

OVAC SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS



Photo by Mike Hughes

Wheeling Park's Julia Dunaway fights for the ball with Parkersburg South's Mack Moles.

# Wheeling Park Boys Capture 5A Crown



Photo by Nick Henthorn

The Wheeling Park Patriots boys soccer team, pictured with the OVAC 5A championship trophy after defeating Morgantown 6-1 for the conference crown Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

## Parkersburg So. Shuts Out Park Girls For 5A Title

**By MIKE HUGHES For The Intelligencer**  
ST. CLAIRSVILLE — If Parkersburg South's Emilee Owens wasn't already considered one of the premier goalkeepers in the state of West Virginia, then Saturday's performance against Wheeling Park should solidify her placement among those ranks. Owens turned away 11 shots in keeping a clean sheet as the Wood County Patriots earned their first OVAC title since a threepeat between 2019-21 with a 3-0 win against Wheeling Park. Simply put, Owens was brilliant in net. "Their goalie was fantastic, no doubt about

that," lamented Wheeling Park head coach Tom Smith after watching his team fire 13 shots at Owens with no luck, with two rimming off the crossbar. "She made some ridiculous saves." Owens first of many impressive stops came in the first half with her team leading 1-0. Park's Brenna Tip-ton lofted a hard-hit, high-arcing shot from the right side that looked like it would sneak it just under the crossbar. Owens alertly shot upward with hands outstretched to tip the ball over and out of danger. *Please see SHUTS OUT, Page 10*

## McLeod Scores 100th Goal In Win Over Morgantown

**By NICK HENTHORN Sports Editor**  
WHEELING — The always-intense Wheeling Park-vs.-Morgantown rivalry delivered another chapter in a familiar setting Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium, the two teams duking it out in an OVAC 5A championship game, a rematch of last year's matchup for the conference crown. Though the Mohigans and Patriots played a close game through the first half and into the second, Wheeling Park scored three goals in the last 20 minutes of play to run away with their fourth straight OVAC championship in a 6-1 triumph. "It feels good, for those kids," Wheeling Park head coach Ma-

rio Julian said of his senior class, who have now won OVAC titles each year of their high school career. "They've worked so hard every day in practice to be able to accomplish things like an OVAC Championship. It's a tournament of our valley, and it means a lot to these kids." For Wheeling Park, Wilson Hanna collected three goals for a hat trick, scoring the first and last goals of the game, while Tresz McLeod scored a pair of goals, including his 100th goal of his career. "He broke the school record against George Washington, the reigning state champions, and then to get his 100th goal in the OVAC championship, I can't say

enough about him," Julian said. "He just is such a complete player and is so dangerous out there. Everything he does is because of how hard he works. He's driven to be the best and I'm just proud of him." Josh Albrecht also scored for Wheeling Park. Morgantown's Anthony Vessecchia scored the Mohigans' lone goal of the day. Morgantown possessed the ball to a near-even split with Wheeling Park in the first half, but Park's backline of Albrecht, Evan Border, Aiden Wehrle and Max Seibert constantly kept the Mohigans one touch away from lining up a good shot on-frame. *Please see CAPTURE, Page 10*

# Maroon Knights Win First-Ever 1A-3A Championship

**By NICK HENTHORN Sports Editor**  
WHEELING — Having existed since 1865, there's not too many "firsts" left for Wheeling Central, but they managed one Saturday. The Maroon Knights claimed their first-ever 1A-3A OVAC Championship in a nail-biting PK shootout victory over Steubenville Catholic at Wheeling Island Stadium. "It's an unbelievable feeling," Wheeling Central head coach Brian Komoroski said. "It's eluded us forever. I feel great for these guys, they put in so much time, we've been so close so many years. Finally to be able to pull it out, it's a great feeling." Tied 1-1 after 80 minutes of regulation, neither team could find the back of the net through two five-minute over-

times, leading to a penalty kick shootout. It was the second straight game that went to a shootout for Steubenville Catholic, who defeated Linsly in the semifinals. This time though, it would be Wheeling Central who emerged victorious. Dominic Gianangeli, Carter Oliver, Mason Smith and finally Tino Sperlazza all made their penalty kicks, Sperlazza's the game-winner for a 4-2 PK victory. Andrew Rohde and Brandon Kuebler each made penalty kicks for Steubenville Catholic. Sperlazza made a pair of saves in the shootout before nailing the final kick of the championship game. "That's a situation, you practice them, you figure out who can hit them and who can't," Komoroski said of the shootout. *Please see KNIGHTS, Page 10*



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The Wheeling Central Maroon Knights boys soccer team, pictured with the OVAC 1A-3A championship trophy after defeating Steubenville Catholic in a PK shootout for the conference crown Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

## Weir Girls Get Best Shot For



## Beaver Local Boys Cruise To 8-1 Victory Over Weir



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## Weir Girls Get Past St. C. For OVAC 4A Title

By MIKE HUGHES  
For The Intelligencer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — Hancock County's stranglehold on OVAC girls Class 4A soccer continues.

Madelyn Cramer scored two goals and Brynn Artman added a third as the Weir High Red Riders won their second-straight OVAC 4A championship with a 3-1 victory against St. Clairsville.

The win gives Weir's its seventh OVAC championship and third since 2016.

Every other season since 2014 that Weir didn't win the title, intra-county rival Oak Glen did.

The last team not from Hancock County to win a 4A title? St. Clairsville, back in 2013.

Since then, it's been all Hancock County, and for the last two seasons, Weir is carrying the county banner.

"Weir is talented, they are great defensively and skilled everywhere and it's tough to move the ball on them," St. Clairsville head coach Wes Stoner admitted as his team fell to Weir 3-1 for the second time in as many weeks.

"They won it last year and all those kids



Photo Provided

St. Clairsville's Emma Gasber and Weir's Bianca Pittman fight for possession of the ball.

except for (two) returned and they are still talented."

The Red Riders (8-3-3) lost to Olivia's from last season's team — Bine and Baker, the latter of which accounted for 37 goals her senior season.

Please see WEIR, Page 10

## Beaver Local Boys Cruise To 8-1 Victory Over Weir

By NICK HENTHORN  
Sports Editor

WHEELING — The Red Riders had to settle for runner-up Saturday, Weir being defeated by the Beaver Local Beavers 8-1 on Wheeling Island Stadium in an OVAC 4A Championship bout.

Weir actually struck first on Saturday, Micah Hvizdack thumping through a close-range blast right before halftime, but the Beavers flipped into high gear in the second half to run away with the conference title.

Beaver Local controlled possession more often than not in the first half as well as their big second half, but the Red Rider backline had more success stymying the Beaver attack in the first half, which led to a scoreless stretch of nearly the entire first 40 minutes.

Weir keeper Ben Howard had six saves in the first half, doing his part in maintaining the 0-0 tie before Hvizdack took an opportunistic strike one minute before hitting the locker rooms.

Coming out of halftime, Beaver Local flipped the switch.

Ethan Wood tied the game in the early minutes of the second half, and Kaden Mays scored to take a 2-1 lead in the 51st minute.

Wood scored again on an improvisational play in the 55th minute, Howard defending one shot by charging out of the net and stuffing a shot attempt, but the ball squeezed out and traveled right to the waiting foot of a crashing Wood, who converted an uncontested kick.

Mays sent a short cross to Wood for the hat trick in the 56th minute.

Kaleb Mays scored on a beautiful direct kick centered up with the goal in the 63rd minute, a tally which brought the score to 5-1.

Evan Ours scored two goals while Logan Roberts added one more, all within the final 15 minutes, to seal the conference championship.

"It's a tale of two halves," Weir head coach Adam Welsh said after the game.

Please see BEAVER, Page 10

we thought we were pretty good up front and kind of wanted to establish ourselves by taking our time in moving the ball down the field," veteran Indian Creek head coach Andrew Connor said. "Our offensive line was lights-out and our backs ran hard. I thought we controlled the line of scrimmage the whole game with the exception of one drive."

Other linemen were Luke McMillion, Adam Ray, Maverick Woodbury and Brennan Moore. The tight end were Jomar Johnson and Mason Salazar.

Bellaire struck first when Kole Swierkos outleaped a pair of Indian Creek receivers on fourth-and-6 for an interception. The senior broke free

point yards and the Redskins (4-2) led 6-0 with 4:50 on the first-quarter clock.

"He did a nice job on that play," Bellaire head coach Mark Bonar said. "We weren't moving the ball on offense and that gave us a spark."

That would be the last pass Ian Starkey would throw until late in the second quarter. During the span, Indian Creek ran the ball 30 consecutive times in building a 24-14 lead at the half.

Senior tailback Zion McGee scored three touchdowns in the quarter and also ran for a pair of two-point conversions. He capped a 11-play, 69-yard drive with a 2-yard burst off left tackle and then skirted around

well out the end zone. "The good things," Bonar said. "We had some kids play really hard and they made some emotional mental mistakes. They (Indian Creek) have a nice team. They did a good job."

A fourth-down pass fell incomplete at the Indian Creek 30 on the next Bellaire possession, and the Redskins went 70 yards on 10 plays as McGee followed Nishon White and McMillion into the end zone from 3 yards out before tacking on two more points for a 16-6 margin.

Bellaire cut the deficit to 24-14 on a nifty run by Maurice Webb. The senior started to his left, then cutback across the grain and outran everyone for a 28-yard scoring play. Michael

connected with Jomar Johnson on the two-point pass for a 32-20 advantage.

Webb returned the ensuing kickoff 46 yards to the Indian Creek 35 and it took just three plays for Bellaire to score. Dippel speared Luke Heatherington in the middle of the end zone on a 11-yard hookup, but the PAT kick was blocked, leaving the Redskins on top 32-26 late in the third quarter.

Sticking to its potent ground game, Indian Creek marched 60 yards on 10 plays as Mazar plunged in from 2 yards out. A key personal foul penalty against Bellaire aided the drive. Gavin Pownall ran in for the last points of the game.

lugged the leather 17 times for 119 yards and Dippel completed half of his 16 attempts for 147 yards and the two TD Pettigrew had four catches for 101 and Heathering four for 46.

"Our young quarterback did a nice job. He really did some good things," Bonar said of his sophomore field general.

The Big Reds were flagged 11 times for 100 yards.

Indian Creek hosts Harrison Central on Friday, while Bellaire visits St. Clairsville.

#### GAME NOTE

Bellaire's Keegan Davis was taken from the field by stretcher in the second quarter with an apparent shoulder injury.

## SHUTS OUT

(Continued from Page 9)

Park had a prime scoring chance near the midway point of the second half, when leading scorer Julia Dunaway placed a ball just ahead of Katelyn Smith, who raced away to attempt a shot.

Owens watched the play develop and came sprinting out of the net, placing her body in harm's way to block the ball and prevent Smith from scoring.

When she needed to charge, she did. When a big save was needed, Owens came through. Her effort certainly wasn't lost on her head coach.

"We're fortunate we have an outstanding goalkeeper," Parkersburg South's Ron Bucholtz said. "She did make some very nice saves."

South's defense in front of Owens was also solid, and PSHS took a defensive posture with their game plan throughout most of the match.

The fact Park managed to get off 13 shots at Owens is a testament to its forwards and midfield, and the team's aggressive style of play.

"They are a quality team with a strong midfield and Dunaway and Smith, those two are lighting up the nets," Bucholtz said. "They will generate a lot of changes because of their high pressure, aggressive style of offense."

"You plan for that and design a defensive strategy, not parking the bus, but sometimes, that's what it looked like."

South's defensive strategy didn't afford its attackers many opportunities to shoot at Wheeling Park keeper Riley Perry.

But when they did, South struck true. Regan Shockey got the ball rolling when she lifted a well-placed shot from the right side over Perry's outstretched arms for a 1-0 reading.

Roughly nine minutes later, South struck again. This time, Shockey set up teammate Livy Henderson, who shot to the right of Perry. The Park keeper was out of position because of a deflection on a previous shot and couldn't scramble in time to catch up with Henderson's attempt.

That's the way the score remained until Mack Moles obtained possession in a scrum-like congestion in front of the net and booted one past Perry for the final score.

That came with 9:42 remaining. "Parkersburg South definitely deserved to win," Coach Smith said. "They outplayed us. We just didn't have it. I don't know what was going on, but we were slow to react, slow to move, and when you play like that against a quality team, you are going to get burned."

South improved to 12-0-3 with a home date against Washington High from the Eastern Panhandle set for Friday. Park, meanwhile, will look to bounce back Wednesday against Linsly.

## KNIGHTS

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"But it's not just who can hit them, it's who can hit them when they're tired and mentally exhausted. We knew the ones who could take it, and we knew the ones who wanted to take it. They stepped up and did a great job. Tino in the net - for him to be able to make a great save and then step up and make the game-winner, it's just an unbelievable thing."

Even getting out of regulation was a monumental task for the Crusaders.

After a scoreless first half which saw multiple close calls for both teams, Smith got Wheeling Central on the board in the 52nd minute, firing a long-range missile which snuck just under the crossbar and just over the outstretched arm of the keeper.

Defenses tightened up again after that, and with the game coming down to the final minute, a 1-0

defensive victory for the Maroon seemed fated.

Kuebler changed that fate for the Crusaders in the 79th minute, knocking in a header on a clean cross by Jonah Lesnefsky in a remarkable game-tying play.

"We showed a lot of heart, it was a great effort on our part," Steubenville Catholic head coach Steve Kopecha said. "Both teams played exceptionally well today. We were able to keep working - it took us about 79 minutes, we used about every minute that we could to even things back up. It's just a credit to how hard they were playing today and how hard we had to work against a quality opponent like Wheeling Central."

Sperlazza and Crusaders keeper Joseph Vranish each made diving stops to preserve the tie in the first overtime, and the second overtime ended on battered breath, with the buzzer sounding just as the

ball was up for grabs in a scrum directly in front of the Maroon Knights' goal.

Riding high off their first 1A-3A OVAC Championship, the Maroon Knights are fixing their sights on the postseason.

"First thing we've got to do is clean up some of our injuries," Komoroski said. "We've got to rest some guys, we've got some ankles, some nagging things, our guys need rest. You're trying to get through this day, but now we have a tough back-half of the season. But that's what we put it together for, so that we can get ready for OVAC's, then get ready for states, and hopefully we can have another run like we did last year."

Before that though, the Maroon Knights get back to the regular season against Oak Glen on Oct. 2. The Crusaders' next meeting will be at home against John Marshall on Oct. 3.

## WEIR

(Continued from Page 9)

Making up for said goals has been a tough part for the Riders this season.

"We were able to dominate both halves and moved the ball well, but finishing has been a problem for us all year," Weir head coach Jeremy Angelo noted. "We know that. We talked about that because we tend to make a lot of goalies look good."

Angelo was alluding to the fact Weir's attackers had a penchant for shooting right at St. C. keeper Kiya Kyer, though the sophomore did make a couple of nice diving and leaping saves as part of her 18-save effort.

Weir's first goal came as a direct result of a handball inside the box with 24:33 showing in the first half.

Angelo elected to have leading scorer Madelyn Cramer take the shot, and her brief hesitation on her approach got Kyer to guess incorrectly and move her right to block the attempt while Cramer went right.

The Red Devils knotted the score with 15:57 showing when sophomore

Emma Gasber took the ball from the left inside, brilliantly maneuvered around a defender and passed to freshman Elizabeth Morgan, who beat keeper Rayna Hoover to Hoover's left for the 1-1 reading.

Cramer put Weir ahead for good with 7:44 before the half when she unleashed a crossing shot from the left side of the pitch toward the top-right corner of the net. Kyer dove and injured her shoulder on the play, but toughed it out the rest of the game.

The Riders' final tally came with 8:55 left when Brynn Artman bent a shot into the top-left corner just past a diving Kyer for the 3-1 score.

"Losing 37 goals does hurt at some point, and you will feel that and we have, but our talent is there," Angelo said. "We are able to control games. It's just a matter of finishing. We have a few more games left and we're looking forward to the sectionals and seeing what happens."

A big advantage with Weir's experienced ros-

ter is the solid play of its midfield and back line.

St. Clairsville attempted only three shots, with Hoover finishing with two saves. The Red Devils didn't get off a legit shot attempt in the second half as Weir's defense kept scoring chances from generating.

"Our defense plays hard and good, and they play smart," Angelo said. "We have a lot of smart girls and they work hard. That comes from repetition and playing a lot together."

St. C., meanwhile, will look to regroup Monday when they travel to Steubenville to take on Class 1A-3A runner-up Catholic Central before a tough Tuesday home match with John Glenn.

"They had a couple good shots, but Kiya did great," Stoner said. "Defensively, we made a couple of switches that looked pretty good and we may stick with those later in the season."

"I have to see if we'll have a goalie the rest of the way but we have a couple of tough matches before sectional play starts."

## BEAVER

(Continued from Page 9)

"I am super proud of our boys. How we played in the first half, we came out and were up 1-0, just playing great. But (Beaver Local) came out in the second half. Give them a lot of credit, congratulations to those guys, they're a great team. They're fun to watch, they play the ball really

well, they're a lot of fun to compete against. That's the level of team we want to get to and that's what we'll be shooting for."

"Congratulations to Beaver Local, they did a great job. In the end, really proud of the boys on Weir, they did a great job too."

## CAPTURE

(Continued from Page 9)

Patriots keeper Gavin Border did his part as well. Border made a remarkable save in a one-on-one situation after a poor pass was intercepted by Morgantown in front of the goal in the 37th minute.

That was one of multiple barely-missed opportunities for the Mohigans in the first half. A shot by Morgantown's Riley Brabson was inches away from converting in the 34th minute, instead bouncing off the crossbar and out of bounds.

Hanna had given Park a quick 1-0 lead in the opening minutes of the game, but with less than 60 seconds before the half, it seemed as if the game would stay at a slim one-score advantage - that is, until Tresz McLeod rose above a crowd of players and blasted a

"somehow" header off a corner kick for his 100th goal.

The goal seemed to reanimate Wheeling Park going into the locker rooms.

"I thought the defense held up very well," Julian said. "We knew [Morgantown] had a striker who had a lot of goals, we knew he was dangerous. I thought they came in with a great plan, trying to limit our scoring offense. Getting that second goal right before the half, I thought that gave us a big boost going into halftime. It was a pretty even game up until that point. The way that we came out in the second half and got that third goal, I thought that settled things down for us. We were able to finish the way we wanted to."

Wilson Hanna ripped

a shot on the right wing with a defender draped over him in the 53rd minute for his second goal of the game, but Morgantown responded just a few minutes later, Vessicchia pounding through a close-range shot into the 60th minute to get on the board, trailing 3-1.

It was all Patriots from there on out though. Albrecht scored on a header of his own off a corner kick in the 62nd minute, while McLeod and Hanna each tallied extra goals in the final 10 minutes of action to remove any possibility of late-game drama.

With the OVAC Tournament behind them, both teams look to the back-half of their seasons. Wheeling Park plays Linsly on Oct. 2, while Morgantown travels to face Brooke on Oct. 3.

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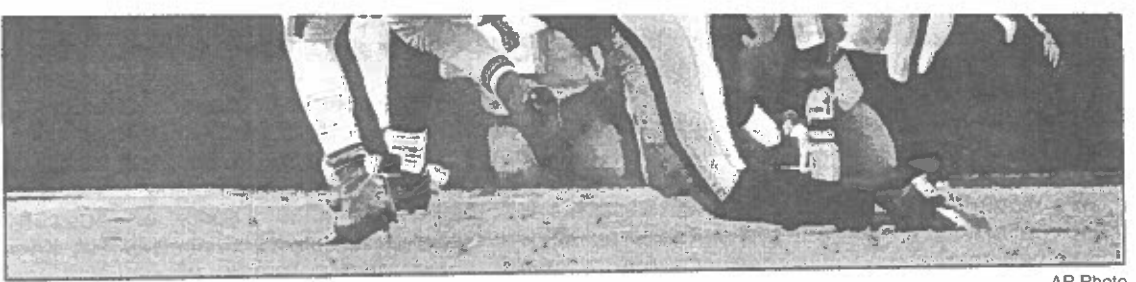
it," Raiders quarterback Gardner Minshew said. "I was happy to see how we responded. Coming in Friday's practice, we kind of turned the corner and the overall mood of the team changed and everybody was feeling really it again."

Cleveland drove to the Raiders 9-yard line with the chance to walk out with the victory, but Charles Snowden sacked Deshaun Watson on fourth down

or at least 10 yards, their most since 2010 against the Seahawks. The Raiders got rushing touchdowns from receivers Tre Tucker and DJ Turner, becoming the first team since the Jets in 2010 to get two TD runs from wideouts.

Las Vegas hadn't rushed for more than 55 yards in a game this season.

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**CLEVELAND BROWNS** quarterback Deshaun Watson is sacked by Las Vegas Raiders defensive end Charles Snowden during the second half Sunday in Las Vegas.

## Redskins' ground game too much for Bellaire

By **KIM NORTH**  
Staff Writer

**BELLAIRE** — Indian Creek played "smash mouth" football Saturday afternoon at cloud-covered Nelson Field in a 40-26 domination of mistake-prone Bellaire.

The Redskins (5-1) ran the ball an astonishing 67 times for 320 yards and five touchdowns as they took advantage of their size up front to march up and down the field, collecting 23 first downs along the way.

Indian Creek's junior-dominated offensive line averaged nearly 260 pounds between the six offensive linemen that rotate in, including the mammoth White brothers - Nishon (6-7, 385) and Semaj (6-3,



**BELLAIRE'S BRADYN** Beckett (40) and Maurice Webb (21) pursue Indian Creek's Gavin Pownall (3) during Saturday afternoon's game at Nelson Field.

360) and a pair of tight ends. The lead blocker, fullback Jayce Nett, checked in at 240.

"We thought we were pretty good up front and kind of wanted to establish ourselves by taking our time in moving the ball down the field," veter-

eran Indian Creek head coach Andrew Connor said.

"Our offensive line was lights-out and our backs ran hard. I thought we controlled the line of scrimmage the whole game with the exception of one drive."

Other linemen were Luke McMillion, Adam Ray, Maverick Woodbury and Brennan Moore. The tight end were Jomar Johnson and Mason Salazar.

See **GROUND**, Page B2

## Wheeling Central takes first OVAC championship trophy

By **NICK HENTHORN**  
Sports Editor

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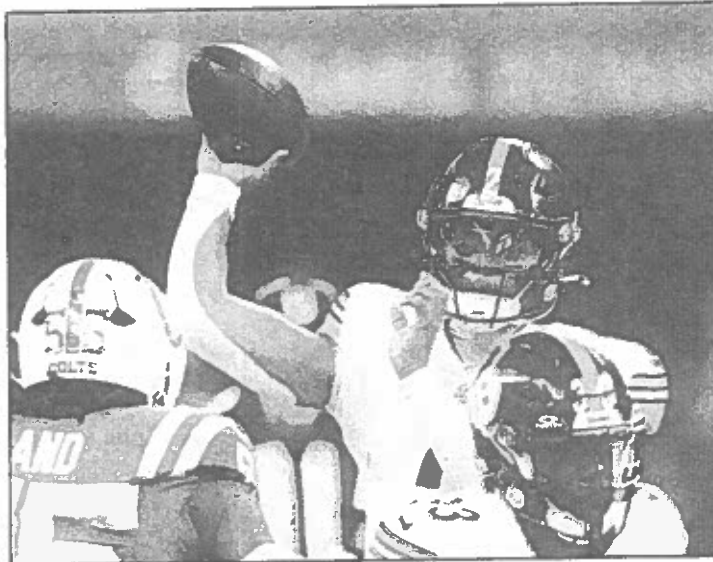
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Andrew Rohde and Brandon Kuebler each made penalty kicks for Steubenville Catholic.

Sperlazza made a pair of saves in the shootout before nailing the final kick of the championship game.

See **TROPHY**, Page B2



**PITTSBURGH STEELERS** quarterback Justin Fields throws a pass against the Indianapolis Colts on Sunday in Indianapolis.

## Flacco helps Colts squeak past Steelers

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** — When the Indianapolis Colts needed Joe Flacco to relieve the injured Anthony Richardson, the 17-year veteran kept it simple.

The 39-year-old Flacco threw two touchdown passes, and the Colts got the stop they needed in the final minute to preserve a 27-24 victory over the previously unbeaten Pittsburgh Steelers on Sunday.

"You just see the guy and hit him. That's all you do," Flacco said after going 16 of 26 for 168 yards. "Some guys like to think about every little thing and that's how they play best. But I think my personality lends itself to this kind of situation. Just don't overthink it."

The one-time Super Bowl

MVP and a longtime Steelers nemesis during his 11 seasons with Baltimore proved he could still play at a high level last season when he helped the Cleveland Browns reach the playoffs. Indy signed Flacco as a free agent to back up the injury-prone Richardson.

Richardson left twice in a span of four plays, initially taking a big hit on his right hip and later after a hard hit to the head, both on designed runs. He went straight to the locker room the second time and was ruled out by the time he returned to the sideline.

Coach Shane Steichen had no immediate update on Richardson or running back Jonathan Taylor, who hurt an ankle in the final minutes.



Photo provided  
**ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S** Emma Gasber and Weir's Bianca Pitman fight for possession of the ball.

## Weir keeps St. C in check

By **MIKE HUGHES**  
For The Times Leader

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** — Hancock County's stranglehold on OVAC girls Class 4A soccer continues.

Madelyn Cramer scored two goals and Brynn Artman added a third as the Weir High Red Riders won their second-straight OVAC 4A championship with a 3-1 victory against St. Clairsville.

The win gives Weir's its seventh OVAC championship and third since 2016.

Every other season since 2014 that Weir didn't win the title, intra-county rival Oak Glen did.

The last team not from Hancock County to win a 4A title? St. Clairsville, back in 2013.

Since then, it's been all Hancock County, and for the last two seasons, Weir is carrying the county banner.

"Weir is talented, they are great defensively and skilled everywhere and it's tough to move the ball on them," St. Clairsville head coach Wes Stoner admitted as his team fell to Weir 3-1 for the second time in as many weeks. "They won it last year and all those kids except for (two) returned and they are still talented."

The Red Riders (8-3-3) lost to Olivia's from last season's team — Bine and Baker, the latter of which accounted for 37 goals her senior season.

Making up for said goals has been a tough part for the Riders this season.

"We were able to dominate both halves and moved the ball well, but finishing has been a problem for us all year," Weir head coach Jeremy Angelo noted.

See **WEIR**, Page B2



Photo by **NICK HENTHORN**

**THE WHEELING** Central Maroon Knights boys soccer team, pictured with the OVAC 1A-3A championship trophy after defeating Steubenville Catholic in a PK shootout for the conference crown Saturday, Sept. 28 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

that play," Bellaire head coach Mark Bonar said. "We weren't moving the ball on offense and that gave us a spark."

That would be the last pass Ian Starkey would throw until late in the second quarter. During the span, Indian Creek ran the ball 30 consecutive times in building a 24-14 lead at the half.

Senior tailback Zion McGee scored three touchdowns in the quarter and also ran for a pair of two-point conversions. He capped a 11-play, 69-yard drive with a 2-yard burst off left tackle and then skirted around his left end to make it 8-6.

"We didn't stop the run very well but we did some good things," Bonar said. "We had some kids play really hard and they made some emotional mental mistakes. They (Indian Creek) have a nice team.

to 24-14 on a nifty run by Maurice Webb. The senior started to his left, then cutback across the grain and outran everyone for a 28-yard scoring play. Michael Dippel and Raekwon Pettigrew combined on the two-point pass with 7:14 left in the half. A 37-yard hookup between Dippel and Pettigrew preceded Webb's run.

McGee weaved his way through players for a 16-yard run up the middle to cap a 6-play, 60-yard drive. Starkey then found Caleb Bodo wide open in the left side of the end zone to make it 24-14.

After forcing the Redskins to punt on the first possession of the third quarter, Bellaire struck again. Dippel found Pettigrew just inside the left corner of the end zone from 15 yards out to cap a 10-play, 91-

yard drive with 1:40 left. The Redskins' offense, who is dealing with an assortment of injuries. Watson completed all eight passes in leading the Browns to a touchdown on an opening drive that lasted 9:22, but he finished 24 for 32 for 176 yards.

He entered the game having taken a league-high 16 sacks, and the Raiders took him down three times. Cleveland's offensive line was missing four starters for much of the game.

Although it's not yet October, the Browns (1-3) took a blow to their playoff chances. Only 42 teams since the 1970 merger have made the postseason

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## • Weir

Continued from Page B1

"We know that. We talked about that because we tend to make a lot of goalies look good."

Angelo was alluding to the fact Weir's attackers had a penchant for shooting right at St. C. keeper Kiya Kyer, though the sophomore did make a couple of nice diving and leaping saves as part of her 18-save effort.

Weir's first goal came as a direct result of a handball inside the box with 24:33 showing in the first half.

Angelo elected to have leading scorer Madelyn Cramer take the shot, and her brief hesitation on her approach got Kyer to guess incorrectly and move her right to block the attempt while Cramer went right.

The Red Devils knotted the score with 15:57 showing when sophomore Emma Gasber took the ball from the left inside, brilliantly maneuvered around a defender and passed to freshman Elizabeth Morgan, who beat

keeper Rayna Hoover to Hoover's left for the 1-1 reading.

Cramer put Weir ahead for good with 7:44 before the half when she unleashed a crossing shot from the left side of the pitch toward the top-right corner of the net. Kyer dove and injured her shoulder on the play, but toughed it out the rest of the game.

The Riders' final tally came with 8:55 left when Brynn Artman bent a shot into the top-left corner just past a diving Kyer for the 3-1 score.

"Losing 37 goals does hurt at some point, and you will feel that and we have, but our talent is there," Angelo said. "We are able to control games. It's just a matter of finishing. We have a few more games left and we're looking forward to the sectionals and seeing what happens."

A big advantage with Weir's experienced roster is the solid play of its midfield and back line.

St. Clairsville attempt-

ed only three shots, with Hoover finishing with two saves. The Red Devils didn't get off a legit shot attempt in the second half as Weir's defense kept scoring chances from generating.

"Our defense plays hard and good, and they play smart," Angelo said. "We have a lot of smart girls and they work hard. That comes from repetition and playing a lot together."

St. C. will look to regroup Monday when they travel to Steubenville to take on Class 1A-3A runner-up Catholic Central before a Tuesday home match with John Glenn.

"They had a couple good shots, but Kiya did great," Stoner said. "Defensively, we made a couple of switches that looked pretty good and we may stick with those later in the season."

"I have to see if we'll have a goalie the rest of the way but we have a couple of tough matches before sectional play starts."

again after that, and with the game coming down to the final minute, a 1-0 defensive victory for the Maroon seemed fated.

Kuebler changed that fate for the Crusaders in the 79th minute, knocking in a header on a clean cross by Jonah Lesnefsky in a remarkable game-tying play.

"We showed a lot of heart, it was a great effort on our part," Steubenville Catholic head coach Steve Kopcha said. "Both teams played exceptionally well today. We were able to keep working - it took us about 79 minutes, we used about every minute that we could to even things back up. It's just a credit to how hard they were playing today and how hard we had to work against a quality opponent like Wheeling Central."

Sperlazza and Crusaders keeper Joseph Vranish each made diving stops to preserve the tie in the first overtime, and the second overtime ended on bated breath, with

the buzzer sounding just as the ball was up for grabs in a scrum directly in front of the Maroon Knights' goal.

Riding high off their first 1A-3A OVAC Championship, the Maroon Knights are now fixing their sights on the postseason.

"First thing we've got to do is clean up some of our injuries," Komoroski said. "We've got to rest some guys, we've got some ankles, some nagging things, our guys need rest. You're trying to get through this day, but now we have a tough back-half of the season. But that's what we put it together for, so that we can get ready for OVAC's, then get ready for states, and hopefully we can have another run like we did last year."

Before that though, the Maroon Knights get back to the regular season against Oak Glen on Oct. 2. The Crusaders' next meeting will be at home against John Marshall on Oct. 3.

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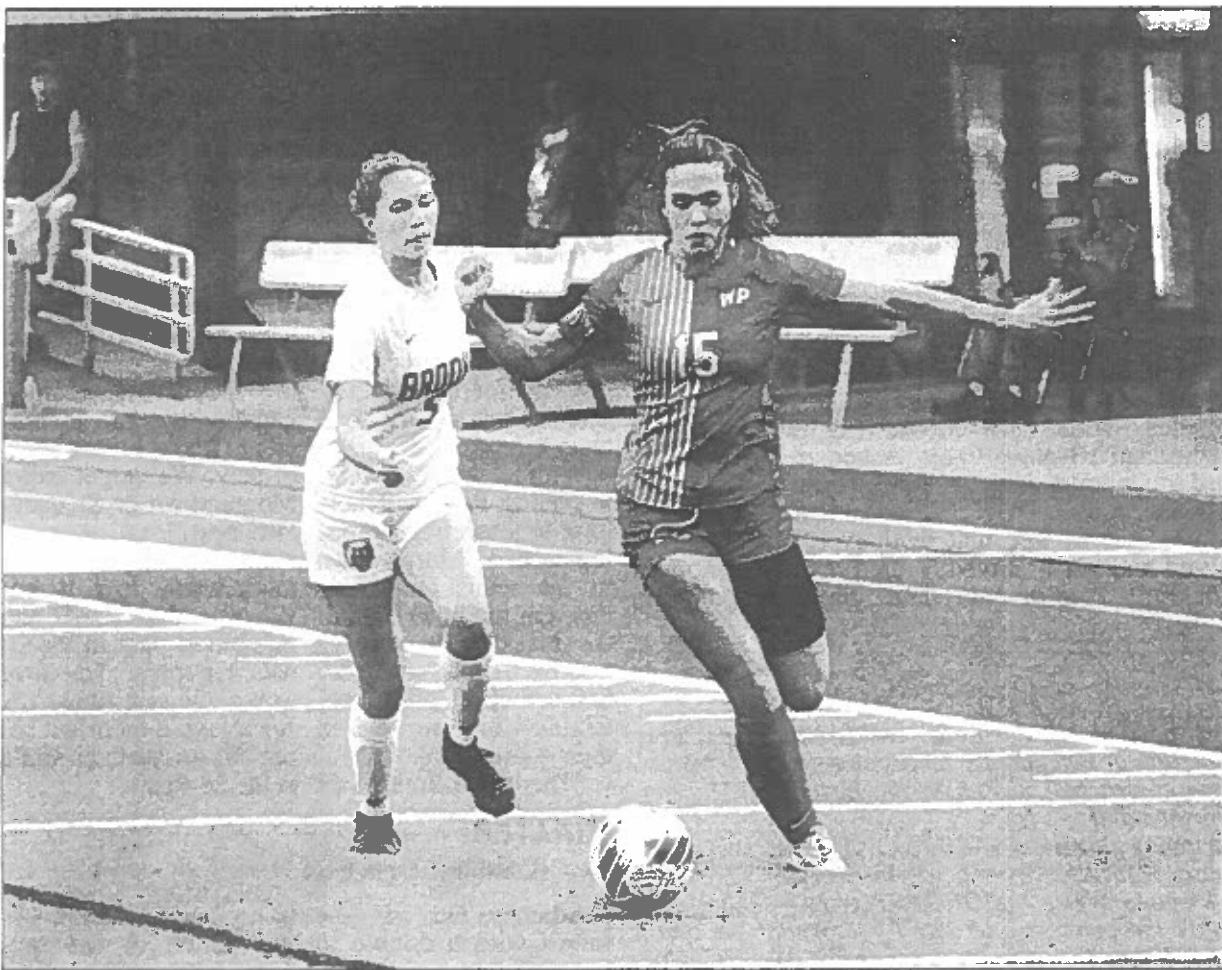


Photo by Nick Henthorn

Wheeling Park's Katelyn Smith winds up for a crosser Tuesday against Brooke inside Wheeling Island Stadium during an OVAC girls soccer quarterfinal contest. Smith scored in an 8-0 rout of the visiting Bruins.

## Wheeling Park Routs Brooke, Advances To Conference Semis

By NICK HENTHORN  
Sports Editor

**WHEELING** - The occasion was different but the results were the same Tuesday as the Wheeling Park Patriots hosted the Brooke Bruins in an OVAC girls soccer quarterfinal at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Having bested Brooke 7-1 in a regular season meeting on Aug. 29, the Patriots were once again victorious over the rival Bruins on Tuesday, advancing to the OVAC semifinals with an authoritative 8-0 win.

The Patriots' Julia Dunaway scored five goals. Brenna Tipton scored twice and Katelyn Smith booted a goal Tuesday in the win.

"They moved the ball well." Wheeling Park head coach Tom Smith said of his squad. "We're trying to work on getting the ball off of our foot, not taking too many touches, putting the ball into space and moving without the ball and they were able to do that today."

Tipton cracked open the scoring with a shot from the right wing in the seventh minute, the first blow in what would end up as a barrage of offense from Wheeling Park.

The Bruins only possessed the ball on Park's side of the field for a few minutes total in the first half, and got their first shot on goal in the 19th minute. That small step turned into another score for Park, as the Patriots flipped field quickly and Katelyn Smith ended up with a breakaway one-on-one vs. Brooke keeper Ivy Myers which Smith converted.

Myers collected 10 saves for the Bruins.

Just one minute later, Dunaway scored the first of her five goals on a breakaway play similar to Smith's.

Dunaway was back at it in the 32nd minute, thumping a header into the back of the net off of a corner kick by Molly Bradshaw.

Bradshaw had two assists. "We were able to also score on

corners with our head. I was very happy with our finishing on the corners," Smith said.

Park took a 4-0 lead into the locker rooms. Dunaway scored three more goals in the first 10 minutes of the second half.

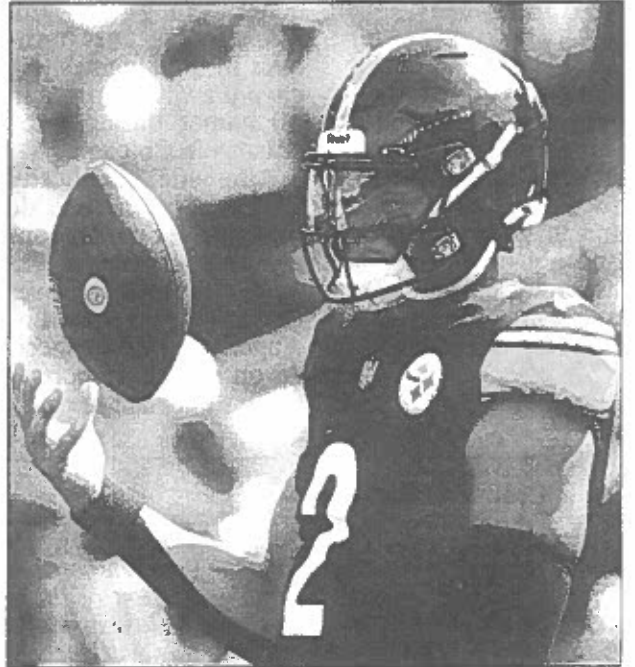
Tipton both started and finished the scoring Tuesday, putting a goal through in the 61st minute. Myers had blocked one shot, but the deflection bounced right to the waiting foot of Tipton for a close-range shot on the rebound.

Brooke finished with two shots on goal to Wheeling Park's 18.

"They're a very good team," Brooke head coach Jack Minger said. "We came out, tried to load up on our defense and tried to slow them down. We'd played them already in the regular season so we knew what they had. They're just a very good team, they move the ball, they're very physical."

Please see PARK, Page 10

## Fields Set To Make Another Start For 3-0 Steelers, Tomlin Shrugs At Wilson Timeline



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Justin Fields warms up before a game against the Los Angeles Chargers, Sunday in Pittsburgh, Sept. 22, 2024.

By WILL GRAVES  
AP Sports Writer

**PITTSBURGH** - Mike Tomlin is in no hurry to announce Justin Fields as the starting quarterback in Pittsburgh.

While Fields will again get the nod on Sunday in place of the injured Russell Wilson when the Steelers (3-0) visit Indianapolis (1-2), Tomlin stopped short of giving the job to Fields on a full-time basis, mostly because there's no need at this point while Wilson rehabs from a calf issue he aggravated a few days before the season opener earlier this month.

"When Russ gets to an appropriate point of health and we have a decision to make, I'll make it and I'll announce it and I'll be really transparent about it," Tomlin said Tuesday.

Wilson will be limited again in practice on Wednesday, as the 35-year-old has been each of the previous two weeks. Tomlin didn't

rule out Wilson's potential availability later in the week but added it will take more than just Wilson being cleared by the medical staff for him to be in consideration for a return to play.

Asked when he thinks Wilson might meet those benchmarks, Tomlin shrugged.

"We'll know when we get there," he said. "He'll not only be healthy in terms of keeping himself safe, but he'll be healthy in terms of being able to be productive and do the things that he needs to do and we need him to do."

Wilson, signed to a one-year deal in March after being cut by Denver, beat out Fields during a training camp competition that felt "open" in name only. The nine-time Pro Bowler, however, aggravated a calf injury just days before the opener in Atlanta.

Fields stepped in and has steadily improved with each passing week.

Please see FIELDS, Page 10

## 100th Anniversary Of Old Mountaineer Field Upcoming, Where Seeds Of Success Were Planted

*(EDITOR'S NOTE: This week marks the 100th anniversary of the opening of Old Mountaineer Field down on the Mon, and we celebrate it with a look back at its history from the beginnings to the players who played there, to those who worked there and to the games that were played there. TODAY: Mountaineer Field was born in 1924 out of the seeds of success as a way to step into big-time football.)*

By BOB HERTZEL  
WV News

**MORGANTOWN** - While the official opening date for old Mountaineer Field was Sep-

tember 27, 1924, which will be celebrated as the 100th anniversary of its opening, the roots began growing two years earlier.

And while athletic director Harry Stanfield guided them through the process, it was clearly the success that Clarence "Doc" Spears had as he coached the Mountaineers from 1921 to 1924, winning 30 games, losing 6 with 3 ties that created the push for a new stadium to be built to replace the athletic field.

Indeed, the stadium that was home to WVU from 1924 to 1980 was a direct descendent

of Spears' 1922 team, which is the only true unbeaten team in school history, going 10-0-1 and playing in the Mountaineers first bowl game, the East-West bowl on Christmas day in San Diego.

That team of 19 players rode a train west for four days, leaving just two days to prepare for Gonzaga, whom they would defeat, 21-13, before taking a national tour home by train through Los Angeles, San Francisco, going by Pike's Peak and then through Chicago.

The site was masterfully chosen just below Woodburn Circle along Falling Run, beating

out the Mileground.

In 1923 they created a Stadium Corporation to raise the \$500,000 to build the stadium - and now you know why they are called "the good old days" - and work got underway without much fanfare.

The work started and the headline in the Hinton Daily News read:

*New Stadium Probably Called Mountaineer Field*

And the story began this way: **MORGANTOWN** - No formal festivities or preliminaries marked the start of work on West Virginia's new football

and track stadium. There was no "laying of the cornerstone," no ceremony over breaking the ground or long speeches.

The foundation merely hired workers and sent them to Falling Run Hollow with orders to prepare the ravine for construction of the concrete stands. Everything has been done in such a rush that no thought was given to formality and thus far there has been no thought given or consideration of a name for the great field which is to house future university athletic events.

Please see OLD, Page 10

## Adames Joins 30-20 Club, Brewers Beat Pirates 7-2

By WES CROSBY  
Associated Press

makes me feel happy that after all that work we've



## St. C.'s Baker Ties For Medalist Honors At D-II Girls Golf Sectionals

## FIELDS

(Continued from Page 9)

He completed 25 of 32 for 245 yards with a touchdown and an interception — his first of the year — in a 20-10 victory over the Los Angeles Chargers on Sunday that pushed the Steelers to 3-0 for the first time since 2020.

"He's steady, he's a competitor, man, he likes to compete," Tomlin said of Fields. "He doesn't turn down things. He's aggressive in play, scrambling and so forth. It's just been fun to get to know him and not only know him as a guy but know him as a competitor."

Fields is completing 73% of his passes, well above his career aver-

age of 60%. He's also thrown just one pick in 75 attempts, an ill-advised third-quarter throw against the Chargers that was batted into the air and pulled in by Los Angeles linebacker Bud Dupree. While Fields stressed he needs to be better going forward, it's also his only turnover in three games. He gave it away 41 times in 40 games during three seasons in Chicago.

After sticking mostly to passes on the outside in wins over the Falcons and Denver, Fields was more aggressive over the middle against Los Angeles. He connected on several important throws between the hash

marks, none bigger than a dart to Calvin Austin III in the third quarter that Austin turned into a 55-yard touchdown.

Tomlin praised Fields' accuracy, something he first saw up close while attending Fields' Pro Day at Ohio State in 2021.

What Tomlin would like to see going forward from Fields is a better start. The Steelers went three-and-out on three of their first four possessions against Los Angeles, with only a methodical 13-play, 70-yard touchdown drive in between.

"We got to get that solved and get it solved quickly," Tomlin said,

later adding, "Three-and-outs and things of that nature just doesn't tee us up to play the type of ball that we desire to play."

It's a type of ball — a physical defense and an offense that is careful but also dynamic — that has made the Steelers the early front-runners in the AFC North. Fields has been an increasingly significant factor in Pittsburgh's hot start. The season, as Tomlin put it Tuesday, is a "moving train."

Asked if it's possible for the train to start moving too fast for someone with even Wilson's decorated resume to hop on and play immediately,

Tomlin demurred.

"I don't know, man," he said. "We'll know when we get there."

NOTES: OLB Alex Highsmith (groin) is likely out against the Colts. Nick Herbig, who had two sacks last week against Los Angeles, will fill in. ... G

Isaac Seumalo (pectoral) could ramp up his participation this week. The veteran has been out since late August. ... RB Jaylen Warren's status is up in the air after Tomlin pulled him from the Chargers' game after noticing Warren was limping.

## PARK

(Continued from Page 9)

"We just played our very best, our girls didn't give up for 80 minutes. They're just a very good team."

With the victory, Wheeling Park will now look to a meeting against top-seeded Morgantown in the semis on Thursday. On the other side of the bracket, Parkersburg South travels to play Steubenville after defeating University 5-0 in their quarterfinal.

"There is," Smith said

when asked if there is more urgency surrounding the OVAC tourney games. "It's the tournament, it's a higher level of play. We've got either Morgantown or Steubenville next."

"For the girls, our seniors would love to advance in the OVAC and be able to play in the finals. Of course, you have to win the semifinal first. It's all about them and being able to see them smile is the best part."

## PIRATES

(Continued from Page 9)

Adames led off the fourth with a double to left. He later scored from third when Ortiz grounded to first baseman Billy Cook, who threw what could have been the start to an inning-ending double play past shortstop Isiah Kiner-Falefa.

Falter gave up four runs and five hits, striking out five and walking one in five innings.

"That time of the year," Falter said. "Just, you know, body is getting a little tired. That's it. ... I've had some ups and some downs. I'm just trying to finish the year strong. That's it."

Pirates reliever Isaac Mattson walked Adames and Hoskins with the

bases loaded before being pulled in the seventh. William Contreras scored on a sacrifice fly from Frelick.

## TRAINER'S ROOM

Pirates: 1B Rowdy Tellez and OF Michael A. Taylor were designated for assignment. In corresponding moves Tuesday, OF Joshua Palacios and INF Liover Peguero were recalled from Triple-A Indianapolis.

## UP NEXT

RHP Luis Ortiz (6-6, 3.43 ERA) will take the mound for the Pirates, opposite Brewers RHP Freddy Peralta (11-8, 3.69), as the three-game series continues Wednesday.

## GOLF

(Continued from Page 9)

## Five-Team Affair Close At Wheeling Park

WHEELING - University, Brooke, John Marshall, Wheeling Park and Wheeling Central all collided Tuesday at Wheeling Park Golf Course, finishing in that order on the Par-34 course - Brooke and John Marshall tying for second.

Linsly had a single participant representing the Cadets, Chloe Patt, who shot a 64.

University won the day with a team total of 189. Their top finisher was Abby Kingora, who carded a 45.

Brooke and John Marshall each shot 202's as a team. The Monarchs housed the day's medalist, Jocelyn Blatt, who shot a 43. Brooke's top performer was Ellie McDonald, who shot a 46.

Just two strokes behind them were the Wheeling

Park Patriots at a 204. Alicia Harvath was their top finisher with a 47. The Maroon Knights finished with a team total of 225. Kaila Blatt was Central's best Tuesday with a 53.

## VOLLEYBALL

## Purple Riders sweep Maroon Knights

## MARTINS FERRY

- Martins Ferry dealt Wheeling Central a three-set defeat Tuesday, Purple topping Maroon 25-17, 27-25, 25-23.

Lindsey Best led the way with 11 kills, 17 digs and four aces. Giana Chirpas had eight kills, three aces and two blocks. Maddie Lucas finished with eight kills eight digs and two aces. Nicole Hammerquist smacked down five blocks. SJ Koller led the team with 22 digs plus five assists. Olivia Harkness led with 26 assists plus four aces.

## OLD

(Continued from Page 9)

Newspapers and individuals have proposed White Stadium after Dr. I.C. White, prominent alumnus and treasurer of the Stadium Corporation, Stansbury Field after H.A. Stansbury, director of athletics who is devoting all of his time to raising the \$500,000 and other such names.

However, none of these suggestions are receiving attention and at the end of the financial campaign years, it seems certain that since the structure is being built by thousands of subscriptions it will not be named after one person.

The first thought that comes to a West Virginian in this connection is that it be named Mountaineer Field. As time passes and university teams occupy a more important place in athletics, the word Mountaineer is becoming more distinctive. West Virginia is the Mountain State of the Union, and in as much as the state university teams are representative of the whole commonwealth it is only natural that its athletics should be Mountaineers, their home should be Mountaineer Field.

And so it was that work was conducted and the landmark was built right there near the middle of the city.

Opening day came on Sept. 27, 1924, but as it would be with the new Mountaineer Field in 1980 when the stadium was opened before it was completely done, so the work went down to the last minute on the old Mountaineer Field.

On September 23, 1924, a week before the opening game, this item appeared in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette:

Yesterday, the last portion of concrete for the completion of that portion of the stadium contracted for last spring was finished and today workmen are stripping forms from the seats. By next Saturday, the day when West Virginia Wesleyan comes in to play the opening game, these seats, located at the extreme west end of the south stands will be available for use if necessary although contractors want all visitors to keep away from the area until it has had ample time to "set."

In any event, without this final section, there will be about 18,000 seats — or twice as many as were provided at the old Southside Park Field in Fairmont, where the opener was played for the past four years. However, seat boards are being placed on the recently completed stretch and if needed the section will be ready to accommodate 1,000 persons.

Today, about 50 workmen are engaged in trimming down the bank and getting ready to pour the 12-foot concourse, which is to run the entire length of the south stands and which will carry spectators to their various sections.

The game, history tells us, went off spectacularly. The Pittsburgh Press of September 28, 1924, carried a full photo layout of the stadium and the victory over West Virginia Wesleyan, while the Post-Gazette's report ran under this headline:

14,000 see West Virginia beat Wesleyan, 21-6

Mountaineers christen stadium with victory over Buckhannon team; Jewel Murrin and Skeeter

Farley are cast in hero roles; three bands lend color to event unsurpassed in the history of Morgantown.

And then this is how Paul G. Sullivan began his story:

MORGANTOWN — It has been a big date for Morgantown and a prodigious one for West Virginia University.

A new stadium, 14,000 howling fans, a perfect September afternoon, two clawing, fighting grid squads and three marching bands combined to lend color and excitement to a picture the likes of which has never before been witnessed in the hills of the New Dominion.

To top it all off Tubby Spears' [Note, yes they called him Tubby] new outfit carried on a 21-6 triumph over her ancient foe, the roaring Bobcats of West Virginia Wesleyan.

With such a setting there had to be heroes and Jewel Murrin and Skeeter Farley filled the role for the Old Gold and Blue. Jewel and Skeeter were awarded opportunities to achieve stardom and be it said neither was found wanting in the pinches.

Statistics tell us that Gus Eckberg controlled the game for WVU on the ground with 25 carries for 101 rushing yards while Francis Farley, known as Skeeter, completed 8 of 16 passes for 104 yards and two touchdowns with Julian Murrin on the receiving end of both scores while catching five passes for 72 yards.

We can only imagine the celebration that went on amid the Roaring Twenties in downtown Morgantown on that night.

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LOCAL SCHEDULE

(all events begin at 5:30 p.m. unless noted)
Wednesday, Sept. 25
BOYS SOCCER
Olney at Union Local
VOLLEYBALL
Oak Glen at Wheeling Central
Wellsville at Union Local
Monroe Central at Buckeye Local
Frontier at Shadyside
CROSS COUNTRY
Harrison Central Quad at Harrison Central, 4:30 p.m.

SPORTS ON TV

Wednesday, Sept. 25
COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL (WOMEN'S)
7 p.m.
ACCN - Miami at Florida St.
BTN - Penn St. at Purdue
ESPNU - UCF at Kansas
SECN - Alabama at Tennessee
9 p.m.
BTN - Wisconsin at Minnesota
ESPNU - Arizona St. at TCU
SECN - Georgia at Arkansas
FUTSAL (MEN'S)
8:20 a.m.
FS2 - World Cup 2024: Spain vs. Venezuela, Round of 16, Andijan, Uzbekistan
10:50 a.m.
FS2 - World Cup 2024: Paraguay vs. Afghanistan, Round of 16, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
MLB BASEBALL
2 p.m.
MLBN - Seattle at Houston
10 p.m.
MLBN - Regional Coverage: San Diego at L.A. Dodgers
OR San Francisco at Arizona (9:40 p.m.)
NHL HOCKEY
7 p.m.
NHLN - Preseason: Washington at New Jersey
10 p.m.
NHLN - Preseason: Los Angeles at Vegas
SOCCER (MEN'S)
12:45 p.m.
CBSSN - UEFA Europa League: Porto at Bodo/Glimt
3 p.m.
CBSSN - UEFA Europa League: Real Sociedad at Nice
10 p.m.
CBSSN - Canadian Championship: Toronto FC at Vancouver, Final
TENNIS
6 a.m.
TENNIS - Tokyo-ATP, Beijing-WTA Early Rounds
10 p.m.
TENNIS - Tokyo-ATP, Beijing-ATP/WTA Early Rounds
WNBA BASKETBALL
7:30 p.m.
ESPN - Playoffs - First Round: Indiana at Connecticut, Game 2
9:30 p.m.
ESPN - Playoffs - First Round: Phoenix at Minnesota, Game 2

MLB STANDINGS

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB, WCGB, L10, Str, Home, Away. Includes American League (East, Central, West) and National League (East, Central, West) divisions.

x-clinched division
z-clinched playoff berth

NFL STANDINGS

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA. Includes American Conference (East, South, West) and National Conference (East, South, West) divisions.

Monday's Games
Buffalo 47, Jacksonville 10
Washington 38, Cincinnati 33
Thursday
Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday
Cincinnati at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Denver at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Houston, 1 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
New Orleans at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
New England at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
Washington at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Las Vegas, 4:25 p.m.
Kansas City at L.A. Chargers, 4:25 p.m.
Buffalo at Baltimore, 8:20 p.m.
Monday
Tennessee at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Detroit, 8:15 p.m.

Steubenville Big Red Defeats Brooke In OVAC Tournament

By ANDREW GRIMM For The Intelligencer
STEUBENVILLE -

Big Red's second meeting with Brooke in 12 days was nearly a carbon copy of the first. When the teams met on Oct. 12, also at Harding Stadium, the Bruins took an early lead then Big Red got rolling and pulled away. Tuesday night in a rematch in the OVAC Tournament Class 5A quarterfinals, Brooke again took an early lead, but once again it was Steubenville that pulled ahead, this time for a 9-3 victory to reach the semis. Big Red won the prior meeting, 8-3. In that meeting, Big Red scored six unanswered after trailing 3-2. Tuesday Steubenville again netted five-straight to take control after falling behind 2-1 early.

made some mistakes, but I'm proud of the kids. They didn't let down and kept playing hard. (Credit to) Big Red, they found a couple things and capitalized on them. I wish them luck as they go through. Cole Bowers netted his first of three on a penalty kick in the 23rd minute, then, about 11 minutes late, Llewellyn sent a perfectly placed throw in to Luke Dinovo, who steered it into the net to make it 3-2 Big Red at halftime. Several other Steubenville chances came close but did not connect. In the second half, similar to the first meeting, those chances started to go in. Just 11 seconds after the second half started, Hicks crossed a ball to Cole Bowers who knocked it into the net out of midair for a 4-2 lead. After another Big Red goal was waived off for offside, Hicks again had a perfect set up, this time to Brady Dinovo to make it 5-2 less than four minutes into the second half. Cole Bowers connected again with under 15 minutes to play, then, after Hile's goal for Brooke inside the 10 minute mark, Hicks had another good set up of Luke Dinovo, then Landon Bowers, who also had Big Red's first goal, scored on a long shot and Loot connected from in close to cap the scoring. Big Red's Robby Lucas made six saves. Brooke's Chance Brotzstek made 14 saves before leaving with an injury. The Bruins used three keepers in the game as his replacement was also injured. With the win, Big Red moves on to take on No. 2 seed Morgantown on the road Thursday in the semifinals. Pepe said Brooke was hoping to pick up a game Thursday with another team that didn't advance in the tournament. "We get another opportunity against Morgantown to see what we're made of," coach Bowers said. "We know it's going to be a task, they're good and sound. We'll prepare (today) and see what we can do."

OH FOOTBALL PLAYOFF RATINGS

Top 16 schools from each region in the final report Oct. 27 will qualify for the playoffs.
Division III
Region 11 - 1. Cols. Bishop Watterson (5-0) 13.8293, 2. Steubenville (5-0) 11.3586, 3. Tri-Valley (5-0) 10.35, 4. The Plains Athens (5-0) 9.7, 5. Granville (5-0) 8.6, 6. Dover (3-2) 8.25, 7. Bloom-Carroll (4-1) 7.55, 8. Cols. Eastmoor Acad. (3-2) 6.95, 9. Licking Valley (4-1) 6.2747, 10. Jackson (3-2) 6.1, 11. Buckeye Valley (3-2) 5.9, 12. Circleville (3-2) 5.85, 13. Sheridan (3-2) 5.8, 14. Cols. Bishop Hartley (3-2) 5.25, 15. Indian Creek (4-1) 5.1204, 16. Carrollton (3-2) 4.75, 17. Warren (4-1) 4.6, 18. Cols. Beechcroft (3-2) 4.4616, 19. Marietta (4-1) 4.2, 20. New Philadelphia (2-3) 4.05
Division IV
Region 15 - 1. Indian Valley (5-0) 10.25, 2. St. Clairsville (5-0) 9.85, 3. Circleville Logan Elm (4-1) 7.8, 4. New Lexington (4-1) 7.2848, 5. Chillicothe Unionto (4-1) 6.45, 6. Cols. East (4-1) 6.2687, 7. Waverly (3-2) 5.75, 8. West Holmes (3-2) 5.4, 9. Canton South (2-3) 4.8, 10. Falls Philo (3-2) 4.7192, 11. Jonathan Alder (3-2) 4.3, 12. Fairfield Union (2-3) 4.15, 13. Marengo Highland (2-3) 2.7, 14. Beaver Local (2-3) 2.6102, 15. Maysville (2-3) 2.45, 16. East Liverpool (1-4) 2.05, 17. Vinton County (1-4) 1.9, 18. Heath (1-4) 1.75, 19. Hebron Lakewood (1-4) 1.7122, 20. Cols. Marion-Franklin (1-4) 1.6051
Division V
Region 17 - 1. South Range (5-0) 10.6576, 2. Akron Manchester (5-0) 9.85, 3. Garaway (5-0) 8.1755, 4. Poland Seminarv

W.VA. FOOTBALL PLAYOFF RATINGS

Table with columns: School, Rating, W, L. Includes Parkersburg, W.Va. - The WVSSAC Playoff Ratings are calculated using a points-based system, factoring in each team's record and strength of schedule. The top 16 teams in each class enter the playoffs at the conclusion of the regular season.

OVAC SOCCER

Boys Semifinals Wednesday
#4 St. Clairsville travels to #1 Beaver 7:00 p.m.
#3 Weir travels to #2 Harrison Central 7:00 p.m.
Thursday
#5 Linsly travels to #1 Wheeling Central 5:00 p.m.
#3 Trinity travels to #2 Steubenville Central 5:00 p.m.
Girls Wednesday
#4 Oak Glen travels to #1 Weir 6:00 p.m.
#3 Beaver travels to #2 St. Clairsville 6:00 p.m.
Thursday
#4 Magnolia travels to #1 Wheeling Central 7:30 p.m.
#3 Linsly travels to #2 Steubenville Catholic 5:00 p.m.
Friday
#4 University travels to #1 Wheeling Park 5:00 p.m.
#3 Parkersburg South travels to #2 Steubenville 5:00 p.m.

FOOTBALL CARD

(all games start at 7 p.m. unless noted)
WEEK SIX
Friday, Sept. 27

Pac-12 Files Federal Lawsuit Against Mountain West Over \$43 Million In "Poaching" Fees

The Pac-12 is suing the Mountain West over what it calls an unlawful and unenforceable "poaching penalty" that would cost the rebuilding conference more than \$40 million for adding Boise State, Fresno State, Colorado State and San Diego State, according to a lawsuit filed Tuesday in federal court. The antitrust complaint was filed in the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of California and is seeking a declaratory judg-

Mountain West. With four already on board, the total is \$43 million. Mountain West Commissioner Gloria Nevarez said in a statement the Pac-12 agreed to the fees and acknowledged that they were essential to her conference members. "The provision was put in place to protect the Mountain West Conference from this exact scenario. It was obvious to us and everyone across the country that the remaining mem-



## SPORTS

Thursday,

September 26, 2024

## St. C. girls stop visiting Beaver Local

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — The St. Clairsville girls soccer team punched its ticket to the OVAC Class 4A championship game, and exacted a bit of revenge in doing so Wednesday night.

The second-seeded Red Devils (8-3) doubled up No. 3 Beaver Local (7-6) by a 4-2 count in semifinal action on the artificial pitch inside Red Devil Stadium. They will now face top-seeded Weir which blanked Hancock County rival Oak Glen, 2-0, in the other semifinal on Thursday in Weirton.

The title tilt is scheduled for Saturday at noon, back at Red Devil Stadium. St. Clairsville will be seeking its first championship since going back-to-back in 2012 and 2013. It also lost to Oak Glen in the 2022 title match.

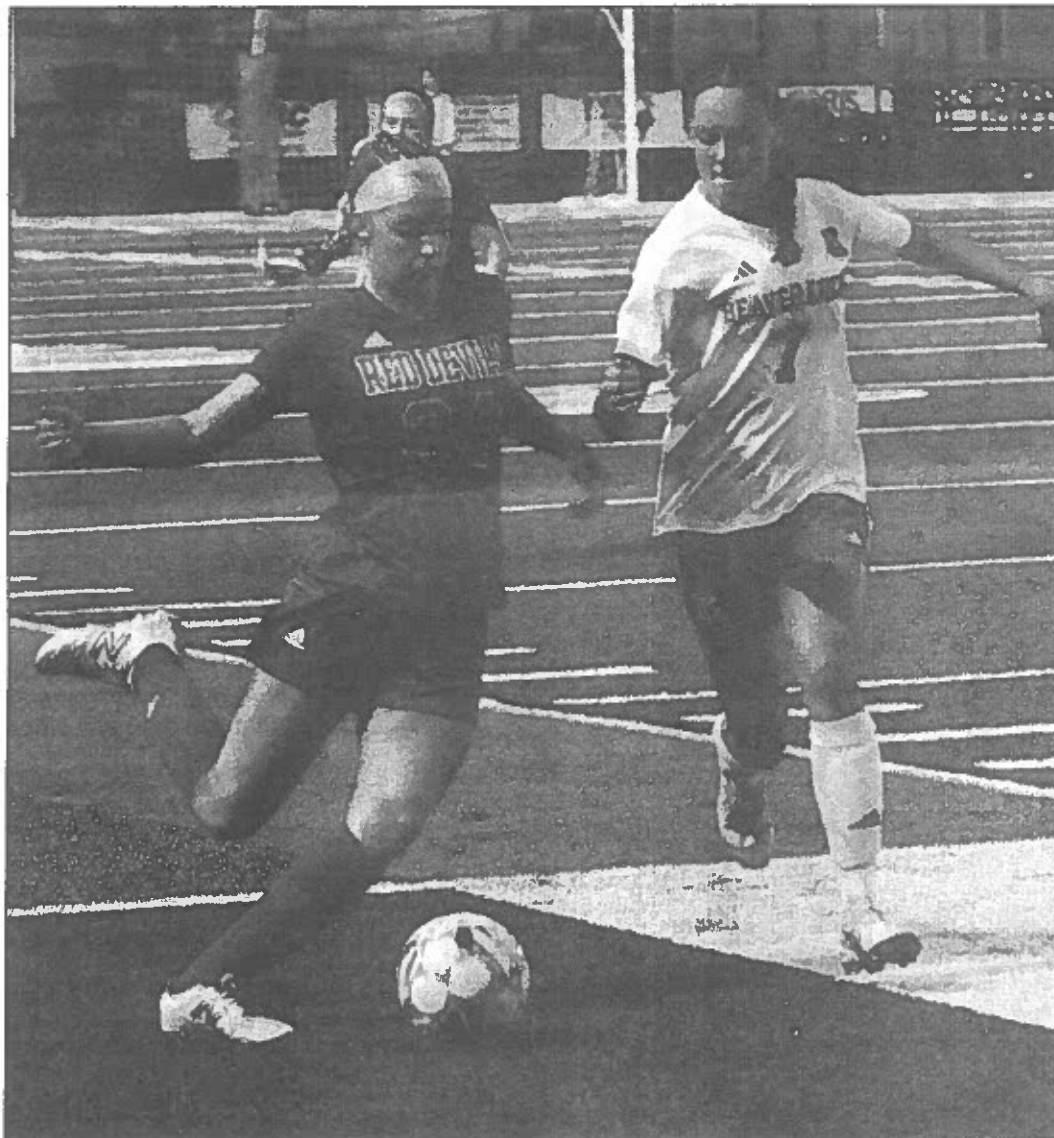
"It's been a couple of years," St. Clairsville head coach Wes Stoner said of reaching the final. "We played at home a couple of years ago in the finals, so it feels good to be playing here again."

The Red Devils dropped a 3-1 verdict to the Beavers at home a couple of weeks ago, but took control with three unanswered goals in a 5-minute span of the first half. They scored on three consecutive shots as sophomore Ashlynn Lednik recorded the first and third in the 16th and 21st minutes, respectively. They were sandwiched around a net-finder from senior Isabella Yeager in the 17th minute.

When asked if making the finals with this young squad is ahead of schedule, Stoner thought for a minute before replying, "I'd say so ... yeah. They haven't really accomplished anything yet, but where they are in this stage of their careers is great. I can't be impressed enough with them."

"We've got a tough test on Saturday, though," he added. "Weir is really good and we have already played them this season"

Lednik's first tally came



ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Ashlynn Lednik (24) readies a shot as Beaver Local's Peyton Dunn defends during Wednesday night's OVAC Class 4A Tournament semifinal on the artificial pitch at Red Devil Stadium in St. Clairsville. Both players scored two goals in the Red Devils' 4-2 victory.

on a left-footed blast that slithered along the turf to the right of goalkeeper Sophia Smith. The assist went to Emma Gasber and came on the hosts' second attempt of the match. A minute later, Yeager also let loose a left-footed blast from the left wing that fooled Smith as it rolled into the net to her right from 20 yards, with Gasber earning her second helper. Lednik made it 3-0 from 15 yards off an assist by Maxim Lussier.

"The girls were finishing really well," Stoner noted of the three-goal onslaught. "However, I think we got too confident up 3-0. We can't

let that happen Saturday."

However, Beaver Local freshman Peyton Dunn scored twice within 13 minutes to cut the margin to 3-2, but that was as close as the Beavers would get.

"Beaver is no slouch team. They are an excellent team, especially No. 7 (Dunn)," Stoner praised. "We eventually had to mark her because she was making us pay."

With the lead we wanted to play a little more defensively than offensively," Stoner said. "We weren't rushing everyone up to get a goal but kind of came organically because of our ball movement."

Freshman Elizabeth Morgan gave the Red Devils some much-needed breathing room when she found the back of the net in the 56th minute. Olivia McKeever charted the helper.

"That goal was huge," Stoner admitted. "It allowed us to play more defensively and we had Ashlynn marking Dunn the entire way."

St. Clairsville goalkeeper Kiya Kyer recorded five saves, with just one coming in the second half. Smith finished with just three saves.

The two teams could possibly meet in the Division II sectional tournament in a couple of weeks.

## Weir High cages Harrison Huskies with a 2-1 victory

By MIKE HUGHES  
For The Times Leader

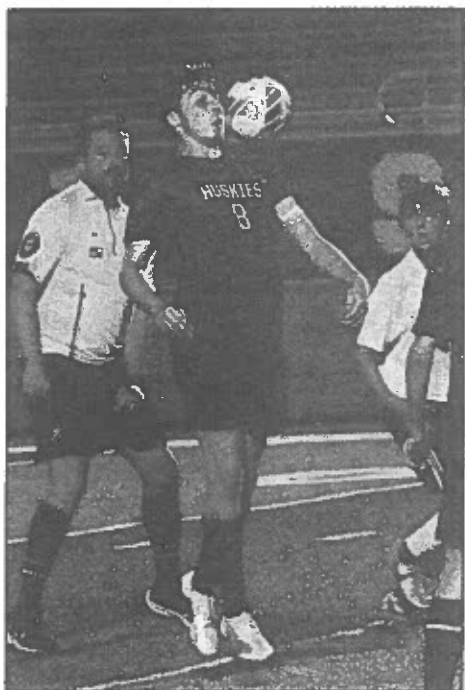
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The win advances the Riders to Saturday's 4A finale opposite Beaver Local. That match will get underway at 2 p.m. at Wheeling Island Stadium. The top-ranked Beavers advanced via a 6-0 shutout of St. Clairsville.

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Shot attempts at Harrison keeper Brady McAfee were few and far between in that match, as McAfee needed only four saves to keep his sheet clean. It appeared this match may be similar



Harrison on the defensive.

Having Howard back in net was beneficial as Red Riders defenders played the ball back to the keeper, who booted it down the field averting any potential runs.

The second half saw Weir finally get on the board.

Rowan Stevens took a pass near the right-side front of the net, dribbled around a defender, got past McAfee and slipped a shot into the right corner at 34:36 to knot the score.

Harrison had a prime opportunity to retake the lead at 48:47 when Noah Thaxton's direct kick lofted in perfect position for Kayne Dunkel to aim a header at the net. Dunkel got solid contact, but Howard was able to leap up and make the save.

The score remained tied until with less than eight minutes to go, the visitors found an opening.

Caiden Lamp rushed the left-side of the net, managed to slip a defender



PITTSBURGH PIRATES starting pitcher Paul Skenes pauses after giving up an RBI single to St. Louis Cardinals' Nolan Arenado during the fourth inning of a baseball game in St. Louis.

## Pirates brought Skenes along slowly, the star pitcher now understands

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Paul Skenes didn't love the plan the Pittsburgh Pirates laid out for him in the spring, the one designed to bring the most talented pitching prospect in a generation along slowly and protect the right arm on which so much relies.

Looking back after a dazzling season in which the 22-year-old rookie somehow surpassed even the most outsized expectations — starting the All-Star Game, flirting with the occasional no-hitter, holding his own against the best in the game and making the Pirates matter in a way they haven't in nearly a decade — Skenes admits the decision to have him begin his first full professional season in Triple-A so he could build his endurance up gradually was the right call.

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And the best part? It's almost over. While Skenes is looking forward to his final start of the season when the Pirates visit Yankee Stadium this weekend, he's already thinking about what awaits in 2025, when the training wheels might come off, or at least be loosened considerably.

"Next year, it's hopefully just going to be 'Take the ball and pitch,'" said Skenes, who is 11-2 with a 1.99 ERA in 22 starts in the majors. "So I'm looking forward to that."

## Judge vs. Ohtani a possibility as playoffs approach

THE MAJOR League Baseball playoffs are approaching and a Shohei Ohtani vs. Aaron Judge matchup in the World Series looms as an enticing October possibility.

While the rooting interests of baseball fans vary widely, there's little doubt MLB and television executives are drooling over the potential matchup between two of the top sluggers of this generation. Ohtani recently be-

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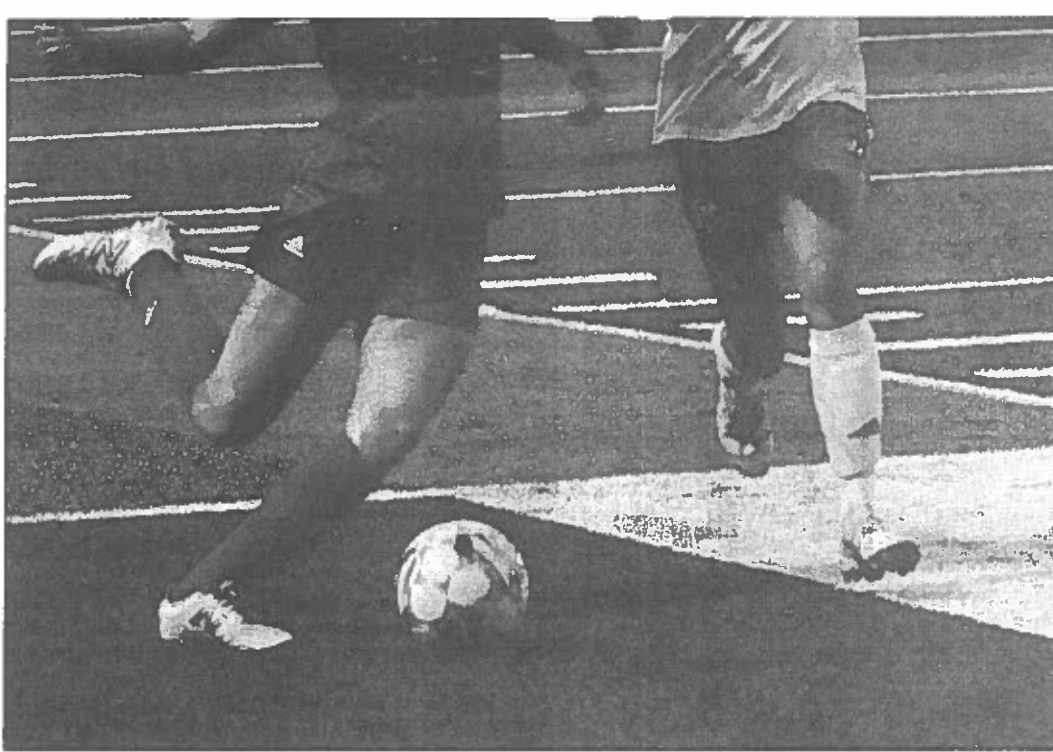
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It appeared this match may be similar during the early goings.

Harrison took the early lead when Ocean Rogers struck a bouncing pass in midair past a diving Ben Howard on his left side near the post for the first score.

That came with 33:18 left in the first half.

Weir wasn't generating many scoring opportunities early as Harrison controlled the field.

Midway through the first half, however, that started to shift.

Utilizing crisp passes and team speed,



**HARRISON CENTRAL'S** Brady Elliott plays the ball off his chest vs. Weir during their OVAC semifinal matchup in Cadiz on Wednesday.

Weir started to spend more and more time in the host's end of the pitch.

No goals were scored, but McAfee had to scramble on more than one occasion to keep the ball out of the net.

Tests aimed at the Huskies keeper were becoming more frequent. Meanwhile, Weir did a better job keeping

Harrison on the defensive.

Having Howard back in net was beneficial as Red Riders defenders played the ball back to the keeper, who booted it down the field averting any potential runs.

The second half saw Weir finally get on the board.

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Caiden Lamp rushed the left-side of the net, managed to slip a defender reversing field and send a well-placed cross into the middle of the box.

Kalen Kuhns received the pass cleanly and booted it past McAfee for the 2-1 reading.

Howard finished with 10 saves for Weir while McAfee totaled nine in the loss.

Weir will now try to slow down a Beavers' squad that features the Ohio Valley's scoring leader in Ethan Wood. The Beavers previously bested Weir 4-0 earlier this season.

## UL Jets sweep Wellsville in high school volleyball action

MORRISTOWN — Union Local swept past Wellsville Wednesday night in high school volleyball action. The Jets won by scores of 25-14, 25-9 and 25-12.

Leading the way was Olivia Wortman with 17 kills. Delaney Butler added 17 assists, while Alayna Logan charted 15 assists. Emma Yager finished with 11 digs, one more than Brooklyn Burley and two more than Myah Martin. Laken Vinskovich added seven kills and six digs.

**Tigers Strike vs. Frontier**

SHADYSIDE — Shadyside swept the

visiting Frontier Cougars on Wednesday, notching the victory 25-16, 25-20, 25-20.

Ali Weatherson was wheeling and dealing for the Tigers, tallying 23 assists. Addasyn Melanko and Giovanna Hines were the primary beneficiaries, each with eight kills to lead Shadyside. Melanko also had six aces.

Aubrey Nippert led the team with 14 digs to go with a pair of aces. Josey Greenwood had nine digs of her own and four aces.

**BOYS SOCCER**

John Marshall 5, Union Local 1

MOUNDSVILLE — Five different players scored goals as the Monarchs got back in the win column with a victory against visiting the Jets in an OVAC consolation game.

Trent Burton, Cooper Berlin, Quinton West, Narada Braun and Bradyn Ruckman notched goals for John Marshall. Berlin added three assists and Burton had two.

Tripp Bonds earned the victory with eight saves and Juan Delgado notched two.

Izayha Hall netted the lone goal for the Jets.



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On top of that, Ohtani (Los Angeles Dodgers) and Judge (New York Yankees) play in the nation's top two media markets for two of the sport's most storied franchises.

Of course, there will be 10 other teams trying to block those teams from the Fall Classic. Last season, the Texas Rangers beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 4 games to 1 for their first title in franchise history.

In the American League, the Yankees, Cleveland Guardians, Houston Astros and Baltimore Orioles have all clinched four of the six playoff spots.

The Kansas City Royals and Detroit Tigers are in the best position to claim the final two AL wild cards, but the Seattle Mariners and Minnesota Twins are among the teams in pursuit.

In the National League, the Dodgers, Philadelphia Phillies, Milwaukee Brewers and San Diego Padres have claimed four of the six spots. The New York Mets, Arizona Diamondbacks and Atlanta Braves are fighting for the last two wild cards.

See MLB, Page B4

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## Weir Turns Tables On Harrison Central In Conference Semis

By MIKE HUGHES  
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## CENTRAL

(Continued from Page 11)

Central's losses this season have come against two formidable opponents, Fort Frye and Williamstown. They scored a victory over James Monroe in week one and last week vs. Midland Trail. In that outing, Isaac Martin ran for 110 yards on 15 carries and scored a touchdown, while quarterback Nico Kusic, who moved there this week after an injury to entrenched starter Seth Cover, threw for 130 yards. Kade Koroneos racked up 85 yards receiving.

Junior Max Olejasz, standing at 6 feet 6 inches, caught a 16-yard touchdown pass and intercepted a pass on defense. Olejasz is Central's leading receiver with 10 receptions for 238 yards and four touchdowns.

"Max is a very talented athlete," Young said. "He didn't play last year and he came back out this year. We're very glad for that because he's a nice target for our quarterbacks to throw to. He's really acclimating to playing outside linebacker and because of his physical attributes he's able to cover a lot of ground and we're able to throw the ball to him. He has good skills catching the ball and he's definitely an added feature to our offense and our defense. We're proud to see him progress in the manner

he has."

The Maroon Knights are currently seeded inside the 16-team playoff picture in W.Va. Class AA, at No. 11. Central has battled through injuries in key spots and high-caliber opponents in their first half of the year. With the opponents not getting any easier in the second half of the year - all of their scheduled opponents after Friday have a winning record save one team, Pittsburgh-based Carrick - this week's game could be a springboard or a stumbling block. Young is hoping to see improvements from his team, both physically and mentally.

"We still have three starters out," Young began. "Our quarterback, a running back and a receiver who are in turn a defensive back and a free safety. We have some key pieces missing. But we're Wheeling Central and it's next man up, that's our mentality. The biggest thing we have to do is play aggressive together, execute on offense and be aggressive on defense. Special teams have shown some great things the last couple weeks too. We were able to block a punt, we've been able to put teams in a hole when we kickoff - it's three phases, offense defense and special teams. We want to continue getting better in all three phases."

## MILITARY

(Continued from Page 11)

As for the Shamrocks, their latest outing was a 63-0 thumping of River. Casey Carpenter completed all six of his pass attempts which went for 144 yards and three touchdowns, two to Eli Messenger. Trey Toliver and Koby Jones each had productive rushing days as many Shamrocks were in the mix for touches in the rout.

"I think we're in a good place right now," Allen said. "What we've been harping on the kids is, we've won some games, played really well but we don't want to get complacent. We're trying to keep improving every single day. I thought last week they did a good job of that. I'm happy with where we are right now and happy with how the kids are working."

what it is. Every time I'm asked about it I say it's one of those things, when the kids graduate it's something they can look back on and be proud of. But when you're in it, we don't talk about it, that's not a concern. We're focusing on that day and that week, everything else takes care of itself."

Allen is expecting an energized atmosphere on Military Appreciation Night. He says matching the energy of the moment will be necessary to picking up their 32nd straight W.

"Just your basics," Allen said of Friday's keys. "We've done a good job of winning the turnover battle this year. We've only turned it over a couple times. Continue to take care of the football, continue to avoid mistakes.

## BUCKET

(Continued from Page 11)

low their kids to get prepared week-in and week-out."

The Huskies (1-4) are looking to stop a four-game losing skid after defeating Claymont (28-13) in the opener. They have lost to Buckeye Trail (44-41), Malvern (38-28), Union Local (49-13) and Fort Frye (51-6). Those teams are a combined 16-4.

When asked what has been the difference between week 1 and the other four, Hayes was quick to point out the source.

"Our health. We haven't been healthy since the opener," he stressed. "It started in week 2 with one or two injuries and then it snowballed on us. Each of the last four weeks we have lost at least one starter. It's been a weird combina-

tion of injuries. We had a kid jump up for a pass and jam his knee when he landed. We had another that was stood up in a pile and hurt his back trying to twist out of it. Unfortunately, they are the type of injuries that take a significant time to heal."

While some players will miss Friday's game, Hayes said he and his staff will "coach the other kids up and get them ready to play. We are well aware of the task ahead of us. Many of our young kids have been thrust into the fire once again."

St. Clairsville is a little nicked up, as well. It played the last game-and-a-half without senior tailback Dino Burk who was injured in the first half of the Martins Ferry game. However, backups - Gavin Schoolcraft and

Ollie Muhly - have filled in more than adequately. Schoolcraft has run for more than 100 yards the last two weeks, while Muhly eclipsed that barrier last Friday.

"Both Gavin and Ollie had great nights last week," McLean said. "They were led by our offense line and the tight ends and fullbacks that lead them through the line."

McLean was really pleased with the way the Red Devils played on the defensive side of the ball in the second half against the Potters.

"We were on the road again against a new opponent on our schedule. We hadn't played them in 4-5 years, so it was a chess match in the first half. They have some nice athletes," he said of

East Liverpool. "I think we held them to 10 yards of total offense in the second half. Coach Frye and his staff did a remarkable job of getting our kids into positions to make plays."

As the second half of the season gets going, McLean said it's time to get re-focused.

"Now is the time to regroup and re-evaluate our situation," he said. "We need to clean up our injuries and mistakes and get ready for the stretch run."

He added that the Huskies will test them.

"This is always a physical game. They like to run the ball from some awkward sets that aren't typical of what we've seen so far," McLean continued. "They keep you guessing as to what they are going to do."

## BATTLE

(Continued from Page 11)

They have wins over Musselman and Parkersburg South as well. Park is ranked No. 3 in W.Va. Class AAAA and No. 6 in MetroNews' power rankings.

Big Red and Park are also 1-2 in the current OVAC Class 5A standings.

"They're probably one of the better teams in West Virginia and one of the better teams in the Ohio Valley," Saccoccia said. "They have very good athletes, they're very well-coached and good in all of the sports."

The local aspect of the game is also not lost on the veteran coach.

"Anytime we play someone so close to us there's a lot of interest, a lot of local interest especially," Saccoccia said. "We'd like to play more Valley teams, but the ones we play are the ones that want to play and this is going to be a very good game."

"It's not a far distance to travel, but it's always fun to get on the road once in a while and see other stadiums and play in other stadiums. We've been to New Philly and Youngstown State so far. Wheeling Park has a stadium that's one of the nicest places in the Valley."

The meeting is the 19th all-time between the programs. Big Red leads the series by a wide 17-1 margin. It is the fourth-straight year the schools have met, Big Red winning each of the last three since the teams started playing one another again.

Last year at Harding Stadium, Park led early and it was a one-score game at halftime before Steubenville pulled away to win 42-28.

Current Big Red quarterback Aidan Davis played a big role in that game - for Wheeling Park. He threw for 320 yards. Both teams nearly eclipsed 500 yards of offense

in that game.

Though he knows the capability to pass is there, Daugherty also knows Big Red likes to run the ball and can do so very effectively as well.

"It's Steubenville football, they're going to run the ball, and if you fall asleep, they're going to throw the ball on you," Daugherty said. "They're going to use a ton of personnel groupings and a ton of formations. It's a credit to them, you don't see it very often in high school football all that often that a team has all of those personnel groupings and formations."

"Half the job against them is just lining up correctly and then playing football after that. We're familiar with them and they're familiar with us."

For his part, Saccoccia expects a lot of the same from the Patriots, making for an interesting match up.

"They have a tailback (Brennan Wack) they really like getting the ball to so we're definitely going to have to be ready to stop the run," Saccoccia said. "They're equally good at running inside and outside so our defense is going to have to stay balanced and they're very good on the play-action pass."

"They run a similar defense to what we do, so offensively they will be a challenge."

"I say it all the time and I mean this, the bigger the game, the more the little things matter. I thought that after the first drive Friday night we were very disciplined and did the little things well against Dover. That's what we're going to have to do again this week, we're going to have to eliminate pre-snap penalties, protect the football and be good tacklers."

Wack averages 176 yards per game on the ground and has already found the end zone 10 times

## FRIDAY

(Continued from Page 11)

### LOCAL SCHEDULE

(all events begin at 5:30 p.m. unless noted)

**Thursday, Sept. 26**  
**BOYS SOCCER**  
 OVAC Semifinals, TBA  
 Tyler Consolidated at Monroe Central, 5 p.m.

**GIRLS SOCCER**  
 OVAC Semifinals, TBA

**GOLF**  
 St. Clairsville and Wheeling Central at The Jones Course, TBA

**VOLLEYBALL**  
 Wheeling Park at Lincoln, 5 p.m.  
 Wheeling Central at Tyler Consolidated  
 Union Local at St. Clairsville  
 Linsly at Martins Ferry  
 Weir at Brooke  
 John Marshall at Parkersburg South  
 Harrison Central at East Liverpool  
 Barnesville at Caldwell  
 Beaver Local at Indian Creek  
 Bridgeport at Brooke  
 Cambridge at Bellaire  
 Steubenville at Steubenville Catholic  
 Clay Battelle at Madonna  
 Jeff Morgan, Pa. at Hundred  
 Trinity at St. John Academy, 6 p.m.  
 Magnolia at Parkersburg Catholic, 6 p.m.

### MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE									
East Division									
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away	
z-New York	92	66	.582	—	—	6-4	L-2	42-35	50-31
z-Baltimore	88	70	.557	4	+4	5-5	W-2	44-37	44-33
Boston	80	79	.50312½	4½	5-5	L-1	37-41	43-38	
Tampa Bay	78	80	.494	14	6	5-5	L-2	42-39	36-41
Toronto	74	85	.46518½	10½	3-7	W-1	39-39	35-46	
Central Division									
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away	
x-Cleveland	92	67	.579	—	—	7-3	W-2	50-28	42-39
Detroit	84	74	.532	7½	—	8-2	W-4	41-36	43-38
Kansas City	84	74	.532	7½	—	3-7	W-2	45-36	39-38
Minnesota	82	76	.519	9½	2	4-6	W-1	43-34	39-42
Chicago	38	120	.24153½	46	5-5	W-2	22-58	16-62	
West Division									
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away	
x-Houston	86	73	.541	—	—	5-5	L-1	46-35	40-38
Seattle	82	77	.516	4	2½	6-4	W-1	46-32	36-45
Texas	74	83	.471	11	9½	3-7	L-1	44-37	30-46
Oakland	68	89	.433	17	15½	4-6	W-1	37-42	31-47
Los Ang.	63	95	.39922½	21	3-7	L-2	32-46	31-49	
NATIONAL LEAGUE									
East Division									
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away	
x-Philadel.	94	65	.591	—	—	4-6	W-1	54-27	40-38
New York	87	70	.554	6	+½	6-4	L-1	46-35	41-35
Atlanta	86	71	.548	7	½	6-4	W-3	43-33	43-38
Washington	69	89	.43724½	18	2-8	L-3	36-41	33-48	
Miami	58	100	.36735½	29	3-7	L-1	30-51	28-49	
Central Division									
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away	
x-Milwauk.	90	68	.570	—	—	4-6	L-1	45-33	45-35
St. Louis	81	77	.513	9	6	7-3	W-4	44-37	37-40
Chicago	81	78	.509	9½	6½	5-5	L-1	42-36	39-42
Cincinnati	76	83	.47814½	11½	4-6	L-3	39-42	37-41	
Pittsburgh	74	84	.468	16	13	4-6	W-1	39-41	35-43
West Division									
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away	
z-Los Ang.	93	64	.592	—	—	6-4	L-1	50-29	43-35
z-San Diego	91	66	.580	2	+4½	9-1	W-5	45-36	46-30
Arizona	87	71	.551	6½	—	5-5	L-3	42-35	45-36
San Fran.	79	79	.50014½	8	7-3	W-5	41-37	38-42	
Colorado	60	98	.38033½	27	4-6	L-3	36-41	24-57	

x-clinched division  
 z-clinched playoff berth

### NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Buffalo	3	0	0	1.000	112	48
NYJ	2	1	0	.667	67	52
Miami	1	2	0	.333	33	72
N. Eng.	1	2	0	.333	39	57
South						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Houston	2	1	0	.667	55	74
Indian.	1	2	0	.333	58	61
J-ville	0	3	0	.000	40	85
Tenn.	0	3	0	.000	48	78
North						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Pitts.	3	0	0	1.000	51	26
Balt.	1	2	0	.333	71	78
Cleve.	1	2	0	.333	50	67
Cincin.	0	3	0	.000	68	80
West						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Kan. City	3	0	0	1.000	75	62
L.A. Ch.	2	1	0	.667	58	33
Denver	1	2	0	.333	52	46
Vegas	1	2	0	.333	58	81
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Phila.	2	1	0	.667	70	63
Wash.	2	1	0	.667	79	88
Dallas	1	2	0	.333	77	89
NYG	1	2	0	.333	45	64
South						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
N. Or.	2	1	0	.667	103	44
Tampa	2	1	0	.667	64	62
Atlanta	1	2	0	.333	49	61
Carolina	1	2	0	.333	49	95
North						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Minn.	3	0	0	1.000	85	30
Detroit	2	1	0	.667	62	53
Gr. Bay	2	1	0	.667	75	58
Chicago	1	2	0	.333	53	57

**Thursday**  
 Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 8:15 p.m.

**Sunday**  
 Cincinnati at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 Denver at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at Houston, 1 p.m.  
 L.A. Rams at Chicago, 1 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 New Orleans at Atlanta, 1 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.  
 New England at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.  
 Washington at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 Cleveland at Las Vegas, 4:25 p.m.  
 Kansas City at L.A. Chargers, 4:25 p.m.  
 Buffalo at Baltimore, 8:20 p.m.

**Monday**  
 Tennessee at Miami, 7:30 p.m.  
 Seattle at Detroit, 8:15 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 3**  
 Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 8:15 p.m.

**Sunday, Oct. 6**  
 Baltimore at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
 Cleveland at Washington, 1 p.m.  
 Dallas at Pittsburgh, 8:20 p.m.

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

**Wednesday's Games**  
 Seattle 8, Houston 1  
 Cleveland 5, Cincinnati 2  
 Kansas City 3, Washington 0  
 Detroit 7, Tampa Bay 1  
 Toronto 6, Boston 1  
 Baltimore 9, N.Y. Yankees 7  
 Minnesota 8, Miami 3  
 Chicago White Sox 4, L.A. Angels 3, 10 innings  
 Texas at Oakland, late

**Thursday's Games**  
 Kansas City (Wacha 13-8) at Washington (Corbin 6-13), 1:05 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay (Alexander 6-5) at Detroit (Olson 4-8), 1:10 p.m.  
 L.A. Angels (Anderson 10-14) at Chicago White Sox (Flexen 2-15), 2:10 p.m.  
 Texas (Rocker 0-1) at Oakland (Ginn 0-1), 3:37 p.m.  
 Baltimore (Burnes 15-8) at N.Y. Yankees (Cole 7-5), 7:05 p.m.  
 Miami (Bellozo 3-4) at Minnesota (Festa 2-6), 7:40 p.m.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

**Wednesday's Games**  
 Philadelphia 9, Chicago Cubs 6  
 Pittsburgh 2, Milwaukee 1  
 Cleveland 5, Cincinnati 2  
 Kansas City 3, Washington 0  
 Minnesota 8, Miami 3  
 St. Louis 5, Colorado 2  
 San Francisco at Arizona, late  
 San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, late

**Thursday's Games**  
 N.Y. Mets at Atlanta, ppd.  
 Milwaukee (Civale 7-9) at Pittsburgh (Keller 11-11), 12:35 p.m.  
 Kansas City (Wacha 13-8) at Washington (Corbin 6-13), 1:05 p.m.  
 St. Louis (Gibson 8-8) at Colorado (Freeland 5-8), 3:10 p.m.  
 Miami (Bellozo 3-4) at Minnesota (Festa 2-6), 7:40 p.m.  
 San Diego (Musgrove 6-5) at L.A. Dodgers (Buehler 1-6), 10:10 p.m.  
 N.Y. Mets at Atlanta, ppd.

### SPORTS ON TV

**Thursday, Sept. 26**  
**1 p.m.**  
 FS2 — NYRA: America's Day at the Races  
**3 p.m.**  
 ESPN — Army at Temple  
**7 p.m.**  
 ACCN — Louisville at Virginia Tech  
 SECN — Texas at Mississippi  
 BTN — Rutgers at Michigan  
**10 p.m.**  
 BTN — Wisconsin at UCLA  
**6 p.m.**  
 BTN — Iowa at Rutgers  
**8:20 a.m.**  
 FS2 — World Cup 2024: Iran vs. Morocco, Round of 16, Bukhara, Uzbekistan  
**10:50 a.m.**  
 FS2 — World Cup 2024: Portugal vs. Kazakhstan, Round of 16, Andijan, Uzbekistan  
**8 a.m.**  
 GOLF — DP World Tour: The ACCIONA Open de Espana, First Round, Club de Campo Villa de Madrid, Madrid  
**11:30 a.m.**  
 GOLF — 2024 Presidents Cup: U.S. vs. International Team, Royal Montreal Golf Club, L'ile-Bizard, Quebec  
**HORSE RACING**

**1 p.m.**  
 FS2 — NYRA: America's Day at the Races  
**3 p.m.**  
 MLB — Regional Coverage: Texas at Oakland (3:35 p.m.) OR St. Louis at Colorado  
**7 p.m.**  
 MLB — Regional Coverage: Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees OR Miami at Minnesota (7:40 p.m.)  
**11 p.m.**  
 MLB — San Diego at L.A. Dodgers (10:10 p.m.)  
**8:15 p.m.**  
 NFL FOOTBALL  
 Prime Video — Dallas at N.Y. Giants  
**7 p.m.**  
 NHL HOCKEY  
 NHLN — Preseason: Boston at N.Y. Rangers  
**12:40 p.m.**  
 SOCCER (MEN'S)  
 CBSSN — UEFA Europa League: Rangers at Malmo  
**3 p.m.**  
 CBSSN — UEFA Europa League: Athletic Bilbao at AS Roma  
**6 a.m.**  
 TENNIS — Tokyo-ATP, Beijing-WTA Early Rounds  
**10 p.m.**  
 TENNIS — Tokyo-ATP, Beijing-ATP/WTA Early Rounds

### NFL MOVES

ARIZONA CARDINALS — Signed DL Naquan Jones to the active roster from Miami's practice squad. Placed DL Justin Jones on injured reserve. Re-signed OL Austen Pleasants to the practice squad. Placed OL Jackson Barton on the practice squad injured list.  
 CAROLINA PANTHERS — Signed WR Sam Pinckney to the practice squad.  
 CHICAGO BEARS — Signed

DB Ameer Speed to the practice squad. Released DB Ro Torrence.  
 CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed T Germain Ifedi to the active roster from the practice squad. Placed G Wyatt Teller on injured reserve. Signed Ts Sebastian Gutierrez and Ricky Lee and DE Elerson Smith to the practice squad. Released LB Lujji Vilain from the practice squad.

### FOOTBALL CARD

(all games start at 7 p.m. unless noted)

**WEEK SIX**  
**Friday, Sept. 27**  
**PREP**  
 Shenandoah at Buck. Local  
 Fort Frye at Waterford  
 East Liverpool at Cambridge River at Bridgeport  
 Canfield at Dover  
 St. Clairs. at Harrison Central  
 Hancock, Md. at Hundred  
 P. South at John Marshall  
 New Philadelphia at Linsly  
 Fair. Christ. at Martins Ferry  
 Magnolia at Monroe Central  
 Buck-Up at Morgantown  
 Brooke at Lincoln  
 Berkeley Springs at Oak Glen  
 Barnesville at Shadyside  
 Edison at Toronto  
 Valley Christian at Wellsville  
 Union Local at Beaver Local  
 Beallsville at Valley  
 So. Local at East Palestine  
 Buck. Trail at Tusky Catholic  
 Cameron at Tyler Con.  
 Pitts. Perry at Whg Central  
 Steubenville at Whg Park  
 Trinity Chr. at Con. Valley  
 Frontier at Federal Hocking

**Saturday, Sept. 28**  
**PREP**  
 Indian Creek at Bellaire, noon  
 Madonna at Steub. Catholic

**COLLEGE**  
 Fmt State at Wheeling, 1 p.m.  
 Ohio St. at Mich. St., 7:30 p.m.

### OVAC SOCCER

**Boys Semifinals Thursday 1A-3A**  
 #5 Linsly travels to #1 Wheeling Central 7:00 p.m.  
 #3 Trinity travels to #2 Steubenville Central 5:30 p.m.

**5A**  
 #4 University travels to #1 Wheeling Park 6:00 p.m.  
 #3 Steubenville travels to #2 Morgantown 5:00 p.m.

**Finals Saturday 4A**  
 #3 Weir vs #1 Beaver at 2:00 p.m. at Wheeling Island Stadium.

**Girls Semifinals Thursday 5A**  
 #4 Wheeling Park travels to #1 Morgantown 7:30 p.m.  
 #3 Parkersburg South travels to #2 Steubenville 6:00 p.m.

**Finals Saturday 4A**  
 #2 St. Clairsville vs #1 Weir 12:00 noon at St. Clairsville High School  
 #2 Steubenville Catholic vs #1 Wheeling Central 10:00 AM at St. Clairsville HS

### MLB MOVES

CLEVELAND GUARDIANS — Reinstated LF Steven Kwan from the 10-day IL. Optioned CF Myles Straw to Columbus (IL).  
 KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Reinstated RHP Michael Lorenzen from the 15-day IL. Optioned RHP Steven Cruz to Omaha (IL).  
 MINNESOTA TWINS — Reinstated RHP Justin Topa from the 60-day IL. Recalled RHP Jorge Alcala and INF/OF Austin Martin. Optioned LHP Brent Headrick to St. Paul (IL). Placed OF Matt Wallner on the 10-day IL. Designated LHP Cole Irvin for assignment.  
 NEW YORK YANKEES — Placed LHP Nelson Cortes on the 15-day IL, retroactive to Sept. 22. Recalled RHP Cody Poteet from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL).  
 OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Sent RHP Brandon Bielak outright to Las Vegas (PCL).  
 TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Recalled RHP Brett de Geus from Buffalo (IL). Optioned RHP Tommy Nance to spring training complex.  
 CHICAGO CUBS — Recalled OF Kevin Alcantara from Iowa (IL). Optioned INF Miles Mastrobuoni to spring training complex.  
 MIAMI MARLINS — Sent OF Cristian Pache outright to Jacksonville (IL).  
 PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Released CF Michael A. Taylor and 1B Rowdy Tellez.  
 ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Placed LHP JoJo Romero on the 15-day IL, retroactive to Sept. 22. Recalled RHP Chris Roycroft from Memphis (IL).

### Central Dominates In OVAC Semis



Photo by Nick Henthorn

Wheeling Central's Sarah Zende races down the field during Central's 14-0 victory over Weir in the OVAC 1A-3A girls soccer semifinals. 11 players scored for the Maroon Knights against the Red Riders, led by a hat trick from Maddie Kirchner. Elizabeth Steele and Kaila Blatt each scored two goals. With the victory, Wheeling Central advances to the championship game, set for Saturday against Steubenville Catholic at St. Clairsville High School.

### St. Clairsville Advances To 4A OVAC Finals

By KIM NORTH Staff Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE - The St. Clairsville girls soccer team punched its ticket to the OVAC Class 4A championship game, and exacted a bit of revenge in doing so Wednesday night.

The second-seeded Red Devils (8-3) doubled up No. 3 Beaver Local (7-6) by a 4-2 count in semifinal action on the artificial pitch inside Red Devil Stadium. They will now face top-seeded Weir which blanked Hancock County rival Oak Glen, 2-0, in the other semifinal on Thursday in Weirton.

The title tilt is scheduled for Saturday at noon, back at Red Devil Stadium. St. Clairsville will be seeking its first championship since going back-to-back in 2012 and 2013. It also lost to Oak Glen in the 2022 title match.

"It's been a couple of years," St. Clairsville head coach Wes Stoner said of reaching the final. "We played at home a couple of years ago in the finals, so it feels good to be playing here again."

The Red Devils dropped a 3-1 verdict to the Beavers at home a couple of weeks ago, but took control with three unanswered goals in a 5-minute span of the first half. They scored on three consecutive shots as sophomore Ashlynn Lednik recorded the first and third in the 16th and 21st minutes, respectively. They were sandwiched around a net-finder from senior Isabella Yeager in the 17th minute.

When asked if making the finals with this young squad is ahead of schedule, Stoner thought for a minute before replying, "I'd say so ... yeah. They haven't really accomplished anything yet, but where they are in this stage of their careers is great. I can't be impressed enough with them."

"We've got a tough test on Saturday, though," he added. "Weir is really good and we have already played them this season

Lednik's first tally came on a left-footed blast that slithered along the turf to the right of goalkeeper Sophia Smith. The assist went to Emma Gasber and came on the hosts' second attempt of the match. A minute later, Yeager also let loose a left-footed blast from the left wing that fooled Smith as it rolled into the net to her right from 20 yards, with Gasber earning her second helper. Lednik made it 3-0 from 15 yards off an assist by Maxim Lussier.

"The girls were finishing really well," Stoner noted of the three-goal onslaught. "However, I think we got too confident up 3-0. We can't let that happen Saturday."

However, Beaver Local freshman Peyton Dunn scored twice within 13 minutes to cut the margin to 3-2, but that was as close as the Beavers would get.

"Beaver is no slouch team. They are an excellent team, especially No. 7 (Dunn)," Stoner praised. "We eventually had to mark her because she was making us pay."

With the lead we wanted to play a little more defensively than offensively," Stoner said. "We weren't rushing everyone up to get a goal but kind of came organically because of our ball movement."

Freshman Elizabeth Morgan gave the Red Devils some much-needed breathing room when she found the back of the net in the 56th minute. Olivia McKeever charted the helper.

"That goal was huge," Stoner admitted. "It allowed us to play more defensively and we had Ashlynn marking Dunn the entire way."

St. Clairsville goalkeeper Kiya Kyer recorded five saves, with just one coming in the second half. Smith finished with just three saves.

The two teams could possibly meet in the Division II sectional tournament in a couple of weeks.

# Sets Up OVAC 5A Final vs. Mohigans



AP Photo  
Georgia head coach Kirby Smart looks on during the first half of a game against Kentucky, Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024, in Lexington, Ky.

## Alabama, Georgia Meet For Early Top-Five Showdown

By JOHN ZENOR  
AP Sports Writer

It's still Alabama and Georgia, with all the made-for-TV trappings. Star quarterbacks. Stout defenses. Top 5 rankings and NFL prospects galore. All Saturday night's clash between the fourth-ranked Crimson Tide and second-ranked Bulldogs lacks is the make-or-break, elimination game-style magnitude. It's also minus the familiar storyline of Kirby Smart vs. Nick Saban, protege vs. mentor.

Whatever happens, the national and Southeastern Conference championship hopes of the loser will be damaged but hardly dashed. National showcase games are nothing new for either team. "We've been on the national stage a lot, especially the last three to four years," Smart said. "So it's the reason kids want to come to Georgia. They say, 'I want to play

in games like that.'" It's September, not December or January when Georgia and Alabama customarily meet. And with the newly expanded College Football Playoff field, there's still little reason to doubt that both will be among the top 12 teams at the end of the season.

Lo and behold, Alabama is a home underdog for the first time since Nick Saban's debut season, 17 years ago.

"Yeah, that's interesting," said Kalen DeBoer, Saban's first-year successor and a coach with a 12-2 record against ranked teams in his own right. "I actually didn't know that. Yeah, welcome to the SEC, right?"

Welcome to the SEC, indeed. Georgia still has to play No. 1 Texas, No. 5 Tennessee and No. 6 Mississippi.

Please see **SHOWDOWN**, Page 12



Photo by Nick Henthorn  
Wheeling Park's Tresz McLeod (center) celebrates a first-half goal with his teammates Max Seibert (4) and Aiden Wehrle (10) during the Patriots' OVAC 5A semifinal against University at Wheeling Island Stadium.

By NICK HENTHORN  
Sports Editor

WHEELING - Wheeling Park defeated one Monongalia County foe Thursday, with another coming down the pipeline.

With a spot in the OVAC boys soccer 5A championship up for grabs at Wheeling Island Stadium, the top-seeded Patriots took the bull by the horns in their semifinal matchup against the four-seeded University Hawks, blowing past the visitors 8-1.

Wheeling Park took control of the game early on, leading 4-0 after just 16 minutes of play time and going into halftime up 6-0.

"It was a fun game because the kids shared the ball, made great passes, defended really well, and finished," Wheeling Park head coach Mario Julian said. "We put some really nice shots in. I told the guys at halftime - six goals, six assists, we were finding people. They were really quality goals."

Those first four goals all came from the same source - senior Tresz McLeod, who went for the kill from the opening kickoff, scoring in the fifth, 12th, 14th and 16th minutes of the game.

His second and third goals looked similar to each other, both shots off his right foot at a harsh

angle across the posts, while his third goal came on a first-touch rocket after a crosser by Wilson Hanna squared the ball in front of the net.

"Today, if he would've played more he would've just done magic things with the ball," Julian said. "He's that talented of a player. He got assists today too. He was sharing the ball, and he put some good moves and finishes out there."

McLeod produced a fifth goal a few minutes into the second half, a score which brought the deficit to 7-0.

Please see **PARK**, Page 12

## Wheeling Central Outlasts Linsly In Conference Semifinals

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

EAST WHEELING - Thursday's OVAC Class 1A-3A boys soccer tournament semifinal match between Wheeling Central and Linsly turned into an instant classic on the artificial pitch at the 16th Street Field.

The top-seeded Maroon Knights, despite being outshot 18-1 in 80 minutes of regular time and a pair of 5-minute overtimes, used Mason Smith's penalty kick in the sixth round of penalty kicks to outlast No. 5 Linsly and advance to Saturday's championship match against second-seeded Steubenville Catholic at Wheeling Island Stadium.

The Crusaders held off No. 3 Trinity; the defending small school titlists, also in a shootout after the teams battled to a 5-all draw after 80 minutes.

"You have to know where you're going to place the ball before you go up to the line," the junior said of his match-winner. "I knew I was going top left before I got up there. The goalkeeper had been going down because it would be a weaker shot, so I knew I could put it in the top left corner."

"It's the biggest goal of my career, so far."

Wheeling Central head coach Brian Komorowski said he had all the confidence in Smith.

"He practices them every day ... every day. He lives for doing that, but he was battling a slight injury



Photo by Kim North  
Wheeling Central's Mason Smith (24) tries to poke the ball away from Linsly's Arthur Moreira (10) during Thursday night's OVAC Class 1A-3A boys soccer tournament semifinal on the 16th Street Field in East Wheeling. The Maroon Knights won in a sudden-death shootout on a goal from Smith.

and we (the coaching staff) were wondering if he was ready or not. Once it got to the sixth shooter, we said 'Mason you're the next man up.'"

Smith didn't disappoint as his blast tickled the twine and ignited a wild celebration as his teammates stormed the field to mob him.

The Cadets (5-7-2) dominated in regular time, holding a commanding 8-0 advantage in shots during the

first 40 minutes. They outshot the Maroon Knights (7-2-2) by a 9-1 margin in the second half and had the only shot in the first overtime.

Wheeling Central, which finished runner up a year ago, didn't record a shot on goal until the 69th minute, but sophomore goalkeeper Tino Sperlazza kept his team in the match with a variety of highlight-reel saves.

Please see **OUTLASTS**, Page 12

## Lady Patriots Blank Morgantown In OVAC Tournament Action

MORGANTOWN formations at the half. - Wheeling Park used goals from Julia Dunaway and Katelyn Smith, along with a solid defensive performance over 80 minutes, to shut out Morgantown, 2-0, in an OVAC Class 5A girls soccer semifinal Thursday at Pony Lewis Field.

Park (10-3-1) advances to the OVAC finals on Saturday at Red Devil Stadium in St. Clairsville, where Parkersburg South (11-0-3) awaits. South topped Steubenville, 7-0, on Thursday.

Coming off a 3-0 loss to Morgantown (10-1-1) earlier this season, Wheeling Park came out inspired, dictating play for nearly the entire first half. Park cashed in on its relentless offense when Dunaway, a junior, powered a header through Morgantown's keepers' hands off a corner kick from freshman Molly Bradshaw to make the score 1-0.

The second half saw Morgantown start strong, dictating play for the first 10 minutes. Wheeling Park coach Tom Smith switched

Wheeling Park iced the game with 22 minutes left in regulation. Smith, a senior, outran two Mohigan defenders on a through ball, slamming the ball into the top of the net to make it 2-0. Wheeling Park withstood a late Morgantown push to keep the score there and earn the victory.

Please see **ACTION**, Page 12

been the underdog at Bryant-Denny Stadium since LSU was a touchdown favorite in the 2007 game as Saban was just beginning to build what turned into a dynasty.

"Winning is hard," Alabama quarterback Jalen Milroe said. "You know, that's something that we embrace as a football team, is that winning is hard. One motto that we try to preach much as possible is prepare like you never won before. You know, that's so key.

Georgia from contention for a third straight national title, ending a 29-game win streak in the process. The Bulldogs won in the 2022 national championship game (33-18), which was a rematch from the 2021 SEC title game also won by Georgia 41-24.

#### MILROE VS. BECK

Alabama quarterback Jalen Milroe and Georgia's Carson Beck are no strangers to big games. This is Beck's eighth start against a Top 20 team, and his

a school-record streak of 42 consecutive regular-season wins, including 28 against SEC teams. The Bulldogs have won 16 straight in an opponent's home stadium, the longest active streak in the FBS. The last such loss: At then-No. 2 Alabama in 2020.

DeBoer hasn't been in a game like this with Alabama but is 4-1 against Top-10 foes at other stops. His streak of 12 consecutive wins over ranked teams was snapped in Washing-

ton in a 2017 SEC championship game to end the 2017 season. Alabama won 26-23.

DeBoer doesn't want his players getting sidetracked by celebrities at games.

"But yeah, it is kinda cool to have a lot of people who want to come be part of the atmosphere and add to the excitement and energy that the game will bring," he said.

#### PARK

(Continued from Page 11)

Hanna got himself on the board in the 17th minute, while Rynder McLeod pounded through a goal in the 22nd minute after a crossing pass sent by brother Tresz.

Aiden McCroskey scored in the 56th minute. University broke up the shutout in the 69th minute after Davion Huckaby got one to go.

Building towards some positive takeaways was important for University on Wednesday.

"I just told them at the half - we can't do anything about the first half, let's go out and play hard in the second half and get something for us to build on through the rest of the season," University assistant coach Brian Shannon said.

Park goalkeeper Gavin Border recorded four

saves Thursday, and helped extinguish the Hawks offense in other ways too, on multiple occasions leaping up to intercept crosses.

Wheeling Park now turns their attention to two-seeded Morgantown, who defeated Steubenville 5-1 in their own semifinal. They will meet for the 5A championship on Saturday. Wheeling Park is going for their fourth straight conference crown.

"Morgantown and Wheeling Park is a very big rivalry, a section game," Julian said. "It's always tight. We brought a lot of players back from last year, after a disappointing loss in the sectionals. We've got a very nice team, Morgantown is bringing a nice squad up here too. We want

to take care of business. It'd mean a lot for these seniors to win an OVAC championship."

Wheeling Park defeated Morgantown 4-0 in their regular season contest earlier this year.

#### MORGANTOWN 5, STEUBENVILLE 1 MORGANTOWN

The Mohigans defeated visiting Big Red on Thursday. Riley Brabson and Aidan Stire each scored two goals for Morgantown. Rayyan Hanif also scored and assisted on a goal.

Tad Lott scored for Steubenville, assisted by Ethan Llewellyn. Robby Lucas had six saves for Big Red.

Steubenville moves to 7-2-3 on the season. They return to regular season games on Tuesday for senior night vs. Weir.

#### OUTLASTS

(Continued from Page 11)

He also forced the sudden-death penalty kick round by scoring on the Maroon Knights' fifth penalty kick in the first round.

"Tino was phenomenal tonight," Komorowski said. "Our two center backs - Carter (Oliver) and Dom (Gianangeli) were also phenomenal. We knew Linsly had a ton of skill and we were battered. Our true center forward was injured and didn't play, so we had to keep adjusting throughout the week.

"I don't want to say we played for PKs, but we did and Tino was just unbelievable. He's a great shot, he truly is. If he weren't playing in goal, he'd be playing in the field."

Sperlazza made eight

saves in the first half and stood tall between the pipes in the second when he made five stops as Linsly continually pressured. His biggest came when he dove to his left before knocking down a blast from Arthur Moreira.

"Tino is amazing," Smith praised. "He kept us in the match the entire night."

Linsly head coach Greg Martin was obviously upset by the final outcome.

"He's a really good player and we knew that coming in," Martin said of Sperlazza. "We created lots of chances and I was proud of how we played in those 90 minutes. We're a very talented team and he was a difficult one to get a shot by tonight.

"Before the shootout

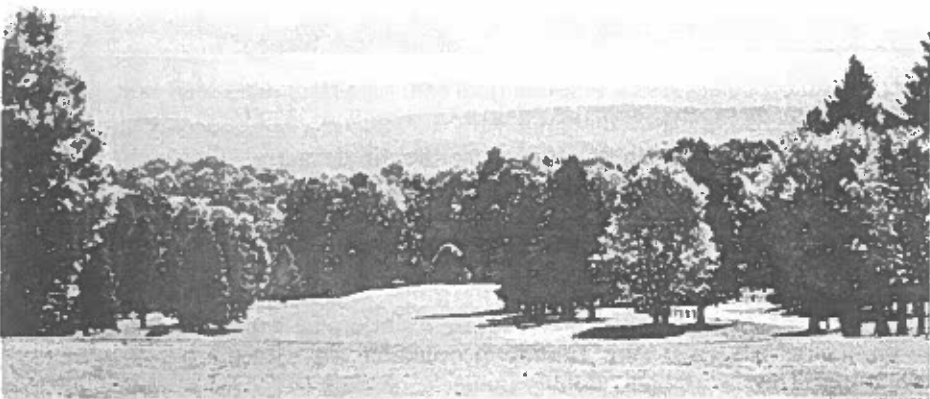
started I told my team that I hated to see this match end this way," Martin added. "Shootouts are tough, but that's how they end sometimes."

In the shootout, Linsly received goals from Agusttin Fonseca, and Javier Vizquete on its first two shots, but misfired on its third. Davi Moreira found the net in the fourth round. Wheeling Central had goals on its third, fourth and fifth tries by Carter Oliver, Mason Schmitt and Sperlazza.

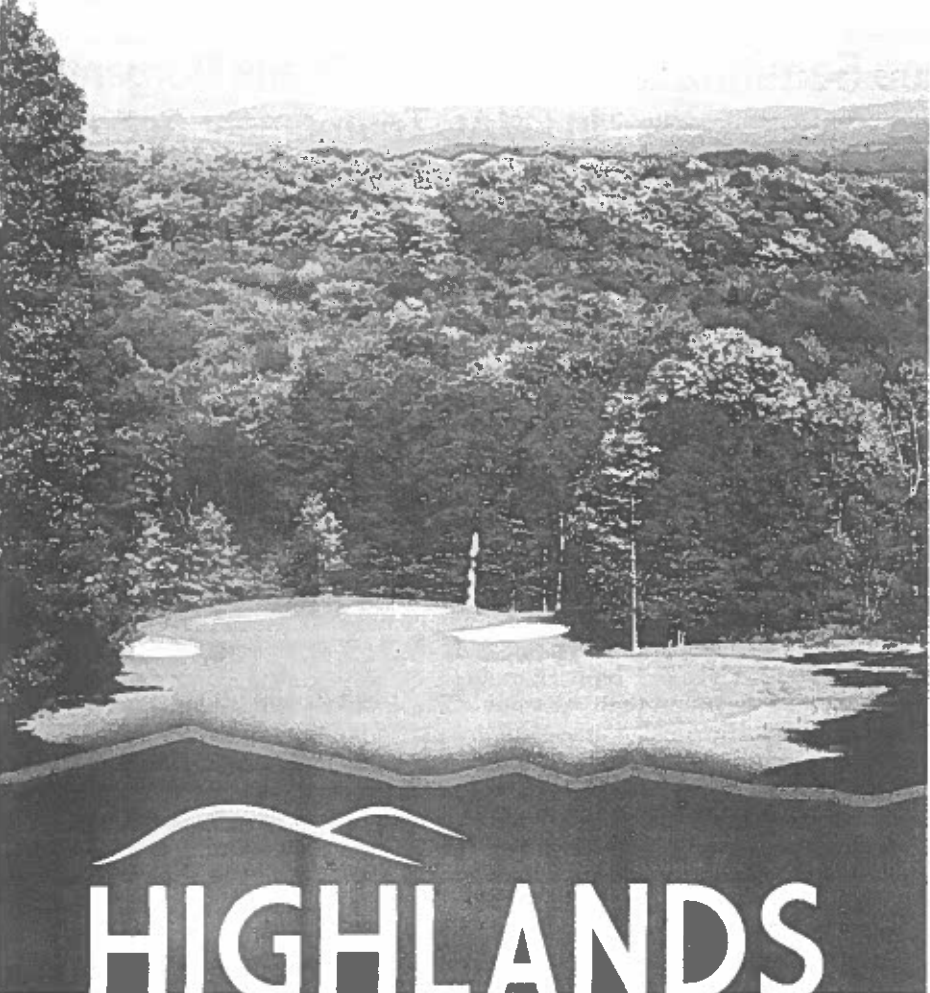
The Cadets' Kenzo Iriondo, also their goalkeeper, fired high over the cage to start the sudden-death round before Smith ended things.

Iriondo was only called upon to make the one save in 90 minutes.

## FIERY FALL GOLF



## TWO PRISTINE MOUNTAIN COURSES



## HIGHLANDS

#### ACTION

(Continued from Page 11)

**Parkersburg South 7, Steubenville 0 STEUBENVILLE** - The Big Red girls' soccer team ran into a juggernaut in Parkersburg South.

The No. 3 seed Patriots tallied at least three goals in each half en route to a shutout victory against No. 2 seed Big Red in an OVAC Class 5A Semifinal Thursday night on Reno Saccoccia Field inside Harding Stadium.

With the win, Parkersburg South will now play in the tournament final Saturday down at St. Clairsville at Red Devil Stadium. The match is currently scheduled to start at 2 p.m., but it may be changed.

Altizer led the way offensively for the visitors as the senior standout tallied a hat trick to go along with two assists, while Shockey collected a brace and two assists.

Goalkeeper Emilee Owens made four saves for the victors.

**Parkersburg South** advanced to the semifinals by shutting out No. 6 seed University, 6-0, Tuesday at home in the quarterfinals.

Big Red is scheduled to play John Marshall at 6 p.m. Thursday on the road.

#### VOLLEYBALL Bellaire Tops Cambridge

**BELLAIRE** - The Big Reds defeated the visiting Bobcats 3-1 on Senior Night Thursday inside The House of Champions. The scores were 25-23, 25-11, 24-26 and 25-15.

Ava Ault led the winners with 30 assists, seven service aces and 14 digs. Zara Harveth added 15 kills and 16 digs, while Aubree Hoines added 11 kills and 13 digs. Mya Marinacci

finished with 10 digs and seven kills.

#### Union Local Sweeps St. C.

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** - The Jets recorded a regular-season sweep of the host Red Devils by scores of 26-24, 25-12 and 25-12.

The winners were led by Emma Yager with 14 digs and 11 kills. Alayna Logan finished with 22 assists, two more than Delaney Butler. Brooklyn Burley contributed 15 digs; Olivia Wortman 11 kills; and Laken Vinskovich 10 digs. Ameera Saunders and Ella Pietranton had nine kills each, while Myah Martin had nine digs.

#### GIRLS GOLF

**Championship Division WELLSBURG** - John Marshall prevailed at Highland Springs Golf Course with an 18-hole score of 291. Brooke was second at 318 and Wheeling Central third at 324.

The medalist was Morgantown's Angela Yao with an 80.

The Monarchs were led by Jocelyn Blatt with a 95. Kianna Garrison and Alexis Thayer both shot 98.

The Bruins were led by Elliott McDonald with a 93. The Maroon Knights low scorer was Kaila Blatt with a 104.

In the Novice Division, Wheeling Park came out on top of University and Weir. The Patriots carded a 9-hole total of 147, 11 shots better than the Hawks and 21 ahead of the Red Riders.

Wheeling Park's Alicia Harvath earned medalist honors with a 45. Other scorers for the Patriots were Abby Thomas at 49 and Blair Anderson with a 53.

Kylie Dean paced Weir with a 50.

#### BOYS GOLF

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# Rumer Loudin

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out five and walked one. He is 6-1 with a 2.57 ERA in his last nine starts.

"He just continues to impress me as a pitcher," Brewers manager Pat Murphy said. "In this day and age to see a pitcher like that ... he had pinpoint control today."

Ortiz, a rookie third baseman, tripled in third inning and came home on Brice Turang's ground out to open the scoring. Ortiz also doubled in a run in the sixth to increase the Brewers' lead to 5-0.

The National League Central champion Brewers will open a best-of-three NL Wild Card Series at home starting next Tuesday. They finish the regular season by hosting the contending New York Mets in a three-game series that begins Friday night.

Murphy would not commit to having Civale start in the wild-card round but sounded like he is leaning that way.

"I think the fact he's got some years under his belt," Murphy said. "He does provide an answer to navigate some innings against any kind of hitters. I think

city here. I'm just enjoying the ride and taking it start by start."

The Brewers have won five of their last seven games and went 46-35 on the road this season.

Blake Perkins and Gary Sanchez had two hits each for the Brewers and Turang drove in two runs. Devin Williams pitched a scoreless ninth inning for his 14th save in 15 opportunities.

Mitch Keller (11-12) lost his final start of the year, giving up three runs and six hits in five innings in the Pirates' home finale. After the All-Star break, Keller went 1-7 with a 5.65 ERA in 12 starts.

"Up and down, up and down," Keller said of his season. "There's definitely a lot of highlights up there and definitely a lot of lowlights. But overall, a lot of good things to look back on and a lot of things to keep working for. I don't know, it's weird. I'm happy with it and also disappointed in some areas too."

Eric Haase doubled in a run in the fifth inning then scored on Turang's sin-

13 games. They finished with a 39-42 home record.

Nick Gonzales had two hits for the Pirates.

The Pirates had a season attendance of 1,720,321, nearly 100,000 more than last year and their best mark since 2017. Much of the attendance spike was attributable to the emergence of rookie pitcher Paul Skenes.

#### TRAINER'S ROOM

Brewers: Mears (right forearm inflammation) was activated from the 15-day injured list and RHP Kevin Herget was optioned to Triple-A Nashville.

#### UP NEXT

Brewers: RHP Frankie Montas (7-11, 4.85) will start Friday night for Milwaukee while the Mets are undecided on a pitcher after being rained out Wednesday and Thursday in Atlanta.

Pirates: RHP Jared Jones (6-8, 4.14) will start the opener of a three-game series Friday night in New York against Yankees LHP Carlos Rodon (16-9, 3.98).

## Bellaire Big Reds girls take down Cambridge Bobcats

**BELLAIRE** — The Big Reds defeated the visiting Bobcats 3-1 on the volleyball team's Senior Night Thursday inside The House of Champions. The scores were 25-23, 25-11, 24-26 and 25-15.

Ava Ault led the winners

with 30 assists, seven service aces and 14 digs. Zara Harveth added 15 kills and 16 digs, while Aubree Hoines added 11 kills and 13 digs. Mya Marinacci finished with 10 digs and seven kills.

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Ameera Saunders and Ella Pietranton had nine kills each, while Myah Martin had nine digs.

## The Wheeling Central Maroon Knights boys outlasts the Linsly Cadets

By **KIM NORTH**  
Staff Writer

**EAST WHEELING** — Thursday's OVAC Class 1A-3A boys soccer tournament semifinal match between Wheeling Central and Linsly turned into an instant classic on the artificial pitch at the 16th Street Field.

The top-seeded Maroon Knights, despite being outshot 18-1 in 80 minutes of regular time and a pair of 5-minute overtimes, used Mason Smith's penalty kick in the sixth round of penalty kicks to outlast No. 5 Linsly and advance to Saturday's championship match against second-seeded Steubenville Catholic at Wheeling Island Stadium.

The Crusaders held off No. 3 Trini-

ty, the defending small school titlists, also in a shootout after the teams battled to a 5-all draw after 80 minutes.

"You have to know where you're going to place the ball before you go up to the line," the junior said of his match-winner. "I knew I was going top left before I got up there. The goalkeeper had been going down because it would be a weaker shot, so I knew I could put it in the top left corner."

"It's the biggest goal of my career, so far."

Wheeling Central head coach Brian Komorowski said he had all the confidence in Smith.

"He practices them every day ... every day. He lives for doing that, but he was battling a slight injury and we

(the coaching staff) were wondering if he was ready or not. Once it got to the sixth shooter, we said 'Mason you're the next man up.'"

Smith didn't disappoint as his blast tickled the twine and ignited a wild celebration as his teammates stormed the field to mob him.

The Cadets (5-7-2) dominated in regular time, holding a commanding 8-0 advantage in shots during the first 40 minutes. They outshot the Maroon Knights (7-2-2) by a 9-1 margin in the second half and had the only shot in the first overtime.

Wheeling Central, which finished runner up a year ago, didn't record a shot on goal until the 69th minute, but sophomore goalkeeper Tino Sperlazza kept his team in the match with

rett won't let an assortment of injuries stop him. Not surprisingly, he's pushing and powering through the pain.

Relentless as always.

Garrett was back at practice with the Browns on Thursday and the NFL's incumbent Defensive Player of the Year said he'll play Sunday against the Las Vegas Raiders despite dealing with injuries to both feet, an Achilles tendon and thigh — and maybe others.

"No excuses," he said. "Just go out there and ball."

Garrett barely made it through last week's loss to the New York Giants, and after seeing him struggle to even walk following the game, it appeared the star defensive end's season could be in jeopardy.

At the very least, he'd need time off to rest and recover.

But an MRI didn't reveal any structural damage, and given a green light, Garrett is doggedly determined to stay on the field. He appreciates that sitting a game or two might be beneficial, but he's not ready for any breaks.

"Maybe," he said when asked if extra rest would help. "But that's what we have a bye week for. So until then, you're not going to get enough of 95."

The only player to record at least 14 sacks in each of the past three seasons, Garrett said he has been told he won't do any further harm by continuing to play. He'll sit out some practices if necessary to get extra treatment.

See **BROWNS**, Page B3

a variety of highlight-reel saves. He also forced the sudden-death penalty kick round by scoring on the Maroon Knights' fifth penalty kick in the first round.

"Tino was phenomenal tonight," Komorowski said. "Our two center backs — Carter (Oliver) and Dom (Gianangeli)i were also phenomenal. We knew Linsly had a ton of skill and we were battered. Our true center forward was injured and didn't play, so we had to keep adjusting throughout the week."

"I don't want to say we played for PKs, but we did and Tino was just unbelievable. He's a great shot, he truly is. If he weren't playing in goal, he'd be playing in the field."

See **LINSLY**, Page B4

## SPORTS

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### • Linsly

Continued from Page B1

Sperlazza made eight saves in the first half and stood tall between the pipes in the second when he made five stops as Linsly continually pressured. His biggest came when he dove to his left before knocking down a blast from Arthur Moreira.

"Tino is amazing," Smith praised. "He kept us in the match the entire

night."

Linsly head coach Greg Martin was obviously upset by the final outcome.

"He's a really good player and we knew that coming in," Martin said of Sperlazza. "We created lots of chances and I was proud of how we played in those 90 minutes. We're a very talented team and he was a difficult one to get a shot by tonight."

"Before the shootout started I told my team that I hated to see this match end this way," Martin added. "Shootouts are tough, but that's how they end sometimes."

In the shootout, Linsly received goals from Agusdtin Fonseca, and Javier Vizuete on its first two shots, but misfired on its third.

Davi Moreira found the net in the

fourth round. Wheeling Central had goals on its third, fourth and fifth tries by Carter Oliver, Mason Schmitt and Sperlazza.

The Cadets' Kenzo Iriondo, also their goalkeeper, fired high over the cage to start the sudden-death round before Smith ended things.

Iriondo was only called upon to make the one save in 90 minutes.

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## SPORTS

## B

Tuesday,  
September 24, 2024

## St. C. boys take down Potters in OVAC tournament

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — During a regular season match on the road at East Liverpool earlier this year, St. Clairsville felt it let one slip away in a 2-1 setback after leading by a goal with eight minutes left to play.

Monday night on the artificial surface at Red Devil Stadium, the No. 4 seeded Red Devils (6-4) got their revenge by the same score over the No. 5 Potters in an OVAC Class 4A Tournament quarterfinal. With the victory, St. Clairsville will travel to Lisbon on Wednesday to meet top-seeded Beaver Local in a semifinal after No. 3 Weir outlasted Hancock County rival Oak Glen in a shootout. The two were deadlocked 4-4 in regulation time. The Red Riders will travel to Cadiz on Wednesday to meet No. 2 Harrison Central. The finals are set for Saturday at 2 p.m. on the new artificial surface at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"The team rebounded from that early goal and played really well," St. Clairsville head coach Jeff Roberts said. "I think we are getting better. It's just taking us some time."

The Red Devils have played the majority of the season without its leading scorer Parker Galloway who went down in the season-opener with a serious ankle injury which required surgery.

The outcome came in reverse order from the prior meeting as East Liverpool grabbed a 1-0 lead in the 10th minute when Nate Schwerha pounded home a rebound off his penalty kick. St. Clairsville was called for an infraction inside the box, allowing the kick from 13 yards out.

"You can't fault our guy," Roberts said of the call that led to the penalty kick. "He was going for the ball and their guy was in deep."

Schwerha's initial blast was stopped by a diving St. Clairsville goalkeeper Talan Rice, but the ball trickled right back to Schwerha who drove it home the second time.

"That was unfortunate for Talan," Roberts added. "He made a very good save, but couldn't hold onto the ball."

However, that would be the only shot to get behind the Red Devils junior who recorded six saves.

The Red Devils drew even in the



Photo by KIM NORTH

ST. CLAIRSVILLE goalkeeper Talan Rice dives to stop a penalty kick by East Liverpool's Nate Schwerha. However, the ball bounced right back to the Potter player who drilled it into the net for the lone goal in a 2-1 loss to the Red Devils in an OVAC Class 4A Tournament quarterfinal on Monday at Red Devil Stadium.

21st minute when Carson Hendershot's indirect kick from 25 yards found the top right corner of the cage, just sailing past a leaping save attempt by goalkeeper Dom Johnson.

Hendershot nearly scored twice before the half ended, but his roller from 30 yards was denied by a diving Johnson in the 25th minute. Six minutes later, Hendershot rifled a blast from 20 yards that sailed wide of the mark.

St. Clairsville had multiple shots — none on goal — with an open net six minutes into the second half when Johnson went on to play the ball, but couldn't come up with it.

Talan Rice kept the match knotted at 1 when he dove to his left to smother a rolling ball as a Potter player bore

down on him in the 59th minute.

Five minutes later, the Red Devils' Brennan Rice sent an indirect kick through a scrum of players that Luke Swan was able to get enough of his foot on to redirect it past Johnson for what turned out to be the game-winner.

"I started off on the right hash marks and it seemed everyone was standing still. I was ready to make a run," Swan thought back on the goal. "He made a nice cross through the hole and I was able to get enough of my foot on it to flick it in the goal. It was a great night for us, but we still have a lot of work to do. It feels really good to beat a team like East Liverpool."

Johnson finished with seven saves for the Potters.

## Steelers don't play a pretty brand of football. It's why they're 3-0

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Mike Tomlin has spent the past few years almost gleefully leaning into an old-school approach that at times has seemed out of step with the modern NFL.

Part of this has been out of necessity. The Pittsburgh Steelers have spent most of the 2020s lacking the components — perhaps the coaching most of all — to build an offense that could keep pace with the teams they've been futilely chasing in the AFC.

So Tomlin did what he could to slow the game down. To gum it up with a defense and a thudding running game designed to eat up the clock and keep the Steelers competitive.

While it's been just enough to scrape by — for all of the hand-wringing in Pittsburgh this decade, the Steelers have still made the playoffs three out of the past four years — it hasn't been enough to succeed in late January.

And while the middle of winter remains far away, there's a very real sense during Pittsburgh's 3-0 start that this team isn't built to merely survive.

For proof, look no further than the Steelers' final three possessions in Sunday's 20-10 win over the Los Angeles Chargers.

See **STEELERS**, Page B2

## Browns All-Pro DE Myles Garrett listed as 'day to day' with injuries after undergoing MRI

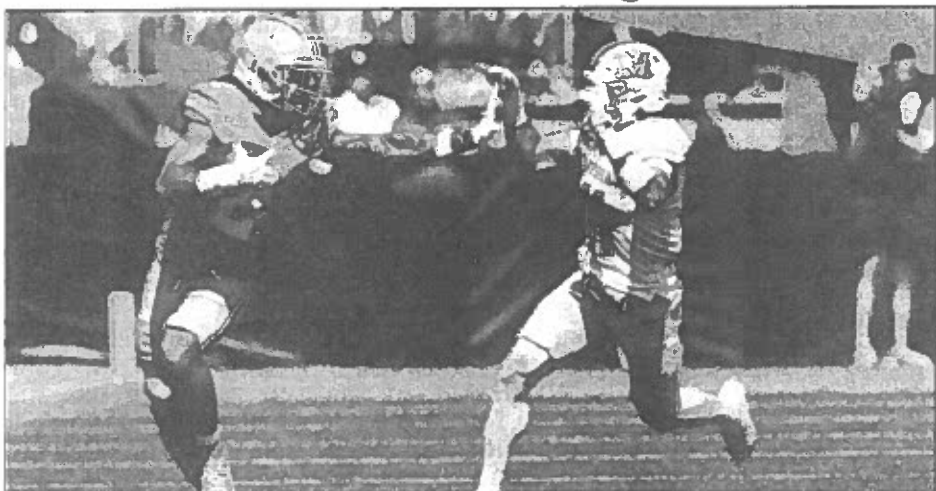
CLEVELAND (AP) — Browns All-Pro defensive end Myles Garrett didn't sustain any further injuries to his feet while continuing to play in Sunday's loss to the New York Giants and is still listed as "day to day."

Coach Kevin Stefanski said Garrett underwent an MRI on Monday. Stefanski did not provide any specifics about the test results or Garrett's injuries, only offering the reigning NFL Defensive Player of the Year "is battling."

While the Browns got a mostly positive outlook on Garrett, the news wasn't as good on starting right guard Wyatt Teller, who suffered a sprained knee ligament and is likely headed to injured reserve.

See **BROWNS**, Page B2

## Ohio State looks ahead to Big Ten schedule after rolling through nonconference games



COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Now that the appetizers have been served up, No. 3 Ohio State can finally move on to the main course.

The Buckeyes' three-game slate of tuneup games ended with a 49-14 rout of Marshall on Saturday. The Thundering Herd found ways to exploit the Ohio State defense early but couldn't keep up with its cadre of offensive stars.

Now it's nothing but Big Ten opponents the rest of the way for the Buckeyes.

Ohio State outscored Akron, Western Michigan and Marshall 107-20. The Buckeyes should get a better idea of where they stand in a prime-time game against Michigan State next Saturday

ka, who led the team Saturday with five catches for 117 yards and a TD. "We're able to have a successful running game, a successful passing attack. So, a lot of credit to the coaches."

Ohio State will follow up the trip to East Lansing, Michigan, with a home game against Iowa before traveling the farthest ever for a Big Ten game to play No. 9 Oregon on Oct. 12.

That three-game stretch should reveal some more truths about the Buckeyes.

"You don't know until you get off the field, but we go against good players every day in practice. So it's not like we don't know what we look like against good players," coach Ryan Day said.



ers saw last week's Dover versus Steubenville game on Reno Field inside Harding Stadium as another classic battle between two of the best teams in the Eastern District.

Well, such was the case early until Big Red received a huge defensive play that ignited a 30-point second quarter that led to a 42-7 victory before a huge gathering.

Steubenville's Noah West caused a Crimson Tornadoes' fumble deep in their

en Davis found Jalen Minniefield twice and Brody Saccoccia once for touchdowns, with Minniefield also scoring on a run. Cole Bowers booted a 26-yard field goal and a two-point run by Davis capped the outburst as Steubenville led 30-0 at the half.

Ca'Juan Bryant and Ta'Jon Hython added short touchdowns runs in the third and fourth quarters, respectively. Big Red accumulated 302

Island Stadium this Friday to meet Wheeling Park, now leads the all-time series with the Crimson Tornadoes, 22-6-1.

#### GETTING THAT FIRST 'W'

Shadyside got on the winning side of the ledger Saturday with a 48-18 romp past visiting Portsmouth Notre Dame on Homecoming at Fleming Field.

Please see WRAPUP, Page 10



Photo by Andrew Grimm

Steubenville Big Red's Ja'khi Muntz rushes to the outside during Steubenville's game Friday against Dover. Big Red rolled to a win to move to 5-0 on the season.

## Red Devils Avenge Earlier Loss Against Potters, Move On In OVAC Tournament

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE - During a regular season match on the road at East Liverpool earlier this year, St. Clairsville felt it let one slip away in a 2-1 setback after leading by a goal with eight minutes left to play.

Monday night on the artificial surface at Red Devil Stadium, the No. 4 seeded Red Devils (6-4) got their revenge by the same score over the No. 5 Potters in an OVAC Class 4A Tournament quarterfinal.

With the victory, St. Clairsville will travel to Lisbon on Wednesday to meet top-seeded Beaver Local in a semifinal after No. 3 Weir outlasted Hancock County rival Oak Glen in a shootout.

The two were deadlocked 4-4 in regulation time. The Red Riders will travel to Cadiz on Wednesday to meet No. 2 Harrison Central. The finals are set for Saturday at 2 p.m. on the new artificial surface at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"The team rebounded from that early goal and played really well," St. Clairsville head coach Jeff Roberts said. "I think we are getting better. It's just taking us some time."

The Red Devils have played the majority of the season without its leading scorer Parker Galloway who went down in the season-opener with a serious ankle injury which required surgery.

The outcome came in reverse order from the prior meeting as East Liverpool grabbed a 1-0 lead in the 10th minute when Nate Schwerha pounded home a rebound off his penalty kick. St. Clairsville was called for an infraction inside the box, allowing the kick from 13 yards out.

"You can't fault our guy," Roberts said of the call that led to the penalty kick. "He was going for the ball and their guy was in deep."

Schwerha's initial blast was stopped by a diving St. Clairsville goalkeeper Talan Rice, but the ball trickled right back to Schwerha who drove it home the second time.

"That was unfortunate for Talan," Roberts added. "He made a very good save, but couldn't hold

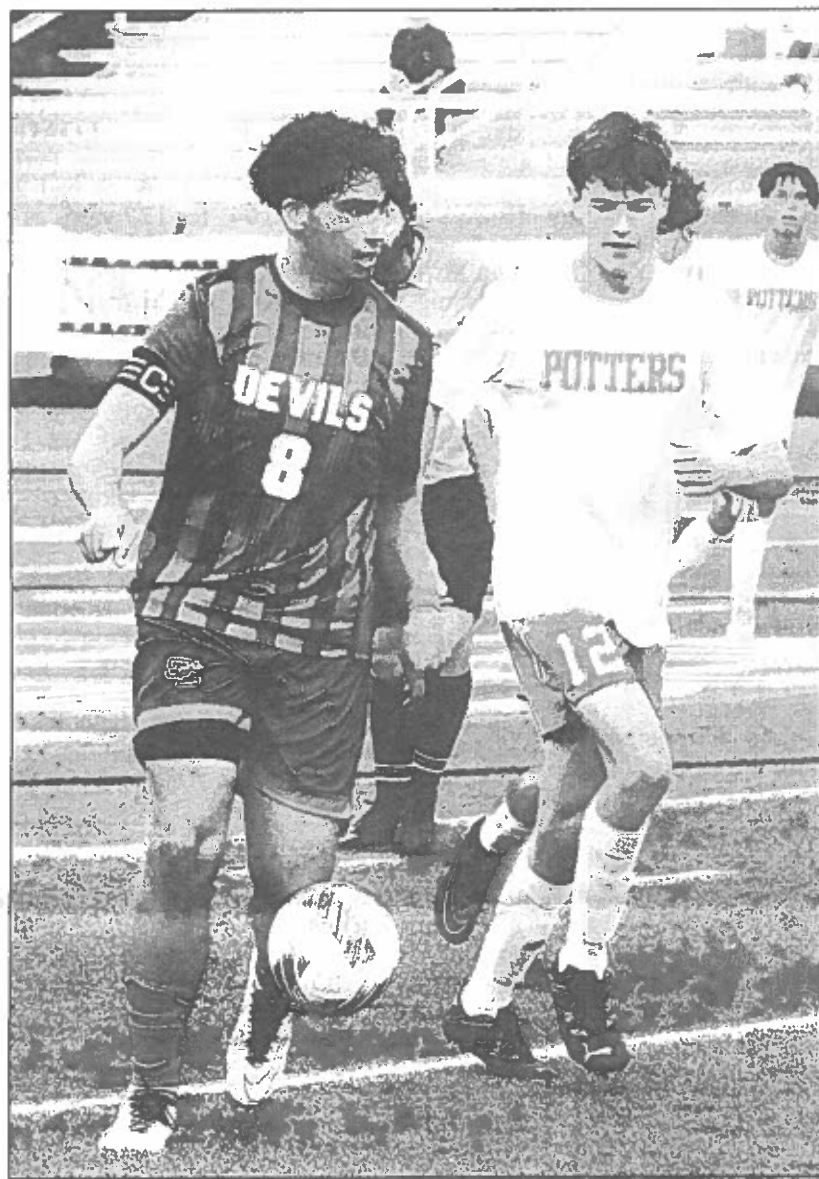


Photo by Kim North

St. Clairsville's Carson Hendershot (8) looks for a teammate to pass the ball to during Monday night's OVAC Class 4A Tournament quarterfinal. He scored the Red Devils first goal in a 2-1 victory over East Liverpool at Red Devil Stadium.

onto the ball."

However, that would be the only shot to get behind the Red Devils junior who recorded six saves.

The Red Devils drew even in the 21st minute when Carson Hendershot's indirect kick from 25 yards found the top right corner of the cage, just sailing past a leaping save attempt by goalkeeper Dom Johnson.

Hendershot nearly scored twice before the half ended, but his roller from 30 yards was denied by a diving Johnson in the 25th min-

ute. Six minutes later, Hendershot rifled a blast from 20 yards that sailed wide of the mark.

St. Clairsville had multiple shots - none on goal - with an open net six minutes into the second half when Johnson went on to play the ball, but couldn't come up with it.

Talan Rice kept the match knotted at 1 when he dove to his left to smother a rolling ball as a Potter player bore down on him in the 59th minute.

Please see OVAC, Page 10



Photo by Benjamin Powell/The Dominion-Post

West Virginia's Garrett Greene (6) rushes downfield with the ball against Kansas during a college football game Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024, in Morgantown, W.Va.

## Greene's Style A "Give And Take" For Brown

By BOB HERTZEL  
WV News

MORGANTOWN — If you think West Virginia's defenses get frustrated trying to figure out the Mountaineers' unpredictable quarterback Garrett Greene heading into a ball game, you ought to put yourself under Neal Brown's headset on the sideline as a game goes on.

Greene often turns plays into something straight out of backyard football, Brown admits, and it affects the way they have to coach him as much as it does the way the other team has to defend him.

That came to the forefront in the closing minutes of Saturday's come-from-behind victory over Kansas as the Mountaineers went into a two-minute drill for the final two possessions, scored on both of them with a two-point conversion thrown in to score a 32-28 must-have victory.

Greene is central in the

two-minute drill and his chutzpah and unpredictability are what make it work.

"There are some things he does that are really frustrating to me as a play-caller," Brown admitted.

Then, in the next breath, Brown utters:

"But he also does some things that I can't coach. I can't coach him to break tackles, for example. It's give and take. I don't get outwardly frustrated. When we decide to do some things, I know there is going to be some latitude taken by him and I am OK with that."

Coaches like to game-plan and come away from it with the Mona Lisa but Greene can turn that game plan into a Picasso drawing of watches melting.

It is, Brown admits, whatever works.

"The thing is, the kid makes plays. He's a playmaker that can continue to be better as a passer," Brown said.

Please see STYLE, Page 10

## Jayden Daniels Nearly Flawless In 38-33 Win Over Reeling Bengals

By MITCH STACY  
AP Sports Writer

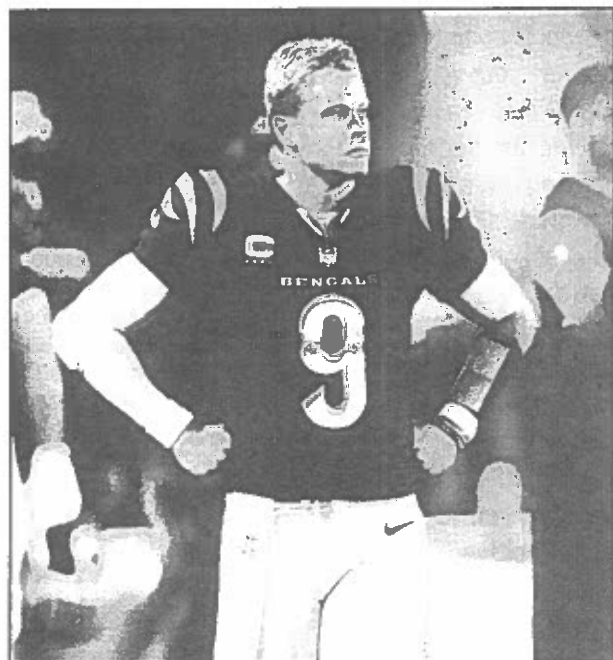
CINCINNATI — Rookie Jayden Daniels threw for two touchdowns and ran for a score in a remarkably efficient performance, and the Washington Commanders stunned Joe Burrow and the Cincinnati Bengals 38-33 on Monday night.

Daniels finished 21 of 23 for 254 yards, with the No. 2 overall draft pick setting an NFL rookie record for completion percentage at 91.3%.

turned it over, the first time that's happened in the Super Bowl era.

Burrow threw for a season-best 324 yards and three scores, but the Bengals (0-3) simply couldn't keep up. Cincinnati is off to its worst start since dropping its first 11 games on the way to a 2-14 finish in 2019.

Daniels' first career touchdown pass was a 1-yard toss to eligible tackle Trent Scott to start the second half, the second straight game in



AP Photo

Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow (9) watches from the sideline during the second half of a game against the Washington Commanders, Mon-

## Bills Steamroll Jaguars 47-10 As Allen Throws Four TDs

By JOHN WAWROW  
AP Sports Writer

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Josh Allen threw four touchdown passes in the first half and the Buffalo Bills scored on each of their first five drives in a 47-10 win over a misfiring Trevor Lawrence and the unraveling Jacksonville Jaguars on Monday night.

Allen went 22 of 28 for 247 yards in the first 30 minutes alone, with completions to nine receivers. He only attempted two passes after halftime, finishing 23 of 30 for 263 yards before Mitchell Trubisky relieved him.

And he spread the wealth, completing touch-

TD passes set a team record, surpassing Hall of Famer Jim Kelly.

"This could have easily been a game where we had 10 days off and let up on the gas, but didn't sense that from our guys," Allen said of Buffalo's extended break following a 31-10 win over Miami on Sept. 12. "A lot of urgency throughout the week."

Buffalo's defense, meanwhile, limited the Jaguars to 70 yards, five first downs and a field goal in five first-half possessions. The game was essentially over when Allen completed a 16-yard TD pass to Johnson 19 seconds before halftime.

a Monday night. "We all know my last game and how that game went," said Hamlin, now a starter after spending last season serving in a backup role. "So to be able to come all the way back from that, and have a special moment, it's all God."

The four-time defending AFC East champions are off to their first 3-0 start since 2020 and third since coach Sean McDermott took over in 2017. They have topped 30 points in each game.

14-0 and 17-7 in a season-opening loss at Miami. On Monday, it was coach Doug Pederson's turn to acknowledge the Jaguars' struggles. "It's really shocking. Very disappointed. You hate to say it, but the reality is we're not very good right now," Pederson said. "I need everybody to coach and play better. Let's leave it at that."

Lawrence finished 21 of 38 for 178 yards with a touchdown and interception. He's lost eight

Buffalo's 31-point lead at the half matched the third largest in team history, and largest since leading Atlanta 38-7 on Nov. 22, 1992.

**INJURIES**  
**Jacksonville:** CB Jarrian Jones did not return after hurting his left shoulder on Buffalo's opening drive. ... **LB** Foyesade Oluokun was ruled out with a foot injury. ... **RT** Anton Harrison was ruled out with a knee injury. **Bills:** DB Cam Lewis returned after being evaluated for a head injury.

decision and getting hurt. The other went to Ace Nelson from 17. Johnson, who was injured in the season-opener at Martins Ferry, completed 9-of-17 passes for 115 yards.

Davis connected on 14 of 18 attempts for 152 yards and the two aforementioned TDs in Steubenville's lop-sided win. Barnesville's Casey Carpenter was perfect on all six of his passing attempts, with three going for touchdowns, as the Shamrocks rolled past River, 63-0. He found Eli Messenger twice (52 and 12) while also connecting with Bradey McIntire (52).

Monroe Central's Tucker Howell completed 13 of 21 passes for 249 yards and five touchdowns in the Seminoles' 42-19 win over Buckeye Local. Howell also ran for 104 yards.

In his first varsity start, Wheeling Central's Nico Kusic completed eight passes for 130 yards. He also ran for 45 yards.

**STREAKING**  
 Barnesville continued its impressive play with its rout of host River at Martin Flannery Field. The Shamrocks have now won 31 straight regular-season outings, which is the third current active streak in the Buckeye State behind Marion Local and Sugar-creek Garaway. They had 35 points in the first quarter against the short-hand-

lump. Kusic finished with 101 and another TD. He also kicked three PATs. In the process, Derby surpassed the 1,000-yard rushing barrier in just four games.

Monroe Central's Corbin Farnsworth was all over the statsheet against Buckeye Local, catching two passes for 74 yards, including a 34-yard touchdown catch. Farnsworth also tallied two sacks and a pass deflection.

Shadyside's Cole Micker rushed for 63 yards and a touchdown; was 2-for-2 passing for 91 yards and a TD - that coming on a 70-yard halfback to Michael Hendershot; and he recorded an interception on defense.

Indian Creek's Zion McGee ran for 120 and two TDs as the Redskins held off Brooke, 30-24. Brooke's Ty Sperringer rushed for 145 yards and threw three touchdowns for Brooke.

Steubenville Central's Jimmy Hernon had 130 yards and two TDs as the Crusaders made Homecoming sweet with a 32-22 win over Fairport Harbor Harding.

Wheeling Central's Isaac Martin ran for 110 yards and a TD on 15 carries. He also recovered a fumble in the end zone for six more points.

**GETTING THEIR KICKS**  
 Barnesville's Evan Lough set a school record with nine PAT kicks in the Shamrocks huge win over River. Shadyside's Gavin Bommer had six extra-point kicks as the Tigers picked up their first win. Brooke's Chase Hile kicked three PATs and a field goal.

(This roundup is compiled from statistics reported to The Intelligencer Sports Department. Statistics can be sent to knorth@theintelligencer.net or nhenthorn@theintelligencer.net, preferably Friday night after the game, but no later than Monday afternoon.)

## FLAWLESS

(Continued from Page 9)

Meanwhile, Washington didn't have a drive that fell short of the end zone until early in the fourth quarter, when Austin Siebert kicked a 42-yard field goal to make it 31-20. Cincinnati cut the deficit to 31-26 on Burrow's second TD pass to Ja'Marr Chase, but the 2-point conversion failed. Daniels then led a drive

that ate up 7 1/2 minutes and ended with the TD pass to McLaurin. Cincinnati scored on a 1-yard run by Zack Moss to cut the deficit to 38-33 with 40 seconds left, but McPherson's onside kick was unsuccessful. Chase had six receptions for 118 yards and two TDs for the Bengals, who also got a touchdown catch by Andrei Iosivas.

**INJURIES**  
**Commanders** RB Ekel-er left in the second half with a concussion. **Bengals** OT Trent Brown was carted off the field with a right knee injury in the first half and didn't return. **UP NEXT**  
**Commanders:** At Arizona on Sunday. **Bengals:** At Carolina on Sunday.

## OVAC

(Continued from Page 9)

Five minutes later, the Red Devils' Brennan Rice sent an indirect kick through a scrum of players that Luke Swan was able to get enough of his foot on to redirect it past Johnson for what turned out to be the game-winner.

"I started off on the right hash marks and it seemed everyone was standing still. I was ready to make a run," Swan thought back on the goal. "He made a nice cross through the hole and I was able to get enough

of my foot on it to flick it in the goal. It was a great night for us, but we still have a lot of work to do. It feels really good to beat a team like East Liverpool." Johnson finished with seven saves for the Pot-  
 ters.

## STYLE

(Continued from Page 9)

It's new wave football. Once upon a time great quarterback play was defined by classic drop back passer like Joe Namath, Dan Marino, Aaron Rodgers.

Today he is more of a passer who can run combined with a runner who can pass. "Sometimes people want to define what high level quarterback play is. To me, it's about scoring points," Brown said. It isn't completion percentage or yards thrown. It's more than that. "Are you scoring points? Are you gaining yards? Are you moving the chains? Garrett does it very similar to watching Lamar Jackson yesterday with the Ravens," Brown said.

And, as soon as the words came out of his mouth he realized he'd be able to hear you gasp wherever you are when you hear it.

"I'm not comparing Garrett to Lamar. Lamar Jackson is probably the best running quarterback ever in the NFL and he does it differently than the guy who was calling the game -- Tom Brady," Brown said.

Brady won Super Bowls the way that fit him. Jackson plays the game that accentuates what he does best ... and on a smaller scale that

Greene does. It's the evolution of the game.

"As the game evolves, I think the quarterback has a lot more freedom. I'm comfortable playing backyard ball sometimes," Brown said.

It isn't as easy as sitting back in the pocket and reading your progressions. "Quarterbacks are different now," Brown went on. "Coverages are more complicated, too. There's a lot more matchup stuff, to use a basketball term. People are trying to confuse the quarterback. It's harder to play that position. There's better athletes rushing."

For Saturday, to pull out a victory, Brown went to the two-minute drill to emphasize the positive aspects of Greene's athletic abilities against what seemed to be Kansas's weaknesses. It worked, but if that's the case, why not use the two-minute drills throughout the game?

"Is what we did Saturday always the answer? Probably not. But on Saturday we could spread them out and get more favorable 1 on 1s and open up a lot of running lanes for him when he wanted to pull it down and run," Brown answered.

"If you do that all the time, you are going to make it harder on the de-

fense. But, if you are doing that all the time, then people are working on it all the time as they prepare for you. But if you don't do it all the time, people who are going to play us are first working on things like how are they going to play our run game concepts? how are they going to play our quarterback run concepts and then think about how do you stop shot plays down the field.

"That's what they work on now against us and probably get to the two-minute stuff later in the week. At the very start, they are thinking how are we going to limit the quarterback stuff and how will we keep the ball in front of us on deep stuff. But if we go two-minutes all the time, there's some cat-and-mouse stuff they can do that makes it really hard and puts your O-line-men in a tough spot."

---  
 The Mountaineers are into their first of two bye weeks before returning to action at Oklahoma State as they wind their way through a difficult schedule ... Safety Aubrey Burks' status remains uncertain after being carted off on a stretcher Saturday and Brown says it's an injury that might take five or so days to assess ... Brown expects to have Rodney Gallagher back working on defense this week to go with his offensive duties that led to his game-winning touchdown Saturday ... Brown felt tight end Kole Taylor's touchdown catch in the fourth quarter was glossed over in the victory, noting that the degree of difficulty might have won him a gold medal if football were an Olympic sport. Also overlooked

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## HEARING

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**LOCAL SCHEDULE**

(all events begin at 5:30 p.m. unless noted)  
**Tuesday, Sept. 24**  
**GIRLS SOCCER**  
 Tyler Consolidated at John Marshall, 6 p.m.  
**GOLF**  
 Magnolia, Paden City and Tyler Consolidated at Sistersville CC, TBA  
 Weir and Wheeling Central at The Jones Course, TBA  
**VOLLEYBALL**  
 Wheeling Central at Martins Ferry, 4:30 p.m.  
 Bridgeport at Bellaire  
 John Marshall at Morgantown  
 Shadyside at Caldwell  
 Steubenville Catholic at Weir  
 Buckeye Local at Barnesville, 6 p.m.  
 Tyler Consolidated at Magnolia, 6 p.m.  
 Wheeling Park at University, 6:30 p.m.  
**CROSS COUNTRY**  
 OVCC Meet at River, 4:30 p.m.

**SPORTS ON TV**

**Tuesday, Sept. 24**  
**BOWLING**  
 8 p.m.  
 FS1 - PBA League Bowler Championships: Finals, Portland, Maine (Taped)  
**LACROSSE (MEN'S)**  
 4:30 p.m.  
 ESPN - World Championships Groups Stage: England vs. Haudenosaunee, Group A, Utica, N.Y.  
 8 p.m.  
 ESPN - World Championships Groups Stage: Canada vs. U.S., Group A, Utica, N.Y.  
**MLB BASEBALL**  
 7 p.m.  
 TBS - Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees  
 10 p.m.  
 TBS - San Diego at L.A. Dodgers  
**NHL HOCKEY**  
 7 p.m.  
 NHLN - Preseason: Washington at Boston  
 10 p.m.  
 NHLN - Preseason: Seattle at Vancouver  
**SOCCER (MEN'S)**  
 2:55 p.m.  
 CBSN - EFL Carabao Cup: Aston Villa at Wycombe Wanderers, Third Round  
**TENNIS**  
 7:30 a.m.  
 TENNIS - Hangzhou-ATP Final  
 10 p.m.  
 TENNIS - Tokyo-ATP, Beijing-WTA Early Rounds  
**WNBA BASKETBALL**  
 7:30 p.m.  
 ESPN - Playoffs - First Round: Atlanta at New York, Game 2  
 9:30 p.m.  
 ESPN - Playoffs - First Round: Seattle at Las Vegas, Game 2

**OVAC SOCCER**

**Tuesday**  
**Boys**  
 Quarterfinals  
 5A  
 Parkersburg South at University, 5 p.m.  
 Brooke at Steubenville, 6:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
**1A/3A**  
 Linsly at Wood Co., 5 p.m.  
 Caldwell at Trinity, 5:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS**  
**Tuesday**  
**Class 5A**  
 Brooke at Wheeling Park, 6:15 p.m.  
 University at Parkersburg South, 6:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
 Linsly at Steubenville Catholic, 5 p.m.  
 Magnolia at Wheeling Central, 7:30 p.m.

**OVAC FOOTBALL**

CLASS 5A					
W	L	TG	CP	AVE	
Steub	5	0	5	295	59.00
W. Park	3	1	4	230	57.50
P. So.	3	1	4	215	53.75
Mtown	3	1	4	210	52.50
Mar.	4	1	5	260	52.00
Warren	4	1	5	230	46.00
Dover	3	2	5	200	40.00
Univ	1	2	3	70	23.33
J. Mar.	0	3	3	0	0.00
Brke	0	4	4	0	0.00

CLASS 4A					
W	L	TG	CP	AVE	
St. C.	5	0	5	325	65.00
I. Creek	4	1	5	260	52.00
Edison	4	1	5	200	40.00
Beaver	2	3	5	130	26.00
Weir	1	3	4	60	15.00
E. Liver.	1	4	5	70	14.00
Ha. Cen.	1	4	5	60	12.00
Bu. Loc.	1	4	5	45	9.00
O. Glen	0	4	4	0	0.00
Camb.	0	5	5	0	0.00

**MLB STANDINGS**

AMERICAN LEAGUE										
East Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
z-New York	92	64	.590	—	—	8-2	W-3	42-33	50-31	
Baltimore	86	70	.551	6	+4	3-7	L-2	44-37	42-33	
Boston	79	78	.503	13½	3½	5-5	W-3	37-41	42-37	
Tampa Bay	78	78	.500	14	4	7-3	W-4	42-39	36-39	
Toronto	73	84	.465	19½	9½	4-6	L-4	38-38	35-46	

Central Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
x-Cleveland	90	67	.573	—	—	6-4	L-2	48-28	42-39	
Detroit	82	74	.526	7½	—	7-3	W-2	39-36	43-38	
Kansas City	82	74	.526	7½	—	2-8	L-7	45-36	37-38	
Minnesota	81	75	.519	8½	—	1-3	L-2	42-33	39-42	
Chicago	36	120	.231	53½	46	3-7	L-5	20-58	16-62	

West Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
Houston	85	71	.545	—	—	7-3	L-1	45-33	40-38	
Seattle	80	76	.513	5	2	6-4	L-1	46-32	34-44	
Texas	74	82	.474	11	8	4-6	W-1	44-37	30-45	
Oakland	67	89	.429	18	15	3-7	L-3	36-42	31-47	
Los Ang.	63	93	.404	22	19	3-7	W-1	32-46	31-47	

NATIONAL LEAGUE										
East Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
x-Philadel.	93	64	.592	—	—	5-5	W-1	53-26	40-38	
New York	87	69	.558	5½	—	7-3	W-2	46-35	41-34	
Atlanta	85	71	.545	7½	2	6-4	W-2	42-33	43-38	
Washington	69	87	.442	23½	18	4-6	L-1	36-39	33-48	
Miami	57	99	.365	35½	30	3-7	L-2	30-51	27-48	

Central Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
x-Milwauk.	89	67	.571	—	—	5-5	W-1	45-33	44-34	
Chicago	80	77	.510	9½	7½	5-5	L-1	42-36	38-41	
St. Louis	79	77	.506	10	8	5-5	W-2	44-37	35-40	
Cincinnati	76	81	.484	13½	11½	5-5	L-1	39-42	37-39	
Pittsburgh	73	83	.468	16	14	3-7	W-1	38-40	35-43	

West Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
z-Los Ang.	93	63	.596	—	—	6-4	W-1	50-28	43-35	
San Diego	90	66	.577	3	+3	8-2	W-4	45-36	45-30	
Arizona	87	69	.558	6	—	5-5	L-1	42-33	45-36	
San Fran.	77	79	.494	16	10	5-5	W-3	41-37	36-42	
Colorado	60	96	.385	33	27	6-4	L-1	36-39	24-57	

x-clinched division  
 z-clinched playoff berth

AMERICAN LEAGUE		NATIONAL LEAGUE	
Monday's Games		Monday's Games	
Boston 4, Toronto 1	Philadelphia 6, Chicago Cubs 2	San Francisco at Arizona, late	Tuesday's Games
Seattle at Houston, late	Chicago Cubs (Steele 5-5) at Philadelphia (TBD), 6:40 p.m.	Cincinnati (Junis 4-0) at Cleveland (Bibee 11-8), 6:40 p.m.	Kansas City (Ragans 11-9) at Washington (Parker 7-10), 6:45 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Pepiot 8-6) at Detroit (Skubal 17-4), 1:10 p.m.	Cincinnati (Junis 4-0) at Cleveland (Bibee 11-8), 6:40 p.m.	Milwaukee (Myers 8-6) at Pittsburgh (Falter 8-8), 6:40 p.m.	Baltimore (Kremer 7-10) at N.Y. Yankees (Schmidt 5-4), 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Junis 4-0) at Cleveland (Bibee 11-8), 6:40 p.m.	Kansas City (Ragans 11-9) at Washington (Parker 7-10), 6:45 p.m.	Kansas City (Ragans 11-9) at Washington (Parker 7-10), 6:45 p.m.	Boston (Bello 14-8) at Toronto (Francis 8-5), 7:07 p.m.
Kansas City (Ragans 11-9) at Washington (Parker 7-10), 6:45 p.m.	Baltimore (Kremer 7-10) at N.Y. Yankees (Schmidt 5-4), 7:05 p.m.	N.Y. Mets (Severino 11-6) at Atlanta (Schwellenbach 7-7), 7:20 p.m.	L.A. Angels (Kochanowicz 2-5) at Chicago White Sox (Cannon 4-10), 7:40 p.m.
Boston (Bello 14-8) at Toronto (Francis 8-5), 7:07 p.m.	Baltimore (Kremer 7-10) at N.Y. Yankees (Schmidt 5-4), 7:05 p.m.	Miami (Weathers 3-6) at Minnesota (Ober 12-7), 7:40 p.m.	Miami (Weathers 3-6) at Minnesota (Ober 12-7), 7:40 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Kochanowicz 2-5) at Chicago White Sox (Cannon 4-10), 7:40 p.m.	Boston (Bello 14-8) at Toronto (Francis 8-5), 7:07 p.m.	Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.
Miami (Weathers 3-6) at Minnesota (Ober 12-7), 7:40 p.m.	L.A. Angels (Kochanowicz 2-5) at Chicago White Sox (Cannon 4-10), 7:40 p.m.	Texas (Eovaldi 11-8) at Oakland (Spence 8-9), 9:40 p.m.	Texas (Eovaldi 11-8) at Oakland (Spence 8-9), 9:40 p.m.
Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	Miami (Weathers 3-6) at Minnesota (Ober 12-7), 7:40 p.m.	Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.
Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	San Francisco (Webb 12-10) at Arizona (Pfaadt 10-9), 9:40 p.m.	San Francisco (Webb 12-10) at Arizona (Pfaadt 10-9), 9:40 p.m.
Texas (Eovaldi 11-8) at Oakland (Spence 8-9), 9:40 p.m.	San Francisco (Webb 12-10) at Arizona (Pfaadt 10-9), 9:40 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.
Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	San Francisco (Webb 12-10) at Arizona (Pfaadt 10-9), 9:40 p.m.	Chicago Cubs at Philadelphia, 6:05 p.m.	Chicago Cubs at Philadelphia, 6:05 p.m.
Texas (Eovaldi 11-8) at Oakland (Spence 8-9), 9:40 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.	Cincinnati at Cleveland, 6:40 p.m.	Cincinnati at Cleveland, 6:40 p.m.
Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.	Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, 6:40 p.m.	Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, 6:40 p.m.
Texas (Eovaldi 11-8) at Oakland (Spence 8-9), 9:40 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.	Kansas City at Washington, 6:45 p.m.	Kansas City at Washington, 6:45 p.m.
Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.	Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.	Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Eovaldi 11-8) at Oakland (Spence 8-9), 9:40 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.	Boston at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.	Boston at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.	L.A. Angels at Chicago White Sox, 7:40 p.m.	L.A. Angels at Chicago White Sox, 7:40 p.m.
Texas (Eovaldi 11-8) at Oakland (Spence 8-9), 9:40 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.	Miami at Minnesota, 7:40 p.m.	Miami at Minnesota, 7:40 p.m.
Seattle (Gilbert 8-11) at Houston (Valdez 14-7), 8:10 p.m.	San Diego (King 12-9) at L.A. Dodgers (Knack 3-4), 10:10 p.m.	Texas at Oakland, 9:40 p.m.	Texas at Oakland, 9:40 p.m.

**TRANSACTIONS**

**BASEBALL**  
**BOSTON RED SOX** - Placed RHP Kenley Jansen on the 15-day IL. Recalled RHP Chase Shugart from Worcester (IL).  
**CHICAGO WHITE SOX** - Claimed RHP Ron Marinaccio off waivers from the New York Yankees and optioned him to Birmingham (SL).  
**SEATTLE MARINERS** - Reinstated RHP Gregory Santos from the 15-day IL. Optioned LHP Jhonathan Diaz to spring training complex.  
**TAMPA BAY RAYS** - Reinstated 2B Richie Palacios from the 10-day IL. Optioned 1B Austin Shenton to FCL Rays.  
**TORONTO BLUE JAYS** - Optioned 2B Orelvis Martinez to the Florida Complex League.  
**ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS** - Sent 2B Luis Guillorme outright to Reno (PCL).  
**CHICAGO CUBS** - Recalled RHPs Gavin Hollowell and Caleb Kilian from Iowa (IL). Placed RHP Jorge Lopez on the 15-day IL, retroactive to Sept. 20.  
**FOOTBALL**  
**CINCINNATI BENGALS** - Elevated DT Dominique Davis from the practice squad to the active roster.  
**JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS** - Elevated TE Josiah Deguara and CB Christian Braswell from the practice squad to the active roster.  
**LOS ANGELES CHARGERS** - Signed WR Jalen Reagor to the practice squad.  
**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS** - Signed T Jalen McKenzie to the practice squad.  
**WASHINGTON COMMANDERS** - Elevated CB Bobby Price and DR Andre Jones Jr. from the practice squad to the active roster.  
**HOCKEY**  
**COLORADO AVALANCHE** - Signed F Logan O'Connor to a six-year contract extension.  
**NASHVILLE PREDATORS** - Signed F Hiroki Gojsic to a three-year, entry-level contract.  
**SAN JOSE SHARKS** - Acquired G Yaroslav Askarov, C Nolan Burke and a 2025 3rd-round draft pick from Nashville in exchange for G Magnus Chrona, C David Edstrom and a 2025 1st-round pick. Released G Aaron Dell.

**FOOTBALL CARD**

(all games start at 7 p.m.)

**NFL STANDINGS**

AMERICAN CONFERENCE										
East										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Buffalo	3	0	1.000	112	48					
NYJ	2	1	.667	67	52					
Miami	1	2	.333	33	72					
N. Eng.	1	2	.333	39	57					

South										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Houston	2	1	.667	55	74					
Indian.	1	2	.333	58	61					
J-ville	0	3	.000	40	85					
Tenn.	0	3	.000	48	78					

North										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Pitts.	3	0	1.000	51	26					
Balt.	1	2	.333	71	78					
Cleve.	1	2	.333	50	67					
Cincin.	0	3	.000	68	80					

West										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Kan. City	3	0	1.000	75	62					
L.A. Ch.	2	1	.667	58	33					
Denver	1	2	.333	52	46					
Vegas	1	2	.333	58	81					

NATIONAL CONFERENCE										
East										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Phila.	2	1	.667	70	63					
Wash.	2	1	.667	79	88					
Dallas	1	2	.333	77	89					
NYG	1	2	.333	45	64					

South										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					