

# Sports

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Thursday,

**Section** 

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Buckeye running back/

linebacker/ kicker Ben **Barnes** was named

Division III first-team All-Ohio by

the Ohio Prep

Sportswriters

Association.

**FOOTBALL: DIVISION II, III ALL-OHIO TEAMS** 

# Barnes' life-changing week

Bucks star commits to Citadel, named first-team All-Ohio in 24 hours

**Albert Grindle** The Gazette

Ben Barnes has had one heckuva week. The Buckeye senior running back/linebacker/kicker committed to play at The Citadel, a Football Championship Subdivision school, Tuesday night. On Wednesday morning, he was named a Division III first-team All-Ohio linebacker by the Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association.

Barnes is the Bucks' eighth first-team All-Ohio player and first since current Ohio State offensive lineman Ryan Smith

"He just always plays hard," Bucks coach



**Barnes** 



**Filips** 

Greg Dennison said. "He always does the right thing, and he always gives great effort. He's very physical and just a tough kid.

"It always seemed like he made big plays when we needed them. If we needed a tackle for loss, he made it. When we needed a big run, he broke one off."

The 5-foot-11, 184-pound Barnes had one of the greatest all-around seasons in Medina County history, rushing for 1,320 vards, kicking six field goals, scoring 154 points and compiling 26 tackles for loss among 102 total stops. All statistics led the area except total tackles, ranking fourth.

Barnes will kick for the Citadel, which went 4-7 this season, and major in construction engineering. He also had significant interest from nationally ranked D-III

See ALL-OHIO, B3



AARON JOSEFCZYK / GAZETTE

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL:**

**SOLON 59, MEDINA 50** 

# Learning experience

#### Comets score final 10 to steal GCC showdown

**Brad Bournival** The Gazette

SOLON — The Medina girls basketball got to see what a playoff atmosphere is all about.

Unfortunately for the Bees, Solon stole a 59-50 Greater Cleveland Conference thriller Wednesday.

Olivia Klanac nailed a 3-pointer to put Medina (4-2, 1-1) up a point with 2:35 left, but the Bees didn't score again.

"I've played in big games before in AAU," Klanac said. "But it's all about defense and knowing you can come down, hit the shot and tie it. It's about knowing you can win it.

"Solon's defense is physical. They're strong. They pressure the ball. They're a really good

The Comets (3-0, 2-0) shrugged off Klanac's 3-pointer when Chyanne Hatcher drilled a 3-pointer 30 seconds later.

After that, steals by Mackenzie Blackford (16 points) and Hatcher (20) took a backand-forth contest to Solon's favor, and the Comets scored the final 10 points.

"When you play Solon, it's always intense and high **Tripp** pressure," Medina coach Karen Kase said. "Medina knows that, but we have girls that are in new roles. They're young, inexperienced players and this is the biggest game they've ever played in so far. The scoreboard said what it said and we lost, but we grew in a lot of ways because we got





the experience." Up just two at the end of the second and third quarters, Solon lost the lead three times in the fourth but kept its cool by forcing 10 turnovers and holding Medina to just two baskets.

"Defense was huge, and Mackenzie Blackford did a great job of face-guarding (Hailey Tripp, 10 points)," Solon coach Trish Kruse said. "She really pressured her and took away their offense. (Hatcher) coming off the bench gave us some energy. She hit that huge three. We did a great job of moving the ball and attacking."

The two-time reigning champion Bees picked up a big night from Klanac (17 points) and held a 46-18 advantage on the boards thanks to Mylie Roberts (11) and Leora Owings (10).

The Bees even held Solon to a 1-for-21 showing in the second quarter but didn't have enough down the stretch and lost their second game in a row.

"I think they knew that I'm the one who controls my team," Tripp said. "They faceguarded me and were more aggressive. It definitely was because they were in our face. We have a lot of very inexperienced players. I think we were just frazzled in the moment."

See MEDINA, B2

Highland's Maddie Miller puts

up a shot against Copley's

Conzaman

Strandberg.

Lena

(2) and

Lexy

## **BOYS BASKETBALL: MEDINA 76, LAKEWOOD 31**



AARON JOSEFCZYK / GAZETTE

Medina's Matt Spatny scores over Lakewood's Michael Hamdan.

# The gridiron gang

# Football players star in season opener on NBA floor

**Brian Dulik** The Gazette

competing on an NBA court was multiplied for the Medina boys basketball team Wednesday.

school's football team, the Bees' CLEVELAND — The thrill of game against Lakewood also wound up as their season opener.

Matt Spatny scored 10 points, Michael Rodak had nine and Drew

game-high five assists and three steals as Medina rolled to a 76-31 non-conference win over the Rangers at Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse.

The aforementioned seniors

Thanks to a historic run by the Hensley collected five points, a were 19 days removed from their final game with the football Bees, who reached the Division I regional finals before losing to eventual state champion St. Edward.

See BEES, B3

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL: HIGHLAND 41, COPLEY 39**

# Double-digit deficit? No problem

Despite laying bricks, Hornets pull off wild rally from third-quarter hole

> **Albert Grindle** The Gazette

GRANGER TWP. — Maddie Miller, Delaney Lawson and Alayna Tessena had been down this road before, and it usually ended with a gigantic pothole or a brick wall that stopped the Highland girls basketball team with a tremendous thud.

Regardless of how many bricks the Hornets laid — and, boy, there were a lot — the veterans refused to let that happen again Wednesday in a key Subur-



Lawson

E. Miller

ban League American Conference game against Copley. Down 14 midway through the third quar-

ter and still unable to throw a ball in the ocean from the railing of a cruise ship, undefeated Highland made all the clutch plays to pull off a 41-39 stunner that may end up as the banquet-defining win of the season.

The Hornets (6-0, 3-0) missed 27 of their first 31 shots for 12.9% and were 0-for-15 from 3-point range through 24 minutes yet won after scoring more than half of their total points in the fourth.

"I'm not surprised at all," Miller said in reference to both the 4-for-31 shooting and memorable comeback. "I just told everyone in the locker room, 'The shots will eventually fall.' We started driving and moving the ball a little more. "Having Delaney Lawson, Alayna Tessena

and myself out there definitely helps keep our team under control, because I definitely remember my freshman year being in a tight game like that, it's almost nerve-racking when you're not used to that pace."

See HORNETS, B2



#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

# **Grizzlies move to 4-1**

Wadsworth girls basketball team started fast and rolled Wednesday to a 58-15 Suburban League National Conference win over Twinsburg.

The Grizzlies (4-1, 2-0), who held quarter leads of 23-6, 36-9 and 50-13 against the Tigers (0-5, 0-3), got 15 points and six rebounds from Regan Simpson, eight points apiece from Macie Roberts and Pacey Schtucka and five points and four assists from Ana Pinkerton.

In another game:

#### Keystone 50, **Black River 34**

SULLIVAN TWP. — The Pirates (2-4, 1-2) trailed just 35-29 after three quarters in this Lorain County League game, but the Wildcats (4-2, 3-0) pulled away. Riley Kubitz led Black River with 14 points, while Abbie Graves added eight.

#### Results



Simpson Schtucka

Busicnki 0-1-1, Gabriella Bonnzzio 1-0-2, Genesis Carthen 0-0-0, Maria Pontius 0-0 0, Lauren Glessman 0-0-0, Victoria Hayes 0-0-0, Elliotte Schneeman 0-0-0. TOTALS:

u-u-u, Elliotte Schneeman 0-0-0. TOTALS: 4-6-15.

\*\*Wadsworth\*\* — Macie Roberts 3-1-8, Celia Lambert 3-0-6, Regan Simpson 6-2-15, Ky/Sonna Won 2-3-7, Ana Pinkerton 1-3-5, Jessica Crookston 1-0-3, Emily Nagel 0-2-2, Celia Lambert 3-0-6, Pacey Schtucka 4-0-8, Alivia Baldwin 1-1-4, Brooke Manfull 0-0-0, Destiny Rains 0-0-0, Natalie McDermitt 0-0-0, Lyla Wilson 0-0-0. TOTALS: 21-12-58.

\*\*3-point goals\*\* — Pride, Crookston, Simpson, Roberts, Baldwin. Rebounds — Twinsburg 21 (Pride 5), Wadsworth 32 (Simpson 6). Assists — Twinsburg 1 (Pride), Wadsworth 16 (Pinkerton 4). Records — Twinsburg (0-5, 0-3), Wadsworth (4-1, 2-0). Junior varsity — Wadsworth 48, Twinsburg 6.

Lorain County League
Keystone 50, Black River 34
KEYSTONE 6 12 17 15 - 50
BLACK RIVER 12 6 11 5 - 34
Keystone - Brooklyn Barber 3-0-8,
Delaney Peters 7-3-21, Helayna Houston
4-1-9, Lily Cassell 1-1-3, Jessica Forthofer 2-4-8, Vivian Cassell 0-1-1. TOTALS: 17-10-

Black River — Zoey Bungard 2-1-5, Abbie Graves 2-2-8, Kiersten Hendershot 1-0-2, Teddi Vonderau 2-0-5, Riley Kubitz 5-2-14, Maddie Kovacic 0-0-0. TOTALS:



RON SCHWANE / GAZETTE

Highland's Alayna Tessena puts up a shot between Copley's Kami Ayoup (32) and Victoria McKnight.

## **HORNETS**

Highland trailed just 18-13 at the half but soon fell behind big after the Indians (2-2, 1-2), who were missing standout center Ashley Kerekes (foot), went on a 9-0 run to begin the third quarter. Kennedy Morgan finally stopped the bleeding with a jumper to make Highland 5-for-32, and the Hornets switched to a 1-3-1 zone that caused Copley to take rushed shots instead of burning clock.

What was once a 27-13 game became 29-20 heading into the fourth. Things suddenly got really interesting when Lawson hit a 3-pointer to bring the deficit to 31-30 and backup post Emily Miller (5 points, 7 rebounds) split free throws to tie the game at 33 with 2:15 to play.

Highland had switched its defense back to man by that point, and the Indians showed little sense of urgency. Emily Miller scored inside to give the Hornets the lead for good at 35-33, and Maddie Miller slithered into the paint for a bucket that pushed the score to 38-34 before making 3-of-4 free throws

in the final minute. Still, Copley woke up just in time to give itself a chance after a 3-pointer by Emily Kerekes (11 points, 7 rebounds) cut the Highland lead to 40-38. The Indians got the ball back down 41-39 after Grace Madison missed two free throws with 3.6 seconds to go but couldn't get off a transition shot before the

Everyone wearing green and white then exhaled, still unsure of what had just transpired.

"I would say the fourth quarter definitely was our turning point," Lawson said. "We did what we needed to do.'

That the Hornets came back from the dead was a lesson in resiliency, as they took good shots that didn't fall in the first half. Copley wasn't much better at finishing around the rim

despite great interior passing and led just 11-7 after one quarter, then could only extend to 18-13 at half after committing seven turnovers in the second

By that time, Miller was 1-for-8 with five turnovers and the team's best player was Tessena (5 points, career-high-tying 13 rebounds), who gave the Hornets second chances with rebounds. The shooting drought continued, as Highland blew layups, clanged mid-range jumpers and sometimes barely drew iron on 3-pointers.

Unlikely sources kept the Hornets alive, however, as Kennedy Morgan, Calee Angus and Aleena VanKirk made their only field goals in the third quarter. Once Lawson made a 3-pointer that brought the deficit to two possessions in the fourth, it was game on.

Riding a lineup of the Millers, Lawson, Tessena and Madison to the bitter end — Madison shot 0-for-9 but had four steals in the fourth — never-say-die Highland surprised everyone but itself.

"It was awesome," Lawson said. "We were down 14 and I don't want to say we were nervous, but we knew we had to do something. We were looking for anything to build momentum coming into the second half, and I think we did that with our defense. We got stops, we started making our layups and that really made a difference.

"It felt really good to win that game."

Contact Albert Grindle at (330) 721-4043 or agrindle@medina-gazette.com.

Highland 41, Copley 39

COPLEY 11 7 11 10 — 39 HIGHLAND 7 6 7 21 — 41 Copley — Shelby Emich 1-1-3, Victoria McKnight 5-1-11, Kami Ayoup 4-2-10, Emily Kerekes 3-3-11, Libby Blanchard 1-0-2, Alea Strandberg 0-0-0, Lena Conzaman 1-0-2. TOTALS: 15-7-39. Highland — Delenacid

TOTALS: 15-7-39.

Highland — Delaney Lawson 3-0-8, Aleena Vankirk 1-2-4, Alayna Tessena 2-1-5, Maddie Miller 3-8-14, Grace Madison 0-0-0, Kennedy Morgan 1-0-2, Emily Miller 2-1-5, Calee Angus 1-1-3, Jillian Miller 0-0-0, TOTALS: 13-13-41.

3-point goals — Kerekes 2, Lawson 2.

Rebounds — Copley 33 (McKnight 9), Highland 32 (Tessena 13), Assists — Copley 8 (Blanchard 6), Highland 5 (M. Miller, E. Miller, Lawson, Madison, Tessena). Records — Copley (2-2, 1-2). Highland (6-0, 3-0). Junior varsitiv — 1-2), Highland (6-0, 3-0). **Junior varsity** – Copley 36, Highland 32 (H: Bianca Pallante 11).

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL: STRONGSVILLE 75, BRUNSWICK 67**



Brunswick's Journey Hildebrand (3) puts up a shot. Below, the Blue Devils' Lea Holmes puts up a shot against Strongsville's Libby Majka.

# Slow start dooms hopes

Blue Devils fall behind 21-11 after one quarter

**Rick Noland** The Gazette

BRUNSWICK—Averyyoung Brunswick girls basketball team got reminded Wednesday night that points scored in the first quarter count every bit as much as

points scored

The Blue

Devils did a

fantastic job

of trying to dig

out of an early

quite got over

the hump in

falling 75-67 to

Greater Cleve-

land Con-

ference rival

Attempting

to play a 3-2

Strongsville.

in the fourth.



**Bertemes** 



zone, Brunswick (1-3, 1-1) got torched for 21 points in falling behind by 10 after the first period and was down 15 early in the second before rallying to make the final 22 minutes highly entertaining.

"The game was lost in the first quarter," Blue Devils coach Anthony Ocacio said. "We're trying to get them in the right mindset at the outset. It's about coming out and setting the tone right away."

The Mustangs (1-2, 1-1) did that, and every time Brunswick appeared ready to push past the visitors, junior center Taylor Bass (27 points, 5 rebounds), freshman power forward Sydney Bass (19, 3, 6 assists), senior point guard Ava Kadras (12, 2, 4) or junior small forward Mackenzie Schulz (9, 6, 3) made a pivotal play to turn the tide back in Strongsville's favor

"We are making strides, but I knew we were going to be hurting defensively," Ocacio said. "Strongsville is a very talented team. You have to be able to defend at the varsity level. The good thing is we're going to get better."

Sophomore point guard Journey Hildebrand did everything she could for the Blue Devils, matching Taylor Bass with five 3-pointers en route to 30 points and seven rebounds.

Sophomore small forward Lexi Bertemes (11 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists), sophomore shooting guard Faith Vlcek (7, 4, 2), freshman forward Kennedi Neale (2, 3, 5), junior center Lea Holmes (2, 8, 2, 5 blocks) and sophomore reserve Ashlyn Dyson (8 points) all had their moments

but the Blue Devils got back in

the game and stayed close by

crashing the offensive boards

they held a 36-25 rebound-

Unfortunately for Bruns-

wick, it not only made turn-

overs in the half court at cru-

cial times, they often resulted

in Strongsville hoops or free

said. "This is the youngest team

I've ever started, so I know

they're going to have those

ing us up and making us feel

uncomfortable, but we've

come a long way. It's just that

when you get a key stop, you

can't turn the ball over. And

when you turn the ball over,

you can't pout. You have to

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play the next play."

Strongsville 75,

**Brunswick 67** 

"Other teams are speed-

"We're on the cusp," Ocacio

throws.

lapses.

ing advantage — and getting

second and third chances.

for Brunswick, but Strongsville just had too much firepower.

"We got off to a slow start," Hildebrand said. "They made some shots and we weren't sure how to defend them. That's not good when you're scrambling and don't know how you're defending."

Down 28-13 near the midpoint of the second quarter, the Blue Devils rode Hildebrand's offense and Strongsville, which was 9-for-13 from the floor in the opening period, starting missing some shots after Brunswick switched to manto-man defense. As a result, the Mustangs' lead was down to 32-24 at halftime.

Dyson caught fire and scored all eight of her points in the third period, including a 3-pointer at the buzzer that brought Brunswick within 51-47.

Hildebrand had nine points in the fourth, but the Bass sisters and Kadras combined for 20. The Mustangs also successfully utilized a number of half-court traps and Brunswick never got any closer.

"I'm really proud of our team," Hildebrand said. "Sometimes when we are down, we give up. Everyone kept battling tonight and we got back in the game.

"They were just hitting. You can't stop a team that is making

Strongsville finished with 10 3-pointers to Brunswick's nine

STRONGSVILLE 21 11 19 24 - 75
BRUNSWICK 11 13 23 20 - 67
Strongsville - Mackenzie Schulz 4-1-9,
Sydney Bass 6-7-19, Taylor Bass 10-2-27,
Maddie Fortuna 1-0-3, Ava Kadras 4-1-12,
Libby Majka 0-0-0, Sarah Zoul 0-0-0, Mone'a
McEiroy 2-0-5. TOTALS: 27-11-75.
Brunswick - Lexi Bertemes 3-4-11,
Kennedi Neal 1-0-2, Lea Holmes 1-0-2, Faith
Vloek 3-0-7, Journey Hildebrand 11-3-30,
Kennedy Reynolds 0-0-0, Ashlyn Dyson 3-0-8,
Maci Grammes 2-0-4, Katie Jarold 0-0-0.
TOTALS: 25-8-67.
3-point qoals - T. Bass 5. Kadras 3.

shot after shot after shot."

and won the assist battle 18-12,

they are physical, but given the

youth and inexperience, we did

TOTALS: 25-8-67.

3-point goals — T. Bass 5, Kadras 3, Fortuna, McElroy, Hildebrand 5, Dyson 2, Bertemes, Vicek. Rebounds — Strongsville 25 (Schulz 6), Brunswick 36 (Holmes 8). Assists — Strongsville 18 (S. Bass 6), Brunswick 12 (Neale 5). Records — Strongsville (1-2, 1-1), Brunswick (1-3, 1-1). Junior varsity — Brunswick 41, Strongsville 35 (B: Olivia Komperta 10 points) Komperda 10 points).

Solon 59, Medina 50 MEDINA

Medina - Nikki Johnson 2-0-5, Leora Owings 2-0-4, Mylie Roberts 3-1-7, Olivia Klanac 6-0-17, Jenna White 0-0-0, Hailey Tripp 1-7-10, Kate Bobey 0-0-0, Grace Koehler 1-0-3, Ella Silvis 0-0-0, Kayla Joyner 1-0-2, Izzy Kurka 1-0-2. Totals:

Solon — Mackenzie Blackford 6-3-16, Morgan Blackford 3-0-7, Kaylee Levenhagen 1-0-2, Chyanne Hatcher 6-6-20, Nia Booker 2-0-4, Kaelyn Gaymon 1-0-3, Erica Olszewski 1-1-4, Raquel Thompson 0-0-0, Sophia Lance 0-0-0, Mia Patriarco 1-0-3. Totals: 21-10-59.

Totals: 21-10-59.

3-point goals — Klanac 5, Johnson,
Tripp, Koehler, Hatcher 2, Patriarco, Mo.
Blackford, Olszewski, Gaymon, Mac.
Blackford, Rebounds — Medina 46 (Roberts 11, Owings 10), Solon 18 (Levenhagen 5).

Assists — Medina 14 (Owings 4), Solon 15 (Mac. Blackford 4). Records — Medina (4-2, 1-1), Solon (3-0, 2-0). Junior varsity — Medina 38, Solon 37 (M: Carmella Oren

# **BOWLING**

# Buckeye outlasts **Pirates**

a battle of two of the top North Shore Conference girls bowling teams Wednesday, Buckeye took home early Medina County bragging rights with a 1,787-1,393 win over Black River

wick Zone. The Bucks (5-0, 5-0) were led by Taylor Radon (345, 180-156), Bella Anzevino (340, Radon 175-165) and

at AMF Bruns-

Tori Dininger (313, 149-164). The Pirates had decent showings from Amanda Mycek (288, 159-129) and Rhianna Fulk (278,

Buckeye won the junior varsity contest 1,063-254 behind Becca Taylor's 230. Erica McKean rolled a 214 for Black River.

In other matches:

#### Cloverleaf 2,274, Springfield 1,412

LODI — The Colts turned some heads in their season and Metro Athletic Conference opener at Strike & Spare Lanes. Natasha Messmore (441, 233-208) obliterated the field. Teammate Delayna Harvey (429, 225-204) was her closest competition.

#### **Boy Buckeye 2,009,** Black River 1,798

NORTH RIDGEVILLE — The Bucks (1-4, 1-4) won this NSC showdown at AMF Brunswick Lanes. Dylan Traylinek (393, 186-207), Dominic Diehl (332, 181-151), Michael Baeppler (325, 167-158) and Alex Lawrence (319, 162-157) led the way. The Pirates (1-4, 1-4) had strong showings from Nathan Moore (325, 141-184) and Ryan Graves (325, 141-184). Buckeye won the junior varsity match 1,428-1,161 behind Dylan McDonald's 280. Kam DeLong (264) led Black River.

#### Medina 2,275, Euclid 1,505

MEDINA — The Bees (2-0, 1-0) overcame a 300 game and 497 series by Kyle Kalinowski to win this Greater Cleveland Conference opener at AMF Medina Lanes. Nathan Guynn (381, 179-202), Aidin Neubauer (361, 184-177), John Coyne (360, 192-168) and Chase Gordon (358, 183-174) did if for Medina. The junior varsity won 1,622-1,160 and was led by Austin

#### Springfield 2,291, Cloverleaf 2,102

LODI — The Colts opened MAC play at Strike & Spare I ares with solid efforts from Shane Hlavaty (387, 208-179), Tyler Corbett (383, 213-170) and Zane Evans (306, 159-147).

- Brad Bournival

# **SWIMMING** Highland steamrolls **Barberton**

BARBERTON — The Highland boys swimming team stayed perfect Wednesday with a 120-31 Suburban League American Conference win at Barberton.

The Hornets (2-0, 2-0) won every event and were led by fourtime winners Ben DeMichael (200-yard freestyle relay, 100 backstroke, 400 free relay, 200 individual medley) and Nathan Herbert (200 free relay, 100 breaststroke, 400 free relay, 500 free).

Henry Wilkes (200 free relay, 400 free relay, 200 free) and Ryan McKeen (200 medley relay, 50 free, 100 free) won three times, while Aiden Magoolaghan (200 free relay, 200 medley relay) won twice.

Nathan Wilkes (200 free relay), Brian DeMichael (400 free relay), Ethan Baker (200 medley relay), Jonathan Friedl (200 medley relay) and Joey Lever (100 butterfly) also had firsts.

In another meet:

#### **Girls** Highland 120, Barberton 31

BARBERTON - Hayley Brewster (100 back, 400 free relay, 200 medley relay, 500 free) and Katie Critchett (400 free relay, 200 medley relay, 200 IM, 50 free) paced the Hornets (2-0, 2-0) in SL American action. Hailey Phillips (200 free, 200 free relay), Sadie Mendenhall (100 free, 200 free relay), Sam Axlund (400 free relay, 200 medley relay) and Isabelle Scally (400 free relay, 200 medley relay) won twice. Lucy Freund (100 breast), Jasmine Harrigan (200 free relay) and Ally Haynes (200 free relay) also won for Highland. which claimed all but one event.

- Brad Bournival

# **MEDINA**

Medina also committed 29

turnovers to Solon's 11.

"They're very physical on defense," Kase said. "They get away with some stuff. We have to learn how it is, especially when we're playing against them at Solon. "We need to stand our ground

and be a little tougher and give

some of it back, but also we

flung the ball or just panicked

in small moments that led to

lavups or easy baskets. Yes,

OK and we'll get better." That may be the biggest takeaway with almost a third of the season over for a Bees squad

that felt some growing pains. "We knew this was going to be

a better game, and we wanted to prove ourselves," Klanac said. "Even though they're a physical team with good shooters, I feel like we are, too. I think the next time we play them (Jan. 19), it will be a battle."

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#### **CAVALIERS 115, BULLS 92**

# Garland, Mobley star again

**Brian Dulik** The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Darius Garland scored 24 points and rookie power forward Evan Mobley had 16 points and nine rebounds Wednesday



night, sending the Cavaliers to a 115-92 win over the Chi-

cago Bulls. Garland also had six assists as Cleveland won for the fifth time in seven

Garland games, earning its most lopsided home victory of the season. Mobley, the third overall draft pick, shot 8-for-11 from the field and had a season-high

five blocked shots and two steals. "Whatever it takes to win, I'm about it," Garland said. "I just try to get everybody else involved because we're all hard-working. Evan got us started and got us going, and he had a big night defensively and offensively.'

Zach LaVine scored 23 points with nine assists for Chicago, which had its four-game win streak snapped. **NEXT UP** 

WHO: Cleveland at Minnesota WHEN: 8 p.m. Friday WHERE: **Target Center** TV/RADIO: Bally Sports Ohio; WTAM 1100-AM; WQKT

104.5-FM; WMMS 100.7-FM; WEOL 930-AM

Lonzo Ball added 19 points and Nikola Vucevic had 18 points and 12 rebounds, but shot 8-for-23 from the

The Bulls played their second game since leading scorer DeMar DeRozan was placed in the NBA's health and safety protocol for COVID-19. Chicago guards Coby White, Matt Thomas and Javonte Green are sidelined for the same

"In the half court, we didn't make the best decisions and we weren't able to finish when we got downhill." Bulls coach Billy Donovan said. "I think our offense defeated us, and you can't do that and expect to beat

a team like Cleveland."

The Cavaliers took command in the third quarter when Kevin Love made three 3-pointers in a 1:57 span to extend their lead to 78-56. Former Chicago forward Lauri Markkanen gave Cleveland its largest spread with a dunk that made it 104-78 midway through the fourth.

Markkanen scored 14 points, Jarrett Allen had 13 points and 12 rebounds, and Love and Ricky Rubio each had 11 points. The Cavaliers have won five in a row over the Bulls at Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse.

"Every time we go out and play like that, it's a lot of fun," Mobley

Mobley became the second Cleveland rookie with at least 300 points and 40 blocks in his first 22 games, joining John "Hot Rod" Williams in 1986-87. The USC product is averaging 14 points, 8.2 rebounds and a rookie-best 2.0 rejections.

"We've been on the other end with him blocking our shots in training camp," Markkanen said, laughing. "It's just what Evan does. That's

# **GIRLS SOCCER**

# Holland resigns as Highland coach

**Brad Bournival** The Gazette

GRANGER TWP. — Family matters to Rick Holland.

After careful consideration, Holland announced he was stepping down as Highland girls soccer coach Wednesday in an after-school meet-

ing with his team. For the 40-yearold, it was a matter of missing out on quality time at

pretty straightforward," Holland said. "I have a 4-year-old,



miss out on her and her growing up. "The last two years have meant a lot. I got a chance to see all the players in the building and bonded with them during the season. I see both sides in their high school experience. It's not an easy decision. It had to be for my family. It's going to affect me. It's a decision I've thought about the last four months."

In his two seasons, Highland went 18-10-7 overall and 10-1-1 (.840) in the Suburban League American Conference, including 10-3-5, 5-1-1

The Hornets won their first league

title last season, when they went 5-0-1. They were third this season while putting together the best two-year league record in program history.

"It's going to be difficult to replace Rick," Highland athletic director Nick Ranallo said. "He's a (computer science) teacher in the building. That helps in building relationships with some of the girls that are 50/50 about playing soccer. He was able to get a lot of girls to participate where we were able to field three teams, a varsity, a JV 'A' and a JV 'B.'

Ranallo is not wasting any time in filling the position. He posted the job internally and will look outside the school system if need be.

With Holland in the building, the new coach will have someone with vast knowledge of the game willing to help out on an "only if needed

"I'm proud of my achievements," Holland said. "I set an objective when I came into the program a few years ago. My goal this year was to go even further in district. Obviously we didn't attain it, but we ended up playing (eventual regional finalist) Avon Lake, which was a phenomenal team this year. That shows in how far they went.

"I'm proud of what the girls achieved. I don't need any acco-

lades. It's the quality that's important. I didn't kick any balls. I didn't save any goals. I didn't put in any extra training away from the game. It was the team that got there.'

The next coach will inherit a squad loaded with talent after Holland took a team missing 15 letterwinners and made it a winner

Ella Dinwiddie was named Division I second-team All-Ohio and Lloyd Mahachi was named the Akron D-I Assistant Coach of the Year. Grace Madison and Jillian Miller were second-team all-district, while Meredith Knapp, Luisa Fragnoli and Ciara Santiago were honorable mention.

Dinwiddie, Santiago and Madison were first-team All-Gazette and Miller was honorable mention.

All return next season.

"There's a great core of girls that are returning," Ranallo said. "You also have a lot of girls who have improved already in the last two months just playing futsal. That new head coach will definitely have an advantage coming in where a lot of the athleticism is already there. They can put their own print on the program and pick up where Rick left

Contact Brad Bournival at bournival929@amail.com.



AARON JOSEFCZYK / GAZETTE

Medina's Stephen Mosack shoots over Lakewood's Michael Hamdam.

which is a huge plus."

Hakeem Quran scored a game-high 11 dan had three points and four rebounds before exiting with an ankle injury in the third. Brayden Volcansek made three

The Rangers faced their third consecutive powerhouse after losing 84-38 at St. Edward and 87-25 to Brush.

Western Reserve Academy and Mentor - were postponed in order to give its half-dozen football players a brief break between seasons.

"We've never played this well on this court, which is a credit to how deep we are and how much the guys enjoyed being here," Hassinger said. "Seeing the excitement on their faces and the way they were looking around in awe, it was like they were 5-6 years old waiting to

to when we were young — and that's an awesome feeling.

Contact Brian Dulik at brisports@hotmail.com. Follow him @BrianDulik on Twitter.

LAKEWOOD 2 13 11 5 - 31 MEDINA 26 18 17 15 - 76 Lakewood - Hakeem Quran 5-1-11, Dread Jablonowski 0-0-0, Michael Hamdan 1-0-3, Andre Hallenburg 0-0-0, M.J. Grayer 3-0-6, Osied Albadarin LAKEWOOD 0-0-0, Khaled Kutkut 0-0-0, Brayden Volcansek 3-0-9,

#### **ALL-OHIO**

"This past 24 hours has been pretty awesome," a giddy Barnes said. "Committing for me, my mom balled when the coach called and offered. It's something I've been working for all summer and all year. I went to the camp and did pretty well. It's one of the greatest feelings to be rewarded.

"I was looking up at the All-Ohio wall at our school this week, and I was really hoping to be up there soon. I was super happy about that."

Barnes also obtained lifelong family bragging rights, as his sister, Norah, was a D-II second-team All-Ohio soccer player in 2013. Another sister, Sophia, had a standout collegiate career at Bowling Green.

"I already texted my sisters and mentioned (my award) to them," Ben said with a laugh. "I didn't try to rub it in. I'll see them around Christmas, so I'll say it then."

Barnes was not the only county player honored.

In D-II, Highland senior quarterback Aaron Filips was second team and junior running back/linebacker Lukas Stiles was third team. Senior wide receiver/safety/returner Kevin Heichel was honorable mention.

In D-III, Buckeye wide receiver/ running/back safety Kaymen Marshall, Cloverleaf guard/linebacker Kevin Bittaker and Colts running back/safety Cade Cass were D-III honorable mention.

Filips became the seventh area player to rush and pass for 1,000 yards apiece in a season, finishing with 1,126 rushing and 1,400 passing. Stiles had 826 yards rushing, tied Filips for the team lead with 102 points and had 14½ tackles for loss among 73 stops, while Heichel had 585 yards receiving, 40 tackles, two interceptions and brought back two punts for scores.

Marshall led the county with 1,643 all-purpose yards to go with 67 tackles, four interceptions and a 34.6 punting average, while Bittaker (120 tackles) and Cass (114) finished 1-2 in the county for tackles for the second straight season.

Contact Albert Grindle at (330) 721-4043 or agrindle@medina-gazette.com.

#### All-Ohio teams

Offensive Players of the Year — Trey Martin, Green; Lamar Sperling, Archbishop Hoban Defensive Player of the Year — Jay'ron Gibson, Cincinnati Winton Woods Coaches of the Year — Rob Page, Big Walnut; Alex Garvin, Kings

FIRST TEAM

Coaches of the Year — Roo Page, Big Walnut; Alex Garvin, Kings

FIRST TEAM
Offense

Quarterbacks — Amare Jenkins, Dublin Scioto, 6-3, 175, sr.; Kaden Holmes, Fremont Ross, 5-11 170, jr.; Devin Sherwood, Austintown Fitch; Griffin Scalf, Cincinnatt Anderson, 6-3, 205, jr. Running backs — Nate Severs, Big Walnut, 5-9, 210, soph; Lamar Sperling, Archbishop Hoban, 5-8, 178, jr.; Rocco Conti, Olmsted Falls, 5-9, 180, jr.; Jasiah Medley, Piqua, 6-1, 196, sr. Wide receivers/tight ends — Tyson Boze, Dublin Scioto, 6-3, 190, sr.; Kaden Saunders, Westerville South, 5-11, 175, sr.; Trey Talboo, Orledo St. Francis, 6-3, 200, sr.; Sam Lee, Toledo Central Catholic, 6-6, 220, sr.; Trey Martin, Green, 6-2, 184, sr.; Joey Faulkner, Cincinnati Anderson, 6-0, 175, sr.; Adrian Norfon, Riverside Stebbins, 6-1, 190, jr. Linemen — Aiden Hernandez, Big Walnut, 6-2, 250, sr.; Jonathan Harder, Clentangy Berlin, 6-5, 290, sr.; Ethan Green, Fremont Ross, 6-7, 290, sr.; Jaiden Woods, Massillon Washington, 5-10, 260, sr.; Ryan Baer, Eastlake North, 6-8, 330, sr.; Sam Petros, Ashtabula Lakeside, sr.; Caleb Lyons, Piqua, 6-4, 304, sr.; Paul Haywood, Cincinnati La Salle, 6-3, 300, sr. Kickers — Alex Kasee, Sylvania Northview, 6-1 160 Jr.; Robby Smart, North Canton Hoover, 5-10, 150, sr.

Defense

Linemen — Correy Craddolph, Columbus Northland, 6-0, 240, sr.; Drew Logan, North Canton Hoover, Mike Shimek, North Canton Hoover, 6-2, 220, sr.; Boosevelt Andrews, Barberton, 6-3, 220, jr.; Tico Jones, Lakewood, 6-6, 265, sr.; Brody Foley, Clincinnati Morthon Moods, 6-0, 243, sr.; Jul Ruffin, Cincinnati La Salle, 6-3, 227, sr.; Linebackers — Jacob Andt, Marion Harding, 5-9, 180, sr.; Chris Jackson, Toledo Central Catholic, 6-2, 215, Sr.; Kasey Kish, Walsh Jesut, 5-11, 205, sr.; Derell Bedingfield, Benedictine, 6-2, 205, sr.; Matt Rose, Brecksville, 6-2, 205, sr.; Sam Scholinesing, Piqua, 6-2, 261, jr.; Seven Blue, Cincinnati Winton Woods, 5-0, 180, sr.; Jamai Sumlin, Rhodes, 6-3, 327, sr., sr., sr., Sm. Schmiesing, Piqua, 6-2, 216, jr.; Seven Blue, Cin

sr; Bennett Lawrence, Olentangy Berlin, 6-1, 185, sr. Punter — Charlie Durkin, Archbishop Hoban, 6-0, 205, sr.

SECOND TEAM
Offense
Quarterbacks — Trevor Van Horn, Green, 6-3, 193, sr.;
Matt Natale, Walsh Jesuit, 6-1, 175, sr.; AARON FILIPS,
HIGHLAND, 6-1, 200, SR.; Will Kocher, Kings Mills Kings,
6-2, 205, jr. Running backs — Kentrell Marks, Valley
Forge, 6-1, 185, sr.; Joe Caswell, Anthony Wayne, 6-0 205,
jr. Jakorion Caffey, Avon, 5-10, 190, sopp.; Ty aris Stevenson,
Cincinnati Withrow, 5-11, 185, sr. Wide receivers/tight ends
— Nicky Pentello, Big Walnut, 5-10, 185, jr.; Lesley Andoh,
Dublin Scioto, 6-1, 175, sr.; Bryson Hammer, Fremont Ross,
5-11 170, jr.; Micah McKee, Wooster, 6-5, 200, sr.; Connor
Awad, Midview, 6-3, 190, sr.; Evan Upchurch, Cincinnati
Anderson, 5-10, 165, sr.; Michael Mussari, Kings Mills, Kings
6-0, 165, jr. Linemen — Tyler O'Reilly, Westerville South, 6-2,
260, sr.; AJ Moniaci, Teavs Valley, 6-3, 300, sr.; Evan White,
Anthony Wayne, 6-4, 240, sr.; Alec Lehman, North Canton
Hoover, 6-1, 255, sr.; CJ. Dawson, Green, 6-3, 297, sr.; Drew
Holt, Archbishop Hoban, 6-0, 290, jr.; Joe Lubertozzi, Avon
Lake, 6-1, 262, sr.; Will Edwards, Cincinnati Winton Woods,
6-3, 300, sr. Kicker — Nathaniel Vakos, Avon, 6-1, 190, Sr.

Defense

Linemen — Dylan Fisher, Toledo Central Catholic, 6-1
270, sr.; Anthony Mosley, Lima Senior, 6-3, 220 jr.; Marcus
Moore, Massillon Washington; Riley Campbell, Massillon
Washington, 6-3, 210, sr.; Jason Martin III, Archbishop
Hoban, 6-0, 280, jr.; John Jackson, Barberton, 6-3, 260,
sr.; Landon Hare, Piqua, 6-2, 219, sr. Linebackers — Nathan
Depuy, Massillon Washington, Filey Campbell, Massillon
Washington, 6-3, 210, sr.; Jason Martin III, Archbishop
Hoban, 6-0, 280, jr.; John Jackson, Barberton, 6-3, 260,
sr.; Landon Hare, Piqua, 6-2, 175, sr.; Linebackers — Nathan
Depuy, Massillon Washington, Filey Campbell, Massillon
Washington, 6-3, 200, sr.; Lygan Bracky,
Uniontown Lake, 5-11, 170, jr.;
Casey O'Toole, Cincinnati Anderson, 6-2, 25, sr.; Radical
Rothermel, Tienton Edge

THIRD TEAM Offense

THIRD TEAM
Offense
Quarterbacks — Xavier Balson, North Olmsted, 6-2, 187,
jr; Nate Keller, Riverside Stebbins, 6-0, 180, sr; Sam DeTilio,
Avon, 5-11, 185, jr; Ceeday Yarboro, Benedictine, 6-0 175,
sr. Running backs — JJ Calip, Worthington Kilboume, 5-11,
185, jr; Cameron Macon, Barberton, 6-0, 225, sr; Keenan
Alcalde, Cincinnati Turpin, 6-1, 190, sr; Aiden Lal, Hudson,
6-3, 210, sr. Wide receivers/tight ends — Cooper Rusk,
Nordonia, 6-0, 180, sr; Colin Pierce, Hudson, 5-10, 175,
sr; Christian Ochei, Walsh Jesuit, 6-2, 190, sr; Tim Conwell,
Avon, 5-10, 165, sr; Ryan McDole, Cincinnati Turpin, 6-4,
205, sr. Linemen — Michael Bush, Marion Harding, 6-4, 300,
sr; Ryan Steinbrink, Canal Winchester, 6-4, 270, jr; Ryan
Carretta, St. Charles, 6-5, 315, jr; Brent Rombach, Toledo
Central Catholic, 6-3 260 Sr; Keshawn Haynes, Archbishop
Hoban, 6-2, 315, sr; Dominic Fallon, Walsh Jesuit, 5-11, 205,
sr; Luke Hamilton, Avon, 6-6, 280, soph; Dominic Rivera,
Olmsted Falls, 6-7, 310, jr; Austin Rack, Cincinnati La Salle,
6-1, 275, sr. Kicker — Drew Rader, Wooster, 5-9, 160, sr.

Defense

Olmsted Falls, 6-7, 310, jr.; Austin Rack, Cincinnati La Salle, 6-1, 275, sr. Kicker — Drew Rader, Wooster, 5-9, 160, sr.

Linemen — Jordan Pritchard-Sewell, Archbishop Hoban, 6-1, 265, soph.; Avery Viancourt, Avon Lake, 6-1, 176, jr.; Morgan Bish, Ashtabula Lakeside, 5-11, 212, sr.; Gavin Beasley, North Olmsted, 5-10, 195, jr.; Dalton King, Riverside Stebbins, 6-2, 215, sr.; Joshua Lukusa, Cincinnati Withrow, 6-5, 240, sr. Linebackers — LUKAS STILES, HIGHLAND, 5-10, 220, JR., Peyton Weller, Teays Valley, 5-10, 190, sr.; Bryce Kahl, Anthory Wayne, 5-11 170 Sr.; Jovon Toyer, Toledo St. Francis, 5-10 255, sr.; Logan Villamagna, Nordonia, 5-11, 180, jr.; Ryan Evans, Hudson, 6-0, 200, sr.; Jack Romanini, Walsh Jesuit, 5-8, 185, sr.; Brennan Catania, Hudson, 6-1, 185, sr.; Trey Carpenter, Cincinnati Turpin, LB, 6-0, 185, sr.; Nate Friesner, Toledo St. John's, 6-1 205, sr. Backs — Julius Jackson, Toledo St. John's, 6-1 205, sr.; Barchard, 5-11, 170, sr.; Pierden Pepe, Avon Lake, 5-11, 165, jr.; Marvin Conkle, Benedictine; Drew Covington, Cincinnati Turpin, 6-3, 175, sr.; Jack Fries, Cincinnati La Salle, 6-0, 180, sr.; Punter — Carson Caudell, Kings Mills Kings, 6-1, 170, sr.

HONORABLE MENTION

6-0, 180. sr; Punter — Carson Caudell, Kings Mills Kings, 6-1, 170, sr.

HONORABLE MENTION

Quarterbacks — Deuce Caldwell, Licking Heights, 5-9, 155, jr; Liston Shroyer, Watkins Memorial, 6-1, 170, sr.; Brady Wink, Marion Harding, 5-9, 165, sr.; Charlie Ciolek, Olmsted Falls, 6-4, 185, Sr.; Aidan Jones, Morrow Little Miami, 6-2, 180, sr.; Brady Ouhl, Piqua, 6-1, 179, jr; Mason Young, Harrison, 5-9, 175, sr. Running backs — Chris Edmonds, Toledo Central Catholic, 5-9, 185, jr.; Hakeem Quran, Lakewood, 5-10, 180, sr.; Tanelle Rose, Brush, 6-0, 185, soph.; Edward Robinson III, Maple Heights, 5-11, 195, Jr.; Deondre Bothast-Revalee, Oxford Talawanda, 5-10, 200, sr.; Max Sannella, Kings Mills Kings, 5-10, 190, sr.; TyRek Spikes, Cincinnati Winton Woods, 5-7, 165, sr. Wide receivers/tight ends — Brayden Bischoff, Little Miami, 6-0, 175, jr.; KEVIN HEICHEL, HIGHLAND, 6-0, 170, SR.; Dom Foster, Warren G. Harding, 6-1, 180, sr.; Wesley Stokes, Marion Harding, 6-3, 200, sr.; Jared Kelley, North Olmsted, 5-11, 185, Jr.; Brandon Boyd, Benedictine, 6-0, 173, jr.; Jake DePaul, Avon Lake, 5-9, 165, sr. Offensive linemen — Chase Riedel, Nordonia, 6-5, 271, sr.; Joe Sferra, Boardman, 6-3, 285, sr.; Josh Fitzgerald, Austintown Fitch, 6-3, 275, jr.; Zach McGuire,

Piqua, 6-2, 291, sr.; Eli Aruri, Kings Mills Kings, 6-0, 201, ir.; Jack Bauer, Whitehouse Anthony Wayne, 6-3, 225, sr.; Mar Teion Adams, Toledo Central Catholic, 6-3, 230, sr.; Kirk Doskocil, Broadview Heights, 6-3, 270, sr.; Dante Ciulli, North Royalton, 5-10, 210, sr.; Alex Azre, Willoughby South, 6-2, 275, ir.; Nick Messenger, Painesville Riverside, 6-2, 255, sr.; Anthony Illiano, Benedictine, 6-3, 280, jr. Kickers — Mason Luensman, La Salle, 5-11, 180, sr.; Hayden Olcott, Olentangy, 5-11, 160, sr.; Johan Silver, Fremont Ross, 6-1 610, sr.; Andrew Lastovka, Nordonia, 5-9, 150, sr.; Kaiden Koch, Michview, 6-0, 185, sr. Defensive linemen — Kincade Tyson, Warren G. Harding, 6-4, 200, sr.; Jeremy Callahan, Olentangy, 6-3, 230, sr.; Rashawn Turner, Manion Harding, 6-1, 230, sr.; Kyle Pawlicki, Whitehouse Arnthony Wayne, 6-1, 215, sr.; Tyler Jackson, Toledo Central Catholic, 6-0, 260, jr.; Alejandro Castro, Parma, 6-2, 240, Jr.; Austin Mitchell, Avon, 6-1, 247, jr.; Dain Bartlebaugh, North Ridgeville, 6-5, 275, sr.; Angel Jiminian, Westlake, 6-0, 210, sr.; Jayden Denton, Cincinnati Withrow, 6-2, 255, jr. Linebackers — Dauvion Henderson, Whitehall, 6-0, 185, sr.; Lawence O'Malley, Big Walnut, 5-9, 190, sr.; Zach Mullins, Mount Vernon, 6-3, 215, sr.; Jalin Sample, Independence, 5-10, 180, sr.; Mason Villarreal, Fremont Ross, 5-10, 220, jr.; Jason Ryan, Painesville Riverside, 6-2, 205, jr.; Luke Dieckman, Olmsted Falls, 6-2, 200, sr.; Trevor Norman, Avon, 6-0, 188, Sr.; Iar Sampson, Willoughby South, 6-0, 210, sr.; Dom Tromba, Painesville Riverside, 6-1, 190, sr.; Gavin Ehmardt, Avon, 5-11, 205, sr.; Markim McKinnie, Archibishop Hoban, 6-1, 185, sr.; DeShawn Vaughn, Austenthown Fitch, 5-10, 185, soph.; Charlie Klug, Walsh Jesuit, 5-10, 180, sr.; Brandon Armstrong, Westerville, South, 5-8, 160, sr.; John Forksey, North Romon, 6-0, 175, sr.; Kalijah Alejandro, Fremort Ross, 5-10, 175, sr.; John Forkset, 6-1, 185, sr.; DeShawn Kunden Hulliams, Brush, 6-0, 177, sr.; Kalijah Alejandro, Fremort Ross, 5-10, 145, sr.; Keegan

**DIVISION III** 

Offensive Player of the Year — Drew Novak, Western Brown
Defensive Player of the Year — C.J. Hicks, Kettering Alter Coach of the Year — Wes Schroeder, Granville TIRST TEAM Offense
Ouarterbacks — Noah Clark, West Holmes, 5-11, 190, sr.; Braeden Goulet, Wapakoneta, 6-1, 180, Sr.; Rick Coleman, Painesville Harvey, 6-0, 165, sr.; Drew Novak, Mount Orab Western Brown, 6-6, 195, jr.; Landyn Vidourek, Hamilton Badin, 6-1, 170, sr. Running backs — Devon Haley, Granville, S-8, 180, sr.; Jason Munyan, Thornville Sheridan, 5-9, 180, sr.; Sam Williams-Dixon, West Holmes, 6-0, 195, soph.; T.C. Caffey, Hubbard, 5-11, 205, sr.; Seth Borondy, Bellbrock, 6-2, 185, sr.; Jack Walsh, Hamilton Badin, 5-9, 175, sr. Wide receiverstight ends — Treyvhon Saunders, Columbus Hartley, 5-11, 185, sr.; Myles Bradley, Mansfield Senior, 6-1, 215, sr.; Collin Dixon, Tallmadge, 6-2, 210, jr.; Eric Holley, Akron Eat, 6-3, 195, sr.; Dylan Novak, Mount Orab Western Brown, 6-4, 205, sr. Linemen — Matthew Weaver, West Holmes, 6-1 200, sr.; Stashu Patterson, St. Marys Memorial, 5-11, 210, Sr.; Tariq Montgomery, Akron St. Vincent-St. Sr.; Brandon Wilson, Padua Franciscan, 6-4, 265, sr.; Nick Moore, Cincinnatt Northwest, 6-4, 288, sr.; Davis Featherstone, Tipp City, Tippecanoe, 6-4, 264, sr.; Henry Birchwell, Hamilton Badin, 6-0, 230, sr. Kicker — Joey DiLalla, West Geauga, 5-10, 170, sr.

Defense
Linemen — Thadd Huff, London, 6-2, 235, sr.; Daniel

Badin, 6-0, 230, sr. Kicker — Joey DiLalla, West Geauga, 5-10, 170, sr.

Defense
Linemen — Thadd Huff, London, 6-2, 235, sr.; Daniel Tooson, Columbus Hartley, 6-0, 270, sr.; Dylan Giesige, St. Marys Memorial, 6-3, 215, sr.; Connor Preisel, Holy Name, 6-3, 245, sr.; Alex Kisley, Chardon, 6-2, 205, jr.; Logan Neu, Hamilton Badin, 6-2, 220, sr. Linebackers — Isalah Jones, London, 6-3, 230, sr.; Elisha Baldridge, West Holmes, 6-3, 215, jr.; Grant Mastin, Jackson, 6-1, 230, sr.; Matthew Beach, New Philadelphia, 6-0, 185, sr.; Mekhi Bradley, Mansfield Senior, 6-2, 253, jr.; Myles Aldrich, Lima Shawnee, 6-0, 195, sr.; BEN BARNES, BUCKEYE, 5-11, 184, SR.; Tommy Beble, Rocky River, 6-1, 205, sr.; CJ Hicks, Kettering Alter, 6-4, 215, sr.; Cayd Everhart, Tipp City Tippecanoe, 5-11, 183, sr.; Ashton Ault, Bellbrook 6-0, 210, sr. Backs — Diante Latham, Columbus Beechcroft, 6-8, 151, sr.; Nathanael Sulka, Chardon, 6-4, 205, sr.; Trey Liebhardt, Chardon, 6-0, 175, jr.; Jason Rindler, Tipp City Tippecanoe, 6-3, 199, sr.; Darian Leslie, Daylon Dunbar, 5-10, 180, sr.; Carson Cheek, Hamilton Badin, 5-10, 150, soph. Punters — Alex Contreras, Buckeye Valley, 6-1, 175, sr.

SECOND TEAM
Offense

SECOND TEAM Offense

SECOND TEAM
Offense
Quarterbacks — Cayden Shidone, Caledonia River Valley,
5-11, 185, jr.; Carsyn Crouch, Granville, 6-2, 180, sr.; Jacob
Winters, Jackson, 6-3, 215, jr.; Ty Hurst, Tallmadge, 6-2,
170, sr.; Broc Lowny, Carfield, 6-3, 193, sr. Running backs
— Elijah Jackson, Monroe, 6-0, 210, jr.; Jayden LeBeau,
Washington CH Miami Trace, 6-1, 205, sr.; Kesean Jackson,
Tiffin Columbian, 5-9, 170, sr.; Karson Berry, Lexington, 5-10,
185, sr.; Sean Carr, Chardon, 5-11, 190, sr.; Brock Short,
Greenville, 5-8, 155, jr. Wide receivers/tight ends — Karson
Lang, Caledonia River Valley, 6-2, 170, sr.; Jalen GoinsChardler, Dresdon Tri-Valley, 6-1, 160, sr.; Torry Stazzone,
Chesterland West Geauga, 6-2, 185, sr.; J.P. Germano,
Kenston, 6-1, 185, sr.; Braedyn Moore, Hamilton Badin, 6-1,
180, jr.; Kenyon Owens, Dayton Chaminade Julienne, 5-11,
180, jr.; Kerston, 6-6, 280, sr.; Jalen Carpenter, Columbus DeSales,
6-3, 240, sr.; Julian Jackson, Zanesville, 6-2, 285, sr.; Keisean
Johnson-Wilson, Streetsboro, 6-2, 285, sr.; Keisean
Johnson-Wilson, Streetsboro, 6-2, 285, sr.; Kaidan Palmer,
Revere, 6-5 280, Sr.; Luca Gasbarrino, Chesterland West
Geauga, 6-3, 250, sr.; Austin Montgomery, Kettering Alter,
6-4 215, sr.; Cameron Well, Mount Orab Western Brown, 6-3,
290, sr. Kicker — Rudy Kessinger, Columbus Watterson,
6-0, 165, soph.

Defense
Linemen — Kanye

b-U, 1b5, soph.

Defense
Linemen — Kanye Evans, Zanesville, 6-2, 253, sr.;
Bryson Getz, Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary, 6-2, 230, jr.; Austin Pascoe, West Geauga, 5-11, 195, jr.; Nesta Owens, Dayton Chaminade Julienne, 6-1, 225, jr.; Ashton Kooken, Bellbrook, 6-2, 205, sr.; Hunter Harrison, Hamilton Badin, 6-2-, 270, jr. Linebackers — Diamonte Salley, Columbus Eastmoor Academy, 6-1, 176, sr.; Brandon Kinney, Steubenville, 6-2, 215, sr.; Reid Beddow, Morton; Christian Neff, Ravenna, 6-3, 190, sr.; Ben DilMarco, Chagrin Falls Kenston, 5-10, 180, jr.; Lucas Sadler, West Geauga, 6-4, 245, sr.; Wyatt McPherson, Monroe, 6-1, 195, jr.; Elliot Braun, Dayton Carroll, 6-3, 220, sr. Backs — Caden McDermott, Granville, 5-8, 180, sr.; T.C. Molk, Dover, 6-0, 175, sr.; Kadin Schmitz, Ashland, 6-1, 210, sr.; Shawn Lodge, St. Vincent-St. Mary, 6-1, 170, sr.; Ryan Moskal, Chardon Notro Bame-Cathedral Latin, 5-8, 166, sr.; Jack Moore, New Richmond, 6-0, 171, jr. Punters — Nathaniel Wallace-Dilling, Columbus DeSales, 6-2, 175, sr.; Braedon Spies, Rocky River, 6-2, 185, sr.

THIRD TEAM

Quarterbacks — Drew Burkhart, Dresden Tri-Valley, 6-2, 175, sr.; Phaeton Hill, Steubenville, 6-1,175, jr.; Alex Henry, Chardon, 6-3, 195, jr. Running backs — Tyreese Ford, Columbus South, 6-0, 285, sr.; George Linberger, St. Vincent-St. Mary, 5-11, 210, sr.; Preston Taylor, Copley, 6-1, 185, sr.; Sean Patrick, Kenston, 5-10, 175, soph.; Marquise Hall, Padua Franciscan, 5-10, 175, soph. Wide receivers/tight ends — Tyshawn Vance, Painesville Harvey, 5-9, 155, soph.; Alex McDonald, Chardon, 6-3, 230, sr.; Keshawn Barber, Cincinnati Hughes, 6-2, 175, sr.; Jude Holots, Franklin Bishop Fenwick, 6-1, 180, jr.; Ethan Yoder, Belleforhatine, 5-11, sr.; Linemen — Andrew McFeeters, Columbus Hartley, 6-1, 250, sr.; Antwoine Reed, Columbus Beechcroft, 6-5, 250, sr.; Holden Bowen, Thornville Sheridan, 6-3, 245, sr.; Tyler Little, Dover, 6-0, 190, sr.; Tevor Houts, Wapakoneta, 5-11, 225, sr.; Daniel Hopkins, Norton, 6-1, 255, jr.; Aiden Andrako, Rocky River, 6-3, 235, jr.; Aidan Ischay, Chardon, 6-1, 250, sr.; Sam Vine, Bellbrook, 6-0, 235, jr.; Aiden Andrako, Rocky River, 6-3, 235, jr.; Aidan Ischay, Chardon, 6-1, 250, sr.; Sam Vine, Bellbrook, 6-0, 235, jr.; Aidan Schay, Chardon, 6-1, 250, sr.; Daniel Hopkins, Norton, 6-1, 255, jr.; Aidan Schay, Chardon, 6-1, 250, sr.; Daniel Hopkins, Norton, 6-1, 255, sr.; Dolense Linemen — Ty Jones, Jackson, 5-11, 180, sr.; Davian Greenlee, Buchtel, 5-8, 230, jr.; Josh Grambo, Chardon Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin, 6-3, 185, soph.; Antwan Blackshear, Trotwood Trotwood-Madison, 6-2, 310, sr.; Tayleon Waterhouse, Dayton Ponitz, 6-3, 205, sr.; Cole Rhett, Watterson, 6-1, 285, jr.; Linebackers — Max Shulaw, Columbus Desales, 6-1, 215, soph.; Dominic Purcell, Columbus Watterson, 5-10, 185, jr.; Ryan McVicker, Dover, 6-1, 275, sr.; Brody Conley, Tiffin Columbus Watterson, 5-10, 185, jr.; Plyan McVicker, Dover, 6-1, 275, sr.; Brody Conley, Tiffin Columbus Watterson, 5-10, 185, jr.; Etian Adkins, Franklin, 5-11, 155, sr.; Puriers — Lucas Lane, Dover, 6-3, 170, jr.; Tracker Naufman, West Holmes, 5-8,

#### BEES

"Coming off a great, long season for football, we're ready to have a great, long season of basketball," said center Spatny, who made 5-of-6 field goal attempts and had three rebounds. "We played as much football as we could, and we plan on doing the same and going deep in the tournament again this winter. You couldn't ask for a better way to start the year than playing at the Cavs' arena."

Seniors Jajuan Jackson and Ben Butler and junior Brennen Schramm also made the rapid transition from the gridiron for Medina, which led 26-2 after the first quarter and was up 48-15 one minute into the third. Point guard Jackson scored eight

points, grabbed a game-high five rebounds and had two assists, while backup Butler had five points, four boards and four helpers. Schramm added two points as all 14 Bees scored against the overmatched Rangers (0-3). "The long (94-foot) court really

tested our fitness, but it really didn't matter because everyone was excited to be back together," said shooting guard Hensley, who had three assists and three thefts in the opening period. "We wanted to win and we wanted to give everyone the chance to score today. That was important because over the course of the season, all of us are going to be called upon to contribute at important times."

A major factor all season will be Medina's three post players, and all displayed a glimpse of their potential. Junior Jaylen Payne was a force with eight points and four rebounds and seniors Tre Hammond and Stephen Mosack each had six points. Medina shot a blistering 67.6% within the arc and amassed 20 steals. Bryce

Beech and Hammond joined Hensley with three of the latter, while Luke Klanac, Sahib Singh, Rodak and Spatny had two swipes apiece. "Matt (Spatny), Michael (Rodak) and Drew (Hensley) were ready to play right away, which is why it was so important

to specifically get them minutes last sea-

son," said Bees coach Chris Hassinger,

whose team was a regional finalist in 2021 and a regional semifinalist in 2020. "The moment is never too big for them,

Lakewood senior small forward points and senior center Michael Ham-3-pointers in the second half.

Medina's first two games — Hudson

"Moments like this take all of us back

Medina 76, Lakewood 31

0-0-0, Khāled Kutkut 0-0-0, Brayden Volcansek 3-0-9, D.J. Jones 0-0-0, Dominic Peck 0-0-0, Chan Moses 0-0-0, Brady Long 0-0-0, Aiden Bangert 1-0-2, Lucas Seguine 0-0-0. TOTALS: 13-1-31.

Medina — Bryce Beech 1-2-4, Tre Hammond 2-1-6, Matt Spatny 5-0-10, Jajuan Jackson 4-0-8, Carter Hipp 0-2-2, Brennen Schramm 0-2-2, Stephen Mosack 3-0-6, Luke Klanac 1-1-4, Drew Hensley 2-0-5, Michael Rodak 3-1-9, Jaylen Payne 4-0-8, Ben Butler 2-0-5, Hunter Smith 1-2-4, Sahib Singh 1-1-3. TOTALS: 29-12-76.

TOTALS: 29-12-76. **3-point goals** — Volcansek 3, Hamdan, Rodak 2, Hammond, Klanac, Hensley, Butler. **Rebounds** — Lakewood 15 (Hamdan 4), Medina 32 (Jackson 5). **Assists** — Lakewood 9 (Kutkut 3), Medina 17 (Hensley 5). **Records** — Lakewood (0-3), Medina (1-0).

Ohio State's Jamari Wheeler. right, tries to dribble past Towson's Charles Thompson.



#### **MEN'S BASKETBALL:**

**NO. 21 OHIO STATE 85, TOWSON 74** 

# **Bucks pull away**

Jacob Benge The Associated Press

COLUMBUS — Kyle Young scored 18 points, Justin Ahrens had 16 points on five 3-pointers and No. 21 Ohio State held off Towson 85-74 on Wednesday night.

E.J. Liddell made all eight of his free throws and scored 15 points for Ohio State (7-2), and Zed Key added 13 points for the Buckeyes, who have beaten two unranked opponents since knocking off then-No. 1 Duke last week.

It was a strong shooting night all around for Ohio State, which shot 57.4% from the field, 43.5% from 3-point range and 84% from the free-throw line. Young went 6 of 7 from the field and Key was 5 for 6. The Buckeyes made six of their final

#### **NEXT UP**

WHO: Wisconsin at Ohio State WHEN: Noon, Saturday WHERE: Value City Arena TV/RADIO: ESPNU: WKNR 850-AM; WQKT 104.5-FM; WEOL 930-AM

seven shots.

Jason Gibson scored 19 points to lead Towson (6-4), which never completely fell out of the game.

The score was tied 43-all with 16:29 remaining before Ohio State went on a 12-2 run. The Buckeyes were in the double bonus for the remaining 7:27 and kept the Tigers at bay with free-throw

#### TV & RADIO

#### **Baseball** Roberto Clemente PBL: RA12 6:30 p.m.

at digantes de Carolina					
Basketball					
College men: Texas at Seton Hall	6:30 p.m.	FS1			
NBA: Utah at Philadelphia	7 p.m.	NBA			
College men: Purdue at Rutgers	7 p.m.	BTN			
College women: UConn at Georgia Tech	7 p.m.	ESPN2			
College women: DePaul at Kentuck	ку 7 р.m.	SEC			
College men: Colgate at Pittsburgh	8 p.m.	ACC			
College men: Monmouth at St. John's	8:30 p.m.	FS1			
College men: Iowa at Iowa State	9 p.m.	ESPN2			
College women: Michigan	9 p.m.	BTN			

9:30 p.m.

8:20 p.m.

#### **Football** College Awards NFL: Pittsburgh

College men: Grand Canyon

at Arizona State

at Minnesota	ο.20 μ.π.	WKRK 92.3-FM
Motorsports		
Formula 1: Practice 1, from Abu Dhabi,	4:25 a.m. (Friday)	ESPNU

#### Vallanda all /

United Arab Emirates

Volleyball (women)		
College: Tournament, BYU at Purdue, regional semifinal	11 a.m.	ESPNU
College: Tournament, Florida at Louisville, regional semifinal	1 p.m.	ESPNU
College: Tournament, Minnesota at Baylor, regional semifinal	3 p.m.	ESPNU
College: Tournament, UCLA at Wisconsin, regional semifinal	5 p.m.	ESPNU
College: Tournament, Washington at Texas, regional semifinal	7:30 p.m.	ESPNU
College: Tournament, Illinois at Nebraska, regional semifinal	9:30 p.m.	ESPNU
Tennis		
Florianopolis-ATP: Challenger Maia-ATP: Challenger early rou and doubles quarterfinals		TENNIS

#### and doubles semifinal **Triathlon**

early rounds

The Clash Daytona: 8 p.m. **NBCSN** From Daytona Beach, Fla. (taped)

2:30 p.m.

(Friday)

#### TRANSACTIONS

Florianopolis-ATP: Challenger

Florianopolis-ATP: Challenger;

**Maia-ATP:** Challenger quarterfinals

#### **FOOTBALL**

National Football League
ATLANTA FALCONS — Signed TE park er Hesse to the practice squad. **BALTIMORE RAVENS** — Placed CB Marlon Humphrey on injured reserve.
Activated CB Kevon Seymour from
injured reserve. Designated T Ja'Wuar James to return from injured reserve

CHICAGO BEARS - Signed RB Ben Mason to the practice squad.

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Designated
CB Trae Waynes and OL D'Ante
Smith to return from injured reserve

DALLAS COWBOYS - Designated DE Randy Gregory to return from injured reserve to practice. Signed RB Ito Smith to the practice squad.

DENVER BRONCOS — Designated CB.

Bryce Callahan to return from injured reserve to practice. **DETROIT LIONS** — Designated DE

GREEN BAY PACKERS — Designated injured reserve to practice. **HOUSTON TEXANS** — Signed CB squad, Released WR Damon Hazeltor

from the practice squad. Waived LB Zach Cunningham.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — Activated squad injured reserve. **LAS VEGAS RAIDERS** — Placed RB

Kenyan Drake and LB Nick Kwiatkoski on injured reserve. Designated S Tyree Gillespie and DT Darius Philon to return from injured reserve to practice. Released S Ha Ha Clinton-Dix from the practice squad.

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS — Placed

WR Mike Williams and CB Chris Harris Jr. on the reserve/COVID-19 list. Activated DT Linal Joseph from the LOS ANGELES RAMS — Signed RB

Mekhi Sargent to the active roster. Signed WR J.J. Koski to the practice squad.

MIAMI DOLPHINS — Placed RB Patrick Laird on injured reserve.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Designated CB Chauncey Gardner-Johnson to return from injured reserve to practice. Signed G James Carpenter and

OT Jerald Hawkins to the practice squad. Placed RB Mark Ingram on the reserve/COVID-19 list.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Signed QB Clayton Thorson to the practice sq NEW YORK JETS — Signed S Elijah Benton to the practice squad. Activated WR Keelan Cole from the

reserve/COVID-19 list. Designated CB Brandin Echols to return from injured erve to practice. Signed RB Austin PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Promoted OT Le'Raven Clark from the practice squad to the active roster. Waived CB

PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Signed P Drue Chrisman and LS Rex Sunahara to the practice squad. Released Vaughns from the practice sq

#### SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Signed RB Brian Hill to the practice squad. Released S Tony Jefferson II from the practice squad. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Signed DT

**TENNIS** 

**TENNIS** 

Niles Scott to the practice squad.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS —

Designated CB Richard Sherman to return from injured reserve to practice.

TENNESSEE TITANS — Signed RB Jordan Wilkins and DB Rodney Clemons to the practice squad. Released RB Rodney Smith from the practice squad. Placed DB Jamal Carter on the practice. Placed DB Jamal Carter on the practice squad injured reserve.
WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM

 Placed DE Montez Sweat on the reserve/COVID-19 list. Placed TE Logan Thomas on injured reserve. Signed RB Jonathan Williams.

#### **HOCKEY**

Tuesday's games Tampa Bay 3, Montreal 2 N.Y. Islanders 5, Ottawa 3 Nashville 5, Detroit 2 Toronto 5, Columbus 4 Anaheim 2, Buffalo 0 Carolina 4, Winnipeg 2 St. Louis 4, Florida 3 (OT) N.Y. Rangers 6, Chicago 2 Minnesota 4, Edmonton 1 Minnesota 4, Edmonton 1 San Jose 5, Calgary 3 Wednesday's games Colorado 7, N.Y. Rangers 3 New Jersey 3, Philadelphia 0 Boston at Vancouver, late

Boston at Vancouver, late
Dallas at Vegas, late
Today's games
Anaheim at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Nashville at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Boston at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Carolina at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Winnipeg at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Dallas at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Minnesota at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

#### AMERICA'S LINE

AMENIUA 3 LINE							
NFL							
Favorite	Points		Underdog				
VIKINGS	3	431/2	Steelers				
	Sun						
CHIEFS	91/2	481/2					
Saints	51/2		JETS				
49ers	11/2		BENGALS				
TITANS		431/2					
BROWNS	<b>2</b> ½	421/2	Ravens				
PANTHERS	21/2		Falcons				
Cowboys	4		WASHINGTON				
Seahawks	71/2		TEXANS				
BRONCOS	8	421/2	Lions				
CHARGERS	101/2		Giants				
BUCS	3	531/2	Bills				
PACKERS	121/2	431/2	Bears				
Monday							
CARDINALS	21/2	511/2	Rams				

# **COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

FS2

PAC-12

**ESPN** 

FOX, NFL

Mid Tenn St Toledo Coastal Caro 10 631 Dec. 18 Boca Raton Bowl St 2½ 68½ W Kentucky App'chian S St 2½ 68½ V Celebration Bowl Jackson St t 12 41½ S New Mexico Bowl Fresno St Independence Bowl Byu 7 54½
Lendingtree Bowl Liberty E Michigan L.A. Bowl Utah St New Orleans Bowl **UL-Lafavette** 6 51½ **Dec. 20** Marshall Myrtle Beach Bowl Tulsa 9½ 51½ Old Dominion **Dec. 21** 

Wyoming Kent State Utsa San Diego St Dec. 22 Dec. 23 Gasparilla Bowl
7½ 7½ (56½)
Frisco Football Classic Ucf Miami-Ohi N Texas

HAWAII

Birmingham Bowl First Responder Bowl Air Force Louisville 1 54½ Liberty Bowl 8½ 60½ Holiday Bowl NC State Ucla e PK 60½ Guaranteed Rate Bow Minnesota W Virginia

Dec. 29 Fenway Bowl Virginia Pinstripe Bow Va Tech Maryland Cheez-It Bow Iowa St Alamo Bowl Oklahoma Oregon S Carolina Music City Bowl

Peach Bowl Pittsburgh Michigan St Las Vegas Bow Wisconsin Arizona St Dec. 31 **Gator Bowl** Texas A&M 61/2 Wake Forest Sun Bow Miami-Fla Washington St Arizona Bow W Michigan

Boise St College Football Playoff Michigan Alabama Cincinnati Outback Bow Penn St Fiesta Bowl 2½ 4572 Citrus Bowl 2 (44½) Notre Dame Ohio State

2 2 (44) Rose Bowl 6½ 67½ Sugar Bowl PK 51½ Jan. 4 Baylo **NBA** 

Lsu Underdog 76ERS GRIZZLIES Points O/U 1½ NL 3 221½ 2½ NL Nuggets

#### **FOOTBALL**

#### **AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

New England Buffalo Miami N.Y. Jets	<b>W</b> 9 7 6 3	<b>L</b> 4 5 7	<b>T</b> 0 0 0 0 0	Pct. .692 .583 .462 .250	<b>PF</b> 350 336 254 217	PA 200 196 288 367			
		Sou	th						
T	<b>W</b> 8	<b>L</b>	<b>T</b>	Pct.	<b>PF</b> 304	<b>PA</b> 290			
Tennessee Indianapolis	7	6	0	.538	371	283			
Houston	2	10	0	.167	164	323			
Jacksonville	2	10	0	.167	180	320			
	North								
Baltimore	<b>W</b> 8	<b>L</b> 4	<b>T</b> 0	Pct. .667	<b>PF</b> 282	<b>PA</b> 260			
Cincinnati	7	5	0	.583	331	267			
Pittsburgh	6	5	ĭ	.542	244	286			
Cleveland	6	6	0	.500	254	267			
	West								
	W	L	Т	Pct.	PF	PA			
Kansas City L.A. Chargers Denver Las Vegas	8 7 6 6	4 5 6 6	0 0 0 0	.667 .583 .500 .500	303 314 237 274	259 315 218 312			

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE** East Pct. PF PA .667 353 267 .500 246 297 .462 337 291 .333 211 273 Washington L T Pct. PF PA
3 0 .750 377 270
7 0 .417 216 332
7 0 .417 236 253
7 0 .417 274 276 Tampa Bay Atlanta

 
 Pct.
 PF
 PA

 .750
 283
 242

 .417
 308
 305

 .333
 201
 287

 .125
 203
 316
 Green Bay Minnesota Chicago Detroit

West L T 2 0 4 0 6 0 8 0 Pct. PF PA Arizona L.A. Rams .833 343 224 .667 336 270 San Francisco 6 .500 303 278 .333 239 249 Today's game Pittsburgh at Minnesota, 8:20 p.m. Sunday's games Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.

Baltimore at Cleveland, 1 p.m. Dallas at Washington, 1 p.m. Jacksonville at Tennessee, 1 p.m. Las Vegas at Kansas City, 1 p.m. New Orleans at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m. New Orleans at N. Y. Jets, 1 p. III.
Seattle at Houston, 1 p. m.
Detroit at Denver, 4:05 p. m.
N.Y. Giants at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p. m.
Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 4:25 p. m.
San Francisco at Cincinnati, 4:25 p. m. Chicago at Green Bay, 8:20 p.m. Bye week: Indianapolis, Miami, New England, Philadelphia

Monday's game L.A. Rams at Arizona, 8:15 p.m

#### BASKETBALL

#### **EASTERN CONFERENCE**

LASTERN CONTENEDE							
Atlantic Division							
	W	L	Pct.	GB			
Brooklyn	17	8	.680	_			
Philadelphia	14	11	.560	3			
Boston	13	12	.520	4			
New York	12	13	.480	5			
Toronto	11	14	.440	6			
Sout	heast	Division	on				
	W	L	Pct.	GB			
Miami	15	11	.577	_			
Washington	15	11	.577	_			
Atlanta	13	12	.520	11/2			
Charlotte	14	13	.519	11/2			
Orlando	5	20	.200	91/2			
Central Division							
	W	L	Pct.	GB			
Chicago	17	9	.654	_			
Milwaukee	16	10	.615	1			
Cleveland	14	12	.538	3			
Indiana	11	16	.407	61/2			
Detroit	4	20	.167	12			
WESTERN	1.00	NICE	DEN	CE			
WESTERN CONFERENCE							

Cleveland	14	12	.538	3			
Indiana	11	16	.407	61/2			
Detroit	4	20	.167	12			
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
South	nwest	Divisi	on				
	W	L	Pct.	GB			
Memphis	14	11	.560	_			
Dallas	12	12	.500	11/2			
San Antonio	8	15	.348	5			
Houston	8	16	.333	51/2			
New Orleans	7	20	.259	8			
North	nwest	Divisi	on				
	W	L	Pct.	GB			
Utah	17	7	.708	_			
Denver	12	12	.500	5			
Portland	11	14	.440	61/2			
Minnesota	11	14	.440	61/2			
Oklahoma City		16	.333	9			
Pac	cific D	ivisior	1				
	W	L	Pct.	GB			
Golden State	20	4	.833	_			
Phoenix	20	4	.833	_			
L.A. Clippers	13	12	.520	71/2			
L.A. Lakers	13	12	.520	71/2			
Sacramento	10	14	.417	10			
Tuesday's games							
Brooklyn 102, D	allas 9	9					

New York 121, San Antonio 109 L.A. Lakers 117, Boston 102 Wednesday's gam

Cleveland 115, Chicago 92 Philadelphia 110, Charlotte 106 Washington 119, Detroit 116 (OT) Miami 113. Milwaukee 104 Houston 114, Brooklyn 104 Dallas 104, Memphis 96 Denver 120, New Orleans Utah 136. Minnesota 104 Orlando at Sacramento, late Portland at Golden State, late Boston at L.A. Clippers, late Today's games Utah at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.

L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 8 p.m. Denver at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m. Friday's games Dallas at Indiana, 7 p.m. Sacramento at Charlotte, 7 p.m Brooklyn at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.

New York at Toronto, 7:30 p.m. Cleveland at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Detroit at New Orleans, 8 p.m. L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City. 8 p.m. Milwaukee at Houston, 8 p.m

#### Cavaliers 115, Bulls 92

CHICAGO (92): Jones Jr. 4-7 2-2 11, LaVine 9-21 4-7 23, Vucevic 8-23 1-2 18. Ball 6-12 3-3 19. Dosunmu 2-2 1-2 5, Brown Jr. 3-8 1-1 7, Johnson 0-2 1-2 1, Bradley 1-3 0-0 2, Dotson 2-6 2-2 6. **Totals 35-84 15-21 92**.

CLEVELAND (115): Markkanen 5-8 2-2 14, Mobley 8-11 0-0 16, Allen 5-9 3-4 13, Garland 9-16 3-3 24, Okoro 4-7 1-2 9, Love 4-11 0-0 11, Osman 2-4 0-0 6, Stevens 1-1 0-0 2, Wade 3-4 0-0 9, Windler 0-1 0-0 0, Pangos 0-1 0-0 0, Rubio 3-7 5-5 11, Valentine 0-0 0-0 0. **Totals 44-80 14-16 115.** 

Chicago 24 19 23 26 — 92 Cleveland 29 23 30 33 — 115 -Point Goals - Chicago 7-26 (Ball 4-9, Jones Jr. 1-2, LaVine 1-3, Vucevic 1-7, Brown Jr. 0-3), Cleveland 13-28 (Wade 3-4, Love 3-6, Garland 3-7, Osman 2-3, Markkanen 2-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Chicago 37 (Vucevic 12), Cleveland 42 (Allen 12). Assists—Chicago 21 (LaVine 9), Cleveland 28 (Rubio 9). Total Fouls—Chicago 17, Cleveland 22. A—17,707

#### College men

#### No. 21 Ohio State 85, **Towson 74**

TOWSON (6-3): Thompson 1-3 0-0 2, Holden 5-9 3-3 16, Nolan 1-8 5-5 7, Rizzuto 3-7 1-2 10, Timberlake 4-12 2-2 11, Gibson 7-11 1-1 19, Gray 2-4 2-2 7, Paar 1-1 0-2 2, Hicks 0-0 0-0 0 Totals 24-55 14-17 74.

OHIO STATE (6-2): Ahrens 5-10 1-1 16, Key 5-6 3-4 13, Liddell 3-6 8-8 15, Branham 3-8 2-2 9, Wheeler 3-5 2-2 8, Young 6-7 4-6 18, Johnson 1-2 1-2 3, Brown 1-1 0-0 3, Russell 0-2 0-0 0, Sotos 0-0 0-0 0, Brunk 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 27-47 21-25 85.

Halftime—Ohio State 33-32. 3-Point Goals—Towson 12-28 (Gibson 4-8, Holden 3-4, Rizzuto 3-5, Gray 1-1, Timberlake 1-5, Nolan 0-5), Ohio State 10-23 (Ahrens 5-10, Young 2-2 Brown 1-1, Branham 1-2, Liddell 1-4 Johnson 0-1, Russell 0-1, Wheeler 0-2). Fouled Out-Holden, Paar, Wheeler, Rebounds - Towson 17 10), Ohio State 13 (Wheeler 5). Total Fouls-Towson 24. Ohio State 18. A-9,472 (18,809).

#### SOCCER **MLS playoffs**

MLS CUP Saturday's game New York City FC at Portland, 3 p.m.

#### TODAY'S SCHEDULE

**GIRLS BASKETBALL** Springfield at Cloverleaf, 7 p.m.

### ROUNDUP

# **Woods returning** at PNC with son

From wire reports

Ten months after his right leg was badly damaged in a car crash, Tiger Woods is returning to competition next week with 12-year-old son Charlie in the PNC

T. Woods

C. Woods

Championship. "Although it's been a long and challenging year, I am very excited to close it out by competing in the PNC Championship with my son Charlie," Woods tweeted. "I'm playing as a Dad and couldn't

be more excited and proud." It will be his first competition, even in a tournament Woods described last week as the

"hit-and-giggle" variety that he can play, since he and his son tied for seventh a year ago in the unofficial event that pairs family members. The tournament was holding

a spot for Woods, and he fueled speculation he might play the Dec. 18-19 event at the Ritz Carlton Golf Club Orlando when he took full swings with driver Saturday and Sunday during his Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas.

"We have been liaising with Tiger and his team for some time and are delighted that he has now decided to make his return to competitive golf at the PNC Championship," said Alastair Johnston of IMG, the

executive chairman of the event. Danish golfer Thorbiorn Olesen was cleared of sexually assaulting a woman on a flight to Britain from a World Golf Championships event in Tennessee in 2019. The 31-year-old Olesen wept and hugged his partner after being acquitted at a London court of sexual assault, assault by beating and being drunk on board the plane from Nashville to London. Olesen faced allegations he grabbed a woman's breast, pushed a member of the cabin crew and urinated on a first-class passenger's seat. He said he has no memory of his behavior after drinking alcohol and taking sleeping tablets.

#### **Football**

#### Seattle's Adams out for season

The Seattle Seahawks will be without starting strong safety Jamal Adams for the rest of the season after he suffered a torn labrum in his left shoulder, coach Pete Carroll said. Adams is expected to undergo surgery today for the damage he suffered during the first half of the Seahawks' win over San Francisco. He had surgery to repair damage to the same shoulder last offseason.

 Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow said his injured pinky finger on his throwing hand won't keep him out of Sunday's game against the San Francisco 49ers. The finger was dislocated last Sunday when the quarterback was strip-sacked on the Bengals' first possession against the Los Angeles Chargers.

 Justin Fields is set to return to the Chicago Bears' lineup. Coach Matt Nagy said the prized rookie quarterback will start when the team visits the Green Bay Packers this week after missing the past two games because of broken ribs.

 The Detroit Lions had a walk-through instead of practice because coach Dan Campbell said "there's a lot," of players with flu-related illnesses. "It's not CÓVID," Campbell said. Lions quarterback Jared Goff was among the players diagnosed with the flu who stayed home and participated in meetings virtually.

 Washington put Montez Sweat on the NFL's COVID-19 reserve list after the third-year pass rusher tested positive for the coronavirus.

• Mark Pike, a Bills special teams standout during Buffalo's AFC championship-winning runs in the 1990s, died following a battle with non-Hodgkin lymphoma. He was 57. The Buffalo Bills announced Pike died after his condition worsened as a result of COVID-19 followed by a bout with pneumonia.

#### **Basketball**

#### Hawks lose Hill for season

Atlanta Hawks forward Solomon Hill is expected to miss the remainder of the season with a hamstring injury, adding to the team's growing lack of depth on the wing. The Hawks said Hill needs surgery to repair a torn right hamstring tendon. Hill suffered the injury when he slipped and did a split in Sunday's loss to Charlotte.

 USA Basketball didn't have to look far for its next women's coach, turning to Cheryl Reeve. The Minnesota Lynx coach and general manager has been an assistant on the last two Olympic teams. Now she's taking over the U.S. women's national team.

• UConn coach Geno Auriemma said his team has lost a third guard to injury a day after learning that star Paige Bueckers likely will be out up to two months with a left leg fracture. Nika Muhl is expected to miss about three weeks dealing with pain and a stress problem in her right foot, which has been bothering her since she suffered a sprain against High Point in the NCAA Tournament last season, Auriemma said. The sophomore from Croatia was expected to see extended playing time filling in for Bueckers and freshman Azzi Fudd, who is dealing with a similar right foot stress injury, and won't be back for at least a couple of weeks.

#### **Baseball**

**Graney wins Frick Award** Cleveland Indians outfielder and commentator Jack Graney won the Hall of Fame's Ford C. Frick Award for excellence in broadcasting. Granev. who died in 1978, will be honored during the Hall's induction weekend from July 22-25. Graney first played for Cleveland, then known as the Naps, as a pitcher for two games in 1908. He returned as an outfielder in 1910 and played through 1922, a time when the team became known as the Indians. Others on this year's ballot, which included the commentators from baseball's broadcast beginnings, included Pat Flanagan, Waite Hoyt, France Laux, Rosey Rowswell, Hal Totten, Ty Tyson

and Bert Wilson. • The Los Angeles Dodgers' Triple-A team at Oklahoma selected right-hander Carson Fulmer from Cincinnati with the 39th and final pick of the Triple-A phase of Major League Baseball's annual draft of unprotected players. Right-hander Nolan Hoffman was selected by Baltimore from Seattle as the top pick, Pittsburgh took left-hander Zach Matson from Colorado with the second selection and Washington selected second baseman Andrew Young from Arizona with the third.

#### Hockey

## Khaira released from hospital

Chicago Blackhawks forward Juihar Khaira spent the night in a hospital after he was leveled by Jacob Trouba during a 6-2 loss to the New York Rangers. Team physician Michael Terry said Khaira was released after undergoing 'extensive testina.'

• Mark Giordano rejoined the Seattle Kraken at practice following 10 days in a Florida hotel following a positive COVID-19 test.

#### **Tennis**

#### Serena won't play Australia

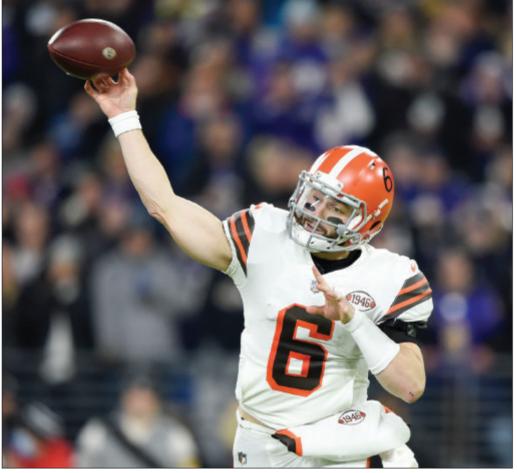
Not long after Serena Williams' name was absent from the entry list for the Australian Open, she confirmed the obvious: the seven-time champion won't play the 2022 edition of the season-opening major in January. The 40-year-old Williams hasn't played since retiring from her first-round match at Wimbledon with a right hamstring injury

and her ranking has slipped to No. 41. Michael Dowse is resigning as CEO of the U.S. Tennis Association after about two years in the position.

#### **Olympics**

#### Canada joins U.S. in boycott

Canada will join the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia in a diplomatic boycott of the Beijing Winter Olympics over human rights concerns, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said. The announcement came after the White House, the Australian government and the UK government confirmed diplomatic boycotts of the Winter Games in February to protest Chinese human rights abuses. China has vowed to react with "firm countermeasures."



Banged-up Browns quarterback Baker Mayfield says he feels healthier after the bye.

# 'Now it's crunch time' Mayfield feels healthier after bye week

#### **Scott Petrak** The Gazette

BEREA — The calendar reads December. The standings show a 6-6 record and last-place position in the AFC North. The Browns better have a heightened sense of

urgency. That's kind of the mentality we went into it the last two weeks is we still have everything in front of us, but now

Mavfield

**NEXT UP** 

**Baltimore** 

at Cleveland

WHO:

1 p.m.

Sunday

WHERE:

Stadium

FirstEnergy

TV/RADIO:

WKRK 92.3-

FM; WNCX

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850-AM

it's crunch time," quarterback Baker Mayfield said Wednesday. "Everyb o d y 's talking about playoffs, but that's when we need to have that singular focus, block out everything else and realize that we need to take care of business

one week at a time." Mayfield, who's made a career out of being the underappreciated underdog, believes he

one day and

excels when backed into a corner. The week off for the bye helped heal the body and sharpen the focus for the stretch run.

"Any time you can kind of step back and kind of re-evaluate everything and come back with a fresh mindset and realize where we're at right now and have that one-weekat-a-time mentality," he said. "So that's where our heads are at and that's where I play my best."

General manager Andrew Berry said last week he expects Mayfield to play "his best stretch of the year" coming out of the bye. Berry's not alone.

"Everyone in this building believes in him," tight end Austin Hooper said. "No matter where you stand with anything, anybody, you can't ever question Bake's toughness, and for him to have a week to just heal up alone is huge.

"We all believe in him. We have believed in him. We'll continue to believe in him. He's the leader of our football team, so we're ready to watch him be him."

A return to health could go a long way.

Mayfield has called playing with a torn labrum and fracture in his left, non-throwing shoulder his "new normal" but was slowed last month by a sore left heel, bruised right knee and strained groin. He was starting to feel better before the bye and said the week of "much-needed rest" — he went to Arizona and home to Austin, Texas helped the recovery.

"I mean quite a bit, to be honest with you," he said. "I

haven't had any major set- people are going through. backs the past few weeks and I had another week off, so I'm looking forward to keep getting better as the weeks go

He practiced Monday and Wednesday after resting to open the practice week before the previous two games.

"He looked good Monday," coach Kevin Stefanski said before practice. "He was moving around. He looked like himself."

Mayfield's inconsistency throughout the season has mirrored that of the team. He posted a season-best 132.6 passer rating in a 41-16 win over the Bengals on Nov. 7, but with the lower-body injuries mounting completed 50.6 percent for 496 yards, three touchdowns, three interceptions, 5.7 yards an attempt and a 65.1 rating over the last

three games. He was hurt by at least four drops in the 16-10 loss to the Ravens before the bye as he completed 18-of-37 and threw for 247 yards — his most since Week 5 — and a touchdown and lost a fumble. The defense intercepted Baltimore's Lamar Jackson four times, but the offense managed only three points off the takeaways.

"We're just looking to overall be better on offense, score more points, convert on third downs, just be better overall in those critical situations and capitalize when our defense is playing like it has been," Mayfield said. "There were plays to be made, that's for sure. But situationally we need to expect they're going to bring pressure and we need to have better answers."

The Ravens (8-4) loaded the line of scrimmage to stop the run and brought their patented blitzes. Pro Bowl cornerback Marlon Humphrey was placed on injured reserve Wednesday with a torn pectoral, but Mayfield doesn't expect defensive coordinator Don "Wink" Martindale to dial back the aggression despite missing an "extremely key component."

"I wouldn't go there," Mayfield said. "They're good at their defense. No matter who's in there, Wink's going to call it and call those plays, call those pressures and expect his guys to execute it."

Stefanski said the answer is to make the Ravens pay for stationing so many defenders near the line.

"We have to put together a game plan that can account for those types of things and go make a big play," he said. "There should in theory be some grass opened up in the defensive secondary.'

The Browns went 6-2 after the midseason bye a year ago as they ended a 17-year playoff drought in Stefanski's first season. Hooper is confident the team can make another

"This is the latest bye week I've ever had. To be honest with you, the last couple games it looked like we were just out of gas," he said. "It was good to just unplug, rest. There are a lot of ailments

Having that was just awesome to get your legs back under you, get some juice

back there." The week without a game allowed Stefanski and his staff to tweak the plans on offense and defense.

"It's been awesome seeing the stuff we've done through self-scout, seeing where we are, seeing the things we do well, see what needs improvement and having a clear plan, a clear vision to get to where we want to be," Hooper said.

The rematch with the firstplace Ravens starts a final fivegame stretch that includes a Monday night game at Pittsburgh and a home finale vs. the Bengals. The three AFC North games will go a long way in determining the division winner and if the Browns make it back to the playoffs.

"It's beautiful. It's awesome how the NFL has shaped our schedule to go against our greatest rivals at the end of the year when it matters most," Hooper said. "If you want to be the team you want to be, this is the time we have to go out there and show what we're made of."

Despite the injuries, inconsistencies and frustrating losses, the Browns have a

"Everything that we can accomplish is still in front of us, so if we handle it correctly it will happen that way," Mayfield said. "I feel confident where I'm at, where we're at and where we're headed."

Contact Scott Petrak at 329-7253 or spetrak@chroniclet.com.

# Hooper to have larger role

#### **Scott Petrak** The Gazette

BEREA - Coach Kevin Stefanski isn't going to ignore the tight end position even though he could be without two key ones Sunday against the Ravens. He will just rely more on Austin Hooper.

"We are featuring that tight

end group as opposed to just one guy. Now without those guys, certainly you can expect Hoop's number of plays



to go up, and we are counting on him," Stefanski said Wednesday. "He relishes those type of opportunities."

Harrison Bryant (16 catches, 211 yards) has been ruled out for Sunday with a high ankle sprain, and David Njoku (27, 407, three) is a long shot to play after being placed on the COVID-19 list Tuesday.

"You just do not know," Stefanski said of Njoku's availability. "We have to plan if we do not have him. If we have him, that would be great."

Njoku tweeted and told Hooper he didn't have any symptoms.

"Hopefully he goes through these next couple tests with no issues and we'll welcome David back in the building here soon," Hooper said.

Hooper was one of the first free agent signings of new general manager Andrew Berry in 2020. He signed a four-year, \$42 million deal to give Stefanski a reliable target at the position.

The Browns kept Njoku, drafted Bryant and adopted a three-tight end package used heavily by Stefanski. Hooper's statistics have suffered in the crowd.

In his final two seasons with the Falcons — he was voted to the Pro Bowl in both years he averaged 73 catches, 723.5 yards, 9.9 yards a catch and five touchdowns. Last year with the Browns, he caught 46 for 435, 9.5 and four TDs in 13 games. In 12 games this year, he has 28 for 261, 9.3 and two TDs.

"He has been instrumental in what we do as an offense — run game and pass game," Stefanski said.

Without Njoku and/or Bryant, Stefanski will have to change the personnel packages. Undrafted rookie tight end Miller Forristall was signed off the practice squad Tuesday, and Blake Hance has been practicing as an extra lineman in the jumbo package.

"It's no secret we love running trio," Hooper said. "We love being in bigger sets. It's been an advantageous personnel group for us throughout the year.

"We all got to do what we've got to do. It's the next guy up.

#### We've got to keep rolling." Stefanski will likely use

fewer three-tight end sets as he searches for the best combination of skill position players and play calls, which could lead to running backs Nick Chubb and Kareem Hunt on the field together.

"They are both ready for a big workload," Stefanski said.

#### **Key change**

Stefanski wouldn't reveal who will start at right tackle after All-Pro Jack Conklin's season-ending ruptured patellar tendon, but all signs point to rookie fourth-round pick James Hudson III.

Hance started four games in place of Conklin earlier in the season and replaced him after the torn patellar Nov. 28 vs. the Ravens, but he was a guard playing out of position and struggled in pass protection.

He had remained the choice over Hudson, but the coaches apparently made a change coming out of the bye. Hudson had issues in pass protection in his lone start Week 6 against the Cardinals when Hance was needed at left tackle.

#### Spotting a pattern

The passing game has regressed this season, ranking 24th in the NFL with 207 yards a game, and the Browns have scored 17 points or fewer in six of the last seven games. Hooper was asked if defenses have caught up to Stefanski's offense in Year 2.

"It's a fair question. I think it just comes down to execution," he said. "We just have to execute at a high level. That's me, that's evervbody.

"I really think it's more than defenses calling out our plays. 've been around defenders who have done that before. I wouldn't say teams we play necessarily have a bead on us all game. There are some tendencies we do have, just like every team has There are things we can disguise a little better, but it's the National Football League. Defenders are really smart. Sometimes they guess right.

#### **Family ties**

Cornerback Denzel Ward shared the credit with his mom. Nicole, after being named the team's Walter Payton Man of the Year on Tuesday. She runs the

Make Them Know Your Name Foundation in honor of Ward's father, Paul, who died of a heart

attack in 2016. "She's the backbone of the foundation, and my brother as well and the rest of my family, Ward said. "She should be standing up here with me,

explaining, talking about this. She definitely deserves it.' The foundation's mission is to prevent heart-related deaths with early detection and intervention.

"I wish my foundation didn't have to start for the reason that it did," Ward said. "It was inspired obviously from my father passing, but I think he'd definitely be proud.

"Just looking forward to continuing to build on the foundation and be an impact in this community.

#### **Hard road**

Safety Grant Delpit was voted the Ed Block Courage Award winner by teammates, coaches and the training staff for his comeback from the torn Achilles tendon that cost him all of his rookie season.

"It definitely makes me revisit everything I've been through, everybody that's helped me along the way and I was super glad for that," said Delpit, who had Thanksgiving with Ward's family "I'm the healthiest I've been in two years, that's a great feeling.

#### **Extra points**

Receivers Anthony Schwartz (concussion) and Jarvis Landry (knee), defensive tackle Malik Jackson (knee) and Bryant didn't practice. Landry and Jackson have rested on recent Wednesdays.

Schwartz was concussed Nov. 14 vs. the Patriots and remains in the protocol. Stefanski said he's been at team headquarters.

 Safety Ronnie Harrison Jr. (ankle) was limited.

 For the Ravens, cornerback Anthony Averett (knee), tight end Nick Boyle (illness, knee), defensive tackle Calais Campbell (illness), defensive back/ linebacker Anthony Levine Sr. (knee), right tackle Patrick Mekari (hand) and fullback Patrick Ricard (back) didn't practice.

 The Browns protected quarterback Nick Mullens, kicker Chris Naggar, guard Hjalte Froholdt and defensive back Herb Miller from being signed off the practice squad this week.

Contact Scott Petrak at (440) 329-7253 or spetrak@chroniclet.com.



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