

No place like home

Mounts, Knights win

By DAVE KONOPKI
Sports Writer

Anyone who doubted just how powerful the Dallas Mountaineer football team is, or anyone who refused to acknowledge the Lake-Lehman team as a legitimate play-off contender was given a severe slap in the face this past weekend.

Dallas (7-1 overall, 5-0 WVC), under head coach Ted Jackson, continued their dominance of Wyoming Valley Conference Division II teams with a 48-0 shellacking of Bishop Hoban on the winner's field. Dallas has now outscored their conference foes by a whopping combined score of 151-3.

Lehman (4-4 overall, 3-2 WVC), under head coach Rich Gorgone, got a much-needed win and took advantage of televised coverage to show Northeastern Pennsylvania why they could finish their season with a post-season berth as they defeated Meyers, 21-16.

At Dallas, sophomores Ted Jackson and Rick Klick combined to score four touchdowns to lead the Mounts. In fact, Dallas sophomores and freshmen accounted for 35 of the 48 Dallas points. Jackson scored on a 26-yard pass from senior Brian Brady and on a one-yard run. Klick scored on a 34-yard pass from Jackson and on an 11-yard pass from Brady. Junior Buddy Rhodes scored on runs of three and five yards while freshman Frank Valvano scored on a nine-yard run. Sophomore Jeff Kunkle connected on five PAT's while senior Pat Scoble added the other.

At Lehman, the Black Knights jumped out to a 21-0 first-half lead and hung on with big defensive plays en route to the win. Ernie Chamberlain scored the Knights' first two touchdowns with a 12-yard run and a 33-yard pass reception from sophomore John Oliver. Senior fullback Ed Pitcavage celebrated his 18th birthday in style when he scored on a nifty 26-yard run in the second quarter. Tim Sayre caught a two-point conversion from Oliver and Will Woronko connected on a PAT to close out the scoring.

Here's a look at this weekend's games with my weekly predictions. The season record now stands at 11-5 and, if things go as they should, we'll finish the season with a prognostication record of 16-5.

Dallas at Hanover, Saturday, 1:00 p.m.

This series has been home to some of the best high school football games this valley has ever seen, including Hanover's 35-28 win over Dallas in 1991 when the Hawkeyes went on to capture the PIAA Class AA state title and last year's 7-0 win by Dallas, which went on to the Eastern Conference final.

One thing is for sure where this game is concerned: All bets are off. There will be no holds barred. "Hanover is always going to give

you something you're not expecting," said Jackson. "When you coach against (Hanover coach) Alex Kopacz, you better be ready. This may be the biggest challenge our defense has faced all year."

Jackson may not just be blowing pre-game smoke. The Hawkeyes are led by senior (finally) tailback Kevin Proctor, the Wyoming Valley Conference's leading rusher and a player who has almost single-handedly beaten Dallas in two of his three years at Hanover. If that's not enough, quarterback Hudak is one of the top three passers in the conference.

PREDICTION: The post-season scenario is a cloudy one for Dallas, but one thing is clear; the Mounts have to win their remaining three games in order to stay alive in the state playoff chase. Since the game is at Hanover, Proctor may get some yardage, and maybe a score or two, but Dallas simply has too many weapons. **DALLAS 24 - HANOVER 7**

Lake-Lehman at Bishop Hoban, Friday, 7:30 p.m.

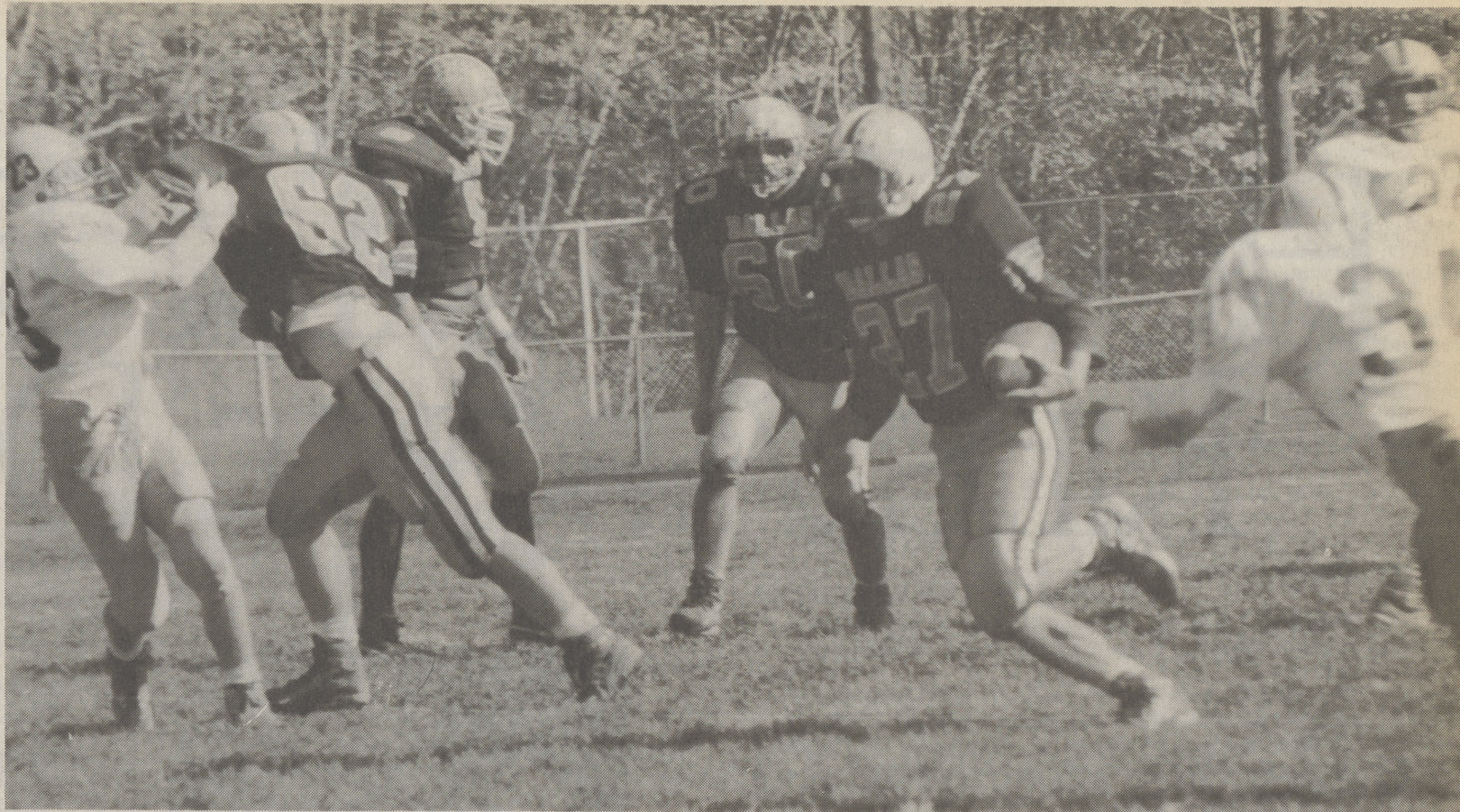
So, which Bishop Hoban team will show up? The one that scored 42 points in a surprising 42-28 win over Hanover two weeks ago? Or the one that was completely dismantled by Dallas this past Saturday?

And which Black Knight team will take the field? The one which played a solid four quarters in an 18-7 win over Crestwood and the one that jumped out to a 21-0 lead against Meyers? Or the one which trailed Hanover 28-0, at halftime and then lost, 20-7 to GAR?

"We have to show up ready to play," said Gorgone. "If we come ready to play, we can play with anyone. I'm sure they'll come to the game feeling they can beat us. We have to play good defense and mix it up on offense. But, most of all, we better be ready to play Bishop Hoban."

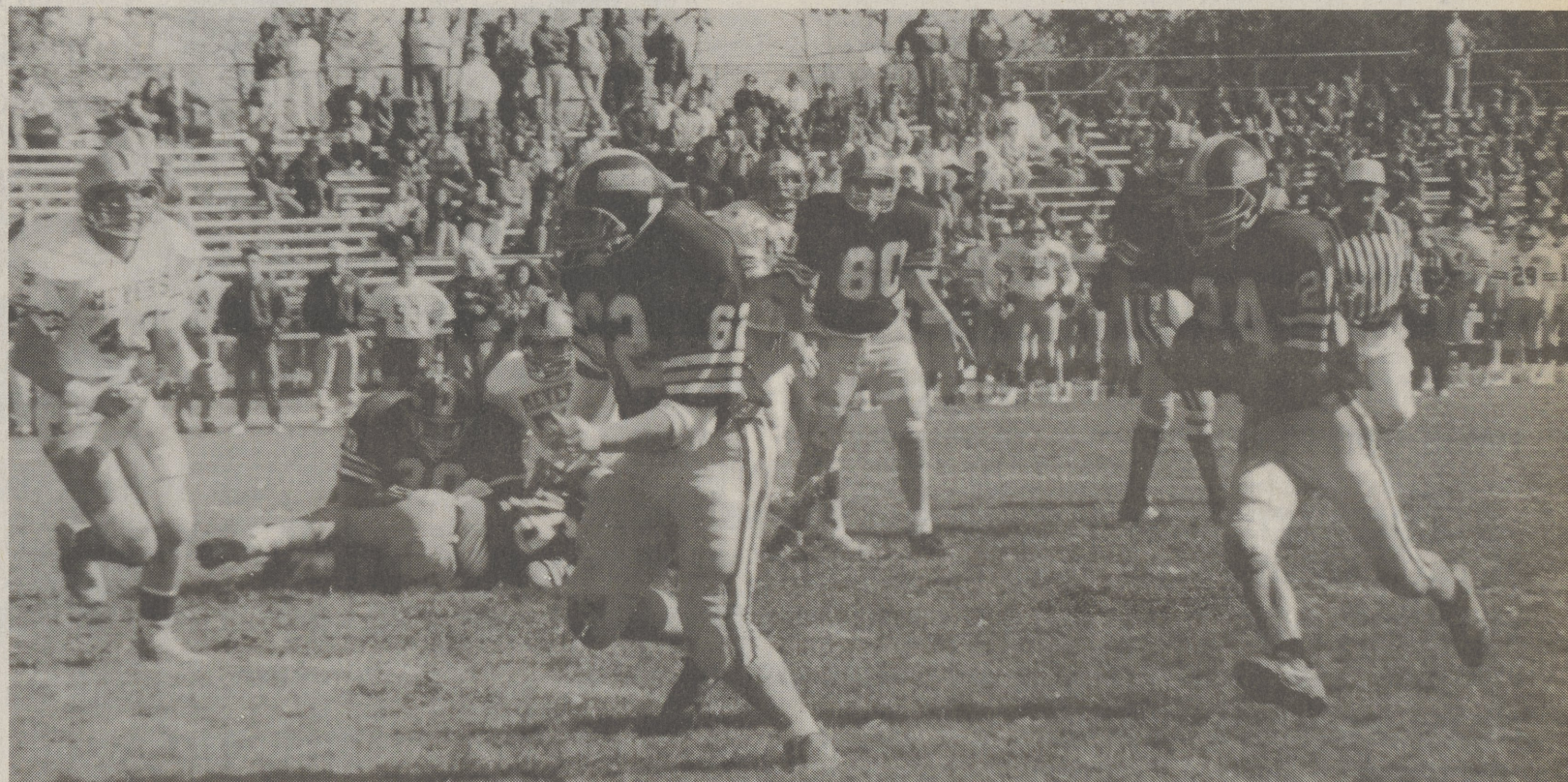
PREDICTION: The Black Knights don't have a state playoff berth on the line but they are still in contention for a post-season berth. A loss here would all but end that dream. The game is on the carpet at Wilkes-Barre Memorial Stadium and on a night (Friday) which they have lost three times this season.

Lehman has had trouble stopping the run this year, and the Argents have a good tailback in Nick Quaglia. But, as Dallas showed last weekend, stop Quaglia and you stop the Argents. Dallas, as Gorgone has stated all year, may be the class of the WVC Division II, but now is the time for the Knights to put some distance between themselves and other WVC Division II teams like Bishop Hoban. Starting on Friday night. **LAKE-LEHMAN 28 - BISHOP HOBAN 13**



Mike Viglone, #27, scampered for yardage in the Dallas Mountaineers' 48-0 victory over Bishop Hoban last Saturday. John Howe,

#62, blocked for Viglone. The Mounts gained over 400 yards of total offense and held Hoban to 60 yards.



Chris Swire, #62, led the way for Ernie Chamberlain during the Black Knights' 21-16 win over Meyers last weekend. Chamberlain scored

two of the Knights' three touchdowns. Ed Pitcavage also ran for a Knight touchdown.



Lake-Lehman quarterback John Oliver, #1, scrambled against Meyers during last week's homecoming game. Oliver threw a

touchdown pass and a two-point conversion in guiding the Black Knights to a 21-16 victory.

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