

Cordelli Thanks 'Papa Bear' Henzes.

For Memorable Football Experience

By GUY VALVANO

Pete Cordelli Sr., a former area high school football player and coach, hasn't lost his zest for the sport despite his retirement from the teaching ranks less than a year ago.

The Peckville native, who has been residing in Langhorne since 1958, last coached a decade ago but he has remained close to football, thanks primarily to the fact that two of his sons are still involved.

Pete Jr., a former All-State quarterback at Nashaminy High School in Langhorne, recently was named receivers coach by the University of Minnesota. Mark, a sophomore, is playing football at the University of Minnesota. Mark, a

sophomore, is playing football at the University of Arkansas, from where his brother Pete departed to join the Minnesota staff.

"I still get around to the high school football practices at Nashaminy and other schools down here," Cordelli said by phone. "I haven't lost interest in football or the other sports just because I've retired from teaching. I still enjoy football."

Cordelli retired as a mathematics and physical education teacher at Nashaminy High School at the close of the 1982-83 term. His last coaching stint was in the role of assistant at Trenton State College in New Jersey in the early '70s. He currently is a full-time



Pete Cordelli Sr. . . . time for reflection

Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board employee at a

State Store in Newtown, not too far from his Langhorne residence.

Pete was head football coach at Nashaminy for one year, giving up the post before the start of the '68 season. He was the school's assistant coach for a number of years before moving up to head coach. Prior to joining Nashaminy, he served seven years as assistant football and baseball coach under John "Papa Bear" Henzes at Blakely High School. Pete excelled in both sports under Henzes while attending Blakely and later played football at George Washington University. When Henzes retired after the 1968 season, he had established himself as one of

the state's top coaches.

It was at the suggestion of John Petercusk, an Old Forge native currently serving as special teams coach of the Cleveland Browns of the NFL, that Cordelli left the Mid Valley school for Nashaminy. Pete helped Petercusk, then the head coach, turn out some of the state's finest football teams as an assistant.

"I've spent 34 years in education," Pete noted, "and I was at two good academic schools. It's a chapter in my life that's been just tremendous. I have to give a lot of credit to my old coach. He gave me my first opportunity to coach and teach at Blakely. He was just tremendous. I learned an awful lot from him. My wife, mother and uncle deserve a lot of credit too for the tremendous support they've given me."

Pete's wife is the former Helen Popovich of Montclair. His mother, Mrs. Sam Cordelli, and his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. James Carpenetti, reside in Peckville.

The late Stanley Kubash, former Blakely athletic director and coach, is another to whom Cordelli feels indebted.

The Cordellis also have two other children, Bruce, another ex-Nashaminy grider, is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and presently is stationed at Fort Sill, Okla. Lisa, who is married to Patrick Reilly of Indiana,

Pa., is studying for a nursing degree in Dublin, Ireland where her husband is attending medical school. Lisa, a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, is a linguistics major who holds a degree in environmental science.

Although their children are away from their adopted home, Pete and his wife plan to return to this area to become permanent residents.

In the meantime, Pete Cordelli Sr. plans to enjoy his retirement and stay close to the football scene. He'll be on the lookout for blue chippers for Pete Jr., who has joined Lou Holtz at Minnesota where they face a formidable task in trying to build the Gophers into a Big Ten football power.



TOURNEY CHAMPION — Introducing members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Trojans, who won Sunday Independent Eighth Grade Girls' Basketball Tournament title. Members of the team are: Susan Bolcavage, Amy Hughes, Marie Michalski, Lori Bonacci, Ann Turlip, Eileen Kelly, Dawn Kashuba, Chris Brunori, Krista Rogari, Lori Daley, Maura Alunni, Eileen Bolcavage and Megan McGee. Frank Shields is coach.

Lafayette Topples Lady Royals, 73-68

Lafayette College scored 16 unanswered points within a span of five minutes in the second half Saturday afternoon to erase an eight-point deficit, then held on to defeat the University of Scranton, 73-68, in a women's basketball game at the Long Center.

cond half as Lee Ann Grow connected for four straight field goals. The Lady Royals, in fact, opened a 51-43 lead on baskets by Grow, Melanie Bibak and Anne Crossin with 13:40 remaining in the game before running into a dry spell.

Wolfe connected for 27 points for Lafayette, while Stacy Cagenello added 16 and Mary Prokapski 12. Leedy had 18 points and Grow, Bibak and Shelley Ritz contributed 12 apiece for Scranton.

LAFAYETTE (73)
Andrew 1 00 2, Cagenello 7 33 16,

Royal IVs Win, 58-57

WILLIAMSPORT — The University of Scranton Junior Varsity basketball team defeated Lycoming, 58-57, Saturday.

Darren Scott won the game for the Baby Royals with a clutch shot at the buzzer as Stacey Bucklaw, netted 15 points and Bob DiGenova, George Schroth and John O'Boyle each netted 11.

Lycoming was led by Ron Heiler with 21 points, Jim Ellis and Mike Zuranski tallied 11 and 10, respectively.

SCRANTON (58)
Scott 2 2 8, Mullinham 0 0 2, Grady 1 0 0 2, DiGenova 4 3 5 11, Schroth 3 1 3 11, Bucklaw 4 3 4 11, O'Boyle 3 3 7 11. Totals: 22 14 23 58.
LYCOMING (57)
Zuranks 3 4 8 10, Scheurer 2 3 3 5, Ellis 3 3 7 11, Woodley 2 0 0 4, Heiler 1 2 3 11, Wharton 1 4 5 6, Krobbeck 0 0 0 0. Totals: 20 17 29 57.
Halftime: 27-27.
Officials: Jablonsky, Allen

Outlaws Hire Two Coaches

TULSA, Okla. (UPI) — Woody Widenhofer, the head coach of the USFL's Oklahoma Outlaws, Saturday hired two assistant coaches.

Jim McKinley, head coach at Prairie View A&M for two years, was named defensive line coach. McKinley was also head coach at North Carolina A&T and at Central State of Ohio.