

Murky playoff picture will clear soon

By DAVE KONOPKI
Sports Writer

The Eastern Conference and District 2 football playoff picture has been nothing more than one big headache and a sea of mass speculation and confusion for the past month.

But now it is beginning to take shape, especially for the two Back Mountain schools, Dallas and Lake-Lehman, who have their eyes on post-season berths. And while the situation is far from decided, it should become a lot clearer after this weekend's games.

Dallas (8-1, 6-0 WVC Division II) captured the Wyoming Valley Conference Division II title with a 28-7 win over Hanover Area last Saturday afternoon. But there will be no wild celebrations at Dallas. Not yet, at least. The Mountaineers have already clinched a post-season berth (District 2 if they choose to go that route) and are still very much in the hunt for an Eastern Conference playoff spot (if they choose that route) and a state playoff berth. Dunmore's loss last weekend to North Pocono opened the

door for Dallas, but they still need a little help to get to states.

Wyoming Area, 8-1, has a higher power rating than Dallas and must lose either in their last two regular-season games (Mt. Carmel and Pittston) or in the playoffs. In turn, Dallas must win their final two regular season games (Tamaqua and Lehman) and win either the District 2 championship or the Eastern Conference championship for the Mounts to gain a state berth.

Sound confusing? It's not, really. The game with the biggest playoff implications will take place this Friday night in Wyoming when the Warriors play host to Mt. Carmel. If Mt. Carmel, 7-1, can beat WA, then Dallas can advance to the EC playoffs with wins over Tamaqua and Lehman and they will control their own destiny. There are several other ways Dallas can advance to the EC playoffs but that are the most likely.

Believe it or not, the post-season chances for the Black Knights are almost as complicated but easier to explain.

Lehman's only chance for a playoff spot is in the District 2

playoffs. The district will take four teams and Dallas or Wyoming Area will most likely get one of those berths. So in essence, Lake-Lehman (5-4), GAR (4-4), Meyers (3-5), Riverside, and Mid-Valley are vying for the final three spots. With the exception of GAR, Lehman has the inside track on everyone else and a win this weekend over Bishop Hafey (0-8) doesn't guarantee, but will almost assure them a playoff spot.

Things will become a lot clearer this weekend and one thing is certain: both Dallas and Lehman must win this Saturday to keep their respective dreams alive. That shouldn't be too difficult a task. In fact, the only question this weekend is if the two teams can combine to score 100 points on Saturday.

Dallas at Tamaqua

Dallas is coming off a big win over Hanover, where they scored 28 points in the contest's first 18 minutes. Tamaqua is 1-8 in the Division III of the Eastern Conference and fresh off a 42-6 pasting at the hands of Garden Spot.

This is a chance for quarterback Brian Brady and the rest of

the offense to pad their stats for three quarters and turn the game over to the junior varsity. The defense, which has allowed just 10 points in the last six games, gets a chance to flex its muscles. If the Blue Raiders score, I guarantee they won't do it on a sustained drive. **DALLAS 47 - TAMAQUA 0**

Bishop Hafey at Lake-Lehman

Lehman's most important win of the season came last Friday night with a 21-13 victory over Bishop Hoban. Now, beating a winless and pathetic Bishop Hafey team assures the Black Knights of a winning season and, most likely, a playoff berth.

Bishop Hafey has scored just 88 points in eight games this season and has given up more than 280. Ouch! And they're not exactly playing the Berwicks, Wyoming Areas or Dassel's of the area. Ouch!! I don't know what the single game record is for receiving yardage is at Lehman, but I do know that big-play people like Tim Waslick or Ernie Chamberlain could put themselves in the record book this Saturday. **LEHMAN 47 - BISHOP HAFEY 6**

Junior Knights in playoffs

It has been a very good season for Lake-Lehman Jr. Knights Football C and B squads. Both teams will be in the playoffs on Sunday, November 7.

The C squad will play West Pittston at Pittston starting at 11 a.m.

The B squad will go against Duryea at the Plymouth field starting at approximately 12:30.

If either or both teams win at playoffs, the superbowl will be held Sunday, Nov. 14. The times of the games and the playing field where they will be played on will

be announced at a later date.

Attention football and cheerleaders: Pending results of the playoffs, game uniforms and cheerleading uniforms will be collected either November 10 and 11 from 5:30 to 7:30 or November 17 and 18 from 5:30 to 7:30.

Members may pick up their Banquet tickets on Wednesday, Nov. 10 and Thursday, Nov. 11 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Parents: please pick up your tickets at the above date and time. No one will be admitted to the banquet without a ticket.

Wrestling Club final signup Nov. 3

The Back Mountain Wrestling Club will be holding parents meeting and final registration on Wednesday, Nov. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at Lake-Lehman High School.

Swim lessons at YMCA

The Wilkes-Barre YMCA is offering swimming lessons and stroke development for Junior High and High School students age 13 and up. The instructor will work individually with each student to meet their personal goal. All lifesaving and competitive strokes will be taught. The class is set to begin Friday, Nov. 5 at 4 p.m. For more information, call the Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA at 823-2191.

Authority

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It cannot be overemphasized that all those who participated expressed a feeling of being fortunate to be involved with schools and athletic programs like the ones at Dallas and Lake-Lehman. Although the majority agreed there is definitely a change in the behavior of young people today, they felt the problems at Dallas and Lake-Lehman are minimal and the majority of student-athletes at those schools are outstanding individuals.

There are those who will argue that kids today are merely a reflection of today's society. But there is no doubt the youth of today question authority more than ever before. They may not intend to be disrespectful, but their constant questioning of authority is being interpreted by many to be an outright show of disrespect for their coaches, teachers, and parents.

"I would think so, yes," said Oliver, when asked if, in general, kids of today have less respect for authority. "I think that has occurred since the late 1960's. People in general, regardless of age, have less respect for authority. Thirty years ago, it would be difficult to find someone who would question the President of the United States in public. Now almost every night, someone is questioning him on the news. People by nature now question authority."

Others, like Bearde, feel the kids of today still have respect for most of those in authority and don't see a drastic change in their behavior.

"I think everyone in society is different and kids are just a reflection of society."

Roger Bearde

Lake-Lehman athletic director

"I really don't agree with the assumption that kids today are different," said Bearde. "I think everyone in society is different and kids are just a reflection of society. I think the respect is still there. I think society doesn't expect the kids to be the 'yes sir, no sir' kind of people today. I think it's society that has changed, not the kids."

Gorgone, like most of the coaches/teachers, feel the change in behavior has infiltrated both the field and the classroom.

"I think the kids today express their opinions more," said Gorgone. "You can see that, especially as a teacher. 'Years ago you had respect for your coaches and teachers. The respect is still there today, but you have to earn it.'"

With the athlete of today getting more publicity in both the print and television media, Wolensky sees the teens searching for instant stardom.

"I think the biggest change in athletes is that the kids of today do not want to pay their dues," said Wolensky. "Years ago, you sat on the bench, learned what was going on and then got the chance to play. Today, they don't want to do that. Also, when I played sports, you played no matter who the coach was. Today, you see a lot of kids not going out for a particular sport because they don't like the coach. We would have played for anyone. We just wanted to play."

In addition to seeing a change where kids now question authority more than ever, Galicki sees another change, both with the athlete and the student.

"The idea of work ethic anymore has deteriorated," said the Dallas principal. "Not only in athletics but also in academics. Athletics and academics call for self-discipline. When the work ethic and self-discipline drop we see deficiencies. That's when you begin to see the change, when kids question your authority and show less respect."

The respect for authority may be there, but more and more it is being masked by young people who have taken it upon themselves, and believe it is their prerogative, to question authority. Today's high school athlete may still run through a brick wall for you, but not before asking you why you want him to do it.

Perhaps Oliver summed it up best.

"The days of blind devotion are over."

(Next week, part two: "What has caused this change in behavior and why do the young athletes of today question authority?")

Punt, Pass and Kick winners announced

The Kingston Township Recreation Commission held its 5th Annual Punt Pass and Kick competition. The seven, eight, nine year old division was dominated by Ryan Gryskewicz, who took first place in all events and was the overall winner. Second place, in the pass, went to John Krispen and third to Jimmy Jordan. Second place in kick went to John Barbose, third to Bob Gebhart. In the punt, second place went to Bob Gebhart and third to Jimmy Jordan.

In the 10 and 11 year old division first, second and third place, respectively, went to Mike Regan, Randy Knappman, and John Gar-

ringer. In the pass, Andy Ruddy, Randy Knappman and John Garringer. In the kick, John Garringer, Randy Knappman and Andy Ruddy. In the punt, the overall winner was Randy Knappman.

In the 12 and 13 year-old competition pass, first Rickey Lorah, second Joe Kukosky and third Vince Burakiewicz. In the kick, Joe Kukosky, second Rick Lorah, third Bob Garringer. In the punt, first, Rick Lorah, second Joe Kukosky, third Vince Burakiewicz.

The event was chaired by Ed Lanyon special thanks to Bob Lorah, Jim Larson, and Rick Knappman for their efforts in the success of this event.

CROSSWORD CORNER

- ACROSS**
1 Kimono feature
5 Billiards shot
10 Come into conflict
15 House or sticks starter
19 Author/critic James
20 "Papa" Dionne
21 Actress Perez
22 Appraise
23 Hindu hero
24 Lawful
25 Its capital is Shillong
26 Pay to play
27 Bad traffic situation
29 Reception held by the president
31 Michael, of TV fame
33 Debussy's "Clair de lune"
34 Participating citizen
35 Fine-grained sharpening stone
36 Appetizing
39 Ancient residents of Great Britain
40 Way of marching
44 White linen vestment
45 Word with shoe or drum
46 Hooded garment
47 Samuel's

- wise mentor
48 Clove-scented
49 Custard tarts
50 Nathaniel and Artemus
51 Washer cycle
52 Part of a bus title
53 Palm leaf
54 Cleopatra's craft
55 Reprove mildly
56 Stalemate
58 Cowboy gear
59 Small differences
60 Charged atoms
61 Gambling game
62 Relax in the tub
63 Picture holder
66 Famous jockey
67 Male witches
71 Bacchanalian
72 Losses freshness
73 Eve's work
74 Leo "The..."
75 Fish or brick starter
76 Opposite in character
77 Demented
78 Dorothy's dog
79 Once called Clay
80 Sheikh's retreat

- DOWN**
1 Marionette maker
2 Temple's ex-husband
3 Large highway hauler
4 Wrestler's hold
5 Plymouth, for one
6 Lewis Carroll heroine
7 Actor Moranis of "Ghost-busters"
8 Duct or form starter
9 Ben and daughter, of TV
10 Longs for eagerly
11 Charlie Brown, usually
12 Hartbeest
13 Keresan Indian
14 Short-necked evergreens
15 Construction-site sights
16 Bill or book starter
17 Premiering of films
18 Hammer part
28 Angler's need
30 Kitchen follower
32 Paul of songdom
34 Article of food
35 Wandering tribe

- 36 Pleasingly tasty
37 Ammonia derivative
38 Flowering, woody plant
39 April 1 occurrence
40 Slow and stately, in music
41 Lukewarm
42 Suppress
43 Isle of —; south of Cuba
45 Voting groups
46 Analyze a sentence
49 Weather-map area
50 Squander
51 Military dress hat
53 Ice fields
54 Parade features
55 Classroom need
57 Drained by a ditch
58 Not a party animal
59 "Who's — Now" (song)
61 "Call Me —"
62 Canonized one
63 Same as 24 Across
64 Convey molding
65 Baby's complaint
66 Dried orchid

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- ACROSS**
1. Twelve Oaks neighbor
5. Surpass
8. Simpleton
12. TV comedy
13. — Carney
14. Affirm
15. University in N.Y.
17. Nevada resort
18. Make an effort
19. Iran export
20. Wander off
21. Tin — Alley
22. Pirate's drink
23. Make eyes at
26. Math proposition
30. Hindu queen
31. Rio de —
32. African river
33. Poisonous mushroom
35. Beer mug
36. Camp couch
37. Cheerleader's cry
38. Compare
41. Mainlander's souvenir
42. High note
45. Dill weed
46. University in Conn.
48. Forbidden thing
49. Cuckoo
50. Ares' sister
51. Soon, once
52. Joe — Baker
53. Spartan queen
- DOWN**
1. Diplomat's need
2. God of love
3. Depend
4. Babylonian god
5. "— in the Sky"
6. Seed coat
7. School org.
8. College in N.H.
9. "— the Rainbow"
10. Actress Olin
11. City on the Hudson
16. Protective ditch
20. "Peggy — Got Married"
21. University in N.J.
22. Greek letter
23. Monk's title
24. Headlong flight
25. "Never — Million Years"
26. Refrain syllable
27. Female ruff
28. Whitney or Wallach
29. Chess pieces
31. Baseball great
34. Ending for trill or bill
35. Navigate
37. Varnish ingredient
38. Miss Turner
39. Privy to
40. Lotto's cousin
41. Comedian Jay
42. Australian salt lake
43. Set, as bricks
44. Handle
46. Roll of bills
47. Deep sea shocker

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108																		

Answers to Crossword, Challenger on page 12

Challenger THE INTERNATIONAL CROSSNUMBER GAME

DIRECTIONS:
Fill each square with a number, one through nine.
• Horizontal squares should add to totals on right.
• Vertical squares should add to totals on bottom.
• Diagonal squares through center should add to total in upper and lower right.

				23
		4		13
8				28
		7		20
			4	13
13	11	29	21	17

Today's Challenge
Time 14 Minutes
16 Seconds
Your Working
Time Minutes
Seconds

Harris completes Hawaii Ironman Triathlon in 12:30

Attorney James P. Harris, III, Dallas, completed the grueling Gatorade Ironman Triathlon World Championship on October 30, on the Big Island of Hawaii. Harris, 38, completed the 140.6 mile course in 12 hours, 29 minutes, 49 seconds. The course consisted of a 2.4 mile ocean swim, followed by a 112 mile bicycle race through the lava fields outside Kona, and ended with a 26.2 mile marathon. Harris finished 1043 out of more than 1400 competitors from around the world who started the race.

The race began on a clear morning as the competitors entered the water at 7 a.m., with a morning temperature a pleasant 78 degrees. The surf was relatively calm as the swimmers moved through swells of just under two feet.

The bike portion of the race, which for Harris lasted 6 hours began well enough as the temperature stayed in the 80's. By mid-day, as the racers entered the lava fields, the air temperature had risen to the 90's. The surface temperature on the Queen Kaahumanu Highway inched toward 100 degrees. Completion of the race required the racers to drink and eat almost continually, as time and heat began to take their toll. To complete the race, proper hydration and nutrition during the bike leg were absolutely necessary.

The marathon that followed became the ultimate test for the competitors. After covering a total 114.4 miles of swimming and biking over 8 1/2 hours, the final 26.2 mile run can seem an eternity. For Harris, the saving grace came as the sun set, somewhere around mile 17, and the course



JAMES P. HARRIS III

began to cool. Struggling through fatigue and muscle pain the marathon finally ended after 4 hours 45 minutes.

Harris' finish time placed him 140 out of 181 competitors in his age group. The overall winner, Mark Allen, of Cardiff, CA finished the race in 8 hours, 7 minutes, 45 seconds, a new course record. The top female competitor was Paula Newby Fraser of Zimbabwe who finished in 8 hours, 58 minutes, 23 seconds.

Deadline nears for Super Bowl raffle

Tickets to win a trip to the Super Bowl will be sold through November 11, for \$10 each. Proceeds from the raffle will be used to pay for new equipment used by the Dallas Junior Football Organization.

Tickets are available at Carroll Construction, rear 69 Main Street, Dallas, The Finish Line, Rt. 309; J&J Deli, Rt. 309; Mum Farm Florist, Shavertown; White House Diner, Wells St., Forty Fort.