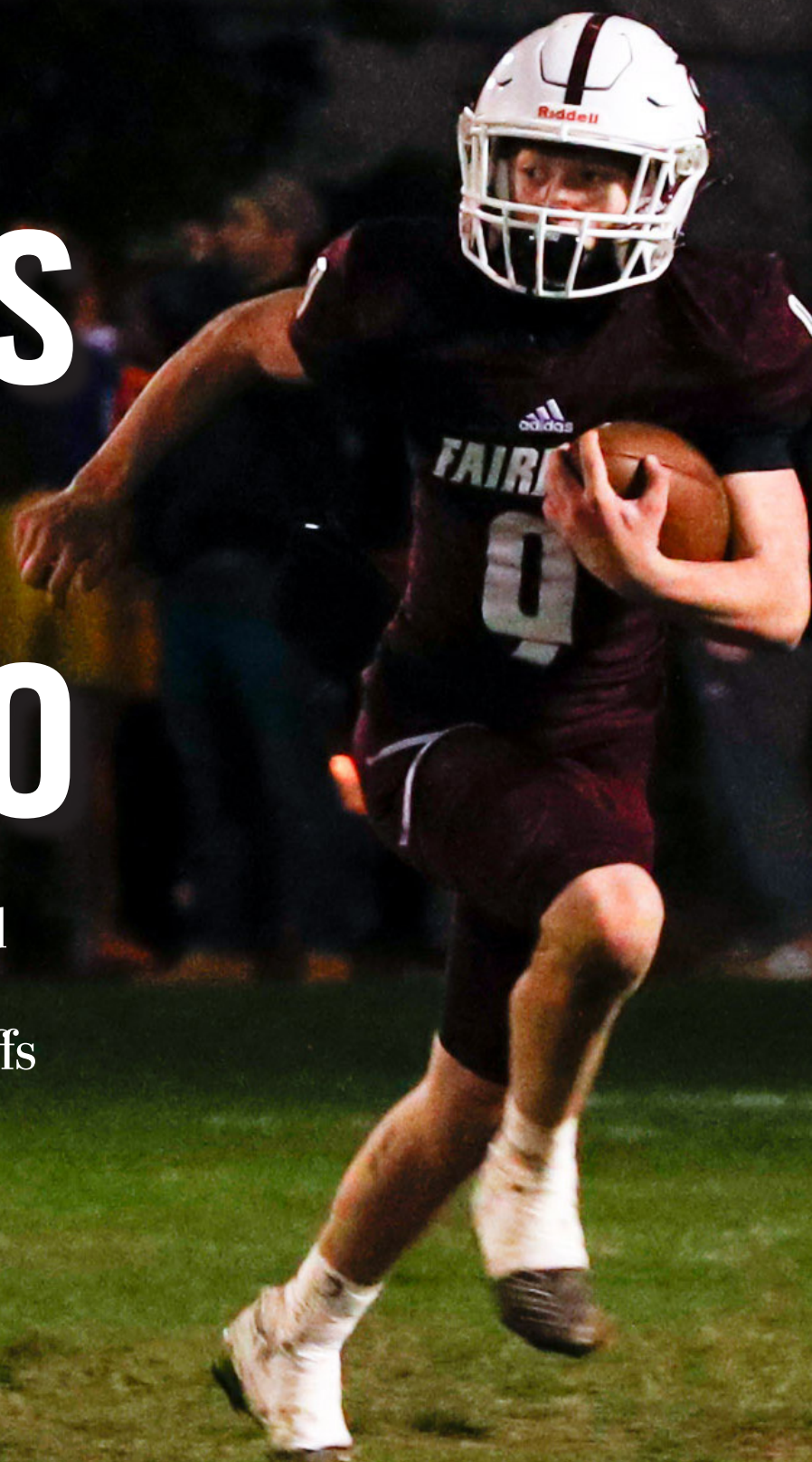


The News-Herald | Oct. 30, 2025

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS | 25

FAIRPORT'S POSE IS A PERFECT 10

Sophomore Evan Murphy and
the unbeaten Skippers lead
18 area schools into the playoffs



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Lake's Loncar brings hammer to defense

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

Those who see Marty Loncar around the halls of Lake Catholic or around the city of Mentor usually thing of him as a quiet — maybe even reserved — young man.

Put him between the white lines of a football field, and things are quite different. If you encounter Loncar within those white lines and you've got a football in your hands — well — you better have your chin strap buckled tightly.

If ever there was a football player with a Jekyll-and-Hyde, mentality, it's Lake Catholic's 6-foot-1, 205-pound linebacker. Off the field, he's quiet. He sports a sparkling 4.4 grade-point average. He doesn't talk much.

Come gametime, a switch is flipped and he's a different animal. He turns into the physical and emotional heartbeat of Lake Catholic's dominating defense.

"He's completely different," head coach Marty Gibbons said with a laugh, sentiments echoed by Lake's defensive coordinator Marty Loncar Sr., who doubles as the linebacker's father.

"It really comes out on the football field," Loncar Sr. said of the Jekyll-and-

Hyde mentality. "You can see the passion out there. It's fun to watch."

While Loncar is pretty quiet, his statistics scream loudly. Heading into the Division IV, Region 13 playoffs, Loncar has accumulated 135 tackles, 12 TFLs, six sacks, two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries. He also returned a blocked punt for a score.

He's the heart of a strong-willed and physical Lake Catholic defense, which defeated NDCL Week 10 to earn a first-round by in the Division IV, Region 13 playoffs.

"Playing defense is my first love," Loncar said. "I just love playing linebacker. It's the best position on the field in my opinion. You can do everything. I like being the guy who stops the offense from what they want to do."

The Loncar name and bloodline is synonymous with greatness in Lake County. His father played on Lake Catholic's state championship football team in the 1990s, his brother Vinny Rosalina was a receiver and linebacker at Lake in 2017 and his cousin Tom was a receiver and cornerback for the Cougars before taking his talents to the University of Dayton.

Just down the road at Kirtland, cousins Louie,



BRIAN FISHER — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Marty Loncar celebrates during Lake Catholic's victory over Buchtel on Sept. 6.

Ryan and Owen Loncar have been part of seven state championship teams as All-Ohio defensive players. Another cousin, Ben Loncar, is on this year's Kirtland squad.

Loncar is glad to carry on the family name.

"I think the mentality is we all know what we have to do out there," he said, "and we're going to work hard to get it done. That's

what Loncars do. It definitely shows."

Loncar is a physical specimen who bench-presses 225 pounds 10 times, squats 405 pounds three times and runs a 4.7 in the 40 — none of that stuff corresponds with what his dad did in his playing days.

"I think Marty is a little more instinctive," his father/defensive coordinator said. "He's taller and bigger

than I was when I played. He's fun to watch. He's real smart and real tough, always seems to be in the right spot."

Such as in a Week 3 game against Akron Buchtel when he scooped up a blocked up and took it in for his first career touchdown. Since then, he has earned some snaps on the offensive side of the ball, though he reiterated the defensive

side is where he prefers to be the most.

"Yeah, Coach Marty (Gibbons) is showing a little more faith in me on offense," Loncar said with a laugh. "I'm mostly blocking, but I get the ball now and then when we're in the Stack-I."

No matter what position he's playing, regardless if it's on offense or defense, Loncar is a perfectionist. He wants to make every tackle on defense and wants to put down crushing blocks when he's on offense.

"You could say I'm a perfectionist," he said. "Even when I got a B my sophomore year in history class, that got under my skin a little bit. That's the only B I've ever gotten at Lake Catholic so far."

A year ago as a junior, Loncar helped lead the Cougars to a 10-0 regular season and to the third round of the Division IV playoffs. He hopes he and the Cougars have another long run this year in postseason play, and judging from the statistics he's put up so far this year, he's willing to do whatever it takes.

Said his father, "He hasn't missed a lift or a practice. He could be on his deathbed and he'd probably still go. When you work that hard, good things are going to happen."

ADULT CLASSES START SOON! APPLY TODAY!

Sat., Dec. 6th, 8-11 AM

Breakfast with Santa

Enjoy a magical morning with Santa, a delicious breakfast, and festive fun for the whole family!

Wed., Jan. 21st, 2026

Sophomore Visit Day (during school day)

Community Open House 5:30-7:30 PM

A fun-filled day for future students to explore our programs, meet teachers and staff and see what makes our school exceptional!

www.auburncc.org

440-357-7542

8140 Auburn Rd., Concord Twp.

Auburn
Career Center



**HIGH SCHOOL &
ADULT WORKFORCE
EDUCATION**

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Kirtland RBs construct daunting backfield

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

It's another busy day at the Auburn Career Center when John Silvestro and Ty Bledsoe walk into the classroom for another day of instruction in construction management.

It's apropos the pair of seniors are in a class that teaches construction because they are the building blocks of this year's vaunted Kirtland running attack.

Kirtland (10-0) has a bye in the first week of the Division VI, Region 21 playoffs. The Hornets could use the rest so as to heal up some of the players who have missed the past few weeks with nagging injuries.

Silvestro and Bledsoe could probably also use some time off because they've been doing some heavy lifting in the Kirtland run game this year. Heading into postseason play, Silvestro has run for 1,441 yards and 23 touchdowns, while Bledsoe has run for 980 to go with 12 scores.

Their emergence has been paramount in Kirtland's quest to get back to the state championship game in December. With the graduation of Danny Alfieri (1,430 yards, 35 TDs) last spring and the injury to quarterback Jake LaVerde (1,215 yard last year and

614 this year before his ankle injury), someone had to step up.

Silvestro and Bledsoe have answered that call.

"Because I was the only returning running back from last year, I knew it was going to be more this year," Silvestro said.

He ran for 757 yards as a junior, but was clearly the third option behind Alfieri and LaVerde, who it should be noted is expected to return from his injury come playoff time.

"I kind of expected more," he said. "I knew what I had to do."

As for Bledsoe, he hardly expected to be in the position of being a high-producing running back. As a junior, he was a third team All-Ohio selection as an undersized nose guard. He only carried twice for nine yards last year. Now he finds himself in the fun position of being a Kirtland running back.

"No, I didn't expect this," Bledsoe said. "Coach told me after the championship game I'd have to step up more my senior year. I thought I'd be an upback the whole time and block. I worked really hard to fill the spot."

The offseason gave both players opportunity to get bigger and stronger. Bledsoe benches 295 pounds,



JOHN KAMPF — THE NEWS-HERALD

Kirtland's vaunted running game this season is spearheaded by Ty Bledsoe and John Silvestro, right.

squats 490 and cleans 315. Silvestro's bests are 305 in the bench and 440 in the squat. He hasn't clean-lifted since shoulder surgery.

Their size, strength and determination make them a tough tandem to deal with on Friday nights. The results show it. The pair has combined for 2,421 yards, 35 touchdowns and together are averaging 9.6 yards per carry.

"First is all, I think both of them are tremendous athletes with great balance and body control," Coach Tiger LaVerde said. "They

are also both very strong in the weight room, so the talent is there.

"For John, he just kept getting better and better over the years. For Ty, he has not played a ton of running back, so it is more about learning the position and getting reps. I am really proud of how they are both playing right now.

Both Silvestro and Bledsoe have deep roots and memories as longtime members of the Kirtland football family. Bledsoe said his family moved to Kirtland when he was 1.

"My brother Sebastian Hynd played here in 2014," Bledsoe said. "He would bring me around the guys, his buddies, and I got to hang around with them a little bit. Those guys inspired me to continue the legacy at Kirtland."

Silvestro was a ball-boy for the Hornets when he was younger, along with current teammates Ryan Caimi, Andy Ridgeway, Chase Gron and Jake LaVerde. Being around state championship teams and players he named such as Joey Torok and Jake Neibecker made him hungrier to someday be a Hornet on the big stage.

"We really looked up to those guys," he said.

He said it's been good to see Bledsoe step into a bigger role on offense this year.

"I know Ty always wanted to play running back, but never had a chance to," he said. "He's done a great job so far. I think he might have surprised people with how well he's done."

Bledsoe said he takes the same mentality on offense that he does on defense — get low, explode and keep the legs going.

"I'm about 180 now and I was 170 last year," Bledsoe said. "It's a challenge going up against guys bigger than me, but I just get as low as possible and use my

strength and speed.

While both players are almost equally productive, the one big difference is emotion. While Silvestro is more of a business-as-usual player, Bledsoe wears his emotions on his shirt sleeve. Whether it's a touchdown on offense or a sack on defense, it's party time.

"I feed on my emotion a lot," Bledsoe said. "We all feed off that. When we make some big plays, it hypes us up."

After graduation, both Bledsoe and Silvestro plan on entering the construction field. Prior to that, they'd like nothing more than to win another state championship ring they won as sophomores.

"I really want to get one more to say I played a big role in it," Silvestro said. "We'll have to work for it. I think a lot of teams look at us like, if they beat us it makes their season. We know everybody is coming out strong against us."

He and Bledsoe wouldn't want it any other way. After all, they're bringing their A-game every time out there, too.

"We want it bad," Bledsoe said. "I think that drove us the whole offseason. That group of guys we played with last year was special. We want to do it for them, too. That fuels our fire."

SAGE

KARMA KITCHEN

Historic Downtown Willoughby
4051 Erie Street
Willoughby, OH 44094
(440) 946-2300
www.sagekarmakitchens.com

At Sage Karma Kitchen we are committed to serving you with clean eating and healthy options. Your meal is prepared fresh when ordered using organic food and produce from our scratch kitchen.



Kitchen Hours Tuesday-Thursday 11:30 a.m. – 9 p.m. • Friday-Saturday 11:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. • Sunday 10:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.
HAPPY HOUR! Tuesday through Friday 3 to 7 p.m. Restaurant closes one hour after the kitchen

TAVERN SIX

KIRTLAND, OH

7592 Euclid Chardon Rd.,
Kirtland, Ohio 44094
440-256-1100
www.tavernsix.com

**JOIN US FOR
HAPPY HOUR
MONDAY
THROUGH
FRIDAY
3:00pm-7:00pm
CHECK OUT OUR
DAILY SPECIALS**

Restaurant closes one hour after the kitchen



**KITCHEN
HOURS**

Sunday & Monday 11:00am - 8:00pm
Tuesday - Thursday 11:00am - 9:00pm
Friday & Saturday 11:00am - 10:00pm

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Mentor's defense has grown all season

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

Carson Wolk's heart about pounded through his chest as he ran onto the field back on Aug. 22 for Mentor's season opener at Olmsted Falls.

One of eight new starters on the Cardinals' defense, his heart palpitations were twofold. First, it was the season-opener. Second, as a senior it was his first varsity start of his career.

If you want to add a third contributor to the chest thumping, Mentor was coming off a 13-1 season in which the Cardinals advanced to the Division I, Region 1 championship game, and while this year's offense was chock-full of returners, the defense (of which Wolk is part) was pretty green.

"They expect a lot from us," Wolk said. "You've gotta do what you do. It's nerve-racking going out there for the first time, but it's an awesome feeling. It's kill or be killed."

In truth, the Mentor defense that took the field at the start of the season experienced some growing pains. Only a few starters were returning and some were playing new positions. The early returns were rough — a humbling scrimmage against St. Edward and three straight

games to start the season in which the Cardinals gave up and average of 20 points per game.

But the growth has been exceptional. Over the past seven games, and heading into the Cardinals' bye week this week, Mentor's defense has given up only 34 total points. That's an average of less than five points per game since Sept. 12, with four shutouts being pitched along the way.

To be sure, Mentor's offense is doing what it was expected to do. Loaded with FBS college commits, the undefeated Cardinals are averaging 41.4 points per game. With the defense playing the way it is playing — well — expectations are what Wolk said they were and that is high.

"That's the standard of the program," defensive coordinator Nick DeCesare said. "We play a lot of veteran guys. Year after year, we turn over a good chunk of our defense. We expect there are going to be some struggles early when guys are getting into their new roles. We have a lot of first-year starters who are seniors who have been in our program for years. Their development isn't a surprise to us when they get their chance on Friday nights."

Such as Wolk, who did get some varsity time last



RANDY MEYERS — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Mentor's defense has given up less than five points per game over the past seven weeks.

year. Now a full-time starter at outside linebacker, he leads the team with 81 tackles and 11 tackles for loss. His four sacks are second on the team.

Another newbie, safety Drew Morgan, is third on the team with 48 tackles and a team-high four interceptions.

Among the new faces were Morgan and James Findak were new on the back end at safety. On the edge, Dominic Oskowski and Jackson Callahan were starting for the first time. Chase Coleman got some run last year on the defensive line, but most of that unit was new this year, too.

"I played special teams last year," Morgan said. "The key is having faith

the guys around you, trusting the coaching and trusting the process — that's it."

Ben Schenk, one of the few starters returning from a year ago, nodded his head in agreement. It wasn't that long ago he was the new guy on the Mentor defense and had to learn fast while relying on the reps he got as a junior varsity player. Schenk said he could tell in preseason camp and early in the season that Mentor had the talent to be a formidable defense — it was just going to take some time to gel.

"You could see it building," he said. "I wasn't worried. We have some super agile and strong guys who understand the playbook well. You could see it com-

ing together."

The back-to-back shutouts of perennial rival Medina in Week 5 and then of talent-rich Cleveland Heights in Week 6 showed how far the defense had come.

"That's when I saw it start to click," Schenk said. "Cleveland Heights has great athletes and strong guys. We shut them down pretty good. You could see things coming together."

That might have been Schenk's watershed moment, but DeCesare saw it long before then.

"There was no position group that was a concern coming in," he said. "It was just, 'Are they ready?' But it's (faith) in the kids. It's them being willing to fight. They go in there and do the job."

To a man, the leaders of the Mentor defense credit the Mentor offense for getting them ready every week, every day, in practice. As a member of Mentor's defense going up against All-Ohio running back Jackson Farley and receiver Justen Hodge in practice every day, players are going to get better.

Practicing against an offensive line that includes Ohio State commit Landry Brede, Navy commit JoJo LoDuca, Kent State commit Colin Prichard and oth-

ers — players need to buckle the chin strap.

"You've gotta understand if you practice with these guys every day, you're not going to win all the reps," Schenk said. "They're going to outrun you, run through you, out-strong you. There are a lot of things in play."

"But those guys give us the best looks every day. We know we're going to get better practicing against them every day."

The defense and its leader — DeCesare — know the Mentor offense is going to do a lot of heavy lifting on Friday nights by putting points on the board. That doesn't mean the defense is going to play lax knowing they've got a safety net.

"It doesn't mean we want to give up 28 because we knew the offense is going to score 35," DeCesare said. "We want to pitch a shut-out and get the ball back to them as fast as we can."

Over the past two months, the Mentor defense has grown exponentially. Strongsville is the only team to score double digits on the Cardinals over that span, falling 55-21.

The inexperience at season's start is no longer in that category. The Mentor D has found its footing.

"We're built for this and we're ready to go," said Morgan.

Roofing by

KLEMENC

CONST. CO., INC.

440-951-2033

*We specialize in New
Roof Installations,
Repairs and All Other
Related Services*



*We Install Gutters,
Ice Cable Systems
and Gutter Cover
Protection Systems*

*We Can Build You or
Repair a New Deck,
Garage, Wheelchair
Ramps or Exterior
Storage Sheds*



*Roof Mounted
Power Fans,
Windows & Doors
Skylight Repairs
& Installation*

*We've been putting the roof Over
People's heads for over 35 years!*

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Donnelly family keeps busy during season

Football season is an exciting time for every family who has a player taking part.



John Kampf

For the Donnelly family, residents of Chesterland, it's been a little more chaotic than most. That's because

Matt and Betsy Donnelly have two sons on two different teams. Brendan is a senior linebacker at NDCL and sophomore Kellen is a sophomore safety at Benedictine.

Since both Benedictine and NDCL have qualified for the playoffs, once again the Donnellys will be a split family — with one parent heading to the Bengals' Division III, Region 9 game at Akron East and the other taking the shorter drive to NDCL's Division IV, Region 13 home game against Hubbard.

"Friday nights are nuts," Betsy Donnelly said with a laugh. "We lucked out when they played each other one week. That was kind of intense in itself."

Fortunately, when the Lions and Bengals played each other, the Donnelly boys weren't on the field at the same time since both



COURTESY OF BETSY DONNELLY

Brendan Donnelly is a senior linebacker at NDCL.

play defense.

So how does the Donnelly family make Friday nights in the fall work? The parents rotate each week where they are going.

There's a lot of NDCL and Benedictine clothing in the house to go around.

"It's something special watching them compete," Betsy said. "They push each other all the time, but are full of respect. The

pick each other up after games. It reminds us that rivalries can exist without losing love or sportsmanship."

The Donnelly family is one of countless people with interesting highlights not only during this play-off season, but also during the high school football season in general.

Speaking of the Donnelly family, Brendan's older brother Liam Don-



COURTESY OF BETSY DONNELLY

Kellen Donnelly is a sophomore at Benedictine.

nely went to NDCL. Brendan is one of a number of Lions who have older brothers who played at NDCL previously, including:

- Dylan Hoenigman, brother of Danny Hoenigman ('20)
- Brendan Hernan, brother of Connor Hernan, ('25)
- Vance Marut, brother of Cole Marut ('22)
- Caiden Kovacs, brother of Jackson Kovacs, ('27)
- Zach Bores, brother of

Greg Bores ('24)

- Collin O'Brien, brother of Brendan ('23) and Tristan ('21)

There is no shortage of interesting tidbits involving News-Herald area players heading into post-season play.

Kirtland sophomore Matthew Rus is a concert pianist.

He has been playing since second grade. According to his mother Melissa, her son also plays classics such as Billy Joel and jazz. He also com-

poses his own pieces. His latest piece that he composed was for his recital last year. The team played the recording last year in the locker room.

West Geauga quarterback Finn Keenan has the varsity team over to his house after every game for pancakes. Shudder at that clean-up job.

Keenan's teammates are creatures of habit. Nate Goden and Maveric Milnar eat Cilantro burritos every Monday as they prepare for the next week's games.

VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

CHARDON POST 6519

752 Water Street, Chardon

GO TOPPERS!

WISHING YOU A WINNING SEASON!



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Geneva's Peet resets program record book

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

The summer between his eighth grade and freshman year at Geneva, Bryce Peet had relatively modest goals for his high school career.

"Coming into my freshman year, my goal was to play as a freshman," Peet said. "I had the long-term goal to leave my mark by playing hard and being a good all-around good teammate and person."

It's safe to say the son of Matt and Amy Peet not only achieved those goals, but blew past them by a country mile.

By all accounts, Peet is the hard-worker and good teammate and person he hoped to be when he entered high school. But on top of that he has made his mark even more so by rewriting the Geneva football record books with marks that might stand for a good, long time.

Heading into Geneva's Division III, Region 9 playoff opener against Alliance, Peet owns a slew of program records, including:

- Career rushing, where he has run for 4,201 yards, surpassing the former record of 3,897 yards set by Aaron Rossi.

- Most points in a career, where he has 342 points, blowing past the 278 points

Rossi scored from 2012-14.

- Most touchdowns in a career, with 56, torching the previous mark of 46 scores.

- Most solo tackles in a career with 241, annihilating the former record of 143 stops set by John Teachout and Jamie Craine.

- Rushing yards in a season with 1,791, taking down the former record of 1,782 yards set by Greg Wilcox.

- Longest run from scrimmage, with a 96-yard jaunt in a 2024 game against Harvey.

It's safe to say Peet's mark on Geneva football goes well beyond being a hard-worker and a good person, which were his original goals.

"It means a lot," Peet said. "I grew up watching a lot of great players. The dude that holds a lot of the rushing records (Rossi), I remember watching him. I saw a lot of his big games."

Every student-athlete has heroes they look up to. To Peet, Rossi was one of those guys. Sitting in the bleachers at SPIRE Institute watching his hometown team, Aaron Rossi was the standard.

The bigger heroes, though, were the guys sitting around the dinner table with him at home — brothers Brady and Blake, who were standouts on the gridiron for Geneva in their



SUBMITTED

Bryce Peet, a two-way starter for Geneva, has set multiple program records on both sides of the ball over this season and his career.

own right — and father Matt Peet, who is the Eagles' offensive coordinator.

"Playing for my dad has been great," he said. "He's made me a better person and player, pushing and supporting me in every day."

Of the influence of his big brothers, Peet said, "Growing up watching them play, they were both great. I wanted to be like them and of course I always tried to be better."

Peet is part of Geneva's tremendous running game.

The Eagles don't pass much, but haven't had to thanks to Peet, quarterback Caden Proy (1,070 yards rushing, program-record 25 touchdowns) and fellow backs Ricky DiPetta (571 yards, seven TDs) and Owen Davis (536 yards, eight TDs). Heading into the playoffs, most of Geneva's offensive yardage this year has come on the ground.

Peet enjoys doing his part on defense as well, noting that many of his teammates play on both sides of the ball.

"Scoring touchdowns is fun," Peet admitted, "but I don't think anything compares to getting a big sack or delivering a big hit. Both sides are fun for me, but I lean a little more defensively."

Above and beyond his productivity on the field is Geneva's success in his four-year tenure. A starter from Day 1 for the team, the Eagles are 36-10 over the past four years with Peet in the lineup — 8-4 in 2022, 10-2 in both 2023 and 2024 and 8-2 heading into this week's playoff game against Alliance.

Included in that run is four straight appearances in the Division III, Region 9 playoffs and three consecutive CVC Lake Division championship, all of which mean more to Peet than the

statistics he's put up and the records he's broken.

"Team success is everything to me," Peet said. "I don't get personal accolades without the team. We go out and play for one another every week. The goal is to win as a team."

Down the road, Peet hopes to play college football. He said he has visits at Baldwin-Wallace and Mount Union coming up.

When he does take off the shoulder pads for the final time as a Geneva Eagle, he will do so as the standard for Geneva football. It's a surreal realization for him. After all, it wasn't that long ago he was sitting in the stands at SPIRE looking up to his heroes hoping just to be a good teammate and person.

Now he's the guy others in his town are looking up to and hoping to break his records someday, which is just fine with him.

"They say records are meant to be broken," he said. "The thrill is breaking the records, not keeping them. I hope there are underclassmen who look up to me and want to break my records because ultimately that leads to team success. I want those guys to set the goal of breaking my records because that's what's best for the Geneva players and program."



Great Stuff Warehouse

Our family is here to save your family money on "a little bit of everything"

25-50% Off

Big Retail Everyday!

 Follow us on Facebook for new inventory & promos!



GREAT STUFF WAREHOUSE

Great Lakes Mall Mentor
(440) 290-7003

Located in the heart of the Great Lakes Mall
- near the foodcourt

Tony Fisher Award watch list

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

The Tony Fisher Award goes to The News-Herald's football player of the year. It is named after the former Ohio Mr. Football recipient from Euclid, who went on to star at Notre Dame and play in the NFL. The Tony Fisher Award Watch List can and will change on a weekly basis.

SHAHN ALSTON, SR., HARVEY » Carried 13 times for 261 yards and caught two passes for 36 yards in the Red Raiders' 60-22 win over Lutheran West. He ended the season with 1,548 rushing yards, caught 40 passes for 489 yards and scored 34 touchdowns with a pair of two-point conversions.

DRAYTON ALLGOOD, SR., CHARDON » Carried 14 times for 220 yards and four touchdowns in the Hilltoppers' 34-13 win over Kenston. For the season, he has carried 164 times for 1,323 yards and 14 touchdowns, thrown for 70 yards and caught 17 passes for 144 yards.

MILES BAKER, SR., WEST GEauga » Ran for 99 yards and two touchdowns in the Wolverines win over Orange. For the season, he has run for 1,651 yards and 16 touchdowns.

PEYTON BIRMAN, SR., MADISON » Carried 15 times for 133 yards and three touchdowns in the Blue Streaks' 43-7 win over Conneaut. For the season, he has carried 147 times for 1,030 yards,



TIM PHILLIS — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Harvey senior running back Shahn Alston rushed for 1,548 yards and scored 34 touchdowns this season.

caught 24 passes for 279 yards and scored 15 touchdowns.

JACKSON FARLEY, SR., MENTOR » Kent State commit did not play in the Cardinals' 31-0 win over Euclid. For the season he has carried 138 times for 1,465 yards, caught seven passes for 81 yards and scored 25 touchdowns and a two-point conversion.

JAYDEN HARDY, JR., SOUTH » Carried 22 times for 152 yards and a touchdown in the Rebels' 43-20 loss to Riverside. For the season, he has carried 216 times for 1,296 yards and scored 20 touchdowns with one two-point conversion.

ALEX HARRIS, SR., NORTH » Carried 34 times for 147 yards in the Rangers' 19-14 win over Mayfield. For the

season he has carried 208 times for 1,155 yards.

JUSTEN HODGE, JR., MENTOR » Miami (Ohio) commit caught three passes for 49 yards and a touchdown in the Cardinals' 31-0 win over Euclid. For the season, he has caught 41 passes for 815 yards and scored 11 touchdowns.

BROGAN JONES, JR., MENTOR » Completed 13 of 22 passes

for 192 yards and a touchdown in the Cardinals' 31-0 win over Euclid. For the season, he has completed 102 of 153 passes for 1,659 yards and 15 touchdowns and five interceptions.

BRADY LAWSON, SR., FAIRPORT » Completed 9 of 17 passes for 256 yards and four touchdowns in the Skippers' win over Windham. For the season, he has thrown for 1,997 yards and 31 touchdowns.

MARTY LONCAR, SR., LAKE CATHOLIC » He had nine tackles and two pass break-ups in the Cougars' 21-14 win over NDCL. For the season he has 135 tackles, 12 TFLS and six sacks.

CHARLIE MALLET, JR., HAWKEN » Caught nine passes for 54 yards in the Hawks' 55-10 loss to Perry. For the season, he has caught 105 passes for 1,161 yards and 17 touchdowns with one two-point conversion.

KYNDALL MCCAULEB, SR., RIVERSIDE » Harvard commit Carried 22 times for 258 yards and four touchdowns in the Beavers' 43-20 win over South. For the season, he has run 189 times for 1,555 yards and 23 touchdowns.

TJMOORE, SR., VASJ » Carried 18 times for 123 yards and two touchdowns in the Vikings' win over Delaware Hayes. For the season, he has carried 116 times for 927 yards and 15 touchdowns.

DONOVAN MOORHEAD, SR., HAWKEN » Jacksonville

State commit completed 20 of 43 passes for 175 yards and a touchdown in the Hawks' 55-10 loss to Perry. For the season, he has completed 272 of 390 passes for 3,005 yards, 37 touchdowns and two interceptions.

KENE OBI, SR., HAWKEN » He carried nine times for 68 yards and caught three passes for 71 yards and a touchdown in the Hawks' 55-10 loss to Perry. For the season, he has carried 129 times for 771 yards, caught 50 passes for 591 yards and scored 15 touchdowns.

BYRCE PEET, SR., GENEVA » Carried 14 times for 202 yards and a touchdown in the Eagles' 56-0 win over Jefferson. For the season, he has carried 154 times for 1,791 yards and 19 touchdowns.

WILL RANDALL, SR., MADISON » Completed 7 of 10 passes for 179 yards and three touchdowns in the Blue Streaks' 43-7 win over Conneaut. For the season, he has completed 109 of 187 passes for 1,702 yards and 18 touchdowns.

BRAY SANDSTROM, SR., NORTH » Carried 19 times for 145 yards and two touchdowns in the Rangers' 19-14 win over Mayfield. For the season, he has run 148 times for 1,216 yards.

JOHN SILVESTRO, SR., KIRTLAND » Carried 10 times for 170 yards and two touchdowns and a 60-yard touchdown catch vs. Rootstown. For the season, he has carried 147 times for 1,441 yards with 17 TDs.



OUTBACK AUTO WASH

JOIN OUR WASH CLUB TODAY!

OUR LOCATIONS

2116 EAST PROSPECT ROAD, ASHTABULA, OH

525 MAIN STREET, GENEVA, OH

1547 MENTOR AVENUE, PAINESVILLE, OH

1 MONTHLY PAYMENT • TOUCH-FREE • 24/7 USAGE

FAMILY PLANS AVAILABLE • LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED



High school football statistics

PASSING YARDS

Name, school	Yds
Donovan Moorhead, Hawken	3,005
Brady Lawson, Fairport	1,997
Markese Wise, Harvey	1,977
Jordan Lewis, Richmond	1,726
Will Randall, Madison	1,702
Brogan Jones, Mentor	1,659
Luke Jensen, South	1,444
Nate Trefzger, Perry	1,349
Sam Barcikoski, Berkshire	1,346
Brady Capel, NDCL	1,321
Dario D'Agostino, Mayfield	1,309
Joe Efford, VASJ	1,291
Bo Brandehoff, Riverside	1,183
Jay Gilchrist, Brush	1,164
Giovanni Iacampo, Benedictine	1,157
Finn Keenan, West G	782
Jack Bryner, Kenston	745
Adam Barr, Kenston	714
N. Morelli, University	642
Carson Panteck, University	635
Sean Pitrone, Gilmour	611
Max Frankel, Chagrin	598
McKoy Richards, Perry	556
Andrew Cole, Chardon	507
Mario Lorber, Kirtland	463
Jake LaVerde, Kirtland	435
Jacob Kay, Chagrin	419
Dominic Porcello, Wickliffe	369
Passing touchdowns	
Name, school	TDs
Donovan Moorhead, Hawken	37
Brady Lawson, Fairport	31
Brady Capel, NDCL	18
Will Randall, Madison	18
Nate Trefzger, Perry	16
Sam Barcikoski, Berkshire	15
Brogan Jones, Mentor	15
Jordan Lewis, Richmond	15
Joe Efford, VASJ	15
Dario D'Agostino, Mayfield	15
Markese Wise, Harvey	14
Giovanni Iacampo, Benedictine	13
Luke Jensen, South	13
Bo Brandehoff, Riverside	10
Jay Gilchrist, Brush	9
Finn Keenan, West G	9
Mario Lorber, Kirtland	8
Adam Barr, Kenston	8
McKoy Richards, Perry	7
Jack Bryner, Kenston	7
Sean Pitrone, Gilmour	6
Jacob Kay, Chagrin	4
N. Morelli, University	4
Carson Panteck, University	4
Max Frankel, Chagrin	3
Jake LaVerde, Kirtland	3
Andrew Cole, Chardon	3
Dominic Porcello, Wickliffe	3

RUSHING YARDS

Name, school	Att	Yds
Bryce Peet, Geneva	154	1,791
Miles Baker, West G	188	1,651
Kyndall McCaleb, Riverside	189	1,555
Shahn Alston, Harvey	172	1,548



PAUL DICICCO — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Perry defeated Hawken for the outright CVC Chagrin championship Oct. 24. Both teams are headed to the playoffs, with the Hawks in Division III and the Pirates in D-IV.

Jackson Farley, Mentor	138	1,465	Owen Davis, Geneva	56	536
John Silvestro, Kirtland	147	1,441	Dominic Dunlevy, Gilmour	101	517
Drayton Allgood, Chardon	164	1,323	Dylan Hoenigman, NDCL	96	514
Aaron Kim, University	264	1,316	Sam Barcikoski, Berkshire	88	514
Jayden Hardy, South	216	1,296	Sean Pitrone, Gilmour	80	510
Bray Sandstrom, North	148	1,190	Drew Platz, Chardon	99	508
Alex Harris, North	208	1,160	Chris Burt, Harvey	56	483
Caden Proy, Geneva	104	1,070	Raymier Kirby, VASJ	57	474
Peyton Birman, Madison	147	1,030	Brody Petruccelli, Perry	NR	463
Elijah Fitch, Wickliffe	144	938	Chase McKee, Richmond	66	451
T.J. Moore, VASJ	116	927	Corde Blair, Benedictine	85	439
Will Hamm, Kenston	142	831	Jacob Kay, Chagrin	60	408
Kene Obi, Hawken	130	771	Ethan Burge, Kenston	84	401
Will Hamm, Kenston	159	751	Oliver Miller, Berkshire	78	397
Kayden Forte, Benedictine	139	736	James Poe, Madison	72	396
Ben Koret, Mayfield	132	710	Bo Brandehoff, Riverside	96	387
Nathan Lennon, Gilmour	94	671	Jay Gilchrist, Brush	104	382
Andrew Cole, Chardon	106	626	Max Pisano, Lake Catholic	83	380
Ty Bledsoe, Kirtland	106	614	Dominic Porcello, Wickliffe	54	361
Jake LaVerde, Kirtland	63	614	C.J. Santagata, Gilmour	60	341
A. Castellano, Fairport	87	599	Frankie Bucar, Wickliffe	52	337
Dominic Burns, Mentor	65	596	Ma'Kye Smith-McCord, RH	41	330
Aiden O'Neal, Brush	86	583	N. Morelli, University	63	330
Ricky DiPetta, Geneva	60	571	Brody Colello, Mayfield	60	320
Brady Capel, NDCL	83	559	Jordan Lewis, Richmond	54	300

RECEPTIONS

Name, school	Rec	Yds
Charlie Mallett, Hawken	104	1,161
Yomar Castellano, Fairport	52	888
Kene Obi, Hawken	50	591
Tommy Wright, Hawken	50	486
Pat Clark, Madison	44	745
Justen Hodge, Mentor	41	815
Shahn Alston, Harvey	40	489
Brady DeVito, Chagrin	38	481
Khyell Moreland, Rich. Hts.	36	753
Jayden Haynes, Mayfield	35	540
J.D. Segal, Mayfield	34	424
Casey McInerney, NDCL	33	388
Chris Burt, Harvey	33	629
Oliver Miller, Berkshire	32	344
Josh Jensen, South	29	501
Gary Russell III, Richmond	28	366
Max George, Kenston	28	430
Mitch Greenberg, Hawken	27	250
Will Hamm, Kenston	27	231
Savion Lewis, VASJ	27	645
Brady Kaas, Chagrin	26	231
Armani Hall, Harvey	26	551

Luke Stute, Berkshire	26	249	Finn Keenan, West G	13	0	78
Jonathan Spikes, Bened.	25	340	Ty Bledsoe, Kirtland	12	0	72
Kevin Oster, Hawken	25	323	Savion Lewis, VASJ	12	0	72
Colin Milbourn, University	25	311	Oliver Miller, Berkshire	11	1	68
Marquez Lashley, South	24	416	Chris Burt, Harvey	11	2	66
Ryan Caimi, Kirtland	24	433	Sam Barcikoski, Berkshire	10	3	66
Logan Berwald, Mentor	24	441	Justen Hodge, Mentor	11	0	66
Peyton Birman, Madison	24	279	Elijah Fitch, Wickliffe	11	0	66
Pete Malchesky, Lake	23	313	Tommy Wright, Hawken	10	0	62
Cam Beam, Berkshire	23	353	Carter Hopkins, Perry	10	0	60
Trumar Salette, Brush	23	480	Jay Gilchrist, Brush	10	0	60
Tylar Robinson, University	23	257	Nathan Lennon, Gilmour	10	0	60
Greg Mechenbier, Perry	22	493	Danny Zmorowski, Lake	9	1	56
Ethan Black, Kenston	22	206	Khyell Moreland, Richmond	8	4	54
Jan Castellano, Fairport	21	305	Jayden Haynes, Mayfield	9	0	54
Ethan Baker, Riverside	20	231	Pat Clark, Madison	9	0	54
Cameron Ryan, University	20	289	Pete Malchesky, Lake	8	1	50
Bryce Rucker, Brush	19	196	Owen Davis, Geneva	8	1	50
Aaron Kim, University	19	179	Brody Petruccelli, Perry	8	0	48
C.J. Santagata, Gilmour	19	153	Josh Jensen, South	8	0	48
David Seibert, Riverside	18	332	Jake LaVerde, Kirtland	8	0	48
Khalil Hinton, Kenston	18	423	Dominic Burns, Mentor	8	0	48
Drayton Allgood, Chardon	17	147	Aiden O'Neal, Brush	8	0	48
Tyler Fink, West G	17	310	Khalil Hinton, Kenston	8	0	48
Caleb Panteck, University	17	133	Alex Harris, North	7	2	46
Ralph Ivy, Richmond	16	270	C.J. Santagata, Gilmour	7	1	44
Rob Bonchak, NDCL	15	277	Dylan Hoenigman, NDCL	7	0	42
Dominic Paros, West G	15	282	Kayden Forte, Benedictine	7	0	42
Traxton Richards, Perry	14	210	A. Castellano, Fairport	7	0	42
Michael Valentino, Lake	14	111	Jan Castellano, Fairport	4	4	42
Justin Costello, Perry	13	176	Raymier Kirby, VASJ	7	0	42
Jimmy Ashburn, Perry	13	122	Dominic Porcello, Wickliffe	7	0	42
Guy Domnick, Lake	13	273	Ricky DiPetta, Geneva	7	0	42
Jonah Janosy, NDCL	13	152	Greg Mechenbier, Perry	6	0	36
Jayden Hardy, South	13	156	Max Pisano, Lake Catholic	6	0	36
Christian Santone, South	13	186	Brady Capel, NDCL	6	0	36
Spencer Short, Riverside	13	197	DJ Dambolena, Fairport	6	0	36
Trevor Bilant, Gilmour	13	204	Andrew Cole, Chardon	6	0	36
Chase Sison, Perry	12	290	Will Hamm, Kenston	6	0	36
Blake Dumermuth, NDCL	12	170	Chase White, Madison	6	0	36
Ardell Chatmon, VASJ	12	187	Dominic Dunlevy, Gilmour	6	0	36
D'Angelo White, VASJ	12	182	Brandon Gibson Jr., Fairport	5	2	34
Frankie Bucar, Wickliffe	12	124	Jack Gellin, Chagrin	5	1	32
Trent Taylor, Perry	11	178	Chase Sison, Perry	5	0	30
Carmen Cirino, NDCL	11	155	Casey McInerney, NDCL	5	0	30
Brandon Gibson Jr, Fairport	11	304	Earl Jackson, Benedictine	5	0	30
B. Wadsworth, Berkshire	11	124	Ryan Caimi, Kirtland	5	0	30
Brady Trivisonno, Mentor	11	121	Cam Beam, Berkshire	5	0	30
Jalen Adams, Richmond	11	118	Braylon Callahan, Mentor	5	0	30
			Logan Berwald, Mentor	5	0	30
			Bo Brandehoff, Riverside	5	0	30
			Max George, Kenston	5	0	30
			Dominic Paros, West G	5	0	30
			Ben Koret, Mayfield	5	0	30
			J.D. Segal, Mayfield	4	1	30
			Markese Wise, Wickliffe	5	0	30
			Marquez Lashley, South	4	2	28
			Trammel Reese, Benedictine	4	1	26
			Traxton Richards, Perry	4	0	24
			Trent Taylor, Perry	4	0	24
			Nate Trefzger, Perry	4	0	24
			Brady DeVito, Chagrin	4	0	24
			Jonah Janosy, NDCL	4	0	24
			Chase McKee, Richmond	4	0	24
			David Seibert, Riverside	4	0	24
			Drew Platz, Chardon	4	0	24
			Frankie Bucar, Wickliffe	4	0	24
			Josh Fenick, North	4	0	24

SCORING

Name, school	TDs	Cv	Pts
Shahn Alston, Harvey	34	2	208
John Silvestro, Kirtland	24	2	154
Caden Proy, Geneva	25	1	152
Jackson Farley, Mentor	24	0	144
Kyndall McCaleb, Riverside	19	0	144
Jayden Hardy, South	20	1	122
Yomar Castellano, Fairport	18	5	118
Bryce Peet, Geneva	19	0	114
Aaron Kim, University	18	0	108
Charlie Mallett, Hawken	16	1	98
Miles Baker, West G	16	0	96
Bray Sandstrom, North	15	1	92
Kene Obi, Hawken	15	0	90
T.J. Moore, VASJ	15	0	90
Peyton Birman, Madison	15	0	90
Drayton Allgood, chardon	14	0	84

**BUYING OR
SELLING A HOME?**

SNOWBIRDS!

Looking for a Winter Getaway.
Call now to Book with Discount or for
more information call 440-983-1071
Only Resort in Venice, Fl.
That allows 3 Day Minimum!
Call Liz directly to reserve Unit 215
and receive a Discount!



Elizabeth Sill
Broker/Owner
440-983-1071



**Good Luck
to all the
Football Teams
in the Playoffs!**

**Call today for all your Real Estate needs.
Buying, Selling, Rental or Investments.**



Jana Burke
Agent
440-813-6791



John Sill
Agent
440-983-7739

Like us on Facebook

www.innovationsforhomes.com
Office: 440-428-8803 • 440-576-4663

High school football statistics

KICKING

Name, school	XP	FG	Pts
Drew Rossman, Wickliffe	51	5	66
Ryan Cvitkovic, NDCL	41	7	62
Marko Valentic, Kirtland	45	5	60
Zach McKinney, Geneva	56	1	59
Colton Crissinger, Perry	45	2	51
Grady Kucharson, Kenston	29	7	50
Leo D'Astolfo, Riverside	37	4	49
Joey Skoczen, Hawken	44	4	49
Gavyn Fredriks, Lake	28	4	40
Danny Kristo, Mentor	31	3	40
Yahir Rangel, North	22	5	37
Nate Majors, Benedictine	26	3	35
Roman Percic, Berkshire	26	2	32
Adison Cook, West G	32	0	32
Jordan Higham, Chardon	25	2	31
Jacob Brown, Mentor	24	2	30
Dominic Gephart, Madison	24	2	30
Evan Saline, Gilmour	24	2	30
Aman Abdmalikov, Fairport	27	0	27
Nick Barrus, South	20	1	23
Giselle Moreno, Harvey	23	0	23
Harrison Horvath, Chagrin	13	2	18
S. Siegler, University	18	0	18
Aiden Sanelli, Mayfield	9	1	12
Micah Linn, Mayfield	9	1	12
Xavier Lasecki, Kirtland	8	1	11

INTERCEPTIONS

Name, school	INT
Jordan Lewis, Richmond	10
Trent Taylor, Perry	8
Carter Crofoot, Perry	5
Connor D'Astolfo, Perry	4
Ryan Caimi, Kirtland	4
Yomar Castellano, Fairport	4
Markese Wise, Harvey	4
Drew Morgan, Mentor	4
Caden Proy, Geneva	4
Michal Niedzwiecki, Perry	3
Brody Krantz, Perry	3
Pete Malchesky, Lake Catholic	3
Carmen Cirino, NDCL	3
Blake Dumermuth, NDCL	3
Abraham Castellano, Fairport	3
Charlie Mallett, Hawken	3
Elijah John, Wickliffe	3
Markese Roberts, Wickliffe	3
Jimmy Feaster, Wickliffe	3
Ricky DiPetta, Geneva	3
Tyler Alley, Madison	3
Braydon Sandstrom, North	3
Tyler Hribar, Lake Catholic	2
Kellen Donnelly, Benedictine	2
Josh Jensen, South	2
Ethan Christopher, South	2
Evan Koprowski, Kirtland	2
Jan Castellano, Fairport	2
Shane Greenwood, Fairport	2
Jeremiah Rowdy, Harvey	2
Oliver Miller, Berkshire	2
Dasen Marker, Berkshire	2
Xayvion Dunn, Mentor	2
Collin Borris, Riverside	2
Drew Platz, Chardon	2
Rocco Tarantino, Chardon	2



BARRY BOOHER — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Chardon and Kenston will be representing the Western Reserve Conference and Geauga County in the playoffs.

Colin Weiland, Kenston	2
Jack Soeder, Gilmour	2
Sebastian Cook, Gilmour	2
Trumar Salette, Brush	2

SACKS

Name, school	Sacks
Brendan Hernan, NDCL	11
Luciano Traczyk, Mayfield	9
Mikey Barnes, Lake Catholic	7
Munir Lewis, Brush	7
Marty Loncar, Lake Catholic	6
Zach Povejsil, Lake Catholic	6
Inithalee Bohannon, Brush	6
Mike Dennis, Brush	6
Michal Niedzwiecki, Perry	5

Ethan Black, Kenston	5
Ty Bledsoe, Kirtland	5
Chase Cinco, Geneva	5
Antonio Lee, Brush	4.5

TACKLES FOR LOSS

Name, school	TFLs
Luciano Traczyk, Mayfield	21
D.J. Dambolena, Fairport	19
Jayden Buth, Chardon	19
Chase Gron, Kirtland	19
Micah Linn, Mayfield	18
Munir Lewis, Brush	15.5
Drew Platz, Chardon	14.5
Brendan Hernan, NDCL	14
Spencer Short, Riverside	14

Alex Calogor, Riverside	14
Mike Dennis, Brush	14
Ethan Black, Kenston	13
Nate Fultz, Berkshire	12.5
Matthew McLroy, Chardon	12.5
Marty Loncar, Lake Catholic	12
Danny Tiller, Berkshire	12
Alnico Murry, Brush	12
Mikey Barnes, Lake Catholic	11
Sean O'Connell, Benedictine	11
Jan Castellano, Fairport	11
Cale Milliman, Fairport	11
Carson Wolk, Mentor	11
Jeremiah Rowdy, Harvy	10
Jon Harris, Mayfield	10
Ty Bledsoe, Kirtland	10
Tim Lennon, Gilmour	10

Cole Kramer, Chagrin	9
Cane Balash, South	9
Cole Kalish, Riverside	9
Brendan Healy, Hawken	9
Kene Obi, Hawken	9
Niko Kouvaris, Chardon	9
Jake Rostocil, Kenston	9
Nathan Goodnow, Gilmour	9
Zach Povejsil, Lake Catholic	8
Nick Tallion, Lake Catholic	8
Abraham Castellano, Fairport	8
Miles Hamilton, Hawken	8
Jake Clemens, Geneva	8
Chase Cinco, Geneva	8
Antonio Lee, Brush	7.5
Elijah Harless, Fairport	7
Trey Vaughn, Fairport	7
Finn McClennan, University	7
Logan Mitchell, Mentor	7
Austin Kalb, Riverside	7
Ayden Doytek, Riverside	7
Case Reutter, Riverside	7
Colin Weiland, Kenston	7
Brady Moran, Lake Catholic	6
Tyler Hribar, Lake Catholic	6
Vance Marut, NDCL	6
Tyrell O'Neal, Benedictine	6
Kenny Hamilton, Mentor	6
Tucker Meeks, Kenston	6
Dominic Silla, Kenston	6
Finn McClennan, University	6
Dominic Palmisano, Geneva	6
Inthalee Bohannon, Brush	6
Dasen Marker, Berkshire	5.5
Deven Smith, Lake Catholic	5
Jake McClintock, Chagrin	5
Yomar Castello, Fairport	5
Jayden Morgan, Fairport	5
Ayden Wiser, Berkshire	5
Ben Schenk, Mentor	5
Adam Pakeltis, Riverside	5
Bret Percic, Riverside	5
Leroy Scales, Hawken	5
Ricky DiPetta, Geneva	5
Dominic Dunlevy, Gilmour	5

TEAM STATISTICS

Team	Off	Def	Diff
Kirtland	4,217,426	2,791	
Mentor	4,475,254	2,221	
Fairport	3,241,458	1,783	
Geneva	4,233,459	1,774	
West Geauga	3,832,293	1,545	
Hawken	3,973,802	1,171	
Chardon	3,460,433	1,027	
Wickliffe	2,909,929	980	
Lake Catholic	2,678,799	880	
Benedictine	2,763,983	780	
Madison	3,416,880	536	
Riverside	3,514,981	533	
University	3,147,667	480	
Berkshire	3,157,679	478	
Brush	2,699,369	360	
Mayfield	2,677,652	25	
South	3,150,192	-42	
Gilmour	2,864,024	-160	
Kenston	3,077,716	-639	
Chagrin Falls	2,149,366	-1,21	

Walker Floors & Window Fashions

SCORE A BIG SALE!

Good Luck to all Teams in the Playoffs!

COUPON

\$100 OFF

ANY PURCHASE OF \$1,000 OR MORE

Walker Floors & Window Fashions

With this coupon. Not valid with other offers. Offer exp. 12/31/25

Large Selection of USA Made Products!

0% INTEREST* 1 YEAR

All Mohawk Products On Sale Now!

Walker Floors & Window Fashions

3325 N. Ridge Road, Perry • 440-259-1086 • www.walkerfloors.com

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

CASTELLANO BROTHERS FUEL FAIRPORT'S HISTORIC RUN

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

So many athletically successful journeys begin in the back yard.

Over at Fairport, the Castellano boys are no different.

“Oh yeah, we used to play a lot of two-on-two football,” senior Jan Castellano said. “It was really aggressive. It was never hand-touch or anything like that. It was tackle. Hard tackling. Someone would end up crying, we’d go inside and before you knew it, we were back outside playing. We were little, but it was tough stuff.”

A number of years have passed since the Castellano boys — Kevin, Jan, Yomar and Abraham — butted heads and bloodied each other while sharpening their skills as hard-nosed, elusive and improvisational players in their back yard.

Kevin has since graduated, but the other three — Jan, Yomar and Abraham — will lead the charge when the Skippers (undefeated for the first time in program history) play a yet-to-be-determined opponent on Nov. 7 at Riverside Stadium.

“Ever since I was a kid, my routine was wake up, go outside and play something,” sophomore Abraham said. “We used to all kinds of things — baseball, basketball, football. We loved it. That’s what we did. We were tough on each other, but that’s what has made us what we are today.”

What the Castellano boys are is a talented trio of brothers who, while undersized, make life miserable for the opposition, prompting Fairport coach John Nagle to surmise, “I’d pull my hair out if I had to try to find a way to defend those three guys.

Heading into postseason play, and mind you, Fairport only played nine games this year after Cardinal forfeited its Week 6 date with the loaded Skippers:

■ Jan, a senior, has run for 59

yards, caught 21 passes for 305 yards, scored four touchdowns and four two-point conversions. Defensively, he has 11 tackles for loss, two interceptions and two sacks from his safety position.

■ Yomar, a junior, leads the team in receiving with 52 catches for 888 yards, 18 touchdowns and five two-point conversions. He has also run for 227 yards, intercepted four passes and notched five TFLs.

■ Abraham, a sophomore, leads the team with 599 rushing yards, has 112 yards receiving, has scored seven touchdowns and is also a threat on defense with eight TFLs, three picks and two sacks.

They do it all while not being huge in stature. Jan and Yomar both check in at 5-foot-6, 150 pounds, while Abraham is 5-8, 160.

“I’m sure a lot of people look at them and are like, ‘Oh, what’s this small guy going to do to us?’” Nagle said “But how hard they play and their passion gives them a leg up on everyone we face.”

With the Castellano brothers playing major roles, the Skippers are not only undefeated, they’re also ranked in the top 10 of the statewide Associated Press poll and have earned the respect of every school — small or big — in the area for their success.

Oddly enough, the Castellano boys at first shed tears when their parents told them at a young age they’d be moving from Painesville to Fairport.

“When we moved to Fairport, we were all crying,” Jan said. “We didn’t want to leave our friends. But once we got here, we started liking it. We met new friends here and began to love the school.”

Once in high school, the chemistry the boys had formed in their back yard began to show at their new school, both in football and in basketball, another sport in which the Castellano boys thrive. On the gridiron, the chemistry with quarterback Brady Lawson took off. Lawson has thrown for



JOHN KAMPF — THE NEWS-HERALD

The Castellano brothers will proudly lead the undefeated Fairport Skippers into the Division VII playoffs. From left are Yomar, Jan and Abraham Castellano.

1,997 yards and 31 touchdowns this year, with the Castellanos doing a lot of the damage.

“I think how we play kind of brings a little bit of backyard play into it,” Yomar said. “We just play, you know, free.”

Nagle likes the style of play the Castellano brothers bring to the table. The ability to improvise and adapt makes them tougher to defend because, well, they’ve done it their entire lives in their backyard.

“That’s probably part of what’s missing from football in general,” he said. “Back in the day, that’s what everybody did. They got together and played in the back

yard with their buddies. You learn not just chemistry, but you learn your body, how to move... it helps a lot.”

When the Skippers line up on offense, Abraham lines up next to Lawson in the backfield. Yomar and Jan are in the slots. Other playmakers, like senior D.J. Damolena, are out there, as well as an undersized-but-gritty line.

“It’s hard to defend,” Abraham said. “We complete a few passes and you see everybody on defense back up. That’s when I know I’m gonna run the ball.”

Defensively, the Skippers are the same — small and mighty. But if anything can be learned

about the trio of brothers (and the Skippers in general) size doesn’t matter.

“Like we say, ‘Empty the tank,’” Jan said of the team’s method of giving every last bit of effort. “We have to empty it because we have a lot of guys playing both ways. So we have to stay in shape and be in condition, always.”

It all shows on Friday nights at Greig Field where the Skippers have captivated their hometown. The stands are full and people line chain-link fence surrounding the historic, if not rustic, stadium to cheer on their hometown heroes.

“When you look up and see all the fans and know they’ve got our backs, it’s like the whole community is behind us,” Jan said. “I think that gives us a lot of confidence, a lot of energy. We’re like, ‘Yes! Let’s do this for our community.’”

Yomar took it from there. “It’s amazing because we’re changing a culture here,” he said. “We weren’t good in past years, but we’re changing that here. It’s amazing to do it. Even better to do it with my brothers.”

However this year’s ride ends, it’s eventually going to. Jan will move on after graduation, leaving just Yomar and Abraham

next year. That being said, the Castellano boys know this play-off run is the final time all three of them will play football together.

It’s been a heck of a journey, one that started in their back yard a number of years ago.

“It’s really been a great ride with my brothers,” said Jan with a tinge of sentimentality. “Being able to play with my older brother before and then with Abraham and Yomar now, this means everything to me.”

He then bowed his head, with one last thought in a softer tone. “Yeah, I’m going to miss this a ton.”



JOHN KAMPF — THE NEWS-HERALD

The Castellano brothers have helped lift the Fairport to a 9-0 record, state-ranking and a first-round by in the Division VII playoffs. In the front is Abraham, with Yomar on the left and Jan on the right.

High school football » Playoff capsules

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

(2) MENTOR VS. TBA

Where: Jerome T. Osborne Stadium

Record: Mentor 10-0

Last week: Mentor def. Euclid, 31-0

On deck: Will play the winner of (7) Massillon Jackson and (10) Brunswick

For the record: The Cardinals enter postseason play 10-0 for the second straight year and because of it get a first-round bye. Mentor rested two of its key players — offensive tackle Landry Brede and running back Jackson Farley in the win over Euclid, so they and the team should be well-rested. Farley has run for 1,465 yards and scored 25 touchdowns. Junior quarterback Brogan Jones has thrown for 1,467 yards and 14 touchdowns, with receiver Justen Hodge (38 catches, 766 yards) his top target. The offense has been a bludgeoning force all season long, with six college commits (five FBS) highlighting that side of the ball. The biggest improvement this year has been the defense. Linebackers Carson Wolk and Ben Schenk lead a defense that has allowed only 34 points over the past six weeks, with six shutouts. The goal is getting to the state final four. The journey starts here.

(12) SOUTH AT (5) HUDSON

Where: Hudson Memorial Stadium, 2500 Hudson



PAUL DICICCO — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

South is lined up for a first-round playoff game against Hudson on Oct. 31.

Aurora Road, Hudson

Records: South 5-5, Hudson 8-2

Last week: Riverside def. South, 43-20, Hudson def. North Royalton, 37-0

On deck: Winner will play (4) Uniontown Lake in a Nov.

7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: South is in postseason play for the sixth time in the last seven years despite losing its final two regular-season games of the season. Granted, those two losses are to

WRC powerhouses Riverside and Chardon. Jayden Hardy ran for 152 yards and a touchdown in the loss to Riverside. He is well over 1,000 yards rushing this season. QB Luke Jensen threw for 140 yards and a

score, with his brother Josh catching 118 of those yards. Defensively, South was gouged by the run in the losses to Chardon and Riverside. The Rebels will look to shore that up this week. Hudson's only losses are to

undefeated Medina Highland and Wadsworth. They gave Fitch its only loss. Hayden Lipinski has thrown for 1,371 yards and 16 touchdowns, with Reno Feri's 713 rushing yards leading the ground game.

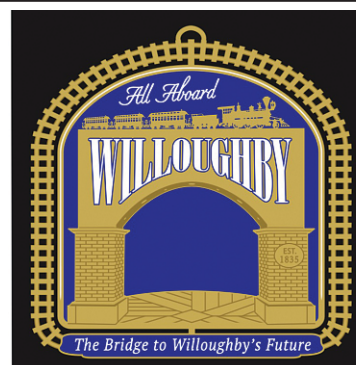


WILLOUGHBY LIONS CLUB

e-clubhouse.org/sites/willoughby/



Historical Medallion featuring the Entrance Sign by the Chagrin River and Rt. 20. Perfect for your Christmas Tree or Any Occasion!



\$20⁰⁰ each

Call to order yours now!

440-223-6138

Proceeds go toward projects in the City of Willoughby.

Limited Edition, Authorized by the Rod Serling Family.

High school football » Playoff capsules

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

(9) BOARDMAN AT (8) RIVERSIDE

Where: Riverside Stadium

Records: Riverside 7-3, Boardman 5-5

Last week: Riverside def. South, 43-20, Austintown-Fitch def. Boardman, 31-14

On deck: Winner will play (1) Akron Hoban in a Nov. 7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: Riverside has bounced back nicely after losing a 32-31 game to Kenston in Week 8. Boardman comes in on a hot streak, winning three of its last four, including a 22-21 overtime win over Canfield in Week 10, giving the Cardinals their only loss of the season. ... In the Beavers' Week 10 win over South, Harvard commit Kyndall McCaleb ran for 258 yards and four touchdowns. That gives him 475 yards and six touchdowns over the past two weeks. QB Bo Brandehoff threw for 126 yards and two scores. He's also the team's second-leading rusher. Riverside's offense is a run-first concept that frees up passing lanes. The aggressive Riverside defense is spearheaded by Alex Calogar and Spencer Short, each of whom have double-digit TFLs. ... Boardman's gutsy call to go for two in overtime gave the Spartans a big boost to get a higher seed



BARRY BOOHER — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Riverside will host Boardman in a Division II regional opener on Oct. 31.

in the region. QB Vince Butto threw a touchdown pass at the end of regulation to tie the game, threw

a touchdown pass in overtime and then threw the winning two-point conversion.

(12) MAPLE HEIGHTS AT (5) CHARDON

Where: Memorial Field

Records: Maple Heights 7-3, Chardon 6-4

Last week: Maple Heights def. Gilmour, 52-24, Char-

don def. Kenston, 34-13

On deck: Winner will play (4) VASJ in a Nov. 7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: At 3-3 and again at 4-4, most left Chardon's playoff hopes for dead. But convincing wins over South and Kenston to end the regular season have the Hilltoppers in the postseason dance for the eighth year in a row. As usual, the running game is what Chardon hangs its hat on. Drayton Allgood ran for 260 yards and four touchdowns in the win over Kenston, giving him 1,323 yards for the season. QB Andrew Cole has run for 626 and thrown for 507. Max Hannen (223) and Allgood (147) have gotten most of the receiving yards. Chardon's big turnaround has come on defense and defensive grit. Jayden Buth (19), Drew Platz (14.5) and Matthew McLroy (12.5) are TFL machines. The pass defense can be iffy at times, but has improved greatly over the course of the season. Maple Heights punched its ticket to postseason play by winning four if its final five, the clincher coming in the 52-24 win over Gilmour. ... Maple Heights won three of its final four games to claim the No. 12 slot. The Mustangs have endured a lot of injuries this year. Luke Anzlovar has returned from injury to quarterback the team down the stretch. Mike Banks is a shifty receiver to watch. Defensive end Quenton Rose is a game-changer coming off the edge.

Celebrating Over 50 Years!

Thomas Fence Co.
INCORPORATED

Quality Service for Over 50 Years!

Good Luck in
the Playoffs!

Lake & Geauga Counties • 440-942-8548 | Ashtabula County • 440-998-4747 | Erie, Pennsylvania • 814-835-0707 • www.thomasfence.com

High school football » Playoff capsules

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

(9) MADISON AT (8) KENSTON

Where: Bomber Stadium

Records: Kenston 6-4,
Madison 7-3

Last week: Chardon def.
Kenston, 34-13, Madison
def. Conneaut, 43-7

On deck: Winner will play
(1) Canfield in a Nov. 7
regional quarterfinal

For the record: For years, this was a conference game in the both the Premier Athletic Conference and then the Western Reserve Conference. Now it's for playoff survival. The visiting Blue Streaks come into the game on a high note, having thumped Conneaut last week after a loss to Geneva in Week 9. Their only other losses are to Perry and Holy Name. Peyton Birman ran for 133 yards and three touchdowns in Week 10, with Will Randall throwing for 179 yards and three scores. Pat Clark caught two touchdown passes and has been Randall's top target all year long. ... Kenston had 13 injured players in street clothes last week against Chardon. Injuries have plagued the Bombers all year. Still they've won five of their last seven. What injured players could return this week is unknown. Adam Barr has thrown for 714 yards and eight TDs since the injury to regular starter Jack Bryner. Will Hamm has run for 751 yards and six TDs



BARRY BOOHER — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Kenston opens the Division III playoffs at home against Madison on Oct. 31.

since the injury to Ethan Burge, and Max George (28 catches, 430 yards) has turned into the go-to receiver with Khalil Hinton out.

(4) VASJ VS. TBA

What: Division III, Region 9
quarterfinal

When: 7 p.m., Nov 7

Where: Bedford Bearcat
Stadium

Record: VASJ 8-1

Last week: VASJ had a
first-round bye, defeated
Delaware Hayes, 48-17, in
the regular season finale

On deck: Will play the win-
ner of (12) Maple Heights
and (5) Chardon

For the record: The Vikings
have felt underappreciated
and undersold all season
long. At 8-1 and in postsea-
son play for the sixth season
in a row, this is their chance
to rectify that. Since a 27-
20 loss to Cardinal Mooney
in Week 2, VASJ has won
seven in a row and has aver-

aged 48 points per game
in doing so. They've hung a
running clock on six of those
opponents. T.J. Moore has
run for 804 yards and 13
touchdowns despite sitting
out most second halves in
blowout games. Joe Efford
has thrown for 1,147 yards
and 13 touchdowns. Savion

Lewis (535 yards, 8 TDs
receiving) is one of the most
electric playmakers around,
and 6-foot-5 junior tight end
D'Angelo White is one of
the biggest mismatches a
defense will ever find. VASJ
is built for a long playoff run
and it starts here.

4SEASONS
CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING

440-286-1618

**Good Luck
High School Teams!**

Proud to
Serve Northeast Ohio



- ✓ Roofing
- ✓ Siding
- ✓ Gutters
- ✓ Interior Jobs
- ✓ Windows
- ✓ Doors

4seasonsroofing.net

High school football » Playoff capsules

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

(11) BENEDICTINE AT (6) AKRON EAST

Where: Ellet Community Center Field, 2385 Wedgewood Dr., Akron

Records: Benedictine 8-2, Akron East 8-2

Last week: Benedictine def. Akron SVSM, 24-13, Akron East def. Akron Garfield, 32-12

On deck: Winner will play (3) Hawken in a Nov. 7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: Benedictine's only losses are to Lake Catholic, 6-3, and VASJ, 33-22. A win in either and the Bengals might be hosting a game this week. Instead, they'll have to contend with an athletic Akron East team. The host Dragons went 5-0 in Akron City Series play, getting a 181-yard, three-touchdown performance from Lawrence Cherry Jr. in last week's win over Akron Garfield. Cherry has run for 802 yards this season. Marlin Engram Jr. has thrown for 1,656 yards and 19 touchdowns to lead the offense. ... In a 24-13 win over Akron SVSM, the Bengals got a 201-yard, two-touchdown performance from quarterback Giovanni Iacampo. He has thrown for 1,157 yards and 13 touchdowns this year. The backfield tandem of Kayden Forde and Corde Blaire has combined for just under 1,200 yards this year.



BRIAN FISHER — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Benedictine hopes it has a lot to celebrate when it visits Akron East in a Division III playoff game on Oct. 31.

Jonathan Spikes leads with 25 catches for 340 yards. Defensively, Spikes has 62 stops and Sean O'Connell has 11 TFLs among his 43 tackles.

(10) GENEVA AT (7) ALLIANCE

Where: The Hangar, 400 Glamorgan St., Alliance

Records: Geneva 8-2 Alli-

ance 8-2

Last week: Geneva def. Jefferson, 56-0, Alliance def. Marlinton, 41-6

On deck: Winner will face the winner of (2) CVCA in a Nov. 7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: One of these teams likes to fly high (Alliance) with the other preferring ground transportation (Geneva). It'll be

an interesting showdown between Alliance quarterback J.R. Jackson (2,327 yards, 24 touchdowns) and Geneva's running game that has well-surpassed 3,000 yards this season. The visiting Eagles are led by record-breaking running back Bryce Peet, who has 1,791 yards this season. He also has 56 career touchdowns. Caden

Proy has run for more than 1,000 yards as well to go with 20-plus touchdowns. Ricky DiPetta and Owen Davis add more punch in the running game. Geneva doesn't pass much, but hasn't had to. They've won five in a row since losses to Hawken and Perry. ... The Aviators' only losses are to 6-4 Louisville and 9-1 West

Branch. To be sure, Jackson can fling it. But he has also run for 672. Combine that with Rahvan Hawkins' 1,003 yards and Alliance can do a lot of damage with its offense. Geneva can help its cause by grinding out yards on offense and keeping Alliance's offense on the sideline.



BOOK YOUR RIDE!

GET TO THE GAME!

LAKETRAN SPORTS EXPRESS

Mentor Park-n-Ride  Downtown Cleveland



NOW SERVING SELECT BROWNS & CAVS GAMES



**Special
Transportation
Service**

DEPARTURE
2 hours prior to kickoff

PRICE
\$15 round trip

High school football » Playoff capsules

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

(3) HAWKEN VS. TBA

Where: Cliff Walton Stadium

Record: Hawken 8-2

Last week: Hawken had a bye in the first round, lost to Perry, 55-10, in the regular season finale

On deck: Will play the winner of (11) Benedictine and (6) Akron East

For the record: The high-scoring Hawks were grounded in their final regular-season game by Perry, but nevertheless boast one of the area's most potent offenses. Their only losses of the season were to the Pirates and Madison (49-48 when a two-point conversion pass in overtime fell incomplete). The loss to Perry was the only time this season Hawken failed to score at least 30 points. Quarterback Donovan Moorhead, a Jacksonville State commit, has thrown for 3,005 yards and 37 touchdowns. Kene Obi has run for 771 yards and caught 50 passes for 486 yards. Charlie Mallett (104 catches, 1,161 yards) is the area's leading receiver. The Hawks are an offensive showcase. The key will be defense. Whether it be Benedictine or Akron East in the second round, the Hawks will have to slow them down or simply outscore them, which has worked against everyone except Perry.



BRIAN FISHER — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Brady Capel and the NDCL Lions host Hubbard in a Division IV playoff game on Oct. 31.

(9) HUBBARD AT (8) NDCL

Where: Lion Stadium

Records: Hubbard 7-3, NDCL 7-3

Last week: Lake Catholic def. NDCL, 21-14, South Range def. Hubbard, 32-31

On deck: Winner will face (1) Perry in a Nov. 7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: Two years in a row, the Lions have made the postseason under Coach Andre Griffin. They'd like to stick around longer than last year when they lost their opener to eventual state champion Glenville. The Lions struggled to get their offense going in last week's loss to Lake Catholic, finishing with

less than 100 total yards. The Lions are led by dual-threat quarterback Brady Capel, who has thrown for 1,321 yards and 18 touchdowns to go with a team-best 559 rushing yards. Dylan Hoenigman has run for 514 yards and seven scores as the top running back. Six receivers have 10 or more catches, with Casey

McInerney's 33 leading the way. Defensively, Brendan Hernan (81 tackles, 14 TFLs, 11 sacks) has been troublesome for every team NDCL has played. Carmen Cirino and Blake Dumermuth have three interceptions each. ... Hubbard relies heavily on senior Braydon Songer, who has thrown for 2,333 yards and

17 touchdowns to go with his team-high 644 yards rushing and 10 ground scores. Michael Hazimilialis has run for 512 yards and 10 scores, with four players accumulating 400 or more yards receiving. NDCL's defense will need to find a way to limit Songer in order to advance.



Good Luck to all of the High School Football Teams in the Playoffs!



CHARDON
POWER
EQUIPMENT

CHARDON • 415 Water St. • 440.286.1041

High school football » Playoff capsules

By John Kampf
jkampf@news-herald.com

(3) LAKE CATHOLIC
VS. TBA

Where: TBA

Record: Lake Catholic 8-2

Last week: Defeated NDCL,
21-14

On deck: Will face the win-
ner of (6) Streetsboro and
(11) West Geauga

For the record: The Cougars
are back in the playoffs
after reaching the regional
semifinal round the past two
seasons. This team is much
different, though, boasting
more of a running attack
rather than the pass-happy
offense of recent years. The
Cougars earned the first-
round bye through the Danny
Zmorowski-led running game
and the hard-nosed defense
anchored by Marty Loncar.
Zmorowski ran for more than
100 yards in the win over
NDCL and has more than
800 yards on the ground this
season with his bruising run-
ning style. Max Pisano has
throws for more than 900
yards and Pete Malchesky is
a weapon in both the passing
and running game. He also
leads the team with three
interceptions. But make no
mistake, Lake hangs its head
on defense. The Cougars
give up less than 200 yards
per game. Loncar (14 TFLs,
6 sacks), Mikey Barnes (9
TFLs, 7 sacks) and the
defense make life miserable
for a lot of opponents. ... The
location of the game has not
been announced yet.



BRIAN FISHER — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Coach Marty Gibbons and the Lake Catholic Cougars have a bye week heading into the Division IV playoffs.

(1) PERRY VS. TBA

Where: Alumni Stadium

Record: Perry 8-2

Last week: Defeated
Hawken 55-10

On deck: Will play the
winner of (8) NDCL and (9)
Hubbard

For the record: The Pirates
are coming off back-to-
back seasons in which they
finished as state champion
in 2023 and regional runner-
up to eventual state champ
Glenville in 2024. Now they
get a bye to rest up for a
Week 12 game. The Pirates'

only losses came to Division
III Chardon and undefeated
Kirtland. They've been on a
tear since then. Nate Trefzger
has thrown for 1,349 yards
and 16 touchdowns since
McKoy Richards went out
with a broken leg. Seven
different receivers have 10

or more catches, with Greg
Mechenbier's 22 for 493
yards the best. Brody Petru-
celli has run for 463 yards and
scored eight times. Despite
missing four games, Carter
Hopkins leads the team
with 10 touchdowns scored.
Whoever wins between NDCL

and Hubbard is going to have
to deal with Perry's speed and
aggressiveness on defense.
Bowling Green tight end com-
mit Trent Taylor (8 sacks) and
junior Michal Niedzweicki (5
TFLs, 3 sacks) lead the group,
but it's a swarming mentality
from all 11.

2026 Nissan Rogue SV
Lease for
\$300 Per Month Plus Tax
For 36 Months*
\$2,999 Down

*Plus tax. 36 months. 10,000 miles per year lease. \$2999 down. (Payment excludes dealer/bank fees, tax, title and license.) Subject to residency restrictions. Subject to availability to well-qualified lessees through NMAC. Selling price of \$30,438.00 includes destination. No security deposit required. Must take delivery from new dealer stock. VIN#N1B138BXT674722

2025 Nissan Sentra SV
Lease for
\$220 Per Month Plus Tax
For 36 Months*
\$2,999 Down

*Plus tax. 36 months. 10,000 miles per year lease. \$2999 down. (Payment excludes dealer/bank fees, tax, title and license.) Subject to residency restrictions. Subject to availability to well-qualified lessees through NMAC. Selling price of \$22,752.0 includes destination. No security deposit required. Must take delivery from new dealer stock. VIN#N3N1A88CV4S395865

2025 Nissan Altima SV
Lease for
\$300 Per Month Plus Tax
For 36 Months*
\$2,999 Down

*Plus tax. 36 months. 10,000 miles per year lease. \$2999 down. (Payment excludes dealer/bank fees, title and license.) Subject to residency restrictions. Subject to availability to well-qualified lessees through NMAC. Selling price of \$28,713.00 includes destination. No security deposit required. Must take delivery from new dealer stock. VIN#1N4BL4DV23N1412512

2025 Nissan Kicks SV
Lease for
\$260 Per Month Plus Tax
For 36 Months*
\$2,999 Down

*Plus tax. 36 months. 10,000 miles per year lease. \$2,999.00 down. (Payment excludes dealer/bank fees, tax, title and license.) Subject to residency restrictions. Subject to availability to well-qualified lessees through NMAC. Selling price of \$27,373.0 includes destination. No security deposit required. Must take delivery from new dealer stock. VIN#3N8AP6CB6TL303425

Mentor Nissan
6960 Center Street,
Mentor, OH
440-276-3468

High school football » Playoff capsules

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

(9) BERKSHIRE AT (8) SOUTH RANGE

Where: Rominger Stadium, 11300 Columbiana-Canfield Road, Canfield

Records: Berkshire 6-4, South Range 6-4

Last week: Berkshire def. Chagrin Falls, 34-0, South Range def. Hubbard, 32-31

On deck: Will play (1) Cardinal Mooney in a Nov. 7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: This is the fifth year in a row the Badgers have made it to postseason play. They started the season 2-3 but since then have won four of five, including wins over 8-2 Wickliffe and Rootstown, which was undefeated when they played each other. Quarterback Sam Barcikoski is having his best season yet, having thrown for 1,346 yards and 15 touchdowns while also leading the team in rushing with 514 yards. Oliver Miller had the hot hand in last week's win with a three-touchdown night. He has run for 397 yards and leads with 32 catches for 344 yards. Defensively, Nate Fultz has 12.5 TFLs and 3.5 sacks to lead the team. Danny Tiller has 12 TFLs and is a mainstay on both the offensive and defensive lines. South Range's win over Hubbard kept the Raiders' streak of six straight playoff berths alive. They trailed Hubbard, 24-8, at



PAUL DICICCO — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Sam Barcikoski and the Berkshire Badgers play South Range in a Division V playoff game on Oct. 31.

one point and pulled off the 32-31 win. QB Nick Toy has thrown for more than 1,700

yards and 18 touchdowns. Jason Vorshak leads the rushing attack 677 yards

and seven touchdowns.
**(11) WEST GEAUGA AT
(6) STREETSBORO**

Where: Streetsboro Rockets Stadium, 8585 State Route 14, Streetsboro

Records: West Geauga 6-4, Streetsboro 8-2

Last week: Streetsboro def. Cloverleaf, 35-7, West Geauga def. Orange, 47-15

On deck: Will face (3) Lake Catholic in a Nov. 7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: By qualifying for the playoffs this year under first-year coach Rossi Santo, the Wolverines are in the postseason for the first time since 2021. They haven't won a playoff game since 2015. After an 0-2 start, West G has won six of eight. The Wolverines are paced by a strong running game anchored by Miles Baker, who has run for 1,651 yards and 16 touchdowns. Veteran quarterback Finn Keenan has thrown for 782 yards and run for nearly 300, accounting for 22 total touchdowns (13 rushing). Tyler Fink and Dominic Paros have 17 and 15 catches, respectively. West G's ability to run the ball and control the clock, while also playing strong defense, works to the Wolverines' advantage. ... The Rockets have won four in a row. Their only losses are to 9-1 Norton and 8-2 Alliance. They've run for 2,915 yards this year, with Janiere Cook (1,103 yards, 17 TDs) and Marcus Council (687 yards, 9 TDs) leading the way. Quarterback Colton Cox has thrown for 1,031 yards and 10 touchdowns. Ayden Knuebel and Jerry Benci average more than 10 tackles per game.



Chardon Smile Center
VOTED THE



**2019, 2020, 2021,
2022, 2023, 2024
& 2025**

We are currently accepting ALL

new patients

Zoom in Office Teeth Whitening
* AT Home Teeth Whitening
* Clear Braces For Adults
* Botox/Dysport & Fillers * Veneers
* Cosmetic Bonding

Chardon Smile Center • (440) 286-2474
Painesville Dental Group • (440) 354-2183
Dental Group of Jefferson • (440) 576-7040
painesvilledentalgroup.com

High school football » Playoff capsule

By John Kampf

jkampf@news-herald.com

(9) NEW MIDDLETOWN SPRINGFIELD AT (8) WICKLIFFE

Where: Blue Devil Stadium

Records: Wickliffe 8-2,
New Middletown Springfield
7-3

On deck: Winner will face
(1) Kirtland in a Nov. 7
regional quarterfinal

For the record: Coach Marce Porcello's Blue Devils are hosting a playoff game for the first time since 2020, when they advanced to a regional semifinal. Wickliffe's only losses this season are to undefeated Kirtland and Division V playoff team Berkshire. Springfield bounced back from a 1-2 start to win six of its last seven. The only loss during that stretch was to undefeated McDonald in Week 9. ... Wickliffe's ground game has been impressive all year. Quarterback Dominic Porcello had the big game in the Week 10 win over Crestwood with 131 yards and two touchdowns on the ground to go with a touchdown pass. But the ground game goes much deeper than that. Elijah Fitch has run for more than 1,000 yards and Frankie Bucar is over 400 for the season. Defensively, Elijah Fitch, Markese Roberts and Jimmy Feaster all have three interceptions for a defense that has given up less than 200 yards per game through



BARRY BOOHER — FOR THE NEWS-HERALD

Wickliffe opens the Division VI playoffs against visiting New Middletown Springfield.

10 weeks. ... Springfield's Alex Caldwell has run for more than 900 yards this season. The Tigers are more of a run-oriented team, with less than 1,000 yards passing this season. QB Brayden Baird has thrown for more than 600 yards to supplement the run game. The strength of the defense is up the middle with linebackers Dominick Jones and Marco Gentile.

(1) KIRTLAND VS. TBA

Where: Wilson Stadium

Record: Kirtland 10-0

Last week: Defeated Rootstown, 42-7

On deck: Will face the winner of (9) New Middletown Springfield and (8) Wickliffe in a Nov. 7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: Another year, another 10-0 season. That's 12 10-0 slates during the tenure of Coach Tiger LaVerde, who is now 254-21 as the Hornets' head coach.

The Hornets have been battling through injuries all season long. Quarterback Jake LaVerde and tackle Jack Turk — among others — have both missed time with injuries, so another week of rest with this bye week is probably a good thing for them and the other nicked-up players. Despite sitting out most second halves in blowout wins, John Silvestro has run for more than 1,400 yards and Ty Bledsoe

has run for 980 yards in the punishing Kirtland running game. Mario Lorber has done a nice job filling in for Jake LaVerde at quarterback. He threw for 170 yards and two scores against Rootstown. Kirtland's defense has given up only 14 points in the past six games combined, with four shutouts. The combination of Kirtland's run game and staunch defense makes them a candidate for another trip to Canton in

December.

(2) FAIRPORT VS. TBA

Where: Riverside Stadium

Record: Fairport 10-0

Last week: Defeated Windham, 40-6

On deck: Will face the winner of (7) East Canton and (10) Lisbon David Anderson in a Nov. 7 regional quarterfinal

For the record: After recording the first 10-0 regular season in program history, the Skippers get to take a little bit of a break thanks to a first-round bye. The Fairport story is a brilliant one, as Coach John Nagle was elevated to the position after the previous coach stepped down after one game. Nagle led the team to an undefeated regular season despite not having high numbers and being outsized by all teams it played. QB Brady Lawson has thrown for 1,997 yards and 31 touchdowns. The Castellano brothers are not big in stature, but their productivity screams. Abraham has run for a team-high 599 yards, Yomar leads with 52 receptions for 888 yards and Jan has 21 catches on offense, two picks and 11 TFLs on defense. DJ Dambolena (19 TFLs) and Cale Milliman (11 TFLs) are also among the defensive leaders. The Skippers will use their fast play and wide-open attack to battle the winner of East Canton and Lisbon David Anderson.



barrio-tacos.com

celebrate every win

and tackle the hunger after a loss

with

barri*

tacos + tequila + whiskey



Stop cleaning-out your gutters this season

LeafFilter® GUTTER PROTECTION

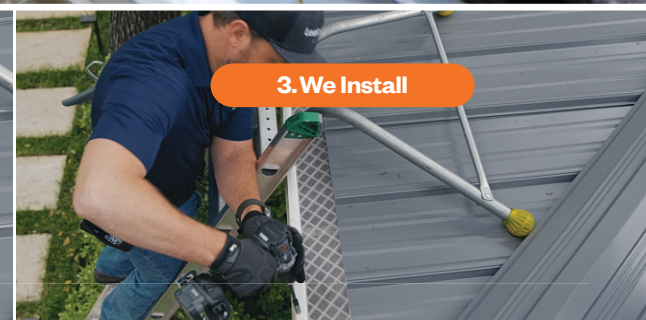
Get a FREE full gutter inspection
and estimate: **1-833-803-0034**



1. We Clean



2. We Reinforce



3. We Install

Debris Buildup Stands No Chance

With LeafFilter

Our patented system keeps out all common debris



Heavy
leaves



Pinecones



Acorns



Pine
needles



Seed
pods



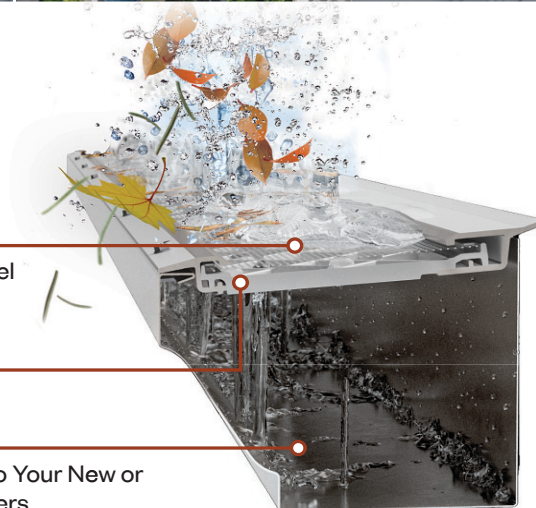
Storm
debris



Stainless Steel
Micromesh

uPVC Frame

Custom Fit To Your New or
Existing Gutters



EXPIRES: 11/30/2025

AN ADDITIONAL

15% OFF + 10%

LeafFilter*

Discount For
Seniors + Military

Get a FREE full gutter inspection
and estimate: **1-833-803-0034**

Promo: 285

*See Representative for full warranty details. *Promotional offer includes 15% off plus an additional 10% off for qualified veterans and/or seniors. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. 1Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AR 366920923, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC 0671520, FL CBC056678, IA C127230, ID RCE-51604, LA 559544, MA 176447, MD MHIC111225, MI 262300173, 262300318, 262300328, 262300329, 262300330, 262300331, MN IR731804, MT 226192, ND 47304, NE 50145-22, 50145-23, NJ 13VH09953900, NM 408693, NV 86990, NY H-19114, H-52229, OR 218294, PA 179643, 069383, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658-5501, VA 2705169445, WA LEAFFNW822JZ, WV WV056912.