



PHOTO BY SOL BARKET

DISTRICT 16 CHAMPS - Herb Fehlenger, left, coach of last season's District 16 Little League championship team, shows off the championship banner with Larry Lettie, president of Back Mountain Baseball.



PHOTO BY SOL BARKET

13-YEAR-OLD CHAMPS - Bob Lorah, far left, displays the District 16 championship banner won by last year's Junior League team. Players from last year's team are, Josh Butler, center, Dan Tomedi and Rich Lorah.

Mounts

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and Northwest.

"We have to stay focused," said Barbacci. "We got off to a fast start last year and lost three of our next four games. We've played some good teams so far, but we're getting ready to play the best teams in our division. We play GAR on Wednesday (April 27) and then we have games against Hanover and Meyers.

"We set two goals before the

season began," concluded Barbacci. "First, we want to win the West Division. And second, we want to have the best record in (Class) AA. If we end up with the best record in AA, we'll get the chance to play at the (Lackawanna County) stadium in the playoffs. But we have to stay focused take one game at a time."

If they do that, then they'll really have reason to celebrate.

"We're still a very young team but we're playing well. It's really a good sign for the future."

Jack Wolensky
Dallas baseball coach

Knights

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with Kunkle. Francis, another Dallas pitching standout, played two years in the Atlanta Braves organization.

Offensively, the Mounts have gotten outstanding production from the top six hitters in the lineup, including junior leadoff man Mike Viglone, Kunkle, senior Brian Brady, junior Rich Butcofski, sophomore Rich Klick and freshman Justin Jumper.

"They've been very tough outs,"

said Wolensky, of his first six batters. "They've all been very solid. Brian (Brady) is one of the seniors who have given us leadership. He's been just outstanding offensively and he's also done a good job pitching for us."

Brady provided solid pitching and offensive punch in the Nanticoke game, giving up only two runs on four hits and hitting a double and home run.

While the Mounts start may

have Wolensky smiling, he knows they have to keep the same high level of intensity if they're going to be successful in the cutthroat Class AAA division this year. But the strong early showing also has Wolensky feeling optimistic about the present - and the future.

"We need to keep getting better," Wolensky acknowledged. "We're still a very young team but we're playing well. It's really a good sign for the future."

Poynton, Smith star on field at Misericordia

Two former area high school softball standouts have led the College Misericordia softball team to the Pennsylvania Athletic Conference playoffs.

Dallas graduate Laura Poynton and Lake-Lehman graduate Jen Smith have played important roles in Misericordia's climb to the top of the PAC North Division standings.

Poynton, a senior second baseman/pitcher, is leading the team in hitting and runs scored with a .545 average and 27 runs. She has been stellar on the mound as well with a 5-1 record and one save. She has limited opponents to 2.01 earned runs per game.

Smith, a sophomore center-fielder/second baseman, is second on the team in hitting with a .509 average and is the team's top run producer with 25 RBIs.

Car wash aids L-L Jr. Football

The Lake-Lehman Jr. Football and Cheerleading Club will be holding a car wash on Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Back Mountain Bowl on Rte. 309 in Dallas.

Proceeds will help defray equipment and uniform costs. Rain date is May 7.



Digging in

Dallas Mountaineer pitcher Kelly West scooped up a ground ball during last week's meeting between the Mounts and Lake-Lehman. West got the win as Dallas ran away with a 16-4 victory.



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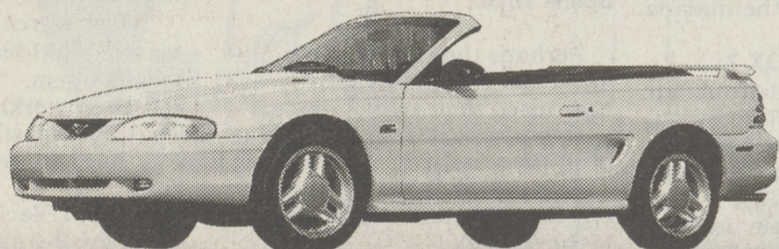
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