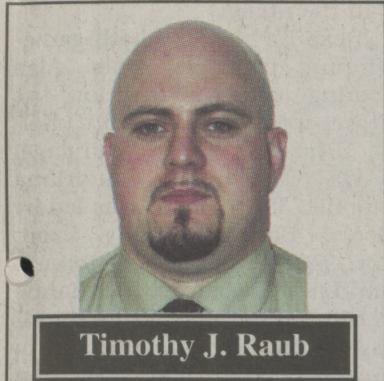


THE DALLAS POST

SportsWeek

Section 2



Timothy J. Raub

Manusky waits on word of his future

Greg Manusky thought his newfound role as NFL coach would last longer a little longer than one season.

But Washington Redskins owner Daniel Snyder had other plans.

The former Dallas High School football standout was fired along with the entire Redskins coaching staff after only one season under the direction of head coach Marty Schottenheimer.

"I think I was surprised when Marty was fired," said Manusky. "I thought he would have been in Washington for at three to four years, and so did he."

Manusky, who had retired from the sport in 2000, after a 2-year playing career, coached linebackers in Washington this season, and enjoyed the new role even with all the new duties the job included.

"I loved (coaching)," said Manusky. "It was fun getting back into football after a year off, and even though it was traumatic at first when we were 0-5, it was joyous turning things around after that."

The former All-Madden Team member found his opportunity to be a great learning experience, and got to find out firsthand what it is like on the other side of the football field. He used much of the experience he gained while playing for then defensive coordinator Dennis Dundy in Minnesota with the Redskins.

"I spent a lot of hours in the office. You can ask my wife," said Manusky. "It was hard to motivate the guys when we were 0-5, but they took it upon themselves to learn what they needed to know, and it showed in their attitudes and enthusiasm."

Manusky said it was not easy to help turn around a team defense that ranked 30th in the league early in the season, but because of the dedication put forth by the players, the Redskins finished the season with the 10th best defense.

Although his future is uncertain right now, Manusky would like to continue his coaching career with Schottenheimer, who he played for in Kansas City from 1994-99 — as long as it is okay with his wife.

"Right now I do not know what my situation is," said Manusky. "I loved coaching with Marty (Schottenheimer), and had a great rapport with him."

"I guess I have to see what happens with Marty. If something came along though, I would have to sit down and talk about it with my wife. If I don't get a (coaching) job somewhere, I'll just retire a young man."

Coaching a star on the rise: Manusky felt a lot of players learned and developed throughout the season, but one player in particular just needed to feel he was important to the team's future — Lavar Arrington.

Manusky said he basically took Arrington under his wing, and helped him to realize just what kind of player he could be.

"I stressed to Lavar that 'this is your opportunity to help you, yourself and the franchise,'" said Manusky. "You have to come to work everyday and prepare."

Manusky said he also helped Arrington to look at the big pic-

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PETE G. WILCOX/FOR THE DALLAS POST

Lake-Lehman's Aaron Kubasik, 130 lbs., looked for a pin against Valley West. He had to settle for a 5-0 decision. It was Kubasik's first bout in more than a month.

Black Knights pass Valley West test with ease

BY TIMOTHY J. RAUB Post Staff

PLYMOUTH — Lake-Lehman wrestling head coach Phil Lipski thought his team would have a battle on their hands with Wyoming Valley Conference West Division rival Wyoming Valley West on Jan. 26.

But the battle quickly turned into a rout, as the Black Knights won nine of 13 matches, including five of the first seven, en route to a 42-17 victory over the host Spartans.

"I felt coming into the match that we

"He (Matt Carey) was in that match, and he's a thinker. He just does not make too many mental errors."

Phil Lipski Lake-Lehman coach

were going to have a battle with (Valley West), but our guys responded well," said Lipski.

The Spartans jumped out to an early 6-0 lead thanks to a pin by Steve Mytych at 103 pounds.

But the Black Knights won the next five matches to take a commanding 21-6 lead

going into the 140-pound bout.

After a Shawn Matello 23-6 technical fall at 140 cut the gap to 21-11, the Black Knights closed the door on the Spartans with three straight falls from Aaron Moyer (145), Willie Weber (152) and Matt Stuart (160) to take a 42-11 lead.

"That was a big stretch for us there," said Lipski. "Moyer is finally coming into his own."

The match of the night came at heavy-weight between defending district gold medalists Drew Feldman of Valley West and Matt Carey of Lehman - both ranked in the state - and Feldman came away with a 9-4 decision.

Feldman scored an early takedown to jump out to a 2-0 lead, but Carey quickly reversed the returning Class 3A district champion to tie the match. Feldman got

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New coach inspiring Mountaineers squad

BY TIMOTHY J. RAUB Post Staff

With a program that has seen three head coaches in as many years, and has worked through constant rumors that the program will not be in existence in a year or two, one might think the Dallas wrestling team would just about give up.

But much the contrary is true. The Mountaineers have kept their spirits as high as possible, currently have three wrestlers ranked among the conference's best at their respective weight and a coach that just will not give up on them.

"I just love working with kids," said Dallas head coach Joe Kislin, who was an assistant coach with the team in 1976 under then head coach Larry Shuler. "There are 14 to 15 guys that make practice every day, and there is a lot of hope for the future."

Kislin would be seen by many

"It has been real rough over the past three years with three different coaches."

Todd Jones Dallas senior wrestler

as a glutton for punishment, but his track record speaks for itself. After taking the reins at Nanticoke Area, Kislin built a program which saw the Trojans among the best teams in the Wyoming Valley Conference East Division.

Now Kislin is in much the same position with the Mountaineers. He has made himself available to his wrestlers any time they need him, whether it be wrestling related or not, and gave his wrestlers his home phone number so they could

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David Walters and his coach, Mark Stroney, posed after Walters was named an all-american.

Walters named All-American, tops in state

BY TIMOTHY J. RAUB Post Staff

Brian Kelly may be considered by many to be the best high school soccer player to ever come out of the Wyoming Valley, but former Lake-Lehman head coach Mark Stroney would like to make an official pitch for David Walters.

The senior forward was honored as one of the best players in the state in each of the last two seasons, is a finalist in the Killer Bees Athletic Club Hoinski Awards for top scholastic male athlete, was an Addidas All-American last year and to top it off, was recently named to the inaugural Powerade McDonald's All-American team by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America by member coaches.

"David may be a better overall high school player than Brian Kelly was," said Stroney, who coached the Black Knights star. "He has consistently

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Byron girls stand out as Hoban wins team title

Dallas boys finish 6th at Wills Memorial

Liz Byron, of Dallas, won the 100-meter butterfly at the Ray Wills Memorial Swim Meet, held Jan. 26 at Wyoming Valley West High School. Her sister, Caroline, finished second in the 50 and 100-meter freestyle events.

Hoban won the girls' team championship at the meet.

The Dallas boys' team finished sixth overall. Results were:

BOYS

200 Medley Relay — 4. Dal. 1:48.56.

200 IM — 6. Joe Stredney, Dal. 2:14.85.
100 Fly — 4. Joe Stredney, Dal. 1:00.94.
100 Free — 3. Robert Murphy, Dal. :54.68.
100 Back — 3. Doug Yeager, Dal. :59.98.
400 Free Relay — 6. Dal. 3:40.54.
Team Standings — Dan 202, Sem 195, CC 188, VVW 168, Eas 164, Dal 115, NP 100, ESN 74, Pot 32.

GIRLS

50 Free — 2. Caroline Byron, BH. :25.35; 6. Jen Arthur, Dal. :26.25.
100 Fly — 1. Liz Byron, BH. :59.65.
100 Free — 2. Caroline Byron, BH. :56.30.



PETE G. WILCOX/FOR THE DALLAS POST

Bishop Hoban senior Liz Byron splashes to victory in the 100-yard butterfly on Saturday during the Ray Wills Memorial Swim Meet at Wyoming Valley West High School.