# SPORTS



Ben leads the way So much for elbow issues or rust. The Steelers' QB showed Monday he's back. B2

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

## Cougars bounce back behind freshmen

Charleroi gets hat tricks from Bella Carroto and McKenna DeUnger in 7-1 win over Beth-Center.

By JEREMY SELLEW

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It's not always easy to bounce back after a lopsided loss in soccer. Especially so with a young team.

But the young Charleroi girls soccer team impressed head coach Traci Fleming Tuesday.

Three freshmen did all the scoring for the Cougars, led by hat tricks by Bella Carroto and McKenna "Boots" DeUnger as Charleroi decimated visiting Beth-Center, 7-1, at Myron Pottius Stadium

The win came just 24 hours after losing at Chartiers-Houston by the same score

"We have new girls and a new goalie, and I'm really impressed and proud of the way they bounced back tonight," Fleming said. "It's not easy after getting beat like that and it's even harder when you don't have a real deep bench that we can sub them all in and out.

"But they were beat down





Jenn Codeluppi / MVI Sports

Charleroi freshmen Bella Carroto (left) and "Boots" DeUnger each had a hat trick in the Cougars' 7-1 win over visiting Beth-Center at Myron Pottius Stadium Tuesday.

last night and for them to come back and put seven balls into the net tonight, I'm blown away."

Charleroi needed just under six minutes to get on the board as Carroto scored her first of the night after a feed from DeUnger from deep in the midfield. Less than two minutes later, it was DeUnger finding the back of the net after a nifty spin move around a defender from 20

yards out.

"Those two have such a great connection. It's like they're out there talking to one another with their eyes," Fleming said. "It's so fun to watch from where I'm at."

Carroto split a pair of defenders before blasting another shot past Bulldogs' keeper Kira Vail to make it 3-0. Shaley Barber picked up the assist with a nice pass to Carroto in the middle of the

field

The Cougars (1-1, 1-1) had a couple more chances in the half but came up empty until the final minute when DeUnger gathered a ball on the left side of the field and cut to the middle, lacing a shot high to the right of Vail to make it 4-0 at the half.

"We were 100 times better today than we were yesterday," Fleming said. "Our back line was a wall back there today. Taylor Ramsdell, another freshman, has really been leading the group on defense. We have Ella Sypolt back there, too, who's never played soccer before. It's kind of how it's been since these girls came up. The younger girls are really helping out the juniors and the seniors and it's worked out really well for us.

"This I've been waiting for years to get my hands on this group of girls and they haven't disappointed. They're really skilled and talented."

In the second half, Carroto clinched the hat trick of another long pass from DeUnger just over three minutes in.

Just over 10 minutes later

Just over 10 minutes later, DeUnger finished off her hat trick to make it 6-0.

**COUGARS** • B2



Belle Vernon
Area's Morgan
Einodshofer tries
to dribble around
the defense of
Connellsville's
Brooke Lindstrom
during Tuesday's
game at Falcons
Stadium.

Jason Black / For the Mon Valley Independent

### Leopards' section streak over

Connellsville blasts BVA girls, 5-0, to snap Leps' section winning streak at 26 games.

**By JASON BLACK**For the MV Independent

Entering the 2020 season, the Connellsville girls soccer team believed that if it wanted to win the Section 2 (3A) title this year, it would likely have to go through highly-ranked Belle Vernon to do so.

But after Tuesday night's game at Connellsville Stadium, maybe the road to the section championship will travel through Connellsville.

The Falcons (1-0, 1-0) blitzed the Leopards (0-1, 0-1) right from the start, scoring two goals in less than six minutes on their way to an impressive 5-0 win.

"Ît's the first game and obviously you want to win

the first one," Connellsville coach Jeff Puskar said. "But they were 12-0 last year and they have most of their players back, so we had to have our best effort and that's what happened tonight."

Connellsville couldn't have asked for a better start to the season, or a better start to the game.

The Falcons took control right from the opening whistle as they were immediately able to put pressure on the Belle Vernon defenders.

Connellsville's Nevaeh Hamborsky was denied on a fine save by Belle Vernon's Grace Henderson in the opening minute, but Hamborsky found redemption just seconds later.

Hamborsky stationed herself in front of the net and was able to take a fine corner kick by Cayde Koballa and head it into the back of the net for a quick 1-0 Connellsville lead.

That lead swelled to 2-0 just moments later as Jocelyn Gratchic drilled a long-range shot into the upper portion of the net, off an assist by Morgan Smouse. And just like that, the Falcons had doubled their lead before the match was six minutes old.

"We moved the ball so well," Puskar said. "The effort needed to be there, and it certainly was."

Connellsville wasn't done in the first half as Koballa scored when she recovered the ball off a throw in and raced through the middle before burying a shot to make it 3-0.

At the half, the Falcons were in control.

"They caught us off guard," Belle Vernon coach Tracy Lovett said. "They won all the 50-50 balls and I thought

SHUTOUT • B2

## Adjustments lead Rams past Greensburg Salem

Switching its attack, Ringgold takes down Golden Lions, 3-1, in Section 2-3A play.

By DEAN
DELLAMALVA JR.
MVI Sports

Tuesday night's girls soccer match between Ringgold and Greensburg Salem was changed to Offutt Field in Greensburg so fans of the Rams could attend the game.

Ringgold rewarded its faithful for traveling and secured its first win of the season, taking down the Golden Lions, 3-1, in Section 2-3A.

The Rams (1-1, 1-1) spent most of the game possessing the ball in the Lions' defensive end and peppered Salem keeper Jordyn Anderson with shots.

Despite the possession and pressure, the Rams didn't score until very late in the half. The sharpness just was not there for Ringgold.

"The first half, we were a little sluggish with our attack," Rams coach Olivia Wilkerson said. "We talked about it at halftime and we changed some of our positions around to best suit us offensively."

The change was bringing sophomore Carly Lutz, junior Eleanor Bucchianeri and sophomore Katelyn



Ben Bamford / MVI Sports

Ringgold's Katelyn Ferrence keeps the ball away from Greensburg Salem defender Caelin Langton during the first half of the Rams' win at Offutt Field in Greensburg.

Ferrence to the top of the Ringgold attack and it paid dividends early in the second half.

"They just really worked well together and were able to generate some offense," Wilkerson said. "After that we were off to the races."

Meanwhile, Greensburg Salem's offense had a difficult time penetrating the Rams back line. Every ball sent in by the Golden Lions was either kicked back out or chased down by the defense, paced by sophomore Morgan Walsh.

"Morgan Walsh is my unsung hero," Wilkerson said.

"She's going to continue to do incredible things back there. Collectively, the defense as a whole is up for the job. They know they have a young keeper back there, so they are really controlling the field, communicating and working off each other."

The Rams kept plugging away in the first half despite not being able to break through on the scoreboard. Several opportunities missed in those first 40 minutes, either self-inflicted or by great plays by the Lions

RAMS · B2





Jeremy Sellew Sports Editor



José Negron Assistant Sports Editor To get your sports scores into the **Mon Valley Independent**, call or email our Sports Department. 724-314-0040 or sports@yourmvi.com.

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#### MLB standings

NATIONAL LEAGUE **East Division** 22 .522 Philadelphia 23 .511 New York 27 .438

Washington

17 **Central Division** 41/2 St. Louis 22 .488 Cincinnati 26 .480 5 Milwaukee 25 .468 51/2 Pittsburgh 131/2 33 .298 West Division

29 .370

Pct Los Angeles 15 .688 San Diego 17 .653 San Francisco 23 24 .489 91/2 Colorado 22 25 .468 101/2 17 31 .354 Arizona

Tuesday's Games Cincinnati 4, Pittsburgh Boston 2, Miami 0 Tampa Bay 6, Washington 1 Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Mets 1 Atlanta 5, Baltimore 1 Milwaukee 18, St. Louis 3 Cleveland at Chicago Cubs, 8:15 p.m. L.A. Dodgers at San Diego, 9:10 p.m. Arizona at L.A. Angels, 9:40 p.m.

San Francisco at Seattle, ppd. Today's Games Washington (Voth 0-5) at Tampa Bay (Fleming

Oakland (Fiers 5-2) at Colorado (Márquez 2-5), L.A. Dodgers (May 1-1) at San Diego (Paddack

3-4), 4:10 p.m. St. Louis (Wainwright 4-1) at Milwaukee (TBD),

5:10 p.m., 1st game Boston (TBD) at Miami (Rogers 1-1), 6:40 p.m. Pittsburgh (Brubaker 1-1) at Cincinnati (Castillo 2-5) 6:40 n m

N.Y. Mets (deGrom 4-1) at Philadelphia (Nola 5-3), 7:05 p.m.

Atlanta (Hamels 0-0) at Baltimore (Akin 0-1),

Cleveland (Civale 3-5) at Chicago Cubs (Lester 2-2), 8:15 p.m St. Louis (TBD) at Milwaukee (TBD), 8:40 p.m.,

2nd game Arizona (Smith 0-0) at L.A. Angels (Bundy 5-2),

San Francisco (Webb 2-3) at Seattle (Margevicius 1-3), 9:40 p.m

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

Pct GB 17 .646 New York 27 21 .563 Toronto 26 21 .553 41/2 21 27 .438 10 Baltimore Boston 18 31 .367 131/2 **Central Division** W L Pct GB 16 .667 Minnesota 30 20 .600

Cleveland 26 21 .553 51/2 26 .447 101/2 Detroit Kansas City 29 .408 121/2 Pct GB Oakland 19 .612 24 24 .500 51/2 Houston

Seattle 22 26 .458 71/2 20 28 .417 91/2 Los Angeles Tuesday's Games

Boston 2, Miami 0

Tampa Bay 6, Washington 1 N.Y. Yankees 20, Toronto 6 Atlanta 5, Baltimore 1 Detroit 6. Kansas City 0 Chicago White Sox 6, Minnesota 2 Colorado 3, Oakland 1 Cleveland at Chicago Cubs, 8:15 p.m. Arizona at L.A. Angels, 9:40 p.m. San Francisco at Seattle, ppd.

Washington (Voth 0-5) at Tampa Bay (Fleming

Oakland (Fiers 5-2) at Colorado (Márquez 2-5) Boston (TBD) at Miami (Rogers 1-1), 6:40 p.m.

Toronto (Roark 2-1) at N.Y. Kansas City (Singer 2-4) at Detroit (Skubal 1-2),

7:10 p.m. Atlanta (Hamels 0-0) at Baltimore (Akin 0-1).

7:35 p.m. Minnesota (TBD) at Chicago White Sox (Giolito

Texas (Gibson 1-5) at Houston (McCullers Jr.

3-2), 8:10 p.m Cleveland (Civale 3-5) at Chicago Cubs (Lester

2-2), 8:15 p.m. Arizona (Smith 0-0) at L.A. Angels (Bundy 5-2)

San Francisco (Webb 2-3) at Seattle (Margevicius 1-3), 9:40 p.m.

#### Pirates box score REDS 4, PIRATES 1

Pittsburgh					Cincinnati				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
González ss	4	0	1	0	Akiyama If	4	0	2	0
Reynolds If	3	0	0	0	Castellanos ri	f 4	1	2	0
Hayes 3b	4	1	1	0	Aquino rf	0	0	0	0
Moran 1b	4	0	1	1	Votto 1b	3	1	0	0
Bell dh	3	0	1	0	Winker dh	4	1	0	0
Polanco rf	3	0	0	0	Moustakas 3k	03	0	0	1
Tucker cf	4	0	1	0	Goodwin cf	2	0	0	1
Riddle 2b	3	0	0	0	Galvis 2b	3	0	1	1
Newman ph	1	0	0	0	Garcia ss	3	0	0	0
Stallings c	3	0	0	0	Barnhart c	3	1	1	1
Totals	32	1	5	1	Totals	29	4	6	4

Pittsburgh 000 100 000 310 000 00x - 4 Cincinnati LOB-Pittsburgh 7, Cincinnati 4. 2B-Hayes (2), González (12), Castellanos (9). HR-Barnhart (4).

	IP	Н	R	ER	вв	SO
Pittsburgh						
Musgrove L,0-5	5	6	4	4	1	8
Cederlind	1	0	0	0	0	0
Holland	2	0	0	0	0	1
Cincinnati						
Lorenzen W,2-1	5	4	1	1	0	6
Antone H,1	1	0	0	0	1	1
Sims H,4	2	1	0	0	0	1
Garrett S,1-2	1	0	0	0	2	1
HRP_Musarova (Moustakas)						

Umpires—Home, Ryan Blakney; First, D.J. Reyburn Second, Tim Timmons; Third, Laz Diaz T-2:40.

#### NHL playoffs

**CONFERENCE FINALS** 

(Best-of-7)

Tuesday

CONFERENCE FINALS

Miami 117, Boston 114, OT, Miami leads series, 104, L.A. Clippers 89, Denver wins series

#### High school box scores

Boys Section 3-3A Belle Vernon Area 4, Albert Gallatin 1 Belle Vernon 0 4 - 4 G: BVA - Daniel Sassak 2, Tyler Kovatch, Nick Records: Belle Vernon Area (2-0, 2-0); Albert

Ringgold 3, Greensburg-Salem 1 Ringgold 1 2 G: R - Katelyn Ferrence, Carly Lutz, Faith Bodnar. GS - Kylie Śmith. A: R - Ferrence, Lutz. GS - Ashley Smith. cords: Ringgold (1-1, 1-1); Greensburg-Salem

Section 4-2A South Allegheny 1, East Allegheny 0 South Allegheny 0 1 - 1 0 0 - 0 East Allegheny 0 G: SA - Olivia Stetz. Records: South Allegheny (2-0, 1-0); East Allegheny

Section 2-A Charleroi 7, Beth-Center 1
Beth-Center 0 1 G: BC - Kendyl Ferguson; C - Bella Carroto 3, McKenna DeUnger 3, Taylor Ramsdell. A: C - DeUnger 2, Shaley Barber, Sophia Iacovino. Records: Beth-Center (0-1, 0-1); Charleroi (1-1, 1-1).

Seton LaSalle 3. Bentworth 1 G: B - Reagan Schreiber cords: Bentworth (0-2, 0-2); Seton LaSalle (1-0,

#### High school schedule

Section 3-3A
Belle Vernon at G'burg Salem, 7:30
Laurel Highlands at Ringgold, 7:30
Uniontown at Thomas Jefferson, 7:30 Section 1-2A Elizabeth Forward at East Allegheny, 6 Section 2-2A
Brownsville at Yough, 7 Charleroi at Waynesburg, 7:30 ntwood at California. **GIRLS** Section 1-A

THURSDAY BOYS Section 1-2A Steel Valley at South Allegheny, 5
Section 4-A
Chartiers-Houston at Monessen, 4

Jeannette at Serra Catholic, 7

Nonsection
Armstrong at McKeesport, 7 Jeannette at California, 7 Section 2-3A Albert Gallatin at Belle Vernon, 7:30 Ringgold at Uniontown, 7 Section 3-3A

Brashear at Th Section 3-2A Yough at Southmoreland, 7 Section 4-2A
East Allegheny at Elizabeth Forward, 7:30
South Park at South Allegheny, 7 Section 2-A Monessen at Bentworth, 7

Nonsection
Woodland Hills at McKeesport, 5

FOOTBALL Ringgold at Laurel Highlands Thomas Jefferson at Trinity West Mifflin at Belle Vernor Brownsville at Elizabeth Forward Southmoreland at South Allegheny Yough at South Park McGuffev at Charleroi Clairton at Leechburg West Greene at California Bentworth at Monessen Serra Catholic at Seton LaSalle Ligonier Valley at Frazier

Section 3-3A Ringgold at Uniontown, 1 Thomas Jefferson at Albert Gallatin, TBA Trinity at Belle Vernon, 12:30 Section 1-2A
Avonworth at Elizabeth Forward, 10
South Allegheny at Keystone Oaks, 12:30
Section 3.2A Southmoreland at Charleroi, 12 Yough at Mt. Pleasant, 10 Section 2-A Serra Catholic at Trinity Christian, 2

Section 4-A
Monessen at Beth-Center, 11
Seton LaSalle at Bentworth, 10 GIRLS Section 2-A

Seton LaSalle at Monessen, 10 Nonsection East Allegheny at Bentworth, 1 Elizabeth Forward at Belle Vernon, 4:30 South Fayette at Thomas Jefferson, 12:30

#### Waynesburg at Charleroi, 10 NFL standings AMERICAN CONFERENCE

0 1.000 27 0 1.000 21

Miami N.Y. Jets	0	1	0	.000 21	2
South  Jacksonville Tennessee Houston Indianapolis	W 1 1 0 0	L 0 0 1	T 0 0 0	Pct PF 1.000 27 1.000 16 .000 20 .000 20	P 2 1 3 2
North  Baltimore Pittsburgh Cincinnati Cleveland	W 1 1 0	L 0 0 1	T 0 0 0	Pct PF 1.000 38 1.000 26 .000 13 .000 6	P 1 1
West  Kansas City L.A. Chargers Las Vegas Denver	W 1 1 1 0	L 0 0 0	T 0 0 0	Pct PF 1.000 34 1.000 16 1.000 34 .000 14	P 2 1 1 3 1
NATIONAL CON	FERENC	Œ			

	W	L	Т	Pct PF	PA
Kansas City L.A. Chargers Las Vegas Denver	1 1 1 0	0 0 0 1	0 0 0	1.000 34	20 13 30 16
NATIONAL COI	NFERE	NCE			
Washington N.Y. Giants Dallas Philadelphia	W 1 0 0	L 0 1 1	T 0 0 0	Pct PF 1.000 27 .000 16 .000 17 .000 17	PA 17 26 20 27
South  New Orleans Atlanta Carolina Tampa Bay	W 1 0 0	L 0 1 1	T 0 0 0	Pct PF 1.000 34 .000 25 .000 30 .000 23	PA 23 38 34 34
North Chicago	W 1	L 0	T 0	Pct PF 1.000 27	PA 23
Green Bay Detroit Minnesota	1 0 0	0 1	0 0 0	1.000 27 1.000 43 .000 23 .000 34	34 27 43

Arizona

T Pct PF PA 0 1.000 24 20 0 1.000 20 17 0 1.000 38 25 0 .000 20 24 L.A. Rams Seattle San Francisco **Thursday** Cincinnati at Cleveland, 8:20 p.m.

Sunday Jacksonville at Tennessee, 1 p.m. N.Y. Giants at Chicago, 1 p.m. Detroit at Green Bay, 1 p.m. Carolina at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m. Buffalo at Miami, 1 p.m. San Francisco at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m. LA. Rams at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Dallas, 1 p.m.
Denver at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Washington at Arizona, 4:05 p.m. Baltimore at Houston, 4:25 p.m.

Kansas City at L.A. Chargers, 4:25 p.m New England at Seattle, 8:20 p.m. Monday New Orleans at Las Vegas, 8:15 p.m



#### **Latest Line**

**BEST BET:** Arizona is 3-11 its last 14 games as an underdog. The Diamondbacks are 3-13 their last 16 games versus a right-handed starter. Los Angeles is 4-1 its last 5 games versus a left-handed starter. The Angels are 14-6 their last 20 interleague home games versus a team with a losing record. Take the LA Angels over Arizona for another Best Bet winne

NFL

Favorite	Odds Week	(O/U)	Underdog
	Thursd	ay	
CLEVELAND	6	(43.5)	Cincinnati
	Sunda	ıy	
LA Rams	1	(46)	PHILA
TAMPA BAY	9	(48.5)	Carolina
PITTSBURGH	7 1/2	(41.5)	Denver
DALLAS	5	(52.5)	Atlanta
San Francisco	7	(42.5)	NY JETS
Buffalo	5 1/2	(41)	MIAMI
INDIANAPOLIS	3	(48)	Minnesota
GREEN BAY	6	(48.5)	Detroit
CHICAGO	4 1/2	(42.5)	NY Giants
TENNESSEE	9	(42)	Jacksonville
ARIZON	6 1/2	(46.5)	Washington
Baltimore	7	(51.5)	HOUSTON
Kansas City	8 1/2	(47)	LA CH'GERS
SEATTLE	4	(45.)	N' England
	Monda	ay	-
New Orleans	6 1/2	(51.5)	LV RAIDERS

#### **COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

Saturday						
UL-Lafayette	17	(58.5) GEORGIA ST				
Florida Atlantic	2 1/2	(47) GA SOUTHERN				
N. CAROLINA ST	2 1/2	(52.5) Wake Forest				
Central Florida	7 1/2	(60) GEORGIA TECH				
NORTH CAROLINA	29 1/2	(59.5) Charlotte				
DUKE	6	(52) Boston College				
LOUISVILLE	2 1/2	(64.5) Miami-Florida				
PITTSBURGH	21 1/2					
Appalachian St	4	(59.5) MARSHALL				
W. KENTUCKY	14	(53.5) Liberty				
SOUTHERN MISS	5	(57.5) Louisiana Tech				
Texas St	5 1/2	(63) UL-MONROE				
Smu	14	(69.5) NORTH TEXAS				
TULANE	7 1/2	(49) Navy				
Troy	3 1/2	(64.5) MID TENN ST				
NOTRE DAME	26	(50.5) South Florida				
	23	(66) Tulsa				
BAYLOR	4 1/2	(63) Houston				
MLB						

Favorite TAMPA BAY Odds (O/U) Underdog 7 1/2-8 1/2 COLORADO 5 1/2-6 1/2 Pittsburgh Boston BALTIMORE CINCINNATI MIAMI 5 1/2-6 1/2 Atlanta 10 1/2-12 1/2(8.5) 5 1/2-6 1/2 (7.5) NY YANKEES NY Mets Kansas City St. Louis (1) Even-6 Even-6 DETROIT St. Louis (2) 5 1/2-6 1/2 MIL WAUKEE CHI WHITE SOX 6-7 10-12 HOUSTON Texas CHI. CUBS LA ANGELS



#### SPORTS ON TV

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL 5 a.m. (Thursday) - FS2 — AFL: West

Coast at North Melbourne

6:30 a.m. - NBCSN - UCI: The Tour deFrance, Stage 17, Grenoble to Méribel, 110

6:30 a.m. (Thursday) - NBCSN — UCI: The Tour de France, Stage 18, Méribel to La Roche-sur-Foron, 109 miles

**KBO BASEBALL** 

5:25 a.m. - ESPN2 — LG at Hanwha 5:25 a.m. (Thursday) - ESPN2 — Lotte at

#### MLB BASEBALL

1 p.m. - MLBN — Washington at Tampa

4 p.m. - ESPN — LA Dodgers at San Diego 7 p.m. - ESPN — NY Mets at Philadelphia 7 p.m. - ATTSN — Pittsburgh at Cincinnati 10 p.m. - ESPN — Arizona at LA Angels **SOCCER (MEN'S)** 

9:30 p.m. - FS1 — MLS: Portland at San



Joey Votto and the Reds host the Pirates at 7 p.m. on AT&T Sports Network.

#### **TENNIS**

5 a.m. - TENNIS — Rome-ATP/WTA Early Rounds

5 a.m. (Thursday) - TENNIS - Rome-ATP/WTA Early Rounds

#### VALLEY SPORTS HISTORY

#### 20 Years Ago

Elizabeth Forward opened play in the Big 7 Conference by shutting out Chartiers Valley, 28-0. Quarterback Glenn Schreiber led the victory with three rushing touchdowns and hitting on 12 of 18 passes for 159 yards and a TD. Charleroi snapped a 13-game losing

streak by blanking Carlynton, 24-0, at home. Justin Spada sparked the Cougars by rushing for 120 yards and a touchdown on 10 carries. Also hitting paydirt were Matt Tartt and John Tarquinio, while **Brandon Romito** kicked a 30-yard field goal.. Coach Jim Dumm also lauded the work of defensive linemen Rick Bergstedt, Marcus Hughes, Loren Black and Bob Shuback.

• Six former standouts were inducted into the Charleroi Football Hall of Fame last night. The honorees were Bill Henderson, Ron Bullard, Fran Celaschi, Ken Konek, John Reed and Chris Hega.

 Monessen rebounded from an opening game setback to roar by Bentworth, 49-0, at Memorial Stadium. Freshman Tim Kershaw directed the Greyhounds with 135 yards rushing and two touchdowns on only seven carries. Adding numbers to the score-

board were Shawn Martin, Tory Williams and Brandon Jackson.

#### 30 Years Ago

• Sunday – No paper published.

#### 40 Years Ago

 Belle Vernon Area High's junior-varsity football team upped their record to 2-0 with a 24-6 win over Peters Township. Dane **Astle** led the Leopards with over 100 yards rushing and two touchdowns and Mike Weldon and Alex Nagy rang up the other

• Lane Stoner finished eighth with a time of 20 minutes and one second as Ringgold's cross-country Rams dropped a 15-50 verdict at Baldwin.

• Paul Kunsa and Walt Cieply took top honors in the annual Monessen Lucky Poker Club team golf tournament at the Waterford Motor Inn course in Chester, W.Va. • Joe Dalfonso chalked up a 233–595

series ahead of the field in the St. Cajetan Men's Bowling League in Monessen. Meanwhile, Cindy Greene set the pace in the Friday Starlettes League with a 203-182--554 outing at the Star Lanes.

#### COUGARS FROM B1

"Boots is already playing like a senior in that midfield. She's never going to quit on anything and she's so tough to get off the ball," Fleming said. Ramsdell moved up from her defensive

position and scored her first varsity goal after reining in a feed from Sophia Iacovino with 18:09 remaining in the game. "She was begging me to move back after

she scored that goal," Fleming said with a laugh. "She was a little out of her comfort zone there, but it was nice to shuffle some

"Overall, I'm really pleased with our play. Yes, we're going to make mistakes. But these girls have the talent to go out and make up for them. They're going to keep goals, it makes everything a lot easier."

getting better and learning."

Cougars keeper Addison Conrad had one save in the win. Vail had four saves for the Bulldogs.

Kendyl Ferguson scored the lone goal for the Bulldogs (0-1, 0-1) with 2:48 to go.

"The big thing for us now is to kind of learn to pace ourselves. Hydrate, rest and get ready for back-to-back games at the end of the week," Fleming said. "These young girls want to get out there and compete and they're always ready to go. I just think yesterday took a toll on us emotionally early on and we never recovered. Today was a lot better and we capitalized on our chances early on. Anytime you get those first couple

### Roethlisberger quiets doubters in opener

PITTSBURGH(AP) — Time to stop talking about Ben Roethlisberger's surgically repaired right elbow.

At least for now.

Whatever lingering doubts Roethlisberger or the rest of the Pittsburgh Steelers might have had over the state of their franchise quarterback's passing arm were put to rest during a relatively drama-free 26-16 win over the New York Giants in the season opener on Monday night.

Playing for the first time in 364 days, the 38-year-old completed 21 of 32 passes for 229 yards and three touchdowns. And while he only truly let it loose a couple of times, he was efficient. He was patient. He was even a little spry, running for an 11-yard gain at one point.

While Roethlisberger wasn't dominant, dominance wasn't required. Not on a night where the defense produced three sacks and two turnovers while holding New York running back Saquon Barkley to just 6 yards rushing. For a team that expects to compete with Baltimore for the AFC North title, it was a promising start. Even if it was iust a start.

"We said afterward it wasn't perfect, it wasn't even good some of the time offensively," Roethlisberger said. "But at the end of the day we found a way

A win that came with plenty of what coach Mike Tomlin likes to call "meat on the bone," meaning there is plenty to work on ahead of a visit by Denver on Sunday. That work, however, will not include any uncertainty about Roethlisberger's status. He's back. And so might be an offense that scored three touchdowns in a game just three times

during his extended absence in 2019. "Ben told us we can be great individuals," wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster said, "But if we work all together and we're good, we can be great as a team."

#### RAMS FROM B1

Finally, Ferrence took the ball from

GS defender Taylor Carr and went in on goal all alone. Her shot beat Anderson low to the left for a 1-0 lead with just 12.3 seconds left in the half. Ringgold took the momentum from

that goal along with the halftime ad-

justments into the second half. In the

41st minute, Lutz drilled a shot from

30 yards out which handcuffed Anderson and got by giving the Rams a 2-0 advantage. In the 53rd minute, Lutz set up senior

Faith Bodnar who scored from 25 yards out into the left corner of the goal. In a matter of 14 minutes, Ringgold took a scoreless tie to a 3-0 lead. The Lions were able to get a tally

in the 78th minute as Ashley Smith

passed a ball in to Kylie Smith, who chipped the ball over freshman keeper Emily Doleno to spoil the shutout.

"We needed to get this first win under our belt and just move forward," Wilkerson said. "We have to learn from our mistakes and keep going. All of the girls want to win and do it for each other. As long as they keep that as our focus, we will be fine."

#### SHUTOUT FROM B1

able to push the pace and managed to spend a lot more time in Connellsville's end of the field. However, the Falcons did a nice job of clearing balls away from the front of the net. And when the Leopards got a shot through, Connellsville keeper Madison Kinneer was there to make the save on her way

two late goals. Hamborsky tallied her second of the game off a feed from Shelby Basinger with just over seven minutes remaining. Then Grace Bosnic connected on a low liner off a pass from Mary Kate Lape with under four minutes left.

down 3-0, but I thought we did a good job of playing good defense," Puskar said. "And we finished so many plays tonight."

For the Leopards, a team with high expectations, they can't dwell on the "We're going to focus on our next

game, but we'll take this game and we'll learn from it because Connellsville is a highly skilled team and you can learn a lot from playing a game like this," Lovett said.

Connellsville is at Greensburg Salem and Belle Vernon hosts Albert Gallatin.

#### they outplayed us." In the second half, the Leopards were

to the shutout victory.

The Falcons put the game on ice with

"They came out with more fire being

Both teams return to action Thursday.

#### N.Y. Islanders vs. Tampa Bay, 8 p.m. NBA playoffs