

DALLAS MOUNTAINEER AQUATIC CLUB

Club swimmers get big victory

The Dallas Mountaineer Aquatic Club girls and boys swam to a decisive victory against Pittston on Saturday, Jan. 26. The following swimmers placed in their events:

GIRLS

8 & UNDER

25 Free - Brook Martin, first; Jordan Bond, second; Victoria Spaciano, third

50 Free - Erin Oldt, first; Ashley Metz, second

25 Fly - Gabriella Spaciano, first; Evelyn Toennes, second; Morgan Sakulich, third

25 Back - Brook Martin, first; Madison Grinshteyn, second

10 & UNDER

100 IM - Sydney Bittner, first; Gabriela Krochta, second; Rhiannon Borchert, third

50 Free - Emma Thomas, first; Madelyn Stuart, second; Hayley Vasek, third

50 Fly - Melissa Leonard, first; Kaitlyn VanEtten, second; Amanda Puza, third

50 Back - Melissa Leonard, first; Amanda Puza, second; Rhiannon Borchert, third

100 Free - Emma Thomas, first; Madelyn Stuart, second; Jennifer Leonard, third

12 & UNDER

100 IM - Lindsey Jorda, second; Melinda Ratchford, third

50 Free - Abigail Bartuska, first; Peyton Ross, second; Julia Sabol, third

50 Fly - Ava Baur, first; Hunter Kline, second; Jessica Ravert, third

50 Back - Ava Baur, first; Holly Holthaus, second; Hannah Thomas, third

50 Breast - Julia Sabol, first; Melinda Ratchford, second; Abigail Bartuska, third

100 Free - Abby Zolner, first; Madison Federici, second

200 Free - Grace Ciaccia, first; Nichole Conrad, second; Sierra Jendrzejewski, third

14 & UNDER

50 Free - Madison Hurst, first; Taylor Cercone, third

100 Fly - Taylor Cercone,

first

100 Free - Madison Hurst, first; Ann Metzloff, second

100 Back - Peyton Ross, first

100 Breast - Abby Zolner, first; Ann Metzloff, second

200 IM - Madison Federici, first; Holly Holthaus, second

200 Free - Donna Rose Heron, first; Avery Godwin, second

BOYS

8 & UNDER

25 Free - Thomas Doran, first; Tanner Manzoni, second; Stephen Brdaric, third

25 Fly - Jakob Baur, first; Gary Weaver, second; Tal Richards, third

50 Free - Thomas Doran, first; Stephen Brdaric, second; Jakob Baur, third

25 Back - Ben Ditty, first; Tal Richards, second; Gabriel DeLuna, third

25 Breast - Gary Weaver, first; Tanner Manzoni, second; Richard DeLuna, third

10 & UNDER

50 Free - Zachary Blockus, first; Dennis Dukinas, second; Logan Stambaugh, third

50 Fly - John Stout, first; Shane Szczecinski, second; Jeremy Fagan, third

100 Free - Zachary Blockus, first; Logan Stambaugh, second

50 Breast - Dennis Dukinas, first

50 Back - Trent Szczecinski, first; Aiden Peterkin, second; Blake Perrego, third

12 & UNDER

100 IM - Evan Sabecky, first; Bobby DeLuna, second; Issa Dahdal, third

50 Free - Mikail Krochta, first; Garrett Pall, second; Tyler Christian, third

50 Fly - Dylan Lisnow, first; Donovan McCall, second; Samuel Zondlo, third

100 Free - Garrett Pall, first; Tyler Christian, second; Matthew Duffy, third

50 Back - Mikail Krochta, first; Colin Dempsey, second; Issa Dahdal, third

50 Breast - Donovan McCall,

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Mountaineer Ashley Dunbar, left, drives to the basket as Lake-Lehman's Danae Sutliff goes for the block in girls varsity basketball.



Talia Szatkowski, left, of Dallas, and Lake-Lehman's Emily Sutton fight for a loose ball as Dallas' Tanner Englehart moves in during the inaugural 'Black and Blue' girls varsity basketball game.

RIVAL GAME

Lake-Lehman girls upset Lady Mountaineers in Black and Blue Trophy Game.

By TOM ROBINSON
For the Dallas Post



BILL TARUTIS PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Members of the Lake-Lehman and Dallas girls varsity basketball teams stand for the singing of the national anthem prior to a game between the two Back Mountain rivals.

As neighbors and rivals, the Dallas girls basketball team has seen a lot of Lake-Lehman.

The Lady Mountaineers, however, had never seen the Lady Knights look quite like they did in the Jan. 26 game.

No one had.

"They came to see us play multiple times," said sophomore center Cayle Spencer, who scored a career-high 33 points to lead Lake-Lehman to a 72-63 upset. "We've never played that well."

With Spencer making strong inside moves to the basket and Emily Sutton hitting all four of her 3-point shots in a 22-point effort, Lake-Lehman never trailed while knocking off the Wyoming Valley Conference Division 1 leaders on their home floor in the first Black and Blue Rivalry Trophy Game.

The annual game now features a trophy sponsored by the Dallas Lions Club which will be displayed at the school of the winning team throughout the year.

Lake-Lehman coach Charlie Lavan agreed with his leading scorer. The Lady Knights picked their rivalry game for their best effort of the season.

"Our Crestwood game was close, but it was not like this," Lavan said.

Lake-Lehman entered the day tied for seventh place out of 18 teams jockeying for seeding position in the District 2 Class

AAA playoffs and as a third-place team in Division 2 of the WVC. The Lady Knights used the non-conference game to show their potential for the playoffs that are weeks away.

"It's a big rivalry game for us," Lavan said, "but it's also a gauge to see where we are with these Class Triple-A teams. We moved up to Class Triple-A this year and this was encouraging."

That was clear in the first 1:47 when Lake-Lehman forced three Dallas turnovers and scored the game's first six points, convincing Lady Mountaineers coach Kelly Johnson to use her first timeout.

"They weren't expecting that from us," Spencer said. "We

played harder than we ever played."

Lake-Lehman's hustle was evident from the start. The Lady Knights made six steals in the first quarter and, at the midway point in the second quarter, were crushing the Lady Mountaineers, 18-6, on the boards.

"That was all on effort," Lavan said. "The girls had their minds made up they were going to make a total effort. They did."

Spencer had 11 points in the game's first seven minutes, creating a 22-9 lead.

Sutton hit one 3-pointer in each quarter while scoring 22 points and leading the team with

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Lady wrestler steps up to fill in empty weight class at L-L

By TOM ROBINSON
For the Dallas Post

"He gave me a lot of advice. He helped me with the moves."

Rebecca Wright
Lake-Lehman wrestler
Speaking about her brother, Robert

Lake-Lehman opened the wrestling season with another championship-caliber team, but one that was in position to give away points in every match because it could not fill the 106-pound weight class.

Rebecca Wright spent parts of the last three years telling her family she would like to try wrestling.

When they connected a few weeks into the season, the Black Knights solved a problem and Wright got a chance to try a sport that, in 2011-12 in Pennsylvania, was exclusively for boys.

"I wasn't a fan of the idea to be honest," said Bob Wright, Rebecca's father and president of the Lake-Lehman Wrestling Parents Club. "She does competitive cheerleading, which is very demanding of her time."

"She's wanted to wrestle for the last three years."

Once Rebecca had a discussion with the Lake-Lehman coach, it was time to talk about her idea at

home again.

Robert Wright, Rebecca's older brother and a two-year starter with the Black Knights, helped with the process.

"I had to convince my dad," said Rebecca, who is a football cheerleader at Lake-Lehman and does cheerleading competition outside of school. "My brother helped me."

It was not the last time Robert helped Rebecca with wrestling.

"He gave me a lot of advice," Rebecca said. "He helped me with the moves."

And, he kept an eye on his little sister. While he says he is protective of Rebecca, Robert said his teammates have accepted her well.

"They were all pumped and excited to have her on the team," he said.

According to the National Federation of State High School Athletic Association's annual Athletics Participation Survey, 9,920 boys at 496 Pennsylvania schools participated in wrestling on the high school level in 2011-12. Not a single girl competed.

On the national level, 272,149 boys wrestled for 10,407 schools while 8,235 girls wrestled at 1,441 schools, with California and Texas accounting for more than half of those participants.

At Lake-Lehman, Rebecca has been able to help her team while still learning the sport.

She has picked up six team points for the Black Knights on six occasions, gaining forfeit wins when opponents could not fill the weight class.

She wants to bring more to the team.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Lake-Lehman wrestler Rebecca Wright gets encouragement from her older brother, Robert, who is also on the team.

"She said she wants to wrestle," Lake-Lehman coach Tom Williams said. "She doesn't want to stand there and take forfeits. She comes into the wrestling room and works at it."

Rebecca ran into one reluctant opponent, who did not want to have to wrestle her when they were paired up at a tournament.

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AT RIGHT: Rebecca Wright is part of the team line-up at a Lake-Lehman wrestling match.

