

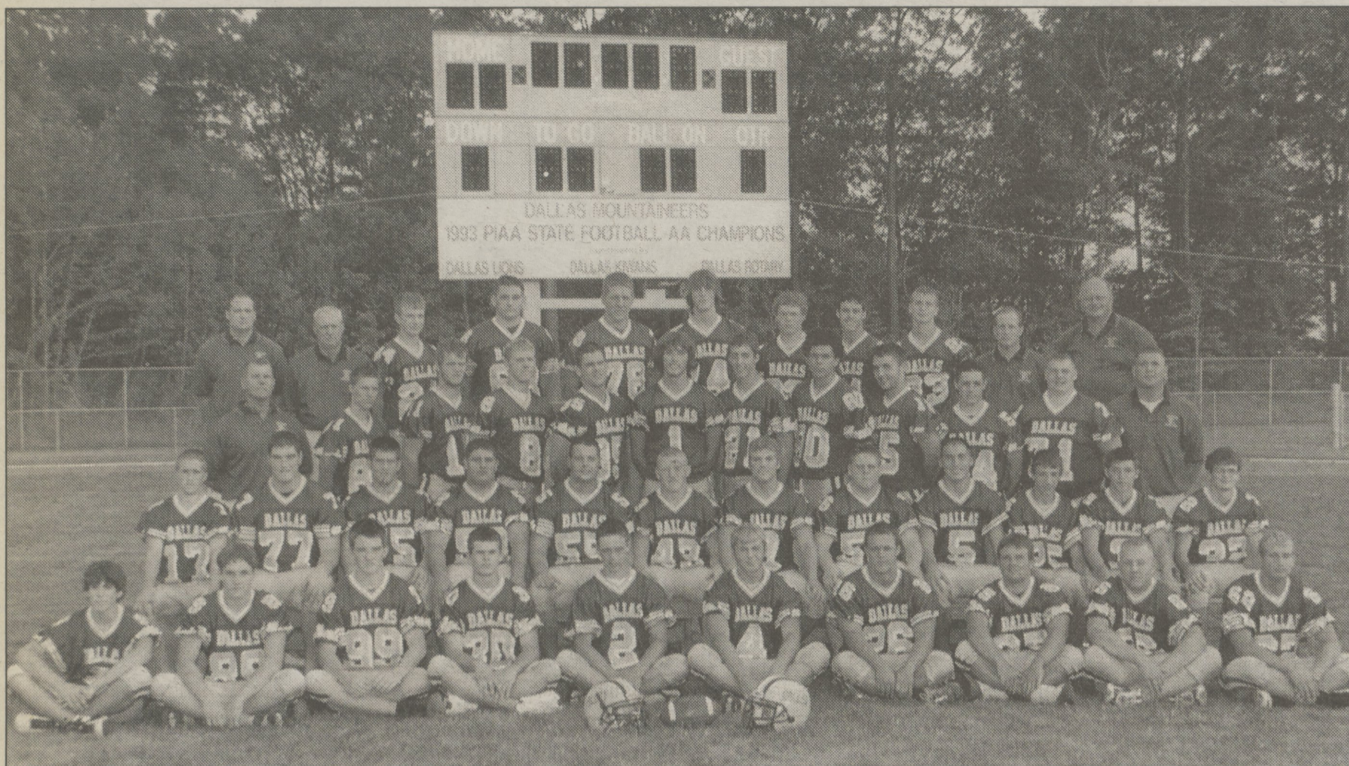
2002 Dallas Mountaineers

From left, first row: Mike Race, Jeff Bernosky, Kyle Zapoticky, Matt Brokenshire, Jim Schwerdtman, Doug Harris, Buddy Kocher, Curt Montz, Allen Pugh, Steve Wengen.

Second row: John Hettes, Matt Daube, Jim Larson, Bill Siglin, Steve Salavantis, Rich Frantz, Kevin Arnaud, Mike Burns, Ryan Bolton, Ed Grundowski, Mike Kelly, Nick Major.

Third row: Assistant coach Steve Wengen, Joe Austin, Jon Barbose, Ryan Gryskevicz, Chris Hayes, Mike Racoski, Catlin Simmons, Brandon Short, Rich Adams, Doug Zaruta, John McGeehan, assistant coach Dan Natitus.

Fourth row: Assistant coach Ted Jackson Jr., Head Coach Ted Jackson, Tom Van Horn, Andy Timko, Marty Murray, Pat Harmon, Adam Schoonover, Ryan Mark, Elisha Miller, assistant coach Bob Mahle, assistant coach Jim McNeil.



Mountaineers reload after big graduation losses

By TIMOTHY J. RAUB
Special to The Dallas Post

DALLAS — Life after one of Dallas's most talented senior classes will be a tough one — to day the least.

The Mountaineers will have one of its smallest teams in recent years, both in numbers and strength. They face a schedule that includes Wyoming Valley West, Berwick, Pittston Area and one of Hanover Area's top teams in 15 years, and will have to do it all without the likes of Chuck Suppon and John Simonitis.

"We're not real big, and we're not real fast, and it's a very physical league with speed," said head coach Ted Jackson. "We're going to have to be scrappy, play harder than the other guy to win and not make costly mistakes."

"We lost a senior class that is going to be tough to replace."

QUARTERBACK: Despite the loss of three-year starter Suppon, Ryan Gryskevicz has been in the fold for the last two years. Jackson said Gryskevicz could have started on six or seven teams over that time, but will have his chance to shine this year in an offense with a load of potential. He responded in the Mounts' first game Saturday, throwing three touchdown passes and no interceptions.

RUNNING BACKS: The Mountaineers running backs have seen time, but none have started — until this season. Senior Ryan Bolton will handle most of the carries at tailback, and Chris Hayes, one of Jackson's top athletes, will split time between tailback and fullback. Senior Rich Frantz will also see time

at fullback.

OFFENSIVE LINE: Jackson will rely heavily on an offensive line that returns four starters who saw significant time last season. Junior Doug Zaruta, who started five games at center, will be joined on the line by juniors Marty Murray, John McGeehan and senior Steve Salavantis. Seniors Bill Siglin and Mike Burns and sophomore Matt

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Ted Jackson
Head coach

Daube should battle for the starting position at left tackle.

"We had three sophomores that played on the line last year," said Jackson. "Murray, McGeehan and Zaruta were kind of thrown to the dogs last year and we won eight games, so they're going to be nothing but stronger and better prepared for the battle."

RECEIVERS: Jon Barbose and Kevin Arnaud both return and along with sophomore Jeff Bernosky, give Gryskevicz a trio of tall, sure-handed targets with experience. But Jackson said tight end is a real concern. Brandon Short and Rich Adams have been battling for the starting job, and both will likely get some playing time.

DEFENSIVE LINE: The most depleted area for the Mounts, only Salavantis returns, and will start at defensive end. But Jackson is not overly worried. He has inserted Murray and McGeehan into the middle of the line, but the other defensive end position is up for grabs.

DALLAS

Football

LINEBACKERS: Like the defensive line, Jackson will have to rely on some new faces and transitioned players to step it up early. Hayes will slide into the inside linebacker position after two years outside, and will be joined by Frantz to solidify a middle depleted by graduation. Arnaud will start at outside linebacker.

SECONDARY: Barbose, the defensive captain and Gryskevicz have started the last two seasons, and will provide experience to a secondary with new faces. Bolton and Bernosky have emerged as Jackson's replacements in the secondary.

OUTLOOK: Jackson will be relying heavily on the play of a number of starters with relatively little experience. Many of those players have the potential, but must show they have what it takes to start.

"We feel for this team to be successful, we're going to have to play harder than the other team, and not make mistakes, because we're not as talented as we have been," said Jackson. "We have to fill two or three positions with kids that haven't been there yet, and hopefully they'll step up like most Dallas kids have done in the past."

"Depth is a very scary part for us. Our numbers hurt us. Right now we have 36 kids healthy, and that's nice if you're a AA team, but playing Hazelton Area, Valley West, Pittston Area and Berwick, if three or four guys get hurt, depth is a severe, severe concern of ours."



Dallas Mountaineers roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wgt.	Yr.
1	Mike Racoski	SE	6-4	220	12
2	Jim Schwerdtman	SE	6	160	10
3	Mike Kelly	QB	5-8	155	10
4	Doug Harris	QB	6	175	10
5	Ryan Bolton	TB	6	200	12
7	Kevin Arnaud	WB	6	170	12
8	Ryan Gryskevicz	QB	6-3	205	12
9	Mike Race	SE	5-10	165	10
11	Jon Barbose	WB	6-3	210	11
14	Pat Harmon	QB	6-3	185	11
15	Rich Adams	TE	6-3	210	11
17	John Hettes	WB	5-8	155	10
21	Catlin Simmons	SE	6-3	170	11
22	Adam Schoonover	TB	5-10	170	11
12	Elisha Miller	WB	5-10	170	11
24	Tom Van Horn	WB	5-10	170	11
25	Ed Grundowski	SE	6	160	11
26	Buddy Kocher	FB	5-10	210	10
30	Matt Brokenshire	TB	6	170	10
31	Ryan Mark	TB	5-10	175	10
32	Nick Major	WB	5-10	150	10
33	Alex Oko	TB	6-1	180	11
35	Chris Hayes	FB	6-1	210	12
43	Rich Frantz	FB	5-9	180	12
52	Bill Siglin	G	5-10	245	12
54	Doug Zaruta	C	6	210	11
55	Steve Salavantis	G	6	240	12
56	Mike Burns	G	5-11	240	12
62	Steve Wengen	C	6-1	210	10
65	Curt Montz	C	5-10	205	10
66	Allan Pugh	T	6	230	10
68	Andy Timko	T	6-2	270	11
71	John McGeehan	T	6-2	280	11
75	Jim Larson	G	6-1	220	12
77	Matt Daube	T	6-5	275	10
78	Marty Murray	T	6-2	250	11
80	Brandon Short	TE	6-3	220	12
81	Joe Austin	TE	6-1	175	11
89	Jeff Bernosky	SE	6-2	190	10
99	Kyle Zapoticky	TE	6-1	190	10

Head Coach: Ted Jackson
Assistant Coaches: John McNeil, Bob Mahle, Ted Jackson Jr., Dan Natitus, Steve Wengen.