

Field hockey

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White, Marie Manzoni, Kacy Ziomek, Mary Kate Brislin, Colby Smith, or Joanne White, someone different seems to come up big each game.

Coach Lipski believes that her team's attitude, along with its ability, makes it the power that it is. "We have unbelievable athletic ability and we are in great physical and mental shape. We have players that can score (Lehman led the league in scoring) and we have played tremendous defense (they gave up only seven goals all season). We push the girls in practice every day so that they can rely on inner depth during games."

Lipski also feels that last year's trip to states has made a big difference. "After last season, many of our girls went to camps and worked very hard. Now they're in

the position they are because of their hard work. When you get to this level (the state tournament) it gets so exciting. The girls are really looking forward to it. Now that both the first and second teams from the district move on, the pressure isn't as intense for this one game."

Lipski understands what pressure can do to her team. Lehman was ranked number one in the state at the start of the season and that did not fit the team too well. "When it came out that we were ranked first in the state, I thought that the team panicked. They were thinking 'We're ranked number one, so if we lose we're letting everyone down.' They were putting too much pressure on themselves. Personally, I like being ranked number two because you're still at the top but all the

pressure is on number one."

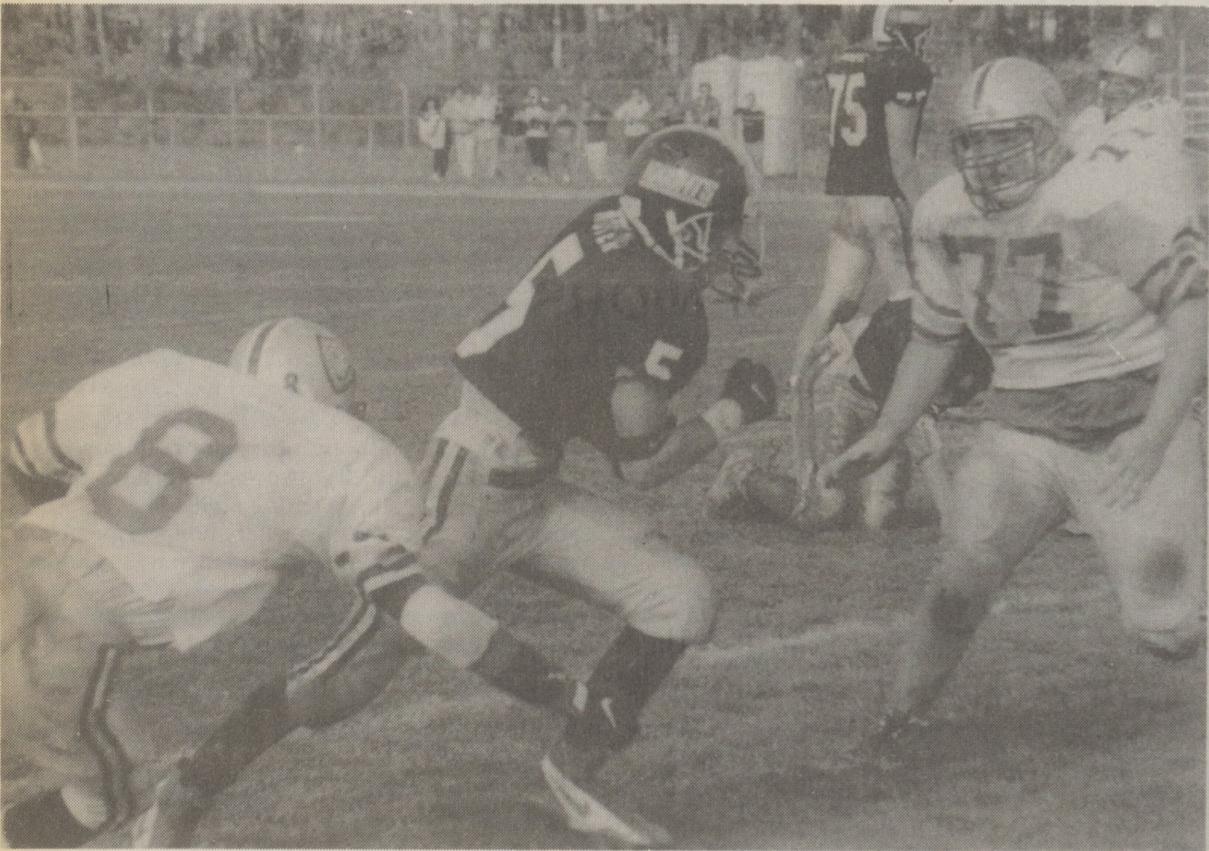
From the district championship game throughout the state tournament, all games will be played on artificial turf. This concept has its good and bad points, according to Lipski. "You play on grass all year, then you have to adjust to turf for the playoffs. On turf you don't have the bumps and holes that you might have on grass fields, but the turf accelerates the pace of the game. It becomes much more of a stick-to-stick style of play because if you hit the ball to a spot, it will wind up out of bounds, it's so much faster."

Lehman has been preparing for playing on the harder surface by practicing in the cafeteria. That is key because the team that adjusts better to playing on turf, not necessarily the better team on paper, will most likely win.



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Erin Snell battled with a Lackawanna Trail player during the Knights' playoff victory last week.



POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

RUN FOR DAYLIGHT

Randy Moyer, top photo, looked for a hole in Lake-Lehman's game Saturday against GAR. Lehman came up short on the short end of the 27-21 score.

Old Shoe

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needed at the time. Jackson coaches each game with such raw emotion that it almost hurts to watch.

Rich Gorgone's soft-spoken confidence and unassuming ways might have you thinking he was a professor on sabbatical who has wandered onto the field by mistake. Under his quiet confidence boils the blood of a fierce competitor, but you have to look to find it. Like Jackson, he is consumed with a passion for football, however, Gorgone is more cerebral, Jackson more verbal. Together, they are the yin and yang of the Back Mountain football experience.

Gorgone sees the game with Dallas as a chance for Lehman to change their recent losing ways. For the Knights to have any real chance to defeat Dallas, several injured players need to get better in a hurry. Big tackles senior Joe Kostor and junior Nick Coslett are definitely out, but seniors Ebin Walter (G/DE), Dave Rogers (WB/LB), Marc Ronczka (TB/LB) and Mike Woronko (QB/S) have been recently banged up and need to get healthy.

One Black Knight who has managed to escape injury while getting lost in the shuffle is senior wingback Roy Holcomb. "Roy has had a great year for us," Gorgone

said. "He's played both ways and done a terrific job without getting a lot of attention."

One player who will get a lot of attention, at least from the Lehman defense, is Dallas tailback Frank Valvano. "Valvano will get the ball more than half the time," explained Gorgone. "He's a great kid. You can't stop him, you have to try to slow him down. But Pietraccini and Kaschenbach are good receivers, so they can beat you there."

Although Dallas has stumbled in its last two games, Gorgone believes them to be victims of bad luck rather than poor playing. "If you look at their (Dallas) last two games, their defense is not giving up points, the offense and special teams are. Big plays in the last minutes of halves have killed them. They have really been unlucky."

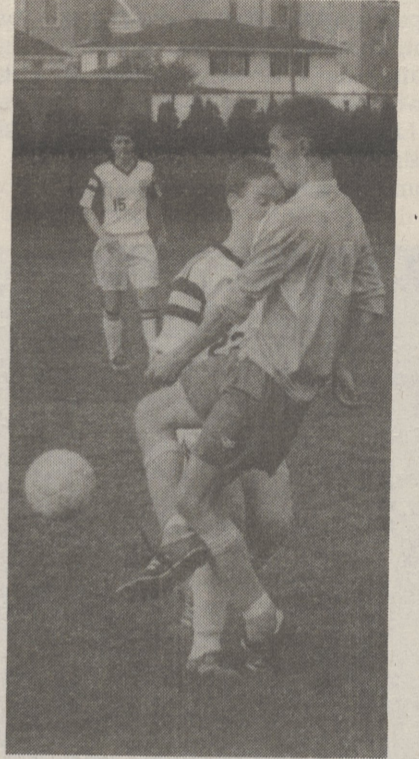
Last year the Knights knocked off Dallas 9-0, but Gorgone doesn't think revenge will be a factor in the game. "In this game records and history don't really make a difference. It's a tough game. By the time we get through playing in what we feel is one of the toughest divisions in the state, we have to play Dallas. We're usually pretty banged up like we are now, and that makes it harder."

If you listen to Ted Jackson tell it, revenge and history have a lot

to do with this game. "Every year we make it a goal to beat everyone who beat us the previous year. Lehman beat us last year." With that in mind, you know the boys from Dallas will be gunning for the Knights.

Jackson calls this a must-win situation for the Mounts if they intend to grab a home game in the Eastern Conference playoff hunt. Dallas is out of contention for the state playoffs due to the point system, so they will indeed be trying to prove they are championship material. Throw in two losses in a row, one a blowout, all the distractions in the recent weeks, and you can see why right about now Dallas is one mean, ornery football team.

If Dallas is fortunate enough to move on in the playoffs, Frank Valvano might have a chance to become the all-time yardage leader in Dallas history. "Frank needs about three games, but he's not thinking about individual goals right now. We need to win." As for the number of injured Knights that might make this an easy win, Jackson disagrees. He thinks that Lehman's injury problems might correct themselves this week. "Everybody will be back," Jackson said. "Nobody on either team wants to be hurt the week of Dallas-Lehman."



CROSTOWN RIVALRY

Lehman's Eric Rittenhouse, top photo, took a pass during the match with Dallas last week. Matt Kertesz, left, and Duane Sprau set up for defense. Above left, Sprau took control over Lehman's Dan Dulebohn. Lehman keeper Nathan Pandratz held off Justin Hoover to let the ball go out of bounds in above right photo. Lehman gained a playoff spot and Dallas lost won as the Black Knights won 3-1.

Shorts

(continued from page 11)

FIELD HOCKEY

Lehman 3, Lack. Trail 1

Jen Johnstone belted two goals and assisted on another to lead the Lady Knights to a 3-1 victory over Trail and advance Lehman to their second straight District 2 playoff final. Johnstone's tallies came early in the contest first off a corner pass from Tiffany Van Scoy at 5:27 in the opening half then again nine minutes later off a pass from Sara Kasper. Johnstone then showed her stuff again with just six minutes left in the half with a screaming pass to Kasper inside the circle who converted the Knight's third goal for a 3-0 advantage at the half. The Knight defense allowed Trail a goal in the second half but hung on for the victory. The District final game will be held on Wednesday Oct. 30 at 5:00 p.m. at the Lackawanna County Stadium with the Knights facing Wyoming Seminary.

Wyoming Sem. 2, Dallas 1

Despite outshooting the Blue Knights 18-9 the Lady Mounts could not make the conversions only scoring one time as Seminary bounced Dallas from the post season with 2-1 victory Oct. 26. Seminary jumped out to the early lead as Karen Bradley sank a penalty stroke past Dallas keeper Jenn Jancewicz. Katie Gonos then doubled the lead off a shot in front of the cage to put the Knights up 2-0. Mary Ann Selenski cut the margin to one with an unassisted shot in the second half but Seminary held on to the advantage to take the win and advance to the District final with Lehman Oct. 30.

Golf tournaments set for Nov. 16-17

Four Seasons Golf Club, Exeter, will hold two separate Turkey Shoot golf tournaments Nov. 16 and 17.

The format will be "Captain & Crew", with tee times starting at 8:30 a.m. The \$27 per person fee includes 18 holes, meal, beverages and prizes for flight winners and contests held on the course.

Call 655-8869 to reserve a tee time for your foursome.

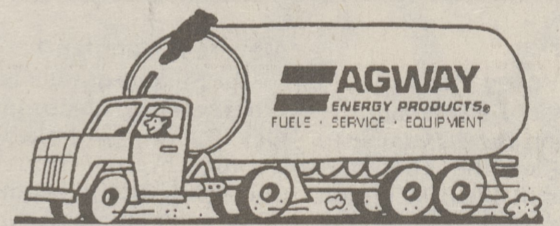
FOOTBALL

GAR 27, Lehman 21

The Knight defense was unable to stop the Grenadier's big man Harold Jackson who ended the day with 241 yards on the ground and two touchdowns as Lehman was downed by GAR 27-21 to take the Knights out of the running for a District 2 playoff spot. Lehman got on the boards on their first possession off a 20-yard pass from Mark Ronczka to Roy Holcomb. The kick was good to give the Knights a 7-0 advantage but it was the last time Lehman would

have the lead. In the second quarter GAR responded with two trips to the end zone for a 14-7 lead at the half. Ronczka pulled the Knights within one in the third with a 32-yard dash for the Knights second touchdown. Moyer's PAT failed. GAR would score two more times before Lehman ended the scoring at 4:16 in the fourth off a 9-yard pass from Mike Woronko to Chris Swire. Woronko then hit Chris Bath for the two point conversion. Ronczka ended the day with 11 carries for 76 yards.

CURE FOR THE COMMON COLD

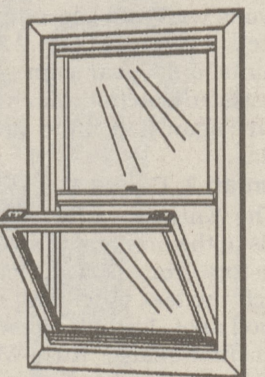


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