

# Sports Week

## DISTRICT 16 PLAYOFFS



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Travis DeBona slipped into home for Back Mountain American as Exeter's Ryan Carey tried to cover.

### D16 LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

**EXETER, July 11** — Steven Ruch tossed a complete-game three-hitter and struck out eight as Back Mountain American advanced to the District 16 Little League winners bracket final with a 5-2 win against Exeter. Ruch helped his

own cause a three-run home run.

Exeter took a 2-0 lead in first inning, but the winners took control in

the third. After Ruch's blast, Aaron Perez added a sacrifice fly and

Adam Goering scored on an error in the third to give Back Mountain a 4-2 lead.

Travis Debona and Brandon Harding led American with two hits apiece.

### BMT National 12, Newport Township 0

**DALLAS, July 11** — Marc Noyalis had three hits, Austin Carr added two and Kevin Gilbert hit

a three-run home run as Back Mountain National advanced to the District

16 Little League winners bracket final.

In addition to those three players, T.J. Shultz, Jeff Heath and winning

pitcher Hayden Jenkins each drove in a run.

### Plains 6, Bob Horlacher 1

**BEAUMONT, July 8** - Mike Thomas homered and Bill Dickson and Ryan Murphy had singles for Horlacher.

### BMT American 10, Bob Horlacher 3

**DALLAS, July 7** — Zack Dirs hit a three-run homer in the third inning and finished with four RBI to help American to a winners bracket victory. Adam Goering added three hits and three RBI for American. Steve Ruch had two solo homers. Chase Knott had three hits for Horlacher.

### Back Mountain National 11, Jenkins Twp. 1



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Ashley Inman pitched for Horlacher.



FOR THE POST/FRED ADAMS

Back Mountain National's Kevin Gilbert got a high five from his coach as he rounded third base, after smacking a game-ending home run in the fifth inning July 11 against Newport Township.

**DALLAS, July 7** — Marc Noyalis homered and Austin Carr had three hits including a double to pace National to a winners bracket victory. T.J. Shultz had a triple and double for National. Chad Carey fanned five and allowed three hits for the victory. John Castellino homered for Jenkins Township.

### D16 SENIOR BASEBALL

**WILKES-BARRE, July 12** — Winning pitcher Dylan Seeley fired a complete-game six-hitter,

striking out six as Back Mountain advanced in the winner's bracket of the District 16 Senior League tournament with a 7-1 win against Plains/North Wilkes-Barre. Mike Zaleskas and Tom Parrish had two hits each, including a double.

Ryan Konopki and Kevin Racemus each hit a double for the winners.

### Wyoming/West Wyoming/Exeter 8, Bob Horlacher 1

**BEAUMONT, July 21** — Peter

Kelly took the loss for Bob Horlacher in a District 16 Senior League baseball game. No additional information was provided.

### Bob Horlacher 9, West Pittston 8 (9)

**WEST PITTSTON, July 9** — Fred Mihal singled in the game-winning run in the bottom of the ninth and also doubled as Bob Horlacher edged West Pittston. Josh Jasterzenski pitched a complete game for the win and also

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Excellent defensive play like this from Harveys Lake's Jen O'Brien could not stop the Back Mountain Little League softball all-stars from beating Horlacher/Harveys Lake 19-6. Meghan Martin was out at first.

## DISTRICT 16 SENIOR LEAGUE SOFTBALL

# Harveys Lake girls win title

BY DAVE KONOPKI  
Post Staff

It has been more than decade since the Harveys Lake Little League organization has been able to fly a new championship softball flag over the field on West Point Avenue. But thanks to some quality hitting, a solid defense and a good attitude, the wait is over.

The Harveys Lake Senior League softball team recently captured the District 16 championship with a pair of wins against Wyoming/West Wyoming, including a 13-5 victory in the title contest.

Harveys Lake opened the tourney with a forfeit win against Northwest before posting an impressive 13-1 win against Wyoming/West Wyoming. Harveys Lake had defeated Northwest and Wyoming/West Wyoming during the regular season. It also beat a team from Back Mountain that did not enter the tourney.

"We felt coming in that we had as good a shot (to win the championship) as anyone else," said manager Wayne Devine. "For most of these girls, this is probably the last year they'll play. So I think winning a championship makes it a little more special for them. Even though there were only three teams in the tournament, it was nice to come out on top."

"I think we're hitting a lot better than we did the last two years. The girls are also a little older. Other than that, there really isn't much of a difference between this year's team and teams in previous years."

But this year's team is also going into rare territory. By winning the district championship, Harveys Lake earned a berth in the Section 5 playoffs, where the winner of the double-elimination tournament will earn a trip to the state playoffs.

The team opened sectional play with a game against Stroudsburg at the Jessup Little League complex in Jessup. It marks Harveys Lake's first trip to any section playoff game since its Senior League baseball team won the district championship in 1999.

In this year's district title game, Ramah Williams and Megan Devine each hit three-run triples and Marteen Besteder went 4-for-5 for Harveys Lake. Lauren Litchman added three hits and Devine picked up the mound win, striking out six in seven innings.

Devine has handled most of the pitching duties for

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## Dallas leads Division II softball all-stars

The Wyoming Valley Conference girls softball all-stars were recently selected during a meeting before the senior all-star game. The Division I and II all-stars were chosen by the divisional coaches. The Division III all-stars were chosen by a combined effort of the divisional coaches and the Times Leader sports team.

Dallas led the Division II choices with five players; pitcher Lauren Collini, catcher Kasey Corbett, outfielders Allie Evans and Lindsey McCabe and designated hitter/pitcher Sara Swepston. Lake-Lehman was represented by pitcher Sheree Horvath, infielder Jess Maciejczak and outfielder Joscelyn Mahon.

## Local pair on top field hockey Futures team

Two local players were members of the USA East field hockey team that won the gold medal on July 12 at the National Futures Tournament in Virginia Beach, Va. USA East won the championship with a 4-0 victory over USA South in the final. Local members of the team were Kelsey Lloyd of Shavertown and Tara Puffenberger of Dallas. Both play for Wyoming Seminary.

USA East dominated the tournament on the way to winning the gold medal, winning six games by a combined score of 23-0. The USA East team was made up of players from Pennsylvania, as is part of the U.S. Field Hockey Association's Future Program.

In the Futures program, players train at local sites around the nation, and qualify for the National Futures Tournament through regional qualifying. There were six teams in the U-14 field, with 17 players on a team.

Players in the U-14 and U-16 division are eligible to be selected for the Junior Olympics, and those picks will be announced at a later date.

## Youth boys basketball camp at Lake-Lehman

A basketball camp for third to sixth grade boys attending Lehman-Jackson, Ross or Lake-Noxen elementary schools in the fall will be held July 25-29, 9 a.m. to noon, at the Lake-Lehman High School gymnasium. The camp is being organized as Alan Sheridan's senior graduation project. Cost of the camp is \$15. Deadline for registration is July 17. For more information, call Alan at 639-1997. Applications can be picked up at the main office at Lake-Lehman High School.

## Soccer club accepting applicants

The Wyoming Valley Soccer Club is accepting applicants for their travel teams. Teams for boys and girls currently U-8, U-9, and U-10 are now forming. Interested parents can contact: Chris Scharff, 675-3182; Javier Rodriguez, 472-3299; Jerry McDonald, 333-4814.