

Patton

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April 25 when she scored the game-winning run by stealing home plate. Cory credited her sister with helping her build up her own confidence.

"She's a really good teacher. She's always there to boost your self-esteem."

Lauren had similar kind words to say about Cory. "It's nice having her on the team," Lauren said. "It's nice having somebody to support you. I definitely enjoy it a lot more that she's been playing this year."

With two Pattons on the roster, the Lady Mountaineers have posted five wins through their first 11 games this season—enough to place them among the top four teams in Wyoming Valley Conference Division II.

The division is comprised of six teams, all of them Class 2A schools. All six Division II teams are eligible to advance to the District 2 Class 2A tournament along with the three Class 2A teams from Division III.

But the post-season may be bittersweet for Lauren Patton. The end of the season will also likely mark the end of her scholastic softball career. Although she will attend Penn State next fall, she does not plan to play softball in college.

Yet even as her final year winds down, Patton has not lost sight of her role — to make contributions that help the team win. And winning, she said, is something the Lady Mountaineers might be doing a lot of in the near future.

"I think we definitely have a lot of potential and we're just as good as anybody else out there," Patton said.

Tennis

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over Dante Terenzio. "We had high hopes. We all have great experience. It's what we do best."

Morris took over Seminary's top spot from classmate Jordan Koslosky close to a month ago and has not missed a beat. Morris's lone career singles loss in team competition came at the hands of defending District 2 Class 2A singles champ Mike Portonova of Bishop Hafey last week.

"I've adapted," said Morris. "(The other No. 1 players) train year-round, just like Jordan and I."

Koslosky won at No. 2 singles for the Blue Knights, 6-0, 6-3 over Billy Hall, while Eric Feinstein continued to quietly dominate for Seminary, disposing of Stefan Lovelace 6-1, 6-0 at No. 3 singles.

Seminary's only bump in the road came at No. 1 doubles, as the duo of Jason Brown and Zach Greenwald had to come back for a 7-6 first-set win over Western Wayne's Brent Hoban and Eric Snyder before bearing down and taking the second set 6-3.

Seminary, which has won every District 2 team tennis event since the tourney's inception in 2000, shut out fourth-seeded Scranton Prep 5-0 May 5 to advance to the championship match.

The District 2 Boys Tennis Singles Tournament was held Thursday and Friday. Results were not available in time for this issue. The D2 doubles competition is slated for next Monday and Tuesday.

Fulton Charity Classic draws a crowd

It could be said that the second annual Fulton Charity Classic held May 2 in the Dallas High School gym, was, in part, a tribute to the Back Mountain sports community that started it.

"It's tremendous what this (Dallas) community has given back" says Mary Jo Fulton, widow of Michael Fulton, with tears in her eyes. The annual basketball game and a golf tournament have been held to celebrate the life of Michael Fulton, assistant basketball coach at Dallas High School, who died two years ago at age 42 from a rare form of cancer.

From its beginning the event has attracted wide and unusual support from the community. Pat McCue, former head coach at Dallas and Michael Fulton's best friend, notes that \$5,000 was collected just from businesses in a first round solicitation of funds for the Fulton Book Scholarship Fund. A \$500 scholarship is awarded to the senior boy or girl basketball player who has the highest GPA by the end of the first semester of their senior year. Money is also donated to the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland where Michael Fulton was treated, and to a scholarship fund for his daughter, Morgan Fulton.

Michael Fulton's heart is still in Dallas. "He loved the kids, he loved to coach, they all still remember him, the kids, the faculty, the community. We went to all the Dallas sports games together," said McCue, who has, since his friend Michael's death, resigned from coaching at Dallas.

— Text and photos by Charlotte Bartizek



In photos, clockwise from top right: Organizers Pat McCue, left, and Greg Solfanelli flanked Morgan Fulton, with Mary Jo Fulton behind; Emma Healey and Gina Keating, Dallas teachers, collected donations; Christine Dombroski held T.J. Connors, a "faculty baby," at the game; Pat McCue reached over Jackie Hardwick and Rosalyn Wentko blocked from the side during the Fulton Charity Classic at Dallas High School.



Black Knights spike Hoban

WILKES-BARRE — The Black Knights looked incredibly sharp and handed Bishop Hoban a 2-0 loss in a key Wyoming Valley Conference match May 6.

Lehman (11-1) defeated Hoban (10-2) by scores of 15-3, 15-5 to set up a showdown for first place. The Black Knights traveled to archrival Tunkhannock (12-0) Thursday. Results of that match were not available for this issue.

Aaron Pagoda, Zack Deubler and Phil Pineno made critical saves during an 8-0 run in game one.

Those eight points, all served by Cory Spencer, turned a close game into a rout. Nine previous service rotations had resulted in a 1-1 tie.

Spencer, Lehman's top hitter, had just six kills, but the Black Knights overwhelmed the Argents with balance at the net. Chris Coombs added six kills, while Pagoda and Pineno chipped in with five apiece. Andy Coombs had four blocks.

The second game was more competitive until Lehman took a 13-4 lead with a 5-0 run. Deubler started the run with yet another back-row save. The Black Knights ended the match when Spencer blocked a spike attempt by Blasco.

Stitzer, Kilduff are medalists at Irem

The Spring Classic Golf Tournament was held May 2 and 4 at Irem Country Club. Tournament results were:

Medalists: Tom Stitzer, Lynn Kilduff

Championship Flight, Winner: Jim Hoover - Bill Gaylord. Runner-up: Jim Breck - Tim Holland. Semi-finalist: Tom Stitzer - Lynn Kilduff, Tom Gauntlet - Ray Ceconi.

First Flight, Winner: Russ Goodman - Pat Regan. Runner-up: Joe Maniskas - Jason Maniskas. Semi-finalist: Scott Francis -

Second Flight, Winner: Pete Pitara - Lou Sciandra. Runner-up Bob Roberts - Mike Sharok. Semi-finalist: Al Choman - Aaron Choman, Chet Blazk - Ralph Brown.

Beaten 12s, Championship Flight: (1) Ron Pokrinchak - Ron Pokrinchak, Jr. (2) Charles Brand - Rick Berry

Beaten 12s, 1st Flight: (1) Moe Schonfeld - Bill Mattioli. (2) Kevin Fisher - Francis Fisher.

Beaten 12s, 2nd Flight: (1) Dave Evans - Tony Piontek. (2) Dick Lopasky - Joe Strazdas.

Cyclones win first two games of the season

After a delayed start due to poor weather, the Back Mountain Cyclones U-12 boys won their first two games of the spring season, defeating the Valley Youth Fury 4-3 and the Bloomsburg Pound Dogz 2-1. Scoring goals in the season opener with the Fury were Harry Schall, Eric Fritzes, Tim Ropel, and David Zurek, with assists by Alex Slocum, Peter Recchia, and Fritzes. In the Pound Dogz game, Zurek had both goals with help from Schall and Ropel. Mike Gashi racked up both wins in goal.



At left, Joe Pretko led in a 110 hurdles race. Above, Stan Brudnicki put some "oomph" behind the shot put.



POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS

Knights top Junior High track meet

Girls Results:
Lake-Lehman 96, Dallas 54
Lake-Lehman 113, Hanover 37

Girls Highlights: Jaime Lipski won four events while Tina Watkins, Jill Chocallo, and Rebekah Williams won three apiece to pace Lehman to a double victory over Dallas and Hanover. The Lady Knights finished the

season undefeated and won the District 2 Junior High Girls League Championship for the fourth year in a row.

Boys Results:
Lake-Lehman 76, Dallas 74
Hanover 81, Lake-Lehman 69
Steve Schwartz won the pole vault and the long jump for the Knights.

Registration next week for Dallas High School cheerleading clinic

The Dallas High School Cheerleaders will hold their annual Cheerleading Clinic for students from Kindergarten through 8th grade. The clinic will be held Monday June 9 through Thursday, June 12 from 1-4 p.m. each day at the Dallas Senior High gymnasium. The students will put on a performance for their parents Thursday at 3 p.m.

Registration will be held in front of the Dallas Elementary gymnasium on Tuesday, May 13, Thursday, May 15 and Wednesday, May 21, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The fee for the clinic is \$40. Each student will receive a Dallas Cheerleading Clinic t-shirt and learning cheers, chants and dances and doing arts and crafts. Snacks and juice will also be provided.


Dallas wrestling golf tournament

The 1st Annual Dallas Wrestling Golf Tournament to benefit the Dallas wrestling programs will be held Saturday, June 7 at 1 p.m. at Sand Springs Golf Club. Format will be captain and crew. DelBalso Ford will give away a brand new 2003 Ford Focus for the first hole-in-one on the par 3, 17th hole. A dinner will follow golf at the Sand Springs Country Club.

Fee is \$75 per player or \$300 per foursome. The field will be limited to the first 144 paid entrants. Deadline to enter is June 1. To register, contact Sean McMahon 675-7287 or Mike Ropietski 675-7976.

Golf tourney to aid Children's Service Center

The Junior League of Wilkes-Barre is currently planning its 14th Annual Golf Tournament to benefit the Children's Service Center of Wyoming Valley. The tournament is to be held at the Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club in Mountaintop on Friday, May 30 with a Shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. The cost of the tournament is \$400 for a foursome and \$125 for an individual golfer. Call the Junior League office at 288-4818 for registration information.



Name: Susan
Occupation: Preschool teacher
Hobbies: Cooking, mountain biking
Savings Plan: Coupon clipper

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