

Sports

High school football season comes to an end

Dallas finishes with 7-4 slate

Lehman turns in 6-5 record



Dallas quarterback Ryan Zapoticky, right, gets pushed out of bounds by Berwick's Travis Potter in the District 2 Class 3A semifinal game at Crispin Field in Berwick.



Lake-Lehman's Tom Donovan, left, runs outside as Wyoming Area's Joe Taylor moves in for the tackle in the District 2 Class 2A semifinal game against Lake-Lehman in West Pittston.

Mountaineers' season ends with 28-7 loss to Berwick.

By TOM ROBINSON
For The Dallas Post

The Dallas passing attack was feared from the time football season started.

It wasn't until the Mountaineers developed a running game that the passing game flourished.

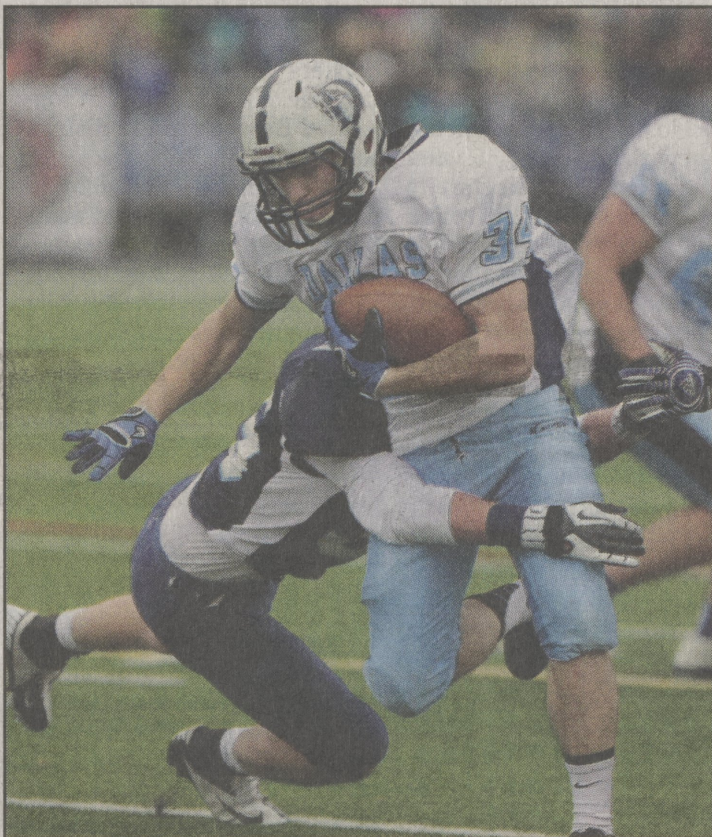
Dallas started the season with a new offensive and defensive approach under first-year coach Bob Zaruta.

When the Mountaineers lost three games, further alterations were needed.

Zaruta altered practice routines, made minor personnel adjustments and often put the Mountaineers in different formations.

"We went more from a single-back set to two- and three-back sets," Zaruta said. "We went with the change in formations to complement the increased emphasis on running."

After the tough start, only one route remained to the postseason. Dallas had to win its final seven regular-season games in order to claim the last spot in the District 2 Class



Dallas running back Kris Roccograndi, right, runs through the grasp of Berwick's Travis Potter for a touchdown in the District 2 Class 3A semifinal game at Crispin Field in Berwick.

AAA playoffs, including beating Crestwood and Coughlin, two teams that had been ahead before ultimately occupying the next two spots in the standings behind the Mountaineers.

The streak started with a hard-fought 17-7 win over Coughlin and concluded with

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Knights' season ends with loss to top-seeded Warriors.

By TOM ROBINSON
For The Dallas Post

The Lake-Lehman High School football season had its share of ups and downs.

"With a young team, you're going to go through stages like that," said Black Knights coach Jerry Gilsky.

The high points, including an early four-game winning streak and back-to-back wins late in the season, got the team into the playoffs and provided hope for the future of a program that loses just three offensive and two defensive starters.

"I'm not totally content, but I'm happy that we made the playoffs this year," Gilsky said. "We faced a lot of adversity along the way this year and the kids kept fighting and fighting and made the playoffs."

Lake-Lehman finished 6-5, losing in the District 2 Class AA semifinals to top-seeded Wyoming Area, a team the Black Knights beat, 15-14, with a fourth-quarter comeback in the third game of the season.

The win over Wyoming Area was the high point of a season



Lake-Lehman quarterback Bill Hillman, right, runs a keeper as Wyoming Area's Zack LaNunziata moves in for the tackle in the District 2 Class 2A semifinal game against Lake-Lehman in West Pittston.

that featured an offense producing 42 or more points four times and a defense posting two shutouts.

"The kids did well," Gilsky said. "We struggled a little more toward the second half."

When the Black Knights were at their best, they controlled the ball on the ground.

Dustin Jones ran for 1,180 yards and 18 touchdowns on 206

carries. The line clearly played a part in the success with the top four runners all averaging at least 4.7 yards per carry.

John Van Scoy ran for 403 yards and six touchdowns on 73 carries while Brady Butler added 279 yards on 50 carries and Tom Donovan had 275 yards.

"We put together a nice solid

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JUNIOR MOUNTS HONORED FOR SUPER BOWL WIN



Members of the Dallas Junior Mounts B team run onto the field at Mountaineer Stadium during halftime of the Old Shoe Game to be honored for winning the Super Bowl the previous week. The Junior Mounts defeated the WWWE Panthers, 14-6, on Oct. 28 to earn their fifth straight perfect season and their fifth consecutive Super Bowl championship.

FIERCE FERRETS FINISH SECOND IN CHAMPIONSHIP



The Back Mountain Fierce Ferrets placed second in the Wyoming Valley Cup championship. The girls battled back from the bottom to play three games which ended with shootouts, allowing them to compete in the championship. From left, first row, are Joellen Spencer, Cassidy Ford, Alexis Lanza, Olivia Habib, Kristen O'Malley, Kaylee Yagloski, Halee Kush, Amy Supey, Sarah Salus, Morgna Dworak and Ashley Wheeler. Second row, Bob Kush, Eric Supey, Ken Wheeler, Dave Salus, coaches. Absent at the time of the photo were Kaitlyn Van Etten and Kirsten Kizis.

BMYSA hosts indoor futsal/soccer league

Back Mountain Youth Soccer will host an indoor futsal/soccer league Jan. 11 through March for ages U6 to high-school age at the Penn State/Wilkes-Barre campus gymnasium.

More information and sign up sheets are available online at www.bmysa.org. Registration closes Dec. 31.

Alumni soccer game slated for Nov. 24

The Annual Dallas High School Alumni Soccer Game will be played at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 24 at Cleary Field, Dallas.