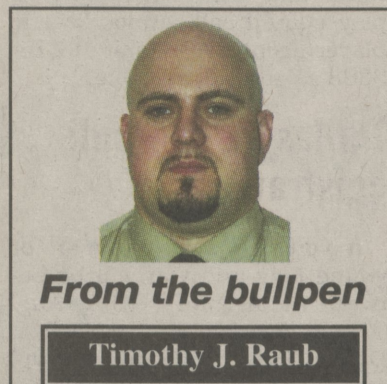


THE DALLAS POST

SportsWeek

Section 2



From the bullpen

Timothy J. Raub

Another failed athlete, this one close to home

Caine Pelzer was everything I wanted to be on the football field.

He was graceful and quick, he was intense and strong, and he had the ability to make a highlight reel every time he stepped out on the field.

I was honored to play alongside of Caine two years ago.

He was a fan favorite, and could keep children and fans alike in awe of his amazing abilities. Children hounded to Caine for autographs every game.

But Caine Pelzer had a dark side, and a past history that he tried to keep out of the public eye throughout the season.

But Pelzer's past came back to haunt him last week, when the former Wilkes-Barre Blaze quarterback and Albany State standout was sentenced to 22 to 44 years in a state prison on several charges stemming from a Plymouth home invasion.

It is becoming too common throughout the country and on all levels of play, that many of today's athletes do not accept the part their personal lives play in that of their professional roles.

Pelzer may not have been the starting quarterback at Florida State, or even with a team in the Arena League or NFL of Europe, but he was still important to fans in Wilkes-Barre, and was elevated to god-like status by youth and adult fans alike.

A role model to many of the children, Pelzer had the ability to make a child smile with an autograph much the same way many professional players could. It didn't matter that Pelzer was only a semi-professional athlete, many of the children didn't know the difference.

To them Pelzer could have been Troy Aikman or John Elway. They were just happy that this big guy in the uniform, who makes all the big plays, is actually signing an autograph in their program.

And that would have been fine if not for the most recent in a long list of occurrences in the life of Caine Pelzer.

I hope those same children who once looked up to Caine Pelzer now have found a new, more respectable role model — I know I have.

Timothy J. Raub, a Dallas Post staff writer, can be reached at traub@leader.net or by phone at 674-4658.

Piekara does double duty for Misericordia

DALLAS - A seven-run fourth inning sealed the opening-game victory for Gwynedd-Mercy. Dallas graduate Ed Piekara hit a three-run homer for the Cougars in the loss.

In the second game, Piekara pitched a three-hitter, struck out six and helped his cause with an RBI single in the fifth inning.

Harold Knebel and Chris Orner had the other RBI for Misericordia.

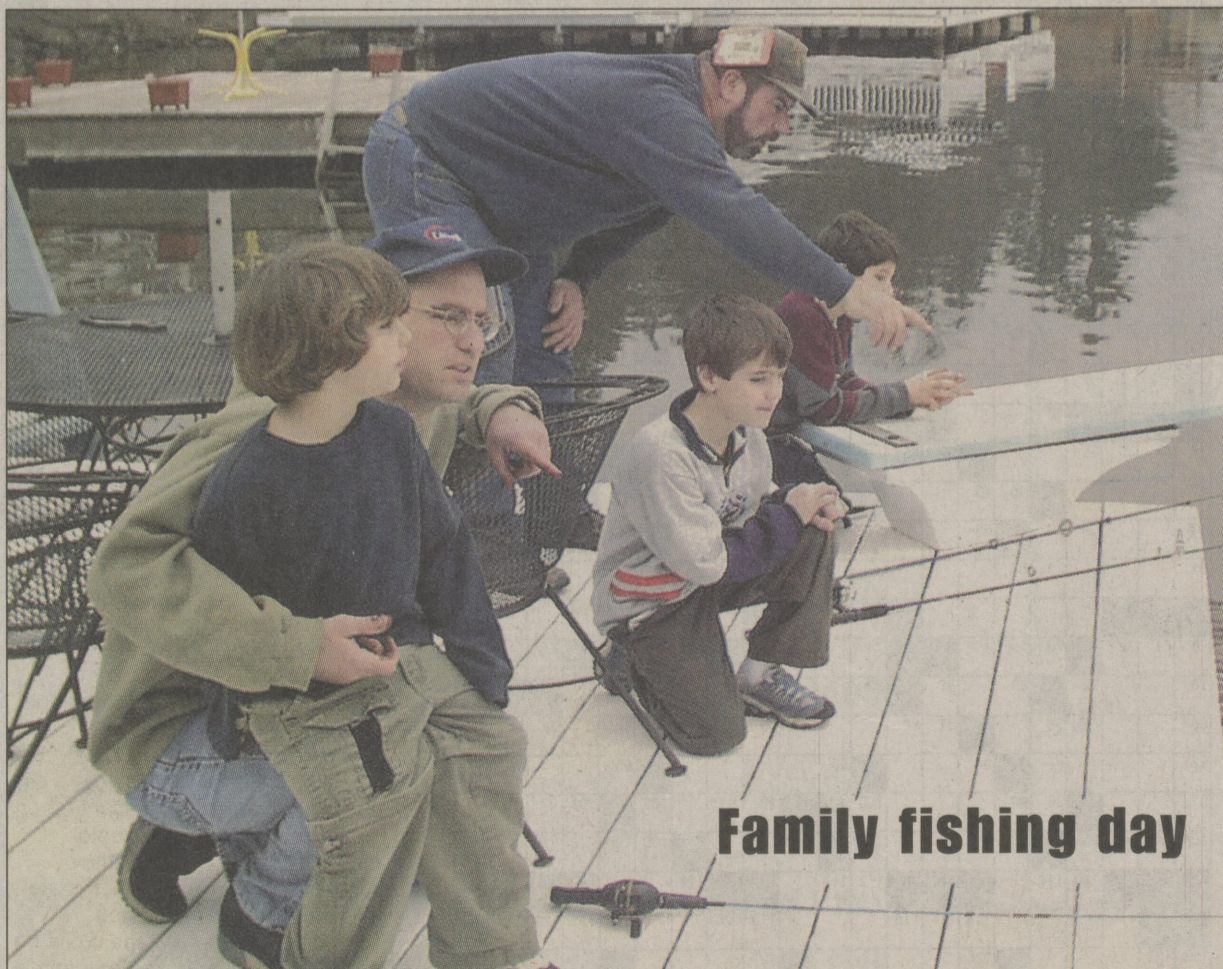
Send your sports reports by e-mail dallaspost@leader.net



Knights blank Hanover

The Lake-Lehman girls soccer team traveled to Hanover last week to take on the Hawkeyes, and came home with an 8-0 shutout. In photos, clockwise from above: Stephanie Frank fought off a swarm of Hanover defenders; Jana Elston drove the ball downfield; Vanessa Wengen raced ahead of the defense.

POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS



Family fishing day

The Naessig family gathered on their dock at Pole 20, Harveys Lake to try their luck on opening day of the 2002 trout season. From left, Naessig children Sarah, Adam and Eric dropped lines under the watchful eyes of Carl Naessig, second from left, and John Naessig. There hadn't been much action early Saturday, but there was still hope for some fisherman's luck.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Soccer squads dominate

SOCCKER

Lake-Lehman 8, Hanover 0

LEHMAN TWP. - Stephanie Frank led Lake-Lehman with 4 goals as they shut out Hanover Area. Lisa Wasser added 2 goals, and Betsy Pitcher and Janna Elston each added one. Wasser had 3 assists, with Elston adding 2 and Pitcher another.

Danielle Hudak had 28 saves for Hanover Area.

Lake-Lehman 7 1-8
Hanover Area 0 0-0

Scoring: 1.LL, Stephanie Frank, 3rd minute; 2.LL, S. Frank (Lisa Wasser), 7th; 3.LL, L. Wasser (Janna Elston), 9th; 4.LL, S. Frank (L. Wasser), 14th; 5.LL, S. Frank, 22nd; 6.LL, Besty Pitcher (J. Elston), 38th; 7.LL, L. Wasser (B. Pitcher), 39th; 8.LL, J. Elston (L. Wasser), 54th. Shots: HA 1, LL 41. Saves: HA 28 (Danielle Hudak), LL 0 (Dee Wengen). Corners: HA 0, LL 9.

BASEBALL

Lake-Lehman 9, Meyers 4

WILKES-BARRE - Both D.J. Kapson and Jared Sadowski doubled as Lake-Lehman defeated Meyers. Cornia went 3-for-4 while Zack Ragukas scored twice. Besteder pitched a complete game for Lake-Lehman while receiving 4 earned runs.

Mudzik went 3-for-4 for Meyers, including a double. Bevaliacqua and Dombzalski also doubled for Meyers.

LAKE-LEHMAN (9) - Kapson, ss, 4/1/1/0; Ragukas, 3b/lf, 2/2/1/1; Lacey, c, 3/1/0/0; Sadowski, cf, 3/2/1/1; Katula, rf, 3/1/0/0; Wren, ph, 0/0/0/0; Jenkowski, rf, 0/0/0/0; Cornia, dh/3b, 4/2/3/3; Spaciano, lf, 0/0/0/0; Holcomb, 1b, 4/0/0/0; Besteder, p, 4/0/1/0; Ide, 2b, 2/0/0/0; Freehan, ph, 1/0/0/0. Totals 30/9/7/5.

MEYERS (4) - Mudzik, cf, 4/1/3/2; George, rf, 4/0/1/0; Marino, 2b, 4/0/1/1; Piscarcik, dh, 3/0/1/0; Golaszewski, 3b, 0/0/0/0; Carlo, ss, 3/0/1/0; Kruk, lf, 4/0/0/0; Bevaliacqua, 1b, 4/1/2/0; Dombzalski, c, 2/2/1/1; Monka, p, 1/0/0/0; Antosh, ph, 1/0/0/0. Totals 31/4/10/4

Lake-Lehman 100 102 5 - 9
Meyers 110 002 0 - 4

2B - Mudzik (M), Bevaliacqua (M), Dombzalski (M), Kapson (LL), Sadowski (LL)
PITCHING WP - Besteder, 7IP, 10H, 4R, 3ER, 3BB, 5SO LP - Monka, 7IP, 7H, 9R, 4ER, 4BB, 7SO

SOFTBALL

Bishop Hoban 3, Dallas 2

WILKES-BARRE - Michelle Orloski had a triple and Kathleen Maloney batted 2-for-3 as Bishop Hoban defeated Dallas. Jen Wisneski had 8 strike outs in 7 innings of pitching.

Valvano led Dallas with two hits.

Dallas 011 000 0 - 2
Bishop Hoban 100 020 X - 3

WP - Michelle Orloski (7 IP, 6 H, 2 R, 0 BB, 1 SO). LP - Simchek (4 1/3 IP, 8 H, 3 R, 0 BB, 3 SO); Thomas (1 2/3 IP, 0 H, 0 R, 0 BB, 0 SO).

3B - Michelle Orloski (Hob). Top Hitters: Hob - Kathleen Maloney, 2-for-3. Dal - Valvano, 2-for-3.

Lake-Lehman 13, Wyoming Area 0

WEST PITSTON - Winning pitcher Carla Chiampi struck out 11 in 5 innings as Lake-Lehman routed Wyoming Area.

Tiffany Hettes batted 2-for-4 with a solo homerun, and Rikki Ritt and Lauren Lipski each had a double. Chrissy Kazmierski batted 2-for-3, and Angie Harris went 2-for-4.

Brittney Notari had Wyoming Area's sole hit.

Lake-Lehman 413 23 - 13
Wyoming Area 000 00 - 0
WP - Carla Chiampi (5 IP, 1 H, 0 R, 11 SO). LP - Jessica Pizano (5 IP, 11 H, 13 R, 0 SO).

2B - Lauren Lipski (LL), Rikki Ritt (LL). HR - Tiffany Hettes (LL). Top Hitters: LL - Chrissy Kazmierski, 2-for-3; Angie Harris, 2-for-4; Tiffany Hettes, 2-for-4. WA - Brittney Notari, 1-for-2.

Lake-Lehman 12, GAR 3

WILKES-BARRE - Carla Chiampi pitched a complete game as Lake-Lehman pounded GAR. Chiampi had 13 strikeouts in the victory, while giving up just 3 runs. Tif Hettis batted 3-for-4, including a triple. Rikki Ritts also had a triple for Lehman.

Lake-Lehman 070 014 X - 12

GAR 200 001 0 - 3
WP - Carla Chiampi (7 IP, 5 H, 3 R, 13 SO). LP - Angela Gochowski (6 IP, 5 H, 12 R, 5 K).
3B - Tif Hettis (LL), Rikki Ritts (LL). Top Hitters: LL - Tif Hettis, 3-for-4.

TENNIS

Dallas 4, Wyoming Valley West 3

DALLAS - The luck of a forfeit helped Dallas defeat Wyoming Valley West. John Beberus and Todd Kerestes each won singles matches, while Ryan Love and Kerestes won in doubles play. Ryan Murphy and Jeff Pace won their doubles match due to forfeit.

Nick Hojsack and Adam Gurgal won their singles matches for Wyoming Valley West.

Singles: 1. Nick Hojsack (WVW) def. Ryan Love 6-1, 6-2; 2. John Beberus (Dal) def. Adam Kaufer 6-1, 6-4; 3. Adam Gurgal (WVW) def. Jeff Rothstein 6-3, 6-0; 4. Todd Kerestes (Dal) def. Matt Houey 6-2, 6-1.

Doubles: 1. Hojsack/Kaufer (WVW), def. Beberus/Rothstein 4-6, 6-3, 7-6; 2. Love/Kerestes (Dal) def. Gurgal/Houey 7-6, 6-2; 3. Murphy/Pace (Dal) won by default.

Dallas 7, Tunkhannock 0

DALLAS - Dallas overwhelmed Tunkhannock, winning every match in straight sets. John Beberus, Ryan Love, Jeff Rothstein, and Todd Kerestes each had singles victories for Dallas, with Jeff Rothstein winning his match 6-0, 6-0. Jared Besecker, Brett Sprau, Jeff Pace, and Ryan Murphy each added doubles victories.

Singles: 1. John Beberus (Dal) def. Matt Terbush 6-1, 6-0; 2. Ryan Love (Dal) def. Adam Pascoe 6-3, 6-0; 3. Jeff Rothstein (Dal) def. Kyle Wind 6-0, 6-0; 4. Todd Kerestes (Dal) def. Ned Zelinka (6-0), 6-1.

Doubles: 1. Beberus/Rothstein (Dal) def. Terbush/Pascoe 6-4, 6-1; 2. Jared Besecker/Brett Sprau (Dal) def. Mike Munoz/Jeremy Less 6-2, 6-1; Jeff Pace/Ryan Murphy (Dal) def. Wind/Kevin Vogrin 6-0, 6-1.

Wyoming Area 7, Lake-Lehman 0

WEST PITSTON - Wyoming Area swept Lake-Lehman in straight sets. Dominique Cassatori, Ashley Callaio, Tim Fenner, and Charlie Burns each had singles victories for Wyoming Area.

See ROUNDUP, pg 12