



Alissa Stegman, Trucksville; Kaleb Taylor, Dallas; and Alex Ivoska, Shavertown attended the lacrosse clinic.

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Group plants lacrosse roots in the community

By DAVE KONOPKI
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DALLAS TWP. — Rich Cohen and John Delamater have a vision. A dream that includes hundreds of boys and girls playing lacrosse on fields throughout the Back Mountain — and beyond.

They're off to a very good start.

Two of the founders of Back Mountain Youth Lacrosse, Inc. recently attended an "Introduction to Lacrosse" clinic at Mangelsdorf Field on the campus of College Misericordia. The organizers were expecting approximately 30 players. Instead, the artificial surface was a sea of young lacrosse players.

"I was overwhelmed by the turnout," Cohen said. "I was registering people and I picked up my head and saw all of these people. We ended up having 57 boys and 18 girls. I'd say about 80 percent of the kids are from the Back Mountain."

The clinic, run by College Misericordia men's lacrosse coach Jim Ricardo and women's coach Robyn Fedor Stahovic, will also be held from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 1 and Oct. 8. There is no admis-

sion charge — and experience is certainly not required.

"We had some kids who've played before, but the majority of the kids — probably 90 percent — never held a lacrosse stick in their hand," Cohen said. "We want to expose the kids to the game. We want to give them an opportunity to put a stick in their hand and give them some idea of what lacrosse is all about."

Thanks to a grant from M&T Bank, clinic organizers loaned sticks, gloves and helmets to the players. And the coaches provided the instruction.

"We're teaching them the very, very basics of the sport," said Ricardo, a Binghamton, N.Y. native. "We're teaching them how to pass, catch, cradle the ball and move with it. We did a lot of drills to teach those fundamentals."

"They always want to do the fun stuff first," added Fedor Stahovic. "But you have to teach them the basics — and the correct way to play the sport — so eventually they can do the fun things."

The girls were taught the same technique and



Almost 20 girls showed up for the lacrosse clinic at College Misericordia.

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Raiders win three of four in battle of Back Mountain football teams



Kingston Township's Chris Roccograndi follows the blocks of Quincy Patrick, Neil Shaver and Josh Weaver during a B team game against Back Mountain.

The Kingston Township Raiders won three of their four games against the rival Back Mountain Bobcats last weekend in the Wyoming Valley West Youth Football League. The Kingston Township C team won 18-0 in a battle between undefeated teams, while Raiders' D team also remained unbeaten at 6-0. The Kingston Township B team improved to 5-1 with its win.

The Bobcats A team looked impressive in a big win against Kingston Township. Here's a recap of the games:

A DIVISION

The Back Mountain Bobcats A team rolled to a 32-0 win against

the Raiders. The rushing game was led by the blocking of Chase Benson, Zach Dirs, Derrick El-lard and Eric Romsdorf. Jake Simon and Jake Chelli scored two touchdowns apiece.

The Bobcat defense was led by Lucas Lansberry, J.D. Mead, David Pierce and Tony Lafratte. The Bobcats will face the Plymouth Shawnee Indians on Sunday, Oct. 1 at Plymouth in a game with playoff implications.

B DIVISION

The Kingston Township B team posted its fourth consecutive win with a convincing 32-6



Kingston Township's Mike Olenginski follows the blocks of Corey Patrick and Omar Nejib to gain some yards during a C team game against the Bobcats.

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