

Great American Race starts today

More than 100 engines of some of the world's most exclusive antique automobiles will rev up for starting instructions today as the Great American Race gets underway in Disneyland, California.

Final stop on the 11-day cross-country endurance competition is Wilkes-Barre, where the nearly \$250,000 in prize money for those cars fortunate enough to finish, will be awarded at the driver's Victory Banquet sponsored by Atlantic Financial Federal. The banquet will represent the highlight of Wilkes-Barre's four-day Great American Festival which will kick off at

opening ceremonies during Farmer's Market on Public Square, July 3, and continue through Sunday, July 6, with vintage classics making the attempt to conquer Giant's Despair in a touring run.

Great American Festival Chairman, Ronald Ertley, says, "All activities during the four-day celebration are open to the public. We just want the community at large to share in the enjoyment of an old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration. At the same time, the Greater Wyoming Valley will have the opportunity to show itself off to people around the world with the

international racing press following this one-of-a-kind event."

Ertley says here at home, final preparations are being put in place with local hotels gearing up to handle some of the estimated 100,000 people who are expected to be drawn to the race's conclusion in Wilkes-Barre.

Antique vehicle displays, entertainment, the Martz July 4th concert in the Park with the Northeastern Philharmonic, fireworks display and a nostalgia flea market will be some of the leading attractions for the

enjoyment of those attending.

Ertley says it is impossible to place a dollar value on the race vehicles on display at the 109th Army the evening of July 4th, but he adds that all vehicles will be open for public inspection that evening as the final leg of antique auto racing's richest purse prepares to leave Wilkes-Barre, the morning of July 5th for New York City.

The vehicles will return to Wilkes-Barre that afternoon with the winners announced at the Driver's Victory Banquet the same evening.

Sports



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Division II All-Stars

Members selected for the Back Mountain Division II Girls All-Star Softball Team met with manager, Mary Meighan, and coach Ed Langdon, Sunday afternoon, to discuss this season's competition. This year's team will include the selected All Stars from the National, American and Wyoming teams and will play under the name Back Mountain Nationals. Members of the team are, from left, first row, Kim Schultz, Wyoming; Lori Cave, American; Laura Poynton, National; Patty Reed, National; Stephanie Andrasko, National; Holly Bachman, National; Renee Balberchak, American. Second row, Noelle Thomas, Wyoming; Tracy Karuzu, American; Jean Stahovec, American; Jill Urbanas, American; Heather Langdon, National; Lori Piatt, National. Third row, Ed Langdon, National, coach; and Mary Meighan, American, manager.



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Nationals All-Stars

The boys All Stars members of the Back Mountain Nationals met Sunday afternoon to discuss the rules and practices scheduled for this season's competition. Members of the team at the meeting included from left, first row, Donny James, Jon Pomrinke, Bo Casterline, Sean Showlin, Todd Paczewski. Second row, Hugo Seleski, John Morris, Chuck Finn, Jamie Moyer, Tony Finarelli. Third row, Paul Malak, Len Dorrance, Al Finarelli, coaches; and Frank Paczewski, manager. Four boys are missing from the photo.



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Division I All-Stars

Members of the Back Mountain National All Stars Division I met last Friday to discuss practice dates and rules for this season's competition. Players on this season's team are, from left, first row, Vicki Dorrance, Christina Conrad, Kathy Gun, Jennifer Gabel, Cheryl Gunn, Noell Brooks, Melissa Pomrinke. Second row, Bridget Hozempa, Leeanne Rogers, Mandy Jones, Tracy Krupa, Megan Sheehan, Chris Gornik, Lisa Ford. Third row, Pat Brooks, coach; Cindy Cave, coach; and Warren Rogers, manager.

Kiwanis All-Star Game is always a 'fun' time for all

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Intermittent downpours on Monday, June 16, completely drenched the Back Mountain Little League field, but committee members of the Dallas Kiwanis Club worked diligently sweeping and brushing away the water from the infield and home plate when the sun broke through the gray clouds. Keeping a careful eye on the dark clouds passing overhead, the members had a positive outlook and before the Seventh Annual Dallas Kiwanis East-West Seniors All Star game, scheduled for 5:45 p.m., arrived they had the field in good condition.

An incorrectly published starting time of 4:30 p.m. brought many of the players and some of the fans out an hour or so early but, undaunted by brief showers and dark clouds, the players on hand used the time for a warm-up practice while fans on the sideline watched their favorite players.

Everything in order by 5:30 p.m., the opening ceremonies were held on time. Members of the Game Committee were presented to the fans, including Lt. Gov. Ted Wienczkowski, who presented Dallas Kiwanis Past President Robert Dolbear with an inscribed plaque in appreciation for his dedicated service in supporting girls sports programs in the Back Mountain.

In keeping with the Kiwanis philosophy of letting everyone participate, every one of the players on the East and the West teams played in the game.

A high-scoring 17-11 game, won by the East All-Stars, was marred by weak defensive plays by both teams (many due to the wet grass and mud spots in parts of the infield).

Leading the East was the outstanding play of Hazleton's Jackie Leonard, who was late getting to the game due to traffic. What started out as a bad day for the Mountaineer athlete turned into one of her best performances of the year as she went 3-for-4 at the plate, scored two runs and chalked up two RBI's with a double and a single. Leonard also pitched an inning for the East.

The West team was hampered by the lack of regular season's pitchers, with the exception of Northwest's Patti Kormas and Bishop O'Reilly's Larissa Bergevin. P. Kormas was unable to make it to the team's workouts while Bergevin had not pitched for a long length of time. In the seventh inning, however, with West on the short end of a 17-7 score, three of the Black Knights power hitters, Cindy Slocum, Kelly Wandel and Kelly Siglin, played a major role in helping the team bring home four runs before the game ended with a ground ball to second for the final out.

The senior players on the two teams, one from the East Side and the other from the West Side of the Susquehanna River included Coughlin, Meyers, GAR, Nanticoke, Crestwood, Pittston Area, Hazleton,

Hanover, and Seton Catholic, for the East; and Tunkhannock, Northwest, Bishop O'Reilly, Wyoming Seminary, Wyoming Valley West, Wyoming, Lake-Lehman and Dallas.

Coach Jay Pope of Dallas, his assistant, Yvonne Mould, and Marge Kelly of Valley West, agreed with Trojan Coach Julie Moore and her assistants, Crestwood's Frank Danna and Pittston Area's Ron Rinaldi, that the contest was a fun game. Both Pope and Moore also agreed that Leonard played an outstanding game.

The five East pitchers, Kim Skrepenak, Karen Monko, Sue Charney, Lynn Coslett and Lynn Rasmus, struck out a total of four and walked seven while the three West hurlers, Lisa Bergevin, Cindy Slocum and Patti Kormas, fanned only one and walked 14. The East girls collected eight hits, three of them for extra bases. The West collected only two, Slocum's double and a triple by Bergevin.

Two delayed double steals played a key role in the East's win as members of the team did some heads up base running. The West girls came through with a great double play to cut down East runners and the outfielders made some

excellent catches to save runs. Leonard was named MVP for the East team and Slocum was named MVP for the West nine. Trophies were awarded to the members of both teams.

"It was a lot of fun for the girls and a nice way to close out their high school softball career for the seniors. Of course it would have been nice to win but every girl played and they had fun," said Pope.

The East scored five runs in the first inning and one in the second but West scored two runs in the first, one in the second and three in the third to tie it up at 6-all, but East came back in the top of the fourth with two runs to take and 8-6 lead. West came within one in the bottom of the fifth but the East broke the game wide open in the top of the sixth when they went through the entire batting order and started through the second time, scoring six runs. Leading 14-7 going into the seventh they scored three more before the West girls pushed four runs across for a final 17-11 score.

Wyoming Area's Sharlene Severnak had a fine day behind the plate for the West team.

Slocum chooses Bloomsburg

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Cindy Slocum, Lake-Lehman High School graduate and member of several Wyoming Valley All Star softball teams, will enroll at Bloomsburg State University in the fall.

The outstanding athlete from Lake-Lehman played centerfield for the varsity softball team and received a financial aid grant in recognition of her contribution in all aspects of the sport. Cindy plans to major in elementary education and try out for the softball team.

A member of the National Honor Society at Lake-Lehman and an honor student during her high school career, Cindy played hockey three years in junior high and three years in senior high school. She also played basketball in the elementary program, and three years in senior high. She was a member of the senior high school's varsity softball team for four years.

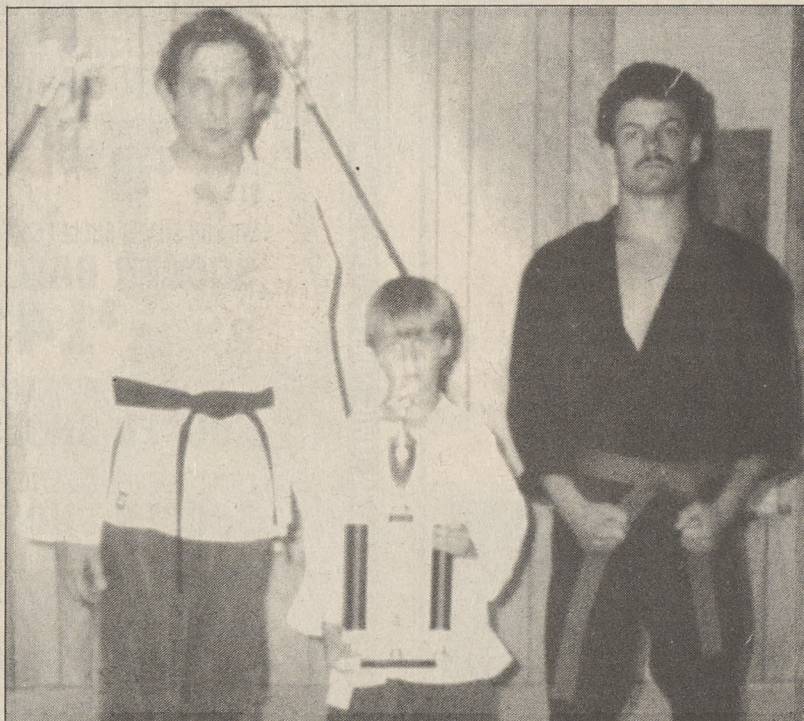
During her senior year, Cindy was contacted by eight colleges or universities among them Penn State University, University of Middle Michigan, University of Florida, Kent State University and University of Wilmington. She received letters of acceptance from University of Rhode Island, Shippensburg State University and Bloomsburg.

She finally selected Bloomsburg because of their academic and softball program and because of Jan Hutchinson, the university's softball coach, with whom Cindy was familiar since she attended a softball camp directed by Hutchinson. She also considers Hutchinson's assistant, Tina Souder, an excellent

pitching coach. "I also liked the idea of Bloomsburg because it is close to home," said Cindy.

Orientation is set for July 27 and Cindy begins classes on September 2.

In answer to the question why she thought the Knights' softball team was so successful this season, Cindy replied, "At the beginning of the season this year, our goal was to win districts and beat last season's (See SLOCUM, page 10)



Mikula is champ

Kevin Mikula, above center, eight-year-old son of Daniel and Beverly Mikula, of country Village Court, RD 3, Dallas, recently laced first in Pee Wee Fighting in Marsh's Karate Tournament held at Luzerne County Community College. Kevin, a second grade student at the Dallas Elementary School, fought and won five consecutive bouts to capture first place. Shown here with Kevin are Robert Costigan, left, instructor; and Bill Timek, right, assistant instructor.



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Dolbear honored

William Kalinowski, first vice president of Dallas Kiwanis, presents Robert Dolbear with a plaque honoring Dolbear for his efforts in the support of sports programs for Back Mountain girls while Tex Wilson looks on.