

Section 2

Wednesday, April 13, 1994

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POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

IT'S OVER, AND HE'S SLIMMER - Dallas Post sports writer Dave Konopki announced the final results of his 'Weight for Wishes' drive to help the Make-A-Wish Foundation during halftime of the exhibition basketball game featuring the Philadelphia Eagles last Sunday

at the Marts Center at Wilkes University. Konopki attracted over \$1,700 in donations as he dropped from 282 to 247 pounds. Above, he announced the final tally as John Jablowski, Make-A-Wish executive director and Ryan Konopki looked on.

'Weight for Wishes' raises \$1,700+

The following people pledged money in Dave Konopki's "Weight For Wishes" campaign. Dave lost a total of 35 pounds in 73 days, raising more than \$1,700 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

All checks should be made payable to Make-A-Wish Foundation of NEPA and mailed to either 130 E. Bennett St., Kingston, PA 18704 or 501 Scott St., Wilkes-Barre, 18702. Anyone with questions regarding the final amount of their pledge can call 283-5532.

Richard & Marilyn Maslow, Dallas
Atty. & Mrs. Gary Taroli, Dallas
Barry West, Shavertown
Jennifer, Ryan and Sarah Konopki, Kingston
Frank Paczewski, Dallas
Rich & Lynn Jumper, Dallas
John and Patricia Konopki, Trucksville
Karen and Rick McEntee, Luzerne
Bob & Debbie Bayer, Dallas
Dave Karyl, Dallas
Doug Whitehead, Dallas
Bob & Shirley Kunkle, Dallas
Richard & Marilyn Klick, Dallas
Richard & Carol Coslett, Shavertown
Jack Straigis, Dallas
Jim Regan, Dallas
Jean Lipski, Dallas

Kathleen, Paul & Therese Pitcavage, Shavertown
Mrs. John McCole, Wilkes-Barre
Ron & Elaine Moran, Dallas
Shelly Smulowitz, Kingston
Jennifer Morgan, Dallas
Lindsey & Courtney Monk, Dallas
Jennie Valick, Dallas
Barbara Beardsworth, Dallas
Joseph Cosgrove, Shavertown
Kristen Faerber, Dallas
Nancy Dombroski, Trucksville
Mrs. Thomas Johns, Naples, FL
Barbara Koche, Dallas
Jacqui Prothero, Dallas
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Nicely, Dallas
Mr. & Mrs. R.J. Hughes, Dallas
Duane Sprau, Dallas
Grace Dove Ostrum, Dallas
Jay Pope, Dallas
Mabel Jenkins, Shavertown
Jennie Hill, Shavertown
Staff of Dallas Post

The following Dallas High School students also made pledges:
Abbey Russin
Nancy Garvey
Tami Palka
Valerie Pawloski
Brennan Murphy
Gail Morris
Melissa Prokopchak
Ed Sabol
Andrew Bishop
Maria Pitcavage
Marty Straigis

Tracy Jones
Leah Vincelli
Dania Zalatico
Lisa Tomaine
Liz Ziegler
Kristy Woolbert
Tara Tupper
Jennifer White
Nick Waligorski
Miriam Thomas
Zack Welch
Sarah Wysocki
Lynn Murphy
Alyssa Rosentel
Heather Brody
Terri Argento
Amy Beardsworth
Melanie Belles
Brandy Balbach
Justin Kerr
Beth Stearn
Dave Townsend
Lisa Wall
Kelly West
John McCarthy
Brian Spangenberg
Tim Reich
Matt Sowick
Sare Rhodes
Susan Smaka
Quentin Reese
Dan Brody
Chris Beleski
Shaun Love
Liz Keating
Mike Trosan
Scott Wasik

Krystyna Suchecki
Kathy Belinsky
Jeremy Wilhelm
Carl Wiedlich
Meghan Smith
Shawn Vogelgesang
Stacey Suda
Jason Reynolds
Kerry Rittenhouse
Meghan Risch
Brianna Natitis
Sandy McCloud
Cheryl Love
Carolyn Lubinski
Raina Wensell
Amy Wisnewski
James Wallace
Jason Pieczynski
Nicole Pilecki
Ricky Nelson
Ricky Dickson
Rebecca Lynn Brown
Marilee Bostock
Keri Bachman
Mike Vozniak
Jamie Slocum
Katie Sallitt
Jaime Barbacci
Melisa Tyira
Bridget Temperine
Mike Viglone
Jim Ryan
Marlena Saxon
Cecilia Rommaldini
Kim Karavitch
Claire Morris
Shannon Kane

Dallas softball

Perplexing prospects

By DAVE KONOPKI
Sports Writer

Taking a long, hard look at his Dallas High School softball team, Jay Pope probably feels the same way Michaelangelo did when he took his first glance at the completed Sistine Chapel.

Both know they're looking at something special, but realize only history will dictate the greatness each may possess.

Make no mistake, the 1994 Wyoming Valley Conference softball season will be a memorable one for the Mountaineers and Pope. And with a solid nucleus of eight returning starters from last year's 12-4 squad, it could be one of the most successful in Dallas history.

The Lady Mountaineers return all of their pitchers from last year and, perhaps the most talented athlete in the conference in senior shortstop Kelly Janosky. Dallas begins regular season play on April 18 with a home game against Bishop Hoban and plays traditional rival Lake-Lehman on April 21.

But while Pope remains cautiously optimistic, he knows how unpredictable the world of high school softball can be.

"I'm excited, I think we're all excited," said Pope, whose 1993 team's second place finish exceeded everyone's expectations,

including his own. "We have some players with experience and we have a solid nucleus returning. We're hoping to have a winning year."

"But how far we go is up to the girls," Pope continued. "We could exceed last year's success or fall short of it. This team is very hard to read right now as far as what individual goals they've set for themselves. We need a team that is very focused, a team that not only takes one game at a time, but one inning at a time. But we do have some excellent talent and the girls have an excellent work ethic."

Pope, who enters his 13th season as head coach of the Lady Mounts, may not have a complete psychological grasp on this year's team due to mitigating circumstances - including months of bad weather and sickness being passed among teammates like a John Stockton pass.

"Obviously a weakness for us this year is our lack of outside practice time," said Pope, who is assisted by Yvonne Mould and pitching coach Laura Poynton. "Hopefully, by opening day we'll have that team chemistry. We've played three scrimmages and we've looked good at some moments and not so well at others."

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Back Mt. Soccer registers April 16

Back Mt. Soccer will hold registration for the Fall '94 season April 16, in the Dallas Middle School Cafeteria from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Registration will be for U-8 (Coed), U-10 Boys and Girls, U-12 Boys and Girls and U-14 (Coed).

Players who were never registered need a copy of their Birth Certificate. All players registering need their SS#.

Fees are \$29 for the first registered in the family, \$27 for the second, and \$25 for every child after.

Bring the child's Social Security Number.

KT Raiders register April 16

Kingston Township Raiders Junior Football will be conducting registration for the 1994 season, Saturday, April 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Shavertown United Methodist Church (behind Burger King). All players must be 7 years old by August 1, 1994 and may not turn 14 years old before August 1, 1994. *A player 14 years of age and 110 lbs. or less may participate for an additional season as long as he does not turn 15 years of age during the League season.

Fees are \$20 per child and \$10 each additional family member. Cost includes practice shirt.

Uniform an equipment provided by the Raiders.

Any new football players or cheerleaders are required to present a photograph and copy of their Birth Certificate at time of registration.

Lehman softball

Flossie Finn makes return to diamond

By DAVE KONOPKI
Sports Writer

At some point this season, when the "Winter of 1994" is nothing more than a distant memory and the pestering April showers have given way to the beauty of spring in the Northeast, the spotlight will focus squarely on the players of the Lake-Lehman High School softball team.

And Flossy Finn would have it no other way.

But until that point, the softball eyes of the Wyoming Valley Conference remain focused on the highly successful Finn, who returns at the helm of the Lady Knights following a six-year hiatus. Finn began the softball program at Lehman in 1972 and compiled an incredible 203-46 record before leaving the program in 1987.

In the '90's, the Lehman program under head coach Rose Ragnacci, kept the tradition alive, winning the District 2 Class AAA title in 1992 and 1993. But the loss of several key players to graduation pointed Lehman towards a rebuilding year in 1994 and, to complicate matters, Ragnacci decided to step down as head

coach to pursue personal interests.

But just when the coaches of the WVC thought it was safe to go back into the championship waters:

She's baaaaack!
"I never lost the passion for the game. I love it," said Finn, who has kept an active interest in the game, including coaching during the summer, since her departure in 1987. "I left Lehman so I could watch my son Chuck (a former Lehman baseball standout) play. Now that both of my children (daughter Beth was a softball standout in the mid-1980's) are done playing sports, I decided to get back into coaching on the high school level. When Rose left, my family encouraged me to go back."

With the loss of Ragnacci, and players like pitching standout Cherub Honeywell to graduation, the return of Finn to the Lady Knight program probably couldn't have come at a better time.

But the return probably came a little sooner than Finn would have liked.

Diagnosed with scoliosis in her back as a teenager, the disease

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POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

YOU'RE OUT! - Lake-Lehman first baseman Kelly Spencer takes the throw to put out a West Side Tech runner during the game last

week. At second for the Knights is Nicole Naugle, while Julie Babcock prepares to back up from center field.