

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Girls soccer team conducting tryouts

USTA Strikers U-11 girls soccer team is currently conducting tryouts for players looking to play in the 2009 spring and fall travel league seasons. Premiere level training from a professional and licensed coaching staff is offered with a strong emphasis on individual player development.

Participants born after August 1, 1997 are eligible to try out. Registration fees will be waived for players who are chosen from the tryout sessions.

Serious soccer players should contact United Soccer Training Academy at 466-0262 or visit [www.unitedsoccertrainingacademy.org](http://www.unitedsoccertrainingacademy.org) for more information.

### Sholtis inducted into SU Hall of Fame

Judy Sholtis, a Dallas native and former softball standout at Bishop O'Reilly High School, was one of six people inducted into the Susquehanna University Hall of Fame during a ceremony on the Selinsgrove campus Jan. 24.



Sholtis

Sholtis, who currently resides in Ocean City, N.J. and is a special education teacher

in Wildwood, N.J., finished second in Susquehanna history with 43 career victories and 323 career strikeouts. She finished her career with a school-record 1.32 ERA and also set Susquehanna marks with a .717 career winning percentage and a 0.73 ERA during her senior year in 1986.

Sholtis, daughter of Ed and Mary Ann Sholtis, of Upper Demunds Road, Dallas, was an all-star pitcher for Bishop O'Reilly, a four-time All-MAC pitcher and a Division III All-American in 1984.

### Basketball tryouts slated for Rock team

Rock Solid AAU Travel Basketball Program will hold tryouts for the 2009 season as follows:

Sunday, Feb. 22, 4 to 6 p.m., boys 12U & 13U; 6 to 8 p.m., boys 15U & 16U and Sunday, March 1, 4 to 6 p.m., girls 12U & 13U; 6 to 8 p.m., girls 14U.

All tryouts will be held at the Rock Recreation Center 340 Carverton Rd., Trucksville. For more information, call Doug Miller at 696-2769.



Chad Phillips, 10, studies the basket before attempting a free throw.



Rory Mullin, 13, attempts a free throw.



Sterling Barnes, 10, studies the basket before attempting a free throw.

## K of C Free Throw Program

# Four advance to districts

The Dallas Knights of Columbus held its annual free throw championship on Saturday, Jan. 17, at the Gate of Heaven School. The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually with winners progressing through local, district and state competitions.

Four boys from the Dallas area, ages 10-13, were named local champions and have earned the right to compete in the district competition set for February 21 at the Kingston Recreation Center. International champions are announced by the Knights of Columbus headquarters based on scores from the state-level competitions.

Since its beginning in 1972, over 2.5 million youths have participated in the contest.

All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 competed in their respective age and gender divisions. Each contestant attempted 15 free throws in the contest. All ties were settled by successive rounds of five free throws per contestant until a winner emerged. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation.

Bill Roberts served as chairman of the local event.



Ten-year-old Lee Eckert releases the ball during the free throw contest.



BILL TARUTIS PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Knights of Columbus members and free throw contest winners at Gate of Heaven School are, from left, first row, Grand Knight Jack Cacoza, Chad Phillips, 10-year-old champion; Andrew Matcho, 11-year-old champion; Rosario Bevevino, 12-year-old champion; and Rory Mullin, 13-year-old champion. Second row, Financial Secretary Frank Smaka, Chairman Bill Roberts, Marty Lukas, Deputy Grand Knight Ed Sholtis and Bob Lukas.

## DYB HOLDS SIXTH-GRADE BOYS SKILLS COMPETITION



Dallas Youth Basketball recently held its annual sixth grade boys skills competition. Brendan Baloh won first place in layups, followed by Omar Nijmeh in second place and Jonathan Wilson in third. Jonathan Sabatini took first place in free throws, followed by Matt Ross in second place and Aleksey Gitelson in third place. Shown here, from left, are Aleksey Gitelson, Omar Nijmeh, Matt Ross, Jonathan Sabatini, Brendan Baloh and Jonathan Wilson.

## STRIKERS EARN SECOND-PLACE FINISH



Entering their first-ever state competition, the Strikers from United Soccer Training Academy recently participated in eastern Pennsylvania's annual youth soccer indoor state cup tournament. The one-day event was held at a venue in Bucks County and several players from the Back Mountain area participated on the under-11 girls' team. The club competed against 12 top-level squads from central and eastern Pennsylvania, all vying for the title of best-in-state. The Strikers posted a strong 1-1 record, earning a second-place finish in bracket play. Members of the team are, from left, first row, Maya Kornfeld, Kingston; Emma Bakewell, Kingston; Ruby Mattson, Kingston Township; and Alea Pettit, Mountain Top. Second row, Tiffany Zukosky, Kingston Township; Olivia Gregorio, Kingston; Paige Elmy, Wilkes-Barre; Coach Pat Upton, Wilkes-Barre; Emma Sukowaski, Wilkes-Barre; Mary Tona, Wilkes-Barre; and Audrey Williams, Kingston.