

# 2025 SSS YAIAA Football Preview

*York-Adams Division 1 Preseason Predictions, Standings, Breakdowns, Power Lists, and Players to Watch.*

The YAIAA (York/Adams county) football season has arrived! This is a crucial week for the teams of the YAIAA as they prepare for camp and heat acclimation. Many of the teams including Central York, Spring Grove, West York, New Oxford, and York High, return plenty of varsity starters, while others teams like Dallastown and Kennard Dale are looking to reload their talent from their roster. Division 1 will have plenty of talent returning and some new faces looking to make names for themselves. Plenty of these teams are potential District 3 5A or 6A contenders. Like every year, expect a few surprises especially in 2025

## *Pre-Season Top Power Player: QB, Brooklyn Nace, Central York*

*Nace will be entering his 3rd year as the starting quarterback for Central York and his game has rapidly improved in 2024 compared to 2023. He threw for 2,333 yards and 28 TD's in 2024 which was first in the YAIAA.*

*Despite how great his stats were Nace was selected as a YAIAA All county first team selection as Dallastown Michael Scott was selected as player of the year for Division one. Recently Nace committed to Old Dominion over a few other division one schools and he is looking to take Central York deep in the playoffs again.*

*His big test will be in the second week of the season as Central hosts Manheim Township where Nace was sacked 6 times in that game last year. Nace will have to continue to be a big piece if Central wants to compete for the District Championship.*

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## 2024-25 Team Record Predictions

### 1. Central York Panthers (9-3, last year)

Central York once again finished undefeated in the YAIAA Division 1 in 2024 and they've done so every year since 2019. They also were able to defeat CD East 47-14 in the first round of the playoffs before falling in Round #2 to Wilson 28-20. Some of their top players in 2024 were QB Brooklyn Nace, ATH Tyler Fry, LB Micah Bowers, WR/CB Saxton Suchanic, WR Brendyn Smith, DE Malachi Ramneth, and Kicker Matthew Parker. Many of those players were seniors so the Panthers will have to reload once again, but they'll have a variety of key players coming back.

On offense the Panthers return six starters. They have 3rd Year Starting and Old Dominion Commit QB Brooklyn Nace who threw for 28 touchdowns and only 5 picks and 2,333 yards. In the backfield is Junior Legend Johnson. They return Kent St Commit Brendyn Smith at receiver who led the YAIAA in receiving yards. The O-line returns Caden Soloman and Kaden Graham and at TE they have Villanova Commit Colin Gurley.

The Defense returns a few pieces too. Their front line returns EDGE Rusher Jeremiah Hunter, Colin Gurley(DE) along with NT Quinton Dolly. At linebacker they only return junior Josh Bahr and the two safeties returning are Dwayne Morgan and Hristos Panopoulous. So linebacker and corner will be a major hole for them to fill. The kicker competition is between senior Brandon Ponce and sophomore Brayden Burt to replace Matthew Parker. We expect Central York to be at the top of the division and potentially make

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another push in the District 3 6A Playoffs with 8-9 wins. The Panthers stay atop of our early power rankings. Can anyone knock them off the top?

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## **2. New Oxford Colonials (10-1, last year)**

While Central has been the top team of Division one, New Oxford has been the dominant team of Division two for the last few years. They haven't lost a YAIAA game since 2021. The Colonials have been one of the best reloading teams and will return a bevy of key players from last year on both sides of the ball.

Senior quarterback Luke Frey will hopefully stay healthy this year for the Colonials, he missed a few games last year but still threw for 1,128 yards 9 touchdowns and only 1 pick. Seniors Brayden Billmen(537 yards) and Brody Holmes(484 yards) return as the top two targets for Frey along with Tanner Haugh at Tight End. New Oxford will feature a new running back once again this year it will be senior Alex Brown. He replaced all-state RB Clayton Nieves who led the YAIAA in rushing. The Colonials have most of their line coming back including 3 year starter Braeden Bowman, and fellow seniors (C)Kyle Beccio and (OT)Luke Watkins.

The Strength of New Oxford may be its defense in 2025 similar to last year they were the top D in the YAIAA only giving up 11.6 PPG which was the best among all 21 teams. The Defensive front features Bowman, 6'5 285 pound junior DT Travis Covington and 6'0 200 pound junior DE Jack Rios. The Colonials have some size up front, but it gets even better. The secondary features seniors Brogan Klunk and Dru Lawrence in the secondary they have junior Sebastian Kaehler at corner and one of the safeties is Billmen who was All-State as a safety last year. The Colonials do have to replace LB Carter Houck on defense. Senior Nolan O'Brien may be a key player to look out for the Colonials on defense replacing Houck.

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The Colonials have a similar schedule to 2024 in 2025. Some of their games including kicking off with Bermudian Springs in the backyard rivalry, a road game against Cocalico may be a great early test for New Oxford along with a road game at the end against West York which could be a game potentially for the Division. We expect New Oxford to win between 8 or all 10 games. The reason they come in second on the early power rankings is because Central has the current longer streak regarding winning their respective division.

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### **3. West York Bulldogs (9-3, last year)**

Last year West York had one of its best seasons in recent years going 9-3 and reaching the District Semi final and with a young squad. This year that group is much more experienced and has the pieces to make a run for a District Championship in 4A.

The Bulldogs don't have very many holes to fill. Offensively at quarterback Jensen Ferber will step in for his sophomore year Ferber had a solid year throwing for nine touchdowns and seven interceptions, along with over 1200 yards. Ferber will have all of his receiving targets back (Sr)Julius Madden, (Sr)Conrad Beatty and (So)Janziel Torres. Along the O-line the Bulldogs have all five starters coming back Aidan Leach, Jaxon Ferber, Cayden McClain, Carson King, and Slade Moore.

Along the defensive line the Bulldogs have Jamen Garnett and Logan Boyer both started as freshman last year as a defensive end. The tackles are Moore and Leach along with Johnny Dickerson. They have a really good linebacker core in 3rd year starter Deagan Trostel, seniors Ibraheim Fuenetes-Bream and Gaven Smith. In the back end they have Torres and Madden as their main corners and their one high safety is Tayvon Thomas who started last year as a freshman.

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The Bulldogs biggest hole will be replacing the running back position which last year featured Jayden Welch and Isaac Roberts. This year it'll be either (So)Aidan Wagner or (Jr)Zamir Harris. Who were both featured a bit but will have extended roles in 2025. Expect to see the Bulldogs trying to compete with New Oxford for the Division 2 title and hopefully have an 8-9 win season again, West York comes in number 3 on our early power rankings.

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#### **4. Spring Grove Rockets (5-5, last year)**

Spring Grove is poised for a breakthrough season in 2025 under 3rd year coach Tom Trone. After last season going 5-5 and falling one game shy of districts the Rockets are poised to reach the playoffs for the first time since 2021 with a load of talent coming back.

On offense the Rockets return 10/11 starters from last year. Leading the charge will be senior QB Davis Baum, last season he threw for 1,371 yards and 9 touchdowns, unfortunately he had some troubled moments where his turnovers put the defense in a tough spot, but he'll improve in 2025. The backfield features SS D1 Breakout player Malik Cain, all four receiving options return in Kayleb Allen, Bredon Smith, Zane Lawrence, and Jordan Eisenhart. On the line they have Tucker Bosley, Kody Burnham, Braydon Black and 4 year starter(D1 Prospect) David Czapp.

On defense Czapp anchors the defensive front along with him is Tucker Bosley, the ends are Jaydon Moore and Jerrell Stockett. The Rockets do have to replace most of their linebackers but one of those new players will be freshman sensation Kade Gibbs who has a few D1 offers already. In the back end of the defense they return the whole secondary Eisenhart, Lawrence, Cain, and Adam Herbst. With 10 starters back on offense and 8 back on defense the Rockets have lots of experience and should be a team to

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watch similar to last year's Dallastown team. We expect the Rockets to make the District 3 5A playoffs with 7-8 wins and hopefully can give Central a push in Division 1 which is why we mark them at 4 in our early power rankings.

## **5. York High Bearcats (2-7, last year)**

The York High Bearcats had a bit of a struggle last season where they did start out 2-3 but lost a lot of tough games and ended 2-7, but last season they did have a lot of freshmen playing along with lots of injuries and players banged up, but this year they have some key pieces coming back but a lot of other holes to fill and hopefully they can get back to the District 3 6A Playoffs.

Najee Still returns for his 3rd year as the Bearcats starting quarterback. Last season he had 10 touchdowns and 8 picks, along with 1,205 yards passing. Still will have to have a great year especially with a new wide receiving core. The Bearcats may have the best running back room in the YAIAA which features Division one senior RB Shavane Anderson who has multiple D1 offers already, but mustered only 619 rushing yards behind a young offensive line. The other backs are sophomore John Vellon who played a little as a freshman last year along with senior Samir Gwynn who may line up at slot receiver too, and at Fullback they have D1 prospect Amani Bones who was injured for all of 2024. Besides Gwynn York High will have a whole new receiving core replacing David Ward, Weniq Scott and Jaysier Maldonado. Some of the potential weapons may be (Jr)Tas'Mire Price, (So)Nahmani Sanchez and (Sr)Mu'ath Woodard. York High's offensive line will have lots of sophomores starting for the second which include (C)Bennett Brautigan, (OT)Malachi Brooks, Imir-Ohr(OG), Woody Rice(OG), their lone senior lineman is (OT) Trevor Lee.

The Bearcats have to replace a few defensive players, but the key pieces coming back are Lovell Smith, Rice, along the defensive line, the linebackers are Anderson, Gwynn, Bones, and Sanchez. In the secondary Woodard is the only starter who returns. The Bearcats may have a young lineup on defense once again, but expect to see this lineup take a few steps forward. We think they'll

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be much better than last year which could lead to 6-7 wins in 2025 which is why they take the number 5 spot on the early power rankings.

### **Honorable Mentions:**

#### **Eastern York, Dallastown, Kennard Dale, Biglerville**

##### **Dallastown Wildcats (9-2, last year)**

Dallastown had one of their best seasons in recent years going 9-1 which helped them reach the District 3 playoffs and only being one overtime 2 pt conversion stand away from going undefeated.

Dallastown has to replace a lot of starters which include Michael Scott, Jalen Cook, Jack Mahoney, and Colby Laughman. The Wildcats do have QB Kody Kisner returning for his senior year, but they may rely heavily on their star RB Christopher Cromartie. They have a lot of holes at the skill positions, but some other players to watch are Aidyn Grim(LB) Matthew Muniz(OG/DT) and Jaydyn Arias (LB) Dallastown may be in a rebuild, but they'll be very competitive once again and could maybe pull some upsets.

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##### **Eastern York Golden Knights (8-3, last year)**

Eastern York had once again another great season going 8-3, but unfortunately the Knights fell in the first round of the playoffs to its rival West York 5-3.

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Senior Quinn Bramble returns at Quarterback, where he threw for over 2,000 yards last year 25 touchdowns and 8 picks and looked great at times on the field. Bramble had a much better season limiting the turnovers. Some of the key pieces on offense are SB Ethan Scignoli and WR Donte Lewis and a bevy of young offensive lineman that started last year as freshmen. Their top guy returning is DE Cole Staker who was the SSS D2 Defensive player of the year last year where he had 18 sacks in 2024. Some of their losses are Draven Becknauld TE/DE and Gavin Corwell OL, but the Knight will be a 7-8 win team again hopefully.

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### **Kennard Dale Rams (4-6, last year)**

Last year Kennard Dale was poised to have a breakout season after starting 2-0, but injuries caught them early. One of them was their QB Noah Hoffer who is back this season for his senior year. The Rams will need to replace RB's Jack McShane and Clayton Neff, with seniors Zachary McNamee and Ryan Green. KD does return a bunch back from their offensive line, but their only skill players returning are junior (TE/DE) Avery Chenoweth and senior WR/CB Noah Tarbart. Expect Kennard Dale to be competitive in Division 2 and maybe a dark horse in 2025 as someone who could sneak into the District 3 4A Playoffs with 5-6 wins.

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### **Biglerville Cannors (7-4, last year)**

The Cannors were one of the most underrated teams in 2024 reaching the District 3 playoffs for the first time since 2015 and going 7-4 unfortunately they fell in the first round at home to an always dangerous Berks Catholic squad. Their schedule is similar to last year and with Division 3 being wide open Biglerville returns more than anyone back in terms of production among the top teams.

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Senior and SSS D3 player of the year Aidan Hoffman will be the man to anchor their offense. Hoffman looks to improve on his stats . He would've been the league leading rusher if he didn't miss 2 regular season games to injury. The Cannons could potentially look to win the D3 crown for the first time since 2015 with a potential 6-7 win season.

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