

# SPORTS

## BACK MOUNTAIN LITTLE LEAGUE ACTION

# Orioles are Little League champs

The Orioles captured the Back Mountain Little League championship with an 11-3 win over the Giants.

The 12-hit attack was led by Jake Connolly who singled, doubled and tripled. Todd Phillips pitched all six innings, struck out eight, and had two hits, including a triple. Alex Charlton doubled and singled. Zane Nardone and Michael Starbuck had two hits.

The Orioles are coached by Joe Phillips, David Simpson and Jeff Connolly.

The Giants were led by Colin Zeiss with two hits. Xander Shaner, Cole Dewees, Trey Leo and Kyle Sincavage all delivered key singles.

### AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

**Orioles 13  
Yankees 10  
(9 innings)**

Michael Starbuck allowed no runs in four innings of relief as the Os tripped the Yankees, 13-10, for the American League

championship.

Dalton Simpson blasted two home runs in the win to lead the Orioles. Todd Phillips had three hits, including a double. Kyle McAndrew and Alex Charlton both doubled and singled. Starbuck added two singles.

The Yankees were led by Michael Doggett's grand slam and six RBIs. Mark Roginski ripped a triple.

### AMERICAN LEAGUE PLAYOFFS

### Orioles 6 Rangers 1

Todd Phillips tossed a complete game two-hitter and struck out nine as the Orioles shut down the Rangers, 6-1, in the first round of the playoffs.

Dalton Simpson, Joey Aliciene and Michael Starbuck each added key singles. Phillips also had two hits in the win.

The Rangers were led by Zack Luksic's single and Matt Maransky's RBI double. Pitchers Ethan Zawatski and Michael Luksic combined for eight strikeouts.



Charlotte Bartizek | Dallas Post  
Giants shortstop Kyle Sincavage (No. 15) attempts to tag out Orioles base runner Jake Connolly (No. 3).

## UNFAMILIAR TERRITORY



Bill Tarutis | Dallas Post

West team starting pitcher Taylor Baker of Dallas winds up.

# Sarah Stacey starts All-Star game on bench

**TOM ROBINSON**  
For The Dallas Post

Sarah Stacey found herself in an unfamiliar situation for the Robert L. Dolbear Senior Girls All-Star Softball Game.

Stacey started the game on the bench, something she never did during her four-year career at Lake-Lehman.

"She was a starter since her freshman year and played every single inning of every game," Lake-Lehman coach Wayne Oplinger said. "We're naming an award after her, the Sarah Stacey Ironwoman Award." Oplinger said the award will recognize a player annually for leadership and dedication to the team.

Stacey received the award, which includes a small scholarship, from the Lake-Lehman Softball Booster Club.

Stacey did her best to provide leadership to a struggling West team in the all-star game for recent graduates from Wyoming Valley Conference teams.

The East opened a 14-0 lead in the first 4 1/2 innings of the nine-inning game, played June 21 at the W.W. Kubis Memorial Field in Dallas.

Stacey singled in the sixth inning and came around to score one of two West runs in the inning on the way to cutting the final East margin of victory to 15-4.

"I wasn't used to it," Stacey said of coming off the bench.

The West team kept battling in what could have turned into a discouraging game.

"The whole thing was fun," Stacey said. By the time the game ended, six players on the West team had produced at least one hit. Five of those players came from Lake-Lehman, Dallas or Tunkhannock.

Lake-Lehman had two of the game's three starting outfielders.

Brandie Brennan, who was captain along with Stacey, was in left field. Vicky Cadwalder, who provided the game-winning



Bill Tarutis | Dallas Post

Lake-Lehman second baseman Sarah Stacey, left, readies herself on a pitch for the West.

double in extra innings for the team's only win of the season, started in right field.

Cadwalder went 1-for-2.

"Vicky worked so hard to make herself a great player," Oplinger said of Cadwalder, pointing out that she led the division in doubles as a junior and hit multiple home runs this year. "She worked hard to make herself a better all-around hitter."

Brennan went 0-for-1.

Taylor Baker represented Dallas and was the starting pitcher for the West.

Baker went 1-for-2 and scored a run.

Tunkhannock had four players in the game, including Kristen Gilpin, who was selected as the West team's Most Valuable Player.

"It was really unexpected," Gilpin told The Times Leader after learning about the award in post-game public address announcements.

Gilpin singled to drive in the team's first run and finished 1-for-2. She also pitched the last four innings, controlling the East offense, which had been overpowering early with 16 hits in five innings.

In the last four innings, Gilpin gave up just one run on two hits while striking out four and walking three.

Emily Forba, Alicia Spudis and Jess Brennan also played from Tunkhannock.

Forba went 1-for-2 and drove in a run. Spudis started as the West leadoff hitter and finished 0-for-3. Brennan was 0-for-2.

# Giants squeak by for AAA championship

Austin Finarelli's double in the bottom of the sixth inning proved to be the game-winning hit as the Angels nipped the Giants, 9-8, to win the AAA championship in the Back Mountain Little League. The hit plated both Josiah Thomas and Marc Ramirez with the tying and winning runs, respectively.

Starting off the scoring, Drew Lojewski had three RBI for the Angels on a bases-clearing double in the bottom of the first inning, scoring Marc Ramirez, Austin Finarelli and Nick Solinsky. In offensive support for the Angels, Marc Ramirez had two hits and scored two runs. Zack Chamberlain had a hit with two RBI and Josiah Thomas had two hits, two RBI and a run scored.

After the Angels took a 7-0 lead, the Giants came roaring back and scored three runs in the fourth inning and then followed with three more in the fifth and two in the sixth. In the fourth, two of the runs came home when Will Youngman and Nick Nocito scored on a two-run triple by Kurtis Ryniec.

In the fifth, Ethan Kruger hit a two-run double, scoring Blaise Napierowski and Nick Nocito. In the top of the sixth, Mitch Burgess had a clutch single, plating



Charlotte Bartizek | Dallas Post  
Giants runner Mike Murray jumps for joy after bringing in two runs that put his team ahead.

both James McCabe and Mike Murray and giving the Giants an 8-7 lead.

Offensive leaders for the Giants were Will Youngman, Kurtis Ryniec and Mike Murray, with each having two hits.

The Giants pitching of Nick Nocito and Will Youngman and the Angels pitching of Marc Ramirez, Josh Noone and Austin Finarelli was excellent.

In the field, the Giants' Nathan Savignano took away a smash, no-doubt extra base hit from Angels' Ethan Meuser in the third inning.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### DHS FOOTBALL CAMP

The Dallas High School Football Camp for players ages 6 through 12 will be held from 8 a.m. to noon on Monday, July 22 and Tuesday, July 23 at Mountaineer Stadium.

The camp will offer fundamental skills by position and football drills with instructions provided by varsity coaches, along with current and former players.

Registration fee is \$35 if paid by July 12 and \$45 after July 12.

For more information, call coach Bob Zaruta at 675-0066.

## DYB champions



The Sun won the third/fourth grade championship in the Dallas Youth Basketball League. Members of the team are, from left, first row, Shauna Kern, Gianna Dickson, Sommer Zier-Norris, Mikayla Goldsmith. Second row, Karen Zier, assistant coach; Gracie Huntington, Isabella Hill, Kaitlyn Conrad and Andy Dickson, coach.