



Photo by: Town Lively.com

Junior **Michael Bracey** returns to the mat for the new season.

Back to wrestle

Nick Verzolini
Reporter

The wrestling team will have to face the challenge of taking the mat without four-time state champion Chance Marsteller and have to make the transition to new up-and-coming wrestlers.

Along with Marsteller, the Rams will have to replace Patrick Scarborough as well. Scarborough posted a record of 78-22 in his career.

Marsteller finished his career 166-0 and became the 11th four-time state champ in Pennsylvania history.

"He was just non-stop. In the mat room he always was pushing, pushing, pushing. Never a moment giving anything up," said coach Michael Balestrini.

Marsteller will attend Oklahoma State University and begin wrestling for the Cowboys this year.

Marsteller said the recruiting process was a struggle.

"I was getting a thousand phone calls and I had to turn my phone off for two days and I got home and Cael (Penn State coach) shows up. I was overwhelmed, so I'm like, 'I'm done.' I was going to take all five official visits, check out all my options, and yet three days into it I was done," said Marsteller.

Balestrini believes Marsteller can go undefeated.

"I know in his mind he's going undefeated (in college). Can he do it? Yeah, in my opinion," Balestrini said. "Will he? There are a lot of variables. Now he's going to be hitting (opponents with) man-strength."

Even without Marsteller and Scarborough, the Rams still have Bracey, who was a first team YIAA All Star last season.

The Rams will look for Bracey to lead them on the mat this season.

The 113 pound junior is 43-13 in his career and is looking to continue to have success this year.

Balestrini has built a team that has a couple of individuals that could have success this season.

Those players to watch are sophomore Andrew Barnett, senior Elliott Stauffer, and senior Nathan Stewart.

Barnett was 29-9 last year and could become a stand out wrestler in York County this season.

Stauffer enters his senior campaign with a record of 22-16 going 20-11 last year.

Stewart was 22-6 last year and the Rams hope he can continue to have success heading into his senior season.

Some players with potential to improve this year are sophomore James Bennett and Austin McName. McName was 12-13 as a freshman and Bennett was 7-13.

The wrestling team is looking for development out of these wrestlers.

The Rams were 10-10 last season as a team. The Rams expect to improve this year as a team and continue to have individual success as well.

The Rams lost a lot of their matches due to the fact that they didn't always have a wrestler for the match. The Rams would have to forfeit a weight class.

The wrestling team has a chance at having a lot of success this year and are looking to control the mat and win more matches as a team.

The main goal for this season is to get continued development from both young and veteran players.

The Rams struggled in the division last year going 2-6.

The Rams open their season with a division match at home again Dallastown on December seventh.

Boys basketball season preview

Nick Verzolini
Reporter

The boys' basketball team is looking to turn it around this year after winning one game in two years; the Rams enter this season with new hope.

"Our goal will be to compete at a higher level this year. We gained valuable experience last year against a tough schedule, and this year, we should be able to put ourselves in a position to win games instead of wilting down the stretch," said coach Grant Leonard.

The Rams have three returning starters: senior guard Ryan Trott who was the leading scorer last year, junior guard Jacob Deppen and junior forward Kyle Wooldridge.

Leonard said, "We have quite a few guys who are returning that could have big seasons. Ryan Trott has been on the varsity squad for the past three years, and this is his last shot. He is talented enough to be a real problem for other teams"

The Rams are looking for continued development of Wooldridge and Deppen.

"Kyle Wooldridge and Jake Deppen got their first varsity experience last year and should be more seasoned this year," said Leonard.

Leonard is looking for leadership and expanded roles from his seniors.

Leonard said "Andrew McClean, Will Mitzell, and Anthony Nordwall are all returning seniors and veterans of the program; they will look to have expanded roles this year in the rotation."

Other players that could make an impact on the varsity squad are juniors Jonathan Osborne and Austin Jenkins.

"There are quite a few guys that should see varsity minutes this year for the first time and may make big impacts. A lot will be determined by how they respond in practice," said Leonard

The Rams are looking to rely on their athleticism and their ability to stretch the floor on offense.

"We have guys who can stretch the floor offensively with their shooting and are pretty solid athletically. It's a matter of putting it all together" said Leonard.

The Rams need to play more physical on defense to have success this year.

Leonard said, "We will have to play with more physical presence. Winning loose balls, getting deflections, digging in on defense will be a key to any improvement we are going to make."

The Rams need to improve on the mental part of the game, as well.

"We have to have a better attitude this year--when things get tough, we have to be willing to fight our way to the other side of it. Supreme effort and attitude is often what ultimately separates the successful teams from those who struggle," said Leonard.

New junior varsity coach Jake Roupe will assist Leonard this season.

Roupe has spent the last couple of years as the seventh and eighth grade coach and is an alumni of both the school and the basketball program.

The Rams open their season with a tip off tournament at Bermudian Springs.

The boys' basketball team is looking for continued improvement and are expecting

to have success this season.

The Rams have their first conference game against Gettysburg on December ninth at 7:30 p.m.

The Rams are looking to send a statement in their first game.

"After a pretty tough season last year, the expectation of the coaches and all of our players is improvement in every facet of the game. I'm confident we will see it happen," said Leonard.

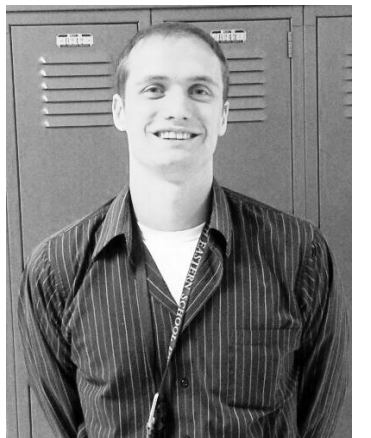


Photo by: Brad Dunaway

Boys basketball coach **Grant Leonard** is looking forward to coaching a fantastic season.

Is there a dance team anymore?

Mikala Hollingshead
Reporter

Despite student interest, dance team will not run during the winter season, but coach Marcie Barr hopes to have a spring team.

This would have been the third season for the dance team.

During the fall tryouts on November 3 - 5, six students tried out.

Those interested in joining the team completed a form located outside of Barr's room.

The form also explained when practices were scheduled, optional practice dates, and when the final try out occurred.

The team was looking for people with a dance background, but it is not required.

Students also need to be excited and have good facial expressions to give the team spirit.

At tryouts, students were supposed to bring clothes that were comfortable.

"I hope more people try out this year, because this is my last year and I want it to be fun for everyone, not just me,

and I want this to continue on after the seniors now are gone, because it is fun to do in high school," said senior Ashlynn Corrigan.

At tryouts, students had to learn a special routine that Barr and alumni Hailey Poe taught them the day before. They had to perform this dance for the judges.

The judges this year were field hockey coach Andrea Walton, Barr, and guidance office secretary Barbra Peterson.

The judges job is to watch each student on how good their movements and well they are constructed.

Students who are participating are graded on things like facials which means the students show their smiles and look like they want to be there.

Another is how tight the movements are like arms are straight and the students wrist don't look broken.

The students performed in partners or small groups, and then each member of the team had an opportunity to show the judges their individual talents or skills.

While six students are

enough for the team to continue, three students had conflicts of interest such as musical or other prior engagements that would conflict with the schedule.

"We didn't get the right amount of students to do it, because many students who wanted to do it had other things, and some might have been afraid to try something new," commented Barr.

Barr does not want to give up on the team or season, so she is hoping to have a spring team.

Typically, the dance team performs at all the Varsity boys' home basketball games.

The team does pre-game and half time dance at every home game.

Pre-game consists of when the band is at the game, the team has different dances to go with each song that is played.

When the band is not there, the team has one specific dance that is performed to the recorded music that the basketball team picks.

The team usually has three different dances that they perform.

Each member has at least

one solo in each dance.

Some of the moves the team does are high kicks, splits, pivot turns, and many more moves that make the dances challenging.

The team votes on their favorite songs that they will perform to at the games.

Last year's the songs that the team performed to were "Timber" by Pit Bull, "Safe and Sound" by Capital Cities, and "Applause" by Lady Gaga.

If there is a dance team in the spring, it will likely follow the same try-out process.

The season would be similar to the winter one with similar choice in songs and dances.

"This is an amazing thing if students aren't into sports like basketball or volleyball. This is a good thing to try out for. You can make a lot of new friends and memories as well," said Corrigan.

"It is a disappointment that there won't be a dance team because it is something fun students like to do. Hopefully there will be one in the future to give other students chances to have fun with their school and show some school spirit," said Corrigan.

Major League Baseball season goes out with a bang

Austin Orr
Sports Editor

The 2014 Major League Baseball season was a season full of surprises.

2014 season ended with the Baltimore Orioles winning the American League Eastern division with a record of 96-66, while the Western division and the best team in baseball in 2014 was the Los Angeles Angels who finished with a record of 98-64. The Central division was won by the Detroit Tigers on the final day of the season.

In the National League, the Eastern Division Champions were the Washington Nationals finishing with a record of 96-66, while the Western division was won by LA's second team the Dodgers who finished 94-68, and the Cardinals took the Central division with a record of 90-72.

The two wild-card teams in the American League were the Kansas City Royals and the Oakland Athletics.

The National League wild

cards were the San Francisco Giants and the Pittsburgh Pirates.

After the Royals and the Giants won the wild card game, they moved on to the Division Series.

The Royals swept the Angels in three games in the first Division Series while the Orioles beat the Tigers in the other Division Series. This set up the Royals and the Orioles meeting up in the championship series.

The National League Division Series each went to four games with the Giants beating the Nationals and the Cardinals beating the Dodgers, setting up a Cardinals and Giants Championship Series.

The Royals took all four games over the Orioles; it took the Giants five games to beat the Cardinals.

It was all because of a game winning home run by Giants left fielder Travis Ishikawa in game five to seal the victory for the Giants.

The Giants were back in the World Series for the third time

in five years, while the Royals were playing in their first World Series since 1985.

Game one of the World Series would be played in Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City.

The Giants took game one by a convincing score of 7-1.

After losing game one the Royals came back to win back to back games by scores of 7-2 and 3-2.

In game four, the Giants evened the World Series up at two games apiece with an 11-4 win. San Francisco also took game five, 5-0 thanks to a complete game shutout by Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner.

In the game Bumgarner pitched all nine innings and allowed four hits and he struck out eight batters, as he gave the Giants three games to two lead in the series. Giving them just one more win to clinch the World Series.

The Royals were one game away from elimination and needed a win in game six to force a seventh and final

game in the World Series.

They got off to a hot start in game six scoring seven runs in the second inning, which led the Royals to a big 10-0, win.

This evened the series up at three games apiece. This forced a seventh and final game to decide who would be the champions of the Major Leagues in 2014.

In game seven the starting pitcher for the Royals was veteran Jeremy Guthrie.

Forty year old Tim Hudson would be the starting pitcher for San Francisco. It was his first ever World Series and it could be his last as he has thought about retiring at the end of the season.

In game seven neither pitcher went more than 3 innings. Both teams would score two runs in the second making it 2-2.

The Giants would make a gutsy call bringing their best pitcher, Madison Bumgarner into the game on just two days' rest.

He pitched five innings without allowing a run, just

two hits, and he struck out four batters in the game. But after Bumgarner came into the game the Royals would not score again.

The Giants got a run in the fourth inning when Outfielder Mike Morse drove in a run on a single.

This made the score 3-2 Giants at the end of four innings.

The game headed into the ninth inning with the score still 3-2 Giants.

The Royals had two outs and a runner on third base.

Royals catcher Salvador Perez was up to bat.

On a one ball one strike count Perez hit the ball in the air to third base, where the Giants third baseman Pablo Sandoval caught the final out of the World Series.

It was over the Giants were the World Series champions for 2014 and the third time in five seasons.

The Most Valuable Player in the series was Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner who had a .65 earned run average

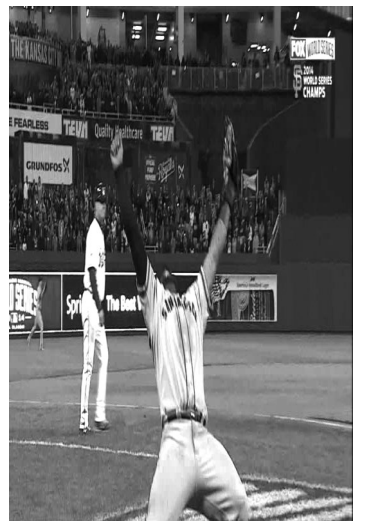


Photo by: biglead.com

Giants celebrate World Series win.

and was 1-0 in the World Series.

After two days the Giants returned to San Francisco to celebrate the world series with a city parade.

The players came by on cars and floats.

The trophy was passed around to the players and the players made special speeches thanking their teammates and fans.