

NOTEBOOK

# Events will highlight this weekend

## PLAYER OF THE WEEK

**XAVIER ROMERO, Lincoln**

Lincoln Leadership Academy coach Al Blount says junior small forward Xavier Romero is "George Gervin-esque."

Romero may not know "The Iceman" who retired from pro ball in 1990 after averaging a quiet 26.2 points per game in the NBA, but Blount says he plays a lot like him.

"He's the type of guy who may not seem like he's doing a whole lot, but when the game is over you look at the stat sheet and he

scored 20 points and you wonder where they came from," Blount said. In Lincoln's first season as a program, Blount is happy to have him around. Romero has scored 20 points or more in six of the team's last seven games and has emerged as one of the area's top scorers.

"He's 6-foot-3 but plays longer than that," Blount said. "He goes to the board very well and because he's so long he gets a lot of offensive rebounds and puts them back in. He's also a deterrent for us defensively because he's deceptively long."

Blount said that Romero is still learning the game.

"He's not a solid, complete player yet," Blount said. "He has some things to work on, but he plays the game with a lot of energy and has a high motor. He's only going to get better."



Romero

Keith Groller

## BOYS STANDINGS

### LEHIGH VALLEY CONFERENCE

East Division		LVC	All
Team			
1. Freedom	8-1	14-1	
T2. Easton	6-3	11-4	
T2. Liberty	6-3	10-5	
4. Beahm	2-7	4-10	
North Division			
1. Parkland	8-1	14-1	
T2. Whitehall	3-6	8-6	
T2. Northampton	3-6	5-10	
4. Nazareth	2-7	6-9	
West Division			
1. Emmaus	7-2	11-3	
2. Allen	5-4	8-8	
3. CCHS	4-5	10-6	
4. Dieruff	0-9	4-13	

### COLONIAL LEAGUE

North Division		CL	All
Team			
1. Bangor	10-1	12-4	
2. Northern Lehigh	9-2	14-2	
3. Catasauqua	4-7	5-11	
4. Pen Argyl	3-8	4-12	
5. Northwestern	1-10	2-13	
6. Palmerton	0-11	1-14	
South Division			
1. Salisbury	11-0	16-0	
2. Southern Lehigh	8-3	10-6	
3. Notre Dame	8-4	11-6	
4. Saucon Valley	6-5	7-9	
5. Wilson	5-6	10-7	
6. Palisades	2-10	3-14	

### MOUNTAIN VALLEY CONFERENCE

Team	MVC	All
1. Pocono Mt. West	8-0	13-3
2. Pleasant Valley	6-2	9-6
3. ES South	4-3	8-6
4. PM East	3-4	5-9
T5. ES North	3-5	6-10
T5. Stroudsburg	3-5	4-12
7. Lehighton	0-8	1-14

Note: Records include games called into The Morning Call through Wednesday. Each league will have a four-team championship tournament in the week of Feb. 12-18. Corrections? Please e-mail to kgroller@mcall.com.

## TOP 25 SCORING LEADERS

Player	School	Yr	Avg
1. Tim Abruzzo	Penndridge	sr.	22.3
2. Luke Gutekunst	Moravian Acad.	soph	19.8
3. Xavier Romero	Lincoln	jr.	19.0
4. M.Ali Abdur-Rahkman	CCHS	soph	18.9
5. David Garcia	PM East	sr.	18.5
6. D.J. Brown	Allen	sr.	18.3
7. Lloyd Irons	Salisbury	sr.	18.0
T8. Quindell Brice	PM West	sr.	17.1
T8. Justin Ringland	Bangor	sr.	17.1
10. Alex Anderson	So. Lehigh	sr.	16.5
11. Darius Clark	Jim Thorpe	sr.	15.5
12. Connor Hughes	Notre Dame	sr.	15.2
13. Kyle Muller	Pen Argyl	sr.	15.0
14. Chris Moran	Whitehall	sr.	14.87
15. Joe Lococo	Freedom	sr.	14.86
16. Brett Kosciolk	Tamaqua	fr.	14.85
17. Nick Stanovick	Pleasant Valley	sr.	14.7
18. Taaj Williams	Lincoln	jr.	14.6
19. Seth Stoudt	CCHS	sr.	14.5
20. Kerry Reider	Bangor	sr.	14.3
T21. Andrew Lyons	Penndridge	sr.	14.2
T21. Kwane Simmons	ES South	sr.	14.2
23. Selwyn Wright	Pleasant Valley	sr.	13.9
24. Greg Noack	Liberty	jr.	13.8
25. Jok Asiyo	PM. East	sr.	13.6

Scoring leaders based on results called into The Morning Call through Wednesday. Corrections? Please e-mail kgroller@mcall.com

## BOYS TOP 10

Team	W-L	L Wk
1. Parkland	14-1	2
2. Freedom	14-1	1
3. Poc. Mt. West	13-3	3
4. Emmaus	11-3	4
5. Salisbury	16-0	5
6. Easton	11-4	7
7. Liberty	10-5	6
8. CCHS	10-6	8
9. Bangor	12-4	10
10. Northern Lehigh	14-2	9

**Dropped out:** None. **Others to consider:** Allen (8-8), Notre Dame (11-6), Pleasant Valley (9-6), Southern Lehigh (10-6), Whitehall (8-6). Records and placement made based on games thru Wednesday.

## COMING ATTRACTION

### FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

Freedom's quest for the Lehigh Valley Conference East Division title and the top seed in the league tournament will face two major obstacles next week when the Patriots host Emmaus on Tuesday and visit Easton on Friday.

nine in this year's game, by the way), the Hoop Group can make a similar game about every Lehigh Valley Showcase featuring at least one future NBA or Division I standout.

Several players committed so far are St. Benedict's Melvin Johnson, who is headed to the University of Miami, Neumann-Goretti's Derrick Stewart is going to Rider and Council Rock North's Arron Goodman is set for Philadelphia University.

Also, Savon Goodman of Constitution is one of the top uncommitted seniors in the country.

Junior Tyler Ennis and freshman Isiah Briscoe of St. Benedict's are both ranked in the top 25 in their class nationally.

Of course, not to be overlooked is Central's Muhammad Ali Abdur-Rahkman, who is considered to be one of the top prospects in the country, even though he is only a sophomore.

Vikings coach Rich Fatzinger said that it



## THIS WEEK'S SELECTIONS

Go online until 6 p.m. today at [themorningcall.com/hoops](http://themorningcall.com/hoops) to make your picks and get a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to Roma's Ristorante.

**Last week's winner:** Matt Hemerly, Allentown

GAMES	KEITH GROLLER Sports Writer	MIKE ZAMBELLI Sports Broadcaster	STEPHEN MILLER Sports Writer	YOUR PICKS as of 4 p.m. Thursday
No. Lehigh at Bangor boys	Bangor	Bangor	Bangor	No. Lehigh <b>52%</b>
Pen Argyl boys at Northwestern	Pen Argyl	Pen Argyl	Pen Argyl	Pen Argyl <b>95%</b>
Allen boys at Parkland	Parkland	Parkland	Parkland	Parkland <b>96%</b>
CCHS boys at Whitehall	Central Catholic	Whitehall	Central Catholic	CCHS <b>93%</b>
CCHS boys	Council Rock North	Council Rock North	Council Rock North	CCHS <b>93%</b>