

The Dallas Post SportsWeek

Mounts, Knights will be tested Saturday

By DAVE KONOPKI
Sports Writer

Forget, for now, all about Penn State. And Notre Dame. And the Eagles. And the Giants.

If you're really interested in seeing exciting football action this weekend, then the Back Mountain is the place to be. Unfortunately, both games will take place at the same time.

At Dallas, the Mountaineers put their 2-0 mark on the line against AAAA power Tunkhannock. Ted Jackson's Mountaineers are coming off an impressive 26-0 win over GAR while the Tigers, behind stellar running back Reuben Sherman, are fresh off a 28-22 win over Wyoming Valley West.

At Lehman, the Black Knights will try to remain unbeaten when they face Riverside, from the Big 11 Conference. Lehman, under head coach Rich Gorgone, pounded Northwest 40-7, last Saturday while Riverside downed Meyers, 13-0.

Here's a look at this weekend's

contests with a prediction of both games. This year's record stands at a perfect 4-0.

Tunkhannock at Dallas

If the Mountaineers are to have any chance of winning this game the defense better come ready to play. Dallas will be facing one of the Wyoming Valley Conference's premiere runners in Sherman. In last Friday night's win against Valley West, Sherman was simply unstoppable. The 5-10, 175 pound running back rushed for 237 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Tigers over the Spartans. The week before, Sherman ran for more than 125 yards in a driving rainstorm as the Tigers got nipped by North Pocono.

Although Dallas held an explosive GAR offensive backfield to just 84 rushing yards, the Grenadiers did have nearly 10 rushing plays that went for six yards or more. In addition, the GAR backfield consisted of a freshman and a pair of sophomores, hardly the

kind of experience Sherman has gained during his years with the Tigers, including last year's District 2 Class AAAA playoffs.

Offensively, the Mounts counter with playoff-tested quarterback Brian Brady. Brady did not have an outstanding performance against the Grenadiers but he did what he had to do to get the job done.

Look for the Mountaineers to control the football and keep it out of the hands of Sherman & Company. Don't be surprised to see Dallas tailback Buddy Rhodes, along with fullbacks Rich Butcofski and Ed Mattie, combine to carry the ball 40 times against the Tigers. With Brady a threat to throw the ball successfully, the Tunkhannock defense has its work cut out for it as well.

PREDICTION: For some reason, this game reminds me of a Dallas-Hanover game a few years ago. Both teams entered the game with tremendous skill people, Dallas with quarterback John Morris and tailback Brian Burd,

and Hanover with quarterback Eric Pearson and tailback Jamie Proctor. I said before that game that the team who played the best defense would win the game. The two teams combined for more than 60 points. Why buck tradition? **DALLAS 27, TUNKHANNOCK 22.**

Riverside at Lake-Lehman

Although they've rung up some pretty impressive numbers, both offensively and defensively in jumping out to a 2-0 start this season, it's a good bet that they're still a few skeptics when it comes to the Lake-Lehman football team.

The Black Knights have looked mighty impressive, outscoring their opponents by a combined 68-7 in their first two contests. But, the skeptics will argue, Wellsboro and Northwest, the Black Knights first two opponents, will never be confused with the state's football powers.

This weekend, the Black Knights have a chance to do two things:

First, Lehman has the oppor-

tunity to become the first Wyoming Valley Conference football team to beat Riverside this season. The Vikings opened their season with a 19-18 win over GAR and followed that with a 13-0 blanking of Meyers, a team many felt would make a run at the WVC Division II title this season.

Second, Lehman has a chance to silence those skeptics.

A win over Riverside would go a long way in giving the Black Knights program the respect it has been fighting for. In fact, a well played game against the Vikings would serve notice to the WVC Division II schools.

The Black Knights have gotten off to a fast start behind sophomore quarterback John Oliver. In last Saturday's 40-7 pounding of Northwest, Oliver threw for more than 200 yards and three touchdowns.

But if Lehman is going to pull off a win, it's going to have to start with defense.

The Black Knights defense has been nothing short of brilliant

this season, holding Wellsboro, and their college Division I prospect, tailback Chris Morral, to just 85 yards total offense. The lone touchdown surrendered by the Knights was a 17-yard drive by Northwest following a Lehman fumble.

Which leads us to the second thing the Black Knights must do to win: Lake-Lehman cannot beat themselves. The Knights must avoid turnovers and costly penalties. Lehman fumbled the ball six times against Northwest. Against Riverside, that could prove costly.

PREDICTION: Oliver is about to get his baptism of fire and there will be no five completions for 200 yards this weekend. Fortunately, he does have two games under his belt and the game is at home. The Black Knights should be sky-high for this contest and I've never been a fan of the Big 11 conference. Call me crazy but Will Woronko's foot proves to be the difference. **LAKE-LEHMAN 17, RIVERSIDE 13.**



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

HARD FOUGHT MATCH - Lehman's Jen Marcin, left, launched a pass as Melissa Bartolini and Kerry Rittenhouse of Dallas defended during last week's field hockey match between the Back Mountain rivals. Karen Komsisky of Lehman looks on in the background.

Knights blanks Mounts

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Maybe they were reading their own press clippings. Or maybe they just wanted to dispense with the formality of regular season play and dive headfirst into the playoffs.

Whatever the reason, the Lake-Lehman field hockey team, a team heavily favored to win the Wyoming Valley Conference and Division 2 Class AA titles, got a scare last week.

Fortunately for them, they survived.

The Lady Knights held off a talented Tunkhannock team, escaping with a scoreless tie in the season opener, and then regrouped to blank Back Mountain rival Dallas 3-0 last Friday.

Although they expected better, head coach Jean Lipski knows it could have been worse.

"We could have lost 3-0 against Tunkhannock," said Lipski, who is in her 13th year at the helm of the Black Knight program. "The girls were feeling great pressure. They know people expect them to do well. I think that bothered them. I really think they were stressed out."

But following the Tunkhannock game, the Lady Knights refocused their sights on a WVC title and

two days later beat a young Dallas team, a team that will win its share of games and is a perennial playoff contender.

"The girls were really focused against Dallas," Lipski explained. "Usually the players are off the wall the day of the game when we play Dallas. That didn't happen this year. They were very business-like. They ordered lunch and ate it together. They knew it was a big game and they knew they had to win."

While the Lady Knights will certainly experience more wins this season, it is doubtful they'll experience the kind of emotion present during the first half of the Dallas contest.

Senior Lynn Turner, who hadn't played since her sophomore season due to a knee injury, capped off a remarkable personal comeback by scoring the first goal of the contest.

There wasn't a dry eye on the Lehman sideline.

"That was justice," said Lipski, in words flowing with emotion even days after the game. "She just happened to be equalled."

Lipski had nothing but respect for the effort by the Mountaineers.

"I think Dallas played nicely," said Lipski, who is assisted by

Sandy Boyle. "They had some outstanding plays and they have some outstanding players. They're going to win a lot of games this season and I think they have a good chance of making the playoffs."

With the majority of the season, and key games against Crestwood and Wyoming Seminary on the horizon in early October, Lipski knew a loss to Dallas would have been a tough blow from which to recover.

"With the kind of conference we play in, I think it was a must-win situation," said the Lehman coach. "A tie (against Dallas) would have hurt us, but a loss would have been very tough to come back from. I don't think any team is going to go unbeaten and untied, so I hope the tie doesn't hurt us too much."

Either way, it appears the Lady Knights have learned their lesson. In fact, ironically, the tie may be just what the doctor ordered.

"If everything went too well we may have sat on our laurels," concluded Lipski. "We stress to the kids that they have to go there and play their own kind of game. We can't worry about anyone else or what anyone else thinks. Most of all, we can't take anything for granted."

Junior football

L-L Jr. Knights vs. Plymouth

The Lake-Lehman Junior Knights played a tough game Sunday, Sept. 12 against the Plymouth Shawnee Indians on Plymouth's field.

The C Team Junior Knights kept the Indians on the run for the 1st quarter with a 0-0 score. The Indians made a touchdown in the 2nd quarter. The Junior Knights held the Indians through the 3rd quarter but the Indians got through with a touchdown and extra points in the 4th quarter. The final score of the C Team was Shawnee Indians 14, Junior Knights 0.

The B Team Shawnee Indians took the lead in the 1st quarter 0-6, but the Junior Knights came back with a touchdown in the 2nd quarter leaving the score at half time 6-6. The Knights pushed with another touchdown in the 3rd quarter of the game. The Shawnee Indians made a touchdown in the 4th quarter making for a close and exciting game, but the Junior Knights made their move taking the victory for B Team with a final score of Junior Knights 20, Shawnee Indians 12.

The Junior Knights A Team had quite a battle on their hands with the Shawnee Indians. The Shawnee Indians seemed to know all of the Junior Knights moves

before they made them. The Shawnee Indians had three touchdowns in the 1st quarter, two touchdowns in the 2nd quarter and two touchdowns in the 4th quarter. The Junior Knights got through for a touchdown in the 4th quarter, but too late to catch the Shawnee Indians. The A Team final score was Shawnee Indians 46, Junior Knights 6.

KT Raiders vs. Swoyersville

Once again, the Kingston Township Raiders put forth a valiant effort during this week's meeting with the Swoyersville Sailors.

The C Team had a decisive 28-6 victory with touchdowns scored by Paul Saxon, Luke Miller, Mitch Ruddy and Bob Zaruta. Sailor fumbles were recovered by Mitch Ruddy and George Sprague. An outstanding offensive and defensive show put on by the young Raiders made the coaches extremely proud of the total team effort. The C Team record stands at 2-1.

Following the C game, the Raiders B Team conducted an offensive clinic. At the final whistle, the score was K.T. 28 and Swoyersville 0. Crossing the goal-line for the Raiders were Matt Jackson, John James, Jeff Parrish and a two-point conversion by David Martin.

The offensive line has recov-

ered from illness and returned from vacation. They showed Swoyersville that they were healthy, rested and ready to go.

Outstanding defensive plays by the entire team held the Sailors scoreless. The "Killer B" defense held their opponents to just one earned first down on the entire game. Defensive end, Joe Stuppino, and Linebacker David Martin kept the Sailors running game at a standstill. The B Team also possesses a 2-1 record.

After a heated contest the final score of the A Team game was Swoyersville 24 - K.T. 14. Touchdowns were scored by Chris Tucker and Rick Lorah with a two point conversion by Nick Oullette. Sacks were made by Bill Suda, Nick Oullette and Mike Ferko. An interception was made by Bill Bonning.

The Cheerleaders "Salute to Rock and Roll" and their vocal support and enthusiasm throughout the games was greatly appreciated by the players, coaches and fans alike.

The K.T. Raiders would like to thank the community for their support during the recent fund raising "Doorbell Nights". We would also like to thank the businesses at the Shavertown Acme for allowing us to collect at their establishments.

Next week, the Raiders travel to Larksville where we will hopefully ride the "Green Wave". Try to come and support our teams.



AAA champions

Pictured are the Cardinals, who captured the AAA title in Back Mountain Baseball this past season. Under the direction of manager Tom Dougherty, the Cardinals finished the season with an impressive 19-2 record. Front row, from left, Andrew Volpetti, Colin Donnelly, T.J. Dougherty, Josh Bryant, Chad Williams, John Bebey. Second row, James Mack, T.C. Harding, Clint Barnes, Michael Carrero, John Slabey, Ben Brown. Back row, assistant coach Janice Bebey, manager Tom Dougherty, assistant coach Tom Williams.

Irem Scotch Foursome results

Husband and Wife

1st Low Cross, Dr. and Angela Kim
1st Low Net, Roy and Carol Smith
2nd Low Net, Jack and Louise Moore
3rd. Low Net, Tim and Sue Lloyd
4th. Low Net, Joe and Amy Switzer
5th Low Net, Ed and Bok Choi
6th Low Net, Bob and Jane Kopp
7th Low Net, Kerry and Joanne Freeman

8th Low Net, Craig and Mickey Aicher
9th Low Net, Russ and Kay Goodman
10th Low Net, John and Sheila Yaple.

Odd Couple

1st Low Net, Bob Reinheimer and Carol Nesbitt
2nd Low Net, Dan Walters and Sis Ertley
Odd Odd Couple
Low Net, Rich and Kathy Garringer
Closest to the Pin, Roy Smith and Sheila Yaple.

Dallas Youth Basketball will register September 17, 25

Dallas Youth Basketball (DYB) will hold registrations for the 1993-94 basketball season on Friday, Sept. 17, 7-9 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 25, 9-10:30 a.m. at the Dallas American Legion (across from Pickett's Charge).

Registration is open to boys and girls in grades three through eight who reside in the Dallas School District. A limited number of registrations will be taken. Anyone with questions should contact Bob Bayer at 675-0446.

Football Boosters meet Sept. 16

The Lake-Lehman Booster Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 16, at Grotto Pizza, Harveys Lake. Coach Gorgone will show the film of the Northwest game. All interested parents and friends of football players and football cheerleaders are invited to attend.

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