



READING EAGLE: JEREMY DREY

Set Point Tennis President Michael Murphy leads a drill on Tuesday at Muhlenberg High School, where his nonprofit's 10-session program tries to teach character through tennis.

Tennis program serves hope to troubled teens

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A summer program that seeks to steer teens in the criminal justice system toward brighter futures through tennis lessons and motivational presentations kicked off at Muhlenberg High School on Tuesday with its first session of the season.

The 10-session program is run by Set Point Tennis, a nonprofit mentoring program that teaches character through tennis. This is the third year for the program.

The clinic invites teens who have been sentenced to house arrest for minor crimes to learn some skills on the court while learning about how to make better life choices.

Presenting Tuesday was Tina M. Hanulec, administrator of Brennan & Associates PC

law firm in Wyomissing and adjunct professor at Alvernia University.

Set Point President Michael Murphy said the goal is to get kids who have started down the wrong path onto the right one.

"We're trying to stop these kids from going into jail," he said.

The clinics are coordinated through the Evening Reporting Center, which works with the Berks County Juvenile Probation Office to provide structured programs for teens on house arrest.

The tennis clinic is one of the special programs provided, said Manuel Villeneuve, the center's director. There are also other options such as a chess club and yoga class.

"We try to provide services and programs that might be interesting to them," Villeneuve said.