

Chielli, Zerfoss recognized by swim officials

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Deborah Chielli
Dallas swim parent

Two Dallas students recently received awards from the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association for swimming and diving, though it wasn't the first time either teen won such awards.

Jake Chielli, of the Dallas High School swim team, and Sarah Zerfoss, a member of the diving team, won the PIAA Outstanding Swimmer and Outstanding Diver awards, respectively, for the 2011-12 season.

Each award is given to one boy and girl in the entire AA conference - that's about a dozen teams, said Dallas swimming head coach Romayne Mosier. The swimming award is also given to one boy and one girl in the AAA conference.

Chielli, 18, of Dallas, has been a member of the Dallas team for three years, and this is the second time he has earned the award. Zerfoss, a diver for all four years of her high school career, has won the diver award three times.

"It means a lot to me to be recognized for my hard work and ethic on and off the pool," said Chielli.

Chielli started swimming when he was much younger but didn't pick it up again until he

was a sophomore at Dallas when a friend convinced him to join the team. He's been a hard-working member ever since.

"I feel such a sense of accomplishment afterwards," he said. "Practice is so strenuous, you feel great after."

Deborah Chielli believes her son is a two-time award winner because of his sportsmanship and dedication to the team.

She said at the district competition this year, Jake swam back-to-back events and opted to swim harder for the relay event than in a tie-breaking individual event that could have earned him a medal.

"As a parent, you don't know what he would do," she said. "It was very emotional."

Chielli was moved by Jake's decision, and she and her husband Jack are very proud of their son's accomplishments.

"It says a lot about the team, the coaches and the whole culture of the school district," she said. "We're so proud to be a part of this program."

Zerfoss, 18, of Dallas, started as a gymnast. She was told that gymnasts often make good divers, so she tried out for the team and hasn't looked back.

"It's mentally and physically challenging," she said.

Zerfoss believes her hard work and dedication to diving made her a good candidate for the award.

Last season she proved her merit - she slipped on the edge of a diving board and broke one of her toes, but still managed to finish the season, advancing to district and state competitions.

"Her work ethic is great - she hasn't missed a practice all year, and, besides, when she broke her toe, she never missed a practice," diving coach Matthew Nonnenburg said of Zerfoss's dedication to the sport.

Rick Evans of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of PIAA Swimming Officials said officials vote who they deem should win the awards, and Chielli and Zerfoss definitely stood out in his mind.

"When I vote, I keep in mind



SARAH HITE/ THE DALLAS POST

Shown here during the presentation of awards at the Dallas Middle School Pool by the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association for swimming and diving are, from left, Matthew Nonnenburg, Dallas diving coach; Romayne Mosier, Dallas swim coach; Rick Evans, PIAA swim official; Jake Chielli, Dallas High School swimmer and award winner; Sarah Zerfoss, Dallas High School diver and award winner; and Jeffrey Shaffer, Dallas High School principal.

what they've achieved during the season," Evans said. "These people are all officials so they get to

go out to the schools and see how these kids interact with other teams and their teammates. Dal-

las has a great reputation...When you look at these kids, I see super people."



AMANDA HRYCYNIA/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Tess Macarty (No. 30) of Dallas kicks the ball away from Lake-Lehman's Shoshana Mahoney (No. 18) of Lake-Lehman.

Lady Mounts hang on for 2-1 soccer victory over LL

The Lady Mountaineers from Dallas High School hung tight and nipped arch-rival Lake-Lehman, 2-1, in the District 2 spring girls soccer semifinal game Wednesday evening at Wilkes University.

Dallas (13-2) advanced to a district title game for the sixth time in the past seven years where it was scheduled to play Berwick on Friday at Wilkes.

The Lady Black Knights attempted to make the champion-

ship for the first time since 1998 when head coach Kelly Adamshick, then known as Kelly Spencer, led the team to the state title game. The Dallas girls had a different idea.

Vanessa Parsons led Ashley Strazdus on a run and the Dallas freshman forward scored inside the left post seven minutes into the game. About 16 minutes later, Division 1-A scoring champ Ashley Dunbar picked the ball off the foot of a Lehman player 50 yards

from the goal and went on a breakaway for a 2-0 lead.

Things changed in the 25th minute when Lehman's Emily Sutton followed up Shoshana Mahoney's shot to move the Lady Nlack Knights within 2-1.

Dallas freshman sweeper Talia Szatkowski stepped up her game, twice plucking goals from crossing the goal line when keeper Gabby Oliveri wasn't there. Senior midfielders Elaine Tomaselli did the same, also in the first half.

LL girls lacrosse team gets 14-3 win over Tunkhannock

The Lake-Lehman girls lacrosse team defeated Tunkhannock, 14-3, in its last game of the season, finishing with a 7-13 overall record.

With four goals and one assist in the game, freshman Mallory Wilson surpassed the 100-point mark

for the season with 102 points (81 goals, 21 assists) for the Black Knights.

Also for Lake-Lehman, Courtney Thomas had four goals, Emily Galasso had three, Kassie Keiper had two goals and one assist and

Hannah Bonomo had one goal. Sam Headley forced four turnovers and won eight ground balls to lead the defense.

For Tunkhannock, Kathy Cowher had two goals and Harley McCain had one.

BACK MOUNTAIN BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Kerdesky, Lewis and Roginski lead Yankees

Action in the Back Mountain Little League for last week is as follows:

Yankees 9
Orioles 2

Darren Kerdesky, Beaudyn Lewis and Mark Roginski all went 2-3 with a triple and single while Carl Markowski drove in three runs to lead the Yankee offense over the previously undefeated Orioles, 9-2.

David Schuster pitched a complete game five-hitter while striking out 10 to lead the Yankees to their second win of the season.

Devin Robbins singled and knocked in two runs to lead the Orioles offense.

Yankees 14
Giants 3

Beaudyn Lewis went 4-4 with a triple and three doubles to lead the 14-hit Yankee offense over the Giants, 18-3.

Joseph Fiotti, Mark Roginski and Michael Doggett added two hits each while David Schuster and Collin Pertl each doubled. Doggett got the win going the distance while striking out six and holding the Giants to three hits.

Jerry Ogurkis homered and EJ Williams doubled for the Giants.

Pirates 9
Phillies 6

Justin Marshall and Chris Murray combined for seven strikeouts as the Pirates downed the Phillies, 9-6.

Adam Borton and Adam Forgiione pitched well for the Phillies. Nick Whitesell, Marshall and Murray all had multiple hits for the winners and Justin James and Chris Banas each contributed with hits in the win.

For the Phillies, Nathan O'Donnell had two hits and Nathan Hazeltine smashed a double.

A's 12
Giants 2

The A's bats were led by Dalton Gattuso, Andrew Kovalick and Josh Holdredge who each had two hits as the A's crushed the Giants, 12-2.

Evan McClain was the winning pitcher, striking out two and giving up one hit in two innings. Michael Collins also pitched well in the win, striking out two.

Ian Evans led the Giants with two hits while Bobby Lugiano, Kyle Gurzynski and Jerry Ogurkis added one each. Evans was the losing pitcher and Lugiano came in relief.

Dodgers 6
Astros 5

In a battle for first place in the National League, the Dodgers outlasted the Astros, 6-5, in seven innings behind the combined 14-strikeout pitching of Alex Kapral, Henry Selingo and Michael James.

James picked up his third win of the season by pitching the last two innings without giving up a hit. The Dodgers offense was led by Freddie Lombardo, James, Selingo and Kapral, each with a double.

The Astros Nick Kocher and Drew Patton combined to strike out 12 batters. Steven Newell, Kocher, Patton and Brody Strickland added two hits each for the Astros' offense.

Dodgers 8
A's 5

Henry Selingo extended his hitless inning streak to 9 and 2/3, combining with Michael James and Ben O'Connell in a 14-strikeout performance as the Dodgers clipped the A's, 8-5.

O'Connell picked up his first win of the season while only yielding one hit. The Dodgers offensive charge was led by Selingo and Alex Kapral each with two hits.

The A's Andrew Kovalick and Josh Holdredge combined to strike out nine Dodgers. The A's

offense was led by Kovalick's line drive home run in left center and the hitting of Holdredge, Evan McClain, Dalton Gattuso and Michael Collins.

Red Sox 13
Astros 2

The Red Sox beat the Astros, 13-2, as Mike Anderson kept the Astros at bay with JD Barrett coming in to close.

Will McCrum and JD Barrett both hit home runs as Connor Maloney, Mike Anderson, Steven Finarelli and Barrett garnered singles and doubles to keep the Sox momentum moving forward.

Starting pitcher for the Astros was Nick Kachur. Garnering Hits for the Astros were Steven Newell, Nick Kachur and Brody Strickland. Nick Kocher hit a home run for the Astros.

Yankees 7
Pirates 6

Dave Schuster picked up his second win of the season in relief of Collin Pertl as the Yankees held on to outlast the Pirates, 7-6.

After staking the Yankees to a 4-1 lead, the Pirates came back and took the lead twice before the Yankees were able to push across the final two runs needed to win.

Michael Doggett led the Yankee offense, going 3-3 with two doubles and a single while driving in three. Schuster and Carl Markowski added two hits each while Derek Answini tripled and Mark Roginski and Beaudyn Lewis each doubled.

The Pirates offense was led by Nick Whitesell going 3-3 with a double while Nathan Salus and Justin Marshall added two hits each.

Dodgers 6
Red Sox 4

Michael James picked up his fourth win of the season with