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Sunday News-Register

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

SPORTS

INSIDE:

Notre Dame/C2
Browns Preview/C3
NCAA Basketball/C4
All-Valley Volleyball/C6SATURDAY'S BEST
COLLEGE
FOOTBALL

■ Noon — Penn State at Michigan, ABC
 ■ Noon — Maryland at Indiana, ESPN2
 ■ 3:30 p.m. — Pitt at Clemson, ABC
 ■ 3:30 p.m. — Auburn at Alabama, CBS
 ■ 7 p.m. — LSU at Texas A&M, ESPN

SUNDAY'S BEST
NFL

■ 1 p.m. — Cleveland at Jacksonville, CBS
 ■ 1 p.m. — Arizona at New England, FOX
 ■ 4:25 p.m. — Kansas City at Tampa Bay, CBS
 ■ 8:20 p.m. — Chicago at Green Bay, NBC

WEST VIRGINIA
HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL
PLAYOFFS

■ 5 p.m. — Robert C. Byrd at Oak Glen*
 *Pending school re-entry map release

OVAC Basketball Tournaments
Won't Be Held in 2021Champions Will Be
Crowned Via StandingsBy SETH STASKEY
For the News-Register

One of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference's premier events has been called off for 2021.

The annual Wheeling Hospital OVAC Basketball Championships will not be held, as scheduled, in February because of the drastic differences in the sports' calendars in both Ohio and West Virginia.

OVAC Executive Director Dirk DeCoy, Basketball Commissioner Ron White and Tournament Director Rick DeLuca announced the decision early Friday morning.

OVAC champions in both boys and girls basketball will still be crowned, but they'll be done so via the standings. That was the way champions were determined until the tournament format began in 2008. Even with the tournament format, the standings have remained important because they determine the semifinalists in each class.

"(Everyone's) lives and schedules have been impacted by COVID-19 this year," DeLuca

said. "While we are disappointed that our championships can't be decided on the court this season, we are hopeful that as 2021 progresses, we will see the defeat and elimination of the coronavirus, so our lives can get back to normal."

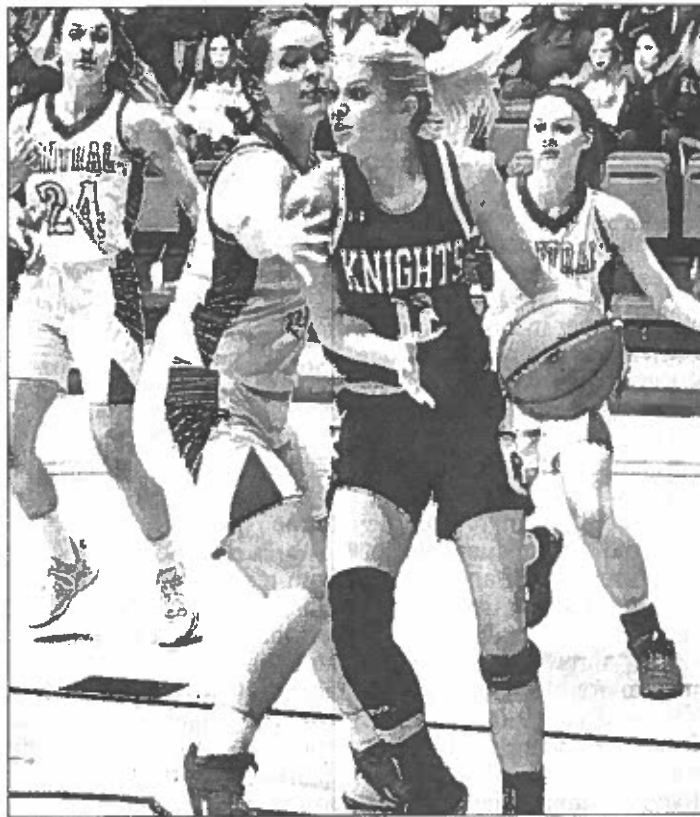
The latest uptick of COVID-19 cases is the chief reason for the change. A few weeks ago, West Virginia governor Jim Justice announced that Mountain State winter sports would be pushed back until Jan. 11 for the start — or resumption — of practices.

Earlier this week, the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission announced that Jan. 22 was the first competition date for girls basketball and Jan. 29 is when boys teams could start playing games.

At that point, the OVAC seemingly had no other option, but to go back to the standings format for this season.

The cut-off dates for the semifinals were Jan. 25 for girls and Feb. 1 for boys, meaning West Virginia schools would have only four days of competition for girls and five for boys. The championships were scheduled for Feb. 6 and 13.

Please see OVAC, Page C4



File Photo by Seth Staskey
 Wheeling Central's Hanna White (12) plays during the OVAC Tournament last season. White, who has graduated, helped lead the Maroon Knights to their 12th OVAC title in February. The OVAC basketball tournaments will not be held as scheduled because of the drastic differences in the sports' calendars in both Ohio and West Virginia.

Culver Leads No. 15 WVU Past Western Kentucky



AP Photo
 The West Virginia basketball team celebrates after defeating Western Kentucky.

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP)

— West Virginia rallied from a 10-point second-half deficit against Western Kentucky and had to hold off a frenzied rally down the stretch to win the Bad Boy Mowers Crossover Classic.

The 15th-ranked Mountaineers (3-0) led 66-57 with just under three minutes to play before Western Kentucky (2-1) cut it to four in the final minute. It looked like the Hilltoppers would get the ball back, down four, after a scramble for a rebound out of bounds was given to Western Kentucky. The call was reversed after a replay review and West Virginia made free throws down

the stretch to seal the win.

Derek Culver, who was named MVP of the tournament, scored 15 points to lead West Virginia. Miles McBride had 14 points and Taz Sherman scored 12.

McBride finished the tournament as West Virginia's leading scorer at 16.3 points per game during wins over South Dakota State, VCU and Western Kentucky. He also finished with 10 assists over the three games.

"I'm really just trying to let the game come to me and just hoping the shots come," McBride said. "Coach tells me to shoot them, and I shoot with a lot of confidence. If the shot's

there, I'm going to take it."

Charles Bassey scored 15 points to lead Western Kentucky, which led by three at halftime and used a quick 9-2 run to start the second half to build the 10-point lead. Taveion Hollingsworth scored five points during the run and finished with 13.

Following a basket by Bassey to make it 45-35, West Virginia coach Bob Huggins called timeout. Culver then converted a three-point play, and after Western Kentucky battled back for a 50-41 lead, West Virginia went on a 23-5 run.

Please see WVU, Page C4

Wheeling Is Back on Home Ice

By CODY TOMER
Sports Writer

WHEELING — For the first time since early March, the Wheeling Nailers skated inside WesBanco Arena on Friday morning and there were plenty of new faces.

The opening practice of the 2020-21 campaign brought newly-named head coach Mark French and an overhauled Wheeling roster together where they began to embark on their next chapter.

Only two players remained from last year's squad in forward Brad Drobot and defenseman Marc-Olivier Duquette, while 22 newcomers

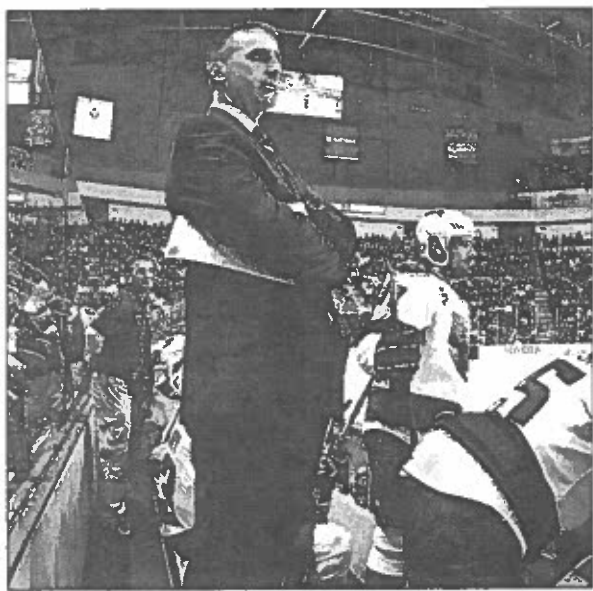


Photo Provided

Derek (Army) tried to utilize those as much as possible."

Army, a fan favorite in his time with Wheeling, is back with the Nailers as an assistant coach and will make a great impact along with French.

"It's great," French said of having Army by his side. "Obviously, he knows the league really well. Plus, he knows Wheeling. Those are two unknowns for me and he fills in those gaps really well."

After the ECHL's North Division suspended play for the season due to COVID, players from those six teams were im-



AP Photo
 Diontae Johnson and Pittsburgh's game against Baltimore has been moved to Tuesday night.

Steelers, Ravens
Game Moved To
Tuesday Night

NO. 4 VIRGINIA 00

UNCASVILLE, Conn. (AP) — San Francisco shocked No. 4 Virginia scoring the biggest upset of the young college basketball season and the program's biggest win in decades.

Jamaree Bouyea scored 19 points and the Dons used a late 8-0 run to beat the Cavaliers in the Homelight Classic, part of the "Bubbleville" event at the Mohegan Sun arena in Connecticut.

NO. 5 IOWA 103 SOUTHERN 76

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Luka Garza scored 41 points, missing just one shot, and Iowa beat Southern.

Garza was 14 of 15 from the field, making all three of his 3-point attempts, and was 10 of 12 on free throws for the Hawkeyes (2-0). He also had nine rebounds and three blocked shots in 29 minutes.

NO. 6 KANSAS 94 SAINT JOSEPH'S 72

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) — Christian Braun scored 30 points and Kansas pulled away to beat Saint Joseph's in the Rocket Mortgage Fort Myers Tip-Off.

Braun made 10 of 13 shots, hit five 3-pointers and added nine rebounds.

Ochai Agbaji, whose foul trouble proved costly in an opening 102-90 loss to No. 1 Gonzaga, added 18 points. Jalen Wilson had 14 for the Jayhawks (1-1).

NO. 7 WISCONSIN 92 ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF 58

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Micah Potter scored 19 points, D'Mitrik Trice added 15 and Wisconsin overwhelmed Arkansas-Pine Bluff.

Wisconsin (2-0) scored the first 25 points, hitting 10 of its first 13 shots, before Kshun Stokes scored on a floater from the lane for the Golden Lions with 10:05 left in the first half.

NO. 8 ILLINOIS 77 OHIO 75

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Ayo Dosunmu scored 24 points, Kofi Cockburn had 13 points

up 10-15 with 2 seconds remaining.

NO. 14 TEXAS TECH 84 SAM HOUSTON ST. 52

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Mac McClung scored 18 points and Texas Tech beat Sam Houston State.

Georgetown's leading scorer last season, McClung has 38 points in his first two games for the Red Raiders (2-0). The 6-foot-2 junior guard had two 3-pointers and 10 points in the first eight minutes of the game against the Bearkats (0-2), helping Tech race to a 20-4 lead.

NO. 17 HOUSTON 68 BOISE STATE 58

HOUSTON (AP) — Quentin Grimes had 25 points and eight rebounds, Caleb Mills added 12 points and Houston beat Boise State in the Southwest Showcase.

Grimes was 9 of 15 from the floor after scoring eight points on 3-of-15 shooting in an opening victory over Lamar on Wednesday.

NO. 22 UCLA 107 PEPPERDINE 98, 3OT

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Tyger Campbell and Jules Bernard hit 3-pointers early in the third overtime, and Chris Smith added a three-point play to finish with 26 points and help UCLA outlast Pepperdine.

Senior guard Colbey Ross had 33 points to become Pepperdine's career scoring leader, but it wasn't enough to keep Pepperdine (1-1) from losing its sixth straight to UCLA (1-1) and its 38th straight to a ranked opponent. Ross hit a floater to send the game into a second overtime tied at 81, but missed a 3-pointer that forced a third OT.

NO. 24 RUTGERS 96 FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON 75

PISCATAWAY, N.J. (AP) — Ron Harper Jr. had a career-high 30 points on 11-of-16 shooting, including 5-of-9 from beyond the arc, and Jacob Young had 24 points and seven assists for Rutgers.

Montez Mathis added 15 points for Rutgers (2-0).

STEELERS

Continued from Page C1

work to create an environment that keeps the health and safety of everyone involved at the forefront of each decision," Ravens coach John Harbaugh said. "Our organization has a plan in place, and we will be prepared to play the Steelers. We thank everyone for their adaptability and look forward to the challenge of facing a very good football team at Heinz Field on Tuesday night."

Baltimore (6-4) will be decidedly short-handed against Pittsburgh (10-0).

Jackson, fullback Patrick Ricard, defensive tackle Justin Madubuike, and long snapper Morgan Cox were added to the COVID-19 list on Monday. They join quarterback Trace McSorley; running backs Mark Ingram and J.K. Dobbins; defensive linemen Calais Campbell, Brandon Williams and Jihad Ward; linebacker Pernell McPhee; and centers Patrick Mekari and Matt Skura.

A year ago, the Ravens finished with the best regular-season record in the NFL behind the play of Jackson, who threw 36 touchdown passes and set a single-season record for yards rushing by a quarterback. Now Jackson is part of a massive breakdown by a team that couldn't avoid COVID-19 in the midst of a season the NFL staged in the middle of a pandemic.

Baltimore's problems started after an overtime loss to Tennessee on Sunday, the third defeat in four games for a team that has gone from a 5-1 start to scrambling to make the playoffs for a third straight year.

Ingram and Dobbins were placed on the reserve/COVID-19 list the following day, starting a chain reaction that has decimated the roster.

Robert Griffin III is slated to start at quarterback for the Ravens on Tuesday against the Steelers. He will be taking snaps from a third-string center and handing off to backup running backs Gus Edwards and Justice Hill.

"We just want to contain this outbreak! Speaking from experience ... you don't want to catch COVID!," Campbell

wrote on Twitter. "This virus is brutal! I pray no one else has to go thru this. This is bigger than football."

The Ravens have disciplined one of their staffers for failure to follow protocol, reportedly a strength and conditioning coach.

This isn't the first time this season COVID-19 has toyed with Pittsburgh's schedule.

The Steelers were scheduled to play Tennessee in Nashville on Sunday, Oct. 4. The league then pushed the game to either Monday or Tuesday. When the positive tests continued to roll in for the Titans, the NFL eventually moved the game to Sunday, Oct. 25, forcing the Steelers, in essence, to give up their scheduled bye initially set for Sunday, Nov. 1 — and finish the regular season by playing 13 consecutive weeks.

Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin stressed he was hardly concerned with the switch, saying emphatically "we do not care" when asked about the team's routine being thrown off.

Pittsburgh has cruised along anyway, though the league's last unbeaten team has been forced to deal with its own COVID-19 issues in recent weeks. Tight end Vance McDonald tested positive following a win over Dallas earlier this month. Quarterback Ben Roethlisberger and inside linebacker Vince Williams were among a handful of players forced to self-quarantine for five days due to contact tracing. Roethlisberger and Williams still ended up playing in what became a 36-10 rout of Cincinnati.

In a sign of just how pervasive COVID-19 has become, shortly after the league announced it was moving the contest to Tuesday, the Steelers placed defensive end Stephon Tuitt, offensive lineman Jerald Hawkins and defensive tackle Isaiah Buggs on the COVID-19 reserve/injured list.

Tuitt is in the middle of a career year. His seven sacks rank third on the team behind outside linebackers T.J. Watt and Bud Dupree.

contests.

It could, however, impact the remainder of the season as the Nailers played 12 North Division teams last year, including nine games with Reading.

"We talked about that and there is a lot of unknown but I think this year more than any year, it's important to control what we can control. How the schedule plays out, we know the first 10 games and we'll stay focused around that. I think

whistle with a mask on," French said with a laugh. "Other than that it's pretty status quo."

Whether there are new players learning new schemes or different protocols to follow, at the end of the day, hockey is back.

"We do this because we are passionate about the game," French said. "Whether it's coaching or playing, it's just really nice to get back to something we are passionate about."

CANCELED

Continued from Page C1

Big Ten rules require teams to play at least six games in this abbreviated season to be eligible to play in the conference championship game. The minimum could drop if the average number of games played by all Big Ten teams falls below six. In that case the minimum number of games required to be eligible for the championship game would be two fewer than the average.

Ohio State has only two games remaining on its regular-season schedule: at Michigan State on Dec. 5 and home against Michigan on Dec. 12. The Big Ten championship game is Dec. 19.

The Big Ten started its season the weekend of Oct. 24 and scheduled no open dates for makeups in its eight-week, regular-season schedule.

No. 18 Wisconsin already has lost three games after Minnesota canceled earlier this week because of a COVID-19 outbreak. That will leave the Badgers, the Big Ten West favorites, with only five regular-season games at most.

Day is the 19th major-college football coach this year to publicly acknowledge testing positive for the virus, including Alabama's Nick Saban earlier this week.

Also on Friday, the Southeastern Conference

announced a series of scheduling moves to make up games on Dec. 5 that had been previously postponed, including Alabama at LSU.

The Tide and Tigers were scheduled to play on Nov. 14, but LSU could not because of a lack of players available due to COVID-19.

Arkansas at Missouri will also be made up on Dec. 5. The Razorbacks were forced to postpone their game with the Tigers this week. Missouri instead was scheduled to play a makeup game with Vanderbilt.

Alabama at Arkansas, Mississippi at LSU and Missouri at Mississippi State still need to be rescheduled.

Alabama at Arkansas could be played on Dec. 12, the week before the SEC championship game.

LSU already has a game with Florida scheduled for Dec. 12, but it could play Ole Miss on the day of the SEC championship game, which the conference is using to make up regular-season games not involving the division winners.

Across college football, 16 of the 58 games originally scheduled for this week have been postponed or canceled, though some replacements have been added.

OVAC

Continued from Page C1

While West Virginia delayed its season, Ohio is under way and planning to run as scheduled with the post-season tournaments opening in mid February.

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Gov. Mike DeWine and the Ohio High School Athletic Association have said multiple times there are no plans to delay or stop the season. Both are leaving those decisions up to the respective school districts as to whether or not or how they proceed as it relates to possible COVID-19 issues.

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able to fill those games to complete their schedules, but according to DeLuca only "the first 20 games" will be counted in the standings.

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"Once both states have completed regular-season play, in boys and girls, the final standings will be released and the leader of each class will be crowned the OVAC champion," DeLuca said.

The football champions were crowned similarly because the two states had different approaches to their regular seasons.

A few months ago, a new venue for the event, which had been held since its inception at Ohio University Eastern, was announced. According to DeLuca, the plan remains to hold the event at Harrison Central High School in 2022.



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Scoreboard/D3
Nailers Return/D4
Classified/D5-6

SPORTS

Sunday,
November 29, 2020

OVAC Basketball Championships canceled

By SETH STASKEY
Times Leader Sports Editor

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basketball will still be crowned, but they'll be done so via the standings. That was the way champions were determined until the tournament format began in 2008. Even with the tournament format, the standings have remained important because they determine the semifinalists in each class.

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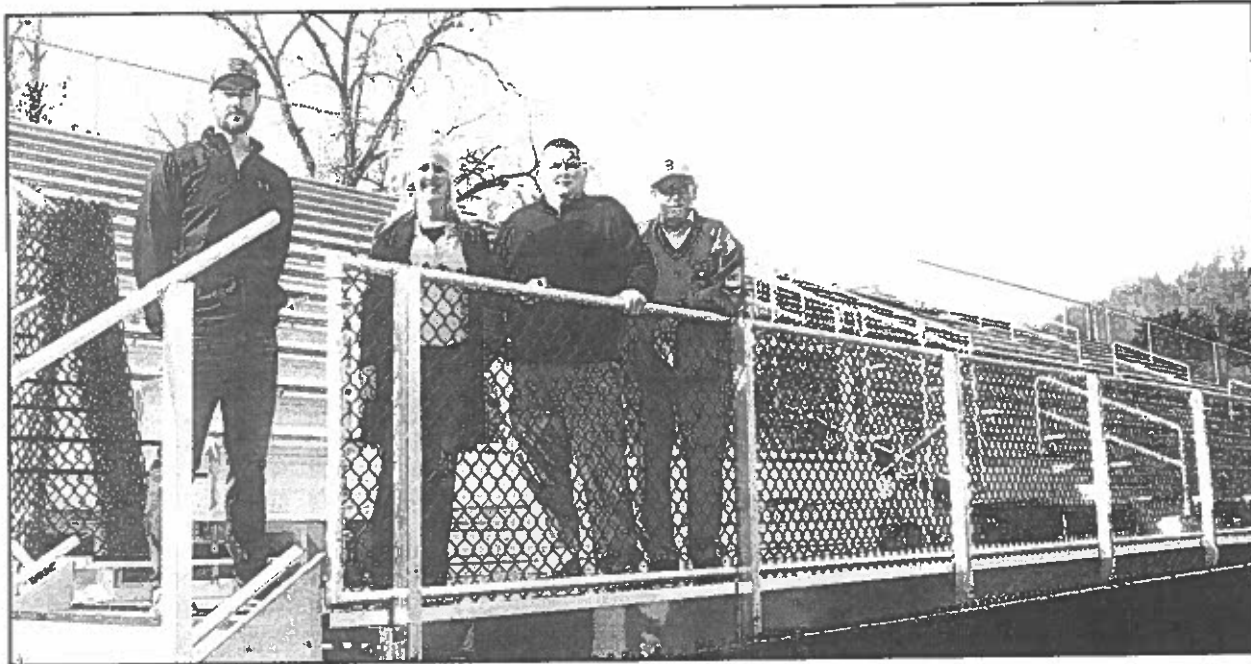
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At that point, the OVAC seemingly had no other option, but to go back to the standings format for this season.

The cut-off dates for the semifinals were Jan. 25 for girls and Feb. 1 for boys, meaning West Virginia schools would have only four days of competition for girls and five for boys. The championships were scheduled, OVAC, Page D2



SEVERAL MEMBERS of the Perkins Field Committee stand in the new bleachers at the facility in Brookside last week. From left, are, Ryan Kreiter, Paula Cash Scherich, Pat McConnaughy and Bob Weaver.

T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

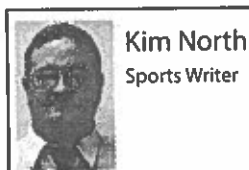
Bridgeport High School alumni show their love for Perkins Field

As many of you already know, I am not a graduate of Bridgeport Exempted Village School District. However, if there ever was a time I wish I were, and it is the present.

Sticking with the true spirit of the holidays, especially Thanksgiving, alumni from BHS stepped up in a big way recently.

When a group of alumni found out the school district was going to be a little short on what it had budgeted for the renovation project at Perkins Field, it formed a fundraising committee -- the Perkins Field Committee -- to help cover the difference so that varsity football could return to playing at the Brookside facility next fall after four years of not due to flooding concerns.

Flyers were mailed to all alumni on November 4 and within 8 days, all 15 rows priced at \$1,500 each were completely sold out. All 10 wheelchair spots were reserved within three days of being posted, and, according to reports,



Kim North
Sports Writer

all 44 of the rows have been accounted for.

The total revenue to be generated when all the pledges have been tallied is \$55,000.

WOW!!!

All BHS alumni should be proud to wear the Columbia Blue and Black on a job well done.

"We didn't set a specific financial goal because we know our alumni and our community and we believed they would respond to helping return to Perkins Field," Pat McConnaughy, a member of the fundraising committee.

"We also didn't create a marketing plan because we also knew a fundraising effort with a simple goal of getting the kids and community

back to the field would be all the motivation needed," he added.

The work on installing the new aluminum bleachers is nearly complete.

McConnaughy said the next step is creating a donor wall for those who contributed to the project.

One row was dedicated in the honor of Irene Ehni and the Bridgeport Teachers Association purchased five rows. A portion of the wheelchair section is in memory of the Porter Boys.

Non-alumni donations were received from Eric McGee (Wheeling Central) and Emily Rine (Linsly).

Superintendent of schools Brent Ripley said the support the alumni have shown is endless and much appreciated.

"We are very grateful to the alumni in our goal to return football to Perkins Field," he said. "They have done a wonderful job."

If everything goes as planned, the Bulldogs will host Monroe Central on Friday, Aug. 27.

W.Va. Super Six moves to Charleston

By SETH STASKEY
Times Leader Sports Editor

For the first time since 1993, the West Virginia Super Six Football Championships will not be held in Wheeling.

The three state championship football games will be played this year at Charleston's Laidley Field at University of Charleston Stadium, which hosted the games prior to their move to Wheeling Island Stadium. Secondary School Activities Commission Executive Director Bernie Dolan made the announcement Friday morning because Ohio County is still "firmly entrenched" in "orange" on the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources

today and the Class A championship game will close the weekend. Though it's only a temporary change, disappointment was still prevalent for Super Six Committee members Dwaine Rodgers and Greg Stewart.

"I thought our group did an excellent job of pulling together and doing what we could do," Stewart said. "We did all of the things we needed to do to be ready to host the event, but it still hasn't really sunk in yet."

Rodgers — who is the Director

some thoughts and opinions to Bernie, but honestly, I am not sure I could have come up with anything different and I have to credit our leadership at the SSAC and (Gov. Jim Justice) for even allowing the kids even the chance to play."

Along with the sports impact, the effects also will be felt in Ohio County and the entire Ohio Valley in terms of the economy. Through prior economic impact studies, it has been estimated that the Super Six brings in upwards of \$1 mil-

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Buckeyes game called off

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The football game between No. 3 Ohio State University and the University of Illinois, scheduled for this Saturday at 12 noon (EST) in Champaign, Ill., has been cancelled by Ohio State University after further positive tests for the coronavirus were discovered after a round of PCR testing this afternoon.

The Department of Athletics has paused all team-related football activities. The decision to cancel and pause was made jointly by Director of Athletics Gene Smith, University President Kristina M. Johnson, head team physician Dr. Jim Borchers and in consultation with the Big Ten Conference.

"We have continued to experience an increase in positive tests over the course of this week," Smith said. "The health, safety and well-being of our student-athlete is our main concern, and our decisions on their welfare will continue to be guided by our medical staff."

The program will resume its team activities when its medical staff determines it is safe to do so based on protocols established by the Big Ten Conference.

Buckeyes' Day tests positive

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

Ohio State coach Ryan Day has tested positive for COVID-19 and will not be with the Buckeyes if they play at Illinois on Saturday.

Ohio State said Friday it had an increased number of positive COVID-19 tests in the program this week. The game against the Illini was still on, but the Buckeyes were not traveling on Friday as originally scheduled.

Ohio State said it planned to do a second round of testing Friday before flying to Champaign, Illinois, on Saturday ahead of the game scheduled for noon EST.

Buckeyes assistant head coach/defensive line coach Larry Johnson will act as interim coach with Day unavailable.

"I have spoken with



• Ravens

Continued from Page D1

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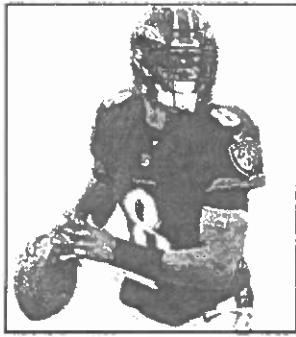
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AP Photo
BALTIMORE RAVENS quarterback Lamar Jackson tested positive for COVID Friday.

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• OVAC

Continued from Page D1

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PGA Tour gets share of European Tour TV as part of new alliance

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

The PGA Tour has acquired a minority stake in the European Tour's media production company as part of an alliance announced Friday, a big first step toward developing a more unified golf schedule around the world.

The deal effectively makes the two leading tours more partners than rivals. The tours said in a statement the alliance would allow them to collaborate on commercial opportunities and global media rights in certain territories.

"The PGA Tour moves from a competitor to a partner," Keith Pelley, chief executive for the European Tour, said on a conference call.

While seen as a pivotal first step, any notion of a world tour — which golf executives have contemplated for more than a decade — remains some years away. The

immediate goal is to figure out a schedule that keeps the tours from competing against each other and strengthening events on both sides of the Atlantic and beyond.

Pelley offered few details on scheduling, access to tours or even negotiating media rights.

As part of the agreement, PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan will join the European Tour board as a non-executive member who would have a vote. "They have a monetary investment in our business," he said of the PGA Tour.

Pelley said the board's approval of the partnership was unanimous.

The announcement is likely to put an end to the Premier Golf League, which a year ago was courting the world's best players for a team-based circuit and funded in part by Saudi money.

Rory McIlroy, Jon Rahm and Brooks Koepka rejected the idea right before the pandemic.

Barnesville girls fend off Bellaire

BARNESVILLE - The Shamrocks built a 22-6 lead after one quarter and then had to hold on as Bellaire's furious fourth-quarter rally came up just short Friday, 55-53.

Rylee Stephens led the Shamrocks with 16 points. Kinzie Kaplet had 12 points

and Halle Markovich added 10.

The Big Reds were paced by Jayden Lowe and Bethany Bonar. Each scored 18. Allie Ault chipped in with 11.

Scoring:
BELLAIRES (53) - Miller 1, 0-0 2; Lowe 7, 1-2 18; Hamilton 0, 0-0 0; McAninch 2, 0-1 4; Ault 5,

0-0 11; Rowson 0, 0-0 0; Bonar 6, 2-2 18; Leigh 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 21, 3-5 53. BARNESVILLE (55) - Carpenter 1, 0-2 2; Markovich 5, 0-0 10; Ford 2, 2-2 8; Carter 0, 0-0 0; Luyster 0, 0-0 0; Stephens 5, 4-9 16; Kaplet 6, 0-0 12; Ytter 2, 3-7 7; Totals: 21, 9-20 55.

3-point goals: Be - Lowe (3), Bonar (4), Ault, Ba - Ford (2), Stephens (2).

• Buckeyes'

Continued from Page D1

needs to play at least six game to be eligible to play for the conference championship, unless the average number of games played throughout the league is below six.

In that case, teams would be eligible to play in the conference title game as long as they are within two of the average.

The Big Ten started its season the weekend of Oct. 24 and scheduled no open dates for makeups in its eight-week, regular-season schedule.

No. 18 Wisconsin already has lost three games after Minnesota canceled earlier this week because of a COVID-19 outbreak. That will leave the Badgers, the Big Ten West favorites, with only five regular-season games.

Day's positive tests means the Nos. 1 and 3 teams in the country would

be playing without their coaches Saturday.

Earlier this week, Alabama coach Nick Saban tested positive and displayed mild symptoms. Saban will miss the Crimson Tide's Iron Bowl against Auburn.

Day is the 19th major-college football coach this year to publicly acknowledge testing positive for the virus. Among the others to miss games were Purdue's Jeff Brohm, Florida State's Mike Norvell and Arkansas' Sam Pittman.

After having to reschedule two games this week because of COVID-19 issues, the Southeastern Conference announced a series of scheduling moves to make up games on Dec. 5 that had been previously postponed, including Alabama at LSU.

The Tide and Tigers were scheduled to play on Nov. 14, but LSU could not because of a lack of players

available due to COVID-19.

Arkansas at Missouri will also be made up on Dec. 5. The Razorbacks were forced to postpone their game with the Tigers this week and Missouri instead was scheduled to play a makeup game with Vanderbilt.

Alabama at Arkansas, Mississippi at LSU and Missouri at Mississippi State still need to be rescheduled.

Alabama at Arkansas could be played on Dec. 12, the week before the SEC championship game.

LSU already has a game with Florida scheduled for Dec. 12, but it could play Ole Miss on the day of the SEC championship game, which the conference is using to make up regular-season games not involving the division winners.

Across college football, 14 games were postponed or canceled this week.

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