Sports

How to Reach Us

Laubach a leader of young ladies



Sports editor Dan Reilly: 570-387-1234, extension 1331, or sports@pressenterprise.net

To report scores:

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CBS' GRANT MAKING **H**ISTORY

• (AP) — **Mark Grant** was considering retirement two years ago after a long career as a director at CBS and ESPN. Those plans changed though when CBS Sports executives offered him the chance to be the lead director for college basketball and the NCAA Tournament.

Grant will be the director for tonight's national championship game between San Diego State and UConn, and it's believed he will be the first Black director for a championship game in any sport.

"I know what this means to people who

By ANNA WATSON Press Enterprise Sports Writer

has come a long way since she

first met legendary longtime

Central Columbia softball coach

Duane Ford.

team.

ing." That's when she decided the next day, she would start a new Michele (Lamon) Laubach program with the team.

"She would learn a new word every day and use it in a sentence until she knew its meaning and could use it in everyday conversation," Ford recalled.

Central grad coaches softball, wrestling at Freedom

Back in 1994, (Lamon) Laubach was a freshman transfer The vocabulary program student who moved from the lasted well into softball season. Berwick school district to Cen-During an inning in the 1994 tral Columbia. During an intro-Eastern final, the team made mistakes. Coach Ford called a ductory basketball session, Ford explained his objectives for the timeout to talk to his team and calm their emotions. Lamon fol-At the end of practice, Lamon lowed him with her own pumpapproached Ford and explained, up speech, proudly using some of the "big" words she acquired. "Captain, I didn't understand "Everyone cracked up laugha lot of the words you were us-

ing," Ford said. "I had a feeling we were back on track emotionally. The next inning we tied the game, and the inning after we went ahead and won a trip to the state final.

Laubach's driven personality became the building blocks that have established her career today at Freedom High School in Bethlehem, where she coaches the girls softball and wrestling teams.

Laubach and Ford still keep a coach.



Photo by Hannah Buss/lehighvalleylive.com FREEDOM COACH MICHELE LAUBACH, a Central Columbia graduate and former state softball champion, fist-bumps player Brenna Ortwein during a game against Parkland in the Lehigh Valley High School Softball Showcase in 2020.

in touch regularly, nearly 30 years later. Laubach spoke of their tight-knit relationship and the respect she has for Ford as

Please see LEADER page 12

Men's title match brings up memories of Fab Five **By EDDIE PELLS**

AP National Writer

HOUSTON — Thirty years ago, a group of disrupters with baggy shorts and black socks changed college basketball as we know it, and took a good slice of American culture along for the ride.

Those freshmen known as the Fab Five ended up one win short of the title, which is exactly where San Diego State — a team coached by a former Fab Five assistant, Brian Dutcher — finds itself in 2023 during another transformative period in college hoops.

The Aztecs (32-6) themselves certainly aren't trying to deliver change to the game or the culture when they face UConn (30-8) in the title game today.

But the fact that they're here — a team with Michigan bloodlines that was forged quickly through the newly liberated transfer portal and enriched by opportunities that have sprung from name, image and likeness deals — speaks volumes about where those Fab Five superstars were trying to take the game three decades ago.

'We got to college and started under-

NCAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT FINALS AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez

LSU'S ANGEL REESE reacts in front of Iowa's Caitlin Clark during the second half of the NCAA Women's Final Four championship game Sunday in Dallas. LSU won, 102-85.



look like me, and I don't take that lightly at all," Grant said. "When you think about it, there haven't been many opportunities. I hope this will open doors and give some opportunities to other people. We have a lot of talented Black people doing sports, I hope that they can look at me and say, 'Well, if he can do it, then so can I.' It just takes a lot of work, a lot of preparation and luck. You've got to be in the right place at the right time. "

FATIGUE **S**IDELINES **A**RIZONA **PITCHER**

• LOS ANGE-LES (AP) — Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Madison Bumgarner returned to Phoenix to be evaluated by medical staff after he felt fatigue during his first start this season.

The 33-yearold left-hander allowed five runs, four hits and four walks in Arizona's 10-1 loss to the Los Angeles Dodgers on Saturday. **Trayce Thompson** hit a grand slam in a five-run first inning.

Tigers set milestones with first title

By DOUG FEINBERG AP Basketball Writer

DALLAS — Kim Mulkey returned home to Louisiana wanting to bring LSU first

WOMEN'S FINAL	bas-
	ketball
LSU 102	cham-
IOWA 85	pion-
	'ship.
a Hall of Damas	acach did

The Hall of Fame coach did just that in only her second year at the school.

Her Tigers used a record offensive performance to beat Caitlin Clark and Iowa 102-85 on Sunday and win the first basketball title, men's or women's, in school history.

"I turn around and look at the Final Four banners (in the home arena), nowhere did it say national champion," Mulkey said. "That's what I came home to do."

The victory made Mulkey the first women's coach to win national titles at two different schools. She won three at Baylor before leaving for LSU two years ago.



AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez

LSU COACH KIM MULKEY reacts to a call during the first half of the NCAA Women's Final Four championship game against Iowa on Sunday in Dallas.

"Coaches coach a lifetime and this is the fourth time I've been blessed," Mulkey said. "Never in the history of LSU basketball, men or women, has (anybody) ever played for a championship."

The feisty and flamboyantly dressed Mulkey, who wore a sparkly, golden, tiger-striped outfit, now has the third-most national titles behind Geno Auriem-

ma's 11 and Pat Summitt's eight. Mulkey has never lost in a championship game.

'My tears are tears of joy," she said. "I'm so happy for everybody back home in Louisiana."

Clark, The Associated Press national player of the year, couldn't lead the Hawkeyes to their first national title despite one of the greatest individual performances in NCAA Tour-

nament history. The junior finished with 30 points. She scored 40 in the semifinals to knock out unbeaten South Carolina one game after she had the first 40-point tripledouble in NCAA history in the Elite Eight.

The dazzling guard set the NCAA record for points in a tournament, passing the 177 that Sheryl Swoopes scored in 1993 en route to leading Texas Tech to the title. Clark ended her tournament with 191

The 102 points broke the previous high for a championship game, surpassing the 97 that Texas scored against Southern California in 1986.

'So much for preaching defense and rebounding," Mulkey said, laughing.

Taking in the game was first lady Jill Biden, who sat in a suite above the court with tennis great Billie Jean King.

Mulkey said she hadn't met the first lady yet but told the AP that if the team was invited to the White House, she'd go.

Please see LSU page 12

standing the hypocrisy in the game, with the schools making millions and us sitting around poor as hell," said Fab Five guard Ray Jackson. "We wanted to change the dynamics of that, get the athletes feeling empowered a little more."

One of the greatest ironies is that the coach who essentially built the 21st-century version of San Diego State is Dutcher's longtime boss at both Michigan and SDSU, Steve Fisher. Fisher made his way to the West Coast after losing his job at Michigan in the wake of one of the most complex and sordid illicit-benefits scandals in NCAA history.

In essence, the coach, who retired and handed over the SDSU reins to Dutcher in 2017, got caught up in a series of events that, frankly, wouldn't be frowned upon nearly as harshly today. Back then, it was a shady booster with gambling ties trying to funnel money to players. These days, sports gambling is legal in many states (the NCAA brought the Sweet 16 to Las Vegas for the first time last week), while everyone from car dealers to social media conglomerates pay players in the open.

Fisher is in Houston this week, hanging with his son, Mark, a special assistant for the fifth-seeded Aztecs who has ALS.

"I had the ability to close my eyes and dream, and dream of this, to be honest with you," Fisher said earlier this week.

A Final Four wasn't so much a dream as an expectation for the Fab Five — Jackson, Jalen Rose, Chris Webber, Juwan Howard and Jimmy King — who, in many opinions, remain the most electric single recruiting class in college history.

They showed up at Michigan in 1991 and made not one but two appearances in the national title game. They got blown out by

Please see FAB page 12

Larson wins, keeps Chevy ahead

By HANK KURZ Jr. AP Sports Writer

watching videos of his 10-win, 2021 championship season, he said, "to remind myself that I used to be good."

He still is. Larson pulled away on a restart with 14 laps to go and easily won the NASCAR Cup Series race at Richmond Raceway on Sunday.

"I just really wanted to look at old tape of myself and see where my mindset was and to see my

CAR's top series.

Larson started the final green Kyle Larson spent the week flag run with Hendrick Motorsports teammate Josh Berry to his outside and beat Berry into the first turn. Berry, who is filling in for the injured Chase Elliott, held on for second, followed by Ross Chastain, Christopher Bell and Kevin Harvick.

It's the third victory of the season for the four-car Hendrick team and came less than a week after a 100-point penalty against each driver for using an illegal confidence," Larson said after part was overturned by a NAS-

his 20th career victory in NAS- CAR appeals panel. It also came with a fill-in crew chief in Kevin Meendering because the appeals panel upheld the four-race suspensions of all four team crew chiefs.

"I was just happy to fill a gap and help those guys out in a tough situation," Meendering said. "This is a testament to all the hard work but those guys on that team and to Hendrick Motorsports,"

Chevrolet took the top three spots and has now won five of the seven races this season.

Please see LARSON page 11



AP Photo/Mike Caudill

KYLE LARSON celebrates in Victory Lane after winning a NAS-CAR Cup Series race at Richmond Raceway on Sunday in Richmond, Virginia.

Sports

SCOREBOARD

Today in Sports History

April 3, 1993

• The Pittsburgh Penguins move within a game of matching the NHL record for consecutive wins, taking their 14th in a row with a 5-2 victory over the New

Jersey Devils.

April 3, 2003 • Central Columbia's

No. 1 doubles team of Tim Coyne and Alex Turayev, and No. 2 doubles team of Chris DeMelfi and



Brent Robinson both defeat their opponents in straight sets to help the Blue Jays beat previously unbeaten Lewisburg, 4-1.

April 3, 2013

• Warrior Run's Taylor Parker tosses a five-inning no-hitter as the Defenders defeat Hughesville, 14-0, in high school softball.

CALENDAR
Today
BASEBALL
High school
Berwick at Pittston
Benton at Millville
Mt. Carmel at Bloomsburg4:30 p.m.
Central at Montoursville4:30 p.m.
Midd-West at Danville4:30 p.m.
Northwest at Vo-Tech4:30 p.m.
Southern at Loyalsock4:30 p.m.
College
Kutztown at BU (DH)noon
SOFTBALL
High school
Berwick at Hanover Area4:15 p.m.
Benton at Millville
Northwest at Vo-Tech4:30 p.m. College
West Chester at BU (DH) 2 p.m.
GOLF
College women
BU at Cottrell Invite TBD
TENNIS
High school boys
Berwick at Wyoming Area4 p.m.
LACROSSE
High school boys
Selinsgrove at Danville 5 p.m.
Tuesday
BASEBALL
High school
Northwest at Sullivan Cty4:30 p.m.
College
BU at Seton Hill3 p.m.
SOFTBALL High school
Warrior Run at Bloomsburg 4:30 p.m.
Central at Montoursville 4:30 p.m.
Danville at Shikellamy
Southern at Loyalsock
College
Lock Haven at BU (DH) 2 p.m.
GOLF
College women
BU at Cottrell InviteTBD
VOLLEYBALL
High school boys
Nanticoke at Berwick4:30 p.m.
TENNIS
High school boys
Bloomsburg at Mifflinburg4 p.m.
Central at Danville4 p.m.

	AHL	G	LAN	C	E			
EASTERN CONFERENCE								
Atlantic Di	vision GP W	L	OLSO	ור	Pts	GF	G	
Hershey	66 41	16	5	4	91		16	
Providence		16	8	2	90	198	18	
Springfield	66 36	23	2	5		211	19	
Charlotte	66 35	23	5	3		212	20	
Lehigh Vall		26	3	3		199		
Hartford	67 31	25	4	7		210		
Bridgeport	65 31	26	7 7	1		214		
WB/Scrant North Divis		28	1	6	63	178	20	
	GP W	L	OLSO	ы	Pts	GF	G	
Toronto	66 40	21	3	2		210	20	
Syracuse	65 33	24	5	3		227	21	
Rochester	66 33	25	5	3	74	215	21	
Utica	66 31	25	6	4	72	193	20	
Laval	67 29		7	3		235		
Cleveland	65 29		5	2		205		
Belleville	66 28		6	3		212	23	
	ESTER	NC	ONFE	RE	NCE			
Central Div	GP W	L	OLSO	ור	Pts	GF	G	
Texas	66 36	18	9	3		241	18	
Milwaukee	65 39	21	3	2		216	18	
Manitoba	66 34	23	5	4		206	20	
Iowa	66 32	24	5	5	74	198	19	
Rockford	65 30	26	5	4	69	191	21	
Chicago	64 29		4	3	65	193	21	
Grand Rap		31	4	4	62	184	23	
Pacific Div			~ ~	~.	D 1-	~-	~	
0-1	GP W	L	OLSO		Pts	GF	G	
Calgary Coach. Val	66 47 . 65 45	15 14	3 4	1 2		242 243	16 17	
Abbotsford	67 37	23	3	4		243		
Colorado	66 35	21	7	3		193		
Ontario	66 33	28	4	1		195	19	
Bakersfield		29	2	2		194		
Tucson	67 30	30	7	0		203		
San Jose	66 28	33	1	4	61	185	22	
Henderson	66 24	37	0	5	53	178	20	
San Diego	66 19		2	1	41	167	25	
Saturday's	Game	S						
Abbotsford			a 1					
Rochester	4, Utica	2						
Hershey 4,	6 Char		5					
Springfield	WR/Q	oran	ton ?					
Syracuse 4 Iowa 5, Sar Laval 6, Mi	n Diego	1	1011 0					
Laval 6. Mi	lwaukee	4						
Belleville 4	Toronto	5 O C						
Bridgeport	5, Prov	iden	ce 2					
Hartford 5,	Lehigh	Valle	ey 1					
Chicago 3,	Rockfo	rd 0						
Texas 7, Sa	an Jose	2		_				
Coachella				2				
Bakersfield		ion '	1					
Sunday's (n cl (`					
Hershey 3,				- c	-			
Lehigh Valle	ey at Br	iuge 3 r	poπ, : m	o p	.m.			
Syracuse a Belleville at	Toront	ວµ. ∿						
Milwaukee				,				
San Diego	at lowa	4 n	, , p.11					
Grand Rap	ids at R	ock	ford. 5	p.1	m.			
Colorado a				н. н.				
Monday's	Games							
San Jose a		nella	Valley	, 10) p.r	n.		
					-			
	MLB	LE	AD	R	S			

American League

BATTING-Franco, Tampa Bay, .636; A.García, Texas, .625; Urshela, Los Angeles, .625; Duvall, Boston, .571; Vázquez, Min-nesota, .571; M.Chapman, Toronto, .500; Grossman, Texas, .500; Devers, Boston, .467; Anderson, Chicago, .462; Buxton, Min-nesota, .462; Hays, Baltimore, .462; Judge, New York, .462.

RUNS-Duvall, Boston, 6; Frazier, Bal-timore, 5; Alvarez, Houston, 4; Arozarena



LSU'S JASMINE CARSON reacts to her 3-pointer during the first half of the NCAA Women's Final Four championship game against Iowa on Sunday in Dallas.

LSU 'This is the game of my life'

Continued from page 9

Jasmine Carson scored 22 points, Alexis Morris added 21 and Angel Reese had 15 points and 10 rebounds for LSU (34-2).

"It's no one-man show around here. When I go down, the next man is up," said Reese, who was honored as the Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four. "Every single time, every time I go out or Alexis goes out, everybody always comes to step up."

Trailing by 21 points early in the third quarter, Iowa started hitting from the outside to go on a 15-2 run, hitting four 3-pointers and converting a 3-point play to get within 65-57.

The Hawkeyes (31-7)trailed 73-64 with 1:03 left in the third quarter when Clark was called for a technical foul. She swatted the ball away on the floor after a foul call against a teammate. That counted as a personal foul for her, her fourth of the game.

"I thought they called it very, very tight," Clark said. "Hit with a technical foul for throwing the ball under the basket — sometimes that's how things go."

Clark played the entire fourth quarter with four fouls but couldn't get the Hawkeyes much closer.

"They really played well, they were ready to go. They hugged, setting off a wild cel- in this NCAA Tournament bedid a great job. I'm just so ebration by the Tigers. proud of my team," Iowa The game was tight for the "I would definitely say coach Lisa Bluder said. "This first 15 minutes before Carson this is the game of my life beis brutal, it's really tough to got hot from the outside. She cause I won a national chamvery thankful for the season we had and don't want to take icked on the sidelines. anything away from that."



AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez LSU PLAYERS CELEBRATE after the NCAA Women's Final Four championship game against Iowa on Sunday in Dallas.

42 lead at the break. It was the

LSU shot 58% from the field

Clark had 16 points and

Before Sunday, Carson had

ing With about 1:30 to go, I most points ever in the first couldn't hold it. I got very half of a championship game, emotional," Mulkey said. breaking the record held by "That's not like me, but I Tennessee since 1998 knew we would hold on and win this game. I don't what in the opening 20 minutes, init was, but I lost it. Very emo- cluding going nine for 12 from tional and tears of joy. Don't behind the arc. The Tigers know if it's the mere fact that finished the game shooting we're doing it in my second 54% from the field, including year back home or that I am making 11 of 17 3-pointers. back home."

A few seconds later after five assists before picking up another LSU basket, Reese her third foul with 3:56 to go in taunted Clark by putting her the half, which didn't go over hand in front of her face with well with the sellout crowd of a "you can't see me" gesture more than 19,000 fans. and then pointed to her ring finger. gone scoreless in five of her

As the final seconds seven postseason games in ticked off, Mulkey and Reese her career. She had 11 points

fore the finale.

Fab

Continued from page 9

Duke 1992 with Bobby Hurley, the brother of current UConn coach Dan Hurley, doing some of the damage. In 1993, it was Webber's costly timeout when the Wolverines didn't have one that made the difference in a close loss to North Carolina.

So, no title, but the Fab Five ended up with more

– namely, they opened the world to embracing the style they brought to the playground, while making an indelible statement about the way they felt college players should be treated.

"It could get frustrating and un-fun at times," Jackson said. "We just wanted to be transcendent. We wanted to bring the culture we came from, which was street basketball, community basketball, and bring that fun back to game."

They also ended up as successes after college, building careers in worlds as diverse as nonprofit, finance, TV and even coaching; Howard just finished his fourth season as coach of the Wolverines.

"Isn't that the end goal, when the ball stops bouncing, you're doing something that's productive with your life?" said Dutcher, who has heard from everyone in the group during his program's first run to the cusp of a title.

In many ways, Dutcher's group came together in the polar opposite fashion as the Fab Five. San Diego State's starters came from different places at different times. They could separate themselves from the Michigan greats in another way if they can win the title that eluded Dutcher & Co. for all those years.

It's a tall task.

SDSU is coming off an emotionally and physically taxing 72-71 win over Florida Atlantic on Saturday night. When Lamont Butler hit the game-winner at the buzzer, it marked the first time in Final Four history that a buzzer-beater took a team from trailing to a victory.

In addition to the bounce back, there is the opponent. Nobody has come within double digits of fourthseeded UConn during the tournament. Adama Sanogo has averaged 20 points

Hughesville at Southern4 p.m. Mt. Carmel at Loyalsock4 p.m. Northwest at Lake-Lehman ...4:15 p.m. LACROSSE

TRACK AND FIELD

Hiah school

Bloomsburg at Warrior Run

..4 p.m.

..4 p.m.

High school girls Selinsgrove at Danville5 p.m.

Hazleton at Berwick

TV-RADIO

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)

9 p.m. CBS — NCAA Tournament: TBD, Na-

MLB

tional Championship, Houston

2 p.m.

MLBN — N.Y. Mets at Milwaukee 7 p.m. YES, NBCSP — Philadelphia at N.Y. Yankees AT&T SportsNet — Pittsburgh at Boston

SOCCER (MEN'S)

3 p.m. USA — Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur at Everton

TENNIS

10 a.m. Charleston-WTA Early TENNIS Rounds 7 p.m. - Charleston-WTA Early TENNIS

Rounds

XFL GLANCE

North Division								
	w	L	Pct	PF	PA			
DC	6	1	.857	207	153			
St. Louis	4	2	.667	139	112			
Seattle	5	2 5	.714	152	122			
Vegas	2	5	.286	137	175			
South Division								
	w	L	Pct	PF	PA			
Houston	4	2	.667	162	113			
Arlington	3	4	.429	93	125			
San Antonio	2	5	.286	101	114			
Orlando	1	6	.143	137	214			
Saturday's Gar	nes							
Vegas 26, San /	Anton	io 12	2					
Orlando 37, DC 36								
Sunday's Games								
St. Louis at Houston, 2 p.m.								
Saturday, April 8								
Vegas at St. Louis, 1 p.m.								
Arlington at Orlando, 4 p.m.								
Sunday, April 9								
Houston at San Antonio, 3 p.m.								
DC at Seattle, 7 p.m.								
Saturday, April 15								
Vegas at Houston, 12:30 p.m.								
Orlando at San Antonio, 7 p.m.								
Sunday, April 16								
Arlington at DC, 12 p.m.								
Seattle at St. Louis, 3 p.m.								
			_					
TRA	INS	AC	TION	S				

BASEBALL Maior League Baseball

National League SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS – Placed C Joey Bart on the 10-day IL, retroactive to March 31. Recalled RHP Sean Hjelle from Sacramento (PCL). WASHINGTON NATIONALS - Recalled

OF Stone Garrett from Rochester (IL). Placed OF Corey Dickerson on the 10-day IL. HOCKEY

National Hockey League

DALLAS STARS - Loaned G Matt Murray to Texas (AHL). Recalled G Scott Wedgewood fro

Wood from lexas. OTTAWA SENATORS — Recalled G Leevi Merilainen from Belleville (AHL). ST. LOUIS BLUES — Recalled D Matt Kes-sel from Springfield (AHL). TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Recalled C

Nick Abruzzese from Toronto (AHL). WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Signed C Mitchell Gibson to an amateur tryout contract.

Tampa Bay, 4; Devers, Boston, 4; Giménez Cleveland, 4; Mullins, Baltimore, 4; Springer Toronto, 4; Turner, Boston, 4; Yoshida, Bos

RBI-Duvall, Boston, 8; Mullins, Baltimore 7; Garver, Texas, 6; Grossman, Texas, 5; Al-varez, Houston, 5; Kwan, Cleveland, 5; Siri, Tampa Bay, 5; 7 tied at 4. HITS-Duvall, Boston, 8; Devers, Boston 7; Franco, Tampa Bay, 7; Anderson, Chicago 6; Bichette, Toronto, 6; Buxton, Minnesota, 6

M.Chapman, Toronto, 6; Hays, Baltimore, 6; Judge, New York, 6; Rutschman. Baltimore Boston, DOUBLES-Duvall, 3; Fran

co. Tampa Bay, 3: Frazier, Baltimore, 3 J.Lowe, Tampa Bay, 3; Carpenter, Detroit, 2; M.Chapman, Toronto, 2; Devers, Boston, 2; Hays, Baltimore, 2; E.Jiménez, Chicago, 2; Perez, Kansas City, 2: J.Ramírez, Cleveland 2; Rodríguez, Seattle, 2; Santander, Baltimore, 2. TRIPLES-Buxton, Minnesota, 1; Duvall

Boston, 1; Verdugo, Boston, 1. HOME RUNS-Garver, Texas, 2; K.Hernández, Boston, 2; Gallo, Minnesota, 2; Stanton, New York, 2; Judge, New York 2; Mullins, Baltimore, 2; Duvall, Boston, 2; 18 tied at 1 STOLEN BASES-Mateo, Baltimore, 4 Mullins, Baltimore, 3; Volpe, New York, 3; Anderson, Chicago, 2; Torres, New York, 2; 20 tied at 1. PITCHING-21 tied at 1-0.

ERA-21 tied at 0.00. STRIKEOUTS-Springs, Tampa Bay, 12 Cole, New York, 11; Cease, Chicago, 10; Ohtani, Los Angeles, 10; P.López, Minnesota 8; Alexander, Detroit, 7; Gausman, Toronto 7; Gilbert, Seattle, 7; deGrom, Texas, 7; 11 tied at 6.

National League

BATTING-Swanson, Chicago, .583; Real-muto, Philadelphia, .571; Arraez, Miami, .563; Goldschmidt, St. Louis, Job; Cron, Colo-rado, .467; d'Arnaud, Atlanta, .462; India, Cincinnati, .455; W.Smith, Los Angeles, .455; Castellanos, Philadelphia, .444; Fraley, Cincinnati, .444; Gorman, St. Louis, .444, RUNS–Donovan, St. Louis, .5; Alonso

New York, 4: Blackmon, Colorado, 4: India Cincinnati, 4; 15 tied at 3. RBI–T.Thompson, Los Angeles, 8; Cron

Colorado, 7; Gorman, St. Louis, 6; W.Smith Los Angeles, 5; Bogaerts, San Diego, 5; Winker, Milwaukee, 4; Arenado, St. Louis, 4; Donovan, St. Louis, 4; 11 tied at 3. HITS-Arraez, Miami, 9; Blackmon, Colo-

rado, 7; Cron, Colorado, 7; Swanson, Chica-go, 7; Bogaerts, San Diego, 6; Bryant, Colorado, 6; Goldschmidt, St. Louis, 6; C.Walker Arizona, 6: d'Arnaud, Atlanta, 6: 7 tied at 5. DOUBLES-Castellanos, Philadelphia, 3

Blackmon, Colorado, 2; Bogaerts, San Diego 2: Burleson, St. Louis, 2: Cron, Colorado, 2 Grisham, San Diego, 2; Kim, San Diego, 2 McMahon, Colorado, 2; Soler, Miami, 2; Yas trzemski, San Francisco, 2.

TRIPLES-Turner, Philadelphia, 2; Cooper ami, 1; Marsh, Philadelphia, 1; Mitch Milwaukee, 1; Realmuto, Philadelphia, 1; Vosler. Cincinnati. 1.

HOME RUNS-T.Thompson, Los Angele 3; Cron, Colorado, 3; Wisdom, Chicago, 2; Gorman, St. Louis, 2; Olson, Atlanta, 2; Boerts, San Diego, 2; Donovan, St. Louis, 2;

STOLEN BASES-Carroll, Arizona, 3; Bae, Pittsburgh, 2; S.Marte, New York, 2; 21 tied

PITCHING-24 tied at 1-0.

ERA-Bellatti, Philadelphia, 0.00; Flaherty St. Louis, 0.00; Freeland, Colorado, 0.00; Jackson, Los Angeles, 0.00; Kelly, Arizona, 0.00; Luzardo, Miami, 0.00; May, Los Angeles, 0.00; Ramírez, Washington, 0.00; Steele, Chicago, 0.00; Strider, Atlanta, 0.00; Stro-man, Chicago, 0.00; Strzelecki, Milwaukee,

0.00; M.Thompson, Washington, 0.00. STRIKEOUTS-Webb, San Francisco, 12; Kershaw, Los Angeles, 9; Lodolo, Cincinnati, 9; Snell, San Diego, 9; Strider, Atlanta 9; Greene, Cincinnati, 8; Keller, Pittsburgh, 8; Senga, New York, 8; Steele, Chicago, 8; Stroman, Chicago, 8; Woodruff, Milwaukee, 8.

bench, Mulkey started weep- buzzer to give the Tigers a 59- momentum."

walk out of that locker room made all six of her shots in pionship on the biggest stage today and not be able to coach the second quarter, including possible in college," Carson Monika (Czinano) and McK- four 3-pointers. After one of said. "When I woke up I just enna (Warnock) again. I'm them, she threw her hands in wanted to win — do anything the air, which Mulkey mim- my team needed in this game, whether it was defense. re-For good measure, the bounding, supporting them. After Katari Poole hit a graduate student banked in a I scored tonight and that's 3-pointer in front of the LSU shot just before the halftime what pushed us and got us

and nearly 10 rebounds a game over the stretch for the Huskies.

But Jackson, for one, insists this is far from a lost cause. He says Dutcher is a master at "breaking down film, knowing game strategy and preparing for a short turnaround.'

The opportunity was al- the encouragement and times you have to get in nec-

The Lehigh Valley High School Softball Showcase when you come back and IronPigs. Since the event was he installed, the special at- recruitment process for the name is going to be etched 16 EPA and Colonial League teams were not permitted to In spring 2020, Laubach wear their usual high school coach and a teacher, when much she believes in multi- empathized with high school jerseys, WFMZ-TV 69 News reports. However, support ate and move on with life, to recruit four softball play- the opportunity to play in from the local community you're still friends with them ers, two field hockey players, their final season due to the funded sponsorships for the teams to create special uni-"That summer comes, and forms for the tournament.

The event was a huge success, despite the limitations Parkland and Freedom, all seniors were recognized on

"We had 180 high school most amazing thing I've ever

Laubach's work-ethic and The knowledge she instills into her softball and wres-According to the Morning tling teams are valuable life

"All those lessons and things you learn, you take and try to give good out to

have an incredible leader as my coach at the time," Laubach said. "The work ethic the things even now as a ship with kids, and how you have players that gradu-sport athletes. She was able 10 years down the road ... and one swimmer. The other he's that once-in-a-lifetime members of the team have has an opportunity to have."

to Ford's daughter Abbey gram comes to an end. and Julie Novak, as they played three sports together: softball, field hockey and members of the 1994 state championship winning softball team.

"Being new to Central in ninth grade, Michele needed some new friends here, and Abbey and Julie were two of the first to invite her into their circle," Ford said. "After two seasons together in field hockey and basketball, by the time they arrived at softball that spring in 1994, we had a golden triangle in the key positions defensively with Julie at catcher, peted at regionals with three Michele at second base and a bit surprised that we went mons both qualified for the the planning process. 28-0 and won a state championship."

ed coach of Freedom High School's first-ever women's wrestling program in 2022.

been wrestling for years.

tention to detail. Those are team, her strong relation- here as the first team ever." person that I hope everybody never played a sport before. I'm like, 'Wow these seniors Laubach reflected on her ex-During her time at Cen- perience, as her first season imagine being a kid and los- COVID brought. Prior to the tral, Laubach also grew close of the girls wrestling pro- ing this.' I just kinda threw championship game between

> "We have scrimmaged sev- summer tournament." eral times with Liberty High this high school having a Pennsylvania be involved has huge benefits make the tournament a realschool and later on in life."

members of the team com- quired approval. PIAA State Championships.

male-dominated industry.

most made for Laubach. She mentality," Laubach said. "I essary trouble," she said. is a Lock Haven University told the girls, you're doing a alum who was an assistance courageous and brave thing. office manager for their You are a part of history at began at Moore Township wrestling team. She has be- Freedom High School. You Fields in Bath on July 14, 2020 "I was very fortunate to come familiar with the sport are the first-ever girls wres- and finished on the 16th at as her son in fifth grade has tling team and in 10 years Coca-Cola Park, home of the Laubach spoke about the have your own families, your not affiliated with PIAA, the

> softball seniors who missed Coronavirus.

lost this whole season, I can't it out there, we should do a

Planning a summer tour- the field. School. We're going to tour- nament in the height of a basketball. The trio were naments, it's been a great global pandemic was no softball girls from the Lehigh experience," Laubach said, easy task. Laubach gathered Valley that were seniors "The six kids that have never members from the PIAA, the march out on the field with played a sport here, those Lehigh Valley IronPigs staff, their parents for a senior kids are gonna' go through coaches from the Eastern night presentation. It was the Conference totally different connection (EPA), an athletic trainer seen... "It was a combinathrough this girls wrestling and umpires to assist her in tion of myself, the IronPigs program, than had this pro- behind-the-scenes planning. staff and our coaches... Evgram not existed; because Every day for two months erything was a team effort," they're part of something. To straight, the group worked to reflected (Lamon) Laubach. to their experience in high ity. Small details including positive mindset as a coach the type of fence and bases goes far beyond athletics. In early Mach, seven used in the tournament re-

earning medals. Juniors Des- Call, Laubach commented on lessons. Abbey at shortstop. I wasn't tiny Kemp and Rhyan Sim- the difficulties she faced in

"I know that the tour-The success of the first- nament wasn't favored by other people...To me that's Laubach is versatile, year program empowers all many. But it reminded me of what teaching these girls and proven by her being appoint- young girls to pursue careers a quote from [the late] John coaching and sports is. What in sports, which is typically a Lewis [a member of the U.S. can we give back to our com-House of Representatives] munity, what can we give "I think a lot of it is just who once said that some- back to the next generation."

Leader

Continued from page 9