

POST PHOTO/JACK JONES Tony Tereska charged the Hoban quarterback in Saturday's 42-7 Black Knight victory.

Football

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and Crestwood. Only Wyoming Area, which held the potent Lehman attack to 13 points, has figured out to stop them.

Despite the fine showing to date, Lehman realizes every game in Division 2 of the Wyoming Conference is an adventure. The remaining schedule includes an away game with Meyers this Friday before two home contests with Nanticoke and Dallas.

Although they've accomplished a lot thus far, the Knights' play has gained little attention.

"I don't think we get as much respect as the teams in town," said senior Len Crawford. "Our defense is better than it's ranked. We don't get enough respect at all, but we just have to stick together. When we stick together we can do anything.'

Of course going virtually unnoticed by your peers has its advantages too.

"I love being the underdog," said Angelo DeCesaris. "We're not going to be picked against Meyers and Dallas. I'll be shocked if we're picked against Nanticoke and that's fine with me."

Going into the season, Lehman fans knew they could rely heavily contest, but was in little pain earlier this week and will probably be ready for the Meyers contest. DeCesaris, normally a tight end, has been a lift filling in at the guard position. Then again, he's used to being moved around and coming up big. A defensive end last year, lining up in the middle of the Black Knight defense has paid dividends thus far in '95. "When I'm in the middle I can

make more tackles and help the team more often. I'm not just on one side. The coaches have a pretty good scheme for me," DeCesaris said.

The coaches have put together a strong defensive alignment for the entire team. In seven games, Lehman has allowed just 46 points. Most of the tackles are made by the eight defenders up front while the opposition has found it tough to pass against the backfield of Crawford, Oliver and safety Mike Woronko.

"Our defense has been outstanding," said Gorgone. "That's been one of the surprises. We've had three shutouts and kept G.A.R. to 12 points."

The long-time Lehman mentor was also quick to praise the play of his special teams. The return game is explosive, Oliver is one of the top kickers in the league and Adamshick gets the job done at punter.

Knights

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in both games against Lake-Lehman says a lot right there," said Mountaineer coach Richelle Straka.

Just as The Lady Knights started taking control in game one Monday, Dallas called a timeout trailing 7-3. A totally different Dallas team came out of the huddle and raised their level of play tremendously. The Lady Mountaineers put together a strong service game and took advantage of some Lehman breakdowns. At various times the Lady Knights would have either have six players going for the ball or have players looking at each other to do something.

With Lehman up 8-5, senior Sue Benedetti racked up four consecutive points to put Dallas on top. The lead changed hands two more times before Lake-Lehman senior Kelly Spencer scored the game's final five points.

"The fact that we got 11 points She recorded two service aces during the streak. Kelly's sister Kim also came to her aide with a spike on Lehman's 13th point.

> "I thought the best we played was at the end of the first game," said Lehman coach Bob Rogers. "In the second game Cara Stroud started cranking them in the corners and she hit around the block. Cara had a giant game."

> Stroud, who finished with 10 kills and two blocks, was able to hit around the block by faking with one hand and hitting the ball with the other.

Lehman built up an early 7-2 lead in game two, but the Lady Mounts refused to cave in. It was strong serving that again helped Dallas as juniors Emily Schweitzer and Lori Buzin combined for seven points to give Dallas a 9-8 lead.

Dallas led as late as 11-9 before the Lady Knights floor game and the hitting of Stroud took over. Although they didn't execute at times, the more experienced Lehman girls never lost composure or confidence. Three consecutive points from sophomore Kelly Spencer put Lehman back on top. Nicole Pagoda scored the game's three final points.

"Dallas came to play," said Rogers. "They served us tough, played a good floor game and came at us. Sarah Misson got her share of hits, but when we passed the ball we owned the middle of the nets."

For Lehman, Kim Spencer added four kills and a block. Kelly Spencer (senior), Jessica Pickett and Amy Leitem had two kills each.

Misson led Dallas with seven blocks and three kills. Benedetti had three service aces and a kill. Schweitzer and Buzin totalled 12 service aces.

"We have a much stronger game this year and team unity itself is much stronger," said Straka.

Seven Dallas seniors were recognized before the game. Although they'll play again at home on Wednesday against Hanover, the coaches choose the Lehman game to honor the seniors because of the rivalry. Misson, Benedetti, Sue Buckley, Janet Mannear and exchange students Anna Arosilta, Edga Hernandez and Marina Lorenzato were introduced and given roses. After the game, Benedetti chose to talk about what the heartbreaking loss meant for the entire team, not just the seniors.

"We hung in there today," Benedetti said. "When I was a sophomore we won three games, last year four, so hopefully we'll beat our record. We have to play better when we get the ball played back to us after a serve."

Lehman easily won the j.v. contest 2-0 by scores of 15-4 and 15-2.



on their talented backfield. Pitcavage and Adamshick combined for over 2,000 yards last season. Oliver's speed and strong arm makes him a double threat. How much output the team received from its offense relied on the proficiency of the receivers and the offensive line. Going into the Meyers game, both have passed with flying colors.

"I feel our receivers are very good," said head coach Rich Gorgone. "We're able to spread the ball around between five receivers; Chris Bath, Len Crawford, Chris Caines, Marc Ronczka, Tom Fostock and tight end Jason Adamski. We felt our offensive line was our main concern, but they've been coming through."

Pitcavage is most appreciative of the blocking support he and his fellow runners have received.

"Our line is doing a better job than expected," said the senior tailback. The left side was supposed to be inexperienced, but they're coming along. I think we're just as good on the left side as the right."

Senior lineman Dan Morris suffered a separated shoulder during the first half of the Hoban

Lehman has all of the ingredients. Improvement and consistency is needed to continue a run at a title. Hot and cold play was a major factor in the loss to Wyoming and some team members felt there were a few too many letdowns during the Hoban contest.

"If we continue to play good ball, I think we should go undefeated the rest of the way," Adamshick said. "I think we're playing good ball right now and everybody's trying to get better."

Gorgone sees a real dogfight for the Division 2 crown over the last three weeks of the regular season. Each of the top four teams, Lehman, Dallas, Meyers and Wyoming, has two games remaining with the other three. As usual it may come down to the healthiest team or the squad with the most depth. With all parts of their game clicking, Lehman has what it takes to finish strong and perhaps grab the division crown.

"Three tough games, we'll see how we do," Pitcavage said.

Queen Jessica Jessica Pickett was chosen as Lake-Lehman's Homecoming Queen Saturday. Rainy weather precluded the traditional ceremony.

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