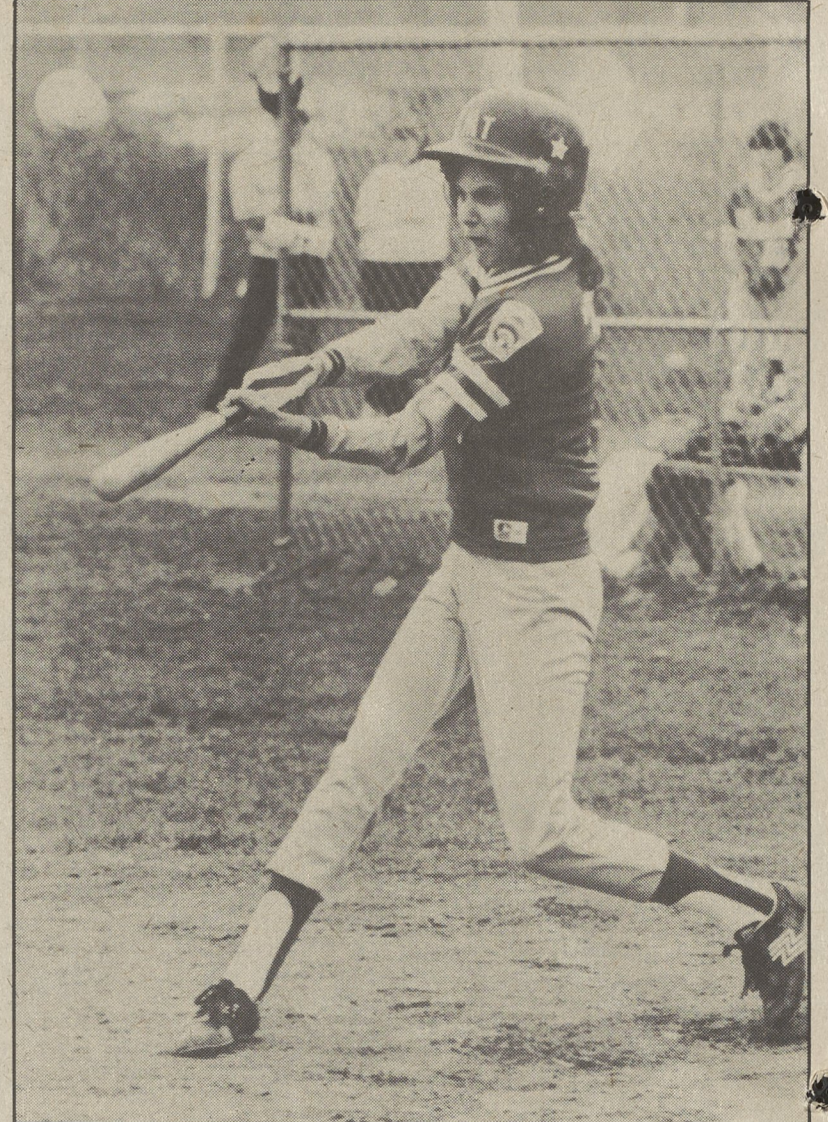


Sports

Back Mountain Baseball begins 1984 season



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Opening day

The 1984 season of Back Mountain Baseball Inc. officially opened Saturday with grand-opening ceremonies and first-day games. The photos above depict some of the action that took place on the field. In the photo at left, Keith Kozeo, a member of the Pirates in the Major League, shows

his winning form from the mound as he leads the Pirates to a 5-4 victory over the Red Sox. The center photo shows Pete Kerdusky of the Red Sox taking a nice, even swing the Pam Coolbaugh of the Braves in the Senior Softball League gets a crack at the ball as she aided the Braves to an 8-2 win over Northwest.

Major League Phillies start season with three victories

The Phillies of the Major League of the Back Mountain Little League began the new season by notching two wins in a three-day span. J.J. Straigis got the win over the Yankees when the first home run of the year was hit by B.J. Mannix. The Phillies' other victory was an 11-9 squeaker over the Tigers in which

B.J. Mannix clouted two grand slams.

The Indians started off well by defeating the Reds, 10-1, in the Major League. In that game, pitcher Sam Jayne recorded six strikeouts, before getting two innings of scoreless relief help from Jackie Jones. Big hitters were

Jason Moran, going 4 for 4 and John Masley who slammed a homer over the centerfield fence.

In the Senior League Girls Softball, the Orioles started the season strong with a 19-5 win over the Cardinals. Winning pitcher Shari Owens nailed a two-run homer and scored three runs helping her team

to a victory. Maureen Wisneski helped out with a single and a double. The Orioles, however, didn't shine in their second game. The Yankees managed a 10-7 win with winning pitcher Renee Balberchak scoring two runs and slamming three singles. Balberchak only gave up two walks in the seven inning game.

WEEK'S RESULTS
LITTLE LEAGUE MAJORS
 Phillies 10, Yankees 2; Indians 10, Reds 1; Pirates 5, Red Sox 4; Giants 6, Orioles 2; Dodgers 4, Astros 3; Yankees 16, Reds 3; Phillies 11, Tigers 9.
SENIOR LEAGUE GIRLS SOFTBALL
 Orioles 19, Cardinals 5; Phillies 14, Indians 5; Yankees 10, Orioles 7.

Oil Yankees, 1-1; Gino's Shoe Store Astros, 0-1; R.N. Fitch and Sons Orioles, 0-1; Castle Inn Red Sox, 0-1; Isaacs-Chrysler-GMC Tigers, 0-1; Arthur Shelley Inc. Reds, 0-2.

SENIOR LEAGUE GIRLS SOFTBALL
 American Asphalt Braves, 1-0; Bonner Chevrolet Phillies, 1-0; American Party Favor Yankees, 1-0; M.A.T. Leasing Orioles, 1-1; Discount Office Supplies Dodgers, 0-0; Jim-Jon Tomato Cardinals, 0-1; Dallas Lions Indians, 0-1; Northwest, 0-1.

LITTLE LEAGUE GIRLS SOFTBALL
 Expos 19, A's 2; Dodgers 18, Pirates 17; White Sox 26, Reds 12.

STANDINGS
LITTLE LEAGUE MAJORS
 Suburban Propane Phillies, 2-0; L.A.D. Dodgers, 1-0; Daddow Isaacs Post 672 Giants, 1-0; Franklin's Family Restaurant Indians, 1-0; Rita Busch Pirates, 1-0; Mahaffey

LITTLE LEAGUE GIRLS SOFTBALL
 Back Mountain Sporting Goods Dodgers, 1-0; Expos, 1-0; College Misericordia White Sox, 1-0; B.J.S. A's, 0-1; Pittston Sewing Center Pirates, 0-1; Reds, 0-1.

Wilkes-Barre Fats

Cleaning out the sports notebook

By LEE L. RICHARDS
 Sports Columnist

CLIPBOARD NOTES:

Former Dallas golfer, Jim Smith, is going to pursue a career as a club golf professional. He's going to serve an apprenticeship with Irem Pro Barry Fies this summer, then attend the PGA School after the season. Jim has the right temperament to be very successful.

His status for the 1984 W-B Fats Invitational Golf Classic could be in jeopardy. It will be discussed by the Committee.

Received some glowing reports recently from Penn State on the performance of Valley West's Bob Ontko. According to SID Dave Baker, Bob has been doing a heady job at one of the inside linebacker slots and could nail down starting job with big spring game.

Had a chance to talk some football with another Penn Stater, Todd Moules over the holiday weekend.

Always one of my favorites, Todd has been switched from offensive guard back to his natural position, defensive tackle.

"I'm excited about getting back to the defensive side of the football. I feel more comfortable on defense," Moules said.

"We're making progress and if we continue to improve we'll have another good team. We've got a tough schedule again, but I look forward to playing the good teams."

There's no question Todd is one of the mainstays for the Nittany Lions.

In fact, I gotta believe he's one of the top players in Eastern circles no matter where he plays. He's got that winning attitude I look for in players.

Several pollsters have already indicated to me that Pitt and Penn State will open the season national ranked. No big deal.

Athlon's Jerry McCain tells me Auburn, which I picked No. 1 last year, will be favored to win the national title. However, the War Eagles have some big hurdles ahead of them.

Recently wound up gathering names of the top recruits from the prime territories around the East.

Based on the junior reports from various coaches there's some prime prospects spread out over almost every position except kickers.

Right now the No. 1 player in Pennsylvania is running back Brian Davis from Washington. Pitt Coach Andy Urbanic informs me he's the best in Western PA since Tony Dorsett.

New Jersey has Ned Bolcar from Phillipsburg. He's a linebacker or fullback.

Maryland's Gib Romaine says, "Bolcar is an exceptional athlete. He jumps right out of the film at you. He just may be the best all-around player in the East."

'Fun Run' set for May 6

Area runners of all kinds will be given a golden opportunity to begin Spring competition with the First Annual Busch Beer "Fun Run" to be held on Sunday, May 6, through Pittston City streets, starting at Falcone Beverage.

Awards will be given to first, second and third place overall winners and the top finishers in 12 male categories and 10 female. T-shirts will go to every entrant. Pre-entry fee is \$4.00 and on Race Day it's \$5.00.

Applications are located at YMCA, Pittston and Wilkes-Barre, Falcone Beverage, Pathways, Acme Super Saver, Pittston, Pittston Area Schools, Wyoming Area Schools, Bill's Place, Pittston, Gallery of Sounds, and Wilkes-Barre Area Schools.



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