



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

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**
jsellew@yourmvi.com

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



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



Jenn Codeluppi / MVI Sports

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 Sy-polt 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, 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.

"It'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

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Jeremy Sellow
Sports Editor



José Negron
Assistant Sports Editor

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MLB standings

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	29	20	.592	—
Miami	24	22	.522	3½
Philadelphia	24	23	.511	4
New York	21	27	.438	7½
Washington	17	29	.370	10½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	28	20	.583	—
St. Louis	21	22	.488	4½
Cincinnati	24	26	.480	5
Milwaukee	22	25	.468	5½
Pittsburgh	14	33	.298	13½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	33	15	.688	—
San Diego	32	17	.653	1½
San Francisco	23	24	.489	9½
Colorado	22	25	.468	10½
Arizona	17	31	.354	16

Tuesday's Games				
Cincinnati 4, Pittsburgh 1				
Boston 2, Miami 0				
Tampa Bay 6, Washington 1				
Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Mets 1				
Atlanta 5, Baltimore 1				
Milwaukee 18, St. Louis 3				
Colorado 3, Oakland 1				
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 3-0), 1:10 p.m.				
Oakland (Fiers 5-2) at Colorado (Márquez 2-5), 3:10 p.m.				
L.A. Dodgers (May 1-1) at San Diego (Paddock 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 p.m.				
N.Y. Mets (deGrom 4-1) at Philadelphia (Nola 5-3), 7:05 p.m.				
Atlanta (Harnels 0-0) at Baltimore (Akin 0-1), 7:35 p.m.				
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), 9:40 p.m.				
San Francisco (Webb 2-3) at Seattle (Margevicius 1-3), 9:40 p.m.				

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	31	17	.646	—
New York	27	21	.563	4
Toronto	26	21	.553	4½
Baltimore	21	27	.438	10
Boston	18	31	.367	13½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	32	16	.667	—
Minnesota	30	20	.600	3
Cleveland	26	21	.553	5½
Detroit	21	26	.447	10½
Kansas City	20	29	.408	12½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	30	19	.612	—
Houston	24	24	.500	5½
Seattle	22	26	.458	7½
Los Angeles	20	28	.417	9½
Texas	17	31	.354	12½

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				
Houston 4, Texas 1				
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.				
Today's Games				
Washington (Voth 0-5) at Tampa Bay (Fleming 3-0), 1:10 p.m.				
Oakland (Fiers 5-2) at Colorado (Márquez 2-5), 3:10 p.m.				
Boston (TBD) at Miami (Rogers 1-1), 6:40 p.m.				
Toronto (Roark 2-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Cole 5-3), 7:05 p.m.				
Kansas City (Singer 2-4) at Detroit (Skubal 1-2), 7:10 p.m.				
Atlanta (Harnels 0-0) at Baltimore (Akin 0-1), 7:35 p.m.				
Minnesota (TBD) at Chicago White Sox (Giolitto 4-2), 8:10 p.m.				
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), 9:40 p.m.				
San Francisco (Webb 2-3) at Seattle (Margevicius 1-3), 9:40 p.m.				

Pirates box score

REDS 4, PIRATES 1												
Pittsburgh						Cincinnati						
	abr	r	h	bi			abr	r	h	bi		
González ss	4	0	1	0	Akiyama lf	4	0	2	0			
Reynolds lf	3	0	0	0	Castellanos rf	4	1	2	0			
Hayes 3b	4	1	1	0	Aquino rf	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 3b	3	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				
Totals	32	1	5	1	Totals	29	4	6	4			

Pittsburgh	000	100	000	—	1
Cincinnati	310	000	00x	—	4

LOB—Pittsburgh 7, Cincinnati 4. 2B—Hayes (2), González (12), Castellanos (9). HR—Barnhart (4). SF—Goodwin (1).

Pittsburgh												
	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO						
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	0	1	0	6						
Antone H,1	1	0	0	0	0	1						
Sims H,4	2	1	0	0	0	1						
Garrett S,1-2	1	0	0	0	2	1						

HBP—Musgrove (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				
N.Y. Islanders vs. Tampa Bay, 8 p.m.				

NBA playoffs

CONFERENCE FINALS				
(Best-of-7)				
Tuesday				
Miami 117, Boston 114, OT, Miami leads series, 1-0				
Denver 104, L.A. Clippers 89, Denver wins series 4-3				

High school box scores

Boys				
Section 3-3A				
Belle Vernon Area 4, Albert Gallatin 1				
Belle Vernon	0	4	-	4
Albert Gallatin	1	0	-	1
G: BVA - Daniel Sassak 2, Tyler Kovatch, Nick Nagy.				
Records: Belle Vernon Area (2-0, 2-0); Albert Gallatin (0-1, 0-1).				
Girls				
Section 2-3A				
Ringgold 3, Greensburg-Salem 1				
Ringgold	1	2	-	3
Greensburg-Salem	0	1	-	1
G: R - Katelyn Ferrence, Carly Lutz, Faith Bodnar.				
GS - Kylie Smith.				
Records: Ringgold (1-1, 1-1); Greensburg-Salem (0-1, 0-1).				

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

Section 2-A				
Charleroi 7, Beth-Center 1				
Beth-Center	0	1	-	1
Charleroi	4	3	-	7
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				
Bentworth	0	1	-	1
Seton LaSalle	2	1	-	3
G: B - Reagan Schreiber.				
A: B - Tessa Charpentier.				
Records: Bentworth (0-2, 0-2); Seton LaSalle (1-0, 1-0).				

High school schedule

TODAY	
SOCCER	
BOYS	
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	
Section 4-A	
Bentworth at Monessen, 4	
Brentwood at California, 7	
GIRLS	
Section 1-A	
Jeannette at Serra Catholic, 7	
THURSDAY	
SOCCER	
BOYS	
Section 1-2A	
Steel Valley at South Allegheny, 5	
Section 4-A	
Chartiers-Houston at Monessen, 4	
Nonsection	
Armstrong at McKeesport, 7	
Jeannette at California, 7	
GIRLS	
Section 2-3A	
Albert Gallatin at Belle Vernon, 7:30	