

# Sports Week

Section 2

Wednesday November 26, 1997

## Teamwork was key to Black Knights' grid success

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**LEHMAN** - Lake-Lehman head football coach Rich Gorgone knew he had a pretty good team before this season began. But as the season went on, he learned just how good.

"It was an incredible year," the veteran coach said Sunday, two days after the Black Knights had lost a heartbreaker 16-14 to unbeaten South Williamsport. It nearly was even more incredible. Lake-Lehman held a 14-13 lead from the end of the first half until only 11 seconds remained in the game, when the Mounties kicked a field goal to claim the victory. South Williamsport, ranked in the state's top five teams, moves to the semi-finals of the state Class AA playoffs, and Lake-Lehman goes home disappointed, but still proud to have gone farther than any prior Black Knights team.

There were star performances throughout the year, but Gorgone and the team's seniors agree their strength was multiplied by selflessness and support. "I don't think one player was actually better than another," said Tim Zeveny, who played at defensive tackle. Only 165 lb., although

*A lot of them played well individually, and they all played well together."*

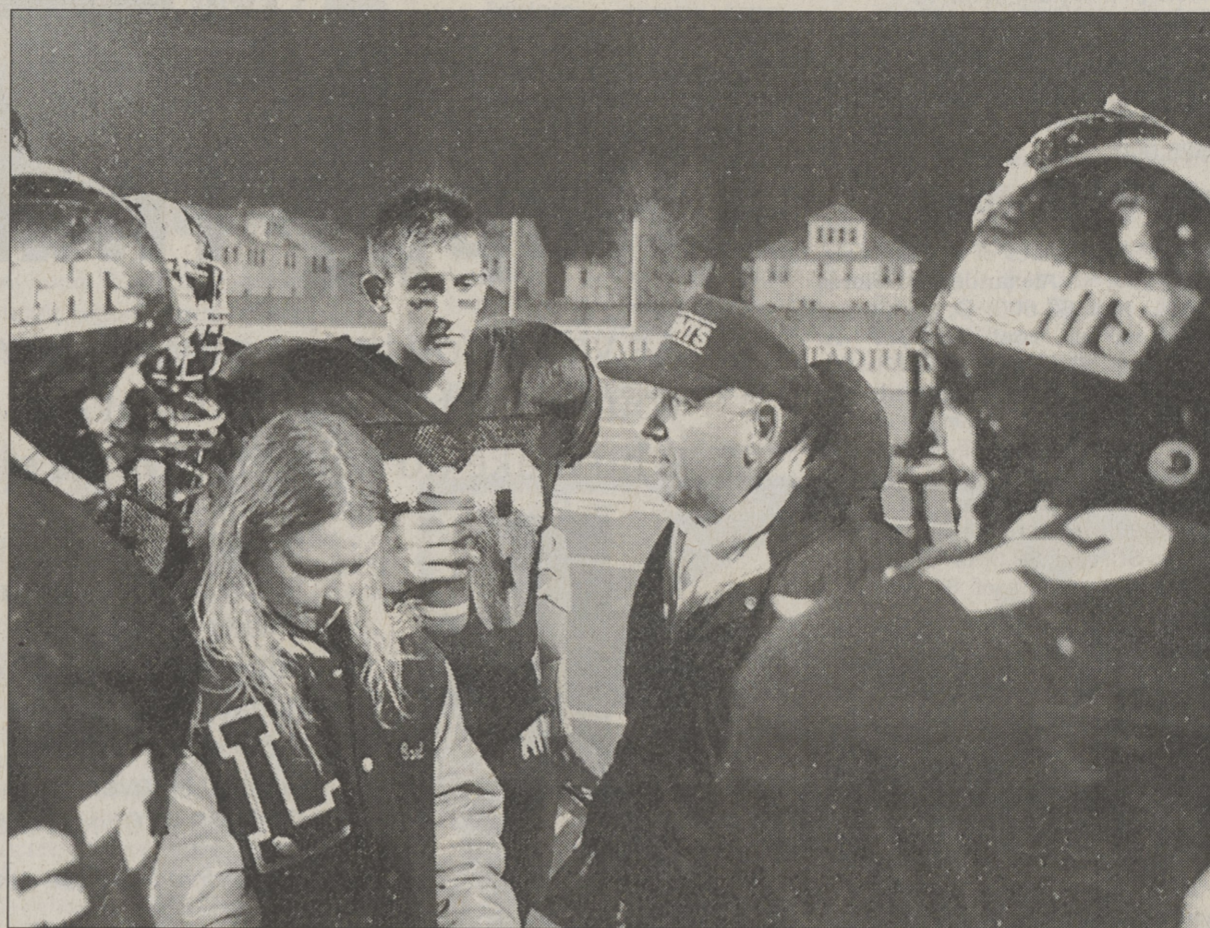
**Rich Gorgone**  
Lake-Lehman coach

listed on the roster at 180, Zeveny went against players 80 lb. or more larger. "That didn't stop me," he said. "I just tried my hardest."

Zeveny came back to the squad at the urging of friends. He had played as a freshman, then skipped two years. He said teammates helped each other through

**Lake-Lehman almost pulled off a big upset** Friday against unbeaten S. Williamsport. In photo at right, coach Rich Gorgone talked things over with his squad late in the game. Below right, Randy Moyer turned the corner. Cheerleaders Koren Hackling, left, and Carrie Houssock looked on early.

POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS



good times and bad. "We never got down on each other," he said.

Gorgone said the squad's depth was a pleasant surprise as the season went on. Fewer players than usual had to line up on both offense and defense, which kept them fresher. "A lot of them played well individually, and they all played well together," he said.

Chad Kuwaye moved into the area from Maryland last year, and had played on a team that reached the state semi-finals. But he was impressed with the Black Knights program.

"I was honored to be on this team," he said. "We were a real team." Kuwaye said the players got along both on and off the field, and "really enjoyed the coaches."

*"I was honored to be on this team."*

**Chad Kuwaye**  
Lake-Lehman senior

And it was a year of honors. Lake-Lehman had never before won a district playoff game, and they won two this year, to claim the school's first district championship. Even though they lost last week, the Black Knights showed they were equal to anyone in their division. Along the way, they gave Gorgone his 100th victory at Lake-Lehman, in his 17th year as coach.

Randy Moyer was a two-way player all season, at wingback on offense and playing the corner on defense. He knew the lines were good, but did he think the season would go this far? "Honestly, I didn't," he said, until the team reeled off five straight wins after an opening loss to Riverside, the top-ranked Class A team in the state.

"A lot of you kids stepped up," Moyer said, and that bodes well for next season. "Defense should be great again next year," he said.

Dan DiGiovanni played tight end on offense and defensive end. He started the season with a positive attitude, mixed with uncertainty. "I wasn't sure. I knew we had a good team and we could do well," he said, and after the first few games he knew it would be a good season. The experience has made him appreciate the sport more.

"I would love to play college football," said the 6'3", 240 pounder. "I realized how much I love the game." DiGiovanni said the Montrose game, which included playing in snow and cold, and winning in overtime, was the highlight of his year.

Lake-Lehman will lose a dozen seniors at graduation, but that won't hold them back, Gorgone says. "We've got a ton coming back," including three current sophomore starters at skill positions.

His season is over, but the coach will still follow the playoffs and probably take a trip to Altoona to see the state championship games. "It's time to relax a little bit," Gorgone said, but not for long. Players who aren't involved in other sports will begin weight training next month, under the watchful eye of assistant coach Scott Kerkowski.

### Lake-Lehman's Season

Aug. 30	Riverside	0-35
Sept. 6	Nanticoke	30-7
Sept. 12	Cent. Columbia	7-6
Sept. 20	Crestwood	21-20
Sept. 27	Meyers	13-9
Oct. 4	Bishop Hoban	42-14
Oct. 10	Wyoming Area	0-38
Oct. 18	Hanover	27-0
Oct. 24	GAR	35-42
Nov. 1	Dallas	12-20
Nov. 8	GAR	20-12
Nov. 15	Montrose*	21-20
Nov. 21	S. Williamsport	14-16

\* Won district championship

### Alumni soccer game set for Nov. 29

The Dallas High School Boys Soccer Booster Club announces it's annual Alumni vs. High School. Game will be held Sat. Nov. 29 at 10 a.m. at the Dallas Sr. High School Soccer field. All past alumni soccer players are invited to play the 1997 Dallas soccer team. Please direct questions to 675-7445.

### It was Lehman's year all around

The Lake-Lehman football team won its first district championship this season, becoming just one of five Black Knights teams to claim district titles. The field hockey squad, defending its 1996 state championship, beat Dallas in the first playoff round, then topped Wyoming Seminary 3-2 for their third straight district title. The Knights lost their chance to play for another state championship when Line Mountain beat them 1-0.

In soccer, Lehman beat Dallas 1-0 for the district title.

The volleyball team became district champs when they beat No. 1 seed Lackawanna Trail 2-1.

Lehman also saw standout performances in boys cross country



### DALLAS YOUTH BASKETBALL

## Barbose pours it on in 4th quarter to lead Lions to victory over NAPA Auto Parts

Both teams had a well balanced scoring attack, with the edge going to Dallas Lions at the end of the first quarter 15-9. NAPA Auto Parts turned it around in the second quarter by outscoring the Lions 14 to 6, on the hot shooting of Paul McCue and Mike Fehlinger. NAPA Auto led at halftime 23-21. Both teams traded baskets in the third quarter, with NAPA's Blake Saba and the Lions' Jeff Singer leading the offense. The Lions narrowed the gap, and trailed 33-32 at quarter's end. The Dallas Lions' big man, Jonathon Barbose stepped up with 15 of his game high 25 points in the fourth quarter to seal a come from behind win. Dallas Lions' offense was led by Barbose with 25 points, followed by Bobby Gebhart with 9 points, with Jeff Singer and Adam Tkaczyk each chipping in with 6 points. NAPA Auto Parts' offense was led by Blake Saba with 25 points, followed by Paul McCue with 15 points, and Mike Fehlinger with 10 points. The Dallas Lions record goes to 1-1, while NAPA Auto Parts drops to 0-2.

**Dr Jack Ellis 42- Mellon Bank 27**

At the end of the first quarter, Mike Dombroski led the offense for Dr. Jack Ellis, while Matt Mark sparked the offense for Mellon Bank. Both teams were knotted up at 5 apiece at quarter's end. The bankers outshot Dr. Jack 10 to 8 in the second quarter, to give

Mellon a 15-13 halftime lead. Dr. Jack Ellis team came out on fire in the third quarter by outscoring Mellon Bank 11 to 2 on the shooting of Mike Dombroski and Andy Check. The fourth quarter was much the same with Dr. Jack Ellis team scoring at will. Dr. Jack Ellis offense was led by Dombroski with a game high 24 points, followed by Dennis Ellis with 7 points. Mellon Bank's offense was led by Matt Mark with 14 points, followed by Curtis Keiper with 9 points. Dr. Jack Ellis team's record goes to 2-0, while Mellon Bank's record falls to 0-2.

**Kingston Metals 43 - TGI Fridays 41**

TGIF held a 15-10 first quarter lead over Kingston Metals on the hot shooting of Donny Murray. Kingston Metals narrowed the gap in the second quarter, behind the scoring combination of Chris Heister and Jeff Dickson. TGIF led at halftime 24-22. Kingston Metals came out red hot in the third and outscored TGIF 13 to 5, to take a 35-29 lead. TGIF outscored the metalmen 12 to 8 in the final stanza, but Kingston Metals hung on to preserve the win. Kingston Metals' offense was led by Chris Heister with 13 points, followed by Jeff Dickson with 10 points, and Greg Mascioli with 9 points. The TGIF offense was led by Herb Bressler with 16 points, followed by Donny Murray

with 11 points, and Mike English with 9 points. Kingston Metals record goes to 2-0, while TGIF drops to 1-1.

**Quality Collision 31- Grotto Pizza 27**

In the final game of the afternoon, Quality Collision jumped out to a 10-3 first quarter lead on the shooting of John Simonitis. Quality Collision kept up the scoring attack in the second quarter, to take a 19-7 halftime lead. Grotto Pizza fought back in the third quarter, behind the shooting of David Lohin and Christian Cobleigh to narrow Quality Collision lead at quarter's end to 25-19. Both teams traded baskets in the final quarter, and Quality Collision recorded the win. Quality Collision's offense was led by Simonitis with a game high 16 points, followed by Jordy Spencer with 7 points. Grotto Pizza's offense was led by David Lohin with 14 points, followed by Christian Cobleigh with 8 points. Quality Collision's record goes to 2-0, while Grotto Pizza's record drops to 0-2.

Next games are scheduled for Nov. 30, with Grotto Pizza vs. Mellon Bank at 1 p.m., Dr. Jack Ellis vs. Quality Collision at 2 p.m., NAPA Auto Parts vs. TGIF at 3 p.m., and Dallas Lions vs. Kingston Metals at 4 p.m. All games are played at the Dallas Middle School.



### Blast U-13 second in County Cup

Pictured above is the Back Mountain U-13 Girls Intramural Soccer Team "The Blast" which finished in second place in the Luzerne County Cup Tournament. Pictured above from left kneeling are Megan Riley, Niki Winters, Elise Persico, Christine Muscavage, Stacie Amico, Kelly Lenahan, Rachel Kukosky, Susan Barber. Standing are Amanda Cowles, Kelli Harvey, Jamie Sulewski, Leah Vnuk, Head Coach Garry S. Taroli, Sheree Senausky, Alison Taroli, Nichole Bostock, Caitlin Bessmer, Assistant Coach Bob Lenahan and Heidi Simko.

### Dymond stars in Misericordia field hockey

Former Lake-Lehman High School athletic standout Cathy Dymond recently completed her sophomore season with the field hockey team at College Misericordia.

A sophomore forward, Dymond started in all 19 games and helped the Cougars to a 13-6 record and a Pennsylvania Athletic Conference Playoff berth.

She was fourth on the team in scoring with eight goals and five assists.

### Gridiron Club holding hunters breakfast

The Dallas Gridiron Club will be sponsoring a Hunters Breakfast on Mon., Dec. 1, at the Dallas American Legion. Serving will begin at 4 a.m. The cost of the breakfast is \$5 per person, and is all you can eat.

### 'Christmas Tournament' on links

Four Seasons Golf Club, Exeter, will be holding its annual Christmas Tournament Sunday, Dec. 7. The format will be captain and crew, with tee times starting at 9 a.m. The \$29 per person fee includes 18 holes, meal, beverages and a wrapped present for each participant. Call 655-8869 to make a reservation. Rain or snow date will be Dec. 21.

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