



Gators win Crossin tournament

The Gators of Gate of Heaven recently captured first place in the Luzerne County Recreation Department's Frank P. Crossin Memorial 8th Grade Basketball Tournament: kneeling, from left, Valerie Herron, Christa Chmarney, Carol Herman, Theresa Guntli, Maria Wright, Bridget Narcum; standing George Narcum, assistant coach; Lindsey Mace, Megan Chapman, Kristen Czwaliina, Robyn Considine, Joanne Greger, Rick Guntli, coach; John Powell of the LCRD.

Lehman

(continued from page 8)

some quality innings," added Barbacci. "He's had problems throwing strikes during the exhibition season."

The Knights only other major problem is lack of experience. The 18-man varsity roster is loaded with sophomores.

Adamshick will be the team's regular first baseman Oliver, one of the league's most feared hitters will play shortstop, pitch and play some center field. Patton will also play mostly shortstop when not pitching.

Third base is a three man race between Postock, Humphreys and Ralph Wasiakowski.

"Nobody's a clear-cut favorite," Barbacci said. "For now we'll just platoon the three."

Dave Cardwell and Humphreys will see playing time as the team's second sacker.

Mike Pitcavage, another junior that's been doing well - especially with the bat, leads the outfielders. Joe Halowich, Jared Perlis and Wasiakowski lead the parade for playing time.

Barbacci said the team's defense will take care of itself, despite all of the switching around and platoon situations.

Lake-Lehman finished the season 13-1 a year ago and with the realignment for '95 will play in division one of class AA. The league is no longer divided by the East - West scheme, but by enrollment. Come playoff time the top two teams from division one and the winner of division two make the playoffs. AA schools will play 15 games in '95.

"I think it's fair," said Barbacci of the new set-up. "It's based on your school's enrollment, bigger schools, get more players out. It's

a numbers game."

Lehman's division includes Bishop Hoban, G.A.R., Meyers, West Side Tech and Wyoming Area. Barbacci sees Meyers as the team to beat because of two excellent pitchers and the return of a number of lettermen.

Barbacci is assisted by Brett Evans and volunteer coach Vince Stryjewski. It's the first season for Evans who was an outstanding pitcher for the Black Knights in '87 and '88. Stryjewski has been with the school for eight years.

The Black Knights feature a number of athletes who can help the team in a number of ways and should play an exciting, explosive brand of ball this spring. How much pitching they get or how often the Knights big bats need to bail them out will determine their success.

Dallas

(continued from page 8)

couple of returning senior lettermen, third baseman/pitcher Jason Seward and first baseman Mike DeFrancesco, who really belted the ball during the pre-season.

The Mountaineers also have the ability to play sound, fundamental defense. Wolensky and assistant coaches Scott Francis and Jason Cadwalader are also surprised by the amount of depth on the squad.

"The fact that we have 13, 14 guys battling for the ten spots is a surprise," said Wolensky. "We have a little better depth than I thought. We have a couple of positions that aren't nailed down. Our lineup will probably be different for the first few games."

The Mounts starting outfield for the season opener, from left to right, was Justin Jumper, Griffin Bicking and Dan Podel. Kevin McDonald served as designated hitter and will also see some action behind the plate.

Other Mounts slated to see some playing time include a couple of power hitters. Sophomore Frank Valvano and junior Chris Stolarczyk, a lefty, both looked good in the pre-season. Outfielder Dan Natitus and infielder/outfielder

Brian Berlew, both juniors, also figure in the mix.

"I'm pleased with that because I think competition makes everybody work a little harder," added Wolensky.

The Dallas mentor's main worry is hitting.

"We haven't been real consistent hitting," Wolensky said. "We get guys on, we're having trouble bringing them in and that has me a little concerned."

The lack of hitting further exploits another weakness; Dallas is not blessed with great team speed except for the top three hitters in the line-up. While the athletes are there, the pitching after Kunkle may be a problem. Klick is the only other hurler with a varsity win.

"That's a question mark," Wolensky said. We have to get those guys squared away."

Bicking is a left-hander and will get a long look to help Kunkle and Klick. Seward and Jumper will also see time on the mound.

Dallas competes in the new second AAA division in the Wyoming Valley Conference and figures to battle Hanover for the top spot. The Hawkeyes return just about everyone from last year's

11-4 squad. Wolensky also sees Berwick as a contender, but is not happy about the league's realignment. Conference members play just 13 league games, five less than last year. The season opener was also moved up creating fewer exhibition contests. He's more unhappy with the playoff situation.

The winner from AAA division one receives the top seed in the district playoffs while the winner from division two must beat the second place team from division one to continue competition.

"The playoffs are set up in a goofy way," Wolensky said. "Even if we win our division we have to play the number two team from the bigger school's bracket. I don't think it's right that if we do win our division we would have to play someone just to get in the playoffs. We're the smallest AAA school, but we're competitive with everybody."

The Mountaineers, 12-6 in '94, will field an exciting, playoff caliber team in 1995. Their playoff chances will only improve if the hitting comes alive, a couple of outfielders develop and some other hurlers take the load off Kunkle.

Scott

(continued from page 9)

try and the last two with the wrestling team. Lipski and Williams also got him into a few matches as a tenth grader.

Despite all that he's accomplished, his most memorable high school moment is actually a loss during that sophomore campaign. He had to convince the Black Knight coaches he was ready to battle Mike Brennan of Valley West in a dual meet.

Brennan is one of the finest ever to wrestle in the conference with three district titles, a state runner-up medal and a scholarship to wrestle for Penn State on his resume. The Lehman coaches feared a pin and giving up six points, but allowed Scott the opportunity. He lost the match, but the team only gave up three points.

"I only lost 8-3," Allen said. "It was the happiest day of my life."

"That's nice to hear," said Williams who is also an assistant coach for the track team. "Sometimes you feel badly when you send a kid out there in that situation. It's good to hear he looked at it in a positive way. We try to tell the kids you can help the team as much with a loss as you can with a win."

The reason for Scott's success has been a lot of hard work and determination.

"There's times you'd like to see him do a little bit more than usual," said Narkiewicz, "but when the chips are down and he knows what he has to do, he generally

will be a hard worker. He works at what he's supposed to do."

Williams added that Scott was always a tough individual, but needed some discipline. Allen always wanted to go, go, go one hundred percent of the time and would often get sloppy. That erratic style of play is not conducive for wrestling and often leads to four or five points for the opposition.

"Our style has always been to wrestle on your feet and not on the mat," added Williams. "Allen's personal style is more suited to be on the mat, that was an adjustment on his part and he was actually very good on his feet this year."

Allen is a natural role model for some of his younger teammates because he's a caring individual and likes to get involved. Sports is what he'll miss most about high school, and he will always remember his coaches.

He credits Narkiewicz of having the ability to keep things interesting, while staying on his case. Ed Radzinski, who leads the Lehman girls, has been a big boost since Allen was in junior high school. Then there's Lipski and Williams.

"They're two of a kind," Scott said shaking his head. "They push you to no limit saying you have to get to that next level. Then every week it's another level."

After high school the next level for Allen is the U.S. Navy. He'll begin basic training in Illinois this July and a career training as an aviation ordnance man will follow.

That allows enough time to graduate high school and complete that goal set back in early September.

As far as the Navy is concerned, Allen figures to be a natural. For him it's always been full speed ahead!

Trout season opens Saturday morning

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

DALLAS - Diehard anglers won't have to choose this year between going fishing on the first day of trout season April 15 or finishing their income tax returns. In a rare sporting mood, the IRS has extended its income tax deadline until April 17 (Easter Monday.)

Promptly at 8 a.m. on April 15, millions of worms and spinners with exotic names and weird flavors will pop into Pennsylvania waters as half-awake fishermen and women continue their quest for the wily and elusive trout.

Fishing is legal 24 hours a day

until the end of the regular season at midnight September 4, then with a smaller limit during the extended season September 5 through December 31.

State law requires anyone over 16 years old to have a valid fishing license and trout stamp, which must be signed in ink and displayed on an outer garment, such as a jacket or hat, and another form of identification, such as a driver's license or school ID.

Whether or not they're out for trout, anyone fishing in state designated trout streams must have a valid trout stamp. State designated trout streams in the Back Mountain are Harveys Creek, Moon Lake and sections of Bow-

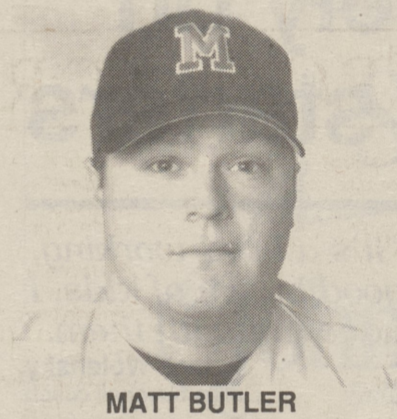
man's Creek.

Trout stamps are \$5, while adult fishing licenses are \$12, senior citizens' licenses are \$2 and a senior lifetime license is \$10.

The legal minimum size for both seasons is seven inches. The daily limit is eight of combined species during the regular season and three of combined species (brook, rainbow, steelhead, brown and palomino) during the extended season.

More information on licenses, seasons and limits is available in the digest of state fishing regulations which comes with every fishing license.

Butler again on Mansfield team



MATT BUTLER

Matt Butler, a native of Dallas, made the Mansfield University baseball team again this season. He will play in the outfield for the Mountaineers. Last season Butler batted .429 with 35 plate appearances with a .600 slugging percentage.

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