

Sports Week

SPORTS BRIEFS

Soccer boosters holding event

The Dallas High School boys Soccer Booster Club will hold its annual "Meet The Team" night from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 31 at the high school soccer fields. Family members and friends are invited to attend. Guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair. The monthly board meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in front of the high school.

Softball tournament to benefit autism

Lake-Lehman High School students Amanda Kotulski and Katlin Evans will be holding a co-ed softball tournament Aug. 19-20 at Lake-Noxen Elementary School field and the Harveys Lake Little League field. The fields are across the street from one another on West Point Avenue in Harveys Lake. The time of the games will be determined when the brackets are set.

Proceeds from the event will be Supporting Autism & Families Everywhere. Kotulski and Evans are organizing the tournament as part of their senior project to raise awareness of autism. There will also be a celebrity auction with memorabilia signed by celebrities in both the acting and sports arenas.

The coed adult teams must consist of players ages 17 and older. The cost is \$100 per team or \$10 per player. For more information, call 639-2163 or 639-5606.

Trap shoot set for Aug. 12

The Noxen-Monroe Sportsman's Association will hold a trap shoot at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12 at El Rancho on Stonewall Road in the Stull section of Noxen. There will be signs posted along the road with directions to the event.

Lake-Lehman sets fall sports physicals

Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School will hold fall sports physicals in the nurse's office on the following dates at the school on Old Route 115 in Lehman Township:

Aug. 8, 9 a.m. – junior high boys and girls

Aug. 10, 5 p.m. – This will be the final day of physicals for boys and girls in junior and senior high who were unable to make the previous physical dates.

A parent or guardian must sign all forms prior to the exam. Physical forms may be obtained from the main office at the high school during regular school hours. For more information, call 675-7458.

Fall hoops league holding registration

Dallas Youth Basketball will hold registration for its boys fall league from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30 at the W.W. Kubis Memorial Little League field on Church Street in Dallas.

The cost is \$30 and sessions will be held Monday and Wednesday nights from Sept. 6 through Oct. 18 at Wycallis Elementary School. Players in third, fourth, and fifth grades will practice from 6:30-7:45 p.m., while sixth, seventh, and eighth grade players will practice from 7:45-9 p.m.

For more information, call George Gracely at 639-1467.

CM to host tennis camp

College Misericordia will host a Junior Tennis Camp each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday through Aug. 16 at the tennis complex. The camp will be under the direction of head coach Allison Joanlanne. The camp will feature sessions for four different age groups. The cost for pee wees (3½ to 5), beginners (6 and older) and intermediates is \$12 per day for one-hour sessions. An advanced academy will be offered in three-hour sessions for \$40 per day. For more information, call 674-6289.

Triathletes offered free chiropractic care

Shavertown chiropractors Shawn Miller and Mark Morris will volunteer their services at the 25th annual Wilkes-Barre Triathlon, which will be held Sunday, Aug. 6 in the Back Mountain. Miller and Morris are offering complimentary treatments for athletes. Athletes may receive last-minute performance care prior to the race meeting at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus in Lehman Township.

Athletes will receive a full examination, along with treatments such as chiropractic adjustments, therapeutic modalities, and Active Release Techniques, which specifically addresses problems such as shoulder pain, shin splints, knee pain, hip pain, and low back pain.

There is no charge for the services.



9-10 all-stars win District 16 championship

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Above, Craig Skudalski fires a pitch for Back Mountain American during the District 16 9-10-year-old championship game. Inset, Domenic Oliveri, left, hugs Skudalski after the final out is recorded

An American powerhouse

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Editor

DALLAS – After suffering its first defeat of the District 16 tournament – a tough 16-4 loss in which the team made seven errors – the coaching staff of the Back Mountain American 9-10-year-old baseball all-star team planned to make a number of changes going into the championship game.

"Mountain Top just killed us. It was, by far, our worst game of the tournament," said manager Greg Petorak, who was assisted by coaches Jeff Doggett and Frank DeBona. "So we got together to rack our brains and talk about the changes we needed to make."

It was a very short discussion. With the exception of the starting pitcher, the coaches decided to keep the lineup intact going into the rematch against Mountain Top. And the move paid huge dividends.

Back Mountain American scored 10 runs in the first three innings and played flawless defense in the field en route to capturing the championship with a 14-2 win against Mountain Top at the Avoca-Dupont diamond.

"We decided the kids played one bad game and we should just keep everyone where they were," said Petorak. "They kids really responded well. They had every reason in the world not to play well, but they bounced back. The first (Mountain Top) batter of the game hit a ball and our shortstop made a great play. That got us going and everyone played well. I'm very proud of them."

American displayed a potent offense, averaging more than 10 runs a game in the double-elimination tournament. The team showed its power – especially for a team of 9-10-year-olds – by hitting five home



Back Mountain American's Kyle Razawich scores a run while teammate Peter Kuritz looks on.

runs during the tourney. In a game against Mayflower, the contest was tied 5-5 before American blasted back-to-back home runs and rolled to a 10-5 win.

"Our kids hit the heck out of the ball," said Petorak. "They're aggressive hitters. There's no bunting or looking for walks. I told our players that they could roll out of bed and get four or five hits. It was fun to watch them hit."

The team also had a deep pitching staff, said the manager. And with the exception of the first game against Mountain Top, American played well defensively in the postseason. The district tournament was divided into four divisions of seven teams, with the winners of each division playing in a double-elimination tournament for the championship.

"Having a deep pitching staff is key," said Petorak, "especially in district play because you play so many games."

The team also possessed an intangible as important as offense and defense – team chemistry.

"When we were picking the team, not only were we looking for good athletes, we were also looking for kids who can get along," said Petorak, who works as the chief financial officer for the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins. "These kids really hit it off. They had a good time. They knew there was a serious part and there was time for fun. After we won the (district) championship, I told the kids they should feel proud. They were part of something special."

IREM WOMEN HOLD GOLF TOURNAMENT



The Irem Women's Golf Association recently held its "Rally for the Cure" tournament at the Irem Temple Country Club in Dallas. The foursome of Nina Matzoni, Darcy Brodmerkel, Karen Belles and Jane Sileski shot a round of 62 to capture first place in the captain and crew tournament. More than 90 golfers participated in the event. Champions and flight winners, from left, first row are of Matzoni, Brodmerkel, Belles, Sileski, Joanne Bittner and Joanne Runner. Second row: Sue Bruno, Jane Kopp, Joann Wanyo, Mary Ann Stelma, Ruthie Roberts, Kim Matteoli, Flo Kuhar, Sandy Tomasura, Diane Dixon, Gretchen Watter, Maureen Whalen, Jane Kishbaugh and Judy Rimple. Third row: Betsy Thomas, Joann Freeman, Joan Welgus, Beth Spencer, Debbie Kanaar and Mary Lee Klemish.