

Hall of Fame

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ally no regrets there," Swingle said. "It's never bothered me about not going on and seeing the way things could've turned out."

Swingle eventually went on to coach teenagers baseball in the Back Mountain, where he won two league titles. The former high school wrestler also established the Noxen Strikers, an elementary school wrestling program. The Strikers produced several quality wrestlers who went on to have strong high school careers with Lake-Lehman, Dallas and Tunkhannock.

Swingle currently serves as assistant wrestling coach under his son, who is head coach at Meyers.

Unlike Swingle, Shalata did pursue a career in professional baseball. The 1954 Lake-Noxen grad, voted outstanding athlete during his senior year, played two years of minor league ball in the St. Louis Cardinals organization. He said he led his class-C team in doubles and triples during his first year, 1955.

"It was great. There were a lot of nice guys in that league we played in," Shalata said. "I played against Gary Bell in the Cleveland farm system. I played against Willie McCovey in the Giants organization."

Shalata's professional baseball career was cut short when the Cardinals abruptly downsized the number of minor league squads in their system

during the 1956 season. Still, the former center fielder chose to continue playing the game. He returned to the area and went on to play for American Legion teams in Dallas and Swoyersville.

While baseball stood as the cornerstone in the lives of some candidates, others made a name for themselves in wrestling.

Although Sorber coached Lake-Lehman baseball teams to three consecutive Wyoming Valley Conference titles in the late 1990s, he also had a successful playing and coaching career in wrestling.

The 1966 Lake-Lehman grad followed up his nine varsity letters in high school by becoming captain of the wrestling team at Mansfield University. He returned to Lake-Lehman as a teacher in 1971 and went on to coach the school's wrestling team during the 1970s. After he retired as head coach, Sorber stayed on as a wrestling consultant until the late 1990s.

"We only had three state champions in wrestling and three all-state baseball players (at Lake-Lehman), and I was fortunate enough to work with all of them," Sorber said.

One of the players who Sorber coached at Lake-Lehman was Oliver. "He was phenomenal," Oliver said. "He was very informative. He knew every aspect of the game, and he helped me tremendously in making the jump from high school to

the professional ranks. Part of my success is a tribute to him." Much of Davis' success also came in wrestling. A 1970 Lake-Lehman grad, Davis went on to become a wrestling recruiter at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. He served as the school's head coach in wrestling during the 1990s. During his coaching tenure, his team ranked as high as third in the nation while competing against mostly Division-I schools.

One of Davis' top recruits, Kurt Angle, went on to become an eventual Olympic champion and a professional wrestler. "I was fortunate," Davis said. "I got to coach an Olympic champion. I got to coach national champions. I got to work with good people."

The rest of the inductees are Ernie Shurtle, Ed White, Gretchen Grimaud, Norm Sisle, Billy Gaylor, Ronnie Cole, Linc Welles, George Baron, Cathy Boyanowski, Ellen Mulligan, Bill Bush, and the late Grover Powell.

The induction banquet will begin at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. It will feature hors d'oeuvres and a meal.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by contacting Sorber (477-2303), Dick Nasser (278-3459) or either of the event's co-chairs: Charlie Shaw (836-2049) or Karl Schnure (746-1353). Shaw said the deadline for purchasing tickets is Oct. 8.

crucial Olympic champion and current WWE star, Kurt Angle; wrestling head coach at Clarion, 1992-98; coached Sheldon Thomas to national individual wrestling championship while head coach at Clarion; selected as the Eastern Wrestling League coach of the year and the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference coach of the year, 1996; has directed annual coaching clinics and wrestling camps; assistant professor of health and physical education at Clarion.

Ron Swingle, 1957 Lake-Noxen graduate. Four-year letterman in wrestling and baseball at Lake-Noxen; 1957 athlete of the year at Lake-Noxen; high school wrestling all-star; tried out in Wilkes-Barre with Pittsburgh Pirates; coached teenagers baseball, 1978-82; coached teams to teenagers league titles, 1980, '81; established Noxen Strikers (elementary wrestling program), 1978; established Noxen Athletic Club and Lake-Lehman Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Information and statistics supplied by Charlie Shaw, co-chairman of the induction event for the Endless Mountains Chapter of the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame.



Dallas girls win Invitational

The Dallas High School Girl's Cross Country team took first place in the 10th annual Lackawanna County Commissioners Jack McGuigan Invitational held at McDade Park in Scranton on September 27. Lisa Giacometti, Dallas, won the race in 19:23, and six other Dallas runners earned trophies for their placement. Nearly 200 runners from over 40 different schools competed in the Girl's Varsity division. Matt Samuels is the coach of the Dallas High School Cross Country team. Pictured with the team trophy are, from left: Jessica Jones (6th place); Whitney Adams (8th place); Lisa Giacometti (1st place); Jamie Stanish (7th place); Kenslie Kerestes (14th place); Hillary Adams (11th place); Robin Razawich (17th place); Samantha Dimmick; and Katie Gilligan. Pictured in rear are Lackawanna County Commissioners Randy Castellani and Joe Corcoran.

Allie Heffernan to be inducted into Sem Sports Hall of Fame

The Wyoming Seminary Varsity Club will induct seven new members into its Sports Hall of Fame during the club's 29th annual banquet on Friday, October 10 at 7 p.m. in Fleck Hall on the Sem Upper School campus in Kingston.

This year's honorees are Harold "Guffy" Pugh, class of 1930, football and track (posthumously); Alice Daw Heffernan, class of 1953, field hockey and basketball; Dr. Burrell Montz Covey, class of 1969, field hockey and basketball; Timothy Grip, class of 1970, football and track; Harry Hiestand, class of 1978, football; Gretchen Vanderburg Niggel, class of 1991, field hockey; and Aaron Norakus, class of 1993, basketball.

The dinner is open to the public, but reservations are required. Cost is \$20. For information and reservations, call

Sem's Development Office at 270-2140.

Heffernan, of Dallas, played four years of varsity field hockey and three years of varsity basketball at Sem, serving as co-captain of the field hockey team in her senior year. At Hood College she competed on the field hockey, basketball and volleyball team, taught swimming and played softball. She served for 25 years as the ambulance chief of Lehman Township and seven years as a volunteer paramedic for Nesbitt Memorial Hospital. She is still active in the ambulance company and has served as the vice president of the Wilkes-Barre Independent Co.

About 192 athletes and contributors to Wyoming Seminary athletics have been inducted into the Hall of Fame since the school began the program in 1974.

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

A shared legacy of excellence

Here's a roundup of the redentals of Back Mountain-area individuals being inducted into the Endless Mountains Chapter of the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame

Chip Sorber

1966 Lake-Lehman graduate. Earned nine varsity letters and was all-scholastic in baseball and wrestling at Lake-Lehman; voted outstanding athlete of senior class; captained wrestling team at Mansfield University; taught 32 years at Lake-Lehman; assistant wrestling coach at Lake-Lehman, 1971; head wrestling coach at Lake-Lehman, 1972-78; wrestling consultant at Lake-Lehman, late 1970s until late 1990s; worked with three state individual wrestling champions (Ricky and Rocky Bonomo, Mike Laskowski); baseball head coach at Penn State Wilkes-Barre, 1990-94; baseball head coach at Lake-Lehman, 1996-98; won three Wyoming Valley Conference baseball championships (1996, '97, '98); coached John Oliver III, who went on to play minor league baseball; coached three all-state baseball players (Oliver, Chad Sorber, Troy Strausser); baseball head coach at King's College, 2000-02.

Bill Shalata

1954 Lake-Noxen graduate. Voted outstanding athlete in senior year; drafted by St. Louis Cardinals baseball organization; played minor league ball in the class-C level of the Cardinals organization, 1955, '56; led team in doubles and triples; played for Dallas and Swoyersville American Legion baseball teams.

John Oliver III

1996 Lake-Lehman graduate. Played high school baseball and football; three-time Wyoming Valley Conference baseball all-star; won conference MVP award; selected as an All-American by the American Baseball Coaches Association and USA Today; drafted by Cincinnati Reds baseball organization; played in Reds and Boston Red Sox organizations for a total of four years.

Jack Davis

1970 Lake-Lehman graduate. Four-year letterman in wrestling at Lake-Lehman; held a 33-1 individual wrestling record in senior year; three-year letterman in baseball at Lake-Lehman; two-year letterman in football at Lake-Lehman; graduated from Clarion University of Pennsylvania, 1974; served as a wrestling recruiter at Clarion; re-

The Dallas Post LOCAL PROS advertisement containing various service listings such as Air Conditioning, Cleaning, Landscaping, and Home Improvement.

Advertisement for Charles W. Gordon, Jr. featuring insurance services and a portrait of the individual.