

Sports Week

Dallas girls, boys run away with titles

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Editor

DALLAS TWP. — The girls and boys cross country teams at Dallas are feeling pretty good about themselves after impressive performances earlier this week. And that could mean trouble for the rest of the teams in District 2.

And quite possibly, the rest of the state.

The Mountaineers captured the boys and girls team championships at the Ed Narkiewicz Cross Country Championships at Kirby Park in Wilkes-Barre. The meet — named after the late Lake-Lehman cross country coach — featured all of the teams in the Wyoming Valley Conference. The girls team captured the team title for the fourth consecutive year.

“Our kids are feeling confident,” said head coach Matt Samuel. “And I know we’re going to do well when we’re confident. The girls had already established themselves as a good team and the boys also ran well. We were looking to make an impression on other teams. We had 12 runners in the girls race and 11 won a medal. That’s a statement in itself. That’s impressive.”

Lisa Giacometti finished first in the girls race, crossing the finish line ahead of teammates Hillary Adams and Kenslie Kerestes as Dallas posted a 1-2-3 finish. The Lady Mountaineers cruised to the team title with 30 points, easily outdistancing runner-up

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Hazleton Area’s 88 points. Lake-Lehman, under head coach John Sobocinski, turned in an impressive third-place performance.

In the boys race, the Mountaineers placed only one runner in the top 10 but four runners finished in positions 10 through 14. Eric Danko finished 10th for Dallas, followed by Adam Singer (11th), Mike Strasser (12th) and Chris Box (14th). The Mountaineers finished with 75 points, edging second-place Crestwood (79).

Several Lake-Lehman runners were impressive in the boys race. Justin Amy finished third overall and teammate Michael Ryan captured seventh place. Justin Mazur finished 16th for the Black Knights.

Four-time defending champion Dallas and Lake-Lehman will compete in the District 2 Class 2A championships Wednesday, Oct. 26 at the Scranton Municipal Golf Course in Mt. Cobb. Giacometti is a two-time district champion. The top three teams, along with the top 15 individual finishers, qualify



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/PETE G. WILCOX

Dallas senior Lisa Giacometti leads the race — and two of her teammates — during the Ed Narkiewicz Cross Country League Championships at Kirby Park. Giacometti finished first as Dallas won the girls and boys team championships.

for the PIAA Class 2A Cross Country Championships on Nov. 5 in Hershey.

“Winning the (regular season and Narkiewicz) championships mean a lot,” said Samuel, whose team finished undefeated

in WVC regular season meets. “To beat all of the triple-A and double-A teams in our conference is quite an accomplishment.”

“Our goal is always get to the state meet. The kids are happy

with what they did. They’re ecstatic. But they’re really focused on districts and getting to the state meet.”

And despite their success to date, Samuel doesn’t feel the Mountaineers have peaked.

“We still have areas to improve,” he said. “We came close to running a perfect race (at the Narkiewicz championships). We’re confident, but not cocky. I really feel that if I get everyone’s best race, no one can beat us.”

YOUTH FOOTBALL

Dallas Junior Mounts ready for playoff run

The Dallas Junior Mounts’ A, B and C teams tuned for the playoffs with wins against Edwardsville in youth football action last weekend. Here’s a brief recap of the games.

A DIVISION

Dallas assured itself of a playoff spot with a 40-16 win against Edwardsville. Tyler Shutlock and Adam Goering each scored early touchdowns for Dallas, and Goering and Kevin Muldoon finished off the scores with two-point conversions. Goering and Muldoon also added another touchdown run, while James Rosencrans scored on a 3-yard run.

The Dallas offensive line of Justin Brobst, Tommy Kramer, Buddy Shutlock, Bobby Saba, and Zack Dirsal led the way for the Mounts to score on five of seven possessions. Defensively, Dustin Siperko recorded three tackles for a loss. Bobby Saba, Andrew Murray, Derrick Ellard and Tyler Shutlock also played well defensively.

C DIVISION

Mark Michno and Ryan Zapoticky each had two touchdowns and combined for more than 300 yards rushing to lead Dallas to a 34-12 win and improve their record to 8-1. Zapoticky scored on the first offensive play of the game.

In the second quarter Michno ran for a touchdown from 35 yards out and Nick Luzetski added two points on the conversion. Following a Michno run of 55 yards, Johnny Hutchins rushed into the endzone to put Dallas ahead 20-6 at the half.

In the third quarter, Zapoticky and Michno each got their second touchdowns of the game with runs of 94 and 35 yards, respectively. Luzetski added two points on the conversion after the Michno touchdown.

The Dallas defense was led by Mitchell Benson and Chris Rosencrans. Jack Parente had several open field, touchdown-saving tackles. Dallas has one more regular season game left before heading into the playoffs.

D DIVISION

The Junior Mounts improved their record to 6-3 with a 20-6 victory over the Edwardsville Eagles. Quarterback Cole Dixon ran for two touchdowns while Paul Zabloutney added the third touchdown and a 2-point conversion. The offensive line was led by Jacob Corey, Colin Ryniec, Cameron Brennan, Xavier Barber, Matt Harrison, Sam Parente and Jackson Shaver, which helped pave the way for the Junior Mounts backfield.

On defense Shaver and Dixon each had fumble recoveries while Justin Sweeney, Justin Hutchins and Cameron Brennan also played well. The Junior Mounts play their final regular season game at Plymouth.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Lake-Lehman and Dallas still alive in quest for district berth Fighting for their playoff lives

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Editor

By the time you’re reading this, you should have a pretty good idea if the Lake-Lehman or Dallas football teams are still alive for a berth in the District 2 Class 2A playoffs. The top four teams in the district (Wyoming Valley Conference and Lackawanna League) qualify for the playoffs.

Lake-Lehman and Dallas receive 100 points for a win against a 2A team, plus 10 points for each game won by that opponent. A win against a 3A team is worth 120 points, plus the 10 points for each win.

At press time, Lake-Lehman (4-3) was sitting in fourth place with 550 points and getting ready to play against Class 3A Coughlin (4-3). A win would give Lake-Lehman a minimum total of 710 points. It would also receive 10 points each if Bishop Hoban, Pocono Mountain West, GAR or Crestwood won.

Dallas entered the weekend sitting in seventh place, but still clinging to its playoff life. With 410 points, Dallas (3-4) would jump to at least 530 with a win against Nanticoke Area (2-5). The Mountaineers would also receive 10 points each if Coughlin, Gar, or East Stroudsburg North won.

But things will get interesting if Lake-Lehman lost and Dallas won. That could propel Dallas to within as many as 40 points of Lake-Lehman. And don’t forget, Dallas and Lake-Lehman meet Nov. 4 in the annual Old Shoe game.

While Lake-Lehman controls its own destiny, Dallas needs to win its final three games and get a little help. The Lackawanna League’s Scranton Prep and Carbondale are in front of Dallas by 90 and 50 points, respectively.



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/FRED ADAMS

Dallas tailback Joe Lambert makes a cut to avoid a Wyoming Area player.



Dallas wide receiver Brad Fagula gets tackled by Wyoming Areas Robert DiPietro after making one of his six receptions against the Warriors.