

THE DALLAS POST

SportsWeek

Section 2



From the bullpen

Timothy J. Raub

It's time for baseball to move on

At the risk of sounding unpatriotic, I can't help but wonder if Major League Baseball is ever going to move on from September 11.

I have great sympathy for the men and women who lost their lives that day, but singing God Bless America at every baseball game is starting to wear on me a little.

People have said again and again that America needs to move on, but how can we with a constant reminder of this horrendous tragedy at seemingly every sporting event.

The end of the last baseball season came at a very sensitive time in the U.S. and America's pastime served an important purpose. The games provided stability in the face of absolute unrest, and the singing of God Bless America was a fitting tribute to the unfortunate casualties.

But the rest of the country has moved on, so why can't Major League Baseball.

Professional baseball has provided a rare constant in a country which has seen nothing but continual change over the last century. People like me seek out the games as a sort of getaway from the constant hassles of everyday life.

I'm not trying to say it is wrong to remember September 11, but how long will all the tributes go on?

The games are long enough already, with batters who go through exotic rituals between every pitch and strategy-minded managers who seemingly need to change pitchers for each at-bat late in a game.

We don't need to be reminded of one of America's greatest tragedies in the past half of a century — the sunken void on 16 acres of land along Church Street in Lower Manhattan is enough for us all.

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Raiders Jr. Football, Cheerleading registration April 13

Kingston Township Raiders Jr. Football/Cheerleading registration will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on April 13, at the Shavertown Fire Co. Hall on Main Street for ages 6 to 14, as of August 1.

Areas eligible will be Franklin Twp. and Kingston Twp.

The cost is \$35 per child and \$50 per family.

All registrants need a copy of their birth certificate, current picture and medical insurance information.

Anyone interested in being a coach or adviser can also sign up at this time.

Race key in E-town softball win

Former Dallas High School student Kristyn Race had a RBI triple and a run scored in a 2-0 Elizabethtown College win over Lebanon Valley.

Send your sports reports by e-mail dallaspost@leader.net

Pocono Pirates finish season with gold at Lake Placid

The Pocono Pirates Pee Wee "A" ice hockey team had its own "Miracle On Ice" recently as they took the gold medal at the CAN/AM Challenge Cup Ice Hockey Tournament in Lake Placid, New York.

Playing on the same rink where Mike Eruzione, Jim Craig and the USA Olympic Team upset the Russians in the 1980 Olympics, the Pirates pulled off a stunning upset of their own by defeating the Connecticut State Pee Wee Champion, East Haven Yellow Jackets, 3-2 in triple overtime.

Back Mountain players Drew Slocum of Shavertown and Eric Wroblewski of Dallas found themselves down 2-0 early in the championship game but bounced back with two goals to tie the game. Goalie Slocum and

defenseman Wroblewski then shut down the high powered Yellow Jacket attack in the third period to force overtime. After a pair of two-minute sudden death overtimes, one at four-on-four and the other three-on-three, the game went to two-on-two. Pittston's Nick Zaino broke in all alone on the East Haven goaltender, putting the shot over the goaltender's shoulder for the win and the gold medal.

The CAN/AM tournament is an international hockey tournament which featured top teams from Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Massachusetts. Nine teams were in the Pirates "A" division. The Pirates were the only team to go undefeated in the tournament, going 5-0 with victories over Brockton Massachusetts Boxers,

Medford NJ Jaguars, Lehigh Valley, and the New Jersey Lightning.

The Pirates finished their season 42-10-4, missing the Delaware Valley Hockey League playoffs by one point. Three local players contributed to the Pirates' successful season:

Eric Wroblewski of Dallas is the son of Joe and Genevieve Wroblewski. Eric finished the season with 12 goals and 7 assists. A versatile player, Eric was called upon to play both forward and defense this year. He was a key part of the Pirate defense late in the season. Eric is a student at Gate of Heaven. He also plays hockey for the Tunkhannock High School hockey team.

Ricky Rose of Shavertown is the son of Rick and Virginia Rose. Rick is a student at



Back Mountain Pocono Pirates Pee Wee "A" team members, from left: Ricky Rose, Drew Slocum and Eric Wroblewski.

Wyoming Seminary where he plays for the school hockey team and also the lacrosse team. Ricky could not make the Lake Placid tournament but contributed to the success of the team all year with 10 goals and 19 assists. Considered one of the hardest hitters on the team, Ricky consistently intimidated

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Black Knights leave GAR in the dust

BY TIMOTHY J. RAUB Post Staff

WILKES-BARRE — Facing a GAR track team hurt by depleted numbers, Ed Radzinski saw an opportunity to fine tune some areas of his team Tuesday afternoon.

The Black Knights head coach was happy with what he saw.

"We had some nice performances from some young kids, and I'm ecstatic," said Radzinski. "It's all coming together."

"It was a really a nice performance," said Radzinski. "We finally got some nice weather, because let's face it, the weather has not been conducive this spring."

Phil Kasper finished first in the javelin, pole vault and 110 high hurdles, Brad Baird won the 1600 and 3200 and Preston Smith swept both the long and triple jumps to lead Lake-Lehman boys to a 112-38 victory over the Grenadiers at Wilkes-Barre Memorial Stadium.

The Black Knights (6-0 Overall, 3-0 in the WVC) won 12 of 18 events en route to the victory.

Lake-Lehman's 400 meter relay team got a big boost with the addition of baseball player Charlie Besteder, who will run with the team when it does not conflict with his baseball schedule.

Besteder anchored the relay team, who finished second to GAR, but has taken almost three seconds off their time over the past two weeks.

"My 4x100 running 45.2, I'm very happy with that," said

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POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS

Lake-Lehman track action, clockwise from above: Jasmine Watson soared in the long jump; Brad Baird, who shares time with the baseball team, won the 1600; Josh Kuwaye was second in the 100-yard dash; Nate Carsman in the long jump.

