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# SportsWeek

## First 40 hunters will get a shot at Slocum deer

The state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) will conduct a regulated deer hunt at Frances Slocum State Park on Monday, December 8, to help control the deer population within the park.

The one-day hunt is for whitetail deer only, and will be conducted in areas not normally open to hunting. To ensure the safety of all park visitors, the park will be closed to all other activities this day.

To participate, hunters must hold an unfilled Wildlife Management Area 3B antlerless license. Only manually operated shotguns 20 gauge or larger, or muzzleloading firearms will be allowed. The hunt will be limited to the first 40 hunters that arrive at the park starting at 6 a.m., and will not be chosen by lottery drawing. All hunters entering the park will be checked to ensure they have a valid unfilled Wildlife Management Area 3B antlerless license and appropriate firearm, and be asked to fill out a registration and safety orientation form before being assigned a designated parking area.

"When the deer population is out of balance with the park land, it affects other wildlife, including the elimination of plant species and destruction of habitats for birds and small mammals," said Roger Fickes, director of the Bureau of State Parks.

Fickes explained that the excessive deer herd is destroying park vegetation and needs to be controlled on a yearly basis. He said that after hunts at other state parks, the park staff usually sees a return of long absent wildflowers, shrubs, and small trees.

Safety zones, no hunting areas, and park boundaries will be posted and strictly enforced. Extra park rangers and Pennsylvania Game Commission personnel will be stationed throughout the park area during this hunt.

For more information about the hunt, call the park office at 696-3525.

## Renaissance wins with balanced scoring attack

Renaissance Center defeated Sneaker King 39-36. Joey Collini led the Renaissance's with 9 points followed by Ryan Phillips with 8, Tommy Golightly and Devon O'Brien had 4 points each and Michael Mazur added 3.

Henry Messinger scored 15 points for Sneaker King, Myer Messinger followed with 14, Konrad Kraszewski had 6 and Preston Balavage added 2.

### Sneaker King 51, Dallas Rotary 48

Myer Messinger led Sneaker King with 31 points followed by Henry Messinger with 12 points. Konrad Kraszewski had 4 points. Chris McAndrew and Brandon Reichart scored 2 points each. Peter Steve led Dallas Rotary with 20 points. Kevin Pierce followed with 11 and Matt Alfano had 10 points. Justin Rice 3 points, Garrett Hann and Christo Iliadis had 2 points each.

### Dr. Jack Ellis 54, Lino's Pizza 48

Dr. Ellis's squad erased a 20-point third quarter deficit to defeat Lino's Pizza in overtime. The game was tied at 46 at the end of regulation before Dr. Ellis took control in OT. Scott Skammer had 12 of his game-high 18 points in the second half to lead the charge. Jackie Ellis hit a big three pointer in OT to seal the win and finished with 8 points. Jonathan Orlando had 12, Brad Johnson 8, Casey Judge 6 for the victors. Pat Murray led the Pizza men with 19, including two treys. Eric Razawich Chipped in with 5, and Jason Darling had 6 points in the loss.

### Penn State Seed 51, Dallas Rotary 39

Mike Kravitsky led Penn State Seed with 21 points. Paul Kowalek had 10, Chuck Youngman 8 points. Harry Giacometti and Kevin Buckman had 4 points each. Kyle Williams and Ryan Urzen added 2 points apiece. Matt Alfano led Dallas Rotary with 21 points, Peter Steve had 14 and Chris Daily added 4.

### PNC Bank 46, Fieldhouse 38

Derek Martin led PNC with 15 points followed by Joe Bevevino with 14 points. Josh

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## Dallas Boys Basketball Preview

# New coach sees promise in Mounts

By KEVIN KAZOKAS  
Post Correspondent

DALLAS TWP. — The challenges posed by taking on a new job can be intimidating. But for first-year Dallas basketball coach John Collins, the outlook for the 2003 high school boys season is a positive one.

"Right now, I'm very optimistic because we've had great commitment from the kids since the day I got the job," Collins said. "The atmosphere's been very positive. We have a bunch of very good kids."

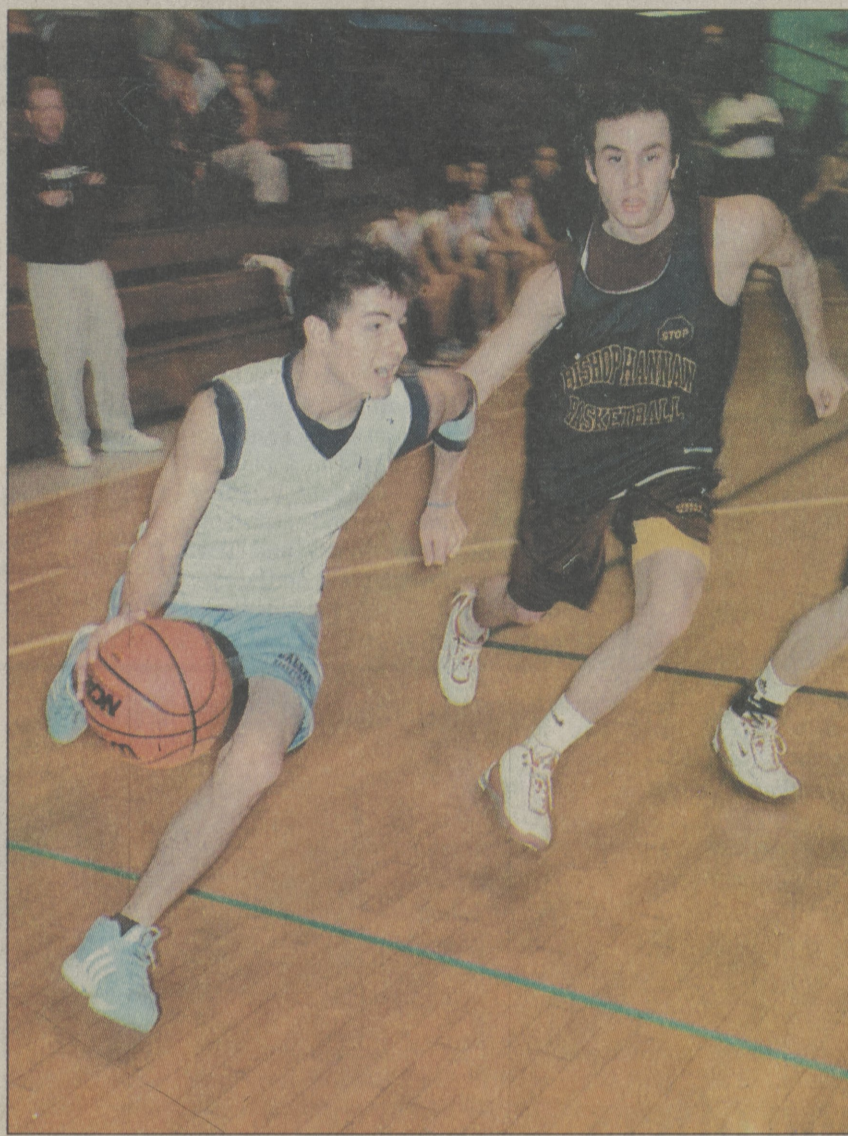
*"We have a lot of size and we have very quick, athletic kids."*

John Collins  
Dallas head coach

Collins, who served as an assistant coach at Wyoming Valley West last season, will take over a Mountaineers team that went 7-17 in 2002 and fell in the first round of the playoffs. He hopes to improve on that record and keep Dallas, which competes in Wyoming Valley Conference Division II, in contention for post-season success. But accomplishing those goals may depend on how quickly the young players on his roster develop.

"My biggest concern at this point is our ability to understand and execute in game situations. This is not a team that has a lot of varsity experience. But with the young people we have, I think our future is very bright."

Collins will look to several players to lead the way, including a pair of junior guards in Matt Wilson and Matt Kelly. At 5'11", Wilson brings strong all-around basketball skills to the floor, Collins said. And the new head coach likes the leadership and impressive athletic abilities he has seen in Kelly, a 5'8" point guard who also quarterbacks the school's varsity football team.



Matt Kelly got a step on the Bishop Hannan defense in last week's scrimmage.

"I would dare say, he's as good an all-around athlete as there is in the Wyoming Valley Conference," said Collins, who has coached basketball at various levels throughout the last 13 years.

On the inside, the Mountaineers hope for contributions from a pair of senior forwards. Collins said the 6'7" Chris Higdon has shown improve-

ment over the summer and that the 6'5" Mitch Mitchell has already drawn interest from several NCAA Division III colleges.

Sophomore Robbie Myers (6'8") anchors things at the center position. Although he is young, he could play a key role in determining the success of the team this season.

Collins said some other big surpris-



John Collins takes over a Dallas program that was 7-17 last season.

es include 6' junior guard Jimmy Schwerdtman, 6'2" sophomore guard Ben Thomas and sophomore Mike Race.

Brad Fagula, a 6'1" guard, and Ryan Nemetz, a 5'10" point guard, are two freshmen who can expect to see varsity playing time.

Senior guards Tim Kerestes (5'9") and Kevin Domzalski (6') will also play important parts.

"We have a lot of size and we have very quick, athletic kids," Collins said. "We're hoping the size and our quickness will be our strengths. We're looking for our athletes to execute and control the tempo of games and our big people to be able to dominate the boards."

"The real outcome of the season will depend on the effectiveness of Matt Wilson to shoot the basketball, and how quickly Robbie Myers develops."

Collins said he had the opportunity

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## Sting wins championship

Back Mountain Sting recently went undefeated in capturing the U-15 girls division of the Whitewater Cup Soccer Classic. Sting outscored opponents 14 to 1 in three games. They have won two first-place and two second-place trophies in this tournament over the past four years.

From left, first row: Kendra Sirak, Paige Kyle, Erin Sutliff, Aime Sgarlat, Rachel Schaub, Stephanie Pace, Jacqueline Thomas.

Second row: Coach Megan Deubler, Caroline Boris, Katie Goode, Jaime Lipski, Emily Deubler, Marissa Harrison, Megan Devine, Alicia Evans, Head Coach Jeff Pace.

Absent from photo: Krissy Stanks, Coach Ed Stanks, Coach Tim Sutliff.

## Productive pair lead Quad Three to close win

Nick Zabriski scored 13 points and Chris Dailey added 12 to lead Quad Three Group to a 37-34 win

### DYB 5-6 Boys

over Attorney Larry Brown. Kevin Gilbert added 10 points while Zach Smith and Yuri Filak keyed the defense for Quad Three Group. Jimmy Brown had a game-high 16 points for Attorney Larry Brown, while Spencer Youngman added 8 points and Andrew Ondish 4. Matt Shaver had 2 points and led the defense while Paul Sgroi led the rebounding. Quad Three is coached by Brent Berger

and Attorney Larry Brown is coached by Pat Touhey.

### McCarthy Tire 32, Bishop Photo 19

Andrew McCabe scored 12 points and Marc Noyalis 9 as McCarthy Tire defeated Bishop Photo. Travis DeBona added 8 points while John McCarthy led the rebounding and Josh Stephens keyed the defense for McCarthy Tire, which is coached by Frank DeBona. Cody Plesnar led Bishop Photo with 12 points while Jim Bopp and Kurtis Manganella keyed the defense and Steven Haughwout and

Jacob Simon controlled the rebounding. Bishop Photo is coached by Joe Simon.

### Karchner Refrigeration 43, Diagnostic Imaging 28

Nick Lombard scored a game high 18 points and Christopher Dillon added 10 as Karchner Refrigeration Service topped Center for Diagnostic Imaging. Adam Viercinski played excellent defense and had eight rebounds for Karchner Refrigeration, which is coached by John Riccetti. Corey Monk had 14 points and Kevin Muldoon 8 to lead Center for Diagnostic Imaging, which

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## Nominations open for Killer Bees awards

By STEVE SEMBRAT  
For The Post

WILKES-BARRE — The Killer Bees Athletic Club is seeking nominations for its annual awards programs covering accomplishments from the 2003 calendar year.

The club will hand out its Joe Hoinski Memorial Awards for Excellence in Athletics, along with its Student-Athlete Awards, at its banquet on Saturday, Jan. 31 at Genetti Hotel & Convention Center in Wilkes-Barre. Nominations are being accept for all categories of both awards.

The Hoinski Award honors the area's top amateur athletes in four divisions: scholastic male, scholastic female, open male and open female. The awards in the two scholastic divisions remain open to individuals who play for Wyoming Valley Conference schools.

There is a change in who is eligible for open division award. The open division is still for any amateur athlete from the greater Wyoming Valley who doesn't fall into the scholastic category. But this year, all athletes who compete for the area's four local colleges (College Misericordia, King's College, Luzerne County Community College and Wilkes University) also become eligible for open division honors.

The student-athlete awards are given in male and female divisions, and are open to WVC high school seniors who maintain an A average and who letter in a varsity sport. The award weighs academic and athletic accomplishments equally.

Nominations may be submitted by mail or e-mail. Send nominations by mail to: KBAC Awards, Box 1346, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-1346. Send nominations by e-mail to: KBACNominations@aol.com.

Nominations should include a resume and list of accomplishments

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