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Joe Miegoc

Sports Writer

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From ESU to Arizona, let's catch up with Poconos athletes

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Pleasant Valley grad Tom Kresge is also scoring in double figures, averaging 15.3 ppg and grabbing 8.4 rebounds per game at Wilkes.

Contributed photo

January 29, 2009

Weather days like Wednesday are a perfect time to revisit the past.

Throughout the past few years, a large number of former high school athletes from the eight high schools covered by the Pocono Record — East Stroudsburg North, East Stroudsburg South, Notre Dame of East Stroudsburg, Pius X, Pleasant Valley, Pocono Mountain East, Pocono Mountain West and Stroudsburg — have gone on to compete in various sports in college. There have been feature stories on some, but there really aren't enough days in the year to do stories on all of them. That doesn't mean they've been forgotten or overlooked.

Here, you'll find a breakdown, by high schools, of all the kids the Record knows are playing winter sports in college and how they're doing. If I miss any feel free to let me know who they are and where they're playing by e-mailing me at jmiegoc@poconorecord.com.

East Stroudsburg North

Cathleen Pellington, a senior on the swim team at East Stroudsburg University, finished third in the 100 breast with a time of 1:20.44 in the Warriors' victory over Ramapo on Jan. 18. She also finished fifth in the 1,000 free in 14:00.38 in a victory over Millersville on Jan. 17.

Monae Baker, a freshman at Pitt-Johnstown, is averaging eight points per game. She's played in 11 of the Mountain Cats' 17 games, all off the bench.

East Stroudsburg South

Bloomsburg freshman Kelsey Gallagher is second on the team in scoring (15.7 ppg) and rebounding (5.2) and leads the Huskies in assists (61), 3-pointers made (37) and steals (35). Gallagher, a starter in all 17 games, has been named the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference East Freshman of the Week five times this season.

Notre Dame East Stroudsburg

Jamey Bercier, a freshman at DeSales, is averaging 1.7 ppg in seven games off the bench for the 15-2 Bulldogs.

Emily Mullen, a freshman walk-on at Elizabethtown, has scored 10 points in five games for the 10-7 Blue Jays.

Pius X

Anthony Hargrove, a freshman at Division II Kentucky State, is 6.9 ppg and leads the team in rebounding (4.7 per game) and blocks (9) in nine appearances, five of them starts.

Pleasant Valley

Dickinson sophomore Alesha Sisco is averaging 11.8 ppg and leads the 8-8 Red Devils with 7.1 rebounds per game, field-goal percentage (.508) and steals (42).

Tom Kresge, a junior at Wilkes, is second on the team in scoring at 15.3 ppg and leads the Colonels in rebounding at 8.4 per game in 16 games, all starts.

Elmira sophomore Becca Fretz is averaging 6.2 ppg and 5.2 rebounds in 15 games, five of them starts.

Wilkes sophomore Katie McFarland has scored five points in four games for the Lady Colonels.

Freshman Buddy Gouger is 17-6 at 184 pounds at Wilkes, including three pins and victories in each of his last four matches.

Pocono Mountain East

Nikki Schneck, a sophomore at Susquehanna, is averaging 4.4 ppg and 2.3 rebounds in 18 games, six of

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them starts.

Arizona State sophomore Kraidon Woods has scored five points in eight games for the Sun Devils (16-3), who were ranked 16th in the latest Associated Press poll.

Clark College junior Jerusalem Strickland is averaging 7.1 ppg, 4.9 rebounds and has 28 steals and 12 blocks in 21 games, 17 of them starts, for the 5-17 Crusaders.

Senior Shane Connor is averaging 5.9 ppg in seven games, all off the bench, for the University of Sciences in Philadelphia.

Kean University freshman Christina Smith has scored 11 points and grabbed 24 rebounds in 12 games off the bench.

Junior Mike Knepp is a member of the Penn College basketball team which is in first place in the Penn State University Athletic Conference with an 8-1 conference mark.

DeSales freshman Matt Lepri has grabbed four rebounds and scored two points in seven games.

Wilkes junior Robert Griffith is 3-9 at 149 pounds for the Colonels

Pocono Mountain West

Kean junior Cardiss Jackman is averaging 16.1 ppg and 4.8 rebounds for the 15-3 Cougars, who are unbeaten in New Jersey Athletic Conference play.

Kristen Boesenberg, a junior at American International, is averaging 7.2 ppg in 22 games, 19 of them starts. She leads the Yellow Jackets in made 3s (41) and is second in steals (34).

New Jersey Institute of Technology sophomore Adriana Johnson has scored 35 points in 16 games off the bench for the Highlanders.

In swimming, ESU freshman Chia Scoppetta was fifth in the 50 free in 27.59 and third in the 100 free in 1:01.20 in the Warriors' victory over Millersville on Jan. 17.

Stroudsburg

In swimming, Scranton senior Lauren Hosko has taken first place five times in 10 events over seven meets. She has three victories in the 200 IM, one in the 200 medley and one in the 100 fly and has also been a part of six winning relay teams.

Matt Hosko, a junior at Scranton, has two third-place finishes and has been a member of the 400 free and 400 medley teams.

Drexel senior Sarah Keeley finished first in the 100 breast with a time of 1:10.25 in the Dragons' loss to Binghamton on Jan. 18. Keeley owns the fastest time in school history in the 200 breast (2:22.36, set in 2008) and second fastest in the 100 breast (1:05.91, set in '08).

Pittsburgh senior B.J. Conklyn swam to second-place finishes in the 100 and 200 breast in the Panthers' victory over West Virginia on Jan. 10.



Mike Dougherty, a sophomore at Misericordia, was part of the 400 medley and 400 free relay teams that took first place in a victory over Scranton on Jan. 9 and the 400 free team that won in a loss to Albright on Jan. 24. Dougherty took first in the 100 free and was part of the 200 medley that touched the wall first in a victory over Lebanon Valley on Jan. 14.

In basketball, Penn State Dubois freshman Chris Dickison is seventh in the PSUAC in scoring at 19.1 ppg, second in field-goal percentage (.640), fifth in rebounding (7.7) and first in offensive rebounding (3.9).

Prince Blacknall, a senior at Marywood, is second on the team in scoring at 18 ppg and leads the Pacers in assists (51) and steals (27) in 17 games, 16 of them starts.

Penn College freshman Neil Baskerville is also on the first-place team along with Knepp.

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