



Sports Saturday

Jefferson County Neighbors

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Eric Painter, of the Brookville Grays, crosses home plate during the second inning of the Federation League All-Star game against the Indiana County League All-Stars last Saturday. The Fed League All-Stars won 12-7 in nine innings.

Federation League All-Stars shine, 12-7

Unique bike race breaks records

By Lizi Arbogast
Jefferson County Neighbors

SIGEL — Muddy trails, slippery rocks and 24-mile endurance all come to mind during the annual Fat Tire Challenge last Saturday in Sigel.

This year's race brought a record 35 expert riders and 93 sports riders. The experts ride a 24.5-mile course, while the sport riders measure in at 14 miles. The kids' category also broke records, with 32 children — 12 more than last year's race.

"That's what it's all about," race director Michael White said. "(It's about) growing the sport by getting young kids out here to ride their bikes. It's a family event."

The youngest rider was Greg Anderson, three, who was participating in his first Fat Tire Challenge.

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Six unicyclists, (from left) Claude Magnuson, Dave Krack, Connor Wurst, Isaac McKøever, Andy Manfred and Buzz Weetman, took part in the sixth-annual Fat Tire Challenge last Saturday. The unicyclists' category was new this year.

Sports



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Jed Fiscus, of the Brookville Grays, acted as the starting catcher for the Federation League All-Stars as they played against the Indiana County League All-Stars last Saturday.

League

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mean, we have some people out of position. In an All-Star game, you take who the managers vote you, so some (had to be) out of position."

Roman was pleased with not just the win, but the game itself.

"Everyone showed up and had a good time," Roman said. "It feels great to win, on their

field, too. It's a beautiful field, (and) hospitality wise, they treated us well."

Roman said he will be in discussion with Indiana County League president Nick Pinizzotto to determine if the two leagues will play another All-Star game next season, or if they will revert to inter-league play, as scheduled last in previous years.

Records

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The sixth-annual Fat Tire Challenge had several unique aspects.

Riders from seven states participated: Pennsylvania, West Virginia, North Carolina, New York, Maryland, Indiana and Colorado.

Greg Dougherty, from Indianapolis, is participating in his own 50 State Challenge in order to raise money for Athletes for a Cure: Prostate Cancer Foundation. He is hoping to complete all 50 races within a 10-year time span, as this is his fifth year.

Dougherty has now participated in 27 mountain bike races in 27 different states, including the Fat Tire Challenge.

"Out of all 27, this is probably the toughest course I've raced," he said, citing the slipperiness and rockiness of the course as reasons it was so difficult.

Dougherty finished in second place in the Expert Males, 26-35, category with a final time of 2:41:05.

Dougherty has raised a total of \$500 and is hoping to raise \$5,000 by the end of his challenge.

Another new aspect of this year's Fat Tire

Challenge was the addition of a unicyclists' category.

Dave Krack has been unicycling in the Fat Tire Challenge for three years, but this year, he advertised the race online in order to bring other unicyclists to the race.

Six unicyclists competed, racing on a 7.7-mile trail. Four of the unicyclists were from Pennsylvania, while two came from out of state.

Claude Magnuson traveled from Germantown, Md., and Buzz Weetman came from Webster, N.Y.

Krack placed first in the category with a final time of 1:14:22.

He was pleased that five other unicyclists came to the race and has been trying to promote the sport throughout the area for many years.

"We try to encourage everybody to give it a try," Krack said. "It is hard — more mentally and physically challenging — but it's fun."

A food stand was also added this year, led by White's wife, Mindy, and their extended family.

The food stand was set up in order to raise money for the White family's Relay for Life team, Angels of Hope.

Results and awards were given to several categories, mostly grouped by age.



Lizi Arbogast/Jefferson County Neighbors

Greg Anderson, three, was the youngest person to race in the kids' category at the Fat Tire Challenge last Saturday. The sixth annual race brought in 32 children — 12 more than last year.

Justin Povrivka placed first overall in the expert (24.5-mile) category, timing in at 2:17:43.

Joseph Malone earned the gold in the sport (14-mile) category with a final time

of 1:31:17.

To view the full race results, visit <http://www.fattirechallenge.com/RaceResults.html>.

**What's new
at the zoo?**