

THE DALLAS POST

SportsWeek

Section 2

Final quarter collapse dooms O'Reilly

By DAVE KONOPKI
For The Dallas Post

POTTSVILLE — Just when it appeared a berth in the PIAA Class A Eastern Final was within its grasp, the qualities that carried the Bishop O'Reilly boys basketball team through the postseason — outstanding perimeter shooting and an aggressive defense — disappeared. Muncy broke a 43-43 deadlock with a 14-2 run and the Queensmen made just two baskets in the final 4:55 — including a half-court heave at the buzzer — in a 59-48 loss against the Indians in a PIAA Class A state quarterfinal March 19 night at Martz Hall.

Bishop O'Reilly, which captured the District 2 championship, ends its season at 21-9. "We made some crazy decisions on defense and I don't know where that came from," said Queensmen head coach Mark Belenski, whose team was supported by a large contingent of O'Reilly faithful in the program's Martz Hall debut. The Indians and Queensmen

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Tim Crossin hooked a Muncy defender on his way around.

Byron wins two medals at states

Caroline Byron won two medals in the PIAA State Swimming Championships last week, capping a brilliant season for the Argents.

Byron won silver in the 50-yard freestyle and anchored the 200-yard freestyle relay squad shared with Julie McLaughlin, Justine Gritz and Bryn Mesko.

Two Dallas swimmers finished in the top 12. Jen Arthur, who was seeded 15th in the 50 freestyle, finished 12th. The boys 200 freestyle team, seeded 19th, also finished 12th.

Eby finishes 14th in state diving

Dallas freshman Alaric Eby finished 14th with 215.65 points for eight dives in the PIAA Class 2A Boys diving competition, held March 13 at Penn State, University Park.

Eby finished first and Hanover Area senior Joey Ruane was second at the district meet, which featured just three competitors. The two automatically qualified for states, where they distinguished themselves in a 25-diver field.

Eby was 13th and Ruane 14th following preliminaries. Then Ruane moved up to make the cut for the final 12.

Swimming, diving clinics at DMS

Dallas Middle School will hold competitive swimming and diving clinics

Open to all Dallas Middle School students grades 6 through 8. The swimming clinic will provide competitive swimming instruction. The students will learn the four competitive strokes, starts, turns and training regimens. The diving program will focus on basic diving instruction and the safe operation of the diving area.

Dates: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, March 24-May 8.

Times: 3:15 to 4:45 p.m. cost: \$30 per student.

Contact: Matthew Stretanski - mstretanski@dallasd.com or 674-7243.



Level 7 Gymnasts medal at Lancaster

Recently Mariel Adams and Sara Skammer competed in a Level 7 gymnastic meet held at Prestige Gym in Lancaster. They are members of Northeast Gymnastics Academy, Wilkes-Barre. They are coached by Lori Dexter.

Mariel Adams, age 12 placed 3rd on floor with a score of 9.375, 7th on vault with a score of 9.3, 12th on uneven bars with a score of 8.35 and 8th All-Around with a score of 35.375. Mariel is a sixth grade student at Dallas Middle School. She resides in Dallas.

Sara Skammer, age 11 placed 3rd on beam with a score of 9.0, placed 5th on floor with a score of 9.1, and placed 9th All-Around with a score of 34.35. Sara is a fourth grade student at Dallas Elementary. She also resides in Dallas.

Berley going to state championship

Michelle Berley, 13 of Shavertown has qualified to compete in the Level 9 state gymnastics championship meet to be held March 22-23 in Williamsport. Michelle qualified at her first level 9 meet this season.

Berley is qualified to compete at nationals this summer in Connecticut. She is coached by Lori Dexter at Northeast Gymnastics. Berley is a seventh grade student at Wyoming Seminary Lower School and the daughter of Fred and Bev Berley.

Mountaineers state playoff run ends in quarters

By JOE PETRUCCI
For The Dallas Post

OREFIELD — When leading scorer Jackie Hardwick scored with one second to play in regulation to force overtime against Nazareth Academy on Wednesday at Parkland High School, the Mountaineers' trend of comeback wins appeared ready to continue.

Four turnovers in the four-minute extra session, however, were too much for Dallas to overcome, as the Fighting Pandas escaped with a second-round 54-52 victory.

"I'm so crushed for these girls," said a distraught Joe Noon, Dallas coach. "They never gave us a chance. They never thought we'd get past North Pocono. What can you say? We had a great season."

That season, however, comes to a heart-breaking end for the Mountaineers (23-6), the D-2 champs. Nazareth Academy (21-8) will face District 11 gold medalist and two-time defending state champ Allentown Central Catholic (29-1) on Saturday.

Five-foot-five sophomore guard Cory Patton came up big for Dallas in the overtime, scor-

ing all six of her team's points in the extra session on impressive drives to the hoop.

Nazareth Academy, which got a combined 25 points from senior post players Lauren Wixted and Katie Quintus in regulation, also relied on its guards in overtime.

Dallas led three times in overtime, 48-46, 50-48 and 52-51, but Fighting Pandas sophomore guard Mary Kate McDade scored on a drive inside and hit one of two free throws with 15 seconds left to seal the win. Dallas missed a layup, got the rebound, but missed again as time ran out.

The Fighting Pandas took the contest's largest lead, 41-36, two minutes into the fourth quarter. After two Patton free throws cut the lead to 42-38, Shannon Thomas scored her first points of the game on a three-pointer to pull the Mountaineers within 42-41 with 2:25 to play in regulation.

"We hit a three when we needed it. That's what great players do," said Noon. "They shut her down, but when it came down to it, she did it."

Wixted then hit one of two free throws before two Dallas turnovers resulted in McDade

hitting two of three free throws for a 45-41 lead with 1:19 to play. Again, Dallas came back with a long ball, as Meredith Lacey knocked down a trey to pull within one.

"We came back and fought hard," said Noon. "It was a tough game. But I'm proud of this team."

Dallas missed on its next two trips down the floor, but Nazareth Academy could only hit one of four foul shots and the game was still within reach. With one second left, Hardwick grabbed her own rebound and converted the layup to tie the score 46-46 and force overtime.

Nazareth Academy's frontcourt play surprised Dallas.

"When we saw the tape of them, they had no inside game at all," said Noon. "What a difference. I thought we played them tough."

Hardwick led Dallas with 16 points, Patton finished with 12 and Lacey scored eight. Nazareth Academy attempted 21 free throws to Dallas's six.

This article appeared in original form in the Times Leader.

DYB 5-6 girls champions

Dr. Kurt Maas defeated Rosenn, Jenkins and Greenwald in the Girls 5th and 6th grade level championship game held at Wycallis Elementary School on February 26.

Pictured above are, from left: Elena Habersky, Maria Maas, Leigh Ann Amico, Molly Gilligan, Amanda Thompson, Jenna Woychick, and Brittany Kneal. Kevin Kneal, coach of the Pink Flamingoes, is pictured in the rear. The team celebrated their victory with an ice cream sundae party.



Dallas Youth Basketball banquet tickets on sale

Dallas Youth Basketball will hold its year-end banquet on Sunday, April 13 at 6 p.m. at Genetti's in Wilkes Barre. All girls and boys awards and trophies will be presented and a family style dinner will be served. The cost is \$13 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under, and age 4 and under are free.

Players attending with a paying adult are free but are required to have a ticket to gain admittance. Tickets can be purchased at all DYB playoff games. Due to the large turnout in previous years, it is suggested to buy your tickets early. For more information, contact Peggy Lacey at 696-4603.

Send your sports reports by

e-mail

dallaspost@leader.net

Basketball shootout location changed

The Kingston Township Recreation Commission announces the 8th Annual Back Mountain Basketball Shootout Competition will take place Sunday, March 23 at the Wycallis Elementary School Gym. The event was originally scheduled for the Dallas Elementary School.

The Shootout is a Free Throw and Three Point Shooting Competition for boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 16. Each event will have multiple age flights with shooting distances modified accordingly. Prizes will be presented to the top three finishers in each flight and overall champs. There will also be a parent-child team shooting competition giving parents and their children a fun-filled opportunity to team-up and compete.

Registration and warm-up time will begin at noon. The event will start at 12:30 p.m. A donation will be collected for participants not residing in Kingston Township. For more information call Bob Zaruta at 675-0066.

Trout stocking at Harveys Lake

Back Mountain pre-season trout stockings will be at the following time and location.

Apr. 4, 12:30 p.m., Harveys Lake PFBC parking lot, for Harveys Lake, 4,100 fish.