



Browns go down
Cleveland lost to the Raiders in windy, snowy conditions. B2

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2020

McIntyre, Butchki are MVI Players of the Year

The members of our Fab 15 team will be announced Nov. 12.

By JEREMY SELLEW
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As the WPIAL soccer season winds down, it's time for the annual *Mon Valley Independent* BeeGraphix Fab 15 All-Stars to be announced.

This year's teams will be announced at 8 p.m. Nov. 12 on our MVI Live YouTube page.

All winners and their head coaches are invited to attend the MVI Live show recording at BeeGraphix Nov. 11 and will be interviewed for the show.

This year's award winners and all-stars were selected by a panel of MVI staff writers and photographers based on nominations received from our local coaches.

As wasn't always the case in past seasons, this year's selections were tedious. There are so many great players, from freshmen to seniors, who deserved recognition. In the end, we believe we have the absolute best of the best taking home the hardware.

Award winners

This year's Fab 15 Boys Player of the Year is Charleroi's Eben McIntyre.

McIntyre finished with 43 goals and 10 assists on the season, breaking the school record for goals in a game with seven against Browns-



Charleroi's Eben McIntyre and Belle Vernon Area's Jillian Butchki are our choices for Player of the Year honors.

ville. "Eben leads the team by respect and action," Charleroi head coach Jon Ducoli said. "He'll slide from the forward position to the midfield, or even the holding-mid to give our team the best chances to win."

McIntyre and the Cougars' season came to an end in the first round of the WPIAL playoffs with a 3-1 loss to Avonworth.

"I think it's definitely a well-deserved honor. He's one of the hardest working players I know," Du-

coli said. "He's always looking at the positive side and mentoring the younger players, it's having a player like him that makes coaching so enjoyable."

The Fab 15 Girls Player of the Year award will be taken home by Belle Vernon Area forward Jillian Butchki.

Butchki led the offensively potent Leopards with 27 goals and 14 assists, good for 68 points.

Butchki hit the 100-goal mark for her career this season as a senior

captain. She finished the season as the sixth-leading scorer in the WPIAL.

"Not only is Jill an outstanding soccer player herself, she's an all-around team player," Lovett said. "She's the type of player that goes out there and makes all the players around her better."

Our coaches of the year are Elizabeth Forward's Doug Finke for the boys and South Allegheny's Andrew Dyson for the girls. Finke led the Warriors to a 12-2-2

overall record and a trip to the WPIAL semifinals, where they'll face No. 1 seed Shady Side Academy at 6:30 p.m. today.

All Dyson did was take the Gladiators, a three-win team last season, to the WPIAL playoffs with an overall record of 8-6-1 and a third-place finish in Section 4-2A.

Last season, the Gladiators were 0-12 in section play; this season they were 6-4.

The Charleroi Cougars laid claim to the Boys and Girls Top Newcomer Awards.

Freshman Jake Chambers entered the varsity program and ended up being the anchor for a young but impressive Cougars defensive unit from the center back position.

The girls award has a pair of winners, with the Cougars' Bella Carro and McKenna "Boots" DeUnger sharing the prize.

Carro finished fifth in the WPIAL with 28 goals, good for second in Class A and tops among freshmen. She also had 11 assists.

Most of her goals came off passes from DeUnger, who had no issues finding the back of the net herself.

DeUnger finished with 20 goals, making her the second highest-scoring freshman behind her teammate. She added eight assists and was a dominant force with the ball at her feet in the Cougars' midfield.

Belle Vernon Area's TJ Watson was selected as the Goalkeeper of the Year for the boys' side.

Watson finished the season with a **PLAYERS OF THE YEAR • B3**



Nathan Boulanger (7) will be one of Ringgold's assistant captains this season.

Unfinished business

Rams ready for new season after COVID-19 disappointment

By JOSE NEGRON
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Ringgold's 2019-20 hockey season didn't end the way anyone expected.

The Rams advanced to the PIHL Class B championship game to face Carrick, but never had the opportunity to play for the title due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A March trip to Dallas, Texas, was also canceled as Ringgold was scheduled to play in a national tournament for the first time in team history.

After the disappointment that followed and months away from the rink, the Rams are preparing to return to the ice for meaningful games, beginning tonight when they take on Elizabeth Forward in their

season opener at the Rostraver Ice Garden.

"They're very excited. We played two scrimmage games, but it seemed so odd to play with the guys together again," Ringgold head coach Rick Kalinowski said. The Rams, who finished last season with a 17-1-1 record, will have to replace nine seniors, including their top four contributors on offense.

Gone are forwards Bradley Bujdos (32 goals, 29 assists last season), Evan Eberlein (19G, 31A), Justin Day (8G, 34A) and Nathan Todd (24G, 18A), in addition to forward Jeremy Bednar, defenseman Jon DuMont, Clayton Colecchi and Ryan Marck and goaltender Chad DeGroot.

"Losing nine players from

last year is definitely a hard hit to any team," Kalinowski said. "I do have faith in the foundation that we've built and have today."

Ringgold will be led by forward Zach Kalinowski, who will take over as captain following Day's graduation.

Zach Kalinowski scored 15 goals and added 13 assists for a 28-point campaign in 16 games.

Ringgold's assistant captains are defenseman Hunter Suarez (8G, 14A last season), forwards Nick Nagy (5G, 3A), Nathan Boulanger (4G, 5A) and Ethan Saylor (14G, 24A), and defenseman Hunter Bergman (2G, 3A).

"We have some really good leadership on the team," Rick Kalinowski

said. "They're focused and were a big part of the team the last two seasons."

"I see a big change in the team from previous years and we don't have a selfish player on the team."

Rick Kalinowski admits replacing Bujdos will be difficult. The Belle Vernon Area graduate led all of Class B in scoring last year. Boulanger will be counted on to help replace the offensive production that was lost.

"I'll take a Mark Madden line and say, 'He can shoot a quarter from across the room and put it into a Coke machine,'" Rick Kalinowski said. "Zach and Nathan have been working very well together with a freshman in Kenny Cadwallader."

HOCKEY • B2

Steelers enjoy ugly win over rival Ravens

BALTIMORE (AP) — The Pittsburgh Steelers roared from behind to remain the lone unbeaten team in the NFL, outlasting their scored rivals to escape with a feel-good victory that solidified their grip on first place in the AFC North.

What better way to spend a rainy day in Baltimore?

Ben Roethlisberger threw two second-half touchdowns, and the Steelers beat error-prone Lamar Jackson and the Ravens 28-24 Sunday to match the best start in franchise history.

Pittsburgh (7-0) trailed by 10 points at halftime before rallying behind Roethlisberger, a crafty 38-year-old who missed most of last year with an elbow injury. After completing only four passes for 24 yards in the first half, Big Ben finished 21 for 32 for 182 yards.

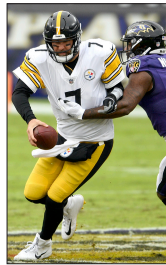
He was much more happy with the result than his numbers.

"Nothing about this game was pretty from an offensive perspective until the end and we looked at the scoreboard," Roethlisberger said.

Jackson threw two interceptions and lost two fumbles, miscues that helped Pittsburgh stay within striking distance until its offense finally got on track.

"The turnovers, I feel, is the reason we lost the game," Jackson said. "I put that on me."

Beyond losing ground in the division, Baltimore lost All-Pro left tackle Ronnie Stanley for the season with a severe ankle injury. The mishap occurred in the first quar-



Ravens defensive end Yannick Ngakoue pressures Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger.

ter after he was accidentally undercut by Pittsburgh's T.J. Watt.

"That's a tough loss," coach John Harbaugh said. "I feel bad for Ronnie."

The Steelers led 28-24 when the Ravens (5-2) faced a fourth-and-3 at the Pittsburgh 8 with 2 minutes left. Jackson ran a quarterback draw and lost the ball while being stopped short.

Baltimore got the ball back and moved to the Pittsburgh 23 before Jackson's pass in the end zone was broken up on the final play.

The only other time the Steelers started 7-0, in 1978, they went on to win their third Super Bowl in five years.

They aren't talking about a championship yet, but the players feel pretty good about where they stand at this point. **STEELERS • B2**

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WPIAL football playoffs

Table with columns for Class, Semifinals, and Finals. Includes results for Class 6A, Class 5A, Class 4A, and Class 3A.

WPIAL soccer playoffs

Table with columns for Boys, Semifinals, and Finals. Includes results for Class 4A, Class 3A, and Class 2A.

Girls WPIAL playoffs

Table with columns for Semifinals and Finals. Includes results for Class 4A, Class 3A, and Class 2A.

WPIAL volleyball playoffs

Table with columns for Semifinals and Finals. Includes results for Class 4A, Class 3A, and Class 2A.

Sports transactions

BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES - Exercised 2021 club option on INF Jose Iglesias.

NFL standings

Table showing NFL standings for the American Conference and National Conference, including columns for Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA.

College Football

Table showing college football standings for the West, South, and Midwest regions.

Steelers box score

Steelers 13, Browns 10. Pittsburgh 7 10 0 7 - 28. Baltimore 7 10 0 7 - 24. First Quarter: Pittsburgh 7, Baltimore 0.

AP Top 25

Table showing AP Top 25 college football rankings with columns for Rank, Team, and Record.

Armando's Pizzeria advertisement featuring a pizza image and contact information: Charleroi-724-483-5540, Monessen-724-684-5105.



Daniel Jones and the Giants will host the Buccaneers on Monday Night Football at 8:15 p.m. on ESPN.

SPORTS ON TV

COLLEGE SOCCER (MEN'S) 1 p.m.- ACCN - Virginia Tech at Notre Dame. HORSE RACING 9:30 p.m. - CBSN - The Melbourne Cup Carnival.

VALLEY SPORTS HISTORY

20 Years Ago • Chris Vaccaro, a former Ringgold standout, was set to make his debut as the Rams head hockey coach when RHS opened its season against Caneyan.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Yough girls advance to soccer semifinals The Yough girls soccer team has a semifinal date again this season. The No. 9 Cougars upset No. 1 seed South Park, 1-0, Saturday to set up the opportunity for a second straight berth into the WPIAL Championship Game.

Elliott races into NASCAR championship

MARTINSVILLE, Va. (AP) - Kevin Harvick was on cruise control all season long, the most dominant driver in NASCAR, coasting into the championship round with a comfortable cushion that left plenty of room for error.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR FROM B1

109 goals against average and posted seven shutouts. He played in all 17 games for the Leopards and registered 71 saves. Thomas Jefferson's Maddison Sippy is the girls' top goalkeeper this season.