

WVW Spartans return as defending champs

This year's Wyoming Valley West football team has big shoes to fill after last year's squad won the Wyoming Valley Conference A Division championship before losing to Berwick for the Eastern Conference title.

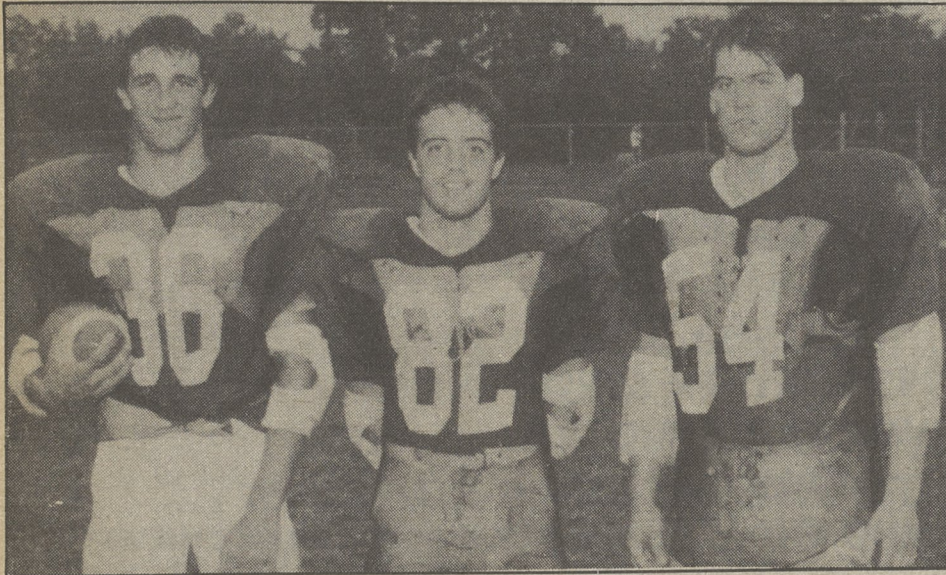
Head coach Jim Fennell reported he had 65 players out for the first day of practice and that the lettermen returning this year will be able to provide the team with some valuable experience.

Among those lettermen are three All-Scholastics from the 1983 championship

squad in Eddie Michaels, Don Charney and Larry Joseph.

Members of the 1984 Spartan backfield include Russ Kile, Mike Honeywell, Matt Michaels, Mike Nicotera, Tom Koval, Mike Bauer, Joe Novitsky, and Eddie Michaels.

The defensive line consists of Pat Ragnani, Frank Saporito, Paul Mooney, Larry Joseph, Bill Morovinski, Jerry Meighan, Steve Atcavage, Fred Mazur, Dough Rush, Pat Flynn, Shawn Prohaska and Mac Gallagher.



1983 All-Scholastic football players who are returning to the Spartans roster this year are, from left, Eddie Michaels, Don Charney, Larry Joseph. (Photo by Joe Gula)



The tough-looking defensive linemen for this year's Wyoming Valley West football team include, from left, kneeling, Pat Ragnani, Frank Saporito, Paul Mooney, Larry Joseph, Bill Morovinski, Jerry Meighan. Standing, Steve Atcavage, Fred Mazur, Dave Rush, Pat Flynn, Shawn Prohaska, Mac Gallagher. (Photo by Joe Gula)



Senior members of the Wyoming Valley West football team are, from left, kneeling, Frank Saporito, Mike Honeywell, Don Charney, Paul Mooney, Russ Kile, Sam Wolfe. Standing, Bill Morovinski, Steve Atcavage, Pat Flynn, Larry Joseph, Shawn Prohaska, Eddie Michaels. (Photo by Joe Gula)



Handling the offensive duties in the Spartans backfield are, from left, kneeling, Russ Kile, Mike Honeywell, Matt Michaels, Mike Nicotera. Standing, Tom Koval, Mike Bauer, Joe Novitsky, Eddie Michaels. (Photo by Joe Gula)



The Wyoming Valley West coaching staff includes, from left, Les Nicholas, Gerry Storz, James Fennell, head coach; Steve Duda and John Faust. (Photo by Joe Gula)

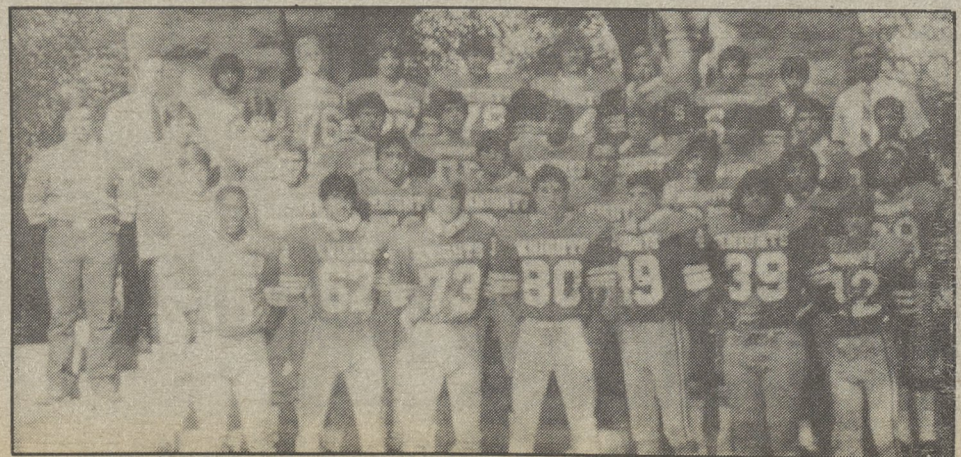
Seminary hoping to improve 1983 record

Wyoming Seminary assistant football coach Gary Vanderburg looks at the 1984 season as an opportunity for the Knights to recover from their first losing season in 17 years. The Seminary squad compiled a 1-4-1 record in 1983, the worst record during head coach Marv Antinnes' 17 years at the Kingston preparatory school.

Antinnes, who is scheduled to return from China today, having accompanied the Wyoming Seminary soccer team, is beginning his 18th year as head coach at Wyoming Seminary and won't really know what kind of personnel he has until practice begins later this week.

Vanderburg, who has been at Seminary for 14 years, feels this year's Knights are a lot younger than they have been in the past. He says the squad will look toward Ken Lovett, a junior from Bethesda, Maryland, who starts as a defensive back and receiver, and John Ameen, a junior from Verona, N.J., who plays in the tackle position, to lead them with their experience.

Vanderburg also reported Frank Baur, quarterback of last year's championship Wyoming Valley West team, as well as Casey Beathard, of the Washington, D.C. area, whose father is the general manager of the Washington Redskins are also expected to be at Wyoming Seminary this year.



Shown here are members of the 1983 Wyoming Seminary football team. This year's Knights hope to improve on last season's record.