

Eagle Scout project provides a new activity at OLVC

By CINDY KOLARIK
Special to the Gazette

SPRING MILLS — Donny Watkins saw a gaga pit when he attended Boy Scout camp at Seven Mountains Campground. It was then that Watkins knew what he wanted to do for his Eagle Scout project.

"I played gaga ball at Seven Mountains and knew this would be a great activity for the students at Our Lady of Victory School. This will be a fun recess and gym activity for all grades. The game is similar to dodge ball, only you throw that ball to hit the person below the knees. It was a rewarding project and I appreciate the help of my fellow scouts, parents and local businesses," Watkins said.

As part of the project, Watkins used the gaga pit located at Seven Mountains as a guide.

He researched other plans on line, created a supply list, organized the team effort and led the effort from the beginning to completion.

"I would like to thank Lowes, Home Depot and YBS of State College for their support. Lowes donated all the lumber for the posts and sides, as well as the fasteners to put it together — almost \$600 worth of materials. Home Depot donated \$75 worth of concrete and assorted supplies and YBC donated the wood for the top rails," Watkins said.

The scout just graduated from Our Lady of Victory Catholic School and is a member of Troop 245, the newest troop in the area. The troop is sponsored by American Legion Post 245 of State College.

Gaga is a fast-paced, high energy game played in an octagonal pit. It is a kinder, gentler version of dodge ball. The game combines the skills of dodging, striking, running and jumping, while trying to hit opponents with a ball below the knees.

Players need to keep moving to avoid getting hit by the ball. The game provides a serious workout for players.

Cindy Kolarik is the community outreach coordinator at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School.



Submitted photo

BOY SCOUT Troop 245's Donny Watkins, standing, and fellow troop members, erect a post for a gaga pit at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School. Watkins initiated and organized the construction of the playing pit for his Eagle Scout project.

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harms the health of the attacked plant. For that reason, it may be wise to confine control to the most infected areas of the yard.

For all its bad press, the Japanese beetle still does one good deed. It feeds on poison oak, sumac and ivy.

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