

## 14 lettermen return

# Mountaineers start with strong nucleus

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

It appears that Dallas high school football coach Ted Jackson's first season at the Mountaineers' helm will be an interesting one.

With 14 lettermen returning from last year, Jackson should have a good nucleus on which to build, but as was the case last season, Dallas does not have the size it has been accustomed to for many years.

Returning lettermen are seniors Gerry Mihalick, Marc Ramirez, Tim Lyons, Mark Konopki, John Harris, Ron Ostrowski, Chris Vincelli, Chris Dreher, Tim Evans, Rich Long; juniors Scott Francis, Bill Fedrow, Ed Kwak and Mark Chester.

There are about 45 players out for this season's team, but many of them will be battling for the same positions.

"We have a lot of depth in some of the skill positions," said Jackson. "We have a number of excellent backs and we are fortunate in having three quarterbacks, any one of whom could start. Tim Lyons and Mark Konopke saw a lot of action at that position last season, but although he is only a junior Scott Francis also handles the ball well at that position."

Jackson said that he has some good speed runners on this season's team which should compensate for size. Several of the boys are members of the track team.

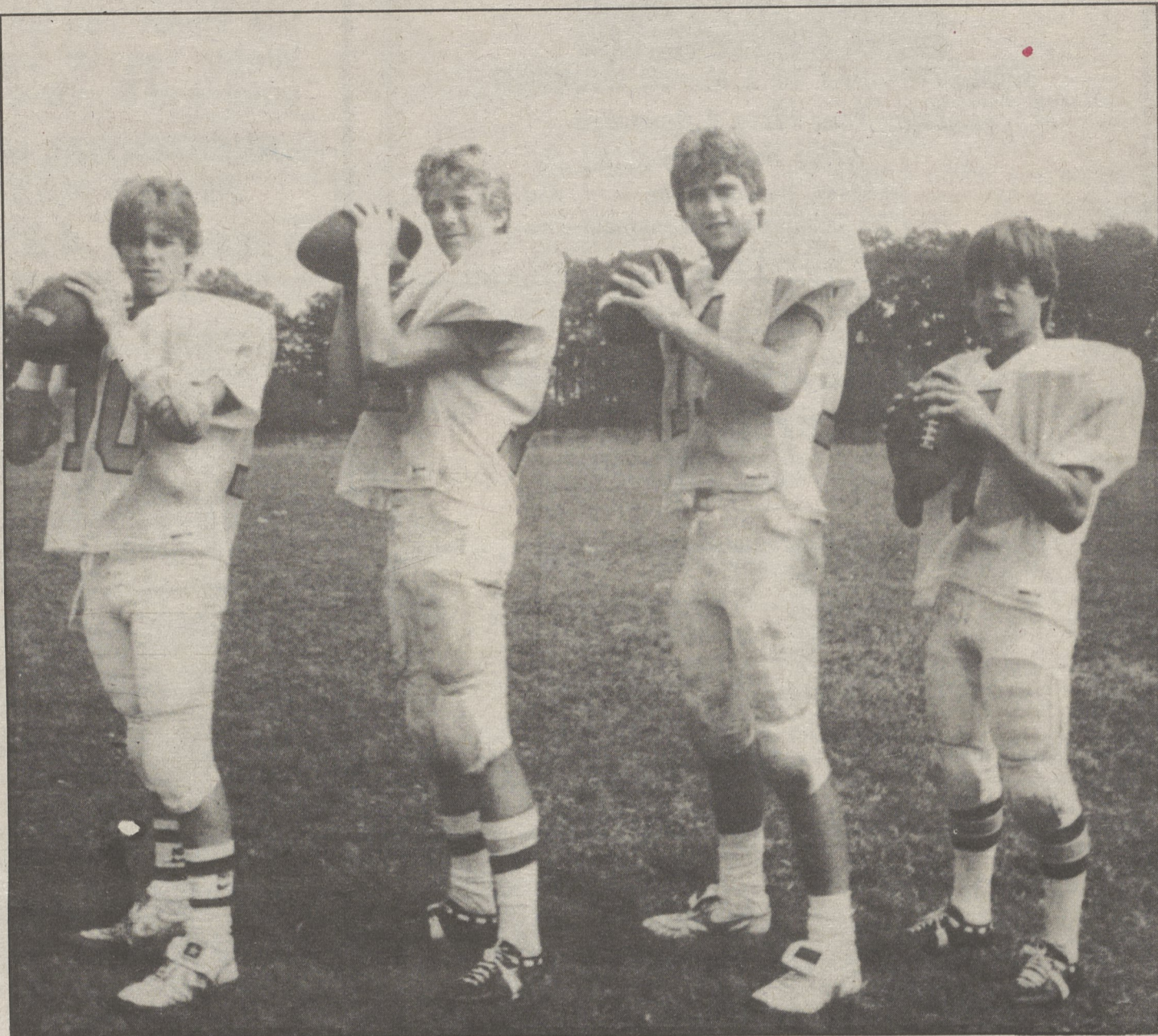
"We need to work on our line. It's a little too early to predict how these kids will do. I'm pleased and cautiously optimistic with what they've done so far," said Jackson.

The head coach is exceptionally pleased with performances by Ryan Holthaus, junior running back; tackle Todd Chamberlain, junior; senior Ron Ostrowski, halfback; senior Chris Vincelli, who plays end and guard; Rich Long, senior; senior inside linebacker John Harris and senior linebacker Tim Kern.

"They're all tough kids on the field; they're aggressive and they hit hard. Lyons, Konopki and Francis are versatile because they can play other positions just as well as quarterback. I'm expecting some good results from this team. All the kids have a good attitude and they are working hard."

Jackson explained that it is difficult for the kids to adjust to a new coach, new methods, everything at one time but he says, the kids are coming along fine.

He gives a lot of credit to his assist-



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

DALLAS QUARTERBACKS — From left, Scott Francis, Mark Konopki, Tim Lyons and Eric Olsen.

ants, one of whom is Paul Brown who teaches at Dallas. A graduate of G.A.R., Brown played football both in high school and at West Chester State University. He was among the top defensive backs in college circles at that time.

Bill Silvi graduated from Plains and the University of Richmond where he was outstanding as their quarterback and Jerry Rollman, a graduate of Dallas, is doing a terrific job with the kids, accord-

ing to Jackson.

Jackson also commended his junior high assistants, Mike O'Malia, Jim Scian-dra and Tony Chiarucci for the exceptional work they are doing with the junior high kids.

Jackson did not single any particular boys out as stars, but did mention that Mark Ramirez has a lot of speed and if the Mountaineers need one point to win a

game, their kicker Gerry Mihalick is the boy who should be able to do it.

"It's difficult because I don't know all of these kids yet, but Ed Kwak is showing a lot of potential, Mike Koprowski, Mark Chester, and there are more. In fact, most everyone on the team has some special ability we should be able to put to good use. The teams to get past in our Division will be Meyers, GAR and Hanover. They're all tough," said Jackson.

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