

PUFFENBERGER NAMED TO ELITE FIELD HOCKEY SQUAD

Wyoming Seminary field hockey player Tara Puffenberger of Dallas was recently named to the Kai-zen Squad at the Elite Performance Training Center in Princeton, N.J. The team is composed of mostly elite college prospects from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. The freshman was one of only 26 new players named to the squad following a regional tryout and was the only athlete from Northeastern Pennsylvania to make the squad. Puffenberger will receive advanced field hockey training at the EPTC in Princeton and will practice with national team and U-21 national team members during the summer. As Wyoming Seminary's center-forward last season, Puffenberger was the team's top scorer with 20 goals and seven assists. The daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Mark Puffenberger began playing field hockey four years ago and participates in the national Futures program.



RAPTORS CAPTURE TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP



The Back Mountain Raptors U-12 boys soccer team recently took first place in the premiere division at the Field of Dreams Spring Nether Tournament. Members of the team, from left, are first row are Ray Hassey, Chris Ehret, John Butchko, David Miller, Kieran Sutton and Tom Steinbach. Second row: Zach Shiposh, Austin Bogart, Shane Dunn, Chris Edkins, Ryan Thomas, Cory Ehret, Robert Wingert and Jared Kukosky. Brian O'Donnell is also a member of the team.

WRESTLERS RECEIVE AWARDS AT ANNUAL BANQUET



The Back Mountain Wrestling Club recently held its annual awards banquet. The following team members won awards: Nick Luzetski, Most Improved Wrestler and Eastern National Championship qualifier; Jude Moran, Eastern National Championship qualifier; Matt Doggett, junior wrestling state qualifier; Billy Dixon, Walko Award recipient for his seven seasons with the club; and John Hutchins, the Sportsmanship Award for exemplifying dedication, determination and perseverance. From left are Luzetski, Moran, Doggett, Dixon and Hutchins.

PLAYOFFS

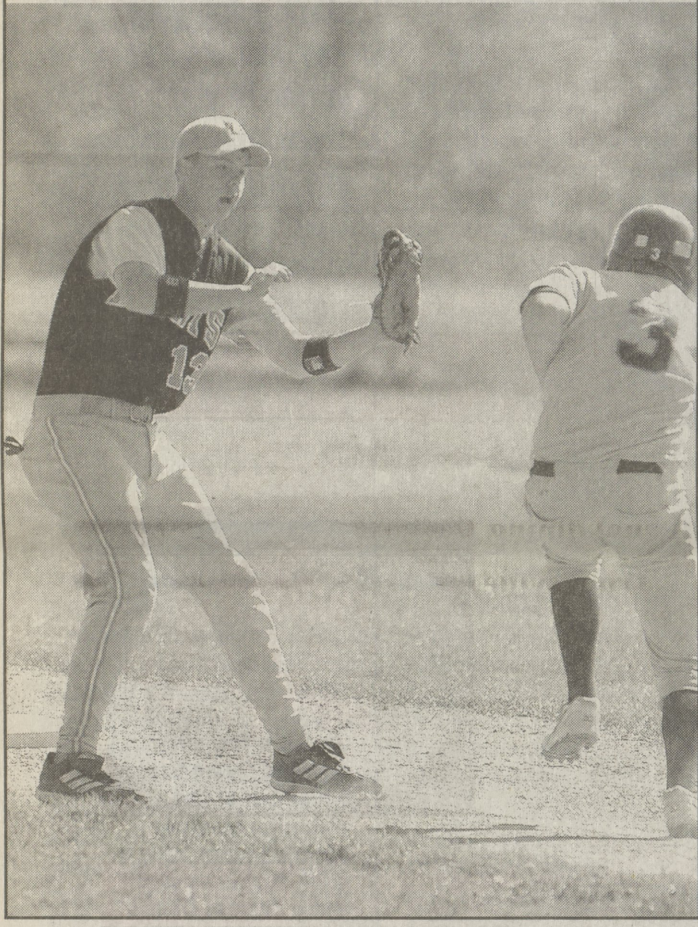
Continued from Page 7

threw a four-hitter and struck out 13 in a 5-0 win against Lakeland. The Black Knights were preparing to play third-seeded Bishop Hoban (11-4) in the quarterfinals.

"We're peaking at the right time," said head coach Brian Gorski, whose has just one senior on his roster. "Our players really believe we can win. It's hard to convenience four juniors and four sophomores that you can beat anybody you play. Now, they're believing it."

While the Dallas and Lake-Lehman baseball and softball teams are hoping to qualify for a berth in the state playoffs — only the champions advance in those sports — the Dallas girls soccer team has already secured a spot.

"It was a very important goal for us," said Scharf. "That's our ultimate goal every year. But I think these girls want more than that. They're hungry and they're motivated."



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/AIMEE DILGER

Dallas first baseman Ryan Konopki grabs an errant throw to tag out Wyoming Seminary's Jim Hockenbury during a District 2 playoff game.

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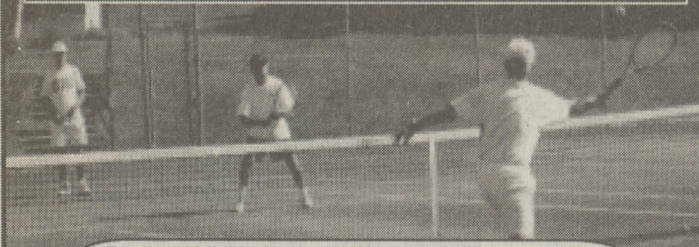
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