

The Dallas Post

Sports Week

Triathlon runs under threatening weather

The following local individuals placed in Sunday's Wilkes-Barre triathlon.

Under-35 Amateur	Time	Place/Class
Chris Hackett, Shavertown	2:16:43	3/M30-34
Durelle Scott, Dallas	2:20:02	4/M20-24
William Sprau, Shavertown	2:21:39	6/M30-34
James Schall, Shavertown	2:27:11	11/M-30-34
Sean Robbins, Shavertown	2:36:49	15/M30-34
Christopher Scott, Harveys Lake	2:39:01	16M/20-24
Colleen Reed, Dallas	2:44:19	4F/30-34
Justin Reich, Dallas	2:53:46	20/M20-24
Eric May, Dallas	2:56:04	23/M20-24
35+ and-over Amateur	Time	Place/Class
Leonard Romanowski, Dallas	1:59:03	11/M35-39
Keith Augustine, Shavertown	2:01:30	13/M35-39
Charles Eckman, Dallas	2:01:55	14/M35-39
Peter Eckman, Shavertown	2:04:17	16/M35-39
Brian Hoesey, Harveys Lake	2:05:33	8/M40-44
Robert Friedman, Shavertown	2:10:11	24/M35-39
Dave Mariner, Shavertown	2:14:08	27/M35-39
Edward Onzik, Shavertown	2:14:35	29/M35-39
Joseph Persico, Shavertown	2:15:08	10/M40-44
Tom Bezerich, Trucksville	2:17:13	2/M50-54
Steven Young, Dallas	2:24:13	39/M35-39
Michael Richardson, Shavertown	2:24:52	15/M40-44
Duane Sprau, Dallas	2:31:19	20/M40-44
Wayne Devine, Harveys Lake	2:37:46	46/M35-39



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK
STAGE 1 DONE - Jon Bold of Marston Mills sprinted out of Harveys Lake after finishing the first stage of Sunday's Wilkes-Barre triathlon. Bold finished 13th in the pro division.

Irem Women's golf winners

Winners of the recent medal round tournament of the Irem Women's Golf Association were:
 Class A - Bok Choi, Class B - Kay Goodman and Class C - Rosemary Chromey.

The winners for having the lowest number of putts were: Class A - Joanne Freeman; Class B - Joyce Shaw and Class C - Marcia Jones. The Women's Club Championship final round took place August 16.

Matt Lloyd on bronze medal team

Matthew Lloyd, playing for the Capitol/Blue Mtn./Pocono ice hockey team in the Keystone State Games earned a bronze medal in a surprising 3-2 overtime victory over a strong Delaware Valley team. Lloyd, who resides in Dallas, attends Wyoming Seminary where he plays soccer and lacrosse as well as ice hockey.

Match at Harveys Lake Rod & Gun Club

Harveys Lake Rod and Gun Club will hold a competition gun shoot August 21, 12 noon at the club grounds, Kunkle-Alderson Road. There will be iron sites and scoped matches for pistol and rifles and a 200 yard egg shooting contest. Refreshments will be available. For more information contact Joseph or Eileen Sgarlat at 639-5403.

L-L football boosters meet August 18

The Lake-Lehman Football Booster Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. on August 18 at the Grotto Pizza, Harveys Lake.

BMT riders win at 4-H horse show

Back Mountain winners of the Luzerne County 4-H Horse and Pony Show held August 6 at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds, are: Grooming and Showmanship, (12 years and under class): Devon Lewis of Harveys Lake, first place; Wendy Wallo of Dallas, second place; Cindy Morris of Sweet Valley, third; Tania Atherholt of Lehman, placed fourth; Tanya Campbell of Sweet Valley, fifth place and Amanda Adamitz of Shavertown, taking six place.

Grooming and Showmanship (13-15 years): Cindi Boyle of Dallas, first place; Justin Kreller of Sweet Valley, second place; Amber Atherholt of Lehman, third place.

Grooming and Showmanship (16 and older) category: Stacie Lanning, first place.

Open Trail Pony (14.0 and under) class: Kevin Isbel of Hunlock Creek won first place; Tania Atherholt received second place.

Open Trail Horse (over 14.0): Devon Lewis, first place; Wendy Wallo, second place; Tanya Campbell, third place; Amber Atherholt, fifth place.

Hunter Under Saddle Horses: Amanda Adamitz, sixth place.

Hunt Seat Equitation: Amanda Adamitz, fourth place.

Stock Seat Equitation (Junior Division) are: Devon Lewis, first place; Wendy Wallo, second place; Justin Kreller, third place; Cindy Morris, fourth place; Tanya Campbell, fifth place.

Stock Seat Equitation (Senior Division): Amber Atherholt, first place; Cyndi Boyle, second place; Leigh Ann Hayman, third place; and Stacie Lanning, fourth place.

Western Pleasure Ponies (Over 12.2 and not over 14.0): Tania Atherholt, first place and Elizabeth Heller of Hunlock Creek, second place; Justin Kreller, third place; Tanya Campbell, fifth place.

Western Pleasure Horses (Sr. Rider): Devon Lewis, first place; Wendy Wallo, second place; Justin Kreller, third place; Cindy Morris, fourth place; Tanya Campbell, fifth place.

Western Pleasure Horses (Sr. Rider): Amber Atherholt, first place; Cyndi Boyle, second place; Leigh Ann Hayman, third place and Stacie Lanning, fourth place.

Western Riding: Devon Lewis, first place; Amber Atherholt, second place; Cindy Morris, third place and Ashley Culver, fourth place.

Reining: Devon Lewis, first place and Tanya Campbell, second.

Pole Bending Pony: Elizabeth Heller, second place and Tania Atherholt, third place.

Pole Bending Horse: Amy Comly of Dallas, second place.

Clover Leaf Barrel Race Pony: Tania Atherholt, first place; Elizabeth Heller, third place.

Raised Box Keyhole Pony: Elizabeth Heller, second place; Tania Atherholt, third place.

Hunter Hack Horses: Amanda Adamitz, fourth place.

Pleasure Pairs: Amanda Adamitz and Melissa Valeski, first place; Amber Atherholt and Leigh Ann Hayman, second; Ashley Culver and Lisa Isbel, third place.

Novice Class A - Walk-Trot Equitation: Jamie Laubenstein of Harveys Lake, first place; Erin Liss, of Dallas, second place; Angela Pagsch of Dallas, third place.

Novice Class B - Walk Trot Pleasure: Angela Pagsch, first place; Jamie Laubenstein, second place; Erin Liss, third place.

Novice Class C - Mini Trail: Erin Liss, first place, Jamie Laubenstein, second place; Angela Pagsch, third place.

Novice Class D - Cross Rails: Erin Liss, first place; and Angela Pagsch, second place.

Novice Class E - Grooming and Showmanship: Toni Flimowicz, first place; Jaime Laubenstein, third place; Erin Liss, fourth place; and Angela Pagsch, fifth place.

The 4-H program is open to all youth 8-19 year olds. For more information call the Penn State Cooperative Extension Office, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Cave named Misericordia's NCAA 'Woman of Year'

Hillary Cave of Dallas has been named College Misericordia's 1994 NCAA Woman of the Year Award winner. Dr. Michael Mould, Misericordia director of athletics, has announced.

The award is presented to a senior student-athlete who has demonstrated outstanding athletic ability, academic excellence and a dedication to community service and who has completed her collegiate athletic eligibility.

Cave, a graduate of Meyers High School, was a four-year starter for the Misericordia field hockey team and led the team to three playoff appearances including a trip to the Pennsylvania Athletic Conference championship game last season. She was a two-time first-team All-PAC selection and was

named team MVP during her junior and senior seasons. In addition, Cave qualified for the United States Field Hockey Association festival four straight years.

"It is my pleasure to announce Hillary Cave as Misericordia's NCAA Woman of the Year," said Mould. "She excelled in the classroom as well as on the playing field. She is an outstanding example of a student-athlete."

A Magna Cum Laude graduate in history/pre-law, Cave is now eligible for the 1994 Pennsylvania NCAA Woman of the Year Award. A national panel will select statewide winners later this month with the field being narrowed to 10 finalists in September. The national winner will be announced in November.

From the Pressbox

Dave Konopki



Players walk the picket lines.. on the hearts of these fans

"Our kids would play whether it was raining, sleeting, snowing or in the dark."

Dan Berry
 Father Challenger Little League player

"Daddy," he shouted with excitement, "baseball's on."

I laughed. With three children under the age of nine, silence isn't just golden in our house - it's rare. But on this night, when serenity was making an infrequent appearance, the interruption of silence was a welcome imposition. I'd begun to tire of those three little words I've heard almost every night for the past four months. But I knew in a few short days, I may not hear them again until next spring.

My son, Ryan, will turn six years old in September. But in baseball years, he's a senior citizen. He's attended more games in person and has watched more games on television than most adults I know. He even listens to games on the radio.

One night, after returning home from nearly 10 hours at the Little League field, he took a bath, got changed and sat himself down in front of the television - to watch a baseball game.

"Ryan," I asked, feeling the burnout associated with coaching and watching Little League games all day, "how can you sit there and watch a baseball game?"

His reply was simple. "Daddy," he answered matter-of-factly. "It's baseball."

Baseball has been a big part of my life since I was old enough to lace my own spikes. Now, I'm trying to pass the love I have for the game along to my son. Maybe it's that kind of thinking which prompted me to sit him and I in front of the television set last Friday night.

It was August 12, and the only baseball being played that night was on my children's Nintendo system. Major League Baseball players were on strike.

I decided to take advantage of the situation. To me, it was a perfect time to remind myself - and try to explain to my son - what the game of baseball is all about.

So we made hot dogs and hot pretzels and we poured ourselves a glass of soda. We grabbed a bag of sunflower seeds and sat on the sofa. And for the next one hour and 46 minutes, we fell in love with the game all over again.

We watched "Field of Dreams". We watched the movie uninterrupted. Unsuccessfully, he tried his best to understand the movie. I cried. For nearly two hours it was just myself, my son and baseball the way it should be. Labor negotiations, salary caps and free agency were as distant as the stars in the universe.

"I don't think ballplayers should, or ever would go on strike. We love the game too much." - Eddie Matthews, former Milwaukee Brave third baseman, 1957.

Every night, Patrick Cleary falls asleep in front of the television set watching a baseball game.

Like most kids his age, Cleary has a favorite team (the Boston Red Sox) and a favorite player (Eric Davis). And like most kids his age, Cleary would do anything for the opportunity to play professional baseball.

But perhaps Patrick Cleary has a love for the game most of us will never understand. His love for the game is pure. Innocent.

Patrick Cleary has Down Syndrome. It was last Thursday night and Cleary and his teammates were scheduled to play a baseball game in the Challenger Division of Little League Baseball. But it was Mother Nature, not the absence of a collective bargaining agreement, which kept the 16-year-old son of Jack and Marianne Cleary, and the others, from taking the field.

Cleary knows there is a strike. But, like the rest of us, he doesn't understand why. Neither do George Gwilliam and Dan Berry. Both men spend hundreds of hours each summer teaching baseball to the players in the Challenger League - which gives children with mental and physical disabilities the opportunity to play baseball.

"Our kids would play whether it was raining, sleeting, snowing or in the dark," said Berry, whose son Chris, who has Down Syndrome, is a player in the Challenger League. "It's just inconceivable that someone who has that type of ability, someone who has that kind of physical and mental capabilities to do what they do, chose not to play for whatever reason. And I think the bottom line there is money."

"The kids in our league may not understand why baseball isn't being played," added Berry. "But they love baseball and while these guys are on strike, they're going to miss watching it. The bottom line is going to be absolute disappointment."

Cory Gwilliam never faced a Nolan Ryan fastball. But she took an even greater challenge head-on. As an infant, Cory survived a temperature of 110.8 degrees, believed to be the highest temperature survived by any child in the state. But the lengthy hospitalization took its toll, leaving her

physical and mental motor skills far behind children of her own age.

But when it comes to baseball, her love of the game takes a back seat to no one.

"She loves the game and, in return, baseball has helped her tremendously," said George Gwilliam, Cory's father and coach. "Being able to play has helped her mentally and physically and, every week, she looks forward to the games. I wish some of the (professional) players and owners could come out and watch these kids play baseball. We have players in wheelchairs, players who are blind and players who are deaf. But each one of the players has the desire to play baseball. I think the owners and players have lost their perspective on the game. Maybe seeing one of our games could help get some of that back."

"Baseball is too much of a sport to be a business and too much of a business to be a sport." - Phil Wrigley, former owner of the Chicago Cubs.

Tom Alexander and his father were relaxing in their Dallas home, having a leisurely conversation. Like so many times before, the topic was baseball and Peter Alexander made a bold prediction.

"The Boston Red Sox will beat the California Angels and win the American League championship," Peter Alexander told his son back in 1986. A few minutes later, Tom left the house, planning to meet his father at the family business, the Forty Fort Theater, a few hours later.

He would never see his father again. Peter Alexander didn't live long enough to see his prognostication come true. But perhaps it's only fitting the final conversation he had with his son focused on baseball.

"My relationship with my father, especially during the last 10 to 12 years of his life, centered around baseball," said Alexander, 30, a Dallas High School graduate. "It (baseball) was the last thing we talked about before he died. No matter what happened, even when we would have disagreements on other things, we could always talk about baseball."

It's that kind of passion for the game which now has Alexander angry and frustrated when talk turns to the current state of baseball.

"I think everyone today is so greedy, it's taken everything out of the game," said Alexander, a walking baseball encyclopedia. "Don't get me wrong, I'm all for making money and for making a

living. But what you're seeing here is the ugly side of capitalism."

But the memories of time spent with his father discussing baseball, and the hopes of one day doing the same with his own child, keeps him optimistic.

"Baseball, next to freedom, is the most beautiful side of America," said Alexander, who resides in Swoyersville with his wife, Gwyn. "It's a beautiful game to watch, so graceful and intelligent. I just hope the players and owners can see that and get back to doing what they should be doing - playing baseball."

"I don't see how conditions can be improved. We're already making good money and we'll get good pensions at (age) 50. Is that bad?" - Nellie Fox, former Chicago White Sox second baseman, 1957.

Forget, for the moment, that this fall we have the possibility of seeing San Francisco's Matt Williams shatter Roger Maris' record of 61 home runs in a single season. Or that we may have the opportunity to witness San Diego's Tony Gwynn become the first major league baseball player to hit .400 since Ted Williams accomplished the feat in 1941, and the first National League player to turn the trick since Bill Terry's .401 average in 1930.

Those are selfish reasons. The game of baseball goes far beyond the numbers and you've just read how it has positively impacted the lives of three completely different people. But despite those differences, Ryan Konopki, Patrick Cleary and Tom Alexander have a common bond - they're baseball fans.

Richard Ravitch, the owners' negotiator and players' union head Donald Fehr have heard all the arguments and nothing has helped. Now, there's talk of a federal mediator stepping in to help resolve the matter.

I have a different idea. Perhaps every major league baseball player should make a trip to the W.W. Kubis Memorial Little League field this Wednesday night to witness Cleary and his teammates play the game of baseball. And forget about the federal mediator. Just have Ravitch and Fehr listen to the words of Cleary - a special person with a simple request:

"Don't worry about money. Don't worry about anything. Just play baseball." - Patrick Cleary, baseball fan, 1994.