

Sports Week

Section 2

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Halli Williams led a fast break in the 7th grade championship game during the Dallas Youth Basketball girls tournament, held at Penn State over the weekend. She scored four points in the game, and was named the Most Valuable Player in the 7th grade division. Below left, Joe Noon, coach of the 7th grade team, delivered instructions. They must have worked; Dallas won 26-14 over Wallenpaupack. Rick Guntli, coach of the 8th grade Gate of Heaven team, diagrammed a play for the girls, below right. Gate of Heaven went to the title game, but lost to Hazleton 40-22.

POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS



Girls tournament crowns four championship teams

Over 1,500 people came through the doors of Penn State Lehman campus to watch 32 teams participate in a double elimination tournament with teams from Dallas, Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming Valley West, Nanticoke, Tunkhannock, Wallenpaupack, Gate of Heaven, Hazleton, Mountaintop, Newport Township, Wyoming and Regis Academy.

Four separate divisions — 5th grade, 6th grade, 7th grade and 8th grade — had eight teams in each division. First round play started March 18, and continued to the final rounds Sunday, March 21. Trophies were awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams and individuals. There were also five all-stars picked from each division and one most valuable player of each division.

5th Grade

In the 5th grade division, Wyoming Valley West beat Newport 16-15 to claim the title. Valley West's well balanced scoring attack was led by Janelle Krisulevich and Heather Eroh with three points apiece, followed by Stephany Sekera, Katelyn Regalis, Danielle Hritzak and Breanna Michalek with two points each.

6th Grade

Wyoming Valley West also won the 6th grade division 22-13 over Gate of Heaven. Melissa Stefaniak led all scorers with 12 points. She was followed by Alexandra Biga, Karla Chacko, four points apiece and Amanda Faust, two points. Keystone Athletic from Nanticoke took home third place trophies.

7th Grade

Dallas Youth Basketball ruled the 7th grade division with a convincing 26-14 victory over Wallenpaupack to be the only team to repeat as champions from last year's tournament. Dallas Youth Basketball used a balanced scoring attack led by Meredith Lacey, seven

points, Jackie Hardwick six points, Shannon Thomas, five points, Halli Williams, four points, Lauren Suppon, two points, and Rosalyn Wentko, one point. Playing a good defense for Dallas Youth Basketball were Ashleigh King, Caitlin Dukas, Brooke Blase and Kristy Schmid. Finishing third place in the 7th grade division was Wyoming Valley West.

8th Grade

Hazleton dominated the 8th grade and defeated Gate of Heaven 40-22 for the championship. Alana Zahora led the way with 13 points, followed by Kim Dodson seven points, Jordan Rickert, six points, Meredith Labuda, Bridget Zola, four points apiece, Terry Witkowski, Dominique Dennison and Denna Olexa, two points each. Wyoming Valley West finished in third place.

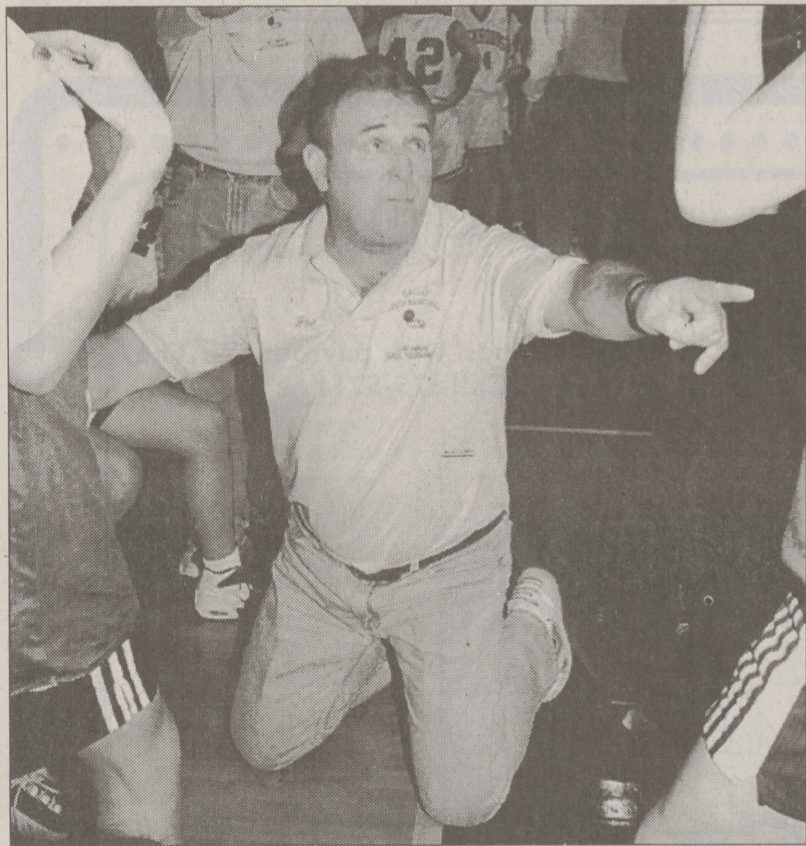
5th Grade All-Stars were Nicole Boone from Mountaintop Flames; Ashley Makarczyk, Abby Gesecki and Aley Byorick all from Newport and Katelyn Regalis from Wyoming Valley West. The Most Valuable Player in the 5th grade is Janelle Krisulevich from Wyoming Valley West.

6th Grade All-Stars were Jessica Kosloski from Keystone Athletic of Nanticoke, Janelle Zabresky and Devin Carey from Gate of Heaven, Courtney Thomas and Alexandra Biga from Wyoming Valley West. The Most Valuable Player in the 6th grade is Melissa Stefaniak from Wyoming Valley West.

7th Grade All-Stars were Jaime Morgan from Wallenpaupack, Lauren Stefaniak from Wyoming Valley West, Shannon Thomas, Meredith Lacey and Jackie Hardwick from Dallas Youth Basketball. The Most Valuable Player in the 7th grade is Halli Williams from Dallas Youth Basketball.

8th Grade All-Stars were Lurena Gimble, and Annie Ritsick from Wyoming Valley West, Alana Zahora, Meredith Labuda and Kim Dodson from Hazleton. The Most Valuable Player in the 8th grade is Molly Guntli from Gate of Heaven.

Low Thomas, tournament director, would like to thank all of the tournament staff for a great job.



Strikers place at Hazleton, Mt. View

The Strikers wrestled at Hazleton, Saturday, March 13. Matt Dragon took outstanding wrestler in the Junior Division.

Those who placed were:
PeeWee: Josh Zacharias, 40 lbs., 4th place; T.J. Pearson, 55 lbs., 3rd place; Adam Goeringer, 65 lbs., 2nd place; Danny Kaskus, Unl., 2nd place.

Midget: Ricky Bower, 70 lbs., 4th place.
Junior: Matt Dragon, 90 lbs., 1st place.

The Strikers also wrestled at Mt. View Tournament on Sunday, March 14. Those who placed were:

Bantam: Ethan Shaw, 60 lbs., 4th place; Matthew Shaw, 65 lbs., 3rd place.

Midget: Tom Parrish, 65 lbs., 3rd place; Adam Sulewski, 75 lbs., 1st place.

Junior: John Hettes, 90 lbs., 1st place; Matthew Shaw, 90 lbs., 2nd place; Brian Goeringer, 90 lbs., 3rd place; Matt Dragon, 100 lbs., 4th place.

Lake-Lehman Jr. High wrestlers who attended and placed were:

John Houssock, 80 lbs., 1st place; Matt Dragon, 90 lbs., 4th place; Kelby Morgan, 100 lbs., 2nd place; Jonathan Schutz, 108 lbs., 2nd place; Ryan Post, 115 lbs., 1st place; Jason Mitkowski, 138 lbs., 1st place; Bobby Morris, 145 lbs., 1st place; Tim Shaw, 145 lbs., 2nd place; Edward Becker, 165 lbs., 1st place.

U-9 boys win Sports Dome tournament

Back Mountain United U-9 Boys Travel team recently took first place in the Wyoming Valley Sports Dome Indoor Tournament held on March 13. Members of United are: Kyle Arnaud, John Bailey, Steven Bell, Joshua Clay, Christopher Klais, Michael Lipski, David Luksh, Michael McGarrity, Tommy Oswald, Jacob Precone, Matthew Ruch, Scott Summa, Daniel Taroli and Owen Wignot. Coaches are Jim Luksh and Tom Wignot.

BMT Youth Soccer registration April 10

The Back Mountain Youth Soccer Association is announcing registration for the fall 1999 Intramural Soccer Program. It will be held on April 10, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., in the Dallas Middle School cafeteria. Social Security numbers are required for all registrants and proof of birth date for new registrants. Beginning players must be at least 6 years of age by July 31, 1999.

Final baseball tryouts

Players who were unable to attend the first round of tryouts for Back Mountain Baseball may try out this weekend at the Dallas Middle School gym. American League players will try out Saturday, March 27 from 9-10:30 a.m. National League players will try out from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Trout stocking lists available

Pre-season and in-season trout stocking lists are available at the state Rep. Phyllis Mundy's district office.

Mundy's office, Suite 113 in the Park Office Building, 400 Third Ave., Kingston is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. The phone numbers are 283-9622 and 655-3375.

Trout stocking information for all of Pennsylvania is also available 24 hours a day on the Internet. The address is <http://www.fish.state.pa.us> The trout season begins at 8 a.m. April 17.



Local trio named Sem MVP's

Wyoming Seminary recently held its fall Most Valuable Player Awards ceremony. Sem Athletic Director Gary Vanderburg, right presented awards to Back Mountain recipients: Tim O'Donnell, Shavertown, swimming; Bob Sherwood, Dallas, wrestling; Kyle Droppers, Dallas, basketball (offense); and Alana Anzalone, Shavertown, swimming.

U-12 Girls plan trip to Women's World Cup

The Back Mountain Freedom Girls U-12 Soccer team is sponsoring a bus trip Saturday, June 19 to the Women's World Cup Opener at Giants Stadium in the Meadowlands. The package includes a ticket to the opening ceremony, the official opening doubleheader, and transportation on an air-conditioned video bus. The first game features USA vs. Denmark, followed by Mexico vs. Brazil. Cost is \$50 per person and trip is limited to 50 people. For reservations or more information contact Bill Tooley at 675-9515.



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Jim Chupka hits 1000

Jim Chupka, Gate of Heaven 8th grade, recently scored his 1000th point for the Gators. Shown as he received a commemorative ball, from left; Monica Chupka, Lauren Chupka, Jim Chupka, Jim Chupka, Joe Lohin, Jim Keiper, coach.