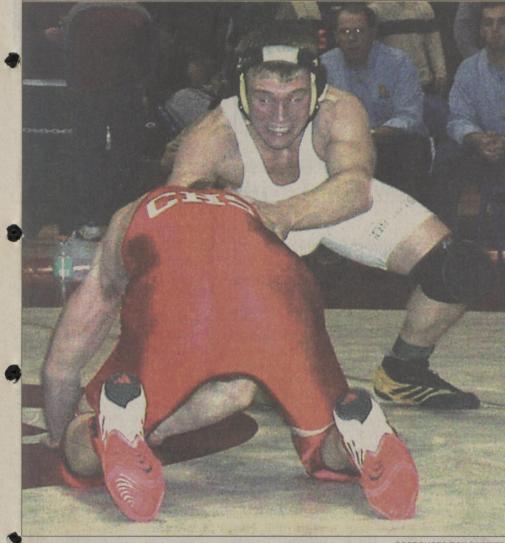
Section 2

THE DALLAS POST Sports Week

Black Knights finish 2nd at TL Invitational



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Willie Weber battled in the 171 lb. final match. He eventually lost to Jason Riley, who pinned every opponent during the meet.



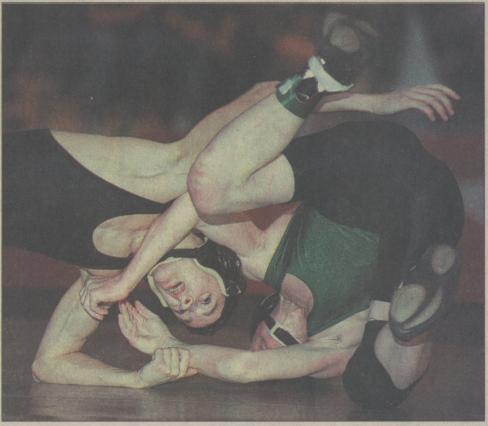
By JOE PETRUCCI

DALLAS — Matt Dragon has been hidden for much of the early part of the 2002-03 Wyoming Valley Conference wrestling season.

The Lake-Lehman standout sophomore received three forfeits in the Knights' first five matches. So heading into this weekend's Times Leader Invitational, he tried to get as much simulated match experience in the wrestling room as possible, particularly considering the bracket he was to be competing in was the toughest of the tournament. He butted heads with teammate and district champion Willie Weber all week in practice, and Dragon credited that work for busting out at the TL tourney on Saturday at College Misericordia's Anderson Center before 1,500 fans.

Dragon gave arguably the best performance of the two-day event, knocking off two state place-winners en route to the 135-pound title. Dragon decisioned North Star's Chuck Wiltrout, who was seventh at Class 2A states last season, 7-3 in the semifinals, then held off Blue Mountain's Chris Renninger, an eighthplace finisher at 3A states last March, 4-2 in the final.

"I didn't think I was in shape," Dragon said of the early part of the season "I tried to prepare as best I could and take one match at a time.'



FOR THE DALLAS POST/PETE G. WILCOX

Lehman's Jerry Mikielski, left in photo above, and Penn Argyl's Rob Nye tumbled on the mat in the 103 lb. pound bout during Friday's Times Leader Invitational Wrestling Tournament.

Below, Kelby Morgan (112 lb.), top, won his match over Harold McKinney of Blue Ridge in Friday's opening matches.



SPORTS. ROUNDUP

BOYS BASKETBALL

Hoban 60, Dallas 57

Bishop Hoban rallied from an eightpoint first half deficit to turn back Dallas, 60-57, on Saturday afternoon.

Paul McCue led Dallas with a gamehigh 24 points, including four threepoint shots. Mitch Mitchell added eight and Jeff Dickson had six.

Meyers 57, Lake-Lehman 39

LEHMAN TWP. — Meyer's took a 26-17 halftime lead and was never seriously threatened in the second half. Andy Coombs and Jared Sadowski each scored 13 points for the Black Knights. Chase Krasniak canned two 3-point shots.

Coughlin 58, Lake-Lehman 57 WILKES-BARRE — Coughlin defeated Lake-Lehman after the Black Knights turned over the ball in their final possession.

Andy Coombs and Dustin Kapson had 15 and 13 points, respectively, for Lehman. Josh Martha and Chase Krasniak each hit two 3-point shots.

Hazleton Area 71, Dallas 35

HAZLETON — The Mountaineers fell behind early and never made up the difference. After dropping behind 19-6 in the first quarter, Dallas nearly matched Hazleton in the second, then was held to just two points in the third. Pat McCue led the Dallas scoring with 10 points and Matt Kelly had eight.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Lake-Lehman 61, Coughlin 34

LEHMAN TWP. — Casey Horvath posted a game-high 18 points for Lake-Lehman. Jody Tripler and Lisa Wasser added nine and eight points, respectively, for the Black Knights, Lehman jumped to a 12-2 first quarter lead and never looked back.

Hazleton 58, Dallas 54

DALLAS — The Mountaineers nearly pulled off a giant comeback after falling behind 38-23 at the half. After pulling within three at the end of three periods, the Dallas girls shots stopped going in. Rosalyn Wentko led a balanced attack with 15 points, followed by Shannon Thomas (13), Meredith Lacey (9), Jackie Hardwick (8) and Ashleigh King (7). King had the only 3-pointer.

Weber didn't seem to derive the same benefits in one of two marquee matchups between WVC foes. Crestwood's Jason Riley notched his third pin of the tournament in the 171pound final, matting Weber in 3:56.

Lehman, which won its first TL title here in 2001, settled for second place

Ridge placed seven wrestlers in the top eight, including one champion in the tourney's other stacked weight class, 215, Doug Weidner. Penn Ridge won with 171 points and Lehman totaled 150. Blue Mountain (144 points) and

among 33 teams as District 1's Penn Berwick (136.5) were third and fourth, respectively, with seven place-winners apiece. District 11's Pen Argyl was fifth (129)

Dragon scored a reversal on Ren-

See WRESTLING, pg 10

Dallas 72, Berwick 52

BERWICK — Jackie Hardwick scored

See ROUNDUP, pg 10



DYB 7th Grade Boys Tournament Team. From left, kneeling: Mark Covert, Kyle Arnaud, Patrick Murray, Matt Alfano.

Standing: Jim Tucker (coach), Peter Steve, Mike Kravitsky, Joe Bevevino, Eric Tucker, Mike Gross, George Gracely (coach).

Dallas wins youth basketball tourney

The DYB boys 7th grade tournament team used a smothering zone defense along with a balanced scoring attach Friday to defeat Northwest 47-25 in the championship game of the DYB 7th grade boys Holiday Tournament.

Patrick Murray led Dallas with Peter Steve had 4 each. Kyle Ar-14 points, including 5 in the naud had 3 points while Joe first quarter to help his team Bevevino played strong defense earn a 10 point lead after the and Matt Alfano made some key opening period. Mike Kravitsky added 9 points and Mark Covert 8. Eric Tucker contributed 5 points while Michael Gross and

plays in the fourth quarter. Dallas finished the tourna-

See TOURNEY, pg 10

GOH boys results

The GOH 8th grade Boys team beat St. Nicks 31-30 in the Solomon League. The Gators were led by Chris DeRojas 17 pts. and Brandon Delaney 9 pts. The Gators lost to St. Jude's,

67-50. The Gators had Jeff Clemente scoring 22 pts, and Chris DeRojas 19 pts.

On Wed., Dec. 18, the Gators lost to Bishop O'Reilly 67-56. The Gators were led by Chris DeRojas 30 pts. and B. Delaney 11 pts.

The J.V. Boys team lost to St. Jude's 36-23. The Gators led scoring from C. Judge 6 pts., T. Horn 7 pts.

The J.V. team beat Bishop O'Reilly 44-36 in a tough game. The Gators were led by Pat DeRojas 16 pts. and T.J. Stepanski 12 pts.

Fly tying classes start January 20

The Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited is accepting registrations for its annual fly tying course. The course will be held every Monday, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., tentatively beginning January 20, 2003. The meetings will be held at the Wyoming Valley West Middle School, Chester Street, in Kingston

Although the course is designated for beginners, experienced fly tyers are also welcome.

The first lesson will consist of learning the two-finger whip finish, and tying the Wooly Bugger.

See FLY-TYING, pg 10





POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

Corey Spencer stepped in front of a Coughlin player in Friday's game at the Wilkes-Barre school.