

Sports Week

Section 2

July 12, 2000



Softball stars eke out 1-run victory with exciting finish



In an exciting opening contest, Back Mountain held off Plains 7-6 Saturday at home. The final margin was produced when Back Mountain scored in the top of the seventh inning when Johanna Williamson doubled. Nikki Malloy earned the mound win in relief, striking out 2 and allowing just one hit in getting the final seven outs. Sheree Horvath finished the game with three big hits in four at-bats. In photos, Melissa Evans concentrated on the pitch as she attempted a bunt, top left. Starting pitcher Sara Swepston kept the game close, bottom left. Jamie Lipski slid safely into third early in the game, and went on to score.

POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS

BMT National pounds Kingston to stay alive, American is eliminated

Alan Sheridan pitched three scoreless innings Monday night without walking a batter as National advanced in losers' bracket play, pounding Kingston 11-1. Ron Shiner collected a pair of doubles for the offense that scored in every inning, including a seven-run bottom of the fourth. Brandon Wills had a home run in the contest. Sheridan, David Harding, and Matt Kapitula each had a double and a run batted in. Mike Dougherty (1-for-3) drove in a pair of runs, while Gracjan Kraszewski and Kyle Mahle each had a hit and an RBI. Kingston scored in the top of the first but did not cross the plate again. The game was called after four innings due to the mercy rule.

West Pittston 9, Back Mountain American 5

West Pittston hit five doubles and a homerun in eliminating American Monday night in Dallas. Midway through the game was tied at 5 after a four-run American bottom of the third, but West Pittston scored once in the top of the fourth and added three insurance runs in the top of the sixth. Ian Van Kuyk struck out five and walked three in taking the loss. Brian Goeringer had two of American's five hits, all singles.

Kingston 4, Back Mountain American 2

American held leads twice in the game, but the boys from Kingston advanced in the winners' bracket after defeating American last Monday night. The Kingston offense scored three runs in the final two innings after having trailed 2-1 since the second inning. Due to solid Kingston pitching, the American squad could only collect three singles in the game. Nick Oschman, Brian Feleccia, and Mike Rudick each had hits. Matt Shumbris took the loss, allowing five hits and six walks in six innings. He did, however, strike out five.

Back Mountain National 10, Swoyersville 0

National knocked Swoyersville into the losers' bracket with a four-inning victory due to the mercy rule last Wednesday in

Swoyersville. Brandon Wills and Eric Domzalski each had a run-scoring triple in the contest. David Harding topped that with a homerun to right field. Winning pitcher Matt Kapitula drove in two runs at the plate to help his cause. While on the mound, he struck out seven batters. Alan Sheridan and Ronnie Shiner each had RBI doubles as well as being plated themselves.

Back Mountain American 4, Hanover 2

American again let the opponent tie the game after jumping out to an early, but this time American scored two times in the third to provide the winning margin in eliminating Hanover. Ian Van Kuyk struck out nine batters in earning the complete game mound victory. He allowed three hits and five bases on balls. Matt Shumbris shined at the plate to lead the offense, going 2-for-3 with an RBI double.

Back Mountain American 8, Avoca/Dupont 4

Matt Shumbris again finished 2-for-3 for the game to lead American into the next round where it would face West Pittston. Both of Shumbris's hits were doubles. Also collecting a pair of hits for American were Justin Orlandini, Brian Goeringer, Joe Bailey, and Brandon Rice. JJ Durr drove in two runs with a single in three at-bats. Chris Parrish and Nick Oschman added doubles. Shumbris was the mound winner, striking out five in six innings.

JUNIOR LEAGUE BOYS

Wyoming/West Wyoming 6, Bob Horlacher 4

The Wyoming rallied with five runs in the bottom of the fifth inning to earn the come-from-behind win over Bob Horlacher Friday evening to open play in the District 16 Junior League tournament. That built the lead to 6-2. Horlacher scored two in its final at-bat when Adam Schoonover singled in Chad Crispell and then later scored on a balk, but still fell two runs short. Brad Gray took the mound loss, striking out four

without walking a single Wyoming/West Wyoming batter. Jonathan Miller, Schoonover, and Crispell each finished 2-for-3. Crispell had a double.

Back Mountain 15, Duryea 7

Jonathon Wood struck out seven over six innings as Back Mountain opened all-star play with a home win against Duryea. Wood at the plate earned three hits including a double and three runs batted in. Matt Straub and Mark Kapitula each went 2-for-3 with a triple to add to the attack. Matt Shiskowski was 2-for-2 with a double and three RBI's. Eric Mahle, Chris Higdon, and Frank Buzin each added a pair of singles for Back Mountain's powerful offense. An 8-0 lead after one inning was too much for Duryea to rally from.

Back Mountain 7, Jenkins Twp/Pittston Twp 4

Back Mountain hung on for the winners' bracket victory in a game played Sunday in Dallas. Local pitchers held the opposing offense scoreless for the first six innings. Matt Shiskowski entered the game

with two outs in the seventh to earn the save. Matt Kapitula threw the first six innings, striking out seven and allowing just three hits. Back Mountain scored three runs over the second and third innings and three more in the fourth. Chris Katyl scored the first run of the game in the second inning. In the third Kapitula tripled and then scored on a wild pitch. Shiskowski then singled home Jonathon Wood for the first of his two runs batted in. Luke Marchakitis doubled and scored in the fourth. Mark Yankowski's single plated Marchakitis.

SENIOR LEAGUE BOYS

Harveys Lake 7, Wyoming/West Wyoming 3

A 3-2 Wyoming lead after two innings did not stand, as Harveys Lake rallied for an opening round victory in Senior League play Saturday in West Wyoming. Jeff Taylor's run scoring single in the third tied the game. In the fifth, Dwayne Kalinay doubled in Taylor to give Harveys Lake the lead. Later that innings Colin Martinson singled home Kalinay to make the

score 5-3. The final two runs came in the sixth when Gaise Lacey drove in two more runs (four RBI in the game) with a single. Taylor was the mound winner, striking out six.

Back Mountain 9, Plains 4

Manager Tom Evans continued his postseason success with an opening round win on Sunday. Mike Racoski's double sparked a five-run bottom of the fifth as Back Mountain erased a 4-3 deficit to take an 8-4 lead. The team then added an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth. Winning pitcher Adam Tkaczyk went six innings, giving up five hits and three walks. Offensively he went 2-for-4 with an RBI. Shawn Whalen, who also ended 2-for-4, doubled along with Racoski. Back Mountain actually rallied twice in the contest, as Plains held a 3-0 lead after two innings.

MINOR LEAGUE GIRLS

Back Mountain 16, Nanticoke 2

Back Mountain scored seven runs in the top of the third inning in helping put its opening contest out of reach. In all the team utilized its speed to steal an impressive fourteen bases in the contest. Ellen Morgan was the winning pitcher, throwing a complete game one-hitter, striking out seven but walking nine. Becca Banks offensively went 2-for-3 with a double and runs scored. Mollie Grossman also finished the game with a pair of hits. Jackie Mahle and Paige Selenski doubled along with Banks. Selenski's double was a three-run two-bagger. Both Nanticoke runs came on passed balls.

Back Mountain 10, Newport Twp. 0

Mollie Grossman did it all Saturday. She had a no-hitter. She struck out eight batters. She had a double. She also finished with three hits in three at-bats. Newport Twp. managed just three baserunners, as Grossman did allow three bases on balls. Back Mountain scored four in the top of the first and never looked back, scoring in every inning.

Northwest 16, Bob Horlacher 6

Northwest batted in just three innings, scoring three, seven and six runs in knocking off the girls from Horlacher Saturday in Beaumont. April Dulsky and Megan McDonald each went 2-for-3 for Bob Horlacher, with McDonald adding a double. Grace Hubbell took the loss, pitching two innings and giving up ten runs.

LITTLE LEAGUE GIRLS

Plains/Exeter 12, Harveys Lake 1

Plains/Exeter needed just three innings of offense to defeat Harveys Lake on Thursday in Plains. Amanda Crane and Vicky Lacey collected the two Harveys Lake hits in the game and accounted for the team's run in the top of the second innings. Jill Chocallo took the loss, allowing seven walks and nine hits in her three innings of work.

Bob Horlacher 12, Mountaintop 2

Courtney Novajosky pitched a one-hitter over five innings as Bob Horlacher ten-runned Mountaintop Thursday in Beaumont. She finished the game with seven strikeouts and five walks. Katie Goode got two of the nine Horlacher hits. Elizabeth Hemminger tripled in the contest while Jennifer Nalbene doubled.

Nanticoke/Newport Twp. 11, Bob Horlacher 1

An 11-0 lead proved too much as Bob Horlacher fell to the losers' bracket with a ten-run loss at home on Saturday. Nanticoke/Newport Twp. gave the Horlacher offense just two hits to work with. Those were earned by Elizabeth Hemminger and Beth Siderek. Hemminger took the loss on the mound, giving up five hits and a dozen walks.

Northwest 15, Harveys Lake 4

Harveys Lake batters struck out twelve times in falling to a strong Northwest team over the weekend in Shickshinny. No further information was available.

See ROUNDUP, pg 10



BMT American AAA All-Stars

The Back Mountain Baseball League recently announced the AAA American All Star team. They will be representing the Back Mountain AAA Baseball League in tournaments throughout the area.

Pictured from left, front row: David Hilostsky, Dave Zurek, Brian Haughwout, Eric Fritzges, Mike Supczenski, Matt Hilostsky. Middle row: Josh Shaver, Steven Meskers, Cory Shaver, Preston Balavage, Brad Johnson, Derek Martin. Back row: Coach Brian Johnson, Manager Mark Shaver, Coach Don Fritzges.