

# Football is really what Fall is all about

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

The fields have been given tender, loving care during the summer months, bleachers and press boxes renovated and sporting new coats of paint. The refreshment stands are open, the aroma of fresh brewed coffee, hot dogs and pizza fill the air, tantalizing the taste buds of football fans in all corners of Wyoming Valley.

It's "Kickoff" time! That big day, "Season Opener", has arrived. In the city, on the West Side, in the Back Mountain, the anticipation of enthusiastic fans rises in the air as they file into the stadium.

THIS IS THE YEAR — the year "our" team will reach its potential and wrest the conference title. Bets are being made among friends, predictions made by sportscasters, and by armchair quarterbacks.

This is "Football 1986" — opening day of the game they've been waiting for!

Volunteers man the refreshment stands, scurrying to meet the demands of the fans, five and six deep, waiting to order that tasty hot dog, perhaps a burger, or a slice or two of pizza.

Fans enter the Black Knights' stadium, wearing their black and gold band jackets. Visitors across the field see visions of gold as row after row of Lake-Lehman jackets fill the home side bleachers.

On the opposite end of the Back Mountain, Dallas fans file into the stadium wearing Columbia Blue, giving visitors cause to believe some of the blue has fallen from the sky overhead.

Booster Club members stand inside the gates selling "Know Your Players" programs, good for the season for a small fee of \$1.00.

The bands stand in a secluded spot, nervously waiting their cue to march into the stadiums. Occasionally, a nervous band member tries a note or two just to make certain he knows the proper key.

A signal is given and the well-rehearsed band members, attired in bright colored uniforms, march as one into the stadium, keeping time to the selections they have been practicing for hours and hours.

New music, new routines, new field shows, days and days of rehearsal are behind them and band members perform with ease in the middle of the field.

No one, but mom or dad, realizes that behind the scenes, how many tears were shed, how many blisters were treated, how many times "I can't" was spoken prior to this day. That's behind these boys and girls today — this is their debut. This day makes it all worthwhile.

The bands leave the field and march quietly to seats assigned to them, and on comes the "Black and Whites", the ones really in charge — the game officials. Wearing their crisp, white knickers topped with black and white striped shirts, the officials make their way to the sidelines while cheerleaders from home and visiting schools hasten to the gates to

cheer their team members on with chants of encouragement.

First aid officials have taken to the field, media people fill the press box, photographers (professional and amateur) pace the sidelines. Now come the players!

They walk slowly, single file, until only a few feet from the large paper banners the cheerleaders have worked on all summer, then with two or three leaps the captains break through and lead their teammates to their side of the field.

Cheered on by moms and dads, friends and classmates, the players appear poised and nonchalant, trying to swallow the lumps in their throats and stop their knees from knocking.

Quarterbacks toss the ball back and forth. Other members stretch or do knee

bends while they wait nervously for the toss of the coin to determine who kicks off, who receives.

Fans, led by cheerleaders, add to the excitement; late arrivers hasten to find a good seat — the game is about to get underway.

The toss is done, captains shake hands and run to the sidelines. The national anthem is played. Both teams take their places on the field. The scoreboard lights are on. There's the whistle! The game is begun; to the victor goes the spoils.

Kickoff 1986 has arrived! Fans, band, cheerleaders, media, they're all there and, oh yes, don't forget the players and their coaches. Without them what would it be?

High school football — that's what Fall is all about!

## Schedule

(Continued from page 17)

Susquehanna at Susquehanna Valley.  
Crestwood at Hanover; Dallas at West Side Tech; Northwest at Jim Thorpe; Mahanoy Area at Cardinal Brennan; Pine Grove at Tri-Valley; Line Mountain at Halifax.

(Night)  
Montgomery at Columbia-Montour Vo-Tech; Bishop Hafez at Bishop Hoban; Lourdes Regional at West Hazleton; Marian at Pottsville Nativity.

FRIDAY, OCT. 10  
Abington Heights at Scranton Central; Valley View at Dunmore; Bishop Hoban at Honesdale; Wilkes-Barre Meyers at Wilkes-Barre Coughlin; Wilkes-Barre GAR at Hazleton; Lake-Lehman at Nanticoke; Tunkhannock at Pittston; Berwick at Pottsville; Blue Mountain at Tamaqua; Central Columbia at Lewisburg; Milton at Danville; Marian at Panther Valley.

Bloomsburg at Mifflinburg; Upper Dauphin at Millersburg; Minersville at Shenandoah Valley; North Schuylkill at Mount Carmel; Pottsville Nativity at Pine Grove; Harrisburg at Shamokin; State College at Shikellamy; Southern Columbia at Columbia-Montour Vo-Tech; Warrior Run at Selinsgrove; Williamsport at Altoona; Line Mountain at Williams Valley; Halifax at Juniata.

SATURDAY, OCT. 11  
(Afternoon)  
Scranton Tech at Lakeland; Old Forge at Mid Valley; West Scranton at North Pocono; Scranton Prep at Riverside; Bishop O'Hara at Wallenpaupack; Western Wayne at Lackawanna Trail; Mahanoy Area at Tri-Valley; Freeland at Bishop O'Reilly; West Side Tech at Crestwood; Wyoming Area at Dallas; Wyoming Valley West at Hanover; Bishop Hafez at West Hazleton; Jim Thorpe at Cardinal Brennan.

FRIDAY, OCT. 17  
Dunmore at Scranton Tech; Scranton Central at Scranton Prep; Wilkes-Barre Coughlin at Wyoming Area; Dallas at Wilkes-Barre GAR; Hazleton at Pittston; Nanticoke at Wyoming Valley West; Shikellamy at Berwick; Bishop Hafez at Freeland; Danville at Central Columbia; Line Mountain at Upper Dauphin.

Lourdes Regional at Shamokin; Millersburg at East Juniata; Jersey Shore at Milton; Saint Clair at Minersville; Pottsville at Mount Carmel; Pottsville Nativity at Schuylkill Haven; Panther Valley at Tamaqua; Southern Columbia at Shenandoah Valley; Tri-Valley at Williams Valley.

SATURDAY, OCT. 18  
(Afternoon)

Lakeland at Abington Heights; Mid Valley at Riverside; Honesdale at Bishop O'Hara; Western Wayne at Carbondale; Wallenpaupack at Susquehanna; Tunkhannock at Hanover; Northwest at West Side Tech; Pine Grove at Blue Mountain; Jim Thorpe at Mahanoy Area; West Hazleton at Marian; Newport at Halifax.

(Night)  
Valley View at West Scranton; Crestwood at Bishop Hoban; Selinsgrove at Bloomsburg; South Williamsport at Lewisburg; Warrior Run at Muncy; Lock Haven at Williamsport; Bishop O'Reilly at Columbia-Montour Vo-Tech.

FRIDAY, OCT. 24  
North Pocono at Dunmore; Lakeland at Valley View; Riverside at Old Forge; Wilkes-Barre GAR at Wilkes-Barre Coughlin; Hazleton at Shamokin; Wilkes-Barre Meyers at Tunkhannock; Berwick at Pittston; Williamsport at Wyoming Valley West; Central Columbia at Bloomsburg; Blue Mountain at Mount Carmel; Lewisburg at Danville; Honesdale at Western Wayne.

Halifax at Juniata; Lourdes Regional at Shenandoah Valley; Mahanoy Area at Williams Valley; Marian at Minersville; Milton at Mifflinburg; Saint Clair at Nativity; Panther Valley at North Schuylkill; Pottsville at Shikellamy; Tri-Valley at Southern Columbia; Kishacoquillas at Upper Dauphin; Hughesville at Warrior Run.

SATURDAY, OCT. 25  
(Afternoon)  
Carbondale at Abington Heights; Wallenpaupack at Lackawanna Trail; Susquehanna at Bishop O'Hara; Pine Grove at Bishop Hafez; Freeland at Jim Thorpe; Crestwood at Bishop O'Reilly; Nanticoke at Dallas; West Side Tech at Lake-Lehman; Schuylkill Haven at Cardinal Brennan.

(Night)  
Northwest at Bishop Hoban; Millersburg at Line Mountain; Tamaqua at West Hazleton.

FRIDAY, OCT. 31  
Abington Heights at Scranton Tech; Old Forge at Dunmore; Scranton Prep at Valley View; Carbondale at Honesdale; Wilkes-Barre Coughlin at Hazleton; Hanover at Wilkes-Barre Meyers; Wyoming Area at Nanticoke; Pittston at Pottsville; Berwick at Wyoming Valley West; Bloomsburg at Danville; Blue Mountain at Panther Valley.

Cardinal Brennan at Southern Columbia; Central Columbia at Warrior Run; Selinsgrove at Lewisburg; Line Mountain at Kishacoquillas; Mahanoy Area at

Schuylkill Haven; Williams Valley at Millersburg; Milton at Montoursville; North Schuylkill at Minersville; Shenandoah Valley at Pine Grove; Shikellamy at Shamokin; Upper Dauphin at Loyalsock Township.

SATURDAY, NOV. 1  
(Afternoon)  
Mid Valley at Lakeland; Scranton Central at North Pocono; West Scranton at Riverside; Bishop O'Reilly at Bishop O'Hara; Jim Thorpe at Lackawanna Trail; Notre Dame at Marian; Western Wayne at Wallenpaupack; Bishop Hoban at Dallas; Crestwood at Lake-Lehman; Columbia-Montour Vo-Tech at Northwest; Halifax at Tri-Valley.

(Night)  
Tunkhannock at Wilkes-Barre GAR; Bishop Hafez at Pottsville Nativity; Freeland at West Hazleton; Saint Clair at Lourdes Regional; Bald Eagle-Nittany at Mifflinburg; Mount Carmel at Williamsport.

FRIDAY, NOV. 7  
Abington Heights at Old Forge; Dunmore at Scranton Central; West Scranton at Scranton Prep; Dallas at Pittston; Shamokin at Berwick; West Hazleton at Bloomsburg; Cardinal Brennan at Saint Clair; Pottsville at North Schuylkill; Northwest at Western Wayne; Hanover at Wilkes-Barre GAR; Wilkes-Barre Meyers at Wyoming Area.

Central Columbia at Milton; Danville at Selinsgrove; Lewisburg at Line Mountain; Southern Columbia at Lourdes Regional; Warrior Run at Mifflinburg; Minersville at Panther Valley; Mount Carmel at Shikellamy; Pine Grove at Williams Valley; Williamsport at State College; Hazleton at Tunkhannock.

SATURDAY, NOV. 8  
(Afternoon)  
Scranton Tech at Mid Valley; Valley View at North Pocono; Lackawanna Trail at Bishop O'Hara; Wallenpaupack at Carbondale; Susquehanna at Windsor; Bishop O'Reilly at West Side Tech; Schuylkill Haven at Blue Mountain; Halifax at Eastern York; Pottsville Nativity at Jim Thorpe; Shenandoah Valley at Mahanoy Area; Tamaqua at Marian; Tri-Valley at Bishop Hafez; Wilkes-Barre Coughlin at Crestwood.

(Night)  
Lake-Lehman at Bishop Hoban  
FRIDAY, NOV. 14  
Scranton Central at Scranton Tech; Bishop Hoban at Bishop O'Reilly; Pittston at Wyoming Area; Wyoming Valley West at Wilkes-Barre Coughlin; Wilkes-Barre GAR at Wilkes-Barre Meyers.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15  
(Afternoon)  
Lackawanna Trail at Susquehanna; Dallas at Lake-Lehman; Nanticoke at Hanover.



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