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FEATURE OF THE MONTH >>

1 2


FEATURE 2

Via 34th Annual All-Star Basketball Classic

See Story on page 18

Photos by
Judy Zabrecky
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VIA All-Star Basketball Tournament Photos by Judy Zabrecky

BETHLEHEM—On Saturday March 28, athletes from across the Lehigh Valley gathered at Northampton County Community College to participate in the Via All-Star Basketball Classic. The teams included girl and boy athletes from Lehigh Valley Conference, Colonial League, and Mountain Valley Conference.

The first game of the day provided for an interesting match-up, pitting girls from the Lehigh Valley West All Stars (Central Catholic, Dieruff, Emmaus, Parkland, Whitehall and William Alien) against girls from the Colonial League All Stars (Bangor, Catasauqua, Moravian Academy, Northern Lehigh, Northwestern Lehigh, Notre Dame of Green Pond, Palisades, Palmerton, Pen Argyl, Salisbury, Saucon Valley, Southern Lehigh and Wilson). The Lehigh Valley West team included two-time LVC MVP Becky Guman and Division 1 bound Jess Flamm, coached by winning coach Mike Kopp, while the Colonial League team included two-time Colonial League MVP Alita Zabrecky and Bangor stand-outs Lauren Ellis and Sarah Colton, coached by Josh Kopp, NDGP head coach and son of Mike Kopp.

Although the Colonial League girls managed to keep the Lehigh Valley West lead down to 6 points several times during the game, the West girls pulled away in the final minutes to win the game 59-45. Jess Flamm led scoring for the Lehigh Valley League, dropping in 12 points, followed by Parkland's Taylor and Alien's Smith, each with 8 points. Colonial League scoring was led by Wilson's Muschlitz with 11 points, followed by Colton with 9 and Zabrecky with 8.

Fans will continue to enjoy the basketball skills of both Zabrecky and Guman, since both MVP's have decided to stay with local college teams. Guman will be playing with Coach Sue Troyan's Lehigh Mountain Hawks, while Zabrecky will be playing with the Muhlenberg Mules, who recently finished their season with an impressive 18-0 league record.

The Via All Star Basketball Classic showcases the talent of local athletes, while raising awareness and funds for Via of the Lehigh Valley, a non-profit human service agency that provides employment assistance and other support services for children and adults with developmental disabilities. Saturday's event was the 34th annual event. Additional information on the Via basketball classic is available on their website www.vianet.org.

For more photos visit www.shotbyjudy.com/