

# **TORNADO SPORTS WATCH**

## ***For Alumni***



***by Jose Gonzalo, Class of 64***

**It is hoped that Tornado Sports Watch for Alumni will be a three-time per year report of the sports programs at Mount Carmel Area High School. Editions in January, March and June are planned.**

### **FALL 2007: Volume IV**

#### **GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**

3-15 (2-14) The girls spikers registered their first win in the history of the program, since its institution in 2003, with a 3-0 shutout of Schuylkill Haven. Tracy Stutzage, Kriza Rusnack, Casey Kane, Steph Williams, and Katie Clayberger paced the Tornado charge.

Award winners after the season were Kristen Smith (Most Coachable), Megan Minning (Team Leader), Katie Clayberger (Most Improved) and seniors, Kelly Horan, Tracy Stutzage, and Kriza Rusnak. The spikers were coached by Tina McClay and Ana Ditchey.

#### **BOYS GOLF**

In what was a huge disappointment and somewhat of a surprise, the Tornadoes were unable to field a golf team after winning 3 consecutive league titles. Only Mark Costello and Billy Ditchey showed up on the first day, and fortunately, were able to play with the Lourdes Regional team under our co-op with the school.

Mark Costello and Billy Ditchey finished 3rd and 4th respectively for Lourdes Regional in the Schuylkill League Individual golf championships at Harrisburg North Golf Course. Their finishes, along with Tim Bradley, allowed Lourdes to win the overall team championship.

Mark Costello was the number one qualifier for the District IV golf match at White Deer Challenge course by finishing with an even par 72 at the White Deer Vintage Course. Billy Ditchey finished 49th and did not make the cut. In the finals, Costello finished fourth and qualified for the Regional Tournament.

Costello just missed the cut for the State Tournament shooting a 77 on the par-72 course at Golden Oaks Golf Course in Fleetwood. 26 of the 62 golfers moved on to the state tourney Both Ditchey and Costello were named to the Schuylkill League all star team.

### **BOYS SOCCER**

4 - 16(1-1) After the very successful year last year, the boys struggled with a young tem to a 4-16 record. Josh Hornberger led the way with 4 of the teams 17 goals and added 2 assists. He was also the only played named to the New Item All Area Soccer team.

### **GIRLS SOCCER**

14- 4 -2 - (11-3-1) Holy Ibanez tied Theresa Picarella as the career scoring leader at MCA with her 97th goal in a 3 - 0 win over Pottsville. Going into the Schuylkill League playoff with Minersville, Ibanez led the league in scoring with 27 goals and 58 points and 100 career goals

The young Tornadoes battled their way into the league playoffs and defeated Minersville 2-1 in a semi final match. Goals by Alyssa Palewicz and Holly Ibanez, along with stellar defense by Autumn Zigarski and Sara Novack. The girls came up short in the League Championship game with Tamaqua; losing by a 4-0 score. The seniors on the team, Sarah Novack, Autumn Zigarski, Hanah Kolody, and Holly Ibanez had a great 4-year run, winning 70 games and being part of a 37 game win streak at home

The girls opened District IV play as a 7-seed against 10-seed East Juniata and were eliminated in the first round game by a 2-0 score.

Ibanez ended as the Schuylkill League's leading scorer with 28 goals and 4 assists for 60 points. She finished her career with 105 goals. Autumn Zigarski finished 7th in the league, posting 6 shutouts in goal.

Ibanez(forward, Williams(midfielder) and Novack(Defender) were named First Team Division I Schuylkill League All Stars. Kolody(Midfielder), and Zigarski(goalkeeper) were named to the second team. Ibanez was named the league's all-state player

Ibanez was named the News Item Player of the year, while Novack, Williams, and Zigarski were also named to the team.

Ibanez and Novack were named to the first team of the Pottsville Republican, while Williams and Zigarski were named to the second team

### **BOYS CROSS COUNTRY**

5 -0 - 7th consecutive Division II Title in the Schuylkill League

The boys placed 5th as a team at the Schuylkill All-League Meet with Matt Kozlowski finishing 8th. Other finishers were Wally Watkins (27), Shane Fletcher (33), Andrew Gushen (36), Chris Monahan (37), Vinny Matalavage (40), and Andrew Graeger ((42) Especially interesting to me was the fact that a Tamaqua runner - male and female - has won the Schuylkill league individual title for the last 5 years - Alex Zubey won on the male side with Isaac Dunkleberger (now at Duke) winning the previous four. On the girls side, freshman Schuyler Schmidt took the title after Alexa Griffiths won the previous four.

Senior Matt Kozlowski became the only area runner to qualify for state championship meet with his 10th

place finish at the District IV Championships held at Bloomsburg University. Matt's 10th place finish led the the Tornado boys to a 12th place team finish. Other finishers were Chris Monahan (84th), Wally Watkins (88th), Andrew Greager (100th), Shane Fletcher (107th) and Vinny Matalavage (110th)

Matt Kozlowski, Shane Fletcher, Wally Watkins, and Chris Monahan were named Schuylkill League Division II ALL-Stars. Kozloski finished 112th out of 284 runners at the state meet.

### **GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY**

The girls managed a 6th place finish in the Schuylkill All-League Meet with Paige Schoffler leading the way with a 14th place finish. Cara Sinopoli (26), Marissa Farronato (34), Amber Hughes (49), Kelsey Kraynak (60), Alyssia Venna (77), and Laura Grego(87) rounded out the scoring

Paige Schoffler paced the girls in the District IV meet with a 58th place finish. She was followed by Cara Sinopoli (72nd), Marisa Farronato (75th), Amber Hughes (80th), Kelsey Kraynak (112th), Laura Grego (118th), and Alyssa Venna (119th). The girls finished 15th as a team.

Paige Schoffler and Cara Sinopoli were named Schuylkill League Division II All-Stars.

### **FOOTBALL**

The Tornadoes finished the season with a 6-5 record, losing to Montoursville in the District IV AA quarter final by a 3-0 score - the kick coming with :14 seconds on the clock. The year was an up and down one with an impressive win over Class A State Eastern finalist Bloomsburg and a 35-29 loss at Chichester with :47 seconds on the clock.

The Tornadoes lose only 6 seniors - 4 starters - from a team which was better than its record indicates. 2008 will be the first year of the new Heartland Conference where Big Red will be in Division II with Southern, Central Columbia, Shamokin, Warrior Run, and Loyalsock. Crossover game will include Shikellamy, Selinsgrove, and Jersey Shore, as well as, a non conference game with North Schuylkill.

Some of the highlights include Marcus Wasilewski's single game records of 20 completions in 38 attempts for 309 yards against Chichester. Matt Moroz became only the 4th receiver to go over 800 yards in a season via receptions and only the 3rd to surpass 50 receptions in a season. Wasilewski's 117 completions and 1739 yards rank 3rd and 5th respectively on MCA's top ten list. James Goins and Wasilewski became the first underclassmen since 1945 to captain a Red Tornado team. Bill Joraskie and James Haynes were the other senior captains.

The post season saw Matt Moroz (WR), James Haynes (HB), and Bill Joraskie(T) named to first Offensive team by the News-Item, while Chris Steck (DT) and Marcus Wasilewski (Punter) were named to the first team defense.

Sunbury Daily Item named Haynes, Moroz, and Goins to the second team, while Wasilewski, Joraskie, Chris Steck, Phil Scicchitano and Quinn McCracken were given honorable mention

Haynes, Moroz, and Steck were named to first team by the Press Enterprise, while Wasilewski and Goins took their place on the second team

Moroz was the only first team selection by the Pottsville Republican, with Wasilewski a second teamer and Justin Pellowski given honorable mention.

Haynes and Wasilewski were given honorable mention to the Reading Eagle All Anthracite team. 2007 marked the first year in the 41 years of Reading Eagle teams, that MCA did not have a player named to the team. In all but 1987, we had players named to the first team.