

## SEMINARY ATHLETES RECEIVE AWARDS



Wyoming Seminary Upper School recently named the athletes from the Back Mountain who received Most Valuable Player, Coaches Awards and Most Improved Player awards for the fall season. From left, first row, are senior Sean Dickinson, Shavertown, Coaches' Platinum Award, cross country; senior Katherine Levandoski, Dallas, MVP and Gold Award, cross country; senior Katherine Farias, Shavertown, Most Improved Award, tennis; and sophomore Caroline Meuser, Shavertown, Most Valuable Player, tennis. Second row, junior John Henry, Shavertown, Coaches Award, golf; and senior Kelly Mericle, Shavertown, Gold Award, field hockey.

## FUSION FINISHES FIRST AT SOCCER TOURNAMENT



Back Mountain Fusion U13 girls travel soccer team recently placed first at the Southampton Classic Tournament. The Fusion also placed first in Division I of the Lehigh Valley Soccer League, finishing its season with a record of 8-1. Members of the team are, from left, first row, Melanie Kusakavitch, Taylor Kelley, Molly Turner, Emily Sutton, Sarah Altomose and Kirsten Cope, guest player. Second row, Tylo Kurtz, Nora Fazzi, Emily Crawford, Kady Gurtis, Shoshana Mahoney, Malory Kusakavitch, Nicole Turner, Amanda Martin, Chris Lacy, coach; and AnneMarie Sutton, coach. Absent at the time of the photo were Elizabeth Dillon and Cheyenne Brown.

## BACK MOUNTAIN BOMBERS COMPETE IN FALL LEAGUES



The Back Mountain Bombers girls' softball team recently competed in two Fall Ball Leagues during September and October. The Bombers enjoyed successful seasons in both the West Wyoming U12 Monday/Wednesday Fall Ball League and in the Ashley U13 Saturday Fall Ball League with records of 8-1 and 8-2, respectively. Members of the team are, from left, first row, Kylee Saba, Kelly Snyder, Talia Szatkowski, Amy Bolton and Sadie Trudgen. Second row, Sydney Kern, Tessa Paul, Sara Smith, Samantha Missal, Cori Wandell, Kayla Glecko and Coach Rich Wydra. Third row, Coach Rich Szatkowski. Absent at the time of the photo was Stephanie Cybulski.

## BMT AMERICAN GIRLS WIN SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP



The Back Mountain American girls soccer team won the Northeast Travel Soccer U15-16 championship by defeating the Pittston Stoners and the Abington Fusions. Members of the team are, from left, first row, Kassondra Michno and Gabriella Oliveri. Second row, Kara Augustine, Ashley Dunbar, Ashley Metz, Sarah Bray and Jessica Valenti. Third row, Kristy Komrowski, Bree Morgan, Alex Heltzel, Ashley Gross, Elaina Tomaselli and Nikki Sutliff. Bob Morgan coaches the team and is assisted by Joe Tomaselli and Len Valenti.

## PANTRY

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dinator and went for an interview. But as the interview progressed, she realized her husband, Mark, would make a better coordinator. Lisa works full-time at Camp Orchard Hill in Franklin Township, is a mother and a homemaker and lacked the time for the position.

"When she was at the interview," Mark said, "She said, 'You know, you've got the right phone number but the wrong Stull.'"

Mark Stull applied to be coordinator, interviewed and was chosen for the job. The 53-year-old has taken over in the midst of a weakened economy and a growing need for food assistance. And, although he works full-time as a serials specialist in the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library at Misericordia University, his job allows him to donate the needed hours at the pantry.

"Misericordia University has been phenomenally supportive of my applying for and taking this position," Mark Stull said. "They have given me not only support in campus food drives, but moral support."

The coordinator position has also been broken down to include an assistant, which reduces some of Stull's responsibilities. Anna Skrosky became the assistant manager and completes much of the clerical work. That's a big help for Stull, who is the father of four children: Sara, 23; Rachael, 16; Rebecca, 14; and Isaiah, 4.

Stull points out that without the many volunteers and donors who contribute to the food pantry, it wouldn't exist.

"The Back Mountain Food

Pantry can run just fine without Mark Stull, but it cannot run without the 45 volunteers," he said. "We all do this on a volunteer basis. Every one of our volunteers donates a tremendous amount of time. We do it because there are others who need help."

What Stull wasn't prepared for was not being able to feed everyone who needs food. Even though the pantry estimates it will receive and distribute 50,000 pounds of food this year, it can only serve its 227 families seven times a year — every other month and on Thanksgiving.

Also, the demand for food has increased since the economy has fallen into a recession. The pantry distributed 217 food baskets for Thanksgiving, an increase of 72 baskets from 2007. Just 75 baskets were distributed in 2003.

"I'm surprised at how many families are one or two paychecks away from very serious trouble in their lives," Stull said. "I didn't know how quickly an average family can get into big trouble."

Hazeltine was recognized for her years of service to the Back Mountain Food Pantry during the afternoon of October 24 when more than 50 people gathered for a celebration at Trucksville United Methodist Church.

A gold leaf was placed on the Tree of Life at the church in honor of Hazeltine. She also received a certificate of appreciation from the Dallas Rotary Club and proclamations from State Senator Lisa Baker (R-Lehman Township) and State Representative Karen Boback (R-Harveys Lake).

"Louise has been a phenomenal help to me during this transition time," Stull said. "Any time I call with any questions I have, she's got answers, suggestions. She's been wonderful."

## CITRUS

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Band members will leave for Florida on December 28 and spend the next day at Universal Studios in Orlando.

They will perform in the Florida Citrus Parade on December 30 with over 80,000 people lining the streets, cheering them on as they play the school's new fight song.

The parade serves as the kick-off celebration for the Capital One Bowl and is one of only two bowl parades nationally televised on more than 100 stations. The parade in downtown Orlando has citrus floats, clowns and high school marching bands from around the nation.

The parade's unique citrus floats are covered with oranges, tangerines and grapefruits. Floats are constructed using rubber bands to avoid harming the fruit, which is donated to a local food bank after the parade.

Chris Harrison, host of ABC's "The Bachelor" and "The Bachelorette," as well as HGTV's Designer's Challenge and Paige Hemmis, carpenter/designer of ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" are co-hosts.

Ryan Lochte, who won a gold medal and broke the world record in the 200 meter backstroke at the 2008 Summer Olympics, has been named Grand Marshal. Ashley Eckstein, the voice of Ashoka Tano in "Star Wars: The



JONATHAN J. JUKA/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Members of the Dallas High School Marching Band who will participate in the Citrus Bowl Parade in Florida are, from left, first row, Amanda Mikolaitis, Sal Polit-Moran, Bernie Bronsberg, David Sebolka, Jamie Wise, Jennifer Merithew and Ashlyn Van Deutsch. Second row, Brian Wise, Kevin Hunter, Bryan Biesecker, Hilary Hoover, Michael Mazula, Kevin Barry, A.J. Arnoldi, James Schwemmer, Grace Carolan and Jodi Hilstolsky.

Clone Wars" and known for her role on Blue Collar TV as well as Disney sitcoms, "That's So Raven," "Phil of the Future" and "Drake and Josh," will serve as the parade's on-street commentator.

Additional parade talent will include Grammy Award Winner Scott Stapp, who will perform the national anthem, and reigning Mrs. Florida America Jacklyn Stapp.

The marching bands and mascots of the teams participating in the Capital One Bowl will also join in the parade.

Other high school marching bands participating in the parade include Attica

High School, New York; Bellbrook High School, Ohio; Brunswick High School, Ohio; Butler High School, Pennsylvania; Kennedy High School, Iowa; Mundelein High School, Illinois; New Milford High School, Connecticut; Shawnee Heights High School, Kansas; Shawnee Mission South High School, Kansas; Southwest Iowa Honor Marching Band, Iowa; and The Legend Band, Bahamas.

The band will spend all day New Year's Eve shopping and enjoying Universal Studios. In the evening, it will perform in the Universal Studios Macy's New Year's Eve Holiday Parade. This parade features authentic

floats and balloons direct from the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade® in New York City. The parade also includes festive street performers, talented marching bands from around the country and, of course, Santa Claus. Afterwards, band members will enjoy a spectacular tree-lighting ceremony with music and a dazzling light display.

On New Year's Day, band members will have the choice of going to SeaWorld, the Capital One college football game or relaxing at their hotel and swimming.

Band members will home on January 3 in time to return to school on January 5.