

By KEVIN KAZOKAS Post Correspondent

The chance to meet professional athletes up close and watch them excel at their sport doesn't come along every day. That's one reason why several Back Mountain residents and many other people from across the area took advantage of an opportunity to volunteer at last weekend's Northeast Pennsylvania Golf Classic.

The fourth annual Nationwide Tour event gave many volunteers the chance to walk alongside professional golfers as they made their way through the 18-hole course at Glenmaura National Golf Club in Moosic. During the four-day tournament, walking scorers were responsible for tracking players' scores and statistics for the PGA, while other volunteers serve as marshals, greenside scorers and in various support positions.

"Just being a golf fan, I knew I wanted to get involved."

Scott Crispell Franklin Township

Scorers spend each day with a different group of golfers. Besides monitoring the scores of the golfers within their designated group, they also record statistics such as number of fairways hit, greens hit in regulation and number of putts. Beyond that, scorers witness first-hand how the experts tackle a challenging course.

"You get to see them go through the whole round," said volunteer Scott Crispell, of Franklin Twp. "Guys get hot. Guys get cold. It is fun to see how they manage the course."

This year marked the fourth time Crispell volunteered to help at the tournament. It was the third consecutive year he served as a walking scorer. As somebody who plays golf, the decision to become part of the area's only professional tournament was easy.

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That decision has left Crispell with many indelible memories. In previous years, he has scored for players such as Chad Campbell and Roland Thatcher, both of whom participated in this year's U.S. Open.



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Scott Crispell, far right, waited on the first tee at last weekend's Nationwide Tour event at Glenmaura National Golf Club. Crispell was volunteering as a walking scorer for a threesome. Other volunteers are standard bearers, who carry the sign showing scores for that group, and walking marshals, who handle crowd control.

Four of the players Crispell scored in this year's Classic finished among the top 15 on the tournament leader board. They included Tommy Tolles, Brian Wilson, Shane Bertsch and Steve Gangluff.

This year's field was especially rich in talent, since it was held the same weekend as the U.S. Open at Olympia Fields outside Chicago. As a result, established PGA players who didn't qualify for the Open came to Glenmaura to keep their games sharp and compete for \$450,000 in prizes. This year's winner, Blaine McAllister, took home \$81,000. He was followed by seven-time PGA winner Bill Glasson.

Crispell said the level of talent these professional golfers reach would be hard for recreational golfers, such as him, to match.

"For me, they're playing a different game than I play," Crispell said. "The skills that they have and the things they can do with a ball — it's just in-See VOLUNTEERS, pg 12 BMT Hawks pound on Wilkes-Barre

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By KEVIN KAZOKAS Special to The Dallas Post

WILKES-BARRE — Five Back Mountain players had multiple hit efforts in leading their team to a dominant 15-2 victory over Wilkes-Barre Tuesday at Barney Farms. Ryan Gryskevicz and Matt Shiskowski went perfect at the plate for the Back Mountain Hawks, with each scoring three runs and driving in two more.

Shiskowski also had a solid day on the mound. The 16-year-old starting pitcher mystified Wilkes-Barre hitters through five innings of three-hit ball. He gave up one unearned run and recorded three strikeouts.

Back Mountain bats came alive right from the start as the team tagged Wilkes-Barre starting pitcher Robby West for eight runs through the first three innings.

"I was surprised," said Back Mountain head coach Tom Evans. "We've been hav-See LEGION, pg 12



POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS Adam Tkaczyk grabbed a grounder and fired to first.







Newberry Ladies slate tournament

The Newberry Country Club Ladies Golf League will hold its annual Member/Guest-Member/Member Tournament Monday, June 23. Luncheon will follow at the Appletree Terrace. No rain date is scheduled. The event will be a two-man scramble. Participants are asked to meet at tee #1 at 9:15 a.m. Prizes will be awarded to the first and second place Member/Guest-Member/Member teams; the player that comes closest to the pin on hole # 3; and the player with the longest drive on hole #1.

To reserve a cart, call Gene Ross, club pro, at 675-6985. There will be no clinic on that day. Helen Davis, Alice Niskey and Peg Thomas are cochairs of the event.

U-13 boys travel soccer tryouts

Tryouts for the Back Mountain Cyclones fall soccer season U-13 boys will be held Saturday June 21 at 10 a.m. at the Dallas track field, behind the Dallas Middle School. This fall, UK Soccer will be training the team on Saturdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and will attend Sunday games. Call for costs and further information, 675-3108 or 674-4950.

BMT students win sports awards

Ebenezer Faith Christian School, Plymouth, announced their 2002-03 Sports' Awards recipients at their annual sports banquet.

In Girls' Soccer, the best First Year Players from the Back Mountain were: senior Caitlin Bessmer, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Bessmer, Trucksville, and sixth grader Breanna Covert, granddaughter of Larry and Helen Covert, Shavertown. The recipient of the Sportsmanship Award was fifth grader Darlene Kupstas, Shavertown. In Girls' Basketball, the Most Improved Player was sixth grader Breanna Covert, granddaughter of Larry and Helen Covert, Shavertown.

In Boys' Basketball, seventh grader Erik Lambacker, son of Harold Lambacker, Warrior Run and was Darlene Kupstas, Shavertown, was named one of two Most Improved Players.

Football camp for youth at Dallas High School

The Dallas High School football team will hold its annual youth football camp Monday through Wednesday, July 14-16 at the high school. The threeday camp for players ages 7-13 will be held from 9 a.m. to noon each day.

The clinic will be under the direction of veteran head coach Ted Jackson and his coaching staff. A group of former and current players also will serve as instructors. The camp stresses all aspects of offense and defense, including throwing, running, receiving, blocking and tackling. All players receive the opportunity to play every position. Jackson will also discuss sportsmanship, dedication, discipline and the importance of getting good grades with the campers.

Applications are available at The Fieldhouse sporting goods store on Memorial Highway in Dallas or by calling 696-3748.

Dallas, Lehman girls in All-Star softball game

The Dallas Kiwanis Club will host its 24th annual All-Star Girls Softball Game June 23 at 5:15 p.m. at the W.W. Kubis Memorial Little League Field on Church Street Dallas. The game pits the East All-Stars against The West All-Stars and will feature some of the best high school seniors in the Wyoming Valley conference. Players from Lake-Lehman and Dallas will play on the West Squad.

Dallas selections are Lauren Patton, 1B; Sam Oschman, IF; and Camille Valvano, OF.

Lake-Lehman selections are Tiffany Hettes, CF, and Tracey Hudak, C, who is injured, and will not play.

Bowlers advance to States

Willy's Devils, a team from the new Back Mountain Bowl Junior Bowling League, has advanced form Districts to States in Mechanicsburg.

They placed first in the mixed class B division at the local level which earned them the opportunity to bowl at Trindle Lanes in Mechanicsburg June 21 against other teams from across the state.

Tryouts for U-14 boys

The Northeast Attack Travel Soccer Club will conduct tryouts for a U-14 boys team Tuesday, June 24 and Thursday, June 26, 6-8 p.m. each day. Tryouts will take place at the Luzerne County Recreation Complex soccer fields off Wyoming Avenue in Forty Fort, near the airport. Girls are welcome to attend.

For information, contact Beth Ann Delaney at 693-3143.

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

There was plenty of action when the Phillies

BMT Ball action

and Giants met in a Little League game last week. Clockwise from top left: Mitch Artsma of the Phillies looked for the call after he slid into home as the Giants' Ryan Shannon applied the tag; Giants' catcher Ryan Shannon and pitcher Bob Peron conferred at the mound; Kyle Caffrey slid into third before the throw; Chris Chamberlain wound up to fire a hit back into the infield.

POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS