



Photo by Kristin Mazgaj

West Virginia's Kyle O'Conner, of Oak Glen, returns a fumble for a touchdown in Saturday's OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Game.

## Defense Key In All-Star Game

By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer

WHEELING — The Wing-T offense can be extremely effective.

It's not seen that frequently and it's tough to prepare for in a week's time during the course of a regular season.

On the flip side, it's not mastered in a week's time either.

That was clearly visible Saturday night at Wheeling Island Stadium during the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Game.

Ohio's offense struggled for traction against an opportunistic and speedy West Virginia defense. All told, Ohio finished with 213 total yards, four fumbles and three turnovers in what resulted in a 17-6 victory by the Mountain State.

"They played the edge really well and they loaded up the box, so we had trouble running the

ball as well as we would have liked," Ohio head coach Eric Huck said. "We just weren't consistent enough through the air."

It seemed like everything Ohio wanted to do, West Virginia had an answer.

Actually, both of the Mountaineer touchdowns came from the defensive unit.

Oak Glen product Kyle O'Conner scooped up a fumble midway through the second quarter and rumbled it back 32 yards for a touchdown.

"Scoring that touchdown was awesome," O'Conner said. "I never dreamed I'd score a touchdown in this game."

O'Conner got a perfect hop on the fumble and the next thing he knew, he was off to the races.

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Page 10

## West Virginia Shuts Down Ohio



Photo by Kristin Mazgaj

West Virginia's Carson Namack, of Wheeling Park, celebrates a play during Saturday's OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Game.

### Both W.Va. TDs were scored defensively in 17-6 win

By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer

WHEELING — Defense certainly wins championships but apparently it wins all-star games, too.

It did just that on Saturday night in the 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game as West Virginia scored both of its touchdowns on defense and defeated Ohio 17-6 inside Wheeling Island Stadium.

The W.Va. win snaps a two-

### ONLINE EXTRA

• View additional photos from Saturday's OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Game at [www.theintelligencer.net](http://www.theintelligencer.net).

game winning streak by Ohio and in his third attempt coaching the Mountaineer all-stars, coach B.J. Depew earned his first victory in the event.

"It feels really good," Depew said. "We challenged them in the locker room because we knew Ohio's size, strength and scheme suited to really attack us but we said 'the only thing they don't know about us is how tough we are' and that's what showed up. Their toughness is what made a difference. We forced them to break their game plan and throw it a little bit and we made them pay."

Please see SHUTS, Page 10

## Giants Bounce Back To Beat Pirates, Avoid Sweep

By MICHAEL WAGAMAN  
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — LaMonte Wade Jr. homered twice and the San Francisco Giants avoided a three-game sweep, beating the Pittsburgh Pirates 6-1 on Sunday.

Wilmer Flores and Thairo Estrada also went deep for San Francisco. The Giants improved to a majors-best 62-37 and maintained their slim lead over the Dodgers in the NL West heading into a series between the two division rivals this week at Oracle Park.

Alex Wood (9-3) struck out eight and pitched into the sixth to help San Francisco bounce back a day after the Giants lost 10-2 in their most-lopsided defeat this season.

"Any time we take a little step

back guys are eager to get back to the park and right the ship," Wade said. "It started out with Woody coming out pitching a great game. Our bullpen stepped up as well and our offense was able to put up some runs."

Bryan Reynolds had two hits and scored for the Pirates.

Pittsburgh pulled All-Star second baseman Adam Frazier out of the game in the eighth inning as part of a double switch. The Pirates have agreed to trade Frazier, who leading the majors with 125 hits, to the San Diego Padres for three minor leaguers, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal had not been announced. The trade is pend-

ing physicals. Pittsburgh is sending approximately \$1.4 million to the Padres in the deal.

"It stinks for us," Pittsburgh catcher Jacob Stallings said. "He's obviously set the tone at the top of our lineup all year. Mixed emotions but the overwhelming emotion is happy for him."

Wade's first home run came on Pittsburgh starter JT Brubaker's fifth pitch and tied the game at 1-1. Wade later sent a drive into the stands in right-center for his first career multi-home run game. He also doubled.

"These are the swings that we've seen all year," Giants manager Gabe Kapler said.

Please see PIRATES, Page 10



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher JT Brubaker is inspected by umpire Manny Gonzalez during the first inning Sunday against the San Francisco Giants.

Pirates Deal  
Adam Frazier



U.S. Men Lose  
For First Time



leaders that couldn't play this week because they are playing in the (OVAC) all-star football game. ... We have four freshmen who have really come together and peaked just in time. "You couldn't ask for a better group of kids. I'm glad for the program and the kids to get back to Lancaster," Muklewicz added.

American Legion Region 8 Tournament on Don Coss Field in Cambridge. Jaren Starks, left, looks on.

"That is the goal every summer and we achieved that this season."

The three players Muklewicz was referring to are pitchers Tyler Tonkovich, Will Balgo and Kobe Hill. They will, however, be available for the

double-elimination state tournament which begins Tuesday at Beavers Field in Lancaster.

Post 159 hasn't appeared in the state tournament since 2016.

Trailing 2-1 entering its last at-bat, winning pitcher Drew

contribute and we're going to the state tournament."

The hit was only Kazmirski's third of the summer.

"A very, very unlikely hero. We kept Harrison on the roster when we knew we were going to lose three guys to football, and he came up huge in the biggest game of the season. Huge,

drive to Snedeker at first and a sinking liner to Starks in center ended the threat.

Sefsick finished with eight punchouts and two walks. He gave up three hits and threw 102 pitches.

"Drew Sefsick was clutch today on the mound. He just kept getting outs," Muklewicz noted.

## PIRATES

(Continued from Page 9)

"Thinking back to spring training, we saw the on-base coming, we saw the selectiveness, we saw the aggressiveness in (the) zone. I just don't know that we saw as consistent of an A swing as we're seeing now. You're seeing him get that really good explosive, athletic swing off several times in each at-bat."

Flores homered off Duane Underwood Jr. in the sixth. Steven Duggar followed with a double and scored from third on a throwing error by Pirates catcher Jacob Stallings. Curt Casali's RBI single made it 5-0.

Estrada homered in the eighth.

Wood allowed one run and five hits in 5 1/3 innings, pitching around traffic most of the afternoon to beat Pittsburgh for the second time this season.

### INDIANS 3, RAYS 2

CLEVELAND (AP) — Bobby Bradley's sacrifice fly in the eighth inning capped Cleveland's comeback and ended the Indians' 11-game losing streak to Tampa Bay.

### RED SOX 5 YANKEES 4

BOSTON (AP) — Held hitless into the eighth inning by Domingo German and looking feeble, Alex Verdugo and the Boston Red Sox suddenly erupted for five runs and stormed past the New York Yankees 5-4 Sunday.

### WHITE SOX 3, BREWERS 1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Lance Lynn allowed one run over six innings and hit a two-run single to lift Chicago over Milwaukee.

### PHILLIES 2 BRAVES 1

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Aaron Nola came with in one out of a shutout, and Philadelphia splits its four-game series against Atlanta.

### ORIOLES 5 NATIONALS 4

BALTIMORE (AP) — Ryan McKenna scored on a sharp grounder by Ramon Ur as for the winning run as Baltimore completed a three-game sweep of Washington.

### CARDINALS 10 REDS 6

CINCINNATI (AP) —

Harrison Bader and Dylan Carlson homered during a seven-run burst in the fourth inning and St. Louis beat Cincinnati.

### METS 5, BLUE JAYS 4

NEW YORK (AP) — Pete Alonso homered, pinch-hitter Jeff McNeil broke a tie with a two-run double and New York beat Toronto in a successful debut for new starter Rich Hill.

### MARLINS 9 PADRES 3

MIAMI (AP) — Deven Marrero and Brian Anderson homered off Yu Darvish, who allowed four runs in five innings, and Miami earned a split of its four-game series against San Diego.

### ROYALS 6, TIGERS 1

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Jorge Soler hit two home runs, Salvador Perez added a three-run blast and Daniel Lynch pitched eight scoreless innings for his first major league win as Kansas City beat Detroit for its fifth straight win.

### ASTROS 3 RANGERS 1

HOUSTON (AP) — Zack Greinke threw six solid innings, Abraham Toro homered and Houston sent Texas to its 12th straight loss.

### ANGELS 6, TWINS 2

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Shohei Ohtani hit his major league-leading 35th home run and Los Angeles beat Minnesota.

### CUBS 5 DIAMONDBACKS 1

CHICAGO (AP) — Kris Bryant, Anthony Rizzo and David Bote homered, Trevor Williams pitched effectively into the seventh inning, and Chicago beat Arizona.

### DODGERS 3 ROCKIES 2

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Will Smith hit a go-ahead home run in the eighth inning and Los Angeles beat Colorado.

### MARINERS 4 ATHLETICS 3

SEATTLE (AP) — Kyle Seager hit a two-out, two-run single as part of Seattle's four-run third inning and Marco Gonzales won his second straight decision in a victory over Oakland.

## FRAZIER

(Continued from Page 9)

"Nothing's final yet. I'm sure we'll have that some time later tonight," Pirates manager Derek Shelton said after the game.

"He was taken out of the game out of the abundance of caution because there are some things that are possibly going down."

While the Pirates said nothing is official, pitcher JT Brubaker seemed to confirm a deal.

"I'm happy for the guy," Brubaker said. "He's going to go to a team

## DEFENSE

(Continued from Page 9)

"I was just looking ahead and thought, 'I am going to run,'" O'Conner explained.

And just 30 seconds into the second half, Wheeling Park grad Shaheed Jackson picked off a pass and raced it back 20 yards for a score, which proved to be the final score of the night.

Jackson used the extraordinarily long halftime to clear his mind after a first half in which he didn't feel like he played well. By his own admission, he left some plays that could have provided a lift to his team on the field.

"I needed to get my head right because I was getting frustrated with myself and everything around me," Jackson said. "I needed a second to myself and I got that at halftime, and I came back out and showed how I play the game."

On top of those plays, which

that's going to be in a playoff push down the stretch. Much deserved for him. All the hard work he's put in, he's going to go down there and continue to do the same thing. Going to give it his all. That's who Adam Frazier is."

Marcano is San Diego's No. 5 prospect, according to MLB Pipeline. The 21-year-old shortstop made his big league debut this year, hitting .182 in 44 at-bats with the Padres. He was sent down to Tri-

were obviously, huge, West Virginia produced a goal line stand in the third quarter, which helped to keep the momentum solely on its side of the field.

West Virginia head coach B.J. Depew spent most of the week raving about his offensive unit. "The game didn't go nearly the way I expected it," Depew smiled. "We made tons of mistakes and they made tons of mistakes. Our defense and special teams really came through. It was just a battle by these kids and I am amazed how it went."

And actually challenged his unit to break the scoring record for a single game.

Instead, the Mountaineers finished with 205 yards, most of which came from Wheeling Park product Beau Heller and a short passing game. Actually, Ohio's defense stuffed West Virginia's run-

## SHUTS

(Continued from Page 9)

Wheeling Park's Beau Heller quarterbacked the entire game for West Virginia and threw for 252 yards. He orchestrated a solid opening drive to the game of 62 yards but it stalled, allowing Linsly kicker Joao Lima to showcase his skills with a 40-yard boot for an early 3-0 lead. Along with the kick, Lima also pinned Ohio inside the 5-yard line with a solid punt. Wheeling Central's Jordan Waterhouse played coffin corner, as well, with two punts inside the 5, allowing the defense to go to work.

"We made some huge plays on special teams," Depew said. "Specifically punting the ball. It was a field possession game that we ended up winning. Both of those guys pinned them deep a couple of times, which is neat having something like that make a difference in an all-star game with all of this talent."

The West Virginia defense held Ohio without a first down in the first quarter and Oak Glen all-state defensive end Kyler O'Connor recorded the first touchdown of the game in the second with a 32-yard scoop-and-score to give the Mountaineers a 10-0 cushion.

"That was awesome," O'Connor said. "This is also the second all-star game that I've won so this is just a pretty amazing night."

Defense continued to be the theme as River's Carter Dennis collected an interception to set the Ohio offense up at the W.Va. 40-yard line. Moments later, Indian Creek running back Matt Schaefer found paydirt from 4 yards out to cut the deficit to 10-6 with 8:14 left in the half.

The score remained that way going into the half as West Virginia outgained Ohio 132-98 in total first half yards.

Then, on the first play from scrimmage in the second half, defense struck again. This time, on his home field one last time, Wheeling Park's Shaheed Jackson showed off his ball hawk and speed skills as he stepped in front of a pass and raced 20 yards for a pick six and the final score of the game.

"I knew I was there, I just had to go get the ball," Jackson said. "I told my coach that 'the next time I get the ball I'm going to score' and that's what I did."

"I was supposed to be in the flat but I saw the kid go over top and I just rotated my hips and ran toward him and saw the ball coming and jumped for it."

In the second half, Ohio tallied just 115 total yards with drives ending in four turnovers on downs, two interceptions (Oak Glen's Gage Patterson added the other) and one punt.

ple-A El Paso in early June. He's hit .272 with six home runs and 26 RBIs in 44 games for El Paso this year.

Suwinski, a 15th-round draft pick by the Padres in 2016, has hit .269 with 15 homers and 37 RBIs for Double-A San Antonio this season. The 21-year-old Miliano has made 22 relief appearances this year with two Class A teams, going 2-2 with a 3.60 ERA.

ning game, holding it to minus 47 yards.

"We were fired up for our offense, but it was our defense that came through for us in a big way," Depew said.

On top of the defensive touchdowns, the Mountain State stuffed Ohio on the 2-yard line in the third quarter after they finally found a little bit of rhythm.

### OVAC NOTES

■ Barnesville's Alana Trigg was crowned the Queen of Queens of halftime.

■ New Philadelphia was represented in the game for the first time since it joined the OVAC. Mitchell Stokey and Justin Rimer both played well for Ohio. Neither had even attended the game prior to this, but both came away totally impressed with the entire week and experience.

"The fumble and the pick six — those kinds of mistakes in a game like this are hard to come back from," Fort Frye and Ohio coach Eric Huck said. "I thought our defense played really well. Offensively, they really just put up three points but we just couldn't stay consistent offensively."

West Virginia ran for only three yards in the second half but was helped out by Heller's 159 second-half passing yards. The Mountaineers' drives over the final two frames included five punts.

"We were trying like heck to operate on offense but we kept shooting ourselves in the foot," Depew said. "They put some pressure on us but it was just one of those nights where turnovers won the game for us."

Linsly's Kobe Hill caught five passes for 70 yards, while Stevie Mitchell hauled in six throws for 39 yards.

Ohio's top offensive play-maker wrapping up a stellar career was Schaefer who finished with nine carries for 72 yards and the lone Buckeye score of the game.

"This is a great group of guys," Huck said. "I wish we could have played differently because we definitely have a group of guys that could have won that game."

# Hawkins

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# SPORTS

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## OVAC All-Star Game Returns to the Island Tonight

By SETH STASKEY  
For the News-Register

It's the fourth Saturday in July, so that can mean only one thing. King Football is back!

After missing out on the 2020 version, the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game returns this evening at Wheeling Island Stadium.

While the prep football fans of the Ohio Valley are definitely ready to see the pigskin return, the players, who have been at Bethany College since Sunday preparing, are itching to get on the field.

"Our kids have been ready (to play) since about Tuesday," West Virginia head coach B.J. Depew said. "There aren't many football players who love practice. They play for the games and

big opportunities and these kids know what they have in front of them."

What lies in front of Depew's team is a chance to snap a two-game losing skid to its Ohio rivals. All told, the Buckeye State leads the overall series, 45-28-1. Ohio, meanwhile, is looking to keep the bragging right on its side of the river for at least another year.

"We did a little bit of live practicing on offense and defense, for about 10 minutes, on Wednesday and these kids were really excited during those 10 minutes, so I know they're going to be

even more excited (tonight)."

Regardless of the outcome of the game, both head coaches praised the players, their staffs, the OVAC and Bethany College for what they called an "awesome week."

"Other than having come to watch it, I'd never really been around this game that much, but being a part of it has definitely been special," Huck said.

"Actually, more than I ever thought it would be."

"It's so well ran and organized. The players have been great, really fun and very respectful."

Depew is much more of a veteran of the game, having been a part of it as a player, assistant and head coach. So, he understood that portion, but had it re-affirmed this week.

"You always hear the relationships are the best part of this game and that's totally a fact," Depew said. "These kids have been great and it's nice seeing them come together. When we first met in the gym at Bethany (last Sunday) and how they're divided into their small groups and now you see five and six guys from different schools hanging out. It's what this is about."

On the field, both head coaches feel good about their preparation and line-ups.



Please see OVAC, Page C2

### SATURDAY'S BEST GOLF

■ 3 p.m. — PGA Tour, 3M Open, Third Round, CBS

### MLB

■ 9 p.m. — Pittsburgh at San Francisco, ATT  
■ 10 p.m. — Oakland at Seattle OR Colorado at L.A. Dodgers, MLB Network

### TBT

■ Noon — Force of Seoul vs. Boenheim's Army, ESPN  
■ 8 p.m. — Ohio 1804 vs. Zip Em Up, ESPN2

### SUNDAY'S BEST GOLF

■ 3 p.m. — PGA Tour, 3M Open, Final Round, CBS

### MLB

■ 1 p.m. — NY Yankees at Boston, TBS  
■ 4 p.m. — Pittsburgh at San Francisco, ATT

### TBT

■ 2 p.m. — Second Round from Columbus, OH  
■ 4 p.m. — Second Round from Columbus, OH

## Players Expect Speed Vs. Power Showdown



Photos by Alex Kozlowski and Joe Lovell

Wheeling Central's Jordan Waterhouse and Martins Ferry's Evan Carpenter were both all-state running backs this season and will provide some fireworks with their running abilities on Saturday night in the OVAC All-Star Game.

### Ohio's Strength Will Take on West Virginia's Quickness

By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer

BETHANY — The 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game could shape up to be a battle of speed vs. power on Saturday night inside Wheeling Island Stadium, at-least that is how the players see it.

It could turn out to be the perfect storm as Ohio will provide the thunder and West Virginia brings the lightning.

"They have a lot of speed on their side but we have a lot of size," Steubenville Catholic and Ohio QB Ryan Gorman said. "I think we're going to match up really well. We have a lot of talent on this team and we're going to see all this talent on

display Saturday night." Linsly and West Virginia coach, B.J. Depew is looking forward to coaching in his third

offense nicely," Depew said. "I'm excited to see how things play out and what they do Saturday."

Although they are there to play the game, even the players are excited to see some of the guys they have only played against or heard about throughout the last four years.

For Ohio, St. Clairsville TE/LB Will Balgo (6-foot-4, 250 pounds), QB Tyler Tonkovich (5-10, 180), TE/DE Luke Jozwiak (6-2, 190) and all-state TE/DE Reese Skaggs (6-2, 220) provide strength all over the field, while Martins Ferry all-state RB/LB Evan Carpenter (6-2, 220)

### 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game

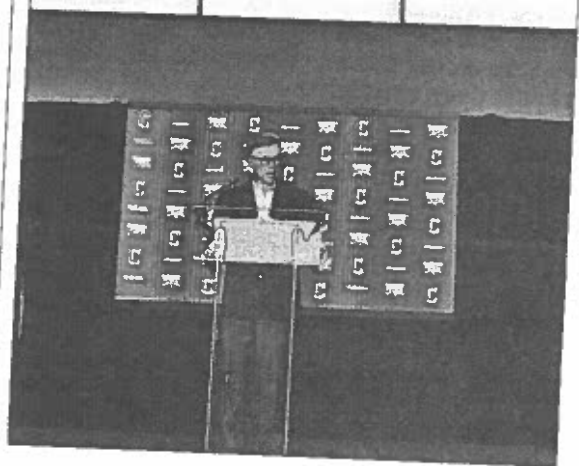
Kickoff — 7:15 p.m.  
Ohio vs. West Virginia

OVAC All-Star Game and likes the talent he has on his sideline.

"This is as good of a group of skill players that I've seen assembled on one team, which suits our

Please see Showdown Page C2

## Guardians



AP Photo

Cleveland Indians owner Paul Dolan speaks to the media during a news conference, Friday, in Cleveland. Known as the Indians since 1915, Cleveland's Major League Baseball team will be called Guardians. The ballclub announced the name change Friday, effective at the end of the 2021 season.

## Indians to Change Name to Guardians

CLEVELAND (AP) — While riding his bike over a bridge across the Cuyahoga River near Progressive Field, Indians owner Paul Dolan rarely paid much attention to the eight giant stone figures that seem to guard the city.

They have new meaning.

After more than 100 years, Cleveland's Major League Baseball team is getting a new name — Guardians.

The Indians are going, going, soon to be gone.

The ballclub announced Friday that at the end of the 2021 season, the Indians will transition from the name they've been known as since 1915 and replace it with Guardians, one they hope inspires a new generation of fans.

The name change, which has its supporters and critics among Cleveland's fan base, ends months of internal discussions triggered by a national reckoning for institutions and teams to drop logos and names considered racist.

"We do feel like we're doing the right thing and that's what's driving this," Dolan said following a news conference at the ballpark. "I know some people disagree, but if anything I've gotten more and more comfortable that we're headed in the right direction."

"And actually, the selection of the name solidifies that feeling because of the values that the name represents."

Please see Guardians, Page C2

## New Commissioners Thrust Into Conference Changes

INDIANAPOLIS and Sooners has the

## Tokyo Olympics Begin With Muted Ceremony

TOKYO (AP) — Be-ted and beleaguered, the virus-delayed Tokyo Summer Olympics final-ly opened Friday night with cascading fireworks and made-for-TV chore-ography that unfolded in



fabled Mount Fuji. Later, an orchestral medley of songs from iconic Japanese video games served as the soundtrack for athletes' entrances.

running back Jordan Waterhouse is excited for the challenge.

"This West Virginia team is fast. We're all athletes," he said. "They have some big guys on that team but we're going to do our thing. It's going to be speed vs. size. The fans are going to get a show."

Wheeling Park skill players Shaheed Jackson, Carson Namack, Stevie Mitchell and Sincere Sinclair impressed all season and it didn't go unnoticed.

"The Park boys really have some speed," John Marshall running back Dalton Flowers said. "We're definitely a speed team with a lot of athletes."

As for some players, though, they are just thrilled to be a part of what is expected to be an action packed contest.

"All of them," Magnolia's Silas McKeever said of who he is excited to line up next to. "I'm excited to play with all of them. I've heard of all of them in my four years. It's a good opportunity for us and I'm happy to be here."

West Virginia has a little extra motivation entering the game as the Mountaineers look to snap a two-year drought, while Ohio looks to extend the streak to three straight.

"It's been a while since we beat Ohio," Linsly's Hunter Kelley said. "I think we have a really good chance with the team we have this year to do something that hasn't been done lately."

We soon shall see.

## CONFERENCE

Continued from Page C1

in Kevin Warren, who is still settling into college sports after a long career in the NFL, is not an issue for the league.

"What's a blessing for our league is the collective intellectual knowledge among our ADs and our presidents," Smith said. "If we decide we need to do something we'll be in good position to do so."

Warren has been the commissioner since January 2020, but navigating the pandemic has consumed most of his time in the conference. He is still building relationships within his own league.

In the ACC, former Northwestern AD Jim Phillips is in his seventh month as commissioner. Phillips is a veteran of college sports who has been active at the NCAA level. His longevity should give him credibility and relationships across the country.

Phillips already has an expansion target: Notre Dame. The Fighting Irish compete in the ACC in most sports but returned to football independence after a temporary, pandemic-induced season playing in the conference last season.

"That was a really beautiful and beneficial relationship to both Notre Dame and the ACC. They had a chance to play a fantastic schedule," Phillips said this week. "They had a chance to vie for a national championship and compete in the CFP. We have a real-life example of what that could look like."

Cup Division the team of Sam Croft, Tom Stillmak, Jesse Stillmak, and Ron Helms representing Croft Manufacturing took first place, also shooting 9 under par.

Team Ed West and the Croft Manufacturing team each won their respective divisions in the 24th annual BMAC Golf Classic in 2019. The 2020 event was canceled due to Covid-19.

Winning the skill prize competitions were Bob Joseph, longest



Photo Provided

After earning first place in the BMAC Open Division, from left, Gary Gil, Jim Hartle, Ed West, and Ethan Cook receive their plaques from John S. Marshall, second from right.

putt made from the green; Tim Wotring, closest to the pin; and Gene Montleone, straightest drive.

Proceeds from the event fund the BMAC Upper Ohio Valley Endowed Athletic Scholarship which

was established in 2001 to benefit a WVU student-athlete from Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Belmont, and Jefferson counties.

Plans are underway for the 26th annual BMAC Golf Classic to be held on Thursday.

## OVAC

Continued from Page C1

Ohio had a three-man quarterback derby before Huck and his staff settled on St. Clairsville's Tyler Tonkovich as the starter.

Stuebenville Catholic's Ryan Gorman and Barnesville's Ayden Hannahs will also get playing time.

Huck believed the former Red Devil's ability to be a threat with his arms and legs is what separated him during the week.

"All of our quarterbacks are very good, but we just felt like we should go with Tyler first," Huck said. "You're definitely going to see the other quarterbacks, too."

Joining Tonkovich in the backfield will be Martins Ferry's Evan Carpenter at running back. The wing backs are expected to be Matt Schaefer (Indian Creek) and Garrett Dozier (Toronto).

Beaver Local's Dylan Moore will get the call at wide receiver. St. Clairsville's Reese Skaggs will line up at tight end.

Across the front, Steubenville's Eli Burgey is expected to start at center. He's flanked by Bellaire's Vince Patrone and Monroe Central's Garet Cramer at guards. Justin Rimer (New Philadelphia) and Brock Valentine (Cambridge) are tick-

eted for tackle.

"Our kids have grasped and handled the offense pretty well," Huck said. "I could see it really starting to come together on Tuesday and Wednesday. These guys have also been great about continuing to ask questions (of the coaches) when we're in the dorm. They really want to learn and perform well."

That offensive unit will have to contend with a defense that Depew called "really good."

"I think we have great players on that side of the ball," Depew said.

Up front, Kyler O'Connor (Oak Glen) and Marco Aprea (Linsly) will open at the end spots. At defensive tackle, Dimitrius DeShield (University) and Deondre Crudup (Morgantown) are ticketed for tackle.

The two inside linebackers are Linsly's Steve Felton and South's Devin Gaines.

The two outside linebackers are Anthony DiMatteis (Weir) and John Marshall's Dalton Flowers.

In the secondary, Oak Glen's Gage Patterson will roam at safety, while Wheeling Park's duo of Sincere Sinclair and Shaheed Jackson will start at corner.

Offensively, the Mountain State plans to use its speed and skill.

"Our offensive skill players are very talented," Depew said. "All of these kids have great athleticism and run great routes."

West Virginia will open the game with Wheeling Park product Beau Heller taking the snaps. The future West Liberty Hill-topper had a brilliant season for the Patriots and has carried that momentum into camp.

Wheeling Central's Jordan Waterhouse will open at running back. The four wide receivers to begin the game will be Wheeling Park's Stevie Mitchell, Linsly's Kobe Hill, Wheeling Central's Payton Marling and South's Levi Rice.

Up front, the West Virginia line will be anchored by center Daniel Bealles (Oak Glen). Brooke's Sam Casto and Wheeling Central's Spencer Helms will start at guard. The tackled are expected to be Jordan Brueck (Weir) and O'Connor, who is the lone West Virginia player to be starting on both sides.

Defensively, Ohio has watched its fair share of Linsly tape to get an idea of what might be coming this evening.

"We hope (adjustments) aren't made totally on the fly," Huck said. "We've worked to prepare the guys the best we can and keep things as simple as possible, while covering as much as possible. Hopefully, whatever (West Virginia) throw at us, we're covered in terms of either having practiced it talked about it."

The Ohio defensive line includes New Philadelphia's Mitchell Stokay and Fort Frye's Braden Medley at the ends. Fort Frye's Brady Kutscherenko and Caldwell's Tim Wehr will be the tackles.

The linebacking corps will be led by St. Clairsville's Will Balgo and Fort Frye's Dylan Hart at the inside spot. River's Carter Dennis and Indian Creeks' Jeremy Brown will be at the outside linebacker.

In the secondary, River's Jake Rose and Shadyside's Jordan Joseph are the starting corners, while Hannahs will open at free safety.

Both coaches made sure to spend some time on special teams this week, too. Warren's Joel Chevalier will punt and kick for Ohio, while Linsly's Joao Lima will handle both duties for West Virginia.

## GUARDIANS

Continued from Page C1

The organization spent most of the past year whittling down a list of potential names that was at nearly 1,200. It was a tedious process, which included 140 hours of interviews with fans, community leaders, front office personnel and a survey of 40,000 fans.

Dolan has said last summer's social unrest, touched off by the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, spurred his intention to change the name — a move that came a few years after the Indians stopped wear-

ing the Chief Wahoo logo on their game jerseys and caps.

Cleveland's new name was inspired by the large landmark stone edifices — referred to as traffic guardians — that flank both ends of the Hope Memorial Bridge, which connects downtown to Ohio City.

As the team moved closer to making a final decision on the name, Dolan said he found himself looking closely at the huge art deco sculptures.

"Frankly, I hadn't studied them that closely until we started talking about

them and I should emphasize, we're not named after the bridge, but there's no question that it's a strong nod to those and what they mean to the community," he said.

The team did not reveal the names of any of the other finalists, but Brian Barren, Cleveland's president of business operations, said trademarking issues eliminated several potential candidates.

In the end, the team felt Guardians was a perfect fit.

"We think Guardians is unique and authentic to Cleveland," Barren said.

"It's less about the Guardians of Traffic and more about what the Guardians represent and that idea of protection. For us and our research, Cleveland folks are very protective of one another."

"They're protective of our city, they're protective of the land and everything about it. That's one key component, the resiliency of people here in Cleveland and Northeast Ohio and the loyalty."

Cleveland's name change comes as the Washington Football Team continues to work toward a similar makeover. The franchise dropped its contentious Redskins name before the 2020 season and recently said it will reveal a new name in 2022.

While dropping Indians, Cleveland will keep its red, white and navy team colors and the Guardians' logos will incorporate some of the team's lettering style on past uniforms as well as architectural features found on the bridge.

Numerous American groups protested Cleveland use of the Wahoo and Indians names years, so the late development brought comfort.

"It is a major step towards righting wrongs against Native and is one step towards justice," said

## FAITH HOPE LOVE

Whether you're seeking a local place of worship, volunteer opportunities or simply inspiration, this page is geared towards organizations and businesses supporting faith and connecting you with religious resources in our communities.



BROADCAST OF THE  
DIOCESE OF  
WHEELING-CHARLESTON  
SUNDAY MASS AT 11 A.M.

WTRFDT-ABC (GTRF):  
COMCAST - CH 4 & CH 804(HD)  
DIRECTV - CH 6  
DISH - CH 10  
BELLAIRE CABLE - CH 13  
OVER THE AIR - 7.3

TO VIEW THE MASS ONLINE VISIT  
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We Welcome ALL  
to Vance Memorial  
Presbyterian  
Church for Worship!

~ 10am Worship Service  
(Radio Broadcast over WKWK 97.3 FM)  
~ 9am Sunday School  
~ Communion is First Sunday

lips  
8:25 a.m. — Joe Grilli, George Templin, Brad Archer, Dave Shaffer.  
8:35 a.m. — John Trifonoff, Mitch Vialky, Travis DeGarmo, Lakyn Parker.  
8:45 a.m. — Andrew Richardson, Eddie Vargo, Alex Peluchette, Jimmy Saseen.  
8:55 a.m. — Floyd Shuler, Mike Neal, Greig Paetzoid, Mark Wheaton.  
9:05 a.m. — Jay Prager, John Dalek, Michael Bruckner, Art Lightner.  
9:15 a.m. — Jeff Eppenstein, Bill Alexander, Nathan Butts, Anthony Lucarelli.  
9:25 a.m. — Shane Glass, Tim Gilligan, Frank Bland, Scott Ecker.  
9:35 a.m. — Duane Zitkovic, Jeff Godzak, John Zitkovic, Mike Davis.  
9:45 a.m. — Bill Denny, Peter Grove, John Niedzialek, Ron Rositani.  
10:05 a.m. — Debbie Eddy, Robin Dunbar, Carl Varner, Donna Dugas.  
10:15 a.m. — Deborah Lewis, Jane Tarr, Brenna Flood, Payten Clark.  
10:25 a.m. — Katie Crook, Becky Bauer, Tina Phillips, Sherri Kalkreuth.  
10:35 a.m. — Bernadette Cherenko, Vicki Yoho, Angie Szalay, Jody Sandvik.  
10:45 a.m. — Christy Gillespi, Georgeanna Ickler, Ann Ream, Emily Holzopfel.  
11:05 a.m. — Jim Augustine, Dan DeStefano, Doug Savage, Brad Sauf.  
11:15 a.m. — Denny Gilbert, Justin Wilson, Luke Martin, Kevin Martin.  
11:25 a.m. — Dave Ison, Doug Ison, Scottie Loughery, Tyler Hehr.  
11:35 a.m. — Brad Baker, Mark Mickleby, Gary Brewer, Jeff Sparks.  
11:45 a.m. — Marty Howarth, Trey Peterson, Mitch Miracle, Kelly Fitzsimmons.  
11:55 a.m. — Jason Koegler, Will Koegler, Gavin Goodrich, Campbell Koegler.  
12:05 p.m. — Jake Pennybacker, C.J. McCroskey, Chad Blake, Brandt Blake.

**Palmer Course**  
7:30 a.m. — Jim Tysk, Joe Key, Jay Hartman, Jeff Hartman.  
7:40 a.m. — Matt Klug, Zac Costanzo, Robbie Evans, Dan Oliver.  
7:50 a.m. — George Melnik, Mark Maguire, Joe Templin, Bernie Marcellus.  
8:00 a.m. — Pat Hurley, Jeff Piazza, Steve Greene, Bill Lewis.  
8:10 a.m. — Joe Doerr, Matt Ball, Jacob Nickell, Rico Simonetti.  
8:20 a.m. — Andy Gaudino, Chris Eiker, Cliff Bowers, Tom Gaudino.  
8:30 a.m. — David Jamison, Harrison Laskey, Chris Dailey, Jarod Hirauk.  
8:40 a.m. — Seth Hand, Scotty Hand, Broc Crist, Caden Myers.  
8:50 a.m. — Seth Abraham, Ron Stephens, Cole Tagano, Noah Sievertson.  
9:00 a.m. — John Wehrle, Brett Gerber, Andy Wilt, Rich Puskavich.  
9:10 a.m. — Joey Seabright, Scott Seabright, Cole Hand, Kyle Wensel.  
9:20 a.m. — Ryan Storm, Scott Blass, Bill Storm, Eric Storm.  
9:30 a.m. — Jed Burga, Matt Miller, A.J. Johnson, J.C. Dietrich.  
9:40 a.m. — Mason Orndorff, Colton Sprowls, Wally Chloe, Doug Lucas.  
9:50 a.m. — Kyle Sutphin, Justin Sutphin, Michael Angalich, Andrew Montes.  
10:10 a.m. — Bryan Myers, Jay Davis, Pete Kurelac, Colton Patrello.  
10:20 a.m. — Phil Conroy, Lucas Williams, Adam Cowser, Frank Bovina.  
10:30 a.m. — Joe Barki, Kevin Maccarrone, Jeff Knight, Justin Doerr.  
10:40 a.m. — Vince Oswald, Aris Andrews, Nick Oswald, Steve Dobin.  
10:50 a.m. — Aric Goddard, Randy Orndorff, Joe Darmafall, Robbie Kinkade.  
11:00 a.m. — Hunter Travis, Joe Ernst, Jacob Jeffries, Brendan Vucelich.  
11:10 a.m. — Sean McFarland, C.J. McFarland, Jade Waligura, Nick Stillmak.  
11:20 a.m. — Mike Revak, Matt Henry, Eric Moore, Greg Moore.  
11:30 a.m. — B.J. Tulodzieski, Jeremy Fuller, Eric Snodgrass, Dave Frey.  
11:40 a.m. — Brian Horvath, Wes Smigielski, Aaron Covey, Kurt Weststrate.  
11:50 a.m. — Howie Peterson, Jordan Quinn, Adam Stupak, Chandler Shryock.  
12:00 p.m. — Austin Lis, Larry Lis, Jason Lis, Gabe Lis.  
12:10 p.m. — Mitch Hoffman, Alex Easthorn, Andrew Strope, Garrett Emch.  
12:20 p.m. — Grant VanLaar, Mike Pietranton, Brendan Ball, Chris Zambito.  
12:30 p.m. — Bailey McGrath, Zach Herink, Logan Lojczycky, Ryan Bilby.  
12:40 p.m. — Shawn Snodgrass, Matt Sutphin, Ryan Ries, Danielle Wassam.

	W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away
Houston	59	39	.602	—	—	5-5	W-1	32-20	27-19
Oakland	56	42	.571	3	—	7-3	W-3	30-24	26-18
Seattle	51	46	.526	7½	4½	6-4	L-2	29-21	22-25
Los Angeles	47	49	.490	11	8	3-7	L-1	27-22	20-27
Texas	35	63	.357	24	21	0-10	L-10	22-25	13-38

NATIONAL LEAGUE									
East Division					Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away
New York	51	43	.543	—	—	5-5	W-2	29-14	22-29
Philadelphia	48	48	.500	4	8	6-4	W-1	28-18	20-30
Atlanta	47	49	.490	5	9	4-5	L-1	26-25	21-24
Washington	45	51	.469	7	11	3-7	L-2	27-25	18-26
Miami	41	57	.418	12	16	3-7	L-2	22-23	19-34

NATIONAL LEAGUE									
West Division					Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away
Milwaukee	57	41	.582	—	—	5-5	W-1	28-23	29-18
Cincinnati	50	47	.515	6½	6½	5-5	W-1	25-25	25-22
St. Louis	49	49	.500	8	8	6-4	L-1	28-20	21-29
Chicago	48	50	.490	9	9	5-5	W-1	29-17	19-33
Pittsburgh	36	60	.375	20	20	4-6	L-4	21-26	15-34

NATIONAL LEAGUE									
West Division					Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away
San Francisco	61	35	.635	—	—	7-3	W-2	30-13	31-22
Los Angeles	59	39	.602	3	—	5-5	L-2	31-17	28-22
San Diego	58	42	.580	5	—	5-4	W-2	33-19	25-23
Colorado	42	54	.438	19	14	5-5	W-1	33-20	9-34
Arizona	30	69	.303	32½	27½	5-5	L-1	19-30	11-39

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

#### Friday's Games

N.Y. Mets 3, Toronto 0  
Baltimore 6, Washington 1  
Tampa Bay 10, Cleveland 5  
Boston 6, N.Y. Yankees 2  
Kansas City 5, Detroit 3  
Milwaukee 7, Chicago White Sox 1  
Minnesota 5, L.A. Angels 4  
Houston 7, Texas 3  
Oakland at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

#### Saturday's Games

N.Y. Yankees (Taillon 5-4) at Boston (Eovaldi 9-5), 4:05 p.m.  
Washington (Scherzer 7-4) at Baltimore (Harvey 4-10), 6:35 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (Rodon 8-3) at Milwaukee (Burnes 5-4), 7:10 p.m.  
Detroit (Mize 5-5) at Kansas City (Hernandez 1-1), 7:10 p.m.  
L.A. Angels (Sandoval 2-4) at Minnesota (Berrios 7-4), 7:10 p.m.  
Tampa Bay (Yarbrough 6-4) at Cleveland (Mejia 1-5), 7:10 p.m.  
Texas (Gibson 6-2) at Houston (Valdez 5-2), 7:10 p.m.  
Toronto (Matz 8-4) at N.Y. Mets (Walker 7-3), 7:10 p.m.  
Oakland (Bassitt 10-3) at Seattle (Gilbert 4-2), 10:10 p.m.

#### Sunday's Games

Washington at Baltimore, 1:05 p.m.  
N.Y. Yankees at Boston, 1:10 p.m.  
Tampa Bay at Cleveland, 1:10 p.m.  
Toronto at N.Y. Mets, 1:10 p.m.  
Detroit at Kansas City, 2:10 p.m.  
L.A. Angels at Minnesota, 2:10 p.m.  
Texas at Houston, 2:10 p.m.  
Oakland at Seattle, 4:10 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox at Milwaukee, 7:08 p.m.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

#### Friday's Games

Chicago Cubs 8, Arizona 3  
N.Y. Mets 3, Toronto 0  
Baltimore 6, Washington 1  
Philadelphia 5, Atlanta 1  
San Diego 5, Miami 2  
Cincinnati 6, St. Louis 5  
Milwaukee 7, Chicago White Sox 1  
Pittsburgh at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.  
Colorado at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

#### Friday's Games

N.Y. Mets 3, Toronto 0  
Baltimore 6, Washington 1  
Tampa Bay 10, Cleveland 5  
Boston 6, N.Y. Yankees 2  
Kansas City 5, Detroit 3  
Milwaukee 7, Chicago White Sox 1  
Minnesota 5, L.A. Angels 4  
Houston 7, Texas 3  
Oakland at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

#### Saturday's Games

Arizona (Kelly 6-7) at Chicago Cubs (Mills 4-3), 2:20 p.m.  
Atlanta (Smyly 7-3) at Philadelphia (Velasquez 3-4), 6:05 p.m.  
San Diego (Weathers 4-2) at Milwaukee (Detwiler 1-1), 6:10 p.m.  
Washington (Scherzer 7-4) at Baltimore (Harvey 4-10), 6:35 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (Rodon 8-3) at Milwaukee (Burnes 5-4), 7:10 p.m.  
St. Louis (Woodford 2-1) at Cincinnati (Castillo 3-10), 7:10 p.m.  
Toronto (Matz 8-4) at N.Y. Mets (Walker 7-3), 7:10 p.m.  
Pittsburgh (Crowe 1-5) at San Francisco (Gausman 9-3), 9:05 p.m.  
Colorado (Freeland 1-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Gonzalez 1-1), 9:10 p.m.

#### Sunday's Games

Atlanta at Philadelphia, 1:05 p.m.  
Washington at Baltimore, 1:05 p.m.  
San Diego at Miami, 1:10 p.m.  
St. Louis at Cincinnati, 1:10 p.m.  
Toronto at N.Y. Mets, 1:10 p.m.  
Arizona at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.  
Pittsburgh at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.  
Colorado at L.A. Dodgers, 4:10 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox at Milwaukee, 7:08 p.m.

## OVAC ALL-STAR GAME RESULTS

2020 — NO GAME (COVID-19)  
2019 — Ohio 21, West Virginia 17  
2018 — Ohio 21, West Virginia 14  
2017 — West Virginia 20, Ohio 13  
2016 — West Virginia 26, Ohio 6  
2015 — West Virginia 35, Ohio 7  
2014 — Ohio 27, West Virginia 26  
2013 — West Virginia 28, Ohio 19  
2012 — Ohio 33, West Virginia 14  
2011 — West Virginia 24, Ohio 3  
2010 — West Virginia 24, Ohio 14  
2009 — Ohio 47, West Virginia 7  
2008 — Ohio 31, West Virginia 7  
2007 — Ohio 6, West Virginia 3  
2006 — Ohio 22, West Virginia 0  
2005 — Ohio 35, West Virginia 6  
2004 — West Virginia 21, Ohio 7  
2003 — Ohio 32, West Virginia 26  
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 — 0-0, Wash. Out.  
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 23, 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  
1971 — No Game  
1970 — No Game  
1969 — West Virginia 12, Ohio 0  
1968 — Ohio 6, West Virginia 0  
1967 — West Virginia 18, Ohio 0  
1966 — Ohio 26, West Virginia 0  
1965 — Ohio 22, West Virginia 0  
1964 — Ohio 2, West Virginia 0  
1963 — No Game  
1962 — West Virginia 12, Ohio 6  
1961 — West Virginia 13, Ohio 0  
1960 — Ohio 7, West Virginia 6  
1959 — West Virginia 7, Ohio 6  
1958 — Ohio 25, West Virginia 0  
1957 — Ohio 14, West Virginia 13  
1956 — Ohio 27, West Virginia 0  
1955 — Ohio 31, West Virginia 20  
1954 — West Virginia 13, Ohio 0  
1953 — West Virginia 7, Ohio 0  
1952 — Ohio 26, West Virginia 19  
1951 — Ohio 13, West Virginia 6  
1950 — Ohio 14, West Virginia 0  
1949 — West Virginia 6, Ohio 0  
1948 — Ohio 20, West Virginia 7  
1947 — West Virginia 13, Ohio 7  
1946 — Ohio 26, West Virginia 7  
1945 — No Game.  
1944 — No Game.  
1943 — No Game.  
1942 — West Virginia 7, Ohio 0  
1941 — West Virginia 7, Ohio 0  
1940 — West Virginia 13, Ohio 7.  
All-Time Series: Ohio leads, 45-28-1.

## SPORTS ON TV

### Saturday, July 24

#### GOLF

3 p.m.  
CBS — PGA Tour: The 3M Open, Third Round, TPC Twin Cities, Blaine, Minn.

#### MLB BASEBALL

7 p.m.  
FS1 — Tampa Bay at Cleveland  
9:05 p.m.  
ATT — Pittsburgh at San Francisco

### Sunday, July 25

#### GOLF

3 p.m.  
CBS — PGA Tour: The 3M Open, Final Round, TPC Twin Cities, Blaine, Minn.

#### MLB BASEBALL

4 p.m.  
ATT — Pittsburgh at San Francisco  
7 p.m.  
ESPN — Chicago White Sox at Milwaukee

for a share of the lead with Ryan Armour at 10-under 132. Armour shot 65.

"I drove it really well today," Hadwin said. "Wasn't in any trouble, hit a lot of good quality iron shots. Again, fat sides of the hole. I gave myself op-

## Michigan Goes 1-2 in NHL Draft

By **JOHN WAWROW**  
**AP Hockey Writer**

The NHL draft turned Michigan maize and blue Friday night. And there's a Hughes sibling reunion set to happen in New Jersey.

Whatever challenges the coronavirus pandemic presented scouts in grading prospects, many of whom played shortened seasons, was unable to put a dent on the Wolverines' hold on the top rankings. Four players with ties to Michigan were taken among the top five selections.

The run began with the Buffalo Sabres selecting defenseman Owen Power first overall, and immediately followed by the expansion Seattle Kraken choosing Michigan center Matthew Beniers at No. 2. It marked the first time since 1969 that

(69) were a shot back. All four played in the morning.

Second-ranked Dustin Johnson bogeyed the 18th hole after putting his tee shot in the water and missed the cut. He shot 72 to finish at even par. The cut was 2-under.

teammates went with the first two selections. Things developed so quickly, Beniers was in the middle of an interview when he watched a third Michigan player, forward Kent Johnson, get selected fifth by Columbus.

"I think it's so unbelievable watching them get drafted," Beniers said. "I'm kind of lost for words right now. I'm just so excited for my teammates and for what's next."

The trio made Michigan college hockey's first program to have three teammates selected in the first round.

That wasn't all, however. Luke Hughes, who is committed to playing at Michigan this season, was chosen fourth overall by the Devils, where the defenseman is united

with brother Jack, who was the No. 1 pick in the 2019 draft.

Hughes watched the draft on his family's living room couch with both of his NHL-playing brothers, rounded out by Quinn, who was selected seventh overall by Vancouver in 2018. Jack Hughes immediately jumped up and began hugging Luke upon hearing Devils GM Tom Fitzgerald announce the pick.

"I think Jack's even more excited — that might be the happiest I've ever seen him," said Luke Hughes, who spent last season playing for USA Hockey's developmental program. "It's a dream come true to play in the NHL and it's also a dream come true to play with your brother. Both those things are happening tonight."

## SHOWDOWN

Continued from Page C1

the sounds of the protests echoed in the distance.

Protesters' shouts gave voice to a fundamental question about these Games as Japan, and large parts of the world, reel from the continuing gut punch of a pandemic that is stretching well into its second year, with cases in Tokyo approaching record highs this week: Will the deep, intrinsic human attachment to the spectacle of sporting competition at the highest possible level be enough to salvage these Olympics?

Time and again, previous opening ceremonies have pulled off something that approaches magic. Scandals — bribery in Salt Lake City, censorship and pollution in Beijing, doping in Sochi — fade into the background when the sports begin.

But with people still falling ill and dying each day from the coronavirus, there's a particular urgency to the questions about whether the Olympic flame can burn away the fear or provide a measure of catharsis — and even awe — after a year of suffering and uncertainty in Japan and around the world.

"Today, with the world facing great challenges, some are again questioning the power of sport and the value of the Olympic Games," Seiko Hashimoto, president of the Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee, said in a speech. But, she said of the Games' possibilities, "This is the power of sport. ... This is its essence."

Japanese Emperor Naruhito declared the Games open, with fireworks bursting over the stadium after he spoke.

Outside, hundreds of curious Tokyo residents lined a barricade that separated them from those entering — but just barely: Some of those going in took selfies with the onlookers across the barricades, and there was an excited carnival feeling. Some pedestrians waved enthusiastically at approaching Olympic buses.

The sports have already begun, and some of the focus is turning toward the competition to come.

Can the U.S. women's soccer team, for instance, even after an early, shocking loss to Sweden, become the first to win an Olympics following a World Cup victory? Can Japan's Hideki Matsuyama win gold after becoming the first Japanese player to win the Masters? Will Italy's Simona Quadrella challenge American standout Katie Ledecky in the 800- and 1,500-meter freestyle swimming races?

For now, however, it's hard to miss how unusual these Games promise to be. The lovely national stadium can seem like an isolated militarized zone, surrounded by huge barricades. Roads around it have been sealed and businesses closed.

Inside, the feeling of sanitized, locked-down quarantine carries over. Fans, who would normally be screaming for their countries and mixing with people from around the world, have been banned, leaving only a carefully screened contingent of journalists, officials, athletes and participants.

Olympics often face opposition, but there's also usually a pervasive feeling of national pride. Japan's resentment centers on the belief that it was strong-armed into hosting — forced to pay billions and risk the health of a largely unvaccinated, deeply weary public — so the IOC can collect its billions in media revenue.

"Sometimes people ask why the Olympics exist, and there are at least two answers. One is they are a peerless global showcase of the human spirit as it pertains to sport, and the other is they are a peerless global showcase of the human spirit as it pertains to aristocrats getting luxurious hotel rooms and generous per diems," Bruce Arthur, a sports columnist for the Toronto Star, wrote recently.



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# SPORTS

Sunday,  
July 25, 2021

## OVAC stars set to shine once again

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

It's the fourth Saturday in July, so that can mean only one thing.

King Football is back!

After missing out on the 2020 version, the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game returns this evening at Wheeling Island Stadium.

While the prep football fans of the Ohio Valley are definitely ready to see the pigskin return, the players, who have been at Bethany College since Sunday preparing, are itching to get on the field.

"Our kids have been ready (to play) since about Tuesday," West Virginia head coach B.J. Depew said. "There aren't many football players who love practice. They play for the games and big opportunities and these kids know what they have in front of them."

What lies in front of Depew's team is a chance to snap a two-game losing skid to its Ohio rivals. All told, the Buckeye State leads the overall series, 45-28-1. Ohio, meanwhile, is looking to keep the bragging right on its side of the river for at least another year.

"We did a little bit of live practicing on offense and defense, for about 10 minutes, on Wednesday and these kids were really excited during those 10 minutes, so I know they're going to be even more excited (tonight)."

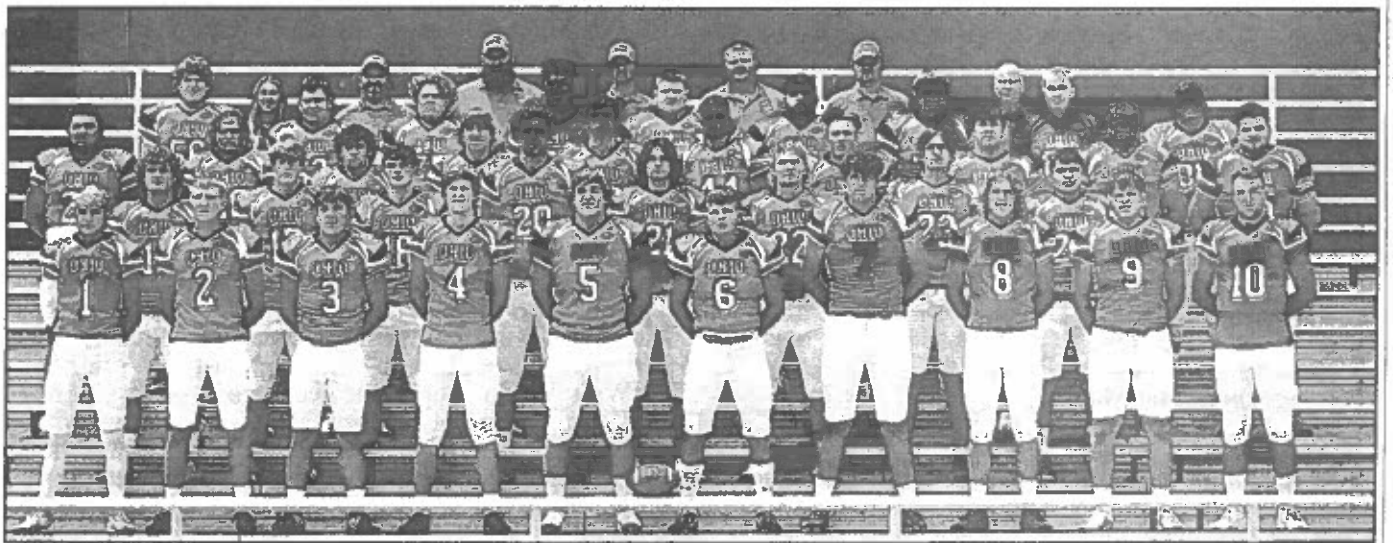
Regardless of the outcome of the game, both head coaches praised the players, their staffs, the OVAC and Bethany College for what they called an "awesome week."

"Other than having come to watch it, I'd never really been around this game that much, but being a part of it has definitely been special," Huck said. "Actually, more than I ever thought it would be. It's so well ran and organized. The players have been great, really fun and very respectful."

Depew is much more of a veteran of the game, having been a part of it as a player, assistant and head coach. So, he understood that portion, but had it re-affirmed this week.

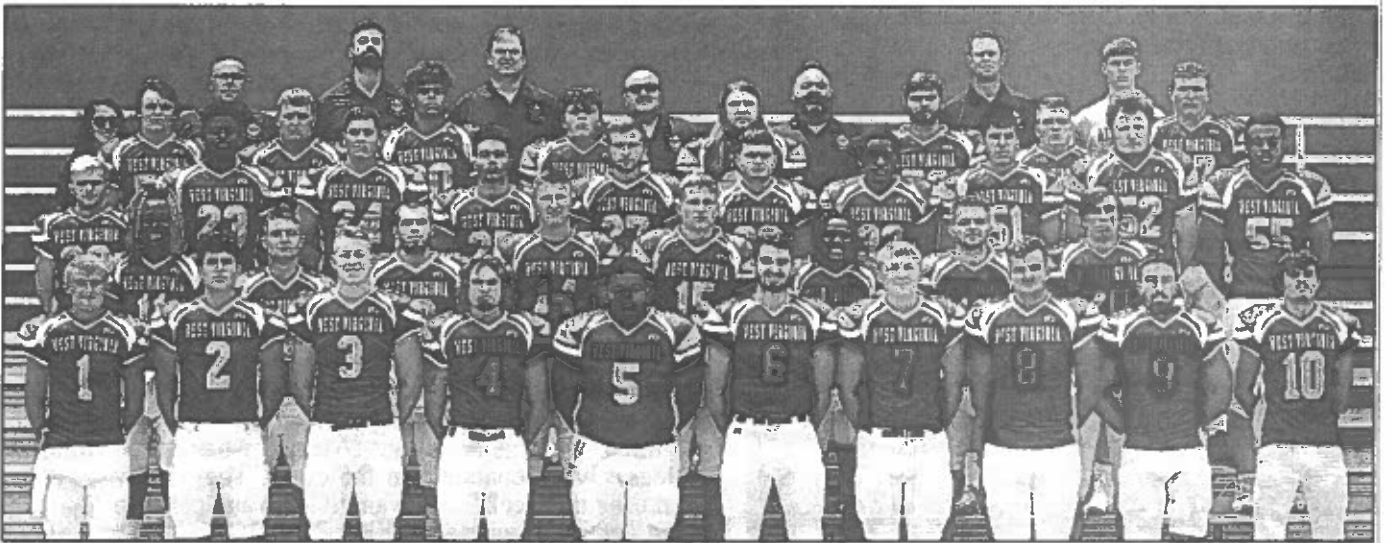
"You always hear the relationships are the best part of this game and that's totally a fact," Depew said. "These kids have

See, **OVAC**, Page D2



Photo/CODY TOMER

**PICTURED IS** the Ohio All-Star Football Team, which will take on West Virginia Saturday evening in the 75th edition of the OVAC All-Star Football Game. Front row, from left, are Dylan Moore (Beaver Local), Ayden Hannahs (Barnesville), Tyler Tonkovich (St. Clairsville), Joel Chevalier (Warren), Jacob Visnic (Shadyside), Brian Palmer (Buckeye Local), Will Balgo (St. Clairsville), Briar Portman (Shenandoah), Matt Schaefer (Indian Creek) and Ryan Gorman (Steubenville CC). Second row, from left, are Garrett Dozier (Toronto), Justin Bartlett (Cambridge), Logan Mobelini (Cambridge), Mitchell Stokey (New Philadelphia), Carter Loase (Union Local), Carter Dennis (River), Luke Jozwiak (St. Clairsville) and Jeremy Brown (Indian Creek). Third row, from left, are Isaiah McCartney (Steubenville), Jordan Joseph (Shadyside), Rocco Romeo (Conotton Valley), Jake Rose (River), Reese Skaggs (St. Clairsville), Evan Carpenter (Martins Ferry), Vince Patrone (Bellaire), Dylan Hart (Fort Frye), Tommy Warrick (Beaver Local) and Dylan Czech (East Liverpool). Fourth row, from left, are Brock Valentine (Cambridge), Brady Kutscherenko (Fort Frye), Garet Cramer (Monroe Central), Justin Rimer (New Philadelphia), Eli Burgey (Steubenville), Tim Wehr (Caldwell), Preston Thaman (Martins Ferry), Jaymison Baker (Fort Frye) and Braden Medley (Fort Frye). Back row is trainer Caitlin Tomczyk, assistant coaches Chad Ross, Kyle Huck, head coach Eric Huck, assistant coaches Josh Seagraves, Scott Hart and Kevin Welsh.



Photo/CODY TOMER

**PICTURED IS** the West Virginia All-Star Football Team, which will take on Ohio Saturday evening in the 75th edition of the OVAC All-Star Football Game. Front row, from left, are Kobe Hill (Linsly), Anthony DiMatteis (Weir), Jordan Waterhouse (Wheeling Central), Drake Hukill (Brooke), Deondre Crudup (Morgantown), Lucky Pulice (Madonna), Beau Heller (Wheeling Park), Steve Felton (Linsly), Joao Lima (Linsly) and Anthony Sessi. Second row, from left, are Sincere Sinclair (Wheeling Park), Gage Patterson (Oak Glen), Payton Marling (Wheeling Central), Hunter Kelley (Linsly), Dalton Flowers (John Marshall), Shaheed Jackson (Wheeling Park), Carson Namack (Wheeling Park) and Levi Rice (Parkersburg South). Third row, from left, are Jason Beisel (Magnolia), Devin Gaines (Parkersburg South), Silas McKeever (Magnolia), Stevie Mitchell (Wheeling Park), Alex Burton (John Marshall), Gage Reitter (Weir), Elike Barner (University), Daniel Bealles (Oak Glen), Samuel Casto (Brooke) and Dimitrius DeShield (University). Fourth row, from left, are Marco Aprea (Linsly), Isaac Keller (Magnolia), Kyler O'Connor (Oak Glen), Logan McDonald (Morgantown), Cody Poe (Hundred), Spencer Helms (Wheeling Central), Matthew Malick (Oak Glen) and Jordan Brucek (Weir). Top row, from left, are trainer Chelsea Kelly, assistant coaches Doug Tush, James Wallace, Gee Lofstead, Brian Valentine, head coach B.J. Depew, Chris Kiedaisch and manager Collin Paul.

## All-Star players expecting speed vs. power

By **CODY TOMER**  
For The Times Leader

**WHEELING** — The 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game could shape up to be a battle of speed vs. power on Saturday night inside Wheeling Island Stadium, at least that is how the players see it.

It could turn out to be the perfect storm as Ohio will provide the thunder and West Virginia brings the lightning.

"They have a lot of speed on their side but we have a lot of size," Steu-

benville Catholic and Ohio QB Ryan Gorman said. "I think we're going to match up really well. We have a lot of talent on this team and we're going to see all this talent on display Saturday night."

Linsly coach and coach of the West Virginia squad, B.J. Depew is looking forward to coaching in his third OVAC All-Star Game and likes the talent he has on his sideline.

"This is as good of a group of skill players that I've seen assembled on one team, which suits our offense nicely,"

Depew said. "I'm excited to see how things play out and what they do Saturday."

Although they are there to play the game, even the players are excited to see some of the guys they have only played against or heard about throughout the last four years.

For Ohio, St. Clairsville TE/LB Will Balgo (6-foot-4, 250 pounds), QB Tyler Tonkovich (5-10, 180), TE/DE Luke Jozwiak (6-2, 190) and all-state tight end and defensive end Reese Skaggs (6-2, 220) provide strength all

over the field, while Martins Ferry all-state running back and linebacker Evan Carpenter (6-2, 220) adds a powerful running attack.

Balgo knows what his teammates and Carpenter bring to the table.

"I'm excited to see a lot of people here," Balgo said. "I'm excited to see Evan Carpenter and my teammates for sure. They will have big roles on this team."

River WR/DB Jake Rose echoed that statement.

See, **SPEED**, Page D2

## Barton stays alive in OVBL

By **KIM NORTH**



## Guardians chosen as name for Cleveland's baseball team

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — While riding his bike over a bridge across the Cuyahoga River near Progressive Field...

• Barton

Continued from Page D1

Dobson said the last time he hit a home run was two years ago for St. Clairsville American Legion Post 159.

"It's one of those things. It takes three (victories) to win it," veteran Barton manager Billy Timko said. "Dillon did a great job on the mound. He hadn't pitched in a while, so I was really happy for him."

Dobson almost wasn't in the starting nine.

"Forty-five minutes before the game I was still undecided on who to start in right field," Timko explained. "It was between Drake and Matt (Fouty), and for some reason my gut feeling was to go with Drake. It worked out."

"That is a great team over there," Timko said while pointing toward the Maynard bench. "We still have to work our tails off."

Sunnafrank threw 92 pitches, of which 65 were strikes. He allowed just three hits, struck out three, walked one and hit one.

"I threw an inning for them when I first came back this summer," Sunnafrank said. "Other than that, it was probably last August."

In 2019, Sunnafrank played for the Washington Wild Things in the Independent League.

"My cutter was really working tonight," he noted. "I was keeping it off the barrel (of the bat) for

the most part." The former Wheeling University standout fired a first-pitch strike to 20 of the 28 Indians he faced.

"That's what is all about. First-pitch strikes is the biggest stat in baseball," Sunnafrank said. "It's all about getting ahead in the count."

The lone mistake he made came in the bottom of the sixth when Hunter Westlake drilled an 0-1 pitch deep to left-center and over top of Maynard Road.

Barton's other tally came in the sixth when Bailey McGrath raced home on Anthony Zorne's bouncer to short.

Jacob, who needed 102 pitches (61 strikes), struck out three but issued five free passes. He also allowed just three hits.

Westlake also had a first-inning single.

"We had some walks and a couple of errors that kept innings going, but (Michael) 'Zuke' Jacob pitched a great game," Maynard manager David Vicker said. "He made one mistake and they made him pay for it. Luckily they had a few runners on base. If it hadn't been a grand slam, they might've been in trouble, but four runs on one swing late in the game is huge."

Vicker was unsure of who would take the mound on Sunday. Timko will give the ball to

• Speed

Continued from Page D1

"These St. Clairsville kids and the Martins Ferry kids are pretty big," Rose said. "They look like they could hit someone pretty hard."

New Philadelphia TE/DE Mitchell Stokey is the tallest player on Ohio's squad at 6-5, 235 and could play a role in the passing game, either catching or swatting down a throw.

For West Virginia, Wheeling Central all-state running back Jordan Waterhouse is excited for the challenge.

"This West Virginia team is fast. We're all athletes," he said. "They have some big guys on that team but

we're going to do our thing. It's going to be speed vs. size. The fans are going to get a show."

Wheeling Park skill players Shaheed Jackson, Carson Namack, Stevie Mitchell and Sincere Sinclair impressed all season and it didn't go unnoticed.

"The Park boys really have some speed," John Marshall running back Dalton Flowers said. "We're definitely a speed team with a lot of athletes."

As for some players, though, they are just thrilled to see the best of the best go toe-to-toe in an action packed contest.

"All of them," Mag-

nia's Silas McKeever said of who he is excited to see. "I'm excited to play with all of them. I've heard of all of them in my four years. It's a good opportunity for us and I'm happy to be here."

West Virginia has a little extra motivation entering the game as the Mountaineers look to snap a two-year drought, while Ohio looks to extend the streak to three straight.

"It's been a while since we beat Ohio," Linsly's Hunter Kelley said. "I think we have a really good chance with the team we have this year to do something that hasn't been done lately."

• OVAC

Continued from Page D1

been great and it's nice seeing them come together. When we first met in the gym at Bethany (last Sunday) and how they're divided into their small groups and now you see five or six guys from different schools hanging out. It's what this is about."

On the field, both head coaches feel good about their preparation and lineups.

Ohio had a three-man quarterback derby before Huck and his staff settled on St. Clairsville's Tyler Tonkovich as the starter. Steubenville Catholic's Ryan Gorman and Barnesville's Ayden Hannahs will also get playing time.

Huck believed the former Red Devil's ability to be a threat with his arms and legs is what separated him during the week.

"All of our quarterbacks are very good, but we just felt like we should go with Tyler first," Huck said. "You're definitely going to see the other quarterbacks, too."

Joining Tonkovich in the backfield will be Martins Ferry's Evan Carpenter at running back. The wing backs are expected to be Matt Schaefer (In-

dian Creek) and Garrett Dozier (Toronto).

Beaver Local's Dylan Moore will get the call at wide receiver. St. Clairsville's Reese Skaggs will line up at tight end.

Across the front, Steubenville's Eli Burgey is expected to start at center. He's flanked by Bellaire's Vince Patrone and Monroe Central's Garett Cramer at guards. Justin Rimer (New Philadelphia) and Brock Valentine (Cambridge) are ticketed for tackle.

"Our kids have grasped and handled the offense pretty well," Huck said. "I could see it really starting to come together on Tuesday and Wednesday. These guys have also been great about continuing to ask questions (of the coaches) when we're in the dorm. They really want to learn and perform well."

That offensive unit will have to contend with a defense that Depew called "really good."

"I think we have great players on that side of the ball," Depew said.

Up front, Kyler O'Conner (Oak Glen) and Marco Aprea (Linsly) will open at the end spots. At defensive tackle, Dimi-

trius DeShield (University) and Deondre Crudup (Morgantown) are ticketed for tackle.

The two inside linebackers are Linsly's Steve Felton and South's Devin Gaines. The two outside linebackers are Anthony DiMatteis (Weir) and John Marshall's Dalton Flowers.

In the secondary, Oak Glen's Gage Patterson will roam at safety, while Wheeling Park's duo of Sincere Sinclair and Shaheed Jackson will start at corner.

Offensively, the Mountain State plans to use its speed and skill.

"Our offensive skill players are very talented," Depew said. "All of these kids have great athleticism and run great routes."

West Virginia will open the game with Wheeling Park product Beau Heller taking the snaps. The future West Liberty Hill-topper had a brilliant season for the Patriots and has carried that momentum into camp.

Wheeling Central's Jordan Waterhouse will open at running back. The four wide receivers to begin the game will be Wheeling Park's Stevie Mitchell, Linsly's Kobe Hill, Wheeling Central's Payton Marling and South's Levi Rice.

Up front, the West Virginia line will be anchored by center Daniel Bealles (Oak Glen). Brooke's Sam Casto and Wheeling Central's Spencer Helms will start at guard. The tackled are expected to be Jordan Brueck (Weir) and

• Guardians

Continued from Page D1

1,200. It was a tedious process, which included 140 hours of interviews with fans, community leaders, front office personnel and a survey of 40,000 fans.

Dolan has said last summer's social unrest, touched off by the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, spurred his intention to change the name — a move that came a few years after the Indians stopped wearing the Chief Wahoo logo on their game jerseys and caps.

Cleveland's new name was inspired by the large landmark stone edifices — referred to as traffic guardians — that flank both ends of the Hope Memorial Bridge, which connects downtown to Ohio City.

As the team moved closer to making a final decision on the name, Dolan said he found himself looking closely at the huge art deco sculptures.

O'Conner, who is the lone West Virginia player to be starting on both sides.

Defensively, Ohio has watched its fair share of Linsly tape to get an idea of what might be coming this evening.

"We hope (adjustments) aren't made totally on the fly," Huck said. "We've worked to prepare the guys the best we can and keep things as simple as possible, while covering as much as possible. Hopefully, whatever (West Virginia) throws at us, we're covered in terms of either having practiced it talked about it."

The Ohio defensive line includes New Philadelphia's Mitchell Stokey and Fort Frye's Braden Medley at the ends. Fort Frye's Brady Kutschenko and Caldwell's Tim Wehr will be the tackles.

The linebacking corps will be led by St. Clairsville's Will Balgo and Fort Frye's Dylan Hart at the inside spot. River's Carter Dennis and Indian Creeks' Jeremy Brown will be at the outside linebacker.

In the secondary, River's Jake Rose and Shadyside's Jordan Joseph are the starting corners, while Hannahs will open at free safety.

Both coaches made sure to spend some time on special teams this week, too. Warren's Brooke's Sam Casto and Wheeling Central's Spencer Helms will start at guard. The tackled are expected to be Jordan Brueck (Weir) and

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# Following in their father's footsteps

By **CODY TOMER**  
For The Times Leader

BETHANY — The love of football starts for many at a young age.

Whether it's playing backyard football with friends or watching Monday Night Football with dad, the game quickly becomes a tradition that is passed down from generation to generation.

Such is the case during this year's 75th Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Game.

Six total all-stars are following in their fathers' footsteps of playing in the annual event as Wheeling Park QB Beau Heller, Magnolia RB/LB Silas McKeever, Steubenville Catholic QB Ryan Gorman, River WR/DB Jake Rose



**WILL  
BALGO**



**REESE  
SKAGGS**



**JAKE  
ROSE**



**RYAN  
GORMAN**

and St. Clairsville DE Reese Skaggs and h-back Will Balgo will keep the family tradition alive Saturday inside Wheeling Island Stadium.

"It was good news when I found out I was playing in the game," Heller said. "My dad was just talking to me about it and how to enjoy it. It's also fun to be

up here with all of my friends I played with my whole life one last time."

Heller's father, Kevin, played in the 1991 contest.

Also playing in the 1991 game was Casey Rose, the father of Jake Rose and the uncle of LB Carter Dennis, two cousins who are teammates from River

on this year's Ohio squad. Their uncle Kyle Rose also played in the game in 1990.

"It's an honor to continue playing in this game and to keep the family name in the game," Jake Rose said. "I've heard stories from everyone I've talked to and about how good those teams were."

Eric McKeever recovered an onside kick and intercepted a pass in the 1996 game and his son will be looking to leave his mark on the contest, as well.

"He said that he really enjoyed it," Silas McKeever said of his dad.

"I'm excited for it, too. It's been a good time so far here at practice and it's pretty cool that I can carry on the tradition."

See, **FOOTSTEPS**, Page B2

## Harbaugh, Frost need victories

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — As their paths crossed at Big Ten Media Days, Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh and Nebraska coach Scott Frost appeared to have one thing in common: They are at a crossroads in their careers.

Both have been humbled in recent years. Both need to win now, quite possibly, to save their jobs.

Since returning to his alma mater in 2015, Harbaugh has gone just 49-22 and failed to provide the Wolverines with their first conference title since 2004. His teams have gone 0-5 against rival Ohio State and 1-4 in bowl games.

That's not why Harbaugh was brought back to Ann Arbor as one of the nation's highest-paid coaches. It is, however, why he received a four-year extension this off-season for roughly half the previous deal, loaded with incentives and including a more financially friendly buyout.

Standing on a stage and staring into the bright lights of Lucas Oil Stadium, where his name is memorialized in the Indianapolis Colts Ring of Honor, the former quarterback known as "Captain Comeback" vowed to bring his program back from mediocrity.

A question pertaining to the need to beat the Buckeyes and win a Big Ten title prompted the response that he was "as enthusiastic and excited" as ever.

"That's what we want to do," Harbaugh said. "We're going to do it or die trying."

Frost is just 12-20 overall, including 9-17 in the Big Ten, as he enters a fourth season at his alma mater. The school hired



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

ST. CLAIRSVILLE Post 159 players Collin Snedeker, left, and Mason Myers celebrate Thursday night's 10-7 American Legion Region 8 Tournament victory over Beverly-Lowell on Don Coss Field in Cambridge.

## Post 159 avenges earlier setback to Beverly-Lowell

• St. Clairsville must beat Cambridge twice for state berth

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

CAMBRIDGE — Sometimes the best plans just don't work out. Then again, sometimes they work out for the better. Just ask St. Clairsville Post 159 manager Mike Muklewicz.

Prior to the start of the American Legion Region 8 Tournament, Muklewicz and his staff thought they had a good chance at winning the five-team American Legion Region 8 Tournament, and they still do. However, the former Bridgeport High School baseball coach didn't plan on losing the opening game to Beverly-Lowell, 8-7, and immediately falling into the win-or-go-home loser's bracket.

Post 159 won its third straight elimination

game Thursday night and avenged that Sunday setback with a come-from-behind, 10-7, verdict over Post 389/750 on Don Coss Field inside the City Park. With the hard-earned win, St. Clairsville (18-8) advances to the championship finals where it has to defeat Cambridge twice in order to punch its state tournament ticket. That first chance comes tonight at 6. Another victory forces a second game on Saturday at 1 p.m.

"These kids are so resilient. They never quit or even back down despite being fairly young," Muklewicz said of his squad which featured four high school sophomores-to-be in the starting lineup. "This wasn't the path we anticipated on to reach the championship round. We only had nine guys here tonight, but they all contributed to this victory."

See, **159**, Page B2

## Rays zap Indians

CLEVELAND (AP) — No deficit scares these rallying Rays.

Hours after adding slugger Nelson Cruz to their lineup in a major trade, Tampa Bay stormed back for a 5-4 win over the Cleveland Indians on Thursday night with Austin Meadows delivering an RBI single in the 10th inning.

Meadows' one-out liner on an 0-2 pitch from Bryan Shaw (3-4) brought home Randy Arozarena from second base.

It was the second straight game-winning hit for Meadows, who had a two-out, two-run single in the ninth to beat Baltimore on Wednesday.

It was also the 30th come-from-behind victory this season for Tampa Bay.

"It seems like everyday there's a new hero," Meadows said. "It feels like momentum is always on our side."

Down 4-2 in the ninth, the Rays rallied to tie it against closer James Karinchak on a leadoff homer by Yandy Diaz and Brandon Lowe's clutch double with two outs.

Pete Fairbanks (3-3) pitched the ninth and Diego Castillo struck out Franmil Reyes and Bobby Bradley with the potential tying run at third in the 10th for his 14th save.

The Rays announced their acquisition of Cruz just before the first pitch.

Needing a big bat for the playoff push, Tampa Bay got a potent one from the disappointing Twins.

The Rays sent minor league pitchers Joe Ryan and Drew Strotman to Minnesota for the 41-year-old Cruz and right-hander Calvin Faucher. Cruz has 436 career homers, and his presence alone will re-shape Tampa Bay's lineup.

See, **RAYS**, Page B2



• **Footsteps**

Continued from Page B1

Ted Gorman, the current principal of Steubenville High School, will get to watch his son take the field in an Ohio uniform after he played in the 1986 game.

"It's really special when you see that invitation in the mail," Ryan Gorman said. "Having your dad in it is also an honor and a privilege to carry on his tradition and our family name."

Ryan Gorman also takes great pride in the logo on his helmet and the name on the front of the jersey.

"Representing Steubenville Catholic is also definitely going to be an honor," he said. "We have a lot of guys out here and we're making a lot of good relationships. We want to get this win really badly."

Also suiting up in the 1986 game was Dan Balgo, the father of Will Balgo.

"My dad, uncle and a couple of my mom's siblings played in this game," Will Balgo said. "It's awesome representing their names. Whenever I go to family functions, they always give you that story."

St. Clairsville teammate Reese Skaggs will be aiming to join his father Walt, who was on the winning team in 1987, in the win column.

"My dad said that his team won so we have to win," Reese Skaggs said. "My brother lost when he played in this game and I don't want to be on that

side of the ball. I want to have the higher edge in the family. I was in seventh grade when my brother played and that's when I said 'I have to play in the all-star game, too.' Now, here we are."

Other players on the roster who have had relatives play in the all-star game include John Marshall running back Alex Burton (cousin C.J. Williams in 2011), Wheeling Central offensive lineman Spencer Helms (cousins Joel Griffin in 2014, Trey Duffy in 1981 and Thor Duffy in 2018), and running back Jordan Waterhouse (uncles Greg Kloppner in 1979 and Jerry Ames in 1993) and Weir wide receiver Gage Reitter (grandfather Jaye Reitter in 1965, cousin Carl Foder Jr. in 1982, uncle A.J. Twardoski in 2005, brother Reed Reitter in 2019 and cousin Jake McCoy in 2019).

On the Ohio side, Monroe Central lineman Garret Cramer (uncle Jeremy Cramer in 1997 and uncle Eric Cramer in 1998), Toronto's Garrett Dozier (brother Austyn Dozier in 2016), Shadyside RB/LB Jacob Visnic (uncle Brian Hammond in 1993), Caldwell defensive lineman Tim Wehr (cousin Aaron Smith in 1993) and Cambridge offensive tackle Brock Valentine (brother Trent Valentine in 2019) all continue to carry on the family name.

• **159**

Continued from Page B1

Beverly-Lowell (23-7) was the three-time Region 8 titlists.

Things didn't look very good for St. Clairsville as it trailed 6-1 after three innings. However, it chipped away with two tallies in the fourth and two more in the fifth to make it a 6-5 count.

Mason Myers, one of those aforementioned youthful players, capped the comeback with a bases-clearing triple to the fence in right that gave Post 159 a 9-6 advantage. Myers then raced home on a Drew Sefick groundout.

He also shined on the mound where he picked up the win with four-plus innings of relief work. The right-hander took over for starter Dylan Gregorcic with one out in the third and the bases loaded. He allowed two of the inherited runners to score, but escaped further damage. He then held Post 389/750 at bay until they scored a meaningless run in the seventh.

"Mason Myers. Mason Myers. He is one of the most motivated and well-rounded 15-year-old-kids I've seen in a long time," Muklewicz said. "He came through big time tonight for us, both at the plate and on the mound. Pitching isn't something we've ask him to do a lot of, but he did a phenomenal job of keeping a good-hitting team at bay."

Myers only recorded one strikeout, but it was a huge one. It came with two on and no outs in the seventh after Beverly-Lowell had scored one run.

With the teams deadlocked at six, Myers unloaded a drive over the rightfielder's head that scored Jaren Starks, Braylen Blomquist and Chase Goff.

"I wasn't looking for any certain pitch," Myers said. "I got in that count (3-2) after fouling off a couple of pitches that weren't really good foul balls. I was worried, but I got a pitch I liked and I jumped on it."

As for the pitching, "My goal was to just throw strikes and try to keep my pitches low in the zone to get a lot of groundballs," Myers said. "I just wanted to let them hit the ball and allow my fielders to do their jobs."

Myers, who was one of four Post 159 players with multiple hits, also singled in a run in the fifth, as did Sefick. Goff had an RBI double in the first.

St. Clairsville continues to play without the services of Tyler Tonkovich, Will Balgo and Kobe Hill who are participating in OVAC All-Star Football Game activities this week in preparation for Saturday night's game.

**Change in Olympic protest rule demanded**

TOKYO (AP) — Tommie Smith, John Carlos and Gwen Berry are among the more than 150 athletes, educators and activists who signed a letter Thursday urging the IOC not to punish participants who demonstrate at the Tokyo Games.

The five-page letter, published on the eve of the Olympics, asks the IOC not to sanction athletes for kneeling or raising a fist, the way Smith and Carlos did at the 1968 Mexico City Games.

Berry, the American hammer thrower who triggered much of this debate, has said she intends to use her Olympic platform to point out racial inequality in the United States. She turned away from the flag when the national anthem played while she was on the medals stand at the Olympic trials last month.

The IOC has made changes to its Rule 50 that bans political demonstrations at the Games, and has said it will allow them on the field, so long as they come before the start of action. Players from five Olympic soccer teams took to their knees Wednesday before their games on the opening night for that sport.

But the IOC did not lift the prohibition on medals-stand demonstrations, and has left some of the

decision-making about punishment up to individual sports federations.

"We do not believe the changes made reflect a commitment to freedom of expression as a fundamental human right nor to racial and social justice in global sports," said the letter, which was posted on the website of the Muhammad Ali Center and also signed by Ali's daughter, four-time boxing world champion Laila Ali.

The letter disputed the IOC's long-held position that the Olympics should remain neutral, arguing that "neutrality is never neutral."

"Staying neutral means staying silent, and staying silent means supporting ongoing injustice," it said.

The letter also took issue with an athlete survey conducted by the IOC athletes' commission that found widespread support for Rule 50. The commission cited the survey as a central reason for making the recommendation to largely keep the rule intact.

"The report provides no information on racial/ethnic demographics or insights into the research instrument used and steps taken to strengthen the validity and trustworthiness of the data," the letter said.

**Buckeye trio named preseason all-Big Ten**

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**  
AP College Football Writer

The preseason all-Big Ten team released Thursday includes three Ohio State players among 10 players selected by a media panel.

Offensive left tackle Thayer Munford and wide receivers Chris Olave and Garrett Wilson are cornerstones for a Buckeyes program that has won four consecutive conference titles and qualified for the College Football Playoff the past two years.

Each were 2020 first-team All-Big Ten selections.

Olave returns for his senior year with 87 receptions for 1,435 yards and 19 touchdowns in three seasons. In two seasons, Wilson has 73 receptions for 1,155 yards and 11 TDs.

Other East Division players honored were Indiana quarterback Michael Penix Jr. and Penn State wide receiver Jahan Dotson.

The West Division players include Minnesota running back Mohamed Ibrahim, Northwestern safety Brandon Joseph, Iowa center Tyler Linderbaum, Purdue wide receiver David Bell and Wisconsin linebacker Jack Sanborn. Ibrahim and Joseph were first-team All-Big Ten last season.

Ibrahim rushed for 1,076 yards and 15 TDs on 201 carries as a junior. The scores rank fourth for a single season in school history.

**ADVISER ALVAREZ**

Former Wisconsin athletic director and coach Barry Alvarez is joining the Big Ten as the special adviser for football.

Alvarez retired from Wisconsin

after the past 18 years as AD and 16 seasons previously as coach of the Badgers. Big Ten Commissioner Kevin Warren announced Alvarez would be joining the conference, starting Aug. 2.

"I trust Barry Alvarez implicitly," Warren said. "He means everything to this conference."

Alvarez will work with Warren on College Football Playoff expansion, television and bowl contracts, scheduling, and player health and safety.

Alvarez led the Badgers to three Big Ten titles and three Rose Bowl victories as a head coach and went 119-74-4.

Warren also said Wisconsin Chancellor Rebecca Blank will replace Northwestern President Morton Schapiro as chairperson of the Big Ten Council of President and Chancellors.

• **Frost**

Continued from Page B1

But the school hasn't won a league title since 1999, had only one winning season since 2015 and lost five or more games in five of six seasons. This season marks the 10th anniversary of Nebraska joining the Big Ten after leaving the Big 12. The .533 win percentage in that span ranks eighth among conference teams.

That's why Frost, like Harbaugh, is often mentioned as being on a hot seat.

"I don't read anything," Frost said. "Praise and blame are all the same. They're both imposters. When things are going well, you're going to get a lot of praise. And that's not all true. Blame is the same thing."

• **Rays**

Continued from Page B1

"We're definitely getting a high-quality hitter and a high-quality person," said Rays manager Kevin Cash, who has known Cruz for years and recently managed him in the All-Star Game. "There's guys that can naturally hit and he does it."

Reyes made Tampa Bay pay for a curious strategy by hitting a three-run homer while helping the Indians take a 4-1 lead, but Cleveland's bullpen collapsed with Karinchak giving up two runs in the ninth.

"Unfortunately, failure is a part of the game," Karinchak said. "You know that coming in. But I'm going to keep trusting the process, keep sticking to myself and keep working on it every day and

But there's no denying humbling realities. Nebraska has seen key players, including quarterback Luke McCaffrey and running back Wan'Dale Robinson, decide to transfer. Frost had once referred to McCaffrey, the younger brother of NFL star Christian McCaffrey, as "the future" of the program. That future is now at Rice.

Neither Michigan nor Nebraska had a player on the 10-member Big Ten preseason squads announced Thursday.

"Listening to the outside noise is the absolute worst thing you can do," said Michigan senior linebacker Josh Ross. "At the end of the day, you put that work in. You do it. You're the only one who

is going to make it better."

Still, Ross acknowledged the reality of what it means to be a part of such a publicized program.

"It's Michigan. When you're winning, everything is good," he said. "When you're losing, we suck, everything is bad."

Harbaugh tried to sound reassuring as he spoke with reporters. When he mentioned how Cade McNamara emerged from spring practice as the No. 1 quarterback, the younger passer was referred to as a "fiery competitor." That sounds like a coach who wants to see a lot of himself in the team leader.

Harbaugh also wanted to make it clear he hasn't

lost his fire. He referred to a summer climb with his wife, Sarah, and daughter, Addison. The trek required about 15,000 steps. And Harbaugh being Harbaugh, he couldn't resist drawing a correlation to his job.

As the trio neared the summit, Harbaugh remembers his daughter saying, "We've got to apex this."

That made him proud. And resolute. And regardless of how much he's lost and if he's in a precarious professional position, it reaffirmed how the intense Harbaugh intends to attack this season.

"She's got that gene in her," he said. "I was darn glad to see it. And I tell you, I've got that gene in me."

season. Cash recently invited Francona to join him in Denver for the All-Star Game.

On previous visits by the Rays, Francona has played pranks on Cash but not this time.

"I don't know where I saw it. But they came out with the 30 managers' career offensive numbers and Cashie was obviously last," Francona cracked.

"But I was next-to-last, and that really bothered me. I'm like, 'I'd better ease off the gas a little bit here, because that's not good company to keep.'"

**TRAINER'S ROOM**

**Indians:** Francona said RHP Aaron Civale (sprained finger) is expected to throw a bullpen in the next few days. Francona said Civale is still struggling to get full

# Fall of Famer Bobby Bowden has terminal medical condition

By STEVE REED  
Sports Writer

Hall of Fame college football coach Bobby Bowden announced Wednesday he has been diagnosed with a terminal medical condition. "I've always tried to serve God's pur-

pose for my life, on and off the field, and I am prepared for what is to come," Bowden said in a statement released to news outlets, including The Associated Press. "My wife Ann and our family have been life's greatest blessing. I am at peace."

The 91-year-old Bowden was hospitalized last October after he tested positive for

COVID-19.

The positive test came a few days after returning to his Tallahassee home from a lengthy hospital stay for an infection in his leg.

He did not disclose his condition in his statement.

During his 34 years coaching Florida

State, Bowden amassed a 315-98-4 record and built the Seminoles into a national power, winning 12 Atlantic Coast Conference championships and national titles in 1993 and 1999. He won 357 games during his 40 years in college coaching and was selected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 2006.

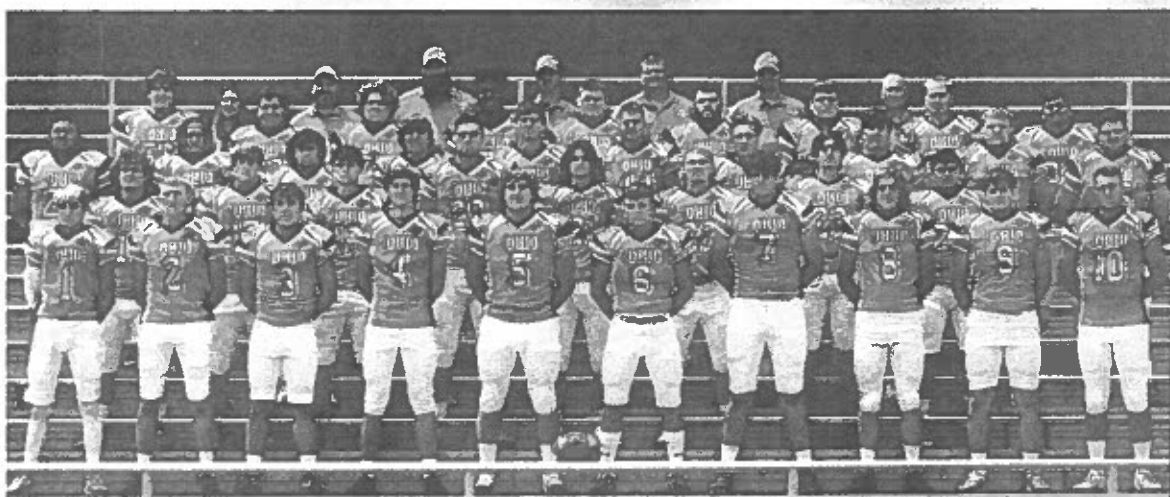
# GOOD LUCK TO ALL OVAC PLAYERS

## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OVAC RUDY MUMLEY

### ALL-STAR CHARITY CLASSIC

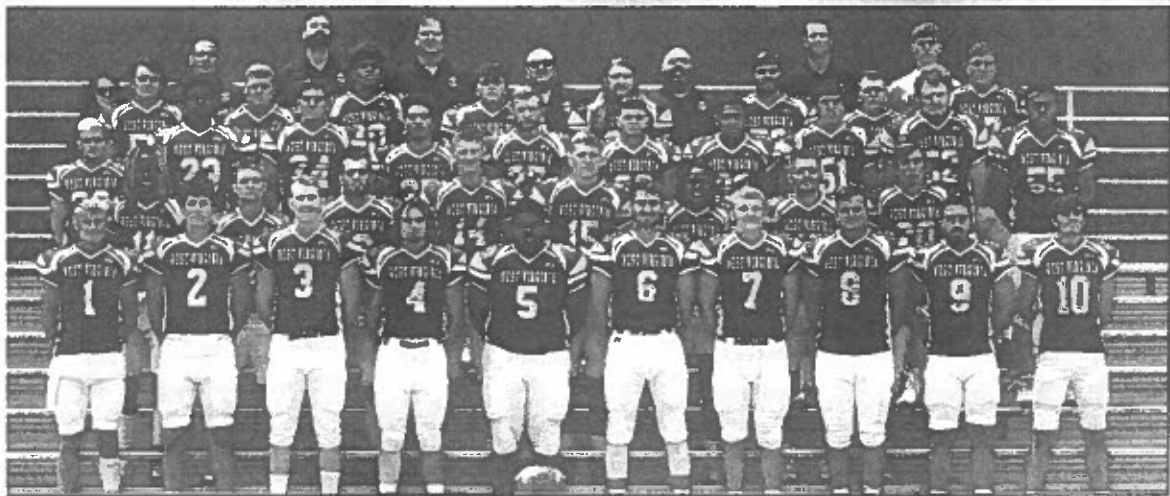
### OHIO VS. WEST VIRGINIA

Saturday, July 24, 2021 • Kickoff 7:15 p.m. • Wheeling Island Stadium




Photo/CODY TOMER

PICTURED IS the Ohio All-Star Football Team, which will take on West Virginia Saturday evening in the 75th edition of the OVAC All-Star Football Game. Front row, from left, are Dylan Moore (Beaver Local), Ayden Hannahs (Barnesville), Tyler Tonkovich (St. Clairsville), Joel Chevalier (Warren), Jacob Visnic (Shadyside), Brian Palmer (Buckeye Local), Will Baigo (St. Clairsville), Briar Portman (Shenandoah), Matt Schaefer (Indian Creek) and Ryan Gorman (Steubenville CC). Second row, from left, are Garrett Dozier (Toronto), Justin Bartlett (Cambridge), Logan Mobelini (Cambridge), Mitchell Stokey (New Philadelphia), Carter Loase (Union Local), Carter Dennis (River), Luke Jozwiak (St. Clairsville) and Jeremy Brown (Indian Creek). Third row, from left, are Isaiah McCartney (Steubenville), Jordan Joseph (Shadyside), Rocco Romeo (Conotton Valley), Jake Rose (River), Reese Skaggs (St. Clairsville), Evan Carpenter (Martins Ferry), Vince Patrone (Bellair), Dylan Hart (Fort Frye), Tommy Warrick (Beaver Local) and Dylan Czech (East Liverpool). Fourth row, from left, are Brock Valentine (Cambridge), Brady Kutscherenko (Fort Frye), Garet Cramer (Monroe Central), Justin Rimer (New Philadelphia), Eli Burgey (Steubenville), Tim Wehr (Caldwell), Preston Thaman (Martins Ferry), Jaymison Baker (Fort Frye) and Braden Medley (Fort Frye). Back row is trainer Caitlin Tomczyk, assistant coaches Chad Ross, Kyle Huck, head coach Eric Huck, assistant coaches Josh Seagraves, Scott Hart and Kevin Welsh.



Photo/CODY TOMER

PICTURED IS the West Virginia All-Star Football Team, which will take on Ohio Saturday evening in the 75th edition of the OVAC All-Star Football Game. Front row, from left, are Kobe Hill (Linsly), Anthony DiMatteis (Weir), Jordan Waterhouse (Wheeling Central), Drake Hukill (Brooke), Deondre Crudup (Morgantown), Lucky Pulice (Madonna), Beau Heller (Wheeling Park), Steve Felton (Linsly), Joao Lima (Linsly) and Anthony Sessi. Second row, from left, are Sincere Sinclair (Wheeling Park), Gage Patterson (Oak Glen), Payton Marling (Wheeling Central), Hunter Kelley (Linsly), Dalton Flowers (John Marshall), Shaheed Jackson (Wheeling Park), Carson Namack (Wheeling Park) and Levi Rice (Parkersburg South). Third row, from left, are Jason Beisel (Magnolia), Devin Gaines (Parkersburg South), Silas McKeever (Magnolia), Stevie Mitchell (Wheeling Park), Alex Burton (John Marshall), Gage Reitter (Weir), Eliki Barner (University), Daniel Bealles (Oak Glen), Samuel Casto (Brooke) and Dimitrius DeShield (University). Fourth row, from left, are Marco Aprea (Linsly), Isaac Keller (Magnolia), Kyler O'Connor (Oak Glen), Logan McDonald (Morgantown), Cody Poe (Hundred), Spencer Helms (Wheeling Central), Matthew Malick (Oak Glen) and Jordan Brucek (Weir). Top row, from left, are trainer Chelsea Kelly, assistant coaches Doug Tush, James Wallace, Gee Lof



**DROVER'S INN**

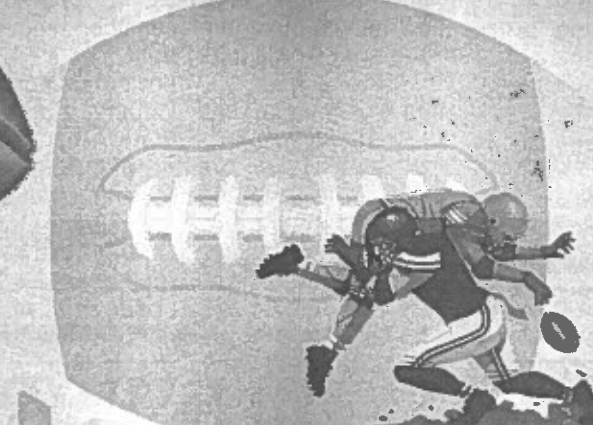
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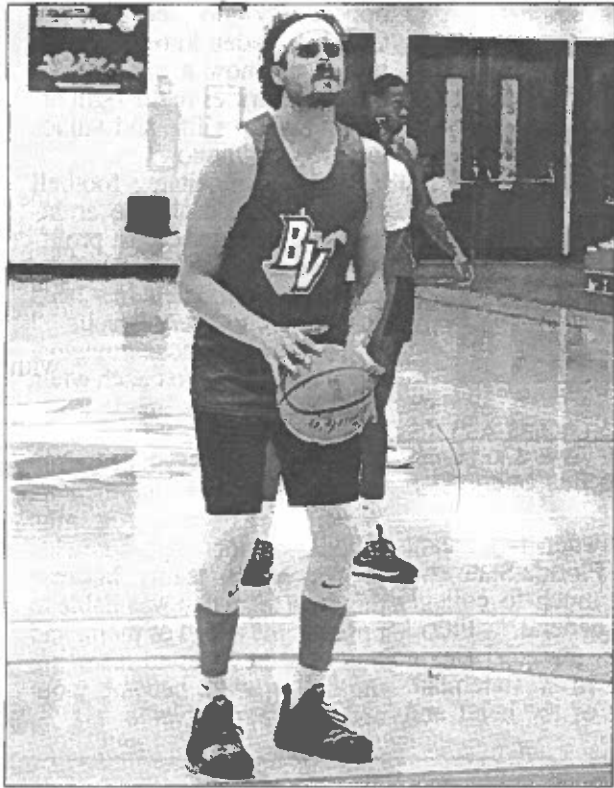


Photo by Cody Tomer

Wheeling Central alum Chase Harler has signed a contract for Jamtland Basket, a professional basketball team in Sweden for the upcoming season.

## Harler Signs With Sweden Pro Team

By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer

WHEELING — After a solid collegiate career at West Virginia University, Wheeling Central alum Chase Harler made a name for himself last year in Lithuania in the pro game.

Now, he is taking the next step as he signed with Jamtland Basket in Sweden to continue his professional basketball playing career.

“Any opportunity to continue to play basketball is a blessing,” Harler said. “I’m kind of working up the European basketball ladder and this is a step up. Last year in Lithuania I wanted to prove myself and build my resume.”

He certainly did.

With Palangos Kursiai, Harler averaged 15 points, 2.4 rebounds, 3.2 assists, 1.4 steals and 0.1 blocks a game.

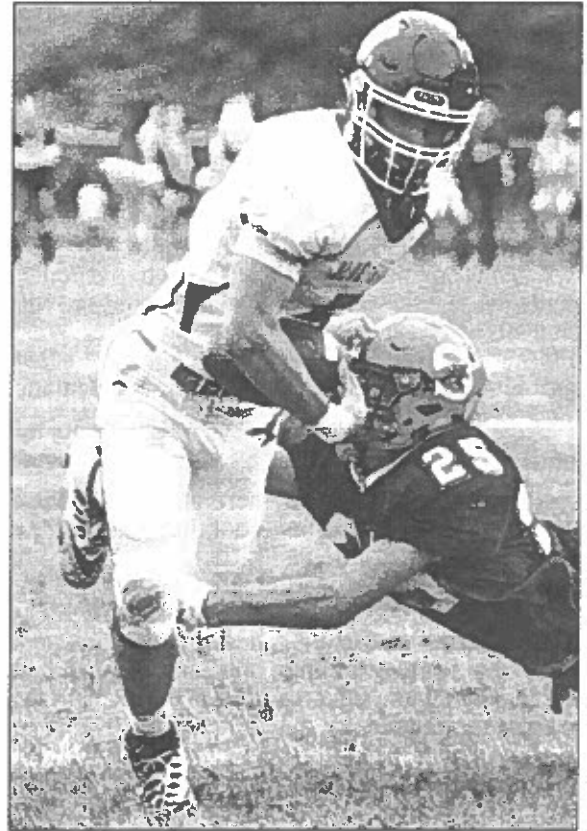
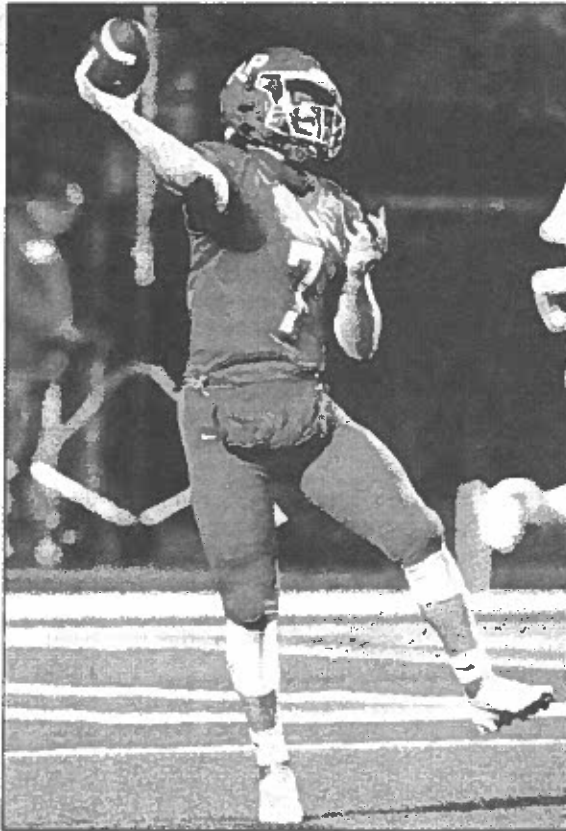
He enjoyed the success but missed the fans due to the pandemic. This time around will be his first professional season with fans in attendance and he couldn’t be more excited for the opportunity.

“I went into Lithuania with an open mind,” Harler said. “I wanted to see the world and experience a different culture. The competition was better, too, but I got back in March and I’ve been itching to play. In Lithuania, that’s when COVID was bad, so my coaches in Sweden said that we’ll have fans at our games, so it will be back to normal overseas without COVID.”

Harler scratched his itch to play ball this summer with West Virginia University alumni squad Best Virginia, where he

Please see HARLER  
Page 12

# Like Father, Like Son



Photos by Alex Kozlowski and Sheri McAninch

Wheeling Park’s Beau Heller, left, and Magnolia’s Silas McKeever, right, will be playing in Saturday’s OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game, a game their fathers both played in, as well.

## Six all-stars are following in their dads’ footsteps

By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer

BETHANY — The love of football starts for many at a young age.

Whether it’s playing backyard football with friends or watching Monday Night Football with dad, the game quickly becomes a tradition that is passed down from generation to generation.

Such is the case during this year’s 75th Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Game.

Six total all-stars are following in their fathers’ footsteps of playing in the annual event as Wheeling Park QB Beau Heller, Magnolia RB/LB Silas McKeever, Steubenville Catholic QB

Ryan Gorman, River WR/DB Jake Rose and St. Clairsville DE Reese Skaggs and h-back Will Balgo will keep the family tradition alive Saturday inside Wheeling Island Stadium.

“It was good news when I found out I was playing in the game,” Heller said. “My dad was just talking to me about

it and how to enjoy it. It’s also fun to be up here with all of my friends I played with my whole life one last time.”

Heller’s father, Kevin, played in the 1991 contest.

Also playing in the 1991 game was Casey Rose, the father

Please see SON, Page 12



SKAGGS



BALGO



ROSE



GORMAN

# Steelers Maintain Super Bowl Expectations

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Steelers experienced a significant amount of turnover during the offseason, yet they opened training camp on Thursday with the same lofty Super Bowl expectations.

“Everybody in the NFL has the same goal, and that’s to win a Super Bowl,” veteran quarterback Ben Roethlisberger said. “It doesn’t matter if you come from another team, if you’ve been here for a long time, or if you’re a rookie. Everyone wants the same thing. It’s a matter of getting on the same page at the right time.”

Roethlisberger took a pay cut to return for an 18th NFL season, but the 39-year-old signal caller will do it playing behind a revamped

offensive line. Maurkice Pouncey retired and David DeCastro was released with a “non-football injury.” Alejandro Villanueva and Matt Feiler left in free agency. Pouncey, DeCastro and Villanueva combined for 17 Pro Bowls.

“I’ve been blessed to have a lot of older guys that have been here for a numerous amount of years,” Roethlisberger said. “To not have that is definitely different, but it’s just Day 1.”

Head coach Mike Tomlin said Thursday that center Kendrick Green, the team’s third-round pick out of Illinois, will start the Hall of Fame game against Dallas on Aug 5.

Zach Banner practiced on Thursday after tearing an ACL during

Week 1 last season, while Chukwuma Okorafor shifts to left tackle and Kevin Dotson returns for his second season at guard. Trai Turner was signed hours after DeCastro was released, and B.J. Finney also brings veteran experience up front.

The Steelers also suffered significant losses from a defense that was ranked among the league’s best last season. They lost linebacker Bud Dupree and cornerback Mike Hilton to free agency, and also released cornerback Steven Nelson in a salary cap-related move. Veteran linebacker Vince Williams also made a surprise retirement announcement on the eve of the team’s first workout earlier this week.

Please see STEELERS, Page 12



AP Photo

Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (7) hands off to running back Najee Harris (22) on a drill during Thursday’s practice in Pittsburgh.

## Parkersburg Downs Post 1



## St. C. Stays



# Hall of Famer Bobby Bowden Has Terminal Condition

By STEVE REED  
AP Sports Writer

Hall of Fame college football coach Bobby Bowden announced Wednesday he has been diagnosed with a terminal medical condition.

"I've always tried to serve God's purpose for my life, on and off the field, and I am prepared for what is to come," Bowden said in a statement released to news outlets, including The Associated Press. "My wife Ann and our family have been life's greatest blessing. I am at peace."

The 91-year-old Bowden was hospitalized last October after he tested positive for COVID-19. The positive test came a few days after returning to his Tallahassee home from a lengthy hospital stay for an infection in his leg. He did not disclose his condition in his statement.

During his 34 years coaching Florida State, Bowden amassed a 315-98-4 record

and built the Seminoles into a national power, winning 12 Atlantic Coast Conference championships and national titles in 1993 and 1999. He won 357 games during his 40 years in college coaching and was selected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 2006.

"Coach Bowden built a football dynasty and raised the national profile of Florida State University, and he did it with dignity, class and a sense of humor," Florida State president John Thrasher said in a statement. "Although his accomplishments on the field are unmatched, his legacy will go far beyond football. His faith and family have always come first, and he is an incredible role model for his players and fans alike. He is beloved by the FSU family."

Bowden retired following the 2009 season with a Gator Bowl win over West Virginia in Florida State's 28th straight postseason appearance.



In this Jan. 18, 2011, file photo, Bobby Bowden poses with the Paul "Bear" Bryant College Coach of the Year Award in Houston. Bowden announced Wednesday, that he has been diagnosed with a terminal medical condition.

Bowden had wanted to coach another season to continue his pursuit of 400 wins, but Florida State officials did not renew his contract. He was replaced by then-offensive coordinator Jimbo Fisher.

"Bobby Bowden has meant everything to Florida State athletics and so much to college football in general," Florida State athletic director David Coburn said in a statement. "He is a part of the heart and

soul of FSU, but it goes beyond even that - he is a big part of the history of the game.

"Anyone who has had the opportunity to be around Coach Bowden knows what it is like to know a person who has his priorities in the right order, who loves life and values integrity and honor."

Mississippi State football coach Mike Leach, the architect of some of the most prolific offenses in the history of the game, said Bowden has been an example to every coach.

"He's one of those guys that made us all want to coach when we were younger, made it exciting," Leach said. "Coach Bowden threw the ball before most people were inclined to. When I was young, in high school, junior high, I used to watch his teams because they're a team that was liable to upset teams ahead of them, and that's as they started throwing the ball around, became more and more explosive."

## SON

(Continued from Page 11)

of Jake Rose and the uncle of LB Carter Dennis, two cousins who are teammates from River on this year's Ohio squad. Their uncle Kyle Rose also played in the game in 1990.

"It's an honor to continue playing in this game and to keep the family name in the game," Jake Rose said. "I've heard stories from everyone I've talked to and about how good those teams were."

Eric McKeever recovered an onside kick and intercepted a pass in the 1996 game and his son will be looking to leave his mark on the contest, as well.

"He said that he really enjoyed it," Silas McKeever said of his dad. "I'm excited for it, too. It's been a good time so far

here at practice and it's pretty cool that I can carry on the tradition."

Ted Gorman, the current principal of Steubenville High School, will get to watch his son take the field in an Ohio uniform after he played in the 1986 game.

"It's really special when you see that invitation in the mail," Ryan Gorman said. "Having your dad in it is also an honor and a privilege to carry on his tradition and our family name."

Ryan Gorman also takes great pride in the logo on his helmet and the name on the front of the jersey.

"Representing Steubenville Catholic is also definitely going to be an honor," he said.

"We have a lot of guys out here and we're making a lot of good relationships. We want to get this win really badly."

Also suiting up in the 1986 game was Dan Balgo, the father of Will Balgo.

"My dad, uncle and a couple of my mom's siblings played in this game," Will Balgo said. "It's awesome representing their names. Whenever I go to family functions, they always give you that story."

St. Clairsville teammate Reese Skaggs will be aiming to join his father Walt, who was on the winning team in 1987, in the win column.

"My dad said that his team won so we have to win," Reese Skaggs said. "My brother lost

when he played in this game and I don't want to be on that side of the ball. I want to have the higher edge in the family. I was in seventh grade when my brother played and that's when I said 'I have to play in the all-star game, too.' Now, here we are."

Other players on the roster who have had relatives play in the all-star game include John Marshall running back Alex Burton (cousin C.J. Williams in 2011), Wheeling Central offensive lineman Spencer Helms (cousins Joel Griffin in 2014, Trey Duffy in 1981 and Thor Duffy in 2018), and running back Jordan Waterhouse (uncles Greg Kloppner in 1979 and Jerry Ames in 1993) and

Weir wide receiver Gage Reitter (grandfather Jaye Reitter in 1965, cousin Carl Foder Jr. in 1982, uncle A.J. Twardoski in 2005, brother Reed Reitter in 2019 and cousin Jake McC in 2019).

On the Ohio side, Monroe Central lineman Garet Cramer (uncle Jeremy Cramer in 1997 and uncle Eric Cramer in 1998), Toronto's Garret Dozier (brother Austyn Dozier in 2016), Shadyside RB/LB Jacob Visnic (uncle Brian Hammond in 1993), Caldwell defensive lineman Tim Wehr (cousin Aaron Smith in 1993) and Cambridge offensive tackle Brock Valentine (brother Trent Valentine in 2019) all continue to carry on the family name.

## HARLER

(Continued from Page 11)

teamed up with Teyvon Myers, who is also a former player with Jamtland Basket.

Myers knew the talent and skill that Harler brought to the table and put in a good word for the Ohio Valley native.

"He played his second year for them, too," Harler said of Myers. "He played in France this past season but he played a huge part in me getting this opportunity."

"He has a great relationship with the

team's GM and just put in a good word and we got the deal done in two-three days."

Also helping Harler throughout the signing process was his agent Nathan Conley.

"Nathan is out of Charlotte and he is a close friend of mine," Harler said. "He was my trainer in high school and he became a certified agent."

"When I graduated we came to terms and he put out feelers in different

leagues.

"It's a different process because I like to be in control of things, like setting up events, so it's hard to step back and let someone else take over but I trust Nathan."

Best Virginia was ousted in the Sweet 16 of The Basketball Tournament on Wednesday, but, nonetheless, Harler enjoyed the ride with some great teammates.

"It was a great experience being

around all of those guys," Harler said. "Most of them came back to WVU when I was there for summer workouts to be a part of the team, so to see how they went about pre-game rituals and how they take care of their bodies was really cool."

"If you would have told me 10-12 years ago that I'd be on a team with Da'Sean Butler, Kevin Jones and John Flowers I would have laughed, but now I consider them close friends."

## ST.C.

(Continued from Page 11)

defeat Cambridge twice in order to punch its state tournament ticket. That first chance comes tonight at 6. Another victory forces a second game on Saturday at 1 p.m.

Beverly-Lowell (23-7) was the three-time Region 8 titlist.

Things didn't look very good for St. Clairsville as it trailed 6-1 after three innings. However, it chipped away with two tallies in the fourth and two more in the fifth to make it a 6-5 count.

Mason Myers, one of those aforementioned youthful players, capped the comeback with a bases-clearing triple to the fence in right that gave Post 159 a 9-6 advantage. Myers then raced home on a Drew Sefrick groundout.

He also shined on the mound where he picked up the win with four-plus innings of relief work.

held Post 389/750 at bay until they scored a meaningless run in the seventh.

"Mason Myers. Mason Myers. He is one of the most motivated and well-rounded 15-year-old-kids I've seen in a long time," Muklewicz said. "He came through big time tonight for us, both at the plate and on the mound. Pitching isn't something we've ask him to do a lot of, but he did a phenomenal job of keeping a good-hitting team at bay."

Myers only recorded one strikeout, but it was a huge one. It came with two on and no outs in the seventh after Beverly-Lowell had scored one run.

With the teams deadlocked at six, Myers unloaded a drive over the rightfielder's head that scored Jaren Starks, Braylen Blomquist and Chase Goff.

"I wasn't looking for

## AREA

(Continued from Page 11)

Post 15 used that momentum and tallied two in the bottom of the first on a two-run knock by Cameron Taylor and never looked back.

Parkersburg added two more in the second on a Dustin Corley RBI single and an error.

Wheeling managed to cut the deficit in half in the third when Seth Hand dropped an opposite field RBI single into right but, again, with the bases loaded and just one out, a double-play ended the frame.

"We didn't pitch great and didn't hit with runners in scoring position," Wheeling coach Jon-Michael Brunner said. "We can't come up with the big hit right now. We have to regroup, get these guys fresh and re-evaluate who is healthy and go with who we have for next week."

Parkersburg exploded for five in the fourth to

takes."

Both teams tacked on a run each in the sixth.

Bryant was the winning pitcher going four innings with six strikeouts and five walks.

"Colin Bryant did well," Goodwin said. "His velocity was good but his control got a little bit shaky a couple of different times but we worked out of the innings. Our offense really provided the cushion. Our offense helped our pitching (Thursday)."

Cameron Taylor finished with two hits and two RBI, Corley supplied two hits and a RBI and Brett Haskins doubled in the victory.

Jack Scouvar provided the third run of the game for Post 1 on a fielder's choice.

Although it wasn't the outcome Brunner was looking for, he is hoping to see a little more grit from his squad during next week's state tournament.

## STEELERS

(Continued from Page 11)

"It's not easy to replace all of those guys," Roethlisberger said. "But we have guys who are willing and capable and excited to fill those

roles. They want to do everything they can to be the best they can be, and we're excited to see what they can do."

The Steelers expect their restructured offensive line to clear the way for former Alabama standout running back Najee Harris, the team's first-round draft pick. The Steelers plan to feature Harris and put a renewed emphasis this season on improving the run game, which finished last in the NFL in yards rushing in 2020.

"There's an expectation that those guys are going to deliver, and I'm not going to be surprised when they do," Tomlin said. "As a matter of fact, we expect them to."

"You can write a rags-to-riches tale, like we're

day I threw a ball since minicamp, other than throwing to my son in the backyard. It feels like more normal of an off-season."

"I just think that physically I'll feel better in terms of my arm."

Roethlisberger still threw for 3,803 yards with 33 touchdowns and 10 interceptions in 15 games last season. The Steelers' passing game ranked seventh in the AFC and 15th in the NFL, but a non-existent run game, and a predictable short passing attack helped contribute to Pittsburgh's late-season struggles.

The Steelers opted not to renew Randy Fichtner's contract in January, and they promoted Matt Canada - the team's quarterback's coach last season - in an effort to inject some life into an offense that sputtered down the stretch.

That has required Roethlisberger to take on

# Poe Plans to Join the Army After All-Star Game

By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer

BETHANY — To become an OVAC All-Star, one must stand out above the rest.

That is exactly what got Hundred's Cody Poe (OL/LB) invited to the 75th Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Game — he refused to be ordinary.

When the final whistle blows on Saturday night, Poe will switch his focus to a new endeavor as he plans to enlist in the Army and, once again, he wants to make an impact.

"I'm looking forward to meeting new people who are all there for the same reason," Poe said. "I'm looking to stand out a little more. I don't want to just be another person, I want to be 'A person.'"

Poe originally was looking to join the Marine Corps but decided the Army

was a better fit for him.

"My original ship day was June 7 for the Marine Corps but I didn't like the deal, so I decided to take my services to the Army," Poe said. "They offered me the same contract for better pay and better opportunities."

Poe has always had thoughts of enlisting after graduation and will begin his duties in field artillery.

"I've always been interested in the military," Poe said. "Field artillery is kind of a new thing for me. I always wanted to be an infantryman but field artillery just happened to be what I got and I stuck with it. I might move up from there."

Along the way, his step-father and Hundred's head football coach D.J.



CODY POE

Byrd did exactly what a father and head football coach should do — he helped him grow and gave him someone to look up to in the process.

"The Army was just a decision that I felt good about," Poe said. "My step-dad, who I just call my dad, was very influential to me. He said that 'if you want to do it, nothing will stop you.' So I thank him 100% for everything he has taught me. He is my role model."

Byrd always made sure to help Poe down the path in life that made him the happiest and instilled in him a solid work ethic.

"He's always wanted to be in the military," Byrd said. "Ever since he was a little kid he would watch things about the war. I told him 'it's just like

the all-star game, someone is always going to be bigger, stronger and faster than you but don't let anyone outwork you and if you do something that makes you happy, then you are going to live a happy life.'

"We're still not sure if he is leaving in December or before or after but we're going to finish meeting with recruiters after the all-star game but he has made that commitment and I know he is going to give 100%."

While Poe is putting in the work at practice this week at Bethany College in preparation for Saturday's contest, Byrd is enjoying just taking in the moment as a parent.

"His mom might have been more excited than anyone when he got that call," Byrd said.

Please see POE, Page 16



Photo by Cody Tomer

Best Virginia Alex Ruoff looks for an open man during the team's exhibition game at Wheeling Park. Best Virginia fell to Team 23 on Wednesday in the Sweet 16 of The Basketball Tournament in Charleston, W.Va.

## 'Best Virginia' Ousted in TBT

CHARLESTON — period of play and was outscored 9-2 during that span.

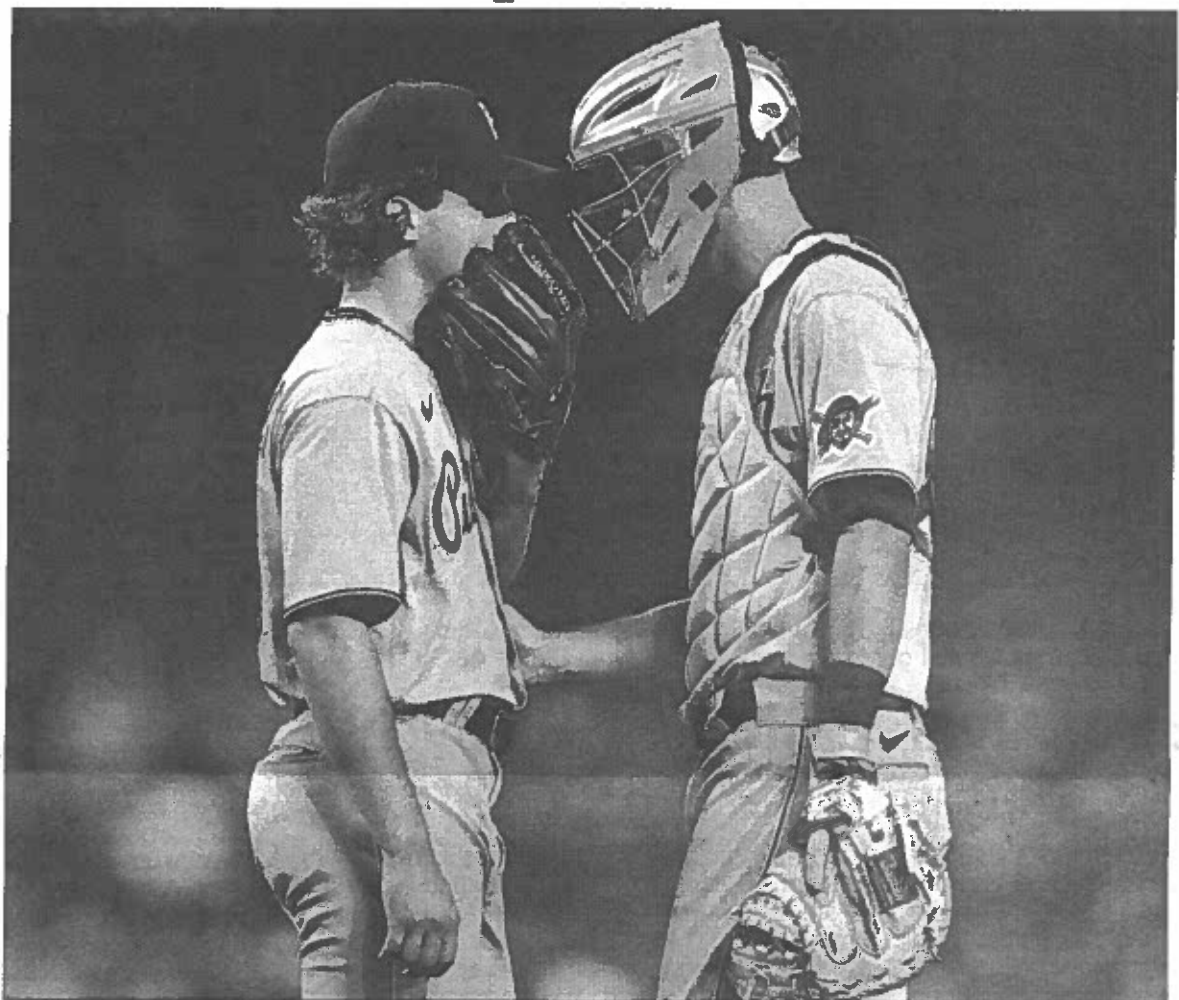
Kevin Jones paced Best Virginia with 14 points, while Nathan Adrian tallied 12, John Flowers followed with 11 and Jamel Morris added 10.

Best Virginia drained five treys in the opening frame for a 21-17 edge but fell behind 44-37 at halftime as Team 23 shot 68% in the second.

An 11-0 run catapulted Best Virginia back on top 57-53 entering the fourth but the sixth seed in the West Virginia Region was too much down the stretch and ultimately ended Best Virginia's memorable TBT journey.

Best Virginia trailed just 66-65 entering the Elam Ending but shot just 5 of 18 from the field during the timeless

# Diamondbacks Sweep Pirates



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Max Kranick, left, talks with catcher Jacob Stallings during the fourth inning of Wednesday's game against the Arizona Diamondbacks.

## Seventh inning homers propel Arizona to 6-4 victory

By JACK THOMPSON  
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Pavin Smith and Daulton Varsho have hit back to back in the lineup for a few seasons while coming up through Arizona's system.

But they had never hit consecutive home runs — until Wednesday.

And they picked a good time to do it: in the seventh inning of a tied game. Smith hit his ninth of the season and Varsho followed with his second, and the Diamondbacks held on for their fourth straight victory, 6-4 over

the Pittsburgh Pirates.

"It finally happened," Smith said. "We've been doing this for three, four years and always talked about it."

Smith connected on a changeup from Duane Underwood Jr. (2-3) leading off the seventh to break a 4-4 tie, and Varsho followed with a blast to right against a fastball.

"They're not missing the pitches they're looking for," Arizona manager Torey Lovullo said.

The Diamondbacks may have lost their hottest hitter, however.

Lovullo said after the game that Josh Rojas has a dislocated left pinkie, suffered on a failed steal attempt in the eighth.

The finger was set back into place and Rojas was having tests after the game. Lovullo said. "We're hoping for the best-case scenario and he's day to day, but we'll have to see."

Rojas, who mostly plays second base but has seen time at shortstop and in the outfield, is batting .390 in his last 12 games for Arizona.

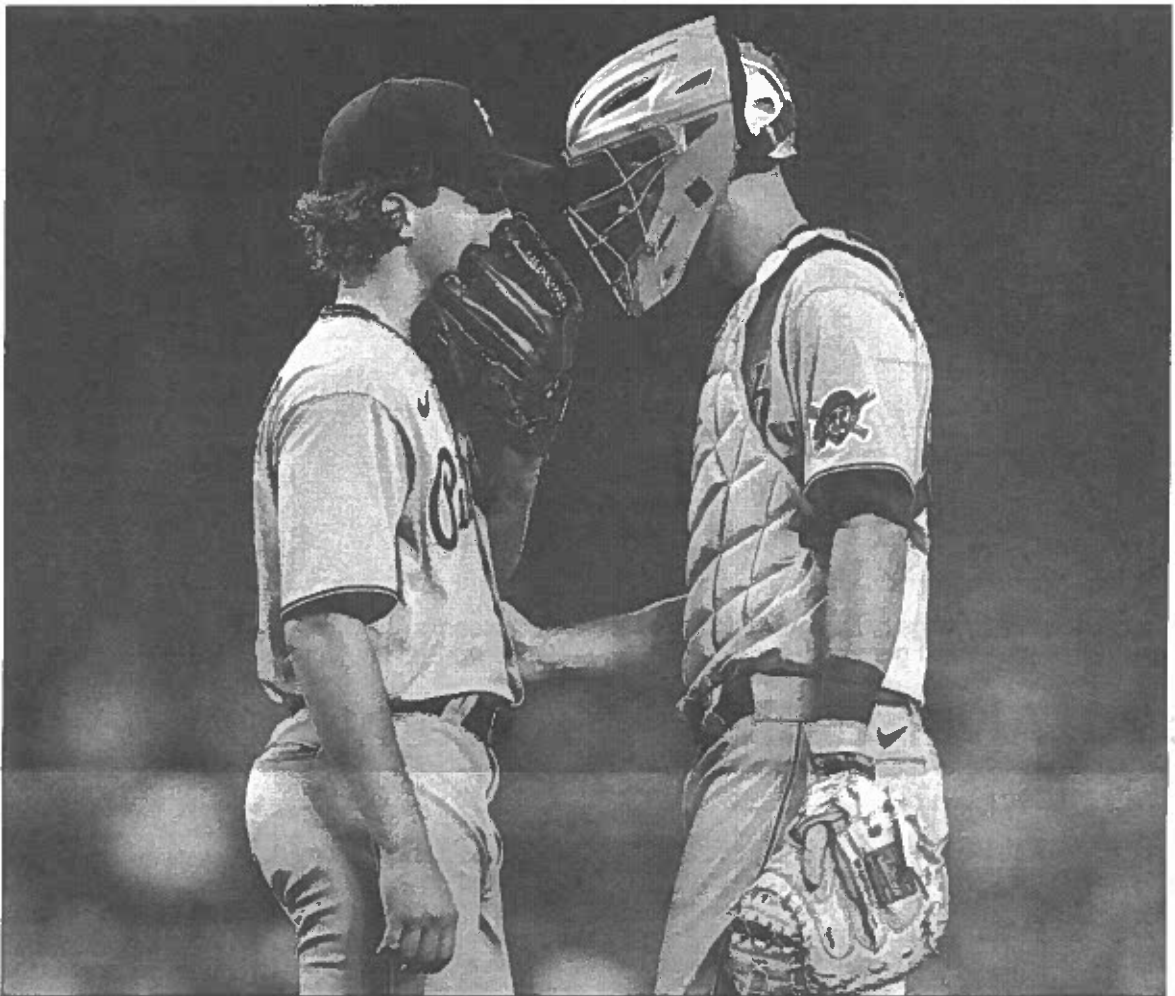
Please see PIRATES, Page 16

## Steelers Veteran Linebacker Vince Williams Retires



## OVAC To Welcome Back 2000 All Stars

# Diamondbacks Sweep Pirates



Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Max Kranick, left, talks with catcher Jacob Stallings during the fourth inning of Wednesday's game against the Arizona Diamondbacks, AP Photo

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However, that's where the road ends as Best Virginia was bested in Charleston on Wednesday night by No. 6 Team 23, which pocketed a 75-67 triumph.

Best Virginia trailed just 66-65 entering the Elam Ending but shot just 5 of 18 from the field during the timeless

## Steelers Veteran Linebacker Vince Williams Retires

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Vince Williams isn't sticking with the Pittsburgh Steelers after all.

The veteran linebacker announced his retirement Wednesday on the eve of training camp, just months after taking a pay cut to return for a ninth season.

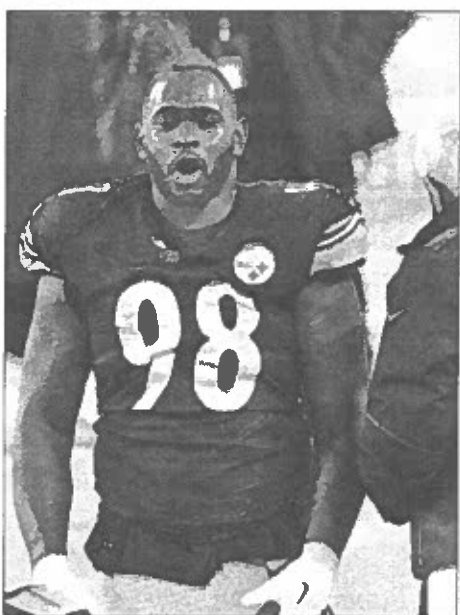
The 31-year-old Williams appeared in 121 games for the Steelers after making the team as a sixth-round pick out of Florida State in 2013.

He carved out early in his career as a special teams ace and then became one of the more physical inside linebackers in the NFL, forming a close bond with Ryan Shazier before Shazier's career-ending back injury late in the 2017 season.

The Steelers released Williams in a salary-cap move in March — a decision that saved the club \$4 million — then re-signed him to a one-year deal a month later.

Williams collected 20.5 sacks during his career. He was expected to compete with Rob Spillane for a starting spot next to Devin Bush in Pittsburgh's 3-4 defense.

"Vince Williams notified us today



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker Vince Williams (98) has made the decision to retire from the NFL after an excellent 8-year professional career.

that he will retire from the game of football," Steelers general manager Kevin Colbert said in a statement. "We respect his decision and want to thank him for his time with us as he consistently showed great character and leadership in addition to his contributions on the field. We wish Vince and his family the best."

## OVAC To Welcome Back 2020 All-Stars

**By SETH STASKEY**  
For The Intelligencer

BETHANY — All of the pieces were basically in place for the 2020 OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game.

Unfortunately, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the game was canceled last April. It was the first time since 1971 that the game hadn't been played.

It left OVAC All-Star Game Director Dirk Fitch with the unenviable task of delivering the news to coaches, players, cheerleaders, band members as well as many of the Queen of Queens candidates, who had secured their respective school's spot in the pageant that what is usually one of the best weeks of the summer for the participants, that it wasn't going to happen.

"I played in the (1979) game, so I

know what this (event) means to you for the rest of your life," Fitch said. "When we had to make the call (to cancel), it about broke my heart."

Shortly after the planning for this weekend's game started, the OVAC decided to try its best to recognize those aforementioned 2020 participants.

Though none of the Class of 2020 participants will take part in the festivities this weekend like they had envisioned prior to the COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020, they've all been invited back to be recognized.

"(Cancelling the 2020 game) was a true shame," Fitch said. "Having as many (of the participants) back as we can is something we're excited to do, and we want the crowd to recognize them."

Please see OVAC, Page 16





## Asbury, Zervos Named Mr. and Ms. Monarch

Photo Provided

Colton Asbury and Zara Zervos have been chosen as Mr. and Ms. Monarch for the 2020-21 academic year. Asbury participated in cross country, track and swimming, while earning 11 letters in his time at JM. He is undecided about his career path. Zervos ran cross country and track and was on the soccer and swim teams. She collected 16 letters as a Monarch. She graduated in the top 1% of the JMHS Class of 2021 and is the recipient of the National Merit Scholarship, along with being the U.S. Presidential Scholarship winner for her accomplishments in academics and the career and technical education field. Zervos will attend West Virginia University to major in Aerospace Engineering and will be a member in the cross country and track teams. This annual award is based on a point system. Student athletes get credit for participating on a team, while in high school. They also got bonus points for earning a letter in a sport, being named to an all-state team, all-conference team, as well as for their academic achievements. Pictured from left are Ms. Monarch Zara Zervos and Mr. Monarch Colton Asbury.



AP Photo

U.S. guard Sue Bird brings the ball up during the first half of the team's pre-Olympic exhibition basketball game against Nigeria in Las Vegas on Sunday, July 18.

## Bird, Alvarez Chosen To Carry U.S. Flag at Opening Ceremony

By DOUG FEINBERG  
AP Basketball Writer

Four-time Olympic women's basketball gold medalist Sue Bird and baseball player Eddy Alvarez were chosen as U.S. flag bearers for the opening ceremony of the Olympics on Friday night.

Alvarez, who won a silver medal in speedskating at the 2014 Sochi Olympics, and Bird were chosen by a vote of fellow U.S. athletes. They

are the first duo to share the honor of leading the delegation into the ceremony.

Bird is the second U.S. women's basketball player to carry the flag, joining current coach Dawn Staley, who did it at the 2004 games. Those were the first that Bird participated in.

"It's an incredible honor to be selected the flag bearer for Team USA," Bird said. "I know what that means, because I got

to witness Dawn Staley go through it when she was selected in 2004. It's an honor that is bigger than the moment in that you've been selected by your fellow Team USA athletes to represent the entire delegation, and it will last forever."

Alvarez becomes the first baseball player to carry the flag for the U.S. The sport returned to the Games at the request of Japan after being absent from the previous two Olympics.

He made his major league debut last year with the Miami Marlins, but has been in the minors this year. If the U.S. baseball team were to medal, he'd be the only the third American to medal in both the Winter and Summer Games, joining Eddie Egan and Lauryn Williams.

## POE

(Continued from Page 15)

"This is a whole different experience for me because I don't have to prepare anything. I'm just soaking it all in and I just get to be dad this week."

On the field, Poe did it all for Byrd's football team over his high school career. He turned in 415 tackles, 12 sacks and eight forced fumbles. He also recorded 10 touchdowns and 210 receiving yards but he enjoyed tackling more than the scoring.

"He's not a running back by trait," Byrd said. "We moved him there but he honestly never wanted the ball. He wanted to play defense and hit people and play offensive line. He doesn't care about scoring touchdowns. For him to

do the things he did to help us as a program. I'm super proud of him and super proud he gets to play in this game. He deserves it."

As a senior, Poe was named an all-state honorable mention, All-OVAC, and All-Mason Dixon on his way to suiting up for the West Virginia All-Star Team.

"I'm excited to play," Poe said. "It's very special and all of these guys are here for a reason. We haven't done anything since our last high school game but I expect to be able to play alongside them at the same level. I love being here and talking to these guys - it's a great time."

## OVAC

(Continued from Page 15)

As of Wednesday, 20 of the 64 players chosen for last year's game have committed to return. Three cheerleaders are scheduled to return and several Queen of Queens will be recognized this evening at the Capitol Theater during the annual pageant.

"We will take the (returnees) up until that day if they're able to get a hold of us," Fitch said. "Many of the students had given us school emails (last year when they were chosen) and those have been obviously wiped out.

"Plus, a lot of the kids have gone back to school. If one shows up, we're happy and everything else is a bonus."

Football players committed to return from Ohio include: Austin Angus (St. Clairsville), Caden Fryman (Fort Frye), Colton Grimm (St. Clairsville), Easton Hitchens (Shenandoah),

Donte Lewis (Martins Ferry), Cole Margos (Staubenville Central), Alex Meade (Barnesville), Chase Nolan (Bellair), Heath Rosen (River) and Derek Witsberger (St. Clairsville).

The West Virginia representatives expected to return are Max Camilletti (Brooke), Jalen Creighton (Wheeling Central), Drew Curtis (Weir), Elijah Gillette (Weir), Michael Horan (Wheeling Central), Adam Murray (Wheeling Central), Garrett Scott (Cameron), Brennan Sechrist (Madonna), Sebastian Spencer (Weir) and Trevin Tush (Linsly).

The cheerleaders returning are Sydney Carpenter (Barnesville), Kelsey Crawford (Madonna) and Sadie Neunan (John Marshall).

While the players and cheerleaders will be recognized during the first quarter of the game, the OVAC elected to put its annual rotation between

bigger and small schools coaching the game aside to invite B.J. Depew and Eric Huck back to coach West Virginia and Ohio, respectively.

Both coaches expressed their desire to do something for those 2020 kids. After all, those coaches had selected the players for the game already.

"I hope they all come," Huck said. "There was nothing really anyone could have done to have avoided (last year's cancellation), but to try to bring them back and honor them is important. I am glad that the OVAC saw that as well."

Depew was excited about how important it was to the OVAC and game officials to be able to pay homage to the 2020 all stars.

"Everyone realizes how special this (all star game) is and it's just a classy and necessary move on the part of the OVAC," Depew said.

## PIRATES

(Continued from Page 15)

He was 2 for 4 with a run scored, a double, a walk and a stolen base.

Nick Ahmed had three of Arizona's 12 hits against six Pirates pitchers.

The Diamondbacks won their 30th game of the season - against an MLB-worst 68 losses - and their fourth in a row to match their season-best winning streak. They won four straight from April 18-22, including three games at Cincinnati which was their only previous sweep of the season.

Brett de Geus (2-0) walked John Nogowski to force in the tying run in the seventh after the Pirates loaded the bases on three singles against Joe Mantipty. But de Geus retired Jacob Stallings on a double play to end the inning.

"We got out of a bases-loaded jam," Lovullo said. "It was real nice to see that type of success."

For the Pirates, a promising run that began with three consecutive wins against the NL East-leading Mets - capped by a big comeback on Stallings' walk-off grand slam last Saturday - has turned sour.

After scoring six runs

in the first against New York on Sunday, the Pirates ended up losing 7-6 and now have lost four straight, the last three to the team with baseball's worst record. The Pirates now head to San Francisco to play the NL West-leading Giants.

"We're getting hits, but we're not capitalizing on the run-scoring opportunities. It's frustrating," Pirates manager Derek Shelton said.

"We played well that whole Mets series. We're going have to regroup on Thursday (an off day) because we're getting ready to play one of the best teams in baseball."

Varsho, playing center field after catching Tuesday night, also doubled to start a two-run fourth.

All-Star Bryan Reynolds had three hits for the Pirates.

Joakim Soria retired the side in order in the ninth for his sixth save for the Diamondbacks.

Madison Bumgarner went five innings for Arizona in his second start since coming off the injured list (left shoulder inflammation). He struck out one, walked none and threw 79 pitches before coming out for a pinch hitter. He allowed three runs, but just one earned.

"It was nice to see Bum have another good outing," Lovullo said. "He could have gone one

giving up seven hits and four runs.

### METS 7, REDS 0

Marcus Stroman pitched one-hit ball for eight innings. Dominic Smith launched a grand slam and the New York Mets cruised to a win over the Cincinnati Reds.

### PADRES 3, BRAVES 2

**1ST GAME**  
ATLANTA (AP) - Fernando Tatis Jr. hit a two-run homer, starter Chris Paddock reversed his recent struggles and San Diego bat Atlanta in the first game of a doubleheader.

### RAYS 5, ORIOLES 4

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) - Austin Meadows hit a two-out, two-run single in the ninth inning and Tampa Bay rallied past Baltimore.

### ROYALS 6, BREWERS 3

MILWAUKEE (AP) - Nicky Lopez hit a bases-loaded, tiebreaking double, Brad Keller earned his first win in over six weeks and Kansas City completed a season sweep of Milwaukee.

### ROCKIES 6

### MARINERS 3

DENVER (AP) - Austin Gomber pitched effectively for six innings after spending a month on the injured list. Dom Nunez hit a bases-loaded double in a five-run first and Colorado beat Seattle.

Gomber (7-5) allowed three runs on three hits

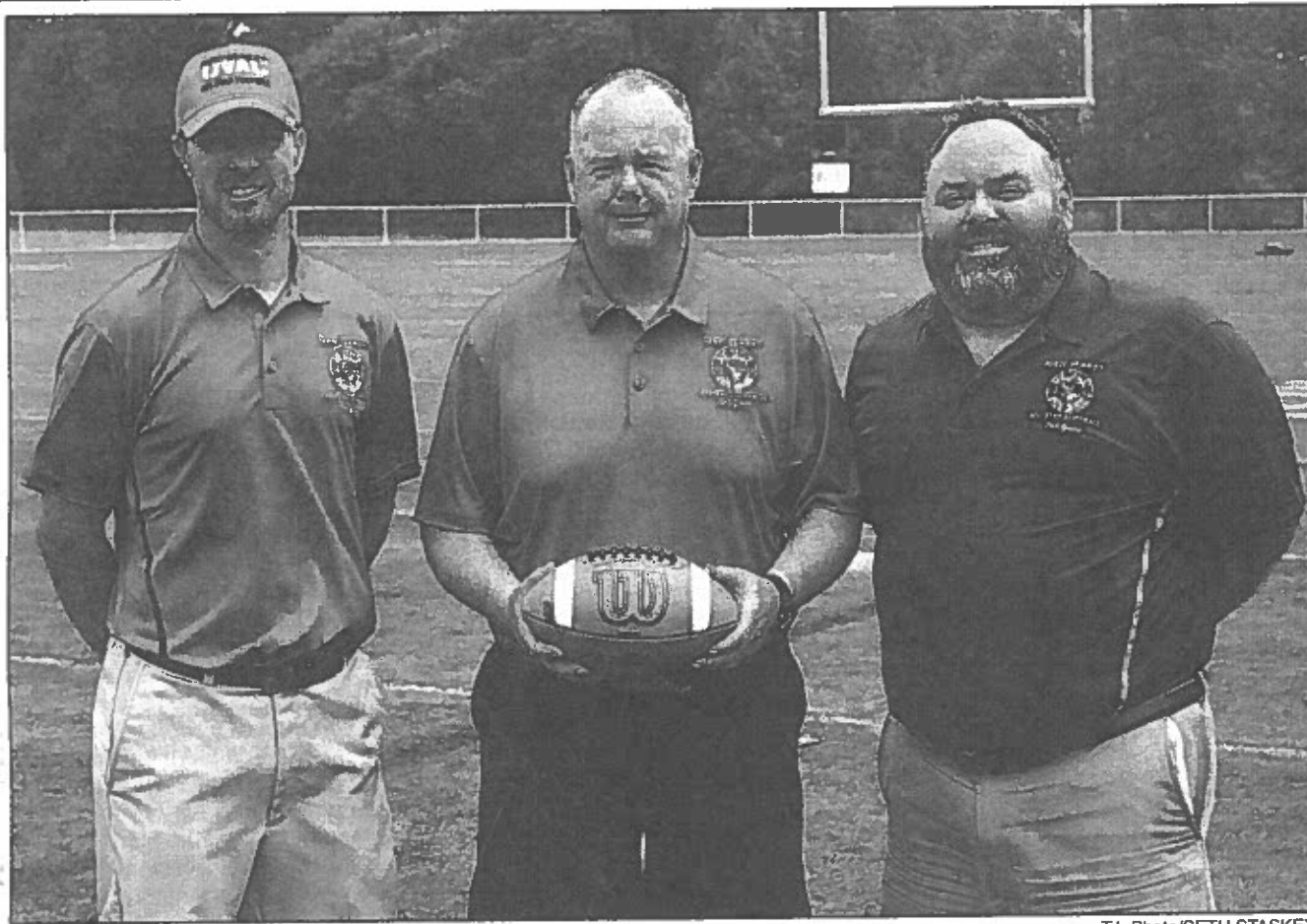
BEST of the OHIO VALLEY  
Readers' Choice  
AWARDS

2021

Bill Cowher/B3  
Olympics/B4-6  
Classified/B9-10

# SPORTS

Tuesday,  
July 20, 2021



OVAC RUDY Mumley All-Star Football Game Director Dirk Fitch (center) is joined by head coaches Eric Huck of Ohio (left) and B.J. Depew of West Virginia during media day activities at Bethany College Monday afternoon.

T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

## Roughriders plan to return for '22 season

By KIM NORTH  
Times Leader Sports Writer

WHEELING -- Once a Roughrider, always a Roughrider.

That was the theme inside WesBanco Arena Saturday night, and seems to be one that will carry on into next season.

Gregg Fornario, owner of the West Virginia Roughriders, said Saturday night as the franchise raised its 2019 AAL Championship Banner into the rafters inside WesBanco Arena, that he has plans to return to The Friendly City.

"The franchise was for sale," he explained. "When the pandemic hit in 2020 and all the confusion that was going on, it wasn't a good time for someone to grab it from me. At this point, we plan on coming back for the 2022 season."

He said a formal announcement probably won't come for several months.

"We've got some time. I would have to say early-to-mid-December," he allowed. "We'll have to let the league know what is going on, so if there are no setbacks due to this COVID, and I don't think there will be, now will be the time to figure that out."

The franchise is committed to the NAL for the 2022 season, he said.

When asked about a head coach after Mook Zimmerman resigned following the 2019 season, Fornario pulled no punches.

"I will never play arena football without Coach Mook. Period," he stressed.

As for players, "we never talk to players until around Halloween or early November. See, ROUGHRIDERS, Page B2

## Chemistry growing on and off the field at OVAC All-Star Camp

By SETH STASKEY  
Times Leader Sports Editor

BETHANY -- As it pertains to OVAC All-Star camp, which is now in its second full day at Bethany College, a lot of work can get done in a short amount of time.

Both coaches -- Ohio's Eric Huck and West Virginia's B.J. Depew -- hope that trend continues as they

continue to prepare their teams for the 75th edition of the OVAC Rudy Mumley game at Wheeling Island Stadium.

One of the issues -- on top of making sure their teams are well schooled on the offensive and defensive schemes -- is making sure they keep their players focused on the preparation with the mindset that the game isn't played on Tuesday.

"We have a lot of kids who are ready to play in this game," Depew said. "We're really happy so far and when you get all of these kids together (on the field), it's impressive."

West Virginia had the bulk of its offense installed in two practices and so far Depew likes what he's seen.

"These kids have picked things up quickly," Depew said. "We wanted See, OVAC, Page B2

## Ohio names defensive side personnel

By SETH STASKEY  
Times Leader Sports Editor

Defenses are normally ahead of offenses in all-star games.

Eric Huck, who is coaching Ohio in Saturday night's 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Game, believes he has defensive pieces to be extremely solid on all three levels.

As for the linebackers, Huck said, "I think we have some athletic inside and outside linebackers. We have

some really good players, who will be flying all over the field."

In the secondary, speed and athleticism were the common ingredients in which Huck was looking for when he made his selections.

"We have a lot of different defensive backs to take a look at," Huck said. "We have to make sure we get the guys in the right spot because we can't teach everything in a week."

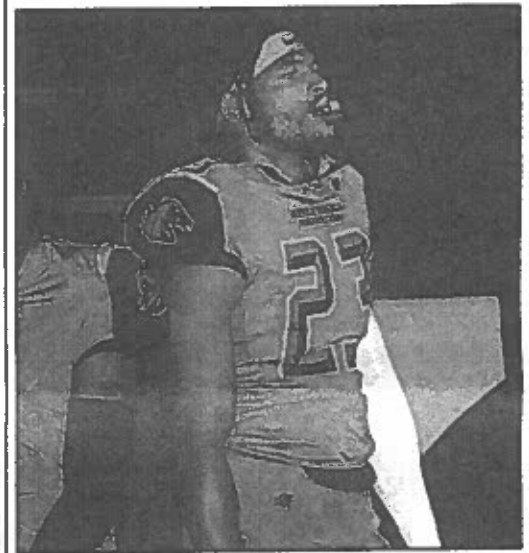
Along with the defensive standouts, Huck has announced Warren's

Joel Chevalier will handle the punting and kicking duties.

"Joel is an outstanding athlete who actually played on both sides of the ball as well as handled the special teams," Huck said. "We really like the versatility he brings."

Here's a capsule look at the Ohio players:

JAYMISON BAKER, Fort Frye -- This former Cadet was a standout at receiver and defensive back for See, OHIO, Page B2



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

FORMER BRIDGEPORT product Cole Smelley watches intently as the West Virginia Roughriders' 2019 AAL Championship Banner is raised to the rafters inside WesBanco Arena in downtown Wheeling On Saturday night.



## Milwaukee tries to focus as championship is just a win away

MILWAUKEE (AP) -- High atop the outside of Fiserv Forum -- way above even a leaping Giannis Antetokounmpo's reach -- blares the Bucks' postseason motto.

"HISTORY IN THE MAKING" it reads, a sign and a situation that's now impossible to ignore.

And yet, that's exactly what the Bucks are trying to do.

They can indeed make history Tuesday night as Milwaukee's first NBA champion since 1971. But the Bucks have to resist thinking about what happens if they beat the Phoenix Suns in Game 6.

"It's hard because you work so

disciplined."

The Bucks have won the last three games to set up a potential party 50 years in the making.

Around 17,000 fans are expected inside the arena and the Bucks announced Monday that the Deer District has been expanded to allow up to 65,000 fans to stand shoulder-to-shoulder outside. Baricades line the sidewalks around the arena and restaurants within walking distance were contemplating how to get employees into and back home from work through the anticipated crowds.

It's a scene that couldn't have

ruary, nearly two months after the season began. Even when postseason play started in May, capacity was capped at 9,100, a little above 50%.

Whatever the number is Tuesday, it will sound a whole lot louder if the Bucks are lifting the Larry O'Brien Trophy.

"But we got to focus, we got to do our job," Antetokounmpo said. "Then they can do their job celebrating at the end. But we got to do our job first."

The Suns are excited, too.

That's how Chris Paul said they feel, despite blowing a 2-0 lead



Southeastern Conference Commissioner Greg Sankey echoed the NCAA president's call for potential changes in how college athletics are governed Monday, though he did not endorse a breakaway by the five most powerful leagues.

Sankey spoke about the

SEC Media Days, less than a week after NCAA President Mark Emmert said it's time to consider decentralizing and deregulating college sports in a shifting of the traditional power structure.

Emmert's stance, Sankey said, "does speak to we're going to have to

ly" but not necessarily formally separating Power Five conferences from the pack.

"Yet I think people are going to be asking that question of me," Sankey said. "I think within our programs people will ask that question of me. I think nationally people

me. But it doesn't predict that kind of outcome at this point."

The powerhouse SEC and the rest of the college football are preparing for a fall season amid one of the most tumultuous periods in college sports. Aside from the heavy impacts of the pandemic, the landscape has clearly changed with a Supreme Court ruling against the NCAA last month in an antitrust case related to

compensation.

And as of this month, athletes no longer have to worry about many NCAA, school and conference rules that had prohibited them from earning money off their fame for things such as online endorsements, sponsorship deals and personal appearances. Athletes have begun signing deals big and small to profit off so-called name, image and likeness deals from coast

protected by state laws barring the NCAA from interfering.

Before his session here, Florida coach Dan Mullen met with his team Monday on NIL, saying it was great for players but an issue that needs education for them and coaches alike.

"It's a learning curve, obviously," Mullen said. "You're looking at the state law that we have in Florida."

## • Roughriders

Continued from Page B1

ber," he revealed.

### RIVALRY RENEWED

Cole Smelley and Connor Arlia grew up playing against each other as members of the Bridgeport and Weirton Madonna football programs, respectively. However, the talented twosome finally had the opportunity to play together during that magical 2019 championship run.

Saturday night was a different story, though.

Arlia was one of the main targets for Team Mook quarterback Arvell Nelson, who originally signed to play collegiately at the University of Iowa after a stellar prep career at Cleveland Glenville. Arlia caught two touchdowns in his team's 40-27 win over Team Hardy, which was coached by former NFL All-Pro Greg Hardy who played for the Dallas Cowboys.

He relished the banner-raising ceremony.

"It was a great feeling. It was exciting, not only for the guys that played on that team but the guys that have come here from the Richmond team and the fans of the Ohio Valley," Arlia said of the banner raising. "From now on when I come in here to watch a Wheeling Nailers game or watch the OVAC Wrestling Tournament, I can look up

and see that banner.

"Hopefully, one day I can tell my kids that I played on that team."

As far as playing against his friend? "Cole and I have a nice, friendly rivalry going," Arlia said with a smile. "I think we've been competing against each other since we were in 8th grade. It's gone back and forth."

Smelley echoed Arlia's thoughts.

"That brought back a lot of good memories," he said of the banner being hoisted. "My son was here to see that. He wasn't born yet in 2019 when we had our run, so this was the first time he got to see me play in a game, too."

Smelley did get one shot in on Arlia as he went out for a pass.

"I had to. We've been going at it since junior high," he said. "He's a fierce competitor. He works hard. He earned the win tonight, but it was fun."

Both plan on being a part of the team in 2022.

**ANOTHER VALLEY PRODUCT**  
Steubenville High grad Jerryl Christian played for both franchises. He saw action in eight games during the Roughriders title run.

The former Big Red product has also played for the Amarillo Venom where he was a teammate of Nate Davis, a former Bellaire standout quarterback.

## • Ohio

Continued from Page B1

Huck's team.

The 6-3, 190 pounder picked off seven passes and posted 35 tackles. He also broke up seven passes. He led the Fort in receiving and interceptions.

Baker was named First Team All-Eastern District, Honorable Mention All-Ohio and All-OVAC.

Jaymison, who is the son of Rachel and Josh Meek and Coty Baker, plans to attend Washington State Community College.

**WILL BALGO**, St. Clairsville – This former Red Devils shined at numerous spots for Coach Brett McLean's team.

The 6-4, 250 pounder led the Red Devils in tackles with 90 and also picked off three passes.

Balgo was named First Team All-Eastern District, All-OVAC, All-Valley and All Times Leader. He was an honorable mention All-Ohio pick.

Along with football, Balgo was a multiple-year letterman in baseball and basketball.

Will, who plans to attend and play football at Ashland University, is the son of Dan and Diane Balgo.

**JEREMY BROWN**, Indian Creek – This former Redskin was all over the field for Coach Andrew Connor's team.

The 5-8, 170 pounder logged 67.5 tackles, nine for loss, 7.5 sacks and had 10 quarterback hurries. He broke up two passes and forced two fumbles. He also had 486 all-purpose yards.

Brown was First Team All-Eastern District and All-OVAC.

Jeremy, who is the son of Nikk Pappa, plans to attend Eastern Gateway Community College.

**EVAN CARPENTER**, Martins Ferry – This former Purple Rider was one of the centerpieces of the offense and defense for Coach Chas Yoder's team.

The 6-2, 220 pounder recorded 61 solo and 34 assisted tackles as a senior. He also had four sacks, 10 tackles for loss, three forced fumbles and recovered a fumble. He blocked two kicks and picked off a pass. Offensively, he rushed for 769 yards and 14 touchdowns.

Carpenter was named First Team All-Ohio as a linebacker twice and was the Eastern District Defensive Player of the Year a like number of times. He was All-OVAC, All-Times Leader and was selected to play in the Ohio North-South Game.

Evan, who plans to attend Findlay University to play football, is the son of Sherri and Dan Carpenter.

**JOEL CHEVALIER**, Warren – This former Warrior was an effective kicker and punter for Coach Matt Kimes' team.

The 6-2, 175 pounder averaged 39.3 yards per punt with a long of 67 yards. He dropped eight inside the 20 yard line and three inside the 10. He had a long of 43 yards on a field goal.

Chevalier was named All-Ohio Sec-

ond Team and Mid-Ohio Valley Punter of the Year.

Joel, who plans to attend Marietta College, is the son of Allan and Kim Chevalier.

**DYLAN HART**, Fort Frye – This former Cadet was a defensive standout for Huck and company.

The 6-foot, 215 pounder posted 98 tackles and four sacks in 11 games last season, which followed up his 111 tackles and three sack 2019 campaign. He had 117 stops as a sophomore.

Hart was First Team All-Eastern District twice and also to the All-Ohio First Team. He was named All-OVAC.

Along with football, Hart was a standout for the Cadets basketball team.

Dylan, who plans to attend Glenville State, is the son of Scott and Linda Hart.

**JORDAN JOSEPH**, Shadyside – This former Tiger was a deep-play threat on offense and a shut-down defensive back for Coach Mark Holenka's team.

The 5-10, 175 pounder recorded 28 tackles, including 23 solo from his corner spot. He also picked off three passes, forced and recovered a fumble.

Joseph earned All-Eastern District First Team, All-MOVL, All-OVAC Honorable Mention and twice named Honorable Mention All-Ohio.

Along with football, Joseph was a key member for the Tiger basketball, baseball and track teams.

Jordan, who is the son of Joel Joseph and Christina Fuller, plans to attend Hocking College and play football.

**ROCCO ROMEO**, Conotton Valley – This former Rocket was a defensive standout for Coach Don Hertler's team.

The 5-8, 165 pounder recorded over 125 tackles and 10 for loss during his career. He recovered four fumbles and picked off a pass.

Romeo was First Team All-OVAC, Second Team All-Eastern District and was a team captain.

Rocco, who is the son of Douglas and Glenda Romeo, plans to attend Wilmington College.

**JACOB VISNIC**, Shadyside – This former Tiger was a two-way mainstay for Holenka's team.

The 6-foot, 225 pounder rushed for 1,246 yards and had 628 yards receiving in his career. Defensively, he posted 156 career solo tackles with 147 assists, including 29 for loss and 7.5 sacks.

Visnic was named Second Team All-Ohio after being named First-Team All-Eastern District, All-OVAC, All-Times Leader and All Valley.

Also a standout in the classroom, Visnic is a member of the National Honor Society, Academic All-OVAC and Chemistry Club. He's also part of the Staying Clean Club and was part of the football and track teams.

Jacob, who is the son of Melissa Visnic, plans to attend Marietta College and play football.

## • Bucks

Continued from Page B1

went to the beginning of the season and said we had a chance to be where we are right now, would you take it? Absolutely," Paul said.

"And we get a chance to determine the outcome. It's not like the game is going to be simulated or somebody else's got to play. We get a chance. We control our own destiny. So I think that's the exciting part about it."

If the Suns do win Tuesday, they would bring the series back to Phoenix for Game 7 on Thursday.

To do so, they will have to call upon the fight they showed in Game 5, when they gave themselves a chance to win in the closing seconds after the Bucks

Game 6.

"We all know what's at stake and what's on the line," Booker said. "Everybody is going to have to give a little bit more because what we have done hasn't been enough."

Just two years ago, the Bucks had the league's best record and were two wins away from their first NBA Finals since 1974 before losing a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference finals against Toronto.

That disappointment helped build a Bucks team that doesn't waver when it's down. Milwaukee was behind 2-0 to Brooklyn in the second round and is now a victory away from overcoming

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## SPORTS

Wednesday,  
July 21, 2021

## OVAC All-Star Game was a long-time goal for many

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

BETHANY – For some, it's a dream! For many Ohio Valley prep football players it's a goal.

For the 73 players in camp this week at Bethany College, it's a reality.

The annual summer sporting spectacle – the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game – has been in the backs of the minds of the majority of the Ohio all stars since they first attended the game at some point in their youths.

Now, after four years of high school

TYLER  
TONKOVICHAYDEN  
HANNAHJACOB  
VISNIC

football, they'll get one final chance to shine before closing the book on their prep careers when the 75th edition of the all-star game unfolds Saturday night

at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"When you think of the great football players and coaches who have taken part in this game, it makes it even more special," St. Clairsville product Tyler Tonkovich said.

Unlike many all-star games that are contested across sports at all levels, the players in the OVAC Game want to win in the worst way. Usually, it's about the Ohio and West Virginia rivalry and the bragging rights that come with it when the players go off to college, come back in 10 years for their reunion and even

see each other in the grocery store.

Tonkovich, who was a multiple-sport standout for the Red Devils and also played in the OVAC All-Star Baseball Game last month, looks at it even deeper than just the river that separates the two states.

"To reflect and play for those guys who played before us, your school and your own name makes it even more of an honor," Tonkovich said. "Since I was little, I was looking forward to a chance to play in this game. To play in this

See, **OVAC**, Page B2



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

**MAYNARD'S HUNTER** Westlake, second from right, is mobbed by teammates, from left, Corey Kotopka (11), Michael "Zuke" Jacob and Mason Ramsay, while Tyler Ramsay (7) and Eric Banal get ready to join in the celebration after Westlake singled in the winning run in the bottom of the 10th inning Tuesday night in Game 1 of the Ohio Valley Baseball League championship series. Game 2 is tonight in Crescent.

## Maynard rallies twice to top Barton

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

MAYNARD -- Yogi Berra's often-used "It ain't over until it's over" was never more evident Tuesday night.

Second-seeded Maynard rallied twice with two outs and then used Hunter Westlake's RBI single in the bottom of the 10th inning to walk-off a winner against visiting Barton, 7-6, in a whacky Game 1 of the Ohio Valley Baseball League best-of-5 championship series on Firemen's Field inside the Community Park.

"We never quit. Maynard is not going anywhere. We plan on being here for a long time," Maynard player/manager David Vicker said. "These guys never quit. Not once. They believe in each other."

The Indians (15-6) scored twice with two outs in the bottom of the seventh to extend the contest and, after the fourth-seeded and defending champion Braves (11-8) took a 6-2 lead in the top of the ninth, the hosts staged another dramatic comeback to draw even once again.

Jayden Starks led off the bottom of

the 10th with an infield single to the right side and Matt Busby lined the first pitch he saw from Colton Coss, Barton's fourth pitcher, to left-center for a single as Starks stopped at second, setting the stage for Westlake's game-winner.

The former Bellaire High and West Liberty University diamond standout drilled a 2-0 pitch to right-center as Starks raced home to set off a wild celebration that carried all the way down the rightfield line.

"We all got hot there together. We

See, **MAYNARD**, Page B2

## Depew likes his DBs for OVAC Game

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

BETHANY – West Virginia head coach B.J. Depew knows Ohio will want to run the football first and foremost, but he also knows the Buckeye State will have the capability of going to the air, too.

With the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game just a few days away, Depew believes his defensive back candidates will be up to the task.

"I think our secondary could be one of our true strengths," Depew said. "Like we have at receiver, we have some great speed (in the secondary) and there are some guys back there who can be real playmakers."

On top of the defensive backs, Depew chose his own placekicker – Joao Lima – to come and handle the kicking and punting duties.

"Joao never stops working at (his kicking)," Depew said. "Knowing him and him knowing our schemes so well also affords us the opportunity to do a little bit more in the special teams than we might have otherwise been able to."

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The 6-foot, 185 pounder shined at quarterback where he accounted for 1,034 yards of offense and 14 passing touchdowns. He ran for five more.

Away from football, DiMatteis is a standout in the classroom. He's a member of the National Honor Society, was ranked sixth in his graduating class and served as Class Vice President.

Anthony, who plans to attend West Virginia University, is the son of Phil and Camille DiMatteis.

See, **DEPEW**, Page B2

## Linsly products relish one last football game

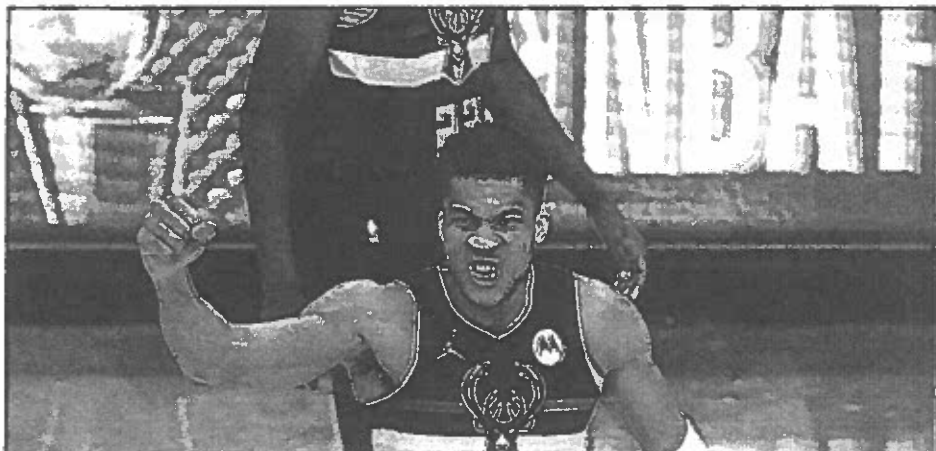
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For The Times Leader

BETHANY – COVID made football's regular season stressful for both players and coaches.

Would there be practice? Would there be games? It was all up in the air.

Now the coaching staff from Linsly and five talented Cadet players are getting one more shot to simply enjoy the week and one more game together, without fear of the unknown.

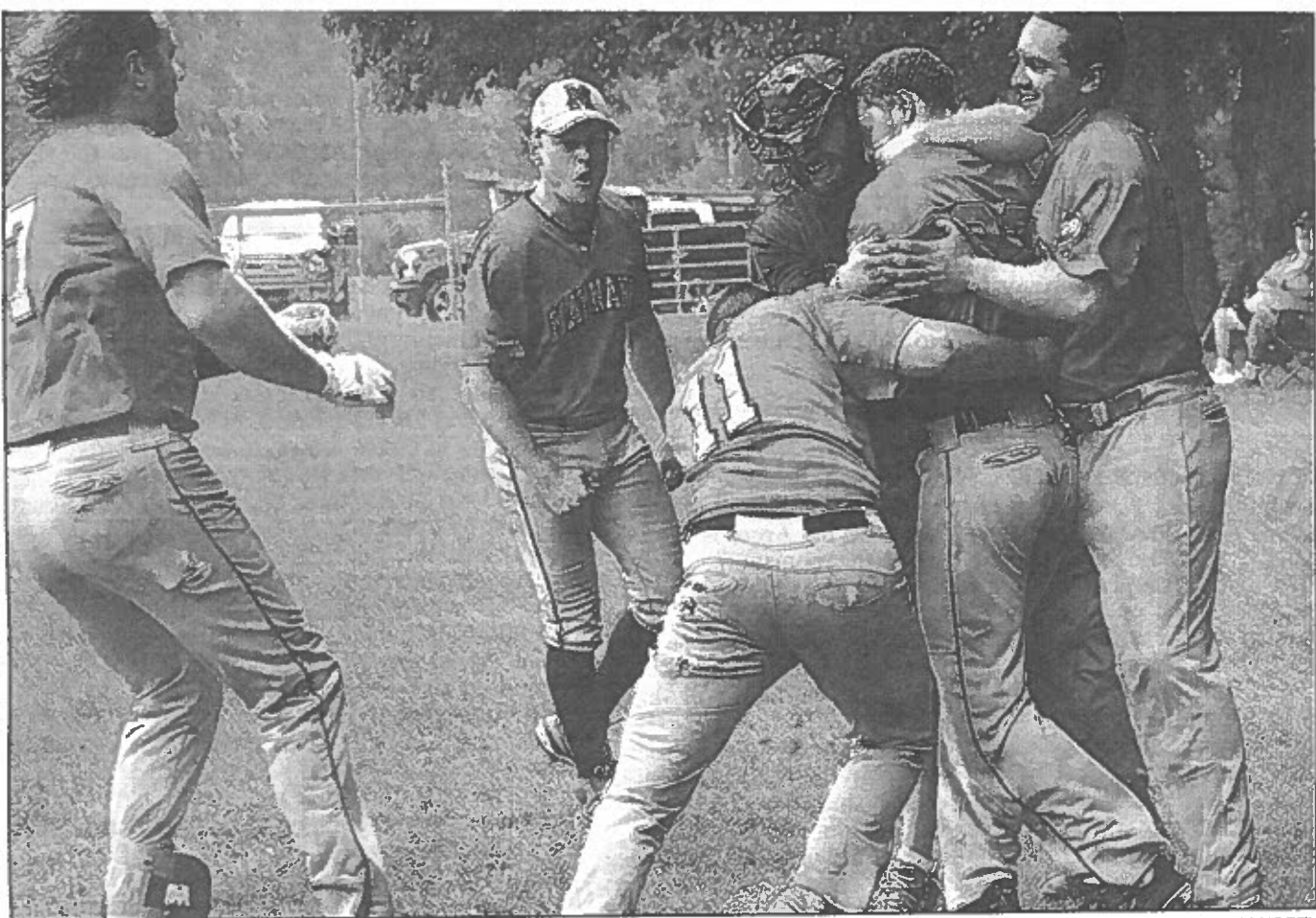
Linsly head coach B.J. Depew and his staff are coaching the West Virginia All-Stars this week and Saturday night



## Bucks win first title since '71

• Giannis scores 50 and is named Finals MVP

MILWAUKEE (AP) – Giannis An-



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

**MAYNARD'S HUNTER** Westlake, second from right, is mobbed by teammates, from left, Corey Kotopka (11), Michael "Zuke" Jacob and Mason Ramsay, while Tyler Ramsay (7) and Eric Banal get ready join in the celebration after Westlake singled in the winning run in the bottom of the 10th inning Tuesday night in Game 1 of the Ohio Valley Baseball League championship series. Game 2 is tonight in Crescent.

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See, **MAYNARD**, Page B2

## Bucks win first title since '71

• Giannis scores 50 and is named Finals MVP

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** -- Giannis Antetokounmpo ended one of the greatest NBA Finals ever with 50 points -- and a championship Milwaukee waited 50 years to win again.

Antetokounmpo had 50 points, 14 rebounds and five blocked shots as the Bucks beat the Phoenix Suns 105-98 on Tuesday night to win the series 4-2.

It was the third game this series with at least 40 points and 10 rebounds for Antetokounmpo, a dominant, debut finals performance that takes its place among some of the game's greatest.

He shot 16 for 25 from the field and made an unbelievable 17-of-19 free throws -- a spectacular performance for any shooter, let alone one who was hitting just 55.6% in the postseason and was ridiculed for it at times.

He hopped around the court waving his arms with 20 seconds remaining to encourage fans to cheer, but it was way too late for that.

Their voices had been booming inside and outside for hours by then, having waited 50 years to celebrate a winner after Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Oscar Robertson led the Bucks to the championship in 1971.

In a season played largely



AP PHOTO

**MILWAUKEE BUCKS** forward Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) reacts during the second half of Game 6 of basketball's NBA Finals against the Phoenix Suns in Milwaukee, Tuesday.

without fans, the Bucks had 65,000 of them packed into the Deer District outside, a wild party that figured to last deep into the Midwestern night.

Confetti rained down inside as fans chanted "Bucks in 6! Bucks in 6!" -- what began as a hopeful boast by former player turning out to be a prophetic rallying cry.

The Bucks became the fifth team to win the NBA Finals after trailing 2-0 and the first to do it by winning the next four games since Miami against Dallas in 2006.

Chris Paul scored 26 points to end his

first NBA Finals appearance in his 16th season. Devin Booker added 19 points but shot just 8 for 22 and missed all seven 3-pointers after scoring 40 points in each of the last two games.

The teams that came into the NBA together as expansion clubs in 1968 delivered a fine finals, with the last three games all in the balance deep into the fourth quarter.

The Bucks won them largely because of Antetokounmpo, a two-time MVP in the regular season who raised his game even higher in the finals and was voted the NBA Finals MVP.

## OVAC Game

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

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Would there be practice? Would there be games? It was all up in the air.

Now the coaching staff from Linsly and five talented Cadet players are getting one more shot to simply enjoy the week and one more game together, without fear of the unknown.

Linsly head coach B.J. Depew and his staff are coaching the West Virginia All-Stars this week and Saturday night in the 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Along with his coaching staff, Depew brings quarterback Hunter Kelley, Kobe Hill (WR/DB), Steven Felton (FB/LB), Marco Aprea (OL/DE) and Joao Lima (K/P) to the team and all of them are looking forward to the experience.

"The way the season went, we had a couple of games taken away because of COVID, so just to be able to strap up again, play with everyone again and some dudes that we played against throughout the season is pretty nice," Lima said. "In preseason we were talking and we weren't sure if we would even get our first game in but we showed up every week and Coach Depew said to just enjoy it because we weren't sure what was going to happen. That drove us all year."

It was that style of coaching that motivated the Cadets to a 6-3 record and Depew's players are honored to share the field and sideline with him one more time.

"He is really big on tradition," Felton

See, **LINSLY**, Page B2

Compliance at Wheeling University, has been promoted to Director of Athletics. University President Ginny R. Favede announced today.

Hanna will immediately assume the overall day-to-day development and management of Wheeling University's 20 NCAA Division II athletic programs.

"Carrie Hanna brings a wealth of leadership and experience in athletic administration that I know

workings of the department and is well-respected among our coaches and her peers," President Favede explained.

"Cardinal Athletics has always been a solid pillar and source of pride and excellence for Wheeling University. The opportunity to serve as the Athletic Director at my alma mater is an honor. I am grateful for President Favede's leadership of Wheeling University. Also, I am grateful for

said. Hanna said Wheeling University has had an immeasurable impact on her professional and personal development.

"Each opportunity offered to me - as a student and as an employee - has prepared me for this role. The core values I have learned throughout my time at Wheeling have made me a better human being, coach, and administrator. I am eager to help carry on those tradi-

the Athletic Director, I look forward to contributing to Wheeling University's bright future, positive/caring atmosphere, and winning traditions of academic excellence, faith, and service to others."

The 1996 graduate of Wheeling has worked at her alma mater for nearly 21 years. Prior to her promotion, Hanna served five years as the Assistant AD and Director of Compliance.

## • Linsly

Continued from Page B1

said. "So, it's nice that he is bringing the mentality of our team here to all of these other schools."

This is Depew's third time coaching in the OVAC All-Star Game and he couldn't ask for a better group to take the field with on Saturday night.

"It's fantastic for these guys to have this opportunity," Depew said. "To share it with them is really special. We have five really good football players and it's a special group. I'm thrilled we are all here together."

For Hill and Kelley, who connected this year 46 times for 578 yards and six touchdowns, it's a

storybook ending that started back in grade school.

"If I could have one last game with anybody, it would be these guys," Hill said. "They've been there for me since I've been at Linsly and they've always been my biggest fans. Being able to play for them one last time and give them all I have is a great feeling and I can't wait to do that Saturday."

Kelley echoed the thoughts of his top target.

"It means a lot and it's going to be fun just being around all the guys I played with through my high school career and the guys I grew up with," he said.

Not only will the Cadets get the chance to share the field together one final time, but Aprea is eagerly waiting for the moment the players take the field for the first time.

After a season with hardly any fans, the bleachers will be packed on Saturday night and, like it should be, the spotlight will shine on the stars.

"I'm looking forward to having everybody there," Aprea said. "Especially since COVID stopped people from going to games. Having the entire valley there and the energy the crowd brings to the game - that will be very special."

## • Depew

Continued from Page B1

**DALTON FLOWERS**, John Marshall - This former Monarch shined at linebacker and running back for Coach Jason Willis' team.

The 6-2, 200 pounder rushed for 1,384 yards and 16 touchdowns. He also caught 16 passes for 244 yards and six touchdowns as a senior. He rushed for 685 yards and 9 touchdowns as a junior.

Flowers was named All-State Second Team and All-OVAC First Team.

Dalton, who plans to attend West Virginia University, is the son of Clint Flowers and Jessi Bonds.

**SHAHEED JACKSON-MAYFIELD**, Wheeling Park - This former Patriot was a lock-down corner and a go-to-guy in the passing game for Coach Chris Daugherty's team.

The 5-9, 160 pounder had 27 tackles and picked off three passes, one of which he took back for a touchdown. He also had 38 catches for 597 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Jackson-Mayfield was named First-Team All-State, All-OVAC and All-Valley.

Jackson-Mayfield, who plans to

attend West Liberty, is the son of DelVonda Jackson and William Mayfield.

**JOAO LIMA**, Linsly - This former Cadet was a steady contributor as a kicker for Coach Depew's team.

The 5-10, 185 pounder handled the kicking and punting for the Cadets.

For his efforts, he earned All-Valley.

Lima was also a standout in the pool, winning an OVAC swim title.

Joao, who is the son of Savio and Cristina Lima, plans to attend Alderson-Broadus University.

**GAGE REITTER**, Weir - This former Red Rider played a bevy of positions quite well for Coach Frank Sisinni's team.

The 5-10, 160 pounder had 417 total yards of offense and he logged 85 total tackles with 70 solo stops from his free safety spot.

Along with football, Reitter was part of a state championship in track and field.

Gage, who plans to attend West Liberty, is the son of B.J. and Gina

Reitter.

**THOMAS SESSI**, Madonna - This former Blue Don was an impressive contributor at receiver, running back and in the secondary for Coach Dan Rovira's team.

The 5-11, 165 pounder finished with 3,563 yards and 33 touchdowns. He also picked off nine passes.

He was recognized for his efforts as an All-State selection, three-time All-OVAC, two-time All-Area first team.

Along with football, Sessi was active in the Interact Club and Greek Club.

Thomas, who plans to attend Hiram College, is the son of Anthony Sessi and Leslee Little.

**SINCERE SINCLAIR**, Wheeling Park - This two-way standout made numerous key plays for Daugherty's Patriots.

The 6-2, 175 pounder lined up at cornerback and wide receiver.

Sincere, who plans to attend West Liberty, is the son of Kimberly Bordas and Benjamin Bordas.

## • OVAC

Continued from Page B1

this game and be a part of it is awesome."

Shadyside's Jacob Visnic had hopes that he'd get the call to play on Team Ohio because of what it means.

"Only a select few get to be a part of this, so it's a true honor to be a part of the game," Visnic said.

Visnic, who was a multi-sport athlete for the Tigers, is headed to Marietta College next month to begin his collegiate career. He's hoping to be able to use this week's

game as a tuneup and an opportunity to get the football juices flowing again.

"A week of playing with and against a lot of guys who are going on to (play at) the next level gives you a head start," Visnic said.


Barnesville's Ayden Hannahs - like Tonkovich - is no stranger to OVAC All-Star Games. He, too, played in the baseball contest last month. While that was exciting, especially considering Hannahs is headed to Muskingum to extend

his baseball career, the chance to put the pads on more time was something he wasn't going to miss out on.

"Being able to experience this is going to be fun," Hannahs said. "I remember coming to this game several years ago and it's been fun to hear about all of the history behind it. Ever since I came as a kid, I've wanted to be a part of it. My goal was to get here."


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# West Virginia's DBs Could Be One True Strength

By **SETH STASKEY**  
For The Intelligencer

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Please see DBS, Page 12

## Hanna Named AD At Wheeling University

**WHEELING** — Wheeling Alumna Carrie (Plute) Hanna, current Assistant Director of Athletics and Director of Compliance at Wheeling University, has been promoted to Director of Athletics, University President Ginny R. Favade announced Tuesday.



HANNA

Hanna will immediately assume the overall day-to-day development and management of Wheeling University's 20 NCAA Division II athletic programs.

"Carrie Hanna brings a wealth of leadership and experience in athletic administration that I know will benefit our coaches, student-athletes, and the university as a whole," Favade said. "She understands the inner workings of the department and

is well-respected among our coaches and her peers."

The 1996 graduate of Wheeling has worked at her alma mater for nearly 21 years. Prior to her promotion, Hanna served five years as the Assistant AD and Director of Compliance. She was also the Senior Women's Administrator, the highest female administrator in an NCAA athletic department. In her former role, Hanna was responsible for all duties relating to compliance, student formation and student academic progress. Additionally, she oversaw coordination and communication between the department's administration and student-athletes, ensured all athletic department documents, policies, and procedures were maintained and budgeting.

"Carrie understands what it means to be a student-athlete at Wheeling University, having graduated with honors from the Psychology program while earning All-American status as a soccer player," Favade said. "She has been a dedicated employee and embodies our mission to be a person for life, leadership, and service. I know she will help to instill in our student-athletes and coaches the importance of excelling in the classroom and competition while understanding their role to serve others."

Hanna held many other roles at Wheeling University, including SAAC liaison, Champs Life Skills Coordinator, Challenge for Success Coordinator, Director of Institutional Research, Institutional Advancement Senior Database Analyst, and Interim Assistant Athletic Director and Interim Athletic Director.

Hanna left the coaching world after 13 years as the women's soccer program's head coach. From 2002-14, she recorded a 136-105-15 career record. She led the Cardinals to a regular-season Northern Division title, two consecutive regular-season Conference Runner-Up finishes, two straight regular-season Conference Championships, and three Conference Tournament Championships in a row. Hanna's teams also made two NCAA National Tournament appearances. She graduated 67 All-Conference players, 11 All-Americans, eight Scholar All-American, two Valedictorians, and an NCAA Woman of the Year recipient.

Please see HANNA, Page 12

# One Last Hurrah For Linsly Seniors



File Photos

Linsly's Kobe Hill, left, and Hunter Kelley, right, along with three other Cadets, coaches and trainers will have one last game together on Saturday night in the OVAC All-Star Game.

## Depew happy to share final game with his players

By **CODY TOMER**  
Sports Writer

**BETHANY** — COVID made football's regular season stressful for both players and coaches.

Would there be practice? Would there be games? It was all up in the air.

Now the coaching staff from Linsly and five talented Cadet players are getting one more shot to simply enjoy the week and one more game together, without fear of the unknown.

Linsly head coach B.J. Depew and his staff are coaching the OVAC West Virginia All-Stars this week and Saturday night in the 75th OVAC Rudy Mum-



FELTON



LIMA



APREA



DEPEW

ley All-Star Football Game at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Along with his coaching staff, Depew brings quarterback Hunter Kelley, Kobe Hill (WR/DB), Steven Felton (FB/LB), Marco Aprea (OL/DE) and Joao Lima (K/P) to the team and all of them are looking forward to the experience.

"The way the season went, we had a couple of games taken away because of COVID, so just to be able to strap up again, play with everyone again and some dudes that we played against throughout the season is pretty nice," Lima said.

Please see LINSLY, Page 12

## Bucks' Wait Ends With



## Riders Plan To



LINSLY

(Continued from Page 11)

"In preseason we were talking and we weren't sure if we would even get our first game in but we showed up every week and Coach Depew said to just enjoy it because we weren't sure what was going to happen. That drove us all year."

It was that style of coaching that motivated the Cadets to a 6-3 record and Depew's players are honored to share the field and sideline with him one more time.

"He is really big on tradition," Felton said. "So, it's nice that he is bringing the mentality of our team here to all of these other schools."

This is Depew's third time coaching in the OVAC All-Star Game and he couldn't ask for a better group to take the field with on Saturday night.

"It's fantastic for these guys to

have this opportunity," Depew said. "To share it with them is really special. We have five really good football players and it's a special group. I'm thrilled we are all here together."

For Hill and Kelley, who connected this year 46 times for 578 yards and six touchdowns, it's a storybook ending that started back in grade school.

"If I could have one last game with anybody, it would be these guys," Hill said. "They've been there for me since I've been at Linsly and they've always been my biggest fans. Being able to play for them one last time and give them all I have is a great feeling and I can't wait to do that Saturday."

Kelley echoed the thoughts of his top target.

"It means a lot and it's going to be fun just being around all the guys I played with through my high school career and the guys I grew up with," he said.

Not only will the Cadets get the chance to share the field together one final time, but Aprea is eagerly waiting for the moment the players take the field for the first time.

After a season with hardly any fans, the bleachers will be packed on Saturday night and, like it should be, the spotlight will shine on the stars.

"I'm looking forward to having everybody there," Aprea said. "Especially since COVID stopped people from going to games. Having the entire valley there and the energy the crowd brings to the game - that will be very special."

RIDERS

(Continued from Page 11)

When asked about a head coach after Mook Zimmerman resigned following the 2019 season, Fornario pulled no punches.

"I will never play arena football without Coach Mook. Period," he stressed.

As for players, "we never talk to players until around Halloween or early November," he revealed.

RIVALRY RENEWED

Cole Smelley and Connor Arlia grew up playing against each other as members of the Bridgeport and Weirton Madonna football programs, respectively. However, the talented twosome finally had the opportunity to play together during that magical 2019 championship run.

Saturday night was a different story, though.

Arlia was one of the main targets for Team Mook quarterback Arvell Nelson, who originally signed to play collegiately at the University of Iowa after a stellar prep career at Cleveland Glenville. Arlia caught two touchdowns in his team's 40-27 win over Team Hardy, which was coached by former NFL All-Pro Greg Hardy who played for the Dallas Cowboys.

He relished the banner-raising ceremony.

"It was a great feeling. It was exciting, not only for the guys that played on that team but the guys that have come here from the Richmond team and the fans of the Ohio Valley," Arlia said of the banner raising. "From

now on when I come in here to watch a Wheeling Nailers game or watch the OVAC Wrestling Tournament, I can look up and see that banner.

"Hopefully, one day I can tell my kids that I played on that team."

As far as playing against his friend?

"Cole and I have a nice, friendly rivalry going," Arlia said with a smile. "I think we've been competing against each other since we were in 8th grade. It's gone back and forth."

Smelley echoed Arlia's thoughts.

"That brought back a lot of good memories," he said of the banner being hoisted. "My son was here to see that. He wasn't born yet in 2019 when we had our run, so this was the first time he

got to see me play in a game, too."

Smelley did get one shot in on Arlia as he went out for a pass.

"I had to. We've been going at it since junior high," he said. "He's a fierce competitor. He works hard. He earned the win tonight, but it was fun."

Both plan on being a part of the team in 2022.

ANOTHER VALLEY PRODUCT

Steubenville High grad Jerry Christian played for both franchises. He saw action in eight games during the Roughriders title run.

The former Big Red product has also played for the Amarillo Venom where he was a teammate of Nate Davis, a former Bellaire standout quarterback.

Post 1 Wins Area Tourney Opener

WHEELING - Wheeling Post 1 opened the Area One Tournament on Tuesday with a 5-2 victory over Wellsburg at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex.

The victory sets up tonight's 5 p.m. contest between Wheeling and Parkersburg Post 15, which won via forfeit by Moundsville Post 3.

The loser of Wheeling and Parkersburg will play an elimination game at 7:30 p.m. against Wellsburg. All games are at the I-470 Field.

Wheeling was led by Brodie Selmon and Michael Toepfer who each supplied two hits and two RBI for Post 1.

On the hill, it was Seth Hand in control with two strikeouts over six innings.

Parker Haney came on in the seventh to slam the door with one punch out.

Andrew Coursin drove in a run for Wellsburg.

DBs

(Continued from Page 11)

JOAO LIMA, Linsly - This former Cadet was a steady contributor as a kicker for Coach Depew's team.

The 5-10, 185 pounder handled the kicking and punting for the Cadets.

For his efforts, he earned All-Valley.

Lima was also a standout in the pool, winning an OVAC swim title.

Joao, who is the son of Savio and Cristina Lima, plans to attend Alderson-Broaddus University.

GAGE REITTER, Weir - This former Red Rider played a bevy of positions quite well for Coach Frank Sisinni's team.

The 5-10, 160 pounder had 417 total yards of offense and he logged 85 total tackles with 70 solo stops from his free safety spot.

Along with football, Reitter was part of a state championship in track and field.

Gage, who plans to attend West Liberty, is the son of B.J. and Gina Reitter.

THOMAS SESSI, Madonna - This former Blue Don was an impressive contributor at receiver, running back and in the secondary for Coach Dan Rovira's team.

The 5-11, 165 pounder finished with 3,563 yards and 33 touchdowns. He also picked off nine passes.

He was recognized for his efforts as an All-State selection, three-time All-OVAC, two-time All-Arson-Broaddus University.

Along with football, Sessi was active in the Interact Club and Greek Club.

Thomas, who plans to attend Hiram College, is the son of Anthony Sessi and Leslee Little.

SINCERE SINCLAIR, Wheeling Park - This two-way standout made numerous key plays for Daugherty's Patriots.

The 6-2, 175 pounder lined up at cornerback and wide receiver.

Sincere, who plans to attend West Liberty, is the son of Kimberly Bordas and Benjamin Bordas.

HANNA

(Continued from Page 11)

"Cardinal Athletics has always been a solid pillar and source of pride and excellence for Wheeling University," Hanna said. "The opportunity to serve as the Athletic Director at my alma mater is an honor. I am grateful for President Favade's leadership of Wheeling University. Also, I am grateful for her faith and confidence to choose me to serve in this pivotal role on her leadership team."

Hanna said Wheeling University has had an immeasurable impact on her professional and personal development.

"Each opportunity offered to me - as a student and as an employee - has prepared me for this role," Hanna said. "The core values I have learned throughout my time at Wheeling have made me a better human being, coach, and administrator. I am eager to help carry on those traditions with and among our student-athletes, coaches, and our great Cardinal Family. As the Athletic Director, I look forward to contributing to Wheeling University's bright future, positive/caring atmosphere, and winning traditions of academic excellence, faith, and service to others."

Upon retiring from professional competition, Hanna decided to further her education. In 1999, she received a Master's Degree in Sports Psychology from West Virginia University. Upon her marriage to Wheeling native David Hanna, the couple moved to South Dakota, where she began her collegiate coaching career. After one year at the helm, she returned to the Wheeling area and began head coach of the Wheeling Park High School girls' team, leading them to a state championship in her first season.

She became the first full-time head coach of the Cardinal women's squad in 2002 after Jim Regan stepped down from his role as the head coach of the women's team to coach the men's team solely.

Along with her dedicated service to her alma mater, Hanna utilizes her professional soccer coaching expertise. She recently returned to coach at the high school level and led the Wheeling Park girls' team to another state championship. Also, she is active with

HOBBY LOBBY advertisement featuring Home Decor 50% off, Fall Floral 40% off, Summer Toys 66% off, Wedding 50% off, Classroom Decor 40% off, Wearable Art, Best-selling Books, Party, Frames 50% off, and Crafts 30% off.

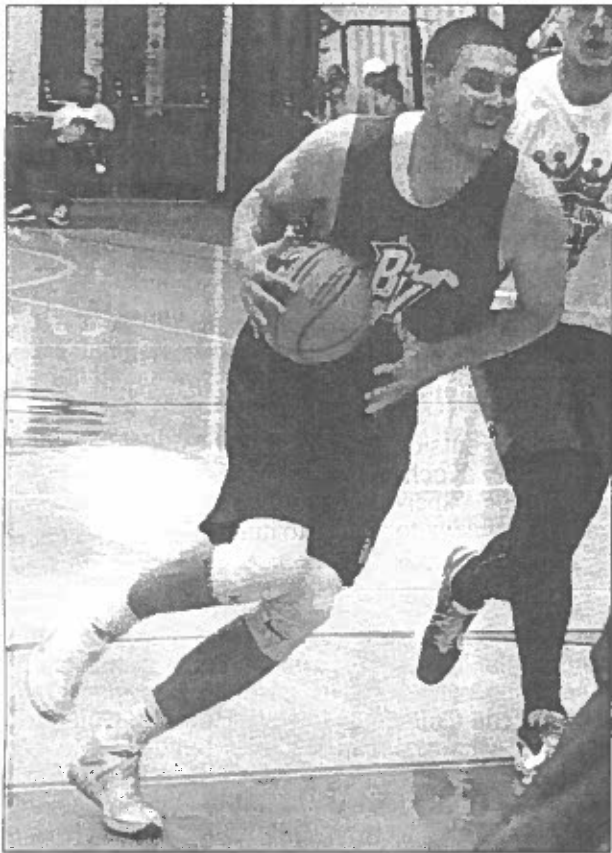


Photo by Cody Tomer

Best Virginia's Nathan Adrian netted 11 points in Monday's win over D2 in The Basketball Tournament.

## 'Best Virginia' On To The Sweet 16

CHARLESTON — D2 began to cut into the deficit. It's not the March Madness but it's just as sweet.

In fact, D2 outscored Best Virginia 14-8 in the second quarter and only trailed 30-26 at halftime. West Virginia University alumni team, Best Virginia defeated D2 on Monday night by a final score of 63-51 in The Basketball Tournament to advance to the Sweet 16.

The Mountaineers stood strong in the fourth with a 53-44 advantage as the Elam Ending began.

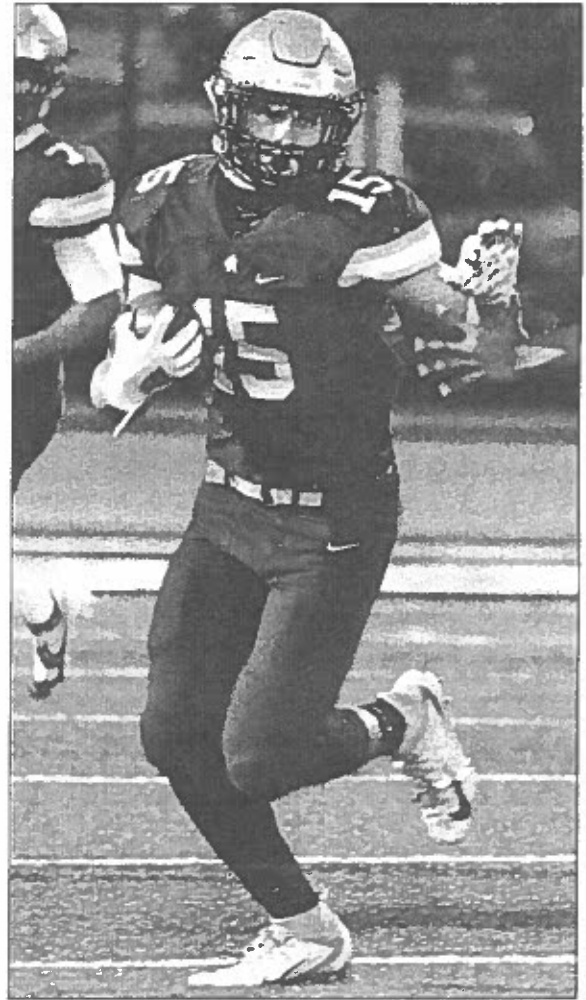
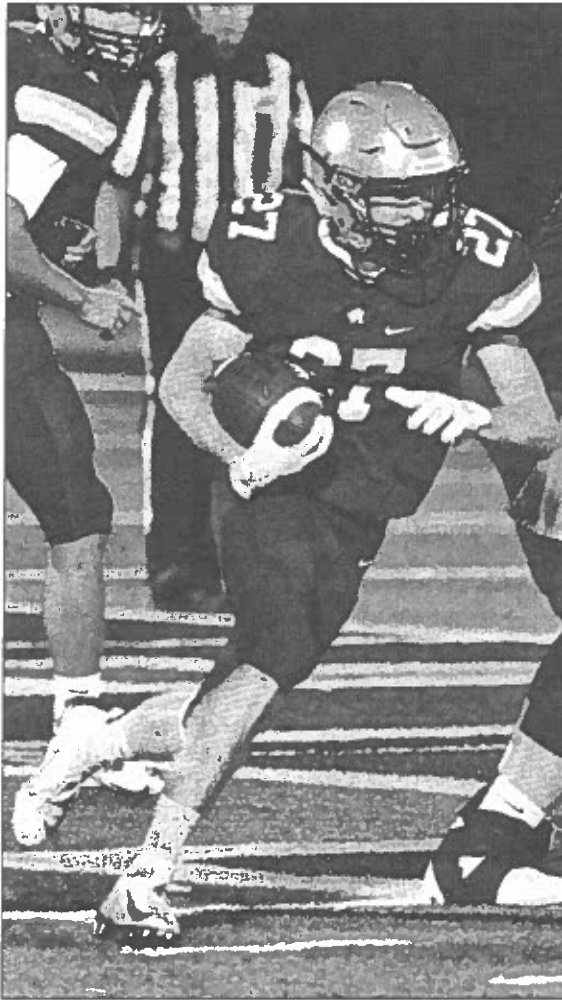
Best Virginia never looked back on its way to a 63-51 triumph. It was an even third period with Best Virginia taking a 45-42 edge into the final frame.

Jones paved the way with 12 points and six rebounds in the win, while teammates Tarik Phillip, Jamel Morris and Nathan Adrian all chipped in with 11 points apiece.

Kevin Jones bucketed seven points in the opening frame and Best Virginia led 22-12 heading into the second.

It wasn't until then that

# JM All-Stars Electrified in 2020



Photos by Scott McCloskey

John Marshall's Alex Burton, left, and teammate Dalton Flowers, right, could make a major impact on Saturday's All-Star Game with their electrifying talent on both sides of the football.

## Burton, Flowers could make an impact on Saturday

By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer

BETHANY — John Marshall's Dalton Flowers and Alex Burton are used to putting on a show.

The dynamic duo racked up the yardage and the points on the ground this year for the Monarchs and will now get to showcase their skills on the Ohio Valley's biggest stage Saturday in the 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Game at Wheeling Island Stadium.

What makes it even better is that they are enjoying the ride

together as teammates — just as they have done in the past in a Monarch uniform.

Of course, each back had his own specialty this year for JM.

For Flowers, it was his power that made him an all-state back.

"It's always nice to have somebody you can trust when you get tired and need a break," Burton said. "He is really good at getting the short yards and that helped me out a lot."

Flowers ran for 1,384 yards and 16 touchdowns on the

ground, while Burton used his speed to gallop past defenders for 887 yards and nine scores.

"We're always staying fresh out there," Flowers said. "Either I can come out and he can go in or he comes out and I go in. He has the speed that I was lacking so it always worked out that way."

It became almost a tradition at John Marshall this past season that one or both tailbacks would scamper for over 100 yards on a Friday night.

Please see JM, Page 12

# Ohio All-Star Defense Is Athletic and Quick

By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer

Defenses are normally ahead of offenses in all-star games.

Eric Huck, who is coaching Ohio in Saturday night's 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Game, believes he has defensive pieces to be extremely solid on all three levels.

As for the linebackers, Huck said, "I think we have some athletic inside and outside linebackers. We have some really good players, who will be flying all over the field."

In the secondary, speed and athleticism were the common ingredients in which Huck was looking for when he made his selections.

"We have a lot of different defensive backs to take a look at," Huck said. "We have to make sure we get the guys in the right spot because we can't teach

everything in a week."

Along with the defensive standouts, Huck has announced Warren's Joel Chevalier will handle the punting and kicking duties.

"Joel is an outstanding athlete who actually played on both sides of the ball as well as handled the special teams," Huck said. "We really like the versatility he brings."

Here's a capsule look at the Ohio State Community College players:

**JAYMISON BAKER, Fort Frye** — This former Cadet was a standout at receiver and defensive back for Huck's team.

The 6-3, 190 pounder picked off

seven passes and posted 35 tackles. He also broke up seven passes. He led the Fort in receiving and interceptions.

Baker was named First Team All-Eastern District, Honorable Mention All-Ohio and All-OVAC.

Jaymison, who is the son of Rachel and Josh Meek and Coty Baker, plans to attend Washington State Community College.

**WILL BALGO, St. Clairsville** — This former Red Devils shined at numerous spots for Coach Brett McLean's team.

The 6-4, 250 pounder led the Red Devils in tackles with 90 and also

picked off three passes.

Balgo was named First Team All-Eastern District, All-OVAC, All-Valley and All Times Leader. He was an honorable mention All-Ohio pick.

Along with football, Balgo was a multiple-year letterman in baseball and basketball.

Will, who plans to attend and play football at Ashland University, is the son of Dan and Diane Balgo.

**JEREMY BROWN, Indian Creek** — This former Redskin was all over the field for Coach Andrew Connor's team.

The 5-8, 170 pounder logged 67.5 tackles, nine for loss, 7.5 sacks and had 10 quarterback hurries. He broke up two passes and forced two fumbles.

Please see OHIO, Page 12

## Cowher's Success



## Coaches Keeping Kids Focused and Prepared

Photo by Cody Tomer  
Best Virginia's Nathan Adrian netted 11 points in Monday's win over D2 in The Basketball Tournament.

## 'Best Virginia' On To The Sweet 16

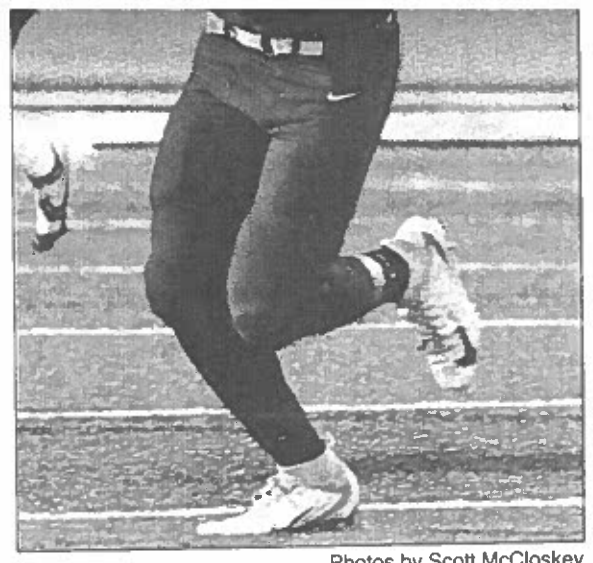
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A recent professional contract signed by Sagaba Konate will not allow him to play in The Basketball Tournament.

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Please see OHIO, Page 12

## Cowher's Success HOF Story

By WILL GRAVES  
AP Sports Writer

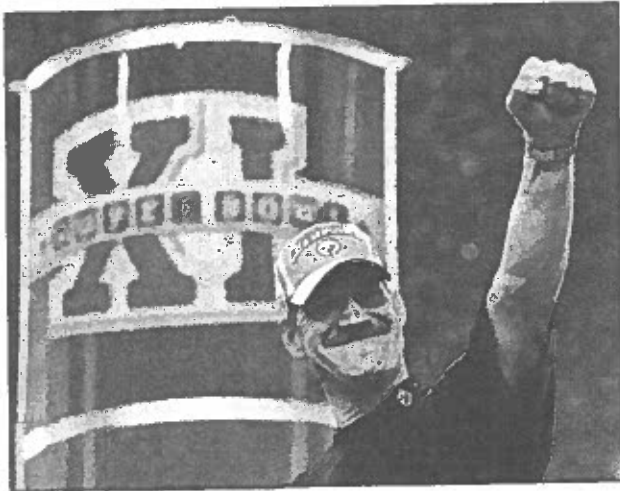
On the surface, Bill Cowher looked like he wasn't ready to be an NFL head coach.

Too young.  
Too anonymous.  
Too unproven.

So while the then-34-year-old Cowher might have been on the list to replace Chuck Noll following Noll's retirement after the 1991 season, thanks to the enthusiastic endorsement of mentor Marty Schottenheimer, he wasn't exactly at the top of it.

"We thought we were going to need somebody older," said Art Rooney II, the team's vice president at the time Noll stepped away.

Yet there was something about Cowher's



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Steelers head coach Bill Cowher reacts on the center stage after the Steelers' 21-10 win over the Seattle Seahawks in Super Bowl XL in Detroit, on Sunday, Feb. 5, 2006. Cowher, who won 149 games and a Super Bowl in 15 seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers from 1992-2006, will be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame next month.

manner that stuck with Rooney and his father, team chairman Dan Rooney, as they set about finding someone to take over for the most successful coach in franchise history.

The more the Rooneys talked to the former spe-

cial teamer who grew up four miles from Three Rivers Stadium, the more they were won over by Cowher's combination of intelligence and charisma.

Please see STORY  
Page 12

## Coaches Keeping Kids Focused and Prepared

By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer

BETHANY — As it pertains to OVAC All-Star camp, which is now in its second full day at Bethany College, a lot of work can get done in a short amount of time.

Both coaches — Ohio's Eric Huck and West Virginia's B.J. Depew — hope that trend continues as they continue to prepare their teams for the 75th edition of the OVAC Rudy Mumley game at Wheeling Island Stadium.

One of the issues — on top of making sure their teams are well schooled on the offensive and defensive schemes — is making sure they keep their players focused on the preparation with the mindset that the game isn't played on Tuesday.

"We have a lot of kids who are ready to play in this game," Depew said. "We're really happy so far and when you get all of these kids together (on the field), it's impressive."

West Virginia had the bulk of its offense installed in two practices and so far Depew likes what he's seen.

"These kids have picked things up quickly," Depew said. "We wanted to get everything in as early (in the week) as possible because if you're still working on that at like Thursday, it's not going to tough on Saturday. These are bright kids and they're eager to learn."

Meanwhile, in the Ohio camp, Huck has also been pleased, but it's been a slower process simply for the fact that the Ohio coaching staff is trying to install a Wing-T based system.

"Our offense isn't something you pick up really quick with the timing and everything like that, but the kids are doing really well," Huck said. "They're competing hard already."

Though the Ohio timing will come as more and more reps are given throughout the remaining eight practices, the Buckeye State offense is picking up the scheme.

"The kids are definitely getting the hang of it and most importantly, they're working so hard and are eager to figure it out," Huck said.

Please see COACHES, Page 12



# Steelers Open Training Camp; What to Expect in 2021-22

**PITTSBURGH STEELERS**  
(12-5)  
**CAMP SITE:** Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**LAST YEAR:** The Steelers used a franchise-best 11-0 start to their fourth AFC North title since 2014. QB Ben Roethlisberger threw for 33 touchdowns in his return from right-elbow surgery that cut short his 2019 season. Rookie WR Chase Claypool was sensational at times to offset the worst rushing attack in the league. The NFL's third-ranked defense led the league in sacks for a fourth straight year but wore down late in the season. So did everyone else. Pittsburgh went 1-5 down the stretch, culminating in a blow-out home playoff loss to Cleveland.

**JM**

(Continued from Page 11)

When they were both getting involved, they could explode for a monster gain on any given snap.

"Those big-yard games we had," Burton said of his top memory of his senior campaign. "It was nice having the support of the fans, too, during a COVID year. Parents could come for a little bit and then when everybody came back that helped us out a lot with all of them there."

The electric Monarchs will also give

## STORY

(Continued from Page 11)

"You could see he was somebody who was going to be able to command the team, have the presence to stand in front of a group of twentysomethings every day and keep their attention," said Art Rooney, now the team president.

That was something Cowher did for 15 seasons, 170 wins, one Super Bowl title and an appearance in another. His jaw jutting out from underneath a moustache that gave him an everyman blue-collar vibe, Cowher re-established the Steelers as one of the league's marquee franchises with a style as impassioned as Noll's was professorial.

"You know, you follow a guy like Chuck Noll, I don't even think there's any pressure, because you're not even going to come close to doing what he did in terms of ... the run they had in the '70s, what he did for the city of Pittsburgh and rejuvenating that whole city," Cowher said.

Maybe, but Cowher came pretty close. And 15 years after stepping away, Cowher will follow in Noll's footsteps once again when he is inducted into the Pro Football Hall

land.

**IMPORTANT ADDITIONS:** RB Najee Harris, OG Trai Turner, TE Pat Freiermuth, C Kendrick Green, OL BJ Finney, QB Dwayne Haskins.

**IMPORTANT LOSSES:** C Maurkice Pouncey, RG David DeCastro, LT Alejandro Villanueva, LB Bud Dupree, CB Steve Nelson, DB Mike Hilton, TE Vance McDonald, RB James Conner, LB Avery Williamson, offensive coordinator Randy Fichtner.

**CAMP NEEDS:** Roethlisberger took a pay cut to return for an 18th season. He'll do it playing behind a totally revamped offensive line. Pouncey retired, DeCastro was cut and Villanueva left in free

agency. The three combined for 17 Pro Bowls. The collective resumes of their replacements are thin by comparison save for Turner, who signed in June just hours after DeCastro was released. The offense will also have to adjust to Matt Canada, promoted after Fichtner was let go in January. It's a lot of moving parts to figure out for a team with a brutal schedule and the usual sky-high internal expectations.

**KEY CAMP COMPETITIONS:** The offensive line is a bit of a jumble. Green is the future at center, but if he struggles during camp, JC Hassenauer and Finney have both proven capable. Most of the rest of the starting positions on both sides of the ball are set

barring injury. Alex Highsmith will take over for Dupree at outside linebacker opposite T.J. Watt. Devin Bush returns from a knee injury, as does Vince Williams, who was cut and then re-signed at a lower salary.

The secondary is set with Cam Sutton replacing the effective but expensive Nelson. Punter Jordan Berry will have to fend off sixth-round draft pick Pressley Harvin III.

**EXPECTATIONS:** Roethlisberger did not come back so he could be feted by rocking chairs at visiting stadiums in what could be a farewell tour. The Steelers believe their window to be a legitimate Super Bowl contender remains open as long as he's behind center.

A running game bolstered by Harris' arrival would certainly help take the pressure off a short-passing game that became far too predictable after Thanksgiving. Canada proved to be a wiz while working next door at the University of Pittsburgh in 2016. The Panthers averaged 40 points that season. If he can find a way to get the Steelers to around 30 points on a regular basis, that should be enough considering the talent on defense.

Training camp will be about installation and gaining familiarity with the unfamiliar, something not often done in a franchise that has long thrived on continuity.

**FAN DUEL SUPER BOWL ODDS:** +4400

## OHIO

(Continued from Page 11)

He also had 486 all-purpose yards.

Brown was First Team All-Eastern District and All-OVAC.

Jeremy, who is the son of Nikk Papda, plans to attend Eastern Gateway Community College.

**EVAN CARPENTER, Martins Ferry** - This former Purple Rider was one of the centerpieces of the offense and defense for Coach Chas Yoder's team.

The 6-2, 220 pounder recorded 61 solo and 34 assisted tackles as a senior. He also had four sacks, 10 tackles for loss, three forced fumbles and recovered a fumble. He blocked two kicks and picked off a pass. Offensively, he rushed for 769 yards and 14 touchdowns.

Carpenter was named First Team All-Ohio as a linebacker twice and was the Eastern District Defensive Player of the Year a like number of times. He was All-OVAC, All-Times Leader and was selected to play in the Ohio North-South Game.

Evan, who plans to attend Findlay University to play football, is the son of Sherri and Dan Carpenter.

**JOEL CHEVALIER, Warren** - This former Warrior was an effective kicker and punter for Coach Matt Kimes' team.

The 6-2, 175 pounder averaged 39.3 yards per punt with a long of 67 yards. He dropped eight inside the 20 yard line and three inside the 10. He had a long of 43 yards on a field goal.

Chevalier was named All-Ohio Second Team

and Mid-Ohio Valley Punter of the Year.

Joel, who plans to attend Marietta College, is the son of Allan and Kim Chevalier.

**DYLAN HART, Fort Frye** - This former Cadet was a defensive standout for Huck and company.

The 6-foot, 215 pounder posted 98 tackles and four sacks in 11 games last season, which followed up his 111 tackles and three sack 2019 campaign. He had 117 stops as a sophomore.

Hart was First Team All-Eastern District twice and also to the All-Ohio First Team. He was named All-OVAC.

Along with football, Hart was a standout for the Cadets basketball team.

Dylan, who plans to attend Glenville State, is the son of Scott and Linda Hart.

**JORDAN JOSEPH, Shadyside** - This former Tiger was a deep-play threat on offense and a shut-down defensive back for Coach Mark Holenka's team.

The 5-10, 175 pounder recorded 28 tackles, including 23 solo from his corner spot. He also picked off three passes, forced and recovered a fumble.

Joseph earned All-Eastern District First Team, All-MOVL, All-OVAC Honorable Mention and twice named Honorable Mention All-Ohio.

Along with football, Joseph was a key member for the Tiger basketball, baseball and track teams.

Jordan, who is the son of Joel Joseph and Christina Fuller, plans to attend Hocking College and play football.

**ROCCO ROMEO, Conotton Valley** - This former Rocket was a defensive standout for Coach Don Hertler's team.

The 5-8, 165 pounder recorded over 125 tackles and 10 for loss during his career. He recovered four fumbles and picked off a pass.

Romeo was First Team All-OVAC, Second Team All-Eastern District and was a team captain.

Rocco, who is the son of Douglas and Glenda Romeo, plans to attend Wilmington College.

**JACOB VISNIC, Shadyside** - This former Tiger was a two-way mainstay for Holenka's team.

The 6-foot, 225 pounder rushed for 1,246 yards and had 628 yards receiving in his career. Defensively, he posted 156 career solo tackles with 147 assists, including 29 for loss and 7.5 sacks.

Visnic was named Second Team All-Ohio after being named First-Team All-Eastern District, All-OVAC, All-Times Leader and All Valley.

Also a standout in the classroom, Visnic is a member of the National Honor Society, Academic All-OVAC and Chemistry Club. He's also part of the Staying Clean Club and was part of the football and track teams.

Jacob, who is the son of Melissa Visnic, plans to attend Marietta College and play football.

## COACHES

(Continued from Page 11)

It was clear as media day unfolded Monday that both states are really coming together off the field, too. Both seem to be building chemistry in the dorm and away from football.

"It's really neat to see how they interact and get along with each other," Huck said. "Even after we got off the field (Sunday night), they were coming into (the coaches') rooms and asking questions."

"They're excited to play and compete."

West Virginia practiced in the later window on Sunday, so Depew didn't have many visitors like Huck did because many of his players went to sleep.

"Everyone was tired (Sunday), so for the most part it was very quiet," Depew smiled. "We've not had enough time to have anything (bad) happen."

Depew and his staff aligned the rooming assignments so that no player from the same school was in the same room.

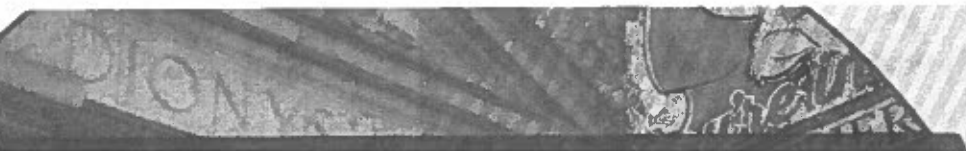
Basically, he forced his players to make new friends.

"The goal is to have them get to know each other and make relationships that will last well beyond this week," Depew said.

## OVAC NOTES

• THE OVAC McDonald's All-Star Band reports to Bethany College today to begin its preparations. The band will perform a show consistent of music of Queen and features nearly 100 members.

• FANS ARE reminded that no tickets will be sold at the gate. All tickets must be purchased, in advance, online. Information and links to purchase can be found at ovac.org



Counsel/B3  
Comics/B4  
Classified/B5-6

# SPORTS

Monday,  
July 19, 2021

## Players report to Bethany College for week of OVAC football camp

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

**BETHANY** — It's officially game week for the 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game.

After a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the summer sporting spectacle will return on Saturday evening with kick-off slated for 7:15 p.m. at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Players and coaches for both Ohio and West Virginia reported to their home for the upcoming week Sunday at Bethany College to begin preparations.

All told, 73 players checked in and were on the practice field during the evening.

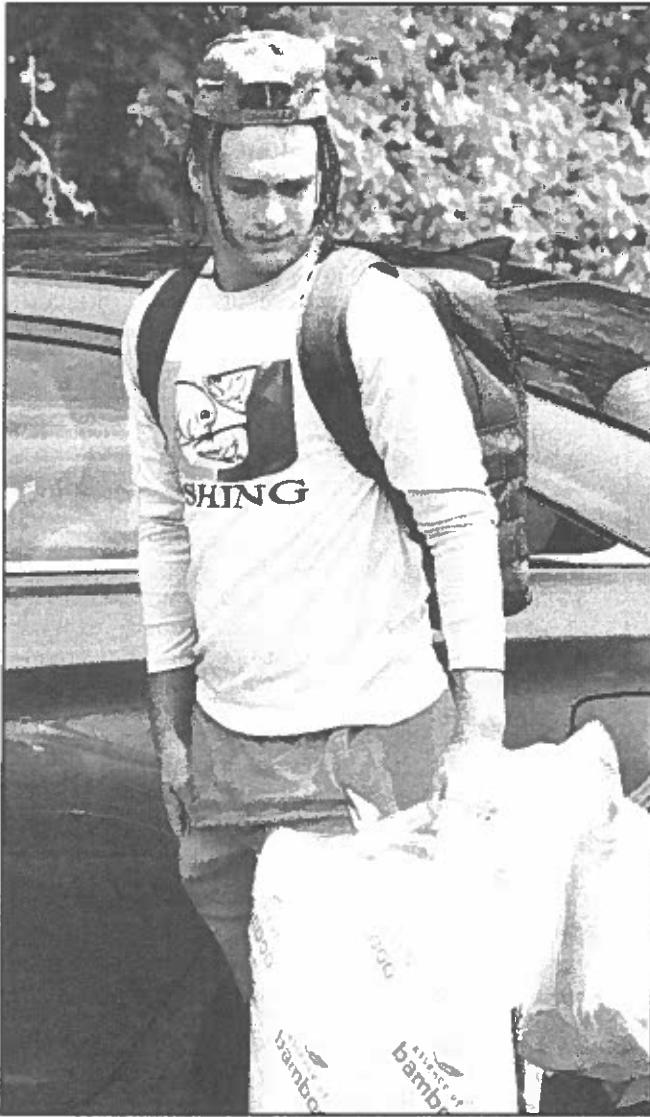
"It's nice to finally be here," Ohio and Fort Frye head coach Eric Huck said. "I am excited to meet the players and get started. I know we're looking forward to the week, and I am sure the players are, too."

West Virginia is being led by Linsly's B.J. Depew who arrived at Bethany College at 11 a.m., which is an hour before the players are scheduled to arrive. He was actually in the middle of the line among players and other coaches who itching to get going.

"It's great to be here and I am ready to get started," Depew said. "We had a meeting (Sunday afternoon) and really got to meet the guys and that was neat. It's going to be a fun week for everyone."

Getting to this point was a challenge for both coaches.

Between the two teams, upwards of a dozen players, who had originally committed to the game were needed to be replaced after they



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

**SHADYSIDE'S JORDAN Joseph** arrives at Bethany College to move in for camp leading up to the OVAC All-Star Game, which is scheduled for Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

elect not to participate for one reason or another.

"The (changes) weren't as bad as it may have sounded because the kids who ended up being asked to play were all excited," Huck said.

"I think we have 37 darn good players."

Game Director Dirk Fitch was working the phones diligently attempting to fill in

roster spots, but once camp opens the OVAC no longer permits replacements.

"(The roster) is a stressful part," Depew laughed. "Off the top of my head, I can think of seven or eight changes for sure. There are a lot of changes for a variety of reasons, but, ultimately, the guys who are here are the guys we want because there as excited to be here

as we are."

West Virginia actually has one less player on its roster because Cameron's Deacon Carmichael informed Depew via email Sunday morning that he was sick and wouldn't be reporting.

On the other side, Huck and his coaching staff greeted many of his players at the top the steps as they trickled in with their families.

"It's nice to finally meet the players," Huck said. "You see them on film and you really don't their size and physicality or that kind of thing. But, you see them in person and see them with pads on and practice it's exciting."

Once the players settled into their rooms, they had team meetings, ate dinner and were on the practice field for the first time.

Neither coach was about to let any time go to waste.

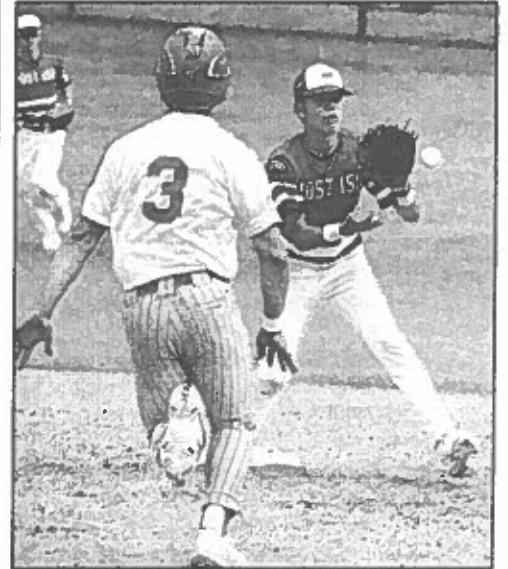
"We're going to work right away," Huck said. "We have to get (the offense and defense) installed. We're going to get our base stuff in on both sides of the ball as well as plays and our defensive scheme."

Depew and his staff wanted to get their "systems installed right away" with the hopes of having basically the entire system in place before Tuesday.

"We don't have guys pinned down to positions, even offense or defense in some cases, but the guys will play themselves into their roles," Depew said.

Both teams will have a busy day today.

Ohio and West Virginia are both scheduled to practice three times today and they'll also both take part in media day activities.



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE Post 159** shortstop Braylen Blomquist receives a throw at second base to force Beverly-Lowell Post 389/750's Caleb Davis (3) on Sunday during American Legion Region 8 Tournament action on Don Coss Field inside the Cambridge City Park.

## Post 159 falls in Region 8 Tournament

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

**CAMBRIDGE** — All a baseball manager can do is ask his team to give itself a chance to win. St. Clairsville Post 159 did that Sunday afternoon as the Region 8 Tournament got underway, but it's how his team got into that position that had Mike Muklewicz shaking his head.

Playing without Will Balgo, Tyler Tonkovich and Kobe Hill who were chosen to participate in the 75th annual OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game and reported to camp earlier Sunday, St. Clairsville uncharacteristically committed six errors — five fielding — in dropping an 8-7 decision to Beverly-Lowell Post 389/750 on sun-splashed Don Coss Field inside the City Park.

With the loss, Post 159 (13-8) will meet the loser of tonight's Marietta-Cambridge contest on Tuesday at 6 p.m. in a win-or-go-home scenario.

"We're struggling to get past the finish line with our (number) two, three and four hitters out of the lineup, but the first few innings we put ourselves in a good position," Muklewicz offered. "But then the wall of errors just started coming down. We had six (errors) I think, right? What are you going to do, especially with a depleted lineup offensively, you are not going to make up for six errors."

Leading 3-1 after three innings, Beverly-Lowell (22-5) scored three unearned runs in the top of the fourth to take a 4-3 lead it wouldn't relinquish. It then plated one in the fifth, two in the sixth and one in the seventh to grab an 8-5 advantage.

See, 159, Page B2

### Championship banner raised



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

**THE WEST Virginia Roughriders** raised their 2019 AAL championship banner prior to Saturday night's alumni game inside WesBanco Arena. For more details on the Roughriders and Saturday night's festivities, see Tuesday's edition.

## Mets rally by Pirates

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Michael Conforto hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning to complete a huge comeback and the New York Mets overcame an embarrassing gaffe by All-Star pitcher Taijuan Walker to beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 7-6 Sunday.

Trailing 6-0 in the first inning, the Mets rallied to salvage a rugged weekend at PNC Park. The NL East leaders lost stars Jacob deGrom and Francisco Lindor to injuries, then dropped Saturday night's game when closer Edwin Diaz gave up a two-out grand slam in the ninth that capped Pittsburgh's six-run comeback.

Conforto connected off closer Richard Rodriguez (4-2), who blew his third save in 16 opportunities. Dominic Smith led off the ninth with a single and Conforto followed with his fourth homer.

The Mets lost four of seven to Pittsburgh in a pair of se-

ries surrounding the All-Star break.

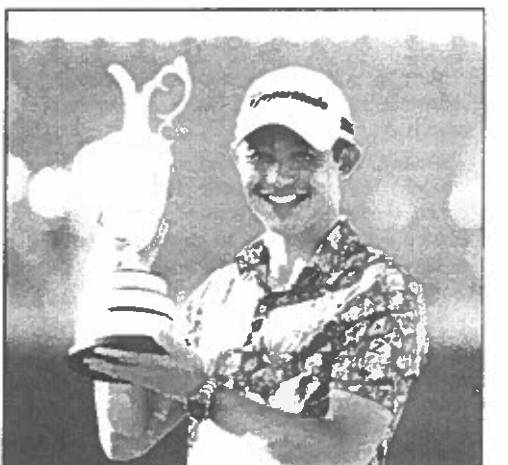
Walker, who pitched in the All-Star Game on Tuesday night, hurt himself with a huge misplay in the first inning that led to an argument and the ejection of Mets manager Luis Rojas.

Bryan Reynolds hit an RBI single and John Nogowski doubled for a quick 3-0 lead, and two walks loaded the bases with one out.

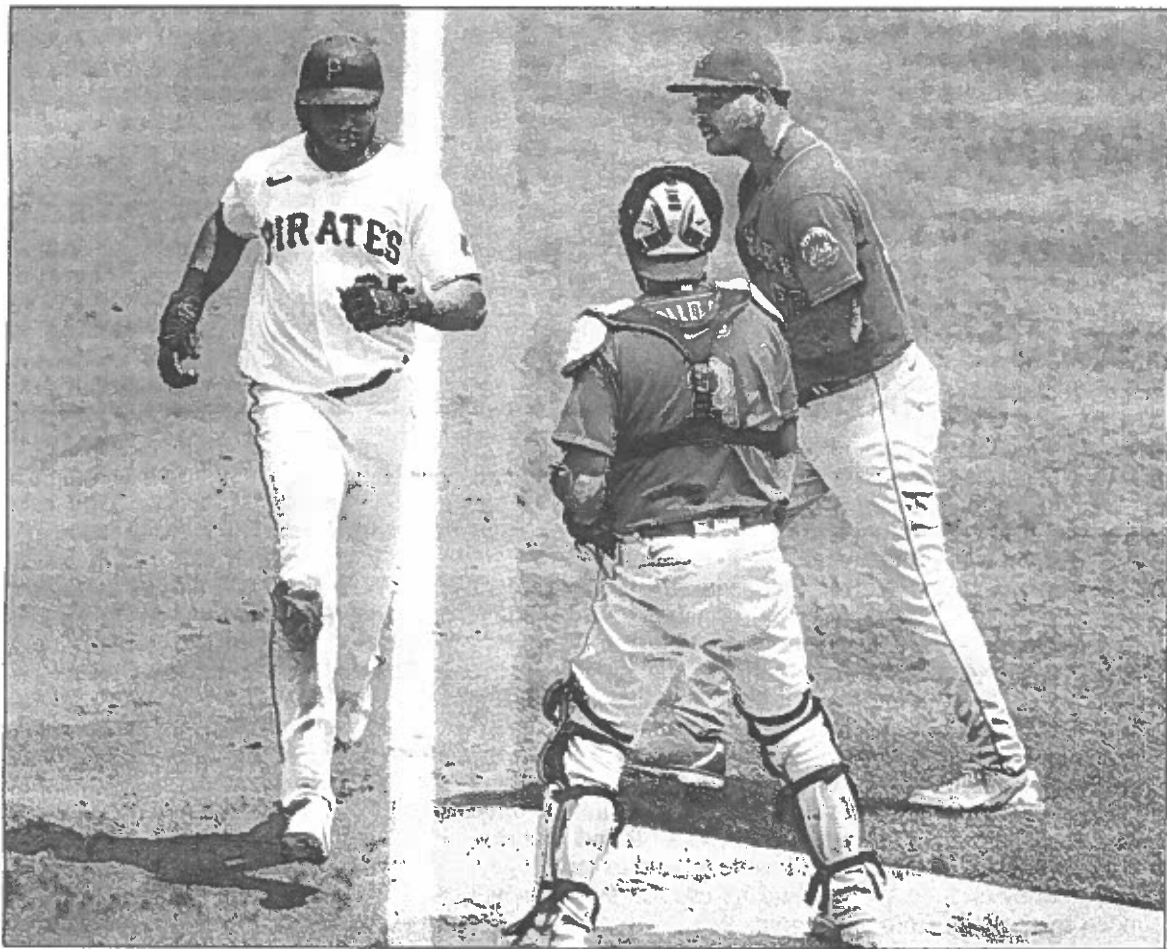
Kevin Newman hit a dribbler down the third base line and the ball started out in foul territory, but then began spinning back toward the line.

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See PIRATES Page B2



# Conforto HR In 9th Sinks Pirates, 7-6



AP Photo Pittsburgh Pirates' Gregory Polanco scores past New York Mets starting pitcher Taijuan Walker, right, and catcher Tomas Nido on an infield hit by Kevin Newman and a fielding error during the first inning Sunday in Pittsburgh. Three runs scored on the fielding error by Walker.

## Mets Overcome Early Gaffe To Secure Comeback

By ALAN SAUNDERS  
Associated Press

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### SEE INSIDE

• Pirates sign first-overall draft pick Henry Davis for \$6.5M signing bonus/12

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Bryan Reynolds hit an RBI single and John Nogowski doubled for a quick 3-0 lead, and two walks loaded the bases with one out.

Please see PIRATES, Page 10



Photo by Seth Staskey Linsly's Hunter Kelley carries a television into his dorm at Bethany College where the West Virginia and Ohio squads will hold camp all week to prepare for Saturday's 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game.

## OVAC All-Stars Get Settled In Players Arrive At Bethany

By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer  
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Please see OVAC, Page 10

## 'Best Virginia' Survives Scare To Advance In TBT

CHARLESTON — It certainly wasn't easy but Best Virginia narrowly escaped a first round scare to WoCo Showtime in The Basketball Tournament on Saturday by a 70-67 final score inside the Charleston Civic Center.

In fact, Wheeling Central grad Chase Harler said it best via Twitter. "Survive & Advance! This is so much fun."

In round two, Best Virginia will take on No. 7 D2 tonight at 9 p.m. on ESPN2.

Coach James Long's squad shot 48% from the field and 29% from 3-point range, while only heading to the free-throw line four times and hitting two of those attempts.

Much like in its exhibition con-

test in Wheeling, Best Virginia was slow out of the gates in its TBT opener, falling behind 10-4.

The Mountaineer alumni squad regrouped, taking a 30-29 edge into the break before reeling off a 12-0 spurt to begin the second half.

Despite the momentum, Best Virginia's lead was trimmed to 48-43 after three frames.

With four minutes remaining, Best Virginia led 61-48 as the Elam Ending (add eight points to leading team's score and first team to reach that total wins the game) was set into motion. WoCo Showtime outscored the Mountaineers 19-9 over the remainder of the action but Best Virginia found a way to pull out the win in the end as Kevin Jones

dropped in the game-winning bucket.

Jones led all Best Virginia scorers and turned in a double-double with 18 points and 13 rebounds, going 9 of 18 from the field.

John Flowers was solid with 15 points, Tarik Phillip recorded a double-double of 11 points and 10 boards and Jamel Morris tallied nine points.

Harler bucketed three points, two rebounds and one assist in seven minutes of action.

"Seriously... (shoutout) to all the WVU fans that came out (Saturday) to the (Civic Center) to show us old guys some love," Flower said Saturday night on Twitter. "(Hope) we see y'all Monday!"

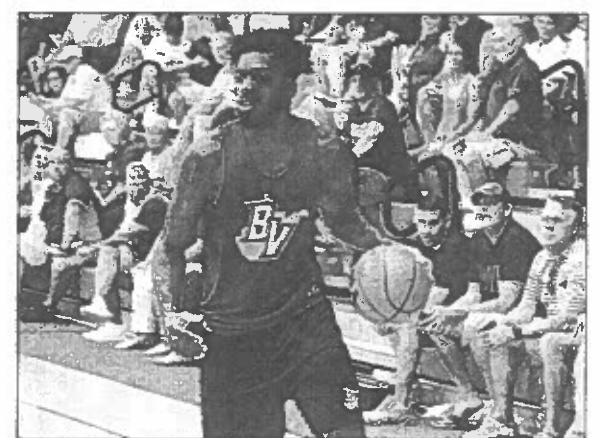


Photo by Cody Tomer John Flowers and WVU alumni squad 'Best Virginia' prevailed over 'WoCo Showtime' Saturday to advance to second-round action tonight in The Basketball Tournament.

Morikawa Is British Open



Two South African Soccer Players Positive For COVID

(Continued from Page 9)

After tapping in for par to win by two shots over Jordan Spieth, he gave a fist pump before applauding the spectators.

Before long, he was being handed the claret jug that so many go their entire career without winning. He gazed adoringly at it, then thrust it into the air and gave it a kiss.

"Those are the moments, the few seconds that you embrace so much," he said. "And you look around, every seat is packed. Everywhere is packed with people."

They were seeing a young player already halfway to the career Grand Slam after eight starts, the first since Bobby Jones in 1926 to win two majors in so few appearances. He follows Gene Sarazen, Jones, Jack Nicklaus, Seve Ballesteros, Tiger Woods, Rory McIlroy and Spieth in winning multiple majors before turning 25.

His total of 15-under 265 was a 72-hole record in 15 British Opens at Royal St. George's. In 13 of them, the winning score has been 5 under or lower.

"When you make history," he said, "it's hard to grasp, it's hard to really take it in ... At 24 years old, it's so hard to look back at the two short years that I have been a pro and see what I've done because I want more."

He did it with style amid immaculate weather on the links off Sandwich Bay, flushing shots with his irons and getting up-and-down on the rare occasions he found trouble. He called his putting display one of the best of his short career, turning a statistical weakness into a strength.

Starting the final round one shot be-

hind Louis Oosthuizen, Morikawa was tied for the lead after four holes and then made three straight birdies on Nos. 7-9 to overtake the South African, who hadn't trailed since the 12th hole of his second round.

Morikawa made key par saves — pumping his fist both times — at Nos. 10 and 15, between which he rolled a birdie putt up and over a ridge and into the cup on the 14th to build a two-stroke lead he never lost. Spieth parred his final four holes and also shot 66.

By making par at the last after another perfect drive, Morikawa played his final 31 holes without a bogey on a course that has confounded many great players because of its quirky bounces and undulating fairways.

All the more remarkable was that this was his first major test on a seaside links. Morikawa had little experience with this style of golf before playing the Scottish Open last week at The Renaissance Club, which is not a traditional links but featured the kind of tight lies and rolling terrain that prepared him for it. He even had three new irons in his bag this week.

He completed a feat achieved by Ben Curtis on the same course in 2003, winning golf's oldest championship in his links debut.

For Oosthuizen, who was seeking a wire-to-wire win and a second claret jug — he had a runaway victory at St. Andrews in 2010 — it was another near miss in a career full of them. He was runner-up this year at the PGA Championship and the U.S. Open, two of his six second-place finishes at majors.

## OVAC

(Continued from Page 9)

Getting to this point was a challenge for both coaches.

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## PIRATES

(Continued from Page 9)

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Walker swooped in and swatted at the ball, trying to make contact while it was still in foul ground. But TV replays showed the ball was touching the chalk when Walker hit it, and plate umpire Jeremy Riggs correctly called it a fair ball.

Walker turned to argue the call as the ball rolled toward the Pirates dugout, and no Mets reacted to retrieve it. The three Pittsburgh runners took off and kept running, and all came around to score.

Walker said he tried to swat the ball into the dugout.

"Obviously, I thought it was foul," Walker said. "It was so close. ... I thought I flipped it in the dugout. I didn't even realize it was still in play. It was just one of those plays that just happen. Crazy play."

Walker was charged with an error on the play, while Newman was credited with a single and one RBI.

Rojas immediately ran out to argue the call and was ejected. He said he wanted the umpires to conference to make sure the correct call was made, even though the play was not reviewable.

Walker said Rojas' passionate defense helped the team get back into the game after a lackluster start.

After walking pitcher JT Brubaker, Walker was pulled from the game. He allowed six runs on four hit and four walks while recording just one out.

The Mets began to rally with Smith's RBI single in the third. In the fourth, pinch-hitter Travis Blankenhorn hit his first major league homer, a three-run shot to the riverwalk beyond right-center field to make it 6-4.

Jeff McNeil scored on right fielder Gregory Polanco's throwing error in the sixth to bring the Mets to within a run.

### ROSTER MOVES

The Pirates reinstated right-handed relief pitcher Duane Underwood Jr. from the injured list and optioned right-handed reliever Nick Mears to Triple-A Indianapolis. Underwood had been out since July 8 with right side discomfort.

The Mets placed deGrom on the 10-day injured list with right forearm tightness. The ace had been scheduled to start on Sunday, but was scratched. An MRI revealed no structural damage.

### UP NEXT

Pirates: Chase De Jong (1-3, 5.59) will start on Monday as the Pirates start a six-game road trip with three games against Arizona.

### INDIANS 4, ATHLETICS 2

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Bradley Zimmer had three hits, including a home run on All-Star Chris Bassitt's first pitch, to help Cleveland beat Oakland.

### PADRES 10, NATIONALS 4

### NATIONALS 8, PADRES 7

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alcides Escobar homered in the eighth inning and hit a winning single in the ninth Sunday as the Washington Nationals wrapped up a disturbing weekend with an 8-7 win over the San Diego Padres.

A day after the game was suspended in the sixth inning because of a shooting out-

side Nationals Park, the Padres completed a 10-4 victory. Washington then came back to end a six-game losing streak.

### YANKEES 9, RED SOX 1

NEW YORK (AP) — Gleyber Torres and Rougned Odor homered to back another strong start from Jameson Taillon as depleted New York beat Boston.

### WHITE SOX 4, ASTROS 0

CHICAGO (AP) — Carlos Rodon allowed one hit through seven dominant innings, Yoan Moncada and Tim Anderson hit solo homers and Chicago topped Houston.

### MARINERS 7, ANGELS 4

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Ty France hit a three-run homer, Logan Gilbert struck out a career-high nine and Seattle defeated Los Angeles despite Shohei Ohtani's 34th homer of the season.

### PHILLIES 4, MARLINS 2

### PHILLIES 7, MARLINS 4

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — J.T. Realmuto followed a two-run walk-off homer in the completion of a suspended game with a 3-for-5 performance with two RBIs and Philadelphia beat Miami in the regularly scheduled series finale.

### BLUE JAYS 5, RANGERS 0

### BLUE JAYS 10, RANGERS 0

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Hyun Jin Ryu threw a three-hitter in the opener, and Steven Matz and two relievers combined for another shutout in the second game as Toronto blanked Texas in both halves of a doubleheader.

### RAYS 7, BRAVES 5

ATLANTA (AP) — Yandy Diaz homered during a four-run rally in the seventh inning and Tampa Bay beat Atlanta. The Rays completed their 28th come-from-behind win and took two of three in the series.

### ROCKIES 6, DODGERS 5

### (10 INNINGS)

DENVER (AP) — Charlie Blackmon hit a solo homer in the bottom of the 10th inning, leading Colorado over Los Angeles.

### CARDINALS 2, GIANTS 1

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Harrison Badger put St. Louis ahead with a checked-swing single off the glove of first baseman LaMonte Wade Jr. in the seventh inning in a win over San Francisco.

### DIAMONDBACKS 6, CUBS 4

PHOENIX (AP) — Merrill Kelly threw eight solid innings, Eduardo Escobar hit a two-run homer and Arizona avoided a three-game sweep with a win over Chicago.

### BREWERS 8, REDS 0

CINCINNATI (AP) — Corbin Burnes pitched sharply into the ninth, leading Milwaukee over Cincinnati. The Brewers stretched their NL Central lead to seven games over second-place Cincinnati.

### TIGERS 7, TWINS 0

DETROIT (AP) — Jeimer Candelario homered, drove in three runs and started two double plays as Detroit finished a weekend sweep of Minnesota.

### ORIOLES 5, ROYALS 0

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Matt Harvey ended his nine-game losing skid with his best performance in years, pitching six crisp innings and sending Baltimore over Kansas City.

## Two

(Continued from Page 9)

The Olympics, which were postponed for a year because of the pandemic, are set to officially open Friday and run until Aug. 8.

The two soccer players and a team video analyst who also tested positive had been moved to "the Tokyo 2020 isolation facility," the South African Olympic committee said. The rest of the squad members and officials had also been quarantined.

Those positive tests further stoked local fears, with the South African team scheduled to play against host nation Japan in its first game on Thursday.

There has already been consistent opposition from the Japanese public to holding the

Olympics during the pandemic, with fears that it could become a super-spreader event and cause a spike in infections among Japanese people.

Bach and the IOC have insisted it will be safe and have forged ahead against most medical advice. The IOC says it sees the Games as a chance to foster international solidarity during difficult times, but the IOC would also lose billions of dollars in broadcast rights if the Games were to be canceled completely.

Also Sunday, Team South Africa confirmed the coach of its rugby sevens team also tested positive at a pre-Olympics training camp in the southern Japanese city of Kagoshima. He was also in isolation there

and would miss the entire rugby competition, the team said.

And there were other Olympics-related positive tests. Olympic organizers said that another athlete had tested positive, although they were not residing in the Olympic Village. The athlete was not named and only identified as "non-Japanese."

The first International Olympic Committee official was reported as positive. He recorded a positive test on Saturday when arriving at a Tokyo airport. The IOC confirmed the test and identified him as IOC member Ryu Seung-min of South Korea. He was reportedly being held in isolation, too.

Former distance runner and world championship bronze

medalist Tegla Loroupe, the chief of mission of the IOC's Refugee Olympic Team, tested positive for COVID-19 before the team was to depart its Doha, Qatar, training base for Tokyo, two people with knowledge of her condition told the AP. The team delayed its arrival in Tokyo while Loroupe is expected to stay behind, according to the two people, who requested anonymity because they weren't authorized to reveal medical information.

Organizers say that 55 people linked to the Olympics in Japan have reported positive tests since July 1, but that figure does not include athletes or others who may have arrived for training camps but are not yet under the "jurisdiction" of

the organizing committee.

The British Olympic Association said six athletes and two staff in the track and field squad are isolating at the team's pre-Olympic base in Yokohama after being deemed close contacts of a person who tested positive following their flight to Japan. U.S. tennis player Coco Gauff didn't travel to Japan after testing positive for the coronavirus.

Tokyo reported 1,008 new COVID-19 cases on Sunday, the 29th straight day that cases were higher than seven days previously. It was also the fifth straight day with more than 1,000 cases. The Olympics will open under a state of emergency in Tokyo and three neighboring prefectures.

C

Sunday News-Register

JULY 18, 2021

## SPORTS

INSIDE:

British Open/C3

Olympics/C4

All-Valley Baseball/C5

Scoreboard/C6

## Depew Believes W.Va. LBs Can Match Ohio's RBs

By SETH STASKEY  
For the News-Register

With Ohio expected to be a run-oriented team, West Virginia head coach B.J. Depew expects his linebackers to play a key role next Saturday in the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game.

Depew believes he and his staff have the pieces to match up with the Buckeye State on the second level of their defense.

"We have some real talent in kids who are multiple-year starters," Depew said. "We have a couple of team-leading tackler guys and most are two-way players."

Here's a capsule look at the players: **JASON BEISEL, Magnolia** — This former Blue Eagle shined on both

sides of the ball for Coach Dave Chapman's team.

Jason is the son of Ryan and Dawn Yeater.

**DEACAN CARMICHAEL, Cameron** — This former Dragon

had a key role on both sides of the ball for head coach Tim Brown's team.

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**STEVE FELTON, Linsly**

— This former Cadet was an impact player for Depew's team as both a linebacker and fullback.

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career. He also caught 18 passes for 214 yards. Defensively, he posted 126 solo tackles and 263 career stops. As a senior, he averaged 14.5 tackles a game.

Felton was named his team's defensive MVP, All-OVAC and received the coaches award as a senior.

Along with athletics, Felton is a standout in the classroom as a member of the National Honor Society.

Steve, who is the son of Jack and Rhonda Felton, plans to attend Duquesne University.

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Along with football, he lettered twice in track and field.

Away from sports, he's a member of the principal's list and has completed both the carpentry and electrical program.

He's also active in the community through coaching youth sports and promoting Autism Awareness.

Drake, who plans to attend Bethany College, is the son of Curt and Katherine Hukill.

Please see Match, Page C2

SATURDAY'S  
BEST  
MLB

■ 4 p.m. — Cleveland at Oakland, FS1

■ 7 p.m. — New York Mets at Pittsburgh, ATT

■ 7 p.m. — San Francisco at St. Louis OR Boston at New York Yankees OR Houston at Chicago White Sox, FOX

## NBA

■ 9 p.m. — NBA Finals, Milwaukee at Phoenix, Game 5, ABC

## TBT

■ Noon — Herd That vs. Team DRC, ESPN

■ 2 p.m. — WoCo Showtime vs. Best Virginia, ESPN

SUNDAY'S BEST  
MLB

■ 1 p.m. — San Diego at Washington, TBS

■ 1 p.m. — New York Mets at Pittsburgh

■ 7 p.m. — Boston at New York Yankees, ESPN

## TBT

■ Noon — Bucket-neers vs. War Ready, ESPN

■ 4 p.m. — Armored Athlete vs. HBCUnited, ESPN

## 'Best Virginia' Opens TBT Vs. 'WoCo Showtime'

Game Tips Off At 2 p.m. on ESPN

By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer

**WHEELING** — After two exhibition games and plenty of practice, Best Virginia finally gets started today for real against WoCo Showtime as The Basketball Tournament tips off in Charleston at 2 p.m. on ESPN.

The West Virginia alumni squad went 2-0 in exhibition games and enters the tournament as the No. 2 seed in the Charleston Region.

The Mountaineer squad consists of Teyvon Myers, Jonathan Holton, Jwan Staten, Kevin Jones, Nathan Adrian, Chase Harler, Alex Ruoff, Logan Routt, John Flowers and Sagaba Konate.

They'll be going up against Wofford's alumni team in the opening round, which includes Larry McKnight, Eric Garcia, Emmitt Williams V, Fletcher Magee, Keith Braxton, Nate Hoover, Dylan Carl, Lee Skinner, Spencer Collins and Neil Rasnake.

Magee is the NCAA Division I record holder for career 3-pointers with 509, which he set in 2019, passing Oakland's Travis Bader's mark of 504 in 2014.

Magee was also on the first team in school history to punch its ticket to the March Madness and he will certainly give Best Virginia a quality test in the first round.

"I actually transferred from Wofford, so I know a lot of those guys," Best

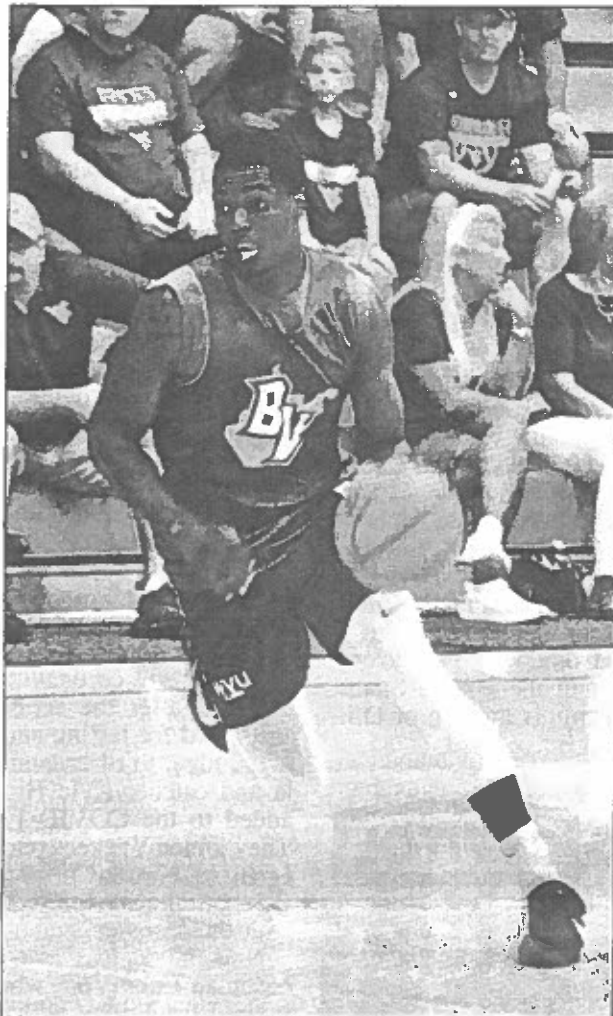


Photo by Cody Tomer

Teyvon Myers and the rest of the Best Virginia squad open TBT play today with a 2 p.m. tipoff against WoCo Showtime on ESPN.

Virginia head coach James Long said. "They are going to be good. They play well off each other and they added a couple of big guys to work off their shooters. Hoover can really shoot it and Fletcher Magee is the No. 1 3-point shooter in D-I history so they will be a tough test."

A win for Best Virginia will give it a second round date with the winner of No. 10 Bleed Virginia or No. 7 D2. With-

out trying to look too far ahead, it is possible that Charleston may play host to a third round matchup of rivals Best Virginia and No. 3 seed Herd That, Marshall's alumni squad, which includes brothers Ot and Jon Elmore.

"I hope it works out to where we can play each other," Long said. "We both have a lot to accomplish before we can get

Please see TBT Page C2

## Highlanders Play For Division Title Today

By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer  
WHEELING

One more win and the West Virginia Highlanders Football Club will bring home the Ohio Valley Premier League's Valley Division title in just its first season as a program.

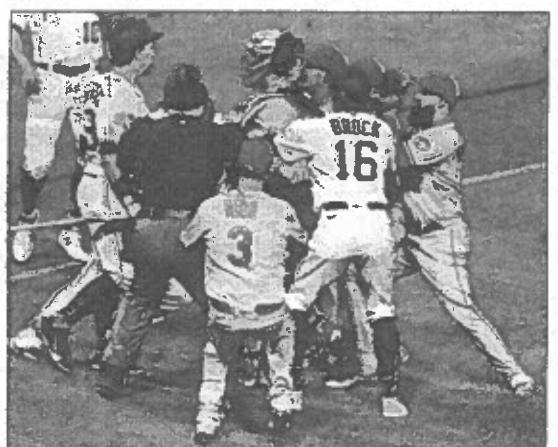
The Highlanders (6-2-1) defeated Century United on Thursday 1-0 on a goal from West Liberty's Bernardo Vilchis.

Today, the club travels to Columbus to face Ohio Premier with the Valley Division title on the line.

"We're the only team in the whole league that's not from a big city," Highlanders coach Ryan Wall said. "When we started we didn't know what we had. We just wanted to put together a team that was good to watch and provide some entertainment for people coming to games — some high level entertainment. Then, in the first game, we realized that we had something special and it raised our expectations a little bit."

"Winning the division is the goal but we just want to finish strong more generally. Longer term, we want to build on this year's success and grow the organization and make it a fixture in Wheeling for years to come."

Please see Highlanders, Page C2



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Pirates' John Nogowski, left, and New York Mets starting pitcher Marcus Stroman, fourth from right, exchange words as players and coaches arrive during the sixth inning of Friday's game in Pittsburgh.

## Benches Clear In Bucs' Victory Over New York

By JOHN PERROTTO  
Associated Press  
PITTSBURGH

Coming off their first All-Star appearances, Bryan Reynolds homered and Adam Frazier hit a two-run single to lead the Pittsburgh Pirates to a 4-1

grounding out to second base in the fifth. He took a few steps out of the batter's box but then peeled off toward the Mets' dugout on the first base side.

In the bottom half, the benches cleared after Mets starter Marcus Stroman jumped high

## Love Out, U.S. Basketball Adds Two More

By BRIAN MAHONEY  
AP Basketball Writer

The U.S. basketball team has lost two games and now two players on its road to Tokyo.

Kevin Love withdrew from the Olympics on Fri-



against the Americans, and had appeared in two of their exhibition games.

McGee, who played for the Cleveland Cavaliers and Denver Nuggets last season, has won three NBA titles but has

# Black Bears Blanked, 2-0

MORGANTOWN — Jake Reinhardt paced the West Virginia Black Bears were held to just three hits during Friday night's loss to the State College Spikes in a 2-0 setback.

Jake Reinhardt paced the Black Bears with a double, while Ryan McCoy, and Jesse Pierce each recorded singles in the loss.

Grant Hussey and Kaeber Rog were the only other Black Bears to reach base and both were via walks.

Michael Slaten paced the Spikes with a double, a triple and a RBI.

## TBT

Continued from Page C1

there but it would be great for Charleston."

Sideline Cancer, last year's runner-up, is the top seed in the Charleston Region.

Ohio State alumni team and 2019 TBT champion, Carmen's Crew is the No. 1 seed in the Columbus Region and is 12-3 in the tournament since it

## HIGHLANDERS

Continued from Page C1

A division title means the Highlanders will go play in Cincinnati against the Western Conference's River Division champ for the overall championship Saturday, July 24.

"I think we were able to pull together a really good group of players," Wall said. "We're able to get them to combine and work together really well. A big part of that was our connections and relationships with Wheeling University's and West Liberty University's men's programs. We were able to grab some of the top players from those programs and on top of that, we've put a lot of

work in on the training grounds and got the guys to buy in to what we are trying to do."

One of those Wheeling University players who has made an impact is Ritchie Afolayanka, who has accounted for six goals in nine games and ranks third in the league in goals scored.

"The interesting thing is we have players from different countries and local players," Wall said. "Everyone on the field is really clicking like they are from the same place and there is no distinction at all. Everyone is getting along well and it's a great group to work with and there is mutual respect all around."

On Sunday, July 11, the Highlanders delivered their most exciting victory of the season with a 3-2 win over the previously unbeaten Ohio Galaxies Dutch Lions.

The Highlanders found themselves trailing 2-0 with seven minutes remaining and Wheeling University's Lucas Fivet netted a pair of goals and Afolayanka added one to complete the comeback victory.

"We've got a habit of just not giving up," Wall said. "We don't quit and adding to that, we have three or four guys with some exceptional skill sets. Not many teams in the league have that."

## MATCH

Continued from Page C1

**SILAS MCKEEVER, Magnolia** — This former Blue Eagles played four different positions for Coach Chapman's squad.

The 6-foot, 200 pounder was named All-OVAC after spending time at quarterback, running back, linebacker and tight end.

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**CODY POE, Hurdred** — This former Hornet put forth an impressive career in playing for Coach D.J. Byrd's team.

The 6-1, 210 pounder posted 415 tackles, 12 sacks and forced eight fumbles in his career. He

also scored 10 TDs and had 210 receiving yards.

Twice, Poe was named to the All-State Honorable Mention team. He was twice an All-Mason Dixon Team pick as well as an All-OVAC team.

Cody, who plans to enlist in the United States Army, is the son of D.J. and Betsy Byrd.

## U.S.

Continued from Page C1

The U.S. was already short-handed before the losses of Beal and Love. Milwaukee's Jrue Holiday and Khris Middleton, along with Phoenix star Devin Booker, won't join the team until after the NBA Finals.

With them not joining the team until after camp and forward Jerami Grant also in health and safety protocols — though with his Olympics not expected to be in jeopardy — the Americans are currently without half the players they will take to Tokyo.

Guard Zach LaVine said he didn't have any concerns about the team's readiness.

"I think we're the best basketball players in the world," he said. "We're able to compete and do things under certain circumstances and we've got to go out here and get the job done regardless."

"So I don't think anybody's going to feel bad for us or try to take it easy."

"It's just what it is and we've got to still get a job done."

The Americans dropped their first two games before beating Argentina. They have one exhibition left against Spain.

## BUCS

Continued from Page C1

The teams split four games last weekend in New York.

Stroman (6-8) gave up just the two runs on Frazier's single in five innings while scattering eight hits. He struck out two and walked none.

Richard Rodriguez pitched a scoreless ninth for his 13th save in 15 chances.

Wilmer Difo also homered for Pittsburgh, a drive to the back of the right field stands in the sixth off Drew Smith that made it 3-1. Difo, Reynolds and Jacob Stallings each had two hits for the Pirates.

The Mets got their run in the fourth when Pete Alonso walked and scored on Jonathan Villar's groundout. After winning his second consecutive All-Star Home Run Derby on Monday night, Alonso reached base four times on a double and three walks.



AP Photo  
Pittsburgh Pirates' Wilmer Difo celebrates as he crosses home plate in front of New York Mets catcher James McCann after hitting a solo home run during the sixth inning of Friday's game in Pittsburgh.

### ROSTER MOVES

Pirates: INF/OF Philip Evans was activated from the concussion IL and RHP Nick Mears was recalled from Triple-A Indianapolis, while INF/OF Cole Tucker was optioned to Indianapolis. Evans had been sidelined since July 6.

The Pirates had a roster spot open after placing LHP Sam Howard (right oblique strain) on the injured list Tuesday.

**RED SOX 4, YANKEES 0**

NEW YORK (AP) — Eduardo Rodriguez shut down the short-handed Yankees into the sixth inning, Christian Arroyo and J.D. Martinez homered and the Boston Red Sox beat their rivals 4-0 on Friday night with New York missing slugger Aaron Judge and five others due to a coronavirus outbreak.

A day after the series opener was postponed for testing and contact tracing, Judge, third baseman Gio Urshela and catcher Kyle Higashioka were added to the COVID-19 injured list. They joined Yankees pitchers Jonathan Loaisiga, Nestor Cortes Jr. and Wandy Peralta, who have also tested positive over the past week.

New York was also without first baseman Luke Voit, who went on the injured list Friday with a bone bruise in his left knee.

Rodriguez (7-5) allowed two hits over 5 2/3 innings, retiring 10 straight during one stretch and finishing with eight strikeouts. Hirokazu Sawamura got the final out of the sixth, and Tanner Houck pitched the final three innings, closing out Boston's three-hitter for his first big league save.

Arroyo hit a two-run drive during a three-run second inning against starter Jordan Montgomery (3-5). He also had a double against Domingo German in the seventh.

Martinez connected against Justin Wilson in the eighth, lining his 19th of the season into the right field seats for a solo shot that made it 4-0.

The AL East-leading Red Sox improved to 7-0 in the 19-game season series and beat New York for the eighth consecutive time, their best run in the rivalry since winning eight straight meetings from 2008-09.

**PADRES 24, NATIONALS 8**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jake Cronenworth hit for his first career cycle, Wil Myers had a grand slam and a two-run shot and San Diego blew out Washington to set a franchise record for runs.

The Padres had 22 hits against seven pitchers. San Diego scored in every

over 6 2/3 innings.

Guerrero, named the All-Star MVP on Tuesday night, connected off Texas starter Jordan Lyles (5-6) in the first inning to make it 1-0 and added a three-run blast in the sixth against Dennis Santana, his 30th of the season.

That led to chants of "M-V-P! M-V-P!" from the crowd of 10,100 as the Blue Jays opened their final stretch of games in their temporary Buffalo home. They received approval from the Canadian government Friday to return to Toronto for the homestand that begins July 30.

**ASTROS 7, WHITE SOX 1**

CHICAGO (AP) — Lance McCullers Jr. pitched seven sparkling innings and Houston beat Chicago in the opener of the weekend series between AL division leaders.

Michael Brantley homered and Myles Straw drove in three runs to help the Astros improved to a big league-best 43-22 against teams with a .500 or better record — including a 5-0 mark against the White Sox. Yuli Gurriel added three hits and two RBIs.

**PHILLIES 5, MARLINS 2**  
1ST GAME

**MARLINS 7, PHILLIES 0**  
2ND GAME

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Jesus Aguilar homered and drove in four runs, Starling Marte went deep with three RBIs and Miami beat Philadelphia to split a doubleheader.

Jordan Holloway (2-2), recalled from Triple-A Jacksonville on Friday as the 27th man, didn't allow a hit in five innings of relief after Ross Detwiler opened with a scoreless first. Holloway struck out six and walked two. Richard Bleier completed the two-hitter with a scoreless seventh. Zach Eflin (4-7) was the loser.

In the opener, Travis Jankowski drove in four runs and Matt Moore struck out nine while pitching into the fifth inning to lead the Phillies. Archie Bradley (4-1) tossed 1 2/3 scoreless innings of relief, and Ranger Suarez struck out the side in the seventh for his third save. Sandy Alcantara (5-9) took the loss.

**BREWERS 11, REDS 6**

CINCINNATI (AP) — Willy Adames homered and drove in four runs in Milwaukee's victory over Cin-

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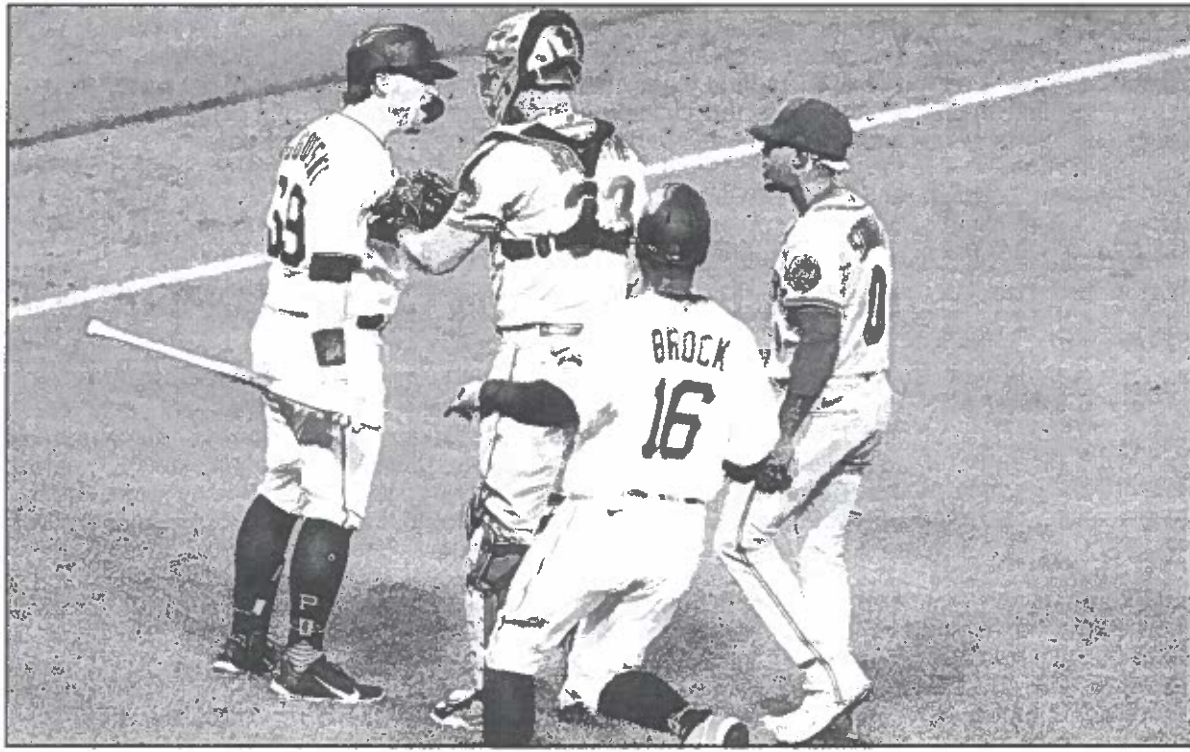
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NOVEMBER 3

**MAGIC OF CIRQUE Christmas**  
DECEMBER 18

**Fiddler**

**Menopause The Musical**

# empty in Pirates 4-1 win



**PITTSBURGH PIRATES'** John Nogowski (69) and New York Mets starting pitcher Marcus Stroman (0) exchange words as catcher James McCann (33) steps between them and Pirates first base coach Tarrick Brock (16) arrives during the fifth inning of a game Friday in Pittsburgh.

## • Teams get together in fifth inning, no ejections

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Coming off their first All-Star appearances, Bryan Reynolds homered and Adam Frazier hit a two-run single to lead the Pittsburgh Pirates to a testy 4-1 victory over the New York Mets on Friday night.

Mets star shortstop Francisco Lindor left in the fifth inning with soreness on his right side — moments before a hot-tempered shoving match between the teams on the field.

Reynolds' homer came in the seventh inning and pushed the lead to 4-1. It was his 17th of the season, setting a career high.

Frazier's hit in the second opened the scoring. He and Reynolds became the first Pirates teammates to start in an All-Star Game on Tuesday since Barry Bonds and Bobby Bonilla in 1992.

Lindor winced after grounding out to second base in the fifth. He took a few steps out of the batter's

box but then peeled off toward the Mets' dugout on the first base side.

In the bottom half, the benches cleared after Mets starter Marcus Stroman jumped high in the air when John Nogowski lined out to first base to end the inning.

Nogowski began shouting and pointing at Stroman, who walked toward him and barked back. No punches were thrown during a large scrum on the field, and there were no ejections.

Chad Kuhl (3-5) got the win despite issuing five walks in five innings. He allowed one unearned run and two hits while striking out three.

NL East-leading New York managed three hits against the Pirates, who are last in the NL Central. The teams split four games last weekend in New York.

See, **PIRATES**, Page D2

## Blue Jays returning to Canada July 30

**TORONTO (AP)** — The Toronto Blue Jays were given approval from the Canadian government on Friday for an exemption on border restrictions that would allow them to play in Canada later this month.

The Blue Jays had asked the federal government to allow them to play at Rogers Centre starting July 30 and wanted a response by Friday.

"After nearly two years away, the Toronto Blue Jays are finally coming home to Canada beginning July 30," the team said in a statement.

"The club was granted a National Interest Exemption by the

federal government that allows Major League Baseball games to be played at Rogers Centre, with robust health and safety protocols in place."

The Blue Jays played home games during the shortened 2020 season in Buffalo, New York, and started this season in Dunedin, Florida, before moving to Buffalo.

The Canadian government didn't allow the team to play in Toronto because of the risk of spreading COVID-19, citing frequent travel required in the U.S. during a baseball season.

"No place like home," the Blue Jays tweeted.

Immigration Minister Marco Mendicino said the decision was made in conjunction with the Public Health Agency of Canada, with the approval of provincial and municipal public health officials.

Mendicino said the plan includes significant limitations on unvaccinated individuals, "who will have to undergo a modified quarantine, not be permitted to go anywhere but the hotel and stadium and have no interaction with the general public."

He said there will also be a designated compliance officer for each team.

See, **CANADA**, Page D2



**SOUTH AFRICA'S** Louis Oosthuizen acknowledges the crowd after putting an eagle on the 14th green during the second round of the British Open Golf Championship at Royal St. George's golf course Sandwich, England, Friday.

## Oosthuizen sets new Open mark at halfway point

### • South African shoots blistering 11-under, but only leads by two

**SANDWICH, England (AP)** — Louis Oosthuizen set a 36-hole record at the British Open and is halfway to ending that run of near misses at the majors.

Now all he has to do is hold off a cast of major champions on the weekend at Royal St. George's.

On a day of pleasant summer weather that took the fear out of the links off Sandwich Bay, Oosthuizen broke away from a three-way tie with a birdie-birdie-eagle run from the 12th hole. He shrugged off his first bogey of the week for a 5-under 65 and a two-stroke lead on Friday.

Former PGA champion Collin Morikawa had a 64 in the morning and was two shots behind. Another shot back was Jordan Spieth (67), going after his fourth major.

Lurking was two-time major champion Dustin Johnson, the No. 1 player in the world who shot 65 and was tied for fourth, four strokes behind Oosthuizen.

"The game is good, but I know it's a really good leaderboard," Oosthuizen said. "I'll have to play good golf this weekend if I want to come out first."

Oosthuizen, looking as calm as the conditions, was at 11-under 129, breaking the 36-hole Open record first set by Nick Faldo in 1992 at Muirfield and matched by Brandt Snedeker in 2012 at Royal Lytham & St. Annes.

This will be the fifth time in the last nine rounds at a major that Oosthuizen, the 2010 Open champion at St. Andrews, has had at least a share of the lead. He was runner-up at the last two majors, to Phil Mickelson at the the PGA Championship in May and to Jogi Rahm the U.S. Open last month.

"I'm not really going to think about the second spots," said Oosthuizen, when asked what he'll do differently this time. "I know my game is in a good place."

He'll also be aware of the quality of player behind him, though.

Morikawa, making quite a debut in links golf, made seven birdies in his first 14 holes as part of a clinic in iron play. He missed a 5-foot par putt on No. 15 — ending a 27-hole stretch without a bogey — and had a 10-foot birdie putt on the final hole catch the lip.

See, **OOSTHUIZEN**, Page D2

## W.Va linebackers will play key role vs. Ohio in OVAC ASG

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

With Ohio expected to be a run-oriented team, West Virginia head coach B.J. Depew expects his linebackers to play a key role next Saturday in the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game.

Depew believes he and his staff have the pieces to match up with the Buckeye State on the second level of their defense.

"We have some real talent in kids who are multiple-year starters," Depew said. "We have a couple of team-leading tackler guys and most are

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## Depew Finds Athleticism on West Virginia O-Line

By **SETH STASKEY**  
For The Intelligencer

When B.J. Depew and his coaching staff began to consider their linemen for the 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game, they weren't just looking at size.

Actually, the Linsly head coach, who will guide West Virginia in the July 24th game at Wheeling Island Stadium, wanted athleticism first and foremost.

"Most of our linemen are really good athletes on top of being good linemen," Depew said. "We know we have some really good players in the group despite some being undersized. We just need to find ways to take advantage of their skillsets."

Here's a capsule look at the players:  
**MARCO APREA, Linsly** — This former Cadet shined at defensive end for Depew's team.

The 5-11, 185 pounder posted 90 tackles, including 15 for loss and four sacks during his career. He also logged two defensive touchdowns.

Aprea was recognized twice as defensive player of the week.

Marco, who is the son of Tony and Lisa Aprea, plans to attend Ohio University.

**DANIEL BEALLES, Oak Glen** — This former Golden Bear was a key cog on both sides of the ball for Coach Ted Arneault's squad.

The 6-foot, 180 pounder saw time at

guard and middle linebacker.

Daniel is the son of Chester Bealles Jr. and Laura Rudjbaugh.

**JORDAN BRUECK, Weir** — This former Red Rider was a leader for Coach Frank Sisinni's team.

The 6-4, 245 pounder earned four letters and was named a team captain. He was also an All-OVAC performer.

Away from football, Brueck was a member of the National Honor Society, Academic All-OVAC and graduated with honors.

On top of football, Brueck placed

third in the West Virginia State Wrestling Tournament.

Jordan, who plans to attend Bethany, is the son of Jim and Jennifer Brueck.

**SAM CASTO, Brooke** — This former Bruin shined on both lines for Coach Mac McLean's team.

Sam is the son of Brian and Michelle Casto.

**DEONDRE CRUDUP, Morgantown** — This former Mohigan got it done on both sides of the ball for Coach Sean Biser's team.

The 5-10, 250 pounder rushed for 1,200 yards in 10 games as a fullback. On the defensive side, he recorded more than 100 tackles and 27 sacks in his career.

A three-year letterman, Crudup twice earned Honorable Mention All-State.

Please see O-LINE, Page 12

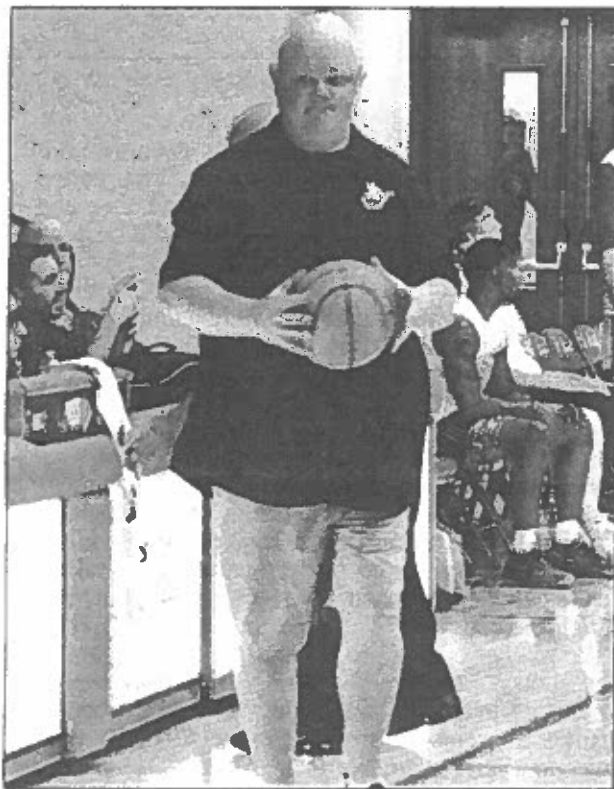


Photo by Cody Tomer

Best Virginia assistant coach and New Martinsville native Dave Tallman is enjoying his time leading up to The Basketball Tournament, which starts Saturday.

## Tallman and Hoops Go Hand in Hand

By **CODY TOMER**  
Sports Writer

**WHEELING** — Growing up in New Martinsville, Dave Tallman Jr. has been around the game of basketball — well since he was born.

With his love, passion and knowledge of the game, he has also been a big help for West Virginia alumni team, Best Virginia, as it competes in The Basketball Tournament, which tips off on Saturday from Charleston.

"My mom said I was in the gym the day after I was born," Tallman said. "That's all I know really. I don't know what I'd do without that orange round ball in my life. It's been great and I'm honored to be a part of this and help out these pros."

Tallman, the head coach of the Morgantown High School boys' basketball team, is also the

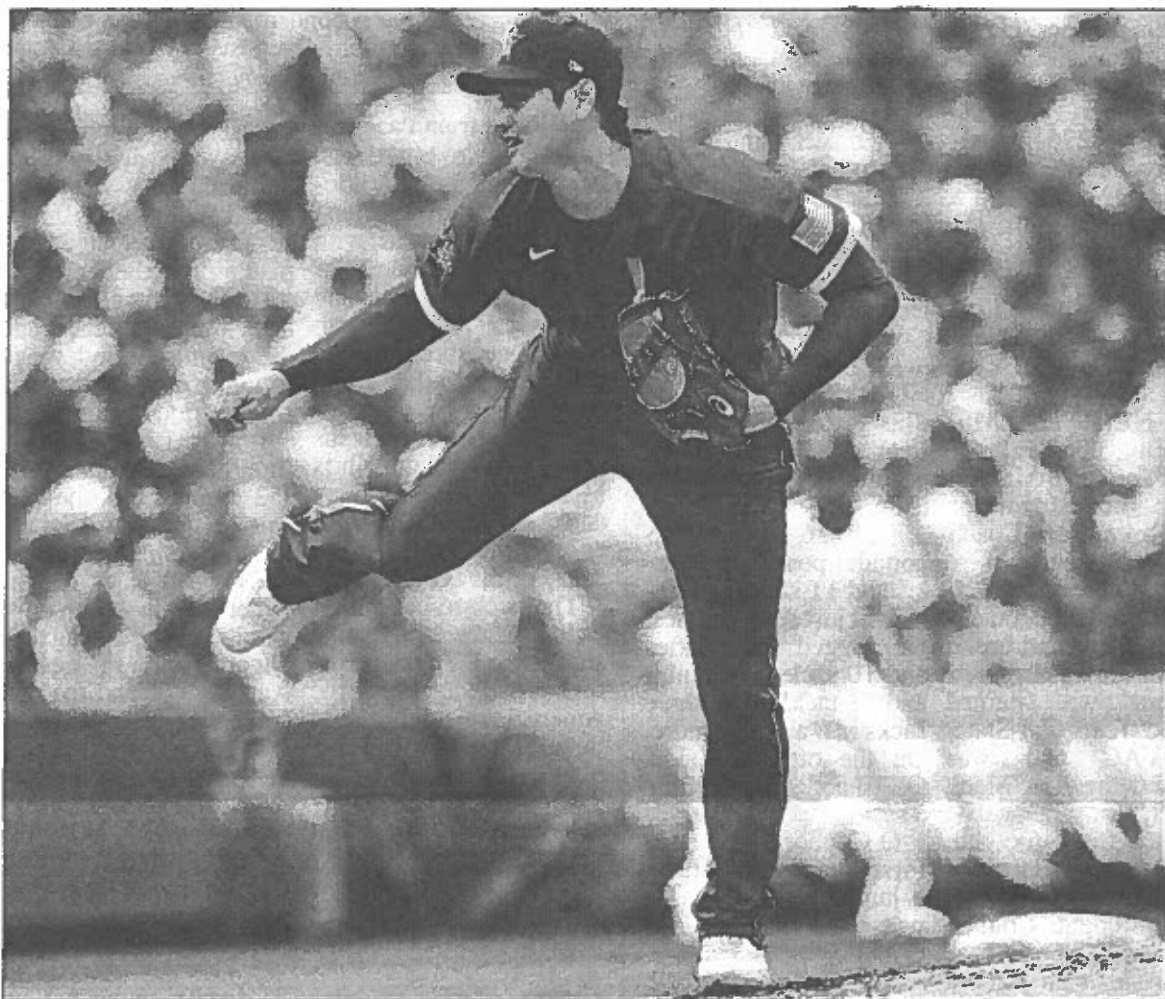
son of Magnolia boys' coach Dave Tallman Sr., just another reason why the gymnasium was like a second home to Tallman Jr. growing up.

Although he is now calling the shots in Morgantown, Tallman Jr. will always have a special place in his heart for the Ohio Valley and he enjoyed Friday's exhibition game — a 77-63 win over MEC alumni team, the Underground Kings, at Wheeling Park High School.

"This was fun," Tallman Jr. said. "I thought they did a good job of putting it together and it's fun to hang out with other valley guys like Chase Harler (Wheeling Central grad) and Logan Routt (Cameron grad). It was a good night and I thought the opposition gave us a good look."

Please see TALLMAN Page 12

## A.L. Continues Dominance in ASG



AP Photo

American League's starting pitcher Shohei Ohtani, of the Los Angeles Angeles, throws during the first inning of the MLB All-Star baseball game, Tuesday in Denver.

## Ohtani earns win on the mound, while leading off

By **RONALD BLUM**  
AP Baseball Writer

**DENVER** — A Sho-case for Shohei Ohtani became a grand stage for Vladimir Guerrero Jr., too.

Ohtani unleashed his 100 mph heat while pitching a perfect inning for the win in becoming baseball's first two-way All-Star. Guerrero rocked Coors Field with a 468-foot home run and the American League breezed 5-2 Tuesday night for its eighth straight victory.

Near and far, the sport's entire focus was on Ohtani from the

very start.

Players on both sides climbed to the dugout rails to watch him, and the Japanese sensation went 0 for 2, grounding out twice as the AL's leadoff man and designated hitter.

Jared Walsh, Ohtani's teammate on the Los Angeles Angels, got a save — with his glove. He made a sliding catch in left field on Kris Bryant's tricky liner with the bases loaded to end the eighth inning.

So even with the teams decked out in new uniforms that social media deemed a strikeout in-

stead of a home run, it was a familiar result. Mike Zunino also connected for the AL as it improved to 46-43-2 overall in the series.

Guerrero, at 22, became the youngest MVP in All-Star Game history.

J.T. Realmuto homered for the National League on a mile-high night at Coors, baseball's ultimate launching pad.

A 27-year-old right-hander in his fourth big league season, Ohtani has dazzled.

Please see A.L., Page 12

Zach Johnson Tests Positive



U.S. Bounces Back, 108-80





# Giannis Not Backing Down From Aggressive Suns

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Giannis Antetokounmpo pointed to a pair of scratches, one on his forehead and the other on his cheek.

Those NBA Finals battle scars are proof, he figures, that the frustrated Phoenix Suns are indeed fouling him.

"So they're making my pretty face ugly," Antetokounmpo said.

The Suns may be hacking and whacking him, but they sure aren't stopping the Milwaukee Bucks star.

Coming off two straight 40-point performances, Antetokounmpo will try to help the Bucks even the series in Game 4 on Wednesday.

And whether playing with pain in his knee or shaking off hits to his face, the Suns know Antetokounmpo is going to keep attacking them.

"He's coming full speed every play, like a running back coming downhill," point guard Chris Paul said.

Antetokounmpo had 41 points and 13 rebounds in the Bucks' 120-100 victory in Game 3. That followed his 42 points and 12 rebounds in Game 2, making him just the sixth player with consecutive 40-point games in the NBA Finals.

The Suns have already faced LeBron James and Nikola Jokic during this run to their first NBA Finals since 1993, so they've had to figure out ways to overcome MVP players.

But Antetokounmpo, with his end-to-end bursts that seem to take just two or three dribbles, is a different type of challenge. Paul said Suns coach Monty Williams' instructions are just to try to get in the 6-foot-11 forward's way, but it's difficult to give too much attention because the Bucks have shooters such as Khris Middleton, Jrue Holiday and Brook Lopez set up around the perimeter.

Paul said the Suns will just



Milwaukee Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) looks to shoot past Phoenix Suns' Cameron Johnson (23) and Jae Crowder during the second half of Game 3 of Sunday's NBA Finals.

stick with their game plan.

"We're going to keep trying to build a wall," he said.

Antetokounmpo is used to that.

He recalls it being about two years ago when teams started

to employ that defensive strategy of packing multiple players in his path to the basket.

Antetokounmpo still doesn't enjoy playing against it — "I'm not going to lie; I hate it," he said — but he's come to

look at it as a compliment, adding that it's "funny that there's a defense out there called the Giannis Wall."

Most importantly for the Bucks, he's learned how to beat it. Antetokounmpo believes he was already a good passer before teams started using the wall and he's willing to move the ball to open players when they do.

He had six assists in Game 3.

"It's kind of hard, because you want to be effective, you want to get downhill, you want to do everything, but now you also — you take it personal also," Antetokounmpo said.

"There's a team that's building the wall of three people and two guys behind and trying to stop you. Now you have to not take it personal and make the right play, find the right guy."

Antetokounmpo shot 17 free throws in Game 3, which Williams noted afterward was one more than the entire Suns team.

## O-LINE

(Continued from Page 11)

First-Team All-OVAC and All-TRAC.

Deondre, who is planning to attend Glenville State, is the son of Andrew and Dana Crudup.

**DIMITRIUS DESHIELDS, University**

— This former Hawk shined along the defensive line for Coach John Kelley's team.

The 6-1, 275 pounder recorded 31 tackles, including 21 solo and a sack last season in six games.

DeShields, who plans to attend Bethany College, is the son of Quentin and Jesse DeShields.

**SPENCER HELMS, Wheeling Central**

— This former Maroon Knight helped anchor both lines for Coach Mike Young's team.

The 6-foot, 220 pounder posted 38 tackles, 3.5 sacks and broke up a pass last season.

Helms was named Second Team All-State, All-OVAC and was awarded the Lou Mack Award.

Away from football, Helms is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council President and Drug Free Club. He also served on the Wheeling Central Student Enrollment Board.

Spencer, who plans to attend Ohio State Uni-

versity, is the son of David and Susan Helms.

**ISAAC KELLER, Magnolia**

— This former Blue Eagle was a consistent player on both lines for Coach Doc Chapman's team.

The 5-10, 220 pounder posted 34 tackles, including seven for loss, blocked two kicks, posted two sacks and broke up two passes.

Keller was named First Team All-OVAC.

Isaac, who plans to attend West Liberty University, is the son of Greg Keller.

**KYLER O'CONNOR, Oak Glen**

— This former Golden Bear was a steady contributor for Arneault's team.

The 6-foot, 195 pounder posted 66 tackles and 11 sacks as a senior in just seven games. He logged 95 tackles and 10 sacks as a junior and 51 tackles and three sacks as a sophomore.

On the offensive side, O'Connor didn't allow a sack.

O'Connor was named First Team All-State as a junior and senior. He was also named All-OVAC.

On top of football, O'Connor was active in wrestling and track.

Kyler is the son of James and Anna Chestnut.

## JOHNSON

(Continued from Page 11)

The latest players to withdraw were replaced by Long, Sam Horsfield of England and Dylan Frittelli of South Africa.

The field already is missing seven players from the top 75 in the world, unusual for a major.

Some had no choice. Masters champion Hideki Matsuyama at No. 18 was the highest-ranked player to withdraw.

He had a positive COVID-19 test on July 2 during the Rocket Mortgage Classic, and while he has gone through 10 days of self-isolation without symptoms, his tests keep coming back positive.

The PGA Tour had this issue a year ago with positive tests.

U.S. health officials said PCR tests can pick up remnants of the virus even though it is no longer active. But under UK guidelines, Matsuyama would need to produce a negative test.

Two-time Masters champion Bubba Watson said he came in contact with a person who had a positive COVID-19 test and withdrew. Under the R&A

## TALLMAN

(Continued from Page 11)

This isn't Tallman Jr.'s first rodeo with The Basketball Tournament or Best Virginia. In fact, he's been there every step of the way since the team started playing for the million-dollar prize in 2019 when it defeated Seven City Royalty 79-63 in the opening round and was bounced in the second round by four-time champion, Overseas

Elite 80-68.

Last year, Best Virginia was forced out of the tournament after COVID-19 related issues.

Throughout the process, Tallman Jr. has been able to meet some very talented athletes and has enjoyed every minute of it.

"I've been involved since they first put it together," Tallman Jr.

said.

"Since Day 1 it's been an honor to be a part of it. I've gotten to know these guys and I've had some really good relationships with them."

Best Virginia opens tournament play Saturday against WoCo Showtime — Wofford's alumni squad.

## U.S.

(Continued from Page 11)

"It's not a big deal," Argentina's Luca Vildoza said. "It's only a loss."

The U.S. played with only eight members of the Olympic team. Jayson Tatum was held out with right knee soreness and will be day-to-day going forward, USA Basketball said. The Americans also will be without Khris Middleton, Jrue Holiday and Devin Booker until at least this weekend because of the NBA Finals.

The back-to-back losses to start the U.S. team's stay in Las Vegas raised the possibility that the Americans might lose three in a row with NBA players for the first time.

If those thoughts truly existed, they didn't last for long.

"Our biggest thing is we have to realize it's not the NBA and Coach Pop

keeps re-emphasizing that every single day," Beal said. "It's way more physical. Guys are smarter. These guys have been playing together for five, 10-plus years. So they have the experience and the chemistry and we're trying to develop that in a short period of time."

It was 15-4 USA before the game was even 3 1/2 minutes old, the lead was as much as 17 later in the opening quarter — the biggest leads for the Americans in the first two games were 10 against Nigeria and 11 against Australia — and the outcome was never in doubt.

"The USA played great," Argentina coach Sergio Hernandez said. "They played more aggressive defense than they had the last two games."

The Americans held

a 58-42 lead at the half when Durant beat the buzzer with an 18-foot shot that Draymond Green was celebrating before the ball even swished through the net.

"We're not going to make shots all the time," Durant said in a televised halftime interview. "But if we continue to guard the way we are, it'll start to turn for us on offense."

... When we keep the ball in front and we get stops and rebounds, then we pretty much can play with a clean slate on the offensive side of the ball."

The U.S. won the rebound battle 40-34, committed only nine turnovers and held Argentina to 31% shooting — 9 for 29 — from 3-point range.

"Today we got better," Beal said. "Still a lot we can improve on, but we're moving in the right

direction."

## TIP-INS

Argentina: Campazzo was shaken up late in the first quarter after taking a hard screen, but was able to eventually return to the game. ... Argentina went 0-3 in Las Vegas, losing 87-84 in its opener against Australia on a buzzer-beating 3-pointer by Patty Mills and then falling 94-71 to Nigeria on Monday.

USA: The Americans used all 15 of their available players. ... Kevin Love, who played only 3:01 in the Nigeria game and didn't play against Australia, was among the first-quarter subs on Tuesday. ... Even after the losses to Nigeria and Australia, FanDuel Sportsbook had the Americans as 18.5-point favorites entering the game.

## A.L.

(Continued from Page 11)

He leads the major leagues with 33 homers and is 4-1 in 13 starts as a pitcher, a two-way performance not seen since Babe Ruth in 1919 and '20, before the Bambino largely gave up the mound for slugging.

"This has been the best experience, most memorable," he said through translator Ipei Mizuhara. "Obviously, I've never played in the playoffs or World Series, so once I do that, that's probably going to surpass it. But this has been the most memorable."

Ohtani was a double triple-digit threat in Denver, hitting a 513-foot drive during Monday night's Home Run Derby and throwing a 100.2 mph pitch to Nolan Arenado.

"He was as good as advertised," Arenado said.

Following a full day, Ohtani slept until 10:30 a.m.

"It was a lot more tiring compared to the regular season, but if everyone had fun I'm good with it," he said.

starting the night.

Ohtani was pulled for a pinch-hitter in the fifth. Shohei's shoes, meanwhile, were headed to the Hall of Fame, which collected his cleats and other gear for display in Cooperstown.

Ohtani combined with Lance Lynn, Kyle Gibson, Nathan Eovaldi, Gregory Soto, Chris Bassitt, Andrew Kittredge, Matt Barnes and Liam Hendriks on an eight-hit-ter.

A win started with a Japanese pitcher ended with a save by an Australian. Hendriks was helped by a lucky bounce off the backstop that turned what would've been a wild pitch into an out at second.

"It's a world game now," Hendriks said. "There's a lot of us over here and hopefully there's more to come with the exposure that Shohei and guys from the DR and Venezuela can bring to this game."

Despite another season of strikeouts that have alarmed baseball's leadership, NL batters whiffed 12 times while AL hitters had just

stop and another of the "juniors" among a record 42 first-time All-Stars — turned slowly and put both hands over his head.

Guerrero's homer was the 200th in All-Star history and he followed in the bat path of his father, Vladimir Guerrero, who homered off Brad Penny in the 2006 game at Pittsburgh. They joined Bobby Bonds (1973) and Barry Bonds (1998 at Coors) and Ken Griffey Sr. (1980) and Ken Griffey Jr. (1992) as the only father-son duos with All-Star homers.

Guerrero added an RBI grounder in the fifth against Miami's Trevor Rogers, and Boston's Xander Bogaerts followed with an RBI single for a 4-0 lead.

Both runs were unearned after shortstop Brandon Crawford misplayed Teoscar Hernandez's grounder for an error.

Toronto's Marcus Semien had put the AL ahead with an RBI single in the second off Burnes, who took the loss.

Realmuto homered in the fifth off Soto, a more pedestrian 430-

Counsel/B3  
Comics/B4  
Classified/B5-6

## SPORTS

Tuesday,  
July 13, 2021

## Huck has athletic Ohio linemen to choose from

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

It doesn't matter the level of football or the style of offense, line play — on both sides — is the key to success.

Ohio head coach Eric Huck, who is representing Fort Frye, had that same thought process when he built his lines for the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Game, which is scheduled for July 24 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"The offensive line will have

to gel and only having a week (to prepare) and not knowing each other, they'll need to get chemistry in a hurry," Huck said. "We really like the guys we picked on both sides of the ball. We may move some of the guys back and forth after we see how it comes together, but it's an athletic front."

Here's a capsule look at the players:

**JUSTIN BARTLETT**, Cambridge — This former Bobcat shined at defensive end for Coach Ray Leek's team.

Last season, he posted 50 tackles, 25 for loss, 10 sacks and picked off a pass.

His efforts were recognized via All-Ohio First Team, All-Eastern District and All-OVAC. He was named Eastern District Defensive Player of the Year.

Along with football, Bartlett shined in wrestling and track for the Bobcats.

Justin, who plans to attend Otterbein University, is the son Mark Bartlett and Sarah Stevens.

**ELI BURGEY**, Steubenville — This former Big Red stand-out anchored the offensive line from the center spot for Coach Reno Saccoccia's team.

The 6-1, 280 pounder graded out at 94% blocking with 40 pancake blocks.

He was selected to play in the Ohio North-South All-Star Game and was twice named to the All-Ohio squad, All-Eastern District and All-OVAC teams. He was also listed as Academic All-Ohio.

Away from football, Burgey

was a member of the track team. He also shines in the classroom as a National Honor Society member, University Scholar and a member of the Key Club and Rotary Club.

Eli, who plans to attend Fairmont State, is the son of Jason and Beth Burgey.

**GARET CRAMER**, Monroe Central — This former Seminole caused opposing teams all sorts of problems along both lines as he shined for Josh Ischy's team.

See, **OHIO**, Page B2



**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** Post 159 second baseman Mason Myers prepares to throw to first in finishing a double play Monday night against Wheeling Post 1 on the Memorial Park diamond. However, Post 1 claimed a 5-1 victory.

T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

## Roughriders alumni game set Saturday

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

**WHEELING** — There promises to be some hard hitting Saturday night inside WesBanco Arena.

No, the Wheeling Nailers aren't taking the ice, not is the Ohio Valley Toughman Contest in town. Instead, former members of the Richmond and West Virginia Roughriders indoor football franchises will square off in the inaugural Alumni Game.

"There's going to be some blood, sweat and tears," franchise co-owner Gregg Fornario said in a telephone call Monday afternoon. "There's a lot of bragging rights at stakes between the two cities."

While the two 20-player rosters aren't etched in stone quite yet, the players will be divided up between "Team Mook" and "Team Hardy."

"Mook" Zimmerman coached the Roughriders during the only — and magical — season in "The Friendly City" when they went 13-0 and captured the American Arena League championship in the process. "Team Hardy" will be led by former Dallas Cowboy and current UFC fighter Greg Hardy, who suffered a knockout loss as part of the undercard of last weekend's Dustin Poirier-Conor McGregor fight.

Fornario did say, however, that former local products Cole Smelley (Bridgeport) and Connor Arlia (Madonna) will be participating, but on different teams.

"They will be hitting each other," Fornario said.

He said the game itself will be like a regular indoor football game.

"It will be 100 percent a full game. Everything that took place during a Roughrider game in the past will take place, including halftime festivities and such," he added.

See, **ROUGHRIDERS**, Page B2

## Wheeling uses clutch hitting, Toepfer's pitching to top St.C.

• Teams square off again Thursday at J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** — When you put the ball in play anything can happen during a baseball game. When you do it with two strikes makes it even sweeter.

Wheeling Post 1 collected four hits with two strikes Monday night — all but one of them coming in the three-run first inning — that powered the visitors to a 5-1 American Legion victory on the Memorial Park diamond.

Zac Taylor drilled a 2-2 pitch for a single to center leading off and Jack Scuuvart blooped a 1-2 offering from Colby Shriver over second. Dil-

lon Gongola ripped the first pitch he saw to left to load the bases. Winning pitcher Michael Toepfer's ground-out plated Taylor and Caden Yocum reached on an error as Scuuvart raced home. Hunter Kelley laced a single to right that drove in Gongola for a 3-0 lead.

"That's something early on that we weren't doing very well," Wheeling (9-7) manager Jon-Michael Brunner said of the clutch hitting with two strikes. "We, as a staff, didn't know whether it was the lull after the high school season or whatever it was, we were struggling to put the bat on the ball with two strikes."

"St. Clairsville is always a good

team and this year is no different, so for our guys to string a few big hits together is big for us," he added. "We've been on the other end of things. We've got five one-run losses this season, so if we could've come up with a big hit with runners in scoring position, that could've changed a lot of those outcomes. I'm proud of the guys for what they did tonight."

Staked to an early lead, recent Wheeling Central grad Michael Toepfer settled in on the mound. The righthander wiggled out of a bases-loaded jam in the first when Jerry Marsh made a nice running catch in deep right to end the threat.

See, **WHEELING**, Page B2

## Mets' Alonso defends MLB HR Derby championship

**DENVER (AP)** — Pete Alonso danced to his second straight Home Run Derby title, besting Shohei Ohtani, Trey Mancini and Juan Soto on a night of record long balls in the thin Rocky Mountain air of Coors Field.

The New York Mets first baseman hit 74 total home runs and beat Mancini 23-22 in the final round Monday, joining Ken Griffey Jr.

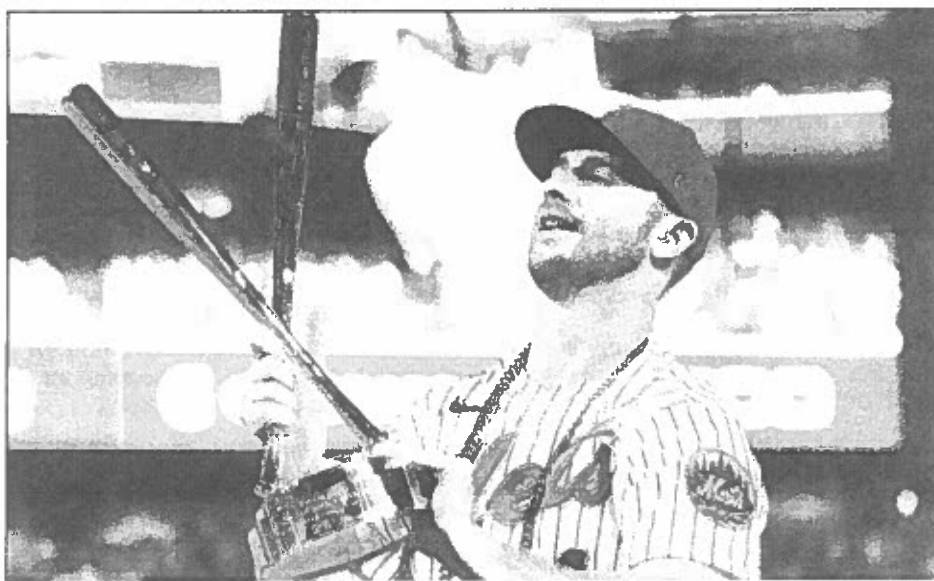
the final round, then hit six homers on six swings over the first 28 seconds of his final minute.

Mancini, who returned this season from cancer treatment, was the sentimental favorite, while Alonso was the most animated of the eight sluggers as the longball competition returned after a one-year absence caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

stepped out and danced. He motioned with his arms to whip up fans during a timeout.

New York's 26-year-old first baseman has a chance to match Griffey, who also won in 1994, as the only three-time winner.

Alonso hit a first-round record 35 dingers, seven more than Josh Hamilton in 2008 at the original Yankee Stadium, and topped Kansas City's



waukee to try to impact winning and be the best Bobby Portis I can be. Having good coaches and good teammates to just keep me sane. All credit goes to them.”

Portis said one of the first things he learned as a pro is that “nobody is go-

process my ab cramped up,” he said. “So that’s why I was down on the floor. If any of you all had an ab cramp, you know it’s just kind of tough to move. So I was OK. I just needed a second for it to calm down so I could get up.”

in pods, but now that it is Panasuk accounted for Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

## • Wheeling

Continued from Page B1

“He threw a lot of innings for Wheeling Central,” Brunner said of Toepfer. “This was his first start, we’ve been using him in relief. We know he is going to compete out there for us and he will be around the strike zone. We’ve got good defense behind him so today was just put the ball in the strike zone and let your defense play. He did that.”

Indeed he did. Toepfer wasn’t overpowering as his three punchouts will attest, but he did limit the hosts to just two singles over six innings. He walked five, but three of them came in the first inning. He didn’t allow a hit until Braylen Blomquist reached on an infield single leading off the third. However, he was erased on a double play.

“He is a Bulldog kind of guy,” Brunner continued. “He’s a gritty dude that you don’t want to touch him when he comes in the dugout because he’s always so sweaty. We expected this type of effort from him.”

St. Clairsville (13-6) manager Mike Muklewicz echoed Brunner’s thoughts on Toepfer, but he also didn’t like his team’s approach at the plate.

“Generally, we are very solid defensively. I know we’ve got some guys out of place but that first inning isn’t

the type of baseball we play,” he said. “Offensively, taking absolutely nothing away from Toepfer because he threw a great game, I was disappointed that we didn’t adjust at the plate. I mean he was throwing on a downward plane, but we never made the adjustment and just kept pounding the ball in the ground.”

Toepfer induced nine groundball outs while only allowing six balls to be hit out of the infield, including Chase Goff’s two-out single to right in the sixth that accounted for the lone Post 159 tally. The hit scored Mason Myers who had walked with one out and went to second when Will Balgo also walked.

“We had some uncharacteristic lapses on defense early in the game, but we’ll re-group and get back at it Thursday,” Muklewicz said.

Kelley sparked the Wheeling offense with a trio of singles and two runs batted in. Gongola had two singles and Yocum doubled. Nick Fencil knocked in a run.

Ben Foster pitched a perfect seventh with one strikeout.

Wheeling is back in action on Wednesday when it hosts Moundsville Post 3 in an Area One game.

Post 1 then entertains St. Clairsville on Thursday.

## • USA

Continued from Page B1

Favored by 16.5 points before the game, according to FanDuel Sportsbook, the Americans looked the part for much of the first half. A 20-6 run — capped by five points from Select Team call-up Keldon Johnson — put the U.S. up by eight late in the opening quarter, and Lillard closed out his 16-point first half with a 3-pointer 31.7 seconds before intermission that gave the Americans a 46-35 lead.

The halftime lead was nine, the same lead that the U.S. had early in the third quarter against Nigeria before letting it slip away.

And the same thing happened in this one.

The third-quarter lead for the U.S. was as big as 10 and was 58-50 when Lillard made a 3-pointer midway through the period. But Australia closed the quarter on a 19-6 run, Goulding hit a 3-pointer

as time expired and Australia took a 69-64 lead into the final 10 minutes.

“We’ll learn from it,” Popovich said.

### TIP-INS

**Australia:** The Boomers, according to USA Basketball’s archives, are now 2-28 all-time against the Americans in senior men’s national competition.

The other Australian win came in a pre-World Cup exhibition in 2019. ... Australia held a big 44-22 edge in paint points.

**USA:** The Americans changed the starting lineup, with Jerami Grant in for Jayson Tatum and Draymond Green in for Bam Adebayo. ... The U.S. was outrebounded 32-25.

### LOVE OUT

Kevin Love, who played only three minutes in Saturday’s loss to Nigeria, was the only Olympic-teamer who didn’t get into the game for the U.S.

The Americans used 10 players; the eight other Olympians in Las Vegas, plus Select Team promotees Johnson and Darius Garland.

The Olympic-bound trio of Khris Middleton, Jrue Holiday and Devin Booker remain at the NBA Finals.

### BAYNES HURT

Australia center Aron Baynes limped off 3:49 into the game after a collision with Beal. Baynes was defending as Beal drove at him, and Baynes grabbed at his right knee following the contact. He went to the locker room, then returned to the Boomers’ bench later in the first half but did not return. The Australians believe it’s no worse than a bruise.

### UP NEXT

**Australia:** Faces Nigeria on Tuesday in Las Vegas.

**USA:** Faces Argentina on Tuesday in Las Vegas.

## • Derby

Continued from Page B1

Mancini missed the 2020 season while undergoing chemotherapy for stage 3 colon cancer. treatment he finished last Sept. 21 at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

The 29-year-old Baltimore Orioles first baseman hit .256 with 16 homers and 55 RBIs going into the All-Star break. His oncologist, Dr. Nilo Azad, threw out the ceremonial first pitch at Camden Yards before the Orioles’ hosted the Chicago White Sox last Friday night.

Soto thrilled the crowd of 49,048 with a 520-foot homer, the longest derby drive in the Statcast era, topping 513 feet the New York Yankees’ Aaron Judge in 2017 at Miami. Before Statcast, the Chicago Cubs’ Sammy Sosa was said to have hit one 524 feet at Milwaukee in 2002, clearing Bernie Brewer’s slide.

Ohtani, the Los Angeles Angels sensation set to start on the mound and hit leadoff as designated hitter for the

American League in the All-Star Game, started slowly but forced two rounds of tiebreakers with Soto before losing 31-28 in the second round.

They were tied 22-all after regulation and 28 apiece following the first tiebreaker. Soto homered on all three swings of the next tiebreak, and Ohtani grounded out on his first swing.

Mancini won the first round 24-23 over Oakland’s Matt Olson, who hit a deep foul on his final swing.

“He’s a good dude,” Olson said. “To be able to battle the way he battled and come back and perform the way he has this year says a lot about him, his grit and his toughness.”

Story defeated Texas’ Joey Gallo 20-19 when Gallo popped out on his last swing.

“It is tiring, for sure, but it was a lot of fun for the first time,” Gallo said.

Mancini knocked out Story 13-12 in the second round, hitting second and advancing with a drive to center.

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Heritage Bethesda Checkerboard Days  
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## • Ohio

Continued from Page B1

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Along with football, he shined in wrestling qualifying for the state tournament and in track as a thrower.

T.J., who plans to attend Baldwin-Wallace, is the son of Tim and Cindy Wehr.

# Ohio Looking For Strong Play Up Front

By **SETH STASKEY**  
For The Intelligencer

It doesn't matter the level of football or the style of offense, line play — on both sides — is the key to success.

Ohio head coach Eric Huck, who is representing Fort Frye, had that same thought process when he built his lines for the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Game, which is scheduled for July 24 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"The offensive line will have to gel and only having a week (to prepare) and not knowing each other, they'll need to get chemistry in a hurry," Huck said. "We really like the guys we picked on

both sides of the ball. We may move some of the guys back and forth after we see how it comes together, but it's an athletic front."

Here's a capsule look at the players:  
**JUSTIN BARTLETT, Cambridge** — This former Bobcat shined at defensive end for Coach Ray Leek's team.

Last season, he posted 50 tackles, 25 for loss, 10 sacks and picked off a pass.

His efforts were recognized via All-Ohio First Team, All-Eastern District and All-OVAC. He was named Eastern District Defensive Player of the Year.

Along with football, Bartlett shined

in wrestling and track for the Bobcats. Justin, who plans to attend Otterbein University, is the son Mark Bartlett and Sarah Stevens.

**ELI BURGEY, Steubenville** — This former Big Red standout anchored the offensive line from the center spot for Coach Reno Saccoccia's team.

The 6-1, 280 pounder graded out at 94% blocking with 40 pancake blocks.

He was selected to play in the Ohio North-South All-Star Game and was twice named to the All-Ohio squad, All-Eastern District and All-OVAC teams. He was also listed as Academic All-Ohio.

Away from football, Burgey was a member of the track team. He also shines in the classroom as a National Honor Society member, University Scholar and a member of the Key Club and Rotary Club.

Eli, who plans to attend Fairmont State, is the son of Jason and Beth Burgey.

**GARET CRAMER, Monroe Central** — This former Seminole caused opposing teams all sorts of problems along both lines as he shined for Josh Ischy's team.

Please see FRONT, Page 10

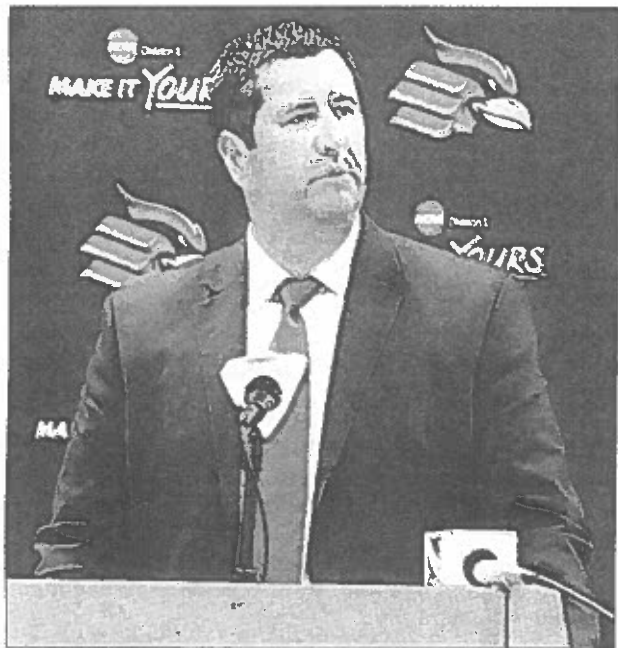


Photo by Cody Tomer

Matt Schmidt speaks as he is introduced as the new head women's basketball coach at Wheeling University.

## Schmidt Feels Right At Home At Wheeling U.

Named Women's Hoops Coach

By **CODY TOMER**  
Sports Writer

**WHEELING** -- Matt Schmidt once laced up the sneakers for West Liberty State College, where he was a member of the Dean's List and a four-time scholar athlete.

Now, he'll get to face his alma mater twice a year as he takes over as the new head coach of the Wheeling University women's basketball team.

Schmidt attended West Virginia University in 2000 and was an assistant coach there in 2000-01. He spent the last eight years as an assistant and associate head coach at Duquesne University.

"The rivalry between these two schools is fantastic," Schmidt said. "I've always said to people that West Liberty needs Wheeling and Wheeling needs West Liberty in regards to the rivalry. We're friends off the court and off the field

and competitors on the playing court. It's going to be a lot of fun. I know what it means to this area and this community, so I can't wait to get started with this opportunity."

Schmidt was the mind behind Duquesne's high-octane offense the last eight seasons in which the team was atop the Atlantic 10 in scoring, field goal percentage, free throw percentage and assists per game on multiple occasions.

In fact, he coached four of the 11 top scorers in program history and the 2016 Atlantic 10 Co-Player of the Year, April Robinson.

"At the end of the day you've got to be able to score the ball," Schmidt said. "However, defense travels. You've got to be able to stop somebody too, particularly on the road."

Please see **SCHMIDT**,  
Page 10

# Early Burst Keys Post 1 Victory



Photo by Kim North

Wheeling Post 1 shortstop Seth Hand readies a throw to first to complete a third-inning double play during Monday night's 5-1 American Legion baseball victory over St. Clairsville Post 159 on the Memorial Park diamond in Belmont County. Also pictured is St. Clairsville's Drew Sefsick.

## 3-Run First, Toepfer's Pitching Get Wheeling Past St. C.

By **KIM NORTH**  
For The Intelligencer

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** — When you put the ball in play anything can happen during a baseball game. When you do it with two strikes makes it even sweeter.

Wheeling Post 1 collected four hits with two strikes Monday night — all but one of them coming in the three-run first inning — that powered the visitors to a 5-1 American Legion victory on the Memorial Park diamond.

Zac Taylor drilled a 2-2 pitch for a single to center leading off and Jack Scuuvart blooped a 1-2 offering from Colby Shriver over

second. Dillon Gongola ripped the first pitch he saw to left to load the bases. Winning pitcher Michael Toepfer's groundout plated Taylor and Caden Yocum reached on an error as Scuuvart raced home. Hunter Kelley laced a single to right that drove in Gongola for a 3-0 lead.

"That's something early on that we weren't doing very well," Wheeling (9-7) manager Jon-Michael Brunner said of the clutch hitting with two strikes. "We, as a staff, didn't know whether it was the lull after the high school season or whatever it was, we were struggling to put the bat on the ball with two strikes."

"St. Clairsville is always a good team and this year is no different, so for our guys to string a few big hits together is big for us," he added. "We've been on the other end of things. We've got five one-run losses this season, so if we could've come up with a big hit with runners in scoring position, that could've changed a lot of those outcomes. I'm proud of the guys for what they did tonight."

Staked to an early lead, recent Wheeling Central grad Michael Toepfer settled in on the mound.

Please see **POST 1**, Page 10

## Pete Alonso Defends HR



## Roughriders Alumni Game On Tap Saturday In Wheeling

FRONT

(Continued from Page 9)

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Post 1

(Continued from Page 9)

The righthander wiggled out of a bases-loaded jam in the first when Jerry Marsh made a nice running catch in deep right to end the threat.

"He threw a lot of innings for Wheeling Central," Brunner said of Toepfer. "This was his first start, we've been using him in relief. We know he is going to compete out there for us and he will be around the strike zone. We've got good defense behind him so today was just put the ball in the strike zone and let your defense play. He did that."

Indeed he did. Toepfer wasn't overpowering as his three punchouts will attest, but he did limit the hosts to just two singles over six innings. He walked five, but three of them came in the first inning. He didn't allow a hit until Braylen Blomquist reached on an infield single leading off the third. However, he was erased on a double play.

"He is a bulldog kind of guy," Brunner continued. "He's a gritty dude that you don't want to touch him when he comes in the dugout because he's always so sweaty. We expected this type of effort from him."

St. Clairsville (13-6) manager Mike Muklewicz echoed Brunner's thoughts on Toepfer, but he also didn't like his team's approach at the plate.

"Generally, we are very solid defen-

sively. I know we've got some guys out of place but that first inning isn't the type of baseball we play," he said. "Offensively, taking absolutely nothing away from Toepfer because he threw a great game. I was disappointed that we didn't adjust at the plate. I mean he was throwing on a downward plane, but we never made the adjustment and just kept pounding the ball in the ground."

Toepfer induced nine groundball outs while only allowing six balls to be hit out of the infield, including Chase Goff's two-out single to right in the sixth that accounted for the lone Post 159 tally. The hit scored Mason Myers who had walked with one out and went to second when Will Balgo also walked.

"We had some uncharacteristic lapses on defense early in the game, but we'll re-group and get back at it Thursday," Muklewicz said.

Kelley sparked the Wheeling offense with a trio of singles and two runs batted in. Gongola had two singles and Yocum doubled. Nick Fencil knocked in a run.

Ben Foster pitched a perfect seventh with one strikeout.

Wheeling is back in action on Wednesday when it hosts Moundsville Post 3 in an Area One game. Post 1 then entertains St. Clairsville on Thursday.

SCHMIDT

(Continued from Page 9)

"One thing we always tried at Duquesne University was tempo, pace and value the basketball and the rest will take care of itself."

He'll get the opportunity to mentor some very talented sharpshooters in Wheeling, as well.

Wheeling Park alum Shanley Woods is coming off a freshman campaign in which she led the team with 31 3-pointers and a 3-point percentage of .365.

Also coming back are sophomores Maura Castelluci and Buckeye Local grad Emily Holzopfel, who averaged 9.4 and 8.7 points per game, respectively, last year. With the help of Schmidt running the show, those numbers may see an increase in the upcoming year.

"One of the things I'm most proud of is that in my first seven years at Duquesne we finished first, second or third in the league in scoring," Schmidt said. "I thought we did a good job of putting them in position to do well, so every time you have an opportunity to

work with really quality student athletes who have good ability, it's exciting. I just can't wait to start working with them one-on-one."

Along with solid statistics, Schmidt is a proven winner. He has a Division II National Championship as an assistant coach at Northern Kentucky and he helped Duquesne take down Seton Hall in the 2015-16 NCAA Tournament.

"I truly believe in 'win the day, everyday,'" Schmidt said. "That starts with the first day of conditioning and the first day of weights. If we focus on winning the day the rest will take care of itself. You can't look down the road, you have to look at what's immediately in front of you."

Schmidt joins Wheeling University with the perfect team of his own, his family.

His wife and former volleyball and hoops coach Brittany and their two sons Jackson and Zachary have been there every step of the way for Coach Schmidt.

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# SPORTS

Sunday,  
July 11, 2021

## Huck likes Ohio's athleticism at wide receiver

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

Most people hear that Eric Huck likes to run the Wing-T, so immediately they expect the ball to be on the ground primarily.

While that's mostly true, the Fort Frye head coach, who will guide the Ohio squad in the 75th Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game, likes the talent and athleticism the Buckeye State has at the wide receiver spot. And he plans to utilize it.

"The receivers are a good, athletic group," Huck said. "We don't throw the ball a ton, but we're going to put the ball out there to those guys and let them be athletes."

Slated to compete for time at the receiver and tight end spot are Dylan Moore (Beaver Local), Brian Palmer Jr. (Buckeye Local), Jake Rose (River) and Reese Skaggs (St. Clairsville).

Here's a capsule look at the Ohio receivers:

**DYLAN MOORE**, Beaver Local — This former Beaver

shined on both sides of the ball for Coach Mike McKenzie's team.

The 5-8, 160 pounder caught 879 yards worth of passes and had nine touchdowns. He also had 278 yards in returns as a senior.

Moore was named All-Eastern District, All-OVAC, All-Buckeye 8, All-Quad County and All-Columbiana County as well as honorable mention All-Ohio.

Along with football, Moore competed in baseball for four

years and a season of track.

Dylan, who is undecided about his college plans, is the son of Jason and Cassie Moore.

**BRIAN PALMER JR.**, Buckeye Local — This former Panther was a steady target for Coach Roger Herbert's teams.

The 5-9, 170 pounder is Buckeye Local's all-time leader in catches and receiving yards. He also had the most single-season receiving touchdowns.

He was named All-OVAC, All-Jefferson County and

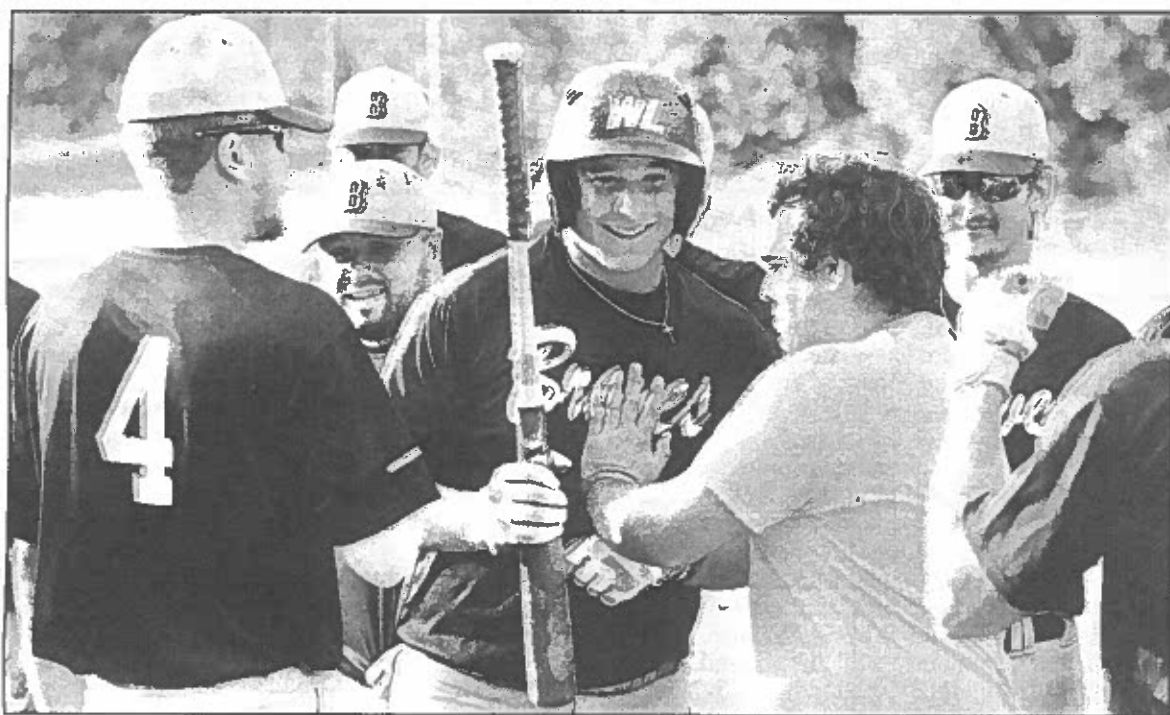
All-Eastern District.

Along with football, Palmer is an outstanding wrestler. He won the Division III, 152-pound state championship this past season.

Brian, who is the son of Brian and Sherri Palmer, plans to attend Baldwin-Wallace and continue both his football and wrestling careers.

**JAKE ROSE**, River — This former Pilot was a legitimate threat for the Pilots and head coach Mike Flannery.

See, **HUCK**, Page D3



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

**BARTON'S KADEN** Blomquist is congratulated by his brother, Tyler (gold shirt) after hitting a solo home run in the sixth inning Friday night against Moundville in a 3-0 Ohio Valley Baseball League victory. Also pictured, from left, are teammates Colton Coss (4), Bailey McGrath (foreground), Jacob Probst (background) and Isaac Jozwiak.

## Barton finishes fourth; hosts Shadyside Sunday

• Braves blank Moundville, 3-0, behind Bassa, Kaden Blomquist

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

**CRESCENT** — If Barton is to defend its Ohio Valley Baseball League championship, it will have to do it the hard way.

The Braves concluded the regular season Friday night with a 3-0 blanking of Moundville on Henning Field in Pramesa Park behind the stellar mound performance of Austin Bassa.

With the victory, Barton (8-7) finished fourth in the standings and must beat Shadyside (0-16) Sunday at 1 p.m. in the play-in game to reach the semifinals. The winner faces the top-seeded Expos (13-5) in a best-of-3 format, starting Tuesday at 6 p.m. on Bob Montgomery Field at John Marshall High School

in Glendale. The other semifinal has second-place Maynard (12-6) hosting Weirton (8-6), also on Tuesday night, on Firemen's Field inside the Community Park.

"The last time we played Shadyside it was a 3-2 game, so they are there. We're going to have to play our best," veteran Barton manager Billy Timko said. "I think we are playing pretty well in all three phases of the game right now. I wouldn't say we are peaking, but we are getting close."

"Austin pitched one heckuva game tonight and Kaden (Blomquist) finally got ahold of one," Timko noted. "Matt (Fouty) is an outstanding second baseman."

Bassa, a former Martins Ferry High ace, was in total control,

mixing up his fastballs and curveballs.

The righthander struck out seven, walked two and allowed a harmless pair of singles. He retired the side in four of the seven innings and threw 99 pitches, of which 70 found the strike zone. On top of that, he threw a first-pitch strike to 20 of the 25 Expos he faced.

"I just tried to pound the (strike) zone as much as possible," Bassa said. "I didn't want to fall behind in the count because then it gives the batter the edge."

Bassa credited catcher Isaac Rine with calling a good game.

"I trust him one hundred percent," Bassa revealed. "I never shake him off."

See, **BARTON**, Page D3

## Tribe overcomes bad baserunning to slip by Royals

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — Bobby Bradley homered leading off the ninth inning as the Cleveland Indians overcame some brutal baserunning that led to manager Terry Francona's ejection for a 2-1 win over the Kansas City Royals on Friday night.

Bradley drove a 1-2 pitch from Jake Brentz (2-2) over the wall in right-center for his 10th homer as the Indians got their second straight walk-off win, touching off another wild celebration inside Progressive Field.

On Thursday, Franmil Reyes' three-run homer in the ninth ended Cleveland's nine-game losing streak.

James Karinchak (6-2) got his second win in two nights, steering around a leadoff double in the ninth.

Jorge Soler homered for the Royals, who have dropped 14 of 17 to fall a season-worst 16 games under .500.

Cleveland got a terrific start from Triston McKenzie, who struck out nine in a career-high seven innings.

Before Bradley's heroics, the Indians were positioned to break a 1-1 tie in eighth — but literally ran themselves out of the inning.

Daniel Johnson led off with a soft liner that fell between Royals outfielders Andrew Benetendi and Michael A. Taylor for his first hit this season. Taylor made things worse by throwing behind Johnson, who took second when the ball got past first baseman Carlos Santana.

Cesar Hernandez followed with a single to get Johnson to third, and that's where the fun started.

Amed Rosario hit a grounder to Royals shortstop Nicky Lopez, who trapped Johnson in a rundown between home and third. Johnson stayed alive long enough for Hernandez to get to third. But as both were being tagged by Royals All-Star catcher Salvador Perez, Johnson, who was entitled to the base, stepped off and third base umpire James Hoye called both runners out.

Francona asked for an explanation on the odd double play. And when he didn't like what he heard, Francona profanely laid into Hoye before being ejected for the first time this season.

Rosario ended up stranded at second.

McKenzie blanked the Royals on just one hit. The 23-year-old, who has spent the season yo-yoing back and forth from the minors, was at 85 pitches when Francona turned things over to his bullpen in the eighth.

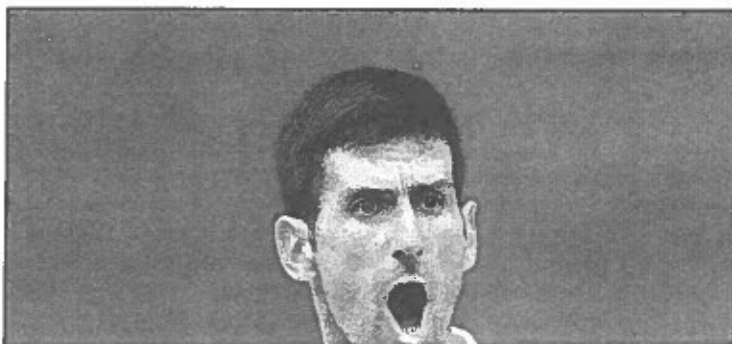
Emmanuel Clase couldn't protect the lead or McKenzie's win, however, as Soler mashed an 0-1 pitch over the wall in left to tie it 1-1.

McKenzie's solid outing was the just the second time in 26 games that Cleveland, whose rotation has been shredded by injuries all season, had a starter go six innings.

## Djokovic seeks 20th major title

**WIMBLEDON**, England (AP) — The victories keep adding up for Novak Djokovic: 20 in a row at Wimbledon since the start of the 2018 tournament, 20 in a row in all Grand Slam matches since the start of this season.

Get both streaks up to 21 on Sunday by beating



## 'Best Virginia' win exhibition

By **CODY TOMER**  
For The Times Leader

**WHEELING** — Best Virginia got the test it was looking for during Friday's exhibition game against the Underdog Kings at Wheeling Park.

# Mets score 10 in 6th to rout Pirates

NEW YORK (AP) — Pete Alonso hit a three-run homer and Francisco Lindor clubbed New York's first grand slam this season during a 10-run sixth inning, and the Mets embarrassed the Pittsburgh Pirates 13-4 Friday night.

A night after being postponed because of weather for the second time in a week, New York won for the fifth time in seven games. Friday's matchup was delayed 41 minutes as lightning, thunder and heavy rain blanketed Citi Field with one out in the bottom of the eighth. The

NL East leaders broke through against Pirates starter JT Brubaker (4-9) in the sixth, leading off the frame with a single by Brandon Nimmo and a full-count walk by Lindor. Dominic Smith singled, scoring Nimmo and breaking a 2-all tie.

After a brief mound visit by the pitching coach, Alonso crushed one in close vicinity of the Pittsburgh bullpen, chasing Brubaker.

Most of the 20,350 in attendance rose to their feet as Alonso pumped his fist emphatically between first and second base, cel-

brating his 16th home run of the season but only his second at home.

The Mets continued to pile on against the Pirates' bullpen. Sam Howard loaded the bases on two walks and a single. The wild lefty plunked pinch-hitter Jose Peraza, scoring Jeff McNeil. He then walked Nimmo, plating Michael Conforto before being lifted for Kyle Keller.

Lindor lined Keller's 1-0 fastball just over the left-center field wall, extending the lead to 12-2 with his 10th homer and third career grand slam.

## • Barton

Continued from Page D1

Bassa retired the first eight Moundsville before yielding a two-out single to Brandon Corley in the third. After walking the next batter, he then set down nine consecutive batters before walking Bryan Courts in the sixth. Greyson Lowcey lofted a single to left-center in the sixth. Only Corley reached second.

"He's going to be our closer from now on," Timko said of Bassa. "He was on tonight."

Barton scored all the runs it would need in the bottom of the first. Rine laced a leadoff single between first and second and went to second on a sacrifice bunt by Jacob Probst. After stealing third, Colton Coss drew a walk and went to second without a throw. Bailey McGrath rolled a 1-1 pitch to second as Rine raced home. An error allowed Coss to score for a 2-0 reading.

The Braves threatened to blow the game open in the second but a 6-4-3 double play ended a bases-loaded situ-

ation. It remained 2-0 until the sixth when Blomquist, who has been mirred in a hitting slump, sent a towering drive over the fence in deep left-center for a 3-0 margin.

Rine and Anthony Zorne evenly divided four singles for Barton.

Fouty snagged a line drive while diving to his right in the fourth and then speared a bullet right at him by the next batter.

Timko said Drake Dobson would get the start Sunday.

Game 2 of each semifinal will be Wednesday at Crescent and Weirton's Edwin J. Bowman Field, with a Game 3, if necessary, on Friday, back in Moundsville and Maynard. The best-of-5 championship series will begin on Sunday, July 18, at the highest remaining seed's home field. The schedule is subject to change depending on Mother Nature.

## • Huck

Continued from Page D1

The 6-0, 180 pounder caught 33 passes for 475 yards and two touchdowns. On the defensive side, he recorded 76 tackles, including 28 solo stops and 48 assists. He picked off three passes, forced and recovered a fumble.

Rose was recognized as Third-Team All-Ohio. He was First-Team All-Eastern District, All-OVAC, All Times Leader and All-Valley.

Along with football, he was a standout in baseball, earning OVAC Class 2A Player of the Year. He also lettered in wrestling and bowling.

Jake, who plans to attend Marietta College, is

the son of Casey and Jennifer Rose.

REESE SKAGGS, St. Clairsville — This former Red Devil impacted the game, regardless what side of the ball he played on for Coach Brett McLean's team.

The 6-2, 220 pounder truly shined on the defensive side where he earned First Team All-Ohio. He posted 60 tackles, three for loss, 10 sacks, forced and recovered a fumble. He also had seven quarterback hurries.

Skaggs was named All-Eastern District, selected to play in the North-South Game, All-OVAC, All-Valley and All Times Leader.

On top of football, Skaggs is a standout in wrestling.

He was the 2020 OVAC Champion at 195 pounds and placed fifth in the Division II state tournament as a senior, earning All-Ohio.

Skaggs was very active outside of athletics, too. He was the Vice President of the Student Council, member of the Sweet Harmony, was "Gaston" in the school production of 'Beauty and the Beast' and was a member of the OVAC's Varsity Board.

Reese, who plans to attend Concord University to play football, is the son of Dr. Walt and Denise Skaggs.

## MLB Glance

American League			
East Division			
W	L	Pct	
Boston	55	34	.618
Tampa Bay	52	36	.591
Toronto	44	41	.518
New York	44	42	.512
Baltimore	28	59	.322

Central Division			
W	L	Pct	
Chicago	52	35	.598
Cleveland	44	42	.512
Devon	40	49	.449
Minnesota	37	50	.425
Kansas City	36	52	.409

West Division			
W	L	Pct	
Houston	54	34	.614
Oakland	50	40	.556
Seattle	46	42	.523
Los Angeles	44	42	.512
Texas	35	53	.398

Friday's Games		
Cleveland 2, Kansas City 1		
Chicago White Sox 12, Baltimore 1		
Tampa Bay 7, Toronto 1		
Boston 11, Philadelphia 5		
Minnesota 4, Detroit 2		
Texas 3, Oakland 2		

Saturday's Games		
Toronto (Strople 3-4) at Tampa Bay (Yarborough 5-3), 1:10 p.m.		
Detroit (TBD) at Minnesota (Ober 1-1), 2:10 p.m.		
Chicago White Sox (Glock 6-6) at Baltimore (Eshelman 0-1), 4:05 p.m.		
Oakland (Karpnetan 4-3) at Texas (Fotynewicz 2-8), 4:05 p.m.		
Philadelphia (Moore 0-1) at Boston (Perez 7-4), 4:10 p.m.		
Kansas City (Minor 6-7) at Cleveland (Morgan 1-3), 6:10 p.m.		
N.Y. Yankees (Cole 8-4) at Houston (Grenke 8-2), 7:15 p.m.		
L.A. Angels (Sandoval 2-2) at Seattle (Flexen 7-3), 10:10 p.m.		

National League			
East Division			
W	L	Pct	
New York	46	38	.548
Atlanta	43	44	.494
Philadelphia	42	44	.488
Washington	42	44	.488
Miami	38	49	.437

Central Division			
W	L	Pct	
Milwaukee	53	37	.589
Cincinnati	46	42	.523
Chicago	44	45	.494
St. Louis	43	46	.483
Pittsburgh	32	55	.368

West Division			
W	L	Pct	
San Francisco	54	32	.626
Los Angeles	54	34	.614
San Diego	52	36	.578
Colorado	38	50	.432
Arizona	25	64	.281

Friday's Games		
Chicago Cubs 10, St. Louis 5		
N.Y. Mets 13, Pittsburgh 4		
Atlanta 5, Miami 0		
Boston 11, Philadelphia 5		
Cincinnati 2, Milwaukee 0		

Saturday's Games		
Washington (Lester 2-3) at San Francisco (DeSclafani 9-3), 4:05 p.m.		
Atlanta (Fried 5-5) at Miami (Rogers 7-5), 4:10 p.m.		
Philadelphia (Moore 0-1) at Boston (Perez 7-4), 4:10 p.m.		
Pittsburgh (Anderson 4-8) at N.Y. Mets (Stroman 6-6), 4:10 p.m. 1st game		
Pittsburgh (Kranick 1-0) at N.Y. Mets (Megill 0-0), 7:10 p.m. 2nd game		
Cincinnati (Gutierrez 4-3) at Milwaukee (Peralta 7-3), 7:15 p.m.		

## • Baseball

Continued from Page D2

limited opposing hitters to a .130 batting average in more than 56 innings of work. He fanned 68 and walked just 18. He also had eight RBI and scored seven runs at the plate.

"Jake's record didn't show how great of a season he had on the mound," Kernik said. "He learned from his mistakes and kept improving. He has the ability to keep us in any game and I believe the sky is the limit with what he can achieve on a ballfield. He was also solid in the field at shortstop."

DYLAN GREGORCIC, Bridgeport — This senior put forth an impressive final campaign for Coach Zach Winland's team.

Gregorcic finished the season with 83 strikeouts in 86 innings of work. He walked only 21 hitters and posted a solid 2.11 earned run average.

"Dylan's a great athlete with a passion for the game," Winland said. "He was always eager to learn and grow. He was a leader in the program with many new starters and he understood that. He will excel in (whatever his future brings)."

ALAN BURKETT, Buckeye Local — This senior had an impressive campaign both with the bat and glove for rookie head coach Jeff Patrick's team.

Burkett batted .414 with a .524 on-base percentage. He slugged at a .542 clip with 29 hits. He had two doubles and a triple. He swiped 27 bases as a table setter for the Panthers and scored 17 runs.

"Alan had a great season and is very deserving of the awards and recognition he's received," Patrick said. "He was a major part of our team. He was our best defender at shortstop and when our offense was productive, it was typically because he could stretch a single into a double by stealing second."

AUSTON HOGUE, Monroe Central — This Seminole senior was instrumental in the success and helping to "change the culture" for Coach Troy Baker's club.

Hogue led the club with a .477 batting average, 42 hits and 28 runs scored. He was 5-3 on the mound with 35 strikeouts and just two walks. His earned run average was 2.73.

"Auston has been a great role model for our younger players," Baker said. "He's been very consistent as a pitcher since his freshman season and he always plays the game the right way."



# SUNDAY

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# SPORTS

**INSIDE:**  
 WLU Recruiting Class/C2  
 All-Valley Softball/C4  
 Wimbledon/C5

**C**  
 Sunday News-Register  
 JULY 11, 2021

## Huck to Get Ohio Receivers Involved in the Game

**By SETH STASKEY**  
**For the News-Register**

Most people hear that Eric Huck likes to run the Wing-T, so immediately they expect the ball to be on the ground primarily.

While that's mostly true, the Fort Frye head coach, who will guide the Ohio squad in the 75th Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game, likes the talent and athleticism the Buckeye State has at the wide receiver spot. And he plans to utilize it.

"The receivers are a good, athletic group," Huck said. "We don't throw the ball a ton, but we're going to put the ball out there to those guys and let them be athletes."

Slated to compete for time at the receiver and tight end spot are Dylan

Moore (Beaver Local), Brian Palmer Jr. (Buckeye Local), Jake Rose (River) and Reese Skaggs (St. Clairsville).

Here's a capsule look at the Ohio receivers:

**DYLAN MOORE, Beaver Local** — This former Beaver shined on both sides of the ball for Coach Mike McKenzie's team.

The 5-8, 160 pounder caught 879 yards worth of passes and had nine touchdowns. He also had 278 yards in returns as a senior.

Moore was named All-Eastern District, All-OVAC, All-Buckeye 8, All-



Quad County and All-Columbiana County as well as honorable mention All-Ohio.

Along with football, Moore competed in baseball for four years and a season of track.

Dylan, who is undecided about his college plans, is the son of Jason and Cassie Moore.

**BRIAN PALMER JR., Buckeye Local** — This former Panther was a steady target for Coach Roger Herbert's teams.

The 5-9, 170 pounder is Buckeye Local's all-time leader in catches and receiving yards. He also had the most single-season receiving touchdowns.

He was named All-OVAC, All-Jefferson County and All-Eastern District.

Along with football, Palmer is an outstanding wrestler. He won the Division III, 152-pound state championship this past season.

Brian, who is the son of Brian and Sherri Palmer, plans to attend Baldwin-Wallace and continue both his football and wrestling careers.

**JAKE ROSE, River** — This former Pilot was a legitimate threat for the Pilots and head coach Mike Flannery.

The 6-0, 180 pounder caught 33 passes for 475 yards and two touchdowns. On the defensive side, he recorded 76 tackles, including 28 solo stops and 48 assists.

Please see Ohio, Page C3

**SATURDAY'S BEST SPORTS**  
 ■ 8 p.m. — The ESPYS, ABC

**GOLF**  
 ■ 3 p.m. — PGA Tour, The John Deere Classic, Third Round

**MMA**  
 ■ 8 p.m. — UFC Prelims, Las Vegas

**MLB**  
 ■ 1 p.m. — Toronto at Tampa Bay, MLB Network  
 ■ 4 p.m. — Pittsburgh at New York Mets, ATT  
 ■ 7 p.m. — Cincinnati at Milwaukee, OR New York Yankees at Houston, OR St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, FOX

**SUNDAY'S BEST AUTO RACING**  
 ■ 3:30 p.m. — The Quaker State 400, NBCSN

**GOLF**  
 ■ 3 p.m. — PGA Tour, The John Deere Classic, Final Round, CBS

**MLB**  
 ■ 7:30 p.m. — Pittsburgh at New York Mets, ATT

**NBA**  
 ■ 8 p.m. — NBA Finals, Phoenix at Milwaukee, Game 3, ABC

## 'Best Virginia' Passes Test in Wheeling

WVU Alumni Team Overcomes An 11-0 Deficit

**By CODY TOMER**  
**Sports Writer**

WHEELING — Best Virginia got the test it was looking for during Friday's exhibition game against the Underground Kings at Wheeling Park High School.

The West Virginia alumni team fell behind 11-0 to start the game but quickly found its groove and came together to defeat the MEC alumni squad 77-63 using the Elam Ending.

"That was the ideal situation for us," Cameron grad and former Mountaineer Logan Routt said. "We got down 11-0 and if we have to go through that in the TBT, we'll say 'hey, we've been there before. We have to turn it up.' That shows us that we just can't go out and try to beat people. (The Underground Kings) are an alternate for the TBT and they have good players — good hoopers out there, so this was a good experience."

Former Notre Dame College standout Will Vorhees bucketed 23 points for the Kings, including two 3-pointers during the 11-0 spurt to start the contest. Former Mountaineer and Los Angeles Laker Devin Ebanks (6-foot-9, 215 pounds) charted 18 points for the Kings, forcing the Best Virginia defense to be on its toes early and often.

"We have to be ready to play and ready to go out

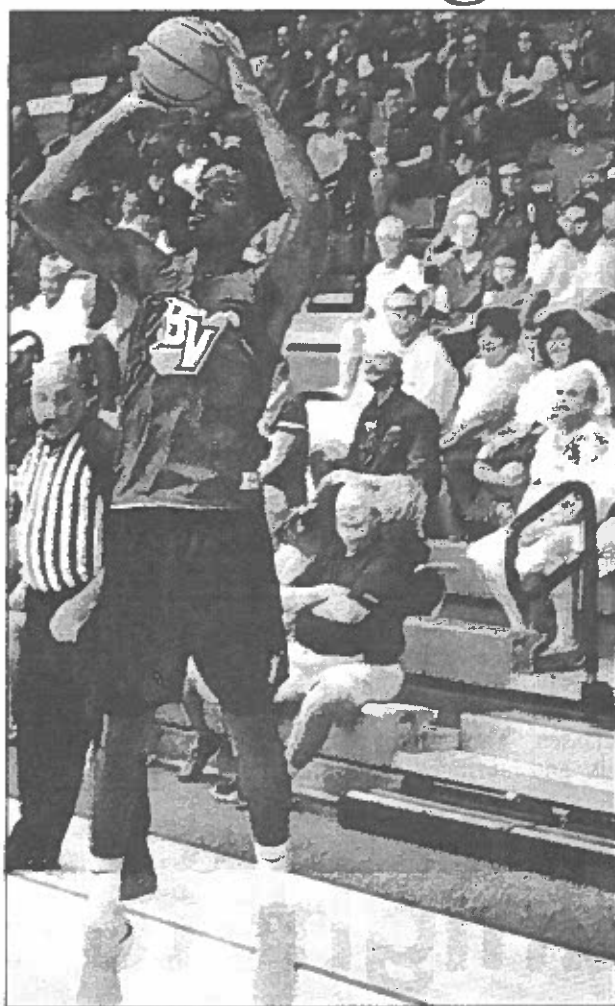


Photo by Cody Tomer

Best Virginia's John Flowers pops a 3-pointer from the corner during Friday's exhibition game against the Underground Kings at Wheeling Park High School.

of the gates," Best Virginia assistant coach and current Morgantown High School boys' basketball coach Dave Tallman said. "Our defense needs some work. We got exposed on some things in the first half but we'll get great film on it and we'll get into our training camp next week and get ready for Charleston."

Best Virginia trailed 26-18 after one and it took a 3-point buzzer-beater by John Flowers

to give the Mountaineers a 41-39 halftime advantage.

In the second half, however, Best Virginia began to showcase its size and athleticism — taking a 61-51 upper hand into the fourth and going into the Elam Ending with a 69-53 cushion.

"We were looking at how we play together and our substitutions coming

Please see Test Page C3

## W.Va. Gets 3 Weeks Of Practice in July

**By SETH STASKEY**  
**For the News-Register**

WHEELING — The COVID-19 pandemic brought about many changes — good and bad — to life, the world and even high school sports.

When West Virginia Governor Jim Justice delayed winter sports until mid March there was a trickle-down effect to spring sports and even the fall schedule.

While the fall sports schedule will be traditional, the summer workouts, practice and conditioning schedule was altered.

Traditionally, the West Virginia SSAC had permitted each county to formulate its own three-week window in the month of June as a period in which coaches could work with their athletes.

Because of the delayed finish for spring sports, the SSAC permitted that period to be held in July, meaning area teams began workouts last Monday and will run the next two full weeks before taking the final week of the month off before official practices begin on Aug. 2.

So far, area football coaches are pleased with the idea.

"I really like it and I hope the state gives us the opportunity to continue to do this pushing forward," Wheeling Park head coach Chris Daugherty said. "Giving the kids the last week of July off before August camp is nice because it allows them to have a full week for their bodies and minds to rest."

Please see Practice, Page C3



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Pirates catcher Michael Perez watches as New York Mets' Francisco Lindor, right, follows through on a grand slam home run during the sixth inning of Friday's game in New York.

## Lindor Blasts Grand Slam, Mets Pound Bucs

NEW YORK (AP) by Brandon Nimmo — Pete Alonso hit and a full-count walk a three-run homer by Lindor. Dominic and Francisco Lindor Smith singled, scoring clubbed New York's Nimmo and breaking a first grand slam this season during a 10-run sixth inning, and the Mets embarrassed the Pittsburgh Pirates 13-4

After a brief mound visit by the pitching coach, Alonso crushed one in close vicinity of

## Wheeling University Tabs Matt Schmidt As New Head Women's Basketball Coach

WHEELING — Wheeling University has named Duquesne University Associate Head Coach Matt



a special place and I am excited to become part of the Cardinal

with his basketball acumen, his broad recruiting network, his 10 single-season point totals came under Schmidt's watch.

Duquesne posted five



# TEST

Continued from Page C1

in and how they are playing off of each other," Best Virginia head coach James Long said.

"We'll just use this as game reps and use it to get video and understand each other as a team."

Juwan Staten paced Best Virginia with 26 points, Flowers tallied 12

and Kevin Jones added 11 in front of star-struck fans watching their favorite players lace up the sneakers.

"Mountaineer Nation was at its best and you could hear it from the first basket," Long said. "You could feel the energy and we appreciate them coming out and I hope it was worth their time."

Wheeling Central alum and former Mountaineer Chase Harler drained a 3 and a pair of free throws for five points after setting up the exhibition game in his hometown.

"This was fun and we had a great turnout," Harler said. "One of my goals when I graduated from WVU was to try

to give back to the valley. This was one of those things I was very glad to do.

"The fans had fun and it was a competitive game. We got something out of it and overall it was a great experience. It was good to face adversity. The last game we played was a blowout, so this was a lot of fun."

# PRACTICE

Continued from Page C1

Mike Young, who is preparing for his 50th as a coach, sees benefits and negatives to the calendar change.

"After an entire school year, giving a break in June and then coming back with a mini camp in July is something I don't think is a bad idea," Young said. "But, it's something that people will still need to get acclimated to. I think the idea of having a break is good, but (July) is a better to help you prepare for August."

Football teams were able to utilize June as a lifting and conditioning month once again. But, during the three-week period, much more sport specific work can be accomplished.

Park, for instance, will use a bulk of the time during this month to install and work on its passing game.

"We will use the three weeks to get most of our throwing installed," Daugherty said. "Since you really can't block and you're unable to hit anyone, getting ready for the run game is difficult. But, we're able to get ahead of the game with the pass and then we'll be heavy run in August."

The whole three-week concept is completely new to John Marshall head coach Justin Kropka, whose coaching experience at the high school level came totally in Ohio where the off-season rules are significantly different.

In Ohio, this summer, there were basically no rules for the number of days a coach could work with his team, whereas in the past, each coach is limited to 10 days, which can be utilized how they see fit.

"I am sure there was a reason for it, but I never understood the few weeks in June, take an entire month off and then start back up in June," Kropka said. "I think it makes much more sense this way for many reasons."

Kropka cited healthy and safety of the players

first and foremost.

Going through the July heat helps to better acclimate the player to the heat for when the August doubles roll around. On top of that, he believes the players will have a much better handle on both the offensive and defensive schemes when they resume.

"I can't remember where I put my keys 10 minutes ago, let alone asking these kids to remember a scheme for an entire month without practicing it," Kropka said. "I hope it stays this way."

"It just allows for better continuity."

Speaking of Ohio games, Wheeling Park opens with St. Clairsville on Aug. 27. The Patriots head coach believes that this three-week period may help close the gap of some of the advantages the Ohio school have, which includes starting the season a week prior, an additional scrimmage and the aforementioned looser summer rules.

"As a West Virginia guy, I've always felt like Ohio had a head start, but it's something you just have to deal with when you live in this part of the state and you play teams from both sides of the river," Daugherty said.

Kropka admitted that when he played a West Virginia team during his tenure at Harrison Central, he always tried to get that game early in the season because of those same built-in advantages that the Buckeye State has.

Meanwhile, Young has spent half of his coaching career with the Maroon Knights and the other half at St. Clairsville.

"I've worked in two different settings and had good success at both places," Young said. "Whatever setting you give me, whatever month you give me or don't give me, we will still try to make the most of it."

# COACH

Continued from Page C1

earning a No. 9 seed in the Bridgeport Region. Duquesne won its first-ever NCAA Tournament game when they defeated No. 8 seed Seton Hall 97-76 in the First Round.

Before establishing Duquesne as one of the top offenses in the A-10, Schmidt served as the head coach of Armstrong State in

of Findlay (2001-04), West Virginia (2000-01), and UMBC (1999-00).

He began his collegiate coaching career at West Virginia as a graduate assistant in 1998.

Prior to coaching in college, Schmidt returned to his high school alma mater, Ferndale, as the head junior's boys basketball coach for the

# OHIO

Continued from Page C1

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Reese, who plans to attend Concord University to play football, is the son of Dr. Walt and Denise Skaggs.

# LINDOR

Continued from Page C1

the left-center field wall, extending the lead to 12-2 with his 10th homer and third career grand slam.

Aaron Loup (3-0) pitched a scoreless sixth for the win.

After an easy 10-pitch first inning, New York starter Taijuan Walker started the next frame by loading the bases. The tall right-hander then hit light-hitting Michael Perez in the thigh to score Ben Gamel, giving Pittsburgh an early lead.

Batting left-handed, Jonathan Villar lined Brubaker's first pitch of the third inning for a solo homer. James McCann followed with a soft single onto the outfield grass and later scored from first when Nimmo lined a double in the gap.

Villar added another solo shot in the seventh hitting righty, his eighth of the season and 300th career RBI. He became the tenth player in franchise history to homer from both sides of the plate in the same game.

Pirates All-Star Adam Frazier had a game-tying RBI single in the fifth.

Pinch-hitting rookie Rodolfo Castro connected for his first career hit, a solo homer in the seventh against Mets' reliever Nick Tropeano.

Pittsburgh's John Nogowski had three hits and became the first Pirate with 10 hits in his first four games with the team, one more than Maurice Van Robays in 1939, per STATS.

## CUBS 10, CARDINALS 5

CHICAGO (AP) - Kyle Hendricks won his ninth straight decision. Patrick Wisdom hit a two-run homer and Chicago Cubs beat the St. Louis Cardinals.

## INDIANS 2, ROYALS 1

CLEVELAND (AP) - Bobby Bradley homered leading off the ninth inning as Cleveland overcame some brutal baserunning that led to manager Terry Francona's ejection.

Bradley drove a 1-2 pitch from Jake Brentz (2-2) over the wall in right-center for his 10th homer as the Indians got their second straight walk-off win, touching off another wild celebration inside Progressive Field.

On Thursday, Franmil Reyes' three-run homer in the ninth ended Cleveland's nine-game losing streak.

James Karinchak (6-2) got his second win in two nights, steering around a leadoff double in the ninth.

## RANGERS 3, ATHLETICS 2

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) - Adolis Garcia's two-run single to center field highlighted Texas' three-run sixth after Oakland's Cole Irvin took a no-hitter into the inning, and Jordan Lyles won his third straight start.

## REDS 2, BREWERS 0

MILWAUKEE (AP) - Wade Miley pitched eight shutout innings and helped himself by doubling and scoring as Cincinnati beat Milwaukee.

## TWINS 4, TIGERS 2

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - Max Kepler hit a two-run triple during a four-run sixth inning and Minnesota waited out another young Detroit starter.

## BRAVES 5, MARLINS 0

MIAMI (AP) - Charlie Morton pitched seven innings of two-hit ball, Ronald Acuna Jr. was restrained after being plunked by another Marlins and Atlanta beat Miami.

## RED SOX 11, PHILLIES 5

BOSTON (AP) - Kike Hernandez led off the Red Sox first with a home run, J.D. Martinez hit a three-run shot and Rafael Devers also homered to lead Boston past Philadelphia.

## RAYS 7, BLUE JAYS 1

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) - Three Tampa Bay relievers combined on five more scoreless innings, Ji-Man Choi drove in three runs and the Rays won their fifth consecutive game.

## WHITE SOX 12, ORIOLES 1

BALTIMORE (AP) - Baltimore-area native Gavin Sheets homered in his first trip to Camden Yards as a major leaguer, and Chicago routed Baltimore.

White Sox, who have won three in a row and eight of their last 11.

Dallas Keuchel (7-3) scattered seven hits over seven innings, yielding one run to earn his first road victory since May 17. Keuchel improved to 4-0 with a 2.70 ERA in his last seven starts against the Orioles.

Baltimore has dropped four of five this month.

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# SPORTS

Friday,  
July 9, 2021

## W. Va. sets receiver candidates for OVAC Game

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

Fans attending the 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game on July 24 at Wheeling Island Stadium can probably expect the ball to be in the air a good bit when West Virginia is on offense.

And no one could blame Mountain State head coach B.J. Depew, who has named his wide receivers for the game. "We really like the entire skill set and

versatility of the receiving group," Depew said. "There is a lot of speed there, too. Some of the guys even took snaps at their schools and their coaches found creative ways to use their skills. We plan to have three and four (receivers) on the field most of the game."

The receiving candidates are Kobe Hill (Linsly), Payton Marling (Wheeling Central), Lucky Pulice (Madonna), Levi Rice (South) and Torrence Walker (Wheeling Park).

Here's a capsule look at the West Vir-

ginia receivers:

**KOBE HILL, Linsly** – This former Cadet shined in multiple spots on the offensive side of the ball for Depew's squad the last several seasons.

The 5-10, 165 pounder caught 83 passes for 1,000 yards and nine touchdowns. He rushed 70 times for 315 yards and four touchdowns. He completed 33-of-51 passes for 465 yards and four more touchdowns.

Hill was named All-OVAC, All-Valley and All-Times Leader. He was also

his team's MVP.

Away from football, Hill was a three-year letterman in baseball, a member of Drug Free Club, Minding your Mind Club and a Youth Group leader.

Kobe, who is undecided about his college plans, is the son of Justin and Carrie Hill.

**PAYTON MARLING, Wheeling Central** – This former Maroon Knight was a big-play threat in a myriad of capacities for Coach Mike Young's team.

See, **RECEIVERS**, Page B2



AP PHOTO

**WEST VIRGINIA** guard Chase Harler (14) drives around Oklahoma State guard Isaac Likekele (13) during an NCAA college basketball game in Stillwater, Okla., in 2020.

## Mets and Pirates rained out, will play DH Saturday

**NEW YORK (AP)** – A game scheduled for Thursday night between the New York Mets and Pittsburgh Pirates was postponed due to rain and will be made up as part of a doubleheader Saturday.

The teams will play a single-admission twinbill beginning at 4:10 p.m. Saturday, trying to make up the game during Pittsburgh's only scheduled visit to the Big Apple this season.

Friday night's game could also be at risk as Tropical Storm Elsa makes its way up the East Coast.

It's the second rainout this week for the Mets, who waited nearly 2 1/2 hours Tuesday to play the Brewers before owner Steve Cohen tweeted that the game was called off. New York made it up Wednesday as part of its ninth doubleheader this season.

New York has four more doubleheaders scheduled this season beginning Saturday. As part of COVID-19 safety protocols, twinbills are limited this year to a pair of seven-inning games, meaning the Mets are set to save 26 innings over its 13 doubleheaders – hugely beneficial for Mets manager Luis Rojas and his injury-ravaged pitching staff.

"The four less innings, they help a lot," Rojas said. "I think those have come in handy, and so has the extra-innings rule. Those two have been saviors when it comes to health."

Mets right-hander Taijuan Walker (7-3, 2.44 ERA) had been set to burnish his candidacy as an All-Star replacement after teammate Jacob deGrom decided he won't travel to Denver for the game. Walker was slated to face Pirates righty JT Brubaker (4-8, 4.09).

Walker and Brubaker will pitch Friday. Mets righty Marcus Stroman (6-6, 2.60) will slide back a day and pitch in one of the doubleheader games Saturday, with rookie Tylor Megill (0-0, 3.77) starting the other.

Left-hander Tyler Anderson (4-8, 4.39) will pitch Saturday's opener for the Pirates, and it's unclear who will get game 2.

Mets outfielder Brandon Nimmo was held out of New York's announced lineup after experiencing soreness in his left shoulder. Nimmo landed on his left side making a diving catch Wednesday. Rojas said Nimmo felt good doing baseball activities Thursday and would have been available off the bench.

## Gameday in Wheeling for 'Best Virginia'

By **CODY TOMER**  
For The Times Leader

**WHEELING** -- It's been quite some time since Wheeling Central grad Chase Harler played a game in his hometown.

That will change tonight as Best Virginia, West Virginia University's alumni team competing in The Basketball Tournament, plays an exhibition game at Wheeling Park at 7 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased online at bestvirginiatbt.com or at the door and kids 13 and under get in for free.

It will also be Harler's first time playing at Wheeling Park since his first year in a Maroon Knights' uni-

form.

"I played there as a freshman and I kind of had my breakout game," Harler said of the Palace on the Hill. "I scored 34 points that night. We played a Blue and Gold game at WesBanco Arena a few years ago, as well, and it was a great turnout. I'm hoping for the same (tonight)."

Harler, Cameron alum Logan Routt and the rest of the Best Virginia squad will be taking on TBT alternate and MEC alumni team, the Underground Kings.

The Kings' roster consists of former West Liberty standout David Dennis, along with Will Voorhees, Tommie Bolte, Tanner McGrew, Matt Bingaya, Jason Perry-Murray, Maurice Whitehurst and Ty-

ihai Byers.

Best Virginia is coming off an exhibition win over the Southern West Virginia All-Stars on Wednesday in Beckley, with 2010 NBA Draft pick of the L.A. Lakers, Devin Ebanks leading the opposition.

"It's going to be cool because I believe Ebanks will be in town and will play for (the Underground Kings) on Friday," Harler said. "We had a good turnout in Beckley and I expect a better turnout in Wheeling."

Best Virginia is led by head coach James Long, the current coach of West Virginia Tech. He is assisted by Wheeling University See, **GAME**, Page B2

## Phoenix hits 20 treys in grabbing a 2-0 series lead

**PHOENIX (AP)** – The Phoenix Suns have never been closer to an NBA title.

Devin Booker scored 31 points, Chris Paul had 23 and the Suns beat the Milwaukee Bucks 118-108 on Thursday night to take a 2-0 series lead.

The Suns surged ahead late in the first half, withstood Giannis Antetokounmpo's all-around effort to bring the Bucks back, and walked off winners again as fans swung orange rally towels all around them.

Antetokounmpo had 42 points and 12 rebounds in his second game back after missing two games because of a hyperextended left knee.

The Suns never even had a lead

appearances, and didn't win more than two games in either series.

They've already got two this time and will go after a third Sunday in Milwaukee, which will host the NBA Finals for the first time since 1974.

Booker made seven 3-pointers and the Suns went 20 for 40 behind the arc. Mikal Bridges scored 27 points, and Paul finished with eight assists.

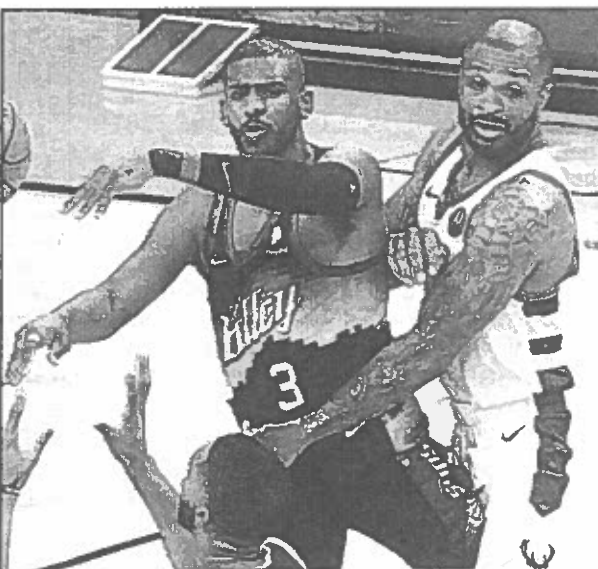
Jrue Holiday played more aggressively but didn't shoot a whole lot better than in Game 1, scoring 17 points but hitting only 7 for 21. Khris Middleton was 5 for 16, forcing Antetokounmpo to carry an even heavier load on his sore left leg.

the Eastern Conference semifinals, but had some help when first James Harden and then Kyrie Irving were injured.

Now they are facing a Suns team loaded with weapons all over the lineup, and showed off all of them in the prettiest play of this series.

They whipped the ball all around the perimeter for the final basket of the first half. It went from Paul to Booker to Jae Crowder to Bridges, back to Crowder to Paul, then over to Crowder and once again Bridge. He then finally fed it inside to Deandre Ayton, who scored while being fouled with 14.9 seconds left for a 56-45 lead at the break.

The Bucks could only dream of



KANSAS CITY Royals' Hunter Dozier tags out Cleveland Indians' Oscar Mercado at third base during the third inning of a baseball game Thursday in Cleveland.

AP PHOTO

# Indians rally past Royals, 7-4

CLEVELAND (AP) — Franmil Reyes hit a three-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning as the Cleveland Indians ended a nine-game losing streak — their longest under manager Terry Francona — with a 7-4 win over the Kansas City Royals on Thursday night.

After Royals manager Mike Matheny elected to have reliever Greg Holland (2-4) walk the dangerous Jose Ramirez to put runners at first and second, Reyes made him pay with his blast into the left-field seats.

Reyes' 14th homer set off a wild celebration by the Indians, who doused the slugger with water when he reached home plate. The win eases some recent pain for the Indians, who had been collapsing amid a slew of injuries and little offense.

Before Reyes' blow, Roberto Perez hit a three-run homer in the eighth to give the Indians new life.

Carlos Santana homered twice for the Royals, connecting for a tying shot in the ninth off James Karinchak (5-2), who wound up getting the win after blowing a save.

Bobby Bradley also homered for the Indians, who won for the first time since June 28. For a while, it looked as if Cleveland might extend its longest losing streak since an 11-gamer in 2012.

With the Indians badly in need

of a big hit, Perez gave them one, connecting off Scott Barlow to give Cleveland a 4-3 lead. After circling the bases, Perez was met before he reached the dugout by several teammates.

But the euphoria didn't last long as Santana, who played 10 seasons in Cleveland before signing with Kansas City as a free agent last winter, connected for his second homer.

Hunter Dozier also homered for the Royals, who have been on their own skid and have lost 14 of 17.

Santana and Dozier connected for solo homers in the fourth off Zach Plesac, who returned from the injured list to Cleveland's rotation after bizarrely breaking his right thumb and missing nearly six weeks.

Plesac wasn't bad, allowing three runs — two on homers — and five hits in four innings while on a pitch count.

The Indians were no-hit by five Tampa pitchers over seven innings Wednesday in Game 2 while being swept in a doubleheader. They finally got their first hit in 11 innings over three games when Oscar Mercado led off the third with a double off Danny Duffy that was initially ruled foul but changed after a video review.

Plesac made his first start since May 23. It was after a rough outing

that day in Minnesota when he sustained his freak injury by snagging his right thumb on his undershirt while yanking it off.

## STAYING POSITIVE

Francona said the challenge for him and his staff during this losing skid was to not let it become overwhelming — hard as that may be.

"We try to check ourselves first and foremost. If we react to something during a game that maybe we wouldn't normally react to, that's going to send up the wrong message that it's getting to all of us," he said. "So, trying to be consistent is huge."

"Trying to be upbeat, but upbeat for the right reasons. Still be there for guys when they hustle, they run balls out, things like that, or if they line out and they're frustrated. But at the same time, correcting things that need to be corrected."

## TRAINER'S ROOM

Royals: C Cam Gallagher (shoulder) began a rehab assignment with Triple-A Omaha. He hasn't played with Kansas City since June 16.

## UP NEXT

As the Indians continue to make pitching plans on the fly due to injuries, RHP Triston McKenzie will be recalled from Triple-A Columbus to start Friday's game against Royals RHP Brad Keller.

Goods Open in Endicott, New York.

"I putted decent last week at Dick's, and I kind of was on to something here," Andrade said. "My feel is very good. Today it was exceptional."

Andrade had five birdies and no bogeys on an OCC course that dried out after the sun broke through and the wind came up in the afternoon. Ames had seven birdies and two bogeys in the morning session.

Wes Short Jr. shot 66. Alex Cejka, looking for his third victory in a senior major this year, and Robert Karlsson followed at 67.

Andrade, who started on the 10th hole, pulled into a tie with Ames with a birdie on the par-5 sixth. He just missed a 20-foot downhill birdie putt on the par-4 ninth.

"I'm not happy that I haven't won in a long time," said Andrade, whose last win was in 2015. "So this build-up has been happening, and I'm seeing a lot of good things, progress. Finished top 10 at the Tradition, Alabama."

## • Game

Continued from Page B1

assistant coach Da'Sean Butler and Morgantown coach Dave Tallman.

John Flowers, Kevin Jones, Juwan Staten, Jaysean Paige, Tarik Phillip, Sagaba Konate, Nate Adrian, Jonathan Holton and Teyvon Myers are some other standouts for team Best Virginia.

"This is going to be cool for everyone, especially the parents who grew up watching West Virginia basketball," Harler said. "We'll have some WVU legends in the Ohio Valley playing competitive basketball and I think it's going to draw a good crowd."

With this being the squad's final tuneup before opening TBT play Saturday, July 17 in Charleston against WoCo Showtime (Wofford's alumni team), Best Virginia will be looking to not only put on a show for the fans but to grow as a team, as well.

"We mostly just want to have fun but we have a game plan going in," Harler said. "We want to build chemistry and work on what we need to work on and build relationships on the floor, especially on the defensive side. The better you can guard, the better you'll be in the TBT."

When the game ends, the fun won't as players from Best Virginia will be hosting a camp at The Highlands Sports Complex on Sunday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for ages 5-16.

## • Receivers

Continued from Page B1

The 6-foot, 185 pounder caught 19 passes for 251 yards and a touchdown. He rushed for 563 yards and six touchdowns and passed for 158 yards. Defensively, he posted 55 tackles, recovered a fumble and posted a sack.

Marling's fine season didn't go unnoticed. He was named First Team All-State Class A for the second straight season. He was also named All-OVAC and All-Valley.

Along with football, Marling was a three-year letterman in track and field.

Payton, who is planning to continue his football career at Wheeling University, is the son of Julie and Mark Joseph and Tim Marling.

LUCKY PULICE, Madonna — This former Blue Don was a steady contributor on both sides of the ball for Coach Dan Rovira's club.

Pulice caught 860 yards worth of passes and scored 10 touchdowns. From his strong safety spot, he posted 70 tackles, recorded five tackles for loss, broke up four passes, picked off three and blocked a punt for a touchdown.

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Torrence, who is the son of Terry Walker and Lonnelle Walker, will attend Virginia Tech and continue his track career.

## • Wimbledon

Continued from Page B1

was broken just once, Sabalenka twice.

After going 0 for 8 on break points in the first set, the first set she dropped in six matches, Pliskova "got a bit frustrated," she acknowledged afterward.

But she went 1 for 1 in that category in each of the last two sets.

"She just returned like crazy — like, really good — and I couldn't do anything," said Sabalenka, the only top-20 seed in the draw without a major quarterfinal appearance until now.

Neither Pliskova — whose coach, Sascha Bajin, used to work with Naomi Osaka and was Serena Williams' hitting partner — nor Barty had ever been past the fourth round at the grass-court Grand Slam tournament.

"Coming into this tournament, the dream was to make the second week. ... Sascha was super confident in me," said Plisko-

va, a 29-year-old from the Czech Republic who was the runner-up at the 2016 U.S. Open to Kerber and used to be ranked No. 1. "He said, 'I told you, you were going to make the final.'"

The 25-year-old Barty won the 2019 French Open and has been atop the WTA rankings for 1 1/2 years.

She is the first woman from Australia to reach the title match at Wimbledon since Evonne Goolagong won the trophy 1980; Barty has been wearing an outfit intended as a tribute to Goolagong this fortnight.

"Now to kind of give myself a chance to create some history, almost in a way that's a tribute to her, is really exciting," Barty said.

She arrived in England not having competed since June 3, when she withdrew during her second-round match in Paris, her left hip in too much

pain to continue.

"To be honest, it was going to be touch and go. Everything had to be spot on to give myself a chance to play pain-free and to play knowing that I could trust my body," Barty said. "If you told me a month ago we'd be sitting in this position, I really wouldn't have thought that we would even get close."

On Thursday, she faced a big test in the second set, which Kerber was two points from owning when Barty served at deuce while trailing 5-2. The full-capacity crowd was backing the comeback effort for the 33-year-old German, too, with shouts of "Come on, Angie!" and "Go on, Kerber!"

But Barty steeled herself to hold there, then broke to get within 5-4 with a cross-court forehand passing winner.

That was part of a 38-16 advantage in total winners for Barty, responsible more than anything else for her triumph. And this was remarkable: She compiled that many point-ending shots while making only 16 unforced errors.

"A great level, the best level I've played in quite some time," Barty said. "Angie is an incredible competitor. She brought out the best in me today."

It was a rather entertaining and, from point to point, rather even contest, two talented baseliners willing to try a volley, drop shot or lob when required. They were each other's equal for long exchanges — in all, 22 points lasted at least nine strokes, with Kerber winning a dozen.

Their approaches are different, though. Kerber is a left-hander who hits flat groundstrokes and is just fine with handling foes' low shots, often dropping a knee onto the turf to get leverage.

Barty is a righty who relies on heavy topspin for a forehand packed with power, and her slice backhand can produce tricky bounces on the grass.

She ended up with an 8-0 edge in aces and 18-9 in forehand winners.

"I was trying to playing my game," Kerber said. "But she had always a good answer."

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## W.Va. Squad Well-Equipped For Aerial Assault

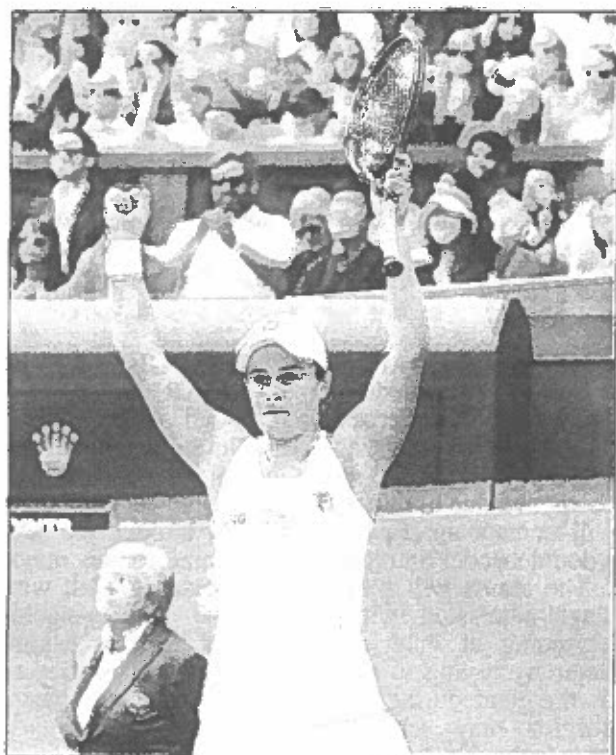
**By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer**  
Fans attending the 75th OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game on July 24 at Wheeling Island Stadium can probably expect the ball to be in the air a good bit when West Virginia is on offense.  
And no one could blame Mountain State head coach B.J. Depew, who has named his wide receivers for the game.  
"We really like the entire skill set and versatility of the receiving group," Depew said. "There is a lot of speed there, too. Some of the guys even took snaps at their schools and their coaches found cre-

ative ways to use their skills. We plan to have three and four (receivers) on the field most of the game."  
The receiving candidates are Kobe Hill (Linsly), Payton Marling (Wheeling Central), Lucky Pulice (Madonna), Levi Rice (South) and Torrence Walker (Wheeling Park).  
Here's a capsule look at the West Virginia receivers:  
**KOBE HILL, Linsly** — This former Cadet shined in multiple spots on the offensive side of the ball for Depew's squad the last several seasons. The 5-10, 165 pounder caught 83 passes for 1,000 yards and nine touchdowns.

He rushed 70 times for 315 yards and four touchdowns. He completed 33-of-51 passes for 465 yards and four more touchdowns.  
Hill was named All-OVAC, All-Valley and All-Times Leader. He was also his team's MVP.  
Away from football, Hill was a three-year letterman in baseball, a member of Drug Free Club, Minding your Mind Club and a Youth Group leader.  
Kobe, who is undecided about his college plans, is the son of Justin and Carrie Hill.  
**PAYTON MARLING, Wheeling Central** — This former Maroon Knight was

a big-play threat in a myriad of capacities for Coach Mike Young's team.  
The 6-foot, 185 pounder caught 19 passes for 251 yards and a touchdown. He rushed for 563 yards and six touchdowns and passed for 158 yards. Defensively, he posted 55 tackles, recovered a fumble and posted a sack.  
Marling's fine season didn't go unnoticed. He was named First Team All-State Class A for the second straight season. He was also named All-OVAC and All-Valley.  
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Payton, who is planning to continue his football career at Wheeling University, is the son of Julie and Mark Joseph and Tim Marling.  
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*Please see AERIAL, Page 12*



AP Photo  
Australia's Ashleigh Barty celebrates Thursday after defeating Germany's Angelique Kerber in their women's singles semifinals match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London.

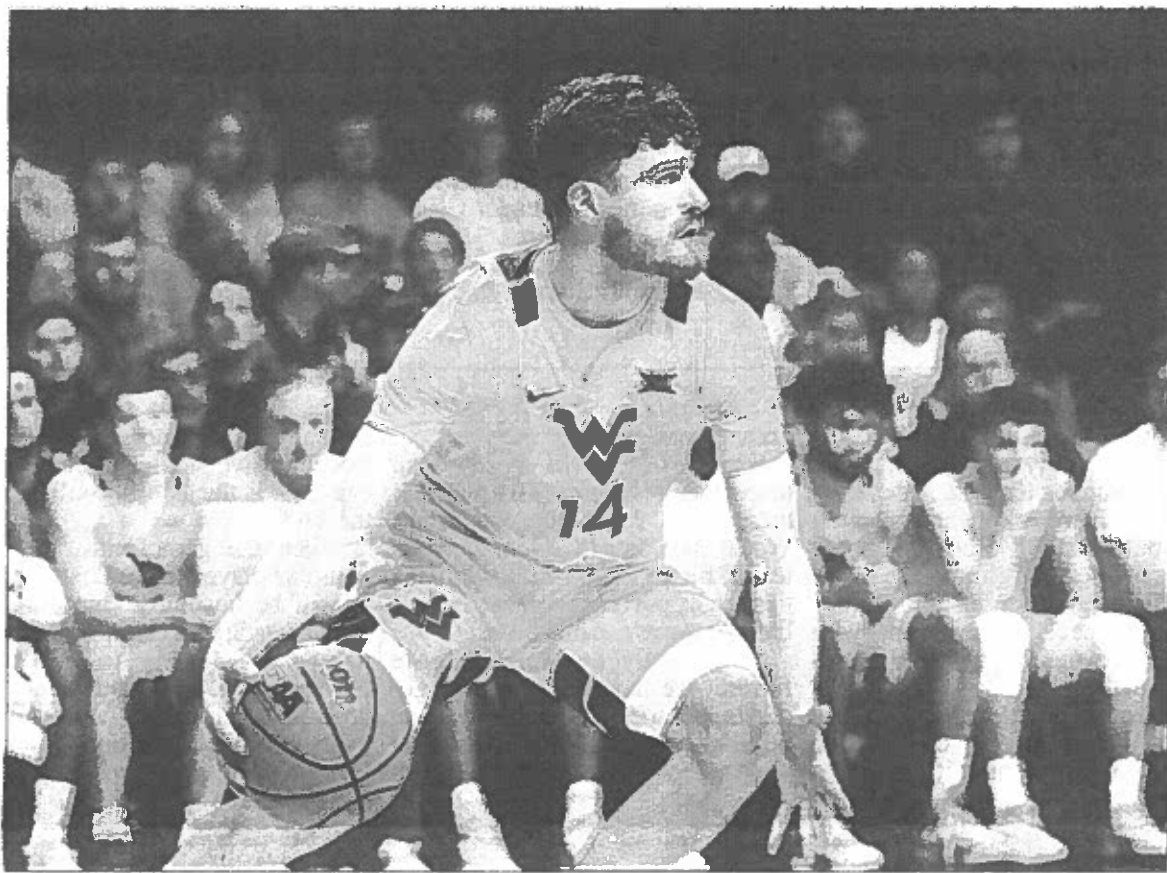
## Top Seed Barty, Pliskova Set For Wimbledon Final

Uncharted Territory For Both

**By HOWARD FENDRICH  
AP Tennis Writer**  
WIMBLEDON, England — It was difficult for Ash Barty to imagine that a trip to her first Wimbledon final was just around the corner when she stopped playing at last month's French Open with a hip injury.  
Or even when she was two points from being pushed to a third set by Angelique Kerber in their semifinal at the All England Club.  
Barty does not let obstacles trouble her for too long. She figures out a way and pushes forward.  
That's why she's ranked No. 1 and it's why she stands one win from

a second Grand Slam title after beating 2018 champion Kerber 6-3, 7-6 (3) on Thursday.  
"I've had ups and downs and everything in between and I wouldn't change one day or one moment or one, kind of, road that we've taken in my path and my journey," said Barty, who was the 2011 junior champion at the All England Club and stepped away from tennis for almost two years starting in 2014 because of burnout.  
"It's been unique. It's been incredible. It's been tough. There have been so many things that led to this point."  
*Please see WIMBLEDON, Page 12*

## Gameday In Wheeling For 'Best Virginia'



AP Photo  
Wheeling Central grad Chase Harler will be leading WVU alumni squad Best Virginia into Wheeling Park tonight for an exhibition game against MEC alumni team, the Underground Kings.

## Harler And Routt Headline WVU Alumni Squad

**By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer**  
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Best Virginia is coming off an exhibition win over the South-

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"It's going to be cool because I believe Ebanks will be in town and will play for (the Underground Kings) on Friday," Harler said. "We had a good turnout in Beckley and I expect a better turnout in Wheeling."  
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*Please see BEST, Page 12*

## Suns Take 2-0 Lead In



## Fans Banned From Tokyo



# Reyes Walkoff HR Ends Indians' Nine-Game Slide

CLEVELAND (AP) — Franmil Reyes hit a three-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning as the Cleveland Indians ended a nine-game losing streak — their longest under manager Terry Francona — with a 7-4 win over the Kansas City Royals on Thursday night.

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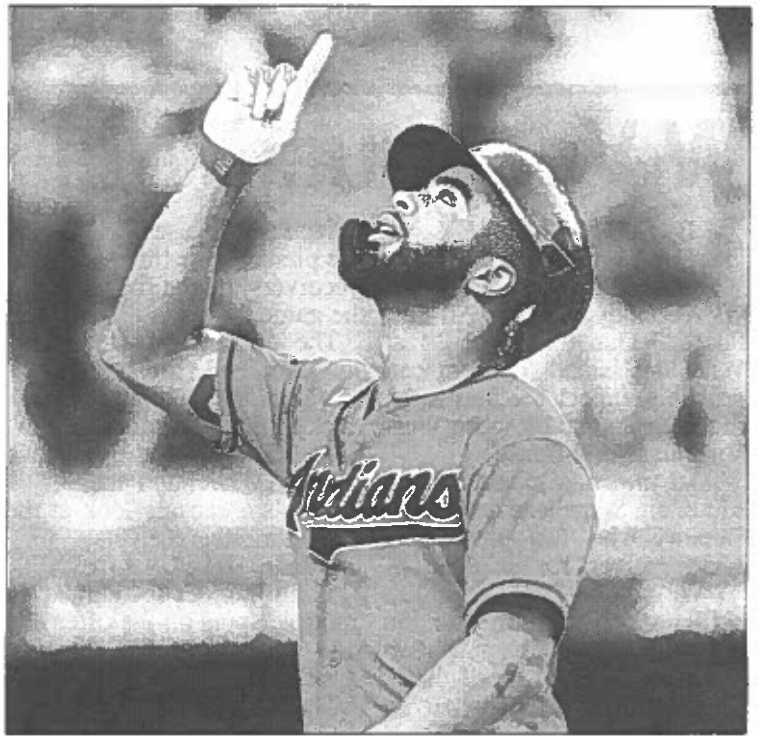
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AP Photo  
Cleveland Indians' Bobby Bradley looks up after hitting a solo home run during the fourth inning against the Kansas City Royals on Thursday.

## AERIAL

(Continued from Page 11)

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## BEST

(Continued from Page 11)

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## WIMBLEDON

(Continued from Page 11)

Her opponent in Saturday's final will be No. 8 seed Karolina Pliskova, who emerged from a power-hitting and serving display to come back to defeat No. 2 Aryna Sabalenka 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

"Super proud about the way how I handled the situation out there," Pliskova said.

Pliskova produced 14 aces, Sabalenka 18, and the combined total was the most in a women's match at Wimbledon since they started keeping such stats in 1977. The difference in this match, ultimately: Pliskova was broken just once, Sabalenka twice.

After going 0 for 8 on break points in the first set, the first set she dropped in six matches, Pliskova "got a bit frustrated," she acknowledged afterward.

But she went 1 for 1 in that category in each of the last two sets.

"She just returned like crazy — like, really good — and I couldn't do anything," said Sabalenka, the only top-20 seed in the draw without a major quarterfinal appearance until now.

Neither Pliskova — whose coach, Sascha Bajin, used to work with Naomi Osaka and was Serena Williams' hitting partner — nor

Barty had ever been past the fourth round at the grass-court Grand Slam tournament.

"Coming into this tournament, the dream was to make the second week. ... Sascha was super confident in me," said Pliskova, a 29-year-old from the Czech Republic who was the runner-up at the 2016 U.S. Open to Kerber and used to be ranked No. 1. "He said, 'I told you, you were going to make the final.'"

The 25-year-old Barty won the 2019 French Open and has been atop the WTA rankings for 1 1/2 years.

## SUNS

(Continued from Page 11)

Jrue Holiday played more aggressively but didn't shoot a whole lot better than in Game 1, scoring 17 points but hitting only 7 for 21. Khrist Middleton was 5 for 16, forcing Antetokounmpo to carry an even heavier load on his sore left leg.

It adds up to the Bucks having to overcome a 2-0 deficit for the second time this postseason. They did it against the Brooklyn Nets in

the Eastern Conference semifinals, but had some help when first James Harden and then Kyrie Irving were injured.

Now they are facing a Suns team loaded with weapons all over the lineup, and showed off all of them in the prettiest play of this series.

They whipped the ball all around the perimeter for the final basket of the first half. It went from Paul to Booker to Jae Crowder to

Bridges, back to Crowder to Paul, then over to Crowder and once again Bridge. He then finally fed it inside to Deandre Ayton, who scored while being fouled with 14.9 seconds left for a 56-45 lead at the break.

The Bucks could only dream of having that many guys involved. Antetokounmpo's 15 field goals were more than twice as many as any other Milwaukee player.

# Pirates-Mets Are Washed Out; Will Play Two Saturday

NEW YORK (AP) — A game scheduled for Thursday night between the New York Mets and Pittsburgh Pirates was postponed due to rain and will be made up as part of a doubleheader Saturday.

The teams will play a single-admission twinbill beginning at 4:10 p.m. Saturday, trying to make up the game during Pittsburgh's only scheduled visit to the Big Apple this season.

Tonight's game could also be at risk as Tropical Storm Elsa makes its way up the East Coast.

It's the second rainout this week for the Mets, who waited nearly 2 1/2 hours Tuesday to play the Brewers before owner Steve Cohen tweeted that the game was called off. New York made it up Wednesday as part of its ninth doubleheader this season.

New York has four more doubleheaders scheduled this season beginning Saturday. As part of COVID-19 safety protocols, twinbills are limited this year to a pair of seven-inning games, meaning the Mets are set to save 26 innings over its 13 doubleheaders — hugely beneficial for Mets manager Luis Rojas and his injury-ravaged pitching staff.

"The four less innings, they help a lot," Rojas said. "I think those have come in handy, and so has the extra-innings rule. Those two have been saviors when it comes to health."

Mets right-hander Taijuan Walker (7-3, 2.44 ERA) had been set to burnish his candidacy as an All-Star replacement after teammate Jacob deGrom decided he won't travel to Denver for the game. Walker was slated to face Pirates righty JT Brubaker (4-8, 4.09). Walker and Brubaker

**DODGERS 6  
MARLINS 1**

MIAMI (AP) — Julio Urías allowed Jazz Chisholm's leadoff homer, then pitched shutout ball through the seventh inning for his major league-leading 11th win, and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Miami Marlins 6-1 Thursday to avoid a four-game sweep.

**CUBS 8  
PHILLIES 0**

CHICAGO (AP) — Brad Miller hit three home runs in a game for the first time in his career, and the Philadelphia Phillies routed the sinking Chicago Cubs 8-0 on Thursday night.

**BREWERS 5  
REDS 3**

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Avisail Garcia hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the eighth inning as the Milwaukee Brewers beat Cincinnati 5-3 Thursday night, boosting their NL Central lead to seven games over the Reds.

**TWINS 5  
TIGERS 3**

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Ryan Jeffers and Miguel Sano homered, leading J.A. Happ and the Minnesota Twins over the Detroit Tigers 5-3 on Thursday night. Jeffers' homer with one out in the fifth inning marked Minnesota's first runner against Tigers starter Tarik Skubal.

**MARINERS 4  
YANKEES 0**

SEATTLE (AP) — Rookie Logan Gilbert (3-2) pitched one-hit ball over seven innings, struck out a career-high eight and retired his final 18 batters. Kyle Seager and Dylan Moore homered off Jordan Montgomery (3-4) as Seattle salvaged the final game of the three-game set.

**ATHLETICS 2  
ASTROS 1**

HOUSTON (AP) —

Counsel/B3  
Comics/B4  
Classified/D5-6

# SPORTS

Wednesday,  
July 7, 2021

## Ohio quarterbacks, running backs named

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

Eric Huck knew exactly what kind of players he was looking for when he set out to select his quarterbacks and running backs for the annual OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game.

The Ohio head coach who has guided Fort Frye to unmatched success the last handful of seasons plans to utilize his Wing-T offense when the Buckeye State clashes with West Virginia on Saturday, July 24 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"We're a Wing-T, shotgun team, so we wanted quarterbacks who can run and the three we chose can all do that," Huck said.

Slated to battle for the quarterback duty are Steubenville Catholic Central's Ryan Gorman, Barnesville's Ayden Hannahs and St. Clairsville's Tyler Tonkovich.

Meanwhile, at the running back spot, Huck is very high on the versatility, speed and power his backs are bringing to the table.

"I am really impressed with the group," Huck said. "I am excited to see

how it comes together. A lot of these guys haven't seen the Wing-T, so it'll be interesting to see when they get the timing down."

Here's a capsule look at the players: **CARTER DENNIS**, River — This two-way standout made his mark time and time again for Coach Mike Flannery's team.

In two seasons as the Pilots' fullback, Dennis racked up 1,561 yards rushing and scored 35 touchdowns.

Defensively, he was even more impressive, posting 482 career tackles, 50 for loss, forcing 10 fumbles and posting

23 sacks.

Dennis was named First Team All-Ohio three times and Eastern District Player of the Year a like number of times. He was a three-time All-OVAC, All-Times Leader and All-Valley selection.

Along with football, Dennis was a four-year standout with the Pilots baseball team.

Carter, who is the son of Rodney and Erica Dennis, plans to attend either West Virginia Northern or Ohio University Eastern.

See, OHIO, Page B2

## Late fireworks spark Maynard

• Indians top Braves, win series

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

**CRESCENT** — Two nights after America celebrated its birthday with fireworks displays all over the nation, Maynard had a late fireworks display of its own.

After watching rival Barton draw even at three with a run in the bottom of the sixth, the visiting Indians (11-6) exploded for four runs on just one hit to post a 7-3 Ohio Valley Baseball League victory on Henning Field inside Pramesa Park. The win allowed Maynard to keep a stronghold on second-place behind front-running Moundsville (13-4) and ahead of third-place Weirton (8-6).

Meanwhile, the defending champion Braves (7-7) sit in fourth place and are looking at possibly playing Sunday in the play-in game against Shadyside (0-16). The regular-season ends Friday.

"This was a big comeback win for us," Maynard player/manager David Vicker said after a 5-1 loss on Monday night. "This was a good win. It's always good to win a series versus Barton."

The triumph gave the Indians a 3-2 edge in the regular season over the Braves.

See, **MAYNARD**, Page B2



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

**MAYNARD'S TYLER** Ramsay, center, is greeted by teammates Klay Kottis (15) and Eric Banal (6) after scoring a run in the top of the seventh inning Tuesday night against Barton in Ohio Valley Baseball League action on Henning Field inside Pramesa Park. Ramsay's RBI single earlier in the inning sparked a four-run outburst in a 7-3 victory.

## Kropka excited to get going

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

**MOUNDSVILLE** — Justin Kropka stepped foot on the turf at Monarch Stadium Monday to begin his tenure as John Marshall's head football coach with a myriad of emotions and feelings.

Mostly, however, the former Harrison Central head coach was dealing with anxiety.

But, it was nothing out of the ordinary for the veteran coach, who most recently spent three seasons as an assistant coach at Wheeling University.

"The more experienced you become (in coaching), the feeling of excitement shifts to being anxious," Kropka admitted.

The anxiousness stems from the normal things that coaches deal with as a new season approaches. Things like preparation time and roster status are among the big aspects. For a coach who is at a new place, in a new state, things like adjusting to new rules, new opponents and the like are also weighing on the mind.

"For me, it's just anxiety that stems from wondering how things will play out," Kropka admitted. "Once you've coached for so long, you start seeing everything bad thing that might be coming 10 miles down the road."

One thing Kropka has learned, however, is to enjoy the opportunity that he has a little bit more. He admitted he didn't do that well at all during his time with the Huskies, but he re-learned that when he was working with the Cardinals.

"My time at Wheeling re-lit my fire," Kropka said. "I realized how much I enjoyed coaching kids."

And by kids, Kropka fully means at the high school level. Kropka, who is a Martins Ferry product and spent several years working under Dave Bruney, called coaching at the college level a daily coaches clinic because of the amount of knowledge he soaked in.

However, the relationships between coaches and players are significantly different at that level because the players are adults.

See, **KROPKA**, Page B2



## Paul carries Suns past Bucks in Game 1 of NBA Finals

**PHOENIX (AP)** — Chris Paul delivered an NBA Finals debut that was well worth his lengthy wait.

A few more games like this one, and the Suns might finally bring the championship to Phoenix.

Paul had 32 points and nine assists, Devin Booker scored 27 points and the Suns beat the returning Giannis Antetokounmpo and his Milwaukee Bucks 118-105 on Tuesday night in Game 1.

Paul scored 16 points during a sensational third quarter that had Phoenix fans who waited 28 years to see the NBA Finals again screaming in delight.

Finally playing for the title in his 16th season, the star point guard has the Suns in the NBA Finals for only the third time, and it sure looked as if they could

make this ending different than the other two.

Deandre Ayton added 22 points and 19 rebounds to continue his breakout stretch of play in his first postseason.

Antetokounmpo had 20 points and 17 rebounds after missing two games with a hyperextended left knee. Khris Middleton scored 29 points, but the Bucks will have to play from behind again after dropping Game 1 for the third straight series.

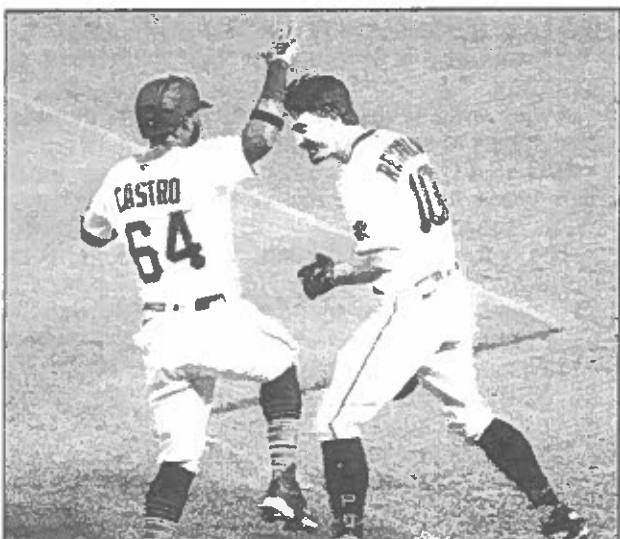
The series opener was the first NBA Finals game in Phoenix since Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls won their third straight championship here in Game 6 in 1993. The Suns, who came into the NBA with the Bucks in 1968, made their only other finals appearance in

1976.

They hadn't even made the playoffs since 2010 and just two years ago were last in the Western Conference with a 19-63 record.

But Booker was already headed for stardom by then, and 2018 No. 1 pick Ayton has played at that level in the postseason. Paul has been steady as always since his arrival in an offseason trade.

Now 36 and a 10-time All-NBA selection, he is on the list of best players to never win a championship. It appeared he might never even get to play for one until Oklahoma City dealt him to a team of Suns on the rise, and he might be the final piece that takes them all the way to the top.



## Pirates walk off, literally, a winner over Braves, 2-1

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Bryan Reynolds drew a four-pitch walk from Tyler Matzek, forcing in the winning run in the ninth inning and giving the Pittsburgh Pirates a 2-1 victory over the Atlanta Braves on Tuesday night and a three-game winning streak.

Rookie Rodolfo Castro, recalled from Double-A Altoona before the game, worked an eight-pitch walk from Matzek (0-3) leading off the ninth.

Adam Frazier slapped a single

Hayes felt Castro's long at-bat was the key to the inning.

"I've seen him the last couple of years and he's a really good hitter," Hayes said. "He has a really good approach. He wasn't fazed when he fell behind 0-2."

Matzek threw just eight of 20 pitches for strikes.

"I couldn't tell anything other than he kept missing in the same spot," Braves manager Brian Snitker said. "It's a tough one."

Pittsburgh has won three in a row

The Monarchs open the season on Aug. 27 at University. Other than Weir and Oak Glen and scrimmaging Wheeling Park. Kropka has no prior coaching experience against anyone on the Monarchs' slate.

"Some of the (schools), I am still trying to Google them and find where they are," Kropka joked.

in five innings. The rookie had only one 1-2-3 inning and the Pirates put multiple runners on base in each of the other four innings.

**NBA Finals**  
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)  
**Phoenix 1, Milwaukee 0**  
**Tuesday**  
Phoenix 118, Milwaukee 105  
**Thursday**  
Milwaukee at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

LEWIS (MIA 2-3) at TEXAS (MIA 1-1), 2:10 p.m.  
Cincinnati (Gray 1-4) at Kansas City (Singer 3-6), 2:10 p.m.  
Cleveland (Hestges 1-3) at Tampa Bay (TBD), 3:10 p.m.  
2nd game  
Boston (Rodriguez 6-4) at L.A. Angels (Hearney 4-6), 4:07 p.m.  
Toronto (Ryu 7-5) at Baltimore (Harvey 3-9), 7:05 p.m.  
Oakland (Manaea 6-5) at Houston (Garcia 6-5), 8:10 p.m.  
N.Y. Yankees (German 4-5) at Seattle (Kikuchi 6-3), 10:10 p.m.

MILWAUKEE (ANDERSON 2-3) at N.Y. Mets (1-0), 7:10 p.m.  
2nd game  
Philadelphia (Wheeler 6-4) at Chicago Cubs (Mills 3-2), 8:05 p.m.  
Colorado (Senzatela 2-7) at Arizona (Castellanos 0-1), 9:40 p.m.  
St. Louis (Oviedo 0-4) at San Francisco (Wood 7-3), 9:45 p.m.  
Washington (Corbin 5-7) at San Diego (Paddock 4-5), 10:10 p.m.

• **Maynard**

Continued from Page B1

Matt Busby drew a four-pitch walk from Barton reliever Eli Petho to start the seventh. Hunter Westlake was clipped with a pitch with one out and Tyler Ramsay blistered a 3-1 pitch through the left side of the infield as Busby scored and Westlake stopped at second. A wild pitch advanced both runners and both scored when B.A. Holloway's bouncer to second was misplayed. A fielder's choice allowed the fourth tally to cross the plate.

"I was sitting on a fastball with a 3-1 count," Tyler Ramsay admitted. "I was trying to put it over the fence, but I guess between second and third was good enough to get us a run and put us ahead."

Andrew Whetsell, a sophomore-to-be at Marietta University, earned the mound win with three innings of relief work. The righty struck out four and walked three. Chris McIntyre started and went four scoreless innings.

"Chris threw great today. He threw four innings of shutout ball," Vicker said of McIntyre, who struck out two, walked one and allowed just two hits after two perfect

innings of relief on Monday. "Andrew came in and battled through some fielding problems behind him, but he had a big strikeout to get out of a big jam in the sixth."

The Indians tallied three times in the third as Mason Ramsay's two-out bloop single got the scoring started as Eric Banal raced home. Banal had reached on a one-out error and took second on a wild pitch. After Busby walked, Mason Ramsay found a hole in shallow left-center. Westlake followed by bashing a 1-0 pitch to the gap in deep left-center as Busby and Mason Ramsay scored.

Barton got two of the runs back in the home half of the fifth. Jacob Probst missed a three-run homer by inches but settled for a two-out, two-run double instead. The hit plated Anthony Zorne and pinchrunner Matt Fouty.

The Indians left the bases loaded in the top of the sixth against Tyler Blomquist, who probably deserved a better fate. The righty fanned six, walked a pair and scattered seven hits in his six-inning stint.

Barton loaded the bases in the

bottom of the inning on back-to-back leadoff singles by Colton Coss and Bailey McGrath. Isaac Jozwiak replaced McGrath on the bases before Kaden Blomquist was intentionally walked to load the bases. The ploy backfired immediately as Dillon Sunnafrank was plunked with the next pitch to force in the tying run. Whetsell worked out of further damage.

"This was a good ballgame. Chris kept us in check for four innings," veteran Barton manager Billy Timko offered. "They (Maynard) hit the ball tonight. They did a good job."

"We battled back and tied it, but I thought Eli might have a little more than he did," Timko noted. "However, this is his first time pitching since last year."

The Brothers Ramsay evenly divided four singles. Coss singled and doubled for Barton.

Maynard visits the Fleming Field Complex in Shadyside tonight to face the Casketmakers. It also hosts Moundsville on Thursday.

Barton entertains Moundsville on Friday.

• **Ohio**

Continued from Page B1

**GARRETT DOZIER**, Toronto — This former Red Knight was the go-to-guy in the backfield for Coach Josh Franke's squad.

The 5-11, 180 pounder finished his prep career with 3,325 yards on 506 carries. He scored 30 touchdowns.

Dozier was twice named to the All-Ohio team and three times to the All-Eastern District squad. He was his team's offensive player of the year in 2019 and team MVP in 2020. He was twice named All-OVAC.

Along with football, Dozier was a standout in wrestling, qualifying to the state tournament twice and finishing with 172 career wins, which is a Toronto record.

On top of his athletic exploits, Dozier shined in the classroom, too. He was a member of the National Honor Society, served on the OVAC Student Board and was part of the Beta Club.

Garrett, who plans to attend Rosedale Technical College to study automotive technology, is the son of Dave and Nici Dozier.

**RYAN GORMAN**, Steubenville Catholic — This former Crusader put forth an impressive couple of seasons for Coach Anthony Agresta's squad.

Gorman rushed for 477 yards and 7 touchdowns and threw for 934 yards and six touchdowns last season. As a junior, he passed for 721 yards in basically half a season because he went down with injury in game six.

Gorman was named second-team All-Eastern District, All-OVAC and All-Jefferson County.

Also a standout in basketball, Gorman earned all-Eastern District and all-OVAC honorable mentions. He was also a three-year mainstay in baseball.

Ryan, who is the son of Ted Gorman and Michelle Gorman, plans to attend Baldwin-Wallace.

**AYDEN HANNAHS**, Barnesville — This former Shamrock was an impact contributor on both sides of the ball throughout his career for Coach Blake Allen's team.

The 5-10, 175 pounder finished his career with 2,545 yards and 24 touchdowns. He rushed for 300 yards and seven scores and caught 308 yards worth of passes and scored a touchdown.

Hannahs earned All-OVAC, All-District and All-Ohio Honorable Mention multiple times.

On top of football, Hannahs helped lead the Shamrocks to the Division III state baseball tournament this past spring. He earned First-Team All-Ohio and played in the State and OVAC All-Star Games.

He was also a letterman in both basketball and wrestling.

Ayden, who is the son of Lance and Ashley Hannahs, plans to attend Muskingum and play baseball.

**BRIAR PORTMAN**, Shenandoah — This former Zep wore a lot of hats quite well for head coach Jesse Wells' squad.

The 6-0, 190 pounder rushed for 725 yards and 9 touchdowns as a senior. He caught 14 passes for 217 yards and three more scores. He also handled the punting and punt return duties. Defensively, from a linebacker post, he secured 40 tackles, 12 for loss, forced five fumbles and recovered two and scored a defensive touchdown.

Portman was named First-Team All-Eastern District, All-OVAC and was his team's offensive player of the year. As a junior, Portman rushed for 981 yards and had 241 yards receiving. He scored 21 total offensive touchdowns and was named First-Team All-Ohio.

Along with football, Portman was a standout in wrestling for the Zeps and a four-year letterman in baseball.

Briar is the son of Rob and Kelly Portman. **MATT SCHAEFER**, Indian Creek — This former Redskin put forth an impressive career for head coach Andrew Connor's team.

The 6-0, 210 pounder rushed 111 times for 693 yards and 10 touchdowns as a senior.


Matt, who plans to join the pipe fitters union, is the son of Stephen Schaefer and Heidi Kidd.

**TYLER TONKOVICH**, St. Clairsville — This former Red Devil was the ultimate field general for Coach Brett McLean's offense the last two seasons.

The 5-10, 180 pounder put forth brilliant junior and senior seasons, passing for 2,464 yards and 25 touchdowns. On the ground, he amassed 1,098 yards and scored 14 more touchdowns.

Tonkovich's production didn't go unnoticed. He was named All-OVAC, All-Times Leader, All-Valley, All-Buckeye 8 twice and was named to the First Team All-Eastern District squad as a senior. He was also named to the All-Ohio team.

On top of football, Tonkovich was the ace of the St. Clairsville baseball pitching staff, leading the Red Devils to the regional tournament and OVAC title this past spring. He played in the OVAC and State All-Star Games.



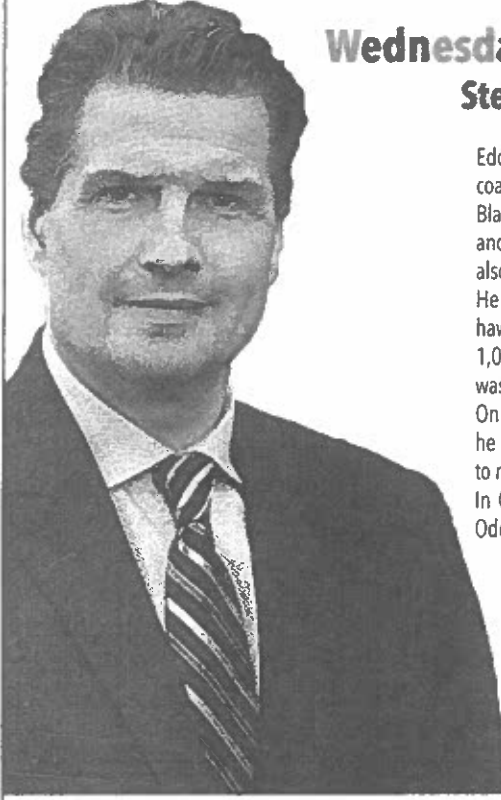
**EASTERN GATEWAY  
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# Speaker Series

## Beating The Odds In Hockey And In Life

# Eddie Olczyk


**Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Steubenville High School Auditorium**





Eddie Olczyk is an American professional ice hockey analyst, and a former player and coach. He was a center in the National Hockey League for 16 seasons with the Chicago Blackhawks, Toronto Maple Leafs, Winnipeg Jets, New York Rangers, Los Angeles Kings, and Pittsburgh Penguins. He won the Stanley Cup with the Rangers in 1994. Olczyk was also the head coach of the Pittsburgh Penguins from June 2003 to December 2005. He currently serves as a television color commentator for NHL on NBC and Chicago Blackhawks games on NBC Sports Chicago. Throughout his career as an NHL player, he played 1,031 NHL games and produced 342 goals and 452 assists for a total of 794 points. He was inducted into the United States Hockey Hall of Fame on February 22, 2013. On August 8, 2017, Olczyk issued a statement through the Blackhawks to announce that he had been diagnosed with a form of colon cancer. He underwent a surgical procedure to remove the tumor. In March 2018, Olczyk announced he was officially "cancer-free." In October 2019, Olczyk released his autobiography titled "Eddie Olczyk: Beating the Odds in Hockey and in Life," where he shares details of his fight with stage 3 colon cancer.


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## Coach Huck Selects Dual-Threat QBs for OVAC ASG

By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer

Eric Huck knew exactly what kind of players he was looking for when he set out to select his quarterbacks and running backs for the annual OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game.

The Ohio head coach who has guided Fort Frye to unmatched success the last handful of seasons plans to utilize his Wing-T offense when the Buckeye State clashes with West Virginia on Saturday, July 24 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"We're a Wing-T, shotgun team, so we wanted quarterbacks who can run and the three we chose can all do that," Huck said.

Slated to battle for the quarterback duty are Steubenville Catholic Central's Ryan Gorman, Barnesville's Ayden Hannahs and St. Clairsville's

Tyler Tonkovich.

Meanwhile, at the running back spot, Huck is very high on the versatility, speed and power his backs are bringing to the table.

"I am really impressed with the group," Huck said. "I am excited to see how it comes together. A lot of these guys haven't seen the Wing-T, so it'll be interesting to see when they get the timing down."

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Please see OVAC, Page 10

## Kropka Era Begins At John Marshall

Former Harrison coach to take on new challenges

By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer

**MOUNDSVILLE** — Justin Kropka stepped foot on the turf at Monarch Stadium Monday to begin his tenure as John Marshall's head football coach with a myriad of emotions and feelings.

Mostly, however, the former Harrison Central head coach was dealing with anxiety.

But, it was nothing out of the ordinary for the veteran coach, who most recently spent three seasons as an assistant coach at Wheeling University.

"The more experienced you become (in coaching), the feeling of excitement shifts to being anxious," Kropka admitted.

"The anxiousness stems from the normal things that coaches deal with as a new season approaches. Things like preparation time and roster status are among the big aspects. For a coach who is at a new place, in a new state, things like adjusting to new rules, new opponents and the like are also weighing on the mind.

"For me, it's just anxiety that stems from wondering how things will play out," Kropka admitted. "Once you've coached for so long, you start seeing everything bad thing that might be coming 10 miles down the road."

One thing Kropka has learned, however, is to enjoy the opportunity that he has a little bit more. He admitted he didn't do that well at all during his time with the Huskies, but he re-learned that when he was working with the Cardinals.

"My time at Wheeling re-lit my fire," Kropka said. "I realized how much I enjoyed coaching kids."

And by kids, Kropka fully

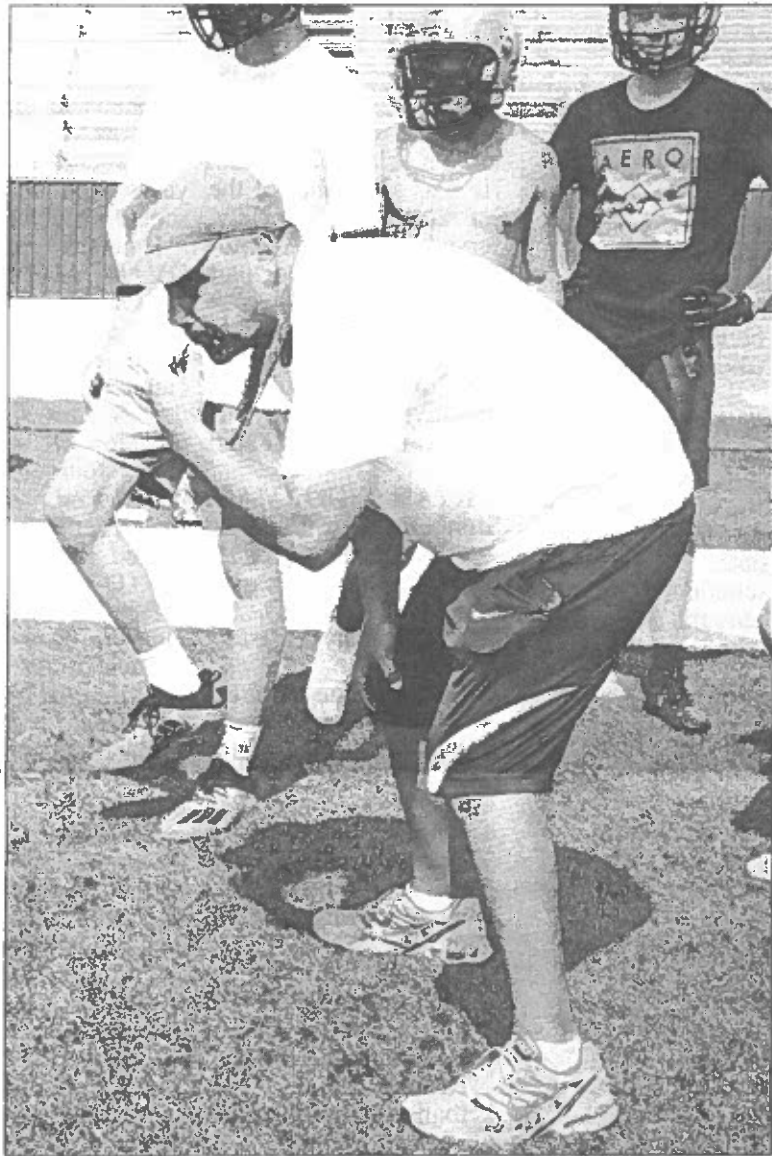


Photo by Joe Lovell

John Marshall head coach Justin Kropka puts his team through a drill Tuesday morning at Monarch Stadium. Kropka is preparing for his first season as the JM head coach. He has spent the last three seasons at Wheeling University and prior to that he was the head coach at Harrison Central.

means at the high school level. Kropka, who is a Martins Ferry product and spent several years working under Dave Bruney, called coaching at the college level a daily coaches clinic because of the amount of knowledge he soaked in.

However, the relationships between coaches and players are significantly different at that lev-

el because the players are adults. "The relationship between a high school football player and his coach is something special and it's something you can't find everywhere," Kropka said. "I am not sure there's that type of player-coach relationship at any other level of football."

Please see KROPKA, Page 10

## Central Hoops Camp To Tip Off Thursday

By CODY TOMER  
Sports Writer

**WHEELING** — Kids of all ages with dreams of being the next Chase Harler will be attending the Wheeling Central Maroon Knights Basketball Camp this weekend.

The camp runs Thursday, Friday and Saturday for boys grades PK4-eighth grade (as of the school year 2021-22).

Thursday and Friday, the camp will be located at the YMCA before moving to the Wheeling Central Gymnasium on Saturday.

Doors open all three days at 8 a.m. and the action begins at 8:30 a.m. and runs until 12:30 p.m.

"It's definitely cool for the kids," Wheeling Central boys' assistant coach Tyler Morando said. "They'll get to come to the gym and see the banners hanging up in there and they'll get to play

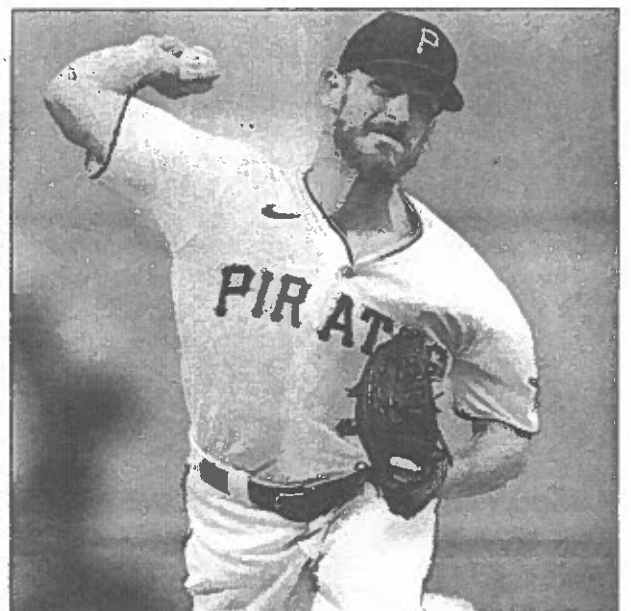
where Chase played."

Morando and the rest of the coaching staff will join head coach Mel Stephens in teaching the youth of Wheeling the fundamentals of the game.

"We're just trying to get as many kids as we can to teach them the game," Morando said. "The way we teach it is to get kids active and introduce them to Wheeling Central."

Registration before June 28 was \$75 and \$85 after and at the door and will be well worth the price of admission.

"Anytime you can get kids active, especially with all the iPhones and iPads, it's refreshing," Morando said. "It's refreshing for them and the parents to put them into new experiences because they will remember years from now how fun basketball camp was."



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Chad Kuhl delivers during the second inning of the team's game against the Atlanta Braves in Pittsburgh, Tuesday.

## Reynolds' Walk Lifts Pirates, 2-1

By JOHN PERROTTO  
Associated Press

**PITTSBURGH** — Bryan Reynolds drew a four-pitch walk from a

four of five before losing twice to the Pirates.

Hayes hit a pair of doubles for the Pirates. Frazier and Wilmer Difo also

## Kerber Is Into Semis





they could make this ending different than the other two.

Deandre Ayton added 22 points and 19 rebounds to continue his breakout stretch of play in his first postseason.

Antetokounmpo had 20 points and 17 rebounds after missing two games with a hyperextended left knee. Khris Middleton scored 29 points, but the

ways since his arrival.

Now 36 and a 10-time All-NBA selection, he is on the list of best players to never win a championship. It appeared he might never even get to play for one until Oklahoma City dealt him to a team of Suns on the rise, and he might be the final piece that takes them all the way to the top.

points later in the period, hitting a 3-pointer, dancing around Bobby Portis for a layup and then hitting another 3. He then fired a pass to Ayton, who was fouled and made both free throws to make it 88-68 with 2:20 left.

The Bucks cut it down to seven near the midpoint of the fourth before Paul helped the Suns restore a safe margin.



AP Photo  
Phoenix center Deandre Ayton (22) dunks against Milwaukee center Brook Lopez (11) during Game 1 of the NBA Finals, Tuesday.

## KERBER

(Continued from Page 9)

first-time women's quarter-finalists. Only Kerber and Muchova boasted past experience.

The other semifinal Thursday will be No. 2 seed Aryna Sabalenka against No. 8 Karolina Pliskova, who both won in straight sets.

Sabalenka collected her tour-leading 34th match win of 2021 by eliminating No.

21 seed Ons Jabeur 6-4, 6-3 at Centre Court, and Pliskova eliminated unseeded Viktorija Golubic 6-2, 6-2 at No. 1 Court.

Pliskova — the 2016 U.S. Open runner-up to Kerber and, like her, formerly ranked No. 1 — claimed 24 of 26 points on her serve in one stretch, hit eight aces and saved the only three break chances she faced.

"I feel like I'm improving with every match. ... Everything today was working quite well," Pliskova said. "I just feel my game is good the last two weeks, even in the practices." She averaged 106.5 mph on her first serves, 20.5 mph faster than Golubic.

Pliskova has been broken only three times through five matches so far and has not

dropped a set.

She also hasn't played anyone ranked better than 47th yet. Now she'll face more of a test.

Jabeur's game is full of novelty and nuance, with drop shots and all manner of angles and spin.

Sabalenka? She is all about power and big cuts at the ball, and even with that constantly aggressive style, she managed

to accumulate more winners, 27, than unforced errors, 20.

"I'm happy that, from the side, it looks like everything is working for me. Sometimes it's really tricky, shots on the grass. Sometimes it's tough to do anything with the ball," said Sabalenka, a 23-year-old from Belarus who hadn't been past the fourth round at any major previously.

## KROPKA

(Continued from Page 9)

Kropka has a large roster of players to formulate relationships with. The Monarchs had more than 60 players on the roster, but that includes "an enormous" freshman class.

John Marshall is coming off a 5-4 season that — like all other schools — was plagued by COVID-19.

The transition process was also slowed by that because off-season weight lifting couldn't begin until February.

On top of the transition with the players, Kropka is basically working with an entirely new coaching staff. The only assistant he has spent time coaching with is former Martins Ferry and Wheeling University assistant Dirk Fitch.

"We're actually looking at this sea-

son as year zero more than year one," Kropka said. "We want to get the foundation in place and from what I've seen so far from the work ethic of these kids, we've got a place to start. I know there are better coaches than me as far as coaching a team, but I like to consider myself as one of the better (coaches) at building a program. And that's kind of where my focus has been."

The Monarchs open the season on Aug. 27 at University. Other than Weir and Oak Glen and scrimmaging Wheeling Park, Kropka has no prior coaching experience against anyone on the Monarchs' slate.

"Some of the (schools), I am still trying to Google them and find where they are," Kropka joked.

## OVAC

(Continued from Page 9)

On top of his athletic exploits, Dozier shined in the classroom, too. He was a member of the National Honor Society, served on the OVAC Student Board and was part of the Beta Club.

Garrett, who plans to attend Rosedale Technical College to study automotive technology, is the son of Dave and Nici Dozier.

**RYAN GORMAN, Steubenville Catholic** — This former Crusader put forth an impressive couple of seasons for Coach Anthony Agresta's squad.

Gorman rushed for 477 yards and 7 touchdowns and threw for 934 yards and six touchdowns last season. As a junior, he passed for 721 yards in basically half a season because he went down with injury in game six.

Gorman was named second-team All-Eastern District, All-OVAC and All-Jefferson County.

Also a standout in basketball, Gorman earned all-Eastern District and all-OVAC honorable mentions. He was also a three-year mainstay in baseball.

Ryan, who is the son of Ted Gorman and Michelle Gorman, plans to attend Baldwin-Wallace.

**AYDEN HANNAHS, Barnesville** — This former Shamrock was an impact contributor on both sides of the ball throughout his career for Coach Blake Allen's team.

The 5-10, 175 pounder finished his career with 2,545 yards and 24

touchdowns. He rushed for 300 yards and seven scores and caught 308 yards worth of passes and scored a touchdown.

HannaHS earned All-OVAC, All-District and All-Ohio Honorable Mention multiple times.

On top of football, HannaHS helped lead the Shamrocks to the Division III state baseball tournament this past spring. He earned First-Team All-Ohio and played in the State and OVAC All-Star Games.

He was also a letterman in both basketball and wrestling.

Ayden, who is the son of Lance and Ashley HannaHS, plans to attend Muskingum and play baseball.

**BRIAR PORTMAN, Shenandoah** — This former Zep wore a lot of has quite well for head coach Jesse Wells' squad.

The 6-0, 190 pounder rushed for 725 yards and 9 touchdowns as a senior. He caught 14 passes for 217 yards and three more scores. He also handled the punting and punt return duties. Defensively, from a linebacker post, he secured 40 tackles, 12 for loss, forced five fumbles and recovered two and scored a defensive touchdown.

Portman was named First-Team All-Eastern District, All-OVAC and was his team's offensive player of the year. As a junior, Portman rushed for 981 yards and had 241 yards receiving. He scored 21 total offensive touchdowns and was named First-Team All-Ohio.

## REYNOLDS

(Continued from Page 9)

Anderson remained at 5-4 and has one in his last nine starts.

Reynolds' third-inning sacrifice fly followed Hayes' first double and Arcia homered into the left-field bleachers in the fifth. The former Milwaukee shortstop is 4 for 11 in three games since being recalled from Triple-A Gwinnett.

Minter escaped a bases-loaded jam in the eighth by getting Jared Oliva to hit a tapper in front of home plate.

Nogowski hit a deep fly ball down the left-field line that was ruled foul, and the call was upheld by a video review.

### SANDOVAL AWAY FROM TEAM

Braves infielder Pablo Sandoval was placed on the restricted list and will likely be away from the team for up to three days. Right-hander Jacob Webb was recalled from Gwinnett. Manager Brian Snitker said Sandoval was attending to a personal matter.

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Pirates: RF Gregory Polanco (bilateral right adductor strain) was placed on the 10-day injured list and INF/

Cole Tucker from Triple-A Indianapolis and Castro from Altoona.

### UP NEXT

The three-game series wraps up Wednesday with Braves LHP Drew Smyly (6-3, 4.42 ERA) matching up with rookie RHP Wil Crowe (1-5, 6.26). Smyly has won four straight starts with a 1.21 ERA and hasn't lost since May 26. Crowe is 1-2 with a 4.66 ERA in four starts since being recalled from Indianapolis on June 12.

### ORIOLES 7, BLUE JAYS 5

**BALTIMORE (AP)** — Pedro Severino and Cedric Mullins homered off Steven Matz, Anthony Santander also went deep and Baltimore beat Toronto.

Toronto hit three home runs, too, including No. 28 by Vladimir Guerrero Jr., but all those long balls came after Baltimore had taken a 7-1 lead.

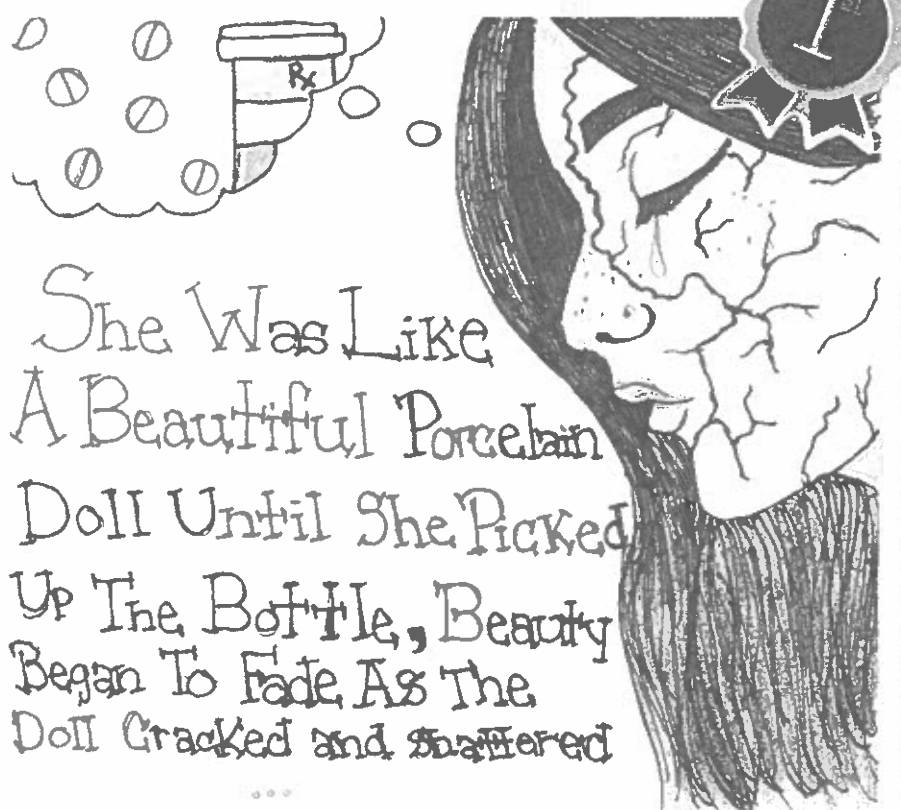
Matz (7-4) allowed six hits and four runs — three earned — and struck out four in four innings.

Making his first major league start, Orioles right-hander Spencer Watkins (1-0) allowed one run and three hits



## Office of the West Virginia Attorney General

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# SPORTS

Tuesday,  
July 6, 2021

## W. Va. sets backfield candidates for OVAC Game

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

West Virginia head coach B.J. Depew is quite excited about his backfield candidates for the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game, which is scheduled for July 24 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

And who can blame him? Depew has announced the options for quarterback and running back and there are plenty of game changers in the mix.

"The guys we plan to use at quarterback and running back are like a dream for Coach (Chris) Kiedaisch and our offensive staff because we want to spread the field and take advantage of our athletes in space. We see our running backs as special athletes who can run and catch the ball.

"And we plan to use both quarterbacks," Depew continued. "We're familiar with both kids, at quarterback, and I believe both have a chance to really shine in this game."

The quarterback candidates are Linsly's Hunter Kelley and Wheeling Park's Beau Heller, while the running back candidates are University's Eliki Barner, John Marshall's Alex Burton, Wheeling Park's Stevie Mitchell and Wheeling Central's Jordan Waterhouse.

Here's a capsule look at the players: **ELIKI BARNER**, University – This standout ball carrier was one of the go-to-guys for Coach John Kelley's team.

Barner earned All-OVAC as a senior as well as All-TRAC.

Eliki, who is the son of Sylvester and Monica Barner, is undecided about his future plans.

**ALEX BURTON**, John Marshall – This former Monarch was a steady option for Coach Jason Willis' team the last few years.

The 5-11, 143 pounder carried the ball 113 times for 887 yards and scored 9 touchdowns. He also caught 3 passes for 63 yards and scored once.

Alex is the son of Robert and Denise See, **OVAC**, Page B2



**BARTON'S ISAAC** Rine somehow avoids the tag of Maynard catcher B.A. Holloway during the fifth inning of Monday night's Ohio Valley Baseball League game on Firemen's Field inside the Maynard Community Park. Barton won, 5-1. The two teams meet again tonight in Crescent.

## CBJ goalie dies in freak fireworks accident

NOVI, MICH. (AP) -- Columbus Blue Jackets goaltender Matiss Kivlenieks died of chest trauma from an errant fireworks mortar blast in what authorities described Monday as a tragic accident on the Fourth of July.

Police in Novi, Michigan, said the firework tilted slightly and started to fire toward people nearby Sunday night. The 24-year-old Kivlenieks was in a hot tub and tried to get clear with several other people, police Lt. Jason Meier said. Authorities earlier said the Latvian had died of an apparent head injury during a fall, but an autopsy clarified the cause of death.

The fire department and EMTs got to the private home shortly after 10 p.m. and took Kivlenieks to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead, Meier said. The Oakland County Medical Examiner's office reported preliminary autopsy results Monday afternoon.

Prior to the autopsy, police said Kivlenieks was believed to have slipped and hit his head on concrete while running from a malfunctioning firework.

"At the moment, we're pretty certain this was a tragic accident," Meier said.

Columbus general manager Jarmo Kekalainen tweeted: "Life is so precious and can be so fragile. Hug your loved ones today. RIP Matiss, you will be dearly missed." Blue Jackets president of hockey operations John Davidson called it a "devastating time" for the team.

"Kivi was an outstanding young man who greeted every day and everyone with a smile and the impact he had during his four years with our organiza-

See, **CBJ**, Page B2

## Taylor pitches Barton past Maynard

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

MAYNARD -- Ben Taylor pitched seven strong innings and Barton made quick work of homestanding Maynard Monday night in Ohio Valley Baseball League action.

The Braves (7-6) scored two runs in each of the second and fifth innings, a solo tally in the third and Taylor only needed 1-hour, 26-minutes in a 5-1 victory on the sun-baked Firemen's Field diamond inside the Community

Park.

With the victory, the defending champions kept their hopes alive of not finishing fourth and having to compete in the play-in game against No. 5 Shadyside just to reach the playoffs.

Maynard will make the short trek down the creek tonight to complete the home-and-home series on Henning Field inside Pramesa Park. The first pitch is set for 6.

The Indians (10-6), meanwhile, lost ground on front-running Moundsville

(13-4), which rolled past the winless Casketmakers, 14-1, Monday night.

"We are starting to hit our stride and it is coming at the right time," veteran Barton manager Billy Timko said. "All of our guys know their roles and everyone is contributing."

He was spot-on with the last comment as seven of the nine Braves recorded a base hit -- all singles -- as Colton Coss drove in two with his. Bailey McGrath and Drake Dobson also had run-producing base knocks.

See, **BARTON**, Page B2

## Pirates unload on Braves

PITTSBURGH (AP) -- Ben Gamel homered twice and drove in six runs to lead the Pittsburgh Pirates past the Atlanta Braves 11-1 on Monday night.

Gamel took Max Fried (5-5) over the fence in center field for a two-run home run in the fourth, doubled home Bryan Reynolds in the sixth and added a three-run shot in the seventh as the Pirates won their second straight following a six-game losing streak.

A day after driving in the winning run as a pinch-hitter in a 10-inning victory over Miami, Fried came back down to earth with his worst start since April. The Pirates touched the left-hander for six runs in five-plus

innings as Atlanta missed a chance to get back to .500 for the first time since June 8.

Chase De Jong (1-3) survived a 36-pitch first inning to pick up the second victory of his five-year major-league career. De Jong struck out four and walked three to notch his first win since beating the Chicago White Sox on Sept. 28, 2018, while playing for Minnesota.

Having an offense that has struggled mightily in recent weeks helped. Pittsburgh's 11-run outburst was one more than they scored all of last week while going 1-6.

Gamel has been one of the few

See, **PIRATES**, Page B2



**PITTSBURGH PIRATES' Ben Gamel (18)** celebrates with teammate John Nogowski (69) as he crosses home plate in front of Atlanta Braves catcher William Contreras after hitting a two-run home run off starting pitcher Max Fried during the fourth inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Monday.

AP PHOTO

NBA Finals set

Indians fall to

over a draw-in inning.

Tampa Bay cut the deficit to 8-7 on Margot's RBI single in the sixth and Diaz's seventh-inning homer.

Rays starter Rich Hill allowed one run and three

stop.

**WEATHER DELAY**  
There will be an unexpected day off for the teams on Tuesday because the scheduled night game was postponed due to the projected track of

on this, who landed foul on curveballs between 69 and 73 mph.

**TRAINER'S ROOM**  
Indians: RHP Zach Plesac (broken right thumb) will start Thursday night against Kansas City. ...

ja (-) is scheduled to start Game 1 Wednesday, with LHP Sam Hentges (1-3) following in Game 2.

Rays: Have not announced Wednesday's starters.

reached on a fielder's choice, circled the bases with the second tally.

The Braves played small ball in the third to increase their margin to 3-0. Left-handed Jacob Probst looped a leadoff single down the left field line and went to second on a sacrifice bunt by Isaac Rine. A Coss groundout to the right side move Probst to third and McGrath ripped a single back up the middle to score Probst.

Maynard got on the board in the fourth when B.A. Holloway laced a single to center to plate Tyler Ramsey. However, for the second time in the game, a Maynard baserunner got hung up between second and third before being tagged out. It also happened in the first.

"We've got some speed on the team but sometimes we're just being too aggressive on the bases," Vickers said.

Barton bunched three of its hits in the fifth to cap the scoring. Matt Fouty bunted for a leadoff single and was sacrificed to second by Probst. Rine singled through the right side as Fouty stopped at third. After Rine went to second without a throw, Coss, who had been in a long slump, also found the hole between first and second as Fouty scored easily and Rine somehow eluded the tag of a diving Holloway for the final run.

All told, Maynard had two runners erased in run-downs; one doubled off second on an inning-ending line drive that was snagged by Fouty; and another thrown out stealing.

Moundsville 14, Shadyside 1  
**AT GLEN DALE**, Matt Carnahan hit two home runs and singled to drive in six runs for the Expos.

Moundsville banged out 13 hits, with John Santimarinio also recording three singles. Eric Cover doubled twice and knocked in two runs. Tim Mirandy also had a pair of ribbies.

Greyson Lowecey went six innings for the win, striking out six, not walking a batter and giving up three hits.

## • Pirates

Continued from Page B1

bright spots in the lineup since being claimed off waivers from Cleveland in May. The well-traveled 29-year-old is hitting .312 (29 for 93) in his last 27 starts.

Ke'Bryan Hayes hit his first home run in nearly a month for Pittsburgh as the Pirates tied their season-high in runs.

Ronald Acuna and Freddie Freeman had two hits apiece for Atlanta. The rest of the Braves managed just two hits against De Jong and four relievers.

Atlanta appeared ready to chase De Jong early. Acuna singled leading off the game and raced home when Freeman followed with a double to right that Phil Evans bobbled after chasing down. A walk and a hit batter eventually loaded the bases, but De Jong survived further damage when Orlando Arcia lined out to shortstop.

De Jong settled down and Pittsburgh's offense picked up the slack. Gamel's blast in the fourth put the Pirates in front and by the

time his second home run of the night cleared the fence in center field in the seventh, Pittsburgh was on its way to its most lopsided victory of the season.

**NOGOWSKI ARRIVES**  
John Nogowski went 2 of 4 in his first start at first base after being acquired from St. Louis for cash considerations on Saturday. The 28-year-old Nogowski is hoping to kick start his career after hitting just 2 for 22 (.091) in 20 games with the Cardinals.

## • NBA

Continued from Page B1

"Without him, we have to do it by committee." Bucks guard Khris Middleton said.

It's a whole new setting for the 36-year-old Paul, who acknowledged one of the differences. Home teams usually practice at their training facility, but the workout on the eve of the NBA Finals is in the arena.

"It's still basketball," the point guard said. "I think we're all locked in to the goal at hand."

Milwaukee won a championship in 1971, so long ago that Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was still known as Lew Alcindor when he and Oscar Robertson were perhaps the top tandem in the league. The Bucks had drafted Alcindor with the No. 1 pick in 1969 after winning a coin flip against the Suns.

The Bucks got back in 1974 but haven't been seen in the finals since.

They have been closing in over the last few years. Milwaukee had the best record in the NBA in both 2018-19 and 2019-20 and was two games away from the NBA Finals in that first season. They came back better after acquiring guard Jrue Holiday before this season.

"To get these four wins is going

to be difficult but really excited for it," Holiday said.

The Suns had been going nowhere, not even making the playoffs since 2010. They were 19-63 just two seasons ago, tying for the second-worst record in the league.

But an undefeated run in their eight restart games in the Walt Disney World bubble last summer sent them into this season with momentum, and they entered it with a new leader when they acquired Paul from Oklahoma City.

Besides Paul's All-Star play, the Suns needed the right veteran to bring out the best in young stars Devin Booker and Ayton. Phoenix finished with the second-best record in the league, knocked out the defending champion Lakers in the first round, swept MVP Nikola Jokic's Denver Nuggets and then shook off the absence of Paul for two games to beat the Clippers in the Western Conference finals.

Paul was out for coronavirus health and safety protocols, which every team had to work around this season. Numerous stars also dealt with injuries and the Bucks are hoping Antetokounmpo can overcome his.

The two-time MVP missed

Games 5 and 6 of the East finals after hyperextending his left knee when he leaped to defend a lob in Game 4, but Middleton and Holiday led the Bucks past Atlanta in both games.

"I think guys have done a great job of adjusting with him out, with him not out there in two of the most important games of our season," Middleton said.

Some things to know about the series:

**GIANNIS UPDATE**  
Budenzler didn't give many details on Antetokounmpo, beyond saying he was getting better.

"He did court work, so he's making progress and we're pleased he's making progress," Budenzler said.

**SEASON SERIES**  
The Suns won a pair of games that were as close as can be. Their 125-124 home victory on Feb. 10 came when Antetokounmpo scored a season-high 47 points but missed a jumper at the buzzer, and they pulled out a 128-127 victory in Milwaukee on April 19 when Booker knocked down a free throw with 0.3 seconds remaining in overtime.

## • CBJ

Continued from Page B1

tion will not be forgotten," he said.

Kivlenieks' death came on the eve of Game 4 of the Stanley Cup Final in Montreal, where the Tampa Bay Lightning had a chance to clinch the championship against the

Canadiens on Monday night. Bell Centre held a moment of silence for Kivlenieks prior to the national anthems.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said Kivlenieks' "love for life and passion for the game will be deeply missed by all those who have been fortunate to have him as a teammate and a friend."

The Latvian Hockey Federation called Kivlenieks' death "a great loss not only for Latvian hockey but for the entire Latvian nation."

Kivlenieks most recently represented Latvia this spring at the world hockey championship in which he played four games. He played two games for the Blue Jackets and eight for the American Hockey League's Cleveland Monsters this past season.

A native of Riga, Latvia, Kivlenieks signed with the Blue Jackets as a free agent in May 2017 and played eight games for the club overall. He was seen as a possible

No. 2 goaltender next season if Joonas Korpisalo or Elvis Merzlikins is traded.

Kivlenieks was at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington last Tuesday as a guest of IndyCar driver Alexander Rossi.

Rossi announced that day he was going to race the Baja 1000 in Mexico in November, and Kivlenieks took a ride around Mid-Ohio in a Honda Ridgeline to help promote both Rossi and Sunday's IndyCar race.

"This hits hard," Rossi tweeted. "Prayers to the family and the team."

How the events of Sunday night unfolded came into focus Monday as Meier said the autopsy findings prompted officers to re-interview some witnesses. He said police will continue trying to interview as many people as they can who were present at the time.

"We're starting to put together a pretty good picture of what occurred," he said.

Meier said police who

responded to the emergency calls said there was a "large gathering" at the home but he didn't have an estimate of how many people were there or how many people police want to speak with.

Meier would not provide the address of the property in Novi, a northern suburb of Detroit. A police report hasn't yet been completed.

"What a tragic loss for all of us who knew him and I am thinking and praying for his family," former Blue Jackets captain Nick Foligno tweeted. "Heaven gained a darn good goalie and better person... Just, way too soon."


Former Columbus defenseman David Savard learned of the accident from Foligno.

"That was a brutal wakeup this morning," Savard said in French. "That was a good kid with a lot of talent who was going to be a part of the team next year or in the future. That's extremely sad."

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Applications for next school year are available on our website

# W.Va. Names RBs and QBs for OVAC ASG

By **SETH STASKEY**  
For The Intelligencer

West Virginia head coach B.J. Depew is quite excited about his backfield candidates for the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game, which is scheduled for July 24 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

And who can blame him?

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"And we plan to use both quarterbacks," Depew continued. "We're familiar with both kids, at quarterback, and I believe both have a chance to really shine in this game."

The quarterback candidates are Linsly's Hunter Kelley and Wheeling Park's Beau Heller, while the running back candidates are University's Eliki Barner, John Marshall's Alex Burton, Wheeling Park's Stevie Mitchell and Wheeling Central's Jordan Waterhouse.

Here's a capsule look at the players:



**ALEX BURTON, John Marshall** – This former Monarch was a steady option for Coach Jason Willis' team the last few years.

The 5-11, 143 pounder carried the ball 113 times for 887 yards and scored 9 touchdowns. He also caught 3 passes for 63 yards and scored once.

Alex is the son of Robert and Denise Burton of Moundsville.

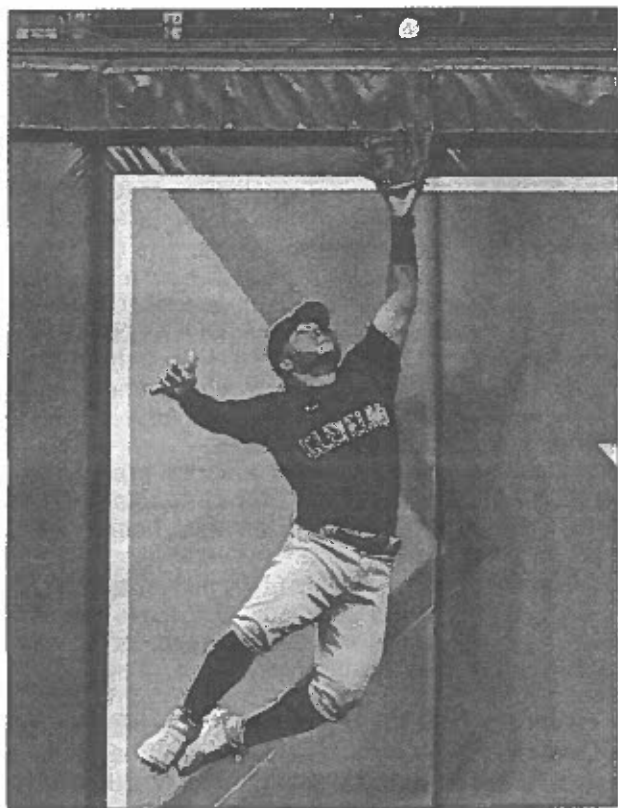
**BEAU HELLER, Wheeling Park** – This former Patriot had a brilliant 2020 season directing the offense for Coach Chris Daugherty's team.

The 5-11, 180 pounder completed an astonishing 125-of-170 passes for 1,684 yards and 23 touchdowns. He also logged three rushing touchdowns. Heller's 73.5 competition percentage was a school record. He also set the school mark for touchdown passes in a single game at five and touchdowns accounted for in a single game at six.

Heller's fine season didn't go unnoticed. He was named First-Team All-OVAC, All-Valley and All-TRAC. He was an Honorable Mention All-State selection as well as a finalist for the Big 22 award.

On top of football, Heller was a mainstay for the Park basketball team and took part in the OVAC All-Star Game. He also volunteers with Special Olympics.

Please see OVAC, Page 10



AP Photo

Cleveland Indians right fielder Harold Ramirez makes leaping catch at the wall on a fly ball hit by Tampa Bay Rays' Randy Arozarena during the fourth inning of Monday's game.

## Indians Falter In Ninth Inning

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Brandon Lowe hit his first career grand slam in the second inning, and the Tampa Bay Rays rallied with two runs in the ninth to beat the Cleveland Indians 9-8 on Monday night.

Manuel Margot departed after appearing to hurt his leg when he led off the ninth with a single off Emmanuel Clase (3-4), his fourth hit of the game. Randy Arozarena singled to move pinch-runner Brett Phillips to second. After Wander Franco tied it with an RBI single, Austin Meadows was intentionally walked before Phillips easily scored from third on Yandy Diaz's grounder to second.

Pete Fairbanks (2-3) worked a scoreless ninth. Franmil Reyes homered and drove in five

runs for the Indians, who have lost seven straight.

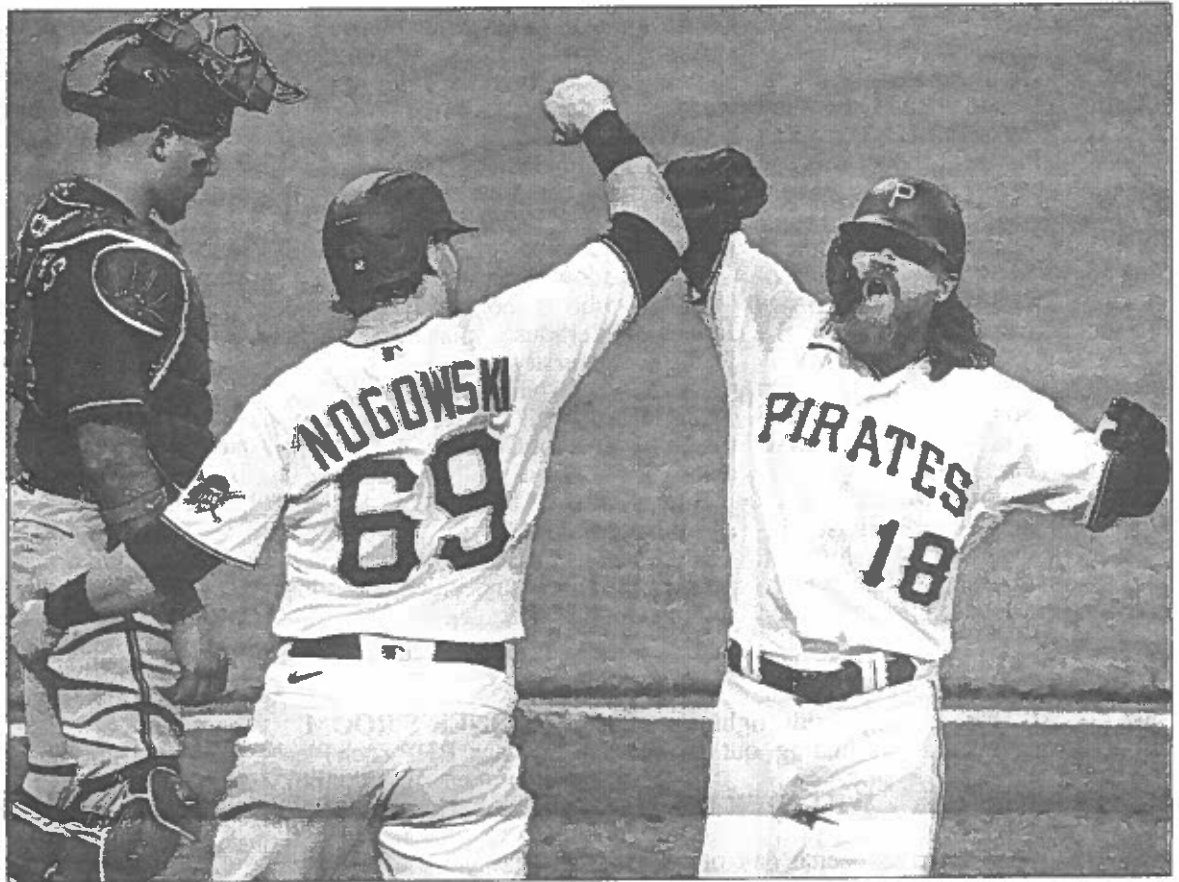
Reyes, who returned Friday after being out since May 23 with a left oblique strain, hit a two-run homer during a four-run fifth against Drew Rasmussen that tied it at 5. He had a two-run double in a three-run sixth as the Indians went ahead 8-5.

Indians All-Star third baseman Jose Ramirez was back in the starting lineup after missing three games with a sore left elbow and went 2 for 4, including a fifth-inning RBI single. He was hit by a pitch and stole two bases.

Lowe's second-inning slam off lefty Logan Allen put the Rays up 4-0 in the second.

Please see NINTH, Page 10

## Gamel Propels Pirates Past Braves, 11-1



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Pirates' Ben Gamel (18) celebrates with teammate John Nogowski (69) as he crosses home plate in front of Atlanta Braves catcher William Contreras after hitting a two-run home run off starting pitcher Max Fried during the fourth inning of Monday's game in Pittsburgh.

### Left fielder belts two homers and drives in six runs

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Ben Gamel homered twice and drove in six runs to lead the Pittsburgh Pirates past the Atlanta Braves 11-1 on Monday night.

Gamel took Max Fried (5-5) over the fence in center field for a two-run home run in the fourth, doubled home Bryan Reynolds in the sixth and added a three-run shot in the seventh as the Pirates won their second straight following a six-game losing streak.

A day after driving in the winning run as a pinch-hitter in a 10-inning victory over Miami, Fried came back down to earth with his worst start since April. The Pirates touched the left-hander for six runs in five-plus innings as Atlanta missed

a chance to get back to .500 for the first time since June 8.

Chase De Jong (1-3) survived a 36-pitch first inning to pick up the second victory of his five-year major-league career. De Jong struck out four and walked three to notch his first win since beating the Chicago White Sox on Sept. 28, 2018, while playing for Minnesota.

Having an offense that has struggled mightily in recent weeks helped.

Pittsburgh's 11-run outburst was one more than they scored all of last week while going 1-6.

Gamel has been one of the few bright spots in the lineup since being claimed off waivers from Cleveland in May. The

well-traveled 29-year-old is hitting .312 (29 for 93) in his last 27 starts.

Ke'Bryan Hayes hit his first home run in nearly a month for Pittsburgh as the Pirates tied their season-high in runs.

Ronald Acuna and Freddie Freeman had two hits apiece for Atlanta.

The rest of the Braves managed just two hits against De Jong and four relievers.

Atlanta appeared ready to chase De Jong early. Acuna singled leading off the game and raced home when Freeman followed with a double to right that Phil Evans bobbled after chasing down.

Please see PIRATES, Page 10

## Federer, Djokovic



## Blue Jackets Goalie Dies After Fireworks Accident

# Canadiens Edge Lightning in OT to Avoid Sweep

## Anderson nets game-winner

MONTREAL (AP) — Josh Anderson jumped back into the play, and the Montreal Canadiens killed Tampa Bay's chance for a Stanley Cup sweep.

Anderson scored his second goal 3:57 into overtime, and the Canadiens avoided elimination by defeating the defending champion Lightning 3-2 in Game 4 on Monday night.

Carey Price stopped 32 shots for Montreal, and rookie defenseman Alexander Romanov also scored.

The series shifts to Tampa Bay for Game 5 on Wednesday.

Interim coach Dominique Ducharme's lineup changes paid off as Romanov stepped

up in just his third career playoff game. Anderson was shifted to a new line, playing alongside Nick Suzuki and rookie Cole Caufield in Ducharme's bid to add more speed.

It wasn't lost on Canadiens assistant captain Brendan Gallagher how Anderson provided his teammates with a rallying cry a day earlier when he said: "We're not finished yet."

"We understood the hole that we were in, but we just kind of talked about it: Find a way to win one game here," Gallagher said. "(Anderson) stepped up and scored a couple of big goals for us. It's going to be the same thing next game."

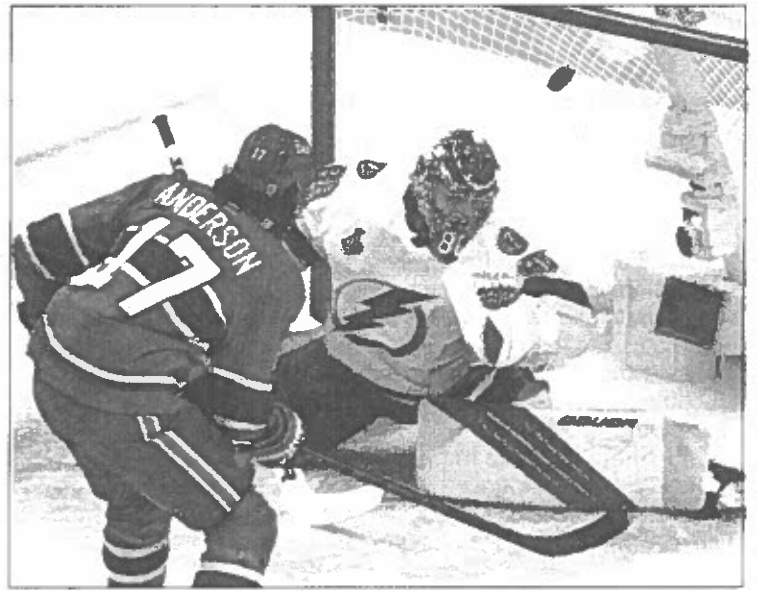
Montreal became the first team to score in OT to avoid a sweep in the Stanley Cup Final since the Bruins did it in 1946 against the Canadiens, according to STATS.

Pat Maroon and Barclay Goodrow scored for the Lightning, who are attempting to become the NHL's second team to win consecutive championships in the salary-cap era, which began in 2005. The Pittsburgh Penguins accomplished the feat with titles in 2016 and 2017.

Anderson got his second career playoff overtime goal after he forced a turnover at the blue line and outraced Jan Rutta and Yann Gourde to a loose puck along the left boards. He then directed the puck toward the net, where Caufield got a piece of it but pushed it wide.

Anderson jumped back in front and knocked the puck past Andrei Vasilevskiy inside the left post.

Montreal was outscored 14-5 in the first three games, including a sloppy 6-3 loss in Game 3 on Friday.



AP Photo

Montreal Canadiens right wing Josh Anderson (17) scores past Tampa Bay Lightning goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy (88) during the first period of Game 4 of the Stanley Cup final in Montreal, Monday.

## OVAC

(Continued from Page 9)

Beau, who plans to attend West Liberty and continue his football career, is the son of Kevin and Kathleen Heller.

**HUNTER KELLEY, Linsly** — This former Cadet had an impressive career orchestrating Depew's offense.

Kelley finished 209-of-367 for 2,954 yards and 26 touchdowns through the air. He also rushed 132 times for 1,036 yards and 11 more touchdowns.

Kelley was twice named All-OVAC and listed among the Big 22 finalists.

Hunter, who is the son of Craig and Geni Kelley, plans to attend Otterbein.

**STEVIE MITCHELL, Wheeling Park** — This Patriots product was one of several home-run hitters at Daugherty's disposal last season.

The 5-7, 170 pounder logged time at running back and as a slot back. He finished with 1,255 yards on 163 carries and 15 touchdowns. He also caught 18 passes for 134 yards and scored once.

Mitchell was a two-time, second-team All-State selection. He was also listed as All-OVAC and was named TRAC Player of the Year.

Along with football, Mitchell was a standout wrestler for the Patriots, winning the 2021 state championship.

Stevie, who is the son of Steve Mitchell and Christie Hyde, plans to attend

Wheeling University.

**JORDAN WATERHOUSE, Wheeling Central** — This former Maroon Knight was a key contributor for many seasons for Coach Mike Young's squad.

The 6-1, 190 pounder was the primary ball carrier as a senior. He rushed 130 times for 1,005 yards and 13 touchdowns en route to earning First Team All-State. He was also an All-OVAC and All-Valley selection.

Away from athletics, Waterhouse shines just as brightly. He was a member of the National Honor Society, Wheeling Central honor roll and Spanish Honor Society. He's also active in the community, working with the canned food drive, as a member of Drug Free Club of America and he's a Central Shadow Program Ambassador.

Jordan, who is the son of John and Jessica Waterhouse, plans to attend Denison University.

**ELIKI BARNER, University** — This standout ball carrier was one of the go-to-guys for Coach John Kelley's team.

Barnar earned All-OVAC as a senior as well as All-TRAC.

Eliki, who is the son of Sylvester and Monica Barner, is undecided about his future plans.

## PIRATES

(Continued from Page 9)

A walk and a hit batter eventually loaded the bases, but De Jong survived further damage when Orlando Arcia lined out to shortstop.

De Jong settled down and Pittsburgh's offense picked up the slack. Gamel's blast in the fourth put the Pirates in front and by the time his second home run of the night cleared the fence in center field in the seventh, Pittsburgh was on its way to its most lopsided victory of the season.

### NOGOWSKI ARRIVES

John Nogowski went 2 of 4 in his first start at first base after being acquired from St. Louis for cash considerations on Saturday. The 28-year-old Nogowski is hoping to kick start his career after hitting just 2 for 22 (.091) in 20 games with the Cardinals. Pittsburgh is in need of serious help at first with Colin Moran and Erik Gonzalez both on the 10-day injured list.

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Pirates: LHP Steven Brault (left lat strain) is expected to make a rehab start in Florida at some point this week. Brault has been sidelined all season after being injured in mid-March.

### METS 4, BREWERS 2

NEW YORK (AP) — Pete Alonso broke a seventh-inning tie with a two-run double off All-Star Brandon Woodruff, and the New York Mets beat the Milwaukee Brewers in a matchup of National League division leaders.

Edwin Diaz pitched out of trouble in the ninth, retiring three straight batters with two on after giving up an RBI single to Tyrone Taylor.

Michael Conforto added an RBI single and Dominic Smith had a sacrifice fly for the Mets, who managed only one hit against an efficient Woodruff (7-4) through six innings.

Omar Narvaez homered for the Brewers, who won 11 straight before a 2-0 loss Sunday in Pittsburgh.

Seth Lugo (2-1) struck out two in a perfect seventh, and Diaz earned his 18th save in 19 opportunities.

Woodruff (7-4) allowed four hits, four earned runs, with six strikeouts and a walk in 6 1/3 innings.

### CARDINALS 5, GIANTS 3

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Kwang Hyun Kim pitched seven scoreless innings, Matt Carpenter hit a two-run triple in the seventh for the first runs of the game and St. Louis snapped San Francisco's three-game winning

streak.

Donovan Solano and Steven Duggar hit RBI singles in the ninth against Alex Reyes, but San Francisco's comeback bid fell short.

Giants starter Kevin Gausman (8-3) didn't allow a hit until Nolan Arenado's one-out single in the seventh that started a two-run rally in what had been a scoreless game.

Alex Dickerson slugged a pinch-hit homer that held up on replay review.

### MARLINS 5, DODGERS 4

MIAMI (AP) — Jorge Alfaró hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning, and Miami ended Los Angeles' nine-game winning streak.

Alfaró drove a slider from Dodgers reliever Victor Gonzalez (3-1) to center field for his third homer of the season.

David Hess (1-0) picked up the win in his Marlins' debut. Anthony Bender pitched a scoreless ninth for his first major league save.

The Marlins erased a 2-0 deficit with a three-run third on RBI singles by Garrett Cooper and Miguel Rojas.

Dodgers starter Walker Buehler allowed four runs on five hits and struck out six in five innings. The right-hander walked two and hit a batter.

### TWINS 8, WHITE SOX 5

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Rookie Bailey Ober pitched five scoreless innings for his first major league victory, Max Kepler homered twice and Minnesota held off Chicago.

Ober (1-1) hit the milestone in his seventh career start, with seven strikeouts and two hits and three walks allowed.

White Sox starter Dylan Cease (7-4) lasted 5 1/3 innings and allowed six hits and three walks.

Hansel Robles pitched a scoreless ninth for his eighth save.

### TIGERS 7, RANGERS 3

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Wily Peralta threw seven scoreless innings in his longest big league outing since 2016 and Detroit beat Texas.

Zack Short homered for the Tigers, who have won three in a row and five of six. Former Rangers outfielder Nomar Mazara twice drove in a run without a hit.

Peralta (2-1), back in the majors only three weeks, struck out six without a walk while throwing 61 of 91 pitches for strikes. He allowed only three hits in his fourth start for Detroit.

## NINTH

(Continued from Page 9)

Lowe is 10 for 87 right side tightness after (.115) off lefties this season grounding out to shortstop.

Cesar Hernandez gave Cleveland its first lead, 6-5, in the sixth when he flared a single to right over a drawn-in infield.

Tampa Bay cut the deficit to 8-7 on Margot's RBI single in the sixth and Diaz's seventh-inning homer.

Rays starter Rich Hill allowed one run and three hits in 3 2/3 innings. The lefty struck out five, walked one and hit two batters.

Allen gave up five runs and seven hits over 3 1/3 innings and had his ERA climb from 8.38 to 9.13.

Cleveland left fielder Eddie Rosario left in the second inning with

WEATHER DELAY

There will be an unexpected day off for the teams on Tuesday because the scheduled night game was postponed due to the projected track of Tropical Storm Elsa. It will made up as part of a doubleheader on Wednesday.

### QUOTABLE

"I'm guessing when he's about 50 he'll still be able to roll out of bed and flip that curveball. It might be a little slower but it will probably have the same break." — Indians manager Terry Francona on Hill, who fanned four on curveballs between 69 and 73 mph.

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Indians: RHP Zach Ple-sac (broken right thumb) will start Thursday night against Kansas City. ...

RHP Shane Bieber (right shoulder strain) could start a throwing program in around 10 days.

Rays: LHP Brendan McKay had discomfort in his surgically repaired left shoulder after his first start last week for the Rookie-level FCL Rays and is being examined.

### UP NEXT

Indians: RHP J.C. Mejia (1-3) is scheduled to start Game 1 Wednesday, with LHP Sam Hentges (1-3) following in Game 2.

Rays: Have not announced Wednesday's starters.

## GOALIE

(Continued from Page 9)

Columbus general manager Jarmo Kekalainen tweeted: "Life is so precious and can be so fragile. Hug your loved ones today. RIP Matiss, you will be dearly missed." Blue Jackets president of hockey operations John Davidson called it a "devastating time" for the team.

"Kivi was an outstanding young man who greeted every day and everyone with a smile and the impact he had during his four years with our organization will not be

a teammate and a friend."

The Latvian Hockey Federation called Kivlenieks' death "a great loss not only for Latvian hockey but for the entire Latvian nation."

Kivlenieks most recently represented Latvia this spring at the world hockey championship in which he played four games. He played two games for the Blue Jackets and eight for the American Hockey League's Cleveland Monsters this past season.

A native of Riga, Latvia, Kivi-

Ohio in a Honda Ridgeline to help promote both Rossi and Sunday's IndyCar race.

"This hits hard," Rossi tweeted. "Prayers to the family and the team."

How the events of Sunday night unfolded came into focus Monday as Meier said the autopsy findings prompted officers to re-interview some witnesses. He said police will continue trying to interview as many people as they can who were present at the time.

## WIN

(Continued from Page 9)

Even Federer himself didn't really know what he would be able to muster this fortnight.

"Well, I mean, I guess to some extent it's nice to see that the work I put in paid off, that I'm able to play at this level," said Federer, who only had played eight matches in 2021 before last week.

"I can actually wake up in the morning and feel all right. ... It's very rewarding and it's a good feeling," he said. "Now we'll see how much more I got left in the tank."

The raucous support he received created a more vibrant atmosphere than at other contests spread around the grounds, whether involving victories for

Scoreboard/D3  
Off the Tee/D4

## SPORTS

Sunday,  
May 30, 2021

## OVAC All-Star Football rosters named

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

The rosters are set and, barring something unforeseen, there will be an OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Charity Football Classic this summer.

After seeing the 2020 game canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual summer spectacle at Wheeling Island Stadium is scheduled to return on Saturday, July 24 with kickoff slated for 7:15 p.m.

Fort Frye's Eric Huck and Linsly's B.J. Depew will serve as the head coaches of Ohio and West Virginia, re-

spectively. Both coaches have finalized to spend a lot of time scrambling later this summer if a player opts out.

Both coaches had a little more flexibility in their selections this year because the number of roster spots increased to 37 from the usual 33.

According to game director Dirk Fitch, the move was made for increased flexibility with COVID-19 still a concern. On top of that, it could save coaches from having



“Expanding the roster is definitely a new wrinkle,” Depew said. “It’s nice for the kids who have lost so much over the last 15 months. It’s great that this game is back and that includes all aspects of the game. I am really happy for the Ohio Valley that everything is going to take

place.” On top of the idea of having extra bodies for COVID, Huck is excited be-

cause it creates more depth on the field as he hopes to utilize platoons as much as possible.

“Really, when you look at it, you have 16 players for each side of the ball, so the extra guys is nice for that depth,” Huck said. “I was excited to pick four more guys.”

Both coaches agreed that giving the extra four players, per state, the opportunity to participate was exciting in itself.

“There is a lot of good talent to pick from and it’s still tough to narrow it down,” Huck said. “It’s just a big relief  
See, **OVAC**, Page D2

## Shadyside's Gorby wins regional LJ

By T-L STAFF REPORTS

MASSILLON – The invitations have been finalized.

With the OHSAA State Track and Field Championship slated to open in less than a week, Barnesville, Buckeye Trail, Shadyside, Steubenville Catholic and Shenandoah are all making plans to attend.

The regional meet at Perry High School proved to be as challenging as ever and when the dust settled Friday night, seven athletes in nine events have earned automatic bids with a couple of others awaiting word if their mark is good enough for one of the two at-large bids in each event.

The Division III state meet opens Friday morning at Westerville North High School.

## GIRLS

Shadyside will be represented at the state meet once again.

Junior standout Paige Gorby qualified for her first state meet in the long jump. She did so in grand fashion, too.

Gorby leaped off the board to a personal-best mark of 16-10 during the qualifying round and it stood up en route to the regional title.

Gorby's mark was more than a foot-and-a-half better than she produced during the district meet en route to finishing second.

Barnesville's Anna Yater added to her state meet workload on Friday.

After claiming the gold medal in the shot put during Wednesday's competition, Yater pocketed the silver medal in



T-L File Photo/SETH STASKEY

**SHADYSIDE JUNIOR** Paige Gorby jumped to a Division III regional championship during Friday's meet at Massillon Perry. Gorby earned the right to compete in next weekend's OHSAA State Championship meet at Westerville North.

See, **TRACK**, Page D2

## Rain wipes out Rockies-Pirates

PITTSBURGH (AP) – Will Craig tried to find a little humor a day after his egregious fielding mistake brought the Pittsburgh Pirates rookie first baseman national notoriety.

“I guess I’m going to be on the blooper reels for the rest of my life,” Craig said Friday before the Pirates’ game with the Colorado Rockies was postponed because of rain.

The game will be made up as part of a split double-header Saturday with the first game starting at 12:05 p.m. and the second scheduled for 4:05 p.m. Both games will be seven innings under pandemic rules.

Craig is expected to be back in the lineup for the opener of the twin bill.

“He made a mistake and that’s it,” Pittsburgh manager Derek Shelton said. “You don’t option a guy (to the minor leagues) because of the fact he made a mistake. We make mistakes in all realms of life. It just happened to be something nobody’s ever seen before.”

Craig’s mental lapse in the Pirates’ 5-3 loss to the Chicago Cubs on Thursday was all over television and social media.

With Willson Contreras on second base and two outs in the third inning, the Cubs’ Javier Baez hit a routine grounder to third baseman Erik Gonzalez. His throw to Craig at first was a little up the line, pulling Craig off the bag.

All Craig had to do was tag Baez or touch first for the final out of the inning.

Baez stopped running halfway up the first base line to avoid Craig and backtracked toward home plate. Craig chased him.

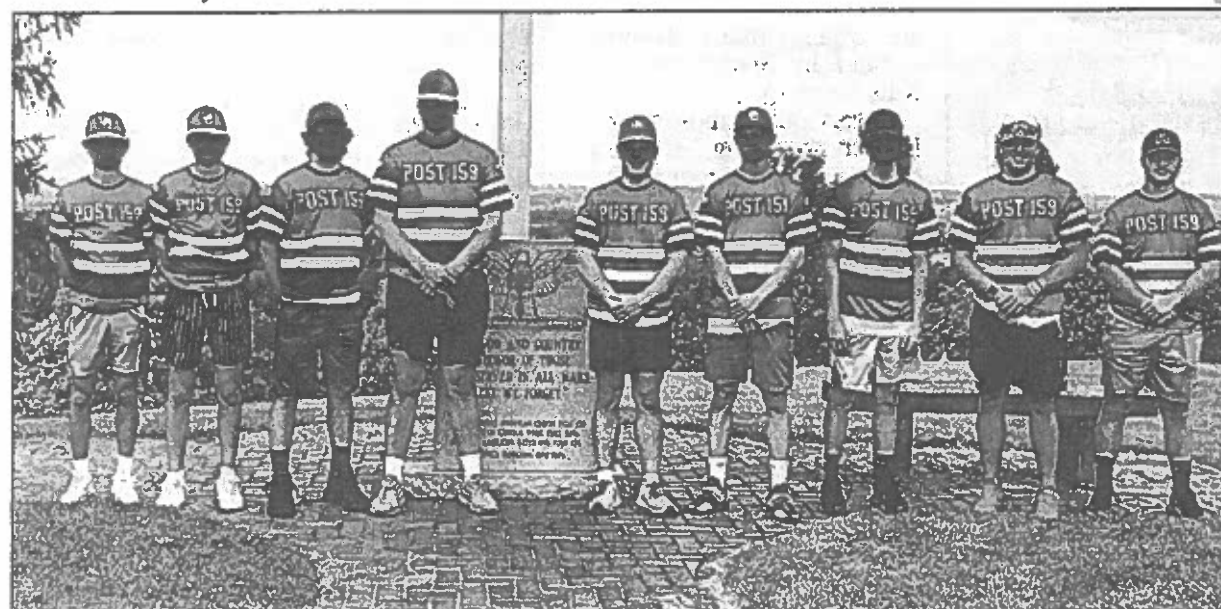
Meanwhile, Contreras rounded third and sprinted home. Craig attempted a flip to catcher Michael Perez, but Contreras slid under the tag while Baez took off for first. Perez’s throw to first sailed past second baseman Adam Frazier attempting to cover the bag, allowing Baez to race to second.

If the out was recorded at first base before Baez arrived, the run would not have counted.

Craig, who gained the reputation of being an outstanding fielder in the minor leagues, owned up to

See, **PIRATES**, Page D2

## Memorial Day Tribute



## Nailers have had quite the journey to 1K

By **CODY TOMER**  
For The Times Leader

WHEELING – Historic milestones aren’t just about one night, they encapsulate countless moments of greatness and longevity.

That’s why the Wheeling Nailers’ 1,000th victory on Wednesday night was so impressive. The journey to 1,000 began with the Wheeling Thunderbirds in 1992 and consistently rolled on like a freight train after the team changed its name to the Nailers in 1996.

The organization has seen players, coaches and an-

regular season. Wheeling finished 46-17-0-5 with 97 points. Perhaps the most memorable stretch of the season culminated on Feb. 5, 1995 when Wheeling reeled off its 17th straight home victory in a 5-3 victory over the Columbus Chill. Brock Woods was the captain of that year's squad and still lives in Wheeling today. "There was definite-

Current Nailers interim coach Derek Army delivered 10 points during a wild playoff run to the Kelly Cup, in which the Nailers overcame adversity multiple times. Wheeling faced elimination in both the conference semifinals against Reading and the conference finals against South Carolina. Both times the Nailers overcame 3-2 series deficits to advance in the bracket.

ice following their 3-1 win over Indy for the 1,000th victory in team history, a video with former Wheeling legends played on the scoreboard. That was the moment that hit home with 10-year Nailers' radio broadcaster D.J. Abisalih. "What got it for me was when all the players started watching the video and reacting to all the alums," Abisalih said. "That was a chills moment for sure.

The Pirates played Colorado. "It all boils down to me losing my brain for a second," he said. "I take full responsibility for it and now will just try to keep moving forward. I know I'm a good defensive player and I can do a lot of good things on that side of the ball." The Pirates will enter the double-header on a six-game losing streak. The Rockies have lost three straight.

#### TRAINER'S ROOM

Rockies: SS Trevor Story (right elbow tightness) is unlikely to play in the field during the three-game series but

will be examined by team doctors Monday in Denver after the Rockies return from their road trip. Story was injured in the second game of Thursday's doubleheader at New York. He is eligible for free agency at the end of the season and is expected to be one of the most coveted players on the market. Pirates: After two rehab starts in Indianapolis, RHP Chad Kuhl (right elbow discomfort) will make his next appearance in the major leagues. The Pirates have not announced a starter for Sunday's game, so he is a possibility.

#### • Track

Continued from Page D1

in the discus with a mark of 115-10. She had the lead until the final throw of the competition.

Barnesville freshman March Bethel made a decision Friday to bypass the 1600 meter run to conserve energy to make a run toward an 800 meter run state berth.

The decision paid dividends. Bethel qualified to the state by locking up the fourth spot with a time of 2:22.68. That mark was more than five seconds faster than what she ran at the district.

Steubenville Catholic Central junior Clara Symington advanced to the state meet in a pair of events. She finished third in the high hurdles in 15.64 and then authored the same place finish in the low hurdles in a time of 46.37.

#### BOYS

Shadyside and Buckeye Trail both qualified for the state meet on Wednesday in the pole vault.

The Tigers were led by senior Brendan Schrader who was second at 13-4 and freshman Andrew Osman, who placed third at 13-feet.

Trail will be represented by Brendan Bates, who was fourth at 12-8.

Steubenville Catholic's Joe Rohde advanced in the 400 meter dash, posting a runner-up finish with a time of 50.32.

Shenandoah's Shakur Payton qualified with a silver medal in the high jump, clearing 6-2.

On the track, the Zeps will be represented by senior Max McVicker. He is the regional champion in the 300 intermediate hurdles, skimming eight timers in 39.98.

#### • OVAC

Continued from Page D1

just a big relief that it appears the game is going to happen. I know last (summer) was a disappointment for the (Class of 2020) kids having that opportunity slip away, but it's nice that these (seniors) will get the chance."

#### OHIO

All told, 10 schools received multiple bids.

Huck picked the maximum five players from his own Cadets roster. Those accepting the bid from Fort Frye are Brian Adkins, Jaymison Baker, Dylan Hart, Braden Medley and Brady Kutscherenko.

"Every one of those (Fort Frye) kids is really deserving," Huck said. "Many of them have been starting since they were freshmen and sophomores and helped us win a lot of big games, so to have one last opportunity to coach those kids is exciting."

For the first time, the OVAC game will feature players from New Philadelphia.

The Quakers will be represented by Logan Ort, Justin Rimer and Mitchell Stokey.

Other schools with a trio of representatives are Steubenville and St. Clairsville. Those with two roster spots include: Cambridge, Martins Ferry, River, Indian Creek, East Liverpool and Beaver Local.

The entire Ohio roster looks like this:

Brian Adkins (Fort Frye), Jaymison Baker (Fort Frye), Will Balgo (St. Clairsville), Justin Bartlett (Cambridge), Jeremy Brown (Indian Creek), David Burgey (Steubenville), Evan Carpenter (Martins Ferry), Dylan Czech (East Liverpool), Carter Dennis (River), Dylan Hart (Fort Frye), Brady Kutscherenko (Fort Frye), Cian Montgomery (Steubenville), Dylan Moore (Beaver Local), Logan Ort (New Philadelphia), Justin Rimer (New Philadelphia), Jake Rose (River), Matt Schaefer (Indian Creek), Reese Skaggs (St. Clairsville), Mitchell Stokey (New Philadelphia), Preston Thaman (Martins Ferry), Tyler Tonkovich (St. Clairsville), Brock Valentine (Cambridge), Tommy Warwick (Beaver Local), Howard Williams (East Liverpool), Joel Chevalier (Warren), Garret Cramer (Monroe Central), Garrett Dozier (Toronto), Ryan Gorman (Steubenville Central), Ayden Hannahs (Barnesville), Brian Palmer Jr. (Buckeye Local), Vince Patrone (Bellaire), Briar Portman (Shenandoah), Rocco Romeo (Conotton Valley),

Jacob Visnic (Shadyside) and Timothy Wehr (Caldwell).

#### WEST VIRGINIA

Depew loaded up his roster with a third of the players who competed in the city of Wheeling.

The Linsly head coach took the maximum of five from his Cadets' squad and from Wheeling Park. He then added three Wheeling Central products for 12 of his 37 bids.

The Linsly players who are expected to suit up on Wheeling Island are Marco Aprea, Steve Felton, Kobe Hill, Joao Lima and Hunter Kelley.

Wheeling Park, which featured an explosive offense, will be represented by Beau Heller, Stevie Mitchell, along with speedsters Sincere Sinclair and Torrence Walker.

The Central trio includes Spencer Helms, Payton Marling and Jordan Waterhouse.

"I know we felt our season ended pre-maturely and both Park and Central were expecting to play at least one more game, so I am happy for these kids who get this honor and get to play one more game," Depew said.

Other schools that received three invitations were Magnolia, Oak Glen, Weir, Parkersburg South and University.

The entire West Virginia roster looks like this:

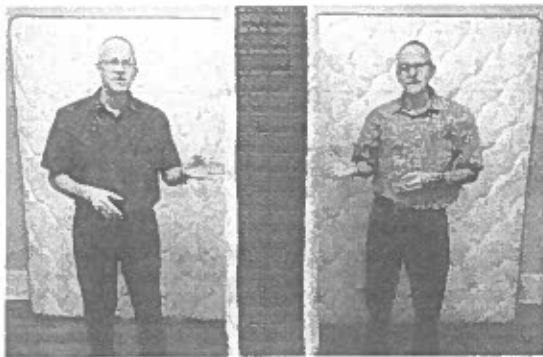
Marco Aprea (Linsly), Eliki Barner (University), Daniel Beatles (Oak Glen), Jason Beisel (Magnolia), Tracy Brooks (University), Jordan Bruce (Weir), Alex Burton (John Marshall), Deacon Carmichael (Cameron), Samuel Casto (Brooke), Deondre Crudup (Morgantown), Dimitrius Deshield (University), Anthony DiMatteis (Weir), Steve Felton (Linsly), Dalton Flowers (John Marshall), Devin Gaines (Parkersburg South), Beau Heller (Wheeling Park), Spencer Helms (Wheeling Central), Gabriel Hendershot (Parkersburg South), Kobe Hill (Linsly), Drake Hukill (Brooke), Hunter Kelley (Linsly), Isaac Keller (Magnolia), Joao Lima (Linsly), Silas McKeever (Magnolia), Payton Marling (Wheeling Central), Stevie Mitchell (Wheeling Park), Tyler O'Connor (Oak Glen), Cody Poe (Hundred), Lucky Pulice (Madonna), Gage Reitter (Weir), Levi Rice (Parkersburg South), Anthony Sessi (Madonna), Sincere Sinclair (Wheeling Park), Jeremy Taylor (Oak Glen), Torrence Walker (Wheeling Park), Jordan Waterhouse (Wheeling Central).

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File Photo

John Marshall sophomore Kadence Pettit is getting noticed for her work both at the plate and in the circle, as she was named to the AAA all-state squad in the utility category.

## Pettit Mashes Her Way Onto All-State Squad

JM Sophomore Hit .545 With 10 HR and 32 RBI

By GRANT TRAYLOR  
HD Media  
HUNTINGTON — Ever since she was a kid, St. Albans pitcher Tayven Stephenson has been in the spotlight.

Such is life when you commit to the University of Kentucky as a 12-year-old. It takes a special talent to consistently meet those expectations, but Stephenson exceeded them during her sophomore campaign with the Red Dragons.

Stephenson, a two-way talent as a sophomore, led St. Albans to an undefeated regular season and the Class AAA Championship game.

For those reasons, Stephenson was named cap-

tain of the 2021 Class AAA All-State Softball team, as voted on by the West Virginia Sports Writers Association.

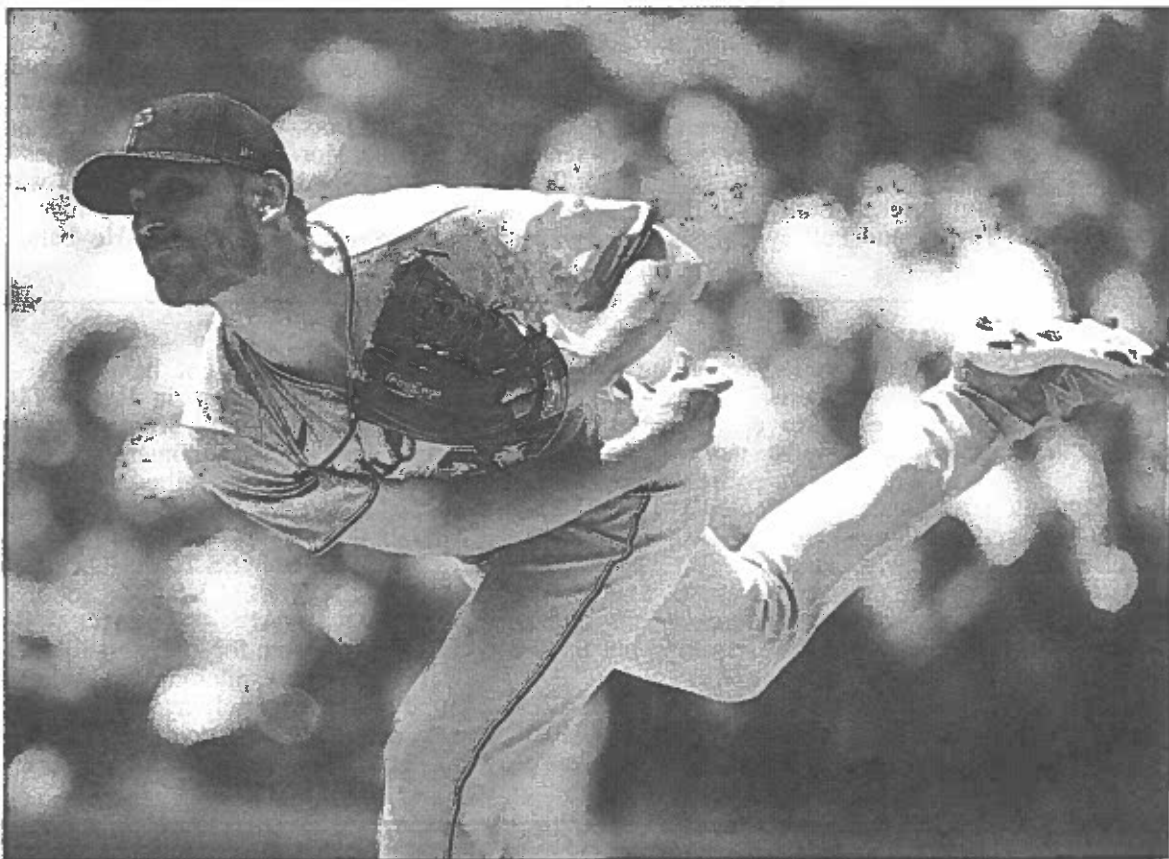
While Stephenson was a notch above the rest within the state, she credited her team — full of seniors and veterans — for her success in the circle.

"It's really nice," Stephenson said. "We just all have great chemistry together, so we just trusted each other all the time — offense and defense."

Stephenson finished the season 19-2 with a 0.51 earned run average and 225 strikeouts in the circle while batting .400 with 10 home runs and 41 RBIs on the season.

Please see **PETTIT**,  
Page 12

# Bucs Swept In Denver



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Chad Kuhl works against the Colorado Rockies in the second inning Wednesday in Denver.

## Gray's 6 Strong Help Rockies Top Pirates, 6-2

By MICHAEL KELLY  
Associated Press

DENVER — Jon Gray tossed six strong innings in another solid outing for Colorado starters, and the Rockies beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 6-2 on Wednesday.

Garrett Hampson had four hits for the Rockies, who swept the three-game series and improved to 28-16 at home. Colorado is just 6-31 on the road.

A day after being no-hit by German Marquez for eight innings, the Pirates jumped on Gray for their first runs of the series. Adam Frazier led off the game with a triple, scored on a sacrifice fly and Bryan Reynolds hit his 14th homer for a quick 2-0 lead.

Gray (5-6) didn't give up another hit before leaving four a pinch-hitter in the sixth. He walked four — one intention-

al — hit a batter and struck out five to continue the strong run of outings by Colorado starters.

The three starters in the series combined to allow just two runs and six hits over 20 innings. Pittsburgh finished with only nine hits in the three games.

C.J. Cron led off the Colorado fourth with his 11th home run. The Rockies scored two more in the fifth off Pittsburgh starter Chad Kuhl (2-5).

A combined four hits in the sixth against relievers Chris Stratton and Sam Howard added two more runs and Colorado tacked on another in the seventh.

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Pirates: INF Colin Moran was out of the lineup for the second straight game. He was hit by a pitch on the left wrist in Monday's game. ... LHP Steven Brault (left lat strain) was slated to throw two innings of a simula-

tion game in Bradenton, Florida, on Wednesday. ... RHP Trevor Cahill (left calf strain) has resumed running.

Rockies: RHP Mychal Givens (back) is scheduled to throw in rehab games with Triple-A Albuquerque on Thursday and Friday. ... LHP Kyle Freeland, who left Monday's game with a tight right hamstring, was throwing on the field before the game.

### UP NEXT

Pirates: RHP Wil Crowe (1-4, 6.50 ERA) opens a seven-game homestand when he faces the Milwaukee Brewers on Thursday night.

Rockies: RHP Antonio Senzate (2-7, 4.76) takes the mound when Colorado faces St. Louis in Nolan Arenado's first trip to Coors Field since he was traded to the Cardinals in the offseason.

Please see **SWEPT**, Page 12

## Ohio Coaching Staff Named For OVAC All-Star Contest

By SETH STASKEY  
For The Intelligencer

MARTINS FERRY — With the 75th annual OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game a little more than three weeks away, Ohio head coach Eric Huck, who represents Fort Frye, has announced his coaching staff.

Slated to join Huck at Bethany College when camp for the July 24th game opens on July 18, will be Josh Seagraves, Kevin Welsh, Scott Hart, Chad Ross and Kyle Huck.

They also comprise Huck's coaching staff with the Cadets, who are coming off a trip to the Division VI state semifinals and an OVAC Class 3A title in 2020.

"These guys have been with me for quite a while," Huck said. "The biggest thing is the trust I have in them because they all know their positions very well and they coach their kids very well."

Seagraves works with the offensive and defensive lines. Welsh is the offensive coordinator and works with the running backs and safeties. Hart coaches the inside linebackers and offensive line. Ross is the defensive coordinator and works with the lines and Kyle Huck is with the receivers and linebackers.



Here's a look at the Ohio coaching staff:

■ **ERIC HUCK**, Fort Frye — The Cadets have had quite the run of success since this Fort Frye and Ohio State University product took the reins.

Huck completed his 13th season as the head coach by winning his second regional championship before falling in the state semifinals.

Please see **STAFF**,  
Page 13

## NCAA Clearing The Way For Athlete Compensation As State Laws Loom

By SCHUYLER DIXON  
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — The NCAA Board of Directors approved one of the biggest changes in the history of college athletics Wednesday, clearing the way for nearly a half-million athletes to start earning money based on their fame and celebrity without fear of endangering their eligibility or putting their school in jeopardy of violating amateurism rules that have stood for decades.

The decision, expected for months as state after state passed laws intended to render NCAA rules moot on the topic, came on the eve of the market opening Thursday for athletes in a dozen states, including giants like Texas and Florida.

"This is an important day for college athletes since they all are now able to take advantage of name, image and likeness opportunities," NCAA President Mark Emmert said.

The decision effectively suspends NCAA restrictions on payments to athletes for things such as sponsorship deals, online endorsements and personal appearances. It applies to all three divisions or some 460,000 athletes.

The NCAA will also allow athletes to enter into agreements with agents, though all athletes are expected to keep their school informed of any and all NIL arrangements. The NCAA said schools are responsible "for determining whether those activities are consistent with state law."

The NCAA had hoped to have broad NIL rules in place months ago, but that process bogged down, as did efforts on Capitol Hill to have Congress pass a law addressing the issue. Emmert said the NCAA will continue to push for a federal law to "provide clarity on a national level."

The NCAA was forced to seek a temporary solution rather than have athletes in some states eligible for compensation while others were not. More than 10 states have laws set to go into effect Thursday that would have undercut or simply declared inert existing NCAA rules regarding NIL earnings.

Without NCAA action, athletes in some states could be making money without putting their college eligibility in jeopardy while their counterparts in other states could be in danger of breaking NCAA rules.



### AMERICAN LEAGUE

**Wednesday's Games**  
 Detroit 9, Cleveland 4, 7 innings, 1st game  
 Washington 15, Tampa Bay 6  
 Chicago White Sox 13, Minnesota 3  
 Seattle 9, Toronto 7, 10 innings  
 Baltimore 5, Houston 2  
 L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees, late  
 Kansas City at Boston, late  
 Texas at Oakland, late  
 Detroit at Cleveland, 2nd game, late.

### Thursday's Games

L.A. Angels (Canning 5-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Montgomery 3-2), 1:05 p.m.  
 Seattle (Kikuchi 5-3) at Toronto (Ryu 7-4), 1:07 p.m.  
 Kansas City (Bubic 2-3) at Boston (Eovaldi 8-4), 1:10 p.m.  
 Minnesota (Berrios 7-2) at Chicago White Sox (Rodon 6-3), 2:10 p.m.  
 Texas (Dunning 3-6) at Oakland (Manaea 6-4), 3:37 p.m.  
 Houston (Valdez 4-1) at Cleveland (Mejia 1-2), 7:10 p.m.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

**Wednesday's Games**  
 St. Louis 7, Arizona 4  
 Milwaukee 15, Chicago Cubs 7  
 Colorado 6, Pittsburgh 2  
 Washington 15, Tampa Bay 6  
 San Diego 7, Cincinnati 5, 6 innings  
 Atlanta 20, N.Y. Mets 2  
 Miami 11, Philadelphia 6

**Thursday's Games**  
 Miami (Lopez 4-4) at Philadelphia (Eflin 2-6), 6:05 p.m.  
 L.A. Dodgers (Gonsolin 0-0) at Washington (Corbin 5-6), 7:05 p.m.  
 Milwaukee (Burnes 3-4) at Pittsburgh (Crowe 1-4), 7:05 p.m.  
 San Diego (Weathers 3-2) at Cincinnati (Castillo 3-10), 7:10 p.m.  
 N.Y. Mets (deGrom 7-2) at Atlanta (Anderson 5-4), 7:20 p.m.  
 St. Louis (Wainwright 6-5) at Colorado (Senzatela 2-7), 8:40 p.m.  
 San Francisco (Cueto 6-3) at Arizona (Kelly 4-7), 9:40 p.m.

## WIMBLEDON

### Wednesday Men's Singles First Round

Matteo Berrettini (7), Italy, def. Guido Pella, Argentina, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 6-0.  
 Jeremy Chardy, France, def. Aslan Karatsev (20), Russia, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (6), 6-3.  
 Yoshihito Nishioka, Japan, def. John Isner (28), United States, 7-6 (5), 2-6, 6-3, 6-7 (3), 6-4.  
 Sam Querrey, United States, def. Pablo Carreno Busta (11), Spain, 7-6 (6), 6-4, 7-5.  
 Jordan Thompson, Australia, def. Casper Ruud (12), Norway, 7-6 (6), 7-6 (3), 2-6, 2-6, 6-2.  
 Lorenzo Sonego (23), Italy, def. Pedro Sousa, Portugal, 6-2, 7-5, 6-0.  
 Grigor Dimitrov (18), Bulgaria, def. Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.  
 Felix Auger-Aliassime (16), Canada, def. Thiago Monteiro, Brazil, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.  
 Taylor Fritz (31), United States, def. Brandon Nakashima, United States, 7-5, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5.

**Men's Singles Second Round**  
 Denis Shapovalov (10), Canada, def. Pablo Andujar, Spain, walkover.  
 Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia, def. Kevin Anderson, South Africa, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.  
 Daniel Evans (22), Britain, def. Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, 6-3, 6-3, 6-4.  
 Karen Khachanov (25), Russia, def. Egor Gerasimov, Belarus, 6-1, 7-6 (3), 6-3.  
 Fabio Fognini (26), Italy, def. Laslo Djere, Serbia, 6-3, 6-4, 0-6, 6-4.  
 Andrey Rublev (5), Russia, def. Lloyd Harris, South Africa, 6-1, 6-2, 7-5.  
 Diego Schwartzman (9), Argentina, def. Liam Broady, Britain, 4-6, 6-2, 6-1, 6-4.  
 Andy Murray, Britain, def. Oscar Otte, Germany, 6-3, 4-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2.

**Women's Singles First Round**  
 Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (16), Russia, def. Ana Bogdan, Romania, 6-2, 6-2.  
 Karolina Muchova (19), Czech Republic, def. Zhang Shuai, China, 6-3, 6-3.  
 Alize Cornet, France, def. Bianca Andreescu (5), Canada, 6-2, 6-1.  
 Paula Badosa (30), Spain, def. Aliona Bolsova Zadoinov, Spain, 6-2, 5-7, 6-2.  
 Elena Svitolina (3), Ukraine, def. Alison Van Uytvanck, Belgium, 6-3, 2-6, 6-3.  
 Marketa Vondrousova, Czech Republic, def. Anett Kontaveit (24), Estonia, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2.  
 Daria Kasatkina (31), Russia, def. Patricia Maria Tig, Romania, 6-0, 3-6, 6-3.  
 Victoria Azarenka (12), Belarus, def. Kateryna Kozlova, Ukraine, 6-1, 6-3.  
 Kaja Juvan, Slovenia, def. Belinda Bencic (9), Switzerland, 6-3, 6-3.

**Women's Singles Second Round**  
 Elise Mertens (13), Belgium, def. Zhu Lin, China, 6-2, 6-0.  
 Aryna Sabalenka (2), Belarus, def. Katie Boulter, Britain, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.  
 Elena Rybakina (18), Kazakhstan, def. Claire Liu, United States, 6-4, 6-4.  
 Iga Swiatek (7), Poland, def. Vera Zvonareva, Russia, 6-1, 6-3.  
 Garbine Muguruza (11), Spain, def. Lesley Pattinama Kerkhove, Netherlands, 6-1, 6-4.  
 Madison Brengle, United States, def. Sofia Kenin (4), United States, 6-2, 6-4.  
 Maria Camila Osorio Serrano, Colombia, def. Ekaterina Alexandrova (32), Russia, 7-5, 6-2.  
 Liudmila Samsonova, Russia, def. Jessica Pegula (22), United States, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.  
 Madison Keys (23), United States, def. Lauren Davis, United States, 6-1, 6-4.  
 Karolina Pliskova (8), Czech Republic, def. Donna Vekic, Croatia, 6-2, 6-2.  
 Ons Jabeur (21), Tunisia, def. Venus Williams, United States, 7-5, 6-0.  
 Irina-Camelia Begu, Romania, def. Petra Martic (26), Croatia, 7-5, 6-7 (7), 6-3.

## NHL PLAYOFFS

### FINALS

(Best-of-7) (x-if necessary)  
**Monday, June 28**  
 Tampa Bay 5, Montreal 1  
**Wednesday, June 30**  
 Tampa Bay 3, Montreal 1, Tampa Bay leads series 2-0  
**Friday, July 2**  
 Tampa Bay at Montreal, 8 p.m.  
**Monday, July 5**  
 Tampa Bay at Montreal, 8 p.m.  
**Wednesday, July 7**  
 x-Montreal at Tampa Bay, TBA  
**Friday, July 9**  
 x-Tampa Bay at Montreal, TBA  
**Sunday, July 11**  
 x-Montreal at Tampa Bay, TBA

## AREA NOTE

**St. Johns Central Academy Basketball Camp**  
 St. Johns Central will be hosting a basketball camp every Saturday in July from 9 a.m. to noon for boys and girls ages 10-17.  
 The registration fee is 25 dollars per person for all five Saturdays. Call Banyas at 740-827-8688 or via email at r.banyas@sjcacademy.net.

## ALL-STATE BASEBALL

### Class AAA First team

P — Ismael Borrero, Hurricane, Jr.  
 P — Quincy Thornton, Morgantown, Sr.  
 P — Riley Vadasz, Jefferson, Sr.  
 P — Logan Lingenfelter, Cabell Midland, Sr.  
 C — Trent Short, St. Albans, Sr.  
 IF — Cullen Horowitz, Jefferson, Sr.  
 IF — Ryan Goff, Bridgeport, Sr.  
 IF — Drew Whitman, St. Albans, Sr.  
 IF — Cam Cole, Bridgeport, Jr.  
 IF — Zac Rose, Jefferson, Sr.  
 OF — Nate Paulsen, Bridgeport, Sr. (captain)  
 OF — Ethan Spolarich, Hurricane, Jr.  
 OF — Blake Hartman, Musselman, Sr.  
 UTIL — Joel Gardner, Hurricane, Sr.  
 UTIL — Braden Shepherd, Huntington, Jr.  
 UTIL — Michael Bittinger, Wheeling Park, Jr.  
 UTIL — Tyson Burke, St. Albans, Sr.  
 UTIL — Grant Hussey, Parkersburg South, Sr.

### Second team

P — Carter Williams, Huntington, Sr.  
 P — Branson McCloud, Spring Valley, So.  
 P — Evan Wilson, Capital, Fr.  
 P — Bradley Lokant, Oak Hill, Sr.  
 C — Noah Hanna, Greenbrier East, Sr.  
 IF — Kyle West, Hedgesville, Sr.  
 IF — Trace Adkins, Lincoln County, Sr.  
 IF — Bryson Rigney, Hurricane, Jr. (captain)  
 IF — Ben McPeck, Parkersburg South, Sr.  
 IF — Aaron Forbes, University, Jr.  
 OF — Austin Holley, Cabell Midland, Sr.  
 OF — Aiden Paulsen, Bridgeport, Jr.  
 OF — James Salvatori, Wheeling Park, Sr.  
 OF — Jordan Mize, Greenbrier East, Sr.  
 UTIL — Ben McDougal, Bridgeport, Jr.  
 UTIL — Isaac McCallister, George Washington, Jr.  
 UTIL — Zach Calif-Boring, Buckhannon-Upshur, So.  
 UTIL — Joel Wise, John Marshall, Sr.

### Honorable mention

Connor Bailey, Jefferson; Gabe Bates, Lincoln County; Darris Boswell, Greenbrier East; Thomas Budka, Hedgesville; Grant Cochran, Princeton; Dustin Corley, Parkersburg South; Trent Dearth, Huntington; Caden Delauter, Hedgesville; Drew Elkins, Cabell Midland; Ty Galusky, Morgantown; Chris Harbert, Bridgeport; Drew Hogue, Bridgeport; Alex Holbert, Parkersburg; Grant Landis, Hampshire; Wes Landis, Hampshire; Justin Legg, Huntington; Logan Link, Washington; JD Love, Bridgeport; Austin Mann, Bridgeport; Jacob Miller, Musselman; Cameron Moore, Washington; Ty Nelson, Oak Hill; Grant Stratton, Spring Valley; Cory Sweeney, Cabell Midland; Caleb Thomas, Greenbrier East; Cooper Vaught, Woodrow Wilson; Frank Why, Bridgeport; Zane Wolfe, Oak Hill

## TRANSACTIONS

### American League

**BALTIMORE ORIOLES** — Selected the contract of RHP Spenser Watkins from Norfolk (Triple-A East). Recalled RHP Isaac Mattson from Norfolk. Optioned LHP Alexander Wells to Norfolk. Designated INF Stevie Wilkerson for assignment. Placed RHP Travis Lakins Sr. on the 10-day IL.  
**CHICAGO WHITE SOX** — Placed LHP Aaron Bummer on the 10-day IL, retroactive to June 28. Placed RHP Evan Marshall on the 10-day IL. Recalled LHP Jace Fry from Charlotte (Triple-A East). Reinstated RHP Michael Kopech from the 10-day IL.  
**DETROIT TIGERS** — Recalled CF Derek Hill from Toledo (Triple-A East).  
**CLEVELAND INDIANS** — Recalled 2B Owen Miller from Columbus (Triple-A East).

playoff career high of 41 — the same amount Paul George had in pushing the Clippers to a road win in Game 5.

The Suns last made NBA Finals in 1993,

ics in six games.

Things got chippy in the fourth. Going into a time-out with 5:48 remaining, Paul stared at Patrick Beverley as he walked by. Beverley turned around

points and nine rebounds coming off his career playoff high that staved off elimination on the road and brought his team back home for another chance.

## Tampa Grabs 2-0 Lead Over Montreal

**TAMPA, Fla. (AP)** — The Montreal Canadiens were better and still not good enough to beat the Tampa Bay Lightning.

Carey Price allowed a pair of second-period goals, and despite outshooting the defending champions by a wide margin the Canadiens were unable to generate enough offense to win Game 2 of the Stanley Cup Final on Wednesday night.

The 3-1 defeat dropped the Canadiens into a 2-0 series hole, with the action shifting to Montreal for Games 3 and 4.

The Canadiens played well for long stretches in front of Price, who stopped 20 of 23 shots after yielding five goals in a lopsided loss in Game 1.

The Canadiens nonetheless have reason to be encouraged after limiting

scoring opportunities for Lightning stars Nikita Kucherov, Brayden Point and Steven Stamkos, who combined for seven points in the series opener but none in Game 2.

Instead, Anthony Cirelli, Blake Coleman and Ondrej Palat had goals for Tampa Bay, which is much deeper offensively than any of the teams the Canadiens shut down en route to their first Stanley Cup Final appearance in 28 years.

Turnovers led to two Lightning goals, with center Phillip Danault's miscue leading to Coleman's goal with less than a second remaining in the second period. Defenseman Joel Edmundson's soft backhand pass behind the net gave Palat a chance to seal the victory late in the third.

Montreal did a good job

of containing Vegas Golden Knights leading scorers Mark Stone and Max Pacioretty in the semifinals. The also slowed Toronto's Auston Matthews and Mitch Marner in the first round and Winnipeg's Kyle Connor and Nikolaj Ehlers in the second round.

The same recipe didn't work against Tampa Bay in Game 1, but the Canadiens found their defensive rhythm this time, disrupting passes, winning battles on the boards and playing a far more aggressive game.

Kucherov, the playoff scoring leader, was held to three shots on goal — none after the first period. Point, the postseason goals leader, only got off one shot. Stamkos, who has eight playoff goals this year, was also limited to one shot.

## Mississippi State Wins First National Title

**OMAHA, Neb. (AP)** — Mississippi State's first national championship had been building since 1985, when "Thunder and Lightning" — Will Clark and Rafael Palmeiro — were the stars on what's known as the best team to not win a College World Series.

The 2021 Bulldogs got the job done. Finally. Will Bednar and Landon Sims combined on a one-hitter, the Bulldogs scored early and built on their lead, and

at the end they were in a dogpile celebrating a 9-0 victory over Vanderbilt in the deciding third game of the College World Series finals Wednesday night.

There to see it was Ron Polk, the godfather of Mississippi State baseball and the coach of that '85 team.

"Coach Polk is the one who built this and started it," coach Chris Lemonis said. "We run out there and play in front of the big crowds, but Polk was a big reason why, and our

former players, too. This is a lot of years in the making, and a lot of fun. And I know our fans will enjoy this."

Oh, they enjoyed it. It seemed the whole town of Starkville, Mississippi, was at TD Ameritrade Park — loud and proud — for all three games of the finals.

When third baseman Kamren James threw to first for the final out, the Bulldogs' dugout emptied and about 100 fans jumped out of the stands to celebrate. The players

## STAFF

(Continued from Page 11)

The Cadets finished an undefeated regular season for the third straight season and fifth time under Huck's watch.

Huck's teams have won the last three OVAC Class 3A titles, won five Pioneer Valley Conference crowns and a regional title in 2018.

His fine seasons haven't gone unnoticed. He was named OVAC Coach of the Year in 2019 and three times earned PVC Coach of the Year.

Along with football, Huck has coaching experience in basketball and baseball.

Eric and his wife, Joel, have four children, Brendan, Lexie, Camryn and Jantzyn.

**JOSH SEAGRAVES, Fort Frye** — This Cadet assistant has been working with Huck for the last four seasons and owns seven seasons of football coaching experience.

Seagraves also coaches wrestling. Seagraves is a graduate of Tri-County North High School and Lee University.

Josh and his wife, Rebecca, have two children — Enoch and Bristol.

**KEVIN WELSH, Fort Frye** — This long-time assistant coach has spent the last three seasons working with the Cadets.

All told, Welsh has 41 years of football coaching experience, including 34 as an assistant. He's made coaching stops at Barnesville, Caldwell, Frontier, Shenandoah, Warren, Reedsville Eastern, River, Parkersburg and Marietta College.

Along with football, Welsh also has coaching experience in basketball, baseball and track.

Welsh was a player in the 1973 OVAC All-Star Football Game, repre-

sending Barnesville. He then attended Bethany College and Ohio University.

Kevin and his wife, Terri, have four sons — Patrick, Kial, Chase and Collin.

**SCOTT HART, Fort Frye** — This long-time assistant has been a key member of the Cadets staff basically during Huck's entire tenure.

Hart graduated from Fort Frye and Ohio State University.

Scott and his wife, Linda, have three children, Natalie, Kate and Dylan, who is a member of the Ohio All-Star roster.

**CHAD ROSS, Fort Frye** — One of the more tenured coaches on the staff, Ross has 22 years of coaching experience.

Of those years, the last six have come with the Cadets. He's also spent times at his alma mater, Crooksville, Waterford and Parkersburg.

Along with his football duties, Ross is also a member of the Fort Frye girls basketball staff and has previously worked with the boys basketball and track teams.

After high school, Ross attended Marietta College and completed his post-graduate degree at Muskingum.

Chad and his wife, Krista, have three children — Karlee, Khloee and Braxton.

**KYLE HUCK, Fort Frye** — This Cadets assistant has been involved at his alma mater for 13 years and has five years of experience as an assistant coach.

Huck, who graduated from Marietta College, has been a part of three OVAC, PVC and two regional titles as well as four undefeated regular seasons.

Kyle and his wife, Kristin, have two children — Colin and Mya.

# Huck announces Ohio staff for OVAC game

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

With the 75th annual OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game a little more than three weeks away, Ohio head coach Eric Huck, who represents Fort Frye, has announced his coaching staff.

Slated to join Huck at Bethany College when camp for the July 24th game opens on July 18, will be Josh Seagraves, Kevin Welsh, Scott Hart, Chad Ross and Kyle Huck.

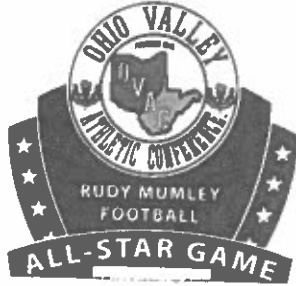
They also comprise Huck's coaching staff with the Cadets, who are coming off a trip to the Division VI state semifinals and an OVAC Class 3A title in 2020.

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quite a while," Huck said. "The biggest thing is the trust I have in them because they all know their positions very well and they coach their kids very well."

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Here's a capsule look at the Ohio coaching staff:



**ERIC HUCK, Fort Frye** — The Cadets have had quite the run of success since this Fort Frye and Ohio State University product took the reins.

Huck completed his 13th season as the head coach by winning his second regional championship before falling in the state semifinals. The Cadets finished an undefeated regular season for the third straight season and fifth time under Huck's watch.

Huck's teams have won the last three OVAC Class 3A titles, won five Pioneer Valley Conference crowns and a regional title in 2018.

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Eric and his wife, Joel, have four children, Brendan, Lexie, Camryn and Jantzyn.

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Seagraves also coaches wrestling. Seagraves is a graduate of Tri-County North High School and Lee University. See, **OVAC**, Page B2

## Suns set Clippers to reach finals

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Chris Paul led the Phoenix Suns into their first NBA Finals in 28 years, beating the Los Angeles Clippers 130-103 on Wednesday night to close out the Western Conference finals in six games.

Paul scored 41 points and Devin Booker added 22 to send the Suns to their third finals appearance in franchise history. They will face either the Atlanta Hawks or Milwaukee Bucks, who are tied 2-2 in the East finals.

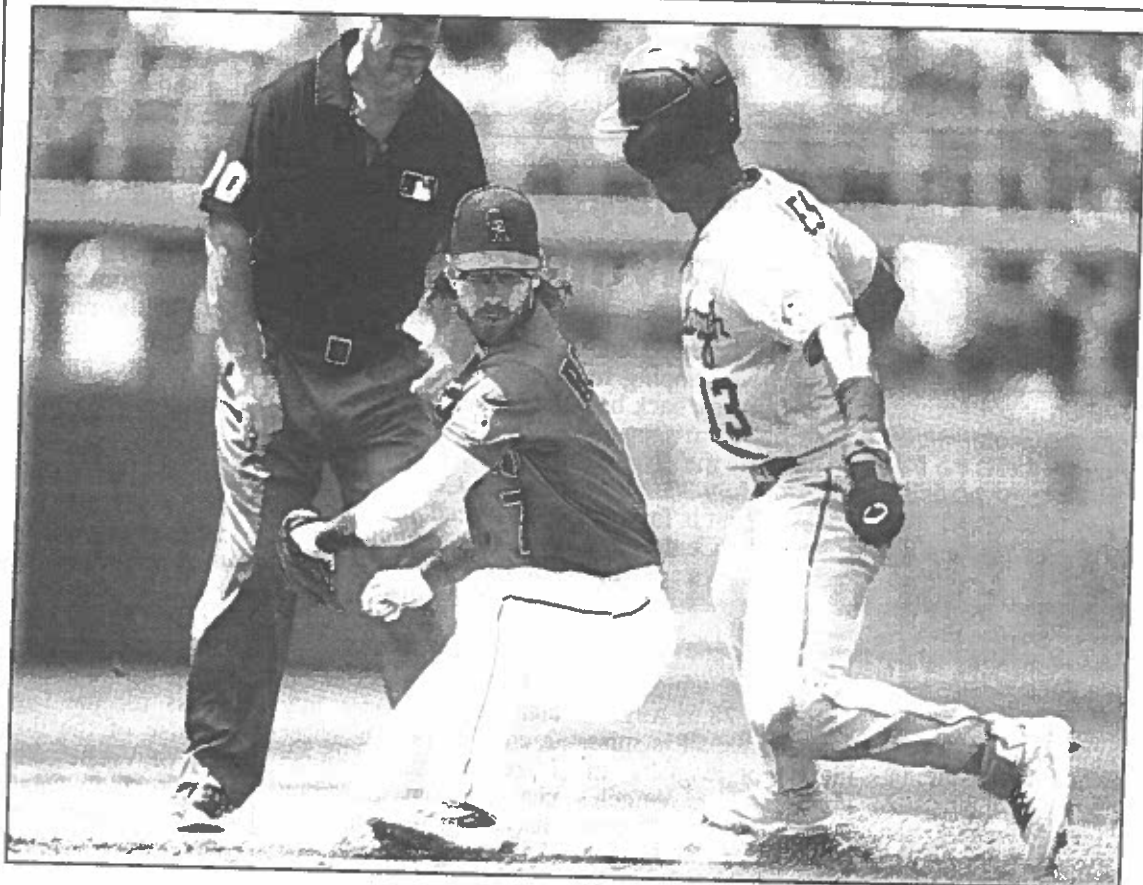
Paul reached the NBA Finals for the first time in his 16-year career on the same Staples Center court where he helped bring the Clippers to respectability over six seasons that ended in 2017. The 36-year-old guard punished his old team by tying his playoff career high of 41 — the same amount Paul George had in pushing the Clippers to a road win in Game 5.

The Suns last made NBA Finals in 1993, when they were led by Charles Barkley and lost to Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls in six games.

Their only other finals appearance was in 1976, a loss to the Boston Celtics in six games.

Things got chippy in the fourth. Going into a timeout with 5:48 remaining, Paul stared at Patrick Beverley as he walked by. Beverley turned around and shoved Paul hard in the back, sending him to the floor. Beverley was ejected.

Marcus Morris led the Clippers with 26 points despite playing with a sore knee. George had 21 points and nine rebounds coming off his career playoff high that staved off elimination on the road and brought his team back home for another chance.



**COLORADO ROCKIES** shortstop Brendan Rodgers, left, fields the throw as Pittsburgh Pirates' Ke'Bryan Hayes steals second base in the third inning of a game Wednesday, in Denver. AP Photo

## Rockie go of things for Pirates in Denver

• **Colorado completes three-game sweep of Pittsburgh**

**DENVER (AP)** — Jon Gray tossed six strong innings in another solid outing for Colorado starters, and the Rockies beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 6-2 on Wednesday.

Garrett Hampson had four hits for the Rockies, who swept the three-game series and improved to 28-16 at home. Colorado is just 6-31 on the road.

A day after being no-hit by German Marquez for eight innings, the Pirates jumped on Gray for their first runs of the series. Adam Frazier led off the game with a triple, scored on a sacrifice fly and Bryan Reynolds hit his 14th homer for a quick 2-0 lead.

"I saw the first two pitches and then sold out for the heater," Reynolds said.

Gray (5-6) didn't give up another hit before leaving four a pinch-hitter in the sixth. He walked four — one intentional — hit a batter and struck out five to continue the strong run of outings by Colorado starters.

"A start like this is the ones I appreciate the most," Gray said.

"You can be down three or four runs early on and you stretch it out to six innings, seven innings sometimes, our offense has a chance to catch up."

Gray needed 27 pitches to get through the third and worked around traffic in the fourth and fifth innings. He finished with 95 pitches, 52 for strikes.

"It says a little something about Jon's competitiveness, his ability to make pitches in certain parts of the game," manager Bud Black said. "We've seen him sharper but he battled through it. Jon deserved the 'W' in this one because he battled hard."

The three starters in the series combined to allow just two runs and six hits over 20 innings. Pittsburgh finished with only nine hits in the three games.

"We came into this series swinging the bats pretty well in St. Louis and did not swing the bats well this series at all," Pirates manager Derek Shelton said.

See, **PIRATES**, Page B2

## Lightning bolt to 2-0 Cup lead

**TAMPA, Fla. (AP)** — Just when the Montreal Canadiens found another gear to show they can hang with the defending champion Tampa Bay Lightning in the Stanley Cup Final, Blake Coleman singlehandedly kept the series from being tied.

Coleman scored a one-armed, diving buzzer-beater and goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy was the best player on the ice in making a playoff career-high 42 saves to put the Lightning up two games to none in the final with a 3-1 victory Wednesday night.

The Canadiens outshot the Lightning 43-23 and dominated long stretches of play, but they head home for Games 3 and 4 in Montreal needing to win at least one to avoid being swept by an opponent that can win many different ways.

It was more Montreal's style of play to give up a ton of shots, rely on goalie Carey Price to bail them out and buckle down with any kind of lead. Days after coach Jon Cooper said, "Part of our success has been trying not to rely on Vasilevskiy," they did just that in Game 2 of the final, and it worked.

Chants of "Va-sy! Va-sy!" from the crowd of over 18,000 echoed through Amalie Arena after the Vezina Trophy runner-up made one difficult save after another and finished with a . . . No player got a bigger roar during pregame introductions, and he was the focus all night with the Canadiens flinging the puck at him from all angles in a much better performance than the series opener.

But the Lightning showed again why they're the champs and favorites to repeat by taking blow after blow and responding. Missing fourth-leading scorer See, **CUP**, Page B2

## Kyrgios 'not bad for a part-time player'

**WIMBLEDON, England (AP)** his girlfriend at the tournament's 4-6, 6-4, 6-2. "But considering — Nick Kyrgios was back on the "bubble" hotel

Olympic contention with the loss.  
**VICTORIA, CANADA BRACKET**  
**CANADA 109, CHINA 79**  
 Andrew Wiggins scored 20

the South Koreans 29-16 in the final 11 minutes.  
 Heissler Guillent led Venezuela with 17 points, while Pedro Chourlo and Michael Carrera each had

Ognjen Dobric added 16 for the winners.  
 Kakou Ange Franck Williams Kouame led the Philippines with 17 points.

in obvious pain, Tampa Bay managed to beat Price three times on goals by Anthony Cirelli, Coleman and Ondrej Palat despite a major shot discrepancy.

Lightning's sixth shot of the night.

When Palat scored to make it 3-1 with 4:18 left on the Lightning's 21st shot fans jeered, "Carey! Carey!" at Price, and the Lightning improved to 13-2 this postseason when leading at the second intermission.

#### JOSEPH IN

Mathieu Joseph replaced Killorn in Tampa Bay's lineup, skating 6:23 in his first game since May 20. That was back in the first round when the Lightning beat the cross-state rival Florida Panthers.

#### BATTERED CANADIENS

The Lightning were not the only team on the ice to have some attrition of injuries add up. After getting key penalty killer Joel Armia back for Game 2, the Canadiens were without forward Artturi Lehkonen for much of the second after he went into the boards hard on a hit from Sergachev. Lehkonen returned for the third period.

Coleman's goal made all of that a moot point. With the clock running down at the end of the second, Barclay Goodrow put the puck around Montreal defenseman Ben Chiarot and sent the puck over on a rush to Coleman, who fought off Phillip Danault to bat the puck past Price and put the Lightning up 2-1 at the end of one of their worst periods of the playoffs.

Turnovers, lost puck battles and other mistakes added up — but not to a loss for the Lightning because of the dominant play of Vasilevskiy, who was perfect except for another fluky bounce goal when Nick Suzuki's shot pinballed in midway through the second.

Suzuki tied it for Montreal after Anthony Cirelli put the Lightning on the

# Giannis doubtful for Gm. 5 tonight

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Milwaukee Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo is doubtful for Game 5 of the Eastern Conference finals tonight after undergoing an MRI on his injured left knee.

Bucks officials said the two-time MVP hyperextended his left knee in the third quarter of a 110-88 game 4 loss to the Atlanta Hawks on Tuesday night. The Bucks announced Wednesday that an MRI confirmed that diagnosis and said he'd be listed as doubtful for tonight's game.

"We'll just take it day by day and see how he's doing," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said. "When you talk about the range of possibilities, I think where this has landed has to be looked at as a positive," Budenholzer added. "It's still a really difficult fall."

Antetokounmpo was attempting to block a dunk attempt by Atlanta's Clint Capela when he landed awkwardly. He clutched his knee in obvious pain and remained down for several minutes before walking slowly to the locker room.

He briefly went back to the Bucks' bench and then returned to the locker room shortly afterward.

The Bucks and Hawks are tied at two games apiece in the Eastern Conference finals heading into Game 5 tonight in Milwaukee.

Antetokounmpo has been averaging 28.2 points, 12.7 rebounds and 5.2 assists in the postseason. Milwaukee went 6-5 in the 11 regular-season games Antetokounmpo missed, including a stretch of six straight games in April when he also was dealing with an injured left knee.

# Better baseball players have less chance at Olympic gold

By **RONALD BLUM**  
 AP Baseball Writer

While most Olympic events are a competition among the best, the better you are in baseball, the less of a chance you have of playing for gold.

Major League Baseball refused to allow players on 40-man rosters to participate in the six-nation Olympic tournament, and many top prospects who technically are eligible are discouraged by their clubs, who don't want to risk injury and prefer they remain available if needed by big league teams.

Rosters for the Olympics remain in flux. Israel lost catcher Ryan Lavanway when the Indians brought him up from Triple-A Columbus in late June after Austin Hedges went on the concussion injured list. Israel manager Eric

Holtz, already without Baltimore pitcher Dean Kremer, was hoping to get Lavanway back because his team's opener against the United States on July 30.

Host Japan is favored to win. The Central and Pacific leagues are stopping their seasons between July 14 and Aug. 13 for the Olympic tournament, which runs from July 28 to Aug. 7.

While Japan is missing major leaguers, including Los Angeles Angels two-way sensation Shohei Ohtani, San Diego right-hander Yu Darvish and Minnesota right-hander Kenta Maeda, it has far more top-level players than the other five nations.

Masahiro Tanaka, back in Japan with the Tohoku Rakuten Golden Eagles after seven seasons with the New York Yankees, is the

only holdover from the 2008 Japan team that lost to the U.S. 8-4 in the bronze medal game.

Right-hander Tomoyuki Sugano, the reigning Central League MVP, heads a pitching staff that includes current Rookies of the Year Masato Morishita and Kaima Taira.

#### US ROSTER

The U.S. expected to announce its roster July 2, and American manager Mike Scioscia anticipated changes from the group that earned the berth at the Americas qualifier on June 5. That team had just one holdover from the players who failed to qualify at the Premier12 tournament in November 2019: pitcher Brandon Dickson.

Todd Frazier, a 35-year-old infielder released by Pittsburgh on May 13 was 4 for 4 with a solo homer and RBI double in the win.

## • Kyrgios

Continued from Page B1

overall and is now 16-0 in Grand Slam matches in 2021. "But I'm very pleased with the way I've been playing so far."

As was Kyrgios, for the most part, wagging his racket to ask the fans for more noise as he strutted around after his best shots.

Then again, he also shook his head or told himself he was "rubbish" after many a miss.

Here's something else he seems to do quite a bit: store up every negative thing he reads or hears about himself and either use it as motivation or merely mock it.

"Look, a lot of people were telling me: 'There's no chance. There's no point in you going with that short preparation.' I was hearing a load of things. (Someone was) telling me, 'There's no chance you can come off the couch and compete at this level,'" said the 26-year-old Kyrgios, whose 2014 debut at Wimbledon included a win against Rafael Nadal on the way to the quarterfinals, a round he hasn't reached since at the tournament.

"I'm like, 'Dude, I know my game.' I know how to play on grass. I'm not scared of anyone in the draw. I know if I believe and I'm feeling good mentally, like, I know what I'm capable of," continued Kyrgios, who's been ranked as high as No. 13 but is No. 60 now after all of that inactivity. "I've been playing this sport since I was seven

years old. ... I'm going to serve big and play big and just compete."

Tongue firmly in cheek, he's likened this trip abroad to a vacation, and as he spoke to the media via video conference, Kyrgios leaned back, his head tilted to rest against his hands — a pose fit for a beach chair.

Against Humbert, whom he also beat in five sets at Melbourne Park this year, Kyrgios did more than just "serve big and play big."

Sure, there were the 23 aces. And the flashy forehands he flicked with no notice to end points. And, yes, naturally, the ill-advised trick shots, like the no-good-reason-for-it, between-the-legs floater on set point for Humbert — on set point! — that contributed to giving away the third.

Then again, maybe that's part of the charm with Kyrgios: You never know what you're going to get, so better tune in to find out.

Actually, he showed impressive patience during lengthy exchanges at the baseline in the late going, willing to wait out a point until his foe would err. Indeed, Kyrgios won 9 of 14 points that lasted at least nine strokes.

Plus, he was the one who got the service break in the penultimate game to seize control.

"When he's playing good," Humbert said, "he's one of the best." That checks out. Just ask him.

## • OVAC

Continued from Page B1

Josh and his wife, Rebecca, have two children — Enoch and Bristol.

**KEVIN WELSH, Fort Frye** — This long-time assistant coach has spent the last three seasons working with the Cadets.

All told, Welsh has 41 years of football coaching experience, including 34 as an assistant. He's made coaching stops at Barnesville, Caldwell, Frontier, Shenandoah, Warren, Reedsville Eastern, River, Parkersburg

and Marietta College.

Along with football, Welsh also has coaching experience in basketball, baseball and track.

Welsh was a player in the 1973 OVAC All-Star Football Game, representing Barnesville. He then attended Bethany College and Ohio University.

Kevin and his wife, Terri, have four sons — Patrick, Kial, Chase and Collin.

**SCOTT HART, Fort Frye** — This long-time assistant has been a key member of the Cadets

staff basically during Huck's entire tenure.

Hart graduated from Fort Frye and Ohio State University.

Scott and his wife, Linda, have three children, Natalie, Kate and Dylan, who is a member of the Ohio All-Star roster.

**CHAD ROSS, Fort Frye** — One of the more tenured coaches on the staff, Ross has 22 years of coaching experience.

Of those years, the last six have come with the Cadets. He's also spent

times at his alma mater, Crooksville, Waterford and Parkersburg.

Along with his football duties, Ross is also a member of the Fort Frye girls basketball staff and has previously worked with the boys basketball and track teams.

After high school, Ross attended Marietta College and completed his post-graduate degree at Muskingum.

Chad and his wife, Krista, have three children — Karlee, Khloee


and Braxton.

**KYLE HUCK, Fort Frye** — This Cadets assistant has been involved at his alma mater for 13 years and has five years of experience as an assistant coach.


Huck, who graduated from Marietta College, has been a part of three OVAC, PVC and two regional titles as well as four undefeated regular seasons.

Kyle and his wife, Kristin, have two children — Colin and Mya.

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July 2, 2021

## Depew sets W.Va. coaching staff for OVAC Game

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

The OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game will certainly be nothing new for the Linsly School coaching staff.

West Virginia and Linsly head coach B.J. Depew announced the members of his coaching staff that will join him at Bethany College on Sunday, July 18 for the start of OVAC camp to prepare for the game, which is slated for July 24 at

Wheeling Island Stadium.

Joining Depew on the Mountain State sideline will be Chris Kiedaisch (offensive coordinator), James Wallace (defensive coordinator), Brian Valentine (offensive line), Gee Lofstead (defensive line) and Doug Tush (receivers/defensive backs).

"I am really fortunate to have had the core group of the staff with me for quite a while," Depew said. "To have that many Linsly alums, all of whom played in the program adds an element to it and

says a lot to our kids. They're all very knowledgeable and I know they're excited to meet and work with these kids (in the all-star game)."

Here's a capsule look at the West Virginia staff:

**B.J. DEPEW, Linsly** — Since taking over for his father at the helm of the Cadets, Depew has continued the long line of success of Cadets' football.

Depew has spent the last 15 seasons as the head football coach. That came on the heels of working under his father,

Terry, for seven years.

Depew has guided his alma mater to a pair of OVAC titles (2011 and 2017) and is embarking on his third go-around as the head coach in the all-star game. He also earned Ohio Valley Football Coaches Association Coach of the Year three times as well.

Along with football, Depew gained coaching experience in baseball and track and field. He presently serves as the Linsly Director of Athletics.

See, **WV**, Page B2

## Rain washes out basically entire Day 1 Beast slate

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

Mother Nature showed Wednesday and Thursday that she must not be a baseball fan.

Basically, the entire opening day of the annual Beast of the East Baseball Tournament's opening day fell victim to her fury.

Only two venues — both of which feature artificial turf surfaces — played on Thursday. They are both in Washington, Pa. at Washington & Jefferson and Wild Things Park. All told, 62 games were washed out and will not be made up.

"We're hoping it quits and we can get started (Friday)," Beast of the East director Bo McConaughy said. "It's probably rained the last four or five years during the tournament, but not on every field. We've not had a year, in a long time, where everyone gets washed out at the same time."

The first heavy rain, which caused some flooding around the Ohio Valley, occurred Wednesday afternoon. At that point, McConaughy and other Beast officials began reaching out to the respective field directors to check on the status.

"Because of the severity of the rain (on Wednesday), we couldn't wait to start checking on field conditions," McConaughy said. "Most of the directors were already at their fields working on them."

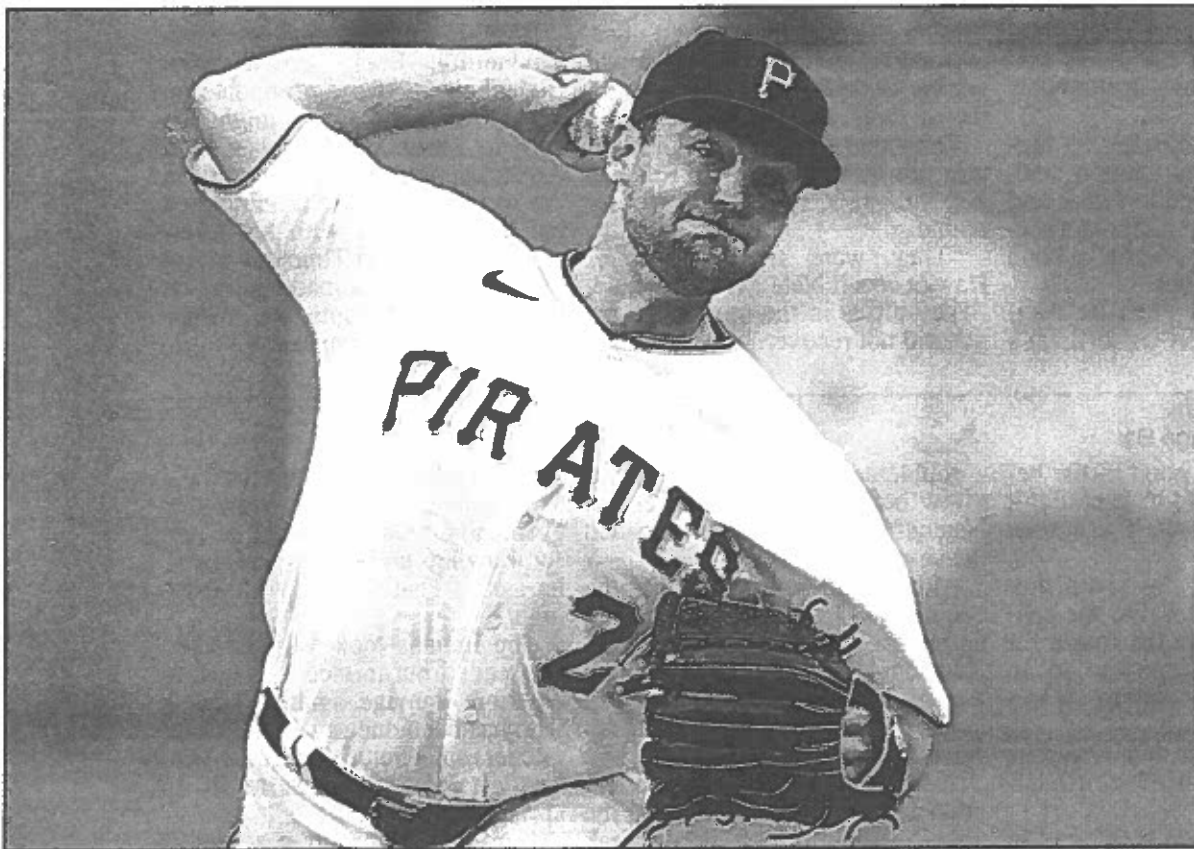
The message McConaughy received from basically all of the sites was that the 8 a.m. games would be questionable, but without anymore rain, they felt good about the prospects of playing the 10:30 contests.

That idea — and the entire day for that matter — went by the boards when another large batch of heavy rain moved in overnight and remained over top of the Ohio Valley throughout much of Thursday.

"When we called (field directors) again on Thursday morning, they were telling us they probably wouldn't get anything in until 3:30 p.m. and then eventually we all agreed to just call it a day and let the field drain, water soak in and then work on them."

Using a one-call network and social media, Beast of the East staffer Shawn Torbett delivered the news of the cancellations to the upwards of 120 teams that have converged on the area with

See, **BEAST**, Page B2



**PITTSBURGH PIRATES** starting pitcher Wil Crowe delivers during the first inning of a baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers in Pittsburgh, Thursday.

AP PHOTO

## Brewers stay hot, topple Pirates

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Corbin Burnes went beyond seven innings for the first time in the majors, helping the Milwaukee Brewers match their longest winning streak in seven years with a 7-2 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates on Thursday night.

The NL Central-leading Brewers have won nine in a row for the first time since April 4-13, 2014, outscoring opponents 66-23 during the streak.

Burnes (4-4) allowed one run on four hits with five strikeouts in a career-high 7 1/3 innings. He lasted seven innings

twice before in the majors, once this season against the Arizona Diamondbacks on June 6.

Pirates starter Wil Crowe (1-5) went 4 2/3 innings, giving up two runs on four hits with three strikeouts.

Clay Holmes didn't get an out on 20 pitches (13 balls) in the sixth for the Pirates, who have lost four straight. He allowed an RBI single to Keston Hiura that extended Milwaukee's lead to 3-1 following a balk and walked the bases loaded.

Daniel Robertson made it 4-1 on a

sacrifice fly with one out after Holmes was pulled for Chris Stratton.

Burnes' one noticeable mistake came in the fifth, when Ben Gamel drove his cutter over the wall in right-center field to cut Milwaukee's lead to 2-1. The right-hander used just 42 pitches to get through the first four innings.

Gamel nearly got Pittsburgh on the board earlier, sending a ball deep to center. Jackie Bradley Jr. slowed near the warning track and faked like he had no play on the ball before making the routine catch.



AP PHOTO

**PITTSBURGH PIRATES** second baseman Adam Frazier throws to first base to complete a double play hit into by Colorado Rockies' Elias Diaz to end the second inning last Tuesday.

## Pirates' Frazier voted a starter for All-Star Game

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The sons are coming out for this year's All-Star Game in Denver.

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. joined his father as an All-Star and Fernando Tatis Jr. accomplished a feat his dad never achieved.

Toronto's first baseman and San Diego's shortstop were among nine first-time All-Stars elected Thursday to start the July 13 game at Colorado's Coors Field.

Blue Jays second baseman Marcus Semien and outfielder Teoscar Hernandez also were first-time All-Stars chosen in fan voting, joined by Los Angeles Angels two-way sensation Shohei Ohtani, picked as the American League's designated hitter; Boston third baseman Rafael

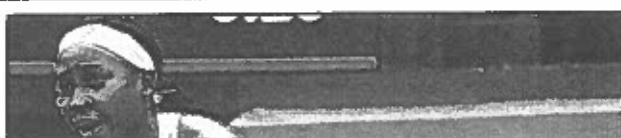
Devers, Cincinnati outfielders Nick Castellanos and Jesse Winker, and Pittsburgh second baseman Adam Frazier.

Injured Angels outfielder Mike Trout was elected to start for the eighth straight time, his ninth overall selection, and Kansas City catcher Salvador Perez was voted in for the fourth time and seventh appearance.

St. Louis third baseman Nolan Arenado was voted to his fourth straight start and sixth appearance, in his first season after he was traded by Colorado. He'll be making his second visit to Coors Field after playing there this weekend with the Cardinals.

See, **ASG**, Page B2

## Back at Centre Court, Gauff impresses dad with poise



WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Do not get the

## Indians fall, 7-2

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — With one swing, Jose Al-

## Bucks cruise past Hawks for 3-2 series lead • WV

Continued from Page B1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Brook Lopez scored a playoff career-high 33 points and the Milwaukee Bucks withstood Giannis Antetokounmpo's absence to beat the Atlanta Hawks 123-112 on Thursday night for a 3-2 lead in the Eastern Conference finals.

The Bucks are one win away from reaching the NBA Finals for the first time since 1974.

They won their lone NBA title in 1971.

Four of their starters had at least 22 points: Lopez, Khris Middleton (26), Jrue Holiday (25) and Bobby Portis (22). Middleton also had 13 rebounds and eight assists. Holiday had 13 assists and six rebounds.

"I thought we just did a great job of playing together," Lopez said. "Obviously Khris and Jrue did their normal job making plays for everyone. We want everyone scoring and doing their thing. That's tough on a defense."

Game 6 is Saturday in Atlanta, with the winner of the series facing the Phoenix Suns in the NBA Finals.

Each team was missing its biggest star as Antetokounmpo dealt with a hyperextended left knee and Atlanta's Trae Young sat out a second straight game due to a bone bruise in his right foot.

Young got hurt when he accidentally stepped on an official's

foot along the sideline in Milwaukee's 113-102 Game 3 victory. Antetokounmpo landed awkwardly after trying to block Clint Capela's dunk attempt in Atlanta's 110-88 Game 4 triumph.

Just as the Hawks' role players stepped up with Young sidelined in Game 4, Antetokounmpo's teammates came through Thursday to help the Bucks overcome the loss of their two-time MVP.

Bogdan Bogdanovic led the Hawks with 28 points. Atlanta also got 19 points each from John Collins and Danilo Gallinari, and 17 from Lou Williams.

Portis took Antetokounmpo's spot in the starting lineup and had the Fiserv Forum fans chanting "Bobby! Bobby!" on multiple occasions, continuing something that started during Milwaukee's Game 2 blowout victory. Portis' 22 points were a playoff career high.

The Bucks never trailed and led by as many as 20 in the first quarter, making most of their shots and getting second-chance opportunities on their rare misses.

The game was nearly eight minutes old by the time Cam Reddish got Atlanta's first defensive rebound.

"They were more physical," Hawks coach Nate McMillan said. "They hit us in the mouth and we just did not recover."

Milwaukee led 36-22 after a first quarter in which the Bucks outscored the Hawks 28-8 in the paint.

Bogdanovic's 13 first-half points helped the Hawks close the gap to 65-56 at the break.

Atlanta cut the lead to 65-59 when Bogdanovic hit a 3-pointer to open the third-quarter scoring, but that's as close as the Hawks would get in the second half.

This marked the second straight game in this series without any lead changes. The Hawks never trailed in Game 4.

TIP-INS

Hawks: Center Clint Capela was in the starting lineup after being listed as questionable before the game due to inflammation in his right eye. Capela took an inadvertent elbow to the face from Milwaukee's Sam Merrill late in Game 4. He had six points and eight rebounds.

Bucks: During his pregame availability, Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer offered no update on when Antetokounmpo might be able to return. Budenholzer said Antetokounmpo did some work in the weight room and training area but didn't wasn't with his teammates on the court Thursday morning. ... The Bucks made their first two 3-point attempts but missed their next 12 and finished 9 of 29.

## • Indians

Continued from Page B1

"He didn't look good in the beginning," Baker said. "He couldn't find his breaking ball. The double plays were huge."

Olvarez crushed his 14th homer, a 446-foot shot into the center-field bullpens, in the fourth for the Astros, who improved to an MLB-best 30-16 against teams with winning records.

Brantley, who spent 10 seasons with Cleveland, added his fifth homer in the seventh.

The Astros didn't arrive in Cleveland until 5 a.m. and their bats were sluggish through four innings before Altuve shook things up.

Kyle Tucker led off the fifth with

a double and Mejia walked Myles Straw before the right-hander got handcuffed on a bunt that loaded the bases.

Altuve fell behind 1-2 in the count, and as the crowd geared up to roar for a possible strikeout, Houston's second baseman pulled a slider from Mejia over the wall in left for his 18th homer and 11th since June 1.

"I tried to throw that perfect pitch and it just stayed right in the zone," Mejia said. "It didn't break to the outside part of the plate."

Altuve said the Astros weren't feeling any extra pressure to get their offense going after a few rough games.

"That's baseball sometimes and as a team you have to know that eventually you're going to get some swings and score some runs," he said. "That's what we did tonight."

The Indians took a 1-0 lead in the second but missed a chance to do more damage against Valdez, who has been one of the AL's best pitchers since returning from a broken left index finger sustained in spring training.

Harold Ramirez drew a leadoff walk, went to third on Eddie Rosario's single and scored on Valdez's wild pitch. Two more walks loaded the bases, but Valdez escaped with a strikeout and force at second.

## • ASG

Continued from Page B1

New York Yankees outfielder Aaron Judge was selected for the third time, and Boston shortstop Xander Bogaerts gained his second election to start and third appearance.

San Francisco catcher Buster Posey is set for his fifth start and seventh appearance, his first since 2018. Posey sat out the 2020 season due to health concerns for his family after he and his wife adopted prematurely born twins.

Atlanta first baseman Freddie Freeman was elected to his third start and fifth appearance, and Braves outfielder Ronald Acuna Jr. to his second start.

The All-Star Game returns this year following the cancellation of last year's showcase at Dodger Stadium due to the coronavirus pandemic, which caused the start of the season to be delayed until late July. This year's game was moved to Denver from Atlanta by Major League Baseball in response to election law changes enacted by Georgia. Critics have condemned the changes as being too restrictive.

Guerrero and Tatis are 22-year-old sons for former big leaguers.

Vladimir Guerrero was a nine-time All-Star from 1996-2011 and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2018. Fernando Tatis was a third baseman, outfielder and first baseman who played in the major leagues from 1997-2010.

The Guerreros are the fifth father-son pair chosen to the game as starters, joining Ray and Bob Boone, Bob and Bret Boone, Bobby and Barry Bonds, and Cecil and Prince Fielder.

Ohtani, Mets slugger Pete Alonso, Orioles fan-favorite Trey Mancini and Rockies shortstop Trevor Story have been confirmed for this year's All-Star Home Run Derby. Alonso won the previous event in 2019 at Cleveland.

Phase one of voting ran from June 3-24 and phase two from Monday to Thursday this week.

Hernandez beat Minnesota outfielder Byron Buxton by less than 5,000 votes for the final AL outfield spot in the closest race.

Trout matched Manny Ramirez,

Alex Rodriguez and Hall of Famers Gary Carter and Ryne Sandberg with eight consecutive fan elections, trailing only Hall of Famers Rod Carew (15), George Brett and Ken Griffey Jr. (11 each), Wade Boggs and Ozzie Smith (10 apiece), and Johnny Bench, Mike Piazza and Ivan Rodriguez (9 each).

Eleven teams had players elected, led by Toronto with three, and Boston, Atlanta and Cincinnati with two each. The Blue Jays have been away from home since 2019 due to Canadian government coronavirus restrictions.

Pitchers and reserves determined by player voting and the commissioner's office will be announced Sunday. Each All-Star team has 32 players.

In relatively close votes, Winker edged the Los Angeles Dodgers' Mookie Betts 16% to 13%, Arenado beat the Dodgers' Justin Turner 40% to 30% and Bogaerts defeated the Blue Jays' Bo Bichette 42% to 47%.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Belomar Regional Council has prepared a draft Long Range Transportation Plan for 2045. It covers Belmont County in Ohio and Ohio and Marshall Counties in West Virginia. The plan has been prepared pursuant to requirements of the federal Surface Transportation Acts MAP-21 and FAST Act. It addresses local transportation issues and is updated every five years.

Transportation Plan for 2045 will be available for review and comments from July 3rd through July 19th at our website <https://www.belomar.org/2045-long-range-transportation-plan>. A video presentation of the plan is also available at <https://www.belomar.org/video/rtp2045.mp4>.

Depew is a 1994 graduate from Linsly and then Ohio State University in 1999.

B.J. and his wife, Tracy, have two children — a son Isaac and a daughter, Noelle.

CHRIS KIEDAISCH, Linsly — This former Cadet quarterback has become a key cog on Depew's staff since joining.

Kiedaisch has coached at his alma mater for seven seasons and prior to that he spent a season at his collegiate alma mater, West Liberty.

Along with football, Kiedaisch is currently on the Linsly baseball staff. He previously coached basketball, too.

Kiedaisch, who has been involved with the all-star game in 2008 and 2014, is married to Jaclyn Kiedaisch.

GEE LOFSTEAD, Linsly — This veteran member of the staff has worked under Depew for the last eight seasons.

Lofstead graduated from Linsly in 1986 and then attended Lafayette College and eventually graduated from Temple University's law school.

During his prep days, Lofstead was a standout player, earning a spot in the 1986 OVAC All-Star Game, serving as team captain.

Along with football, Lofstead has coached both youth hockey and lacrosse.

Gee and his wife, Christina, have two children — Graham and Bridget.

DOUG TUSH, Linsly — The newest member to the Cadets varsity staff is no stranger to football coaching or Linsly.

Tush is ascending to the varsity staff after spending the last four seasons as the head junior high coach. Prior to that, he spent time on the Wheeling Park and Bridgeport coaching staffs.

On top of football, Tush coached baseball at Wheeling Park for 10 years, including half of that stretch as the skipper. He was also the director of athletics at Bridgeport, earning Athletic Director of the Year in 2014.

Tush is a graduate of Wheeling Park in 1991. He earned his bachelor's degree at West Liberty and his master's degree at West Virginia.

Doug and his wife, Kerri, have two children, a son Trevin, who was chosen for the 2020 All-Star Game after a career at Linsly; and a daughter, Jensen, who is entering her freshman year at Linsly.

BRIAN VALENTINE, Linsly — This long-time assistant has been with Depew every step of the way during his coaching career.

Valentine, who also serves as the head wrestling coach at Linsly, has spent all 15 years of his coaching career working with Linsly.

In wrestling, Valentine has helped revitalize the Linsly program. He won both a dual and tournament championship in Class 3A and twice been named conference wrestling coach of the year.

Valentine, who owns a degree from West Liberty, shined in football, wrestling and baseball during his prep days.

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James and his wife, Katie, are the parents one a daughter, Emma.

## • Beast

Continued from Page B1

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## • Wimbledon

# Mother Nature Drenches Fields, Slays Beast

By **SETH STASKEY**  
For The Intelligencer

**MARTINS FERRY** — Mother Nature showed Wednesday and Thursday that she must not be a baseball fan.

Basically, the entire opening day of the annual Beast of the East Baseball Tournament's opening day fell victim to her fury.

Only two venues — both of which feature artificial turf surfaces — played on Thursday. They are both in Washington, Pa. at Washington & Jefferson and Wild Things Park. All

told, 62 games were washed out and will not be made up.

"We're hoping it quits and we can get started (Friday)," Beast of the East director Bo McConaughy said. "It's probably rained the last four or five years during the tournament, but not on every field."

"We've not had a year, in a long time, where everyone gets washed out at the same time."

The first heavy rain, which caused some flooding around the Ohio Valley, occurred Wednesday afternoon. At that point, McConaughy and

other Beast officials began reaching out to the respective field directors to check on the status.

"Because of the severity of the rain (on Wednesday), we couldn't wait to start checking on field conditions," McConaughy said. "Most of the directors were already at their fields working on them."

The message McConaughy received from basically all of the sites was that the 8 a.m. games would be questionable, but without any more rain, they felt good about the prospects of playing the 10:30 contests.

That idea — and the entire day for that matter — went by the boards when another large batch of heavy rain moved in overnight and remained over top of the Ohio Valley throughout much of Thursday.

"When we called (field directors) again on Thursday morning, they were telling us they probably wouldn't get anything in until 3:30 p.m. and then eventually we all agreed to just call it a day and let the field drain, water soak in and then work on them."

Please see **BEAST**, Page 12

## Linsly Staff Will Coach All-Stars

W.Va., Ohio Set To Square Off July 24

By **SETH STASKEY**  
For The Intelligencer

The OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game will certainly be nothing new for the Linsly School coaching staff.

West Virginia and Linsly head coach B.J. Depew announced the members of his coaching staff that will join him at Bethany College on Sunday, July 18 for the start of OVAC camp to prepare for the game, which is slated for July 24 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Joining Depew on the Mountain State sideline will be Chris Kiedaisch (offensive coordinator), James Wallace (defensive coordinator), Brian Valentine (offensive line), Gee Lofstead (defensive line) and Doug Tush (receivers/defensive backs). "I am really fortunate to have had the core group of the staff with me for quite a while," Depew said. "To have that many Linsly alums, all of whom played in the program adds an element to it and says a lot to our kids. They're all very knowledgeable and I know they're excited to meet and work with these kids (in the all-star game)."

Here's a capsule look at the West Virginia staff:

**B.J. DEPEW, Linsly** — Since taking over for his father at the helm of the Cadets, Depew has continued the long line of success of Cadets' football.

Depew has spent the last 15 seasons as the head football coach. That came on the heels of working under his father, Terry, for seven years.

Depew has guided his alma mater to a pair of OVAC titles (2011 and 2017) and is embarking on his third go-around as the head coach in the all-star game. He also earned Ohio Valley Football Coaches Association Coach of the Year three times as well.

Along with football, Depew gained coaching experience in baseball and track and field. He presently serves as the Linsly Director of Athletics.

Depew is a 1994 graduate from Linsly and then Ohio State University in 1999.

B.J. and his wife, Tracy, have two children — a son Isaac and a daughter, Noelle.

Please see **COACH**, Page 12



DePEW

## Brewers Top Pirates, 7-2

Milwaukee Stays Hot, Cruises To 9th Straight Win

By **WES CROSBY**  
Associated Press

**PITTSBURGH** — Corbin Burnes challenged the Pittsburgh Pirates early, knowing that Milwaukee's overworked bullpen needed him to work efficiently.

The Brewers ace went beyond the seventh inning for the first time in the majors, and the Brewers matched their longest winning streak in seven years by beating Pittsburgh 7-2 Thursday night.

The NL Central leaders have won nine in a row for the first time since April 4-13, 2014, outscoring opponents 66-23 during the streak.

"Obviously, their game plan was to come out swinging early and often," Burnes said. "We kind of knew that just based off the last time I faced them. The focus was just to make sure that we were good 0-0, whether we're getting ahead or we're getting some weak contact. Worked pretty well to-night."

Please see **PIRATES**, Page 12



AP Photo Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Wil Crowe delivers during the first inning Thursday against the Milwaukee Brewers in Pittsburgh.



AP Photo Pittsburgh Pirates' Adam Frazier was named Thursday as a starter for the National League in the upcoming All-Star Game.

## Up Goes Frazier: Bucs 2B Voted To Start ASG

By **RONALD BLUM**  
AP Baseball Writer

**NEW YORK** — The sons are coming out for the All-Star Game in Denver.

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. joined his father as an All-Star and Fernando Tatis Jr. accomplished a feat his dad never achieved. Toronto's first baseman and San Diego's shortstop were among nine first-time All-Stars elected Thursday to start the July 13 game at Colorado's Coors Field.

Blue Jays second baseman Marcus Semien and outfielder Teoscar Hernandez also were first-time All-Stars chosen in fan voting, joined by Los Angeles Angels two-way sensation Shohei Ohtani, picked as the American League's designated hitter; Boston third baseman Rafael Devers, Cincinnati out-

fielders Nick Castellanos and Jesse Winker, and Pittsburgh second baseman Adam Frazier.

Frazier will join Hall of Famer Bill Mazeroski (1967) as the only Pittsburgh second basemen to start an All-Star Game. Frazier entered Thursday second in the NL in batting (.327) and tied for second in doubles (24).

Injured Angels outfielder Mike Trout was elected to start for the eighth straight time, his ninth overall selection, and Kansas City catcher Salvador Perez was voted in for the fourth time and seventh appearance.

St. Louis third baseman Nolan Arenado was voted to his fourth straight start and sixth appearance, in his first season after he was traded by Colorado.

Please see **FRAZIER**, Page 12

## Back At Centre Court, Coco Gauff Impresses Dad With Poise



By **HOWARD FENDRICH**  
AP Tennis Writer

**WIMBLEDON, England** — Do not get the wrong idea about Coco Gauff and assume that, just because she's already displayed so much talent and promise by age 17, occasions such as Thursday's, when she played a woman twice her age at Centre Court, are in any way glossed over as "Been there, done that."

ward. So maybe that's why she was the first to face break points. Or managed merely one groundstroke winner in the opening set. Still, the newcomer did what veterans do — find a way — and emerged with a 6-4, 6-3 victory to return to Wimbledon's third round.

"With a little bit of adversity for the first time, she went for her shots and she stayed committed to the serve," said

rankings are missing from the bracket due to defeat, withdrawal or injury.

"Mentally, for sure, I need to reset. I need to rest," No. 3 seed Svitolina said after producing 20 fewer winners than her foe in a 6-3, 6-4 loss to Magda Linette. "I need to feel, again, fresh to play the upcoming tournaments."

No. 1 Ash Barty, who retired mid-match against Linette at

... was a ...  
All-Star from 1996-2011 and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2018. Fernando Tatis was a third baseman,

... and ...  
Blue Jays have been away from home since 2019 due to Canadian government coronavirus restrictions.

... to get to keep working hard, keep trying to get better to get out of this lull."

... game, Nate Lowe went deep twice and Texas pounded Oakland.

**GAUFF**

(Continued from Page 11)

Gauff's serve provided nine aces, including seven in the first set when a lot else wasn't really working.

A 118 mph delivery on match point was dumped in the net by Vesnina. Up in the player guest box, Gauff's parents rose. Dad clapped, then kissed Mom, who captured their daughter's moment with a cellphone camera. It was a bit more subdued than the raucous celebrations two years ago, when Gauff was a revelation.

Ranked outside the Top 300 and the youngest player to make it through qualifying in tournament history, she went on to beat five-time champion Venus Williams in the first round and 2017 semifinalist Magdalena Rybarikova in the second, before saving two match points to get past Polona Hercog in the main stadium.

Next came a fourth-round exit against Simona Halep, who went on to collect the trophy (three of Gauff's major appearances ended with losses to the

eventual champion, including Barбора Krejčíková at the just-concluded French Open).

"The biggest thing is, I don't really remember much from my Centre Court experience in 2019," said Gauff, who is based in Florida. "I don't know. I felt like it was all a blur."

Back then, everything was so fresh and new and unexpected. The question on everyone's mind: Is she really doing this?

Now the vibe is: She most certainly can.

Her parents know it. So do the spectators. And the 20th-seeded Gauff's opponents.

"Such a talented and promising player," said Vesnina, a three-time Grand Slam champion in women's doubles who was treated by a trainer for a back spasm she said was caused by stretching to try to reach Gauff's serves. "She has a bright future in front of her."

Sure does. Most important, Gauff herself knows it.

Milwaukee used five relievers during a 15-7 comeback win over the Cubs on Wednesday night.

**UP NEXT**

RHP Adrian Houser (4-5, 4.16 ERA) will take the mound for the Brewers, facing Pirates RHP JT Brubaker (4-7,

**BEAST**

(Continued from Page 11)

Using a one-call network and social media, Beast of the East staffer Shawn Torbett delivered the news of the cancellations to the upwards of 120 teams that have converged on the area with the hopes of playing as many as eight games this weekend.

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**COACH**

(Continued from Page 11)

**CHRIS KIEDAISCH, Linsly** — This former

Cadet quarterback has become a key cog on Depew's staff since joining.

Kiedaisch has coached at his alma mater for seven seasons and prior to that he spent a season at his collegiate alma mater, West Liberty.

Along with football, Kiedaisch is currently on the Linsly baseball staff. He previously coached basketball, too.

Kiedaisch, who has been involved with the all-star game in 2008 and 2014, is married to Jaclyn Kiedaisch.

**GEE LOFSTEAD, Linsly** — This veteran member of the staff has worked under Depew for the last eight seasons.

Lofstead graduated from Linsly in 1986 and then attended Lafayette College and eventually graduated from Temple University's law school.

During his prep days, Lofstead was a standout player, earning a spot in the 1986 OVAC All-Star

Game, serving as team captain.

Along with football, Lofstead has coached both youth hockey and lacrosse.

Gee and his wife, Christina, have two children — Graham and Bridget.

**DOUG TUSH, Linsly** — The newest member to the Cadets varsity staff is no stranger to football coaching or Linsly.

Tush is ascending to the varsity staff after spending the last four seasons as the head junior high coach. Prior to that, he spent time on the Wheeling Park and Bridgeport coaching staffs.

On top of football, Tush coached baseball at Wheeling Park for 10 years, including half of that stretch as the skipper. He was also the director of athletics at Bridgeport, earning Athletic Director of the Year in 2014.

Tush is a graduate of Wheeling Park in 1991. He earned his bachelor's degree at West Liberty

and his master's degree at West Virginia.

Doug and his wife, Kerri, have two children, a son Trevin, who was chosen for the 2020 All-Star Game after a career at Linsly; and a daughter, Jensen, who is entering her freshman year at Linsly.

**BRIAN VALENTINE, Linsly** — This long-time assistant has been with Depew every step of the way during his coaching career.

Valentine, who also serves as the head wrestling coach at Linsly, has spent all 15 years of his coaching career working with Linsly.

In wrestling, Valentine has helped revitalize the Linsly program. He won both a dual and tournament championship in Class 3A and twice been named conference wrestling coach of the year.

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# OVERDOSE ALERT

If you are interested in receiving OVERDOSE SPIKE ALERTS, sign up to join your Neighborhood Crime Watch on the Ohio County Emergency Alerts Network at [www.ohiocountyemergency.com](http://www.ohiocountyemergency.com) or submit this form to the Wheeling Police Department.

By signing up, you will receive emergency alerts and public service announcements. Alerts will be sent to the phone(s) you provide and/or your email address. This is a free service provided by the Ohio County Homeland Security and EMA, however, normal message fees may apply. Notifications are dependent upon providers and receipt of notifications by the intended recipient are not guaranteed. By signing up, you will not receive unsolicited calls, nor does the system vendor sell the contact number database.

### KNOW THE SIGNS OF OPIOID OVERDOSE

- Fingernails or lips have a purple or blue color
- Vomiting or gurgling noises
- Cannot be awakened or are unable to speak
- Breathing or heartbeat slows or stops

### HAVE ACCESS TO NARCAN OR NALOXONE

Narcan or Naloxone is a medication designed to temporarily reverse an opioid overdose. For more information about how you can be trained to administer Narcan or Naloxone, call the Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department at 304-234-3682.

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