



FRESHMAN player Tim Neumann receives instructions from Coach Frank McCourt

McCourt rates players' skills

by Jay McDonald

With six returning players and seven new recruits, the Lumberjack basketball squad, under Coach Frank McCourt, has begun practice for the upcoming season.

Returning players include Scott Olson, a starter last season who plays with "no fear" according to McCourt. He will play point guard this season.

McCourt rated other returning players Tom Taratuta as having great skills; Mike Kollien as the best freshman in the Eastern Conference last season; Mike Fonger as very physical; Steve Boyer, a good shooter and Dan Bridges as very skilled.

McCourt also commented on recruits Bryan Marlatt, Rahim Woodson, Anthony Marshall, Omar Butler, Tim Neumann, Scott McCullough and Brett Benvenuti.

Marlatt from Atlanta was All State 1st team in Class D last season and "a good shooter".

Marshall, 6'8" from Detroit Martin Luther King, "runs the floor well" and Butler of Detroit Western "plays well inside, is

good scorer and a great leaper".

Woodson from Flint Hamady was All State 1st team Class C last season and "a great shooter while Neumann from Alpena is "good on defense".

Benvenuti at 6'6" is from Clio, "shoots well and has good offensive skills".

Completing the team roster is McCullough who transferred from Northern. He has "excellent skills and a great work ethic".

Commenting on the upcoming season, McCourt feels the team will "struggle" because there is "no good pivot or post up player" and rebounding will be a problem.

On the positive side McCourt feels the team will play aggressive defensive and it has a lot of depth. "The difference between the 1st and 10th player is not much. If we can play good enough defense, we can compensate for our lack of rebounding".

"But we'll be fun to watch. We'll play a running game, we'll shoot a lot and this year we'll shoot better," concluded McCourt.

Bouncing around ideas with Mike Kollien

by Jay McDonald

Returning to lead the Lumberjack squad in "physical play" is Mike Kollien, Alpena native, who was voted by the league coaches last season as the

outstanding freshman in the Eastern Conference.

Kollien, who played for the Alpena High Wildcats, is from a family of six, with three older sisters. His father is employed

by Alpena Wholesale Grocers, while his mother is a registered nurse with Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health.

Kollien works at McCoy Pontiac 40 hours a week in the summer and 15 hours during the school year, except for the basketball season. "It's hard to keep up with academics, practice, and playing. I don't work during this time. Some days during the season I'm at school from 7:30a.m. until 6:00 at night, and then I have homework. There's no time for anything else," said Kollien.

Kollien started playing basketball in the 4th grade. He also tried soccer and baseball "which were fun but I wasn't good at them". By 6th grade, his skills began to improve and he knew basketball was his game.

Commenting on the difference between high school and college ball, Kollien said, "it's totally different. Everyone's bigger, faster, and the competition level is higher.

"College games are more physical. In high school ball 'up north', the refs call fouls for things that downstate refs let go ... I like playing physical. It's fun."

As for developing his game last year, Kollien felt he learned how to be "more focused". He wanted to do well in Alpena before his home crowd. That brought pressure, but it also helped him develop his ability to "stay in the game".

Kollien plans to major in special education and has found that he relates well with young kids... "maybe because I'm still one myself"... and hopes to capture a basketball scholarship this year to aid in earning his degree.

Kollien views the present Lumberjack squad in the same light as his coach Frank McCourt. They both believe that the team will run faster, play better defense, and shoot better than last season.

Kollien's assessment of what the team can do this year includes having a better record than last season with overall improvement at all positions.

He'd like to see a home tournament game which is scheduled according to the team record with the top four finishing teams in the league hosting a game. "When we go downstate to play, there's no one there to watch the game. When teams come up here and see a packed gym, they don't know how to react. If we got a tournament game up here, we'd win because of our great crowd support."



MIKE Kollien takes a "breather" between classes and practice

Participants sought for intramurals

by Tammy Wisniewski

The intramural program will continue this year under the direction of Richard Miles and will be open to all students, faculty and staff.

A.C.C. offers three areas of intramurals. One area is team sports. This area includes flag football, volleyball, table-tennis, basketball, bowling, 3 on 3 softball tournaments.

Individual competition is the second area. The turkey trap shoot, 1 on 1 basketball, free throw shooting, pool and table tennis are included in this area. The third area is the recreational activities. There is open swimming at the Plaza Pool, a downhill ski program and an open gym from 7:00 - 10:00.

This area makes facilities

available and participation is an individual matter.

According to Mr. Miles, participation in intramurals in the past "has been good", yet he feels it can improve. He encourages freshmen especially to read signs posted around the campus. Relating to involvement in the program, Miles feels many want to participate, but never take the time to find out any information. He also reminds students that they are not competing against professionals, but against people of similar abilities.

The winners of each area of the intramural program will be honored for their achievements at the Student Activities Banquet at the end of the school year.

REGISTER NOW FOR CLASSES!

- Tang-Soo-Do (Korean Karate)
 - Mash-A-Mugger (Women's Self Defense)
 - Executive Survival (Street Defense)
 - Lil' Kicks (Pre-school)
 - Aerobics
- FREE KARATE UNIFORM-\$40.00 VALUE**
(With a 3 month sign-up and registration fee!)
- ✓ Self Discipline ✓ Concentration
 - ✓ Flexibility ✓ Mind-Body Co-ordination
 - ✓ Tournament Competition
 - ✓ Non Contact, Semi Contact, and P.K.A. Full Contact Training
 - ✓ All Ages, Men, Women and Children

ALAN LACROSS

KARATE INSTITUTE

KARATE

Classes

6 Days A Week!

Instructor
Alan La Cross
(over 30 years training in the martial arts)

4th Degree Black Belt

200 S. 2nd. 3rd Floor (Former Elks Building)

For more info: 356-6875 or write P.O. Box 61, Alpena, MI. 49707