

SportsWeek

WILKES-BARRE TRIATHLON

Robbins leads local contingent

Staff report

LEHMAN TWP. — Sean Robbins of Shavertown was the top area finisher at 2:13:47, third overall and first in his age group. "I felt good. We had perfect weather. That's good because you can go faster, but everyone else goes faster, too," he said. "The run is always tough. This course has tough hills in bad spots."

Only two professionals competed in the event. The lack of pros in the triathlon, which included 248 individual finishers, is a result of a scarcity of major sponsors, which forced race officials to stop awarding prize money last year.

Ryan Jones of Paoli, Pa., and New Zealand native Fiona Docherty each finished first. Jones had the top overall time at 2 hours, 9 minutes, 48 seconds; Docherty, who now lives in Chadds Ford, Pa., had the top female time at 2:17:16.

Diane Levandoski of Dallas won the Female 45-49 category in 2:53:44, and William Fisk of Dallas finished second in the Male 45-49 category in 2:29:46.

Eleven other local competitors finished in the top ten of their category. They are identified within the listing of all local finishers.

2004 Wilkes-Barre Triathlon results for local competitors

- Overall
 3. Sean Robbins, Shavertown, 2:13:47 (First, Male 30-34)
 28. John McGurk, Dallas, 2:28:59 (Sixth, Male 35-39)
 34. William Fisk, Dallas, 2:29:46 (Second, Male 45-49)
 57. Joseph Boyd, Shavertown, 2:34:48 (Seventh, Male 40-44)
 73. Mark Belenski, Dallas, 2:39:06 (Eighth, Male 40-44)

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11-YEAR-OLD GIRLS SOFTBALL



Sarah Skammer scored Back Mountain's first run after a passed ball through the Hatboro catcher.

Back Mountain takes winners bracket

Staff report

Aug. 10 — Back Mountain recovered to win after giving up five early runs.

Sarah Konopki's infield single with two outs in the bottom of the sixth inning scored Danielle Shaver and gave Back Mountain a 9-8 victory over Mifflin County in the Pennsylvania State 11-year-old Softball Championship winners bracket final played at Lackawanna Little League Field.

Back Mountain played a team to be determined in the championship at 6 p.m. Thursday. Results were not available in time for this issue.

Mifflin County, which fell to the losers bracket, led 5-0 after the first inning but couldn't hold on. Back Mountain scored twice in the bottom of the sixth to pull out the win.

Sara Skammer was the winning pitcher, striking out five. Offensively, Konopki had three hits, Mary Kate Osick had two hits and three RBI and Alexa Decker had two hits.

Back Mountain 13, Hatboro 6

Aug. 8 — Winning pitcher Sarah Konopki pitched a

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FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Alexa Decker, Sara Skammer, and Sara Kohli cheered on their teammates in Back Mountain's 13-6 over Hatboro in the winners bracket of the Pennsylvania State 11-year-old softball tournament Aug. 8 at Christy Mathewson field in Fleetville.

KEYSTONE STATE GAMES

Local players share field hockey gold

Staff report

SCRANTON — Seven Back Mountain area players shared a special experience when the Pocono scholastic female field hockey team dominated that Keystone State Games competition.

Pocono won the gold medal by beating Lehigh Valley 3-0 at the University of Scranton's Fitzpatrick Field. Pocono advanced earlier in the day with a 6-1 victory over Blue Mountain.

In five games in the tournament, Pocono outscored its opponents 24-1 and never trailed.

Many of the players were also on the Pocono junior squad that dominated that division two years ago. The junior division is for players entering 9th and 10th grade, and the scholastic division is for players entering 11th and 12th grade.

"We all moved up together," said Tam Morris, of Dallas, who plays for Wyoming Seminary. "We were saying if we were all on one team, we'd be amazing."

Other local members of the team were Allison Boris of Shavertown, Amanda Sagan of Dallas, Traci Ragukas of Sweet Valley, Laura Eckman of Shavertown, Lois Kaschenbach of Sweet Valley and Shannon Prescott of Harveys Lake.

Every Pocono player seemed to have at least one shining moment through the final day as the team took control of both games quickly. Pocono led Blue Mountain 4-1 at half-time, and scored all three goals against Lehigh Valley in the first 30 minutes.

"We've been competing with each other for so long," Morris said. "We know these are the best players on each team. We were unselfish because we knew we could count on each other."

Pocono won a pair of shutout games to advance to the semifinals.

Traci Ragukas of Sweet Valley had a goal in the 3-0 victory over Lehigh Valley.

Ragukas, Boris and Morris Dallas had goals in a 4-0 victory over Allegheny.

JUNIOR FIELD HOCKEY

Lipski's effort not quite enough for Pocono

Staff report

SCRANTON — Jaime Lipski of Lehman scored twice in regulation for Pocono, which then fell in overtime, 3-2, to Lehigh Valley in the gold medal game

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KEYSTONE GAMES GOLF

Matt Franko wins Keystone gold

Staff report

BEAR CREEK — Matt Franko, a junior at Tunkhannock, shot 75-76-76—227 to win the 11th grade division at the Keystone State Games youth golf competition at Wilkes-Barre Golf Club and finish second overall. It's his second consecutive gold medal.

"I tried not to watch my opponent and just do my own thing, make a lot of pars," he said. "It helps me a lot going into the season. I got three good rounds together. It's good for my confidence."

In the junior female division, Brittany Prater took the bronze medal with a 286.

In the 8th/9th grade division, Greg Nothstein placed second at 284.

Area Keystone Games medal winners

These were local medal winners in the Keystone State Games:

BOWLING

Gold — Karen Laskowski, Dallas; Travis Doty, Hunlock Creek.

Silver — Constance Doty, Harveys Lake; Leonard Laskowski, Dallas; Kristen Borger, Dallas.

Bronze — Lori Piazza, Dallas; Willy Parsons, Harveys Lake; Matthew Piazza, Shavertown.

KARATE

Gold — Amanda Roche, Dallas; David Benkoski, Dallas; Cody Sabecky, Shavertown (plus 3 silver); Susan Trombetta, Shavertown.

Silver — Pat O'Brien, Harveys Lake.

POWERLIFTING

Bronze — Phil Bullock, Dallas.

TABLE TENNIS

Gold — Merritt Saxe, Sweet Valley (plus 1 silver).

Silver — Phil Saxe, Sweet Valley.

MASTERS SWIMMING

Gold — Mark O'Brien, Shavertown (3 gold); Keith Augustine, Shavertown (2 gold plus 1 bronze); Marion Austin, Tunkhannock (2 gold); Jodi Crimmel, Tunkhannock (plus 1 silver); Sam Piccolotti, Shavertown (3 gold); Gary Taroli,

Dallas (2 gold plus 1 silver and 1 bronze).

Bronze — Tim Mislevy, Tunkhannock (2 bronze).

SWIMMING

Gold — Abigail Berger, Dallas, Stacey Stepiak, Dallas.

Silver — Sara Crimmel, Tunkhannock, Abigail Berger, Dallas; Tommy Runscavage, Shavertown; Courtney Austin, Tunkhannock; Ashley Emershaw, Shavertown (plus 1 bronze); Kira Szulborski, Shavertown (2 silver); Lucy Reilly, Shavertown.

DIVING

Gold — Alaric Eby, Dallas.

Bronze — Mike Glicini.

WRESTLING

Gold — Neil Dierolf, Harveys Lake.

TRACK

Gold — Brandon Burkhardt, Dallas.

Silver — Jim Post, Dallas. Bronze — Austin Thomas, Tunkhannock; Annie Sorchik, Harveys Lake.

CROSS COUNTY

Gold — Robert Opel, Dallas; Janis Winter, Shavertown.

Silver — Scott Webb, Dallas; John Sobocinski, Dallas; Sarah Austin, Sweet Valley.

Bronze — Joe Perry, Falls; Russ Susko, Trucksville; Randy White, Tunkhannock; Jerry Pitkus, Tunkhannock.

Hennigan/Musto win Irem Potentate

DALLAS TWP. — The team of Ed Hennigan and Bill Musto Jr. defeated the twosome of Wally Kuharchik and Ron Pieczynski 4-and-3 Sunday, Aug. 8 in the finals of the championship flight of the Potentate Golf Tournament at Irem Temple Country Club.

The winning duo knocked off Jim Hoover and Bill Gaylord in the semifinals Sunday morning while Kuharchik and Pieczynski ousted John Kotis and Mark Kopec.

Hennigan and Musto entered Saturday's match play tournament as the 10th seeds, compared to the No. 1 status of Kuharchik and Pieczynski.

Consistency played a huge role in the match-play rounds for the winners. They didn't bo-

gey any hole the entire weekend and shot 5-under-par 68 in each match with the exception of the finals, when they fired 3-under 70.

Championship Flight

Aug. 8 matches
 Championship Final — Hennigan/Musto def. Kuharchik/Pieczynski 4-and-3.

Semifinals — (1) Walt Kuharchik/Ron Pieczynski def. (5) John Kotis/Mark Kopec; (10) Ed Hennigan/Bill Musto def. (6) Jim Hoover/Bill Gaylord.

Final Results

Beaten 12's

1. Dr. Chuck Brand/Tom Bevevino (71)
2. Charles Gelso/Tony Kondracki (71)

3. Kevin Fisher/Lou Belgio (71)
4. Ron Pokrinchak/Mike Metz (72)

Flight One

1. Jim Breck/John Mulhern (135)
2. Roy Smith/Mike Lazevnick (139)
3. Rom Kilduff/Bob Jones (142)
4. Jeff Allen/Joe Allen (145)
5. Ryan Holthaus/Tom Motovidlak (145)
6. Phil Lipski/Bob Lipski (147)

Flight Two

1. Ky Saitta/Tony Clapps (145)
2. Glenn Johnson/Jack Serafin (147)
3. Don Stein/Rollie Schmidt (149)
4. A.J. Bittner/Frank Lombardo (153)
5. Ralph Brown/Chet Blazick (153)
6. John Bittner/Derrick Tamburo (155)

Flight Three

1. Steve Federici/Pete Pitarra (146)

2. Brian Hampel/B. Evans (148)
3. Dave Kaschak/Carl Kaschak (150)
4. Don Cragle/Jason Pozniak (150)
5. Mike Poceschi/Brian Poceschi (154)
6. Dave Sutton/Mike Harper (155)

Flight Four

1. Joe Marut/George Marut (154)
2. George Conklin/Mark Jones (159)
3. Bob Bolton/Steve Skammer (160)
4. Jim Carr/John McCarthy (161)
5. Charlie Hampel/Ron Orkwis (163)
6. Bob Roberts/Jack Bonczewski (163)

Flight Five

1. Jack Yapple/Joe Perugino (159)
2. SD.L. Saedvary/Seltzer (160)
3. Ed Maier/Ralph Tamarantz (167)
4. Bill Race/Randy Mark (170)
5. Howie Sengston/James Shandra (170)
6. Jim Cocolin/Bill Cocolin (170)

BMT American captures Kubis championship

The Back Mountain American 11-year-old all-star team came out of the losers bracket to capture the Kubis Tournament championship with a 6-3 win over Northwest in the championship game.

Winning pitcher Steve Ruch scattered six hits and struck out eight to lead American. Kevin Muldoon, Mark Malloy and Travis DeBona had two hits apiece for Back Mountain. Muldoon, Malloy and Ruch all doubled. Adam Goeringer singled and scored. Losing pitcher Bryan Mathers struck out five for Northwest, and Dylan Wasylyk doubled.

Shown are team members, from left, kneeling: Aaron Perez, Travis DeBona, Steve Ruch, Marc Malloy, Jim Youngman, and Brandon Harding. Standing: John McCarthy, Brandon Roberts, Kevin Muldoon, Bobby Saba, Adam Goeringer, and Scott Napkora. Absent from photo: Zack Dirska.



Fall baseball signups

Back Mountain Baseball will hold registration for the fall instructional league Sunday, Aug. 15, at the Little League field, from 4 to 6 p.m. The league is for boys ages 8-11. The registration fee is \$15 per player. Play begins in late August. For more information, call 696-1472 or 696-5974.