

VOLLEYBALL

Continued from Page 7

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 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 Pocono 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."

LEHMAN

Continued from Page 7

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 longjumpers 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."

PSU W-B

Continued from Page 1

Wilkes-Barre campus will have up-to-date facilities that bear the names of two people who are so closely linked to its history and development," said Penn State president Graham Spanier. "These two buildings remind us of the important role philanthropy plays in helping the University to offer students a first-rate learning environment."

Construction of the Abram Nesbitt III Academic Commons is expected to begin later this year and be completed by August 2007. It will be located across from Hayfield House and compatible in design with that historic structure.

"The Nesbitt Academic Commons will ease the space and technology restrictions that cur-

rently hinder many campus programs, and will pay dividends in the form of generations of students who receive a truly outstanding Penn State education," Spanier said.

Renovation of the current library-the future John Murphy Student Services Building will begin when the new Nesbitt Commons is occupied, and is expected to take a year to complete. John Murphy retired in 2004 after 37 years of service in various capacities at the University. The building will bring together for the first time in a central area such student services as financial aid, academic advising, career guidance and job placement, registration, and group and individual tutoring. The renovations will require substantial electrical, mechanical, and architectural upgrades.

"If you are very lucky in life, you will cross paths with some-

one with the wisdom and kindness of Dean Murphy," said Barry. "For 37 years, Dean Murphy helped people like me believe in themselves. I arrived at Penn State without the confidence that I could succeed and graduated with the belief that I could. Dean Murphy helped me gain that confidence. I am thrilled to be able to give something back to the University and Dean Murphy."

Barry graduated from Penn State in 1980 with a baccalaureate degree in political science and is now managing director and portfolio manager of a large California-based investment firm.

Penn State has had a permanent presence in the Back Mountain for 90 years. The campus has approximately 800 students. To learn more about the school visit the Web site www.wb.psu.edu.

AMUSEMENT

Continued from Page 1

cluded a dance hall, carousel, arcade, bowling alley, a small roller coaster, miniature railroad, swimming beach, and a Shoot-the-Chute.

By the 1920's, attractions included a shooting gallery, restaurant, bingo, a penny arcade, and dodgem cars. In the early 1930s, John A. Miller and Oscar E. Bittler built a 65-foot high roller coaster called the Speed Hound. In the 1940's, more rides and attractions were added, including a Ferris wheel and a new miniature railroad. Hanson's Drive-in Theater was built in 1948 and Kiddie Land opened in 1950, featuring boats, fire engines, pony carts, a miniature whip, and the Starlight Express, a small wooden children's roller coaster.

In 1980, the Speed Hound roller coaster was structurally damaged and was removed. With rising insurance costs and declining attendance in the early 1980s, many local amusement parks - including Sans Souci, Angela Park and Rocky Glen - were

forced to close. In its last years, the Merry-Go-Round, the Pretzel Ride, the Whip, and Flying Coaster still served Hanson's.

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 Bittler 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.backmoun-

tain.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.

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.

TRACK

Continued from Page 7

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 cham-

pion 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."

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Puzzles, Page 2

King Crossword Answers

Grid for King Crossword answers with words like NAT, MED, GAUZE, ODE, ALE, WIRES, etc.

Rational Numbers answers

Grid for Rational Numbers answers with numbers like 7, 4, 1, 0, 2, etc.

Large crossword grid for puzzle answers.

Pennstar Bank advertisement for home equity loans with 5.52% APR\* and a woman celebrating.

Penn State Wilkes-Barre Open House advertisement for Tuesday April 25, 6:30 p.m.

Just Lawns advertisement for lawn care services with seasonal discounts and contact info.