

Lehman quarterback slot up for grabs

By JOHN F. KILDUFF
Staff Writer

The 1985-86 Lake-Lehman football season opens with Carbondale on August 31 and a number of new looks will be presented to Black Knight fans.

This year's team is headed by a new coaching staff, will utilize relatively young offensive and defense squads, and maintains there are no teams in the conference it cannot beat.

"Everything is new this year," said newly appointed Head Coach Richard Gorgone. "Our practices are different, we have new rules and a new offense and defense. How well we do," said Gorgone, "depends on how well the players adjust and how fast they come along."

Gorgone, who coached the Black Knights from 1974-1978, returns this year and says the focus will be on scoring points, playing tough defense and implementing the multi-talents of his new coaching staff.

"A major plus for us this year is our great coaching staff," said Gorgone. "These are five of the best coaches in the valley. They will definitely help us this year."

Gorgone's new coaching staff includes former Wilkes College coach, Robert Roberts; Robert Langan, assistant Wyoming Area coach for the past eight years; retired Lake Lehman assistant principal, John Oliver; Lake Lehman JV coach Jeff Smith and Mark Boyle, described by Gorgone as a very talented young coach.

"I really want to stress that these guys are going to make a big difference this year," said Gorgone. "They are a super bunch of guys."

Gorgone also believes his offense is the key to making this season a success.

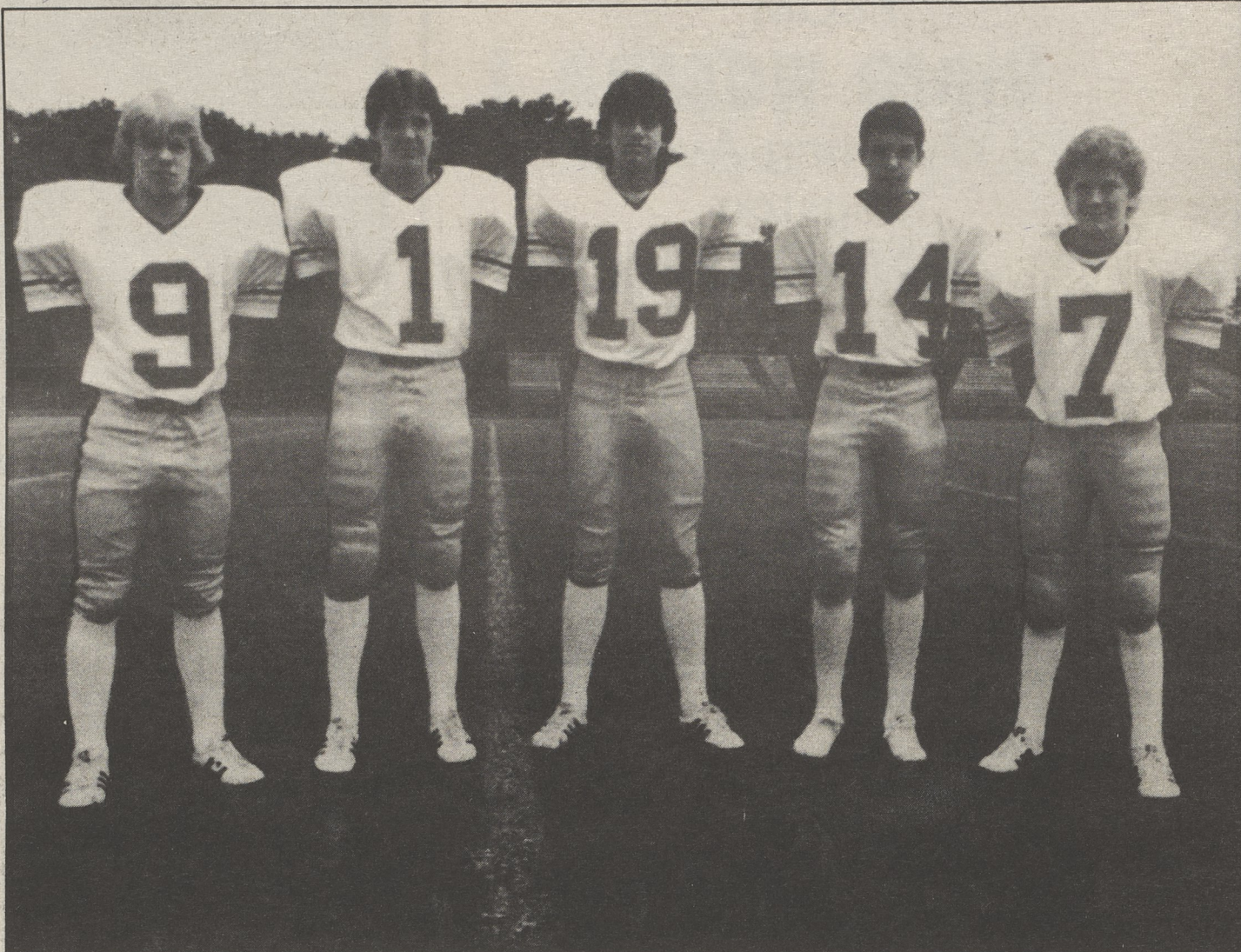
"There is no team on the schedule this year that we cannot beat," said Gorgone. "If our offense can put lots of points on the board and we play good defense, we will win a lot of games."

Gorgone said this year's quarterback slot is still up for grabs between five candidates. "We are giving all of them equal time," said Gorgone.

Top quarterback candidates are junior Jason Cadwalder, who last year played offensive center and freshman Lenny Annetta. "Both quarterbacks," said Gorgone, "are doing a fine job right now."

The offense, said Gorgone, will be a balanced attack. "We look to throw the ball well and run the ball," said Gorgone. "I think we can do both well. I am looking for a balanced offense."

The Black Knight backfield is expected to feature senior Jeff Martin at fullback



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

LAKE-LEHMAN QUARTERBACKS — From left, Brett Evans, Jason Cadwalader, Dave Womelsdorf, Len Annetta and Rocky Lopasky.

and senior Billy George at halfback. Juniors Billy Davis and Mark Lapasky will alternate in the backfield with Martin and George.

"Our backfield looks pretty good," said Gorgone. "Most of our backfield players are hard runners and I expect a lot from them."

The Lake Lehman defense, according to Gorgone, will again be the teams strong point, much the same as in years past.

"Even when I coached her years back we always had great defensive teams," said Gorgone. "And this year's defense is no different. We have a lot of hitters on this defensive team. If our offense can put the points on the board, who should be able to win a lot of games."

Gorgone says his defensive challenge will be giving many players a chance to play. "We have a lot of kids out this year. Now we must spend some time with them. If we can do that then we will be successful."

Gorgone also places a great deal of responsibility on his senior players. A responsibility, Gorgone says, that must be evident if the Lake Lehman Black Knights are to win.

"Leadership and leading in the correct way is very important," said Gorgone. "I look for my seniors to provide just that — leadership. It is important that they (seniors) lead by example for the younger players," Gorgone continued.

"It is very important for all the players to believe in what we (new coaches) are

doing," said Gorgone. "If they (players) doubt us then we will be in trouble."

Gorgone explained that because of the new coaching staff he will need the help of his seniors to lead the underclassmen. "Sometimes it is tough for a senior to accept a new way of doing things," said Gorgone. "But without their support the younger players will not respond. That is why the seniors are so important," Gorgone stressed.

Gorgone said team size is a positive aspect of the 1985-86 season stating that, "they are not gigantic but they are a pretty good size."

"Most of the teams in our conference are roughly our size," said Gorgone. "And we will match up in size and number of players with most teams."

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