

SOCCER

New coach faces same challenges



By DAVE ROSENGRANT
For The Post

LEHMAN TWP. — In 1997 and 1998, Mike Kostrobala was an intricate part of Lake-Lehman's back-to-back District 2 Class 2A Championships.

After the Black Knights ended another unproductive season last year with a Wyoming Valley Conference record of 3-13, the school brought back Kostrobala to try to bring the program back to prominence.

"Lehman has been a good soccer school traditionally in the '90s and I want to bring it back," said the first-year Black Knight head coach, who was an assistant at Easton last year.

Playing in the tougher division (Division I) of the WVC doesn't seem too promising for the Black Knights, who will have to play Bishop Hoban (32-0 last two seasons in Division II), Dallas (District 2 Class 2A runner-up), Wyoming Valley West (District 2 Class 3A runner-up) and Wyoming Seminary (13-2-1, defending Division I champion) all twice during their regular season.

Bishop Hoban played in Division II last year but due to the team's success, the Argents were moved up to Division I. Nanticoke Area dropped to Division II.

Kostrobala isn't too worried about the division's alignment. He is more concerned about how his team will adapt to the new style of play.

"We are looking so far so good," he said. "I am learning from the play-

TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/DON CAREY

Jake Precone returns to Lake-Lehman after leading the team in scoring last season.



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

The Dallas soccer team hopes to balance experience with talent this season

Dallas seeks 'ultimate prize'

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Editor

DALLAS TWP. — The seniors on the Dallas soccer team have accomplished a lot during their first three seasons.

They've won league championships, played in the District 2 finals,



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Dallas senior Billy DeAngelo is one of the top players in the conference.

and won more games as a group than almost any team in the Wyoming Valley Conference during that span.

But head coach Chris Scharff says there's a little unfinished business to take care of before their high school playing days are over.

"We feel that we've lost out on a couple of district championships over the last few years," said Scharff, who enters his ninth season as head coach of the Dallas boys team. He also coaches the Mountaineer girls in the spring. "This group of seniors has won the league a few times, but not a district championship. They've done some good things, but they haven't been able to win the ultimate prize."

On paper, the Mountaineers seem to have all of the ingredients for a special season.

Dallas returns seven starters led by senior midfielder Billy DeAngelo, who is expected to be one of the premier players in the region. The other returning starters are Guy Carpenter (senior defender), Alex Baltimore (senior defender) and David Luksh (senior midfielder), junior goalkeeper Peter Steve,

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