

Sports Week

PIAA DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dallas trio hopes to continue winning ways

By CHRIS BELL
Post Correspondent

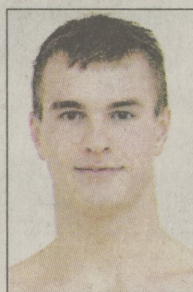
Three Dallas High School divers will look to continue their winning ways when they compete at the PIAA Championships this week at Bucknell University.

Senior Whitney Bolton and freshman Erica Lisses will compete Wednesday in the girls meet while Alaric Eby will participate in the boys championships on Thursday.

According to Dallas coach Matt Stretanski, Bolton and Eby want to improve their finishes from last year's state meet, while Lisses hopes to make the most of the experience. "The kids are really excited



Whitney Bolton



Alaric Eby

about the state meet," said Stretanski. "They performed really well at districts and want to prove what they can do against the

champion, is considered one of the favorites after his fourth place finish a year ago. "He has tremendous athletic ability and he has the experience of competing as this level. He'd like to improve on last year's finish," said Stretanski.

Bolton, a two-time District 2 champion, placed 14th at the state meet a year ago and hopes to advance to the final cut of 12 divers this year.

best in the state." Eby, a three-time District 2

See DIVERS, Page 8

DISTRICT 2 CLASS 2A SWIMMING



FOR THE POST/JONATHAN J. JUUKA

Dallas' Marcy Romanoski swims the 100 breast stroke at District 2 Class 2A swimming March 5. Romanoski finished with a time of 1:22:31.

Game Commission recruits new officers class

Applications due by April 1, and can be filed on-line.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission is beginning to recruit applicants for its 27th class of Wildlife Conservation Officer trainees.

Applications will be accepted from until April 1, or until 900 applications are received, whichever occurs first. Applications are available from the Civil Service Commission; the Game Commission Personnel Office at 2001 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797; or any of the six Game Commission region offices.

Applications also may be filed on-line by going to the State Civil Service Commission's website (www.sccs.state.pa.us), click on "Job Opportunities," then select "Law Enforcement, Investigation and Safety," and scroll down to the listing for "Wildlife Conservation Officer trainee."

Wildlife Conservation Officers are covered by the Civil Service Act of Pennsylvania. Applicants must be in excellent physical condition, have a knowledge of hunting and outdoor activities, and be able to maintain an effective working relationship with associates and the general public.

Employees are selected and appointed following a competitive examination conducted by the State Civil Service Commission. Officers begin their careers as Trainees assigned to the Ross Leffler School of Conservation, the Game Commission's in-service training school located in Harrisburg. Wildlife Conservation Officer Trainee classes are periodically recruited as necessary to maintain the complement of field personnel.

Applicants must be: a resident of Pennsylvania; have a high school diploma or G.E.D. equivalency; at least 21 years of age as of the date of enrollment at the Training School; possess a valid Pennsylvania driver's license; and pass competitive written and oral examinations administered by the Civil Service Commission.

Any offer of employment is conditional upon successful completion of medical, vision, hearing, physical, strength, stress, agility and swimming

See GAME, Page 8



FOR THE POST/FRED ADAMS

Guard Chris DeRojas looks for an outlet as he brings the ball up court against a Pius X defender. The Queensmen took a relatively easy 68-48 win in the first round state Class A playoff game.

PIAA CLASS A BASKETBALL

O'Reilly boys cruise to playoff win

Staff report

WILLIAMSPORT — Josh Aciekewicz was virtually unstoppable inside the paint and guard Tim Crossin was draining shots from outside as the Queensmen cruised to an impressive 85-58 victory March 9 over Elkland in the second round of the PIAA Class A playoffs at Williamsport High School.

The 6-foot-5 Aciekewicz scored a game-high 25 points despite taking a pounding from the Elkland defense for most of the game.

The game was close for the first four minutes. Elkland tied the score at 9 with 4:15 left in the first quarter and then Aciekewicz and Crossin took charge. The duo scored the final 18 points of the quarter, while Elkland went scoreless, and the Queensmen took a 27-9 lead after the first eight minutes. Aciekewicz sparked the 18-0 run

with a three-point play and Crossin followed with seven consecutive points.

Crossin, who finished with 24 points, said it was the Queensmen's best quarter of basketball this season.

Bishop O'Reilly coach Mark Belenski said his team played a near flawless game.

"We were hitting on all cylinders, especially in the first quarter. Aciekewicz played a great game," Belenski said.

Other local players contributing to the win were Chris Kester with seven points, Chris DeRojas with six and Conor Judge with two.

Defending state champion Bishop O'Reilly (27-4) faced D1 champion Faith Christian Academy (26-4) March 11 in the quarterfinals. This issue was printed before results were available. The Queensmen defeated the D1 champion Lions 70-50 on Dec. 8, 2004.

Local swimmers make a splash

Caroline Byron wins double gold, while Dallas and Tunkhannock turn in good team stats.

Bishop Hoban's Caroline Byron closed out her District 2 swimming career in style, winning gold medals in both the 50- and 100-yard freestyle events in the Class 2A Swimming Championships.

"I'm happy with how everything turned out," Byron said. "It's kind of hard to believe it's over."

Byron won the 100 freestyle March 5 in 51.63 seconds, just shy of the meet record of 51.47 she set last year. It was the third consecutive year she won the race. The only year she didn't win the event at districts was her freshman year, when her older sister Liz won it.

The day before she took gold in the 50 freestyle with a time of 23.79, again shy of the meet record she set in 2004.

Kira Szulborski turned in the top individual performances for Dallas, with a second in the 200 individual medley and third in the 50 freestyle.

Lake-Lehman's fledgling girls team had two strong finishes. Megan Devine was seventh in the 50-yard freestyle and the team of Devine, Caroline Boris, Leyse Apaliski and Amanda Frain finished 11th in the 200 medley relay.

Dallas, with a balanced effort, finished third in the team standings and Tunkhannock was sixth.

On the boys side, Tunkhannock senior Steve VanDuzer won the 50 freestyle and finished second in the 100 freestyle.

Tunkhannock finished third in the team standings and Dallas was fifth.

Results appear on page 9.



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Swimming by age

Kelsey Augustine finished seventh in the 200 individual medley for girls 14 and under during the Northeast PA Age Group Swim League championships. The meet was held March 6 at the Dallas Middle School Natatorium, with 12 teams competing. Another photo and local place winners, page 9.

Dallas district wrestling medalists

Six Dallas High wrestlers won medals at the District 2 Class AA tournament. From left, standing: John McCue, 5th at 215 lb.; Josh Anderson, 6th at 160 lb.; Brian Goeringer, 3rd at 171 lb.; Alan Pugh, 5th at Hwt. Kneeling: Joey Hayes, 3rd at 112 lb. and John Hettes, 1st at 130 lb. Hettes, Hayes and Goeringer qualified for the AA Regional tournament, held March 4-5 at Williamsport.



NORTHEAST REGIONAL WRESTLING

Lake-Lehman's dynamic duo are only local matmen at states

Staff report

Lake-Lehman senior wrestlers Matt Dragon and Andy Josuweit continued their winning ways, taking home titles at the Northeast Regional Wrestling Championships, held March 4-5 in Williamsport.

Dragon, who wrestles at 152 pounds, ran his record to 41-0 in anticipation of the state championships, and Josuweit, 145, was 36-4 after eking out a 1-0 win

over District 4 champion Erik Smith, ranked sixth in the state. The state championships took place too late for results to be included in this issue.

Dallas senior John Hettes (130) and Lake-Lehman junior Stan Brudnicki (215) each finished fourth at regionals, just missing a trip to states. Lake-Lehman's Jeremy Schutz (140) suffered consecutive losses on the second day of competition to finish sixth.

Send your sports reports by e-mail thepost@leader.net