

# The Dallas Post Sports Week

Section 2

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## 'J.P.' gives his all for the team

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Next time you're at a Dallas basketball game this winter watch closely for the streak. Be careful, you may miss it.

The streak will be blue and white, standing about 6'2" off of the court. If you do happen to see it, there's no need to panic or vacate your seat. That's just Mountaineer senior Joseph (J.P.) Cosgrove motoring from one spot on the floor to another.

Whether it's offense, defense or transition, J.P. only knows one style of play - go all the way, every play.

"I'm a hard working, always hustling, playing my hardest type of guy," Cosgrove said. "I always give 100 percent and do what's best for the team."

The best advice Cosgrove ever picked up from a coach, and he's heard it from more than one, was to never let up, always give it your

all. Be it working on technique at practice or running the fast break during a Wyoming Valley Conference game, Cosgrove treats every situation with full gusto.

That type of attitude and determination has paid dividends for J.P. as a Dallas athlete and student. He's become a three-year starter for Paul Brown's cagers. During the fall, Cosgrove's extra-curricular time is spent at another game of continuous movement up and down the playing surface; he's also a three-year starter for the Dallas soccer team.

The defensive standout was one of the overlooked players in the conference last fall. Because of an uncharacteristic 5-10-1 record the Mounts failed to receive the post season recognition they deserved. Cosgrove, fellow defenders Matt Sowick and Mike Suda, as well as goalie Fred Maier proved to be one of the toughest tandems to score on during the

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Joseph, "J.P." Cosgrove  
Dallas hoop star

season.

He's not one to let up in the classroom either. Consistently named to the honor roll, J.P. is a member of the National Honor Society and ranked near the top of his class. He's also a member of Dallas student council and student steering.

Math and science rank among his favorite classroom subjects. Come fall, J.P. will be enrolled in college, but otherwise plans have yet to be determined.

"I'm not really sure where I'll be heading or what I'll be studying," Cosgrove said, "but I'm definitely

thinking college."

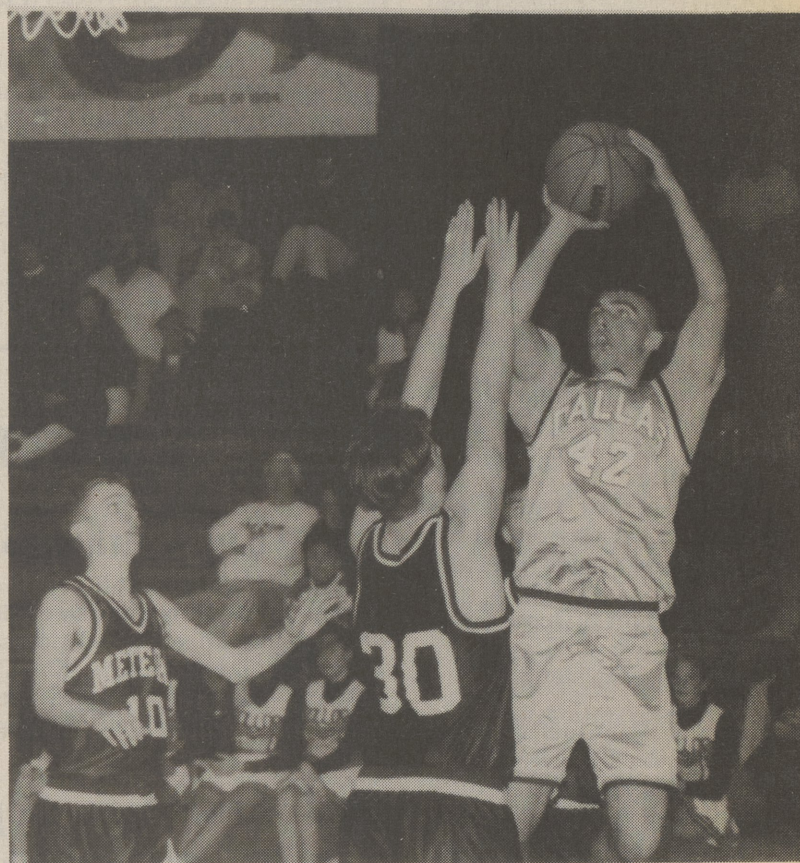
Should Cosgrove decide on a small college, he'll seriously consider going out for basketball. For now his sights are set on helping the Mountaineer cagers put together a successful second half in Division 2 of the conference. Injuries, size and playing in a tough conference have hindered Dallas, but J.P. believes they can rebound from their dismal 1-7 first half showing.

"I hope we can turn it around and have a great second half," he said.

On the hardwood, J.P. has proven to be a consistent shooter from 15 feet. He's also a very good passer for a big man and one of the most relentless rebounders in the league. His success on the boards can once again be attributed to his work ethic.

"I'm quicker than a lot of the other centers," explained Cosgrove. "A lot of the other guys

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Joseph "J.P." Cosgrove is one of the leaders of the Dallas basketball squad. This photo is from the Mounts consolation game win in the Crossin tournament.

## Meeting of undefeateds becomes rout

In the opening game of grade 7-8 basketball Jan. 21, the Heat defeated the Bulls in a close contest 27-25. Both teams started off slow, with the first quarter ending in a 4-all tie. However, the Heat caught fire in the second quarter and outscored the Bulls 10-4. The third quarter had the Bulls narrowing the gap by outscoring the Heat 8-4. However, fine defensive play in the fourth quarter by the Heat sealed the win. The Heat offense was led by Joe Stupino with 13 points, followed by Jason Race and Danny Fetko with six points apiece. The Bulls Mike Regan turned in another fine game with a game high 16 points followed by Nate Hoffman with six points. The Heat's record goes to 3-3. The Bulls drop to 0-6.

Game two started off where the first game ended, back and forth all the way, with the Warriors edging the Trailblazers 36-34. At half time the Warriors held a one point lead 13-12 over the Trailblazers. However, by the end of the third period the Trailblazers recaptured the lead 28-26. The Warriors used a strong defense and made some key clutch baskets to seal the win. The Warriors offense was led by Paul Dougal with a game high 14 points followed by Ryan Onyshczak with six points. Justin Bicking and T.C. Harding had a fine defensive game for the Warriors. The Trailblazers offense was led by Danny Laurenzi with 11 points followed by Tom Byron and Chad Woolbert each with nine points. The Warriors record goes to 2-4, while the Trailblazers record drops to 1-5.

In the third game, the Magic and Sixers took aim at each other. Each team was sporting 5-0 records. However, when the smoke cleared at the end of the first quarter, the game was all but over, with the Sixers outscoring the Magic 20-3. The remaining quarters proved much the same, with the Sixers holding a 52-15 lead at the end of the third quarter. The Magic made it respectable in the fourth quarter by outscoring the Sixers 15 to 9. The final score was the Sixers 61 - Magic 30. The Sixer offense was led by Matt Wycalls with 21 points followed by Matt Jackson with 13 points. The Magic offense was led by Mike Domzalski with 12 points followed by David Martin with 10 points and Ryan Sorber with eight points. The Sixers sit alone in first place with a record of 6-0, while the Magic record their first defeat. The Magic's record falls to 5-1.

In the final game of the afternoon, the Hornets stung the Celtics by a score of 48-42. In the first quarter both teams came out shooting, with the Celtics holding to a 12-10 first quarter lead. In

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POST PHOTOS/RON BARTIZEK

## Mounts top Tech 64-21

The Dallas Mountaineer girls' basketball team claimed its first win of the second half by thumping West Side Tech 64-21 Monday night. In top photo, Sarah Barlow tried to get control of a loose ball under the basket. Above left, Katie Austin took aim for a shot as Karen Keleta blocked out. Above right, Holly Baseski led a tough, pressing defensive effort. She also scored eight points.

## Skiers can register for Keystone State Games

Skiers may register now for the 9th annual Keystone State Games Winter Sports Festival to be held Feb. 8-11, at Montage Mountain Ski Resort and the Wilkes-Barre Ice-A-Rama.

After eliminating cross-country skiing four years due to the lack of proper snow conditions, the Games will again offer the event to Pennsylvania's winter athletes, from the first timer to the experienced.

The 2.5 KM cross country course will be held free of charge Feb. 10, at Montage. A limited number of cross country equipment will be available at no charge at registration on a first come first serve basis. On Feb. 17, both a 5 KM and 10KM race will be held, testing skiers' endurance and

speed. These races will take place in Wilkes-Barre with a site to be determined.

The alpine skiing events include downhill, giant slalom, modified giant slalom, dual slalom, snowboarding and the first timers race. Moguls will be the lone freestyle event.

## Games need volunteers with snowmobiles

The Keystone State Games 1996 Winter Sports Festival needs your help. Volunteers who own snowmobiles are needed to assist in grooming the cross country course prior to the race, Feb. 14 and 15.

An additional two or three snowmobiles are needed the day of the race, Feb. 17 to transport race officials and the media throughout the course. Volunteers who can transport their snowmobiles to the golf course and are available on Feb. 14, 15 or 17, are asked to contact Dave Farrand at the Keystone State Games office weekdays between 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at 717-823-3164 or at 717-678-7153 after 5 p.m.

If skiers do not preregister by Jan. 31, they must enter as a walk-on the day of the event. Walk-ons must register at least one hour prior to the start of the event.

Entry forms and specific event information can be obtained by calling 717-823-3164.

## Baseball, softball registration rescheduled to Feb. 3, Feb. 10

Due to the flood emergency last weekend, Back Mountain Baseball called off registration scheduled for Jan. 20. Registration for girls and boys, ages 6 to 18, will be held Sat., Feb. 3 and Sat., Feb. 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day at the Dallas Middle School. A registration fee of \$25 per player or \$40 per family will be collected at the time of registration. Birth certificates are required for all new players.

A separate \$18 fee will be collected for each player who does not wish to sell a box of candy for a fund raiser. Registration is for boys and girls, and all groups from tee-ball through big league.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### GOH boys varsity and JV beat St. Nick's

On January 17 the Gate of Heaven JV basketball boys team beat St. Nick's Blue Team 56-40. The GOH team was led by J.C. DeRojas, 16 points, Nick Andrusian, 12 points and Andrew Lohin, 10 points.

The Gate of Heaven varsity team beat the St. Nick's varsity team by a score of 78-73. The Gators came back from a 20 point deficit to beat St. Nick's. The GOH team was led by Mike Regan, 35 points; Brad Feleccia, 16 points; Mike Tanner, 10 points and J.C. DeRojas, 10 points.

### Tech, Terps win in grade 3-4 play

Tyler Droppers scored eight points and had five rebounds to lead Georgia Tech (3-1) over Virginia (1-3) 17-14 in Dallas Youth Basketball's 3-4th grade divisions. Brian Gage had four points with five rebounds. Jeff Pace and Joe Bednash were the leading rebounders for the Yellow Jackets. The leading scorer for Virginia was Gene Lispi. The defense was led by Eric Baltimore, Ryan Harvey and Ryan Marascio.

Maryland improved its record to 3-1 with a 24-14 victory over Duke (0-4).

### No door tickets for Lehman/WWV meet

No tickets will be sold at the door the night of the Wyoming Valley West at Lake-Lehman wrestling match, Jan. 27. Tickets will be on sale at the Lake-Lehman High School during school hours on Thursday, Jan. 25, and Friday, Jan. 26. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the match will begin at 7:30 p.m.

### GOH boys jayvee tops St. Jude's

The Gate of Heaven junior varsity boys team beat St. Jude's JV team by a score 36-31, January 14.

The JV team was led by J.C. DeRojas with 18 points and Andrew Lohin, six points.

The varsity team lost to St. Jude's 43-67. Gate of Heaven was led by Michael Regan, 17 points and Brad Feleccia, 11 points.

### GOH girls' varsity wins seventh

The Gate of Heaven girls' varsity team came one step closer to the first half title of the Wyoming Valley Catholic League with their seventh win of the season, defeating St. Mary's North End by the score of 42-12.

Chelsey Ostrowsky paced the Lady Gators with 12. Katie Guntli added nine. The Lady Gators had seven players in the scorers column. St. Mary's was led by Vanderburg with 10.

### 7th grade GOH girls win twice

The Gate of Heaven 7th grade girls varsity team garnered two more victories and claimed the first half title of the Wyoming Valley Catholic League with wins over St. Jude's of Mountaintop 38-13 and Holy Rosary of Duryea 63-35. Chelsey Ostrowsky paced the Lady Gators with 12 in the first game and 26 in the second game. Katie Guntli added eight and 19 respectively.

In the Holy Rosary game the team had a strong offensive surge led by the scoring of Jessica Holton and the precise passing of Shannon Leary. Defensive leaders were Shannon Lupien, Ali Hutch, Jocelyn Kozick and Samantha Leandri. Coming off the bench with strong performances were Laura and Beth Charnick. The Lady Gators' record is 9-0.

Next game for the Lady Gators is Tuesday, January 23 at home with St. John the Baptist of Pittston.

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