

Sports Week

SPORTS BRIEFS

American Legion sets baseball tryouts

The Back Mountain Junior and Senior American Legion baseball teams will be holding sign ups and tryouts from 5-6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 6-7 at the Dallas High School field. Senior Legion players (ages 16-19) and Junior Legion players (13-15) are eligible as long as they live in the Dallas or Lake-Lehman school district boundaries.

New players are asked to bring a copy of their birth certificate and players need to come to both tryouts. For more information, call 696-3979 or 714-2625. There is no cost to register and tryout. Fees for the year will be discussed at the tryouts.

Fusion sets U-11 tryout

The Back Mountain Fusion U-11 girls travel soccer team will hold tryouts at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 1 at field behind the Dallas Middle School. The team begins its season in August. For more information, call Anne Marie Sutton at 696-4503.

Trap shoot set for May 6

The Noxen-Monroe Sportsmen's Association will hold a trap shoot at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 6 at El Rancho on Stonetown Road in Noxen. The public is invited.

Soccer camp taking registrations

Penn State Wilkes-Barre is accepting registrations for its annual soccer camp, which will be held June 26-30 at the campus in Lehman Township. Boys and girls in kindergarten through fourth grade will participate in the camp from 9 a.m. to noon, while boys and girls in grades 5-8 will take the field from 12:45-3:45 p.m. The cost of the camp is \$89.

Emphasis will be on technical skills, such as shooting, passing, dribbling, trapping and heading, as well as game tactics including proper positioning, creating space, attacking and defending. Goalie, advanced defensive and advanced offensive skills will be taught in drills for all interested players. There are special discounts available for teams bringing eight or more players.

For more information or to register, contact Ellen Gregorio at 675-9220 or e-mail her at wbsummeryouth@psu.edu.

Golf tournament seeks registrations

The First Lieutenant Michael J. Cleary Golf Tournament will be held Thursday, June 1 at Irem Temple Country Club in Dallas. The captain and crew tournament is being held in honor of Dallas High School graduate Mike Cleary, who was recently killed in action in Iraq.

The entry fee is \$125 per player, which includes lunch, dinner and prizes. There will also be an opportunity to win a new truck with on a hole in one, a \$2,500 putting contest and a \$100,000 par 3 shootout. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the First Lieutenant Michael J. Cleary Memorial Foundation.

Registration forms are available at the Ranch Wagon on Route 309 in Dallas and Minuteman Press in Kingston. For more information, call Chuck Garnett at 675-6575.

Golf leagues to be formed

The Applewood Golf Course on Mount Zion Road in Harding forming leagues for weekday mornings and Friday afternoons. For information about joining a league, call the Pro Shop at 388-2500.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS



Alyssa Pyros, right, of Dallas and Kelcey Cole of Lake-Lehman battle for the ball during a game between the rivals earlier this week.

FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Getting an 'A' at midterms

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Editor

As the Wyoming Valley Conference passes the halfway point in the spring sports regular season, one thing has become clear. The roads to most of the championships are passing through the Back Mountain.

Of the six sports — baseball, softball, boys and girls track and field, girls soccer, boys volleyball and boys tennis — being played, a team from either Dallas or Lake-Lehman is at the top of the standings in five of them.

And in some cases, it's both.

At press time, based upon scores reported to the Times Leader, the Dallas athletic teams have posted a combined 38-8-1 record. The Mountaineer girls and boys track, baseball and softball squads find themselves atop the standings. The Dallas tennis team is near the top of the standings with a 7-1 record, while the volleyball team (5-3) is sixth out of 16 teams.

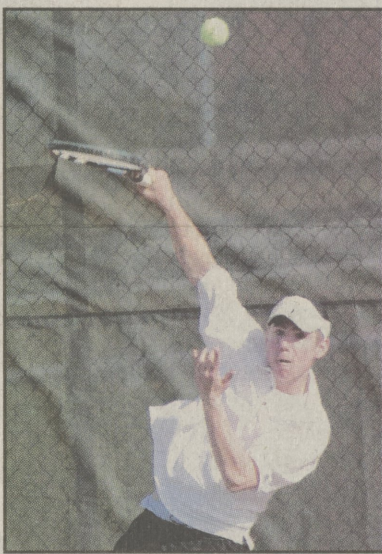
The Lake-Lehman spring sports teams have compiled a 26-14 record. That mark is a little deceiving when one considers the school's girls soccer team accounts for eight of the losses. The record among the other

sports is a combined 24-6. The Black Knights softball team is tied with Dallas with a 7-1 record in Division II, while the girls track and field team is undefeated. The Lake-Lehman and Dallas boys and girls track teams square off Tuesday afternoon at Lake-Lehman.

After losing its first two games, the Black Knights baseball team has a record of 4-3, including a thrilling 12-11 win against rival Dallas. The Lake-Lehman volleyball team, under first-year coach Noah Pickett, has an 8-1 record and sits in second place.

"I think we're playing well, but I don't think hit we've hit our peak yet."

Stacey Stack
Lake-Lehman
softball coach



Mark Covert is one of the reasons the Dallas tennis team is among the best in the WVC.



Lake-Lehman catcher Bill Holesna shows the ball to the umpire after attempting to make the tag on Dallas player Mike Race. Race was called safe.



Lake-Lehman goalkeeper Shannon Bird stops a Dallas shot on goal.

COLLEGE CHOICE

Hannah Sorber taking off to the wild blue yonder

By VAN ROSE
For The Post



Hannah Sorber

LEHMAN TWP. — Hannah Sorber has never been one to back away from challenges. The Lake-Lehman volleyball star proved that by striking fear into the hearts of opposing players in the Wyoming Valley Conference for the last two seasons while leading the Black Knights to back-to-back playoff berths.

So it's not surprising that she decided to take the high road in college. The 5-foot-11 senior setter will continue her volleyball career at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. Sorber was recruited by other Division I schools, but jumped at the opportunity to attend the elite military academy.

"I really want to go forward," said Sorber, 18, who received her appointment April 7. "I would like to be a doctor in the military."

She began applying to the Air Force Academy during her senior season at Lake-Lehman, and impressed the Falcons' volleyball staff while playing in two national tournaments for the Allentown-based Court Authority club team this spring.

"They liked my attitude, aggressiveness and physical capabilities," said the daughter of John and Crystal Sorber, of Harveys Lake.

Sorber is the complete package. She can do just about anything, whether it's setting up a teammate for a perfect kill or taking a match into her own hands.

Her 19-inch vertical leap enables her to play above the net, and she's an awesome blocker. She's an excellent hitter who can beat you with a wicked slam or by tipping the ball over the net. She's a great passer and an excellent server, with the uncanny

ability to keep the defense on its heels. Perhaps most important, Sorber possesses superb leadership skills. She intimidates opponents with her serious style of play. She takes the meaning of intensity to a new level—something she takes pride in.

"I have an intense personality and volleyball is an intense sport," said Sorber, who also owns a 3.95 grade-point average. "Volleyball has just become a passion."

Sorber posted a combined 288 kills, 869 assists, 108 blocks and 78 aces in her last two seasons at Lake-Lehman. She led the Black Knights to a 15-3 record in 2005 and earned first-team all-state honors.

"Hannah's a natural leader," said Lake-Lehman coach Noah Pickett. "She had a huge impact on our team's success. She'd push everyone and she made everybody play at a high level."

Pickett is confident Sorber will enjoy a successful career at the Air Force Academy.

my. "You have to credit her for taking the hard route," he said. "She actually had a full ride to two other schools, but chose the military. She definitely has the mental toughness to handle it."

Sorber credits much of her success to Pickett and former Lake-Lehman coach John Baranowski, who coached her as a junior.

"John Baranowski is the world's greatest coach," she said. "Noah did a great job of following in his footsteps. I would not even have thought about playing volleyball in college without them."

Air Force is a member of the Mountain West Conference. Sorber is one of 12 incoming freshmen and expects to step into the Falcons' lineup right away. She's also excited about the prospect of her parents being able to see her play.

"Some of our games will be on Direct TV, and that's pretty neat."

See MIDTERMS, Page 8