

Athletes *of the* Week

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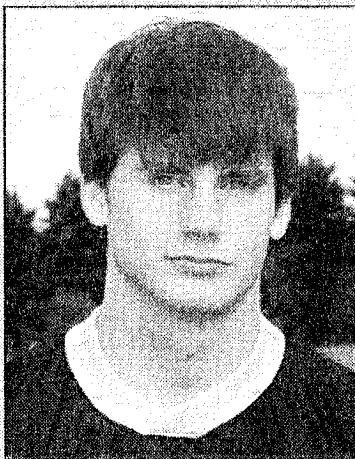
THE PROGRESS

AND...



Curwensville football player Shawn Sopic has been selected The Progress' Male Athlete of the Week for the week ending Sept. 23. Sopic guided the Golden Tide to a 46-29 win over Cameron County, carrying the ball nine times for 146 yards and two touchdowns. The Curwensville senior also completed a 23-yard pass in the win and had an interception on defense.

"He is a hard worker, and he just played a great game for us on Friday on both sides of the ball," said Curwensville head coach Andy Evanko. "Sometimes you expect so much out of a kid like that you take him for granted. His quarterback leadership is amazing and his interception



came at a key time for us. "Shawn played a very, very big role in our win on Friday. He did a great job."

Shawn Sopic

Name: Shawn Sopic.

School, grade: Curwensville Area High School, senior.

Parents: Barb and Randy Hutton, Steve Sopic.

Siblings: Brad, 19.

Pets: 2 dogs (Rusty, Mandy), 3 cats.

How long have you played football?: Since 3rd grade.

Biggest sports accomplishment: Reaching the PIAA Western Finals in 2004.

Goal(s): To win the District 9 championship.

Favorite team(s): Pittsburgh Steelers.

Favorite athlete: Troy Polamalu.

Favorite movie: The Punisher.

Favorite TV show: Sports Center.

Favorite musician: Metallica.

Biggest rival: Coudersport.

Favorite Food: Steak.

Favorite amusement park ride: Skycoaster at Kennywood Park.

Purchase Line volleyball player Rachel Struble has been selected as The Progress' Female Athlete of the Week for the week ending Sept. 23. Struble led the Lady Red Dragons to the Warrior Blast Tournament championship with 78 assists, 31 service points, 18 digs and nine kills. Struble also had 26 assists and eight service points in a straight set win over United on Tuesday.

"Rachel does a good job of holding our offense together and getting the ball to our hitters," said Purchase Line head coach Kim Struble. "It's a total team effort. She doesn't get assists unless we pass well. She



touches the ball twice as much as anybody, so it's important that she has a good game."

Rachel Struble

Name: Rachel Struble.

School and grade: Purchase Line High School, senior.

Parents: Terry Struble and Kim Struble.

Siblings: Matt and Tara, 24; Megan, 19.

Pets: Cat (Meeka) and four fish.

How long have you played volleyball?: Started in seventh grade, but didn't play as a freshman.

Biggest Sports Accomplishment: Being selected to first team Progressland for volleyball in 2005.

Goal: To go far in playoffs. Favorite team(s): Penn State, UConn women's basketball.

Favorite athlete: Kelly Mazzante.

Favorite movie: Coach Carter.

Favorite TV show: Grey's Anatomy.

Favorite musician: Dashboard Confessional.

Favorite food: Erica Fetterman's mom's chicken dip.

Biggest rival: Penns Manor. **Pre-game ritual:** Going to Erica's house and listening to music.

These Athletes of the Week will be rewarded for their efforts with a sweatshirt from The Progress. The sweatshirts were designed by Jim's Sports Center in Clearfield exclusively for The Progress and these weekly honorees.