

See how Tiger Woods and the rest of the field are gearing up for this week's showdown/16

Steelers' Big Ben, 3 Teammates on COVID List

By WILL GRAVES
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH — The Pittsburgh Steelers' pursuit of a perfect season has a new opponent in COVID-19.

A day after NFL's last unbeaten team placed tight end Vance McDonald on the COVID-19 list following a positive test, quarterback Ben Roethlisberger and three other teammates — inside linebacker Vince Williams, running back Jaylen Samuels and offensive lineman Jerald Hawkins — joined it, making their availability for Sunday's game against Cincinnati (2-5-1) uncertain.

The reserve/COVID-19 list is either for players who have tested positive or have been in close contact with someone who has. All

players who have been in close contact must quarantine for five days and are unable to visit the team's practice facility, but can participate virtually. They must pass COVID-19 tests throughout the week to have an opportunity to play.

Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said Tuesday it's possible Roethlisberger and Williams — who have a combined 25 years of experience between them — could rejoin the team for its walkthrough practice on Saturday and play on Sunday if they are cleared in time.

"They will simply work remotely and sharpen their swords (virtually)," Tomlin said. "Really, it will probably give their bodies an opportunity to get some much-needed rest, and we're optimistic those

guys will be their normal selves if given an opportunity to play this weekend."

The players who are able to practice will work within the constraints of the league's "intensive" protocols. That includes holding all pre and post-practice meetings remotely as well as requiring players to use the weight room and other services in a rotation to limit the number of people in one room at one time.

McDonald, however, will not be available. The team was notified of McDonald's positive test on Monday morning, hours after the Steelers beat the Cowboys to improve to 8-0 for the first time in franchise history.

Please see COVID, Page 12



AP Photo
Pittsburgh's JuJu Smith-Schuster (19), James Washington (13) and Ben Roethlisberger, right, celebrate a touchdown catch on Sunday.

UL's Kildows Earn All-State

By SETH STASKEY
For The Intelligencer

Hanging on the walls of the gymnasium at Union Local High School are banners, commemorating every All-Ohio athlete to wear a Jets uniform.



TORRE KILDOW

There, however, is no banner for volleyball.

After the announcement of the 2020 All-Ohio Volleyball teams this past Sunday, they're going to have make some room on the walls inside 'The Hangar.'

The Sisters Kildow — Casey and Torre — saw their names listed among the state's best in Division III. Casey — a senior — was named to the honorable mention listing, while Torre — a sophomore — was a third-team honoree.

"Both Casey and Torre are team oriented and competitors," UL head coach Kaye Sechrest said. "They're always working on their games and are not afraid to continue trying. They just love the game of volleyball."



CASEY KILDOW

Their passion — along with their talent — was on display time and time again for the Jets, who advanced to the Division III Eastern District championship game before falling in three sets to Tusky Valley, which will play in the state tournament this weekend.

Torre was one of the area's most impressive hitters. She finished with a team-best 356 kills this season and a percentage of 53.5. Along with her hitting, she served at a 90.8% clip and had 47 aces.

In just two seasons, Torre has already broken the Union Local school record for career kills. She currently stands at 675.

"Torre is a fun kid, who is outgoing and always ready to laugh, but when the game starts, she puts that games on face on and takes no prisoners," Sechrest said.

Please see KILDOWS, Page 12

Cash, Mattingly Are Managers of the Year

By JAY COHEN
AP Sports Writer

Tampa Bay's Kevin Cash won the AL Manager of the Year award on Tuesday night, and Miami's Don Mattingly took home the NL honor.

Long regarded as one of baseball's bright young minds, Cash guided Tampa Bay to an AL-best 40-20 record during the pandem-



OVAC Soccer All-Star Game Canceled



Photos by Kyle Lutz and Joe Catullo

Wheeling Park's Coleman Meredith, left, was the Boys OVAC 5A Player of the Year and Oak Glen's Reece Enochs, right, was the Girls OVAC 4A Player of the Year.

Contest was originally scheduled to be played Sunday

By KYLE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The annual OVAC All-Star game has been canceled. Originally set for Sunday at Red Devils Stadium, OVAC All-Star Game Director Gary Watt had to make the difficult but inevitable decision to not move forward with the event due to the increase of positive cases of the coronavirus across the area.

Watt, who was also the St. Clairsville's boys soccer coach for 11 years before hanging up the whistle last year, sent out a press release to the athletes, coaches and media. It reads:

"It is my unfortunate responsibility to inform everyone that due to the recent increase in positive COVID cases across our Valley, the 25th Annual OVAC Senior All-Star Soccer Classic has been

canceled for Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020. Like everyone else, I wish the circumstances of this season were different, but they are not. So with the same indomitable spirit that has brought us this far, we will move forward responsibly. It has not been rescheduled but I am confident there will be discussions about that possibility. So, for now, take care of yourself and look out for those around you...let's get through this together."

Last year, it was a spilt between the Buckeye State and the Mountaineer State. West Virginia won on the girls side in a 9-0 rout while Ohio secured a 2-1 victory in the boys' contest.

Watt, though, is not ready to throw in the towel of not having a game all together.

"Yeah. There's a couple of sce-

narios we are considering, Watt said. "We are going to be meeting on Nov. 19 and that's the main subject. We used to do it in the spring. I think the first Sunday in May. There were conversations that we could also do it in the summer time."

Watt also stated the only problem with doing it in the spring is the interference with spring sports. If an athlete was selected to play in the all-star game, but was participating in a spring sport, they wouldn't be able to play.

Watt also said, the soccer all-star game could be played in the summer like how football is.

"I'm confident one of those will be the selections. But it won't be in the fall," Watt said.

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Top 10 Hoops Games To Be Featured

Bama-LSU, A&M-Tennessee Games Postponed

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

No. 1 Alabama at LSU and No. 5 Texas A&M at Tennessee will not be played Saturday because of COVID-19 issues, raising the number of Southeastern Conference games postponed this week to three.

The SEC said Tuesday that the Aggies and Volunteers will be rescheduled for Dec. 12, but the Crimson Tide's game against the defending national champion Tigers is in danger of not being played at all after COVID-19 cases in LSU's program.

"While it is unfortunate to have multiple postponements in the same week, we began the season with the understanding interruptions to the schedule were possible and we have remained focused throughout the season on the health of everyone around our programs," SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey said in a statement. "We must remain vigilant, within our programs and in our communities, to prevent the spread of the virus and to manage activities that contribute to these interruptions."

Both Alabama and LSU are coming off their open dates and LSU already has a game against No. 6 Florida scheduled for Dec. 12 that had to

be postponed last month because of an outbreak that shut down the Gators for two weeks.

The SEC said it would consider using Dec. 19, the day of the conference championship game in Atlanta, to make up regular-season games not involving teams playing for the title.

Texas A&M said it has three active COVID-19 cases, including two people who traveled with the team to South Carolina last week.

"The nature of away game travel (flights, meals, lodging, locker room, etc.) naturally leads to an increase in the number of student-athletes, coaches and staff who meet the criteria for mandatory quarantine based on contact tracing guidelines," Texas A&M athletic director Ross Bjork said.

On Monday, No. 24 Auburn's game at Mississippi State was postponed because of COVID-19 positive tests and contact tracing within the Bulldogs' program. That game has been tentatively rescheduled for Dec. 12.

Then on Tuesday, Auburn paused team activities after nine players and three staff members tested positive for COVID-19.

Auburn also has "a handful of close contact" cases having to quarantine, in addition to the positive tests, coach Gus

Malzahn said. He didn't give a specific number or say which positions had been hardest hit.

Auburn, which is coming off an open date, is next scheduled to host Tennessee on Nov. 21.

It was also confirmed Tuesday that Arkansas coach Sam Pittman will miss the Razorbacks' game at No. 6 Florida on Saturday after having two positive COVID-19 tests. Pittman first tested positive Sunday and has reported no symptoms. SEC protocols require him to isolate for at least 10 days. Defensive coordinator Barry Odom will serve as head coach against Florida.

In the American Athletic Conference, Navy's game at Memphis on Saturday was postponed because of positive COVID-19 tests at the Naval Academy.

The total number of games involving FBS programs that have been canceled or postponed since Aug. 26 is 52.

Alabama-LSU is typically one of the most anticipated games of the college football season. Last year, the Tigers broke an eight-game long losing streak in the series and won a thriller in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, that propelled them to an SEC championship and national title.

The matchup has lost its luster this

season, with LSU stumbling to a 2-3 record and Alabama favored by more than three touchdowns.

This year's game was scheduled to kick off at 6 p.m. EST and be broadcast by CBS, following the network's coverage of the Masters. The pandemic forced the golf major to be postponed from April. Now CBS will not carry an SEC game this weekend.

Alabama's next game is Nov. 21 at home against Kentucky.

It's the second week in a row that Navy had a game postponed because of positive coronavirus tests at the Academy and the subsequent quarantine of student-athletes. The Midshipmen were scheduled to host Tulsa last weekend before that game was called off.

Navy has not been on the field since Nov. 2 and has not had a regular practice since Oct. 29.

The American has not announced potential makeup dates for Saturday's game or the Tulsa-Navy game. Memphis and Navy do not share a common open date through the rest of the season.

The AAC did announce that a previously rescheduled game between No. 7 Cincinnati and Tulsa will be played Friday, Dec. 4, instead of Saturday, Dec. 5.

KILDOWS

(Continued from Page 11)

"She is a power player who hits the ball hard. If Torre gets blocked, she wants the ball again to (try) to hit it harder. She is working on her finesse skills that will add to her repertoire."

Along with her All-Ohio accolade, Torre was named All-District 12 First Team, All-OVAC and All-Buckeye 8.

Casey, meanwhile, is also a standout as a hitter. She finished with 170 kills, 68 aces and a serving percentage of 96.2. She also had a kill percentage of 35.9.

"Casey is a team player, who is very focused and very smart," Sechrest said. "She's a student of the game who can spot her opponents' weaknesses and then tries to use that to her advantage. She's been a starter since she was a freshman and proved herself from day one. She's grown into a great leader. She's one who leads by example."

Casey's left her mark on UL volleyball in the record book, too. She actually holds the career record for aces (254) and assists (1249).

Awards have been plentiful for Casey, too. She's already received District 12's Division III Player of the Year. She will take part in the D-12 and OVAC All-Star Matches.

MANAGERS

(Continued from Page 11)

Mattingly, the first Manager of the Year for the Marlins since Joe Girardi in 2006, was the AL MVP with the New York Yankees in 1985. He is fifth person to win both MVP and Manager of the Year.

"They're just different. The first one feels personal and this one feels more like a team thing," Mattingly said, "and that's why I'm proud of it because we've struggled for a couple years and for us to move forward is important, and I think this is a sign that we're heading in that direction."

San Diego's Jayce Tingler finished second behind Mattingly in balloting by the BBWAA, followed by David Ross of the Chicago Cubs.

Tingler and Ross led their teams to the playoffs in their first seasons as a big league manager.

The Cy Young Awards will be announced by the BBWAA on Wednesday night, followed by the MVPs on Thursday.

After losing 105 games a year ago, Miami's 2020 season was nearly derailed by a coronavirus outbreak during the first weekend of play. The team had to make 174 roster moves but still managed the franchise's first winning record since 2009.

The steady hand of the 59-year-old Mattingly played a big role in the turnaround, which continued in the playoffs. Miami eliminated the NL Central champion Cubs in the first round before it was swept by the Atlanta Braves in the NL Division Series.

Cash, who turns 43 on Dec. 6, hit .183 with 12 homers and 58 RBIs in 246 major league games as a catcher for five teams, including Tampa Bay. After his playing career ended, he worked as an advance scout for Texas and Toronto before joining Terry Francona's staff in Cleveland as the bullpen coach.

The Tampa, Florida, native and Florida State alum was hired as Tampa Bay manager the day before his 37th birthday. He finished third in balloting for AL Manager of the Year in each of the past two seasons. He is the franchise's first winner of

OVAC

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During the game, Coach of the Year Awards and Player of the Year awards are also given out.

Coaches of the Year include:

Girls

■ Ron Bucholtz - Parkersburg South

Boys

■ Joe Pepe - Brooke

Players of the Year include:

Girls

■ 1A-3A - Bri DeChristopher, Steubenville Catholic

■ 4A - Reece Enochs, Oak Glen

■ 5A - Ellie Foggin, Parkersburg South

Boys

■ 1A-3A - Austin Nestor, Wheeling Central

■ 4A - Jacob Clark, Oak Glen

■ 5A - Coleman Meredith, Wheeling Park

Listed to play in the All-Star game were:

West Virginia Boys

■ Brooke - Hunter Adams, Quinlin Blair, Liam Cronin

■ John Marshall - Murahari Sampath Kumar

■ Linsly - Mike Flynn, Arman Toyserkani

■ Magnolia - Jacob Thorpe

■ Morgantown - Massimo Darmelio, Braxton Johnson, Azain Uqaily

■ Oak Glen - Jacob Clark

■ Parkersburg South - Nick Murphy

■ Trinity - Calvin Blunt Jr.

■ University - J.M. Jones, Riley Nett, Drew Williams

■ Weir - Brendon Carpenter

■ Wheeling Central - Giulio Gentile, Geno Gentile, Andrew Komorowski

COVID

(Continued from Page 11)

McDonald immediately self-quarantined. McDonald missed Friday's practice with an "illness" according to the team's injury report, but traveled to Dallas with the team and played 24 snaps total against the Cowboys, 20 on offense and four on special teams.

Tomlin defended the decision to play McDonald, saying he passed a COVID-19 test after missing practice. The test that revealed the eight-year veteran's diagnosis was administered on Sunday, with the result not available until after the game.

next to each other inside the team's practice facility and they have spent a considerable amount of time together before COVID-19 hit. While it's unclear if McDonald and Roethlisberger sat near each other on the team plane to and from Dallas, Tomlin pointed out the players are required to wear masks at all times while on the flight.

Tomlin acknowledged there is a "lack of clarity" at times, which is why the team is in frequent contact with NFL headquarters in New York. This is the second straight week the Steelers

said. "I'm just working my tail off here in Pittsburgh to keep this group up and in compliance," he said.

Backup quarterbacks Mason Rudolph and Josh Dobbs will both get reps during the week with Roethlisberger elsewhere. Tomlin said the team will "play it by ear" when it comes to figuring out who will be the starter if Roethlisberger is unavailable. Tomlin also downplayed any concerns about getting ready for a divisional opponent during a week where face-to-face contact is limited at best

disposal to make sure that we have good and productive meetings in spite of circumstance."

The team had been COVID-19 free during the first half of the season, but has still been dealing with the virus. The Ravens' game at Tennessee originally scheduled for Oct. 4 was pushed to Oct. 25 because of an outbreak among the Titans. Hours after winning in Baltimore on Nov. 1, Humphrey tested positive, forcing the Steelers to spend last week in the league's intensive protocol program.

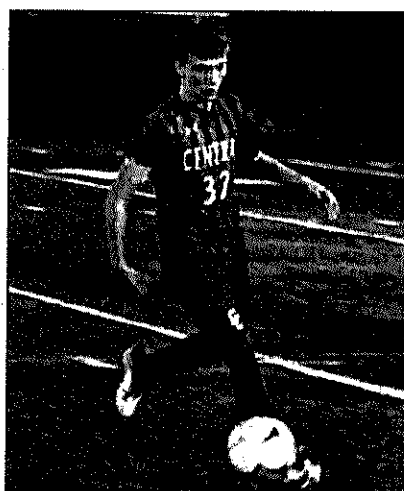


Photo by Cody Tomer
Central's Austin Nestor was the OVAC 1A-3A Player of the Year.

■ Wheeling Park - Coleman Meredith

Ohio Boys

■ Beaver Local - Michael Debord, Chase Flati, Alex Miller

■ Caldwell - Clayton Bettinger

■ Cambridge - Aiden Eubanks, Sean Perkins

■ East Liverpool - Norman Butler, Ayden Payne

■ Edison - Joey Booth

■ Harrison Central - Luke Forrester

■ Indian Creek - Greg Singleton

■ St. Clairsville - Evan Holstein, Noah Palmer, Anthony Verrardi

■ Steubenville - Cole McCullough, Andrew Neeley

■ Steubenville Catholic - Michael Lee, Joe Rohde

■ Union Local - Logan Van Fossen

West Virginia Girls

■ Brooke - Lydia Buchmelter, Katie Diserio

■ John Marshall - Zara Zervos

■ Linsly - Nevaeh Cook, Sophia Stark

■ Madonna - Abby Macek

■ Magnolia - Gloria Hernandez

■ Oak Glen - Jori Alexander, Reece Enochs, Brooklyn Loveland

■ Parkersburg South - Ellie Foggin, Kendal Mader, Samantha Martin

■ University - Tristen Bright, Heather Brunner, Lizzy Edwards

■ Weir - Alexis Adams, Isabella Aperfine

■ Wheeling Central - Alaina Zende

■ Wheeling Park - Loryn Ramsey, Emma Shelek, Morgan Stauver

Ohio Girls

■ Beaver Local - MaitLynn Buck, Skylar Palmer

■ Cambridge - Tori Black, Taylor Slaughter

■ East Liverpool - Natalie Parker, Selena Rogers

■ Edison - Sarah Miller, Emma Scott, Somer Speedy

■ Harrison Central - Jenna Easlick, Britton Positano, Brittani Ryser

■ Indian Creek - Hailey Clark, Abby Copeland, Raleigh Gualtiere, Makenzie Taylor

■ Monroe Central - Gillian Leonard

■ St. Clairsville - Mikayla Hendershot, Macy Malin (IR), Jacda Nowak, Ariel Ott, Bella Swan

■ Steubenville - Lakyn Blackburn, Mary Marshall

■ Steubenville Catholic - Bri DeChristopher

Miami's Don Mattingly wins NL Manager of the Year award

By JAY COHEN
AP Sports Writer

Miami's Don Mattingly won the NL Manager of the Year award on Tuesday night.

Mattingly guided the Marlins to their first playoff appearance since 2003 despite dealing with a COVID-19 outbreak that paused their season and ravaged the roster.

The Marlins' 31-29 record was Mattingly's first winning season in his fifth year with the club. The former big league first baseman and AL MVP had a winning record in each of his five seasons as the manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Mattingly is the first Manager of the Year winner for the Marlins since Joe Girardi in 2006.

San Diego's Jayce Tingler finished second in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America, followed by David Ross of the Chicago Cubs.

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After losing 105 games a year ago, Miami's 2020 season was nearly derailed by a coronavirus outbreak during the first weekend of play. The team had to make 174 roster moves but still managed the franchise's first winning record since 2009.

The steady hand of the 59-year-old Mattingly played a big role in the turn-

around, which continued in the playoffs. Miami eliminated the NL Central champion Cubs in the first round before it was swept by the Atlanta Braves in the NL Division Series.

After he was named a finalist for the award last week, Mattingly paid tribute to Marlins CEO Derek Jeter and the rest of the team's ownership group.

"I think it starts at the top with ownership, working its way down through Derek and right down through our staff and development, analytics," Mattingly said. "I think we all, Derek put us all on the same page, where we have a goal in mind and we knew that it was going to be a little rough. We didn't want to talk about it for a couple years, but we believed in where we wanted to go."

OVAC All-Star Soccer match called off

By KYLE LUTZ
For The Times Leader

WHEELING -- The annual OVAC All-Star game has been canceled. Originally set for Sunday at Red Devils Stadium in St. Clairsville, OVAC All-Star Game Director Gary Watt had to make the difficult, but inevitable, decision to not move forward with the event due to the increase of positive cases of the coronavirus across the area.

Watt, who was also the St. Clairsville boys soccer coach for 11 years before

hanging up the whistle last year, sent out a press release to the athletes, coaches and media. It reads:

"It is my unfortunate responsibility to inform everyone that due to the recent increase in positive COVID cases across our Valley, the 25th Annual OVAC Senior All-Star Soccer Classic has been canceled for Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020. Like everyone else, I wish the circumstances of this season were different, but they are not. So with the same indomitable spirit that has brought us this far, we will move

forward responsibly. It has not been rescheduled but I am confident there will be discussions about that possibility.

"So, for now, take care of yourself and look out for those around you...let's get through this together."

Last year, it was a split between the Buckeye State and the Mountaineer State. West Virginia won on the girls side in a 9-0 rout while Ohio secured a 2-1 victory in the boys' contest.

Watt, though, is not ready to throw in the towel of not having a game all together.

"There's a couple of scenarios we are considering, Watt said. "We are going to be meeting on Nov. 19 and that's the main subject. We used to do it in the spring. I think the first Sunday in May. There were conversations that we could also do it in the summer time."

Watt also stated the only problem with doing it in the spring is the interference with spring sports. If an athlete was selected to play in the all-star game, but was participating in a spring sport, they wouldn't be able to play."

• Steelers

Continued from Page B1

he passed a COVID-19 test after missing practice. The test that revealed the eight-year veteran's diagnosis was administered on Sunday, with the result not available until after the game.

"As long as he is negative and not showing signs of COVID, he's able to travel, and (McDonald) was and we did," Tomlin said. "We don't overanalyze it that way."

McDonald and Roethlisberger have developed a close relationship since McDonald's arrival via a trade with San Francisco on the eve of the 2017 season. Their lockers are next to each other inside the team's practice facility and they have spent a considerable amount of time together before COVID-19 hit. While it's unclear if McDonald and Roethlisberger sat near each other on the team plane to and from Dallas, Tomlin pointed out the players are required to wear masks at all times while on the flight.

Tomlin acknowledged there is a "lack of clarity" at times, which is why the team is in frequent contact with NFL headquarters in New York. This is the second straight week the Steelers

have been involved in a game where a player was given a test, then played only to be informed the pre-game test was positive sometime after the final whistle.

Baltimore defensive back Marlon Humphrey received a positive test result just hours after Pittsburgh edged the Ravens.

"I don't know about developing policy and things of that nature," he said. "I'm just working my tail off here in Pittsburgh to keep this group up and in compliance," he said.

Backup quarterbacks Mason Rudolph and Josh Dobbs will both get reps during the week with Roethlisberger elsewhere. Tomlin said the team will "play it by ear" when it comes to figuring out who will be the starter if Roethlisberger is unavailable. Tomlin also downplayed any concerns about getting ready for a divisional opponent during a week where face-to-face contact is limited at best.

"We've done this with the entire playbook multiple times already in this process," Tomlin said. "In the off-season, we installed, I think, twice in the spring. We have no reservations

about the remote meetings this week. As a matter of fact, from a coaching standpoint, we're excited about the challenge of keeping the group engaged and utilizing all the tools at our disposal to make sure that we have good and productive meetings in spite of circumstance."

The team had been COVID-19 free during the first half of the season, but has still been dealing with the virus. The Ravens' game at Tennessee originally scheduled for Oct. 4 was pushed to Oct. 25 because of an outbreak among the Titans. Hours after winning in Baltimore on Nov. 1, Humphrey tested positive, forcing the Steelers to spend last week in the league's intensive protocol program.

NOTES: DB Mike Hilton (shoulder), FB Derek Watt (hamstring) and DT Tyson Alualu - all of whom sat out against the Cowboys - could return to face Cincinnati. ... Tomlin said Roethlisberger is fine after taking a shot to his left knee in the first half in Dallas. Roethlisberger missed one series but played the entire second half to rally the Steelers from a 10-point deficit.

• OSU

Continued from Page B1

last year with an ankle injury, is the top returning frontcourt player. E.J. Liddell, a 6-7 forward, showed promise as an inside banger in his freshman season.

Junior guard Musa Jallow missed the entire 2019-20 season with an injury but could make it back this year.

SEEKING CONSISTENCY

Ohio State is coming off an uneven season. Off to a hot start, the Buckeyes rolled to 11-2 before Christmas but collapsed when Big Ten play began. They were 1-6 between Dec. 29 and Jan. 23, then managed to catch fire again and go on a 9-3 run to finish 21-10. The

pandemic ended the season before the conference tournament.

NEW FACES

Seth Towns, a graduate transfer from Harvard, will have two seasons of eligibility at Ohio State. The Columbus native, a versatile 6-8 forward, missed the past two seasons with knee injuries after being named Ivy League Player of the Year in 2017-18.

Forward Justice Sueing, a hot-shooting transfer from Cal, may finally get to play after being forced to sit out last season and having foot surgery in January.

Bucknell transfer Jimmy Sotos will provide some

depth at guard, and Ohio State has high hopes for freshmen Eugene Brown III and Zed Key. Four-star point guard Meechie Johnson, from the Cleveland suburb of Garfield Heights, announced last week he will graduate early and join the Buckeyes in December. Due to new NCAA rules related to the pandemic, Johnson will be able to play this season and still have four years of eligibility remaining.

WHO'S GONE

Guard D.J. Carton, who left the team midseason last year, transferred to Marquette. Luther Muhammad, one of the Buckeyes' best defensive players, trans-

ferred to Arizona State. Abel Porter, a graduate transfer from Utah State, never got to suit up for Ohio State. The school said he has a non-COVID-related medical issue that ended his playing career.

SCHEDULE

The pandemic has turned the early season schedule on its head for many teams. Ohio State was to be a participant in the Battle 4 Atlantis in the Bahamas, but that was canceled. Then COVID concerns led Ohio State to pull out of the Crossover Classic in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The Buckeyes were set to play Nov. 25 in that tournament, but now the opening date is uncertain as they try to fill the hole in the schedule. Ohio State is still slated to host Morehead State on

T-L seeking best hoop game nominations

The Ohio Valley has long been a hotbed for high school sports.

Last year, The Times Leader along with the Wheeling Intelligencer and News-Register put together the list of Top 10 football games over the last 50 years.

The series, which ran for one week, drew rave reviews. This year, the sports staffs of the three papers are shifting their focus to boys basketball.

In the week between Christmas and New Year's Day, the newspapers will publish the Top 10 Boys Basketball Games of the last 50 years.

As was the case for football, we need your help.

Readers are asked to submit game recommendations to Seth Staskey via email at sstaskey@timesleaderonline.com.

• Bridgeport

Continued from Page B1

suggestions to what we thought was important," Picetti added. "In the end we were all on the same page and we believe that at the beginning of the next football season, there will be football played once again at Perkins Field."

Roskovich echoed his former teammates' thoughts.

"Pat and I got to talking about how we grew up going to games as kids and playing midget football there (at Perkins Field) on Sundays growing up. Then playing (football for me and band for Pat) there in high school and going back to watch the midget football games on Sundays, while we were in high school," he said.

"Eating breakfast at Sonny Boys the morning after games and everyone talking about the game from the night before. The entire community coming out to the games to support the football team, cheerleaders and band. It's a special place for all of us (committee members). My senior year when we played Linsly in 1996, it was such an incredible atmosphere to be a part of. Then when I came back home for the 'Dogs game against Shadyside (2010), it felt the same all over again and we feel bad for the students and community who are missing out on these same experiences," he recalled. "We started brainstorming and approached Mr. Ripley with the idea and it kind of took off from there."

"While COVID has pushed everything back some, we can hopefully use this time to build the momentum leading into next season's home opener. Our vision for the home opener next year is a weekend of activities," he said. "A Friday night social similar to alumni weekend and all day tailgating and barbecuing Saturday leading up to the evenings game. We are extremely grateful for the school district trusting us to help lead this fundraising effort and we just want the students of Bridgeport to have a home for their football, band and cheerleaders once again."

Roskovich described McConaughy as: "Pat is Bridgeport's version of Buckeye Guy at Ohio State. I've known Pat a long time as he was friends and bandmates with my cousin, John Kasik, in high school. I've stayed in contact with Pat over the years and his love for Bridgeport hasn't weakened at all."

Football was last played on Perkins Field in 2017 and the grandstands were deemed unsalvageable the next spring by an engineering firm that cited "damage beyond repair from decades of flooding." The 100-year-

tract will be covering include:

- new stadium seating and press box - \$510,096;
- new sound system - \$20,000;
- fieldhouse renovations (including ADA required restrooms) - \$279,000;
- fieldhouse roof repairs - \$15,000;
- paving and fencing - \$213,045;
- press box technology and site lighting - \$40,000.

"We are going to purchase at least one new portable or mobile concession trailer, as permanent concessions are not permitted," McConaughy noted. "There are also some cosmetic updates, including a new sign for the main gate welcoming everyone back to Perkins Field."

Donation levels are: Bronze (\$100-\$249); Silver (\$250-\$499); Gold (\$500-\$999); and Platinum (\$1,000-and-over). Donations made will be listed in a commemorative program at the inaugural celebration/re-dedication of Perkins Field. Gold and Platinum sponsors will be added to a donor wall that will be permanently erected at the field.

In addition to any donations, the ability to sponsor rows of seating in the three sections of the new stadium will be available. There are 14 rows available in the center of the stadium for \$1,500 each. The 15 sections on the right and left are a little shorter and can be purchased for \$1,000 per row. All are available on a first-come, first-spoken-for basis. The goal is for individual classes or families to sponsor a row in honor of their class, as a group, or in honor or memory of a family member. These seats will be affixed with a permanent nameplate, recognizing the sponsor of each row.

All checks can be made payable to the Community Foundation of the Ohio Valley, which is handling the account, 1226 Chapline St., Wheeling, W.Va., 26003. Please put Perkins Field in the memo line.

Donations are not restricted to alumni. Any resident of the school district or anyone outside the district can contribute.

"The board of education is thankful for the efforts of the Perkins Field Fundraising Committee. Bridgeport alumni are very proud of their alma mater and their memories formed while attending Bridgeport," Superintendent Brent Ripley said. "This is a very exciting time for our students, alumni and Bulldog community. (Board president) Mr. (Jerry) Moore, (board member) Mr. (Don) Cash, the district treasurer Eric Meiningner and I will be meeting with