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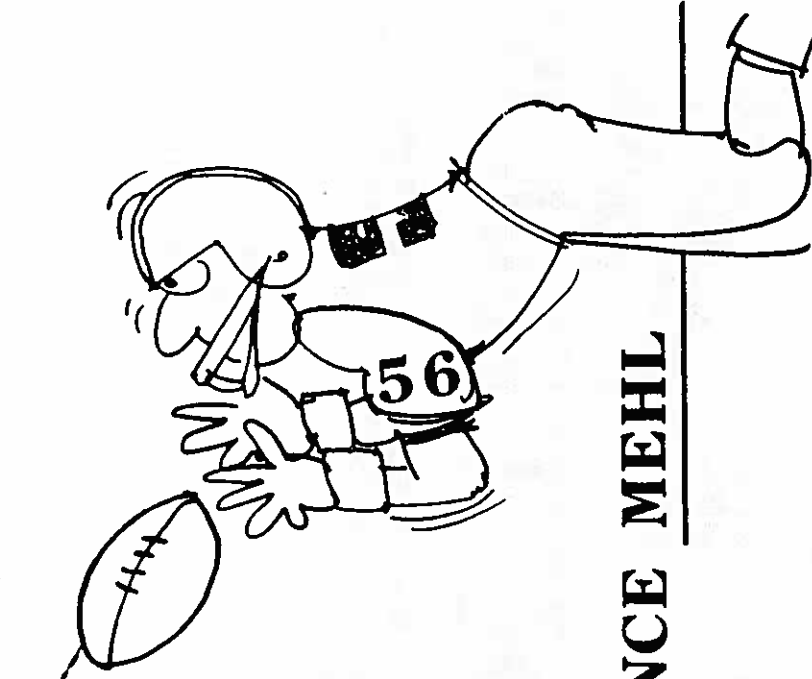
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DAV CHAPTER 117

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LANCE TRIVIA:

Born February 14, 1958

Flunked first driving test, had to be driven on first date with

Linda

Member South Bellaire Methodist Church

Mother, Secretary for Bellaire City Schools

Father, Retired from Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel

Three brothers: Bruce, Vince, Bill

Hobbies: Reading, golf, working cross word puzzles

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"Through the Years"

Member of Bellaire High National Honor Society
Tri-Captain Football Team, 1975-76
Captain Baseball Team; Played First Base; Left Handed Hitter
Played Basketball (8th Grade team undefeated)
Heartbreaking Loss to Cantoni Hoover in an icy rain storm
closed an 9-1 season

Worked in Coal Mines for three summers
Highly recruited; signed with Penn State
Learned to sit bench freshman year, playing several positions
before being moved to linebacker

Married Linda Bronchik July 22, 1978 after sophomore year
(had dated since sophomore year in high school)

Beat Ohio State 19-0 junior year, proving he was not "too
small" to play for a big school

Tri-Captain senior year, leading tackler, voted MVP by
team mates

Selected a Dapper Dan Man of the Year after junior year
Selected to play in Hula Bowl after Senior year
Graduated from Penn State with a Bachelor's Degree in
Industrial Arts

Third Round Draft Choice of New York Jets
First year was back-up linebacker until sprained ankle
Started as linebacker second year and has been leading
tackler since

Memorable year — 1983

7 interceptions, two of which were in the Playoff Game
with Oakland Raider's Jim Plunkett

34-yard touchdown return of a Ken Stabler pass in
victory over New Orleans

Voted MVP by team mates; first defensive player to
receive this honor since 1971

Selected to Pro Bowl after 1985 season

Children:

Lance Alan Mehl—Nov. 3, 1980

Lucas Ryan Mehl — July 13, 1983

Logan Michael Mehl — December 11, 1984

Program

Welcome Mike Sherwood
 Bellaire High School Athletic Director

Invocation Reverend Richard Mehl
 Jacobsburg Bible Church

City Proclamation Ugo Papola
 City Councilman

Address Jack Cera
 Ohio State Representative

Address Robert Ney
 Ohio State Senator

Address Richard Vannelle
 President, Bellaire City Board of Education

Dinner: Chicken, baked fish, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn,
 cole slaw, cake, coffee, pop, juice
 Prepared by Bellaire City Schools Cafeteria Staff
 Served by Bellaire High School Football Moms

Bill Van Horne Sports Editor
 WHEELING NEWS-REGISTER

William "Jake" Olsavsky Union Local High School
 Lance's High School Football Coach

Terry Snively River High School
 Lance's High School Baseball/Basketball Coach

Presentation Dave Ice
 Bellaire Seventh Grade Football

Greg Buttle New York Jets
 Former Teammate
 Bobby Jones New York Jets
 Former Teammate
 Bob Crable New York Jets
 Current Teammate
 Presentation Athletic Department

Matt Millen Former Penn State Teammate
 Currently Los Angeles Raiders

Ron Crosby New York Jets
 Former Teammate

Glenn Zumbach Penn State University
 Former Teammate

Presentation Norm Papola
 Bellaire Touchdown Club

Response LANCE MEHL
 Bellaire High School
 Penn State University
 New York Jets
 Bellaire's "Pro Bowler"

Closing Remarks
 Door Prizes

Benediction Rev. Richard Mehl

The program committee would like to especially thank the following for their generous contributions in making this evening's program possible: KATIE DODDS, STRUSSION & SON FLORIST, ZIDES, HERMAN BRUNORI, TONY IANNARELLI, BELLAIRE FOOTBALL MOMS, BELLAIRE CAFETERIA WORKERS.

February 21, 1986 6.30 PM

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Sam Tedeschi Vice-President
Mike Sherwood Treasurer
Bob Kovalyk Secretary

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Norman Papola
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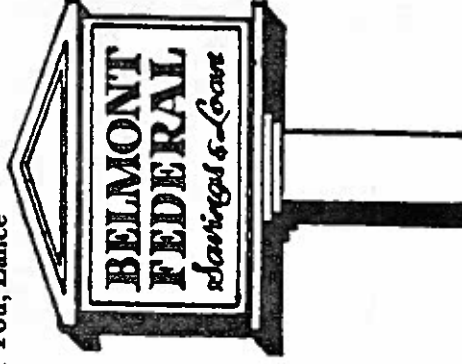
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Bellaire's Pro Bowler

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KIRK HALENAR

President of Council



ers, king

r center Jay Bilas had
e.
ma guard Tim Mc-
had 19 points, forward
Kennedy 14 and senior
Anthony Bowie 14 for
rs.

A (84)
11 0-0 12, Kennedy 6-12 2-3 14,
-21 1-1 31, Davis 0-3 0-1 0, Mc-
3-3 19, Sieger 1-21-23, Watson
artin 0-0 0-0 0, Roberts 1-1 1-2 3,
8-12 84.

n 11-17 6-7 28, Alarie 6-12 4-4 16,
11, Amaker 4-7 0-0 8, Dawkins
King 1-1 0-1 2, Ferry 2-4 2-2 6,
-3 0-0 2, Snyder 0-0 0-0 0. Totals
3.
-Duke 48, Oklahoma 40. Fouled
Total fouls—Oklahoma 20.
Rebounds—Oklahoma 28
0), Duke 29 (Henderson 8).
lahoma 19 (McCallister 8), Duke
3), A—8,564.

id-ranked sas nets y victory

ENCE, Kan. (UPI) —
ogg scored a season-
points Saturday to
3 Kansas a 84-69 vic-
Kansas State, clin-
Jayhawks their first
t championship since

's offensive display —
points scored by a
this season — enabled
to improve to 26-3
id 11-1 in the confer-
Jayhawks also ex-
their overall winning
seven games and their
t winning streak to 32



HELPING PAY tribute to former college and NFL
teammate Lance Mehl when the former Big Red
athlete was honored by more than 400 friends and
fans Friday night were Matt Millen, left, of the Los
Angeles Raiders, and Greg Buttle, right, a former
New York Jets' teammate. With the honoree is his
wife, Linda.

BOYD NELSON PHOTO

Mehl overwhelmed by Bellaire tribute

offensive display — points scored by a his season — enabled o improve to 26-3 d 11-1 in the confer- Jayhawks also ex- air overall winning ven games and their winning streak to 32

TE (69)
1 3-4 15, Coleman 8-15 5-5 21,
6, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Wright 9-15
ons 0-1 0-0 0, Muff 0-0 0-0 0,
Green 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 25-50

2 1-2 15, Kellogg 13-17 4-4 30,
1 10, Hunter 4-8 1-1 9, Thomp-
Marshall 0-2 0-0 0, Piper 0-1
0-0 2-2 2, Hull 0-0 0-0 0, Totals

ansas State 34 Kansas 33,
Total 68—Kansas
sas 20, Rebounds—Kansas
e 3, Kansas 22, Warring,
sas 15—Kansas State 15
sas 25, Kellogg 9, A—E 40.

ive n's

ayed like pre-season figured they would 1 year. The Blue ot 55 percent from issed only six of 23 and used a tightly defense to frustrate redmen. "I'm very elated," h Joey Meyer said. i has performed ie great difficulty. ogether and were effort together to-

okson paced St. i had a five-game k snapped, with 23 Berry added 21, 15 half.

e real easy for me here and say we good game but I'm) that, DePaul beat ses of the game." aid. "They are a "

ied two scoring raight in the first straight midway second half — to l of the game.

edmen rallied to e points, the last at 71-68 with 1:59 efore Strickland hit key layups to

new that if we er we'd win it."

l. mons expanded a lead into a 10- ge in the opening the second half. caught fire and n's to within 49-47 the game.

en scored 10

Mehl overwhelmed by Bellaire tribute

By RICH GIBSON
Times Leader Sports Writer

More than 400 appreciative fans turned out Friday night to honor hometown hero Lance Mehl at a special dinner and tribute held in the Bellaire High School cafeteria.

Many of Mehl's former Big Red teammates were among the gathering as well as several of his NFL friends.

The large turnout overwhelmed the former three-sport standout, who noted that he thought it was to be just a small gathering of friends. The quiet-spoken athlete, who gained All-Pro recognition for the first time last season, admitted the large crowd made him nervous even though he's performed before thousands of fans in many of the country's large stadiums.

"Bellaire will always be a part of me," Mehl remarked. "There are so many people to thank who have had an impact on my life. My biggest thanks, though, must go to my parents."

The program featured brief opening remarks by Bellaire High Athletic Director Mike Sherwood, who introduced Bellaire city councilman Ugo Papola for a city proclamation recognizing Feb. 21 as Lance Mehl Day in Bellaire.

Also taking part in the opening ceremonies were Ohio State Representative Jack Cera, and Richard Vannelle, president of the Bellaire Board of Education.

Following dinner, Bill Van Horne, sports editor of the Wheeling News-Register, introduced two of

Mehl's former high school coaches, William "Jake" Olsavsky and Terry Snively.

Mehl was then presented with a football lamp by members of the Bellaire seventh grade football team. It was through Mehl's generosity that the seventh grade program was initiated.

The second half of the program featured remarks from NFL stars Matt Millen, Greg Buttle, Bob Grable, Bobby Jones, Ron Crosby and Glen Zumbach, Mehl's former teammate at Penn State.

Zumbach fondly recalled many of the lighter moments spent with Mehl at Penn State and told the audience, "I think the best thing I can say about Lance is that he hasn't changed at all. Friends like him don't come around very often in life."

Norm Papola of the Bellaire Touchdown Club, which organized the event, presented an inscribed glass plate highlighting Mehl's grid career.

Mehl was also the recipient of a banner, presented to him by current Big Red captains Scott Blumling (football) and Robey Jeffreys (basketball).

Mehl, who was introduced by long-time friend, Atty. David Liberati, took time to reminisce with many of his ex-Big Red teammates, before expressing appreciation to the Bellaire Football Moms, cafeteria workers, and to his many fans in the Ohio Valley.

Also in attendance was Mehl's wife, Linda. The couple now resides on Long Island, N.Y. with their three children, Lance Alan, 5; Lucas Ryan, 2½; and Logan Michael, 14 months of age.

Joubert, Grant shine in Michigan comeback

By RICHARD L. SHOOK
UPI Sports Writer

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (UPI) — Guards Antoine Joubert and Gary Grant, whose ineffective outside shooting has hurt Michigan this season, combined for 20 second-half points Saturday to lead the Wolverines to a 62-54 nationally televised non-conference victory over Alabama-Birmingham.

Joubert, who led all scorers with 20 points, sank the only five field goals Michigan made in the first 10:12 of the second half to hold Alabama-Birmingham's lead to 45-38. The Blazers held a 28-26 halftime edge.

Then Grant took over and scored all eight of his second-half points, mainly off short jumpers near the free throw line against the Blazers' zone.

He also keyed a Michigan defense that limited Alabama-Birmingham to just nine points in the final 10 minutes of the second half.

The No. 8 Wolverines improved to 2-1 this season while the

Wolverines' lead and Grant sank a jumper from just inside the free throw line after Anthony Gordon had hit a 6-footer for the Blazers.

Grant followed his jumper with two free throws and Rice hit a long baseliner to make it 57-50 with 2:54 left.

Guard Steve Mitchell led Alabama-Birmingham with 16 points but played the second half with a right ankle sprain suffered in the final second of the first half. He had 10 points in the first half.

James Ponder had 11 points

and Archie Johnson scored 10 for UAB.

ALABAMA-BIRMINGHAM (54)
Mincy 1-8 2-4 4, Charles 1-4 0-0 2, Johnson 5-6 0-0 10, Ponder 5-12 1-2 11, Mitchell 7-11 2-2 16, Gordon 2-4 0-0 4, Collins 2-3 3-5 7, Howard 0-0 0-0 0, Foster 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 23-48 8-13 54.

MICHIGAN (62)
Reifford 3-4 0-0 6, Wade 0-2 0-0 0, Tarpley 2-6 4-4 8, Joubert 10-14 0-2 20, Grant 6-10 2-3 14, Thompson 0-2 1-2 1, Rice 5-7 0-1 10, Henderson 1-2 1-3 3, Totals 27-47 8-15 62.

Halftime—Alabama-Birmingham 28, Michigan 26. Fouled out—None. Total fouls—Alabama-Birmingham 18, Michigan 15. Rebounds—Alabama-Birmingham 24 (Johnson 8), Michigan 31 (Tarpley 9). Assists—Alabama-Birmingham 14 (Charles 4), Michigan 12 (Grant 7). A—13,609.

Lowly Seminoles stun Memphis St.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (UPI) — Freshman Pat Conner slammed in a missed shot with one second remaining Saturday to lift Florida State to a 47-32 victory over Memphis State.

FSU, 10-15, also got 21 points from LaRae Davis and dominated the boards at 47-32. William Bedford led the



New York Jets' all-pro linebacker Lance Mehl had a reunion with his high school coaches during Friday night's ceremonies held at the Bellaire High cafeteria to honor Mehl. At left is Bill "Jake" Olsavsky, whose Big Red football team went 9-1 in 1975, Lance's senior year of high school, and at the right is Terry Snively, whose basketball team upset River View,

defending Ohio state Class A champion and winner of 20 straight, and whose baseball team won the OVAC championship in Lance's senior year. Mehl was a three-sports star and Snively, now head football coach at River, had the distinction of coaching him in three sports. Olsavsky is now head football coach at Union Local. (News-Register Photo)

Tewell Lead L

LOS ANGELES (U) Tewell, who hasn't won since capturing two in the first six holes Saturday to a 5-under-par 66 and lead entering the final \$450,000 Los Angeles Op

Zimmerer

PHOENIX, Ariz. (U) Beth Zimmerman fired 70 Saturday to go 9-under three rounds and maintain the \$250,000 Turquoise C

Zimmerman holds a over Cathy Kratzert, under 66 at the par-77 more Adobe Course to 209.

Another stroke back were Donna Caponi and who both fired 3-under day. Amy Alcott and were another shot back 211.

Zimmerman had a day that contained five three bogeys. She nee from 15 feet for bogey 9th hole, and did the feet on the par-3 16th.

"The greens are getting harder to putt on and r man said.

She did have some greens. Among her bir a 35-footer on the par-5 footer on the par-4 18th

Despite holding a Zimmerman said she c to change her game di final round.

"Cathy Kratzert sh and that could happen row. I could shoot a 69 still lose. I can't take it

Kratzert, sister of sional Bill Kratzert, h and an eagle to offset posting her 66, her be professional.

"The difference toda two rounds was that I 30-foot putts that wen and a 50-footer for eagl

Her play was high eagle at the par-5 11th she hit her tee shot a 2

"With my lack of make up for it with ch she said. "My brothe both taught to swing h





The Mehls got together for a family picture after Friday night's banquet at Bellaire honoring New York Jets' linebacking star Lance Mehl. Seated, from the left, are Beulah and Paul Mehl, parents of the ex-Penn State standout; Linda, Lance's wife, with son Logan, 14 months old, and Lance Alan, age 4. Standing

are Lance's brother, Bruce, with Lucas Ryan, middle son of Lance and Linda and now a year and a half; Lance, with one of the awards he received during the ceremonies; brother Bruce Mehl, and Denise (Lance's sister-in-law) and her husband, brother Vince Mehl

(News-Register Photo)

Bellaire Pays Tribute To Grid Star Lance Mehl

By BILL VAN HORNE

News-Register Sports Editor

They showered Lance Mehl with presents and with affection Friday night in his home town of Bellaire.

It was Lance Mehl Day in the All-American Town and the New York Jets' All-Pro linebacker returned to a hero's welcome.

However, the 28-year-old Mehl isn't likely have his ego inflated one iota by the colorful proceedings. In the first place, his humility comes honest and sincere and praise is appreciated quietly. Moreover, even if Lance were the vain type, the performance of some of his former Penn State teammates who were on hand for the occasion would have deflated him.

Ex-Penn Staters Greg Buttle, Matt Millen, Ron Crosby, and Glen Zumbach were present—along with ex-Notre Damer Bob Crable, now of the Jets, and former Jet Bobby Jones—and they regaled the crowd of over 400 with stories—such true and some pure joshing. If there had been room, people would have been rolling in the aisles but it was a tight fit because Mehl's admirers turned out in such great numbers.

Illustrating Mehl's humility is his first reaction when he had been told less than a month ago that the Big Red Touchdown Club was planning a testimonial dinner in his behalf. He said he doubted that such an affair would attract 50 people—and he figured half of those would be relatives.

Relatives did play a part, of course. In fact, one of them, Lance's uncle, Rev. Richard Mehl, was responsible for the invocation and benediction.

Mike Sherwood, Bellaire High athletic director and himself a former Big Red sports hero and also a quarterbacking great at WVU, presided over the festivities efficiently. The first thing he had straighten out was the fact that he was wearing a green blazer and that there were green napkins on the table. He assured that the jacket did not mean that he had won the Master's nor that he had defected to the school across



Former Penn State stars got together to honor one of their own Friday night at Bellaire. Shown with Lance and Linda Mehl and Matt Millen, left, who was Mehl's teammate with the Nittany Lions and now plays linebacker with the Los Angeles Raiders, and Greg Buttle, right, who preceded Mehl and Millen at Penn State and was Mehl's teammate with the New York Jets before his retirement last year.

(News-Register Photo)

somewhat of a slowpoke on pass coverage in practice but how he was always in the right place at the right time on Saturdays or Friday nights. "You didn't have to coach him; you just pointed him," Olsavsky said.

Snively also extolled Lance for his abilities in basketball (where Mehl himself admitted that he usually picked up more personal fouls than points) and baseball, where he played first base and hit a ton on a team that went to the regional tournament when he was a junior and won the OVAC title when he was a senior. As Snively noted, Mehl's forte in basketball was rebounding. He owned the backboards.

During the evening, presentations were made to Mehl on behalf of the Bellaire seventh grade football program, to which he has generously contributed funds over the last three years; the high school athletic department, and the Touchdown Club. He and his wife, Linda, received a lamp decorated with a Jet

eral manager of the New England Patriots, after the Raiders lost to the Patriots in the playoffs. Millen had been ired by the verbal abuse which Sullivan had delivered from the safety of the sidelines. But Friday night, Matt denied he had hit Sullivan at all. "It was somebody else that looked like me," he said, with full knowledge that not a soul in the room believed him.

Buttle, who starred at Penn State from 1973 to '75 and then played with the Jets until retiring from football last season, was hilarious. He and Millen were unmerciful in their treatment of their cronies. And the biggest fear each one had was that someone else would get in the last word.

Millen said that he and Lance had become close in college because Lance had led him to believe that Bellaire (a town which Matt pointed out many people pronounce "Blair") was a lot like his own home community of Hokendauqua, Pa. "It isn't," the Raider linebacker said Friday

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Lance Mehl

By BILL VAN HORNE

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Illustrating Mehl's humility is his first reaction when he had been told less than a month ago that the Big Red Touchdown Club was planning a testimonial dinner in his behalf. He said he doubted that such an affair would attract 50 people—and he figured half of those would be relatives.

Relatives did play a part, of course. In fact, one of them, Lance's uncle, Rev. Richard Mehl, was responsible for the invocation and benediction.

Mike Sherwood, Bellaire High athletic director and himself a former Big Red sports hero and also a quarterbacking great at WVU, presided over the festivities efficiently. The first thing he had straighten out was the fact that he was wearing a green blazer and that there were green napkins on the table. He assured that the jacket did not mean that he had won the Master's nor that he had defected to the school across the street, St. John's Central. It was "New York Jet green", he emphasized.

Mehl received a proclamation from the city of Bellaire, presented by councilman Ugo Papola; resolutions from the Ohio General Assembly, one presented by Rep. Jack Cera (ex-Big Red) and the other by Tom Strussion, acting in behalf of State Sen. Robert Ney, who was unable to be present. Richard Vannelle, president of the Bellaire City Board of Education, brought a salute from the school system and the youngsters in it.

Two of Lance's high school coaches, Bill "Jake" Olsavsky and Terry Snively, were on the program and reminisced about the Mehl they knew—"not a practice player but always the best on game day," they agreed. They told how Mehl was



Former Penn State stars got together to honor one of their own Friday night at Bellaire. Shown with Lance and Linda Mehl and Matt Millen, left, who was Mehl's teammate with the Nittany Lions and now plays linebacker with the Los Angeles Raiders, and Greg Buttle, right, who preceded Mehl and Millen at Penn State and was Mehl's teammate with the New York Jets before his retirement last year.

(News-Register Photo)

somewhat of a slowpoke on pass coverage in practice but how he was always in the right place at the right time on Saturdays or Friday nights. "You didn't have to coach him; you just pointed him," Olsavsky said.

Snively also extolled Lance for his abilities in basketball (where Mehl himself admitted that he usually picked up more personal fouls than points) and baseball, where he played first base and hit a ton on a team that went to the regional tournament when he was a junior and won the OVAC title when he was a senior. As Snively noted, Mehl's forte in basketball was rebounding. He owned the backboards.

During the evening, presentations were made to Mehl on behalf of the Bellaire seventh grade football program, to which he has generously contributed funds over the last three years; the high school athletic department, and the Touchdown Club. He and his wife, Linda, received a lamp decorated with a Jet helmet; a large red and black banner that carried the numbers he has worn on his back as a sports star; an etched souvenir plate, and a plaque.

Acting in behalf of the seventh grade football program were three youngsters who had benefitted from it—Scott Woods, Jack Patrone, and David Ice.

Mehl also received more than a few barbs from Buttle, Millen and Co. about his speed. And Crable, a backup linebacker, lamented that with Lance nursing an injured heel, he had practiced all week with the defense and had expected to play on Sunday. But when Sunday came, Mehl pulled his aching body together and took his place on the field.

Millen, now with the Oakland Raiders, absorbed some verbal jabs for unloading on Patrick Sullivan, gen-

eral manager of the New England Patriots, after the Raiders lost to the Patriots in the playoffs. Millen had been ired by the verbal abuse which Sullivan had delivered from the safety of the sidelines. But Friday night, Matt denied he had hit Sullivan at all. "It was somebody else that looked like me," he said, with full knowledge that not a soul in the room believed him.

Buttle, who starred at Penn State from 1973 to '75 and then played with the Jets until retiring from football last season, was hilarious. He and Millen were unmerciful in their treatment of their cronies. And the biggest fear each one had was that someone else would get in the last word.

Millen said that he and Lance had become close in college because Lance had led him to believe that Bellaire (a town which Matt pointed out many people pronounce "Blair") was a lot like his own home community of Hokendauqua, Pa. "It isn't," the Raider linebacker said Friday with a sense of discovery. "We had outhouses until 1970. You have one-way streets, and traffic lights and fast-food outlets."

However, when the pros and ex-pros turned serious, there was a common theme that ran through their remarks. As Millen said, "The greatest things about Lance are his humility, his honesty and his consistency. He is a great player on the field but an even greater man off the field."

It was also agreed that Mehl, who played in pain this past season while performing at a new position (inside linebacker) and yet made the Pro Bowl, was the true leader of the Jets' defense and should have been All-Pro for at least several seasons.

(See Mehl, Sports Page 10)

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Football Talk

Lance Mehl (right) talks football Friday night prior to a testimonial dinner for the New York Jets' linebacker at alma mater Bellaire High

School. At left is Mehl's prep coach, Jake Olsavsky, and ex-Penn State teammate Matt Millen, who plays for the Los Angeles Raiders.

(Photo by Mike McNell)