

Fast start for young but talented team

His team may have won the Wyoming Valley Conference Tom Tryba Preseason Tournament, but coach Tom Kilduff is cautious.

"Our division's strong," said the 20-year coach. "There's no guarantees."

DALLAS GOLF

Twenty players are out for the team, with a core of four returning lettermen. Jon Stephens is the only senior and the Mountaineers' most experienced player. Juniors Adam King and Scott Grundowski also return, and they, along with sophomore John Ashley and freshman Joe Bevevino, make up the majority of the eight players who participate in each match.

Others competing to round out the field are sophomores Dave Hanadel and Chad Gelso, and freshmen Matt Luksic and Steve Sabol.

"The good news is, we're going to be strong next year," Kilduff said.

Dallas scored a surprising win in the preseason match, and Bevevino caused an even bigger stir with his individual title. But they won by only a stroke, and the top four teams were separated by one stroke apiece.

Kilduff says other teams in the Central Division are more experienced than Dallas, and that is a concern. He cites Tunkhannock, Wyoming Seminary, Bishop Hoban and Wyoming Valley West as major obstacles, and matches played in August illustrate how tight things may be.

Dallas beat Hoban by a shot to open the season, and lost to Sem in a match that had to be decided by a tiebreaker. Both matches were played away, and Kilduff hopes the rematches will make the difference.

"If we could win out at home, we could take the division," he said. "I think we'll definitely be in the mix."

The Sem match illustrated how important it is to develop bench strength. Normally, the team score is the total of the four players, but that was tied. So was the next measure, the total score of the six players who are counted.

Two other players also are out for each match, and if one of them plays well, he may be moved into the starting lineup the next time.

— by Ronald Bartizek

Coach has modest hopes for young Black Knights

Coach says, winning isn't primary in sport that lasts a lifetime

One goal does not change year to year for Lake-Lehman golf coach Mike Sharok — to help his players learn to love a game they will be able to continue playing throughout life.

"It's the only sport that people retire to, not from," said the 22-year coach. Many of his players this year will be just starting out on that lifetime journey.

"It's going to be a learning year," Sharok says of his group of 20 players, more than half of them freshmen or sophomores. "We're very young."

Only two seniors are return-

ing to the 20-man squad, Doug Piazza and Mark Rossick.

They will likely be joined in most matches by Chris Jones, a returning sophomore, Bryan Cardillo, Steve Cornia and Rick Jayne.

This will be the second rebuilding season for the Black Knights, and Sharok does not have high expectations for the won-loss record. "We're going to struggle," he said, "but I don't worry about that."

The Wyoming Valley Conference schedule is long, with each team playing 10 matches and two tournaments before the district playoffs. Sharok sees Wyoming Seminary as the team to beat. "They just keep reloading," he says.

Dallas, Bishop Hoban and

LAKE-LEHMAN GOLF

Wyoming Valley West will also be tough, he thinks a prediction borne out by the Mountaineers' surprising victory in the pre-season tournament.

While the schools play team matches through the season, the post-season becomes an individual quest. Sharok would like to change that; he and other coaches have been pushing for a state team championship beyond the district title.

But the calendar conspires against it. Even though the regular season started two weeks ago, the district team tournament won't be held un-

til October 21, with states the following week. That makes the weather dicey, since a state team tournament would have to be played in November.

Sharok had a chance to experience the long-term aspects of his sport a few weeks ago, when he teamed up with Doug Barbacci, whose brother played for Lake-Lehman in the 1980s, at the Huntsville Golf Club member-guest tournament. In the end, four players in his flight were former Knights, including Chris Landmesser, who now lives in Atlanta and has become a scratch golfer.

— by Ronald Bartizek

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2003 Dallas Girls Volleyball

Fri. Sept. 3	Coughlin	Home
Wed. Sept. 8	Tunkhannock	Away
Fri. Sept. 10	GAR	Home
Tue. Sept. 14	Berwick	Away
Thu. Sept. 16	Hanover	Away
Mon. Sept. 20	Bishop O'Reilly	Away
Wed. Sept. 22	Wyoming Area	Home
Mon. Sept. 27	WVW	Home
Wed. Sept. 29	Hazleton	Away
Fri. Oct. 1	North Pocono	Home
Mon. Oct. 4	Lake Lehman	Home
Wed. Oct. 6	Nanticoke	Away
Mon. Oct. 11	Meyers	Away
Thur. Oct. 14	Bishop Hoban	Home
Thu. Oct. 21	MMI	Away
Sat. Oct. 23	Abington	Home
Tue. Oct. 26	Crestwood	Away
Thur. Oct. 28	Pittston	Home

Coach: Justin Udzella
Match Time: 4:30 p.m.
Home Court Dallas High School

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2004 Lake-Lehman Field Hockey

Sept. 3	Montrose	Away
Sept. 8	Seminary	Away
Sept. 10	Crestwood	Away
Sept. 15	Hanover	Home
Sept. 17	Meyers	Home
Sept. 20	Wyoming Valley West	Home
Sept. 24	Wyoming Area	Away
Sept. 27	Abington	Home
Sept. 29	Nanticoke	Away
Oct. 1	Tunkhannock	Home
Oct. 4	Bishop Hoban	Home
Oct. 6	Coughlin	Home
Oct. 11	Lakawanna Trail	Home
Oct. 15	Honesdale	Away
Oct. 20	Lake Lehman	Home
Oct. 22	Delaware Valley	Away

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