

Boys Basketball

FCCCS 57, Shalom Christian 50
Shalom Christian's mere four-point lead at the halftime break dwindled away last Thursday with Fulton County Community Christian School pulling away for a 57-50 win. Seth Gordon posted 23 points for the Chargers, who also got 22 points and 20 rebounds from T.J. Leedy.

Forbes Road 55, McConnellsbury 28

While the McConnellsbury Spartans focused their defensive efforts on Jesse Newman, the remainder of the Forbes Road Cardinals team came alive Friday night for a 55-28 Sideling Hill League victory. Cardinal Tanner Henry led both teams with 14 points, 15 rebounds and six blocked shots, while Trent Black added 10 points and five assists. Brandon Mellott and Andrew King followed with eight and seven points, respectively, while Drew Wink led the Spartans with six points.

Fannett-Metal 50, Southern Fulton 35

Fannett-Metal broke its losing streak to Southern Fulton Friday night, finally defeating the Indians on their home turf 50-35. Josh Wertz and Luke Mellott both had 10 points for the Indians, and Mellott also added 10 rebounds.

Covenant Christian 63, FCCCS 44

Fulton County Community Christian School only connected for two points in the final period of Friday's game, falling to Covenant Christian 63-44. Seth Gordon posted 13 points, and Kenny Lininger finished with 13 points. T.J. Leedy concluded the match with 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Girls Basketball

Everett 47, Southern Fulton 38

The Southern Fulton Indians were handed their second loss of the season Monday night when the Everett Warriors clinched a 47-38 Sideling Hill League victory at home. Keena Elbin led her Indian teammates with 14 points, and Natasha Bard rallied for 11 rebounds, three steals and four assists.

Tussey Mountain 60, McConnellsbury 16

Santana Ramsey and Courtney McClure each netted five points for the McConnellsbury Lady Spartans, who easily fell to the Tussey Mountain Titans by 44-points Monday night. J.J. DeShong added six rebounds and two assists.

Hyndman 46, Forbes Road 37

Even though they got within six points during the fourth quarter of Monday night's game, Forbes Road ended the Sideling Hill League game with a 46-37 loss at the hands of the Hyndman Hornets. Patience Whitman totalled 10 points to lead the lady Cardinals. Chelsey Souders added eight points.

Southern Fulton 57, Fannett-Metal 37

Fannett-Metal tightened up the score of Thursday night's Sideling Hill League game with a solid first half, but Southern Fulton had a strong showing following the halftime break to clinch the match by a whopping 20 points. Brooke Whiteside led both teams with 18 points, and Natasha Bard had 13 points, six rebounds and four assists. Chelsey Hollenshead wrapped up the game with 10 points, seven steals and one blocked shot.

McConnellsbury 37, Forbes Road 25

The McConnellsbury Lady Spartans shot slightly better than the Forbes Road Cardinals last Thursday evening, prevailing by the score of 37-25. Rachel Porterfield and Courtney McClure led the victorious Spartans on to a victory with nine and eight points, respectively, and McClure also added 10 rebounds and three steals. Stephanie Clippingier and Patience Whitman had six points each for the Cardinals.

District 5 Girls Basketball Ratings

As Of January 12

Southern Fulton	7	1
Tussey	6	1
Northern Bedford	5	3
McConnellsbury	3	3
Shade	5	4
Johnstown	4	4
Meyersdale	3	4
Berlin	3	5
Rockwood	2	4
Fannett Metal	2	5
Hyndman	2	7
Forbes Road	1	7
Shanksville	1	8
Salisbury	0	7
Turkeyfoot	0	8

Racing Roundup

By Brad Vores

The annual Motorsports 2009 at the Atlantic City Convention Center is on tap this weekend as the 2009 racing season officially will kick off.

Thousands of people will fill the center to get firsthand looks at new race cars for the upcoming racing season as well as pick up schedules and information from tracks, manufacturers and more at the 24th annual show.

NASCAR Sprint cup stars Kevin Harvick, Dave Blaney and Joey Logano will be on hand during the weekend along with NASCAR truck champ Johnny Benson along with David Starr. Other top names on hand include Matt Smith and Angie McBride, Kenny Koretsy, Antron Brown, Ray Evernham, James Hylton and Wally Dallenbach Sr.

The show will be open on Friday and Saturday. For more info, visit www.aarn.com.

Coming up in two weeks will be the annual Dirt Trackin show at the York Fairgrounds where fans can get an upclose look at many race cars that will be in competition around the midstate area in 2009 as well as meet and greet many drivers and pick up schedules for the season. More information is at www.yorkdirttrackin.com. That show runs from January 23 through the 25th.

Many local 410 Sprint car drivers will soon be making the trip south to Florida for the Winter Nationals that kick off at Ocala Speedway on January 29. The All-Stars will have three dates at Ocala this year, the first visit since the 1994 season. Following Ocala, the All-Stars head to Volusia Speedway Park along with the World of Outlaws for six nights of racing. Then East Bay Raceway Park will host two non-sanctioned 410 Sprint car shows.

Hagerstown Speedway will kick off the northeast racing season in 2009 with a 410 Sprint and Late Model doubleheader on Saturday February 21. A raindate of Sunday the 22nd will be used.

Hagerstown is also gearing up for the Race A Rama car show at the Valley Mall on February 18-20. That's it for this week as all news and notes can always reach me at Bvores@aol.com.

The Demise Of The "Kings" Kingdom



Richard Petty

By Gerald Hodges
THE RACING REPORTER

The Petty name and No. 43 car will still be around this season.

The Petty Kingdom won't. Richard Petty Racing is a thing of the past. It has been integrated into Gillett Evernham Motorsports.

The "King" is no longer a car owner.

A spokesperson is the best word I know to use in describing his future role in racing.

It's a sad end to a glorious reign.

Last June Kyle Petty announced that his family had sold a majority of his family's team to an investment group, Boston Ventures.

Apparently the Boston group didn't have enough money to keep the operation open after the loss of two major sponsors.

"They filled their plate with more than they could eat," said Richard Petty. They looked at it and said, 'Oh my god, this is Sprint Cup racing. We can do this and be a part of it.'

"They got into it and it was a different animal than what they thought it was. I don't think they were ready for it."

That and the fact that the last time a Petty car was in victory lane was in 1999, led to its downfall.

Sponsors want to see results. While most Fortune 500 companies don't insist that a driver win every week, it is a proven fact that if a driver isn't running up front, the team isn't getting the maximum exposure.

The Petty cars for the last few years were no more than "field-fillers." They helped make up the 43-car starting field, but had no chance of winning.

Six months after the Boston Group took over, the operation was down to one car, and during the Christmas holidays, that car, the No. 43, that Richard Petty won most of his 200 races in, was sold/merged/absorbed into GEM. Petty's last ride was in 1992.

In late 1991, Petty announced he would retire after the 1992 season. His final top-10 finish came at the 1991 Budweiser at the Glen. He chose to run the entire 1992 season, not just selected events as other drivers have done before retirement. His year-long Fan Appreciation Tour took him around the country, participating in special events, awards ceremonies and fan-related meetings.

Despite the tremendously busy appearance schedule, and mediocre race results, Petty managed to qualify for all 29 races in 1992. On his final visit to each track, he would lead the field on the pace lap to salute the fans. Petty's final race was the season-ending race at Atlanta Motor Speedway. The race was notable in that it was the second closest points championship in NAS-CAR history, with six drivers mathematically eligible to win the championship.

A record 160,000 spectators attended the race, which went down to the final lap with Bill El-

liott winning the race, and Alan Kulwicki winning the championship by 10 points over Elliott after Davey Allison dropped out early after a crash.

Facing the intense pressure, Petty barely managed to qualify at Atlanta, posting the 39th fastest speed out of 41 cars. He would not have been eligible for the provisional starting position, and had to qualify on speed.

Early in the race, Petty became involved in an accident, and his car caught fire. He pulled the car off the track, and climbed out of the burning machine uninjured. His pit crew worked diligently all afternoon to get the car running again, and with two laps to go, he pulled out of the pits and was credited as running at the finish in his final race. He took his final checkered flag, finishing in 35th position. After the race, Petty circled the track to salute the fans one final time.

NASCAR has changed so much since Richard retired in 1992 that I'm not sure how he will be missed. He was and still is an essential part of NASCAR's roots, and a reminder of how NASCAR used to be.

He's always been a gentleman around me, and I hope he doesn't quit hanging out at the race track. I will continue to search the infield for Richard standing on his hauler wearing his cowboy hat.

Meanwhile, Kyle Petty said he would like to obtain a Cup ride for 2009, but conceded that his efforts could be harmed by the economic downturn.

"I think the merger is a plus for Richard Petty and for Petty Enterprises," Kyle Petty said. "We have not spoken about it or how he (Richard) will fit into the organization. The less I know about it the better off I am. I have not been a part of the organization for the past five or six months."

"I think I can still drive and with the right team, could win races. We are all sitting around and twiddling our thumbs to see how the bailout is going to affect the contracts already in place with the auto manufacturers. Speedways have already seen corporate sponsors begin to pull back. Some of the teams have seen some of their sponsors cut them 15-to-20 percent because it is all they can afford."

"The economy is going to make each race a local race. People are not going to be traveling from Oklahoma to Talladega. You are going to see people there from Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia who can drive over for the day and go home."

"Racing teams are also feeling the pinch, and I think even the drivers that are secure in their ride are worried about it, too."

"There's going to be even less opportunities out there for the unsigned drivers, and that's going to hurt drivers who are looking for a new ride."

Elliott Sadler to stay

Elliott Sadler, who has driven for Gillett Evernham Motorsports for the past 2 1/2 years, will retain his position as driver in 2009, less than two weeks after it was reported that A.J. Allmendinger was close to finalizing a deal that would have put him in the 19 car for 2009.

Sadler had threatened to sue if his contract was terminated before the end of 2010.

That means A. J. Allmendinger is job hunting again.

Next Week: Racing in 2009: Beyond the Hype

Racing Trivia Question: What year did Richard Petty get his first win?

Last Week's Question: Which NASCAR series does Matt Crafton compete in? Answer: The Camping World Truck Series.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at: hodges-news@earthlink.net.

"Winchester" Shoots To Top Of Junior Market Steer Show At The Farm Show

Evan Vonada of Mill Hall, Clinton County, snagged top honors in the Junior Market Steer Show at the 2009 Pennsylvania Farm Show on Sunday, Jan. 11.

Evan, the 11-yr-old son of Pam and Wade Vonada, earned the honor with his 1,300 pound crossbred steer, "Winchester," topping 66 other steers.

Before getting the highest honor, "Winchester" also won the Crossbred Light Heavyweight class, and took the Light Heavyweight Champion title. The victory is Evan's first at the Pennsylvania Farm Show after exhibiting for three years.

For the second year in a row, Reserve Grand Champion Steer went to a member of the Zundel family of New Alexandria, Westmoreland County. Colton Zundel, the 11-year-old son of Matthew and Renee Zundel took the title this year, after his sister Hannah won last year.

Colton showed a crossbred steer named "Nobody" that weighed 1,295 pounds. "Nobody" also won his division and was the Champion Crossbred Middleweight.

"I wish everyone could get a purple banner but everyone's a winner in the ag industry," judge Dr. Tom Turner from Ohio State University commented, before choosing the Grand and Reserve Champion Market steers.

Champion and Reserve Champions of each breed are:

Champion Angus Steer: Andrea Poore, York Co.

Res. Champion Angus Steer: Ryan Fairbairn, Chester Co.

Champion Hereford Steer: Brandon Eberly, Lebanon Co.

Res. Champion Hereford Steer: Brian Ley, Chester Co.

Champion Simmental Steer: Blake Herman, Snyder Co.

Res. Champion Simmental Steer: Matthew Mowery, Snyder Co.

Champion Other Purebred Steer: Kyle Delaplaine, Adams Co.

Res. Champion Other Purebred Steer: Ian Erdely, Fayette Co.

Champion Lightweight Steer: Samuel Wingert, Franklin Co.

Res. Champion Lightweight Steer: Sam Bowman, York Co.

Champion Middleweight Steer: Colton Zundel, Westmoreland Co.

Res. Champion Middleweight Steer: David Sisler, Greene Co.

Champion LightHeavyweight Steer: Evan Vondada, Clinton Co.

Res. Champion Light Heavyweight Steer: Samantha Sisler, Greene Co.

Champion Heavyweight Steer: Kelsey Delaplaine, Adams Co.

Res. Champion Heavyweight Steer: Alexi Cash, York Co.

Champion Crossbred Steer: Evan Vondada, Clinton Co.

Res. Champion Crossbred Steer: Colton Zundel, Westmoreland Co.

Seasoned 4-H'er Wins Fourth Farm Show Championship Lamb Banner

Bedford County girl exhibits champion lamb, topples 227 entries

Deputy Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding presented Samantha Adams of Bedford, Pa., the Grand Champion title in the Junior Market Lamb Show on Sunday, Jan. 11, at the 2009 Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg.

Adams, with her 126-pound crossbred market lamb, outperformed 227 entries for her fourth Grand Champion win at the Farm Show. A member of the

Farming Around 4-H Club, this energetic 16-year-old has received the honors of Grand Champion Junior Market Goat, Reserve Grand Champion Junior Market Lamb, and Grand Champion Junior Market Lamb in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. She has exhibited at the Farm Show for eight years.

Judge Brad Smith from Petersburg, Va., commented that "the true reason of shows like this is to teach youth about sheep and showmanship." He went on to say, "Really, it is more so about teaching them about leadership, personal growth and development. Everyone is a champion with blue-ribbon animals and blue-ribbon kids."

Abbey Benninghoff of Bessemer, Lawrence County, exhibited the Reserve Grand Champion, which was also the Hampshire Champion. Benninghoff has been exhibiting at the Farm Show for 10 years and is a member of the Mohawk FFA Chapter.

The Junior Market Lamb Show winners were:

Dorset

Champion: Aubrey Moon, Somerset, Somerset Co.

Reserve: Haley Plotts, Salona, Clinton Co.

Hampshire

Champion: Abbey Benninghoff, Bessemer, Lawrence Co.

Reserve: Chandler Carey, Montoursville, Lycoming Co.

Southdown

Champion: Brock Plotts, Salona, Clinton Co.

Reserve: Abby Finkenbinder, Newville, Cumberland Co.

Suffolk

Champion: Lexie Matthews, Scenery Hill, Washington Co.

Reserve: Sebastian Debnar, New Florence, Indiana Co.

Other Meat Purebred

Champion: Emily Walbridge, Mill Hall, Clinton Co.

Reserve: Jeffrey Norris, Hopewell, Bedford Co.

Lightweight Crossbred

Champion: Bianca Fesenbeckh, McVeytown, Huntingdon Co.

Reserve: Brianna Isenberg, Indiana, Indiana Co.

Middleweight Crossbred

Champion: Samantha Adams, Bedford, Bedford Co.

Reserve: Zachary Cox, Bedford, Bedford Co.

Light Heavyweight Crossbred

Champion: Jake Dzurino, Washington, Washington Co.

Reserve: Ethan Virgili, Carmichaels, Greene Co.

Heavyweight Crossbred

Champion: Garrett Keith, Clymer, Indiana Co.

Reserve: Lindsey Bosanac, Monongahela, Washington Co.

Champion Crossbred

Champion: Samantha Adams, Bedford, Bedford Co.

Reserve: Jake Dzurino, Washington, Washington Co.

For a complete list of show results, visit the Farm Show Web site at www.farmshow.state.pa.us and click on 'Show Results.'

Completes Training

Matthew C. McQuade, son of Christine A. McQuade of McConnellsbury, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, McQuade completed a variety of training that included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a sailor.

McQuade is a 2004 graduate of Central Fulton High School of McConnellsbury, Pa.

In Memory

BROWN

In memory of Michelle Elizabeth Brown, January 20, 1997, on her 12th birthday:

Though time may ease the pain Our love for you will never wane

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