

Sports Week

Section 2

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Dallas and Lake-Lehman teams are in playoff picture

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BACK MOUNTAIN - The 1997 fall sports season has proven to be a successful year for many of the Back Mountain's varsity programs. With the regular season nearly finished, Dallas and Lehman squads find themselves in familiar territory, in the middle of playoff action.

The first round of field hockey District playoffs start Friday with

the Back Mountain teams squaring off in the opener. Lake-Lehman takes their first step to a second consecutive state championship when they host the WVC semi-final game against Dallas, Fri., Oct. 24 at 3 p.m. This marks the 13th consecutive year the Mounts (11-4-1) have made post season action, but facing Lehman in the first round may dim their chances for advancement.

The Knights (14-1-1) only loss of the season was to AAA top seed

Crestwood while they tied with second seed Tunkhannock. The winner will advance to the district AA Championship game Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. at Lackawanna County Stadium to face the winner of the Lackawanna Trail-Wyoming Seminary matchup.

Both Dallas and Lehman's soccer teams have also clinched playoff spots. After missing playoffs last year, the Mounts make a return to post season action with an 11-7 record. Dallas will be with-

out sweeper Richard Douglas in the first round due to an incident in Monday's game with Coughlin in which he was red carded. Forwards Rich Semanas and Justin Hoover, each with 10 goals for the year, will be expected to take the reins and advance Dallas in the tournament.

The Knights advance to playoffs with an 11-6-1 regular season record and will be second seed behind O'Reilly and may possibly face Dallas in the post-

season opener.

On the volleyball court, Lehman also appears to have a playoff spot under wraps. The Lady Knights (12-2) end their regular season on Wednesday with a key matchup against undefeated Crestwood. Likely to capture a playoff berth with Lehman and Crestwood are Tunkhannock and Nanticoke. Dallas, with a 5-9 record, will end their season Wednesday with no chance for an extended season.

With two games remaining on the schedule for both football programs, each game is critical for a post-season berth. Dallas (5-1, 7-1 overall) kept their chances alive with a non-conference victory over Shamokin last week, while Lehman (5-1, 6-2 overall) took a 27-0 victory over Hanover last Saturday.

Dallas will face Hanover this weekend while Lehman will visit GAR before the teams face off in the battle for the Old Shoe, Nov. 1.



PLAYOFF BOUND

The Dallas field hockey squad kept their string of playoff years going with a 5-0 thumping of Berwick last week. The Mounts have now gone to playoffs 13 consecutive years. Dallas dominated Berwick in the game, recording 25 shots on goal while allowing only four.

The Mountaineers travel to Lehman for a 3 p.m. first-round game Friday. Lehman finished the season at 14-1-1 and is ranked third in the state in AA.

In top photo, Jen Hite smashed the ball through a Berwick defender. She assisted on one of the goals. Nadalie Temperine, in left photo, advanced toward the Berwick goal. She scored a goal and had two assists.

POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS



U-12 Flames take 2nd at Horsham

The U-12 Back Mountain Flames with the help of Gloria Pleban and Halli Williams came in second at the Colleen Reilly Girls Invitational in Horsham, PA the weekend of Aug. 23 and 24. Over the Columbus Day weekend the girls went undefeated and unscored upon to win the W.L.U.S.C. Women's Fall Festival in Allentown. Front row, from left, Brook Blase, Meredith Lacey, Carrie Stolarick, Callie Carsman, Caitlin Dukas, Jennifer Drury, Lizzy Martin. Back row, Katie Lykon, Shannon Thomas, Chrissy Hobbs, Lauren Stefaniak, Katie Rhodes, Jacqueline Hardwick, Sarah Lacey. Absent from the photo: Heidi Huynh, Ashleigh King, Melissa Stefaniak. Coaches are Sandy Rhodes and Wyane Lykon.

Jr. Mounts A team makes playoffs

On Sunday, Oct. 19, in Lehman, the Dallas Mini-Mounts A team played their last regular game of the season and did the unexpected, posting their greatest victory this season 22-20 over the Lake-Lehman Knights in a game that was nearly decided in the final minute of play.

The win moves the Mounts into the playoffs for the first time in seven years.

The Mini-Mounts coached by head coach Tom Walters and assistants Ed Gryskevich and Jake Walters, and team mothers Belinda Yolacan, Marcia Landers and Rita Kapson, played with such a level of intensity, they were nearly unstoppable.

The Mounts offense was led by senior players Ryan Gryskevich, Chris Hayes, Billy Adams, Rich Adams, Jeff Singer, Ryan Bolton, Mike Racosky, Keith Bomberger, Jonathon Carroll, James Kaskiel, Vince Landers, David Perchau, and Michael Smith.

The defense rose to the occasion to produce a half-time score of 16-0. Jeff Singer, and Rich Adams each had quarterback sacks and Stephen Luksh, Mike Smith, Ryan Gryskevich, Ryan Bolton and Bill Adams each had pass deflections. Lehman's rushing was limited by excellent tackles.

Dallas' first half touchdowns and two point conversions were made by Chris Hayes and Dallas' third quarter touchdown was made by QB Ryan Gryskevich. Lake-Lehman scored 12 points in the third quarter and eight points in the final fourth quarter.

With the final seconds ticking away, Lake-Lehman's on side kick was perfectly fielded by Billy Adams ending any chance of Lake-Lehman's comeback.

Running back Chris Hayes rushed for over 125 yards and two touchdowns and two two-point conversions. He was nominated Dallas's most valuable player.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

FIELD HOCKEY

Lehman 3, Nanticoke 0

Janelle Perlis dumped a goal in each half to lead the Knights to a 3-0 shutout of Nanticoke Oct. 15. Sara Kasper also had a moment of glory with a late first half goal off a pass from Leigh Isaac. Joanne White recorded the perfect game with three saves.

Dallas 5, Berwick 0

Brittany Bartolini scored two first half goals to pace Dallas to a 5-0 blanking of Berwick Oct. 16. Sherri Kuderka, Kristyn Race and Nadalie Temperine scored a goal apiece for the Mounts.

Lehman 5, Meyers 0

The Lady Knights ended their regular season with a 5-0 whitewash of Meyers Oct. 16. Melissa DeCesaris scored a hat trick while Jen Johnstone and Sara Kasper scored one apiece. Lehman's regular season ends at 14-1-1.

Dallas 2, O'Reilly 0

Jen Noon scored the eventual game winner off a pass from Kristyn Race in the first to lead Dallas to a 2-0 shutout of O'Reilly Oct. 17. Sherri Kuderka sank an insurance goal assisted by Jen Hite. Dallas ends their regular season at 11-4-1.

VOLLEYBALL

Lehman 2, Nanticoke 0

The Knights (10-2) tuned up for their showdown with top ranked Crestwood (12-0) with a 15-7, 15-10 victory over Nanticoke Oct. 16. Mandy Kehler and Faith O'Dell led with eight and seven kills apiece respectively.

Lehman 2, Coughlin 0

Faith O'Dell led the Knights with 12 points including three aces as Lehman whipped Coughlin 15-0, 15-4 Oct. 20. Kim Halowich blasted two aces while Mandy Scovish added one.

Crestwood 2, Dallas 0

Sarah Podelh sliced three aces but Crestwood had the stamina to top Dallas 15-10, 15-6 Oct. 20. Beth Carey and Erica Knappman added an ace apiece.

SOCCER

Lehman 5, Crestwood 0

The Knights let loose four second half goals in a 5-0 victory over host Crestwood Oct. 15. Mark Steele and Eric Rittenhouse scored two goals apiece for the spoilers. Nate Walters scored the closer.

Lehman 4, Meyers 1

The Knights broke open a 1-1 tie in the second half to take a 4-

1 victory from Meyers Oct. 17. Eric Rittenhouse booted two goals for Lehman while Russ Wenrich sank a goal and an assist. Tony Van Scoy accounted for the other Knight tally.

Dallas 7, Hazleton 0

The Mounts never looked back from a 3-0 first half lead to drop Hazleton 7-1 Oct. 16. Rich Semanas booted two goals in the victory.

Dallas 2, Hoban 1

Hoban scored first with a goal eight minutes into the first half but Dallas kept them silent from there to take a 2-1 victory Oct. 17. Rich Semanas evened the score at one apiece later in the half while Justin Hoover sank the game winner seven minutes later.

Valley West 3, Lehman 2

Lehman ended their regular season Oct. 20 with a 3-2 loss to Wyoming Valley West. Russ Wenrich and Dan Dulbohn scored for the Knights.

Coughlin 5, Dallas 0

Coughlin exploded for four second half goals to flatten Dallas 5-0 Oct. 20. John Fagan had eight saves for Dallas who must now regroup for the start of District playoffs.

FOOTBALL

Lehman 27, Hanover 0

The Knights offense exploded for a total 479 yards including 285 on the ground as Lehman rolled past Hanover 27-0 Oct. 18. Quarterback D.J. Kapson ended the day with 194 yards in the air and four touchdowns. Matt Morris was Kapson's favorite target with five receptions for 124 yards and three touchdowns. Mick Konigus (84 yards), Dennis Ventura (66 yards) and Tim Swire (61 yards) led the ground attack for the Knights. Lehman travels to GAR Fri., Oct. 24.

Dallas 16, Shamokin 7

Dallas' defense limited Shamokin to 180 yards and pulled together just enough offense to railroad Shamokin 16-7 Oct. 17. Bill Piasta put some spark in Dallas' offense in the first half with a 27-yard quarterback keeper to the Shamokin 4-yard line to set up an Eric White rush to the end zone. Dallas' next scoring drive came in the third period as Piasta and Jon Saba connected for a 59-yard gain to the Shamokin 1. Piasta scored on a quarterback sneak. The Mounts' defense pulled the plug on the Shamokin's final drive with a safety to end the scoring.

PSU Wilkes-Barre wins state title

Penn State Wilkes-Barre won its first PCAA (PA Collegiate Athletic Association) state championship in men's cross country Oct. 11 at PSU Scranton. Top finishers were Robin Galaskiewicz, 4th in 27:17; Jerry McHale, 8th in 28:03; Rob Campbell, 11th in 28:49; Reggie Keith, 12th in 28:51, and Brett Gibson, 13th in 28:53.

Galaskiewicz, McHale, Campbell and Keith were selected for the first team all-state. Gibson, Bob Woolfolk and John Harkins made second team.

Becky Barna was 5th overall in the women's race in 20:33. She was selected for first team all-state.

Head coach Edward Radzinski is in his third year at PSU, and the team is 22-2 this year and 61-9 in three years. Radzinski has also been the senior high girls track and field coach at Lake-Lehman for nine years.

U-12 boys indoor team forming

A new U-12 Boys Travel soccer team is forming in the Back Mountain for the winter indoor and spring outdoor seasons. Tryouts will be held on Sun., Oct. 19 and Sun., Oct. 26 at 2 p.m. at the Jackson Township field. All boys born after 8/1/85 are eligible to try out. For more information contact Dave Rosnick at 696-4964.

Night at the Races for Lehman football

The Lake-Lehman Football Club will sponsor Night at the Races on Sat., Oct. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Jackson Township Fire Hall, on Chase Road, in Shavertown. Horses may be purchased for \$10 from any club member or that evening at the door. Admission is \$3 at the door without a horse. Food and beverages will be served all evening. All proceeds benefit the Lake-Lehman Football players and Cheerleaders.