

# VOLLEYBALL

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the kids might be a little down after last year. But they came into the season very excited. They're so much more focused. It's been a more enjoyable season."

Lake-Lehman has been led by seniors Alan Sheridan, Will Barber, Grant Roberts and Kevin Konicki. Sophomore Bruce Mosier has also been playing well. Sheridan has missed about two weeks with an abdominal injury, but the rest of the team has stepped up its game, said Pickett.

"We have some good senior leadership," he said. "We're doing well, but we're a little too streaky. We have moments when we're up and down. You have to be mentally prepared in volleyball. When we are, we're a tough team to stop."

Pickett says he learned a lot about the sport under Baranowski.

"He taught me so much," said

**"There are no shortcuts. You have to push yourself hard. If you don't, you're only hurting yourself."**

Noah Pickett  
Lake-Lehman coach

Pickett, who was also Baranowski's assistant coach for a year. You need hard work and a lot of dedication. As a coach, you have to pound the basics first. There are no shortcuts. You have to push yourself hard. If you don't, you're only hurting yourself."

Dallas has been getting solid performances from seniors Mike Miller, Brian Feleccia and first-year player Mike Rovinski. Freshman Colin Grube has also established himself as a player to watch.

"We have good chemistry," said Williams. "Our communication has to be a little better. Sometimes, we're running into each other. If we learn to talk to each other, we'll be okay."

The Mountaineers have the

most challenging part of the season on the horizon. Dallas enters a four-game stretch with games against Tunkhannock, Nanticoke Area, Lake-Lehman and Bishop Hoban. The latter two teams are undefeated and Hoban is the defending champion. The Dallas versus Lake-Lehman matchup is set for Monday, May 1 and the top eight teams make the playoffs.

"This part of the season is going to make or break us," said Williams. "If we can go 2-2 during that stretch, we'll be in good shape. We have a good chance at finishing with a 7-4 record or maybe even an 8-3 record. After being 6-9 last year, that's quite an improvement."

Williams says it might take a year or two for Dallas to enter the upper-echelon tier of teams with Bishop Hoban, North Pocomo and Lake-Lehman.

"Those systems are established," he said. "Our system is just getting started. We have a talented team, but to be honest, I'm still figuring out the system. This year is definitely a step in the right direction."

# TRACK

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me. But this is a very hectic time of the year."

The Dallas boys have been led by sprinter Mike McAndrew, who runs the 100, 200 and 4x100 relay. Senior Ben Thomas has established himself as a solid triple jumper, junior Adam Singer is one of the top distance runners and sophomore Doug Harding has been doing well in the javelin. Samuel also praised the efforts of seniors Ed Daris and Alaric Eby. Both athletes compete in the relays, while Eby - a

two-time state Class 2A champion diver - is also a sprinter.

"Ed Daris doesn't get a lot of publicity, but he's done a great job for us," Samuel said. "And you have to give credit to Alaric for coming out for track after having such a great diving season."

The Dallas girls team is the defending WVC Division II champion. The Mountaineers are led by Syracuse University-bound Lisa Giacometti and University of North Florida-bound Hillary Adams. Kenslie Kerestes is another outstanding runner, while Cassie Snider recently broke her own school record in the triple jump with a leap of 35 feet, 2 inches. Paige Selenski is the

team's top sprinter.

"Those girls are already doing things that make the rest of the conference take notice," Samuel said. "And they're not done. I think the best is yet to come."

And it doesn't bother the fifth-year coach if his team is wearing a bulls-eye.

"A lot of people saying we're the favorite. I don't mind it," Samuel said. "We have a lot of talent back from last year and graduation losses didn't hit us as hard as it did some teams. We have a good mix of younger and older girls. We have some outstanding seniors, but some of our younger are really stepping up and doing well."

# LEHMAN

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tough. I think Dallas is the team to beat in the 4x800."

The numbers have increased for the Lake-Lehman boys team, which has more than 30 athletes on the roster. The Black Knights are among the top teams in the WVC Division II.

"We're happy with our boys," Sobocinski said. "We're trying to build the boys program back to where it used to be. You need to

have numbers to have success in this sport. We've been making an effort to get more kids out. Basketball coach Dave Clancy has done a great job sending a lot of his kids our way."

Among the top boys performers are long jumpers Kyle Poluske and Steve Schwartz. Both jumpers went over the 19-foot mark earlier this week, defeating a jumper from Meyers who will most likely be the odds-on favorite at the district meet. Junior Justin Amy runs a strong 800 and is part of a solid relay squad, while freshman Mike Ryan ran 10

minutes, 20 seconds in the 2-mile run at Susquehanna Invitational last week. He placed fifth among Class 2A boys.

Sobocinski says he's flattered when people think of his track and field program as one of the best in the region.

"I'm happy with where our program is," he said. "There's always room for improvement. I think we're always looking for more depth and at times I keep thinking we're a year away. But we've have a solid, competitive program."

# OLIVER

Continued from Page 1

perintendent is found. Lake-Lehman has always been great to me, so I decided to do it."

Oliver says the position won't be permanent.

"I knew they would only need me for a couple of months," he said. "It's my assumption that a new superintendent will be in this office on July 1. I would expect the search to be completed a new person named by the May (school board) meeting. Most contracts usually end at the end of the fiscal year, which is June 30. That's why I'm assuming a new person will be here July 1."

The first time back through the doors was a little strange, said Oliver.

"It was a little like déjà vu,"

he said. "I felt like I was home again."

The scene was also vastly different.

"The physical change at the school has been dramatic," he said. "But I think even more dramatic is the turnover in staffing. There have been a lot of people who have left since 2003. I walk down the halls and the faces have changed."

Although he's needed periodically to put out a few little fires and serve in an advisory role, Oliver spends most of his time working on four things - the search for a new superintendent, putting the budget together for the next fiscal year, and searching for a new head football coach and athletic director.

And the first is the most important.

"The selection of a new superintendent is the most important decision this district will have made in the last 25

years," Oliver said. "We need a long-term person who will be here for many years. We need someone to come in here and chart the course for the district."

A new football coach will most likely be approved by the school board at its April 25 meeting, although the search for an athletic director is going to take longer. Greg Myers, who recently took the football job at Crestwood, wore both hats at Lake-Lehman.

When his time as the interim superintendent expires, Oliver will go back to enjoying golfing, fishing and other activities with his wife Carol, who also retired in 2002 after many years in the district. Though many of the middle management team at Lake-Lehman is young, Oliver says the district has a bright future.

"I think it's in good hands," he said. "There are a lot of very intelligent young people working here. I didn't mind stepping in and helping the district. I've enjoyed being home again."

# AMUSEMENT

Continued from Page 1

The park closed after the 1984 season and on Sept. 26, 1984, the rides at Don Hanson's Amusement Park were auctioned. Only a few of the Hanson rides have remained intact elsewhere. The Merry-Go-Round was leased in 1987 to Old Town, a park in Kissimmee, Fla. The miniature train, with its four-cylinder Ford gasoline engine, cab and three coaches, built in 1948 by the Bitler company of Elmira, N.Y., is now the Bonneville-Pine Creek Railroad in Register, near Benton.

The Back Mountain Historical Association works in collaboration with the Luzerne County

Historical Society and College Misericordia to collect photographs, oral history interviews, and local history about the Back Mountain area including Kingston Township, Trucksville, Shavertown, Dallas, Harveys Lake, Lehman Township and Sweet Valley.

Photographs in the Back Mountain photograph database can be seen at [www.backmountain.org](http://www.backmountain.org). The Back Mountain Historical Association is interested in historic photographs of Fernbrook and Hanson's Amusement Park, local movie theatres, drive-in movie theatres, businesses, parks and homes. Photographs can be donated or will be scanned and promptly returned.

Anyone interested in donating photographs to the database

should call Harrison Wick, College Misericordia archivist, at 674-6420. You may also visit the Sister Mary Carmel McGarigle archives on the third floor of College Misericordia's Mary Kintz Bevevino Library.

To learn more about Hanson's Amusement Park visit [www.harveyslake.org](http://www.harveyslake.org).

The association holds meetings twice a year, usually in April and October. The last meeting attracted more than 170 people, who listened to Harry Owens Jr., discuss the Back Mountain Railroad. For more information about the Back Mountain Historical Association or to reserve seats for the meeting, call Marion Rogers at 674-3341.

The photo on page 1 is courtesy of Charles Petrillo.

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

Puzzles, Page 2

King Crossword  
Answers  
Solution time: 27 mins.

NAT	MED	GAUZE
ODE	ALE	WIRES
VON	VALKYRIES	
ART	STAIN	
KNOB	EYE	PERK
	OLD	VALLEE
OSAGE		DAFFY
VALUED	ADZ	
AXIS	APT	AHOY
	GROOM	APE
VALENTINO	SIN	
AGORA	SAC	TNT
RESEW	ELK	YEA

Rational Numbers  
answers

7	4	1	0	2	
2	8	4	4	1	
3	7	0	5	1	
4	4	8	2	5	7
5	1	1	7	2	
6	1	2	5	8	
3	7	0	5	1	

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B	I	D		R	E	V		P	E	R		D	E	N	I		W	A	N	E	

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