

Stearns scores 14 to lead PNC win

PNC Bank rolled to a 37-26 victory over the popular DJ Charlie Hayes in fifth and sixth grade action in the Dallas Youth Basketball League.

Nigel Stearns led all scorers with 14 points. Matt Saba chipped in with 10 points and led the team in steals. Carl gross controlled the boards with 10 rebounds and tossed in seven points.

Charlie Hayes was led by JT Carey and Mark Michno, each scoring eight.

PNC Bank 30 Brace's Orchard 26

PNC Bank defeated Brace's Orchard, 30-26.

Carl Gross led the bankers with 12 points while Matt Saba and Nigel Stearns each added six for the local bank. Rocky Rutkoski scored four and led the team in rebounds.

Brace's Orchard was led by Chase Makowski, scoring 14 while Dominic Deluca added six.

CVS Pharmacy 32 DJ Charlie Hayes 30

CVS Pharmacy nipped DJ Charlie Hayes, 32-30.

Justin Brojakowski led all players in scoring with 18 points. Blake Willams and Chris Behm each added six. JT Carey played tough for the local DJ, grabbing 14 rebounds and scoring 16 points. Mark Michno led the team in defense and added six points.

CDI 47

CVS Pharmacy 29

CDI was too big inside for the pharmacy boys of CVS and defeated the pharmacy, 47-29.

Jory Bredzinski sealed the victory by tossing in 12 of his 16 points in the third quarter. Michael Boland played well, scoring 16 while Curtis Evans added four.

Blake Willams led CVS, scoring 14 while Chris Behm and Justin Brojakowski each added six.

Bishop Photo 54

Banas Byron and Kim 40

Bishop Photo rolled to victory over the doctors Banas Byron and Kim, 54-40.

Kyle Razawich was unstoppable, throwing in 24 points for the photo boys. Mike Pierce was hitting from the outside, scoring 14 while Drew Harding threw in six.

The doctors were led by Brian Banas scoring 18 while Omar Nijmeh added 10. Jonathan Wilson led the team in steals and tossed in six points.

SIXTH GRADE TOURNAMENT TEAM WINS

All players scored at the Monday Lehman League as the DYB sixth grade boys travel team defeated Valley West White, 42-16.

Chris Behm and Justin Brojakowski led the way with 10 points each, while Kyle Razawich and Matt Saba added eight each. Aaron Napkora scored four points while Blake Williams added two.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

The Polit-Moran brothers, of Franklin Township, have collected an entire 1934 Goudey set of baseball cards. Twelve-year-old Sal is holding the No. 30 Julius Sotters card, which inspired the boys to amass a collection that has attracted national attention. Sal is shown here with his brothers, Jude, left, and Jaryn.

Card collecting brothers

Boys gain national attention with set of 1934 Goudey cards

By REBECCA BRIA
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It all started with the No. 30 Julius Sotters baseball card.

Before they knew it, brothers Sal, Jude and Jaryn Polit-Moran of Coon Road in Franklin Township collected the entire 1934 Goudey Gum Company baseball card set. The brothers are the sons of Sami Lynn Polit-Panek.

Because of this feat, the boys were featured in an online blog called Gavel Chat with Chris Nerat on August 17 and published on page 48 in Sports Collectors Digest on September 21.

Sal, 12, a seventh-grader at Dallas Middle School; Jude, 10, a fifth-grader at Wycallis Elementary; and Jaryn, 7, a first-grader at Wycallis Elementary, saved \$3,250 to purchase the 96-card set. The boys used money they got from birthdays, Christmas, Sal's confirmation, the Tooth Fairy and cutting grass. Their grandfather, "Pappa Sam," also paid them to groom their hair in the morning before school because, they admit, they don't like doing that.

Cards in the 1934 set feature hand-drawn portraits of players and are endorsed by Lou Gehrig and Chuck Klein. Each card carries a "Lou Gehrig says" or "Chuck Klein says" theme at the bottom with a picture of the respective player. On the back, Gehrig or Klein writes about the player featured on the card. The boys say the "Chuck Klein says" cards are more valuable because they are rare.

The 1934 collection is also known for trivia questions and answers carried on the backs of the cards. The question on one card will refer the reader to another card for the answer as a marketing ploy. Gum also came with the cards when they were originally purchased.

The boys chose to collect the 1934



Twelve-year-old Sal Polit-Moran displays the September 21, 2007 edition of Sports Collectors Digest in which he and his two brothers, Jude and Jaryn, were featured. The Franklin Township boys gradually purchased a full set of 1934 Goudey baseball cards which includes two Lou Gehrig cards.

nally purchased.

The two Lou Gehrig cards, the only multiple cards of a player in the set, are very desirable but Babe Ruth is missing in the series, which shocked the boys since he is in the 1933 Goudey set four times.

"I'm surprised but I'm partly glad, too, because the Babe Ruth would have cost \$500 minimum," Sal said.

Collecting the entire set was difficult because cards 73 through 96 are scarce and cost more. The Gehrig cards are also priced high. The most expensive card the brothers purchased? The No. 37 Lou Gehrig card for which they paid \$300. The card carries Jude's favorite write-up because Lou Gehrig did it himself.

"I actually read a book on him," Jude said of Gehrig. "He didn't miss one day of school even when he was sick. They call him the Iron Horse."

The boys chose to collect the 1934

Goudey set, which they purchased at baseball card shows and on eBay, because it would be cheaper than others since it has fewer cards. The 1933 set has 250 cards versus 96 cards in the 1934 set.

Sal acts as "the smarts" since he has become very knowledgeable on the subject. Jude is "the money man" and decides if a card is worth its ticketed price while Jaryn, who just joined his brothers in collecting a year ago, assists where he can.

"I just felt like joining in on something that my brothers are in," Jaryn said.

Jude, who plays for the Orioles in Franklin Township's Bob Horlacher Baseball League, aspires to be Babe Ruth when he grows up. Jaryn plays for the Coach Pitch Mariners (for younger players) in the Bob Horlacher League while Sal, who used to play baseball, now participates in

wrestling.

The boys say their friends have no knowledge of baseball players from the 1930s and those who do have baseball card collections only have cards from the 1980s on.

"Not one living soul collects these cards," Jude said. "They (his friends) don't even know the name of a player from '34 unless I tell them."

"Each of these cards has a history in them," Sal said.

Two of the cards in the boys' set are autographed by players Joe Mowry and Mel Harder. The brothers say DNA tests were done on the signatures to prove their authenticity.

The boys plan to hold onto the 1934 set for a few years, allowing it to gain value while they upgrade the cards that are worn to make the set worth more. Because the set is complete, each card's value is raised, allowing the boys to make more money if they sell the collection as a whole. The brothers expect their eventual upgraded set to sell for \$6,000 or \$7,000 in several years.

The boys have other valuable cards not in the 1934 Goudey set and would like more. They intend to buy a Babe Ruth rookie card and five cards with spelling mistakes.

"Our plan is to get a Honus Wagner as young as possible," Jude said.

Although the brothers spend a lot of time devoted to their collection, their mother says Jaryn and Jude are straight A students and Sal made first honors on Dallas Middle School's honor roll.

The boys hope to get their youngest brother, 7-month-old Paul, collecting when he becomes old enough. As the boys spread their cards out on the table, Paul jumped in his bouncer and laughed, indicating that he's already one of the boys.

BRIEFS

Basketball tryouts slated at Rock Center

The Rock Recreation Center will hold tryouts for its travel AAU Basketball program.

Tryouts for the Boys U-12 sixth grade team will be held from 4 to 6:30 p.m. today, Jan. 6,

while tryouts for the Boys U-14 eighth grade team will be held from 4 to 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 13.

Cost for the tryout is \$10 per player. Registration begins at 4 p.m. and the tryout begins promptly at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Doug Miller at 696-2769.

Back Mountain

Baseball meeting set

The Back Mountain Baseball/Softball Organization will meet on Monday, Jan. 7, at the Dad-dow-Isaacs American Legion on Memorial Highway in Dallas.

A board meeting will be held at 6 p.m. and a general meeting at 7 p.m.

For additional information, call Jack at 675-0939.

Free Throw Contest planned by Knights

All boys and girls ages 10-14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2008 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship.

The local competition, sponsored by the Dallas Knights of Columbus Council 8224, will be held Saturday, Jan. 19, at the

Gate of Heaven gymnasium, Machell Avenue, Dallas. Registration will be conducted from noon to 12:30 p.m.

All boys and girls will compete in their respective age division.

Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

For additional information, contact the chairman at 675-4237.