



Jaguars roll

Thomas Jefferson picked up a win in its first game in a new section. B2

## Meade's golden goal lifts BVA over Ringgold

Leopards' captain scored off a turnover by Ringgold GK Jeremy Mullen with 37.9 seconds left in OT.

By JEREMY SELLEW  
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Instead of opening the season with multiple scrimmages and a couple exhibition games, the Belle Vernon Area and Ringgold boys soccer teams renewed their rivalry in the season opener at James Weir Stadium Monday.

And the two rivals didn't disappoint the crowd in attendance.

BVA's Hunter Meade scored off a Ringgold miscue with 37 seconds remaining in the first overtime period to give the Leopards a thrilling 2-1 season-opening win over their Section 3-3A rivals from across the river.

With the win, the defending section champions upheld their winning streak over the Rams to three games.

"It's like a continuation of last season," BVA head coach Rob Miele said. "These guys were so comfortable in close games last season. There was never any panic then, and there wasn't any panic tonight."

Belle Vernon opened the scoring early on when Ty-

ler Kovatch roped a shot in on Rams goalkeeper Jeremy Mullen. The ball squirted underneath Mullen's arms and he raced to gather it in as the ball near the goal line. BVA's Nick Nagy was hustling after the ball, too, and slammed it into the back of the net to give his team a 1-0 lead.

"I think we had a lot of nerves early on. This is more than just an opening game. It's Ringgold. I think the opening goal really allowed us to settle in," Miele said. "I also think it let them settle in a little bit."

After the opening goal, the Rams controlled most of the play midway through the first 40 minutes.

"The guys were really buying into everything we've been preaching," Ringgold head coach Matt Snyder said.

"Everything we expected them to do, they did well. They got the early one on a couple of breakdowns, but for the most part, I think they really digested what we've been saying."

Ringgold couldn't get through the Leopards' back line for most of the first half, but did get a couple of shots on goal at BVA keeper TJ Watson. He finished with four saves.



Ben Bamford / MVI Sports

Members of the Belle Vernon boys soccer team swarm around Hunter Meade after he scored the game-winning goal to give the Leopards a 2-1 overtime win over rival Ringgold. In the foreground is the Rams' Chance Capicotto.

In the second half, though, Ringgold kept applying pressure and eventually broke through when Zach Alvarez scored following a throw-in. Jonnie McDuffie picked up an assist on the goal.

"The last five goals we've

allowed as a team were on plays similar to that. Blackhawk scored four goals on us like that in our playoff loss," Miele said. "That's something we're going to have to clean up. We keep getting caught with no one on the

goal side.

"In the second half, though, they did a good job of getting the ball on (Brandon) Jaki's feet and I feel like there was a lot more action," Miele said. "But once they scored, we kind of calmed down a little

bit and regrouped. I definitely think in the overtime, we had the better play."

After Mullen gathered in a loose ball near the left of the goal, he tried to get it outside to one of his defenders, but he kicked the ball right to Meade, who was left one on one with Mullen and buried it to set off a feverish celebration by the Leopards.

"You never want to start with a loss, but I think once we watch the film, we're going to see a lot of highlights," Snyder said. "I think we dictated the play in the second half and we put ourselves in position to win. I think we started to get fatigued and were a little tired, but I think both teams were. It's Game 1, now we're on to Game 2. I'm proud of the boys for sure. You came into your rival's home turf and lost by a goal. As a coach, you build from this."

Miele and the Leopards are right back in action tonight when they travel to Albert Gallatin.

"We're definitely going to enjoy this one, but we have two more games the next two days and another Saturday. We have to get ready to go to AG."

## Charleroi rolls over Yough

Seven second-half goals lead Cougars to 31st straight section win.

By JOSE NEGRON  
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With the departures of Cullin Woytovich and Jace Kepich, the Charleroi boys soccer team entered the fall season having to replace a whopping 71 goals between the pair of program standouts.

Woytovich netted a WPIAL-best 48 goals a year ago, while Kepich added 23.

There is good news for the Cougars, though.

Eben McIntyre, a 38-goal scorer as a sophomore last season, is back and ready to lead the way for a young, but talented group.

McIntyre started his junior campaign strong Monday night by netting a hat trick and adding a pair of assists in Charleroi's 10-0 season-opening Section 3-2A victory over Yough at Myron Pottios Stadium.

"He knows he is now in a leadership role and he said, 'Boys, this is what we need to get done,'" Charleroi head coach Jon Ducoli said. "Once the ball started rolling, he made a definite impact. He was also able to dish it off to show the other players we have and the other weapons we have in our arsenal."

A year after missing all of his junior season with a knee



Jenn Codeluppi / MVI Sports

Charleroi's Eben McIntyre chases down the ball just before scoring his third goal of the game in the Cougars' 10-0 win over Yough at Myron Pottios Stadium.

injury, senior Sam Iacovangelo also made his presence felt in his return to the pitch, scoring a pair of goals.

He netted his first with 3:31 left in the first half as he blasted a shot from around the 20-yard line that bounced off the cross bar and across the goal line. His second goal came in the second half off an assist from freshman Arlo McIntyre. Eben's younger brother.

"I think that was a big exclamation point on what Sam is here to do," Ducoli said. "We missed out with him not

being here last year and he's definitely showing what he is able to do and what he is capable of."

It took some time for Charleroi (1-0, 1-0) to get things going offensively. But Ducoli's bunch didn't lack opportunities.

Eben McIntyre picked up his team's first shot at the 26:15 mark in the first half and later had a shot go wide before another ricocheted off the cross bar.

"It was a little bit of a slow start, but you figure with as many young boys as we

have, the nerves probably got to them a little bit," Ducoli said. "Once they started playing our game, moving the ball around and taking the shots, they were falling right back in line with the seasons we've had in the past."

With 11:19 left in the half, Charleroi finally cashed in as freshman Joel Chambers scored off an assist from classmate Mikey Rodriguez to make it 1-0.

Chambers was one of three freshmen to net their first career varsity goals.

CHARLEROI • B2

### HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

## Charleroi girls rocked by C-H

Bentworth girls fall to Steel Valley; South Allegheny, McKeesport girls win.

By the MV Independent

The Charleroi girls soccer team suffered a 7-1 loss to Chartiers-Houston in Section 2-A play Monday.

The Cougars (0-1, 0-1), who trailed 5-1 at half-time, went down by a goal within the first five minutes of the contest.

Bella Carroto netted her first career varsity goal a minute later on a direct kick to tie the game.

Chartiers-Houston (1-0, 1-0) scored four more goals in the half and added two more in the second.

"We have some defensive marking to work out," said Charleroi head coach Traci Fleming. "We left our center too exposed."

Addison Conrad made her debut in net and made eight saves.

"We made some adjustments in the second half and held them to two goals," Fleming

said. "We are young and inexperienced. We saw some good things to build on."

Charleroi hosts Beth-Center today.

### Steel Valley 5, Bentworth 2

Steel Valley scored four second-half goals to capture a Section 2-A victory over Bentworth.

Reagan and Mallory Schreiber each scored for the Bearcats (0-1, 0-1).

Bentworth heads to Section LaSalle today.

### S. Allegheny 5, Ligonier Valley 1

The South Allegheny girls soccer team got off to a winning start with a win over Ligonier Valley.

Five different players found the back of the net for the Gladiators (1-0, 1-0) with goals by Olivia Stetz, Paige Allan, Abby Allan, MacKenzie Burke and Abbie Beedle.

The Rams goal came from Kaelyn Adams.

ROUNDUP • B2

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