

Dallas

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Tunkhannock, Lake-Lehman and Pittston should be the teams to beat and Valley West could be dangerous. This should be one of the most competitive seasons in the (WVC Class AAA) North in quite a while.

"We've also been very sick," added Pope. "We've had quite a number of girls with health problems during the pre-season and being confined to a gym didn't help matters."

Pope returns his trio of pitchers from last year, including Katie Sallitt, who posted a 7-4 record last season and juniors Kelly West (5-0) and Bridget Temperine. Freshman Sandy McCloud could also get time on the mound this season.

Other returning starters include Janosky, senior Michelle Siglin (OF); junior Therese Paxton (OF) and sophomores Holly Basinski (2B) and Suzanne Fisher (1B). Senior catcher Carra Giardina

returns to the lineup after missing her junior season because of a knee injury.

Other key performers include senior Jamie Barbacci (UTIL); juniors Kristy Woolbert (OF), Heather Patton (OF), Kim Kamine (3B), Anne Hays (2B); sophomores Lisa Tomaine (OF), Sara Rhodes (IF) and freshmen Melanie Getz (3B), Mary Ann Selenski (OF), Sarah Barlow (OF), Shannon Caboot (OF) and Michelle Molesky (C).

Pope knows this could be a season to remember.

"We've had a very difficult pre-season," said Pope. "But I think that when we get outside on a daily basis, the character of this team may develop. We're cautiously optimistic. We could have one of the most successful seasons Dallas has ever had, or we can have one we would want to forget. But we have a tremendous amount of confidence in the girls."

Lehman

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worsened with time and Finn found herself facing major back surgery last November. Taking the sound advice of Horace Greeley, Finn made her way west, to San Francisco, where doctors placed steel rods in her back and fused every vertebrae.

"This really wasn't the year for me to come back, not physically," said Finn, who faces a rehabilitation period of six to 12 months but should have a 95 percent recovery. "But I also didn't want to risk losing the job, so I took it."

With the job in hand, Finn secured the services of Bob Gray, a highly successful softball coach in District 16's Big League program. Gray led the Big League team, comprised of 16-18 year old players from the Back Mountain, Northwest, Bob Horlacher and Harveys Lake programs, to consecutive state championships in 1992 and 93. He handles all the physical aspects of coaching at Lehman and works with the infielders.

On the field, enthusiasm runs high despite having a young and fairly inexperienced team.

Seniors Heather Gray (SS) and Julie Babcock (CF) are the lone senior letter winners returning from last year's championship season, and both hit near the .350 mark in their junior seasons.

Juniors Amy Rogers (3B), Nicole Naugle (2B), Terry Macieczyk (OF), and Jen Birt (P) should be members of the starting lineup for the Lady Knights, joined by sophomores Jonelle Elgaway (OF/P),

Kelly Spencer (1B), and freshman catcher Kim Spencer. Other key players are sophomores Missy Gray (OF) and Kristy Mascalis (LF/OF).

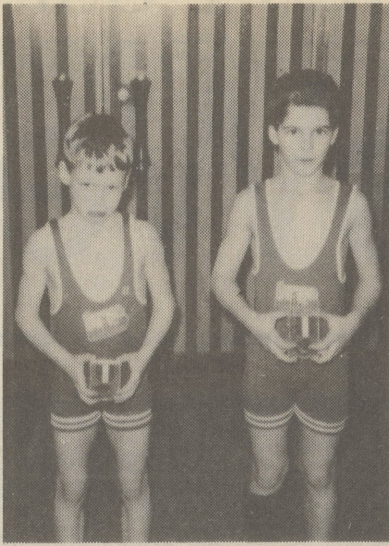
"The attitude of the girls is terrific," said Finn, who calls her husband Jim, "Lake-Lehman softball's biggest fan". "They are very, very easy to coach. They listen to what we say and they do what they're told. They're hitting the ball well right now and they're continuing to work hard."

"Heather and Julie provide a lot of senior leadership," added Finn. "They're talented, extremely coachable and are always willing to help the younger players. The kids know the kind of success we've had here and they don't want to stop the tradition."

Finn has a strong pitcher/catcher battery in Birt and Spencer. Unlike the hard-throwing pitchers who have become the trademark of Lehman softball, Birt is a finesse pitcher with the ability to change speeds well.

With the support of her family and Gray by her side on the field, Finn entered the 1994 campaign and was greeted with open arms by the players.

"They treat me wonderfully," said Finn, who has helped countless athletes, regardless of the sport, in securing college scholarships around the nation. "They've shown a real sensitivity to my condition. They've just been great. That kind of action really renews your faith in kids today."



Local wrestlers place at regional tourney

Two Back Mountain Wrestling Club grapplers placed at the Middle Atlantic Wrestling Association Regional Tournament held in Shamokin.

Andrew Shaw, wrestling Bantam 48 lbs., earned a 1st place while Aaron Kubasik, wrestling Junior 58 lbs., earned a 4th place.

Andrew Shaw will compete in the Eastern Nationals in Salisbury, Md. April 16 and 17.

Wrestlers host tournament

The Back Mountain Wrestling club hosted the MAWA District Tournament recently.

The following Back Mountain wrestlers placed:
Left to right, 1st row, Brad Thompson, Midget 50-4th place; Doug Ellsworth-Midget 80, 4th place; Eric Spurlin, Bantam 40, 1st place; Mike Stolarick, Bantam 44, 2nd place; Andrew Shaw, Bantam 48, 1st place; Greg Kostrobala, Bantam 52, 4th place.
2nd row, Tyler Droppers, Midget 70, 2nd place; Michael Yenason, Midget 70, 2nd place; John Walter, Midget 66-4th place; Aaron Kubasik, Junior 58, 1st place; Matt Davis, Bantam 65, 1st place; Jonathan Pall, Bantam 60, 3rd place.
3rd row, Jonathan Bird, Junior 74, 3rd place; Zachary Ragukas, Midget 93, 2nd place; Brett Larson, Intermediate 115, 1st place; Stephen Arnold, Junior 130, 2nd place; Jake Walter, Junior 105, 2nd place.

* Also placing but not in photograph are, Jonathan Shutz, Midget 54, 4th place; Adam Gurnari, Junior 62, 2nd place; Dennis Brown, Junior 78, 3rd place; Lloyd Droppers, Junior 115, 4th place.

Lake-Lehman sets final calendar for this year

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

The Lake-Lehman school board adopted its final revised 179-day calendar for the rest of the present school year at its regular May 5 meeting.

Graduation has been rescheduled to June 17, while June 23 will be the last day of school for all other students, who will be dismissed at 10 a.m. that day.

Karen Whipple cast the lone vote against the calendar, stating her concerns for parents who have already made non-refundable reservations for vacations or summer camp, and students who may have summer jobs beginning before June 23.

"I feel that this could cause undue hardship for some people," she said. "Also, I wonder how much learning will actually go on this late in June. We already have

enough hours of school to meet the state requirements."

In personnel matters, the board appointed assistant high school play director Leigh Strimbeck, at a salary of \$970, and elementary substitute teacher Ember Miller. The resignation of junior high softball coach Cindy Slocum and the retirement of Lehman-Jackson head custodian Frank Snyder were accepted.

Bids of \$5,691 for audio-visual equipment and \$17,639 for fall sports equipment were awarded.

Sandra Scott was awarded a special education transportation contract, effective March 10, for \$62.63 per day.

The board changed its May meeting dates: the committee-of-the-whole will meet Tuesday, May 10 and the regular board meeting will be Thursday, May 12.

MORE OBITUARIES, PG. 12

ANNE WAGNER

Anne K. Wagner, 91, formerly of Maple Street, Fernbrook, Dallas, died April 10, 1994 at the Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, she was the daughter of the late Peter and Hannah Reese Klein. She was a graduate of Coughlin High School and the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital School of Nursing. She was a resident of Dallas for the past 55 years.

She was formerly employed as a registered nurse at the Presbyterian Columbia Hospital, New York City.

She was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Shavertown and the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital Alumni Association.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles W.

Surviving are her stepdaughter, Martha Wise, Lancaster; sister, Catherine Burde, Rochester, NY; brother, Peter Klein, Camp Hill; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Thursday from the Richard H. Disque Funeral Home, 672 Memorial Hwy., Dallas, with the Rev. Harold R. Baer, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, officiating.

Interment will be in Mount Greenwood Cemetery, Trucksville. Friends may call from 1 p.m. Thursday until time of services.

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Misericordia tourney May 17

The fifth annual College Misericordia Spring Golf Tournament will be played Tuesday, May 17 at Shadowbrook Country Club.

Sponsored by the Misericordia athletic department, the event will follow a captain-and-crew format with a shotgun start at 11 a.m.

The \$45 entrance fee includes greens fee and cart for 18 holes, food and beverages. For more information, contact the Misericordia athletic department at 674-6294.

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