

Mountaineers look toward lettermen

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Dallas High School Football coach Ron Rybak has a nucleus of 17 returning lettermen around which to build this season's team despite losing 20 seniors through graduation in June. With 50 candidates out for this year's team, Rybak hoped to have sufficient offense and defense players but soon learned he has the same problem as in past years - a number of kids playing more than one position.

Unlike the past several years, this season the Mountaineers lack size with only five men weighing 200 pounds or more, the heaviest being 210, but they do have some speed in Jeff Spudis, Ron Ostrowski, John Harris and Charles Arnone.

Rybak has 14 seniors, 16 juniors and 20 sophomores on this year's squad, all of them dedicated, hard workers and with a great attitude. The team has no superstars, according to Coach Rybak, but they play as a unit and will come out scrapping and fighting to win every game.

The seniors out for this year's team showed a lot of loyalty and spirit last season and include Brian Blessner 5'9", 155 lbs. back; Gary Vincelli 6'0", 180 lbs. end; Eric Supey 5'10", 160 lbs., end; Mike Janosik 5'10", 170 lbs., back; Charles Arnone, 5'7", 165 lbs., back; Tom Luke 5'10", 155 lbs., back; Tom Trosko 6'0", 185 lbs., line; Phil Brown 6'0", 200 lbs., line; Glen Eyet, 5'10", 190 lbs., line; Stan Koprowski 6'3", 210 lbs., line; Matt Mihal 6'3", 200 lbs., line; Drew Jubis 5'11", 170 lbs., end.

Juniors on the squad are Tim Lyons 6'1", 165 lbs., Mark Konopki 5'11", 140 lbs., quarterbacks; Mark Kraynak 5'8", 155 lbs., Mike Beck 5'8", 145 lbs., John Harris 5'11", 170 lbs., Jeff Olsen 5'8", 140 lbs., Ron Ostrowski 5'7", 150 lbs., backs; Chris Vincelli 6'0", 165 lbs., Corey Lingaas 5'10", 170 lbs., Tim Evans 5'10", 190 lbs., Chris Dreher 6'1", 180 lbs., linemen; Richie Long 6'1", 155 lbs., Jamie Opalicki, 5'11", 170 lbs., Chris Shaver 5'8", 140 lbs., and Darren Ford, ends. Junior Gerald Mihalick 6'0", 180 lbs., also a soccer player, will be the team's kicker again this season.

Sophomore backs are Frank Parulis 5'8", 130 lbs.; Bill Fedrow 5'7", 140 lbs.; Chris Kelly 5'7", 130 lbs.; Ed Kwak 5'6", 150 lbs.; Dan Williams 5'9", 140 lbs.; Lynn Sheehan 5'5", 130 lbs.; Dane Weyman 5'10", 145 lbs.; Scott Francis 5'8", 140 lbs.; is quarterback. Linemen are Ryan Holthaus 5'5", 155 lbs.; Matt Andrasko 5'11", 190 lbs.; Loren Williams

6'1", 150 lbs.; Dan Luke 5'10", 155 lbs.; Dale Williams 6'1", 150 lbs.; Pat DePaulo 5'11", 210 lbs.; Todd Chamberlain 5'11", 210 lbs. Vying for end positions are Nick Long 5'11", 140 lbs.; A.J. Crahall 5'10", 160 lbs.; Chris Sorber 5'8", 135 lbs.; Arthur Morgan 5'6", 145 lbs.; and Mark Chester 6'1", 195 lbs.

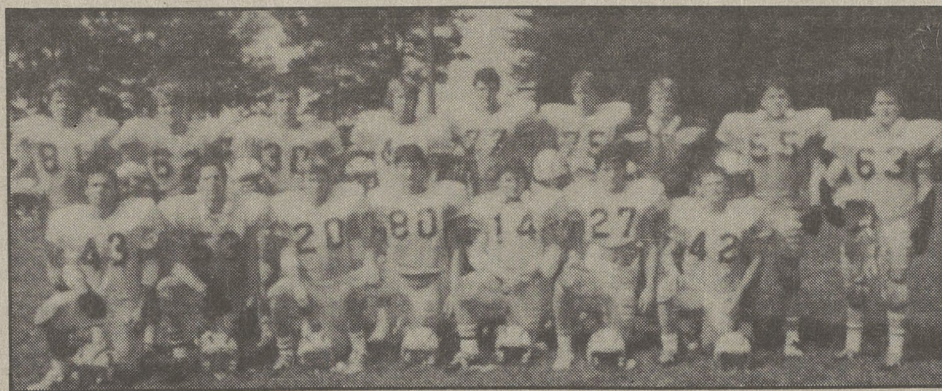
Rybak has two key quarterbacks in Juniors Tim Lyons and Mark Konopki. Both are outstanding, but are entirely different in their game. Lyons is a power player while Konopki is a finesse player, their styles different but equally effective.

Rybak took over the position as head football coach at Dallas in 1979, following Jack Jones' retirement in 1978. Prior to 1979, Rybak served as assistant coach for approximately 15 years.

In 1978, the team finished the season with a 1-10 record. During Rybak's first year, the Mountaineers finished with a 2-8-1 record. In 1980, Dallas compiled a 4-6-1 season and, in 1981, the Mountaineers were co-champions of their division with a 7-4 season. In 1982, the team chalked up a 6-4-1 record and last season they finished with a 6-5 record defeating Crestwood, Bishop Hoban, Meyers, Tunkhannock, Lake-Lehman and GAR. They lost to Nanticoke, Hanover, the 1983 champions, Coughlin, Pittston Area and Wyoming Valley West.

Rybak is still seeking an assistant coach for the senior high squad to work with him, and assistants, Bill Silvi and Chuck Suppon.

"It is too soon to make any predictions about this year's team," said Rybak. "But we have a good nucleus and with a lot of the kids playing more than one position we will try to blend them into an efficient playing team. We will have to take one game at a time and use a lot of variety to compensate for our lack of size. We open with a tough opponent, Hanover, on Sept. 1 but we do have the advantage of playing at home."



Lettermen returning to this year's Mountaineers roster include, from left, first row, Ron Ostrowski, Tom Trosko, Matt Pretko, Drew Jubis, Brian Blessner, Gary Vincelli, Charles Arnone. Second row, Richie Long, Tom Evans, Eric Supey, Tom Luke, Mat Mihal, Stan Koprowski, Mike Janosik, Phil Brown and Glen Eyet. (Photo by Ed Campbell)

1984 DALLAS ROSTER

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|---|--|
| 1 GERALD MIHALICK, kicker, 6'0", 180 pounds, junior | 27 GARY VINCELLI, end, 6'0", 180 pounds, senior |
| 7 FRANK PARULIS, back 5'8", 130 pounds, sophomore | 30 ERIC SUPEY, end, 5'10", 160 pounds, senior |
| 10 SCOTT FRANCIS, quarterback 5'8", 140 pounds, sophomore | 32 JOHN HARRIS, back, 5'11", 170 pounds, junior |
| 11 TIM LYONS, quarterback, 6'1", 165 pounds, junior | 34 ED KWAK, back, 5'6", 150 pounds, sophomore |
| 12 MARK KONOPKI, quarterback, 5'11", 140 pounds, junior | 35 DAN WILLIAMS, back, 5'9", 140 pounds, sophomore |
| 14 BRIAN BLESSNER, back, 5'9", 170 pounds, senior | 36 JEFF OLSEN, back, 5'8", 140 pounds, junior |
| 15 BILL FEDROW, back 5'7", 140 pounds, sophomore | 40 MIKE JANOSIK, back, 5'10", 170 pounds, senior |
| 17 CHRIS KELLEY, back 5'7", 130 pounds, sophomore | 41 LYNN SHEEHAN, back, 5'5", 130 pounds, sophomore |
| 20 MATT PRETKO, back, 5'8", 150 pounds, senior | 42 CHARLES ARNONE, back, 5'7", 165 pounds, senior |
| 22 JEFF SPUDIS, back 5'9", 155 pounds, senior | 43 RON OSTROWSKI, back, 5'7", 150 pounds, junior |
| 23 CHRIS SHAVER, end, 5'8", 140 pounds, junior | 44 TOM LUKE, back, 5'10", 155 pounds, senior |
| 25 MIKE BECK, back, 5'8", 145 pounds, junior | 45 DAVE WEGMAN, back, 5'10", 145 pounds, sophomore |



Sharing the quarterback duties for the Mountaineers this year will be Mark Konopki, left, and Tim Lyons. (Photo by Ed Campbell)



Members of the defensive line at Dallas are, from left, first row, Stan Koprowski, Phil Brown, Tom Trosko, Tim Evans, Mat Mihal. Standing, Tim Evans and Gary Vincelli. (Photo by Ed Campbell)