

# CCHS

not able to get a second shot past Duff.

"We were able to come out fast in the second half and get one," Zirillo said. "We were able to exploit their defense. We had an opportunity to score another one, but we were unable to."

Beaver Local kept up the offensive pressure late in the game, but Duff and the Catholic Central defense stood strong preventing the Beavers from tying the score.

"We did not know too much about them," Kop-

cha said. "It is still early in the season, and we are trying to develop who we are. They had a couple of guys with speed that we had to worry about. It was a pretty even game."

Catholic Central is scheduled to play Cambridge at noon Saturday on the road. Catholic Central also scheduled a game against East Liverpool for 5 p.m. Tuesday at home.

Beaver Local is slated to play county rival Salem at 6 p.m. Saturday at home.

**Weather strikes Madonna-CCHS match up again**

WEIRTON — Mother Nature continues to have her say in when and where games are being played.

The Madonna and Catholic Central girls soccer teams were scheduled to play Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the J.C. Williams Soccer Complex, however, it was announced Tuesday the game would be postponed to Thursday due to all of the rain. Thursday came, and the game was once again postponed. This time

the game between the Blue Dons and the Crusaders was postponed due to unsafe field conditions.

"The field was not safe to play on," Madonna (2-2-1) head coach Bob Kolanko said.

The game has been rescheduled for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 19.

"I think the girls were disappointed the game was postponed," Kolanko said. "We were looking forward to the rematch of the OVAC Championship Game. They understand the decision, it is not worth getting some-

one hurt."

Madonna defeated Catholic Central, 1-0, in the Class 1A/3A Final last year at Red Devil Stadium in St. Clairsville. The Crusaders defeated the Blue Dons during the season in a game played at the Tony Recinella Soccer Field.

"We're 2-2-1, and we are still developing," Kolanko said. "We had some injuries right off the bat resulting in us getting off to a bit of a slow start. We had a player get a concussion in the win against Wheeling Central.

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Our younger players are developing. We have got 15 girls this season."

Madonna is scheduled to play at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday up at East Liverpool.

"I am proud of our seniors," Kolanko said. "They are the leaders of the team. They are doing a real good job of leading the team. We are still moving kids around. We are trying to find the right positions for them."

Catholic Central is slated to play Ridgewood at 11 a.m. Saturday at home.

# Win

**Harrison tops Edison in four**

RICHMOND — Harrison Central topped Edison in four sets in varsity volleyball action Thursday, 19-25, 19-25, 25-20, 16-25.

The Wildcats lost in 4 sets by scores of 19-25, 19-25, 25-20, 16-25. Audrey Scott had eight points, Katelin Kowalczyk had seven points and seven assists.

Rebecka Evans had six points, six assists and six kills and three blocks.

For the Huskies, McKayla Dunkle had 19 kills, Logan Johnson 23 assists and Maddy Butler 16 digs.

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The Wildcats will be back in action on Saturday at home against Steubenville at 11 a.m.

**John Marshall stops Beaver Local, Oak Glen**

NEW CUMBERLAND — John Marshall took the top spot with 161 in a quad match at Woodview Golf Course Thursday, while Beaver Local took second with 170 and Oak Glen placed third with 203, and Weir finished fourth with 247. The medalist was Luke Eyster with a 36.

Oak Glens next match is 4 p.m. Tuesday at Woodview versus Toronto and Lisbon.

# WVU

very high confidence right now, and he's playing at a high level."

Doege's offseason improvements will be tested against the Terrapins defense, a unit that boasts a strong secondary. The group returns two defensive backs, Jordan Mosley and Nick Cross, who ranked among the team's top three tacklers last season.

According to co-offensive coordinator Gerard Parker, that unit is capable of executing a multitude of skills at a high level.

"They should feel good about (their) secondary, they're good," Parker said. "They've done a good job

in the back end. They're coached well, they have good instincts... They play the ball really well, they're aggressive, they're willing tacklers. They do a great job in coverage being able to collision and get on you and match routes in their man coverage. They do a good job disguising things."

The Mountaineers are hoping that Maryland may find itself in a similar situation, given how explosive the Terrapins are at the wide receiver position. New offensive coordinator Dan Enos will be able to utilize the team's top five pass catchers from last season, including a former

five-star recruit.

That would be Rakim Jarrett, who totaled 252 yards last season in only five games. Senior Dontay Demus Jr., will also see a handful of targets as he's coming off a season leading the team in touchdowns with four.

"Receiver-wise, (they are) very talented," head coach Neal Brown said. "Maybe as talented as anybody we're gonna play this year. There are probably four to six quality guys there at the receiver position. It starts, for them, at receiver with Demus and Jarrett, and I think those guys are NFL players."

This weekend marks

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the first time WVU will open the season with a true road game during Brown's tenure. He's hoping the team's performance will be a step in the right direction after going winless on the road last year.

"We need to get a bad taste out of our mouth," Brown said. "We didn't go on the road and perform as well (last season). That hadn't been the case historically, we played our best football on the road in '19 winning at Kansas State and winning at TCU... I don't think it's an issue, but we still got to go out and win on the road, which we didn't a year ago."

# Ohio State

yards.

**POLL IMPLICATIONS**

Ohio State will surely at least stay put at No. 4 but likely would only move up if a top-three team stumbled badly on opening weekend.

**THE TAKEAWAY**

Ohio State: For all their talent at wide receiver, size on the offensive line and depth at running back, the Buckeyes were still turning over their offense to a player who'd never attempted a pass in a college game. Stroud delivered some strong throws and was shaky with some others, just as any fresh-

man often would in his first Big Ten road game, but the succession from NFL first-round draft pick Justin Fields went about as smooth as could reasonably be expected.

Minnesota: Regardless of the outcome, this was precisely the type of performance the Gophers were seeking in their attempt to get back on track after a frustrating 2020 season.

**UP NEXT**

Ohio State: The Buckeyes return home to face No. 11 Oregon on Sept. 11.

Minnesota: The Gophers host Miami of Ohio on Sept. 11.



**BIG HIT** — Indian Creek's Sam Coleman throws a big hit on Brooke's Gavin Moore during the first quarter of Thursday's game at Brooke Memorial Stadium.

Andrew Grimm

# Cubs beat Pirates 6-5 on Difo error in 11th

CHICAGO (AP) — Sergio Alcántara scampered home when second baseman Wilmer Difo mishandled a popup in the 11th inning, and the Chicago Cubs beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 6-5 on Thursday night for their third straight win.

Rafael Ortega and Ian Happ homered for Chicago, and Alcántara logged the first three-hit game of his career. Codi Heuer (6-2) got three outs for the win.

Alcántara began the 11th on second base and advanced on Ortega's sacrifice bunt against Sam Howard (2-3). Happ then sent a high fly to second, where Difo committed the game-ending error.

It's the first three-game win streak for the Cubs since a five-game run from June 8-13.

The last-place Pirates wasted a stellar start by Mitch Keller, who struck

out eight in six scoreless innings. Colin Moran hit a three-run homer in the first, and Bryan Reynolds finished with two hits.

The Cubs rallied after Keller departed. Ortega tied it at 3 with a three-run shot against Chad Kuhl in the seventh. Frank Schwindel then singled and Happ connected for his 18th homer, sending a drive deep to right-center.

The Pirates tied it in the ninth against Rowan Wick. With one out and the bases loaded, Michael Perez drove in two runs with a pinch-hit single to right. But Cole Tucker then bounced into a double play.

Rookie right-hander Keegan Thompson got just five outs for Chicago, allowing three runs and four hits. He also struggled in his previous start, yielding four earned runs in two-plus innings in a 17-13 loss to the White Sox.

# McFadden kicks YSU past Incarnate Word

YOUNGSTOWN (AP) — Colten McFadden kicked a 41-yard field goal as time expired in regulation then converted from 27 yards out in overtime to give Youngstown State a 44-41 win over Incarnate Word in the season opener on Thursday night.

Demeatric Crenshaw put Youngstown State in front, 38-34 with his second touchdown run of the game, scoring from nine-yards out with 2:15 to play, but Cameron Ward threw a 2-yard touchdown pass to Trevor Bagley with 39-seconds left to lift Incarnate Word to a 41-38 lead.

The Penguins answered with a 45-yard pass from Crenshaw to Jaleel McLaughlin to reach the Cardinals' 23, setting up the game-tying field goal.

McLaughlin carried 29 times for 242 yards and two touchdowns, including a 72-yard dash, to lead the Penguins. Crenshaw added 81 yards and two touchdowns on 20 carries and added a third score on a five-yard pass to Bryce Oliver in the first quarter. Youngstown State ran for 351 yards and four touchdowns.

Ward completed 28 of 47 pass attempts for 352 yards and four touchdowns to lead Incarnate Word.

said. "We had a great game. This year we have a very strong bond, on the sideline, even the injured guys are jumping and cheering. The fans are great and the cheerleaders, the band, the dance team, everybody. It's great."

His first touchdown was a big answer to overcome a tough start.

After Indian Creek's Sam Coleman ran the opening kick 73 yards to the Brooke 17, the Redskins (0-3) wasted little time opening the scoring with a 1-yard Jadyen Irizarry scoring run. A fake on the extra point came up short, making it 6-0 Creek.

A very short kick set the Bruins up on the Creek side of the 50, and three plays later Sperringer scored from 26-yards out, knifing through the Creek defense after tucking the ball and keeping it himself. Bailey Serevich's boot made it a 7-6 Brooke lead, which they would not surrender.

"That's something else we're doing right now... we've developed the ability to let those things roll off our back," McLean said. "We're shrugging things like that off and we get focused and get rolling. That's got me excited."

Sperringer added scoring runs of 1 and 6 yards

# Brooke

and crossed the goal line from 6 yards away.

The drive took 11:42 off the clock and all but sealed the Bruins win as Serevich's kick split the uprights in front of the student section chanting her name to make it 28-6.

"That hasn't happened for us in a long, long time," McLean said of the drive. I'm proud of my staff and proud of my kids. I'm very happy right now."

A late Eli Powell touchdown run gave Creek its final points of the night.

"It showed the kids are playing hard," Connor said of the last score. "That's all I can ask of them. They played hard for 48 minutes of football and that's a start. We have to find things for us to move forward and that's a way to move forward."

**NOTES:**

- Prior to the touchdown to cap the long drive, Creek's Zach Byard was injured making a tackle on Brooke's Gavin Moore and left field on the stretcher, exiting the stadium in an ambulance.

"We took a lot of injuries," Connor said. "Hopefully the kids are alright. That's my first priority is to make sure the kids are OK."

- Before the game, a moment of silence was

held to honor fallen U.S. Navy Corpsman Max Soviak, an Ohio native and former multi-sport athlete for Milan Edison killed in last week's suicide bombing attack at the Kabul, Afghanistan airport during the U.S.'s evacuation mission.

**UP NEXT**

Indian Creek: Will look to right the ship with a trip to Weir High.

Brooke: Faces its toughest test yet hosting University.

"We've got a monster coming here next week," McLean said.

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Brooke 28, Indian Creek 13

Indian Creek 6-0-0-7 - 13

Brooke 7-14-0-7 - 28

**FIRST QUARTER**

IC: Irizarry 1 run (pass failed) 10:42

B: Sperringer 2-15; Brooke 45-20-4TD (Sperringer 18-108-4TD; Moore 11-48; Campinelli 16-45).

**SECOND QUARTER**

B: Sperringer 1 run (kick blocked) 10:20

B: Sperringer 6 run (Sperringer run) 3:46

**THIRD QUARTER**

None

**FOURTH QUARTER**

B: Sperringer 6 run (Serevich kick) 6:38

IC: Powell 5 run (Gross kick) 2:30

**RUSHING:** Indian Creek 36-136-2TD (Irizarry 14-59-TD; Powell 14-44-TD; McGee 6-18; Spencer 2-15); Brooke 45-201-4TD (Sperringer 18-108-4TD; Moore 11-48; Campinelli 16-45).

**PASSING:** Indian Creek 3-7-38 (all by Powell); Brooke 6-10-88 (all by Sperringer).

**RECEIVING:** Indian Creek 3-38 (Coleman 2-12; Bodo 1-26); Brooke 6-88 (Moore 4-56; Campinelli 1-22; Bachinski 1-11).

**FIRST DOWNS:** Indian Creek 11; Brooke 15.

**FUMBLES-LOST:** Indian Creek 0-0; Brooke 0-0.

**PENALTIES-YARDS:** Indian Creek 3-15; Brooke 9-65.

**PUNTS:** Indian Creek 1-27; Brooke 1-30.

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