a scholarship to play football at Division II Bloomsburg University. But he wasn't happy and there were many nights he would lie on the bed in his dorm room asking himself a question he couldn't answer:

"Why?"

"I wasn't happy, not with football and not with any other aspect of my life," said Annetta, referring to his year at Bloomsburg. "I knew I wasn't happy there. There were a few situations that I went through early in my career where I had to learn to overcome a little adversity. That's when I knew I had to go find the love for the game of football again."

Now, four years later, Len Annetta is smiling, with a grin bright enough to light up a city. And his love for football is back, burning with a furnace-like intensity.

The 1989 Lake-Lehman High School graduate was in Wilkes-Barre last Saturday night for the annual Killer Bees Athletic Club awards banquet. Annetta was a finalist for the award as the top Open (post-high school) Male Athlete of the Year. The award was won by former Berwick and current West Virginia quarterback Jake Kelchner.

Since leaving Bloomsburg, the son of Mike and Marie Annetta has been busy setting nearly every passing record at Salisbury (Md.) State University. During his tenure with the Seagulls, Annetta set numerous school records including career passing yardage, season attempts and season completions. Many of the records he broke were held by former All-

America quarterbacks at Salisbury State.

This past season, Annetta threw for more than 2,100 yards against some of the best Division III and Division II teams in the nation, including Division II power C.W. Post and Division III powers Rowan College, Frostburg State and Wesley College. Along the way, he completed 185 of 328 passes and threw for 15 touchdowns.

Rowan played in the Division III national championship game and Frostburg State defeated Wilkes University in the first round of the national playoffs. Annetta culminated his career with the Seagulls in dramatic fashion, throwing for a school-record 437 yards in the season finale against Guilford and finished his career with an impressive 5,817 passing yards, averaging more than 230 yards per game.

As if that wasn't enough, Annetta was a two-year captain for the Seagulls and was voted the team's most valuable player at the end of the 1993 season.

"I wanted to just go down there, get a good education, and have a fun time playing. The records are just icing on top of the cake," said Annetta. "I just happened to find an offense that exploited what I can do best. I'm just happy I was able to go there, have some success and have some fun."

Now, with his love of football securely back in place, Annetta, who is also an excellent student, wants to continue his passion for the sport - only this time as a coach. The well-spoken 22-year old is hoping to get a chance to be a graduate assistant somewhere next season.

"I really want to coach college football," said Annetta, a 3.0 student who will receive his degree in chemistry and physics. "I'm hoping to get a graduate assistantship next year so I can coach. I want to see what it's like. Sometime in the future I'd like to teach chemistry and/or physics and coach football."

Perhaps it would be poetic justice if Annetta would someday become a teacher because it was the biggest lesson he learned which turned his life around.

"Within that year at Bloomsburg I found the true love of football, the fire was back again," said Annetta. "I found that money wasn't everything. I never want to look back on my life and say I should have done this or I should do that."

"I'm just happy that I had the chance to play college football and get a quality education. But most of all, I'm happy with myself and today, that's the way I measure myself."

Offense explodes in rec basketball games

High scoring blowouts were the order of the day last Sunday in the Dallas Adult Basketball League. Two teams topped the century mark and five players scored 25 points or better in the last series of games before playoffs next weekend.

The opener saw an offensive explosion as Philadelphia Subs beat Bassler Equipment 120-86. Ryan Swank had 34, John Bachstein 24 and Rick Gebhart 19 for the victors who nailed 14 three pointers and two four pointers. Lou Woychick had 24 and Chuck Wilson 22 for Bassler.

The middle game was won by Dugan's Pub over Allen Construction 80-62. Mike Hosey and Frank Debona each had 21 for the winners while Joe Sinkulak had 25 for Allen.

The Greyhounds got a league season high 44 points from Rick Coslett in their 110-73 win over The Lion Inc. in the nitcap. Rick

Pincofski added 33 as he and Coslett had 10 three pointers and two four pointers collectively. Mike Luksic had 26 and Jeff Poorman 24 for The Lion.

The opening round of the playoffs will begin on Sunday, Jan. 23 with three games beginning at 12:30 at Dallas High School.

Opening round playoff schedule, January 23
12:30 - Bassler Equip. vs. Philadelphia Subs
1:30 - Dugan's Pub vs. The Lion Inc.
2:30 - Allen Const. vs. The Greyhound

LEAGUE STANDINGS

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Greyhounds | 9 - 1 |
| Dugan's Pub | 8 - 2 |
| Philadelphia Subs | 7 - 3 |
| Bassler Equip. | 4 - 6 |
| Lion Inc. | 1 - 9 |
| Allen Const. | 1 - 9 |

Philadelphia Subs - 120

| Player | FG | F | Total |
|---------------|----|---|-------|
| Swank** | 15 | 2 | 34 |
| Gebhart** | 8 | 1 | 19 |
| Carter** | 6 | 3 | 18 |
| Feddock | 8 | 0 | 16 |
| Lanza** | 3 | 0 | 9 |
| Bachstein**** | 9 | 0 | 24 |
| | 49 | 6 | 120 |

Dugan's Pub - 80

| Player | FG | F | Total |
|----------|----|----|-------|
| Debona** | 9 | 1 | 21 |
| Jaster* | 5 | 2 | 13 |
| Hage | 5 | 3 | 13 |
| Straigis | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| Hosey | 9 | 3 | 21 |
| Carey | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| | 33 | 11 | 80 |

Greyhounds - 110

| Player | FG | F | Total |
|---------------|----|---|-------|
| Coslett***** | 17 | 0 | 44 |
| Obeid** | 8 | 0 | 18 |
| Pincofski**** | 12 | 4 | 33 |
| Crocker | 8 | 0 | 16 |
| | 55 | 4 | 110 |

Bassler Equip. - 86

| Player | FG | F | Total |
|----------|----|---|-------|
| Wilson** | 10 | 0 | 22 |
| Race | 3 | 0 | 6 |
| Flaherty | 9 | 1 | 19 |
| Sutliff | 7 | 1 | 15 |
| Woychick | 12 | 0 | 24 |
| | 41 | 2 | 86 |

Allen Const. - 62

| Player | FG | F | Total |
|------------|----|---|-------|
| Sinkulak** | 9 | 3 | 25 |
| Hrabowski | 3 | 0 | 6 |
| Reidinger* | 6 | 1 | 14 |
| Golembeski | 4 | 0 | 8 |
| Hook* | 4 | 0 | 9 |
| | 26 | 4 | 62 |

Lion Inc. - 73

| Player | FG | F | Total |
|-----------|----|---|-------|
| Luksic** | 12 | 0 | 26 |
| Cuff | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Welgosh** | 8 | 0 | 19 |
| Poorman* | 10 | 2 | 24 |
| | 32 | 2 | 73 |

* Denotes 3 point goal • Denotes 4 point goal

Dallas Middle School racers win at Montage Mountain

The ski racing team from Dallas Middle School swept the individual male category to win first place in the Interscholastic Ski Race held at Montage Mountain on January 16.

Competition included seven teams representing Hazleton, Lakeland, Nativity, St. Mary's, St. Paul's, South Scranton and Wyoming Area.

Chris Schneider clinched a first place trophy, individual male, with a race time of 34.42 seconds. C.J.

Tyrell and Chris Nattress skied to second and third place finishes to complete the sweep. The fourth team member, Stacey Wagner, contested the Individual Female category with a fourth place finish. All team members participate in the Junior Racer program at Montage.

The next scheduled competition is the Keystone Games, February 10-13. The final race of the Interscholastic Race series will be held on February 27.

Mounts to be honored at state capitol

The State Champion Dallas Mountaineers Football Team will be honored at a special program on Monday, Jan. 24 at the State Capitol in Harrisburg by the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Senator Charles D. Lemmond and Representatives Phyllis Mundy and George C. Hasay will host the team and present resolutions adopted in the State Senate and House of Representatives recognizing its accomplishments.

The team members, coaches and school officials will be treated to a tour of the State Capitol, lunch in the House of Representatives dining room and introductions on the floors of the House and Senate Chambers.

Send your individual or team sports reports to:
The Dallas Post
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MORE SPORTS ON PAGE 10

BMT Baseball registers Jan. 22

Back Mountain Baseball, Inc. will hold registration for the 1994 season on Saturday, January 22, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Dallas Middle School cafeteria. All returning players were mailed application forms and are asked to bring a completed copy with them. Registration fee is \$20 per child or \$35 per family.

Registration is for the following groups: boys and girls tee ball; boys Little League, ages 8-12; boys Junior and Senior Leagues, ages 13-15. Girls' Little League softball ages 8-12; girls' Senior League, ages 13-15; and girls' Senior League, ages 16-18.

All first time registrants must bring a copy of their birth certificate and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.