



Seventh and eighth-grade boys practice on the upper field in Dallas.

CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

PLAY BALL

With warm weather and budding flowers also comes the sounds of bats cracking as baseball season winds up. Around the Back Mountain, local players are practicing for the high school baseball and softball teams as well as the upcoming Little League season.



ABOVE: Kylee Saba has her eye on the ball during softball practice at the Kingston Township Recreation Field.



RIGHT: Chad DeBonna reaches high to catch a well-hit ball in the outfield.



Abbie Bendick slugs one during softball practice for the Back Mountain Rockets.



Chris Roccogranti practices catching on the newly-designed upper field at Kubis Field in Dallas.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Basketball clinic slated for June

The Holy Redeemer Boys Basketball Clinic will be held June 18, 19 and 20 at Holy Redeemer High School gym, 159 S. Pennsylvania Blvd., Wilkes-Barre.

A clinic for seventh, eighth and ninth grade players will be held from 8 a.m. to noon while a clinic for fourth, fifth and sixth grade players will be held from 1 to 5 p.m.

Cost is \$50 per player and checks should be made payable to Holy Redeemer boys basketball team.

For more information, contact Coach Mark Belenski at 262-9562.

Bandits play well, but lose two

The Back Mountain Bandits lacrosse team had two away games last weekend and, despite playing well, came home with two losses. The locals lost to Southern Lehigh, 5-1, and to Saucon Valley, 7-4.

Against Southern Lehigh in Center Valley on Saturday, the Bandits' goalie Mike Golden and defenders AJ Spears, Connor Switzer, Xavier Barber and Adam Adelman kept the score low throughout the game.

Several groups of middies were rotated throughout the game, including Duncan Breig, Ricky Morgan, Stone Mannello, RJ Driscoll, Corey Metz, Keith Gilette, Justin Hutchins, Michael Santora, Owen Morgan, Justin Phillips and Ian Evans.

Keith Gilette scored in the third quarter for the Bandits.

Attackers for the Bandits included Ryan Cohen, Noah Mirro, Luke Yaple, and Connor Duffy.

The Bandits started strong with an early score by Keith Gilette against Saucon Valley on Sunday.

The other attackers for the Bandits included Ryan Cohen and Luke Yaple. Great saves were made by Bandits' goalie Mike Golden during the game.

Defenders included Connor Switzer, AJ Spears, Xavier Barber, Owen Morgan, Justin Hutchins and Noah Mirro. Great mid-die skills were displayed by Duncan Breig, Ricky Morgan, David Nape, Stone Mannello, RJ Driscoll and Corey Metz.

The Bandits were down, 4-2, at the half and got goals from Gilette and Cohen in the second half but still came up short.



Stone Mannello (No. 3) scoops the ball for the Bandits while getting assistance from middle RJ Driscoll (No. 6).