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Sports Week

Park hunters take 7 deer

KINGSTON TWP. — The one-day hunt in Frances Slocum State Park netted seven kills, six antlerless and one buck.

Thirty hunters participated, fewer than last year, but the result was the same, said a park spokesperson who asked not to be identified. "Our limit was 40 (hunters)," he said. "We didn't fill it." Last year 37 hunters showed up.

The hunt was held Monday from 7 a.m. to sunset. Hunters were restricted to using manual shotguns or muzzleloaders. The park was closed to other visitors.

The annual hunt is designed to control the deer herd, which when too large affects other wildlife and plant species.

Murray hits 19 as Lino's edges Fieldhouse

Pat Murray scored 19 points, as Lino's Pizza downed Fieldhouse 44-38. He was followed by Michael Gross with 10.

J.Pugliese had 6, Bruce Sobocinski 3. Jason Darling, Aaron Hogan and Evan Razawich added 2 points each for the win.

Chris Klais led the Fieldhouse with 19 points. Cliff Pisaneschi, Kyle Arnaud had 6 points each. Darius Fetchko 5, David Fetchko and Eddie Stredney had 4 points apiece. Peter Blanchard added 2.

Pompey Dodge 56 Summit Pointe Builders 42

Tommy Youelles led Pompey with 19 points, D.J. Berley followed with 14 points including two 3-pointers. David Zurek scored 9, Doug Harding and Kyle Piazza had 6 points each and Mark Gilbert added 2. Zack Halbring led Summit Point with 12 points. Josh Backes and Greg Northstein followed with 11 points each. John Bailey had 4, Michael Ritalis and David Carey had 2 points apiece.

Plains Solomon League

Dallas 7th Grade 34, Crestwood 7th Grade 27

Josh Backes led Dallas with 12 points. Tommy Youelles followed with 8 points. Steve Meskers had 6 and Jackie Ellis had 3. Henry Messinger and Ryan Urzen chipped in 2 points apiece and Scott Skammer added 1.

Dallas 8th Grade 42, Crestwood 8th Grade 40

Kyle Arnaud led Dallas with 14 points. Mike Kravitsky followed with 9 points and Myer Messinger added 8. Dallas 8th Grade is coached by Jim Tucker and Brad Arnaud.

Dallas 8th Grade 51, GAR 10
Dallas defeated GAR in the Plains Solomon League. High scorers for Dallas were Pat Murray with 13, Mark Covert with 12 and Eric Tucker had 10.

Gate of Heaven Boys

Junior Varsity St. Mary's 35, GOH 33

The junior varsity Gators were led by Pat DeRojas with 12 points, and Tom Horn with seven.

St. Mary's Old Forge 47, GOH 45

Tom Horn scored 17 points and Pat DeRojas had 12.

Varsity

St. Mary's 61, 7th grade boys 29

Pat DeRojas scored 14 points in the varsity game and Tom Horn added seven. The Gators play in the 8th grade division.

Plains Solomon League GOH 43, Meyers 29

Pat DeRojas led all scorers with 22 points and Tom Horn had seven. Joe Kopicki and Horn grabbed key rebounds.



POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS

Sheree Horvath hauled down a rebound against Meyers Dec. 8. She led the Knights with 15 points, but Lehman fell 59-37. Tina Watkins (34) blocked out.



Jess Turak tried to block a Mohawk player's shot early in the game.



Hannah Sorber got a good look at the basket.

Local players help Pocono bring home gold

The Pocono U-16 field hockey team, which featured several players from the Back Mountain, won its pool at the 2003 National Field Hockey Festival, held at the Empire Polo Club in Indio, California during the Thanksgiving weekend.

Pocono (6-0-0) and was the only team at the festival to finish undefeated and unscored upon during the competition. The event featured a record 223 teams from 22 states plus international squads with 3500 athletes competing.

Nine members of the Pocono U-16 squad are from the Back Mountain; Kendra Sirak, Christina Brown, Laura Eckman, Jaime Lipski, Kelsey Lloyd, Shannon Prescott, Traci Ragukas, Kaitlyn Snyder, Abby Sordoni. Wyoming Seminary's Karen Klassner coached the squad.

Two Pocono U-19 Teams also placed well at the festival. The U-19 Pocono Team finished third in pool play at 3-0-3 while the U-19 Pocono Too Team finished with a 2-2-2 record and place fourth.



Pictured from left, front row: Kelsey Llyod, Erin McGinley (Wyoming Seminary), Randi Segear (Coughlin), Kendra Sirak, Christina Brown (Wyoming Seminary), Traci Ragukas (Lake-Lehman), Elizabeth Blaum, Kaitlyn Snyder (Wyoming Seminary). Second row: Coach Karen Klassner, Erin Conrad (Meyers), Elizabeth Drazdowski (Crestwood), Audrey Edinger (East Stroudsburg), Laura Eckman, Abby Sordoni (Wyoming Seminary), Shannon Prescott, Jamie Lipski (Lake-Lehman), and Kristen Flock (Wyoming Valley West).

Girls Basketball Preview

This could be Mounts' year

By KEVIN KAZOKAS
Post Correspondent

DALLAS TWP. — This year's girls high school basketball season may be especially bittersweet for Joe Noon.

The fifth-year Dallas coach has a chance to see his team repeat as District 2 champion. Armed with an abundance of talent and five returning starters, he may witness the Mountaineers advance to the PIAA Class 3A tournament for the second consecutive year. Noon could even watch three of his starting players each score their 1,000th career point.

But one thing remains certain. At the end of the season, Noon, who led Dallas to its first district championship in school history last year, will have to say goodbye to all five of his starters.

Senior forwards Jackie Hardwick and Rosalyn Wentko and senior guards Shannon Thomas, Ashleigh King and Meredith Lacey will all graduate.

"They're like daughters to me," said Noon, who began coaching the players when they enrolled in the Dallas Youth Basketball program in fourth grade. He mentored them through their junior high years and, most recently, during their varsity seasons. He saw them post a 23-6 record overall last year before falling in overtime to Nazareth Academy, 54-52, in the state playoffs.

This year, Noon will guide his starters one last time as they try to unseat Bishop Hoban for the Wyoming Valley Conference Division II championship and make a trip back to states. He hopes the team can advance even farther than it did last year.

"The kids never forget," Noon said. "They don't forget what happened. They don't forget what could've been, and, believe me, they'll improve on their mistakes. They have a positive attitude. They're ready to learn."

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Young Knights work together

By KEVIN KAZOKAS
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN TWP. — Players on the Lake-Lehman girls basketball team enjoy spending time together, and not just on the hardwood.

Members of this close-knit group of mostly underclassmen often unite away from the basketball court, either to work on projects that help those in the community or simply to hang out.

"We do a lot of team bonding, and I think it really helps," said junior guard Savannah Coombs.

The Black Knights, led by first-year head coach Jim Spencer, hope that bonding will carry over onto the basketball floor this season and help the team improve on last year's record (13-12 overall, 7-9 in the Wyoming Valley Conference). But with only one senior on the roster, Lehman players realize they face a daunting challenge.

"We're the underdogs because of having such a young team," Coombs said, "and I just want to go out there and prove to everyone that we're not the underdogs. We can come out and do well."

Doing well will require limiting miscues and becoming solid in the fundamentals of the game, Spencer said. He hopes to help the Black Knights accomplish that by honing their basketball instincts and sharpening their decision-making abilities on the floor.

"We're a young team, and we're going to make young mistakes, but that's what we're trying to eliminate so we become a better team," said Spencer, who served as an assistant coach with the team last season. "I had some experience with these players last year. I know what they can do and what they need to work on."

Spencer had plenty of mentoring experience prior to joining the

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Scholastic Roundup

BOYS BASKETBALL

Seton Catholic 53, Lake-Lehman 47

DEC. 9 — Seton Catholic jumped out to a 13-point halftime lead and fought off a late Lehman comeback to secure the victory.

Alan Sheridan connected on four three-pointers and finished with 14 points to lead the Black Knights. Matt Shiskowski scored 10 points.

Tunkhannock 60, Towanda 18

DEC. 9 — Kyle Wilson led all scorers with 24 points and Colin Hopkins drained four three-pointers en route to 14 points as Tunkhannock jumped out to a 31-12 halftime lead and then turned it into a rout with a 24-5 run in the third quarter.

O'Reilly 47, Dunmore 30

DEC. 8 — John Aciekewicz scored 13 points and Tim Crossin added 10 as Bishop O'Reilly defeated Dunmore behind a 25-13 second half. Crossin hit two 3-point goals.

Bishop Hoban 69, Dallas 60

DEC. 4 — Sophomore Robbie Myers led Dallas with 20 points, who fell behind early. Ben Thomas scored 14 points, making four 3-pointers.

Seminary 60, Tunkhannock 39

DEC. 4 — Kyle Wilson and Colin Hopkins tallied 14 and 13 points, respectively for Tunkhan-

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