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# Local grads excel on pitch

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photo courtesy of misericordia  
Misericordia goalkeeper Morgan Myers, a Blue Mountain graduate, goes down to make a save during a recent college soccer game. Myers has a 1.23 goals-against-average for the regionally ranked Cougars.

[Image Gallery for Local grads excel on pitch](#)

Thought for the Day - Ben Franklin may have had insight into the relationship between athletes and sportswriters when he wrote, "If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead, either write things worth reading or do things worth writing." I will strive for the former and our student-athletes the latter.

### "Soccer" It To Me

Several local student-athletes had big weeks on the soccer pitch recently, led by Lycoming senior and North Schuylkill graduate Kaitlin Horn.

Horn, a forward/midfielder, scored all four goals in Lycoming's 4-0 win over Susquehanna, securing the coveted River Derby Cup for the Warriors. She has eight goals and three assists on the season for a team-leading 19 points. Career-wise, Horn has 63 points and 26 goals, third and second respectively in school history.

Horn is joined on the Lycoming roster by freshman defender Emily Vebrosky of North Schuylkill, junior midfielder Jenna Moyer of Hamburg and sophomore forward Alexis Moser of Lourdes.

Lycoming is 5-1-0 on the season, the Warriors' only blemish a 2-1 loss to regionally-ranked Misericordia, where one finds Blue Mountain grad Morgan Myers in goal.

Myers is a senior captain and has made 30 saves for a 1.23 goals-against average per game for 5-1-1 Misericordia, which is ranked ninth in the NSCAA Mid-Atlantic Region. Ironically, the only goal scored for Lycoming in the loss to Misericordia was by Horn.

- At the Pennsylvania College of Technology, freshman forward Jocelyn Moyer of Williams Valley is a prime offensive threat. Moyer has scored four goals and added an assist in three games to rank second on the team in points and goals, first in game-winning goals and assists, and third in shots and shots-on-goal. One of Moyer's teammates is starting defender sophomore Brandy Krause of Pine Grove.

- Lebanon Valley sophomore forward Nicole Snyder of Tri-Valley has two goals on the season, both of them game-winners. She is joined on the LVC roster by junior forward/midfielder Johanna Walker of Pottsville.

- At DeSales, junior midfielder Haley Vollmer of Hamburg scored a goal in a 4-0 win over Neumann College. Vollmer also has two assists on the season.

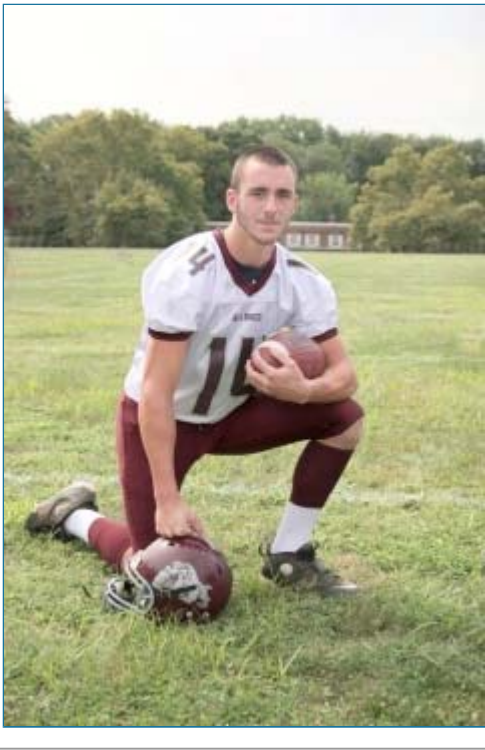
- College soccer is not restricted to the female gender, however.

Zach Hubler of Tri-Valley is sharing starting duties in goal for Lock Haven. Hubler, who transferred in from California (Pa.), has a 1.45 goals-against-average, two shutouts and is 2-2-1 on the season. Lock Haven is 2-4-2.

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- Another Tri-Valley alum, senior Ryan Wagner, is the backup goalkeeper at Mercyhurst. He has played in one game so far this season, and in 2009 he had a 0.96 goals-against average and one shutout in two starts, while combining on three shutouts with the starting goalkeeper.

- Two of the better known soccer names from Schuylkill County are freshmen members of their respective college teams. Midfielder/forward Michail Georgevic is at Bloomsburg, and goalkeeper Shayne Fitzwater of Blue Mountain can be found at Millersville.

#### Football Facts

Freshman quarterback Frank Gaffney of Blue Mountain is making his presence felt at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology. Gaffney is the starter at Stevens Tech and has the team off to a 3-0 season start.

Gaffney, who is averaging close to 200 yards passing per game, most recently threw scoring strikes of 26 and 38 yards in a 47-3 win over George Mason. Gaffney's coach praised his "â□|performance, attitude and leadership qualities."

Joining Gaffney on the Stevens roster are starting freshman offensive tackle Richard Wolfe of Tamaqua and sophomore defensive lineman Tyler Sep of Pine Grove.

- Lycoming senior Mike Reese of Shenandoah Valley is making some noise at tight end for the Warriors. After being moved from QB to fullback in previous seasons, Reese is settling in at tight end, pulling in three catches for 50 yards and a 20-yard TD against Rowan. Reese also excels at special teams for the Warriors.

- The backup QB at Lycoming is freshman Matt McGinley, who led Tri-Valley into the state playoffs last year.

- Schuylkill Haven football players seem to be finding a comfortable home at Dickinson College in the Centennial Conference. Former Hurricane teammates junior defensive back Andrew Fink, sophomore defensive back Pat McBreen and freshman running back Evan Fink are all Red Devils now.

Andrew Fink's 20 tackles lead the team and place him fifth in the conference. Meanwhile, Evan Fink has 15 carries for 50 yards, placing him second in carries and first in yardage for Dickinson. McBreen has three tackles and has appeared in one game.

#### Roster Rundown

The Wilkes College Colonels take the unofficial prize for most local student-athletes on the football roster with eight. They include starting junior defensive tackle Jimmy Moore of Blue Mountain, who has six tackles in two games and junior QB Marc Persing of Shamokin, who splits the QB duties and has a QB rating of 91.9 so far. Also on the roster are sophomore offensive lineman Chris Grube of Nativity; freshman linebacker Bryn Bowman of Tri-Valley, who has two tackles; freshman defensive lineman and fellow former Tri-Valley Bulldog Colton Miller; freshman defensive back Danny Merva of Shenandoah Valley; freshman wide receiver Tim Bousson of Shamokin and sophomore defensive back Chris Demuro of Jim Thorpe.

We'll have more "roster rundowns" like this one in future weeks. There are several other teams with multiple team members from our area.

Also, in our next column, a look at several student-athletes excelling on the volleyball courts around the state.

(MacLaughlin's college column appears bi-weekly. To make contributions, e-mail Sports Editor Leroy Boyer at [Lboyer@republicanherald.com](mailto:Lboyer@republicanherald.com))

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