

CONDUCTING PASSING DRILLS IS ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTALS EMPHASIZED AT THE DOVER ROUNDBALL CAMP

62 boys attend first week drills

Dover cage camp: A fundamental start

There's been a bunch of bicycles parked outside the Dover High gym every morning this week, and that pleases Tom Andreas just fine.

Andreas, the new head basketball coach for the Tornadoes, opened his "Dover Roundball School" Monday and it will continue each weekday through July 25.

A total of 62 boys in grades 5-9 are attending the basketball day camp for three hours each morning the first two weeks. Fifteen have signed up so far for the senior high age group the week of July 21.

"I'm very satisfied with the turnout of the younger kids," said Andreas: "It's to be expected that fewer senior high boys would attend the camp but I'm still taking applications for the last week." While the main purpose of the school is to push basketball at Dover High, students from other school districts may also attend the camp.

"There are boys from Central Catholic, Strasburg and even one from Scio in the camp this week besides those from Dover," Andreas noted.

THE GOALS of the basketball school are relatively simple.

"I feel we have to improve what each boy is able to do," Andreas explained. "With the younger kids, it's especially important to break any bad habit they might have picked up."

Andreas ran a summer basketball program during his tenure at Garaway High and also assisted in camps at Miami University in Oxford and one in Erie, Pa.

"The kids are the same in all camps," he observed. "And as an instructor, my main concern is always the teaching of fundamentals."

Working on the skills of basketball is exactly what Andreas is concentrating on at Dover, which has not had a summer camp like this before.

The first part of each day's instruction consists of various drills to enhance a boy's ballhandling, footwork, passing and dribbling as well as shooting layups.

Time is also spent on outside shooting, one-on-one play, rebounding and offensive and defensive strategy.

"WE PRETTY much stick to a routine every day but we also try to work in some half-court team play when possible," Andreas said.

Helping Andreas run the camp are Gary Sterrett, who was his assistant coach at Garaway, Merle Whitis, Chuck May and Greg Zimmerman.

The roundball school provides the first real opportunity for Andreas to instruct some of the boys who will likely be playing for him in the future.

"I just don't believe in the myth that Dover kids can't play basketball," commented the veteran coach who left Garaway after compiling a 130-44 record in eight seasons.

"It's probably a case of the kids being kind of neglected at a younger age as far as basketball is concerned," he added. "They just need some motivation."