

Dallas

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Sean McMahon also delivered a 20-win season as a freshman. Ropietski hopes to see that total raised to 30 this year as McMahon starts at 125.

Junior John Hettes took fourth at last year's regional tournament. He hopes to finish in the top two at regionals this year and place in the top eight at the state championships. He's listed at 119/125.

"We worked hard in the off season," Hettes said. "Last year, what our problem was, we were giving up a lot of forfeits. That was killing us."

Dallas will try to avoid a similar fate this season as its sophomores gain experience. Mike Purdi (103), Mike Rovinsky (112), Aaron Murry (119), Jeff Thompson (130), Dave Haines (135), Adam Sulewski (145), Brian Goeringer (152), Josh Anderson (160), Joe Lambert (189) and John McCue (heavyweight) are some of the sophomores who will see mat time.

Freshmen Matt Hufford and Kyle Hazleton could also be in the mix.

Junior Alan Pugh will wrestle at 215.

"It looks promising for down the road, if these kids stick with it," Ropietski said. "I've seen how these kids have grown already."

Still, Ropietski sees promise in this season as his team faces an obstacle shared by many other WVC clubs.

"All the kids are upbeat and working hard," he said. "We're not the only young team out there. You look at most of this valley here. There's a lot of freshmen and sophomores on most of the teams around here."

Dallas opened its season Tuesday night with a surprisingly close 37-22 loss to Lake-Lehman. Josh Anderson, Musto, McMahon, Hettes and Morgan Anderson each won, Musto and McMahon with pins.

Lehman

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"We don't have as many older leaders on the team, but we're still strong," said junior Andy Josuweit, one of seven returning starters on the team. Josuweit won a match at states last season and is projected to wrestle at 140 this year. He, along with teammate Matt Dragon, may be asked to provide the bulk of the leadership.

Dragon, also a junior, placed fifth in individual competition at states last season. He went undefeated in approximately 100 matches during the off-season and has won cadet national championships in freestyle and Greco-Roman competition. He's projected to wrestle at 145 this year.

Like Josuweit, Dragon sees potential in Lake-Lehman's young wrestlers.

"Everyone's working real hard and the younger guys are improving, so hopefully they'll shine at the end and win when we need them to," Dragon said.

Rounding out Lake-Lehman's projected lineup, as of Nov. 30, were Derek White (sr., 130), Brandon Higgins (so., 145), Brandon Brown (jr., 152), Josh Arnold (so., 152), Matt Stuart (sr., 160), Pat McHugh (jr., 160), Justin Schell (so., 160), Joe Klemunes (so., 171), Stan Brudnicki (so., 189), Kevin McHugh (sr., 215) and Scott Arnold (sr., heavyweight).

"Anything from 130 up we should be pretty solid (in), and certainly the upper weights have some experience, and we'll be expecting things from

them," Lipski said.

A coach at Lake-Lehman for 15 years, Lipski attributed much of the success the team has enjoyed during the last two decades to the outstanding work of coaches in the school's feeder programs - Don Carter at the elementary level, and Scott Carter and Alex Wilson at the junior high level.

Unlike most previous years, Lipski and assistant coach Mike Tereska face an uphill battle in 2003-04 at the varsity level, as Lake-Lehman must embark on a season of rebuilding.

"We still have high goals. We still feel we can be competitive with most people, but it's going to be tough to match up with better teams when you feel that you're weak in certain areas."

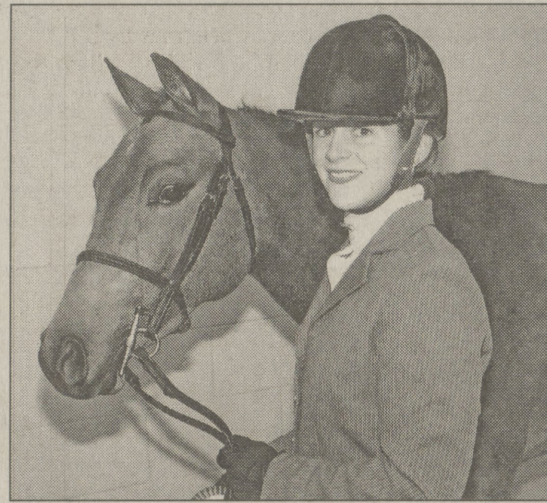
Lake-Lehman, the defending Wyoming Valley Conference West Division and overall champions, will face several challenges from division rivals in the early going. The Black Knights (18-5 last season, 14-0 in the WVC, 6-0 in WVC West) host Pittston Area on Wednesday and visit Berwick on Jan. 6. Both the Patriots and the Bulldogs are expected to contend for the West Division title this year.

"If we beat Pittston, we should have a good shot," Dragon said. "If we can prove ourselves there, I think a lot of heads will be turning."

Lake-Lehman sports a 161-162 record in WVC matches during the last 15 years, Lipski said.



Adrienne Pugh, Kyle Evans and Elizabeth Angelella with their mounts and winners' hardware at the State 4-H Horse Show.



Lyz Lewis won in Hunter Type Pony.



Kristen Boyle won in Walk Trot Equitation.

Area winners at State 4-H Horse Show

Luzerne County 4-H horse members received 18 awards at the 44th annual State 4-H horse show, held October 24-26 at the State Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg.

County winners in 4-H performance classes, members breed and raise their own production animals. Local winners were Tanya Lane, Lyz Lewis and Rachael Pugh.

The primary purpose of the state 4-H horse program is to develop life skills in youth and

skills in horse management. Through competition, 4-Hers develop riding skills, gain self-confidence and learn proper care of animals.

To be eligible for this show, 4-Hers had to advance through qualifying competitions at county, regional and district levels. For additional information on the show or 4-H horse programs in Pennsylvania, contact your local Penn State Cooperative Extension office.

stomped right back, and Lacey's three-pointer at the buzzer gave the Mountaineers a 35-16 lead at intermission.

Dallas continued to roll, enacting the new 30-point mercy rule with 2:04 left in the game. The victory was Dallas' second over a regional power as the Mountaineers prepare for their Wyoming Valley Confer-

ence season opener vs. Berwick on Dec. 15. They also defeated Class A state runner-up Marian Catholic.

"It's really good coming into the season with good competition," Lacey said. "That's what we need to get ready. It is a confidence booster we can come out with wins against these top teams."

Mounts

(continued from page 9)

ond and third shots for the Mountaineers and often just one for the Comets.

Abington made a brief run in the second quarter, cutting the deficit to 24-13 midway through the period. Dallas

Grossman wins Run for the Diamonds

Staff report

BERWICK — Debbie Grossman of Shavertown captured top female honors in the 94th running of the Berwick Marathon Association's 9 mile Run for the Diamonds on Thanksgiving morning.

Grossman, 47, who dominated the female divisions of local road racing in the late 1980s and early 1990s, hadn't competed in a local race, except for a few Race for the Cure events, in six years. She found herself in a see-saw battle with Heidi Wolfsberger, 23, of Moosic, a former runner from Riverside High

School and Moravian College who defeated Grossman in this year's Race for the Cure.

But Grossman, after numerous lead changes with Wolfsberger, finally pulled away after the six-mile marker for the win in 54:23. Wolfsberger finished second in 55:08.

"I never saw her after that," said Grossman. "I just kept my pace. It's what I always do. It's what has always worked for me. The crowd is amazing. They push you to the finish."

Dan Pzeniczny, 35, of Dallas, finished in 48:36, good for sixth place overall among men and second in his age category.



American Girls win championship

The Back Mountain American Girls won the U-10 championship at the Western Lehigh Fall Festival. Pictured, from left, foreground: Nikki Sulliff. Kneeling: Kara Augustine, Sara Davis, Colleen McDonald, Julia Wignot, Olivia Anglovich. Standing: Hilary Crossley, Elaine Tomaselli, Erin Koscelansky, Brianna Murray, Sara Flaherty, Alexa Decker, Brianna Morgan. Coaches are John Anglovich, Bob Morgan, Jerry McDonald and Joe Tomaselli.

CROSSWORD CORNER

Super Crossword

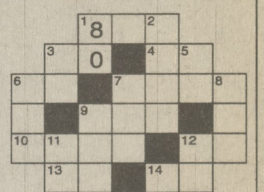
ACROSS	1 Stevenson soundrelief	5 Eggs of post	9 One of "The Three Sisters"	13 Monstrous dance?	17 Deserve a check	19 Possess	18 Obscure	21 Flu symptom	22 Mr. Asner's gift?	24 Esteem	25 Pal	26 Smooth transition	27 River rapids	29 Sup in style	31 Olsen of vaudeville	32 Fury	34 Ms. Rivers' gift?	38 Lee and Bradley	42 Wheels of fortune?	43 Yule purchase	44 Freighter of kiss	45 — market	47 Green land	49 "Nabucco" number	53 Mr. Reynolds' gift?	57 Noblewoman	61 Like opposites	62 —relief	63 English post	64 James Wilfred	65 Abbreviated address	68 Flopped down	70 Spartacus, e.g.	71 Swiss canton	72 David's instrument	75 Mr. Myers' gift?	78 Sharp	79 Palindromic dictator	80 Largest antelope	81 Court	82 In addition	84 Gun the engine	85 Note	86 Letters of desperation?	88 Reunion attendees	92 Word with set or eye	94 Mr. Von Sydow's gift?	98 Dickens' Pecksniff	99 High-flying toy	101 Summer-	102 — de	103 Novelist Paton	107 Beloved	109 Dangers	112 Mr. Griffith's gift?	116 Director David	117 "Tobacco Road" character	118 To be, in	119 Steen stand	122 Forum figure	128 Wal	129 Punice product	131 Ms. Conn's gift?	133 "Mia 18" author	134 Kitchen implements	135 Obligation	136 Merry	137 Break suddenly	138 Doe's darling	139 Yarn	140 Unspecified amount	DOWN	1 Musical Myra	2 Big name in locks	3 Smidgen	4 Tolerate	5 Triumphant	6 "La Boheme" role	7 Maintain	8 Change the decor	9 Vintage	10 John of "The Addams Family"	11 Lead through the wilderness	12 Directionless	13 Singer	14 Blessed	15 Coach Don	16 Bruisers	18 Quicker	20 Murcia mister	23 Dread	28 NCO	30 Poetic preposition	33 Fisherman's need	35 Fail to mention	36 Postman's creed word	37 Patou or Plaget	38 Sound of shock	39 Return address?	40 Astronaut	41 Belgrade denizen	46 Took down a peg	48 Levi's	"Christ Stopped at river"	50 Variety show	51 Grenoble's river	52 John of "The Addams Family"	54 Inclined plane	55 —la-la	56 Lofty initials?	58 Vigilant	59 Party hearty	60 "Fine Day" (63 tune)	66 More proficient	67 Biscayne Bay city	69 Haiti a heap	70 Bush	72 Takes on character	73 "Jane Eyre" character	74 Fasten firmly	76 Criticize	77 Painter	78 Actor Dullea	80 CPPF provider	85 —Cat (winner wheels)	87 Exclude	89 Noodle or Jannings	90 Holler	91 Former spouses	93 Actor	Everett	94 British gun	95 Downspouts	96 Adapt	97 Holy day	100 Mrs. Eddie Cantor	104 Caustic stuff	105 In search of	106 "McTeague" author	108 Rug type	110 "The Gong Show" panelist	111 Negative terminal	112 "The Plague" novelist	113 Decorate	114 Gymnast Comaneci	115 Do a double take, perhaps	120 James Herriot, for one	121 — May Oliver	123 Actor O'Shea	124 TV's — "12"	125 Workday start	127 Kreskin's letters	128 Cousteau's milieu	130 Unit of work	132 Sugary suffix
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CELEBRITY SHOPPING

ANSWERS ON PAGE 7

Rational Numbers

Using the clues, simple arithmetic, and a little logic, place a single digit (0 to 9) in each empty box in the diagram. To help you get started, two digits have been entered in the diagram.



- ACROSS**
- Sum of the digits is 5-Down
 - 6-Across minus 12-Down
 - Two less than 11-Down
 - Digits of 14-Down reversed
 - Seven times 8-Down
 - Two times 3-Down
 - Eight times 6-Down
 - Two times 5-Down
 - Eight more than 12-Across
 - 13-Across minus 12-Down
 - Sum of the digits is 5-Down
- DOWN**
- Nine more than 6-Across
 - Two times 1-Across
 - Ten less than 4-Across
 - Consecutive digits in ascending order
 - Sum of the digits is 5-Down
 - Ten times 3-Across
 - Sum of the digits is 5-Down
 - Six times 15-Across
 - Three times 12-Down
 - Digits of 5-Down reversed
 - Six more than 14-Across

King Crossword

ACROSS	1 Babysitter's bane	4 Move through water	9 Tennis stroke	12 Pirouette pivot	13 Book "for dummies," e.g.	14 Past	15 Cox and Eisenhower, to Nixon	17 Crafty	18 H.S. subj.	19 Solid no more	21 Fly	24 Asset	25 Round Table address	26 Columbus sch.	28 Wood strips	31 Corn territory	33 Pitch	35 Caspian Sea feeder	36 Mrs. Ralph Kramden	38 Old Olds	40 Hearty brew	41 "I Remember Mama" role	43 Gushed out	45 Triangular insert	47 Glutton	48 Blond shade	49 Woodshop tool	54 Geneticist's abbr.	55 German pastry	56 Future fish	57 Dog's "hand"	58 Keanu Reeves movie	59 Dr. Ruth's field	Minnow	9 Breaking point	10 Lothario's look	11 Hopalong Cassidy portrayal	16 Vast expanse	20 Walkiki wingding	21 Pacific Rim locale	22 Bowed instrument	23 "The Young Lions" author	27 Egypt on old maps (Abbr.)	29 Nathan or Barbara	30 Coaster	32 Dogfight fighters	34 Break	37 Votes for	39 Thought out loud	42 Condescend	44 Silly Putty container	45 John Irving hero	46 Ensign's school (Abbr.)	50 Opposite of "post-"	51 "Mayday" hero	52 Grand rd.	53 Tussaud's material
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