

## These soccer players have turned to coaching

Dallas juniors coaching youth soccer team as part of senior completion project.

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Josh Shilanski and David Miller, both juniors at Dallas High School, have schedules that might rival their parents' business planners. They go to school, play varsity soccer, hang out with friends and now they've added one more activity to their packed planners — coaching youth soccer.

The duo is co-coaching the U-10 Riot team of the Back Mountain Youth Soccer Association as part of their senior completion projects. The boys have been playing soccer for nearly 10 years and thought it was a logical transition to coach the kids, meshing community service and a sport they love.

Miller said they needed to contact the BMYSA commissioner Shane Fegley before beginning their project. "He actually thought it was a great idea, since we're so involved in soccer," said Miller.

"They both have the temperament and personality for it," said Chris Scharff, Dallas High School boys' soccer coach. "The kids relate to them."

And parents of the undefeated Riot team agree. Darryl Emershaw, of Kingston Township,

"They both have the temperament and personality for it. The kids relate to them."

Chris Scharff  
Dallas High School soccer coach

coached the Riot last season, and he thinks the younger coaches are the best role models for his son, Benjamin, who is on the team.

"They're like heroes for these kids," said Emershaw.

He said that because Miller and Shilanski still play regularly, they bring new tips and tricks for the kids to try on a regular basis.

"Most of the time it's just parent (coaches) repeating things," he said. "The kids really listen to these guys."

The co-coaches' ages might also be a part of their ability to train winners. Parents say the kids are more likely to listen to the coaches because they relate to them.

"The coaches inspire them to want to do better," he said.

Joe Kojadinovich, of Sweet Valley, says his son Zachary likes the coaches because they are able to motivate the kids without using intimidation.

"They don't scream at the kids," he said. "They're fantastic."

The two 16-year-olds are on a



Josh Shilanski, left, and Dave Miller, coach a U-10 Back Mountain soccer team as their high school senior completion project.

CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

winning streak as players and coaches. While it can be demanding for them, Shilanski says the double-duty helps them become better on and off the field.

"It gives us more time with the ball and we're able to teach new things (to the youth team)," he said. "(Our schedules) mostly conflict with (high school) soccer — sometimes we

have to postpone practice (for the youth team) because of (high school) games."

The kids on the Riot team haven't noticed the scheduling troubles. In fact, Miller says the

teams never want to stop practicing.

"One time I told them (practice) was over and they wanted to stay and keep playing," he said.

## BOBCATS DONATE TO BREAST CANCER COALITION



During the month of October, members of the Back Mountain Bobcats youth football organization held bake sales, store drives, sold ribbons, hats and socks to raise funds to increase breast cancer awareness. The coaches wore their hats and the players won their pink socks during all games in October. The Bobcats presented a check in the amount of \$1,725.25 to the PA Breast Cancer Coalition on Oct. 24. From left, first row, are Marissa Roberts, Mikalya Krakosky, Dasha Bidding, Bryce Taylor, Dale Deyo and Holly Ondish. Second row, Marissa Roberts, Kara MacIntyre, Victoria Gabel, Bobcat Board Members, Ann Robbins, Dan Anderson, Rich Allen, Rose Oakley, Kayla Bidding, Ernie Bidding and Bradley Adams.

### YOUTH FOOTBALL RESULTS

## Whitesell scores two touchdowns to lead Bobcats past Indians, 30-12

### B TEAM

Back Mountain 30  
Plymouth 12

The Bobcats posted their fourth win of the season by defeating the Plymouth Indians, 30-12.

The offensive line, led by Chris Allen, Bradley Adams, Nate Hazeltine, Henry Selingo, Ian Evans, Owen Morgan, Marcus Steele and Zachery Gabel, opened up great holes for the running backs.

Nick Whitesell had two touchdowns and a 2-point conversion for the Bobcats. Stone Mannello had a fumble recovery for a touchdown and two 2-point conversions. Nate O'Donnell posted a touchdown and forced a fumble for the Bob-

cats. RJ Driscoll had some great runs and sacked the quarterback. Nate Hazeltine and Bradley Adams both had fumble recoveries.

The defense, led by Kayla Bidding, Jack Symeon, Quinten Huey, Ryan Wolken, Nat LaBar and Zach Hill, held the Indians to just two touchdowns.

### C TEAM

Kingston Township 14  
West Pittston 0

The Kingston Township Raiders C team came off their bye week with a tough 14-0 victory over the then 7-1 West Pittston Rams.

The Rams fell to 7-2 while the Raiders improved to 8-1 with one

game remaining in the regular season.

KT got on the board early in the second quarter on a touchdown run by Derek Answini. Both teams traded possessions until late in the third quarter when Answini intercepted a pass and took it in for the game's final score.

Running the ball well all day were Kyle McAndrew and Christian Motley behind the solid blocking of Dylan Schuster, Matt Maransky, Troy Turinski and Michael Starbuck.

Defensively, the Raiders had players around the ball all day with Michael Doggett, Michael Anderson and Josh Balara leading the way.

## Olympic wrestler comes to Sem

The Wyoming Seminary wrestling program will feature some of the top wrestling clinicians in the northeastern United States at a special pre-season wrestling clinic on Saturday, Nov. 6. This clinic is open to all area wrestlers of all ages.

The clinic will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Carpenter Athletic Center, Maple Avenue, Kingston, on the campus of Wyoming Seminary Upper School.

Wrestling instructors and speakers will include 1984 Olympic Gold Medalist Jeff Blatnick, 2010 NCAA Champion J.P. O'Connor from Harvard and 2010 Colonial Athletic Association Coach of the Year Pat Popolizio, head coach of the Binghamton University Bearcats.

The clinic will feature instruction by O'Connor and Popolizio, a motivational speech by Blat-

nick and a wrestle-off featuring the 2010-2011 Sem Blue Knights wrestling team.

The 2009-2010 Blue Knights were ranked fifth in the nation and this year's team is ranked ninth in the pre-season. At least 10 Sem athletes are ranked among Wrestling USA Magazine's best wrestlers in the nation.

Tickets are \$30 and will be sold at the door. Athletes taking part in the clinic are encouraged to bring a workout partner.

The clinic schedule features O'Connor at 10 a.m. and Popolizio at 11:30 a.m. Blatnick will speak at 2 p.m. and the Sem Blue/White wrestle-off will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Blatnick won his Olympic gold medal at the 1984 Summer Games, two years after being diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease which required the removal of

his spleen and appendix and extensive radiation treatments.

He and his teammate Steve Fraser were the first Americans to win gold medals in Greco-Roman wrestling in Olympic history.

O'Connor, who won the NCAA championship at 157 lbs. in 2010, also is a three-time NCAA All-American and a four-time New York state champion.

He is the third Harvard wrestler ever to win a national championship.

Popolizio, head wrestling coach at Binghamton University, is one of the most notable young coaches in the nation and has brought the Bearcats to national recognition since joining the team in 2005.

For more information, contact Scott Green, head varsity wrestling coach at Wyoming Seminary, at 607-624-2665.

## PSU VOLLEYBALLERS 'SPIKE DOWN AUTISM'



The Penn State Wilkes-Barre women's volleyball team recently held a benefit game entitled "Spike Down Autism" for Children with autism. The benefit game was organized by returning player, Abigail Collins. The PSU women advanced to the PSUAC championship playoffs this season and ended their season with a 10-5 record. Members of the team are, from left, first row, Lindsey Howell, Tunkhannock; Lauren Owazany, Nanticoke; Karlee Kenney, Sayre; Jessica Ozmina, Warrior Run; and Kianna Spencer, Harveys Lake. Second row, Meghan Murtagh, Dallas; Michele Vowler, Hazleton; Allison Waltemyer, Wyalusing; Head Coach Regan Paife, Assistant Coach Elizabeth Pohlidal, Abigail Collins, Swoyersville; Autumn Sikora, Shickshinny; and Kellie Yekel, Wilkes-Barre.