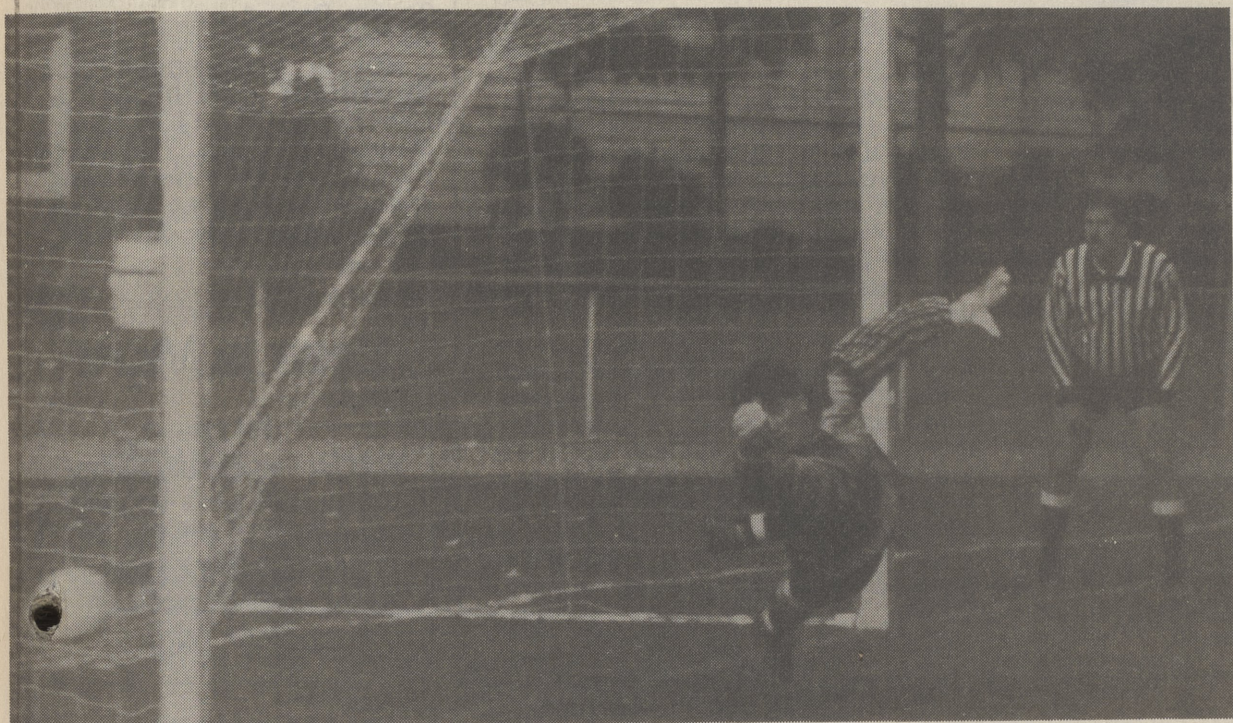


# Sports Week

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**NO STOPPING IT** - Dallas goalie Jeff Morris stretched in vain for a penalty kick from Lehman's Brian Kelly. The shot tied the match at 3-3 and Kelly added another goal with only seven seconds remaining to win the game. (Post photo/Ron Bartzick)

## Kelly is difference as Lehman edges Dallas

By CHRISTINA CONRAD  
Sports Correspondent

Lake-Lehman athletic teams have seemed to have a curse hanging over their heads lately. Two teams made it to District 2 finals competition but both lost. However, the Lake-Lehman Black Knights soccer team broke the curse with a dramatic 4-3 win over rival Dallas on Saturday, November 7, at Wyoming Valley West Stadium.

Throughout the contest the soccer ball bounced back and forth between the two teams very much like the soccer ball. Dallas led the scoring attack first, which was odd because Lehman was thought to have the superior offense. Senior Kevin Lowery of Lehman spoke on playing Dallas. "It was like we were all seniors on both teams and we played with these guys a long time in different leagues so it was especially emotional."

Lake-Lehman's offense provided a great deal of emotion as junior Will Woronko had the first two goals of the contest for Lehman, keeping them in the game. Brian Kelly had the last two goals of the contest and closed the game for Lehman. "I knew we could come back when Danny (Lukasavage) hit the crossbar," Woronko said.

"We have a high powered offense that has the ability to score at any point in the game."

Lehman did score at two crucial junctures when they needed to most. The first was on a penalty shot taken by Brian Kelly. With Kelly's usual composure he sent the shot into the net leaving the Dallas goalie helpless in a situation where the advantage definitely goes to the shooter. "This was such an emotional game, skill was overridden by emotion," Kelly said.

But a great deal of skill was shown by Chris Salko and Danny Lukasavage, both of whom just missed shots that at any other time might have gone in.

Time was on Lehman's side though. Towards the very end of the fourth quarter the Knights rallied back to try to beat the Mountaineers before the game could go into overtime. Kelly drilled a shot from the left side of the field past the goalie and into the right corner of the net to win the game. The score board read seven seconds with Lake-Lehman ahead 4-3.

When the final time ticked off the clock a jubilant Lake-Lehman team celebrated winning their second consecutive District 2 Double A Championship.

The Knights used a great deal of flair on offense this season and

their scoring celebrations showed what kind of team they are: enthusiastic, worthy and appreciative. When the joyous Knights won they all slid on their knees and piled on top of each other as the crowd celebrated their victory. And in what has become characteristic of a Lake-Lehman soccer team, they acknowledged the crowd of school mates, parents, and friends with arms raised high above their heads.

"There is an even better feeling now with it being my senior year. Any script couldn't have been written better. Words just can't express how it feels to win again," said an excited Kelly.

If few words were used to describe this game, this season, appropriate ones would come from senior goal keeper Kevin Lowery. "It was a cliff-hanger," he said. Junior Will Woronko, who could very well have a chance to repeat with a strong class coming up, said that it all was "intense." And senior Brian Kelly, grinned a huge grin and said, "thrilling."

The Knights now move on to state competition hoping to achieve their next goal...a state championship.

## Matt Samuel gains all-state honors

By DAVE KONOPKI  
Sports Correspondent

For the last four years, placing one foot in front of the other beneath his slender frame, Matt Samuel has cruised through the Dallas area and its surrounding communities.

Streets, nature trails, concrete, grass. It didn't matter to Samuel. Samuel is the Will Rogers of running; he never met a course he didn't like.

Running through the changing colors in autumn and through the blistering heat of the summer, Samuel has logged approximately 2,200 miles while training for the Dallas cross-country and track teams.

Apparently nobody told Samuel that the phrase cross-country wasn't to be taken literally.

But last Saturday afternoon in State College, after nearly 13,000 minutes of preparation, just 3.1 miles stood between Samuel and his longtime goal of earning a medal at the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association State Class AA Cross Country Championships.

The last quarter-mile of the course, the experts say, separate the men from the boys. Last Saturday, Samuel became a man.

The Dallas High School senior overcame bitter cold weather conditions and a bout with asthma to capture 14th place, finishing the course in 16 minutes and 41 seconds, earning him a medal and all-state honors. The top 20 finishers in the event, which featured more than 200 of Pennsylvania's best cross country runners, earn all-state recognition.

"The last quarter mile was just an all out sprint," said Samuel, who passed two runners in the final 1,320 feet. "It was pretty cold. My asthma was starting to bother me towards the end of the race. I knew I had to focus on what I was doing and go all out."

Samuel began running in the sixth grade and has been a member of the varsity cross country team since his freshman year. The 17-year-old has averaged nearly 600 miles of roadwork a year during the cross country and track seasons over the past three years.

Nobody knows better than Samuel that hard work reaps huge dividends.

"It was worth it, definitely," said Samuel, who will continue his cross country career in college next year. "I recommend it to anyone. I remember the first year (his freshman season) when I qualified for states. I finished in about 200th place. I knew then that I would have to work hard if I ever wanted to get a medal. I've also had great coaching. Bill (Dallas head coach Kvashay) is one of the best coaches in the state. I couldn't have done it myself."

Although his running days are far from over, Samuel is now realizing that his days of running in his Dallas uniform have come to an end.

"I'm very happy to have represented Dallas High School," said Samuel. "Down at states people have a lot of respect for the runners from Dallas. We've had some great runners here. I'm just glad that I had a chance to show off Dallas to the rest of the state."

Samuel will participate in the Kinney Nationals, November 28, in Van Courtland Park, New York City.

## Mounts, Knights roll into 'Old Shoe' game

By DAVE KONOPKI  
Sports Correspondent

The last four weeks have been successful ones for the high school football teams in the Back Mountain. Dallas and Lake-Lehman have combined to post a perfect 8-0 record during that time, each reeling off four-game winning streaks.

Unfortunately for one of those teams, that streak will come to an end this weekend.

The Mountaineers (9-1) and Black Knights (5-4) kick off the 45th edition of the "Old Shoe Game" this Saturday afternoon at the Dallas High School field.

Certain areas of the country have mystiques or traditions that make them individually special. The Back Mountain has this game.

"Sure, this is a very big game in the community," said Dallas head coach Ted Jackson, who will be coaching in his eighth Old Shoe game. "It's a great rivalry. The kids live close together. They play Little League and (youth) soccer together. That's what makes this game interesting."

Lake-Lehman head coach Rich Gorgone, who will be coaching in his 11th backyard rivalry, echoed Jackson's sentiments.

"It's been a neat game over the years," said Gorgone, who lives in the Dallas School District. "I know a lot of the kids on the Dallas team. Ted (Jackson) and I are good friends. The kids give it their all on the field and then get along well when the game is over. It's a great game."

Perhaps nobody knows the intensity of the rivalry better than Gorgone. His son, Sam, was a standout quarterback for the Black Knights two years ago. With father and son on the Lehman sidelines, Gorgone's daughter, Megan, was a cheerleader for Dallas. In fact, this season another Gorgone daughter, Toni, is a cheerleader for the Dallas

Junior High School team.

The Mountaineers are headed for post-season play, most likely the Eastern Conference playoffs. And they control their own destiny. With Harrington High School (District 1) losing last Saturday to Bishop McDevitt, the Mountaineers can reach the state playoffs with a win over Lehman and a playoff win in the championship game against Valley View.

Dallas's defense has been dominant since the team's lone loss in week six against Nanticoke. The Mounts have yielded just 18 points over the past four games, including shutouts against Crestwood and Hanover.

Last year the Mountaineers posted a lopsided 42-0 win over a Lehman team depleted by injuries. But this season the Black Knights, for most of the season, have been healthy and after losing a close game to Hanover Area and posting an impressive win over Meyers, the Black Knights have been improving every week.

"I felt that we played well enough to win against Hanover," said Gorgone, whose Knights trailed just 13-7 in the fourth quarter before a kickoff return for a touchdown sealed Hanover's win. "We really have been coming together in the last four games. We need to play a physical game against Dallas. I feel that we can compete with them."

With a 1,000-yard rusher in Brian Burd and a 1,000-yard passer in Brian Brady, Gorgone knows the Mountaineers will be tough to stop.

"They have so many weapons," added Gorgone. "With Burd, Brady, (Todd) Paczewski and (Dave) Fisher, they have very good skill people. I don't think we can take the ball and just pound them. We'll have to mix it up."

The Black Knights have some potent weapons of their own in standout tailback Rob Spencer, who enters the game just 15 yards

shy of the 1,000-yard mark and versatile quarterback Pat McManus.

"Lehman is on a roll," said Jackson. "They are a much improved team since the beginning of the season. We hope that we can win this game and grab a share of the conference title. We also have the chance to win 10 games in the regular season. No Dallas team that I've coached has ever done that, not even the two Eastern Conference title teams. It would be a great tribute to our kids."

If recent history is any indication, this could turn out to be a very exciting football game.

Three of the last four games have been decided by a touchdown or less, with last year's blowout being the exception. In 1990 Lehman shutout Dallas, winning 7-0. In 1989 Dallas blanked the Black Knights, 7-0, and in 1988, the last time Dallas made the playoffs, the two teams battled to a 21-21 tie.

**PREDICTION:** The Black Knights will be sorry to see this season end. If the Knights had played this well in the beginning of the season, they could be looking at a playoff berth. Gorgone and his coaching staff deserve a great deal of credit for turning what could have been a nightmarish season into a more than respectable showing.

They say that in games like this, you can throw the records out. But you can't throw away talent, or motivation, Dallas has both.

Sure, Lehman wants to beat Dallas. But Dallas has extra incentive. A conference title. A playoff berth. A chance for a state title.

Trust me when I tell you that on Sunday morning everyone will be saying that the game was closer than the final score.

**DALLAS 34 LAKE-LEHMAN 19**

## It will be a special day for seniors

By DAVE KONOPKI  
and  
CHRISTINA CONRAD  
Sports Correspondents

There is a time in a person's life when one day becomes a permanent memory. A day in which images remain crystal clear. A day which the passage of time can never erase.

For the senior members of the Dallas and Lake-Lehman football teams, that day is this Saturday.

For 364 days out of the year the residents of the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts peacefully co-exist.

They drive the same streets, shop the same stores and worship in the same churches.

But when their respective football teams take the field against each other, the niceties cease.

The Mountaineers and Black Knights take part in the 45th renewal of their backyard classic this Saturday afternoon at the Dallas High School field.

For the 24 seniors who will take part in the game, the battle for the "Old Shoe" takes on significance, importance.

"We're not having any trouble getting ready for this game," said Dallas tailback Brian Burd, the Wyoming Valley Conference's leading rusher. "I was a little bit worried about the team getting ready for the game against Tamaqua last week. If we win this game we'll have 10 wins in the regular season. That's something very special. We'd like to be remembered as one of the

best teams to have ever played at Dallas."

Despite the difference in records, Lehman senior Gary Cavill feels the Black Knights match up well with the Mounts.

"Our defense is better than Dallas's when we're playing at our best," said Cavill. "And I think that our running game can match up with theirs. We definitely want to beat them badly."

For Dallas seniors Todd Paczewski and Dave Fisher, the game is extra special. Both have been playing with the varsity since their freshman seasons.

"I remember when we lost to Lehman when I was a sophomore," said Fisher. "Ever since then I've wanted to beat them. We'll have no trouble getting up for this game. We just have to take one game at a time."

For Paczewski, Saturday will be a chance to redeem his family name.

"My brother Eric's team lost to Lehman in his senior year and my brother Mark's team tied them," explained Paczewski.

"My brothers want me to go out with a win against Lehman in my senior year."

"In other sports you get to play them two times," added Paczewski. "In football, it's a one-time opportunity. Our seniors have worked hard to get to where we are. I'm really looking forward to playing on Saturday."

According to Lehman quarterback Pat McManus, preparation for the game is as much mental as it is physical.

"Going into the Dallas game you have to be in a different frame of mind," explained McManus. "The intensity level is higher because there is much more on the line."

"Being the underdog doesn't bother me," continued McManus. "We have nothing to lose and everything to gain. But it does bother me when people say that we are a heavy underdog. We're a lot better than people say."

For Black Knight senior Ben Sevenski, the season has gone by quickly.

"I feel like I was in double sessions yesterday," said Sevenski. "Now, we're getting ready to play Dallas. It's sad, but then I realized that I had to make the best of it and make the best with what I've got."

Senior members on the Dallas team are: Paczewski, Burd, Fisher, Chris Thomas, Tom Bolesta, Joe Voitek, Jim Moran, Tim Dewey, Chris Updyke, Tom Adams and Joe Kelley.

Senior members of the Black Knights are: John Edwards, Gary Cavill, Rob Spencer, Dave Larkins, Ben Sevenski, Chris Ziomek, Mark Danowski, Clive Lankwarden, Dan Wilson, John Lamele and McManus.

The best advice to give the seniors is to play the game with everything you have. Leave it all on the field. The blood, sweat, and, yes, the tears.

But most of all, remember this week. Cherish it. Relish it. Enjoy it.

The game lasts for 48 minutes. The memories will last a lifetime.

## Dallas Adult Basketball League opens 1993 season

The Dallas Adult Basketball League opened play for the 1992-93 season with three games on Sunday, Nov. 8 at Dallas High School.

In the season opener the Greyhounds placed five players in double figures in blowing out the Lion Inc, 91-53.

J. Meuser led the winners with 19, Joe Doyle and Rick Coslett added 15 and Bill Flannigan and John McCarthy had 14 and 13 respectively for the victors.

Sean McGovern had 19 for The Lion and Bill Cuff chipped in with 13.

The middle game was also a

one-sided affair with Dallas Rec Center Summer League champs Humphrey's blasting Casey's 84-55.

Jim Jaster led the winners with 22 while Frank Debona and Nafty Hage added 17. Pat Flaherty had 24 in a losing effort.

The Nightcap saw the Fieldhouse

slip by Hozey's Town Tavern 67-55. Big Joe Darling had a fine game with 22 for the Fieldhouse and Mark Farrell added 18.

Jim Seamon led Hozey's with 30 points including four three-pointers. Play continues on Sunday, Nov. 15 with three games beginning at 1:30 p.m.

### LEAGUE STANDINGS

The Fieldhouse	1-0
Humphrey's	1-0
The Greyhounds	1-0
The Lion Inc.	0-1
Hozey's Town Tavern	0-1
Casey's	0-1

### Nov. 15 Schedule

1:30 p.m. - Casey's vs. Fieldhouse  
2:30 p.m. - Lion Inc. vs. Hozey's  
3:30 p.m. - Humphrey's vs. Greyhounds

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