



MOUNTAINEER SENIORS - Shown from left, are 1st row, Captains, Jeremiah Van Orden, Lenny Kelly, John Morris; 2nd row, Dave Podehl, Frank Natitus, Chris Williams, Dave Fitch, Bob Luke.

Mounts, Knights poised to meet in 44th Old Shoe Game

With neither Dallas or Lake-Lehman in contention for league honors, this year's Old Shoe Game between the two high schools won't have as much riding on it as past contests. Nevertheless, this is the last high school game for seniors on both squads, and the traditional rivalry between the schools will still add an edge to the 32nd meeting of the teams.

"The Old Shoe Game is not just a game for the shoe," said Lake-Lehman head coach Rich Gorgone. "It's for the pride of the Back Mountain; it's most importantly the seniors last game."

"It's always a big game," agreed Dallas head coach Ted Jackson. "It's for bragging rights to the Back Mountain."

Dallas comes into the contest with a full head of steam, having crushed Bishop Hoban 47-0 in their last game. Led by quarterback John Morris and running back Brian Burd, the Mounts have beaten up on four of their last five opponents, losing only to undefeated Hanover. But early-season losses to Nanticoke and Meyers will keep them out of the playoffs.

The Black Knights haven't had a good year and enter the game with a 3-6 overall record. Lehman lost 20 seniors to graduation last season, and has struggled all year to gain experience and poise. Gorgone thinks the shortage of seniors will hurt his team in the Old Shoe.

The lack of seniors, perhaps only two left, may make a difference because juniors and sophomores have another year. Seniors want to make it their best effort; there's no tomorrow," Gorgone said.

Dallas wasn't heavy with seniors either, Jackson said, and two probably won't play in the Old Shoe. "It's a shame there were only eight to start this year."

This will be the last game for seniors Dave Fitch, Len Kelley, Bob Luke, John Morris, Frank Natitus, Dave Podehl, and Chris Williams. Jay Van Orden, the team's leading receiver will sit this one out with strained ligaments in his knee. Podehl is questionable after he, too sustained a knee injury last week.

But even without a title at stake, the Old Shoe Game is special and a full house is expected when the game begins at 1:00 p.m. at the Mountaineer's field. "It's a great tradition and it's fun," Jackson said. "There's a lot of emotion and enthusiasm. We've had great games every year."

1991 Old Shoe Game
Mountaineer Field
Dallas
Sat., November 9
1:00 p.m.

Dallas High Gridiron Club honors seniors

The Dallas Gridiron Club met recently to present jackets to senior members of the Dallas football team. Those receiving jackets were Dave Fitch, Lenny Kelly, Bob Luke, John Morris, Frank Natitus, Dave Podehl, Jeremiah Van Orden and Chris Williams. In addition, each team member received a Dallas zebra-striped baseball cap.

Through numerous fund raisers the Gridiron Club has been able to support the team and coaching staff. This year the club furnished the senior high team with t-shirts, shorts, and some football shoes; and the junior high team with t-shirts and funds to pay an extra coach at that level.

On November 16, the senior high team and staff will travel to New York for the Syracuse/Boston College game. All expenses for the bus and game tickets will be paid by the Gridiron Club.

In February, the club will honor the entire team and staff at the annual banquet. Each team member will receive a plaque commemorating his participation in Dallas football. A number of other individual awards will be made including the presentation of a leadership scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to be presented to a graduating senior planning post-graduate studies.

For over 10 years the Dallas Gridiron Club has supported Dallas football by providing weight room equipment amounting to several thousands of dollars; funding for coaches to attend seminars; and pizza and hot wings for team members after some practices. These and numerous other services have been provided by the club through fund raisers. Through the hard work and dedication of its members and the generosity of the community, the Dallas Gridiron Club has been able to generate funds to support Dallas football.

First Old Shoe Game was played in 1948

The 44th Old Shoe game matching the Dallas Mountaineers and Lake-Lehman Knights will be played Saturday, November 9, at the Mountaineers' field. The traditional contest was first played in 1948.

The bronzed shoe was initiated by the Dallas Rotary Club in 1948 when Rotarian Francis "Red" Ambrose suggested to the Dallas Township coach and faculty member Robert Dolbear that the Dallas Rotary club honor the Back Mountain Football team that won the championship. At the time there was an intense rivalry between Kingston Township, Dallas Township and Lehman Township.

The coaches pulled a shoe from a pile of Dallas Township shoes and the Rotary Club had it bronzed.

In 1948, Kingston Township won the first Old Shoe Trophy. Originally, it was intended that the trophy would remain permanently with the team who won a certain number of consecutive games. That changed during the years and now each year, the winner of the game between Dallas and Lake-Lehman takes the Old Shoe until the following year.

Kingston Township took the trophy the first year; since then it has become a part of the Dallas School District. Other winners in the early years were Lehman Township, Dallas Township, Westmoreland, Lehman-Jackson-Ross and Dallas-Franklin. In 1956, there was a three-way tie between Lehman-Jackson, Westmoreland and Dallas-Franklin. In 1957, Lehman-Jackson-Ross won the Old Shoe, Lake-Lehman won the old shoe in both 1958 and 1959 and

in 1960 Westmoreland won the coveted trophy.

In 1961, the Back Mountain schools had become individual jointures; Dallas School District, and Lake-Lehman School District. Since that time, Dallas teams have won the Old Shoe 22 times, Lake-Lehman teams have won it seven times and they tied twice. The Mountaineers kept the shoe for eight consecutive years from 1970 through 1977. The Knights won the Shoe in 1978 under Coach Rich Gorgone and again in 1979 under Coach Tom Hisiro.

Later, trophies for outstanding performance were presented at the end of the game through the generosity of the late Albert Pisaneschi, a dedicated sports fan and a member of the Dallas School Board.

Each year the contest is considered a tossup, for a special kind of rivalry exists between the two schools. Throughout the season they cheer for each other against the other teams in the Wyoming Valley Conference, but when the teams of the two schools play each other a certain spirit spurs each team.

The last few years have been especially exciting for the head coaches. Ted Jackson of Dallas and Rich Gorgone of Lake-Lehman are close friends as well as neighbors. Like their athletes, the friendship ends and the special rivalry begins from the beginning to the end of the Old Shoe Game.

In a battle of defenses, the Black Knights won last year's meeting by a 7-0 score.

Black Knights top Sem after four overtimes

By FLORENCE FINN
Sports Correspondent

It was Halloween night at Wyoming Valley West Stadium when the Lake-Lehman soccer team performed the tricks to take the gold medal treat, but it wasn't an easy task. After four overtimes the Black Knights edged Wyoming Seminary 5-4 to claim the AA title.

In a contest, which featured Back Mountain players on both teams, Lake-Lehman's Brian Kelly, assisted by Chris Salko, scored the final blow in the fourth overtime to win the game. "The game could have gone either way," Kelly commented. "It may have been the best game that Wyoming Valley has seen. It was 90 minutes of total effort by two skilled teams. It's even more fun to play friends who know us as players."

Wyoming Seminary's Steve Hedden and Tudor Jones, who both played Back Mountain Soccer, echoed Kelly's sentiments. "It's a fun challenge to play against friends. The fans got their money's worth. Too bad it couldn't have ended in a tie," commented Jones. Greg Choi was also a Back Mountain Seminary player.

Although Lehman came out on top, it didn't always look as though they would. Seminary took an early lead off the foot of Dave Bonita who

scored two goals in the first half and Sem's defense stopped Lehman cold. "Mike Majeski defended Brian Kelly like nobody else," Lehman Coach Bill Tooley said in praise of the Seminary player.

During the third period, Seminary's Bonita added what seemed to be the insurance goal making the score 3-1, but Lake-Lehman would not concede. Tim Norconk teamed up with Eric Stogoski to score the second Knight's goal.

At 4:15 in the fourth quarter Ken Miroslaw, who had played super soccer the entire game, scored the unassisted tying goal. "I felt that it was one of my best games," an excited Miroslaw exclaimed, "but it was total team effort. Seminary played a great game too."

In the first overtime, Wyoming Seminary performed the trick to go ahead 4-3, but Kelly got away from Majeski long enough to score a diving, 12-yard header. With the score 4-4, the sudden death five minute period began with neither team scoring in the first five minutes. With fan support, Lake-Lehman took the field with renewed vigor. "Fan support was the key to the game," reflected Greg Dobash. "It gave us an extra edge when we needed it."

Once again it was MVP, World

Cup player, Brian Kelly who broke the tie with the help of four other Lehman players who touched the ball. "That goal was reflective of the entire win - total team effort," said Dobash. "What a comeback!"

Tooley exclaimed, "Deja vu best describes this game. It was just like the season game if we took away the five minute overtime. Wyoming Seminary is a great team.

Lindsey Krivenko rounds out her career at Wilkes Univ.

Former Dallas High School field hockey player Lindsey Krivenko recently completed her senior season at Wilkes University.

Krivenko, a midfielder helped the Lady Colonels to a 7-8-2 record this past year. During the 1991 season Krivenko scored one goal

and assisted on one goal.

A four year letter winner in field hockey, Krivenko is also a resident assistant, vice-president of the Letterwomen's Club and a member of the Dean's List at Wilkes. A sociology major, Krivenko is the daughter of Charles and Joyce Krivenko of Dallas.

Trout Unlimited to meet Nov. 12

The November public meeting of the Stan Cooper Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be November 12, at 7:30 p.m. at the VFW Post 283, Wyoming Ave., Kingston.

The guest speaker will be Barry Hartzell, President of the Tri-County Chapter of Trout Unlimited, who will conduct a rod building and rod repairing demonstration.

All chapter meetings are open to the public. For further information contact Tom Cresci at 824-5319 or Diane Smith at 823-9875.

Mounts blast Hoban 47-0 in tuneup for Old Shoe

The Dallas Mountaineers didn't let last week's loss to league-leading Hanover slow them down as they blasted Bishop Hoban 47-0 November 1.

In a tuneup for the Old Shoe Game, the Mounts played tough both ways, rolling up 350-plus yards on offense while holding the Argents to about 120 yards and only four first downs.

Jay Van Orden, the Mounts leading receiver, did not play but Dave Podehl took up the slack by scoring twice in the first half. Senior quarterback John Morris kept up his performance with an eight for 14 day good for 145 yards and two touchdowns. Brian Burd scored four times, three on runs and once taking a Morris pass, on the way to gaining 124 yards on 24 carries.

Knight spikers win district title, head to states Nov. 8

By FLORENCE FINN
Sports Correspondent

Lake-Lehman's volleyball team achieved its season goal by defeating its reigning rival Tunkhannock 3-1 in P.I.A.A. District II AAA Playoffs on October 30 at Dallas High School. The Knights first had to eliminate North Pocono in the semifinal round on the same night. They put North Pocono out of the competition in 45 minutes, 2-0.

In the first contest the Knights took an early 9-2 lead, but North Pocono came back to get within three points with the score 11-8 Lehman. The Knights' Karen Stefanowicz, Jill Smigielski and Karen Zier denied Pocono's attempts to get into the game. Stefanowicz finally spiked the winning point of the game making it 15-10.

Lake-Lehman then got a chance to watch its competition when Crestwood played Tunkhannock to determine who would meet Lehman. Knights' coach Bob Rogers, expressed satisfaction with his team, "Everyone did her job, especially Sue Niezgodka. She hadn't been a starter all season and was asked to replace injured Erin Loftus in a district playoff. She did the job."

In the main event, it was no surprise to see Tunkhannock play Lake-Lehman. Crestwood had pushed Tunkhannock to play three intense, close games. In P.I.A.A. District Volleyball playoffs, the final round is the best of five while the semifinals are the best of three.

A rested Lehman team took the floor with a psyched Tunkhannock squad. Lehman couldn't seem to get its offense synchronized despite the smashing attack of Jill Smigielski and Karen Stefanowicz. Tunkhannock's Jody Brown and Tammy Swartwood served the Tigers to a 15-6 stunning first game blow. "We hadn't played our best yet in the playoffs," Stefanowicz exclaimed.

Tunkhannock had the momentum going while Lake-Lehman was back on its heels and the Tigers took the first point. However, Stefanowicz blocked a hit off the

second serve for a side out and Tracy Krupa served Lake-Lehman to a 4-1 lead. The score see-sawed until Tunkhannock's Jody Brown served six consecutive strong hits to put the Tigers in the lead 13-7. Lehman's Karen Zier then dug out several strong spikes and the duo of Smigielski and Stefanowicz got Lehman back into the game 13-11.

Tunkhannock helped Lake-Lehman with five missed serves in game two while Lake-Lehman's Nicole Hall and Tracy Krupa took advantage with strong serves.

In the come-from-behind effort, Stefanowicz gave LL the winning point on a blocked, net save which dropped in front of a Tunkhannock player making the score 15-13. "It took me awhile to get over the nervous jitters and get the killer instinct," Smigielski reflected regarding her slow start.

With each team owning one game, Tracy Krupa went on a serving rampage to put Lake-Lehman in the lead 10-6. Karen Zier and Jen Parise had denied Tunkhannock's initial attack to turn the serve over to Krupa who served two aces. Despite smashing spikes by Tunkhannock's Courtney Strumski, Parise endured the attack returning anything sent. The third game belonged to LL 15-10. Later Krupa commented on her serves, "I focused on putting the ball in play and the adrenalin took over."

Lehman was a confident team in the fourth and final game while Tunkhannock was showing signs of fatigue and pressure. LL's Stacy Paculavich's dinks and spikes and Loftus' five-point serving rally quickly put the Knights ahead 13-7. Jill Smigielski's serves and Karen Stefanowicz' last kill gave Lehman the game, match and district gold medal.

"I was a little worried when Tunkhannock won the first game and had us in the second for a time," Rogers added. "I just told them to do what they've done all year. Jill Smigielski got hotter as the game progressed; Karen Stefanowicz and Karen Zier gave their usual best." Lake-Lehman will now travel to Pittsburgh for the state playoffs on November 8.