

Sports Week

YOUTH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL ROUNDUP

BMT National wins D-16 9-10 baseball championship

July 22 — Brian Stepniak had four hits and four RBI July 22 as Back Mountain National won the District 16 9-10 baseball championship with a 12-10 victory over Plains.

T.J. Schultz had three hits and scored four runs for Back Mountain, Austin Smith had a pair of singles and winning pitcher Drew Brandt struck out five.

JUNIOR BASEBALL

BMT American 13, Northeast 8

July 25 — Mike Prater went 3-for-4 with five RBI and picked up the win on the mound as Back Mountain American outslugged Northeast to advance to the finals of the Section 4 Little League Junior Baseball tournament.

Back Mountain's first eight batters in the bottom of the first reached base. Eleven batters came to the plate and accounted for six runs. Prater had a two-run single, Matt Ruch and Chris Klaiss each had RBI singles, Ryan Phillips drew a bases-loaded walk, and Scott Skammer had an RBI groundout to ring up a 6-0 lead.

But District 20 (Allentown/Bethlehem) champion Northeast didn't roll over. In the top of the second, it answered with five runs.

Back Mountain's bats came alive again in the bottom of the third. Five more runs came in highlighted by two-run singles from Myer Messenger and Prater, helping his own cause and staking his team to an 11-5 lead.

Back Mountain added two runs in the bottom of the fifth on RBI singles by Doug Harding and Prater.

Harding closed out the seventh, allowing just a walk.

BMT American 5, East Stroudsburg 2

July 24 — Matt Ruch tossed a two-hitter with nine strikeouts as D-16 champ Back Mountain American defeated D29 champ East Stroudsburg in the Section 4 opener at Hollenback Park.

Ruch also tripled and singled. Mike Prater had a double and single. Doug Harding had two hits, Josh Backus tripled and Pat Murray doubled.

TEENERS ALL STARS TOURNAMENT

Edwardsville/Larksville 6, Back Mountain 5

July 25 — In the winners bracket final of the Teeners All

Stars Tournament for 13 year olds, Ryan Urzen and Mike Eckman both had a pair of hits for Back Mountain.

SECTION 4 SENIOR LITTLE LEAGUE

Back Mountain 6, Pocono Mountain East 3

July 26 — Tom Parrish went 4-for-4 with a home run to lead Back Mountain over Pocono Mountain East. Winning pitcher Matt Kapitula pitched seven strong innings and added three hits at the plate.

Greg Harris contributed another home run for Back Mountain, and Nick Samanas and Chris Parrish each had a pair of hits.

Penn Ridge 11, Back Mountain 9

July 24 — District 16 champion Back Mountain dropped into the losers bracket with a loss to the D-20 champion in the Section 4 playoffs.

Matt Kapitula was 2-for-4 with a homer and two RBI for Back Mountain, which will play at 4 p.m. today. Dylan Seeley was 2-for-2 with two runs scored, and John Janerich was 2-for-4 with a run scored.

KUBIS TOURNAMENT

BMT National 10, Pittston Twp. 0

Marc Noyalis pitched a no-hitter, striking out five in a game shortened to four innings by the 10-run rule. Noyalis also smacked a three-run homer, while Chad Carey went 3-for-3 with a double.

MOUNTAIN TOP 9-10

BMT National 14, Mountain Top 4

July 24 — T.J. Schultz had six strikeouts, and Jason Schilling, Noah Kustrin and Austin Smith had two hits each for National.

NEWPORT 9-10 TOURNAMENT

BMT National 8, Newport 2

July 26 — T.J. Schultz hit a grand slam and teammate Drew Brandt had three hits, including a pair of doubles, to lead Back Mountain past Newport.

William Fulton, who struck out seven, pitched all six innings to earn the win. Jordan Thomas added a double.

WILKES-BARRE REC 9-10 TOURNAMENT

Nanticoke 4, BMT American 3

July 22 — Shane Dunn and Jordan Steaphens, who took the complete-game loss, both had hits for Back Mountain American.

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Section 4 champions!



Pat Murray slid safely into third during Back Mountain American's Section 4 Junior Baseball championship victory.



Matt Ruch tagged Northeast's Joe Ortiz out on a pickoff throw from pitcher Myer Messenger.

Junior boys hang on

Staff report

After cruising through the first five innings, Back Mountain American got a scare in the sixth and seventh, but hung in to win the Section 4 Junior Baseball League championship, 4-2 over Northeast, the District 20 champion.

Playing at Hollenback Park, American scored a run in each of the first four innings, while Myer Messenger kept Northeast at bay. After a scoreless fifth, Northeast mounted a two-out rally in the top of the sixth, putting together two infield singles, three steals and a walk to load the bases. But Messenger got Zach McCorrec to ground weakly to Matt Ruch at first base for the third out.

Things got even more interesting in the seventh. Back Mountain relief pitcher Doug Harding took the first two batters to full counts, striking out Danny Glass and walking Victor Ortiz.

Northeast's Ben Bauman then hit a soft grounder

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W-B Triathlon Aug. 8

The Pocono Northeast Triathlon Association in conjunction with the Penn State University Lehman campus and Motorworld will host the 23rd annual Wilkes-Barre Triathlon on Sunday, Aug. 8.

The race will start with a 1.5-kilometer swim beginning at 8 a.m. at Sandy Beach at Harveys Lake, will continue with a 40k bike ride and conclude with a 11k run finishing at Penn State-Wilkes Barre.

Applications are available through the Wilkes-Barre Triathlon Web site at lin-

mark@lin-mark.com. Cost is \$65 for individuals, \$105 for a relay team and \$9 for a one-day license for non-USAT members.

The 10th annual Future Triathletes run will be held Saturday, Aug. 7, beginning at the Penn State Lehman campus. Children ages 8-13 can participate in this event for a fee of \$5 in advance or \$7 on the day of the race.

For information on either event or for sponsorship or volunteer opportunities, call the Tri Line at 270-4793 or visit www.wilkesbarretriathlon.com.



The Back Mountain Junior League Softball Section 4 champions. From left, kneeling: Paige Selsenski, Molli Grossman, Taylor Trudgen, Ellen Morgan, Becca Banks. Standing: Laura Kurello, Jenn Margary, Tara Dombzalski, Ally Evans, Jill Spring, Brittany Rice. Absent: Megan Youells.

SECTION 4 JUNIOR SOFTBALL

Back Mountain advances to state tournament

DALLAS — Back Mountain advanced to the state tournament with a pair of wins over Bethlehem.

In the first game, Allison Evans led Back Mountain to a 2-0 victory with a complete-game two-hit shutout and three strikeouts.

Also in the first game, Jill Spring had two hits and Paige Selsenski added a hit.

In the second game, which Back Mountain won 6-4, Ellen Morgan had four strikeouts and allowed four hits and Becca Banks had a pair of hits.

Evans added a double and Jenn Margary singled.

State tournament play was scheduled to begin Friday, making results unavailable for this issue.

Back Mountain 9, Carbino Club 4

July 26 — Ally Evans earned the pitching victory and had two doubles and a single at the plate to pace Back Mountain to a 9-4 victory over Carbino Club in the Section 4 Junior Softball Tournament.

Evans pitched four innings of four-hit ball, striking out three. Ellen Morgan threw three innings of one-hit relief, striking out four. Jillian Spring added three singles, Molly Grossman had a pair of singles and catcher Tara Dombzalski played well defensively.



BMT Baseball 8-9 All-Stars

The 2004 Back Mountain Baseball 8-9-Year-Old All-Stars are, from left, kneeling: Brian Sisk, Drew Harding, Mariano Medico, Chad DeBona, Kris Roccograndi, Neil Shaver. Standing: J.J. McGovern, Jason Simonovich, Craig Skudalski, Mike Carey, Greg Petorak, Frank Henry, Matt Doggett.

Fall youth basketball league forming

Dallas Youth Basketball will hold a fall boys basketball league at Wycallis Elementary School gym from Sept. 1 to Oct. 20. Sessions will be held on Monday and Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:45 p.m. for third, fourth, and fifth graders, and from 7:45-9 p.m. for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders. Cost is \$20 and players must reside within the Dallas School District. Signups will be held on Wed., August 18 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Dallas Borough Recreation Center. For more information, call George Gracely at 639-1467.

Jr. Football meeting

The Dallas Junior Football Association will hold a monthly board meeting on Sunday, August 8 at 7 p.m. at the Dallas Township municipal building on Route 309. The public is welcome to attend.