

# SportsWeek

Section 2

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## Wolensky takes another career turn

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Sports Correspondent

**DALLAS** - Jack Wolensky's athletic career at Dallas High School has come full circle. A former standout baseball and basketball player for the Mountaineers, Wolensky is beginning his first year as athletic director after 18 years as head baseball coach.

"I'm excited about this opportunity," said Wolensky. "I've always been involved in athletics and this was just a natural progression for me."

While this is his first experience as an athletic director, Wolensky is familiar with all aspects of the sporting world. Besides coaching baseball at Dallas, he has also been a PIAA basketball official and has organized various leagues at the Dallas Recreation Center.

"I've been prepared for this job through my various athletic involvements," said Wolensky. "I'm

looking forward to the challenge." Included in the responsibility of handling 22 sports for boys and girls on the junior and senior high levels are developing budgets, interviewing and hiring coaches, scheduling, transportation and maintaining grounds and facilities.

In addition to those duties, Wolensky will remain in his position as guidance counselor. Therefore, he has stepped down as baseball coach. "Due to time constraints, I thought it would be best if I didn't coach baseball," he explained. "There are 21 other sports at Dallas and I didn't think it would be fair to them for me to devote so much of my time to one sport."

"I'll miss baseball, especially the competition," said Wolensky. "But, I think it is in the best interests of the overall program at Dallas for me to concentrate on my athletic director chores."

Ironically, one of Wolensky's

*"I want to tie academics and athletics together."*

**Jack Wolensky**  
Dallas athletic director

first duties will be to name his replacement as baseball coach. "Once the fall sports get rolling, we'll start the interview process," said Wolensky. "The program is in good shape and I've assured the returning players that we will hire the best possible candidate for the job."

A new baseball coach isn't the only change going on in the athletic department at Dallas. "This is an exciting time for Dallas athletics," said Wolensky. "We're adding new fields for baseball, soccer and field hockey. We hope to have them ready for the 1998-99 school year."

While Wolensky doesn't plan

any radical changes, one of his primary goals is to create a better awareness of the importance of academic as well as athletic success.

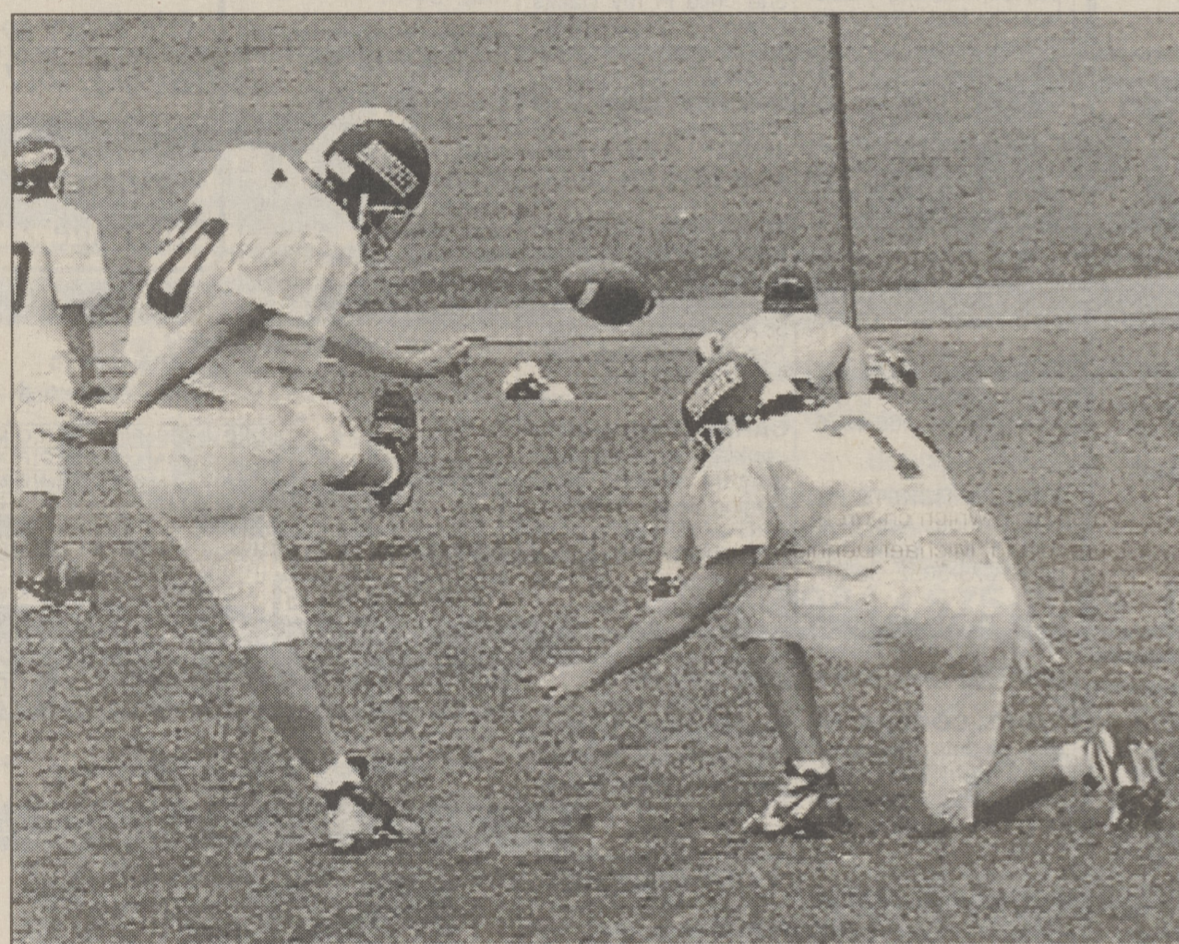
"I want to tie academics and athletics together," said Wolensky. "In order to be successful in athletics, you've got to be successful in the classroom as well."

Wolensky plans to update the athletic handbook and meet with parents to discuss college requirements for athletes. "We're going to meet with the booster clubs and parents to let them know what student-athletes need to do to be prepared for college," he explained.

Otherwise, Wolensky is hoping to maintain momentum of an already strong athletic program. "I played for Gerry Stinson and Bob Cicon, the two men who preceded me in this position," said Wolensky. "They developed an excellent athletic tradition and I hope to keep that going."



Jack Wolensky posed with a framed jersey from his baseball playing days in 1973 at Dallas High School. He will step down as baseball coach to devote all his attention to the jobs of guidance counselor and athletic director.



POST PHOTOS/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

### Practice makes perfect

The Lake-Lehman football squad has been hard at work in pre-season practice. Above, Greg Woronko kicked from Mack Newell's

hold. Quarterback D.J. Kapson, right, unleashed a long pass. Lehman opens the season Aug. 30 at home against Riverside.

### BMT Baseball plans fall training league

Back Mountain Baseball will hold a 12 and 13 year old fall training and development league. The league is designed to help players adjust from Little League to Teener Baseball. There will be two games a week with all games played at the Pit Complex in Plains. The season will run from Aug. 21 to Oct. 12. There are a limited number of openings and registration will be on a first come first serve basis. Cost is \$20 per player. To join or for more information call George Gracely at 639-1467.

### L-L Meet the Team Night, Aug. 21

The Lake-Lehman Football Club will sponsor "Meet the Team Night" on Thurs., Aug. 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake-Lehman High School Football field. In case of rain it will be held in the school gym. All parents and friends of Lake-Lehman Football Players and Cheerleaders are encouraged to attend and show your support for the 1997 season.



### Attack U-12 places 3rd

Northeast Attack U-12 Soccer Girls recently competed in the Lehigh Valley Tournament on June 7, 8. The team took third place. The team is pictured, first row, Tricia Coombs, Julie Howell, Lauren Miller, Amy Ruda, Stephanie Frank, Vanessa Wengen. Second row, Laura Pankratz, Maria Bustin, Betsy Pitcher, Katy Pitcher. Third row, Deidre Wengen, Megan DeCesaris, Stephanie Jones, Janna Elston. The team is coached by Dave and Jan Elston. Absent from photo was Erin Loughney.



### Magic 2nd in 3-on-3 basketball

The Back Mountain Magic recently captured second place in the 12-year old division in the Sneaker King 3 on 3 Basketball Shootout at Lackawanna County Stadium. The Magic defeated five teams from throughout the Northeast region and qualified for the Triple Crown 3 on 3 Northeast Final Four Tournament held on Aug. 23 and 24. Members of the team are from left, Paul McCue, David Lohin, Coach Don Murray, Donny Murray and Bobby Zaruta.



### Attack takes 2nd in 3-on-3 soccer

Northeast Attack Soccer Club recently sponsored a 3 v 3 tournament. The tournament was held at the Forty Fort Recreational Field. The team Soccer Chicks finished second place. The team consisted of Lauren Miller, Amy Ruda, Janna Elston and Julie Howell. The girls were coached by Barb Ruda.

### Light winds bring shortened course

The weekly Harveys Lake Yacht Club sailboat race was sailed with little wind and much perseverance by the sailors. The wind was so slight that the race chairman, Frank Wadas, shortened the course so that the race could be completed within the specified time.

Commodore David Delaney posted the following results which were computed on corrected time: first place went to John Morris of Kingston who sailed a Phantom. Second place as taken by Drs. Lane Giddings and Fred Shaefer sailing a Comet. Bob Hall and crew, Barry Rosen, took third in Hall's Lightning. Fourth place went to Dr. John Alaimo and Ellen in a Comet. Kevin Blaum and crew Kevin McDermott where fifth.

Frank Wadas was assisted by Sam Alaimo and Tom Garrity. Peggy Swaback was the time keeper.

### Youth basketball signups Aug. 27

Dallas Youth Basketball will hold signups for its 1997 Fall Boys League on Wed., Aug. 27 from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Dallas Middle School cafeteria. Students who reside in Dallas School District and who are entering grades 4 through 7 are eligible. Sessions will run on Monday and Wednesday nights from Sept. 3 until Oct. 22. Cost is \$15. For more information, call George Gracely at 639-1467.

## Pennsylvania will install 116 park reservation system

State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Secretary John C. Oliver recently announced that his agency has entered into an agreement to implement a new statewide information and reservation system for the Commonwealth's 116 state parks.

Expected to be completed late this year, the new system will feature a toll-free number answered by operators who can take statewide reservations on certain state park amenities, such as campsites, cabins, pavilions and group tenting areas. The call center, which will be in Harrisburg also will provide information about the entire state park system.

"To provide top-quality service to our state park visitors, we needed to modernize our antiquated ways of taking reservations and providing information," Oliver said.

"Because this new system is being designed specifically for Pennsylvania, we will soon have a system to meet our needs and satisfy our customers."

The new system will allow customers from anywhere in the United States to call one number to make reservations up to 11 months in advance for cabins, campsites, group tenting areas and pavilions. Customers may make multiple reservations with one call and, for the first time may use VISA or Mastercard for payment. Operators also will be able to provide state park information and literature.

Under the current system, customers must call individual parks

to make a reservation. The parks are not linked into any database that tells the availability of other sites throughout the state park system.

"The current system is often frustrating for both the visitor and park employee," Oliver said. "for instance, if you want to reserve a cabin, you must call on the first Saturday in February in order to get the pick of the lot."

The new system will eliminate the February call-in period for cabins; reduce double bookings; provide uniformity in procedures; and track caller information for future mailings and reports. Operators will be able to provide options at other parks when a caller's first choice already is taken.

The reservation system is being designed specifically for Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Industries for the Blind and Handicapped (PIBH) has been selected as the contractor, and has subcontracted with several consultants and companies to help design and implement the system.

One of its member organizations, AbillTech, will operate the call center and provide technical support to DCNR park staff.

Bell Atlantic Professional Services is advising AbillTech on call center management and operations. Unisys Corp. has been selected as the software system integrator with the overall responsibility for determining how the system is designed.

Suncoast Scientific is developing software in conjunction with Unisys.

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