THE LIGHTS GET BRIGHTER

17 area football teams take the field in the playoffs

Resurgent Lake Catholic is a top contender in Division IV behind a top-flight offense

BRIAN FISHER - FOR THE NEWS-HERALD)

We know the teams, but what about the players?

Tidbits about some of the players putting it on the line in the playoffs

The field is set. Across Ohio, 448 teams will hit the field on Oct. 27

to open the 2023 high

school foot-

ball playoff

season. Sev-

those teams are from

The News-

enteen of



John Kampf

Herald area. We know the teams.

We've seen the names since camp opened in the last week of July. But what do we truly know about the players who are putting it on the line for the schools and communities this season?

Here's a snippet of the off-the-field stuff:

Berkshire's Jack Hastings' family owns a huge dairy farm and he showed the Supreme Champion dairy cow – named Blitz – at this year's Great Geauga County Fair. Perhaps most impressive, he practiced showing his cows between his team's August practices, with the fair taking place mid-season over Labor Day weekend, making him juggle



COURTESY BRENDA HASTINGS

dairy cow at the Great Geauga County Fair in September. football and his animals at fluorescent dye-based

Berkshire receiver Jack Hastings won Supreme Champion

the same time. • Kirtland's Will Sayle comes from a family of runners. Both of his older siblings run Division I cross country and track at Miami (Ohio), including his brother Johnny who won three of Lake County's biggest races this past summer (Johnnycake Jog, Friday Night Lights and Lake County Captains

Grand Slam 5K). • Julian Berger, starting defensive end at University, spent two summers as SEO/YES (Scientific Enrichment Opportunity / Youth Engaged in Science) intern for lab research at Case Western Reserve University, researching novel

fluorescent dye-based method for detecting autophagy in colon cancer cells. He is an Ohio Music Education Association 2024 All-State Jazz Guitarist.

• Gilmour's Alex Melaragno raised two Pekin ducks through CO-VID-19 pandemic as pets. He joined a 4-H club and raised six of them as a project at the Great Geauga County Fair. He was awarded first place in his class, and both of his ducks were named grand champions. Additionally, he won an award as the top novice showman at the fair for ducks.

• Kenston senior Sean Doyle is much more than



COURTESTY SONNY SALAJCIK

Sonny Salajcik, part of an outdoors-oriented Madison team that likes to hunt, fish and go 4-wheeling, hauled in this massive bass this past summer.

a 6-foot-3, 300-pound offensive lineman. His family has a golf simulator in their house and he is reportedly a pretty good golfer. He is also enrolled to wrestle in this year's prestigious Walsh Jesuit Ironman wrestling tournament immediately after football season ends.

 Riverside's senior offensive guard Ben Weiss is an Eagle Scout. A lifelong scout member, Weiss' Eagle Scout project was building baseball and softball dugouts at LaMuth Middle School.

• The Geneva football team did a massive fundraiser this spring putting down mulch for area residents. In all, the Eagles' roster put down 200 yards of mulch on ONE spring Saturday, which raised \$5,000 for the program.

• The Madison Blue Streaks are a team full of players who like to hunt, fish and go 4-wheeling. After much debate and discussion between the players, Carson Alley got the biggest deer last season with a big 8-pointer, while Sonny Salajcik reeled in the biggest fish this past summer.

• Hawken's Luke Mangini — son of former NFL coach and executive Eric Mangini — is a huge Batman fan. Teammate Will Greenberg is a huge pancake fan, having eaten 20 flapjacks in one sitting. Paxon Laschinger is such a fan of "The Office," that he can recite the words to most episodes.

• VASJ sophomore Charles Marn, an offensive and defensive lineman, isn't just a straight-A student. He is also an aspiring rap music artist and has done his own music videos, including one where he raps about his Vikings teammates.

Chardon's Drago Vu-

jaklija and his family again spearheaded a community service project where they raised money to make cookies to deliver to cancer patients and their families at a children's hospital in Cleveland. This year they delivered 130 boxes to the patients and their families.

• Mentor's Henry Schenk won a hot dog eating contest at the fair when he was younger and is such a good cook that he considered — upon recommendation — entering the MasterChef Junior competition. He enjoys cooking, especially a variety of steaks and seafood dishes.

• Lake Catholic senior Luke Richards is a Rubik's Cube wizard. He solved the puzzle in 30 seconds when he was only in eighth grade.

• Cardinal's Reese Soltis is a self-taught guitar player. He plays country music on his acoustic, but can rock out his electric guitar to Eddie Van Halen's "Eruption." Officials at the school have tried to convince him to play the national anthem at games on his guitar, but so far he hasn't.

Reach Kampf at JKampf@ News-Herald.com; On Twitter @NHPreps and @ JKampf_NH



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REGIONAL CAMPUSES

Those who stayed ARE champions for Perry

Pirates hang hat on 'program players' who stuck with the process

By John Kampf

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His heart pounding of his chest, Armani Chiappone followed his Perry teammates out of the tunnel onto the field during his freshman year on the football team.

Following the tradition of the Perry players, he jumped and smacked with his hand a sign that hangs above the door leading to the field.

higher than most of his teammates. After all, Chiappone was only 5-foot-2, 145 pounds when he was in eighth grade. But he believed in himself. And he believed in what that sign above his head read.

"Those who stay will be champions.'

bad," Chiappone said. "No one was easy on us. The coaches worked us hard. But we stayed, and here we are."

"Here" is 10-0, the Perry Pirates' record heading into a Week 11 playoff game against visiting Crestwood.

vision V team in Ohio and champions of the CVC's Chagrin Division.

Chiappone, who's an integral player on this year's team as a receiver and defensive back, isn't alone. Coach Bob Gecewich said that the Pirates are loaded with players who might be smaller in stature, might not have played much in junior high or changed positions multiple times to find their place. But it's those kind of kids, Gecewich said, who have made the Pirates who they are today.

An extraordinarily dangerous team because of their ferocity and passion for football.

"Those are the kids who Chiappone had to jump are the backbone of high school programs everywhere, including ours," Gecewich said. "Our roster is littered with kids like that. There are names you hear all the time - and believe me, they work hard, too – but what gives you a has allowed the Pirates to wise. Most of the Pirates' matter." fighting chance week in and week out are those program "I feel like we all stayed kids. The kids who went for because we wanted it that the spots, bided their time, worked hard and got better."

Junior lineman Anthony Zagrocki knows what that's like. He was 125 pounds coming into his freshman room. I kept working, saw year. He backed up another 125-pounder — Chiappone - in eighth grade. But now Not only that, but the Pi- he's 6-2, 190 and a big part rates are the top-ranked Di- of a Perry offensive line that still isn't a giant team size-



The undefeated Perry football team is loaded with unsung heroes, including, from left, Drew Smith, Dare'on Howard, Dom LaMacchia, Anthony Zagrocki, Armani Chiappone and Joey Baldree.

linemen are giving up size

such as starting noseguard

He was a bit smaller last

"I just beat 'em with my

speed," Smith said. "I'm al-

ways going up against big-

at a whopping 5-5, 165.

sophomore.

average 37.2 points per game in the regular season.

"I was really skinny," he said. "But I saw the potential in myself. I knew I was going to get bigger with Coach (Mike) Crissinger pushing us in the weight progress and that motivated me. Now I'm bigger than some of my friends."

That being said, Perry

Gecewich loves the teand weight to the opponents nacity of his havoc-creatlining up across from them, ing noseguard.

THE NEWS-HERALD

Drew Smith, who checks in coach marveled. "He gets single- and double-teamed by guys literally twice his year when he started as a size, but he doesn't care."

Smith credits his background in wrestling for making life miserable for those who line up over top ger guys, but they'll be of him. Dom LaMacchia, slower than me, so it doesn't one of seven seniors on the

team, is in the same boat. His top sport is probably wrestling, and for that reason, he has the moxie and grit to go up against those bigger than him or with more experience and size.

"I remember being a running back in seventh grade, sprinting and almost scoring a touchdown when some 4-foot-2 guy chopped my ankles and I died before I scored," he said with a laugh. "That was embarrassing.

"Our team has never been big. We give up so much size, but we knew what we could accomplish. Wrestling has helped me because of the explosiveness and getting low in my stances to explode off the ball."

LaMacchia is a 5-10, 175-pound linebacker, actually one of the bigger kids on defense for the Pirates.

"He's a kid who tried baseball and it didn't stick,' Gecewich said. "I saw him playing basketball at a graduation party and was like, 'Yeah, that's a wrestler playing basketball.' But he's such a hard worker and "He's SO tough," the does his best every single time."

The same can be said about juniors Dare'on Howard and Joey Baldree. At 5-8, 180, Howard backs up at both running back and defensive tackle – but he was an offensive lineman in junior high.

PERRY » PAGE 5



Mentor safeties pack punch despite smaller size

By John Kampf jkampf@news-herald.com

One glance at the Mentor football team's roster pulls a smile and a light chuckle out of senior defensive back Antonio Shelley.

'The roster says I'm 5-9, 170," Shelley said. "In reality, it's more like 5-6, 155."

In reality, as Shelley put it, he and fellow safety Caden Markowski don't pass much of an eve test when they walk onto the field. Take their pads off and put they look like they're more apt to be wearing the Cardinals' mascot uniform than a football uniform.

hit the field for a first-round playoff game against visiting St. Ignatius on Oct. 27, there is no one Coach Matt Gray wants more as Mentor's last line of defense at safety than Shelley and Markowski, who is likely generously measured at 6-foot, 165.



JOHN KAMPE - THE NEWS-HERALD

them in street clothes, and Senior safeties Antonio Shelley, left, and Caden Markowski pack a punch as the last line of defense for the Mentor Cardinals.

But when the Cardinals biggest guys out there," Gray said. "But they're hard-hitting, ball-hawktough, hard-nosed kids ing tandem of safeties are and they're fearless. They'll a big reason why Mentor is come up and pop you, that's hosting a first-round playoff for sure."

tion, Shelley leads the Mentor defense in tackles with

"They might not be the share the team lead with two interceptions each. The game on a five-game win-Heading into playoff ac- ning streak following a 2-3 start to the season. The Cardinals have given up only 76. Markowski isn't far be- 41 points over the past five

shutouts.

we have," Markowski said. "We don't really care about our bodies. We fly around hit people and make plays. It's fun."

on his shoulders to be more defense. Markowski has of a playmaker and leader heading into the season. He is one of only three return- out of his shell" as more of ing starters on the defensive a vocal leader this season. side of the ball, along with linebacker Aidan Schwalm ground has helped him. A and cornerback Kellen Gra- perfect form tackle in many ham.

Shelley started last year sort of. Sidelined with a torn UCL in his right arm, he was verage and knows where relegated to intermittent punting duties when Jacob Snow wasn't in the game.

"I tore a UCL in my right arm and sprained the other UCL and biceps," Shelley said. "I was wrestling tling. I know how to break Greco-Roman in the state semis and had an 8-0 lead when I had to forfeit the make are because of my match. Obviously, it sucked when I couldn't play last hind with 43 stops. They weeks, including a trio of year. But it gave me time to kowski said the defend- percent, for the playoffs."

learn the playbook and help ers who operate in front of "It's just a mindset that the younger kids. I kind of them deserve a lot of credit took on the role of coaching them."

Gray said both Markowski and Shelley bring different attributes to the Markowski said he put it table in terms of Mentor's picked up his physicality, Gray said, and has "come

Shellev's wrestling backways is like a double-leg takedown in wrestling.

"He's great with his lethe weak point of the body is," Gray said. "He's a great grappler and it carries onto the football field."

Shelley agreed, adding, "(Tackling) feels like wresdown and get into a guy's hips. A lot of the tackles I wrestling background."

for their work. The defensive front of Julian Solis, Ryan Saley, Kevin Orosz and Shane Krejci, linebacking corps of Henry Schenk, Caden Clair, Spencer Barninger and Schwalm, as well as the cornerbacks - Xavier Dunn and Graham – are a big reason why Mentor has given up a total of 41 points over the past five weeks (including a trio of shutouts).

"In the summer, we realized a lot of our guys were new," Shelley said. "It was like, 'Wow, we've got some big shoes to fill.' But there was no time to feel sorry for ourselves. The tone was set on defense last year. We had to continue that."

Markowski said he and his teammates are ready for a postseason run to extend their current five-game winning streak.

"Absolutely," he said con-Both Shelley and Mar- fidently. "We're ready, 100

Perry FROM PAGE 4

He changed positions to can." find his niche and now he is an integral part of the Pirates' success.

Baldree is a 5-11,

man/defensive end. "I give up some size, but said they are the poster chil-I'm not sitting out," He said. dren of what it means to be "I'm going in there and goa success in the Perry proing as fast and hard as I gram.

"We play every single kid Success has been grati- in our sub-varsity levels for fying to Baldree, Howard that purpose," he said. "We and all the other Pirates need to get them that expewho stuck with the process rience. The studs in seventh 180-pound offensive line- to develop into the players grade might not always pan to the first playoff game rates are champions - at that's our goal."

caught up.

"Your superstars are your superstars. But guys like working with my friends this are the guys you build your program with."

they are today. Gecewich out. They might not de- in what Perry hopes is a least of the CVC Chagrin. velop, and next thing you long postseason run, the know everybody catches up Pirates continue to work to them. Well THESE kids hard while enjoying the process. As Howard said, "I just love being out there

> every day." The awards of staying As the days wind down are being reaped. The Pi- championship? No. But

They'd like more championships, too, if at all possible.

"I always thought if we kept working hard, we could be a good team," Smith said. "But did I ever think we'd go undefeated and maybe play for a state



Kirtland's Beers carries on proud family name

By John Kampf

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It doesn't matter the year - or the century for that matter - the name Willie Beers is synonymous with football greatness in Lake County.

Back in the early 1990s, Willie Beers made a name for himself as a standout running back at both Lake Catholic and John Carroll University, capping a college career with the Blue Streaks by being one of only five players in program history to have his number retired at JCU.

Fast forward to 2023 and there's another Willie Beers terrorizing opposing teams with his skill set. It's Beers' son – his namesake. But young Willie is not doing his work in Lake Catholic's green and gray, but rather Kirtland's blue and gold.

When Kirtland takes the field for a Division VI, Region 21 game against visiting Columbiana, the Hornets will do so with Will Beers starring on both sides on the family name.

Heading into playoff action, the 6-foot, 175-pound senior leads the Hornets in rushing with 951 yards on in the blood. 93 carries - a gaudy 10.2yard average – to go with imagined the success I've path and enroll at Lake 13 touchdowns and 79 yards had," he continued, cred-



JOHN KAMPF — THE NEWS-HERALD

Will Beers has made a name for himself as a two-way starter for the Kirtland football team three decades after his father Willie Beers made a name for himself at John Carroll.

he's second on the team cess. "I should never have but then returned to Lake with three interceptions.

proud of the name that he Kirtland all along. But to come home to Kirtland. wears across the front of you can never look back. I of the ball while carrying his jersey. And he's pretty came back to play with my the August camps in 2022, proud of the one he wears friends - my family." on the back of it, as well.

said. "It means success runs

transferred to begin with. Beers is extraordinarily I should have stayed at year, however, he was ready

Yes, Beers wasn't always "It means a lot," Beers a Kirtland Hornet. While he attended Kirtland through junior high, he opted to fol-"I could have never low his father's high school Catholic his freshman year. receiving in Kirtland's run- iting his teammates and He was at St. Ignatius for the school year started," heavy offense. Defensively, Kirtland staff for his suc- part of his sophomore year, Beers said.

Catholic. Come his junior Beers said he missed all of

checking in late at Kirtland. But he caught up quickly. It helped that he played youth and junior high in the Kirtland system, so he knew his teammates as well as the tapes," young Beers said. Hornets' basic offense.

"I came back right before

"(Coach) Tiger (LaVerde) speed is my game." taught him the defense the first few games when he was playing safety," the elder Beers chimed in.

Come this year, Beers hit a stride from the getcarries, 720 yards, 15 touchdeep Kirtland backfield, Beers & Co. have run rough-

Beers' father marvels at his son's ability. He admitted that he might burn more calories during a game than his son as he is active up and down the fence anxiously watching the game.

"He runs really hard," the proud father said, comparing times to watch the Hornets his skill set to that of his son. "But I couldn't sniff his talent athletic-wise. He's faster than I was. He has a higher vertical leap than I could ever have dreamed of. His hands are bigger and he has size 12 feet.... He's better than I was."

That says a lot, because the elder Beers ran for 4,332 vards at JCU, a number that was eighth in Division III college history when his career concluded.

"I've seen a couple of his "They're pretty cool. ... I

Beers runs a 4.5 in the 40. His father, well, didn't. "Ah, the old VHS tapes,"

his father said with a laugh. "They make me look slower than I am. But seriously, go. With Rocco Alfieri (111 he's a lot faster than I was."

The one thing elder Beers downs) as his mate in a has that his son doesn't is a championship ring, earned when he was at John Carshod over the competition roll for winning the Ohio this fall. He's also part of Athletic Conference. That's a defensive backfield that a quest that young Beers includes fellow ballhawks hopes he can earn with his Will Sayle and Gino Blasini. teammates these next few months. Kirtland is aiming to get back to the Division VI state championship game, where it lost to Marion Local last December.

As a youngster, Beers said he jumped on the school's spirit bus many chase state glory. He's seen plenty of celebrations at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium and said former Hornets such as Jack Bailey and Sam Kukura were like "big brothers" and role models for him growing up.

With his father sending him motivational messages before every game, and with the Hornets bent on getting the ring that evaded him last season, Beers & Co. hope to finish the deal this time around.

"We were so close last year," he said. "We came out can relate to him when I of that Marion Local game watch the tapes. I have the pretty motivated. Hopefully, same peripheral vision, but we can get it done this time."



Riverside LB overcomes hesitancy, becomes anchor

Arm injuries couldn't keep Salminen from game he loves

By John Kampf jkampf@news-herald.com

Sam Salminen was at a crossroads in his young athletic career.

Twice during youth football, the Painesville resident sustained horrific, painful and season-ending arm injuries. The first was a compound fracture of his left arm during a tackling drill when he was in third grade. Then came a fractured wrist playing with sixth grade.

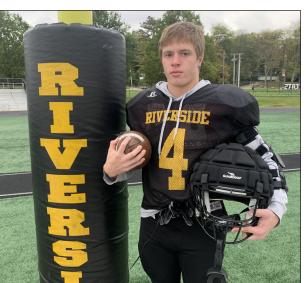
It would have been easy to walk away from football at that point.

fear.

more than he feared being hurt again.

love for football, Salminen terceptions with three, and overcame his hesitancy to has scored two defensive return to the gridiron and he's been strong-arming the competition ever since.

When the Riverside football team takes the field for a Division II, Region 5 playoff opener against visiting ing that the first arm injury Maple Heights on Oct. 27,



JOHN KAMPF - THE NEWS-HERALD

Senior Sam Salminen has been a do-it-all player this year for Riverside, leading the team in tackles and interceptions friends when he was in on defense while also making an impact at running back.

the Beavers will do so with fracture that left him writh-But love triumphed over 19-4 the past two seasons.

A 5-foot-10, 190-pound Thrust forward by his also leads the team in in- fear hold me back." touchdowns.

> He's back – and he's glad that he made that decision to do so instead of walking away

was hesitant," he said, not-

Salminen being one of the ing in agony. "I was always biggest reasons they are waiting for that next injury. It was just in my mind. You almost have to convince Salminen loved football senior, Salminen leads Riv- yourself that you're not a erside in tackles (101) from victim of injuries. I had to shrug his shoulders and his linebacker position. He push forward and not let

> His fear conquered, Salminen has been THE guy to come up with marquee plays when the Beavers have needed them the most over the past two seasons.

It was his hustle play "After those injuries, I in 2022 in Martinsburg (W.Va.), that allowed the Beavers to pull out a 36-

"He just makes plays. You can go back to last year when he saved that Martinsburg game when he hawked down that kid and saved the game for us. His big interception (against Mentor)..."

- Riverside coach Dave Bors, on Sam Salminen

state champion Bulldogs, hawking down a Martinsburg player from behind on so quiet and humble. He's a touchdown-saving tackle not a vocal kid. But he leads to help preserve the Beavers' one-point win.

interception with nine secover Mentor earlier this season, giving the Beavers their first win over Mentor since 1961.

stepped in to start at running back in Week 1 this season when starter Jason Mackey was out with an injury.

Salminen is the first to point out that he's just one man on a very successful nio (Bottiggi) and I were team. "Just doing my job," he'll tell you. But Coach back. It helped having Dom Dave Bors said Salminen is more than that.

"He just makes plays," Bors said. "You can go back to last year when he saved that Martinsburg game when he hawked down that kid and saved the game for Bottiggi and Kirks coming was a painful compound 35 win over the defending us. His big interception off the edge and nose guard credible.

(against Mentor)... "It's funny because he's by example."

Salminen said he needed It was Salminen whose to do that this season more than ever, especially since onds remaining that locked Riverside graduated so up Riverside's 34-31 win many starters this past spring from the 2022 squad. Gone were five of the seven starters on the vaunted front seven — guys like Ja-And it was Salminen who son Ryan, Cam Simpson, A.J. Adams, Colin Fairbanks and Max Borris.

> "Oh yeah, we heard all offseason – 'What's gonna happen to our defense? We lost so many seniors," Salminen said. "We knew we had to step up. Antothe only starters coming (Kirks) coming in. But a lot of guys had to step up this vear'

> As usual, Salminen pushed all the credit for this year's defense to the guys around him, including

Brody Bunting "playing his tail off" in the trenches.

"West Wunderle, we knew he was going to be good," Salminen said of his fellow linebacker. "Outside backers Gabe Hall and Matt Priest have been great. They've exceeded everyone's expectations.'

The defensive backfield of Brady McKnight, Dez Kirks, Brady Tichy, Conner Hackle and Donovan Conwell have also stepped up to make up for graduation losses, he said.

It was great to see how the team has really come together and bonded into what we are today," Salminen said.

The past four years have flown by for Salminen. He thinks back to the early injuries that could have derailed his desire to play football. Even an elbow injury as a junior couldn't stop him from coming back this year to put the icing on his proverbial football cake.

"I told Coach Bors before the season, 'However, you need to use me, I'm going to be there,' " Salminen said. "I pushed myself and conditioned myself to be used any way possible. Is this the perfect senior season? It is, not just for how the season is going, but because I couldn't imagine being around a better group of guys to be around. It's in-



Lake Catholic offense has opponents wondering how to defend them

By John Kampf jkampf@news-herald.com

Frankie Trinetti did his best to keep a smile off his face.

As Lake Catholic's junior quarterback got the offense lined up for a play, he saw the opposing defense shifting and barking out a defensive audible because they were SURE the Cougars were lined up to run the ball with Josh Styles.

Only they weren't.

Trinetti KNEW he had 'em. He just had to avoid smiling.

The ball was snapped, Trinetti took a short drop out of the shotgun and hit Ace Peterlin in stride on a post pattern for a Lake Catholic touchdown.

"Oh yeah, you hear teams calling out plays, plays they think we're running," Trinetti said. "Sometimes I know we've (got them). That's the good thing about our offense; we can do so much."

The Lake Catholic offense is the most prolific in The News-Herald area this season, averaging 405 yards and 35.4 points per game. The Cougars have unnerved many opponents with their balance, with Trinetti throwing for 2.753 vards and 31 touchdowns to go with Styles' team-high 1,350 yards of real estate chewed up on the ground.

When Trinetti drops back to pass, which receiver do vou focus on? Ace Peterlin (61 catches. 940 yards), D.J. Sears (36 catches, 579 yards) and Cross Nimmo (24 catches) can all shred a defense. Add in Styles out of the backfield (18 catches 244 vards) and the return of Patrick Radigan from an early season injury, and the Lake Catholic offense is going to give a lot of teams this postseason much to think (and stress) over.

"I'd hate to go against our of- end Cross Nimmo fense," 6-foot-6 junior Nimmo all possible. They're so good."

Head coach Marty Gibbons, cheat codes. who at his roots is a defensive



JOHN KAMPF — THE NEWS-HERALD

The Lake Catholic offense is highlighted by, from left, guarterback Frankie Trinetti, running back Josh Styles, running back/tight end D.J. Sears, receiver Ace Peterlin and receiver/tight

be like playing X-Box with all the the ball to them at the right time." ing this season.

This type of offense wasn't ap-Sears, a multi-dimensional ramped up to do. "It's a blast." Gibbons said. parent in the previous two sea- player who can line up at tight "Even during basketball sea- staff revamped the offense, but coach, calls the plays in correspon- "No. 1, having a point guard like sons when Lake Catholic went 1-9 end, flex out at receiver or go into son, we'd come out to our field rather just added some wrinkles great offense," Gibbons said. dence with assistant Bill Sowers. Frankie who can facilitate the in 2021 and 3-7 in 2022. But the the backfield as a battering ram and throw the ball around in the and perks to reach the optimum who is in the box on Friday nights. ball and get it to those guys is im- disappointment and shortcomings at the goal line, said the previous snow," Nimmo said. "The last few level – much like juicing up a race been a physical team that prides it- get open." He admits that having such talent portant. Not easy to find. That's a of those seasons helped pave the seasons put a chip on the team's years were rough. We had to do car for the Indy 500. It helped that self on running to set up the pass.

said. "Our offensive line makes it on his offensive side of the ball can huge thing. He knows how to get way for what the Cougars are do- shoulders that made offseason everything we could to fix it and workouts that much easier to get make it better."

It's not that Gibbons and his now.



Lake Catholic's Josh Styles carries against NDCL on Oct. 21.



BRIAN FISHER - FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Frankie Trinetti, a junior, has set a new Lake Catholic record with 31 touchdown passes this season.

all the current players were com- Frankie to pass the ball." ing back a year older, a year wiser, stronger and experienced.

started on offense last year, Trinetti to carve things up with know how hard that is to defend. Nimmo and Sears started only his pinpoint passing. on defense and dabbled here and there on offense. Peterlin has been Peterlin said. "Josh sets things take them away. But you can't re- so high that they don't want the a two-way starter for two years up with the run and makes the ally make us play left-handed be- season to end until they're at Tom

That still may be the case this year, but the passing game has been frightening for the opposition to passes established a new program record, snapping the previous re- how he keeps everyone happy. derclassmen. Styles is the only secord of 29 held by Pete Jelovic. There's only one ball and there's nior. Trinetti, Peterlin, Nimmo, With two more catches, Peterlin only so many plays to spread Sears and Radigan are all juniors, will eclipse the program record of things around. 62 passes in a season set in 2003 by Leo Wood.

tions. We can run it, but we can a half." also play-fake and pass out of it.

best to get the first down to keep fense a look in practice that is Carter Stadium. our drive going. If I can do that, likely better than what they're goit sets up more opportunities for ing to see on Friday nights — so play our game every single week."

Once an opposing defense sneaks up to the line to take away sional," Gibbons said. "Coming countable and now we've built a While Trinetti and Styles the pass, then it's open season for from being a defensive coach, I bond that can't be broken."

"They've evolved to give us a big, he's hard to guard. They have we'll find another hand to use. to watch him and D.J., and that "It's a good thing, but there's weekend. Historically, Lake Catholic has leaves me a little more space to still a lot of work for us to do."

deal with. Trinetti's 31 touchdown Lake Catholic's D.J. Sears advances the ball against Erie on Oct. 6.

"We chart touches," Gibbons men. said. "Coach Sowers is in the box,

that's a bonus as well.

A terrifying thought is most of Trinetti chuckled when asked Lake's skill set is made up of un-state championship."

BRIAN FISHER — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

as are a few of the offensive line-

But the focus isn't on 2024. Not "I still think the run sets up the so we know who has been targeted one bit. After two straight seasons pass," Styles said. "When we run or gets touches. I have a number of disappointment, the Cougars arour stretches, we have two varia- we want to hit with every kid in en't looking any further than the Oct. 27 playoff opener against vis-The talent on Lake Catholic's of- iting Mogadore Field in a game "When I run the ball, I try my fense also gives the Cougars' de- that is being played at North's Nick

"We just want to go out and Nimmo said. "We weren't satisfied "We're just so multi-dimen- last year. We've held each other ac-

That bond and the work the When you have a couple of threats, team put in are what the Cougars "I think all of it plays a factor," you can hone in on those guys and are leaning on as they set the bar defense respect that. Cross is so cause we have so many weapons, Benson Hall of Fame Stadium in December for state championship

"We can go really far," Sears said. "I think we make a run at a

By John Kampf jkampf@news-herald.com

(12) ST. IGNATIUS AT (5) Mentor

What: Division I, Region 1 opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Jerome T. Osborne Stadium

Records: St. Ignatius 2-8, Mentor 7-3

Last week: St. Ignatius def. Football North, 24-21, Mentor def. Euclid, 48-12

On deck: Winner faces the winner of (4) Canton McKinley and (13) Strongsville

For the record: This is a rematch of a Week 2 game won by St. Ignatius, 16-14, when Mentor was unable to get a last-second fieldgoal attempt off before the time ran out. That was one of St. Ignatius' two wins this season, and rest assured Mentor would like a measure of revenge. The Cardinals are clicking on both sides of the ball. Since a 2-3 start, they have won five straight by outscoring the opposition, 217-41. QB Scotty Fox threw for 217 yards and four TDs last week against Euclid, but the running game of Gino Korzunowski, Marty Johnson and others has really picked up of late. ... In the first meeting, St. Ignatius led, 10-0, before Mentor got a first down. A Joshua Papesh-to-Jonathan Merimee TD pass in the third quarter was the deciding score.



Mentor will host St. Ignatius in a Division I playoff game on Oct. 27.

(15) EUCLID AT (2) Cleveland Heights

What: Division I, Region 1 opener When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27

Where Crawford Stadium, 13263 Cedar Road, Cleveland Heights Records: Euclid 1-9. Cleveland Heights 9-1 Last week: Mentor def. Euclid, 48-12, Cleveland Heights def. Shaker Heights, 41-31

On deck: Winner faces the winner of (7) Berea-Midpark and (10) Massillon Jackson **For the record:** This is a rematch of a Week 9 game

won by Cleveland Heights, 28-12, but it was a close game throughout. Coach Mac Stephens' Tigers won the Greater Cleveland Conference title in their first year in the league. Running back Marquise Davis has run for 2,189 yards and 31 touchdowns this season.

The Euclid defense's game plan is going to lean heavily on slowing him down in order to give the Panthers a chance. The Panthers' defense, anchored by Rynell Taylor and Kei'shaun Telfair, can slow teams down. But the Euclid offense has struggled this season and has not scored more than 14 points in a game yet. Getting the running game going with Marquiss Hall (617 yards, four TDs) is a good start.

(13) MAPLE HEIGHTS AT (4) Riverside

What: Division II, Region 5 opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Riverside Stadium Records: Maple Heights 5-5, Riverside 8-2

Last week: Lorain def. Maple Heights, 53-34, Chardon def. Riverside, 24-16

On deck: Winner faces the winner of (5) Nordonia and (12) Twinsburg

For the record: The Beavers crushed the Mustangs, 35-6, in Week 4. Riverside should be motivated in this game after losing two of its last three games. In the first meeting, Maple Heights actually outgained Riverside, 291-246, but bid plays by the defense gave the Beavers short fields to work with. Riverside has a dangerous offensive arsenal led by QB Mikey Maloney (850 yards rushing, 1,640 vards passing, 30 total TDs), RB Jason Mackey (768 yards rushing) and receivers Brady McKnight (43 catches, 730 yards) and Ethan Ross (35 catches, 435 yards). But that group was bottled up pretty well last week by Chardon. Maple Heights QB Kindall Brown threw for 156 yards in the last meeting, while Devin Poole ran for 79.



By John Kampf jkampf@news-herald.com

(14) BENEDICTINE AT (3) Hudson

What: Division II, Region 5 opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Memorial Stadium, 7230 Stow Road, Hudson Records: Benedictine 4-6, Hudson 7-2

Last week: Akron SVSM def. Benedictine, 20-7, Hudson def. North Royalton, 14-9

On deck: Winner faces the winner of (6) Akron SVSM and (11) Warren Harding)

For the record: What a turnaround by the Bengals. Winless in 2022, Benedictine went 4-6 this year — and was very much competitive in other games and now they're back in postseason play. This is the first meeting between these programs. ... Benedictine leans heavily on RB Luke Reed, who has run for 1,190 yards and 18 touchdowns. Matthew Furst has thrown for 1,148 yards and nine TDs, with JJ Baldwin (32 catches, 478 yards) his favorite target. ... Hudson was idle in Week 10. Its losses are to 8-2 Wadsworth and 9-1 Cleveland Heights. The Explorers are strong on defense. They haven't given up more than 19 points the past five weeks. Then again, they haven't scored more than 17 in that span, either. Coach Jeff Gough's team



BARRY BOOHER – FOR THE NEWS-HERALD Chardon's grueling run game will square off against CVCA in a Division III playoff game on Oct. 27.

has a key playmaker in Teagan O'Guinn, who can run and catch the ball out of the backfield from QB Peyton Neher.

(10) CVCA AT (7) Chardon

What: Division III, Region 9 opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Memorial Field Records: CVCA 8-2, Chardon 7-3

Last week: CVCA def. Akron Manchester, 41-14, Chardon def. Riverside, 24-16 On deck: Winner faces the winner of (2) Geneva and (15) Hawken For the record: At 7-3. Chardon is one of the most dangerous Division III teams in Ohio regardless of division. The Hilltoppers' three losses are to teams that were top-10 ranked when the games were played. ... Over the past four games, Chardon has allowed only 23 total points. Alexander Ash (21 tackles for loss, eight sacks) spearheads a fast and physical defense that flies to the ball. Offensively, the run-dominant offense is led by Will Francis' 1,271 yards, but four others have also scored six or more touchdowns on the ground this year. Chardon doesn't



BARRY BOOHER - FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Geneva takes its power running game into a Division III playoff game against Hawken on Oct. 27.

throw much, but it doesn't have to. ... CVCA has won five in a row since losing to state-ranked and undefeated Canton South. The Royals' only other loss was to 9-1 Streetsboro. The eight wins are the most in the regular season in 15 years. Logan Scranton has run for 945 yards and 10 touchdowns. QB Charley Levak has run for 461 and thrown for 584. ... To pull the upset CVCA will have to stand toe-to-toe with Chardon's physicality.

(15) HAWKEN AT (2) Geneva

What: Division III, Region 9 opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: SPIRE Academy Records: Hawken 6-4, Geneva 9-1

Last week: Geneva def. Jefferson, 57-13, Perry def. Hawken, 47-7

On deck: Winner faces the winner of (7) Chardon and (10) CVCA

For the record: Geneva, champion of the CVC Lake Division, faces Hawken, which is in the CVC Chagrin Division. The Eagles have won five in a row since a Week 5 loss to Perry, while the Hawks have lost three of the last five after a 4-1 start. ... The Hawks are balanced on offense, with Donovan Moorhead having thrown for 1,542 yards and 22 touchdowns to go with Jordan Johnson's 1,228 yards on the ground. Charlie Mallett and Tommy Wright have more than 20 catches in the passing game. ... Geneva, on the other hand, is a ground-and-pound team. Bryce Peet (902 yards, 12 TDs), Luke Smith (894 yards, 14 TDs) and Hayden Diemer (531 yards, 11 TDs) give the Eagles a trio of capable backs. QB Kenny Young has thrown for 536 vards on 32 completions this season. ... Can Hawken slow down that run game? Can Geneva limit Hawken's big-play capability?



By John Kampf jkampf@news-herald.com (11) MADISON AT (6) GILMOUR

What: Division III, Region 9 opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Weber Stadium Records: Madison 8-2, Gilmour 8-2

Last week: Madison def. Conneaut, 27-18, Gilmour def. Lutheran East, 27-8 On deck: Winner faces the winner of (3) Aurora and (13) Alliance

For the record: Madison has made a brilliant rebound from a 2-8 season in 2022 to being 8-2 this year. Gilmour has ridden its experience and talent to a second straight playoff season. ... The Blue Streaks' losses are to 10-0 Perry and 9-1 Geneva. Quarterback Carson Alley makes things happen with his arm and legs. He has run for a team-high 819 yards while passing for 660. He has a combined 26 touchdowns. Fellow back James Poe has run for 511 this year, but he missed last week's game with an injury. Madison CAN throw, but it prefers to run the ball to control the game and clock. ... Gilmour, on the other hand, is a fast-paced, high-scoring team. Winners of four in a row since backto-back losses to VASJ and University, Gilmour is led by dual-threat QB Jake Kavcic (1,323 yards passing, 544 rushing). His twin Andy has



TIM PHILLIS – FOR THE NEWS-HERALD Gilmour's high-powered offense will go up against Madison in a Division III playoff game on Oct. 27.

run for 735 yards, and the deep receiving corp led by Brody Lennon and Sean

Dillard can hit the home run. ... This game comes down to Madison's ball control and Gilmour's quick-strike offenses.

(12) UNIVERSITY AT (5) VASJ

What: Division III, Region 9 opener

Where: Gutbrod Field, 18491Lakeshore Blvd., Cleveland

Records: University 6-3, VASJ 7-3

Last week: University def. Howland, 27-0, VASJ def. Cleveland Central Catholic, 45-0

On deck: Winner faces the winner of (4) Kenston and (13) Dover

For the record: This game features teams that love to run the ball, with University switching to a single-wing approach midway through the season and VASJ relying all season on the scary 1-2 running tandem of Amani Powell and Bo Jackson. Both have fun for more than 1,000 yards and have double-digit touchdowns. University's defense will need to not only contend with that, but also with VASJ quarterback Kylan Steuball's ability to hit the deep ball to Brian Kortovich and Christian Chase. ... The Preppers run the ball effectively with Michael Malone (829 yards) and Jackson Boland (482 yards). Both average more than five yards per carry. Duke Brennan has 28 catches, while



TIM PHILLIS – FOR THE NEWS-HERALD State-ranked Kenston hosts Dover in a Division III playoff game on Oct. 27.

Johnny Diaz has 21. ... This game will come down to who best controls the lines of scrimmage. VASJ has a size advantage University will have to overcome.

(13) DOVER AT (4) KENSTON

What: Division III, Region 9

opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Bomber Stadium Records: Dover 6-4, Kenston 9-1

Last week: Dover def. New Philadelphia, 20-13, Kenston def. North, 49-21 On deck: Winner faces the

winner of (5) VASJ and (12) University **For the record:** The

Bombers are the champions of the Western Reserve Conference, having won five in a row since a 35-point loss to Lake Catholic in Week 5. The offense has been staggering most of the year, scoring 31 or more points against everyone except Lake Catholic. The Bombers can light it up in all phases. QB Lucas Kaltenbach has thrown for 1.451 vards and 16 scores, RB Sean Patrick has run for 1,267 yards and scored 26 touchdowns, and the deep receiving corp led by Tymir Cardona can stretch the field. Defensively, Ashton Kolenic seems to always come up with a big play in big games. ... Dover has won four in a row since a 2-4 start, including a win last week over rival New Philadelphia. J.J. Barton scored all three of his team's touchdowns against New Philadelphia, one rushing, one receiving and one on a 90-vard kickoff return. QB Jack Judkins threw for 128 yards and Justice Hughes ran for 47 in the rivalry win.



playmakers. ... Lake scores

at such a prolific rate, can

(16) CRESTWOOD AT (1)

What: Division V, Region 17

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27

Where: Alumni Stadium

Records: Crestwood 5-5.

Last week: Crestwood def.

Grand Valley, 28-27, Perry

Field keep up pace?

PERRY

opener

Perry 10-0

By John Kampf jkampf@news-herald.com (15) MOGADORE FIELD AT (2) LAKE CATHOLIC

What: Division IV, Region 13 opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Nick Carter Stadium at Eastlake North Records: Mogadore Field 4-6, Lake Catholic 8-2 Last week: Mogadore Field def. Peninsula Woodridge, 35-14

On deck: Winner faces the winner of (7) Niles McKinley and (10) Edgewood

For the record: Lake Catholic went from 3-17 over the past two seasons to 8-2 this season with a prolific offense that averages 449 yards and 35.4 points per game. The Cougars' only losses are to Cardinal Mooney and Walsh Jesuit ... Field started the season 2-4, but won two of its last three. ... Lake has smothered teams with its offense that features QB Frankie Trinetti (2,573 yards and 31 touchdowns). Ace Peterlin (61 catches, 940 yards) is on the doorstep of a 1,000yard receiving season and Josh Styles adds a powerful running aspect with 1,350 yards. ... Field is led by Drexal McAmis, a standout both at running back and at linebacker. Two-way lineman William Nienhius anchors both the offensive and defensive lines. Running back Victor Brown and receiver Mikai Peeple are also



Perry's defense, which has given up only 62 points this year, will go up against Crestwood on Oct. 27.

def. Hawken, 47-7 **On deck:** Winner faces the winner of (8) Cortland Lakeview and (9) Sandy Valley

For the record: This is a CVC crossover game, with Perry winning the CVC Chagrin Division and Crestwood finishing fifth in the six-team CVC Valley. Perry is the top-ranked Division V team in Ohio. It has outscored the opposition by an average score of 37.2 to 6.4. Walter Moses has thrown for 1,702 yards and 21 touchdowns, Jayden Studio has run for 772 yards and the receiving tandem of Brayden Richards and Luke Sivon has combined for 63 catches and 1,264 yards. The defense is Perry's strong suit, having given up on only 132 yards per game. Linebacker Owen McKoon (82 tackles, 11 tackles for loss, five sacks) leads the way. ... Crestwood needed a comeback to get past Grand Valley in Week 10. Nate Blasiole scored with 1:08 remaining to give his team the win. Charlie Sommer threw for 137 yards, with Blasiole rushing for 81.

NEWS-HERALD FILE

(9) CARDINAL AT (8) Canton Central Catholic

What: Division VI, Region 21

opener

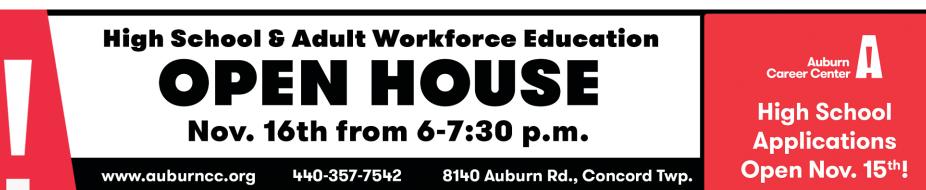
When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Lowell Klinefelter Field, 496513th St. SW, Canton

Records: Cardinal 6-4, Canton Central Catholic 6-4

Last week: Kirtland def. Cardinal, 38-0, Canton Central Catholic def. St. Thomas Aquinas, 42-6

On deck: Winner plays the winner of (1) Kirtland and (16) Columbiana

For the record: The Huskies come into the game having won six of their last eight following an 0-2 start. Central Catholic plays a tough schedule, including games with Division II Massillon Perry, Division III Alliance and Division IV Lake Catholic.... Cardinal QB Logan Strever has shown the ability to take over a game both running and passing. Kyle Sinclair and Reese Soltis are also threats on the ground. But the Huskies' big key in this game is defense. Max Soltis (20 tackles for loss, five sacks), Neil Lucariello (11 TFLs, 2 sacks) and the rest of the Cardinal defense will need a big effort to slow down a Central Catholic offense that is pretty balanced with QB Brennan Betz (1,095 yards and 13 TDs passing, 379 yards and 5 TDs rushing), as well as Dan Boron (605 vards and 11 TDs rushing, 498 yards and 6 TDs receiving).



By John Kampf jkampf@news-herald.com (16) COLUMBIANA AT (1) KIRTLAND

What: Division VI, Region 21 opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Wilson Stadium Records: Columbiana 5-5. Kirtland 9-1

Last week: Columbiana def. Valley Christian, 16-6, Kirtland def. Cardinal, 38-0 **On deck:** Winner faces the winner of (8) Canton Central Catholic and (9) Cardinal For the record: The defending Division VI state runner-up Hornets embark on another postseason run that they hope — and plan

- on culminating with a trip

to Tom Benson Hall of Fame

Stadium. Kirtland averages

40.5 points and 368 yards per game despite its starters not playing full games. The defense is tremendous, giving up only 151 yards per game. The rushing game of Will Beers (951 yards) and Rocci Alfieri (720 yards) is dominating. Gino Blasini is the top receiving threat who also is the ultimate stopper in the defensive backfield. ... Columbiana has won five of its last six after a rough 0-4 start. Liam Surgenavic guides the offense at quarterback and he is also the team's leading rusher. ... As it is with any team that squares off against Kirtland, can Columbiana handle the physicality of Kirtland's running game and aggressive

(11) BERKSHIRE AT (6) LORAIN CLEARVIEW

defense?

What: Division V, Region 17 opener

When: 7 p.m., Oct. 27 Where: Tom Hoch Field. 4700 Broadway Ave., Lorain Records: Berkshire 5-5. Lorain Clearview 8-2

Last week: Harvey def. Berkshire, 21-20, Lorain Clearview def. Brookside, 48-7

On deck: Winner faces the winner of (3) Creston Norwayne and (14) Youngstown Liberty

For the record: Berkshire has played a tough schedule with losses to 9-1 Edison, 8-1 Cuyahoga Heights and 9-1 Kirtland. Clearview has won seven of its last eight. ... The Badgers have a stellar dual-threat guarterback in senior Miles Miller, who has thrown for 1,015 yards and 17 touch-



BARRY BOOHER - FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Kirtland will host Columbiana in a Division VI playoff game on Oct. 27.

downs and run for 556. Justin Phillips is a battering catches) lead the receivram at running back with 1,032 yards on the ground. Jack Hastings (30 catches)

and Mason Mendolera (18 ing corp. ... Clearview won a share of the Lorain County League this year.

Cy Christensen has thrown for more than 1,700 yards while Ethan Lorenzana has topped the 800-yard mark in rushing.

Tony Fisher Award watch list

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com The Tony Fisher Award, named after the Euclid product who won Ohio's coveted Mr. Football Award before moving on to play at Notre Dame and in the NFL. goes to The News-Herald's football player of the year. The winner of the award will be announced during a special edition of the Varsity Chalk Talk show on Monday, Nov. 20, at Hooley Pub and Kitchen.

The Fisher Watch List can and will change on a weekly

basis. Here is this week's list in alphabetical order:

Carried nine times for 64 yards and a touchdown in the Hornets' 38-0 win over Cardinal.

Shahn Alston, Harvey, So.: Carried six times for 68 yards and a touchdown in the Red Raiders' 21-20 win over Berkshire.

Will Beers, Kirtland, Sr.: Carried eight times for 119 yards and two touchdowns in the Hornets' 38-0 win over Cardinal.

Scotty Fox, Mentor, Jr.:

Completed 15 of 19 passes for 217 vards and four Rocco Alfieri, Kirtland, Sr.: touchdowns in the Cardinals' 48-12 win over Euclid. Will Francis, Chardon, Sr.: Carried 18 times for 130 yards and also threw for 13 yards in the Hilltoppers' 24-16 win over Riverside.

> Bo Jackson, VASJ, Jr.: Ran for 111 yards and three touchdowns in the Vikings' 45-0 win over Cleveland Central Catholic.

Jordan Johnson, Hawken, Sr.: Ran for 39 yards and a touchdown in the Hawks' 47-7 loss to Perry.

Lucas Kaltenbach, Kenston. Jr.: Completed four of 11 passes for a touchdown and also had a touchdown run in the Bombers' 49-21 win over North.

Jake Kavcic, Gilmour, Sr.: Completed four of seven passes for 99 yards and a touchdown in the Lancers' 27-8 win over Lutheran East.

Mikey Maloney, Riverside, Sr.: Carried 11 times for 73 yards and a touchdown, and also completed 14 of 27 passes for 149 yards and a touchdown in the Beavers' 24-16 loss to Chardon.

Brady McKnight, Riverside. Sr.: Caught two passes for 20 yards in the Beavers' 24-16 loss to Chardon.

Walter Moses, Perry, Jr.: Completed nine of 14 passes for 167 yards and three touchdowns in the Pirates' 47-7 win over Hawken.

Sean Patrick, Kenston, Sr.: Carried 17 times for 175 yards and three touchdowns in the Bombers' 49-21 win over North.

Ace Peterlin, Lake Catho**lic, Jr.:** Caught four passes for 70 yards and a touchdown in the Cougars' 42-14 win over NDCL.

Amani Powell, VASJ, Sr.: Ran for 96 yards in the Vikings' 45-0 win over Cleveland Central Catholic.

Brayden Richards, Perry, Sr.: Ran for 49 yards and two touchdowns and also had three catches for 65 yards and a score in the Pirates' 47-7 win over Hawken.

Frankie Trinetti. Lake Catholic, Jr.: Completed 12 of 17 passes for 160 yards and two touchdowns in the Cougars' 42-14 win over NDCL.



High school football statistics

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PASSING YARDS

Name, school Passing va Frankie Trinetti, Lake Catholic Scotty Fox, Mentor Walter Moses, Perry Mikey Maloney, Riverside Donovan Moorhead, Hawken Lucas Kaltenbach, Kenston Jake Kavcic, Gilmour Matthew Furst, Benedictine Cavon Wise, Harvey Miles Miller, Berkshire Finn Keenan, West G James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Cooper Panteck, Gilmour Jacob Kay, Chagrin Logan Strever, Cardinal Carson Alley, Madison Rocco Monastero, Mavfield Liam Covne, University James Gadomski, Fairport Kenny Young, Geneva Joe Pinzone, Mayfield Carson Panteck, University Jackson Boland, South Will Francis, Chardon Rvan Lipowski, NDCL Brady Lawson, Fairport EJ Mester, Wickliffe

PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

Name, school Frankie Trinetti, Lake Catholio

Jake Kavcic, Kirtland Donovan Moorhead, Hawken Walter Moses, Perry Scotty Fox, Mentor Miles Miller, Berkshire Lucas Kaltenbach, Kenston Carson Alley, Mentor Mikey Maloney, Riverside Cavon Wise, Harvey James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Cooper Panteck, Gilmour Matthew Furst, Benedictine Kenny Young, Geneva Logan Strever, Cardinal Finn Keenan, West G Brady Lawson, Fairport Liam Coyne, South Rocco Monastero, Mayfield Jacob Kay, Chagrin James Gadomski, Fairport Jackson Boland, University Ryan Lipowski, NDCL loe Pinzone, Mayfield Carson Panteck, University Will Francis, Chardon

RUSHING

Name, school Amani Powell, VASJ

	Josh Styles, Lake Catholic	169	1,350
	Will Francis, Chardon	163	1,271
rds	Sean Patrick, Kenston	184	1,267
573	Jordan Johnson, Hawken	177	1,228
066	Luke Reed, Benedictine	200	1,190
702	Bo Jackson, VASJ	85	1,082
640	Shahn Alston, Harvey	128	1,042
542	Justin Phillips, Berkshire	157	1,032
451	Will Beers, Kirtland	93 124	951
323	Bryce Peet, Geneva Luke Smith, Geneva	124 95	902 894
148	Mikey Maloney, Riverside	112	850
041	Michael Malone, University	159	829
015	Carson Alley, Madison	148	819
002	Jayden Studio, Perry	106	772
892	Jason Mackey, Riverside	113	768
846	Andy Kavcic, Gilmour	125	735
829 808	Rocco Alfieri, Kirtland	111	720
766	Joe Pinzone, Mayfield	131	674
660	Marquiss Hall, Euclid	82	617
592	Jack Gellin, Chagrin	119	572
567	Logan Strever, Cardinal	60	558
559	Miles Miller, Berkshire	100	556
536	Maverrick Piotrowski, Fairpo		546
536	Jake Kavcic, Kirtland	58	544
478	Jimmie Feaster, Wickliffe	106	544
468	Andrew Bruce, Chardon	66	537
415	Hayden Diemer, Geneva	75	531
415	Dylan Colello, Mayfield	132	519
412	James Poe, Madison	100	511
404	Chris Burt, Harvey James Gadomski, Fairport	62 101	487 482
	Jackson Boland, University	95	482
	Chris Maloney, Benedictine	73	475
	Nassir Levy, West G	113	471
ses	Kyle Sinclair, Cardinal	82	461
31	Cohen Clark, Kenston	64	460
22	Caleb Hewitt, Chardon	46	456
22	Vinny Colombi, Chardon	71	452
21	Lucas Kaltenbach, Kenston	81	412
21 17	Brayden Buell, NDCL	69	393
16	Gino Korzunowski, Mentor	59	389
	Marty Johnson, Mentor	70	367
12			
13 13	Sonny Salajcik, Madison	96	353
13	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon	44	353 328
13 13	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor	44 77	353 328 313
13 13 12	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL	44 77 53	353 328 313 313
13 13	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland	44 77 53 49	353 328 313 313 312
13 13 12 11	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL	44 77 53	353 328 313 313
13 13 12 11 9	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal	44 77 53 49	353 328 313 313 312
13 13 12 11 9 9	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland	44 77 53 49	353 328 313 313 312
13 13 12 11 9 9 9 7 6	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal	44 77 53 49 38	353 328 313 313 312 240
13 13 12 11 9 9 9 7 6 6	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal RECEPTIONS Name, school	44 77 53 49 38 Rec.	353 328 313 313 312 240 Yards
13 13 12 11 9 9 9 7 6 6 6	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal RECEPTIONS Name, school Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic	44 77 53 49 38 Rec. 61	353 328 313 312 240 Yards 940
13 12 11 9 9 7 6 6 6 5	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal RECEPTIONS Name, school Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic Brady McKnight, Riverside	44 77 53 49 38 Rec. 61 43	353 328 313 312 240 Yards 940 703
13 12 11 9 9 7 6 6 5 5	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal RECEPTIONS Name, school Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic Brady McKnight, Riverside Justen Hodge, Mentor	44 77 53 49 38 Rec. 61 43 39	353 328 313 312 240 Yards 940 703 760
13 12 11 9 9 7 6 6 5 5 4	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal RECEPTIONS Name, school Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic Brady McKnight, Riverside	44 77 53 49 38 Rec. 61 43	353 328 313 312 240 Yards 940 703
13 12 11 9 9 7 6 6 5 5 4 4	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal RECEPTIONS Name, school Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic Brady McKnight, Riverside Justen Hodge, Mentor Austin VanHuss, Mentor	44 77 53 49 38 Rec. 61 43 39 39	353 328 313 312 240 Yards 940 703 760 631
13 12 11 9 9 7 6 6 6 5 5 4 4 4	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal RECEPTIONS Name, school Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic Brady McKnight, Riverside Justen Hodge, Mentor Austin VanHuss, Mentor Andrew Marino, West G	44 77 53 49 38 Rec. 61 43 39 39 39 39	353 328 313 312 240 Yards 940 703 760 631 245
13 12 11 9 9 7 6 6 6 5 5 4 4 4 4 4	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal RECEPTIONS Name, school Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic Brady McKnight, Riverside Justen Hodge, Mentor Austin VanHuss, Mentor Andrew Marino, West G Sean Dillar, Gilmour	44 77 53 49 38 Rec. 61 43 39 39 39 39 36 36 35	353 328 313 312 240 Yards 940 760 631 245 558 579 447
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13 13 12 11 9 9 9 7 6 6 6 5 5 4 4 4 4 3	Drago Vujaklija, Chardon Scotty Fox, Mentor James Koenig, NDCL Jake LaVerde, Kirtland Reese Soltis, Cardinal RECEPTIONS Name, school Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic Brady McKnight, Riverside Justen Hodge, Mentor Austin VanHuss, Mentor Andrew Marino, West G Sean Dillar, Gilmour DJ Sears, Lake Catholic Dylan Krupp, Kenston Ethan Ross, Riverside Caleb Cirino, NDCL Evan Calderwood, Mentor Brayden Richards, Perry	44 77 53 49 38 Rec. 61 43 39 39 39 39 36 63 5 535 35 35 34 33 32	353 328 313 312 240 Yards 940 703 760 631 245 558 579 447 435 338 555
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0	Jack Hastings, Berkshire		30
1	Delond Moss, South		29
7	Terrion Singleton, South		29
8	Braydon Tichy, Riverside		29
0	Dylan Parnell, Mayfield		29
2	Duke Brennan, University		28
2	Rob Bonchak, NDCL		28
2	Brody Lennon, Gilmour		27
1	Charlie Mallett, Hawken		26
2	Gino Blasini, Kirtland		25
4	Andy Kavcic, Gilmour		25
0	Connor Hernan, NDCL		25
9	Brendan Sawitke, NDCL		25
9	Grant Cerny, Mentor		24
2	Cross Nimmo, Lake Catholic		24
8	Drew Zelch, Chagrin		23
5	Tommy Wright, Hawken		22
0	Brian Kortovich, VASJ		22
'4	Johnny Diaz, University		21
7	Max Steele, Madison		20
2	Nehemiah Seals, Benedictin	е	19
8	Josh Styles, Lake Catholic		18
6	Elijah Gudger, West G		18
6	Joseph Pomnean, Benedictin	ne	18
4	Mason Mendolera, Berkshir	e	18
4	Trent Hull, Harvey		18
7	Lars Broberg, Gilmour		17
1	Matthew Osters, West G		17
9	Davon Badley, Harvey		17
1	Bo Lewis, Mayfield		17
7	Sean Patrick Kenston		16
2	Frankie Bucar, Wickliffe		16
2	Aidan Gallagher, Cardinal		16
5	Nick Nicolli, Mayfield		16
1	Luke Mangini, Hawken		15
1	Troy Domen, Cardinal		15
0	Jackson Farley, Mentor		14
6	Luke Neimeier, Chagrin		14
2	Will Sayle, Kirtland		13
2	Matt Lambert, Gilmour		13
3	Brandon Bell, Kenston		13
9	Dominic Paros, West G		12
7	Sam Slesh, University		12
3			
8 3	SCORING		
3	Name, school	TD	2
2	Sean Patrick, Kenston	26	1
0	Bo Jackson, VASJ	24	
_	Shahn Alston, Harvey	16	
-	Luke Reed, Benedictine	18	

240	BU Jackson, VASJ	24	U	144
	Shahn Alston, Harvey	16	8	118
	Luke Reed, Benedictine	18	2	110
	Mikey Maloney, Riverside	17	0	102
fards	Jordan Johnson, Hawken	16	1	98
940	Rocci Alfieri, Kirtland	15	3	96
703	Andy Kavcic, Gilmour	16	0	96
760	Logan Strever, Cardinal	16	0	96
631	Jayden Studio, Perry	14	0	84
245	Luke Smith, Geneva	14	0	84
558	Amani Powell, VASJ	14	0	84
579	Will Beers, Kirtland	13	1	80
447	Carson Alley, Madison	13	0	78
435	DJ Sears, Lake Catholic	13	0	78
333	Josh Styles, Lake Catholic	13	0	78
338	Luke Sivon, Perry	12	2	76
565	Charlie Mallett, Hawken	12	1	74
480	Brayden Richards, Perry	11	3	72
478	Bryce Peet, Geneva	12	0	72
699	Brody Lennon, Gilmour	11	0	66
330	Scotty Fox, Mentor	11	0	66

Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic 11 590 366 Cross Nimmo, Lake Catholic 11 235 Havden Diemer, Geneva 11 314 Jackson Boland, University 11 457 Will Francis, Chardon 11 James Gadomski, Fairport 10 279 335 Miles Miller, Berkshire 10 678 Sean Dillard, Gilmour 10 477 Brady McKnight, Riverside 10 403 Vinny Colombi, Chardon 10 323 Caleb Hewitt, Chardon 10 212 Kyle Sinclair, Cardinal 10 207 Jake Kavcic, Kirtland 311 Chris Maloney, Benedictine 8 625 Michael Malone, University 8 254 Delond Moss, South 391 Jason Mackey, Riverside 8 419 Jack Hastings, Berkshire 8 269 Yomar Castellano, Fairport Justen Hodge, Mentor 270 200 Drago Vujaklija, Chardon 244 Gino Blasini, Kirtland 200 Will Sayle, Kirtland 125 James Poe, Madison Nassir Levy, West G Jimmie Feaster, Wickliffe 162 171 Luke Mangini, Hawken 308 111 Andrew Bruce, Chardon 6 296 Jack Gellin, Chagrin 273 Tymir Cardona, Kenston 6 165 Lucas Kaltenbach, Kenston 6 148 JJ Baldwin, Benedictine 6 Mayerrick Piotrowski, Fairport6 252 203 Giavonni Rice, Geneva 6 218 Cal Ciminello, Cardinal 6 255 Owen McKoon, Perry 5 195 Luke Barbo, Geneva 5 157 Jake LaVerde, Kirtland 5 339 Austin VanHuss, Mentor 5 143 Sonny Salaicik, Madison 5 146 Cohen Clark, Kenston 5 138 Finn Keenan, West G 5 170 Justin Phillips, Berkshire 5 Aidan Gallagher, Cardinal 5 Angelo Tamburrino, NDCL 5 Caleb Cirino, NDCL 5 2pt. Pts. 1 158 KICKING 0 144

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SACKS

Name, school

Will Bates, Kirtland

Manny Toure, Harvey

Josh Grambo, NDCL

Shane Krejci, Mentor

Alexander Ash, Chardon

Ashton Kolenic, Kenston

Quinton Wilson, South

Luke Mangini, Hawken

Davon Badley, Harvey

Max Soltis, Cardinal

Will Bates, Kirtland

Alexander Ash, Chardon

Antonio Bottiggi, Riverside

INTERCEPTIONS

Jan Castellano, Fairport

Troy Domen, Cardinal

Gino Blasini, Kirtland

Vince Tomasic, Perry

Tymir Cardona, Kenston

Giavonni Rice, Geneva

Hayden Diemer, Geneva

Charlie Mallett, Hawken

Mason Matriano, South

Griffin Moskal, NDCL

Sean Patrick, Kenston

Charlie Thompson, Kenston

Jimmy Rhodes, Lake Catholic

Ace Peterlin, Lake Catholic

Yomar Castellano, Fairport

Will Beers, Kirtland

Krupp, Kenston

Kene Obi, Hawken

Ryan Whiting, Hawken

Sam Salminen, Riverside

Jack Hastings, Berkshire

Logan Ruscin, Wickliffe

Andrew Bruce, Chardon

Katory Henry-Shaw, Harvey

Inte

Name, school

ΧР Name, school Grady Kucharson, Kenston 50 Owen Pfeifer, Geneva 52 Dylan Tackett, Mentor 34 Sam Sacerich, Chardon 44 96 96 Nick Barisic, Kirtland 43 Harley Forkins, Lake Catholic40 84 Leo D'Astolfo, Riverside 39 Julian Javoris, Hawken 36 Ben Amos, Madison 38 Bryce Meitin, Benedictine 25 78 Ryan Cvitkovic, NDCL 25 Mason Mendolera, Berkshire25 Landon Gallagher, Cardinal 25 Eliza Wills, Wickliffe 76 22 Matteo Morelli, University 20 72 Brandon Escobar, Mayfield 21 0 72 66 Christian Trudic, Chagrin 13 2 15 Elijah Gudger, West G 1 0 Xavier Lasecki, Kirtland

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Austin Green, Chardon 0 30 Charlie Bazzone, Chagrir 0 30 Owen McKoon, Perry 0 30 30 Julian Solis, Mentor 0 Sam Meeks, Kenston 0 30 Brvce Peet, Geneva 0 30 Jamil Daghlas, Geneva Justin Phillips, Berkshire Max Soltis, Cardinal Austin Leszynski, Chardor FG Total Dom LaMacchia, Perry 4 62 Demetrius Williams, Madison 1 55 52 Luke Richards, Lake Catholic 6 DJ Dambolena, Fairport 2 50 Matt Wright, Geneva 46 Matt Priest, Riverside 2 46 Dom Kirks, Riverside 2 45 Maddex Ciancibello, Chardon 2 42 Kyle Kisley, Chardon 0 38 Cole Ducas, Chagrin 37 37 4 Aiden Beresford, Chagrin 34 **TACKLES FOR LOSS** 31 2 25 Name, school 23

21

19

18

	DJ Dambolena, F	airport		17
	Rocco Alfieri, Ki			17
rceptions	James Gadomsk	i, Fairport		16
9	Matt Priest, Rive			16
5	Sam Meeks, Ken			15
4	Ashton Kolenic,			15
4	Josh Grambo, NI			15
4	Alexander Davis			14
4	Quinton Wilson,			13.5 13.5
4	Austin Leszynski, Chardon			13.5
4	Aaron Fortuna, Kirtland Neil Lucariello, Cardinal			13
4	Austin Green, Chardon			11.5
4	Owen McKoon, Perry			11
3	Colin Weiland, Kenston			11
3	Tristan Tubbs, K	11		
3 Dylan	Luke Joy, Lake C			11
3	Maverrick Piotro		rport	11
3	Kene Obi, Hawke			11
3	West Wunderle,			11
3	Maddex Ciancib		don	10.5
3	Robbie Hatcher,			10
3	Chris Vanjo, Lake Catholic Josh Styles, Lake Catholic			10 10
3	Maguire Boyd, K			10
3	Kyle Sinclair, Ca			10
3	Charlie Bazzone			9.5
3	Cole Ducas, Cha			9.5
	Henry Schenk, M			9
	Caden Clair, Mer	ntor		9
	Luka Soric, Sout			9
Sacks	Anthony Tibaldi,			9
9	Aiden Beresford			9
9	Duncan Scott, C			9 8
8	Dom LaMacchia		con	8
8	Demetrius Willia Luke Richards, L			8
6	Luke Mangini, H		лс	8
6	Brayden Buell, N			8
6	Shawn Leonard,			7
5.5	Kevin Castelland			7
5.5 5.5	Julian Javoris, Ha	awken		7
5.5	Sam Salminen, Riverside 7			
5	Caleb Schuetzman, Chardon			7
5	Joe Barch, Mayf	ield		7
5				
5	TEAM STATIS	TICS		
5				
5	School	Off.	Def.	Diff.
4.5	Kirtland	3,683	1,510	2,173
4	Chardon	3,801	1,925	1,876
4	Perry	3,055	1,325	1,730
4	Riverside	3,689	2,245	1,444
4	Lake Catholic	4,056	2,739	1,317
4	Mentor	3,844	2,810	1,034
4	Geneva	3,593	2,572	1,021
4	Gilmour	3.524	2,608	916

Diff. 173 876 730 444 ,317 ,034 021 916 Gilmou 3.524 2,608 3,821 2,920 2,977 2,108 844 812 Kenston 3.5 Madison 3.5 Wickliffe 2,856 2,317 539 3.5 Cardinal 502 2,671 2,243 Berkshire 3.071 2.655 416 University 2.696 2.296 400 3,154 228 Hawken 3.382 TFLS Benedictine 2,709 2,651 58 24 Fairport 2.445 2,417 28 21 . West Geauga 2.237 2,466 -229 20 NDCL 2,457 2,901 -444 18 Chagrin 1.726 3,223 -1.497 18 South 1.757 3.581 -1.824

Good Luck to all of the **High School Playoff Teams!**

Available at the Recreation Dept. at Willoughby City Hall or call 440-223-6138 Proceeds go toward two benches added on the Bridge over the Chagrin River on Mentor Ave.

Historical Medallion featuring the Gazebo in Downtown Willoughby perfect for your Christmas Tree!



Att. Ya

164

1,415



Creating Extraordinary Athletes ... Creating Extraordinary Futures

A Lake Catholic Education is Now More Affordable than Ever! Come see us! Tours, Shadow Days available; Open House Dec. 7

