

Friends

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Seminary coach Chris Button had no problem selecting a couple of guys from the Back Mountain to serve as co-captain.

"Both are experienced players that have been great as captains," Button said. "We couldn't have performed as well or won as many games the two years I've been here without those two in the lineup. They're both leaders and great individuals on and off the ice."

Matt is the son of John and Elizabeth Lloyd of Dallas and has two younger sisters, Amy and Anna. He was a starting fullback for Seminary in the fall and tried his talents at lacrosse for two years in the spring.

Matt has been honored as the WNEP Sports Star of the Week. Last year he played hockey over the summer in Allentown and was involved with the Keystone State Games for four years, picking up a silver and two bronze medals in the process.

"My favorite moment was during the Keystone Games a couple of years ago," Lloyd recalled. "We

"They're both leaders and great individuals on and off the ice."

Chris Button
Wyoming Seminary hockey coach

were going for the silver medal, but losing 3-2 with less than a minute left. I scored to send it into overtime. We eventually won."

Another career highlight occurred during what usually is dubbed hockey's off season. Matt was selected to participate in Hockey Night in Boston, a summer tryout. In order to make the trip, players needed the recommendation of at least two coaches.

The strongest part of his game is passing and play making.

"I'm not a big scorer," said Lloyd. "I'm good at setting up my teammates. I get the most satisfaction out of watching them score."

"Matt plays his best when he's intense," Button added, "but sometimes he can be a little over-

zealous."

Phil is the son of John and Beth Gager of Dallas Township and has an older sister, Alison. A three sport star, Phil is also a letter winner in golf and baseball. The fleet center fielder was named the squad's defensive player of the year last spring. He's also a member of the Student Board of Affairs, the peer group and was a recipient of the Levi Sprague Academic Scholarship.

Phil was most pleased with his performance last Friday during the Flyers Alumni game in Moosic.

"I went in and around Joe Watson and scored a goal," Gager said. "He just got inducted into the Flyers Hall of Fame."

Like Lloyd, Gager fulfills his captain duties leading by example and feels his work ethic is his major contribution. His greatest attribute on the ice is his speed.

"My stick handling could be better, but I make up for it with speed," explained Gager. "I skate past (opponents) with relative ease, but not finesse."

"He's worked hard with his hands," Button said, "and has overcome some of those problems with hard work."

With hockey season and its grueling travel schedule behind them, Lloyd and Gager will concentrate on getting prepared for next year. Both are uncertain as to where they're headed or what they'll be studying.

Matt has been in contact with 15 colleges. Most of the schools he's looking at have a hockey team. Gager will continue playing somewhere even if it means attending a Division 3 school or settling for hockey as a club sport.

Together they've experienced hundreds of games, countless practices and accumulated plenty of miles on the road. They've helped gain some fame for a high school program in a non-hockey area, but their companionship on the ice is over. The friendship, however, will apparently last a lifetime.



Attack U-11 takes second

The U-11 boys team of the Northeast Attack Soccer Club won second place recently at an indoor tournament at the VolleyEast Indoor Soccer Arena, Allentown. The team lost the final game to Schnecksville. Members of the Attack team were, from left, first row: Michael Choe, Dallas; Terry Ruger, Goulsboro; Brian Dempsey, Dallas. Second row: Adam Onzik, Dallas; Philip Weaver, Sweet Valley; Eamonn Geraghty, Mountaintop; Jesse Turner, Dallas; Chris Scharff, coach.

Tarheels, Duke in final matchup

Tim Kerestes and Eric Del Santo scored six points each to lead North Carolina to a thrilling 23-21 victory over Virginia in Dallas Youth Basketball 3rd and 4th grade first-round playoff action. Also scoring for the Tar Heels were Shane Gibbons, Martin Kane and Joey Wyberski. Virginia was led by Matt Moser, Gene Lispi and Matt Muldoon, with four points each. Also scoring for the Cavs were Nathan Yoh and Doug Zaruta.

Tim Crossin scored seven points to lead Duke to a 19-11 playoff win over Maryland. Matt Tucker and Ken Regan scored four points each for Duke. Maryland was led by Elijah Miller with five points, and Erich Mahle with four.

Strikers place in tournaments

These Noxen Strikers placed at the Pine Grove tournament Feb. 17: BANTAM: Mike Stolarick, 60 lbs., 1st; Nick Condon, 85 lbs., 3rd. MIDGET: John Houssock, 60 lbs., 1st.

JUNIOR: Todd Jones, 85 lbs., 1st. On Sunday, Feb. 11, the following placed at Tunkhannock. BANTAM: Rick Bower, 45 lbs., 2nd; Adam Sulenski, 50 lbs., 1st; Mike Stolarick, 60 lbs., 1st; Branden Coolbaugh, 60 lbs., 4th; Greg Shepard, 65 lbs., 3rd; Matt Dragon, Unl., 1st; Nick Condon, Unl., 2nd.

MIDGET: Brad Thompson, 55 lbs., 2nd; John Houssock, 60 lbs., 2nd; Brian Parrish, 65 lbs., 2nd; Ryan Post, 70 lbs., 2nd; Kelby Morgan, 75 lbs., 2nd.

JUNIOR: Dale Redginski, 75 lbs., 2nd; Matt Metz, 80 lbs., 1st; Perry Coolbaugh, 80 lbs., 2nd; Todd Jones, 85 lbs., 3rd.

On Feb. 10, the Strikers placed the following at Milton, PA: BANTAM: Adam Sulenski, 50 lbs., 4th; Mike Stolarick, 60 lbs., 3rd; Brian Goeringer, 65 lbs., 2nd; Matt Dragon, 80 lbs., 2nd.

JUNIOR: Todd Jones, 85 lbs., 2nd.

Jonelle

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state playoff win.

While Jonelle doesn't know anyone at Ohio State, she won't feel far from home. Her coach, Karen Weaver, told her "Pennsylvania is the number one hotspot for college recruits," and backs that statement up with a team staffed heavily with Keystone state players.

Ohio State plays in the Big 10 conference, and fielded a team last season that was ranked as high as fifth in the nation, and finished in the top 20. Jonelle would like to help raise that standing, but has her sights set even higher. "My dream is the Olympics," she said. From the college, she hopes to be nominated for camps which lead to Olympic selections.

Talent and hard work have a lot to do with Jonelle's success, but she is quick to give credit to others who helped her along the way.

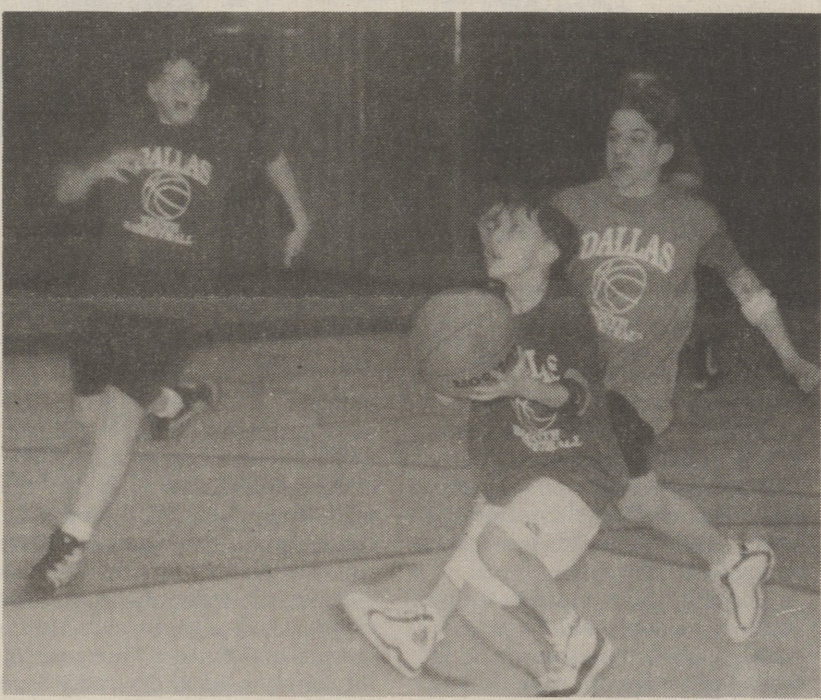
First on the list is her father, Marc. "My dad helped out a lot. He's always been there for me," she said. "If he couldn't be there physically, he was always there in my heart."

Next on the list is Florence "Flossie" Finn, who heads the Lake-Lehman high guidance office. "Flossie helped me tremendously. She's the one who got me started. She would call colleges all the time," Jonelle said.

With a 3.6 GPA and a 90 average, Jonelle wasn't a hard sell. She's also listed among *Who's Who Among High School Students* and ranks 37th in her class of 186 students.

"I just want to thank everyone - my family, my coaches and especially my father and Mrs. Finn," Jonelle said.

Jonelle also plays softball at Lake-Lehman, but said she'll limit her sports to field hockey



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Danny Laurenzi drove to the hoop in the Blazers' game against the Celtics. Chris Wilt, left, followed the play as the Celts' Jeff Parrish prepared to try for the block. The Celtics won 51-47.

Little League baseball clinic in Dallas

The Dallas Baseball Boosters will host a clinic at Dallas High School Mar. 16, featuring former professional players Scott Francis (Atlanta Braves) and Mark Konopki (Boston Red Sox), and the Dallas High School coaching staff and players. The clinic will cover hitting, pitching, fielding and base running, with active participation. Times are: 8:30-11:30 a.m., 7, 8, 9 year olds; 12:30-3:30 p.m., 10, 11, 12 year olds, plus 13 year olds entering senior league or teenagers.

All players should bring a glove, bat (with name taped on) and batting gloves. All registrations must be received by Mar. 11. Space is limited; the last two years have sold out. All players will receive a gift.

Cost is \$15 per player. Send payment to: Dallas Baseball Boosters, c/o Jack Wolensky, 135 Staub Rd., Trucksville, PA 18708.

Final registration for Back Mountain Baseball

Back Mountain Baseball and Softball will hold final registration Sat., Mar. 2 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dallas Middle School cafeteria. Any registrants after this date will pay a late fee. There is a registration fee of \$25 per player or \$40 per family. A birth certificate is required for all new registrants.

Registration is for girls and boys in Little League baseball and softball, ages 6-12, and junior, senior and big league baseball and softball, ages 13-18. New participants are encouraged even if they didn't play the previous year.

A separate \$18 fee will be collected at registration for all Little League players not selling a box of cookies for a fund raiser. Teeners will be asked to sell raffle tickets or pay a separate \$20 fee at registration. Registration for adult participation is also required at this time.

Lady Mounts rested, ready for next test

By LEN KRYESKI
Sports Writer

"The girls peaked at the right time."

Kim Barbacci
Dallas girls basketball coach

DALLAS - It's been an entire week since their basketball teams won quarterfinal playoff games. Dallas coach Kim Barbacci and Bob Weber of Scranton Prep have taken a similar approach with different attitudes while preparing their girls for tonight's District 2, Class AAA semi-final contest.

"I'm not minding this layoff at all," Barbacci said, "but I wouldn't want to have to go more than a week without playing a game. We took a day off to regroup and started all over again."

Dallas wrapped up their regular season February 12th, allowing them nine days to prepare for last week's encounter with Honesdale - a contest the Lady Mounts won 44-41.

Prep's recent itinerary has looked much the same. The Classics rallied from an early nine-point deficit to easily defeat Valley View 53-35, setting up the meeting with Dallas.

"I'd prefer to play a little quicker than a week," Weber said. "We took a few days off and broke it down. Our legs will be strong."

Both coaches expect a great

game and indicated their squads are more than ready to battle it out at 8:00 p.m. at Dunmore. The winner will face either number one seed Berwick or Bishop Hoban for the District 2 championship Saturday afternoon at Wyoming Area. Berwick and Hoban are playing tonight, also at Wyoming Area's gym in Exeter.

After coming up short when they met Hanover Area and Meyers in Wyoming Valley Conference play this season, the Lady Mounts proved they have what it takes to win big games with their three-point victory over Honesdale. The Lady Hornets entered the game with a 22-4 mark as the district's number two seed.

"The girls peaked at the right time," Barbacci said. "It took the whole team to win the game and some other girls scoring besides Robin (Suda)."

The Navy-bound center scored 13 of her 17 points in the first half and added nine blocked shots on the other end of the floor. She

received plenty of scoring support in the second half. Sister Stacey added nine points while Holly Baseski and Adrienne Camp tossed in seven a piece.

Against Prep, Dallas (15-9) will

start its usual front court of the Suda girls and Sarah Barlow. Camp joins point guard Baseski in the backcourt. Katie Austin, Sara Misson and Becky Beisel are expected to log playing time. As an added bonus, Stacey and Adrienne are interchangeable at the two and three spots.

"Dallas runs up and down the floor very well and they have good crisp passing," said Weber. "They play as a team, that's the biggest compliment anyone can give them."

Last Wednesday was the only opportunity Weber had to witness Dallas play this year. Barbacci may be one up in that department, since she scouted an earlier Classics' game.

Prep features a strong man-to-man defense, but can create just as much havoc with their 1-2-2 zone. Weber had to alternate his offensive scheme for the second half of the season. Leading scorer Marisa La Porta (14.4 ppg) was lost after suffering serious injuries in an auto accident.

Without her presence in the line-up, Prep runs a three guard offense, but most of the damage is done inside by Molly Malloy (13.7 ppg).

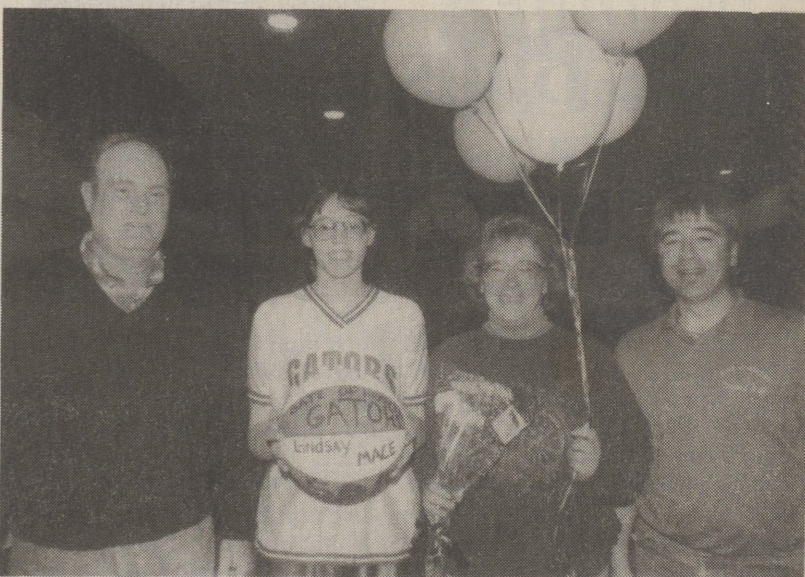
"We have to keep her off the boards," said Barbacci of Malloy. "We have to try and take her out of the game."

Malloy and Alison Murphy start up front. Erin Steppacher (7 ppg), Liz Benstead and Casey Weber comprise the three guard offense. Kristen Brady is the first girl off the bench for the Classics.

A note to trivia buffs: Scranton Prep is one of the few high schools with separate nicknames for their boys and girls athletic squads. The boys are called the Cavaliers, the girls are referred to as the Classics rather than Lady Cavaliers.

Like Prep, the Dallas girls have the talent and ability to play multiple defenses. The Lady Mounts switched from a zone to man defense late in the Honesdale game and held the Lady Hornets to eight fourth quarter points while shutting them out over the final 3:15.

"We have a veteran team and feel confident changing up," said Barbacci. "We've been doing it the same way all year."



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Laurie and Will Mace flanked their daughter, Lindsay, who had scored her 500th point in a Gate of Heaven uniform last week. Her coach, George Narcum, is at far right.

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**SKI TIP
#20**
by
Sean O'Shea

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