

# Sports Week

Dallas diver going for state title

## Eby preparing to take place in diving history

By DAVE KONOPKI  
Post Editor

DALLAS TWP. — Four years ago, he was diving into the water at Moon Lake Park.

Now, Alaric Eby is attempting to dive into history — and the record books.

The Dallas High School senior is hoping to become the first diver in the history of the Wyoming Valley Conference to win back-to-back state diving championships when he competes at the PIAA Class 2A championships Saturday, March 18 at Bucknell University.

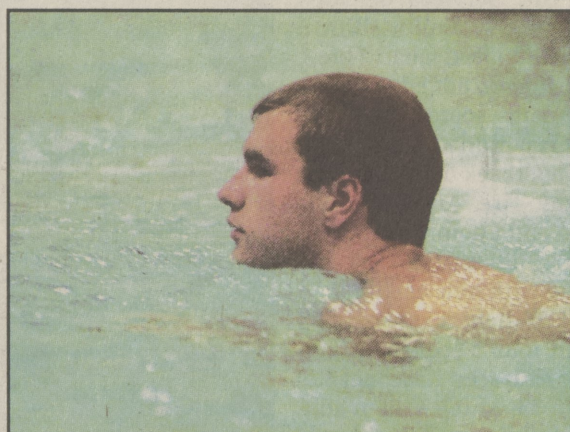
At press time, Eby was preparing to compete in the District 2 Class 2A diving championships at the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center in Wilkes-Barre. The son of Barry and Judy Eby of Dallas Township — who will compete for the diving team at Cornell University next season — entered the event as the overwhelming favorite, having captured the championship in each of the past three years.

After that competition, he finally gets to focus on making history at Bucknell.

"It would mean a lot," said Eby, referring to the possibility of winning a second state championship. "I try hard not to think about it. All year long I've been taking it one meet at a time."

The 18-year-old has already taken his place among local diving history. In addition to winning the district championship each year, Eby has also broken most records at many WVC pools. He certainly would have broken more, but not all local high schools keep diving records.

It's been a long time since a local diver defeated Eby in competition. He hasn't been defeated in WVC competition since his sophomore year. And he can



Alaric Eby of Dallas High School, surfaces after completing a dive during a recent meet.



TIMES LEADER FILE PHOTOS/S. JOHN WILKIN

Dallas diver Alaric Eby hopes to win his second consecutive state diving championship.

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### YOUTH BASKETBALL



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Jake Simon goes up for a basket during a Dallas Youth Basketball playoff game.

## Top seed survives to play another day

Dallas Youth Basketball tipped off its annual playoff action last weekend at Wycallis Elementary School. In the seventh/eighth grade boys division, semifinal action will take place this weekend, while the championship game is set for 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26 at Wycallis. In the semifinals, Dr. Jack Ellis will face Bishop Photo, and Offset Paperback plays Digital Print Services.

Here's a look at last week's action:

- Ryan McAndrew scored eight of his 18 points in the fourth quarter as top-seeded Dr. Jack Ellis survived a quarterfinal scare by edging D.J. Charlie Hayes, 39-37. Taylor Dunn added six points for the

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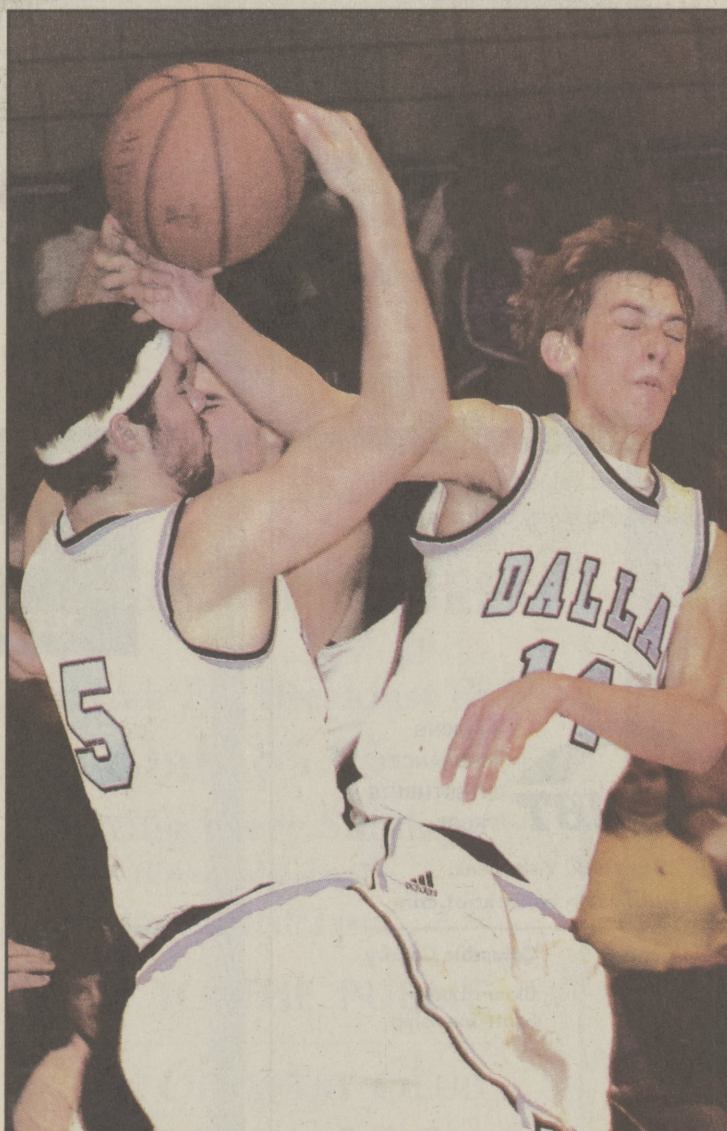
FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Ryan McAndrew attempts to keep possession of the ball while Mark Noyalis defends.



PHOTOS FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Ben Thomas looks to pass the ball to a teammate during a playoff game against Pittston Area.



Dallas players Ben Thomas (14) and Mike Race (5) battle for a loose ball.

## Mountaineers continue District 2 playoff run

The Dallas boys basketball team advanced to the quarterfinals of the District 2 Class 3A playoffs earlier this week with an easy 72-46 win against Pittston Area. At press time, the third-seeded Mountaineers were getting ready to take the court against No. 6 seed Valley View. The playoff road for the Lake-Lehman boys came to an end, but not without a fierce battle. The Black Knights played toe-to-toe with Blue Ridge before suffering a 65-54 loss in a Class 2A game. In girls action, Dallas and Lake-Lehman were preparing to take the court in their respective first-round games.



Nick Samanas of Dallas attempts to block the shot of Pittston Area's Joe Lanza.