

# Sports Week

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Tennis tournament to be held June 3-4

The Valley Tennis and Swim Club in Trucksville is taking registrations for the inaugural VTSC Scholarship Tournament. The two-day singles tennis tournament for boys and girls 18 and under will be held June 3-4 at the club on Harris Hill Road. The tournament is open to all Luzerne County residents and the deadline for applications is May 31. For more information, call Jack Monick at 696-1414.

Applications and information are available online, along with the schedule of tournaments and activities, at [www.valleytennisandswimclub.com](http://www.valleytennisandswimclub.com).

### Thunder looking for soccer players

The Back Mountain Thunder U-11 boys travel soccer team is looking for players to fill its roster. Interested players born after Aug. 1, 1995 should contact Vito at 574-2180 or 333-5271 for more information.

### Soccer club seeks players

The Wyoming Valley Soccer Club is holding registrations for its developmental teams and fall travel teams. All teams are professionally coached and trained. The teams are open to boys and girls ages 4-18. For more information, contact Jerry McDonald at [J-McDonald@msn.com](mailto:J-McDonald@msn.com) or 333-4814. You may also contact Chris Scharff at [CoachScharff@aol.com](mailto:CoachScharff@aol.com).

### 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](mailto: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.

# Staying in the hunt

At press time, Dallas, Lake-Lehman teams remain alive in district playoffs

By DAVE KONOPKI  
Post Editor

**W**ith district championships and state playoff berths on the line, it's not too hard to find motivated high school athletic teams at this point in the season.

The Dallas girls soccer team is one of them.

At press time, the Mountaineers (13-2-1) were preparing to play unbeaten Berwick (14-0) for the District 2 championship at College Misericordia. Dallas is the defending district champion.

The Mountaineers entered the season as the No. 10 team in the state, according to a statewide ranking committee. But a pair of one-goal losses against Bishop Hoban and a tie against Coughlin during the regular season forced Dallas to enter district play as the No. 3 seed.

"During the season, we felt we had the best team," said head coach Chris Scharff, whose team finished behind Coughlin in the Wyoming Valley Conference A Division, despite beating the Crusaders and playing them to a tie. "But those losses (to Hoban) hurt us. All of a sudden, the other teams are talking about Dallas being the third seed and not being that good. That made the girls hungry. It motivated them. We came into the playoffs wanting to make a point and to prove we're a very good team. Unfortunately, it took the other teams in our league to motivate us."

**"We're peaking at the right time. Our players really believe we can win."**

Brian Gorski  
Lake-Lehman  
baseball coach

The Dallas girls soccer team wasn't the only Back Mountain team alive in the District 2 playoffs when The Post went to press. Hardly.

The Mountaineer softball team (15-3) was preparing to play Riverside in a Class 2A semifinal contest.

In the other softball semifinal, Lake-Lehman (17-1) was preparing for its showdown against top-seeded Lakeland (18-0).

Dallas advanced to the semifinals with a thrilling, 3-2, win against Elk Lake in 13 innings. Winning pitcher Sara Swepston recorded 23 strikeouts and the game-winning single as the Mountaineers avenged last season's playoff loss to the Warriors. Lake-Lehman's

Sheree Horvath tossed a four-hitter and Jill Chocallo had the game-winning hit as the Black Knights downed Nanticoke Area, 4-3.

"At this point of the season, we have a different mindset," said Lake-Lehman softball coach Stacey Ruddy. "Our goal is to survive and advance. I don't think we've played out best game in the playoffs yet. But we've done enough to win."

In baseball action, both Back Mountain teams remained alive. Dallas (9-6) cruised to a 12-2 win against Wyoming Seminary to advance to a quarterfinal game against top-seeded Lackawanna Trail (13-2). Dave Harding was the winning pitcher and Dallas banged out 12 hits, including three home runs.

Dallas entered its game against Lackawanna Trail coming off impres-



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/AIMEE DILGER

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Stacey Ruddy  
Lake-Lehman  
softball coach

**"...when things start going your way, there's a spring in your step. Your spirits are lifted. I think that's how are guys are feeling right now."**

Ken Kashatus  
Dallas baseball coach

Jackson Township resident Dylan Seeley, a member of the Wyoming Seminary baseball team, fires a pitch during a playoff game against Dallas.



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/PETE G. WILCOX

Kayla Caruso of Dallas, left, and Krissy Stanks of Bishop Hoban battle for the ball in a District 2 girls soccer game.



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/PETE G. WILCOX

Kiley Williams of Dallas is surrounded by her teammates following a second-period goal.



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/AIMEE DILGER

Dallas senior Mike Race safely steals a base against Wyoming Seminary.

sive wins against WVC Division II champion Bishop Hoban – in the final game of the regular season – and Wyoming Seminary. Before those victories the Mountaineers had lost four of its last five games.

"When you lose a couple of games in a row, sometimes you come into a game with a negative approach," said head coach Ken Kashatus. "You're

putting in the time, but you're not seeing the results. But when things start going your way, there's a spring in your step. Your spirits are lifted. I think that's how are guys are feeling right now."

Lake-Lehman (11-5) rode the arm of right-hander Scott Davis, who

See **PLAYOFFS**, Page 8