

THE DALLAS POST

Sports Week

Section 2

- Sports
- School
- Classified
- Calendar

Wyoming Area is big test for Mounts

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The players on the Dallas football team may be young, but it didn't take long for them to encounter a big-game situation.

The Mountaineers will play a critical week-three contest when they host Division 2-rival Wyoming Area at 1 p.m. Saturday at Mountaineer Stadium. Both teams come into the weekend carrying 1-0 records within the division.

Overall, the Warriors hold a 1-1 mark, their only loss a 7-3 defeat to Berwick last Friday.

Dallas stands at 2-0. The unbeaten Mountaineers have posted victories against Coughlin (21-14) and Division

2-opponent Nanticoke (47-0) last week.

"The kids know the importance of the game," said Dallas head coach Ted Jackson. "This is going to go a long way to (determining) a Division 2 championship and will have a lot of playoff implications."

With that in mind, Jackson will look for a variety of players to step up.

"We have to remain balanced," he said. "We can't go in there thinking we're going to run the ball down their throat, and we can't go in there and pass the ball all over the place. We have to mix it up."

The Mountaineers have done exactly that this season. So far, junior quarterback Matt Kelly has thrown for four touchdowns and rushed for 179 yards

in two games. Junior tailback Doug Harris has provided the team with an additional 218 yards rushing.

But when it comes to facing a talented Wyoming Area squad, the key for Dallas may lie in the trenches. The Mountaineers' offensive line features four returning starters.

"Our experienced guys on the line are the guys who've got to win the game for us," Jackson said. "Our line's got to step up like they have, and our young skill kids have to match up with their very, very good and experienced skill kids."

Wyoming Area's attack features a number of playmakers, including receiver Joe Marianacci and tailback Marlon Bayard. Marianacci had three touchdowns opening night against

Crestwood — one in the form of a pass reception and the other two on punt returns. Bayard rushed for 110 yards last week against Berwick.

In total, the Warriors have outscored their opponents by a 49-7 margin this season.

"We're going to have to stop their big-play offense," Jackson said. "They have great skill kids with great speed."

The Warriors edged Dallas, 6-0, in last season's meeting. This time around, the Mountaineers will look to strike back.

However, after last week's mistake-filled loss to Berwick in which Wyoming Area fumbled the ball seven times, Jackson knows the Warriors and their head coach, Paul Marranta, will be hungry for a victory.



"I think they'll be a dangerous opponent."

Ted Jackson
Dallas coach

"I think they'll be a dangerous opponent," he said. "He's a great coach. It's a great program."

Lady Knights blank Dallas

□ 300th win for coach Jean Lipski

From Staff Reports

DALLAS — Traci Ragukas had a hat trick on Monday and Amanda Sagan added a goal and three assists as Lake-Lehman defeated Dallas, 7-0, in Wyoming Valley Conference field hockey.

The victory gave Lehman coach Jean Lipski her 300th career win.

"I wasn't thinking of this as my 300th win," Lipski said. "I was thinking of this as a game against Dallas, and it is a rivalry. Our girls really rose to the occasion and I'm proud of them."

Lehman scored early and often, dominating the game from start to finish. The Black Knights probably would have scored a double-digit victory had it not been for the outstanding play of Mountaineers goalie Rosalyn Wentko. The senior made some acrobatic stops to prevent goals among her 18 saves, but her efforts alone weren't nearly enough to thwart Lehman.

"They're really coming together well," Lipski said of her players. "There are a lot of new faces on the field. I'm sure we haven't seen the best yet, and that this team is going to get better and better."

Ragukas opened the scoring three minutes, 56 seconds in when she deflected in a shot by Sagan. Sagan made it 2-0 when she fired in an Allison Boris rebound at 15:55. Chrissy Kazmierski tipped in a Sagan shot to make it 3-0 at 18:37. Ragukas scored off a Sagan feed at 24:31, giving the Black Knights a 4-0 lead heading into halftime.

Ragukas completed her hat trick with an unassisted goal 12 seconds into the second half. Ryan Hoover's goal at 9:10 made it 6-0, and Lauren Lipski completed the rout by converting a penalty stroke at 22:34.



Nikki Gelso (23) crossed sticks with Lehman's Traci Ragukas in Monday's game.



Jean Lipski shed a tear after Lake-Lehman won her 300th career victory as coach.



Amanda Sagan took a swipe at the ball as she tried to stay ahead of Dallas's Megan Savage and Shannon Thomas (3).

Dallas romps over Nanticoke

Staff report

NANTICOKE — Quarterback Matt Kelly threw for three touchdowns and ran for another as the Mountaineers cruised to a 47-0 win against Greater Nanticoke Area September 5 at Frank Chicknosky Memorial Stadium.

"A lot of times I might make Coach hold his breath a little bit," said Kelly, who threw for 96 yards and added a 63-yard scoring run. "I don't always run the play the way it's supposed to be run, but I'm only trying to make a big play and do everything I can to help my team win the game."

Even if that means testing his coach's patience.

"Sometimes I'm ready to kill him, but he makes a lot of big plays for us," Jackson said. "Matt's an exciting player. He plays hard and doesn't quit until the play is over. I admire him for that."

Dallas dominated Nanticoke in every aspect. The Mountaineers amassed 423 yards of total offense and 20 first downs, while the Trojans finished with 97 yards and four first downs.

Junior tailback Doug Harris scored two touchdowns and was one of six Dallas players to rush for at least 20 yards. Sophomore receiver Mike Race caught a pair of touchdown passes and sophomore tailback Joe Lambert rushed for another.

BMT Blitz win back-to-back

The Back Mountain Blitz U-9 boys won back-to-back games on the opening day of travel soccer. Blitz defeated Mountaintop Crush 5-0. Frank Henry, Erik Yurko, Josh Shilanski, and Jared James led the offense, while Drew Harding and James Delpriore played strong defensively to help shut down the Crush.

Blitz also defeated Abington Fury 4-1. Jared James, Chris Edkins, Josh Shilanski led the offense, while Brenden Ehret, Dylan Pilger, Brian Goode, Brandon Scharff, and Kieran Sutton were credited for strong defense. Blitz is coached by Dawn Harding and Barbara Goode.

Scholastic Roundup

FIELD HOCKEY

Seminary 5, Northwest 0

SEPT. 8 — Tam Morris scored four goals as Wyoming Seminary blanked Northwest.

Laura Suchoski scored the Blue Knights' other goal, and assisted on two of Morris' tallies. Abby Sordoni also had a pair of assists for Seminary, and Laura Eckman also had an assist.

Dallas 1, Meyers 1

SEPT. 5 — Dallas and Meyers battled to a 1-1 overtime tie in a Wyoming Valley Conference field hockey game that neither helped nor hurt each team's playoff aspirations.

Four teams from the WVC will make up the field for the District 2 Class 2A playoffs. Crestwood, Lake-Lehman and Wyoming Seminary figure to be three of those teams, as each has won a state title in the past four years.

The fourth spot is up for grabs, with Dallas and Meyers probably contenders for the berth along with Lackawanna Trail and Nanticoke Area.

In a game that was evenly played and featured numerous scoring chances on both sides, Rosalyn Wentko made 14 saves for the Mountaineers.

Dallas took a 1-0 lead 14 minutes, 11 seconds into the game on a drive from



Mike Peeler of Dallas watched a putt approach the hole. He was medalist with a 41 in a Dallas rout of Lake-Lehman last week, 173-197, at Irem Temple Country Club.

Morris hat trick for Sem
SEPT. 4 — Tam Morris recorded a the right wing by Stephanie Pace. The goal was unassisted.

The Mountaineers controlled play

for a while, until Meyers tied the score when Tracy Oram took a pass from Leah Gullius and fired a shot that hopped over Wentko's pad at 12:23.

Wentko denied the Mohawks on some outstanding scoring opportunities the rest of the game.

Meyers dominated overtime, but Wentko denied the Mohawks on several occasions, including one on a hot shot with just seconds left in the 10-minute, sudden-death extra period.

Lake-Lehman 6, Elk Lake 0

SEPT. 5 — Ryan Hoover scored three goals in the second half as defending state champion Lake-Lehman blanked Elk Lake.

Elk Lake played the Black Knights tough in the first half as the teams battled to a scoreless tie. However, Lehman broke open the game with four goals early in the second half and two more for good measure. Besides Hoover, goals came from Amanda Sagan, Traci Ragukas and Chrissy Kazmierski. Sagan and Ragukas had two assists each as the Black Knights outshot Elk Lake 18 to 1.

Morris hat trick for Sem

SEPT. 4 — Tam Morris recorded a

See ROUNDUP, pg 10



Eddie Daris battled with WVW's Thomas Waskevich in first half action in Monday's soccer match, which Dallas won 4-0.