

FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

Juniata

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"I think we have a good chemistry on this team. We have a nice young quarterback who can throw the ball very well. Then of course with Bodley running the ball, and Chad Eberle (wing back) is very dangerous, too. We have a big fullback in Josh Newcamp — we've got a whole stable," he said. "I think we're dangerous all around at the skill positions."

Others who lettered last year and are back are offensive end Andrew Boyer, a starter in that position and also a safety; middle linebacker Ty Treaster, who also can play fullback; and special teams members Klay Palm, Hank Moore, Dakota McNemar and Kellison. McNemar, a converted fullback, is lining up on the end this year.

When Juniata moved into District 6 three years ago, it seemed that playoff opportunities would present themselves more often for the

Indians, who have yet to see the postseason since making the switch. They have come close.

"The last two years we were the team that got edged out," Klingensmith said. "It came down to points."

The points were bigger the first two years after the change, in the Mountain League, but so were the teams on the schedule. Klingensmith said he feels more at home in the Tri-Valley League, and does not think the higher number of small schools penalizes his team in its effort to play into November.

"The Tri-Valley offers us more opportunity to win. Your record counts a lot, too," he said. "It's a good tough league in my opinion it's one of the tougher small leagues in the state."

Last year, circumstances victimized Juniata in a pair of games, most notably the second-week debacle against Tri-Valley, when a 26-0 lead evaporated and turned into a 35-26 loss.

"With Tri-Valley, we got

way ahead and then this electrical storm caused two big delays, then we came out and fumbled the ball right off the bat and they came down and scored," Klingensmith remembers, setting up the comeback of the year. "One game we lost we had just a rash of injuries like we've never seen before. Even though we had a winning record last year, I thought it was a good possibility we could have had a couple

more wins."

Klingensmith is hesitant to pick a winner in the TVL race, although he knows Williams Valley has plenty coming back, and certainly has the second game on the calendar circled — this time at Tri-Valley.

"It's hard to pick who's going to be on top this year," he said. "I do think that we have a team that can contend for a championship this year if we stay healthy."

Huskies

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There's no such thing as an easy matchup in the Mid-Penn's Commonwealth Division, and Maclay said one of her team's best advantages against the competition is its depth.

"We have a lot of players that can play. I think we have a lot of depth. I feel

like we have a lot of different players that can play and make a difference," she explained.

Mifflin County's first matchup is Sept. 3 at home against Chambersburg, and as the team gears up for the season, Maclay is excited to see what it will bring to the field.

"The girls have a good attitude and they're working hard. That's all I can ask," she said.



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