

Patton

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said. Like every good leader, Patton also is a hard worker. Collins commented on his generosity with his fellow teammates. "He's dedicated to the goals of the team," Collins said.

The team plays a big role in Patton's life and he plays a big role in theirs. As catcher, Patton is the leader on the field. Team captain Joshua Michael Balk is earnest in his feelings about Patton as a player. "Rich is a strong, quiet leader behind the plate. He's a calming influence on the pitchers," he said.

That influence is just what the Giants need as they prepare to face Gloucester County, the number one ranked team in the country, on March 31. Patton looks forward to the game with hope. "If we play to our athletic ability and work as a team, we will go far," he says.

Collins sees Patton going far, believing that with a little work and the experience he will gain from this season, Patton will prove to himself and others that

"Although he's a great guy off the field, he's not afraid to speak up on the field. He's a leader and proves to be good in that role."

Mike Collins
coach

above all else he is a skilled baseball player. Collins sees the skill in him now, but believes Patton's future is even brighter. "As good as he is now, he's going to get a lot better."

Editor's note: Summer Pieretti is an intern at The Dallas Post's sister paper, The Abington Journal, in Clarks Summit. She is currently pursuing a degree in communication/journalism from Keystone College, La Plume, where she is editor of the campus newspaper, The Key.

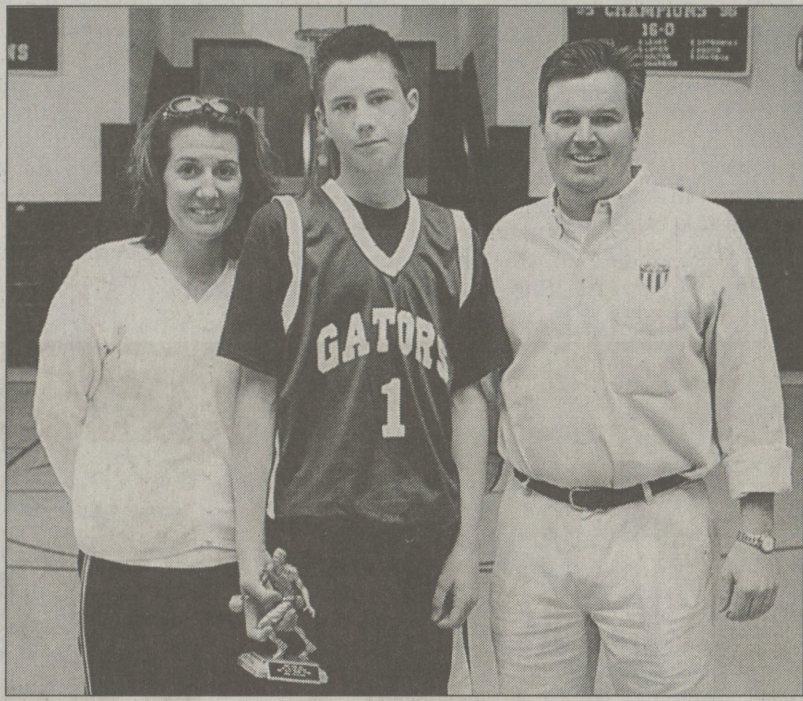
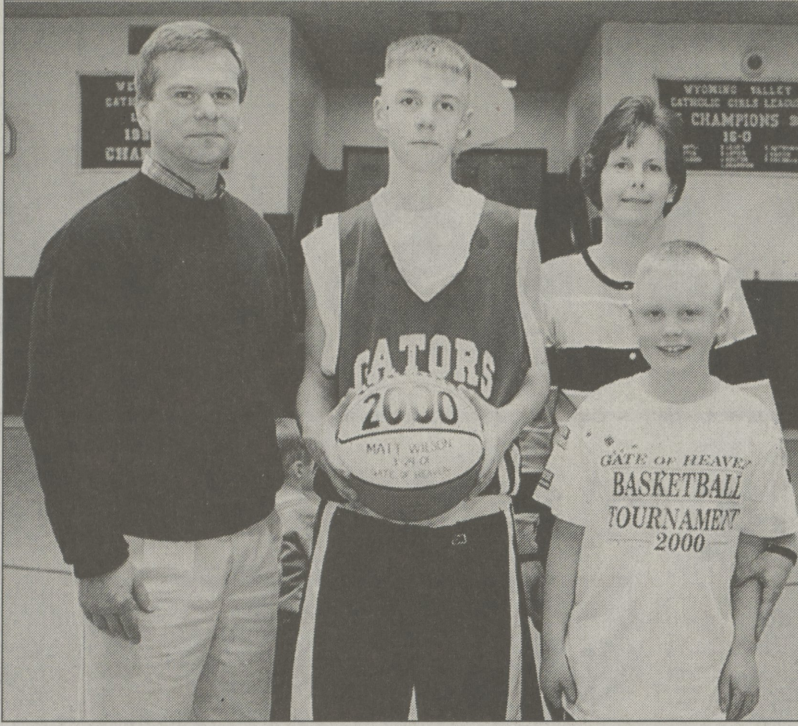


Dallas 6th Graders win GOH

The DYB 6th Grade Team recently defeated GOH 6th Graders to claim the championship. From left, first row: Brad Fagula, Chad Gelso, David Luksh, Adam Singer, Guy Carpenter. Second row: Coach Dave Fagula, Ryan Konopki, Robert Monk, Billy DeAngelo, Connor Lenahan, Head Coach Bob Lenahan. Absent from photo: Asst. Coaches Guy Carpenter, George Singer.

Last call for DYB banquet

The deadline for purchasing tickets to the Dallas Youth Basketball annual banquet is April 1. Anyone wishing to attend the banquet being held April 22 at Genetti's in Wilkes Barre can contact Peggy Lacey at 696-4603. Adult tickets are \$12, 12 and under are \$10, and players are free.



POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS

Star Gators

Matt Wilson, center in top photo, passed the 2000 point mark at Gate of Heaven School last week, and went on to become the leading scorer in the school's history. He is shown with his dad, Chuck, mother Lynn and brother Christopher.

In lower photo, Tim Crossin held the Most Valuable Player trophy from the Solomon Junior High League. Gate of Heaven begins play Friday for the state Catholic schools championship.

Lieback leads Pirates rout over Rangers

Pocono Pirates Squirrt Red team beat the Binghamton Rangers March 18, at the Ice Box in Pittston.

Nick Lieback, Pittston, scored four goals and had an assist. Also scoring for the Pirates: Adam Karwaski, Trucksville, Mitchell Artsma, Dallas; had 3 assists, Graham Speace, Shavertown, had 2 assists.

Youth soccer registers March 31

Back Mountain Youth Soccer Association is holding registration for the Fall, 2001 Intramural Soccer Season on Saturday, March 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Dallas Senior High School Cafeteria. Age groups U-8 through U-18 will be accepted. Eligible players must be at least 6 years of age before August 1, 2001. Social Security Numbers and proof of age required.

Baseball tryouts Saturday

On Saturday, March 31, at the Dallas Middle School, Back Mountain Baseball will conduct tryouts for players age 8 through 12 who have not already attended a tryout. American League players will try out at 9 a.m. while National League players will try out at 11 a.m. Players must attend a tryout in order to ensure their eligibility to participate at either the major league or minor league level.

BMT Baseball meeting April 2

Back Mountain Baseball will conduct a general meeting at the Dallas American Legion on Monday, April 2, at 8 p.m. All board members, coaches, umpires and volunteers should attend.



Kelsey Amy wins RIF poster contest

Lehman-Jackson Elementary PTA held its fifth annual (RIF) Reading Is Fundamental Poster Contest. The theme, "Read With Me", challenged students to combine their best art work with the importance of reading.

Kelsey Amy, a fourth grade student, is a local winner in the 2001 RIF National Poster Contest, and her poster will be sent to RIF headquarters in Washington, D.C. for the national competition. Pictured are the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners for each grade from kindergarten through 6th grade. First row, kneeling from left; Bryar Boice, Mason Varner, Donald Scavone. Second row, kneeling from left; Molly VanScoy, Gina Bartley, Haley Roe. First row, standing from left; Kristen Boyle, Winter Wenner, Julia Davis, Colleen Henninger, Rebecca McMahon, Brianna Rybka, Kevin Cope. Second row, standing from left; Matt Boyle, Brooke Matza, Amanda Dunbar; Amanda Gongleski, Kelsey Amy, overall winner, Michelle Mahoney, Annie VanScoy, Nicole Attanasio, Lauren Dawsey.

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