

# Sports Week

## Lake-Lehman takes on backyard rival Dallas in 58th annual Old Shoe Game



Dallas seniors who will be playing in their final Old Shoe Game against Lake-Lehman, from left, first row are Chris Parrish, Mike Race, Nick Onzik and Nick Samanas. Second row: Dan Consodine, Rob Santillana, Jake Devlin and Robert Appleby. Third row: Rob Tomko, Joe Lambert, Andrew Hiller and Sam Perry.



Lake-Lehman seniors who will be playing in their final Old Shoe Game against Dallas, from left, first row are Ronnie Ritts, Nick Maciejczak, Brandon Higgins, Mark Walsh and Kevin Konicki. Second row: Tim Doty, John Stuffick, Josh Arnold, Kyle Poluske, Justin Saraka and Stephen Yankowski. Third row: Matt Kosloski, Matt Kapitula, Joe Klemunes, Eric Gronski, Justin Neare, Adam Harris and Stan Brudnicki.

## Bragging rights, trophy on the line

By DAVE KONOPKI  
Post Editor

Lake-Lehman head coach Greg Myers got a taste of the Old Shoe rivalry last year.

Dallas head coach Ted Jackson has been to the table for two decades.

But both coaches will tell you the 58th annual Old Shoe Game — which will be played at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4 at Edward H. Edwards Stadium in Lehman Township — isn't about them.

It's about the players. Their families. Members of the community. Pride. Bragging rights.

And a size-11 bronzed football cleat that both schools want sitting in their trophy case.

"It's a great rivalry," said Jackson, a GAR graduate who was also an assistant coach at Coughlin before taking over the Dallas program in 1985. "It took about four or five years to realize what they rivalry is like between the players, the parents and the people in the community. It's been great to be part of it."

In addition to deciding backyard bragging rights, Friday night's game will most likely go a long way in deciding the final berth in the four-team District 2 Class 2A playoffs. Lake-Lehman (5-3 at press time) has the inside track against the Mountaineers (4-4).

Although the majority of the games have been decided by 10 points or less, it's been a one-sided rivalry in the win column since Jackson became a part of it. The Mountaineer coach has a 16-3-1 record against the Black Knights in the Old Shoe Game.

"We've been fortunate," said Jackson, whose team hasn't lost against Lake-Lehman since a 12-7 setback in 2000. "We've beaten some very good Lake-Lehman football teams. We'll be facing another one (Friday). (Myers) has



Dallas football head coach Ted Jackson has compiled a 16-3-1 record in the Old Shoe Game.

done a fantastic job with his team. I'm very impressed with them in all phases of the game."

Myers might not be quite as familiar with the Old Shoe Game as Jackson, but he certainly knows about rivalries. While playing for Virginia Tech, the former Crestwood standout played in some intense games against rivals Virginia and West Virginia.

He hopes his team's success this season spices up the rivalry against Dallas.

"I think it's only going to get bigger and better," he said. "The Dallas game is huge. It's a game you want to win every year, no matter what your record is. It's a very special game. The

kids grew up with each other. They know each other from the community."

Jackson says the possibility of his team sitting home for the playoffs won't diminish its enthusiasm against the Black Knights.

"It's been disappointing season," he said. "A 4-4 record might



Members of the Lake-Lehman varsity football coaching staff, from left, are assistant coach Pat Keating, head coach Greg Myers, and assistant coach Matt Wincek.

be acceptable for some teams, but not for us. If we don't make the playoffs, it's our own fault. We didn't get the job done when we needed to. But I expect our kids to play very hard against Lake-Lehman. If we don't, then shame on us."

Myers is also expected an all-out effort from his players.

"I think it's going to be a very physical, defensive football game," he said. "It's going to be a very exciting game for the players and the fans."



L.T.H.S. 1948	D.SR.H.S. 1962	L.L.H.S. 1979	D.SR.H.S. 1997
L.T.H.S. 1949	D.SR.H.S. 1963	D.SR.H.S. 1980	D.SR.H.S. 1998
L.T.H.S. 1950	D.SR.H.S. 1964	D.SR.H.S. 1981	
D.T.H.S. 1951	D.SR.H.S. 1965	TIE 1982	
H.S. 1952	D.SR.H.S. 1966	D.SR.H.S. 1983	
L.J.R.H.S. 1953	L.L.H.S. 1967	L.L.H.S. 1984	
L.J.R.H.S. 1954	L.L.H.S. 1968	D.SR.H.S. 1985	
H.S. 1955	L.L.H.S. 1969	D.SR.H.S. 1986	
3-WAY TIE	D.SR.H.S. 1970	D.SR.H.S. 1987	
L.J.H.S. 1956	D.SR.H.S. 1971	TIE 1988	
H.S. 1956	D.SR.H.S. 1972	D.SR.H.S. 1989	
D.F.H.S. 1956	D.SR.H.S. 1973	L.L.H.S. 1990	
L.J.R.H.S. 1957	D.SR.H.S. 1974	D.SR.H.S. 1991	
L.L.H.S. 1958	D.SR.H.S. 1975	D.SR.H.S. 1992	
L.L.H.S. 1959	D.SR.H.S. 1976	D.SR.H.S. 1993	
H.S. 1960	D.SR.H.S. 1977	D.SR.H.S. 1994	
D.SR.H.S. 1961	L.L.H.S. 1978	L.L.H.S. 1995	
		D.SR.H.S. 1996	

THE  
"OLD SHOE"  
PRESENTED BY  
DALLAS  
ROTARY CLUB  
TO  
BACK MOUNTAIN  
CHAMPIONS

## Dallas and Lake-Lehman girls cross country teams making sweet trip to state finals in Hershey

For Dallas cross country runner Lisa Giacometti, the third time was definitely a charm.

The Mountaineer senior won her third consecutive title earlier this week at the District 2 Class 2A Cross Country Championships at the Scranton Municipal Golf Course. Teammates Kensi Kereses and Hillary Adams finished second

and fifth, respectively, as Dallas won the team title and also qualified for next week's state championships in Hershey for the fourth consecutive year.

Giacometti overcame fierce competition from the Wyoming Valley Conference and Lackawanna League — as well as rain and hail at the start of the race. "The conditions were the

worst they've ever been," she told The Times Leader after the race. "It was just so muddy and wet. It was really hard to go out fast because you just got so heavy and so sluggish so soon. It was really tough. (The hail) only lasted for the first 10 minutes of the race and then it just stopped. I just kind of used it to my advantage. (I tried) not to

think about it and let other people worry about it."

The Lake-Lehman girls made some history of their own, qualifying as a team for the state championships for the first time. Sophomore Sarah Austin finished sixth overall and freshman Marina Orrson crossed the line in eighth for the Black Knights, who finished second in

the team standings.

"Our top two girls got out real well and wound up sixth and eighth — obviously a real low number there," head coach John Sobocinski told a Times Leader reporter. "But our number five kid, Loren Roderick (34th overall), really came on and knocked off five or six girls on the second lap, which made

the difference."

"I believe this is the first time the girls have gone as a team. It's awesome."

In the boys race, Lake-Lehman's Justin Amy finished ninth overall and was the only Dallas or Black Knight runner to qualify for states. Dallas finished seventh in the team standings, while Lake-Lehman was 10th.