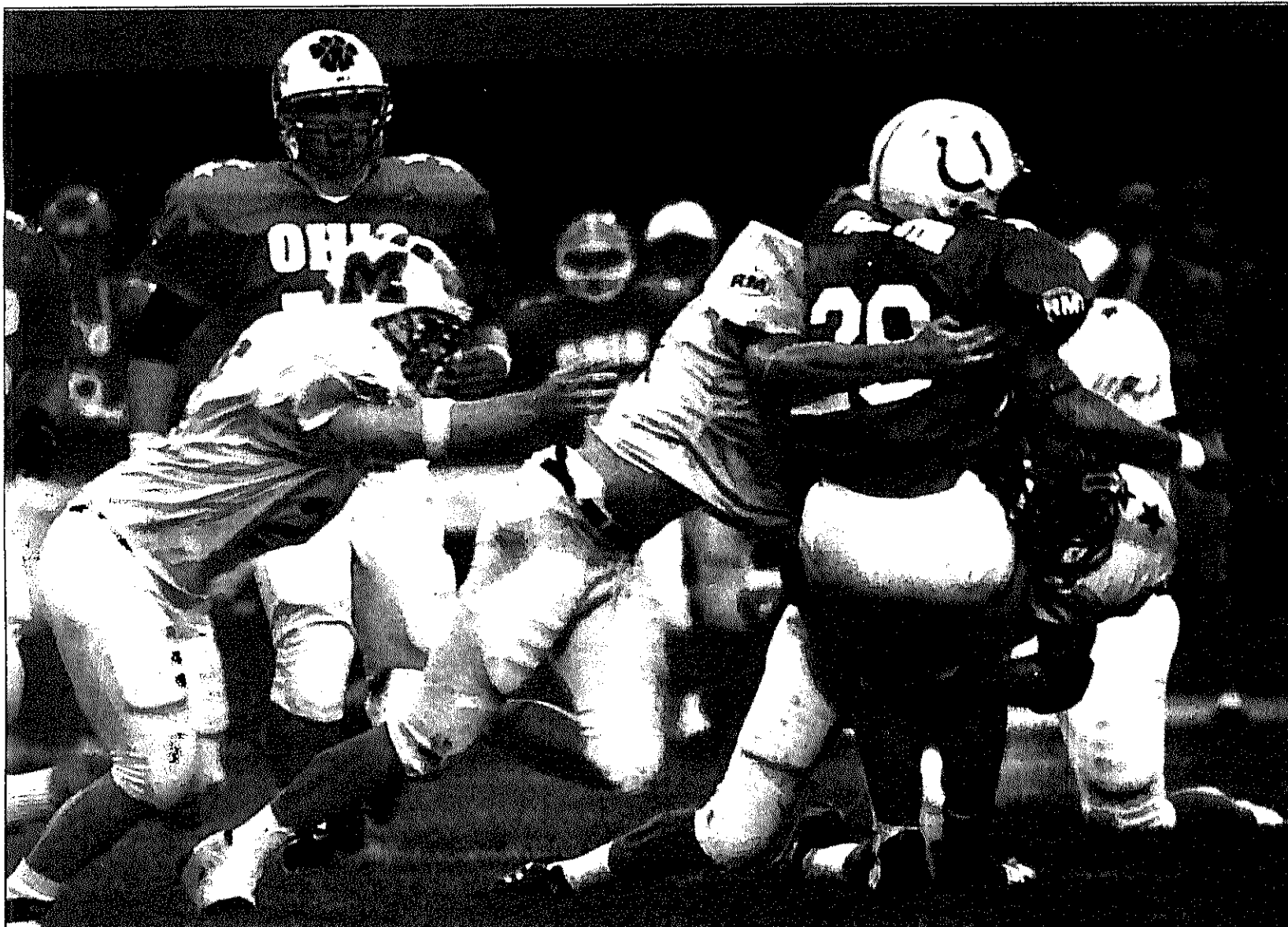


# Ohio Survives



Photos by Scott McCloskey

Above, Ohio's Ty Platt is tackled by West Virginia's Taylor Frankovitch, left, and Matt DeSantis, on ground, as Kyle Lowers dives into the fray during the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Football Charity Classic Sunday. Below, Ohio's Justin Schafer looks for yardage.

## Buckeyes rally to defeat West Virginia in OVAC Classic, 32-26

By SHAWN RINE  
Staff Writer

It's just the way it's been of late for West Virginia. So close, but yet so far away.

Ohio defensive end Michael Edwards stepped in front of a Matt Wharton screen pass and raced 29 yards to set up Jordan Williams' second touch-

down of the game with 28 seconds remaining, giving Ohio an improbable come-from-behind 32-26 victory over West Virginia Sunday night, in the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Football Charity Classic at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Having not won the contest for eight years — now nine — Mountaineers head coach Tom Taylor might well have settled for a tie. Edwards, however, doesn't seem to care for that 'Kiss your sister' mentality.

"Michael was a replacement player for us," says Ohio coach Dave Bruney, "but we felt all along — and I told my wife this before we came to camp — that Michael Edwards would make a key play to help us win the game.

"God Bless him."

Twice it appeared as if West Virginia was going to break its long losing streak, but each time Ohio was able to answer with big plays. With the game tied at 20, the Mountaineers were forced to punt from their own 32-yard line. Josh Kusich's end-over-end boot hit the ground once and then caromed off the facemask of Edison's Steve Potkrajac, and an alert Bill Whitewill was there to pounce on it at the Buckeyes' 35.

Six plays later Cameron's Justin Beresford, the game's leading rusher with 123 yards on 17 car-



ries, bulled his way into the end zone from 10 yards away to put West Virginia on top 26-20 following a missed extra point.

Ohio answered right back. With just 3:48 remaining in the contest, the Buckeyes embarked on an abbreviated four-play, 67-yard drive that culminated in a Justin Schafer to Anthony Antonucci 54-yard scoring strike. The extra point was blocked by Wheeling Central's Steve Skrzypek, leaving the game knotted at 26.

"There were a lot of big plays from a lot of people tonight," Bruney said. "I thought Justin Schafer played a (heckuva) game, I really did.

"For that amount of time, to learn our

offense," trailing off with a head nod.

West Virginia began its next drive at its own 32 with just 1:58 showing on the scoreboard. Beresford ripped off a 14-yard run to put the ball at the 46, but an incompleteness in the direction of the game's leading receiver Kyle Scherich — five catches, 70 yards — preceded the momentum-swinging interception of Wharton.

"I keep trying to tell Wharton (if it weren't for him we wouldn't have been in the game)," Taylor said. "He made so many plays up and down the field. He put us in position to win the game.

Please See OHIO, Page 15



### OVAC Leaders

**PASSING:** Justin Schafer, Ohio (Union Local), 8-for-11, 129 yards, touchdown.

**RUSHING:** Justin Beresford, W.Va. (Cameron), 34 carries, 123 yards, touchdown.

**RECEIVING:** Kyle Scherich, W.Va. (Brooke), five catches, 70 yards, two touchdowns.

■ SUMMARY: Page 15.

(Continued from Page 13)

"Unfortunately it ended up falling on him with that one bad play. But that's the way it goes."

Ohio turned the ball over on its first possession of the game, opening the door for West Virginia to get on the board first. Magnolia's Derek Kocher knocked the ball loose from Antonucci and Wheeling Central's Matt DeSantis recovered on the Ohio 34.

Five running plays resulted in 13 yards, before Wharton hooked up with Scherich on a 16-yard scoring strike at the 8:44 mark. Scherich celebrated by dunking the ball over the South goal post.

Ohio, however, started to show its muscle immediately after, embarking on a 16-play (all run), 75-yard drive that ate up 6:59 off the clock. The drive ended when Monroe Central's Chris Wilson dove in from the two. A two-point conversion pass fell harmlessly to the turf, allowing West Virginia a one-point lead.

The Buckeyes marched right down the field once again on their next possession, their first of the second period, this time churning 8:13 off the clock. Martins Ferry's Ty Platt finished off the 19-play, 75-yard drive with a 3-yard plunge. The kick gave the designated hosts a 13-7 halftime advantage.

Scherich and Wharton hooked up once again in the third quarter. This time the distance, five yards, was shorter but the result was the same. The snap was high on the PAT and the conversion failed.

West Virginia took its second lead of the contest at the 1:41 mark of the third quarter, as Wharton teamed with Wheeling Park's Nick Stefanow on a 3-yard TD pass. The drive was aided by a 41-yard Beresford burst up the gut.

"There is a lot of pain," Taylor says, "to be in it like that, especially since we came in as

32ND ANNUAL OVAC  
ALL-STAR GAME  
(at Wheeling Island Stadium)  
West Virginia 7 0 13 6 — 26  
Ohio 6 7 0 20 — 32

First Quarter  
W — Scherich 16 pass from Wharton (Kusich kick) 8:44  
O — Wilson 2 run (pass failed), 1:29

2nd Quarter  
O — Platt 3 run (Mueller kick), 2:12

Third Quarter  
W — Scherich 5 pass from Wharton (run failed), 6:51  
W — Stefanow 3 pass from Wharton (Kusich kick), 1:41

Fourth Quarter  
O — Jo. Williams 8 run (Mueller kick), 9:43  
W — Beresford 10 run (kick failed), 3:57  
O — Antonucci 54 pass from Schafer (kick blocked), 2:06  
O — Jo. Williams 3 run (kick blocked), :28.

Individual Statistics  
RUSHING: West Virginia 34-162-td (Beresford 17-123-td, Douglas 7-39, Wharton 6-17, Flowers 3-(-5), Team 1-(-12); Ohio 51-213-4td (Schafer 12-66, Jo. Williams 10-56-2td, Platt 15-51-td, Wilson 11-32-td, Bane 3-8).

PASSING: West Virginia 8-16-119-3td-x (Wharton 6-9-69-3td-x, Jones 2-7-50); Ohio 8-11-129-td (all by Schafer).

RECEIVING: West Virginia 8-119-3td (Scherich 5-70-2td, Stefanow 2-30-td, Douglas 1-19); Ohio 8-129-td (Antonucci 3-64-td, Abbott 2-33, Rose 3-26, Suznavich 1-9).

FIRST DOWNS: West Virginia 15, Ohio 19.

PENALTIES: West Virginia 5-45, Ohio 5-50.

FUMBLES: West Virginia 2-0, Ohio 2-2.

such big underdogs.

"We were told we were going to get pushed around all over the place, but our kids worked so hard to get ready for this game. When you don't reach your goal it's painful, it hurts."

#### Game Notes

The game was delayed at half-time for more than an hour as storms and lightning swept through the Ohio Valley ... Schafer completed 8 of 11 passes for 129 yards and was Ohio's leading rusher with 66 stripes ... W.Va. blocked a pair of extra points in the fourth quarter ... Wharton completed six passes on the night, three for touchdowns.

# W.Va. Selects Offensive Line

OVAC All-Star Game set for July 27 in Wheeling

By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer

As camp for the annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Charity Classic draws closer, West Virginia continues to stockpile some of the finest talent the Mountain State has to offer.

Coach Tom Taylor has named his offensive lineman for the annual affair, which is slated for July 27 at Wheeling Island Stadium with a 7:15 p.m. kickoff.

The offensive line is a fairly big group, but the thing that impresses Taylor is its agility and ability to move.

"I think we have some decent size," Taylor explained. "I doubt we will be as big as Ohio just knowing some of the kids that we played against during the season."

With the Mountaineers planning on utilizing the option as well as counter treys, Taylor knew selecting linemen with athleticism was a must.

The offensive line includes: Magnolia's Sam Blatt, Paden City's Mark Doty, Weir Madonna's Paul Duffy, Oak Glen's Patrick McGillian, Brooke's Frank Rocchio, Wheeling Park's Kevin Scott, Wheeling Central's Steve Skrzypek and Oak Glen's Bill Whitehill.

Here is a capsule look at the players:

**BLATT**, Magnolia — This former Blue Eagles enjoyed a sterling four-year run under Coach Mark Batton.

Blatt was a standout at center and defensive tackle with his foot-10, 200-pound frame.

Blatt — who was a three-year letterman and served as captain — earned all-OVAC Class 3-A honors. He was also picked to play in the BACF and Ohio/West Virginia All-Star Football games.

Sam was also a standout in the classroom where he maintained a 4.0 grade point average. He was a member of the National Honor Society.

Sam, who plans to attend West Virginia University, is the son of Joe and Janet Blatt.

**DOTY**, Paden City — This former Wildcat could see time on both sides of the ball when the OVAC game unfolds.

As a Wildcat, Doty was a standout at linebacker.

The 6-0, 200-pounder was an Honorable Mention All-West Virginia pick.

He also played in the BACF Game and was Second-Team All-Valley and Second-Team Mason Dixon Conference.

Mark, the son of Larry Sandra Doty, will head to Fairmont State College.

**DUFFY**, Weirton Madonna — This former Blue Don was a two-way standout for Coach Bob Kramer's team this past fall.

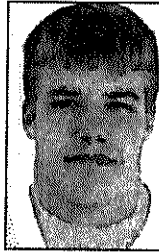
Duffy earned all sorts of awards during his final two years on the grid-iron. He was second-team All-Valley.

Valley, first-team Mason-Dixon and Honorable Mention All-OVAC.

Duffy is also active in the S.A.D.D., Pep Club, Class Representative, Student Council and Interact Club.

Paul, the son of Paul Duffy and Leslie Golubosky, is headed to Bethany College.

**MCGILLIAN**, Oak Glen — This offensive tackle won't have much to learn at OVAC camp seeing he has been a starter in the Golden Bears' sys-



Blatt



Rocchio

tem for the past several years.

McGillian, a 5-11, 245-pounder, was a two-way tackle for Taylor.

He earned three letters at the New Cumberland-based school. As a senior, McGillian was a first-team All-OVAC 3-A pick.

McGillian was also a standout in wrestling, as he finished second in the state meet. He was also a four-year letterman on the baseball field.

Patrick, the son of Jim and Susan McGillian, plans to attend Fairmont State.

**ROCCHIO**, Brooke — This former Bruin was a standout defensive end and offensive lineman for Coach Dave Reitter's team last fall.

The 6-0, 210-pounder was recognized as first-team All-OVAC, All-Valley and All-Area.

Along with his football skills, Rocchio has been a student of the martial arts for the past 10 years, where he has earned a Black Belt.

Frank, the son of Frank and Dee Rocchio of Follansbee, will attend Washington and Jefferson College.

**SKRZYPEK**, Wheeling Central — This two-way tackle was a major cog in the Maroon Knights' state titles two of the last three seasons.

Skrzypek was one of the top blockers and defensive players for Coach Jim Thomas the past three seasons.

In 2001, he was named Central's Defensive Player of the Year. In 2002, he captured the Lou Mack Award and was named All-Valley.

Off the playing field, Skrzypek is a volunteer of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and Peer Ministry.

Steve, the son of Larry and Joyce Skrzypek, will attend Wheeling Jesuit University.

**SCOTT**, Wheeling Park — This Patriot was the team captain as a senior and enjoyed a most productive campaign under Coach Mark Nardone.

Playing as an offensive guard and defensive tackle, Scott enjoyed a solid three-year run with Park.

The 6-0, 215-pounder is listed amongst American High School Students.

He also served on the newspaper and yearbook staff.

Kevin, the son of Bob and Valerie Scott of Valley Grove, will enroll at West Liberty State College in the fall.

**WHITEHILL**, Oak Glen — Another one of Taylor's former players should fit right in on the Mountaineer offensive front.

Whitehill figures to see much of his playing time at guard with his 6-0, 205-pound frame.

Whitehill also served as Oak Glen's team captain.

Along with football, he is also active in wrestling and baseball. Bill, the son of Peggy and Bill Whitehill, will attend Virginia Tech University.

## OVAC Seeking '93 Participants

The Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic committee is asking for help.

As part of this month's annual midsummer gleam game, the players and coaches and members of the Queen of Queens court from the 1993 All-Star Game are scheduled to be honored.

Committee members have had a difficult time tracking down several members of both teams for the reunion and have released a list of players for which they are seeking addresses.

#### OHIO

Barnesville: Aaron Smith, Jason Plumly, Jason Marks; Bellaire: Mike Call, Tim McCabe, Scott Clark; Beallsville: Dana Keely; Buckeye Local: Billy West, Mike Hesske; Cadiz: Tom Hillegas; Martins Ferry: John Caprita; Mingo: James Smarrella, Mark Blackburn; Meadowbrook: Matt Schehl; River: Jonathan Winkler, Don Hendershot; Shady-side: Brian Hammond, Chad Wiley; St. Clairsville: Scott Porterfield; Steubenville: David Lamatrice; Steubenville Central: Joe Polshaw, Mike Kulin, Fred Manalac; Union Local: Matt Morris; Toronto: Randy Kerstet-

ter; Wellsville: Andy Martin

#### WEST VIRGINIA

Bishop Donahue: Mark Gordon; Brooke: Buck Neel, Jim Mirasola, Kirk Stecic, Steve Lazear; John Marshall: Jason Burge; Linsly: Bryan Burkhardt, Scott Winters; Magnolia: Jagady Blue, Bryan Hostetler; Oak Glen: Robert Adkins; Sistersville: Jason Amos; St. Marys: Bill Sams; Tyler: Ryan Walton; Valley: Chad Judge; Wheeling Central: Jerry Ames, Kevin Leinweber, Curt McGhee, Dave Sobotka; Weir: Marcus Clausell, Tim Midget, James Sauer; Wheeling Park: Matt DiLorenzo, Justin Kiger

Individuals knowing addresses or phone numbers for anyone on the above list are asked to contact Steve Kish Jr. or Bob Koch.

Kish can be reached at (740) 453-9146 or by mail at 6320 McCaslin Rd., Nashport, OH 43830. Koch can be reached at (304) 686-2790 or e-mail at cameron@ovis.net.

Any other coaches, players or Queen of Queens candidates from 1993 who have not yet been contacted by a member of the committee are asked to contact Kish or Koch immediately.



**32nd Annual Rudy Mumley**  
**OVAC ALL-STAR FOOTBALL**  
**★ CHARITY CLASSIC ★**

– WEDNESDAY, JULY 23th –

★ “Evening With The Stars” at Ramada Plaza ★

– FRIDAY, JULY 25th –

★ 2003 Queen of Queens Pageant ★  
at Wheeling Civic Center

– SATURDAY, JULY 26th –

★ Pep Rally at WLSC Russek Field ★  
The OVAC McDonald’s All-Star Band

**“FOOTBALL FEVER”**  
Wheeling Island Stadium

Sunday, July 27, 2003 • Kick-Off at 7:15 p.m.

Advance Sale Ticket: \$7.00 • At the Gate: \$10.00



**INSIDE**

Scoreboard / B3

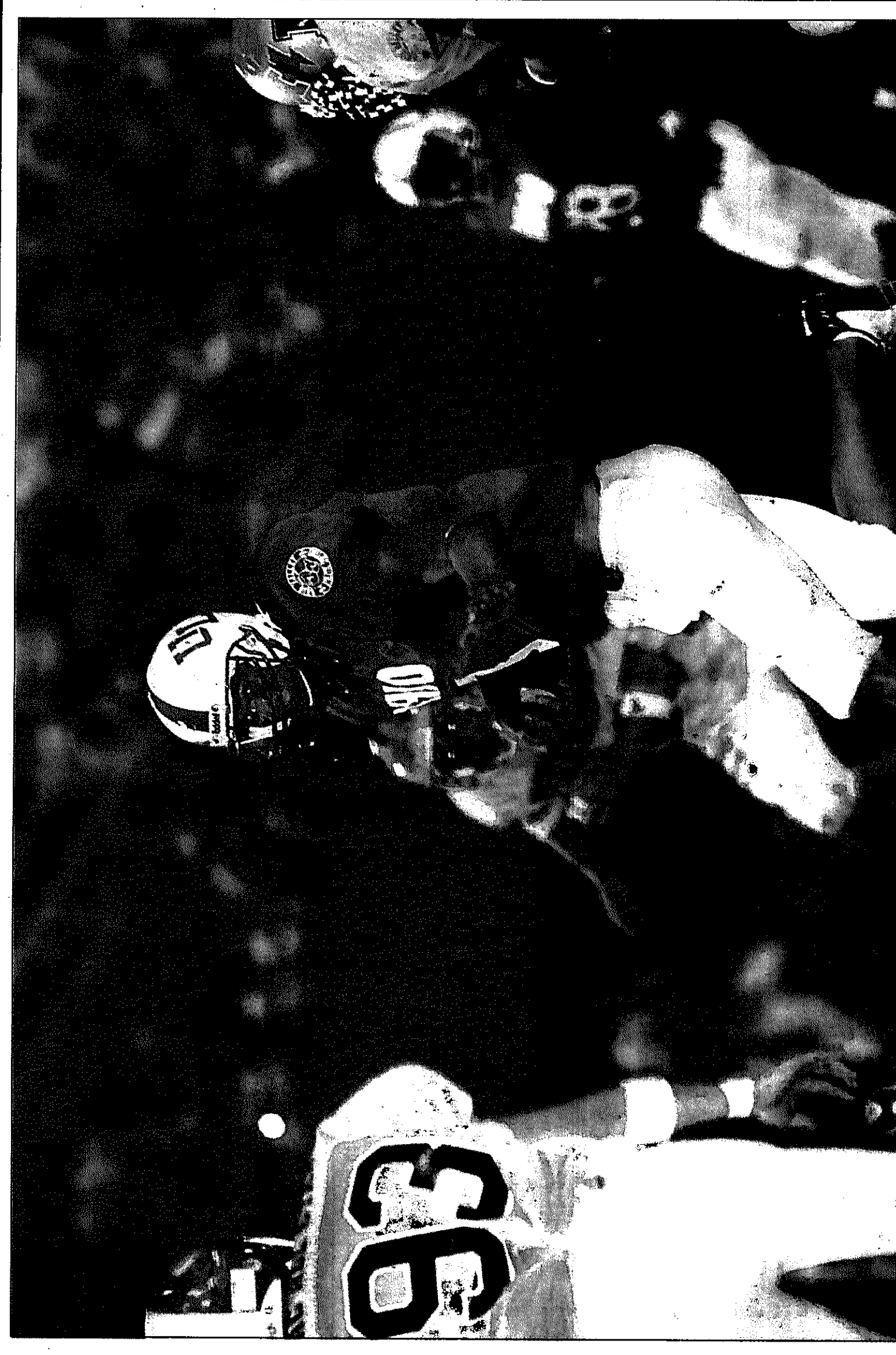
The Times Leader

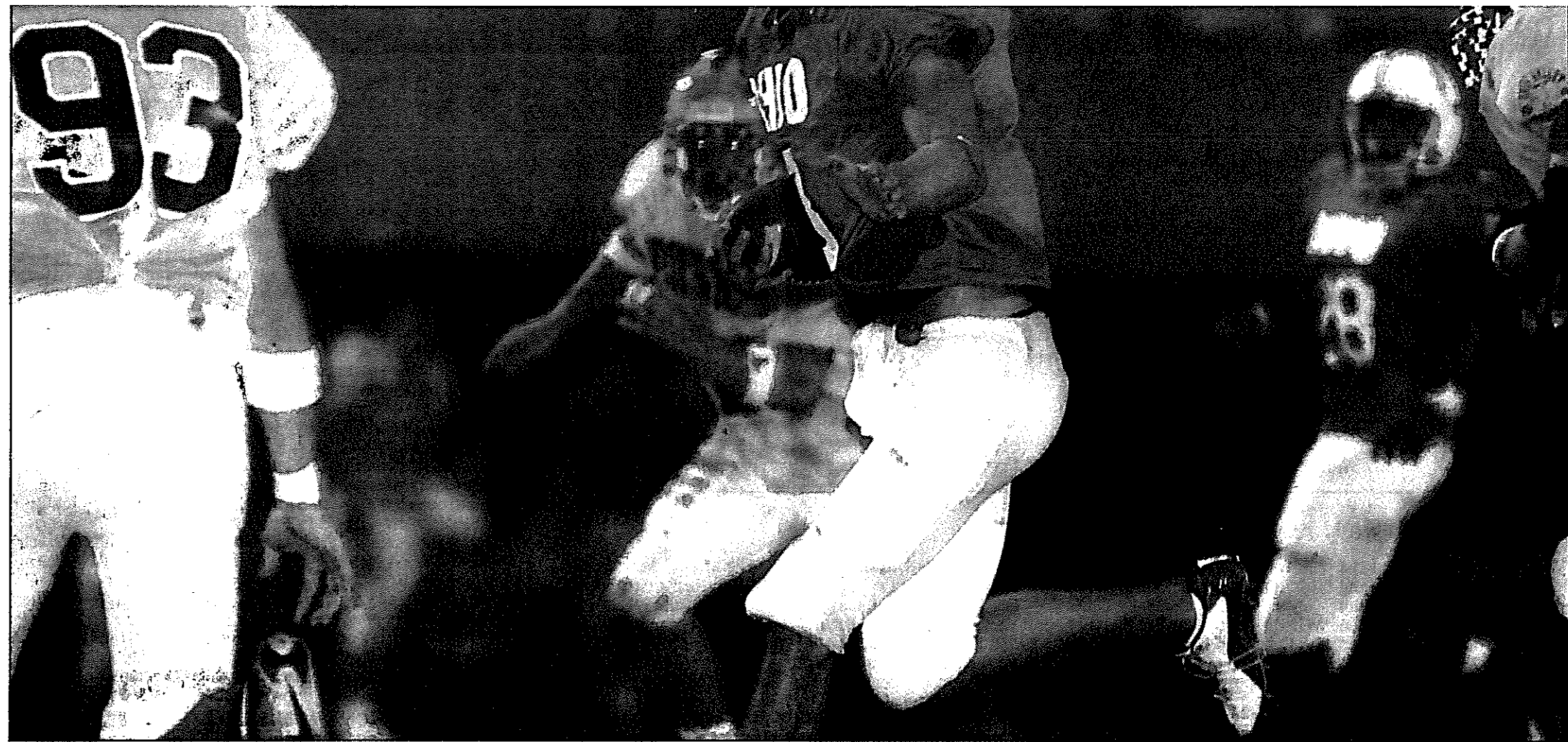
# SPORTS

SECTION

# B

Monday, July 28, 2003





Ohio 32, West Virginia 26

# Ohio rallies for victory

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

When it comes to the OVAC All-Star Football Classic, Ohio just seems to find a way.

The Buckeyes extended their winning streak to nine in the 32nd version of the Rudy Mumley Charity Classic Sunday night at Wheeling Island Stadium in most dramatic fashion.

For the second time in four years, the Buckeyes avoided a tie in the all-star game with some late-game heroics, this time posting a 32-26 win over the snake-bitten Mountaineers in a game, which endured a nearly two-hour halftime due to a thunderstorm.

"I am tickled death to win this game," said Ohio and Martins Ferry head coach Dave Bruney who ran his record to 4-0 in the annual game. "I am really proud of our team and our staff for the way they hung in there and did what they did.

"It's a shame that someone had to lose this game because both teams played super. Give Coach (Tom) Taylor and his staff credit because they had a great game plan and their kids were really prepared," Bruney continued.

For West Virginia, it's another year of disappointment after being so close to snapping the losing streak.

"There is a lot of pain in this locker room right now," said West Virginia and Oak Glen head coach Tom Taylor. "To be in this game after being told how we were such under dogs and we were going to get pushed around makes it hurt even more. The kids worked so hard this week and now they fell short of their goal, so it hurts."

The game appeared destined for a tie after Ohio scored to knot the game at 26, and the Mountaineers blocked the extra point.

West Virginia inherited the ball on its own 32 and was able to quickly post a first down, but

eventually the 'Eers were bitten by the turnover bug.

Oak Glen quarterback Matt Wharton - who played brilliantly for most of the night - was trying to set up the screen before Martins Ferry's Mike Edwards stepped in and picked off the pass.

"We knew coming in that we would have to be perfect to win," Taylor admitted. "We made the one turnover when we couldn't. Matt made a ton of plays to put us in a position to win the game, but he just made the one bad pass."

He was eventually brought down on the West Virginia 12-yard line with just 28 seconds remaining.

"We had been working on the screen play all week," Edwards said. "I knew if they ran it that I had to either knock it down or intercept it. It was the greatest feeling in the world, but I just wish I could have ran it all the way back for the touch-

down."

Edwards' play came as no surprise to his head coach.

"We felt all along that Michael Edwards was going to make a play to help us win the football game," Bruney pointed out. "I am really proud of Mike because he is an under-dog and has really done well."

After just three plays, the Buckeyes had regained the lead when Beaver Local's Jordan Williams plunged in for the second time in the game. The game-winner covered just three yards. The extra point was no good and Ohio had regained the lead.

"We had a lot of guys make plays tonight that enabled us to win the game," Bruney said. "All of the kids did a great job tonight and all week up at camp and I am really proud of each of them."

See, OVAC, Page B2



OVAC NOTEBOOK

Many festivities

# Ohio rallies for victory

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

When it comes to the OVAC All-Star Football Classic, Ohio just seems to find a way.

The Buckeyes extended their winning streak to nine in the 32nd version of the Rudy Mumley Charity Classic Sunday night at Wheeling Island Stadium in most dramatic fashion.

For the second time in four years, the Buckeyes avoided a tie in the all-star game with some late-game heroics, this time posting a 32-26 win over the snake-bitten Mountaineers in a game, which endured a nearly two-hour halftime due to a thunderstorm.

"I am tickled death to win this game," said Ohio and Martins Ferry head coach Dave Bruney who ran his record to 4-0 in the annual game. "I am really proud of our team and our staff for the way they hung in there and did what they did.

"It's a shame that someone had to lose this game because both teams played super. Give Coach (Tom) Taylor and his staff credit because they had a great game plan and their kids were really prepared," Bruney continued.

For West Virginia, it's another year of disappointment after being so close to snapping the losing streak.

"There is a lot of pain in this locker room right now," said West Virginia and Oak Glen head coach Tom Taylor. "To be in this game after being told how we were such under dogs and we were going to get pushed around makes it hurt even more. The kids worked so hard this week and now they fell short of their goal, so it hurts."

The game appeared destined for a tie after Ohio scored to knot the game at 26, and the Mountaineers blocked the extra point.

West Virginia inherited the ball on its own 32 and was able to quickly post a first down, but

eventually the 'Eers were bitten by the turnover bug.

Oak Glen quarterback Matt Wharton - who played brilliantly for most of the night - was trying to set up the screen before Martins Ferry's Mike Edwards stepped in and picked off the pass.

"We knew coming in that we would have to be perfect to win," Taylor admitted. "We made the one turnover when we couldn't. Matt made a ton of plays to put us in a position to win the game, but he just made the one bad pass."

He was eventually brought down on the West Virginia 12-yard line with just 28 seconds remaining.

"We had been working on the screen play all week," Edwards said. "I knew if they ran it that I had to either knock it down or intercept it. It was the greatest feeling in the world, but I just wish I could have ran it all the way back for the touch-

down."

Edwards' play came as no surprise to his head coach.

"We felt all along that Michael Edwards was going to make a play to help us win the football game," Bruney pointed out. "I am really proud of Mike because he is an under-dog and has really done well."

After just three plays, the Buckeyes had regained the lead when Beaver Local's Jordan Williams plunged in for the second time in the game. The game-winner covered just three yards. The extra point was no good and Ohio had regained the lead.

"We had a lot of guys make plays tonight that enabled us to win the game," Bruney said. "All of the kids did a great job tonight and all week up at camp and I am really proud of each of them."

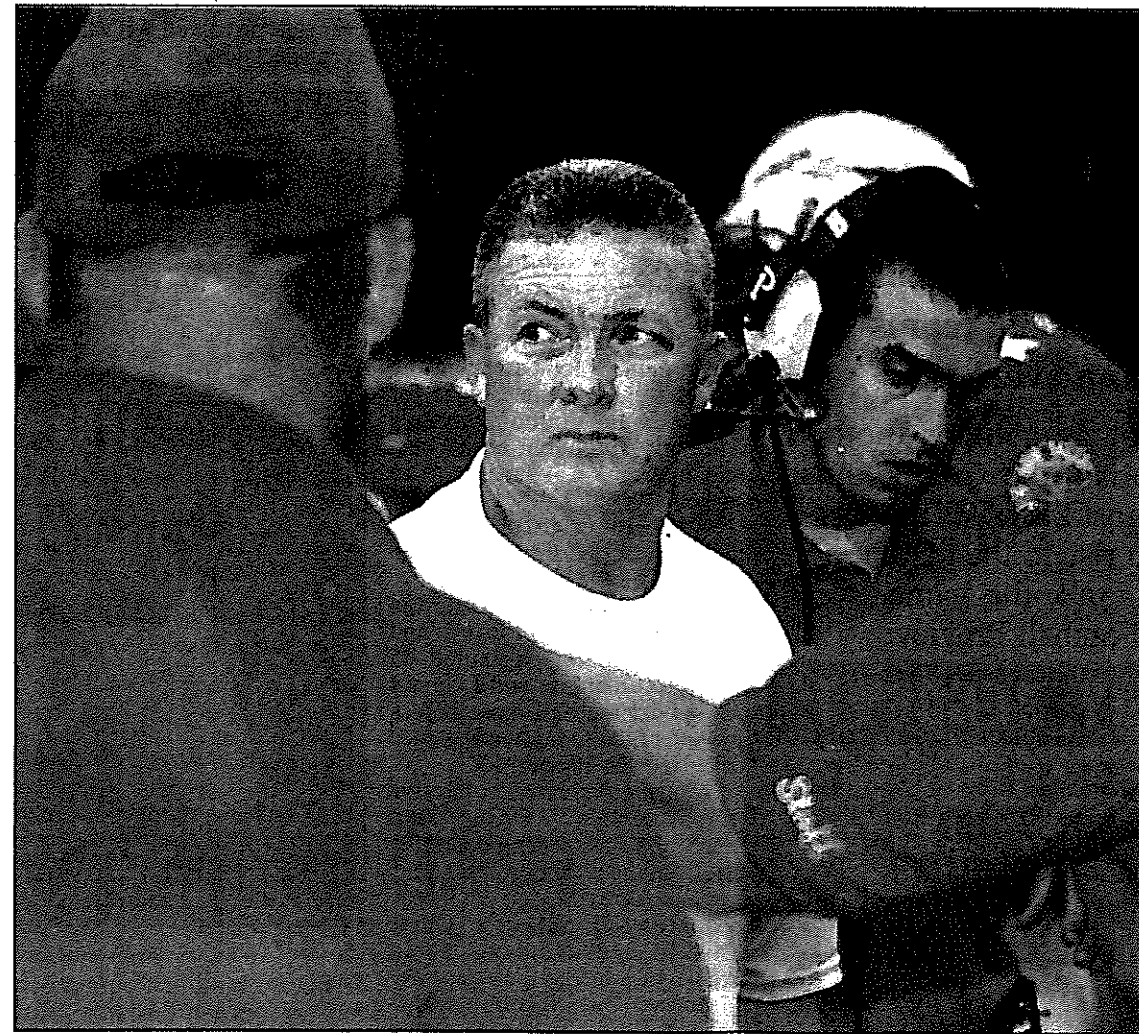
See, **OVAC**, Page B2



T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH

**TOP PHOTO:** Ohio quarterback Justin Schafer (Union Local) keeps on an option play as West Virginia's Justin Wood (93) closes in to attempt to make the tackle during action in 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic at Wheeling Island Stadium. Schafer's run set up the second touchdown for Ohio.

**AT RIGHT:** Ohio head coach Dave Bruney talks with his staff during action Sunday night.



## OVAC NOTEBOOK

# Many festivities surround OVAC football game

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

The annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic is definitely more than a game.

Arguably the second biggest part of the game is the annual crowning of the Queen of Queens. This year's honor went to Bellaire's Mandy Baker who danced her way to the crown during Friday's pageant.

She was joined on the royal court by first runner-up Courtney Basich (Wheeling Central), second runner-up Claire Cholak (Linsly), third runner-up Brittany Artimez (Wheeling Park), fourth runner-up Kelsey Beck (St. Clairsville) and Miss Congeniality Zia McWilliams (Brooke).

**NO OVERTIME** -- Both teams would have found themselves in an awkward situation had Ohio not found a way to pull out the victory. There is no overtime in the Mumley Game, so the game would have ended in a deadlock.

**PICK A COACH** -- Monroe Central's Chris Wilson is no stranger to playing under successful coaches. Wilson wouldn't pick one when asked about Jay Circosta or

See, **NOTEBOOK**, Page B12



OHIO 32 WEST VIRGINIA 26  
 Ohio 6 7 0 19 - 32  
 West Virginia 7 0 13 6 - 26

## FIRST QUARTER

WV - Kyle Scherich, 16-yard pass from Matt Wharton. Josh Kusich kick.  
 OH - Chris Wilson, 2-yard run. Pass failed.

## SECOND QUARTER

OH - Ty Platt, 3-yard run. Urs Mueller kick.

## THIRD QUARTER

WV - Scherich, 7-yard pass from Wharton. Run failed.  
 WV - Nick Stefanow, 3-yard pass from Wharton. Kusich kick.

## FOURTH QUARTER

OH - Jordan Williams, 8-yard run. Mueller kick.

WV - Justin Beresford, 9-yard run. Kick failed.

OH - Anthony Antonucchi, 54-yard pass from Justin Schafer. Kick blocked.

OH - Williams, 3-yard run. Kick Failed.

	OH	WV
First Downs	19	13
Rushing Yards	225	165
Passing Yards	133	132
Total Yards	358	297
Fumbles	1-1	1-0
Penalties	7-50	6-45

## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Ohio - Justin Schafer, 12-79; Ty Platt, 15-51; Jordan Williams, 11-54; Chris Wilson, 10-34; Aaron Bane, 2-7. West Virginia - Justin Beresford, 14-121; Zjaque Douglas, 9-29; Steve Flowers, 3-(-1); Matt Wharton, 6-18; Kyle Scherich, 1-0.

Passing: Ohio - Justin Schafer, 8-11-133-1-0. West Virginia - Matt Wharton, 5-8-73-3-1; Robby Jones, 2-5-59-0-0.

Receiving: Anthony Antonucchi, 2-62; Dan Suznevich, 1-9; Shayne Rose, 3-29; Matt Abbott, 2-33. West Virginia - Kyle Scherich, 4-82; Nick Stefanow, 2-30; Zjaque Douglas, 1-20.

T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

**OHIO** running back Ty Platt gets the crowd involved as the Buckeyes take the field for Sunday night's game.



## ● OVAC

Continued from Page B1

West Virginia regained the ball with just 23 seconds and showed it still had life. Robby Jones - who came in for Wharton - hooked up with Brooke's Kyle Scherich for 31 yards, but three

Ohio used some 16 plays and 7:07 of the game clock to go 75 yards. Monroe Central's Chris Wilson - who was an all-stater for Coach Jay Circosta - plunged in from two yards out. The pass

Buckeye Local's Dustin Kendle and Edison's Travis DeZordo.

"Our offensive line did a great job the entire night," Bruney said. "I thought we were starting to take the game over in the first

The Mountaineers squared the game on their first possession of the second half. Wharton hooked up with Scherich for a seven-yard touchdown, capping an eight-play drive that covered 88

# OVAC All Star game director relishes role

By **SETH STASKEY**  
 Times Leader Sports Writer

To some the annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Classic may just look like a game with some queens and a band.

Well for Game Director Bob Koch, it is much more than that. The personable and well-liked Cameron athletic director just wrapped up his third season as the head honcho for the annual summer classic.

"This game definitely keeps me pretty busy," Koch laughed prior to Sunday evening's game. "I start working on this game usually after the regular season ends."

Koch took over as the game director when former Brooke High athletic director Ron Mauck stepped down to pursue other interests.

When Mauck left the post in 1999, it sent OVAC Executive Secretary Tom Rataiczak into the search mode.

"When Ron retired we sent letters to everyone involved with the game in some capacity," Rataiczak said. "We didn't get a good response that way, but someone recommended Bob for the job."

At the time, Koch had been serving on the OVAC's Executive Board and since he had been in that position, Rataiczak never gave him a thought.

"I called Bob and asked him if he would be interested and later that day he called me back and said he would do it," Rataiczak relayed. "Since he has taken over, he has just done a super job."

Directing the game is a job that Koch begins officially the week after the giant OVAC Wrestling Tournament and works almost every day until game day.

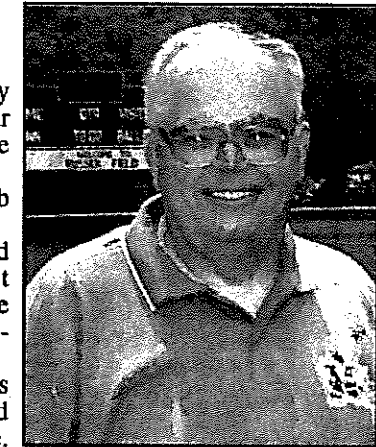
"My off season is usually during the regular season," Koch said. "From February on we are doing something from picking personnel, working on the program and everything else."

Once the season in both Ohio and West Virginia ends, Koch looks at the final OVAC standings and picks the head coaches of the game. Those are determined by which school finishes highest in the respective class standings.

"Once the coaches are selected the ball is definitely rolling," Koch said. "After we pick those, we have a dinner in January where we introduce the coaches and they can then start picking their teams."

Over the course of the next several months, Koch is in touch with the coaches on rosters and collecting data sheets. Also during this time, selections for the McDonald's All-Star Band, OVAC Cheerleaders and schools are holding competitions for Queen of Queens spots.

Once all of the queens are selected, the program then becomes one of the main focal points of the game. It's the queens who are in



**BOB KOCH**

First Downs	19	13
Rushing Yards	225	165
Passing Yards	133	132
Total Yards	358	297
Fumbles	1-1	1-0
Penalties	7-50	6-45

**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

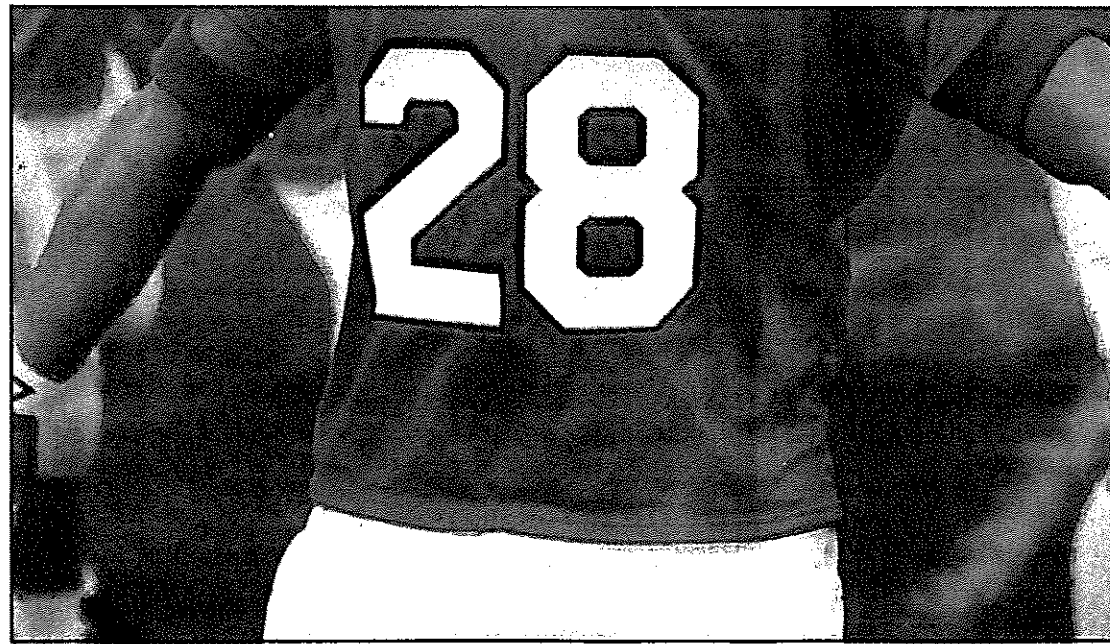
Rushing: Ohio - Justin Schafer, 12-79; Ty Platt, 15-51; Jordan Williams, 11-54; Chris Wilson, 10-34; Aaron Bane, 2-7. West Virginia - Justin Beresford, 14-121; Zjaque Douglas, 9-29; Steve Flowers, 3- (-1); Matt Wharton, 6-16; Kyle Scherich, 1-0.

Passing: Ohio - Justin Schafer, 8-11-133-1-0. West Virginia - Matt Wharton, 5-8-73-3-1; Robby Jones, 2-5-59-0-0.

Receiving: Anthony Antonucchi, 2-62; Dan Suznevich, 1-9; Shayne Rose, 3-29; Matt Abbot, 2-33. West Virginia - Kyle Scherich, 4-82; Nick Stefanow, 2-30; Zjaque Douglas, 1-20.

T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

**OHIO** running back Ty Platt gets the crowd involved as the Buckeyes take the field for Sunday night's game.



● **OVAC**

Continued from Page B1

West Virginia regained the ball with just 23 seconds and showed it still had life. Robby Jones - who came in for Wharton - hooked up with Brooke's Kyle Scherich for 31 yards, but three straight incompletions sealed the deal for the Ohioans.

The Mountaineers didn't waste any time showing that they were for real.

West Virginia was able to cash in for six points on its first drive after capitalizing on an Ohio fumble.

Scherich hauled in a 16-yard pass from Wharton with 8:44 to play in the opening chapter. Brooke's Josh Kusich added the PAT for a 7-0 lead.

From there, the vaunted Ohio offensive line took over and completely dominated almost the entire first half.

On the ensuing possession,

Ohio used some 16 plays and 7:07 of the game clock to go 75 yards. Monroe Central's Chris Wilson - who was an all-stater for Coach Jay Circosta - plunged in from two yards out. The pass for two points failed and Ohio still trailed 7-6.

After the Scarlet defense forced a punt, the offense took over and marched 75 more yards in 8:13 and 19 plays. Ferry's Ty Platt got the honor of scoring the touchdown when he scampered in from three yards out. Ferry's Urs Mueller booted the extra point up and through to give Ohio a 13-7 upperhand.

Opening the holes for the Buckeye backs was the offensive line of Steubenville's Mike Van Voltenburg, Steubenville Central's Ryan Miller, Edison's Chris Fankhauser, East Liverpool's Brian Davis,

Buckeye Local's Dustin Kendle and Edison's Travis DeZordo.

"Our offensive line did a great job the entire night," Bruney said. "I thought we were starting to take the game over in the first half and we really beating them up on the line."

Once the first half ended, the skies opened up and the teams were forced to stay in the locker room for well over the normal 30 minutes.

"The delay hurt us a little bit, but it hurt both teams," Bruney admitted. "I am glad we got through the game relatively injury free because with that long of a break, sometimes injury occur."

When the game finally resumed, West Virginia had seized all of the momentum, outscoring Ohio 13-0 in the third panel.

The Mountaineers squared the game on their first possession of the second half. Wharton hooked up with Scherich for a seven-yard touchdown, capping an eight-play drive that covered 88 yards and used 4:59 of the third panel.

The West Virginia defense forced a punt on the next Ohio possession and West Virginia was able to take over on its own 30 with just 5:15 to go in the third.

After just seven plays, Wharton again went to the air and found Wheeling Park's Nick Stefanow for a three-yard scoring play. The drive was set up thanks to a 42-yard scamper from Cameron's Justin Beresford. The extra point failed and West Virginia had regained the 20-13 lead.

On its next drive, Ohio got back to the ball-control offense and reeled off 11 plays in 3:51 before Williams plunged in from eight yards out.

The big play of the drive came when Union Local's Justin Schafer found River's Matt Abbott for 29 yards, which set up Williams' run.

After Ohio's defense forced a punt, West Virginia caught its second break of the game when a punt bounced off an Ohio player and Oak Glen's Bill Whitehill fell on the loose ball.

The Mountaineers proceeded to go 35 yards in 2:58 with Beresford punching in from nine yards out. The kick was wide and West Virginia had taken the lead 26-20.

"Sometimes it's tough to come back from two turnovers when

Koch took over as the game

director when former Brooke High athletic director Ron Mauck stepped down to pursue other interests.

When Mauck left the post in 1999, it sent OVAC Executive Secretary Tom Rataiczak into the search mode.

"When Ron retired we sent letters to everyone involved with the game in some capacity," Rataiczak said. "We didn't get a good response that way, but someone recommended Bob for the job."

At the time, Koch had been serving on the OVAC's Executive Board and since he had been in that position, Rataiczak never gave him a thought.

"I called Bob and asked him if he would be interested and later that day he called me back and said he would do it," Rataiczak relayed. "Since he has taken over, he has just done a super job."

Directing the game is a job that Koch begins officially the week after the giant OVAC Wrestling Tournament and works almost every day until game day.

"My off season is usually during the regular season," Koch said. "From February on we are doing something from picking personnel, working on the program and everything else."

Once the season in both Ohio and West Virginia ends, Koch looks at the final OVAC standings and picks the head coaches of the game. Those are determined by which school finishes highest in the respective class standings.

"Once the coaches are selected the ball is definitely rolling," Koch said. "After we pick those, we have a dinner in January where we introduce the coaches and they can then start picking their teams."

Over the course of the next several months, Koch is in touch with the coaches on rosters and collecting data sheets. Also during this time, selections for the McDonald's All-Star Band, OVAC Cheerleaders and schools are holding competitions for Queen of Queens spots.

Once all of the queens are selected, the program then becomes one of the main focal points of the game. It's the queens who are in charge of selling the advertisements within the book.

"A lot of work goes into that program," Koch said. "It sort of serves as the yearbook of the OVAC because it ties up the previous school year with all of the scholarship winners, team champions and enrollment."

After all of the selections and programs ads are taken care of, it's almost time for the teams to arrive to West Liberty State College for training camp.

"There is always something going on leading up to this game," Rataiczak admitted. "I talked to Bob a couple of days before camp started and he said, 'I just want this to be over.'"

Once the players, cheerleaders and band members get to camp, Koch's job lets up a little bit, but he still must go to West Liberty each day from his home in Cameron to make sure everything is running smoothly.

"Bob is just so laid back about everything," Rataiczak said. "Very rarely does Bob get rattled or panic about something."

If it ever got to the point where Koch were to have become rattled, he would just turn to Mauck for advice.

"It's almost indescribable how much help Ron gives me," Koch said. "A different problem comes up every year, but I can always turn to Ron because he has probably dealt with it."

One of the events that Koch can just sit back and enjoy is the pep rally held Saturday night at West Liberty because Mauck handles the entire event.

Koch and Mauck are not alone by any means when it comes to helping to run this football game.

Linda Myers is the Queen of Queens director, Darrell Lucas is the McDonald's band coordinator and Rataiczak handled the Strager Evening with the Stars Dinner.

"The people who help put on this game deserve almost all of the credit," Koch said. "They make my job so much easier, but there are about 80 people who are vital to this in one way or another."

With all of the extras the OVAC does for its student/athletes involved with the All-Star Classic, Koch is convinced that no other game can compare.

"You can talk about the Big 33 game or North-South Games, but I have yet to see a game that compares to this," Koch noted. "We get everyone involved with the game, band, cheerleaders, queens and even spectators."

The Times Leader presents...

*Pigskin '03*  
**Preview**

**We've Made The Best Even Better! Bound Edition With Premium Cover!**



**The Most Comprehensive Guide Available On Area**  
High School, College And



cash in for six points on its first drive after capitalizing on an Ohio fumble.

Scherich hauled in a 16-yard pass from Wharton with 8:44 to play in the opening chapter. Brooke's Josh Kusich added the PAT for a 7-0 lead.

From there, the vaunted Ohio offensive line took over and completely dominated almost the entire first half.

On the ensuing possession,

Pruitt got the honor of scoring the touchdown when he scampered in from three yards out. Ferry's Urs Mueller booted the extra point up and through to give Ohio a 13-7 upperhand.

Opening the holes for the Buckeye backs was the offensive line of Steubenville's Mike Van Voltenburg, Steubenville Central's Ryan Miller, Edison's Chris Fankhauser, East Liverpool's Brian Davis,

30 minutes.

"The delay hurt us a little bit, but it hurt both teams," Bruney admitted. "I am glad we got through the game relatively injury free because with that long of a break, sometimes injury occur."

When the game finally resumed, West Virginia had seized all of the momentum, outscoring Ohio 13-0 in the third panel.

30 with just 5:15 to go in the third.

After just seven plays, Wharton again went to the air and found Wheeling Park's Nick Stefanow for a three-yard scoring play. The drive was set up thanks to a 42-yard scamper from Cameron's Justin Beresford. The extra point failed and West Virginia had regained the 20-13 lead.

On its next drive, Ohio got back to the ball-control offense and reeled off 11 plays in 3:51 before Williams plunged in from eight yards out.

The big play of the drive came when Union Local's Justin Schafer found River's Matt Abbott for 29 yards, which set up Williams' run.

After Ohio's defense forced a punt, West Virginia caught its second break of the game when a punt bounced off an Ohio player and Oak Glen's Bill Whitehill fell on the loose ball.

The Mountaineers proceeded to go 35 yards in 2:58 with Beresford punching in from nine yards out. The kick was wide and West Virginia had taken the lead 26-20.

"Sometimes it's tough to come back from two turnovers when you have been working for a whole year," Bruney said. "Give West Virginia credit because they took advantage of both of our turnovers with touchdowns, but our kids just kept plugging away."

Schafer - who played well the entire game - took over on the next drive. He rushed twice for 12 yards and found Toronto's Anthony Antonuchi on an out-and-up for a 54-yard scoring strike.

Wheeling Central's Steve Skzrypek busted through the line and blocked the point after try.

"This game was a battle the entire way with a lot of ups and downs," Schafer explained. "I saw the corner bite and I knew I had to get the ball there before the safety. Anthony made a nice catch and run afterward."

Along with the solid offensive performances, Ohio also received a few sterling defensive efforts along with Edwards.

Bridgeport's Vince Stemkowski, River's Chris Carroll, Beaver Local's Jared Williams, Martins Ferry's Mike Mamone and Steubenville's Brian Pruitt all were exceptional on the defensive side of the ball.

almost time for the teams to arrive to West Liberty State College for training camp.

"There is always something going on leading up to this game," Rataiczak admitted. "I talked to Bob a couple of days before camp started and he said, 'I just want this to be over.'"

Once the players, cheerleaders and band members get to camp, Koch's job lets up a little bit, but he still must go to West Liberty each day from his home in Cameron to make sure everything is running smoothly.

"Bob is just so laid back about everything," Rataiczak said. "Very rarely does Bob get rattled or panic about something."

If it ever got to the point where Koch were to have become rattled, he would just turn to Mauck for advice.

"It's almost indescribable how much help Ron gives me," Koch said. "A different problem comes up every year, but I can always turn to Ron because he has probably dealt with it."

One of the events that Koch can just sit back and enjoy is the pep rally held Saturday night at West Liberty because Mauck handles the entire event.

Koch and Mauck are not alone by any means when it comes to helping to run this football game.

Linda Myers is the Queen of Queens director, Darrell Lucas is the McDonald's band coordinator and Rataiczak handled the Strager Evening with the Stars Dinner.

"The people who help put on this game deserve almost all of the credit," Koch said. "They make my job so much easier, but there are about 80 people who are vital to this in one way or another."

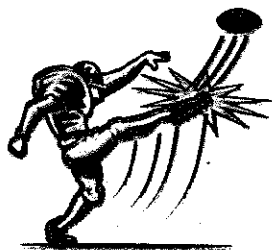
With all of the extras the OVAC does for its student/athletes involved with the All-Star Classic, Koch is convinced that no other game can compare.

"You can talk about the Big 33 game or North-South Games, but I have yet to see a game that compares to this," Koch noted. "We get everyone involved with the game, band, cheerleaders, queens and even spectators."

The Times Leader presents...

# Pigskin '03 Preview

We've Made The Best Even Better! Bound Edition With Premium Cover!



The Most Comprehensive Guide Available On Area High School, College And Pro Teams Of Interest

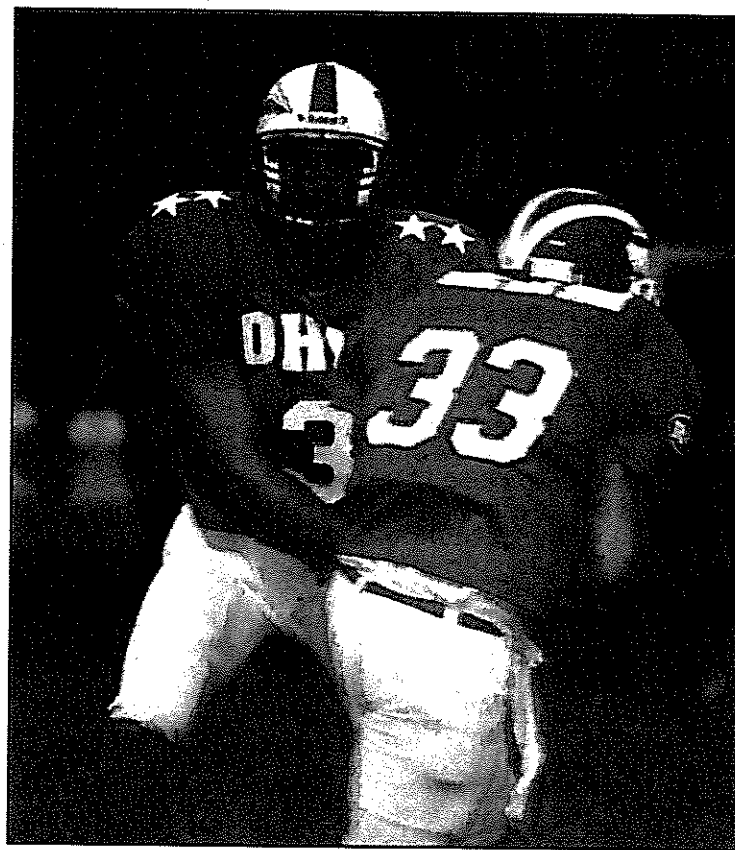
- ★ Team schedules ★ Coaches summaries ★ Team photos ★
- ★ Key players on offense, defense, and special teams ★
- ★ More colorful and complete than ever! ★

Experience all the enthusiasm and excitement as another football season begins! The Times Leader will publish the area's most comprehensive football preview on Thursday, August 21st. We'll tell you what teams are hot and who will be challenged to rise to the occasion in the coming season. Even casual observers can "talk the game" after reading about all their favorite teams in our 2003 Football Preview.

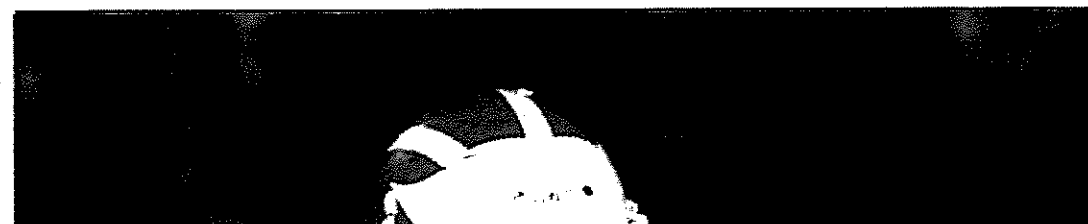
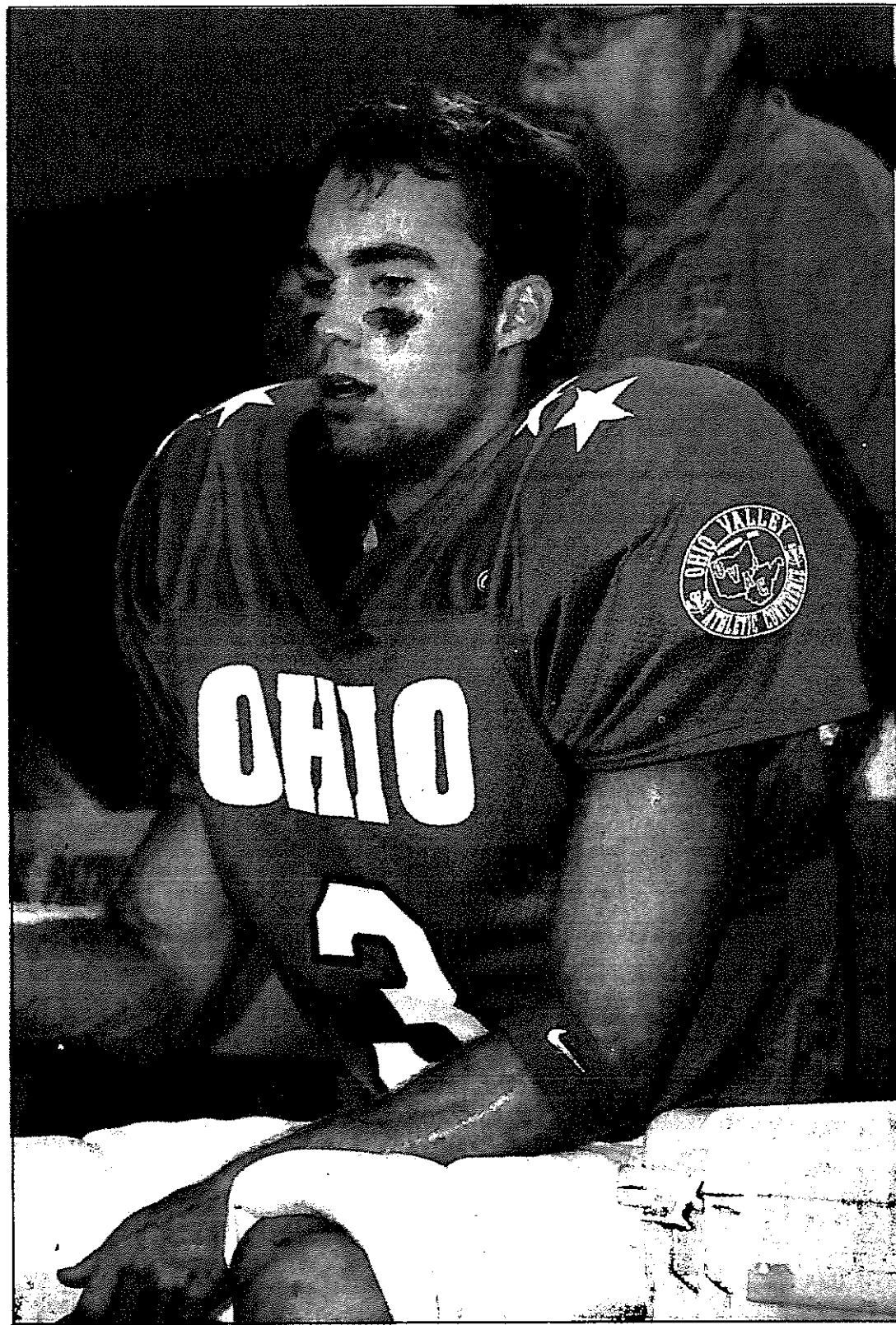
**ADVERTISING DEADLINE FRIDAY, AUGUST 1!**

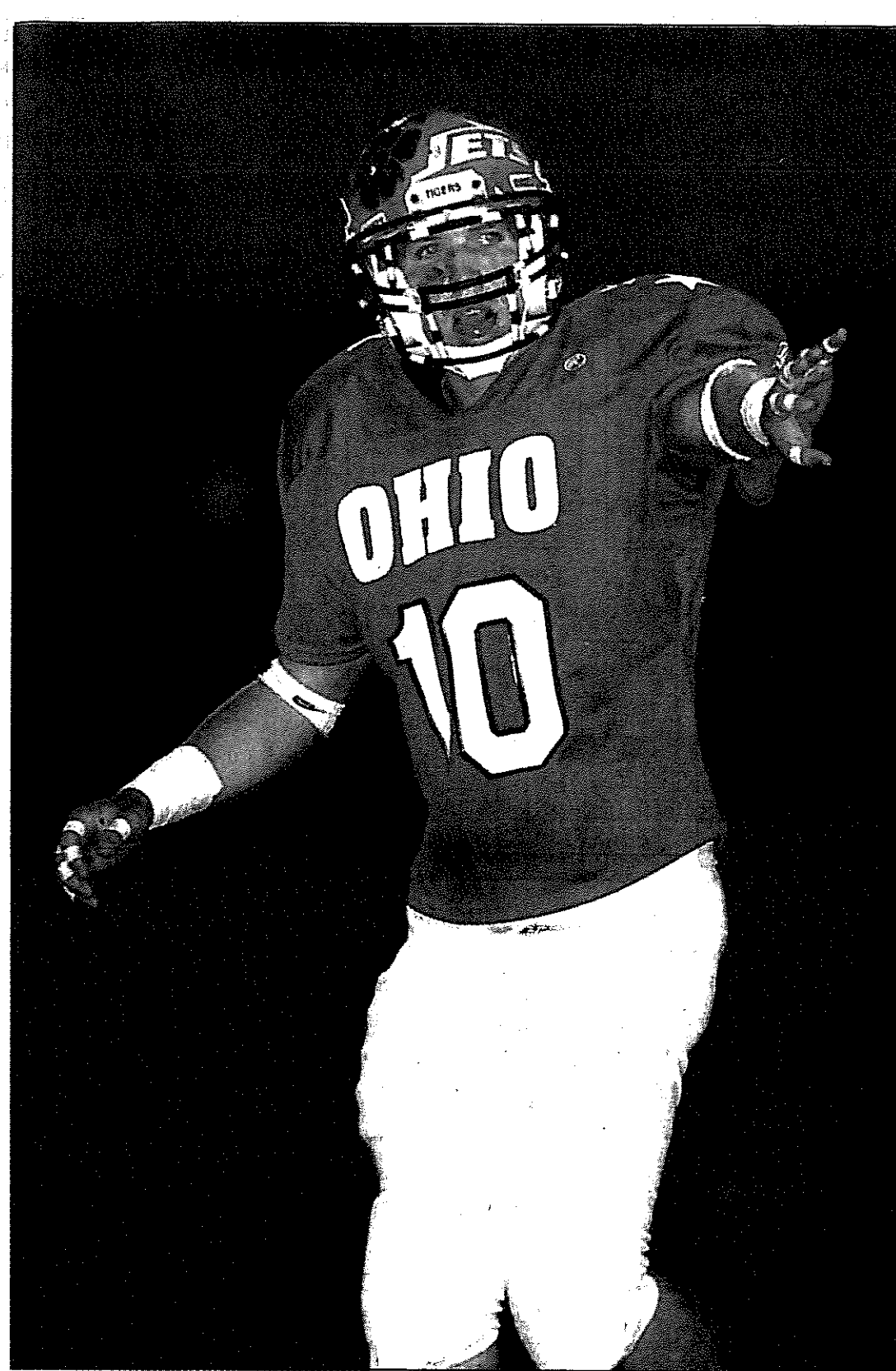
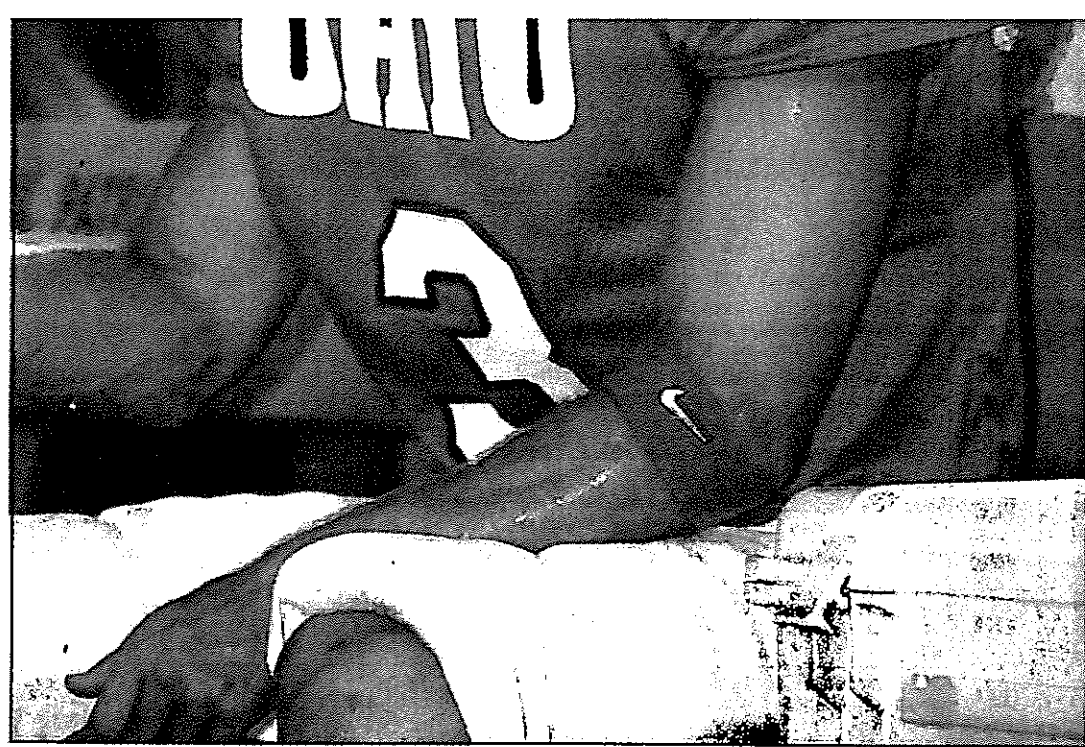
Call Advertising Today at 633-1131  
or Toll Free: (800) 244-5671 (in Ohio)  
For More Information on Advertising  
in the Pigskin Preview

Don't Miss It!



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH  
OHIO quarterback Justin Schafer (3) executes a play fake to fullback Jordan Williams (33) during action Sunday night in the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic.





**TOP LEFT:** Ohio quarterback Justin Schafer takes a break on the sidelines during Sunday night's game. T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH

**TOP RIGHT:** The Ohio cheerleaders get the crowd going during the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic.

**LEFT:** Ohio fullback Jordan Williams looks for a block en route to an eight-yard touchdown run.

**ABOVE:** Ohio wide receiver Nick Ongley lines up prior to a play in the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic.



T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH

**TOP LEFT:** Ohio quarterback Justin Schafer takes a break on the sidelines during Sunday night's game.

**TOP RIGHT:** The Ohio cheerleaders get the crowd going during the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic.

**LEFT:** Ohio fullback Jordan Williams looks for a block en route to an eight-yard touchdown run.

**ABOVE:** Ohio wide receiver Nick Ongley lines up prior to a play in the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic.

## ● Notebook

Continued from Page B1

Dave Bruney.

"Can't really compare the those two," Wilson said. "They both have different philosophies and both get the job done, and that is what makes them the great coaches they are."

**HAPPY TO BE A BACK** -- Martins Ferry's Ty Platt - who went through an appendectomy prior to the game - was more than happy to have moved to tailback this past fall.

When Platt started he was one of the Riders' top receivers, but he shifted as a senior and went on to rush for 1,300 yards.

"I liked being a running back a lot better," Platt said. "As you saw, in our (Ferry) offense the running back gets the ball a whole lot more."

**KEEPING IN TOUCH** -- That is exactly what the All-Stars plan to do with one another. In the Ohio lockerroom after the game, cell phone numbers and email addresses were being exchanged.

"I have collected all kinds of email addresses and phone numbers," said Union Local's Justin Schafer. "It will be fun because there are some of us

who are going to be playing against each other in college, so we will all be in touch."

**NEVER ANY DOUBT** -- Martins Ferry's Mike Edwards who became a hero with his fourth-quarter interception never worried about the offense and its ability to punch in for the winning score.

"It was a definite momentum builder," Edwards said. "I knew that our offense could get it done. We had to keep fighting, but after that play I knew we weren't going to let the game go."

**CAN'T WAIT UNTIL 2007** -- That is what Oak Glen's Tom Taylor is looking forward to. That will be the next possible year that the 3-A Class can coach in the annual affair.

"It was a real pleasure for me and my staff to have taken part in such a

great game," Taylor said. "I really hope they ask us back to do it again because I would jump at the chance."

**ENOUGH TIME?** -- A lot of the talk during the week leading up the game was whether or not the six days allotted for practice was enough time. Both coaches were worried it wouldn't give enough time for a polished game.

It seemed as if the coaching staffs might have underestimated themselves. The players on both sides played extremely well and sound on both sides of the ball.

Obviously more time would make things better, but for what they had to deal with Dave Bruney, Tom Taylor and staffs deserve to be commended for their week's in whipping 66 football players back into shape.

**STERLING PERFORMANCE** - After a long rain delay the McDonald's All-Star Band failed to disappoint once again.

Under the guidance of Darrell Lucas, the band, dance line and flag corp again wowed the audience with a superb performance.

**A LITTLE BIT SHORT** -- That is

exactly what the 45-yard field goal try of Cadiz' Opie Namath who was selected to kick for \$10,000 for the second time in five years.

Namath was still awarded with a consolation \$500 from The Health Plan.

**BOOSTER'S DEBUT** -- The OVAC Boosters Club made its debut at three venues this weekend. The club sold 50-50 tickets at the Queen of Queen's Pageant, Pep Rally and the game.

The game's pot - which was won by an individual from Richmond - was worth some \$900.

**2004 GAME** -- It's never too early to begin thinking about next year's all-star game. It's the 2-A turn to coach in the game. The 2-A had the chance to coach in 2000 and that ironically enough was the last time the game almost ended in a tie.

It was then that the Buckeyes broke out a little razzle-dazzle and downed the Mountaineers.

If he chooses to coach the game, Wheeling Central's Jim Thomas will guide the Mountaineers. The Maroon

Knights are the lone 2-A school in West Virginia. The Ohio side, meanwhile, is wide open with several schools primed for big years this fall.

**OVAC KICKOFF** -- With the new school year right around the corner, the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference is about to start its 60th year of prep athletics around the area.

The official opening of the year comes Aug. 6 when the conference holds its Media Night at the Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University Eastern.

**RECOGNIZING THE CHAMPS:** Representatives from the National Indoor Football League Champion Ohio Valley Greyhounds were on hand at the game. The Hounds seek their second straight title Saturday at the Wheeling Civic Center.

**REAL MOUNTAINEERS:** Two of the featured offensive players for this year's West Virginia University football team were also on hand for the game.

Former OVAC All-Star Quincy Wilson was joined on the sidelines by WVU quarterback Rasheed Marshall.



EDWARDS

# W.Va. Sets Defense

By **SETH STASKEY**  
For The Intelligencer

With the offensive unit set, West Virginia head coach Tom Taylor has named some defensive players and a kicker for next Sunday's Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity Football Classic.

The Mountaineer defense - which will be forced to contend with a potent Ohio offense - will utilize a 4-3 set-up and play man coverage in the secondary.



"I really like the kids we have pegged for defense," Taylor said. "Our ends and tackles are big and athletic and that's what you need in a 4-3."

Adjusting to the 4-3 alignment is one thing that Taylor could foresee the most problems for his unit.

"The 4-3 is a little different," Taylor pointed out. "It will be a teaching thing, but I have no doubts that these kids can handle the job."

The West Virginia linebacking corps is where Taylor thinks he has the most athleticism.

"Our best overall athletes are our linebackers," Taylor remarked. "They have size, speed and athleticism. They can tackle and run real well. I like all of the kids we have at linebacker."

The defensive unit will consist of John Marshall's Luke Resczynski, Wheeling Central's Bruce Fowler, Linsly's Toussaint Hill, Oak Glen's Kyle Lowers, Cameron's D.J. Yoders, Weirton Madonna's Harry Ciccarelli, Wheeling Central's Matt DeSantis and Weir's Scott Johnston.

Handling the West Virginia kicking duties will be Brooke's Josh Kusich.

Here is a capsule look at the players:

**RESCZYNSKI** - This former Monarch was a two-way standout for Coach Mike Linsky's team this past fall.

The 6-foot-3, 270-pounder lines up at tackle on both sides of the ball during the regular season.

He was named First-Team all-OVAC and also received a scholar athlete of the week award.

Luke is also a standout in the classroom where he belonged to the National Honor Society and Who's Who Among American High School Students.

Along with football, Resczynski was also a baseball and basketball player for the Monarchs. He took part in Letter Club and was President of the French Club.

Luke, who plans to attend West Virginia University, is the son of Larry and Christine Resczynski of Wheeling.

**FOWLER** - This Maroon Knight is just another player who had a huge role in Central's state titles two of the past three



**RESCZYNSKI**



**KUSICH**

seasons.

Fowler, a 6-1, 225-pound guard and defensive end was solid on both sides of the ball for Coach Jim Thomas' team, but received most of his accolades as a defensive player.

He was named all-state as a defensive end and earned the Best Defense Award. He was also a First-Team all-OVAC and all-Valley pick. He captured the Weight Room Dedication Award.

Fowler - who also shined in track and wrestling - was solid in the classroom. He was a member of the National Honor Society, National Honor Roll and Who's Who.

Fowler also took part in G.U.T.S. and Peer Ministry.

Bruce, who plans to attend West Virginia University, is the son of Bruce and Susan Fowler of Wheeling.

**HILL** - This former Cadet was a four-year regular for Coach Terry DePew's team.

Hill was an offensive guard and defensive lineman and, for his efforts, he earned the Stobbs Award, which is given to Linsly's best lineman.

Toussaint, who is the son of Toussaint and Juliette Hill of Pittsburgh, plans to attend Morehouse College.

**LOWERS** - Another one of Taylor's former players, this Golden Bear will be one of the leaders of the Mountaineer secondary.

The 5-8, 175-pounder was a starter at both wide receiver and strong safety this past season for the Bears.

He was an Honorable Mention all-OVAC pick and he also belongs to the National Honor Society.

Along with football, Lowers was also a member of the Golden Bears' wrestling team.

Kyle, who plans to attend Fairmont State College, is the son of Julie Glass and Mark Lowers.

**YODERS** - This former Dragon enjoyed a solid four-year career under the direction of Coach Jim Rogers.

Yoders was a running back and linebacker for the Dragons during his stint at the Marshall County school.

The 5-10, 155-pounder was a first-team All-Mason Dixon Conference pick and was Honorable Mention All-Valley. He also captured the Walter Black Award.

Yoders was also a wrestling

standout at Cameron. After plac-

ing fifth at the OVAC as a senior,

he went on to win the Regional and finish third in the state.

D.J., who is undecided on his future plans, is the son of Donald and Mary Jo Yoders and Tammy and Jerry Lyn Marling.

**CICARELLI** - This former Blue Don was a two-way standout for Coach Bob Kramer's team this past fall, starring at running back and linebacker.

Cicarelli will be used primarily on defense because that is where he made his biggest strides this past season.

He was first-team all-OVAC and Mason-Dixon Conference as a linebacker. He was also an honorable mention all-state pick.

The 6-1, 195-pounder was also on the Blue Don baseball and basketball teams.

Harry, who is heading to Northrop Grumman, is the son of Harry and Lynne Ciccarelli.

**DeSANTIS** - This Maroon Knight was the anchor on the offensive line and one of the defensive standouts for Coach Jim Thomas' state championship team.

The 5-9, 175-pounder anchored the offensive front from his center position was a defensive ace at outside linebacker.

After being selected to the all-West Virginia second-team as a junior, DeSantis captained the team as a senior. He was also a two-time all-Valley pick and all-conference. He was a WTRF Athlete of the Week and also Elks Athlete of the Month.

Along with football, DeSantis was a track and wrestling participant.

Matt, who is heading to Point Park College, is the son of James and Jane DeSantis.

**JOHNSTON** - The former Red Rider was a standout player at both linebacker and safety as a senior.

The 6-3, 190-pound Rider captain was an Honorable Mention all-State pick and was First-Team all-Valley. He was an Honorable Mention all-OVAC pick.

Off the football field, Johnston was a member of the Key Club and was also an honor student.

Scott, who plans to attend West Virginia, is the son of Bill and Tina Johnston.

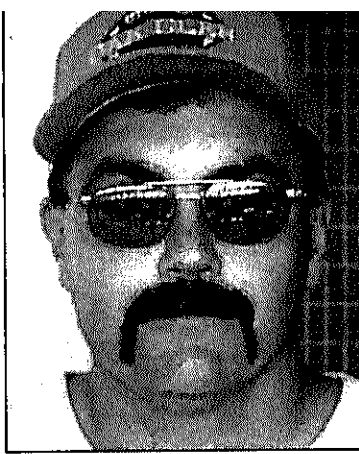
**KUSICH** - This former Bruin will handle all of the West Virginia kicking duties, including the punting.

Playing under Dave Reitter, Kusich connected on nine point after touchdowns and five field goals this past fall.

Kusich was First-Team Ohio Valley and also the recipient of the Roger Simpson Award. He was named Honorable Mention all-OVAC.

Along with football, Kusich took part in baseball.

Jos, who plans to attend Fairmont State, is the son of Gary and Patty Kusich of Wellsburg.



Tom Taylor

## Oak Glen Grid Staff To Lead W.Va. Stars

### For The News-Register

Baseball may be "King" in the Ohio Valley this weekend with the annual Beast of the East Tournament dominating the sports pages but it won't be long until football resumes its rightful place at the top of the area sports food chain.

The first steps down that road were taken today when the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference announced the West Virginia coaching staff for its annual Rudy Mumley Charity All-Star Classic.

The OVAC All-Star Classic is slated for Wheeling Island Stadium, July 27 with a 7 p.m. kickoff.

Oak Glen's Tom Taylor was named to the Mountain State helm after guiding the New Cumberland school to a 6-4 record and a fourth place finish in the OVAC 3-A race, the highest amongst the West Virginia schools.

This marks the inaugural assignment to the game for Taylor, who couldn't be happier about giving up a week of his summer vacation to take part.

"I'm very excited about this opportunity," Taylor said. "I'm a little nervous because it's a real challenge to put everything together in one week, but this might be my only time to be able to coach in this game."

Taylor will be joined on the West Virginia sidelines by Paul Quattrone, Darrell Curtis, Kent Kidder, Bill Stewart, Steve Kourpas and Bob Kramer.

Randy Elliott will serve as the Mountaineer trainer.

"I have a great staff assembled," Taylor said. "The guys we have at Oak Glen are good, but to bring in coaches from other schools is very exciting for me. Our meetings have been real productive and we just hope we can go out and put on a good show."

Here is a capsule look at the coaching staff:

**TOM TAYLOR** — The third year mentor has put together a 13-17 record since taking over the Golden Bears.

Taylor handles the offensive coordinator duties and will also work with the offensive and defensive lines.

Before coming to Oak Glen, Taylor had been an assistant coach at Weir for eight years. The Red Rider alum also served as head track coach and assistant wrestling coach at his alma mater.

A West Liberty State College graduate, Taylor and his wife Roberta have a daughter Lydia. They reside in Weirton.

**PAUL QUATTRONE** — This veteran football coach has been involved in coaching for the past eight years. He has been at Oak Glen for five of those seasons.

Quattrone came to Oak Glen after stopping at Weirton Madonna as an assistant. While at Madonna, he was also head baseball and golf coach.

In 2001, Quattrone was named AFLAC National Assistant Coach of the Year.

Along with his football duties, Quattrone also serves on the Bears' girls basketball staff.

Quattrone is a product of Steubenville High School where he played football, golf, baseball and basketball.

After graduation from Big Red, Quattrone attended the University of Cincinnati, West Liberty and West Virginia University.

**BOB KRAMER** — This 30-year veteran of the football coaching ranks comes to the West Virginia staff as the Weirton Madonna head coach.

He will serve as the offensive and defensive line coach for the West Virginia stars.

Prior to coming to Madonna, he served on the Steubenville Central and Toronto staffs.

Kramer is a graduate of Steubenville High School. He and his wife Kathy have two children, Bob Jr. and Linda.

**BILL STEWART** — The former Oak Glen standout has returned to his roots, serving on Taylor's staff for the past three years.

Stewart handles the tight ends and linebackers after being a three-year defensive starter at Bethany.

While at Bethany, Stewart was a two-year All-PAC selection and defensive MVP in 2000.

**KENT KIDDER** — This Follansbee High School graduate comes to the West Virginia staff from Ohio, where he serves as defensive coordinator at Wellsville.

Kidder will work with the wide receivers and defensive backs at the OVAC game.

Before leaving to join the Tigers' staff, Kidder was at Weir High for two seasons and has been a football coach for the past 15 years.

In that span, he served as head coach at Weirton Madonna and also served on coaching staffs at both Brooke and Toronto.

Another West Liberty State alum, Kidder has two state championship rings in his possession. He was on the staff at Madonna in 1987 and also on the Weir High staff in 1998.

Kent and his wife Donna have three daughters: Amy, Angela and Ashley.

**DARRELL CURTIS** — This Weir High graduate has been serving under Taylor at Oak Glen for the past three seasons.

Curtis will be working with wide receivers and the defensive line during the OVAC game.

Curtis — who attended West Liberty State College — also served as a baseball coach at Oak Glen.

Darrell and his wife Angelina are the parents of five children: Danielle, Darci, Darrick, Alexis and Thomas.

**STEVE KOURPAS** — This 1974 Oak Glen High product has spent the last two years on Taylor's Oak Glen staff and will be coaching tight ends and defensive backs.

Along with his football duties, Kourpas is also the Oak Glen head baseball coach and was named Herald Star Co-Coach of the Year.

Steve and his wife Kathie have two sons: Andy and Matt Whar-ton.

**RANDY ELLIOTT** — This 1975 Oak Glen High School graduate will serve as the West Virginia team trainer.

He has spent 27 years as an athletic trainer. Of those eight have come at Oak Glen and 11 at Weir. He also serves as athletic trainer at Wheeling Jesuit.

Elliott has received the Who's Who of Teachers, James "Dead-eye" Morris Award and Wall of Tolerance Award.

Elliott has degrees from West Liberty State College and West Virginia University.

## Ohio Roster Filling Fast

### By SETH STASKEY For The Intelligencer

Ohio head coach Dave Bruney has announced his defensive linemen and linebackers for the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic.

The group of defensive linemen includes Bellaire's Clay Boston, River's Chris Carroll, Buckeye Local's Dustin Kendle, East Liverpool's Dan Suznevich and Beaver Local's Jared Williams.

The linebacking corps features Indian Creek's Aaron Bane, Shenandoah's Tyler DeVold, Shadyside's Mike Frollini, East Liverpool's Chris Green, St. Clairsville's Logan Mehl and Edison's Steve Potkrajac.

**BOSTON** — A 6-foot-2, 200-pound defensive end was a second-team All-Ohio for head coach John Magistro at Bellaire. He also was first team all-Eastern District, all-Valley, all-Times Leader and all-OVAC and played tight end on the offensive side of the ball.

Boston also played a key role on Bellaire's district champion baseball team, helping the Big Reds advance to the regional title tilt this spring.

Clay is the son of Bill and Nannette Boston of Bellaire.

**CARROLL** — A 5-11, 200-pounder was a two-way standout for Coach Terry Snively at defensive end and on the offensive line.

He was selected second team all-Ohio and first team all-Eastern District, all-Times Leader and all-Valley.

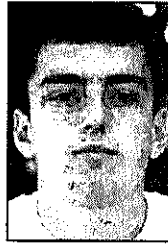
Chris, who will be attending Muskingum in the fall, is the son of Brian and Lucy Carroll of Powhatan Point.

**KENDLE** — A 6-2, 215-pounder, played defensive end and offensive guard for Coach Mike Groves' Panthers.

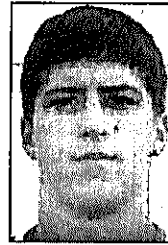
A team captain at Buckeye Local, Kendle was selected first team all-Times Leader.

He is the son of Dave and Ellie Kendle of Mingo Junction.

**SUZNEVICH** — A 6-0, 255-pounder, Suznevich played defensive tackle, tight end and guard for Coach Bob Thayer's



MEHL



FROLLINI

Potters.

He was first team all-Eastern District, all-Quad County and all-Columbiana County; special mention all-Ohio and honorable mention all-OVAC.

Dan, who will attend Baldwin-Wallace, is the son of Carlyn and Jamie Beverly and Dan Suznevich.

**WILLIAMS** — This 5-10, 205-pounder was a stellar middle linebacker for Coach Rich Wright's Beavers.

He was a two-time all-OVAC first teamer and a three-time selection on the all-Quad County and all-Columbiana County honor rolls.

Williams also was a standout on the mats, earning four letters and placing sixth at 189 pounds in the Ohio Division II meet.

Jared is the son of Gary and Patty Williams of Lisbon.

**BANE** — This 6-1, 205-pounder starred at inside linebacker and running back for Coach Bryan Mays' Redskins.

He was a two-time all-Valley captain, two-time all-Quad County, two-time all-Ohio honorable mention, two-time all-Eastern District and two-time all-Herald Star honoree and also earned first-team All-OVAC laurels.

Aaron, who will attend Washington & Jefferson, is the son of Jim and Jodi Bane of Wintersville.

**DEVOLD** — This 6-foot-1, 205-pound linebacker/tailback was a four-year letterman for Coach Dan Wesson's Zepps.

He was named first team all-Pioneer Valley Conference, all-Eastern District and all-OVAC and earned all-Ohio honorable mention.

Tyler, headed to Mount Union, is the son of Donald and

LaShona DeVold of Sarahsville. **GREEN** — This 6-2, 185-pounder was a standout outside linebacker at East Liverpool.

He was named first team all-Eastern District, special mention all-Ohio, special mention all-OVAC and first team all-Quad County.

Green was a two-time state tourney qualifier on the mats for the Potters and also earned three letters in track.

Chris is the son of Carl and Christina Green of East Liverpool.

**MEHL** — This versatile 6-1, 185-pounder played tight end and safety for head coach Brett McLean at St. Clairsville and will likely see action at outside linebacker for the Ohio stars.

Mehl was the Red Devils' team MVP and was an all-OVAC, all-Eastern District and all-Times Leader honoree.

A four-year performer on the football team, he also played two years of basketball at St. Clairsville.

Logan, who will attend Ohio University, is the son of Lance and Linda Mehl of St. Clairsville.

**POTKRAJAC** — This 5-11, 170-pounder played fullback and linebacker for Coach Dave Ever-son's Wildcats.

Potkrajac was a first team all-Ohio selection and was named the Eastern District Defensive Player of the Year.

He also was first team all-OVAC, first team all-Quad County and first team all-Eastern District.

Steve, who will attend Otter-bein, is the son of Steve and Lori Potkrajac of Toronto.

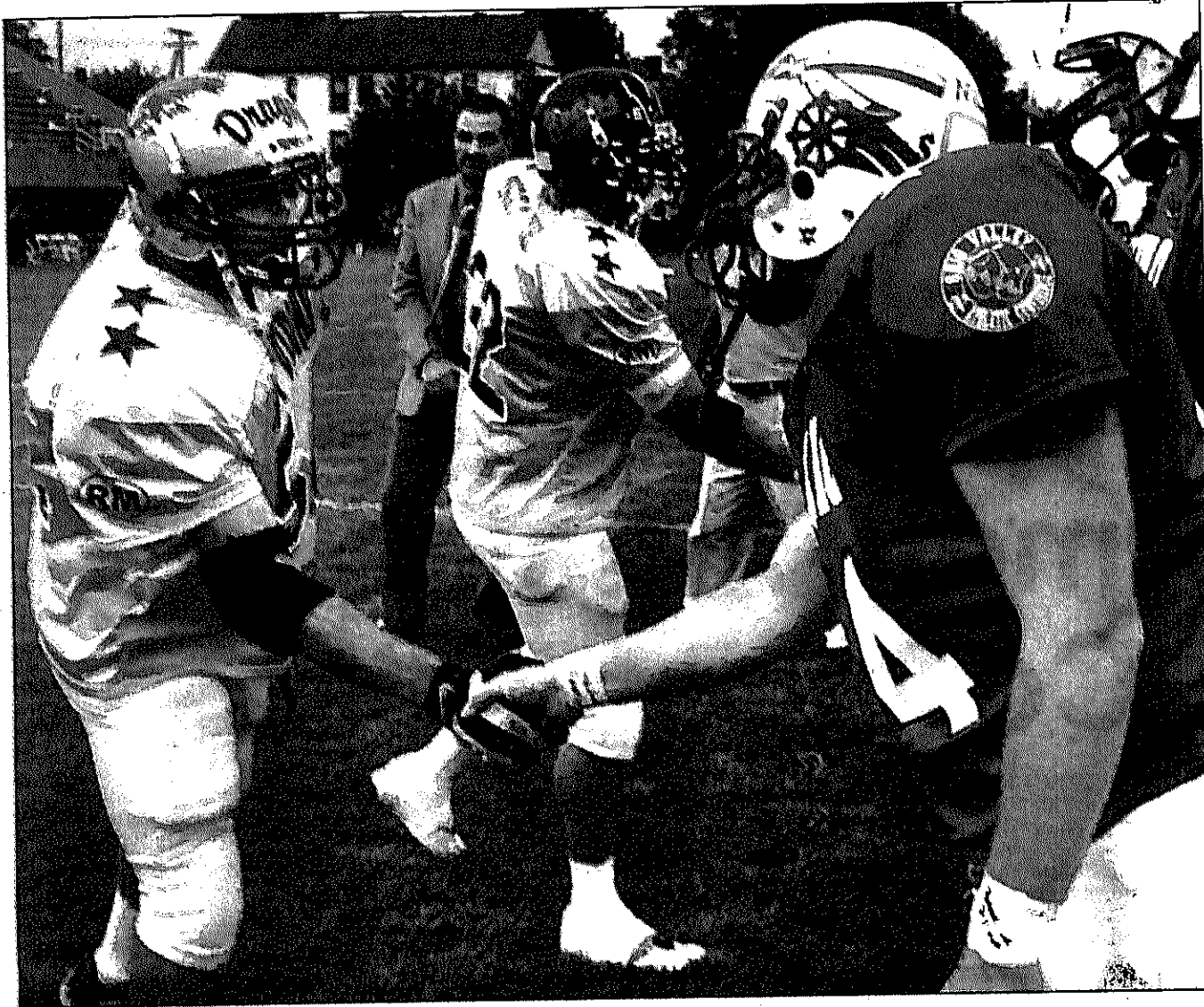
**FROLLINI** — This 5-11, 205-pounder played linebacker and center for Coach Ty Fleming's playoff entry.

He was selected first team all-Valley, all-Eastern District and all-Times Leader and honorable mention all-Ohio.

Frollini also competed in wrestling and baseball at Shady-side.

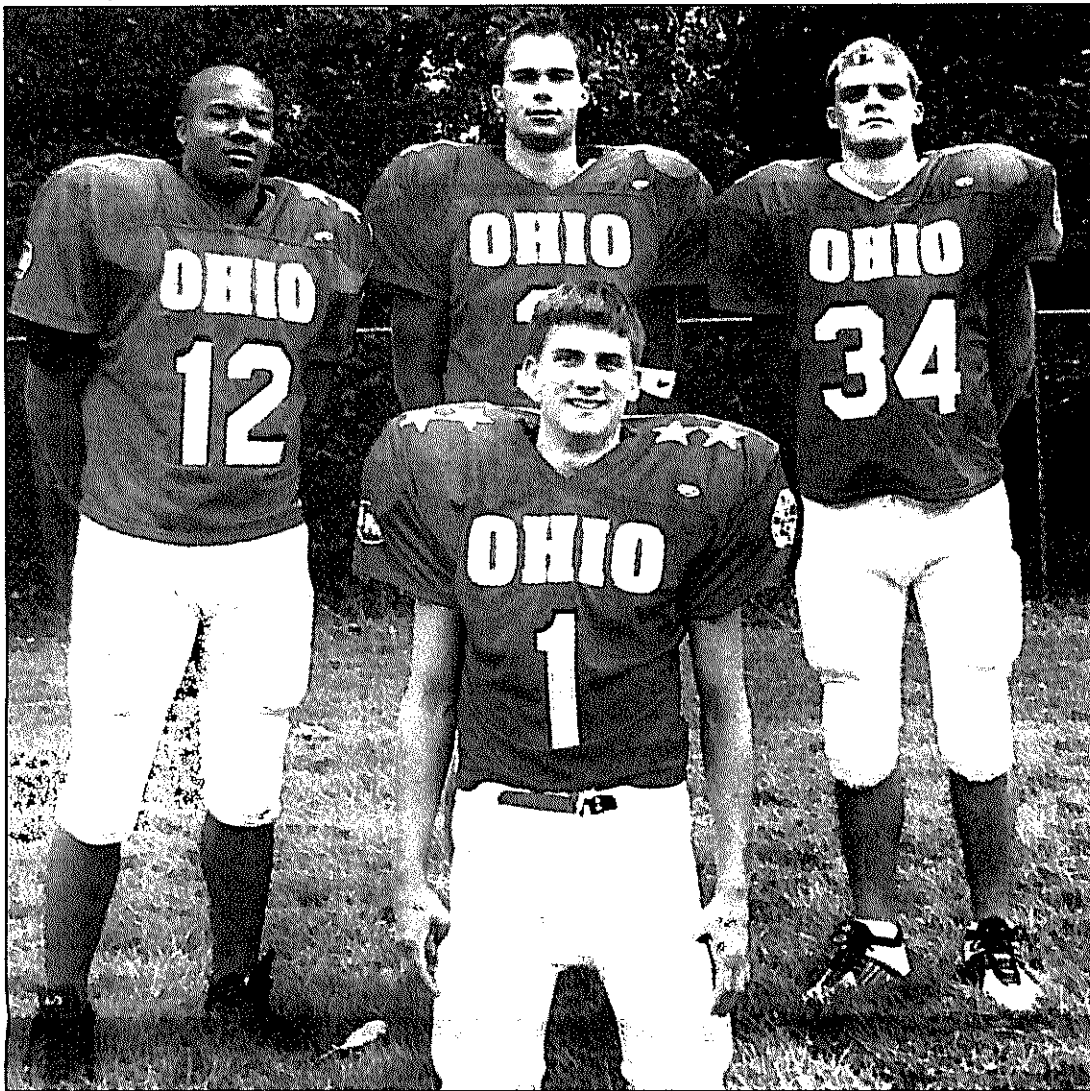
Mike, who is going to Wash-ington & Jefferson, is the son of Mike and Paula Frollini of Shadyside.

## 32ND ANNUAL RUDY MUMLEY OVAC CLASSIC



TOP: Team captains Wheeling Central's Matt Desantis, left, and Indian Creek's Aaron Bane shake hands at center field after the coin toss before the kick-off of the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Football Charity Classic. BOTTOM LEFT: Mandy Baker of Bellaire is all smiles after being named the 2003 Queen of Queens. BOTTOM RIGHT: Jim Compston, second from right, and the McDonald's OVAC All-Star Band, perform during the pre-game ceremony. Ohio won the game 32-26.

Photos by Scott McCloskey



# Advance tickets for OVAC game available

Advance Tickets for the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley/OVAC are currently on sale at businesses around the Ohio Valley.

The OVAC game -- which is slated for Sunday at Wheeling Island Stadium -- will kick off at 7:15 p.m.

Tickets bought in advance will cost fans \$7, while all tickets at the gate will be sold for \$10.

The Ohio locations selling tickets include: Bellaire Kroger, Calcutta Bowyer Hardware, Cambridge Kroger, Heimes All Sports in East Liverpool; Martins Ferry Kroger, Defelice Brothers Pizza in Shadyside; St. Clairsville Kroger, Steubenville Kroger on Hollywood Boulevard, Wintersville Kroger, Woodsfield Weber's Drug Store and Zanesville Kroger.

The West Virginia locations include: Benwood Kroger, Greg's Market in Cameron, Moundsville Kroger, Witschey's Super Market in New Martinsville; Warwood Kroger, Weirton Kroger on St. Thomas Drive, Weirton Kroger on Main Street, Wellsburg Kroger and Wheeling Kroger on Mount DeChantal Road.



T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH

**TOP PHOTO:** The Ohio quarterbacks and kicker for Sunday's 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity Football Classic are Steubenville's Brian Pruitt (12), Union Local's Justin Schafer (3) and Buckeye Trail's Joey Marchiano (34). In front, is Martins Ferry's Urs Mueller (1) who is the Buckeye State's kicker.

**ABOVE:** The Ohio secondary includes Bridgeport's Vince Stemkowski (14), Steubenville's Brian Pruitt (12) and Martins Ferry's Mike Mamone (7).

**AT RIGHT:** The Ohio stable of running backs includes Monroe Central's Chris Wilson (46), Martins Ferry's Ty Platt (28), Edison's Steve Potkrajac (32), Shenandoah's Tyler DeVold (20), Indian Creek's Aaron Bane (44) and Beaver Local's Jordan Williams (33).



# Ferry's Mueller Kicks Back in America

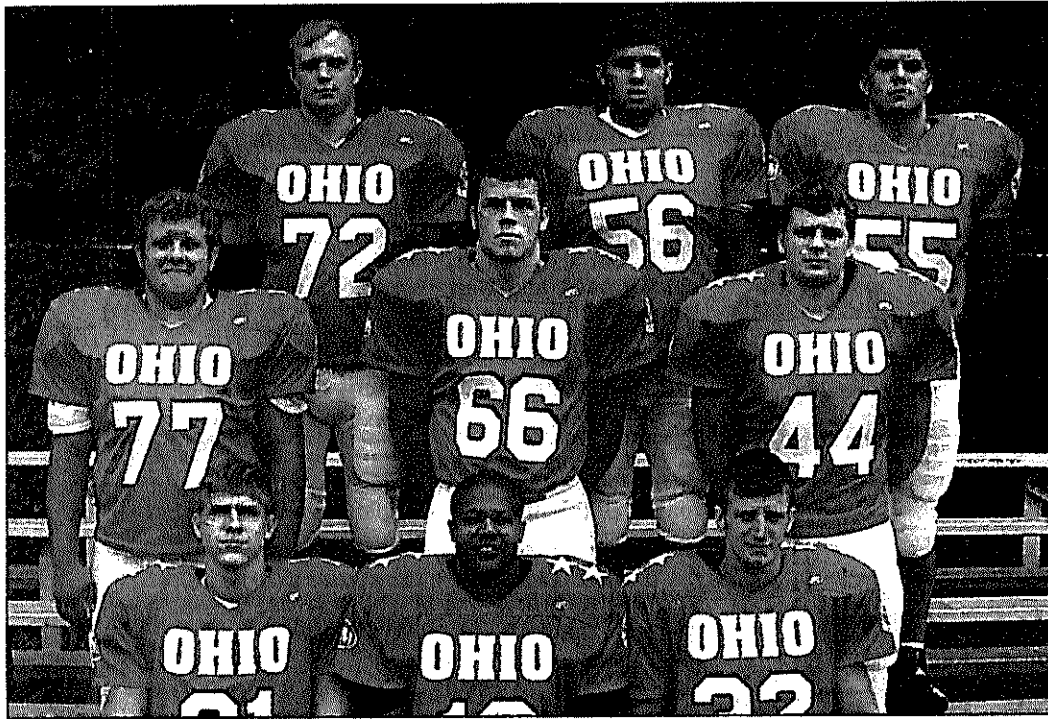


Photo by Rick Thorp

Representing the Ohio squad in Sunday's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star football game will be these players: In front, from left, Toronto's Anthony Antonucci, Steubenville's Brian Pruitt, and Edison's Steve Potkrajac. Middle row, from left, Steubenville's Mike Van Voltenburg, Edison's Chris Fankhauser, and Indian Creek's Aaron Bane. Back row, from left, Buckeye Local's Dustin Kendle, Edison's Travis DeZordo, and Steubenville Central's Ryan Miller.

By RICK THORP  
Staff Writer

If officials from the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Football Charity Classic handed out an award to the player who traveled the farthest to play in the game, it would have to go to Martins Ferry's Urs Mueller.

Mueller, a 5-foot-10, 155-pound kicker who hails from Switzerland, attended the Belmont County school this past year.

While most foreign exchange students head back home after their stints in the states, Ohio head coach Dave Bruney said Mueller decided to stick around a little bit longer.

"He got his visa extended and stayed an extra six weeks," said Bruney, who also coached Mueller this past season for the Purple Riders. "He had to go through quite a process to do that."

"They toured the country for about a month or five weeks. They went out to Colorado, New York and up to South Dakota to see Mount Rushmore."

Mueller was an unknown when he arrived at Martins Ferry last summer. Bruney got his first taste of how impressive Mueller's talents were when he showed up at a practice last August.



OVAC All-Star  
Football  
Notebook

"I asked him, 'Have you ever kicked a football before?,' and he said, 'One time with my brother,'" Bruney said.

It didn't take long for Bruney and his staff to realize that they had a keeper.

It took fans, especially those on the opposing teams, a little longer to learn about Mueller.

He became a member of the team after the programs had been printed. So, there was no mention of him on the roster early in the season.

But Mueller quickly made an impression with his accuracy and ability to be consistent from long distances.

Despite the almost nine-month layoff, Bruney said Mueller is back in top form this week.

"The other day he hit six of seven from more than 40 yards," he said during a break in practice last week. "He's definitely a weapon."

Please See OVAC, Page 23

## OVAC

(Continued from Page 19)

While Mueller is finished with high school here in America, the 18-year-old must attend school two more years in Switzerland to meet his requirements there.

But Bruney said he wouldn't be surprised to see the standout booter back in this country kicking for a college program.

"He's hoping to come back here and kick for somebody," Bruney said. "He's an excellent kicker."

### Seeing Double

It will be a proud moment for the Williams family tomorrow tonight when they get to see twin brothers Jared and Jordan Williams represent Beaver Local High School.

Jared, at 5-10 and 205 pounds, will either be playing guard on offense or linebacker or tackle on the defensive side.

Jordan, who checks in at 5-11 and weighs 195 pounds, will be counted on by Bruney to play tailback and linebacker.

Game organizers believe this is the first time a set of twins have played in the game.

The Williams brothers both were standout wrestlers for the Beavers, each claiming an OVAC title this past February at the Wheeling Civic Center.

Jared won the 189-pound division, while Jordan won at the 171-pound level.

### Haven't I Seen You Before?

Participating in the annual

OVAC football clash is nothing new for Ohio head coach Dave Bruney.

The veteran Martins Ferry coach first got a taste of the game as a player back in 1969.

As a coach, Bruney walked the sidelines 1979, 1983 and 1999.

One of Bruney's assistant coaches for tonight's game, Dirk Fitch, himself a Ferry alum, played for Bruney in one of those all-star tilts.

Fitch will be sharing the thrill of tonight's game with his son, Jack, who will serve as a manager for the Buckeye squad.

### Welcome Back!

As part of all-star game festivities, game organizers will be welcoming back some of the men and women who were a part of the game back in 1993.

That year, West Virginia won its first of two-straight victories by winning the highest-scoring game in series history, 34-32.

As of last last week, the following former Buckeyes have confirmed they will be attending: Dana Kelly, Richard Mercer, Ron Street and coach Dave Caldwell, of Beallsville; Jason Marks, of Barnesville; Mike Call and Tim McCabe, of Bellaire; Jonathan Winkler, of River; Chad Wiley, of Shadyside; Joe Polshaw, of Steubenville; and Andrew Martin, of Wellsville.

Mountaineers returning to Wheeling Island Stadium include: Jason Kociban and

coach Rick Blake, of Bishop Donahue; Todd Neely, of Cameron; Matt Nardone and Kevin Trebush, of John Marshall; Paul Walton, of Tyler County; Jim Sauer, of Weir; Curtis McGhee, of Wheeling Central; and coaches Jim Fogle and Emil Nardone.

Queen of Queen candidates returning are: Jennifer Vavra Owens, of Bellaire St. John; Holly Gregor Johns, of Edison South; and Michelle Pauchnik Buterbaugh, of Weirton Madonna.

### Strike Up the Band

Darrell Lucas is in his first year coordinating the McDonald's All-Star Band.

Lucas, the veteran band director from Bellaire High School, has taken the baton from longtime coordinator Ken Bonnell, who retired after last year's game.

In all, there will be 238 of the Ohio Valley's most talented musicians stepping across the turf at Wheeling Island Stadium.

### Making the Calls

Officials for tonight's game include: Dave Clutter, referee; Larry Shane, umpire; Janis Worklan, field judge; T.J. Brancazio, head linesman; Gerald Spencer, line judge; and Sam Jones, side judge.

Honorary officials for the game are: Ed Duffy, Wheeling; Louis Kuntupis, Weirton; Anello Liberati, Bellaire; and David 'Pecky' Pell, Wheeling.

# Taylor Announces Receiving Corps

'Our receivers are outstanding' - Taylor

**For The News-Register**  
Head coach Tom Taylor today announced the players who will be manning the wide receiver and tight end slots for the West Virginia stars in this month's Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic.

The annual midsummer gleam game is set for a 7:15 p.m. kick-off at Wheeling Island Stadium on July 27.

The Oak Glen High mentory has picked nine of the Mountain State's premier deep threats, all of whom have the speed and pass-catching ability to threaten the Ohio secondary.

"Our receivers are outstanding," Taylor said. "We are two and three deep at most of the spots."

"All of the kids we have selected can run and catch really well and all of our tight ends are good blockers and also have the ability to catch the ball," Taylor continued.

Though Taylor is primarily a running coach, he and his staff know they will have to put the ball up against the Ohio defense.

"We run some shotgun at Oak Glen, so it won't be that unfamiliar," Taylor said.

"(You) have to have the ability to throw against an all-star defense because they will be able to stop you."

With the group the West Virginia staff has assembled, Taylor believes his team will be able to give the Buckeyes a bevy of offensive looks.

"We think we have the ability to give them every look possible," he said.

"We can go from double tight to spread offense, and we think we can do either one well."

The group that Taylor has selected to handle the pass-catching duties includes: Wheeling Park's Justin Wood, John Marshall's Ryan Vucelik, Tyler Consolidated's Ryan Thomas, Brooke's Kyle Scherich, Weirton Madonna's Luke Myers and Magnolia's Derek Kocher.

The three tight ends are Wheeling Park's Nick Stefanow, John Marshall's Dan Miller and Weir's Tyler Frankovitch.

**Wood** - This former Patriot enjoyed a very solid senior season for Coach Mark Nardone's team.

Wood (6-0, 175) was named First-Team all-OVAC, Second-Team All-Valley and Honorable Mention All-West Virginia.

Wood was also a track standout for the Patriots.

**Justin** -- the son of Vic and Anna Wood of Valley Grove -- will play his college football at Coastal Carolina University.

**Vucelik** - The former Monarch enjoyed a very fine campaign last fall for Coach Mike Linsky's Monarchs.

Excelling in the Monarchs' air attack, Vucelik hauled in 21 balls for 348 yards and three touchdowns as a senior. The 5-10, 160 pounder earned All-OVAC and Honorable Mention All-West Virginia.

Along with his football talents, Vucelik was also a standout hurdler for the Monarchs. He was an OVAC high hurdle champion and finished second in West Virginia as a junior in the intermediates.



Wood



Vucelik



Thomas



Scherich



Myers



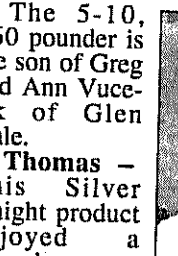
Kocher



Stefanow



Miller



Frankovitch

The 5-10, 160 pounder is the son of Greg and Ann Vucelik of Glen Dale.

**Thomas** - This Silver Knight product enjoyed a superb season at strong safety, but Taylor intends for him to see some offensive action.

Bound for West Virginia University in the fall, Thomas was rewarded for his fine senior season with Special Mention All-Valley and Special Mention All-OVAC.

The 5-10, 175 pounder was also a standout basketball player at Tyler Consolidated.

Ryan is the son of Larry and Sandy Thomas of Middlebourne.

**Scherich** -- This former Bruin proved to be the go-to-guy for first-year head coach Dave Reitter last fall.

Scherich hauled in a valley-leading 63 balls for 918 yards. He found pay dirt on five different occasions.

For his fine senior season, Scherich was named to the First-Team All-OVAC and First-Team All-Valley.

The 6-ft-0, 175 pounder enjoyed a solid three-year run in Wellsburg. After his junior season, he was awarded second-team all-OVAC and First-Team All-Valley.

Scherich is also a Who's Who in Sports selection.

See, TAYLOR, Page B3

# Ohio completes OVAC grid roster

By GREG HARKNESS  
Times Leader Sports Writer

The Ohio roster is complete. Buckeye State head coach Dave Bruneu put the finishing touches on his roster for the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic -- which is slated for July 27 at Wheeling Island Stadium -- will kick off at 7:15 p.m.

A trio of running backs are among the final additions. That group includes Martins Ferry's Ty Platt, Beaver Local's Jordan Williams and Monroe Central's Chris Wilson.

"We think all of the running backs are tough-nosed kids," Bruneu said. "They are north-south runners, but each of them have good speed. Each of them were primary weapons for their high school teams."

"We hope to get each of them a bunch of carries," Bruneu said. "We also liked the fact, that for the number of carries they had, they did not put the ball on the ground."

Bruneu also added two defensive backs to the Ohio roster. They are Martins Ferry's Mike Mamone and Bridgeport's Vince Stemkowski.

Both are good punt returners and will get chances in that area. Ohio's roster is completed with Martins Ferry kicker Urs Mueller.

"Urs has been to several kicking camps this summer," Bruneu said. "We are very comfortable with him on field goals and kicking off."

additions to the Ohio roster: TY PLATT -- This Martins Ferry senior turned in a superb senior season in helping the Riders to a 10-0 season. He rushed for better than 1,200 yards and 15 touchdowns.

The 5-foot-10, 189-pound performer also played corner for Bruneu's Purple Riders.

See, OHIO, Page C3

## Ohio

Continued from Page C1

He was selected all-OVAC, all-Eastern District, all-Valley and all-Times Leader following his final season at Ferry.

Platt also competed in basketball and baseball at Martins Ferry.

Ty is the son of Dawn Booker of Bridgeport.

JORDAN WILLIAMS -- Williams joins his twin brother, Jared, on the Ohio roster.

The 5-foot-11, 195-pound standout was a talented two-way performer for Coach Rich Wright's Beaver Local Beavers. He played running back and linebacker.

Williams was named first team all-County, first team all-Area, first team all-Quad County, first team all-OVAC and first team all-Eastern District. He was named honorable mention all-Ohio in 2002 and second team all-Ohio in 2001.

Williams also was a standout wrestler for the Beavers.

Jared is the son of Gary and Patty Williams of Lisbon.

CHRIS WILSON -- This Seminole standout was a major cog in helping Coach Jay Circosta and Monroe Central to consecutive playoff berths.

Wilson topped the 1,200-yard plateau and scored 20 touchdowns.

Wilson was named all-Ohio, all-OVAC, all-Pioneer Valley Conference and was selected as the Eastern District offensive player of the year.

The 5-foot-9, 160-pounder also played linebacker for the 'Noles.

Wilson also was a standout wrestler during his tenure at Monroe Central.

Chris, who will attend Ohio University-Eastern, is the son of Jeff and Theresa Wilson of Woodsfield.

MIKE MAMONE -- This Rider was a major three-prong threat for Bruneu as a receiver, defensive back and kick returner.

Mamone -- a 5-foot-10, 155-pounder -- was selected first team all-Valley, first team all-Times Leader, first team all-Eastern District and special mention all-Ohio.

Mamone was also a talented performer in wrestling, finishing second in the OVAC Tournament, and in track.

Mike, who will attend Ohio University-Eastern, is the son of Tony and Carol Mamone of St. Clairsville.

VINCE STEMKOWSKI -- Talented athlete was bright spot for Coach Ron Busby's Bridgeport Bulldogs.

Stemkowski -- a 5-foot-9, 160-pound performer -- played primarily quarterback, while also seeing time at running back and wide receiver on offense for the Bulldogs. He played defensive back on defense.

Stemkowski was selected first team all-OVAC, first team all-Eastern District and first team all-Times Leader.

Stemkowski also competed in basketball and baseball for the Bulldogs.

Vince, who is headed to West Liberty State College, is the son of Angie Hack and Vince Stemkowski.

URS MUELLER -- This Switzerland-exchange student was a major weapon for Bruneu's Riders -- in field goals, extra points and kickoffs.

Mueller -- a 5-foot-10, 155-pound booter -- was named all-Eastern District and special mention all-Ohio this season.

Urs is the son of Richard and Susanne Mueller.

# TAYLOR

Continued from page B2

Along with his football skills, Scherich is also an adept basketball player. He has earned all-conference and all-valley twice.

Kyle -- who plans to attend Fairmont State -- is the son of John and Veronica Scherich.

Myers -- This Blue Don product was the receiving leader for Coach Bob Kramer this past season.

Myers -- who is 5-ft-8, 155 -- hauled in 25 passes for 427 yards and six touchdowns.

Myers was awarded for his fine senior campaign when he was named to the All-OVAC, All-Valley and All-Area Football squads.

He was also an All-Mason-Dixon Conference Selection.

Luke was also an adept basketball and baseball player, earning team MVP honors in both sports.

Myers also gets it done in the classroom, where he is a member of the National Honor Society, Outstanding Students of America and Society of High School Scholars.

Luke is also active in Pep Club, Yearbook Editor, Art Club, Interact Club and member of S.A.D.D.

Luke -- who is undecided on his college -- is the son of Richard and Monette Myers of Weirton.

Kocher -- This Blue Eagle graduate figures to see time at flanker on Taylor's OVAC squad after a strong career in New Martinsville.

Kocher -- who is 5-ft-9, 160 -- was a standout at wide receiver and defensive back for Coach Mark Batton's team this past Fall.

Kocher was named Second-Team All-West Virginia as a sophomore, junior and senior. He

was also a First-Team All-Valley as a junior and senior. He was First-Team Mid-Ohio Valley as a junior.

Along with his football talents, Kocher was also a standout basketball player on the Blue Eagles' state championship squad. He also ran track.

In the classroom, Kocher was a National Honor Society member, Student Council member and Service Club member.

Derek -- who plans to attend West Virginia University -- is the son of Lewis and Theresa Kocher.

Stefanow -- This Patriot enjoyed a superb senior season as a tight end under Coach Mark Nardone.

Stefanow hauled in 29 balls for 419 yards and four touchdowns in the Park offense.

The 6-ft-5, 220 pounder inked a Division I football scholarship to Duke University earlier this year.

He was named First-Team All-West Virginia, All-Valley and All-OVAC.

Stefanow is also solid in the classroom after being named to the OVAC's All-Academic team and also the National Honor Society.

He was also a standout in both basketball and track at The Park.

Nick is the son of George and Kathleen Stefanow of Wheeling.

Miller -- This Monarch will also give the Mountaineers a viable option at tight end.

Miller was a standout tight end and defensive end for Coach Mike Linsky's team.

The 6-ft-4, 210 pounder is also a standout in the classroom.

He is a member of the National Honor Society and All-OVAC Academic Team.

Dan -- who is the son of Ralph and Karen Miller -- plans to attend West Virginia University in the Fall.

Frankovitch -- This former

Red Rider will give the Mountaineers a solid option on both sides of the ball.

Frankovitch was a standout defensive end for Coach Tony Filberto along with his tight-end talents.

The 6-ft-1, 190 pounder was an Honorable Mention All-OVAC pick and also a two-year captain of the Riders.

He is a member of the National Honor Society, President of Hi-Y and also a member of the Chemistry Club, S.A.D.D. and the Ski Club.

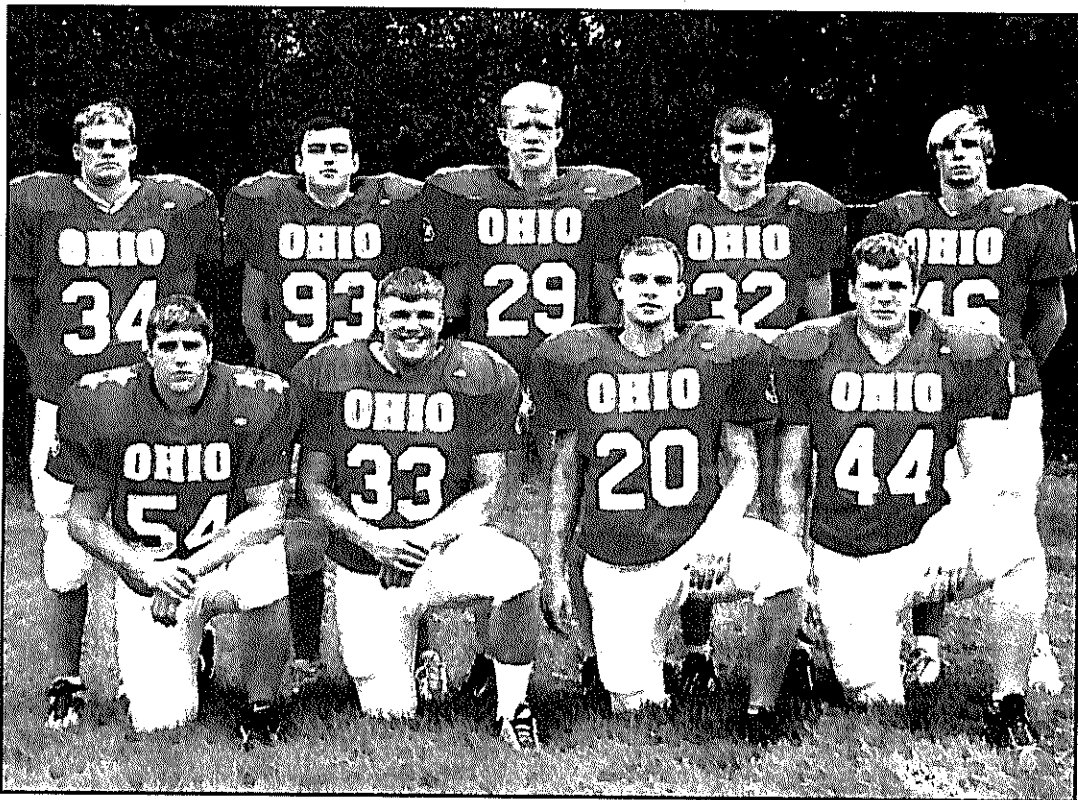
Taylor -- who plans to attend Washington and Jefferson -- is the son of Eric and Alice Frankovitch.

## WETZEL COUNTY WARRIORS



Photo by Rick Thorp

Representing W.Va. in Sunday's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star football game will be these five Wetzel County players. Kneeling from left: Magnolia's Derek Kocher and Sam Blatt, Padon City's Mark Doty. Standing from left: Tyler Consolidated's Ryan Thomas and Robby Jones.



**OHIO'S LINEBACKING** corps for the upcoming 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity Football Classic include Shadyside's Mike Frollini (54), Beaver Local's Jordan Williams (33), Shenandoah's Tyler DeVold (20), Indian Creek's Aaron Bane (44), Buckeye Trail's Joey Marchiano (34), St. Clairsville Logan Mehl (93), East Liverpool's Chris Green (29), Edison's Steve Potkrajac (32) and Monroe Central Christopher Wilson (46)

T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

## Annual Strager Evening With the Stars kicks off festivities

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

The official kickoff to the festivities surrounding the 32nd annual OVAC Rudy Mumley Charity All-Star Football Classic took place Wednesday evening at the Ramada City Center Plaza in Wheeling.

The players, coaches, cheerleaders and Queen of Queens candidates were out in full force at the annual George Strager Evening With the Stars.

The game itself is slated for Sunday at Wheeling Island Stadium with a 7:15 p.m. kickoff.

When Ohio and West Virginia set out for the game Sunday, Buckeye head coach Dave Bruney is hoping he will have enough healthy players.

Through just three hard days of workouts, the Buckeyes have been dealt three major injuries.

"There is nothing you can do about the injuries," Bruney said. "Some of the injuries we

See, **STRAGER**, Page B12

## ● Strager

Continued from Page C1

have had weren't even contact related."

Of the injuries, St. Clairsville tightend Logan Mehl has been ruled out of the game already after suffering a broken wrist, while back-pedaling.

Steubenville's Mike Van Voltenburg - who was a first-team all-Ohioan - twisted his right knee, but according to Bruney, it appears he will be ready to go by Sunday.

Steubenville Catholic Central's Ryan Miller was experiencing head aches and after being sent to see the doctor, it was discovered he has incurred a concussion. He, too, could be ready to go by kickoff.

"You don't have any control over these things when you are trying to get ready to play a football game," Bruney said. "We hope we have enough quality players to fill the void. If some of those guys can't go, then we are going to have to ask some of our players to go both ways and that may hurt in the fourth quarter if it's a close game."

Bruney and his staff are continuing preparations as if all three players may not play.

"We have to prepare the guys that we have," Bruney said. "The ones who are healthy and can practice are the guys we have to go with. If those guys can go by Sunday, then it will definitely be a help."

West Virginia's training room has been fairly quiet. Coach Tom Taylor reports that other than a slight knee twist, his squad is primarily pretty healthy.

"We have been pretty fortunate thus far," Taylor said. "The kids are all in pretty good shape and are really starting to grasp what we have been telling them in terms of our offense."

Both squads found the going tough Wednesday with Mother Nature not letting up on the rain.

The Buckeyes were able to get their morning practice in outside in full pads, but were forced inside with shoulder pads and helmets for the afternoon session.

"I thought we still had a productive afternoon," Bruney said.

"We were able to get done what we needed to get done in both sessions."

The Mountaineers opted to stay outside in the afternoon, battling through the rain drops.

"We didn't let the rain bother us too much," Taylor said. "I thought we had two very solid practices today and got everything done that we needed to."

The Ohio injury situation has also forced Bruney to alter his practice schedule somewhat for today.

Originally, Bruney and his staff had wanted to go through some scrimmages in both sessions, using about 18 plays in both the morning and afternoon.

"We will probably go in pads in both practices tomorrow and Friday," Bruney said. "We will go in shorts and t-shirts Saturday and Sunday as walk throughs and we might have two on Sunday because of the big time gap."

The Mountaineers - who figure to display the option - have been able to get the offense in and will focus the rest of the week on finalizing the offense and working with defense and special teams.

"All of our kids are very intelligent and have caught on to the offense really well," Taylor said. "We want to sure that up, but we have a lot of work to do in special teams and we would still like to get some special stuff in."

### OVAC NOTES

- THE OVAC festivities kicked into full gear Wednesday morning when 236 members of the McDonald's All-Star Band checked into West Liberty along with the cheering squads for both Ohio and West Virginia.

- THE festivities continue tonight when the teams take part in an ice-cream social at West Liberty. The scene shifts to the Wheeling Civic Center Friday evening for the Queen of Queens Pageant, which begins at 7 p.m.

- THE annual pep rally will be held Saturday at Russek Field at West Liberty, starting at 6 p.m. The teams will be introduced along with performances from the cheerleaders and band.



**THE OHIO** offensive line and tight ends for the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity Football Classic includes Buckeye Local's Dustin Kendle (72), Martins Ferry's Michael Edwards (63), Barnesville's Chad Barker (82), Steubenville's Michael Van Voltenburg (77), Edison's Chris Frankhauser (66), Steubenville Central's Ryan Miller (55), Edison's Travis JeZordo (56) and East Liverpool's Brian Davis (70).

T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

The Intelligencer.

# ARTS & LIVING

TOPICS: HEALTH

## Keeping Their Cool



Various OVAC All-Star football players from West Virginia high schools practice at West Liberty State College. Coaches encourage the players to keep cool by drinking plenty of liquids. Photos by Olivia Felici

## Band Members, Football Players Guard Against Heat-Related Ailments

By OLIVIA FELICI  
Staff Writer

As band members drill and football players practice patterns and get in shape for the upcoming season, it is important that they — and people of all ages — take precautions against heat-related illnesses, according to health officials.

Ohio Valley Athletic Conference All-Star football players and band members recently sweated through practices at West Liberty State College prior to the OVAC football game. Coach Chuck Miller said he takes several steps to ensure the Ohio OVAC football team doesn't experience heat exhaustion during practice in the weeks before the big game, in which the team triumphed over West Virginia on Sunday, July 27.

Miller said he checked weather reports every morning to see how hot it was going to be each day. Every 20-25 minutes the team earns a five-minute break during which they drink plenty of water.

Miller said the team, made up of the top players from OVAC schools in Ohio, preferred to drink water rather than sports drinks. They usually waited until practice was over for the day and then drank sports drinks. Breakfast, lunch and dinner was provided for the football players at West Liberty.

Oak Glen High School athletic trainer Randy Elliott trained the OVAC football players from various West Virginia high schools. Elliott checked the humidity each day. Sometimes he let the football players take off their helmets and shoulder pads if it became really hot. Elliott encouraged team members to avoid drinking soda or anything with caffeine.

### TIPS FROM ER DOCTOR DAVID BURKLAND

- Drink about 16 ounces of fluid before going out to exercise in the heat
- Exercise early in the morning before the heat of the day sets in or in the evening
- Avoid caffeine, alcohol, sugar
- Replace salt tablets with a sports beverage

ing practice. The players also took Medilyte, an electrolyte supplement. Elliott let the players take a break about every 15 minutes.

Miller commended the coaches for allowing their players to take breaks when needed.

Band coordinator Darrell Lucas said plenty of water and ice was provided to the OVAC band members, who also practiced at West Liberty for the July 27 game, which took place at Wheeling Island Stadium. Band students from both states were provided a large water trough — a kind of water fountain — and students also were permitted to bring their own bottles of water.

Jay Drury, assistant band director at West Liberty State College, also worked with the band. Lucas said on hot days, the students were able to take water breaks every 30-45 minutes. While the weather on Thursday, July 24, was cool and stormy, Friday, July 25 was a hot and sunny day for practice

### Several Illnesses Can Strike in The Heat of the Day

The National Center for Environmental Health identifies heat-related illnesses as:

- heat stroke
- heat exhaustion
- heat cramps
- heat rash
- sunburn

Heat stroke occurs when the body is unable to regulate its temperature. The body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating mechanism fails and the body is unable to cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106 degrees or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not provided.

The signs of heat stroke vary, but may include the following: a body temperature of 103 degrees or more; red, hot and dry skin (no sweating); rapid, strong pulse; throbbing headache; dizziness; nausea; confusion and unconsciousness.

If you see any of these signs you should call for immediate medical assistance while you begin cooling the victim. Get the victim to a shady area and cool him or her any way you can. Immerse the victim in a tub of cool water or place him or her in a cool shower. Spray the victim with cool water. If the humidity is low, wrap the victim in a cool, wet sheet

# Band Members, Football Players Guard Against Heat-Related Ailments

By OLIVIA FELICI  
Staff Writer

As band members drill and football players practice patterns and get in shape for the upcoming season, it is important that they — and people of all ages — take precautions against heat-related illnesses, according to health officials.

Ohio Valley Athletic Conference All-Star football players and band members recently sweated through practices at West Liberty State College prior to the OVAC football game. Coach Chuck Miller said he takes several steps to ensure the Ohio OVAC football team doesn't experience heat exhaustion during practice in the weeks before the big game, in which the team triumphed over West Virginia on Sunday, July 27.

Miller said he checked weather reports every morning to see how hot it was going to be each day. Every 20-25 minutes the team earns a five-minute break during which they drink plenty of water.

Miller said the team, made up of the top players from OVAC schools in Ohio, preferred to drink water rather than sports drinks. They usually waited until practice was over for the day and then drank sports drinks. Breakfast, lunch and dinner was provided for the football players at West Liberty.

Oak Glen High School athletic trainer Randy Elliott trained the OVAC football players from various West Virginia high schools. Elliott checked the humidity each day. Sometimes he let the football players take off their helmets and shoulder pads if it became really hot. Elliott encouraged team members to avoid drinking soda or anything with caffeine.

Members of the West Virginia team preferred to consume sports drinks dur-

## TIPS FROM ER DOCTOR DAVID BURKLAND

- Drink about 16 ounces of fluid before going out to exercise in the heat
- Exercise early in the morning before the heat of the day sets in or in the evening
- Avoid caffeine, alcohol, sugar
- Replace salt tablets with a sports beverage

ing practice. The players also took Medilyte, an electrolyte supplement. Elliott let the players take a break about every 15 minutes.

Miller commended the coaches for allowing their players to take breaks when needed.

Band coordinator Darrell Lucas said plenty of water and ice was provided to the OVAC band members, who also practiced at West Liberty for the July 27 game, which took place at Wheeling Island Stadium. Band students from both states were provided a large water trough — a kind of water fountain — and students also were permitted to bring their own bottles of water.

Jay Drury, assistant band director at West Liberty State College, also worked with the band. Lucas said on hot days, the students were able to take water breaks every 30-45 minutes. While the weather on Thursday, July 24, was cool and stormy, Friday, July 25 was a hot and sunny day for practice.

Please see **HEAT**, Page 28

## Several Illnesses Can Strike in The Heat of the Day

The National Center for Environmental Health identifies heat-related illnesses as:

- heat stroke
- heat exhaustion
- heat cramps
- heat rash
- sunburn

**Heat stroke** occurs when the body is unable to regulate its temperature. The body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating mechanism fails and the body is unable to cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106 degrees or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not provided.

The signs of heat stroke vary, but may include the following: a body temperature of 103 degrees or more; red, hot and dry skin (no sweating); rapid, strong pulse; throbbing headache; dizziness; nausea; confusion and unconsciousness.

If you see any of these signs you should call for immediate medical assistance while you begin cooling the victim. Get the victim to a shady area and cool him or her any way you can. Immerse the victim in a tub of cool water or place him or her in a cool shower. Spray the victim with cool water. If the humidity is low, wrap the victim in a cool, wet sheet and fan him or her vigorously.

Monitor body temperature and continue cooling efforts until the body temperature drops to 101-102 degrees. If emergency medical personnel are delayed, call the hospital emergency room for further instructions. Do not give the victim alcohol to drink.

Sometimes a victim's muscles will begin to twitch as a result of heat stroke. If this happens, keep the victim from injuring himself, but do not place any object in the mouth. If there is vomiting, make sure the airway remains open by turning the victim on his or her side.

**Heat exhaustion** is a milder form of heat-related illness that can develop after several days of exposure to high temperatures and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids. Elderly people, those with high blood pressure or people working or exercising in a hot environment are the most prone to heat exhaustion. The symptoms of heat exhaustion are: heavy sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea or vomiting and fainting. The skin may be cool and moist and the victim's pulse will be fast and weak. Breathing will be fast and shallow.

Please see **ILLNESSES**, Page 30



OVAC All-Star band members, from left, Aliyah Byine of Bellaire High School, Emily Hoskins of Martins Ferry, Jody Gavlik of Shadyside and Sherrie McLane of Shadyside, prepare to practice in the hot sun at West Liberty State College.

## ILLNESSES

(Continued from Page 29)

If heat exhaustion is untreated, it may progress to heat stroke. Seek medical attention immediately if the symptoms are severe or the victim has heart problems or high blood pressure. Otherwise, help the victim to cool off and seek medical attention if symptoms worsen or last longer than one hour.

Those with heat exhaustion should drink cool, nonalcoholic beverages, as directed by their physicians. They should rest and take a cool shower, bath or sponge bath. They should remain in an air-conditioned environment wearing lightweight clothing.

**Heat cramps** affect people who sweat a lot during strenuous activity. This sweating depletes the body's salt and moisture. The low salt level in the muscles causes painful cramps. Heat cramps may also be a symptom of heat exhaustion. Heat cramps are muscle pains or spasms, usually in the abdomen,

arms or legs, that may occur due to strenuous activity. If you have heart problems or are on a low-sodium diet, get medical attention for heat cramps. If medical attention is not necessary take the following steps: stop all activity and sit quietly in a cool place; drink clear juice or a sports beverage; do not return to strenuous activity for a few hours after the cramps subside, because further exertion may lead to heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Seek medical attention for heat cramps if they do not subside in one hour.

**Heat rash** is a skin irritation caused by excessive sweating during hot, humid weather. It can occur at any age, but is most common in young children. Heat rash looks like a red cluster of pimples or small blisters. It is more likely to occur on the neck and upper chest, in the groin, under the breast and in elbow creases. The best treatment for heat

rash is to provide a cooler, less humid environment. Keep the affected area dry. Dusting powder may be used to increase comfort, but avoid using ointments or creams. They make the skin warm and moist and may worsen the condition. Treating heat rash is simple and does not require medical assistance.

**Sunburn** should be avoided because it damages the skin. Although the discomfort is usually minor and healing often occurs in about a week, a more severe sunburn may require medical attention. Consult a doctor if sunburn affects an infant younger than age 1 or if fever, fluid-filled blisters or severe pain occur. When treating sunburn, avoid repeated sun exposure, apply cold compresses or immerse the sunburned area in cool water, apply moisturizing lotion to affected areas, do not use salve, butter or ointment and do not break blisters.

# OVAC grid game set for Sunday

By SETH STASKEY  
Times Leader Sports Writer

## ● OVAC

Continued from Page B1

al Division I recruits, Ongley is much more excited about the OVAC affair.

"This is definitely better," Ongley said. "The North-South Game was a lot of fun, but this is the game I always wanted to play in, and already knowing everyone makes it a lot more fun too."

River High's Matt Abbott -- who, like Ongley, was one of the area's top targets on the outside -- had to make a choice before coming to OVAC camp.

Abbott is a standout player on Ohio Valley's Post 760 Legion Baseball Team, but opted to join the Buckeyes.

"Before we started Legion baseball, I talked Coach (Mark) Romick about it and he told me that I couldn't turn down this honor," Abbott remarked. "This game is really fun because you get to play with guys you heard all about during the season."

One of the greatest sports traditions of the Ohio Valley summer is just five days away.

The 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Charity Football Classic is slated for Sunday at Wheeling Island Stadium with a 7:15 p.m. kickoff planned.

The players and coaches -- who reported to West Liberty State College Sunday evening for training camp -- took time out Monday afternoon to meet with Ohio Valley media.

Ohio comes into the annual summer bi-state showdown as winners of the last eight games and owners of a commanding 20-10-1 overall record.

"We are happy with all of the kids who are here," said Ohio head coach Dave Bruney who is 3-0 as a head coach in OVAC game. "All of the kids who are here came in in pretty good shape and did what we asked of them through the summer."

One problem that has seemed to be a problem the last several years was with players (who were selected) not reporting for camp and leaving the staff short handed.

For Bruney and West Virginia head coach Tom Taylor, all 33 players selected reported on time and began work outs (this past) Sunday evening.

"We lost seven original picks for the game due to various reasons, but the kids here wanted to be here," Bruney said. "We enjoyed the three hours we spent with them (this past) Sunday night and all of them seem to have big eyes and are excited."

The Mountaineers -- who didn't have to deal with nearly as many roster changes prior to the game -- also saw a full squad report for drills.

"It was a real relief when I saw that everyone showed up," said Mountaineer head coach Tom Taylor. "Everyone here seems excited and most came in pretty good shape, so we have been very pleased so far."

All of the Ohio players were in contact with Bruney, and the Ohio staff, on three different occasions during the summer months, concerning weight training and workouts to prepare for the game.

"Those will allow them to perform at a higher level come Sunday and also will hopefully prevent them from getting a nagging injury," Bruney offered. "Most of the kids followed what we sent them and hopefully we can get through this week with no one getting



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH  
THE 32ND Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity Football Classic is set for Sunday at Wheeling Island Stadium. Pictured, from left, are West Virginia head coach Tom Taylor, OVAC Game Director Bob Koch, assistant game director Ron Mauck and Ohio head coach Dave Bruney. The game features a 7:15 kickoff.

hurt and have all of our cards in our hand."

One problem that faces both squads is a lack of preparation time.

Both coaches agreed that the length of camp wasn't really enough to produce a top-notch game.

"When we first started doing this we had two full weeks of camp," Bruney admitted. "That lent itself to a better game because there weren't many distractions, but I think that might be a little bit long, so ideally 10 days would be perfect."

"One week, in my opinion, hurts the game. I think sometimes we get too dollar conscious. If we run into some bad weather, it really cuts you short, so I think nine days minimum would be perfect."

"Seven days isn't a real long time to get ready for a game of this caliber," Taylor offered. "I think there should be a couple of extra days added, but we think we will be ready to put on a good show."

All of the players we talked to were more than happy and honored to have been chosen to take part in the Mumley Classic.

Ohio's offense will be led onto the field by former Union Local quarterback and future Wooster signal caller Justin Schafer.

Earning the right to play in the annual summer classic fulfilled one of Schafer's dreams.

"This is the game you go to as a little kid and watch all the time," Schafer admitted. "Everyone who plays football in this valley wants to play in this game and I am honored to have been chosen."

Schafer should have a firm grasp on the Rider offense, seeing he met with Bruney several times through the summer to go over certain parts of the offense.

"I think those meetings really helped me to adjust a lot sooner," Schafer relayed. "We have a short period of time to get everyone on the same page, but everything has been going really well and we have gotten a lot of work done already."

One of the targets Schafer will be throwing to in Sunday's game is playing in his second game of the summer.

Shadyside High's Nick Ongley also took part in the prestigious North-South Game in Columbus last month.

Though the North-South Game featured sever-

See, OVAC, Page B2



# Ohio names QBs and receivers for OVAC game

By GREG HARKNESS  
Times Leader Sports Writer

The Ohio roster is beginning to take shape for the annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic.

And the Buckeye state has added a talented trio of quarterbacks and a stable of fine receivers to its roster.

The OVAC game -- which is slated for July 27 at Wheeling Island Stadium -- will kick off at 7:15 p.m.

Handling the signal calling duties for Ohio will be Union Local's Justin Schafer, Steubenville's Brian Pruitt and Buckeye Trail's Joey Marchiano.

"All three quarterbacks are very athletic," Ohio head coach Dave Bruney said. "All three have good arms and can run. The big thing also is all three of them were leaders for their

respective teams." Bruney also selected five receivers that will give the Buckeye quarterbacks some prime targets.

They are River's Matt Abbott, Toronto's Anthony Antonucci, Shadyside's Nick Ongley, Wellsville's Shayne Rose and Beallsville's Joey Crum.

"The group of receivers is very athletic," Bruney said. "They were all two-way players in high school. We also have some nice size in this group. Four of them are well over 6-foot tall and Ongley plays a lot bigger than his size."

"And like our quarterbacks, these five guys were leaders of their respective teams," Bruney added.

Bruney figures this group will provide the leadership for the game.

See, BUCKEYES, Page C4



Photo Courtesy/BRIGGS PHOTOGRAPHY  
SET TO guide the teams in the annual OVAC Charity All-Star Classic are Oak Glen's Tom Taylor (left) and Martins Ferry's Dave Bruney (right). In the middle of the two coaches is OVAC Game Director Bob Koch.

# Mountaineers select wide receivers for OVAC Game

By SETH STASKEY  
Times Leader Sports Writer

With the quarterbacks and running backs set for the Mountaineers, West Virginia head coach Tom Taylor, today, announced his wide receivers' and tight ends for the annual bi-state clash.

The OVAC game -- which is slated for July 27 at Wheeling Island Stadium -- will kick off at 7:15 p.m.

Taylor has picked nine of the Mountain State's premier deep threats, all of whom possess speed and hands.

See, MOUNTAINEERS Page C3

# Mountaineers

Continued from Page C1

"Our receivers are outstanding," Taylor said. "We are two and three deep at most of the spots."

"All of the kids we have selected can run and catch really well and all of our tight ends are good blockers and also have the ability to catch the ball," Taylor continued.

Though Taylor is primarily a running coach at Oak Glen, he and his staff know they will have to put the ball up against the Ohio defense.

"We run some shot gun at Oak Glen, so it won't be that unfamiliar," Taylor said. "(You) have to have the ability to throw against an all-star defense because they will be able to stop you."

With the group that the West Virginia staff has assembled, Taylor believes his team will be able to give the Buckeyes a bevy of offensive looks.

"We think we have the ability to give them every look possible," Taylor offered. "We can go from double tight to spread offense, and we really think we can do either one well."

The group that Taylor has selected to handle the pass-catching duties includes: Wheeling Park's Justin Wood, John Marshall's Ryan Vucelik, Tyler Consolidated's Ryan Thomas, Brooke's Kyle Scherich, Weirton Madonna's Luke Myers and Magnolia's Derek Kocher.

The three tightends are Wheeling Park's Nick Stefanow, John Marshall's Dan Miller and Weirton Tyler Frankovitch.

Here is a capsule look at the players:

JUSTIN WOOD, Wheeling Park --

This former Patriot enjoyed a very solid senior season for Coach Mark Nardone's team.

Wood (6-ft-0, 175) was named First-Team all-OVAC, Second-Team All-Valley and Honorable Mention All-West Virginia.

Wood was also a track standout for the Patriots.

Justin -- who is the son of Vic and Jenna Wood of Valley Grove -- plans to attend Coastal Carolina University.

RYAN VUCELIK, John Marshall -- The former Monarch enjoyed a very fine campaign last fall for Coach Mike Linsky's Monarchs.

Excelling in the Monarchs' air attack, Vucelik hauled in 21 balls for 348 yards and three touchdowns as a senior.

The 5-ft-10, 160 pounder earned All-OVAC and Honorable Mention All-West Virginia.

Along with his football talents, Vucelik was also a standout hurdler for the Monarchs. He was an OVAC high hurdle champion and he also finished second in West Virginia as a junior in the intermediates.

The 5-ft-10, 160 pounder is undecided upon his college plans.

Ryan is the son of Greg and Ann Vucelik of Glen Dale.

RYAN THOMAS, Tyler Consolidated -- This Silver Knight product enjoyed a superb season as a strong safety, but Taylor intends for him to see some offensive action.

Thomas -- who is bound for West Virginia University in the Fall -- was rewarded for his fine senior season with Special Mention All-Valley and Special Mention All-OVAC.

The 5-ft-10, 175 pounder was also a standout basketball player at Tyler Consolidated.

Fairmont State -- is the son of John and Veronica Scherich.

LUKE MYERS, Weir Madonna -- This Blue Don product was the receiving leader for Coach Bob Kramer this past season.

Myers -- who is 5-ft-8, 155 -- hauled in 25 passes for 427 yards and six touchdowns.

Myers was awarded for his fine senior campaign when he was named to the All-OVAC, All-Valley and All-Area Football squads. He was also an All-Mason-Dixon Conference Selection.

Luke was also an adept basketball and baseball player, earning team MVP honors in both sports.

Myers also gets it done in the classroom, where he is a member of the National Honor Society, Outstanding Students of America and Society of High School Scholars.

Luke is also active in Pep Club, Yearbook Editor, Art Club, Interact Club and member of S.A.D.D.

Luke -- who is undecided on his college -- is the son of Richard and Monette Myers of Weirton.

DEREK KOCHER, Magnolia -- This Blue Eagle graduate figures to see time at flanker on Taylor's OVAC squad after a strong career in New Martinsville.

Kocher -- who is 5-ft-9, 160 -- was a standout at wide receiver and defensive back for Coach Mark Batton's team this past fall.

Kocher was named Second-Team All-West Virginia as a sophomore, junior and senior.

He was also a First-Team All-Valley as a junior and senior. He was First-Team Mid-Ohio Valley as a junior.

Along with his football talents, Kocher was also a standout basketball player on the Blue Eagles' state championship squad. He also ran track for the powerhouse Blue Eagle program.

In the classroom, Kocher was a National Honor Society member, Student Council member and Service Club member.

Derek -- who plans to attend West Virginia University -- is the son of Lewis and Theresa Kocher.

NICK STEFANOW, Wheeling Park -- This Patriot enjoyed a superb senior season as a tight end under Coach Mark Nardone.

Stefanow hauled in 29 balls for 419 yards and four touchdowns in the Park offense.

The 6-ft-5, 220 pounder inked a Division I football scholarship to Duke University earlier this year.

He was named First-Team All-West Virginia, All-Valley and All-OVAC.

Stefanow is also solid in the classroom after being named to the OVAC's All-Academic team and also the National Honor Society.

He was also a standout in both basketball and track at The Park.

Nick is the son of George and Kathleen Stefanow of Wheeling.

DAN MILLER, John Marshall -- This Monarch will also give the Mountaineers a viable option at tight end.

Miller was a standout tight end and defensive end for Coach Mike Linsky's team.

The 6-ft-4, 210 pounder is also a standout in the classroom. He is a member of the National





# ● Buckeyes

Continued from Page C1

marily see action on the offensive side of the ball but harbors hope of getting each some time on defense.

"With practice being so short, we want a certain group of guys to concentrate on offense and a certain group of guys to concentrate on defense," Bruney explained. "We hope things go well and we can work each of these guys in on defense as the game goes on."

Here is a look at each of the players selected:  
**JUSTIN SCHAFER** -- This Union Local performer will go down as one of the finest athletes in school history.

The 6-foot-4, 208-pound signal caller passed for nearly 1,000 yards this past season despite suffering a broken thumb early in the campaign for Coach Jake Olsavsky's troops.

Schafer, who is headed for the College of Wooster, was special mention all-Ohio, first team Eastern District, first team all-OVAC and first team Times Leader.

Schafer also was an all-state basketball player in Morristown.

Justin is the son of David and Teresa Schafer of Bethesda.

**BRIAN PRUITT** -- Coach Reno Saccoccia's offense was in good hands, those belonging to Pruitt who starred under center for Big Red.

The 6-foot, 190-pound performer led Steubenville to the Division III Ohio state playoffs this past season. He also saw time at safety for Big Red.

Pruitt earned honorable mention Eastern District and was chosen all-OVAC.

Brian, who will attend Robert Morris University, is the son of Loretta and Brian Pruitt of Steubenville.

**JOEY MARCHIANO** -- This Buckeye Trail quarterback started the season at wide receiver, but returned under center and ended up throwing for better than 1,300 yards.

The 6-foot-1, 185-pound signal caller also played some defensive back for Coach Randy Thompson's Warriors in their 8-2 season.

Marchiano was selected first team OVAC, first team Eastern District, and honorable mention all-state.

Marchiano also played baseball for the Warriors.

Joey, who is headed to Muskingum, is the son of John and Michele Marchiano of Salesville.

**MATT ABBOTT** -- This Pilot attracted the attention of opposing defensive backs all season.

The 6-foot-2, 170-pound pass catcher hauled in 53 passes for better than 800 yards and five touchdowns.

Abbott was selected to the all-Ohio second team, was an all-OVAC performer two times and an Eastern District first teamer twice.

Abbott, who played his high school football under Coach Terry Snively, also competed in baseball for the Pilots.

Matt, who is headed to West Liberty, is the son of Roger and Jenny Abbott.

**ANTHONY ANTONUCCI** -- This Red Knight receiver was the real deal for Coach Ed Weidger.

Antonucci -- one of the valley's top targets -- was selected first team all-OVAC and Eastern District two times. He also was a first-team all-Ohio pick his senior year and a honorable mention choice his junior season.

Antonucci, who is going to Mount Union, also played four years of basketball for the Red Knights.

Anthony is the son of Linda and Angelo Antonucci of Toronto.

**JOEY CRUM** -- This Blue Devil was a huge target for passes in Monroe County for Coach Dave Caldwell's team.

The 6-foot-4, 175-pound pass snatcher hauled in 56 passes for over 850 yards and 10 touchdowns this past season.

Crum earned all-Times Leader honors in football, and was selected District 12 first team in basketball.

Crum also participated in basketball, baseball and track while at Beallsville.

Headed for Muskingum, Joey is the son of Carla Crum and Jeff Crum.

**NICK ONGLEY** -- This Tiger became of the valley's premier receivers in Shadyside's run to the state semifinals during his junior season.

Despite opposing defenses keying on him, Ongley hauled in 24 passes for 482 yards and seven touchdowns for Coach Ty Fleming's Orange.

The 6-foot, 180-pounder was selected all-state, all-Eastern District, all OVAC and all Times Leader.

Ongley also competed in basketball and track while at Shadyside.

Nick, who will take his pass catching prowess to West Liberty, is the son of Kathryn and James Brown of Shadyside.

**SHAYNE ROSE** -- Despite his last name, Shayne was certainly a thorn in the side of opposing defensive backs.

The Wellsville standout holds several school records, including career receiving yards (1,476) and touchdowns (21).

The 6-foot-2, 185-pounder was chosen all-Eastern District, all-OVAC, all-County, first-team all-Area and special mention all-Ohio.

Shayne, who is headed to Robert Morris College, is the son of Douglas and Jayne Rose of Wellsville.



Consolidated's Ryan Thomas, Brooke's Kyle Scherich, Weirton Madonna's Luke Myers and Magnolia's Derek Kocher.

The three tightends are Wheeling Park's Nick Stefanow, John Marshall's Dan Miller and Weir's Tyler Frankovitch.

Here is a capsule look at the players:

**JUSTIN WOOD**, Wheeling Park -- This former Patriot enjoyed a very solid senior season for Coach Mark Nardone's team.

Wood (6-ft-0, 175) was named First-Team all-OVAC, Second-Team All-Valley and Honorable Mention All-West Virginia.

Wood was also a track standout for the Patriots.

Justin -- who is the son of Vic and Jenna Wood of Valley Grove -- plans to attend Coastal Carolina University.

**RYAN VUCELIK**, John Marshall -- The former Monarch enjoyed a very fine campaign last fall for Coach Mike Linsky's Monarchs.

Excelling in the Monarchs' air attack, Vucelik hauled in 21 balls for 348 yards and three touchdowns as a senior.

The 5-ft-10, 160 pounder earned All-OVAC and Honorable Mention All-West Virginia.

Along with his football talents, Vucelik was also a standout hurdler for the Monarchs. He was an OVAC high hurdle champion and he also finished second in West Virginia as a junior in the intermediates.

The 5-ft-10, 160 pounder is undecided upon his college plans.

Ryan is the son of Greg and Ann Vucelik of Glen Dale.

**RYAN THOMAS**, Tyler Consolidated -- This Silver Knight product enjoyed a superb season as a strong safety, but Taylor intends for him to see some offensive action.

Thomas -- who is bound for West Virginia University in the Fall -- was rewarded for his fine senior season with Special Mention All-Valley and Special Mention All-OVAC.

The 5-ft-10, 175 pounder was also a standout basketball player at Tyler Consolidated.

Ryan is the son of Larry and Sandy Thomas of Middlebourne.

**KYLE SCHERICH**, Brooke -- This former Bruin proved to be the go-to-guy for first-year head coach Dave Reitter last fall.

Scherich hauled in a valley-leading 63 balls for 918 yards. He found pay dirt on five different occasions.

For his fine senior season, Scherich was named to the First-Team All-OVAC and First-Team All-Valley.

The 6-ft-0, 175 pounder enjoyed a solid three-year run in Wellsburg.

After his junior season, he was awarded second-team all-OVAC and First-Team All-Valley.

Scherich is also a Who's Who in Sports selection.

Along with his football skills, Scherich is also an adept basketball player.

He has earned all-conference and all-valley twice.

Kyle -- who plans to attend

ures to see time at flanker on Taylor's OVAC squad after a strong career in New Martinsville.

Kocher -- who is 5-ft-9, 160 -- was a standout at wide receiver and defensive back for Coach Mark Batton's team this past fall.



Kocher was named Second-Team All-West Virginia as a sophomore, junior and senior.

He was also a First-Team All-Valley as a junior and senior. He was First-Team Mid-Ohio Valley as a junior.

Along with his football talents, Kocher was also a standout basketball player on the Blue Eagles' state championship squad. He also ran track for the powerhouse Blue Eagle program.

In the classroom, Kocher was a National Honor Society member, Student Council member and Service Club member.

Derek -- who plans to attend West Virginia University -- is the son of Lewis and Theresa Kocher.

**NICK STEFANOW**, Wheeling Park -- This Patriot enjoyed a superb senior season as a tight end under Coach Mark Nardone.

Stefanow hauled in 29 balls for 419 yards and four touchdowns in the Park offense.

The 6-ft-5, 220 pounder inked a Division I football scholarship to Duke University earlier this year.

He was named First-Team All-West Virginia, All-Valley and All-OVAC.

Stefanow is also solid in the classroom after being named to the OVAC's All-Academic team and also the National Honor Society.

He was also a standout in both basketball and track at The Park.

Nick is the son of George and Kathleen Stefanow of Wheeling.

**DAN MILLER**, John Marshall -- This Monarch will also give the Mountaineers a viable option at tight end.

Miller was a standout tight end and defensive end for Coach Mike Linsky's team.

The 6-ft-4, 210 pounder is also a standout in the classroom. He is a member of the National Honor Society and All-OVAC Academic Team.

Dan -- who is the son of Ralph and Karen Miller -- plans to attend West Virginia University in the Fall.

**TAYLOR FRANKOVITCH**, Weir -- This former Red Rider will give the Mountaineers a solid option on both sides of the ball.

Frankovitch was a standout defensive end for Coach Tony Filberto along with his tight-end talents.

The 6-ft-1, 190 pounder was an Honorable Mention All-OVAC pick and also a two-year captain of the Riders.

He is a member of the National Honor Society, President of Hi-Y and also a member of the Chemistry Club, S.A.D.D. and the Ski Club.

Taylor -- who plans to attend Washington and Jefferson -- is the son of Eric and Alice Frankovitch.

B

Sunday News-Register

JULY 27, 2003

# SPORTS

INSIDE:

W.Va. Open/Page 3

Cardinals Blast Bucs/Page 5

Saturday's Scoreboard/Page 6

Nick's Notebook/Page 7

## Ready for Some Football?

West Virginia meets Ohio in 32nd OVAC Charity All-Star Grid Classic

By RICK THORP  
Staff Writer

Dave Bruney and Tom Taylor have been living a dream this past week.

The two coaches for tonight's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Charity Football Classic have had the privilege to work with the best recently graduated football seniors in the Ohio Valley.

Taylor said his first effort leading the Mountaineers has been nothing short of fantastic.

"You get used to coaching a couple of great athletes and working around them," the Oak Glen High School head coach said. "But when you have a great athlete at every position, it's a real thrill."

On the other side of the field for tonight's 7:15 p.m. game at Wheeling Island Stadium will be Martins Ferry High School's Dave Bruney.

Bruney is no stranger to the OVAC's summer gleam game. He led the Buckeye charges in 1979, 1983 and 1999 — all Ohio victories. He also strapped on the shoulder pads for the game in 1969.

Even though he's been a part of the festivities many times, Bruney still gets goose bumps when he takes the field for the all-star contest.

"The kids have had a good time this week and the coaching staff has had a good time," he said.

"All of the events the OVAC's had scheduled for us have gone well. The kids have really enjoyed it. It's been a good experience."

The all-star experience hasn't been a memorable one for West Virginia in

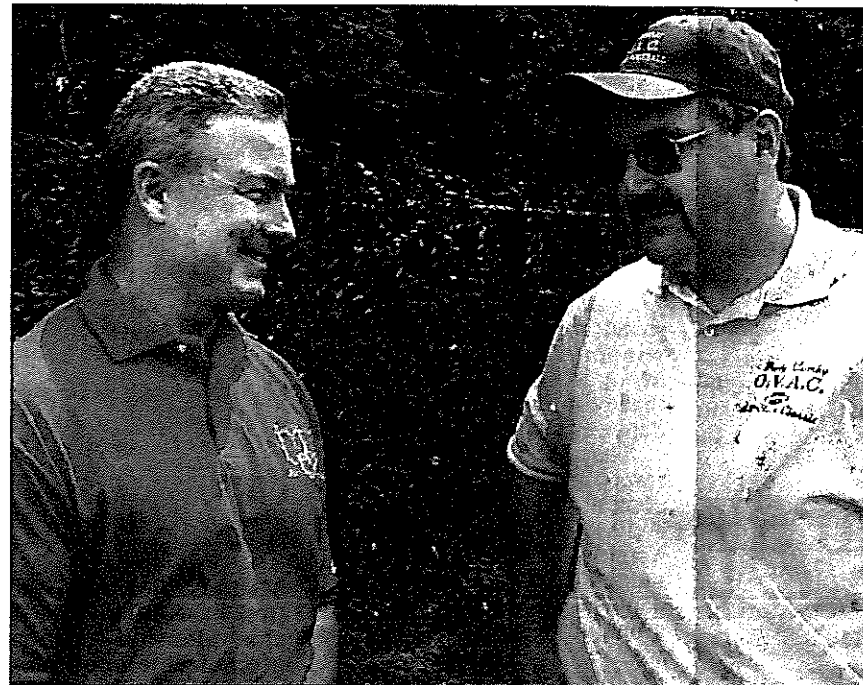


Photo by Rick Thorp

Ohio's Dave Bruney, left, and West Virginia's Tom Taylor, right, will send their teams into battle tonight when the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Charity Football Game kicks off at 7:15 p.m. at Wheeling Island Stadium. Ohio has won nine straight to take a 20-10 lead in the series.

recent years. More specifically, the last eight.

That's the number of consecutive wins the Buckeye squad has entering tonight's match-up.

The last two victories for the Mountaineers — who once dominated the series — came in 1993 and 1994, when they left Wheeling with wins of

34-32 and 19-14, respectively.

Taylor believes his squad has what it takes to start a new streak and realizes what they must do to have any success against their powerful cross-state rivals.

"Ohio is big and fast and that can lead to trouble on every play," Taylor cautioned.

"One of the keys will be not to get caught up in any of the big plays," he added. "We have to play no matter what happens because we have big-play players, too. Whomever gets the first big play of the game might not be the team that will win the game."

The big play threat on the Buckeye side starts at quarterback. There, Bruney has been blessed with a talented trio of throwers in Union Local's Justin Schafer, Steubenville's Brian Pruitt and Buckeye Trail's Joey Marchiano.

Bruney said earlier this week that Schafer would get the nod behind center, while the other two will primarily see time on defense and special teams.

"They all have been throwing the ball well this week," Bruney said, prior to a practice session at West Liberty State College.

During his senior campaign with the Jets, Schafer threw for 822 yards and nine touchdowns. He also rushed for 487 yards and five scores.

Schafer will have plenty of excellent targets to throw to in Beallsville's Joey Crum, Toronto's Anthony Antonucci and River's Matt Abbott.

Antonucci caught 56 balls in 2002 for 944 yards and 13 touchdowns. Crum and Abbott weren't far behind with 859 yards and 727 yards, respectively.

A surprise for Bruney has been the play of wide receiver Shayne Rose of Wellsville.

"He really runs well and he has some great hands," Bruney said.

See, OVAC, Page B2

Through  
The  
Years



(Ohio leads OVAC series, 20-10)

2002: Ohio 19, West Virginia 12

2001: Ohio 36, West Virginia 0

2000: Ohio 13, West Virginia 7

1999: Ohio 32, West Virginia 0

1998: Ohio 41, West Virginia 14

1997: Ohio 24, West Virginia 14

1996: Ohio 43, West Virginia 21

1995: Ohio 21, West Virginia 0

1994: West Virginia 19, Ohio 14

1993: West Virginia 34, Ohio 32

1992: No game (washout)

1991: Ohio 30, West Virginia 6

1990: Ohio 42, West Virginia 0

1989: West Virginia 22, Ohio 14

1988: Ohio 13, West Virginia 7

1987: Ohio 13, West Virginia 11

1986: Ohio 14, West Virginia 6

1985: West Virginia 28, Ohio 26

1984: Ohio 22, West Virginia 6

1983: Ohio 26, West Virginia 16

1982: West Virginia 7, Ohio 6

1981: Ohio 17, West Virginia 14

1980: Ohio 10, West Virginia 7

1979: Ohio 47, West Virginia 13

1978: Ohio 21, West Virginia 13

1977: West Virginia 21, Ohio 0

1976: West Virginia 33, Ohio 20

1975: West Virginia 8, Ohio 0

1974: West Virginia 13, Ohio 6

1973: West Virginia 38, Ohio 20

1972: Ohio 24, West Virginia 6

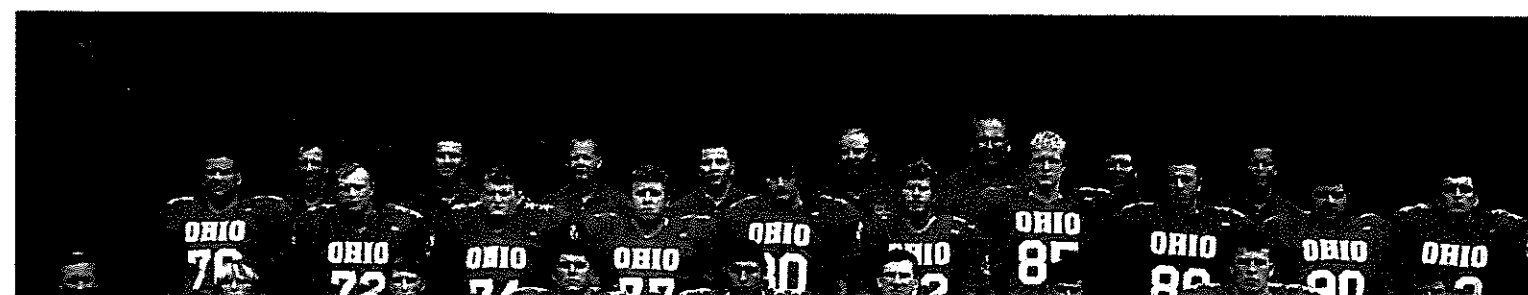
Ohio

HEAD COACH

Dave Bruney, Martins Ferry

Assistant Coaches

John Bennett, Bill Bruney, Mike Delatore, Dirk Fitch, Jim Fogle, Justin Kropka, Mike Rose, Nick Stankovich and Greg Steele



coach said. "But when you have a great athlete at every position, it's a real thrill."

On the other side of the field for tonight's 7:15 p.m. game at Wheeling Island Stadium will be Martins Ferry High School's Dave Bruney.

Bruney is no stranger to the OVAC's summer gleam game. He led the Buckeye charges in 1979, 1983 and 1999 — all Ohio victories. He also strapped on the shoulder pads for the game in 1969.

Even though he's been a part of the festivities many times, Bruney still gets goose bumps when he takes the field for the all-star contest.

"The kids have had a good time this week and the coaching staff has had a good time," he said.

"All of the events the OVAC's had scheduled for us have gone well. The kids have really enjoyed it. It's been a good experience."

The all-star experience hasn't been a memorable one for West Virginia in



Ohio's Dave Bruney, left, and West Virginia's Tom Taylor, right, will send their teams into battle tonight when the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Charity Football Game kicks off at 7:15 p.m. at Wheeling Island Stadium. Ohio has won nine straight to take a 20-10 lead in the series.

Photo by Rick Thorp

recent years. More specifically, the last eight.

That's the number of consecutive wins the Buckeye squad has entering tonight's match-up.

The last two victories for the Mountaineers — who once dominated the series — came in 1993 and 1994, when they left Wheeling with wins of

34-32 and 19-14, respectively.

Taylor believes his squad has what it takes to start a new streak and realizes what they must do to have any success against their powerful cross-state rivals.

"Ohio is big and fast and that can lead to trouble on every play," Taylor cautioned.

Schafer would get the nod behind center, while the other two will primarily see time on defense and special teams.

"They all have been throwing the ball well this week," Bruney said, prior to a practice session at West Liberty State College.

During his senior campaign with the Jets, Schafer threw for 822 yards and nine touchdowns. He also rushed for 487 yards and five scores.

Schafer will have plenty of excellent targets to throw to in Beallsville's Joey Crum, Toronto's Anthony Antonucci and River's Matt Abbott.

Antonucci caught 56 balls in 2002 for 944 yards and 13 touchdowns. Crum and Abbott weren't far behind with 859 yards and 727 yards, respectively.

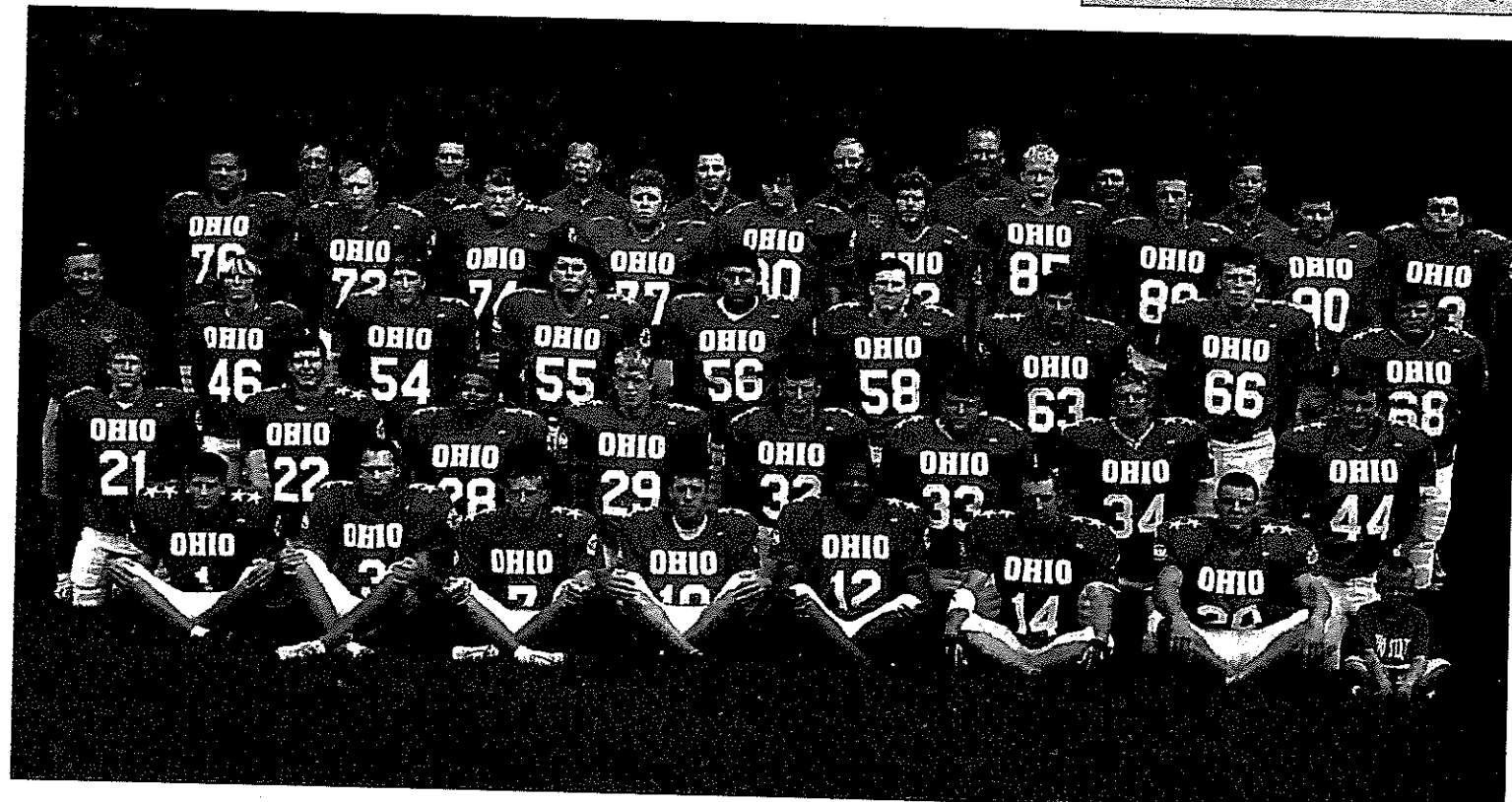
A surprise for Bruney has been the play of wide receiver Shayne Rose of Wellsville.

"He really runs well and he has some great hands," Bruney said.

See, OVAC, Page B2

- 1994: West Virginia 19, Ohio 14
- 1993: West Virginia 34, Ohio 32
- 1992: No game (washout)
- 1991: Ohio 30, West Virginia 6
- 1990: Ohio 42, West Virginia 0
- 1989: West Virginia 22, Ohio 14
- 1988: Ohio 13, West Virginia 7
- 1987: Ohio 13, West Virginia 11
- 1986: Ohio 14, West Virginia 6
- 1985: West Virginia 28, Ohio 26
- 1984: Ohio 22, West Virginia 8
- 1983: Ohio 26, West Virginia 16
- 1982: West Virginia 7, Ohio 6
- 1981: Ohio 17, West Virginia 14
- 1980: Ohio 10, West Virginia 7
- 1979: Ohio 47, West Virginia 13
- 1978: Ohio 21, West Virginia 13
- 1977: West Virginia 21, Ohio 0
- 1976: West Virginia 33, Ohio 20
- 1975: West Virginia 8, Ohio 0
- 1974: West Virginia 13, Ohio 6
- 1973: West Virginia 38, Ohio 20
- 1972: Ohio 24, West Virginia 6

Ohio						
HEAD COACH						
Dave Bruney, Martins Ferry						
Assistant Coaches						
John Bennett, Bill Bruney, Mike Delatore, Dirk Fitch, Jim Fogle, Justin Kropka, Mike Rose, Nick Stankovich and Greg Steele						
PLAYERS						
No	Name	Ht	Wt	Pos	School	
1	Urs Mueller	5-10	155	P/PK	Martins Ferry	
3	Justin Schafer	6-4	208	QB	Union Local	
7	Mike Mamone	5-10	155	WR/DB	Martins Ferry	
10	Nick Ongley	6-0	180	WR/DB	Shadyside	
12	Brian Pruitt	6-0	190	QB/DB	Steubenville	
14	Vince Stemkowski	5-9	165	WR/DB	Bridgeport	
20	Tyler DeVold	6-1	205	FB/LB	Shenandoah	
21	Anthony Antonucci	6-1	200	WR/DB	Toronto	
22	Matt Abbott	6-2	170	WR/DB	River	
28	Tyrone Platt	5-10	189	TB/DB	Martins Ferry	
29	Chris Green	6-2	185	TE/LB	East Liverpool	
32	Steve Potkrajac	5-11	170	FB/LB	Edison	
33	Jordan Williams	5-11	195	TB/LB	Beaver Local	
34	Joey Marchiano	6-1	185	QB/LB	Buckeye Trail	
44	Aaron Bane	6-1	205	FB/LB	Indian Creek	
46	Chris Wilson	5-9	160	TB/LB	Monroe Central	
54	Mike Frollini	5-11	200	C/LB	Shadyside	
55	Ryan Miller	6-1	235	G/DT	Steub. Central	
56	Travis DeZordo	6-2	255	C/DT	Edison	
58	Chris Carroll	5-11	200	G/DE	River	
63	Michael Edwards	5-11	190	G/DE	Martins Ferry	
66	Chris Fankhauser	6-4	250	OT/DT	Edison	
68	Jared Williams	5-10	205	G/LB	Beaver Local	
70	Brian Davis	6-3	260	OT/DT	East Liverpool	
72	Dustin Kendle	6-2	215	OT/DE	Buckeye Local	
74	Michael Price	6-0	300	OT/DT	Cambridge	
77	Mike Van Voltenberg	6-0	245	G/DT	Steubenville	
80	Clay Boston	6-2	200	TE/DE	Bellaire	
82	Chad Barker	5-11	195	TE/LB	Barnesville	
85	Joey Crum	6-4	175	WR/DB	Beallsville	
88	Shayne Rose	6-3	185	WR/DB	Wellsville	
90	Dan Suznevich	6-0	255	TE/DT	East Liverpool	
93	Logan Mehl	6-1	185	TE/LB	St. Clairsville	



These young men will be representing Ohio in tonight's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Football Charity Classic. Photo by Rick Thorp

First row: Martins Ferry's Urs Mueller (1), Union Local's Justin Schafer (3), Martins Ferry's Mike Mamone (7), Shadyside's Nick Ongley (10), Steubenville's Brian Pruitt (12), Bridgeport's Vince Stemkowski (14), Shenandoah's Tyler DeVold (20) and manager Jack Fitch.

Second row: Toronto's Anthony Antonucci (21), River's Matt Abbott (22), Martins Ferry's Ty Platt (28), East Liverpool's Chris Green (29), Edison's Steve Potkrajac (32), Beaver Local's Jordan Williams (33), Buckeye Trail's Joey Marchiano (34) and Indian Creek's Aaron Bane (44).

Third row: Head coach Dave Bruney, Monroe Central's Chris Wilson (46), Shadyside's Mike Frollini (54), (63), Edison's Chris Fankhauser (66) and Beaver Local's Jared Williams (68).

Fourth row: East Liverpool's Brian Davis (70), Buckeye Local's Dustin Kendle (72), Cambridge's Michael Price (74), Steubenville's Michael Van Voltenberg (77), Bellaire's Clay Boston (80), Barnesville's Chad Barker (82), Beallsville's Joey Crum (85), Wellsville's Shayne Rose (88), East Liverpool's Dan Suznevich (90) and St. Clairsville's Logan Mehl (93).

Fifth row: Assistant coaches Bill Bruney, John Bennett, Dirk Fitch, Justin Kropka, Greg Steele, Mike Delatore, Mike Rose and Jim Fogle.

West Virginia	
HEAD COACH	
Tom Taylor, Oak Glen	
Assistant Coaches	
Darrell Curtis, Kent Kidder, Steve Knapp, Bob K... Du...	



10	Nick Ongley	6-0	180	WR/DB	Shadyside
12	Brian Pruitt	6-0	190	QB/DB	Steubenville
14	Vince Stenkowski	5-9	165	WR/DB	Bridgeport
20	Tyler Devold	6-1	205	FB/LB	Shenandoah
21	Anthony Antonucci	6-1	200	WR/DB	Toronto
22	Matt Abbott	6-2	170	WR/DB	River
28	Tyrone Platt	5-10	189	TB/DB	Martins Ferry
29	Chris Green	6-2	185	TE/LB	East Liverpool
32	Steve Potkrajac	5-11	170	FB/LB	Edison
33	Jordan Williams	5-11	195	TB/LB	Beaver Local
34	Joey Marchiano	6-1	185	QB/LB	Buckeye Trail
44	Aaron Bane	6-1	205	FB/LB	Indian Creek
46	Chris Wilson	5-9	160	TB/LB	Monroe Central
54	Mike Frollini	5-11	200	C/LB	Shadyside
55	Ryan Miller	6-1	235	G/DT	Steub. Central
56	Travis DeZordo	6-2	255	C/DT	Edison
58	Chris Carroll	5-11	200	G/DE	River
63	Michael Edwards	5-11	190	G/DE	Martins Ferry
66	Chris Fankhauser	6-4	250	OT/DT	Edison
68	Jared Williams	5-10	205	G/LB	Beaver Local
70	Brian Davis	6-3	260	OT/DT	East Liverpool
72	Dustin Kendle	6-2	215	OT/DE	Buckeye Local
74	Michael Price	6-0	300	OT/DT	Cambridge
77	Mike Van Voltenberg	6-0	245	G/DT	Steubenville
80	Clay Boston	6-2	200	TE/DE	Bellaire
82	Chad Barker	5-11	195	TE/LB	Barnesville
85	Joey Crum	6-4	175	WR/DB	Beallsville
88	Shayne Rose	6-3	185	WR/DB	Wellsville
90	Dan Suznevich	6-0	255	TE/DT	East Liverpool
93	Logan Mehl	6-1	185	TE/LB	St. Clairsville



Photo by Rick Thorp  
 These young men will be representing Ohio in tonight's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Football Charity Classic. First row: Martins Ferry's Urs Mueller (1), Union Local's Justin Schafer (3), Martins Ferry's Mike Mamone (7), Shadyside's Nick Ongley (10), Steubenville's Brian Pruitt (12), Bridgeport's Vince Stenkowski (14), Shenandoah's Tyler DeVold (20) and manager Jack Fitch. Second row: Toronto's Anthony Antonucci (21), River's Matt Abbott (22), Martins Ferry's Ty Platt (28), East Liverpool's Chris Green (29), Edison's Steve Potkrajac (32), Beaver Local's Jordan Williams (33), Buckeye Trail's Joey Marchiano (34) and Indian Creek's Aaron Bane (44). Third row: Head coach Dave Bruney, Monroe Central's Chris Wilson (46), Shadyside's Mike Frollini (54), Steubenville Central's Ryan Miller (55), Edison's Travis DeZordo (56), River's Chris Carroll (58), Martins Ferry's Michael Edwards (63), Edison's Chris Fankhauser (66) and Beaver Local's Jared Williams (68). Fourth row: East Liverpool's Brian Davis (70), Buckeye Local's Dustin Kendle (72), Cambridge's Michael Price (74), Steubenville's Michael Van Voltenberg (77), Bellaire's Clay Boston (80), Barnesville's Chad Barker (82), Beallsville's Joey Crum (85), Wellsville's Shayne Rose (88), East Liverpool's Dan Suznevich (90) and St. Clairsville's Logan Mehl (93). Fifth row: Assistant coaches Bill Bruney, John Bennett, Dirk Fitch, Justin Kropka, Greg Steele, Mike Delatore, Mike Rose and Jim Fogle.

## WEST VIRGINIA

### HEAD COACH

Tom Taylor, Oak Glen

### Assistant Coaches

Darrell Curtis, Kent Kldder, Steve Kourpas, Bob Kramer, Bill Stewart and Paul Quattrone

No	Name	Players		Pos	School
		Ht	Wt		
1	Kyle Scherich	6-0	175	WR/DB	Brooke
3	Anthony Cecchini	5-9	178	RB/DB	Brooke
7	Zjaque Douglas	5-5	135	TB/DB	Weir
10	Matt Wharton	5-11	150	QB/DB	Oak Glen
12	Luke Myers	5-8	155	WR/DB	Madonna
14	Derek Kocher	5-9	160	WR/DB	Magnolia
20	Kyle Lowers	5-8	175	WR/DB	Oak Glen
21	Scott Johnston	6-3	190	TB/LB	Weir
22	Harry Ciccarelli	6-1	195	TB/LB	Madonna
28	Robby Jones	6-2	195	QB/DE	Tyler Cons.
29	Ryan Thomas	5-10	175	WR/DB	Tyler Cons.
32	Justin Beresford	6-1	230	FB/LB	Cameron
33	Nick Stefanow	6-5	220	TE/LB	Whg Park
34	Jeremy Coyne	6-1	215	FB/LB	Whg Central
40	D.J. Yoders	5-10	155	RB/DB	Cameron
44	Taylor Frankovitch	6-1	190	TE/LB	Weir
46	Steven Flowers	5-6	160	TB/DB	Oak Glen
52	Sam Blatt	5-10	200	C/DT	Magnolia
54	Matt DeSantis	5-9	175	C/LB	Whg Central
55	Mark Doty	6-0	200	G/DE	Paden City
56	Patrick McGillian	5-11	245	T/DT	Oak Glen
58	Bill Whitehill	6-0	215	G/LB	Oak Glen
60	Paul Duffy	6-1	240	G/DE	Madonna
63	Frank Rocchio	6-0	210	G/DE	Brooke
66	Toussaint Hill	6-0	250	T/DT	Linsly
67	Bruce Fowler	6-1	225	G/DE	Whg Central
72	Steve Skrzypek	6-5	210	T/DT	Whg Central
75	Luke Resczynski	6-3	270	T/DT	John Marshall
77	Kevin Scott	6-0	230	G/DT	Whg Park
80	Ryan Vucelik	5-10	160	WR/DB	John Marshall
82	Josh Kusich	6-0	200	P/PK	Brooke
85	Dan Miller	6-4	210	TE/DE	John Marshall
93	Justin Wood	6-0	180	WR/DB	Whg Park

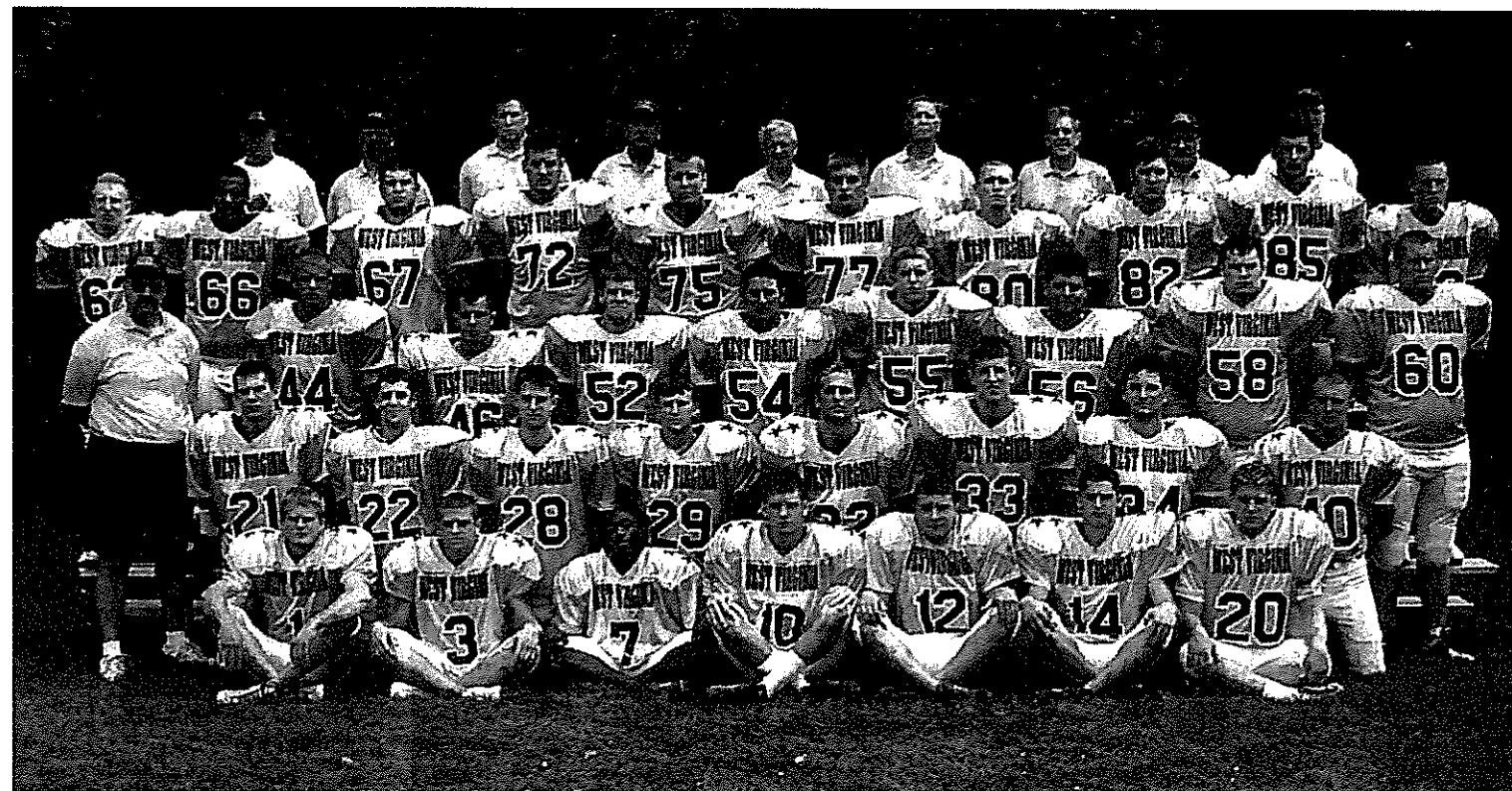


Photo by Rick Thorp  
 These young men will be representing West Virginia in tonight's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Football Charity Classic. First row: Brooke's Kyle Scherich (1), Brooke's Anthony Cecchini (3), Weir's Zjaque Douglas (7), Oak Glen's Matt Wharton (10), Weirton Madonna's Luke Myers (12), Magnolia's Derek Kocher (14) and Oak Glen's Kyle Lowers (20). Second row: Weir's Scott Johnston (21), Weirton Madonna's Harry Ciccarelli (22), Tyler Consolidated's Robby Jones (28), Tyler Consolidated's Ryan Thomas (29), Cameron's Justin Beresford (32), Wheeling Park's Nick Stefanow (33), Wheeling Central's Jeremy Coyne (34) and Cameron's D.J. Yoders (40). Third row: Head coach Tom Taylor, Weir's Taylor Frankovitch (44), Oak Glen's Steven Flowers (46), Magnolia's Sam Blatt (52), Wheeling Central's Matt DeSantis (54), Paden City's Mark Doty (55), Oak Glen's Patrick McGillian (56), Oak Glen's Bill Whitehill (58) and Weirton Madonna's Paul Duffy (60). Fourth row: Brooke's Frank Rocchio (63), Linsly's Toussaint Hill (66), Wheeling Central's Bruce Fowler (67), Wheeling Central's Steve Skrzypek (72), John Marshall's Luke Resczynski (72), Wheeling Park's Kevin Scott (77), John Marshall's Ryan Vucelik (80), Brooke's Josh Kusich (82), John Marshall's Dan Miller (85) and Wheeling Park's Justin Wood (93). Fifth row: manager Garrett Barnhart, assistant coaches Paul Quattrone, Bill Stewart, Darrell Curtis, Kent Kidder, Bob Kramer, trainer Randy Ellioft, assistant coach Steve Kourpas and manager Chris Pecora.

# OVAC

Continued from page B1

Bruney also has a solid corps of tight end candidates that include Bellaire's Clay Boston, Barnesville's Chad Barker and East Liverpool's Dan Suznevich and Chris Green.

The offensive line for Ohio was dealt a blow shortly after practices began when two of his starters came down with injuries.

Steubenville Central's Ryan Miller suffered a concussion and Steubenville's Michael Van Voltenberg twisted a knee.

Bruney said both could be back for tonight's game. If not, Bruney said he has some other players who could fill in from the defensive side of the ball.

"We've got some kids who are

capable of playing those positions," he said, "but how long they can play both ways remains to be seen."

In the offensive backfield, Bruney will have the services of Ferry's Ty Platt, who rushed for more than 1,200 yards and 15 touchdowns last year for the Purple Riders.

On the defensive side, Bruney has been impressed by linebackers Aaron Bane of Indian Creek and Mike Frollini of Shadyside. Shenandoah's Tyler DeVold is another name to look out for, as well as Edison's Steve Potkrajac, Marchiano and Green.

In the secondary, Bruney said the unit will likely include Pruitt,

Martins Ferry's Mike Mamone and Bridgeport's Vince Stemkowski.

The Ohio defense will face a West Virginia offense led by Oak Glen quarterback Matt Wharton.

Because he coached Wharton with the Golden Bears, Taylor said he came into camp ready to go. Wharton threw for 544 yards and five touchdowns last season.

Backing him up will be Tyler Consolidated's Robby Jones.

"I wouldn't be afraid to use either one, but right now Matt will be our starter," Taylor said.

At tailback, Taylor is excited about the trio of Oak Glen's Steven Flowers, Weir's Zjaque Douglas and Brooke's Anthony Cecchini.

Candidates for the fullback spot include Wheeling Central's Jeremy Coyne, Cameron's Justin Beresford and Weirton Madonna's Harry Ciccarelli.

Those leading the list of receivers for the Blue and Gold include Weirton Madonna's Luke Myers, Brooke's Kyle Scherich and John Marshall's Ryan Vucelik.

Scherich hauled in 63 passes for 918 yards and five scores last year.

"All of those kids have been doing a nice job," Taylor said.

At tight end, Taylor will have the services of Wheeling Park graduate, and soon-to-be Duke Blue Devil, Nick Stefanow, who caught 29 balls for 414 yards last year.

There was also a surprise at the position for Taylor.

"We knew Nick Stefanow was an outstanding tight end but Dan Miller from John Marshall has exceeded expectations," Taylor said. "He can run and catch well."

Overall, Taylor believes he and his coaches have the offensive talent to put points on the board.

"I think the offense is balanced," he said. "With Matt Wharton at quarterback we can run and throw. With the size of Ohio and the speed of Ohio, I think we're versatile enough to keep them on their heels."

"We'll run the option and the play action passing that goes with it."

Defensively, West Virginia will operate out of a 4-3 front.

"Paul Quattrone is our defensive coordinator and he's done a great job of getting the kids ready," Taylor said.



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

THE OHIO defensive line for the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity Football Classic includes East Liverpool's Dan Suznevich (90), Beaver Local's Jared Williams (68), Cambridge's Michael Price (74), Bellaire's Clay Boston (80) and River's Chris Carroll (58).

## MARSHALL COUNTY'S FINEST



Photo by Rick Thorp

Representing W.Va. in the 32nd annual Rudey Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star football game Sunday will be these Marshall County players. Kneeling from left: John Marshall's Ryan Vucelik, and the Cameron duo of D.J. Yoders and Justin Beresford. Back row from left: John Marshall's Dan Miller and Luke Resczynski.

## OVAC grid game tickets are available

Advance Tickets for the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley/OVAC are currently on sale at businesses around the Ohio Valley.

The OVAC game -- which is slated for Sunday at Wheeling Island Stadium -- will kick off at 7:15 p.m.

Tickets bought in advance will cost fans \$7, while all tickets at the gate will be sold for \$10.

The Ohio locations selling tickets include: Bellaire Kroger, Calcutta Bowyer Hardware, Cambridge Kroger, Heimes All Sports in East Liverpool; Martins Ferry Kroger, DeFelice Brothers Pizza in Shadyside; St. Clairsville Kroger, Steubenville Kroger on Hollywood Boulevard, Wintersville Kroger, Woodsfield Weber's Drug Store and Zanesville Kroger.

The West Virginia locations include: Benwood Kroger, Greg's Market in Cameron, Moundsville Kroger, Witschey's Super Market in New Martinsville; Warwood Kroger, Weirton Kroger on St. Thomas Drive, Weirton Kroger on Main Street, Wellsburg Kroger and Wheeling Kroger on Mount DeChantal Road.

# West Virginia Sets Backfield

By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer

The West Virginia coaching staff announced its quarterbacks and running backs this morning for the annual Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Charity Football Classic, set for July 27 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Oak Glen's Matt Wharton and Robbie Jones of Tyler Consolidated will split the quarterback chores for Oak Glen head coach Tom Taylor and staff.

"We think we have two quarterbacks who should do very well in our offense," said Taylor.

"Wharton knows the system already and Jones brings more of a drop-back passing style, which should really help us."

Lugging the leather for the Mountaineer squad will be tailbacks Zjaque Douglas (Weir), Anthony Cecchini (Brooke) and Steve Flowers (Oak Glen) along with the fullback tandem of Jeremy Coyne (Wheeling Central) and Justin Beresford (Cameron).

**WHARTON** - This Golden Bear QB enjoyed a steady four-year run.

Wharton was dangerous with his legs or arm, running the option offense for Taylor. He passed for more than 500 yards.

The 5-foot-10, 150-pounder was also a more-than-adept wrestler for the Golden Bears.

He finished fourth in the giant OVAC tournament and third in the West Virginia state meet.

He was also a standout on the Golden Bears' baseball squad.

Matt, who plans to continue his education at Fairmont State, is the son of Steve and Kathy Kourpas and Dan Wharton.

**JONES** - This 6-2, 195-pound Knight enjoyed a strong senior season for Coach John Stender's team.

After missing his entire junior year with an injury, Jones came back and won the quarterback job during the summer and went on to have a fine season.

Jones was named Honorable Mention All-OVAC and he was also selected to play in the BACF All-Star Classic.

He was also an AP Player of the Week during the fall.

The versatile Jones was picked to play in the OVAC All-Star basketball game and has accepted a baseball scholarship to Ohio Valley College.

The son of Bob and Deanna Jones of Middlebourne, Robbie is a member of National Honor Society, Varsity Letterman's Club and Who's Who Among

American High School Students and Athletes.

**COYNE** - The unsung fullback was one of the key cogs in Central's run to its second state championship in three years.

A four-year letterwinner for Jim Thomas' team, Coyne was the lead blocker for a potent running game and was also an outstanding ballcarrier and receiver.

The 6-1, 215-pounder excelled on defense, as well.

The son of Pat and Mary Coyne, Jeremy plans to attend West Liberty State College.

**CECCHINI** - This Bruin ran for more than 700 yards under first-year head man Dave Reitter and also served as one of the team's top defensive backs.

The 5-9, 178-pounder earned second-team honors on the all-OVAC Class 4-A team.

The son of Lee and Melanie Cecchini, Anthony will attend Fairmont State College this fall.

**DOUGLAS** - The diminutive Red Rider flash ran for more than 1,000 yards for first-year coach Tony Filberto last fall.

The 5-5, 135-pounder has committed to play his college football at Thiel.

He was also one of the Valley's premier sprinters in both the 100- and 200-meter dashes and is an outstanding student.

Zjaque is the son of John Douglas.

**BERESFORD** - This burly Dragon running back was quite a load for opposing defenses from his fullback spot.

Beresford (6-1, 230) was also a solid contributor from his line-backer spot.

He plans to attend West Virginia University as an invited walk-on after earning all-state, all-OVAC and all-Mason-Dixon Conference honors as a senior.

Justin is the son of Randy and Jodie Beresford.

**FLOWERS** - This workhorse tailback carried 146 times for 656 yards and eight scores at Oak Glen last fall.

The 5-6, 160-pounder also saw time at defensive back.

The four-year letterman was Honorable Mention All-West Virginia and First-Team All-OVAC Class 3-A.

Flowers also made his mark on the wrestling mats.

He was a two-time state champion, winning at 140 pounds as a junior before bumping up to 160 this past winter.

The son of Jim and Denise Flowers, Steve plans to attend Fairmont State College.

## OVAC All-Stars Sought

The Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic committee is asking for help.

As part of this month's annual midsummer gleam game, the players and coaches and members of the Queen of Queens court from the 1993 All-Star Game are scheduled to be honored.

Committee members have had a difficult time tracking down several members of both teams for the 10-year reunion and have released a list of players for which they are seeking addresses.

### OHIO

Barnesville: Aaron Smith, Jason Plumly, Jason Marks; Bellaire: Mike Call, Tim McCabe, Scott Clark; Beallsville: Dana Keely; Buckeye Local: Billy West, Mike Hesse; Cadiz: Tom Hillegas; Martins Ferry: John Caprita; Mingo: James Smarella, Mark Blackburn; Meadowbrook: Matt Schehl; River: Jonathan Winkler, Don Hendershot; Shadyside: Brian Hammond, Chad Wiley; St. Clairsville: Scott Porterfield; Steubenville: David Lamatrice; Steubenville Central: Joe Polishaw, Mike Kulin, Fred Manalac; Union Local: Matt Morris; Toronto: Randy Kerstetter; Wellsville: Andy Martin

### WEST VIRGINIA

Bishop Donahue: Mark Gordon; Brooke: Bucky Neel, Jim

Mirasola, Kirk Stecik, Steve Lazear; John Marshall: Jason Burge; Linsly: Bryan Burkhart, Scott Winters; Magnolia: Jagady Blue, Bryan Hostetler; Oak Glen: Robert

Adkins; Sistersville:

Jason Amos; St.

Marys: Bill Sams;

Tyler: Ryan Walton;

Valley: Chad Judge; Wheeling

Central: Jerry Ames,

Kevin Leinweber,

Curt McGhee, Dave

Sobutka; Weir: Marcus

Clausell, Tim Midget, James

Sauer; Wheeling Park: Matt

DiLorenzo, Justin Kiger

The game committee is asking any individuals who have the addresses or phone numbers for anyone shown on the above list to get in touch with Steve Kish Jr. or Bob Koch as soon as possible.

Kish, who is coordinating the 10-year reunion, may be reached by telephone at (740) 453-9146 or by mail at 6320 McCaslin Road, Nashport, OH 43830.

Koch, the game director, may be reached by telephone at (304) 686-2790 or through e-mail at cameron@ovis.net.

Any other coaches, players or Queen of Queens candidates from the 1993 game who have not yet been contacted by a member of the committee are also asked to contact Kish or Koch immediately.

The 2003 Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic will be played July 27 at Wheeling Island Stadium.



# Bruney Puts Finishing Touches on Team

Ohio, West Virginia teams open camp at West Liberty today

For The News-Register

Ohio All-Star head coach Dave Bruney put the finishing touches on his roster for the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic just in time Saturday.

The West Virginia and Ohio squads are scheduled to report to West Liberty today for the start of practices leading up to Sunday's annual midsummer gleam game.

Coach Bruney's Buckeye boys and the Mountain State charges of Oak Glen head man Tom Taylor kick things off a week from tonight.

Three running backs were among the final additions to Bruney's Ohio roster.

That group includes Martins Ferry's Ty Platt, Beaver Local's Jordan Williams and Monroe Central's Chris Wilson.

"We think all of the running backs are hard-nosed kids," Bruney said.

"They're north-south runners, but each of them have good speed. Each of them were primary weapons for their high school teams. We hope to get each of them a bunch of carries."

"We also liked the fact, that for the number of carries they had, they did not put the ball on the ground."

Bruney also added two defensive backs to the final Ohio roster.

They are Martins Ferry's Mike Mamone and Bridgeport's Vince Stenkowski.

"We think they're both lockdown corners," Bruney said.

"Also, they both are good punt returners and will get chances in that area."

Ohio's roster is completed with Martins Ferry kicker Urs Mueller.

"Urs has been to several kicking camps this summer," Bruney said. "We are very comfortable with him on field goals and kicking off."

Here is a capsule look at the final additions to the Ohio roster:

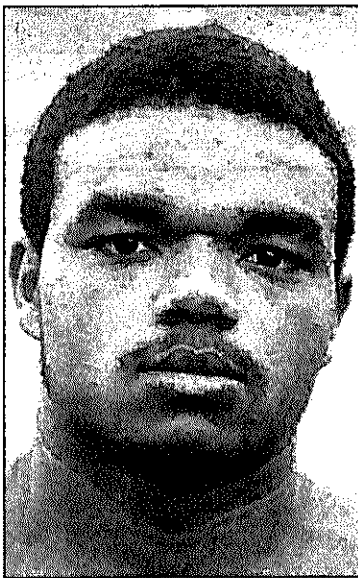
**PLATT** - This Martins Ferry senior turned in a superb senior year in helping the Riders to a 10-0 season.

He rushed for better than 1,200 yards and 15 touchdowns.

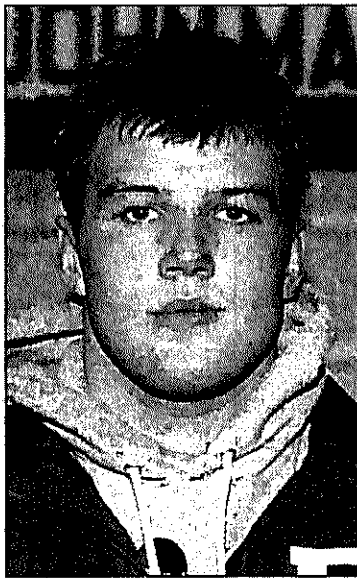
The 5-10, 189-pounder also played cornerback for Bruney's Purple Riders.

He was selected all-OVAC, all-Eastern District, all-Valley and all-Times Leader following his final season at Ferry.

Platt also competed in basketball and baseball at Martins



Ty Platt



Jordan Williams



Chris Wilson

Ferry. Ty is the son of Dawn Booker of Bridgeport.

**WILLIAMS** - This Beaver Local standout joins his twin brother, Jared, on the Ohio roster.

The 5-11, 195-pounder was a talented two-way performer for Coach Rich Wright's Beavers at running back and linebacker.

Williams was named first team all-County, first team all-Area, first team all-Quad County, first team all-OVAC and first team all-Eastern District. He was named honorable mention all-Ohio in 2002 and second team all-Ohio in 2001.

Williams also was a standout wrestler for the Beavers.

Jared is the son of Gary and Patty Williams of Lisbon.

**WILSON** - This Seminole standout was a major cog in helping Coach Jay Circosta and Monroe Central to consecutive playoff berths.

Wilson topped the 1,200-yard plateau and scored 20 touchdowns.

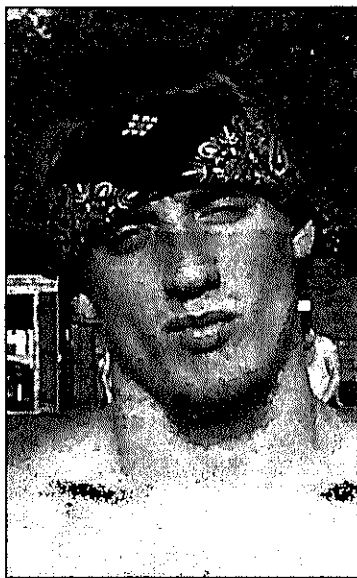
Wilson was named all-Ohio, all-OVAC, all-Pioneer Valley Conference and was selected as the Eastern District offensive player of the year.

The 5-9, 160-pounder also played linebacker for the Seminoles.

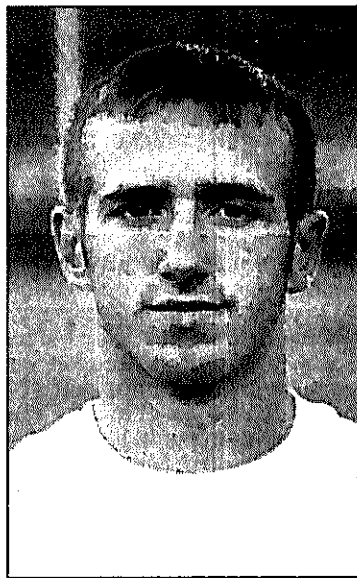
Wilson also was a standout wrestler during his tenure at Monroe Central.

Chris, who will attend Ohio University Eastern, is the son of Jeff and Theresa Wilson of Woodsfield.

**MAMONE** - This Rider was a major three-prong threat for Bruney as a receiver, defen-



Vince Stenkowski



Mike Mamone

sive back and kick returner.

Mamone - a 5-10, 155-pounder - was selected first team all-Valley, first team all-Times Leader, first team all-Eastern District and special mention all-Ohio.

Mamone was also a talented performer in wrestling, finishing second in the OVAC Tournament, and in track.

Mike, who will attend Ohio University Eastern, is the son of Tony and Carol Mamone of St. Clairsville.

**STEMKOWSKI** - This talented athlete was a bright spot for Coach Ron Busby's Bulldogs.

Stenkowski - a 5-9, 160-pounder - played primarily quarterback, while also seeing time at running back and wide receiver on offense for the Bull-

dogs.

He played defensive back on defense.

Stenkowski was selected first team all-OVAC, first team all-Eastern District and first team all-Times Leader.

Stenkowski also competed in basketball and baseball for the Bulldogs.

Vince, who is headed to West Liberty, is the son of Angie Hack and Vince Stenkowski.

**MUELLER** - This exchange student from Switzerland emerged as a major weapon for Bruney's Riders in field goals, extra points and kickoffs.

Mueller - a 5-foot-10, 155-pounder - was named all-Eastern District and special mention all-Ohio this season.

Urs is the son of Richard and Susanne Mueller.

## OVAC seeks all stars from 1993 grid game

As part of the Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Football Charity Classic, the 1993 All-Star Football teams will be honored. The committee is still searching for addresses for the following players. Would you please include this listing in a future newspaper edition to assist us in contacting them.

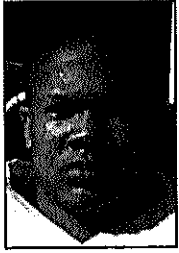


The list includes the following:  
 Barnesville - Aaron Smith, Jason Plumly, Jason Marks; Bellaire - Mike Call, Tim McCabe, Scott Clark; Beallsville - Dana Keely; Buckeye Local - Bill West, Mike Hesseke; Cadiz - Tom Hilligas; Martins Ferry - John Caprita; Mingo - Hames Smarrella, Mark Blackburn; Meadowbrook - Matt Schehl; River - Jonathan Winkler, Don Hendershot; Shadyside - Brian Hammond, Chad Wiley; St. Clairsville - Scott Porterfield; Steubenville - David Lamatrice; Steubenville Central - Joe Polshaw, Mike Kulin, Fred Manalac; Union Local - Matt Morris; Toronto - Randy Kerstetter; Wellsville - Brian McIntosh, Andy Martin.  
 The West Virginia players needed include: Bishop Donahue - Mark Gorden; Brooke - Buck Neel, Jim Mirasola, Kirk Steck, Steve Lezeur; John Marshall - Jason Burge; Linsly - Bryan Burkhart, Scott Winters; Magnolia - Jagady Blue, Bryan Hostetler, Matt Tallman; Oak Glen - Robert Adkins; Sistersville - Jason Amos; St. Mary's - Bill Sams; Tyler - Ryan Walton; Valley - Chad Judge; Wheeling Central - Jerry Ames, Kevin Leinweber, Curtis McGhee, Dave Sobotka; Weir - Marcus Clausell, Tim Midget, James Sauer; Wheeling Park - Matt DiLorenzo, Justin Kiger; Weirton Madonna - Chris LaRosa.

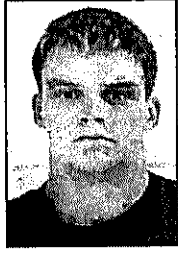
Anyone knowing the addresses of the above mentioned 1993 All-Star Football players please contact Steve Kish, Jr at 1-740-453-9146 or Bob Koch at 1-304-688-2790 or may send an email to cameron@ovis.net. Additionally, any other coaches or Queen of Queens who have not been contacted please contact Kish at the above number.



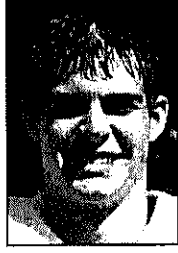
Schafer



Pruitt



Marchiano



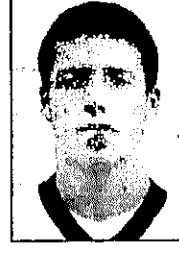
Abbott



Antonucci



Crum



Ongley



Rose

# Bruney Selects Quarterbacks, Receivers

Ohio coach pleased to have the services of eight All-OVAC selections

## For The News-Register

Ohio head coach Dave Bruney began filling out his roster for this month's Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic with some talented quarterbacks and receivers.

Handling the signal calling duties for Ohio will be Union Local's Justin Schafer, Steubenville's Brian Pruitt and Buckeye Trail's Joey Marchiano.

"All three quarterbacks are very athletic," said Bruney. "All three have good arms and can run."

"The big thing also is all three of them were leaders for their respective teams."

Bruney also selected five receivers that will give the Buckeye quarterbacks some prime targets.

They are River's Matt Abbott, Toronto's Anthony Antonucci, Shadyside's Nick Ongley, Wellsville's Shayne Rose and Beallsville's Joey Crum.

"The group of receivers is very athletic," Bruney said. "They were all two-way players in high school."

"We also have some nice size in this group. Four of them are well over 6-feet tall and Ongley plays a lot bigger than his size."

Bruney figures this group will primarily see action on the offensive side of the ball but wouldn't be surprised to see some pressed into service on defense if the need arises.

"With practice being so short, we want a certain group of guys to concentrate on offense and a certain group of guys to concentrate on defense," he said.

"We hope things go well and we can work each of these guys in on defense as the game goes on."

**Schafer** -- This Union Local performer will go down as one of the finest athletes in school

history.

The 6-foot-4, 208-pound signal caller passed for nearly 1,000 yards this past season despite suffering a broken thumb early in the campaign for Coach Jake Olsavsky's troops.

Schafer, who is headed for the College of Wooster, was special mention all-Ohio, first team Eastern District, first team all-OVAC and first team Times Leader.

Schafer also was an all-state basketball player in Morristown.

Justin is the son of David and Teresa Schafer of Bethesda.

**Pruitt** -- Coach Reno Saccoccia's offense

was in good hands, those belonging to Pruitt who

started under center for Big Red.

The 6-foot, 190-pound performer led Steubenville to the Division III Ohio state playoffs this past season.

He also saw time at safety for Big Red.

Pruitt earned honorable mention Eastern District and was chosen all-OVAC.

Brian, who will attend Robert Morris University, is the son of Loretta and Brian Pruitt of Steubenville.

**Marchiano** -- This Buckeye Trail quarterback started the season at wide receiver, but returned under center and ended up throwing for better than 1,300 yards.

The 6-foot-1, 185-pound signal caller also played some defensive back for Coach Randy Thompson's Warriors in their 8-2 season.

Marchiano was selected first

team OVAC, first team Eastern District, and honorable mention all-state.

Marchiano also played baseball for the Warriors.

Joey, who is headed to Muskingum, is the son of John and Michele Marchiano of Salesville.

**Abbott** -- This Pilot attracted the attention of opposing defensive backs all season.

The 6-foot-2, 170-pound pass catcher hauled in 53 passes for better than 800 yards and five touchdowns.

Abbott was selected to the all-Ohio second team, was an all-OVAC performer two times and an Eastern District first teamer twice.

Abbott, who played his high school football under Coach Terry Snively, also competed in baseball for the Pilots.

Matt, who is headed to West Liberty, is the son of Roger and Jenny Abbott.

**Antonucci** -- This Red Knight receiver was the real deal for Coach Ed Weidger.

Anthony -- one of the valley's top targets -- was selected first team all-OVAC and Eastern District two times.

He also was a first-team all-Ohio pick his senior year and a honorable mention choice his junior season.

Antonucci, who is going to Mount Union, also played four years of basketball for the Red Knights.

Anthony is the son of Linda and Angelo Antonucci of Toronto.

**Crum** -- This Blue Devil was

a huge target for passes in

Monroe County for Coach Dave Caldwell's team.

The 6-foot-4, 175-pound pass snatcher hauled in 56 passes for over 850 yards and 10 touchdowns this past season.

Crum earned all-Times Leader honors in football, and was selected District 12 first team in basketball.

Crum also participated in basketball, baseball and track while at Beallsville.

Headed for Muskingum, Joey is the son of Carla Crum and Jeff Crum.

**Ongley** -- This Tiger became of the valley's premier receivers in Shadyside's run to the state semifinals during his junior season.

Despite opposing defenses keying on him, Ongley hauled in 24 passes for 482 yards and seven touchdowns for Coach Ty Fleming's Orange.

The 6-foot, 180-pounder was selected all-state, all-Eastern District, all OVAC and all Times Leader.

Ongley also competed in basketball and track while at Shadyside.

Nick, who will take his pass catching prowess to West Liberty, is the son of Kathryn and James Brown of Shadyside.

**Rose** -- Despite his last name, Shayne was certainly a thorn in the side of opposing defensive backs.

The Wellsville standout holds several school records, including career receiving yards (1,476) and touchdowns (21).

The 6-foot-2, 185-pounder was chosen all-Eastern District, all-OVAC, all-County, first-team all-Area and special mention all-Ohio.

Shayne, who is headed to Robert Morris College, is the son of Douglas and Jayne Rose of Wellsville.

**Rudy Mumley  
OVAC Charity  
All-Star  
Football Classic  
Sunday, July 27  
7:15 p.m.  
Wheeling Island  
Stadium**

## OVAC tickets on sale

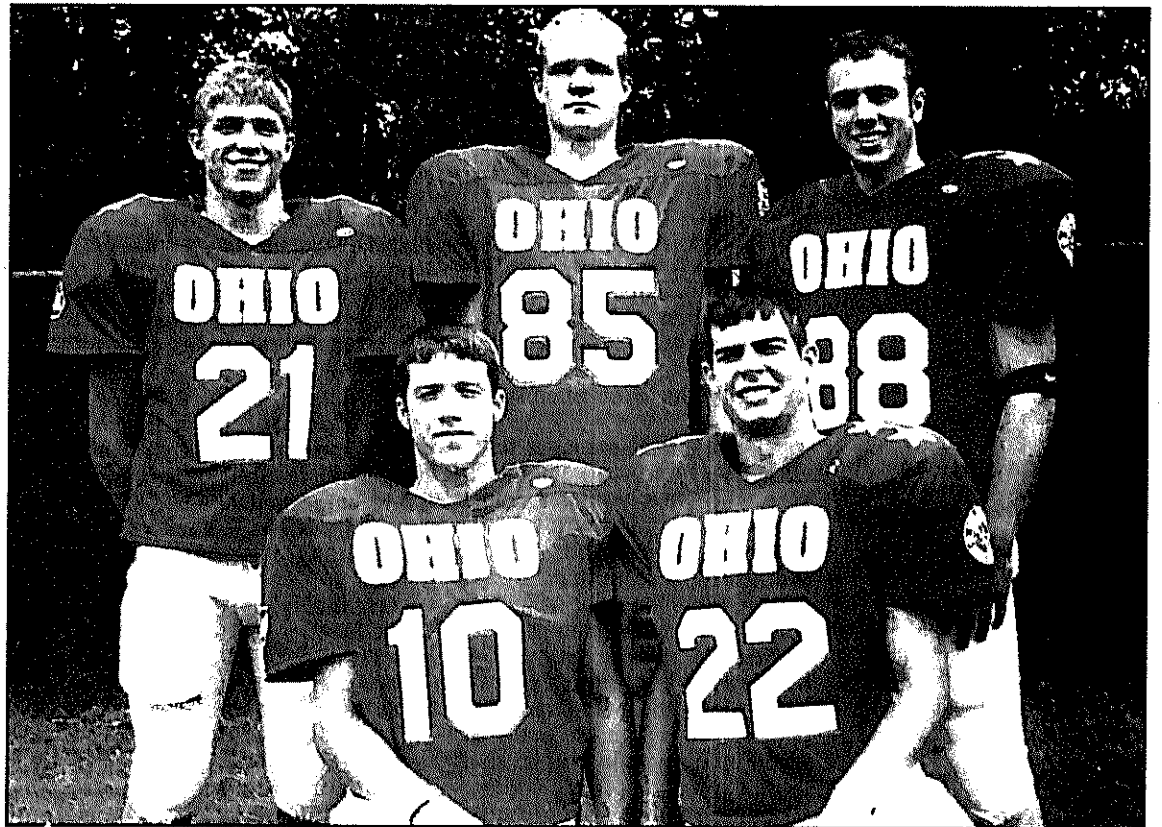
Advance Tickets for the 32nd annual Rudy Mumley/OVAC are currently on sale at businesses around the Ohio Valley.

The OVAC game -- which is slated for Sunday at Wheeling Island Stadium -- will kick off at 7:15 p.m. Tickets bought in advance cost \$7, while all tickets at the gate will be sold for \$10.

The Ohio locations selling tickets include: Bellaire Kroger, Calcutta Bowyer Hardware, Cambridge Kroger, Heimes All Sports in East Liverpool; Martins Ferry Kroger, DeFelice Brothers Pizza in Shadyside; St. Clairsville Kroger, Steubenville Kroger on Hollywood Boulevard, Wintersville Kroger, Woodsfield Weber's Drug Store and Zanesville Kroger.



The West Virginia locations include: Benwood Kroger, Greg's Market in Cameron, Moundsville Kroger, Witschey's Super Market in New Martinsville; Warwood Kroger, Weirton Kroger on St. Thomas Drive, Weirton Kroger on Main Street, Wellsburg Kroger and Wheeling Kroger on Mount DeChantal Road.



THE OHIO receiving corps for the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity Football Classic includes Shadyside's Nick Ongley (10), River's Matt Abbott (22), Toronto's Anthony Antonucci (21), Beallsville's Joey Crum (85) and Wellsville's Shayne Rose (88).

T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH



# Bruney to again guide Ohio all-stars

By GREG HARKNESS  
Times Leader Sports Writer

A familiar face will be stalking the Ohio sidelines when the annual OVAC Rudy Mumley Charity All-Star Classic kicks off Sunday, July 27 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Longtime and ultra-successful Martins Ferry head coach Dave Bruney will guide the Buckeye-state stars for an unprecedented fourth time.

The previous three OVAC coaching assignments have all resulted in Ohio victories.

"It's always a pleasure to be involved with all of the quality players on the Ohio side," Bruney said. "That's the fun part of it -- being able to take kids that deserve to play here, not just for their athletic prowess, but for their character, work ethic and conduct off the field.

"We want kids that are going to represent their schools, families and communities well," Bruney continued. "And when you can work with kids like that, it makes it a good experience -- win or lose.

"I have had the opportunity to



DAVE BRUNEY

coach this game three times and got to work some great players and kids," Bruney added. "Hopefully, the kids will have an enjoyable time and come out with a victory."

Bruney also has had the experience of playing in the game. The Martins Ferry grad suited up for the Ohio squad in 1970 and was elected a co-captain along

with Larry Blanchard of Bellaire.

Bruney also coached the OVAC game in 1979 -- representing Bridgeport after guiding the Bulldogs to a 9-1 record. Bridgeport was the smallest 3-A school in the OVAC that year.

After taking over the helm at Ferry in 1979 and posting a 10-0 record, Bruney coached the Ohio stars in 1983 -- a team that featured future NFL player Tim Spencer of St. Clairsville.

The team also included Steubenville's Dale Taylor, who scored three touchdowns, and a Bellaire High grad, Dirk Fitch, who now serves on Bruney's staff.

The Ohio squad posted a 32-0 victory in the 1999 contest, also with Bruney at the helm.

"I am glad that staff gets to take part in the game," Bruney said. "I am happy they get honored for what they do. I think the key to our success is the continuity of our staff. We have guys who have been here 15 years or more and are still enthusiastic.

"I think these guys have kept me coaching probably longer than I would have stayed," Bruney added. "Their willing-

ness to pay the price has been what has made us successful."

Here is a capsule look at the Ohio coaching staff:

**DAVE BRUNEY** -- Since coming to Martins Ferry in 1979, Bruney has compiled three undefeated seasons and qualified for the Ohio state play-offs four times.

The Ohio University graduate, where he was a two-year letterwinner at linebacker, has enjoyed a considerable amount of success of the past decade guiding the Purple Riders to a 79-20 record.

Bruney also had previous coaching positions at Marshall, as a graduate assistant, Buckeye North and Martins Ferry. He served one-year as head coach at Bridgeport before returning to his alma mater.

Bruney and his wife Cheryl have three children. Zac, who is currently playing football at Mount Union; Ashley, a former three-sport standout at Ferry; and Trevor, who will be a senior this fall at Ferry where he also competes in three sports.

**DIRK FITCH** -- The former

See, BRUNEY, Page B2

## ● Bruney

Continued from Page B1

Bellaire High and Bowling Green graduate has been a member of Bruney's staff since 1985.

Fitch, who played under Bruney in the OVAC game in 1979, is also the head track coach at Martins Ferry.

He is the Purple Riders offensive coordinator and also handles the outside linebackers.

His brother, Todd, currently serves on Lou Holtz' staff at South Carolina.

Dirk and his wife, Mary Beth, have a daughter, Kyle, and a son, Jack.

**BILL BRUNEY** -- Longtime assistant has been in coaching for 30 years.

The Ohio University grad has served as an assistant coach at the likes of Alliance, Bridgeport and Steubenville before coming to Martins Ferry where he has been for the past dozen years.

At Steubenville, Bill was the defensive coordinator of a Big Red program that qualified for 11 straight postseasons including a state championship and two runnerup finishes.

Bill Bruney helps handle the linebackers and scout defense in addition to his defensive coordinator duties.

Bill and his wife Cindy have three children. Craig, who played in the game in 1999, Mandy, a former three-sport standout, and Amy, who will be a senior and competes in three sports.

**MIKE DELATORE** -- Delatore has been at Martins Ferry for 18 years as an assistant coach.

The Buckeye South graduate also was an assistant at Bridgeport before coming to Ferry.

Delatore, a West Liberty grad, handles the offensive line for the Riders.

Mike and his wife Rhonda have two daughters, Trisha and Jessica.

**NICK STANKOVICH** -- This Martins Ferry graduate has been an assistant for 22 years at his alma mater.

The Capital grad currently serves as the school district's superintendent.

Stankovich also coaches the offensive line, primarily the tackles, for the Purple Riders.

Nick and his wife Cheryl have a son, Nick, who is a two-sport standout for the Purple Riders.

**JOHN BENNETT** -- This Martins Ferry grad has been an assistant at his alma mater since graduating from Bethany College.

Bennett handles the defensive backs and wide receivers for Ferry.



He has also previously served as head baseball coach for the Purple Riders.

John and his wife Holly have three children Lauren, Alex and Cory.

**GREG STEELE** -- This former Bellaire grad continues the trend of longtime assistants for Bruney.

The West Liberty graduate handles the defensive ends and offensive tackles for the Purple Riders.

He is also an assistant coach under Fitch with the Riders' track program.

Greg and his wife Kristen have two children, Kari and Jeffrey Kitchen.

**JIM FOGLE** -- This Bishop Donahue grad has had previous head coaching experience at Bridgeport, as well as assistant positions with Union Local and Bishop Donahue.

Fogle coaches the offensive guards and centers, along with the defensive ends for the Purple Riders.

Jim and his wife Stephanie have three daughters, Tara, Jaime and Kayla.

**MIKE ROSE** -- A former St. John Central grid standout, Rose has been assistant at Martins Ferry since 2000.

Rose, a graduate of Ohio University, has previous head coach experience at St. John Central, along with assistant coaching experience with the Irish. This is his second stint at Martins Ferry.

Rose coaches the running backs and defensive tackles for the Riders.

Mike and his wife Jenny, have three children, Michael, Megan and Marisa.

**JUSTIN KROPKA** -- This 1994 graduate of Martins Ferry has served as an assistant high and freshman coach for the Purple before moving onto the varsity staff this past season.

Kropka helps coach the Purple Riders' tight ends and outside linebackers.

He played collegiately at Bethany College.

# Ohio adds offensive linemen, tight end to roster

By GREG HARKNESS  
Times Leader Sports Writer

Games are often won or lost in the trenches.

And the latest additions to the Ohio roster will attempt to help the Buckeye State enjoy the former instead of the latter in the annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic.

The OVAC game -- which is slated for July 27 at Wheeling Island Stadium -- will kick off at 7:15 p.m.

"We are very happy with the group of offensive linemen that we have added," Ohio head coach Dave Bruney explained. "We feel they possess good size and mobility. An important thing is

for this group to come to camp in shape."

The group includes East Liverpool's Brian Davis, Edison's Travis DeZordo, Martins Ferry's Mike Edwards, Edison's Chris Frankhauser, Steubenville Central's Ryan Miller, Cambridge's Michael Price and Steubenville's Michael Van Voltenburg.

Barnesville's Chad Barker also was added to the roster as a tight end. "These guys come from programs that are used to winning," Bruney said. "East Liverpool, Edison, Steubenville,



Steubenville Central have been very successful while these guys have been in school and they understand what it takes to win.

"We want to mix the pass and the run and these guys are adept at both run and pass blocking," Bruney added. "And we like that about this group."

Here is a capsule look at the latest additions:

**BRIAN DAVIS** -- This big offensive tackle should be able to open holes for Buckeye runners the same way he did for Coach Bob Thayer's East Liverpool Potters.

Davis -- a 6-foot-3, 260-pounder -- was selected all-OVAC following his junior and senior seasons. He also was

first-team all-Eastern District and special mention all-Ohio.

Davis also was named first-team all-Columbiana County.

Davis, who is undecided on a college, is the son of Ed Davis and Darlene Davis of Amsterdian.

**TRAVIS DEZORDO** -- This Edison standout anchored the offensive line for Coach Dave Everson and company during another fine season.

DeZordo, a 6-foot-2, 255-pound center, was chosen first-team all-Eastern District, all-OVAC and all-Quad County. He also was named special mention all-Ohio.

DeZordo, who is headed to Mount Union, is the son of Bruce and Tish

DeZordo.

**MICHAEL EDWARDS** -- Bruney will have one of his own along the offensive front for the Buckeye State.

Edwards, a 5-foot-11, 190-pound guard, helped the Purple Riders to a 10-0 season as a senior.

Edwards, who also played baseball for the Purple, was selected to the EOBL All-Star Game and the OVAC All-Star Game on the diamond.

Michael, who will attend Ohio University-Eastern, is the son of David and Patty Edwards of St. Clairsville.

**CHRIS FRANKHAUSER** -- Another Edison standout will man the offensive

See, OHIO, Page B2

## ● Ohio

Continued from Page B1

front for the Ohio squad.

Frankhauser -- a 6-foot-4, 250-pounder -- played tackle for Everson's Wildcats.

Frankhauser earned all-Quad County for his efforts and was a two-year letterwinner. He also stood out in wrestling for Edison, finishing fourth in the OVAC Wrestling Tournament as a junior and a senior.

Chris, who is attending Youngstown State in the fall, is the son of Keith Frankhauser and Roberta Rayl.

**RYAN MILLER** -- This Steubenville Central line stalwart should be a key member of the Ohio offensive line.

Miller -- a 6-foot-1, 235-pounder -- played offensive guard and defensive tackle for Coach Gregg Bahen's Crusaders.

He was selected first-team all-Eastern District, first-team all-OVAC, first-team all-Quad County and special mention all-Ohio.

Ryan, who will head to the University of Dayton in the fall, is the son of John and Linda Miller of Steubenville.

**MICHAEL PRICE** -- This talented two-way performer was a stalwart for Coach Rick Goodrich's Cambridge Bobcats.

Price -- a 6-foot, 285-pounder -- played offensive and defensive tackle for the Bobcats.

Price was named first-team all-Eastern District, first-team all-ECOL, and special mention all-Ohio. He also was selected to play in the Ohio North-South game.

Price also stood out on the wrestling mats during his four years at Cambridge.

Michael, who is attending Marietta College in the fall, is the son of Jamie and Rene Price of Cambridge.

**MICHAEL VAN VOLTENBURG** -- This Steubenville standout was a main cog in helping Big Red earn another postseason berth in 2002.

Van Voltenburg -- a 5-foot-11, 245-pounder -- played guard for Coach Reno Saccoccia's squad.

Van Voltenburg was named first team all-Ohio for his fine season. He also earned all-Eastern District first team ('01, '02), all-Area ('01, '02), all-Quad County first team ('02) and all-OVAC ('01, '02).

Van Voltenburg also was special mention all-Ohio as a junior.

Michael, who is attending West Liberty State College in the fall, is the son of Michael and Letitia Van Voltenburg of Mingo Junction.

**CHAD BARKER** -- This Barnesville standout was a major target for Shamrock passers from his tight end position.

Barker -- a 5-foot-11, 195-pounder -- caught 48 passes for 530 yards and vie touchdowns as a senior under Coach Al Treherne.

Barker was a first-team all-OVAC performer as a junior and senior, and also an Eastern District first team pick during those two campaigns.

Barker also wrestled for the Shamrocks.

Chad, who will attend Ohio University-Eastern, is the son of Russell and Dawn Barker of Barnesville.

# Ohio roster continues to take shape

By GREG HARKNESS  
Times Leader Sports Writer

Ohio head coach Dave Bruney continues to fill out the Buckeye State roster with the recent addition of the defensive linemen and linebackers.

The 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic -- which is slated for July 27 at Wheeling Island Stadium -- will kick off at 7:15 p.m.

The group of defensive linemen includes Bellaire's Clay Boston, River's Chris Carroll, Buckeye Local's Dustin Kendle, East Liverpool's Dan Suznevich and Beaver Local's Jared Williams.

"We have some good size along the defensive line," Bruney explained. "We will try to mix in some speed and mobility depending on what type of offense West Virginia runs."

"We got some kids that can play in space," he added. "They are agile enough to rush the passer, but can also play screens and draws."

Ohio linebacking corps features Indian Creek's Aaron Bane, Shenandoah's Tyler DeVold, Shadyside's Mike Frollini, East Liverpool's Chris Green, St. Clairsville's Logan Mehl and Edison's Steve Potkrajac.

"I think most of the linebackers were either running backs or receivers in high school, so you know they are athletic and can run and get to the football," Bruney said. "Again, we have a versatile group that can stop the run or play against the pass."

Here is a capsule look at the latest players added:



CLAY BOSTON -- This Bellaire standout turned in a fine season for Coach John Magistro's Big Reds.

Boston -- a 6-foot-2, 200-pound defensive end -- was selected second team all-Ohio for his efforts. He also was named first team all-Eastern District, first team all-Valley, first team all-Times Leader and first team all-

See, OHIO, Page B2

## ● Ohio

Continued from Page B1

OVAC.

Boston also was a tight end for the Big Reds.

Boston also was a standout on the diamond for the Big Reds. He helped Bellaire advance to the regional championship game in baseball.

Clay is the son of Bill and Nannette Boston of Bellaire.

CHRIS CARROLL -- This Pilot punished opposing quarterbacks for Coach Terry Snively at River.

Carroll -- a 5-foot-11, 200-pounder -- was a defensive end for the Pilots. He also played on the offensive line.

Carroll was selected second team all-Ohio, first team all-Eastern District, first team all-Times Leader and first team all-Valley.

Chris, who is attending Muskingum in the fall, is the son of Brian and Lucky Carroll of Powhatan Point.

DUSTIN KENDLE -- Kendle stood out on the gridiron for Coach Mike Groves' Buckeye Local Panthers.

Kendle -- a 6-foot-2, 215 pounder -- played defensive end and offensive guard for Buckeye Local.

Kendle was selected first team all-Times Leader. He also served as a captain at Buckeye Local this past season.

Dustin is the son of Dave and Ellie Kendle of Mingo Junction.

DAN SUZNEVICH -- This talented two-way lineman was a major factor in East Liverpool's fine 2002 season.

Suznevich -- a 6-foot, 255-pounder -- played defensive tackle. He also saw action at tight end and guard for the Coach Bob Thayer's Potters.

He was selected first team all-Eastern District, first team all-Quad County, first team all-Columbiana County, special mention all-Ohio and honorable mention all-OVAC.

Dan, who will attend Baldwin-Wallace, is the son of Carlyn and Jamie Beverly, and Dan Suznevich.

JARED WILLIAMS -- Williams was a force for Coach Rich Wright's Beaver Local Beavers.

Williams -- a 5-foot-10, 205-pounder --

played middle linebacker for the Beavers.

He was a two-time selection to the all-OVAC first team, a three-time all-Quad County first team pick, a three-time all-County choice and a two-time honorable mention all-Ohio selection.

Williams also was a standout on the mats at Beaver Local. He finished sixth in the Ohio Division II 189-pound weight class and was a four-year letterwinner.

Jared is the son of Gary and Patty Williams of Lisbon.

AARON BANE -- This Indian Creek standout was all over the field for Coach Bryan Mays' Redskins.

Bane -- a 6-foot-1, 205-pounder -- played inside linebacker for Indian Creek. He also saw time at running back.

Bane racked up numerous honors including two-time all-Valley captain, two-time all-Quad County, two-time all-Ohio honorable mention, two-time first team all-Eastern District and two-time all-Herald Star. He also was first team all-OVAC.

Bane also competed basketball and track at Indian Creek.

Aaron, who will attend Washington & Jefferson in the fall, is the son of Jim and Jodi Bane of Wintersville.

TYLER DEVOLLD -- This Zep standout was a four-year letterwinner for Coach Dan Wesson and company.

Devold -- a 6-foot-1, 205-pound performer -- played linebacker and tailback for the Zeps.

Devold earned first team all-Pioneer Valley Conference, first team all-Eastern District, first team all-OVAC and all-Ohio honorable mention.

Tyler, who is headed to Mount Union, is the son of Donald and LaShona Devold of Sarahsville.

CHRIS GREEN -- This Potter punished opposing ballcarriers for Coach Bob Thayer's East Liverpool squad.

Green -- a 6-foot-2, 185-pound performer -- played outside linebacker for East Liverpool.

He was named first team all-Eastern District, special mention all-Ohio, special mention all-OVAC and first team all-Quad County.

Green was a two-time state qualifier on the mats for the Potters. He also was a three-year letterwinner in track.

Chris, who will attend Muskingum or Mount Union, is the son of Carl and Christina Green of East Liverpool.

LOGAN MEHL -- Mehl enjoyed a productive season for St. Clairsville under the direction of first-year head coach Bret McLean.

Mehl, at 6-foot-1 and 185-pounds, played tight end and safety at St. Clairsville. He should see action at outside linebacker for Ohio.

Mehl was selected all-OVAC, all-Eastern District and all-Times Leader for his efforts. He was named Team MVP for the Red Devils.

Mehl was a four-year performer on the football team, and a two-year member of the basketball program.

Logan, who will attend Ohio University in the fall, is the son of Lance and Linda Mehl of St. Clairsville.

STEVE POTKRAJAC -- Potkrajac was a two-way performer for Coach Dave Everson's Wildcats.

Potkrajac, a 5-foot-11, 170-pound performer, played fullback and linebacker for the Wildcats.

Potkrajac was selected first team all-Ohio and was named the Eastern District Defensive Player of the Year.

He also was first team all-OVAC, first team all-Quad County and first team all-Eastern District.

Steve, who will attend Otterbein, is the son of Steve and Lori Potkrajac of Toronto.

MIKE FROLLINI -- This talented Tiger was major cog in helping Shadyside gain a playoff berth.

Frollini, at 5-foot-11 and 205-pounds, played linebacker and center for Coach Ty Fleming's squad.

He was selected first team all-Valley, first team all-Eastern District, first team all-Times Leader and honorable mention all-Ohio.

Frollini also competed in wrestling and baseball at Shadyside.

Mike, who is going to Washington & Jefferson, is the son of Mike and Paula Frollini of Shadyside.

# OG's Taylor will guide West Virginia grid All-Stars

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

King Football will be soon making its return to the Ohio Valley.

The first steps to that were taken today when the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference released the coaching staffs for its annual Rudy Mumley Charity All-Star Classic.

The OVAC All-Star Classic is slated for Wheeling Island Stadium, July 27 with a 7 p.m. kickoff.

The coaching staffs for the annual summer classic will be coming from both Oak Glen and Martins Ferry.

The Golden Bears' Tom Taylor was selected to the helm after guiding the New Cumberland to a 6-4 record and a fourth place finish in the OVAC 3-A race, the highest amongst the West Virginia schools.



Brunev, meanwhile, led the Purple Riders to yet another 10-0 season and the OVAC 3-A championship.

This marks the inaugural assignment to the game for Taylor, who

couldn't be happier about giving up a week of his summer vacation to take part.

"I am very excited about this opportunity," Taylor said. "I am a little nervous because it's a real challenge to put everything together in one week, but this might be my only time to be able to coach in this game."

Taylor will be joined on the West Virginia sidelines by Paul Quattrone, Darrell Curtis, Kent Kidder, Bill Stewart, Steve Kourpas and Bob Kramer. Randy Elliott will serve as the Mountaineer trainer.

"I have a great staff assembled,"

Taylor said. "The guys we have at Oak Glen are good, but to bring in coaches from other schools is very exciting for me. Our meetings have been real productive and we just hope we can go out and have put on a good show."

Fans can expect somewhat of conservative game from the West Virginia unit. Taylor likes to implement the ball-control offense with strong defense.

"My philosophy has always been to play good defense and control the

See, **OVAC**, Page C4

## ● OVAC

Continued from Page C1

ball," Taylor said. "Looking at the kids we have, we think we will have a chance to be pretty balanced and we also have some very adept defensive players."

Here is a capsule look at the coaching staff:

**TOM TAYLOR** -- The third year mentor has put together a 13-17 record since taking over the Golden Bears.

Taylor handles the offensive coordinator duties and will also work with the offensive and defensive lines.

Before coming to Oak Glen, Taylor had been an assistant coach at Weir High for eight years.

The Red Rider, Class of 1981, graduate also served as head track coach and assistant wrestling coach at his alma mater.

Taylor -- a West Liberty State College graduate -- and his wife Roberta have a daughter Lydia. They reside in Weirton.

**PAUL QUATTRONE** -- This veteran football coach has been involved in coaching for the past eight years. He has been at Oak Glen for five of those seasons.

Quattrone came to Oak Glen after stopping at Weirton Madonna as an assistant. While at Madonna, he was also head baseball and golf coach.

In 2001, Quattrone was named AFLAC National Assistant Coach of the Year.

Along with his football duties with the Golden Bears, Quattrone also serves on the Bears' girls basketball staff.

Quattrone is a product of Steubenville High School where he played football, golf, baseball and basketball.

After graduation from Big Red, Quattrone attended the University of Cincinnati, West Liberty State College and West Virginia University.

**BOB KRAMER** -- This 30-year veteran of the football coaching ranks comes to the West Virginia staff as the Weirton Madonna head coach.

He will serve as the offensive and defensive line coach for the West Virginia stars.

Kramer has been on the Blue Don staff for the past eight years and prior to coming to Madonna, he served on the Steubenville Central and Toronto staffs.

Kramer is a graduate of Steubenville High School. He and his wife Kathy have two children, Bob Jr. and Linda.

**BILL STEWART** -- The former Oak Glen standout has returned to his roots, serving on Taylor's staff for the past three years.

Stewart handles the tight ends and line backers after being a three-year defensive starter at

Bethany College.

While at Bethany, Stewart was a two-year All-PAC selection and was defensive MVP in 2000.

**KENT KIDDER** -- This Follansbee High School graduate comes to the West Virginia staff from Ohio.

Kidder will work with the wide receivers and defensive backs at the OVAC game, but he serves as defensive coordinator for Wellsville High School.

Before leaving to join the Tigers' staff, Kidder was at Weir High for two seasons and he has been a football coach for the past 15 years.

In that span, he also served as the head coach at Weirton Madonna and also served on coaching staffs at both Brooke and Toronto.

Kidder -- who is a West Liberty State alum -- has two state championship rings in his possession. He was on the coaching staff at Madonna in 1987 and also on the Weir High staff in 1998.

Kent and his wife Donna have three daughters: Amy, Angela and Ashley.

**DARRELL CURTIS** -- This Weir High graduate has been serving under Taylor at Oak Glen for the past three seasons.

Curtis will be working with wide receivers and the defensive line during the OVAC game.

Curtis -- who attended West Liberty State College -- also served as a baseball coach.

Darrell and his wife Angelina are the parents of five children: Danielle, Darci, Darrick, Alexis and Thomas.

**STEVEN KOURPAS** -- This 1974 Oak Glen High product has spent the last two years on Taylor's Oak Glen staff.

With the OVAC, he will be coaching tight ends and defensive backs.

Along with his football duties, Kourpas is also the Oak Glen head baseball coach and was named Herald Star Co-Coach of the Year.

Steve and his wife Kathie have two sons: Andy and Matt Wharton.

**RANDY ELLIOTT** -- This 1975 Oak Glen High School graduate will serve as the West Virginia team trainer.

He has spent 27 years as an athletic trainer. Of those eight have come at Oak Glen and 11 at Weir. He also serves as athletic trainer at Wheeling Jesuit.

Elliott has been received the Who's Who of Teachers, James "Deadeye" Morris Award and Wall of Tolerance Award.

Elliott is a graduate of West Liberty State College and West Virginia University.

## SPORTS

Sunday, July 27, 2003

## OVAC All-Star Game Tonight

• 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley Game kicks off at 7:15

By SETH STASKEY  
Times Leader Sports Writer

Time has come for all of the drills, practices and talking to end.

Game day for the 66 OVAC All-Stars -- who have spent the last week cooped up in a West Liberty dorm -- is upon us.

The 32nd annual Rudy Mumley/OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic has finally arrived for all of the football-thirsty junkies around the area.

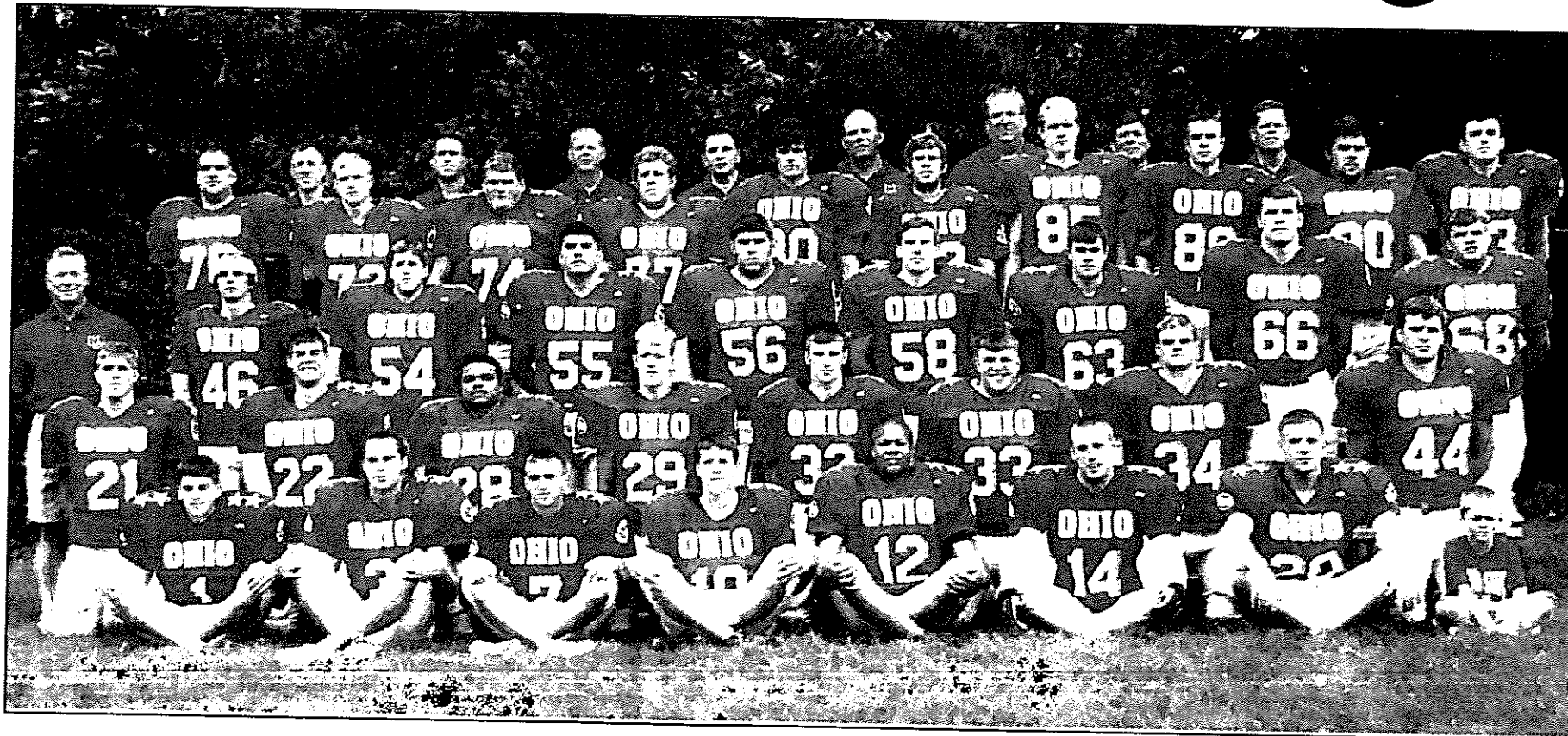
Both the Ohio and West Virginia squads have announced their starting lineups for this evening's game, which kicks off at 7:15 p.m.

"We think we are as ready as we can be," said Ohio head coach Dave Bruney. "We have gotten as much done as possible with the amount of time we were given, but it's tough to be polished in only one week."

The Mountaineers -- who are looking to snap an eight-game losing streak to the Buckeyes -- also feel they are well prepared for the game.

"I really think we are ready to play," said Mountaineer head coach Tom Taylor, who is coaching in his first all-star game. "We have had a great week of practice and got everything in we wanted to get in."

The Ohio squad has had to



PICTURED is the 2003 Ohio All-Star team for tonight's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Classic. Front row, from left, are Urs Mueller (Martins Ferry), Justin Schafer (Union Local), Mike Mamone (Martin Ferry), Nick Ongley (Shadyside), Brian Pruitt (Steubenville), Vince Stemkowski (Bridgeport), Tyler DeVold (Shenandoah) and manager Jack Fitch. Second row, from left, are Anthony Antonucci (Toronto), Matt Abbott (River), Ty Platt (Martins Ferry), Chris Green (East Liverpool), Jordan Williams (Beaver Local), Joey Marchiano (Buckeye Trail) and Aaron Bane (Indian Creek). Third row, from left, are head coach Dave Bruney (Martins Ferry), Chris Wilson (Monroe Central), Mike Frollini (Shadyside), Ryan Miller (Steubenville Catholic Central), Travis DeZordo (Edison), Chris Carroll (River), Michael Edwards (Martins Ferry), Chris Fankhauser (Edison) and Jared Williams (Beaver Local). Fourth row, from left, are Brian Davis (East Liverpool), Dustin Kendle (Buckeye Local), Michael Price (Cambridge), Mike Van Voltenburg (Steubenville), Clay Boston (Bellaire), Chad Barker (Barnesville), Joey Crum (Beallsville), Shayne Rose (Wellsville), Dan Suznevich (East Liverpool) and St. Clairsville's Logan Mehl. Back row, from left, are assistant coaches Bill Bruney, John Bennett, Dirk Fitch, Justin Kropka, Greg Steele, Mike Delatore, Mike Rose and Jim Fogle. Absent was assistant coach Nick Stankovich.

T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

time has come for all of the drills, practices and talking to end.

Game day for the 66 OVAC All-Stars -- who have spent the last week cooped up in a West Liberty dorm -- is upon us.

The 32nd annual Rudy Mumley/OVAC Charity All-Star Football Classic has finally arrived for all of the football-thirsty junkies around the area.

Both the Ohio and West Virginia squads have announced their starting lineups for this evening's game, which kicks off at 7:15 p.m.

"We think we are as ready as we can be," said Ohio head coach Dave Bruney. "We have gotten as much done as possible with the amount of time we were given, but it's tough to be polished in only one week."

The Mountaineers -- who are looking to snap an eight-game losing streak to the Buckeyes -- also feel they are well prepared for the game.

"I really think we are ready to play," said Mountaineer head coach Tom Taylor, who is coaching in his first all-star game. "We have had a great week of practice and got everything in we wanted to get in."

The Ohio squad has had to fight an up-hill battle with three players going down with injuries through the week.

"We have been really pleased with how hard the kids have worked this week," Bruney admitted. "We got some injuries and we really hope we get those kids back because if we don't we are going to have to go with some kids both ways."

The injuries have had the biggest effect on the offensive line seeing that Steubenville's Mike Van Voltenburg and Steubenville Central's Ryan Miller were both penciled in for spots before suffering the injuries.

"Our offensive line has impressed since we moved in here last week," Bruney pointed out. "This is physically one of the bigger teams we have had in the four times we have done this."

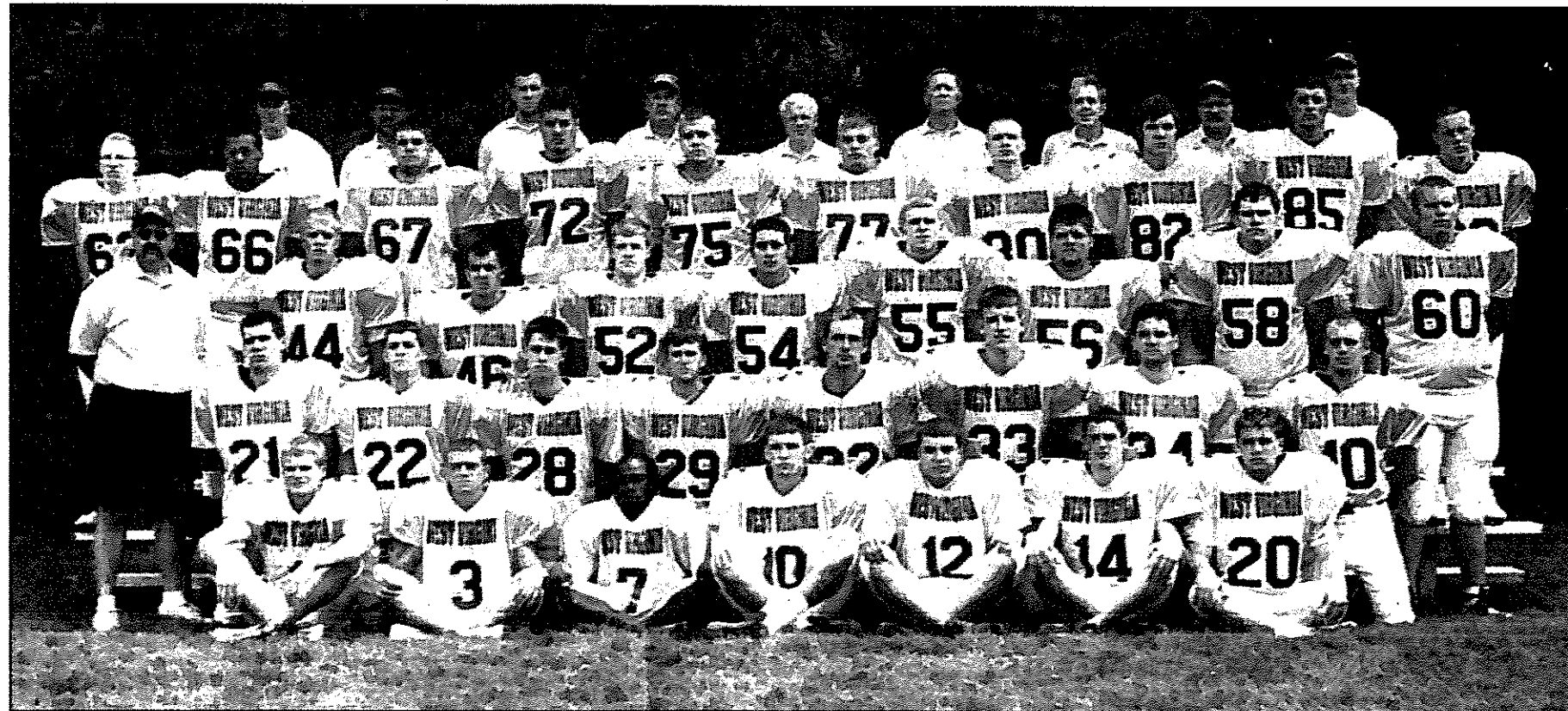
Both Miller and Van Voltenburg will be game-time decisions as to their availability, but if they can't go the Buckeyes will line up with a quality bunch. Edison's Chris Fankhauser (6-ft-4, 250) will play at one tackle with East Liverpool's Brian Davis (6-ft-3,

See, OVAC, Page C6



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

**PICTURED** is the 2003 Ohio All-Star team for tonight's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Classic. Front row, from left, are Urs Mueller (Martins Ferry), Justin Schafer (Union Local), Mike Mamone (Martin Ferry), Nick Ongley (Shadyside), Brian Pruitt (Steubenville), Vince Sternkowski (Bridgeport), Tyler DeVold (Shenandoah) and manager Jack Fitch. Second row, from left, are Anthony Antonucci (Toronto), Matt Abbott (River), Ty Platt (Martins Ferry), Chris Green (East Liverpool), Jordan Williams (Beaver Local), Joey Marchiano (Buckeye Trail) and Aaron Bane (Indian Creek). Third row, from left, are head coach Dave Bruney (Martins Ferry), Chris Wilson (Monroe Central), Mike Frollini (Shadyside), Ryan Miller (Steubenville Catholic Central), Travis DeZordo (Edison), Chris Carroll (River), Michael Edwards (Martins Ferry), Chris Fankhauser (Edison) and Jared Williams (Beaver Local). Fourth row, from left, are Brian Davis (East Liverpool), Dustin Kendle (Buckeye Local), Michael Price (Cambridge), Mike Van Voltenburg (Steubenville), Clay Boston (Bellaire), Chad Barker (Barnesville), Joey Crum (Beallsville), Shayne Rose (Wellsville), Dan Suznevich (East Liverpool) and St. Clairsville's Logan Mehl. Back row, from left, are assistant coaches Bill Bruney, John Bennett, Dirk Fitch, Justin Kropka, Greg Steele, Mike Delatore, Mike Rose and Jim Fogle. Absent was assistant coach Nick Stankovich.



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

**PICTURED** is the 2003 West Virginia All-Star team for tonight's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Classic. Front row, from left, are Kyle Scherich (Brooke), Anthony Cecchini (Brooke), Zjaque Douglas (Weir), Matt Wharton (Oak Glen), Luke Myers (Madonna), Derek Kocher (Magnolia) and Kyle Lowers (Oak Glen). Second row, from left, are Scott Johnston (Weir), Harry Ciccarella (Madonna), Robby Jones (Tyler), Ryan Thomas (Tyler), Justin Beresford (Cameron), Nick Stefanow (Wheeling Park), Jeremy Coyne (Wheeling Central) and D.J. Yoders (Cameron). Third row, from left, are Taylor Frankovitch (Weir), Steven Flowers (Oak Glen), Sam Blatt (Magnolia), Matt DeSantis (Wheeling Central), Mark Doty (Paden City), Patrick McGillian (Oak Glen), Bill Whitehill (Oak Glen) and Paul Duffy (Madonna). Fourth row, from left, are Frank Rocchio (Brooke), Toussaint Hill (Linsly), Bruce Fowler (Wheeling Central), Steve Skrzypek (Wheeling Central), Luke Resczynski (John Marshall), Kevin Scott (Wheeling Park), Ryan Vucelik (John Marshall), Josh Kusich (Brooke), Dan Miller (John Marshall) and Justin Wood (Wheeling Park). Back row, from left, are manager Garrett Barnhart, assistant coaches Paul Quattrone, Bill Stewart, Darrell Curtis, Kent Kidder, Bob Kramer, team trainer Randy Elliott, assistant coach Steve Kourpas and manager Chris Pecora.



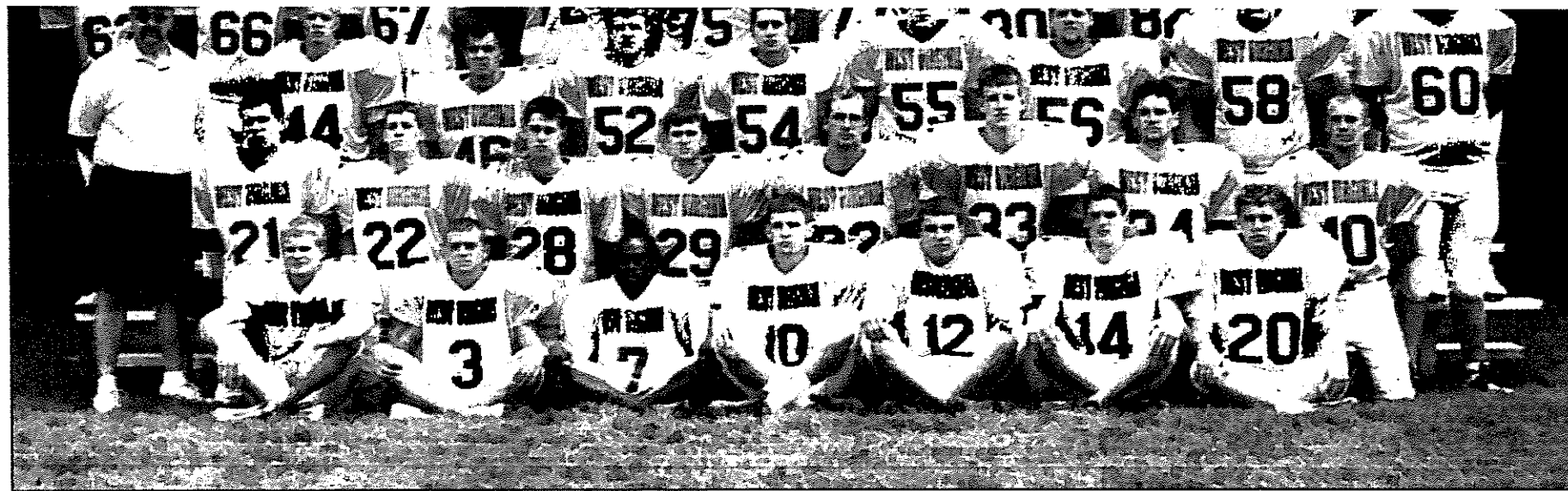
with how hard the kids have worked this week," Bruneu admitted. "We got some injuries and we really hope we get those kids back because if we don't we are going to have to go with some kids both ways."

The injuries have had the biggest effect on the offensive line seeing that Steubenville's Mike Van Voltenburg and Steubenville Central's Ryan Miller were both penciled in for spots before suffering the injuries.

"Our offensive line has impressed since we moved in here last week," Bruneu pointed out. "This is physically one of the bigger teams we have had in the four times we have done this."

Both Miller and Van Voltenburg will be game-time decisions as to their availability, but if they can't go the Buckeyes will line up with a quality bunch. Edison's Chris Fankhauser (6-ft-4, 250) will play at one tackle with East Liverpool's Brian Davis (6-ft-3,

See, **OVAC**, Page C6



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

**PICTURED** is the 2003 West Virginia All-Star team for tonight's 32nd annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All-Star Classic. Front row, from left, are Kyle Scherich (Brooke), Anthony Cecchini (Brooke), Zjaque Douglas (Weir), Matt Wharton (Oak Glen), Luke Myers (Madonna), Derek Kocher (Magnolia) and Kyle Lowers (Oak Glen). Second row, from left, are Scott Johnston (Weir), Harry Ciccarelli (Madonna), Robby Jones (Tyler), Ryan Thomas (Tyler), Justin Beresford (Cameron), Nick Stefanow (Wheeling Park), Jeremy Coyne (Wheeling Central) and D.J. Yoders (Cameron). Third row, from left, are Taylor Frankovitch (Weir), Steven Flowers (Oak Glen), Sam Blatt (Magnolia), Matt DeSantis (Wheeling Central), Mark Doty (Paden City), Patrick McGillian (Oak Glen), Bill Whitehill (Oak Glen) and Paul Duffy (Madonna). Fourth row, from left, are Frank Rocchio (Brooke), Toussaint Hill (Linsly), Bruce Fowler (Wheeling Central), Steve Skrzypek (Wheeling Central), Luke Resczynski (John Marshall), Kevin Scott (Wheeling Park), Ryan Vucelik (John Marshall), Josh Kusich (Brooke), Dan Miller (John Marshall) and Justin Wood (Wheeling Park). Back row, from left, are manager Garrett Bamhart, assistant coaches Paul Quattrone, Bill Stewart, Darrell Curtis, Kent Kidder, Bob Kramer, team trainer Randy Elliott, assistant coach Steve Kourpas and manager Chris Pecora.

## IN FOCUS

# OVAC All-Star assistant coaches relish assignments



By **BUBBA KAPRAL**  
T-L Executive Sports Editor

The players own the spotlight -- and deservedly so -- in all-star games.

To a lesser degree, head coaches get their share of the limelight.

Lost in the shuffle are the assistant coaches. They are cast in the back-

ground despite carrying the major burden of implementing the offensive and defensive systems that are foreign to the majority of the all-stars.

Such is the case with the Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Football Classic.

The Ohio squad has the luxury of being guided by Martins Ferry's Dave Bruneu -- no stranger to the classic. The ultra-successful mentor -- coming off a 10-0 season with the Purple Riders -- is coaching the Ohio squad for the fourth time. In addition to playing in the game in 1969, Bruneu's previous OVAC coaching duties were in the 1979 game -- which many feel featured the strongest Ohio team ever -- as well as in 1983 and 1999.

See, **FOCUS**, Page C6



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

**THE OHIO** coaching staff for the 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity Football Classic include, first row, from left assistant coach John Bennett, assistant coach Dirk Fitch, head coach Dave Bruneu, and assistant coach Bill Bruneu. Second row includes assistant coach Jim Fogle, assistant coach Greg Steele, assistant coach Mike Delatore, assistant coach Mike Rose and assistant coach Justin Kropka.

# Learning system challenges players

By **GREG HARKNESS**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

With 33 players from 22 different schools and only a week to prepare, the biggest obstacle for the players is learning a system and the terminology to go with it.

But that's the chore facing the Ohio all stars entering tonight's 32nd Annual Rudy Mumley OVAC Charity All Star Classic at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"The last two days, we have seen a lot less mistakes," Ohio offensive coordinator Dirk Fitch said. "They are all stars...they know what to do. They had to think a lot at first instead of just reacting. But the last two days have been much crisper."

Ohio wide receiver Nick Ongley

See, **SYSTEM**, Page C6

## 2003 OVAC All Star Band

### 2003 OVAC MCDONALD'S ALL STAR BAND

**BARNESVILLE** -- Shawna Bell, Elizabeth Amherst, Donetta Meadows, Kelsey Neptune, Melissa Showalter, Sapphire Straquadine and Charlotte Wilson.

**BELLAIRE** -- Amy Bigler, Karina Blon, Aliyah Byrne, Erika Clegg, Jackie Conaway, Nancy Flowers, Ryan Higgins, Amber Hinton, Nicole Hyde, Sean Kennedy, Matt Klempa, Andrea Lash, Elise Leonard, Amanda Marlin, Stephanie McGinnis, Charlotte Olack, Brianna Voight, Shannon Wagner and Katie Wagner.

**BISHOP DONAHUE** -- Jamie Stern.  
**BRIDGEPORT** -- Alexis Dober, Paul Eastwood, Chelsie Roberts, Courtney Talik.

**BROOKE** -- Daniel Agosh, Alyssa Anderson, Samantha Bonacci, Jessica Bowman, Melody Coen, Brad Congelio, Susanna Debnar, Kathryn DeGarmo, Cheyanne DeWitt, Ben Fodor, Adam Giglio, Michael Hardy, Melinda Howell, Rachel Leonard, Brittany McGowan, Lindsay Ohler, Chris Oliveira, Beth Patsch, Walter Ramsey, Andrew Ross, Megan Scammel, Justin Schwertgeger, Hope Smith, Katie Smith, Nathan Tucker, Leonard Vamer and Stephanie Wright.

**BUCKEYE LOCAL** -- Ron Dahlem, John DiCesare, Jeremy Eikenberry, Sami Ellis, Meghan Neel, Norman Putnam, Beth Stockman and Sean Tuttle.

**BUCKEYE TRAIL** -- Kim VanKirk.  
**CAMERON** -- James Iams.  
**EDISON** -- Elissa Lawrence and Zac Taylor.

**HARRISON CENTRAL** -- Becky Applegarth, Sebastian Blake, Jessica Corder, Michael Davenport, Ashley Doren, Alex Frasier, Brittany Garrison, Kyle Hiday, Lisa Hirschbach, Elizabeth Hoobler, Charley Lewis, Nanette Lewis, Heather Mallernee, Brittany Mazgal, Liz Miller, Ben Prichard, Jenna Puskarich, Autumn Theodore, Chelsea Wells, Charlee Wilson and Veronica Yeske.

**INDIAN CREEK** -- Justin Argentine, Kelli Barker, Travis Barker and Shane McBride.

**JOHN MARSHALL** -- Thomas Adams, Scott Durig, Corey Edge, Dina Graves, Donna Jean Horvath, Eric Phillips, Mike Phillips, Nicole Porter, Amy Rayle, Devron West and Tanner Yuhase.

**MARTINS FERRY** -- Ryan Davis, Emily Hoskins, Maria Totterdale, Connie Vargo and Sarah Webster.

**MEADOWBROOK** -- Nick Box and Corey Deason.

**MONROE CENTRAL** -- Stephen Brown, Eric Kilburn, Devon McIntire, Adriane Pack, Courtney Rice and Megan Wilson.

**OAK GLEN** -- Rebecca Beabout, Kayla Cuppy, Jessica Fink, Michael Heath, Robert Heath and Matt Tsosmelis.

**RIVER** -- Julie Bonar, Jenna Brown, Amanda Hamerick, Dixie Hoskinson, Selena Hoskinson, Labrea Howland, Holly Neely, Kayla VanDyne, Jason Williams and Ashley Winter.

**SHADYSIDE** -- Steven Blinco, Ryan Budrevich, Erica Campbell, Stevie Carpenter, Jessica Clendenin, Ryan

# News and notes from the OVAC game

By **SETH STASKEY**  
and **GREG HARKNESS**  
Times Leader Sports Writers

Urs Mueller certainly wins the long distance award. Mueller is a foreign exchange student at Martins Ferry from Switzerland and will handle the kicking chores for the Ohio squad.

"It is a very good experience," Mueller said. "I got to meet a lot of new people and it has been a lot fun."

As an interesting side note, it was Mueller's first-ever experience playing football.

"This is a great experience, especially since it was my first year ever playing football," Mueller said. "I had never played before and the (regular) season was great and now I have the opportunity to play in the all star game."

**FINALLY ON THE SAME SIDE:** Justin Schafer and Matt Abbott spent three seasons on the opposing sideline. Now the duo gets the opportunity to play for Martins Ferry head coach Dave Bruney.

"It's a lot different," Schafer smiled. "Coach Bruney is a very intense guy. He's a great coach. Its neat to play under a coach that you played against for three years."

Abbott is also enjoying the opportunity. "Coach Bruney is a legend in his own time," Abbott said. "He's a great guy. He gets pretty intense at times, but you can tell he really cares about his players."

**ONE LAST CHANCE:** For three years, Mike Mamone played under Bruney. Now, the Purple Rider standout gets one last chance to play for his high school coach.

"I am happy that our coaches are here," Mamone said. "I really like the coaches a lot and enjoyed playing for them. It's been a little easier for me because I do not have to learn the system at all and I see some of the guys struggling to learn it."

**HAPPY TO BE HERE:** Playing in the OVAC game is a dream for all football players who grow up in the Ohio Valley.

Martins Ferry tailback Ty Platt -- who will start at tailback tonight -- almost was forced to miss the game due to an appendectomy he underwent on July 3.

The next two weeks was just sort of a waiting game for Platt and the Ohio coaches to see if a doctor would give him clearance to take part.

## ● System

Continued from Page C1

agrees.

"At first, it was a little harder than I thought it was going to be," the former Shadyside standout said. "But by mid-week we started to get it together and pick things up."

"It's just tough to do in such a short time," Ongley added.

With the preparation time for the game being limited, the Ohio coaching staff has attempted to have players concentrate primarily on one side of the ball

## OVAC NOTEBOOK

"I actually got cleared the day before we were supposed to report to camp," a relieved Platt said earlier in the week.

"I was thinking about playing even if he hadn't cleared me. I wouldn't miss this game."

**LOOKING TO STAY PERFECT:** That is exactly what Ohio head coach Dave Bruney is trying to do tonight.

Bruney is 3-0 in the Mumley All-Star Game after winning the 1979, 1983 and 1999 games. His only loss came in 1969 when he was a captain for the Buckeyes.

**CAPTURING THE MOMENT:** That is exactly what Steubenville graduate Brian Pruitt was doing Friday evening at the annual Queen of Queens pageant when he came in with his video camera looking to grab a shot of anything he could.

**THROWING THE FLAGS:** Being selected to work the OVAC All-Star Game is also an honor for the six zebras who will work the game.

Dave Clutter will serve as the game's referee. Larry Shane is the umpire.

Janis Worklan is the field judge; T.J. Brancazio is the head linesman, Gerald Spencer is the line judge and Sam Jones is the side judge.

**CHOICE SEATING:** The gate's for tonight's clash will open at 5:30 p.m. sharp.

**ALL PUMPED UP:** That is exactly what the players must be feeling after sitting through Saturday's pep rally held at West Liberty State College. All of the players, coaches and Queens were introduced. Both cheering squads and the McDonald's All-Star Band performed.

**CHEERING ONTO VICTORY:** That is exactly what both the Ohio and West Virginia squads will be doing tonight.

The Ohio cheering squad consists of: Brianne Bellerdine (Steubenville Central), Maggie Bishop (Barnesville), Tonya Cordery (Bellaire), Lacie Krupa (Shadyside), Vaness Plumly (Barnesville), Erica Roskovich (Bridgeport), Angela Schumacher (Buckeye Local), Summer Taylor (River), Cynthia Thatcher (Monroe Central), Shannon Yarosz (Toronto).

The Lady Buckeyes are advised by Darcey Sanderson (Buckeye Local).

The West Virginia squad consists of: Ciara Canella (Weirton Madonna), Brooke Carney (Wheeling Park), Jennifer Ceraolo (Weir), Megan Gianni (Weirton Madonna), Gina Groves (Tyler), Katie Hinerman (Wheeling Central), Darla Nething (Paden City), Stephanie Starcher (Tyler) and Sara Wizba (Wheeling Central).

The Lady Mountaineers are advised by Stephanie Gaich (Weirton Madonna).

**OVAC EXECUTIVES:** Not enough can be said about the work done this week by the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference.

Game Director Bob Koch has to be one of the busiest people around this time of the year. Making sure all of the players, coaches and cheerleaders are taken care of, overseeing the program, ticket sales and everything else makes for a lot of work.

He deserves a lot of credit along with his entire staff, which includes Tom Rataiczak, Ron Mauck, Linda Myers, Nancy Mumley Steve Kish, Jr. and Darrell Lucas.

The OVAC has gone out of its way to make sure that everyone is taken care of when he or she reports to West Liberty for the respective camps.

The conference has taken a game and turned it into a week-long event, which features the student-athletes of this area.

## PREDICTIONS

**BUBBA KAPRAL** -- Be it the regular season or in all-star games, Dave Bruney gets it done. Ohio 32, West Virginia 12.

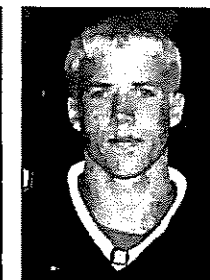
**GREG HARKNESS** -- Ohio just has more talent. Ohio 24, West Virginia 7.

**SETH STASKEY** -- Ohio just has too much size, skill and speed for West Virginia. The streak goes on...make it nine in a row for the Buckeyes, 35-20.

**RICH MATERKOSKI** -- Although it's not quite the National Title game, the Buckeyes still somehow find a way to get it done, Ohio 42-21.



SCHAFER



ONGLEY



PLATT



MAMONE



Patsch, Waller Ramsey, Andrew Ross, Megan Scammel, Justin Schwertgeger, Hope Smith, Katie Smith, Nathan Tucker, Leonard Vamer and Stephanie Wright.

**BUCKEYE LOCAL** -- Ron Dahlem, John DiCesare, Jeremy Eikenberry, Sami Ellis, Meghan Neel, Norman Putnam, Beth Stockman and Sean Tuttle.

**BUCKEYE TRAIL** -- Kim VanKirk.  
**CAMERON** -- James Iams.

**EDISON** -- Elissa Lawrence and Zac Taylor.

**HARRISON CENTRAL** -- Becky Applegarth, Sebastian Blake, Jessica Corder, Michael Davenport, Ashley Doren, Alex Frasier, Brittany Garrison, Kyle Hidey, Lisa Hirschbach, Elizabeth Hoobler, Charley Lewis, Nanette Lewis, Heather Mallernee, Brittany Mazgaj, Liz Miller, Ben Prichard, Jenna Puskarich, Autumn Theodore, Chelsea Wells, Charlee Wilson and Veronica Yeske.

**INDIAN CREEK** -- Justin Argentine, Kelli Barker, Travis Barker and Shane McBride.

**JOHN MARSHALL** -- Thomas Adams, Scott Durig, Corey Edge, Dina Graves, Donna Jean Horvath, Eric Phillips, Mike Phillips, Nicole Porter, Amy Rayle, Devron West and Tanner Yuhase.

**MARTINS FERRY** -- Ryan Davis, Emily Hoskins, Maria Totterdale, Connie Vargo and Sarah Webster.

**MEADOWBROOK** -- Nick Box and Corey Deason.

**MONROE CENTRAL** -- Stephen Brown, Eric Kilburn, Devon McIntire, Adriane Pack, Courtney Rice and Megan Wilson.

**OAK GLEN** -- Rebecca Beabout, Kayla Cuppy, Jessica Fink, Michael Heath, Robert Heath and Matt Tsesmells.

**RIVER** -- Julie Bonar, Jenna Brown, Amanda Hamerick, Dixie Hoskinson, Selena Hoskinson, Labrea Howland, Holly Neely, Kayla VanDyne, Jason Williams and Ashley Winter.

**SHADYSIDE** -- Steven Blinco, Ryan Budrevich, Erica Campbell, Stevie Carpenter, Jessica Clendenin, Ryan Clouston, Abby DeGenova, Meghan Duffy, Claire Duffy, Chrissy Finnicum, Jody Gavlik, Melissa Gilham, Amber Harris, Hillary Horvath, Angela Liberati, Brittany Lyles, Sherrie McLane, Jared Melanko, Dusty Melanko, Mitchell Nash, Danielle Ney, Courtney Powell, Lauren Pugh, Shannan Rogers, Beck Schofield, Christina Shunk, Beth Stokes, Jonathan Woodard and Whitney Zuboski.

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** -- Jennifer Bonnell, Bryon Casebolt, Terri Deal, Lindsay DiVold, Lindsay Elliot, Stacy Meeks, Eric Neuenschwander, Scott Neuenschwander, Jason Petri, Jennifer Smith, Greg Weisal, Mandy Weyrick, Sarah White, Samantha Winderdoffer, Daniel Ziemba and Ashley Zierold.

**ST. JOHN CENTRAL** -- Matthew Berber, Jennie Burkhart, Merissa Ghent, Sarah Gulla, Jessica Huff, Lindy Kubic, Taylor Lasure, Jamie Rhodes, Windham Rothm and Jenny Wiseman.

**STEBENVILLE** -- Whitney Hilson and Mary Grimm.

**STEBENVILLE CENTRAL** -- Tyler Barrett, Amy Battocletti, Tiffany Bender, Kayla Costlow, Jessica Dickey, Aaron Dickey, Amanda Gossett, Matt Gossett, Samantha Hunter, Joseph Jurasko, Laura Jurasko, Amanda McGrail, Marla Ravasio, Rose Segenberger, Stephanie Simmons, Vijay Sripapapu, Mark Tiberio, Becca Vailera, Phil Vailera, Michael Vince, Amy Zapor and Andrew Zapor.

**TORONTO** -- David Geary.

**UNON LOCAL** -- Courtney Balabin, Jim Compston, Zach Compston, Becca Dawes, Brad Hornbeck, Keith Hornbeck, Matt Magnani, Stephen Michelli and Derek Pupal.

**WEIRTON** -- Ryan Burge, Willie Culler, Michelle Fabian, Michelle Montellone and Veronica Veal.

**WELLSVILLE** -- Jennifer Dickey, Amanda Drysdale, Stephanie Newlan and Shana Williams.

**WHEELING PARK** -- Heather Harto, Cayla Jordan and Lindsey Lucas.

but you can tell he really cares about his players."

**ONE LAST CHANCE:** For three years, Mike Mamone played under Bruney. Now, the Purple Rider standout gets one last chance to play for his high school coach.

"I am happy that our coaches are here," Mamone said. "I really like the coaches a lot and enjoyed playing for them. It's been a little easier for me because I do not have to learn the system at all and I see some of the guys struggling to learn it."

**HAPPY TO BE HERE:** Playing in the OVAC game is a dream for all football players who grow up in the Ohio Valley.

Martins Ferry tailback Ty Platt -- who will start at tailback tonight -- almost was forced to miss the game due to an appendectomy he underwent on July 3.

The next two weeks was just sort of a waiting game for Platt and the Ohio coaches to see if a doctor would give him clearance to take part.

## ● System

Continued from Page C1

agrees.

"At first, it was a little harder than I thought it was going to be," the former Shadyside standout said. "But by mid-week we started to get it together and pick things up."

"It's just tough to do in such a short time," Ongley added.

With the preparation time for the game being limited, the Ohio coaching staff has attempted to have players concentrate primarily on one side of the ball as much as possible.

One example of that is quarterback Justin Schafer, who will handle most of the quarterbacking duties for the Buckeye State.

"I already have the terminology down, so I am just working on perfect-

ing everything," Schafer said. "I have got a lot of reps so I think that will help me out."

Schafer does have the advantage of having a receiving corps that combined to catch over 170 passes this season.

One of those pass catching threats is River's Matt Abbott who caught 53 passes last season.

"Things have been going really well," Abbott said.

"The coaches have made it pretty easy for us to learn the system because they really know how to teach it to us and prepare us."

Joining Abbott and Ongley at receiver are Wellsville's Shayne Rose, Toronto's Anthony Antonucci and Beallsville's Joey Crum.

## ● Focus

Continued from Page C1

However, times have changed...or the lack of it.

Back in 1979, Ohio and West Virginia had two weeks of camp time to prepare for the mid-summer classic. That was shortened to 10 days and now basically camp is reduced to five practice days.

"Five days is not enough time to properly prepare an all-star team," Bruney said. "Ten days was ideal...five days will result in sloppy play."

The shorter camp also places a greater emphasis on the assistant coaches and their ability to get their schemes in place.

Bruney has one of the finest at his disposal. His Purple Rider staff is a veteran one not to mention a knowledgeable one...and one that will be put to the test this week.

Bruney will rely on two-battle tested and highly-regarded coordinators to get their respective units into game shape despite an abbreviated practice schedule.

Bill Bruney (defense) and Dirk Fitch (offense) have talent to work with but not much time.

The two coordinators will be ably assisted by fellow Purple Rider staff members Mike Rose, Greg Steele, Nick Stankovich, Mike Delatore, Jim Fogle, John Bennett and Justin Kropka.

This also marks the fourth time Bill Bruney will be coaching in the classic -- the second time as a Purple Rider aide. He also earned the honor as an assistant at Bellaire and Bridgeport, respectively.

"It's still a lot of fun coaching in this game," Bill Bruney said during press-day activities this past week. "You get to coach kids you have played against and develop some lifelong friendships."

But Bruney also points out coaching in the game has its downside.

"Cutting back camp to one week really makes it rough to prepare a team. The quality of the game will suffer. We will be able to put in about 50 percent of what we use at Martins Ferry."

**CHOICE SEATING:** The gate's for tonight's clash will open at 5:30 p.m. sharp.

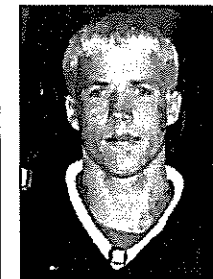
**ALL PUMPED UP:** That is exactly what the players must be feeling after sitting through Saturday's pep rally held at West Liberty State College. All of the players, coaches and Queens were introduced. Both cheering squads and the McDonald's All-Star Band performed.

**CHEERING ONTO VICTORY:** That is exactly what both the Ohio and West Virginia squads will be doing tonight.

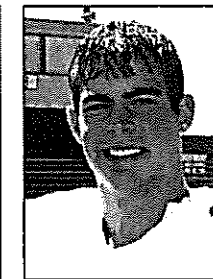
The Ohio cheering squad consists of: Brianne Bellerdine (Steubenville Central), Maggie Bishop (Barnesville), Tonya Cordery (Bellaire), Lacie Krupa (Shadyside), Vaness Plumly (Barnesville), Erica Roskovich (Bridgeport), Angela Schumacher (Buckeye Local), Summer Taylor (River), Cynthia Thatcher (Monroe Central), Shannon Yarosz (Toronto).



SCHAFER



ONGLEY



ABBOTT



MAMONE

"We want to be as balanced as we can be," Fitch explained. "But we do have a very good group of receivers. They may not have big school speed, but they certainly have big school hands. They catch anything thrown near them." Count Ohio defensive back Mike

Mamone among the believers. "It is tough guarding these guys," Mamone said. "Guys like Antonucci and Rose and Ongley are certainly making me better. I am sure I will not face a West Virginia receiver as talented as our guys."

Darrell Lucas.

The OVAC has gone out of its way to make sure that everyone is taken care of when he or she reports to West Liberty for the respective camps.

The conference has taken a game and turned it into a week-long event, which features the student-athletes of this area.

## PREDICTIONS

**BUBBA KAPRAL** -- Be it the regular season or in all-star games, Dave Bruney gets it done. Ohio 32, West Virginia 12.

**GREG HARKNESS** -- Ohio just has more talent. Ohio 24, West Virginia 7.

**SETH STASKEY** -- Ohio just has too much size, skill and speed for West Virginia. The streak goes on...make it nine in a row for the Buckeyes, 35-20.

**RICH MATERKOSKI** -- Although it's not quite the National Title game, the Buckeyes still somehow find a way to get it done, Ohio 42-21.

## ● OVAC

Continued from Page C1

Dusty Weirton, Mitchell Nease, Danboro Ney, Courtney Powell, Lauren Pugh, Shannon Rogers, Beck Schofield, Christina Shunk, Beth Stokes, Jonathan Woolard and Whitney Zuboski.

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** -- Jennifer Bonnell, Bryon Casebolt, Terri Deel, Lindsay DiVold, Lindsay Elliot, Stacy Meeks, Eric Neuenschwander, Scott Neuenschwander, Jason Petri, Jennifer Smith, Greg Weisal, Mandy Weyrick, Sarah White, Samantha Windesdoffer, Daniel Ziemba and Ashley Zierold.

**ST. JOHN CENTRAL** -- Matthew Berher, Jennie Burkhart, Merissa Ghent, Sarah Gulla, Jessica Huff, Lindy Kubic, Taylor Lasure, Jamie Rhodes, Windham Rothm and Jenny Wiseman.

**ST. EUBENVILLE** -- Whitney Hilson and Mary Grimm.

**ST. EUBENVILLE CENTRAL** -- Tyler Barrett, Amy Battocletti, Tiffany Bender, Kayla Costlow, Jessica Dickey, Aaron Dickey, Amanda Gossett, Matt Gossett, Samantha Hunter, Joseph Jurasko, Laura Jurasko, Amanda McGrail, Maria Ravasio, Rose Segenberger, Stephanie Simmons, Vijay Siriparapu, Mark Tiberio, Becca Valleria, Phil Valleria, Michael Vince, Amy Zapor and Andrew Zapor.

**TORONTO** -- David Geary.

**UNION LOCAL** -- Courtney Balabin, Jim Compston, Zach Compston, Becca Dawes, Brad Hornbeck, Keith Hornbeck, Matt Magnani, Stephen Michelli and Derek Pubal.

**WEIRTON** -- Ryan Burge, Willie Cutler, Michelle Fabian, Michelle Montelione and Veronica Veal.

**WELLSVILLE** -- Jennifer Dickey, Amanda Drysdale, Stephanie Newlan and Shana Williams.

**WHEELING PARK** -- Heather Harto, Cayla Jordan and Lindsey Lucas.

Buckeye State.

"I already have the terminology down, so I am just working on perfect-

## ● Focus

Continued from Page C1

However, times have changed...or the lack of it.

Back in 1979, Ohio and West Virginia had two weeks of camp time to prepare for the mid-summer classic. That was shortened to 10 days and now basically camp is reduced to five practice days.

"Five days is not enough time to properly prepare an all-star team," Bruney said. "Ten days was ideal...five days will result in sloppy play."

The shorter camp also places a greater emphasis on the assistant coaches and their ability to get their schemes in place.

Bruney has one of the finest at his disposal. His Purple Rider staff is a veteran one not to mention a knowledgeable one...and one that will be put to the test this week.

Bruney will rely on two-battle tested and highly-regarded coordinators to get their respective units into game shape despite an abbreviated practice schedule.

Bill Bruney (defense) and Dirk Fitch (offense) have talent to work with but not much time.

The two coordinators will be ably assisted by fellow Purple Rider staff members Mike Rose, Greg Steele, Nick Stankovich, Mike Delatore, Jim Fogle, John Bennett and Justin Kropka.

This also marks the fourth time Bill Bruney will be coaching in the classic -- the second time as a Purple Rider aide. He also earned the honor as an assistant at Bellaire and Bridgeport, respectively.

"It's still a lot of fun coaching in this game," Bill Bruney said during press-day activities this past week. "You get to coach kids you have played against and develop some lifelong friendships."

But Bruney also points out coaching in the game has its downside.

"Cutting back camp to one week really makes it rough to prepare a team. The quality of the game will suffer. We will be able to put in about 50 percent of what we use at Martins Ferry."

they certainly have big school nandas. They catch anything thrown near them." Count Ohio defensive back Mike

me better. I am sure I will not face a West Virginia receiver as talented as our guys."

Being involved in the game can also create some personal hardships.

"It's a week we must miss from our families," added the fiery defensive mastermind. "For instance, I must miss my daughter Amy's basketball tournament in Cleveland....but it's the price you pay with coaching."

Fitch has an even more difficult assignment of installing his offense with a shortened camp.

"It's going to be extremely difficult getting everybody on the same page in such short a time," Fitch said in echoing Bruney's sentiments about a five-day camp. "Ten days was ideal. You have a week to put things in and several days for polishing. But even with the lack of time, once our players see those yellow shirts Sunday night, they will kick it into the extra gear."

"But it's fun being associated with the OVAC game," Fitch said, a member of Ohio's 1979 juggernaut. "It's like coaching a college game with all the tal-

ent you have at your disposal. You don't have to do a lot of yelling and screaming, you try and make it a reward for a great career and make it fun."

### OVAC NOTES

**SOME 39** schools are represented in tonight's activities, be it as a player, cheerleader, band member or queen candidate.

**HONORARY OFFICIALS** for tonight's game include Ed Duffy of Wheeling; Louis Kuntupis of Weirton; Anello Liberati of Bellaire; and David Peck of Wheeling.

**FRIENDS OF THE CONFERENCE:** The Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Charity Football Classic wouldn't be possible if it weren't for the major corporate sponsors, which include: WTOV-9, Kroger, Health Plan, McDonalds, Smitty's Wholesale Carpet, Attorney Joseph Scarpone, Lamar Advertising, Pepsi and Trinity Health System.

## ● OVAC

Continued from Page C1

260) lining up at the other tackle.

Beaver Local's Jared Williams (5-ft-10, 205) will serve as the left guard if Van Voltenburg can't go. Buckeye Local's Dustin Kendle (6-ft-2, 215) will open the game at right guard if Miller is deemed to be inactive.

Anchoring the offensive line will be Edison's Travis DeZordo (6-ft-2, 255).

"They are going to be much bigger than us," Taylor said of the Ohio offensive line. "Anytime you go up against a team that is bigger than yours, it's going to cause you some concern."

The Ohio offensive line will be blocking for some quality skill people that Bruney and his staff have assembled.

Leading the Buckeyes onto the field will be Union Local's Justin Schafer (6-ft-4, 208).

The Ohio tailback job was won by Martins Ferry's Ty Platt, who almost had to miss the game to an appendectomy.

Lead-blocking for Platt will be Beaver Local's Jordan Williams (5-ft-11, 195).

Schafer's top targets on the outside to start the game will be Wellsville's Shayne Rose (6-ft-3, 185) and River's Matt Abbott (6-ft-2, 170). Also seeing time at receiver will be Shadyside's Nick Ongley (6-ft-0, 180) and Toronto's Anthony Antonucci (6-ft-1, 200).

"We like our skill people, but we don't have as much speed as we have had before in this game," Bruney relayed. "We have a lot of kids with good quickness and good hands, but not those true game breakers who can score from almost anywhere on the field."

The West Virginia offense -- which figures to

display the option attack for much of the game -- has come together quite well according to Taylor.

"We have to concentrate on what we do well and if we do that I think we have a great chance to be successful," Taylor said. "The kids have done a great job of picking everything up and all of them have been true pleasures to coach."

The Mountaineers will be led onto the field by Oak Glen's Matt Wharton (5-ft-11, 150) who is obviously more than adept at running the option game.

Oak Glen's Steve Flowers (5-ft-6, 160) and Weir High's Zjaque Douglas (5-ft-5, 135) will split time at tailback with Cameron's Justin Beresford (6-ft-1, 230) serving as the lead blocker.

Brooke's Kyle Scherich (6-ft-0, 175) will serve as the X-receiver, while John Marshall's Ryan Vucelik (5-ft-10, 160) and Weirton Madonna's Luke Myers (5-ft-8, 155) will share the Y-receiver duties.

The lone Division I football recruit in the game will serve as the West Virginia tight end. Wheeling Park's Nick Stefanow (6-ft-5, 220) is headed to Duke University.

The West Virginia offensive line isn't nearly as big as the Ohio squad, but Taylor thinks he has a very solid line for running the option.

"We obviously aren't real big, but all of our kids can move and run really well and that's what we wanted when we selected these kids," Taylor admitted.

Oak Glen's Patrick McGillian (5-ft-11, 245) and Wheeling Central's Steve Skrzypek (6-ft-5, 210) will open the game at tackle.

Oak Glen's Bill Whitehill (6-ft-0, 215) and Wheeling Park's Kevin Scott (6-ft-0, 230) will serve as the West Virginia guards.

Magnolia's Sam Blatt (5-ft-10, 200) will anchor the offensive line from his center position.

The Ohio defense -- which has the duty of trying to stop that Mountaineer option -- will play a base 4-4.

"Our defense has also picked up everything pretty well too," Bruney said. "We have good speed on our down linemen, our linebackers are all good tacklers and our defensive backs are all good cover people."

Lining up at defensive end will be River's Chris Carroll (5-ft-11, 200). The right end will be handled by Martins Ferry's Mike Edwards (5-ft-11, 190) and Bellaire's Clay Boston (6-ft-2, 200).

Beaver's Jared Williams will be one of the players going both ways at tackle along with Cambridge's Michael Price (6-ft-0, 300).

Indian Creek tackle-machine Aaron Bane (6-ft-1, 205) will be one of the inside linebackers. The other spot will be split between Shadyside's Mike Frollini (5-ft-11, 200) and Shenandoah's Tyler DeVold (6-ft-1, 205).

The outside linebackers find Green on the left side. Edison's Steve Potkrajac (5-ft-11, 170) and Buckeye Trail's Joey Marchiano (6-ft-1, 185) will both play outside.

Anchoring the Ohio secondary will be Steubenville's Brian Pruitt (6-ft-0, 190) who will play safety.

Covering the Mountaineer wide receivers will be Martins Ferry's Mike Mamone (5-ft-10, 155),

Abbott and Bridgeport's Vince Stemkowski (5-ft-9, 165).

The West Virginia defense will line up in a 4-3 set using Wheeling Central's Bruce Fowler (6-ft-1, 225) and John Marshall's Dan Miller (6-ft-4, 210).

Linsly's Toussaint Hill (6-ft-0, 250) will serve as one of the defensive tackles along with John Marshall's Luke Resczynski (6-ft-3, 270).

Serving as the Mountaineer strong safety will be Kyle Lowers (5-ft-8, 175), while Wheeling Park's Justin Wood (6-ft-0, 180) will play free safety.

Magnolia's Derek Kocher (5-ft-9, 160) and Brooke's Anthony Cecchini (5-ft-9, 178) will hold down the two corner slots.

Wheeling Central duo Matt DeSantis (5-ft-9, 175) and Jeremy Coyne (6-ft-1, 215) will play start at two of the linebacker spots. Weir High's Taylor Frankovitch (6-ft-1, 190).

Both squads appear to be in good hands in the special teams aspect of the game.

"We have worked on special teams every day," Bruney said. "We have done punt coverages and returns as well as kick coverages and returns."

Martins Ferry's Urs Mueller (5-ft-10, 155) will do all of the place kicking for the Buckeyes, while Marchiano will punt.

Mamone and Stemkowski will return punts with Platt and Monroe Central's Chris Wilson (5-ft-9, 160) running kicks back.

West Virginia's kicking will be done by Brooke's Josh Kusich (6-ft-0, 180). Coyne will handle the Mountaineer's punting.