

GA seems lone hope to unseat powerful Malvern Prep

By Don McKee
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It is a rare year when the faintest hint of competition wafts over the Interac League, which might as well change its name to the Malvern Prep League.

For several years Penn Charter battled Malvern mightily, but it hasn't been a factor recently. Last year tiny Episcopal Academy rode the shoulders of Dan Dougherty to six straight wins, but lost three straight when Dougherty was injured. Malvern coasted to an 8-1 season and might have had a 9-0 record if running back Paul Phelan hadn't been suspended in the loss at St. Mark's.

This year's hope in the anybody-

School preview

Another in a series on football prospects at area high schools

but-Malvern sweepstakes is Germantown Academy. The Patriots were the last league team to defeat Malvern and the last school other than Malvern to win the championship. That was in 1973, however, when a gallon of unleaded cost 31.9 cents, and that's long, long ago...

Malvern Prep: Coach Gamp Pellegrini welcomes back five starters, including quarterback Mike Burke and halfback David Orr. Jim Marino will help in the backfield. Tight end

Joe McGuire and lineman Brian Wall will help rebuild the line. The defense will be built around end Kevin Bradley, linebacker-center Steve Sullivan, deep back Ed Devine and linebacker Wall. Basketball player Barkley Sample will help the secondary. The Friars have three tremendous gaps, however, as Pheian was a physical, punishing-type back rarely found in this league, and Tom (Trooper) Sullivan was an all-star linebacker. The third missing player is star tackle Kevin Fitzpatrick, who was killed in a boating accident.

Germantown Academy: The golden arm of 6-foot, 4-inch Walt Norley brings great hope, and coach Jack Turner returns 30 lettermen from last year's 6-3 team in a concerted

effort to bring the title to Fort Washington. Norley will be throwing to a wave of receivers, including 6-5 Rick Marshall, speedy Bruce Sampson, Angelo Lochetto and Jim Turner. Running back Blair Talmadge caught 24 passes last year.

Penn Charter: The Quakers were the schizophrenics of the league last year, pummeling two good suburban teams (Lower Merion and Council Rock), then sliding near the bottom of the league with a 1-3 Interac record, the worst in years. Some good players return, however, and a dramatic move back toward the top is possible. Quarterback Brian McCloskey, running backs Jay Curcio and Ron Fritz, end Bob McNally and linemen Tim Dronson and Vince Della

Valle are returning starters. Ed Foley and Mike Pascali will move into the offensive line.

Episcopal Academy: Jim Auch surprised the league a year ago and should be competitive again. Behemoth tackles Bob Marra (6-3, 215) and Ernie Rosato (6-2, 220) lead the offense. Center John Madarasz, end Skip Hager and running back Gene Tinari all return. Bob Allman will move in at quarterback, and Jamie Auch and Cliff Lee will move into the backfield.

Haverford School: The Fords are hoping for an occasional upset as the league title seems very far off. Running back John Gillin, quarterback Joe Maselli and tight end Dan Mayock are keys.

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