

# Walk-on, kickoff

Every time David Ruffer has attempted a field goal, he has made it, as he bucks all walk-on expectations

By DOUGLAS FARMER  
Sports Editor

When David Ruffer walked off the practice fields Tuesday afternoon, two loyal autograph seekers quickly approached him and asked for his signature. Unsurprisingly, the senior walk-on kicker signed away — something he never thought he would be in a position to do.

"It's cool I guess," Ruffer said a few seconds after putting the cap back on the provided Sharpie. "I never really thought of myself as somebody one day who would be signing autographs, but I'll take what I can get. It's neat to be in that position."

Then again, Ruffer never really thought of himself as somebody who would be Notre Dame's starting place kicker, having never missed a competitive field goal, even splitting the uprights from 50 yards away. In fact, the only aspect of Ruffer's current life he could have anticipated is the one aspect he initially had denied him — being a student at Notre Dame.

### Denial serves its purpose

Ruffer's father and grandfather graduated from Notre Dame, as did a few of his uncles and his older sister, but when Ruffer received a response to his application, it was not the response anybody in the family had hoped for.

"I grew up loving Notre Dame. I just wanted to be a student first of all," Ruffer said. "I didn't get in as a freshman, and that was probably the best thing that ever happened to me. It made me realize you have to work really hard for the things you want."

Ruffer then turned his eyes to William & Mary for a year,

where, after four years of playing varsity golf in high school, he took up kicking field goals. After a tryout, Ruffer walked-on to the Tribe football team.

"I walked on there kicking," he said. "and it's worked out ever since."

### A field goal and a tryout

Once he transferred to Notre Dame, Ruffer joined the Siegfried interhall football team, and after two games, in which he kicked one field goal and a couple of extra points, attempted to walk on with the Irish.

"It was more of when I would go out and practice [that I impressed people]," Ruffer said.

The tryout process was three-fold — one night with only tees and the then-special teams coach Brian Polian, one night with a snapper and holder and Polian, and a final night in front of then-Irish coach Charlie Weis.

"I was really nervous. These guys were going to see me for about 15 or 20 minutes, and if I don't do really well, they will probably not want to see me again," he said. "I just hoped I would perform to the best of my ability. I would have obviously been upset with myself if I came out here and didn't do the best that I know I could have."

Impress them he surely did, as Ruffer does not remember missing a single kick in the three tryout sessions.

### The rest is history

Ruffer only took one kick in a game in 2008, a point-after attempt that clanked off the upright. In 2009, Ruffer took over place kicking duties after incumbent Nick Tausch injured his foot, and Ruffer connected on nine of his 10 point-after

attempts, and all five field goal attempts.

This season, he has made all 11 of his field goal attempts, bringing his Irish career total to 16-of-16. Including his one field goal as a Rambler, Ruffer has never missed a field goal attempt in competition.

By making kick after kick, Ruffer has raised the Notre Dame standard for place kickers. His 16 consecutive made field goals bested Tausch's school record of 14, as well as the previous record for most consecutive made field goals to open a career, which was previously 13.

"I try not to think about [the streak]," he said. "Right now I'm zero-for-zero with Western Michigan coming up, and that is how I approach every game."

Ruffer's 50-yard kick against Pittsburgh tied the sixth-longest field goal in Notre Dame history. The longest in school history was kicked in 1976 by Dave Reeve, a 53-yarder. Reeve should not count his record safe as long as Ruffer is kicking, according to special teams coach Mike Elston.

"I see the kid kick 52 or 53 yarders every day," Elston said. "We were well in front of his threshold [on the 50-yard field goal] which is really about the 35-yard line."

### 'Kickers are head-cases'

After the Pittsburgh game, in which Ruffer also connected on 32- and 31-yard field goals, he attributed much of his success to junior holder Ryan Kavanagh, also a walk-on.

"Ryan Kavanagh is one of my best friends and he will say something to keep me calm," Ruffer said. "But then from when the ball is snapped to when I kick it I don't know what happens."

Tuesday Kavanagh said he knows he needs to keep a close eye on Ruffer, if for no other reason than the position he plays.

"Kickers are head-cases," Kavanagh said. "You have to make sure they're honed in on the ball."

"I just give him a couple reminders, take it easy, make sure he takes a deep breath ... I

*"I try not to think about [the streak]. Right now I'm zero-for-zero with Western Michigan coming up, and that is how I approach every game."*

David Ruffer  
senior kicker



DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Senior kicker David Ruffer sends his first kickoff of the season downfield during Notre Dame's 23-12 victory over Purdue on Sept. 4.

just make sure he's just focused on the kick."

Elston said he has seen the "head-case" in kickers that Kavanagh refers to, but in Ruffer it is more of an even demeanor that Elston sees.

"The kickers that I've been around that are good athletes, that have a good demeanor, that aren't just specialists as kickers and have done other things in their athletic career, they typically tend to be more competitive and more even-keeled when they take the field in pressure situations," Elston said. "Because they are used to being in it."

Whatever reasoning Kavanagh and Elston have for his success this season, Ruffer thinks he has found a groove simply because he has relaxed, in all areas of his life.

"I still work really hard [in school], but before I was really a perfectionist. Now I have grown up to a point where I realize things won't always go your way," Ruffer said. "That little bit of a laid-back attitude has helped my focus a little bit."

At some point, things on the football field won't necessarily go Ruffer's way. He may miss a field goal — believe it or not, he does miss them in practice. When the Saturday afternoon comes that one goes awry, Ruffer said he is ready to deal with that setback.

"You can only learn from mistakes," he said. "You can't make every single one, so it will happen eventually. The trick will be how I bounce back from that. It will happen, but I feel like I have a pretty strong head, so I'll be okay."

### 'Not For Long'

If Ruffer keeps making each and every one of his field goals,

questions concerning the NFL are bound to come his way. Ruffer quickly dismisses those thoughts.

"I don't plan on playing football forever," he said. "It's probably going to end after this season and I'll need to get started on the next chapter of my life."

"NFL stands for Not For Long, right? I would give it a shot, but if there is something else that gives me more of a sense of fulfillment, I'll do that instead."

Amid all of his success on the field, the primary reason Ruffer is at Notre Dame hasn't changed — the same reason he wanted to come to the University in the first place.

"It's been difficult, but I still think of myself as a student first," he said. "That's why I'm going through the interview process right now, and just trying to get that Notre Dame degree."

Ruffer, an Economics major, interned in the accounting department of Gurley Leep over the summer, and has not decided what he will do after graduation, nor has he ruled much out.

"I could go and be a house husband," he said. "If my wife is the bread winner, maybe I'll just take care of the kids."

He may not know what the future holds, but Ruffer did not expect any of what the present holds either, as he continues to move past his wildest dreams, field goal after field goal.

"I never thought this was going to happen. Obviously I thought it'd be something cool, but never to this magnitude. I can't say it's a dream come true, because I never really dreamed of this much."



TOM YOUNG/The Observer

Senior kicker David Ruffer converts one of his 11 field goals this season — this one during Notre Dame's 37-14 loss against Stanford. Ruffer has made all 16 of his field goals in his career.

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ANGELS vs. DODGERS

# Trumbo is perking up for Angels

The rookie's adjustments are paying off in the batter's box after a slow start.

DOUGLAS FARMER

Among the many adjustments Angels rookie first baseman Mark Trumbo has made this year, there is one change he does not mind. In fact, he downright enjoys it.

When he sits at his locker before a game, taping the handles of a batch of new bats, he isn't fine-tuning his most recent \$65 purchase. After six seasons in the minors, buying bat after bat from the Trinity Bat Co. in Fullerton, Trumbo no longer has to purchase his preferred piece of lumber, the T-271 model.

"It's really nice," said Trumbo, who estimated he has already broken 10 bats this season. "It takes a burden off of me. It's one of the luxuries of getting up here, working your way up. It's one of the perks."

That perk resulted in Trumbo going one for four Friday night, with one run

scored.

Trumbo first tasted the major leagues in September and made the Angels' opening-day roster this season as a placeholder until Kendrys Morales returned from his 2010 ankle injury. When Morales underwent season-ending surgery in May, Trumbo became an everyday player.

At the start, Trumbo struggled, batting .239 with two walks and 21 strikeouts through April 30.

"For me, I always start slow and get better as the season goes on, at whatever level I've been at," he said. "As far as the pitchers go, I'm going to have to adjust at some point anyways. Right now I'm battling, doing the best I can, and that's part of the process."

That battling has raised Trumbo's batting average to .262 with 12 home runs and 31 RBIs heading into this weekend's series against the Dodgers.

"He is definitely [pro-



GINA FERAZZI Los Angeles Times

**ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT:** Mark Trumbo stays on his knees in the second inning after being picked off first base. In the ninth inning, he stole second.

gressing] at the plate," Angels Manager Mike Scioscia said. "You see him making adjustments, and he is really impressing in the batter's box."

Those adjustments have led to a .279 batting average this month, before Friday's game. Trumbo said the most difficult adjustment he has had to make is to learn that not every pitch he can hit is one he should swing at.

"It's plate discipline, and I'm not doing as well as I'd like to at that," the rookie said. "I'm doing better at taking some of the pitches I can put in play but I can't put in play with authority. For me, that's a big thing, just being able to take those and wait for one that I can handle."

Friday night he struggled laying off those pitches he can hit, but not hit well. After a second-inning single to right, Trumbo grounded out in his next two at-bats. In his fourth at-bat, he reached on an error and stole second.

Fortunately, just a few locker stalls away sits Angels right fielder Bobby Abreu. Over his 16-year career, Abreu's .296 average has been largely the result of his selectiveness at the plate.

"I've really been watching Bobby," Trumbo said. "It doesn't get much better than that. It's been a pleasure watching how he approaches situation and pitchers."

For his part, Abreu has done what he can to help the Southern California native along.

"We talk a bit, about fundamentals and how to go about it," Abreu said. "Besides that, he's watching what I'm doing while I'm at the plate, and picking out the good things about it."

"He likes to learn everyday. I like the approach he uses."

Just like Trumbo likes those new bats.

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DODGERS FYI

## Furcal might come back at second base

DYLAN HERNANDEZ

Sidelined shortstop Rafael Furcal could return from the disabled list as a second baseman so rookie Dee Gordon can remain in the lineup, Manager Don Mattingly said.

Mattingly said he and General Manager Ned Colletti have discussed the possibility of a position change for Furcal, who has played only 34 of his 1,414 career games at second base. Furcal has played second base in the Dominican winter league but hasn't played the position in the major leagues since 2004.

Mattingly and Colletti have not yet approached Furcal with the idea, but the two-time All-Star said Friday that he would be open to it.

"If I have to do it to help the team, I'll do it," Furcal said.

Furcal could start a minor league rehabilitation with Class-A Rancho Cucamonga as early as Sunday.

Furcal, who has been on the disabled list since June 4 because of a strained side muscle, said he has enjoyed watching Gordon because he reminds him of a shortstop he knows well.

"He reminds me of me, when I started my career," Furcal said. "He's been tremendous. He's demonstrated that he can play here. He plays good defense. He's hit well. He has his own style of play. He might be young, but he recognizes how to play his game."

In the last week, Mattingly has tried to downplay expectations for Gordon, warning that opposing pitchers would be adjusting to him.

Gordon was one for his last 13 heading into Friday, which dropped his season average to .268. He had stolen four bases.

However much enjoyment he has derived from watching Gordon play, Furcal said not being able to play has been difficult for him. Furcal also missed five weeks earlier in the season because of a broken thumb.

"The entire year has been difficult," he said. "I work hard to maintain health. But there are things I can't control. God is the only one who knows what's in store for you."

But Furcal said he wouldn't change his aggressive style of play.

"I can't change the way I play for the sake of staying healthy," he said. "I can't change now. This is the style that got me to the major leagues."

Next for Broxton

Jonathan Broxton struck out the side for triple-A Albuquerque on Thursday in the second game of his minor league rehabilitation.

But the average velocity of his fastball Thursday was 93 mph, down from 95 mph two days earlier.

Broxton will take a couple of days off and resume his rehabilitation assignment with Class-A Rancho Cucamonga, perhaps as early as Sunday.

Short hops

Double-A Chattanooga outfielder Alfredo Silverio will represent the Dodgers at the All-Star Futures Game. Silverio, 24, went into Friday batting .323 with 22 doubles and 40 runs batted in. ... Utilityman Aaron Miles went into Friday with a .423 average in June, best among National League players who had 50 or more plate appearances. ... Mattingly appeared on "Lopez Tonight" on Thursday and was asked by host George Lopez, "Can I get a Dodger Dog with a food stamp?"

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Photographs by GINA FERAZZI Los Angeles Times

**SOLO SHOT:** Howie Kendrick gets high-fives after giving the Angels a 5-3 lead in the sixth inning.

# Sloppy opener to series

[Freeway, from C1] tried to sneak home. He was easily thrown out.

The Dodgers took a 2-0 lead in the bottom half of the inning on Matt Kemp's 21st home run of the season.

Alberto Callaspo scored a run for the Angels in the second inning, but barely — he touched home plate an instant before Jeff Mathis was thrown out at third base for the final out. Earlier in the inning, Mark Trumbo was picked off at first base by catcher Dioner Navarro.

In the second, third and fourth innings, the Dodgers had men on third base with fewer than two outs. None of them scored.

Tony Gwynn Jr. was 90 feet from the plate in the second inning — he pinch ran for Marcus Thames, who exited the game with a calf strain — but was thrown out at home when Jamey Carroll hit a grounder to short.

The Dodgers had the bases loaded in the third with one out, but Gwynn struck out, and Navarro grounded out to first.

Carroll led off the fourth inning with a double and reached third on a sacrifice bunt by starting pitcher Rubby De La Rosa. He made a run for the plate on a grounder by Dee Gordon but was thrown out.

The Dodgers finished the night two for 12 with men in scoring position. They left eight men on base.

"We were trying to



**ANOTHER LONG BALL:** Matt Kemp begins his home run trot in the first inning. The Angels had home runs from Erick Aybar and Howie Kendrick.

scratch runs," Mattingly said. "We just couldn't do it."

With the lineup unable to add to the Dodgers' 2-1 lead, De La Rosa finally buckled in the fifth inning. Maicer Izturis drove in Jeff Mathis from first base to tie the score. Erick Aybar, who was picked off in the third inning, homered in the next at-bat to put the Angels ahead, 4-2.

The Dodgers announced their attendance at 43,640 fans.

The figure was of the number of tickets sold, not of the actual number of fans in the stands. Still, the number was the lowest for a Freeway Series game at Dodger Stadium since 2001.

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ANGELS FYI

## Hunter sits out for the first time

BAXTER HOLMES

Outfielder Torii Hunter had appeared in all 76 of the Angels' games until sitting out Friday against the Dodgers after he suffered a rib bruise Wednesday.

Manager Mike Scioscia said Hunter, who left Wednesday's game at Florida in the fifth inning after crashing into the right-field wall as he made a catch, probably will miss a couple of days.

Hunter is listed as day-to-day after X-rays taken Thursday came back negative.

Scioscia also said reliever Fernando Rodney, who was eligible to come off the disabled list Friday, needs more time before returning from upper-back tightness that has sidelined him since June 9.

The right-hander was scheduled to play catch Friday and Scioscia said they hope to have him throwing off the mound early next week. He is 2-3 with a 4.09 earned-run average in 26 games.

Mosiello resigns

Bill Mosiello, manager of the Angels' double-A team in Arkansas, has resigned to become an assistant coach at the University of Tennessee, the Angels said.

Mosiello stepped down after a game Thursday to join the Volunteers, who recently hired former Cal State Fullerton coach Dave Serrano as head coach. The two worked together at Cerros College in the late 1980s. Mosiello coached at Tennessee in 1994.

Todd Takayoshi, a minor league hitting coordinator, will take over the Angels' double-A club until July 31 when Bobby Mitchell, a running outfield, base-running and bunting coordinator, will become manager.

Cron close to deal

A team spokesman confirmed the Angels are "very close" to coming to terms with first-round pick C.J. Cron, the University of Utah first baseman selected 17th overall in the June 6 draft.

Cron tweeted Thursday night, "Off to Anaheim Monday to sign the contract! I'm going to be an Angel."

The 6-foot-4, 230-pound Cron is expected to receive a bonus in the \$1.7-million range and is not expected to play for an Angels minor league affiliate this season.

Trout is selected

Outfielder Mike Trout, the Angels' top prospect, has been selected to play in the MLB Futures game for the second consecutive year.

The game will be held July 10 at Chase Field in Phoenix as part of All-Star weekend.

Trout, 19, who played in the game last year at Angel Stadium, will get a chance to play in the outfield alongside fellow top prospect Bryce Harper of the Washington Nationals.

Before Friday, Trout was batting .324 through 65 games with double-A Arkansas this season.

Abreu's milestone

Bobby Abreu recently passed Andres Galarraga on the career hits list for Venezuelan players, a milestone that garnered front-page coverage in his home country.

Abreu, 37, has 2,334 hits, third among major leaguers from Venezuela behind Luis Aparicio (2,677) and Omar Vizquel (2,826).

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Times staff writer Mike DiGiovanna contributed to this report.



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## Total Industries closes

■ 45 people lose their jobs.

By JIM MEENAN  
Tribune Staff Writer

SOUTH BEND — Total Industries International of South Bend closed Friday, an owner confirmed Monday afternoon. Lynn Long said the company was shut down by a bank Friday, and he expects the bank to liquidate the company. That means the 45 employees there are out of work, he confirmed, as he sat outside the business in his vehicle. Total Industries, which is located just north of the South Bend Regional Airport at 3333 West Lathrop Drive, is a plant that produced aluminum and

steel molds and tooling. "I have worked here since 1986; it was a sad weekend," Long said. "We are one of the manufacturing sites decimated by the recession. It had a lot to do with it." He said banks are not willing to do much for smaller companies struggling with their credit. Long did say that reports that people who worked there had lost their pensions are not true. The 45,000-square-foot plant once employed 65 people, and was founded in 1984, according to the company's website. The company touted its single-source planning, communication and control on the site. Jeff Gibney, director of the department of community and economic development for South Bend, said the company

**In Business**  
Open Range RV is expanding in Shipshewana, but Pace American of Middlebury has notified the Indiana Department of Workforce Development of its possible closure. **Page C8**

did not contact his department for help. However, that department does offer companies help, taking the second position on loans after checking their credit background. Such loans first require a primary lender. "We manage an industrial revolving loan fund that is low in-

terest," Gibney said. "We don't have zillions of dollars, but we have money. It's a revolving loan fund; terms are reasonable. We take a second position on all loans, which is attractive to some people that can't borrow the full amount they need from a traditional lender." A company might need \$500,000, Gibney said, and can only get a loan for \$300,000. His department might then loan the additional \$200,000. "So we will come in and make up a potential gap or complete the financing that they need, and put ourselves in a second position, which makes the primary lender more comfortable." The lack of contact with his department might indicate that Total Industries International was beyond that point.

## Congress debating 'swipe' card fees

■ Financial overhaul could set limits on what banks, credit companies can charge merchants.

By JIM KUHNHENN  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Swipe your debit card at the supermarket and you've placed yourself at the heart of a contentious congressional debate. On one side are banks like JPMorgan Chase and Bank of America and credit card networks like Visa and MasterCard. On the other are retailers, including giants like Wal-Mart and Target.

At issue: The "swipe" fees banks charge merchants for one of today's most commonplace conveniences. At stake: up to \$20 billion in potential bank losses and merchant gains. For consumers, it could mean lower prices at the local store or restaurant, or it could result in higher bank charges, fewer "rewards" for credit card users or even the imposition of an annual debit card fee.

The fight over plastic has been raging for years — a federal appeals court once called it "a clash of commercial titans." Now it's landed in the middle of a massive financial regulatory bill primarily aimed at restraining Wall Street.

Both sides have unleashed potent, well-heeled lobbying operations. Their efforts will converge on two weeks or more of negotiations between House and Senate lawmakers who are working to blend two separate financial overhaul bills into one.

The Senate bill contains a measure that would require the Federal Reserve to set limits on what fees banks and credit card networks can charge merchants for a debit card payment. The House bill has no such provision.

First, a quick lesson in shopping. A debit card payment taps directly into a customer's bank account and, as such, is akin to writing a check. A credit card payment, on the other hand, is in effect a loan from the bank. One carries more risk than the other. As a result, banks and credit card networks generally charge merchants up to 3 percent for credit card use. For debit card use, the charge to merchants is one-fourth to one-half as much.

Merchants maintain that the fee charged for debit cards, also called an "interchange" fee, is too high. Banks and Visa and MasterCard say the fee takes into account the cost of setting up and maintaining a secure and sophisticated debit payment system.

Last year, \$1.21 trillion in purchases were paid with debit cards processed through the Visa and MasterCard networks, generating in \$19.7 billion in fees paid by merchants, according to data from The Nilson Report, a trade publication. Most of the fees went to banks that issue debit cards.

See FEES/A2

## Residents escape tornado

By DOUGLAS FARMER  
Tribune Staff Writer

DOWAGIAC — When his garage service door blew open Saturday night, Mitch Hessinger instinctively tried to close it. Doing so may have saved his life as a tornado tore his garage down around him seconds later. "I was just working in the garage, basically just watching the storm because it was your garden variety storm, some lightning and thunder, not even much wind," Hessinger said of the storm that hit between Dowagiac and Cassopolis around midnight.

### In the midst of the storm

"Next thing I know, my service door blew open, so I went over to it and tried to close it, and it was blowing so hard I couldn't even close the door with all my strength."

As he struggled with the service door, the overhead door started to crack, and seconds later, Hessinger stood taller than his garage.

"The place basically just exploded and fell down on top of me," he said. "It was like the cartoons. Since I was holding the service door shut, the wall came down, and I stood in the door frame, with the doorknob still in my hand."

Meanwhile, Hessinger's 78-year-old mother, Nancy Hessinger, and his sister, Kathy Hessinger, had just raced to the basement of the house before the tornado struck.

It was an EF-1 tornado, bringing winds between 86-110 mph, according to the National Weather Service.

Kathy and her mother were about to head to bed when Kathy heard the tornado make what she called "that train sound."

See STORM/A2

### Neighbors share stories about Saturday storm



Tribune Photo/MARCUS MARTER

Mitch Hessinger surveys the damage of his leveled garage on Michigan 62 between Cassopolis and Dowagiac Monday. Hessinger was working in his garage Saturday night when a tornado tore the garage down. Hessinger was standing in the doorway, pictured at left, when the garage collapsed.



Greg Roberts and Tom Cagney of LaGrange Township near Dowagiac survey damage to a metal barn that was leveled during a Saturday night tornado. The sole remaining wall, built by Cagney, was toppled during the tornado, but remained intact and was propped up by Cagney's work benches Monday.

Tribune Photo DOUGLAS FARMER

See FEES/A2

## Public meetings set to discuss possible LaSalle closure

By MARGARET FOSMOE  
Tribune Staff Writer

SOUTH BEND — Two meetings have been set for local residents to discuss the possible closing of the St. Joseph County Public Library's LaSalle Branch.

A committee of the South Bend Common Council will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday at the LaSalle Branch, 3232 W. Ardmore Trail.

The meeting was called by council member Henry Davis Jr., D-2nd, chair of the community relations committee. The meeting is open to the public and will include an opportunity for public comment, Davis said. The Community Forum for

Economic Development will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. June 15 at the LaSalle Branch. Library director Donald Napoli has been invited and plans to attend. The possible closing of the branch will be among the topics discussed.

Library administrators said recently that financial concerns and a continuing circulation drop at the LaSalle Branch might result in a recommendation later this year that the near-northwest side branch be permanently closed. The branch reopened last year after a \$1.2 million renovation and expansion.

Library administrators on Monday released more data regarding public use of the branch. The LaSalle Branch opened

in 1982, when neighboring LaSalle Square Shopping Plaza was a busy retail center. LaSalle hit a peak annual circulation of 186,851 items loaned in 1991, and circulation has been declining steadily ever since.

The branch loaned 17,490 items in the first quarter of this year, putting it on track for a projection circulation of about 70,000 for 2010, Napoli said.

In order to avoid a closure recommendation, LaSalle would have to reach an annual circulation close to that of the Western Branch — which is expected to be 115,000 to 120,000 items this year, Napoli said. "And it would have to be sustainable.

See CLOSURE/A2



Tribune Photo/SANTIAGO FLORES

The St. Joseph County Public Library's LaSalle Branch was largely vacant at midday Wednesday.



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Got plans? **In Weekend in the Bend**  
**FRIDAY**

Ap Photo/EDUARDO VERDUGO

"The A-Team" releases starring, from left, Quinton 'Rampage' Jackson, Bradley Cooper, Jessica Biel and Sharlto Copley.

**In Movies**  
**SATURDAY**

Coverage of the World Cup in South Africa.  
**In Sports**

**FROM PAGE A1**  
**Storm: Neighbors share stories**

As they made it into the basement, most of the windows in the house shattered because of the wind. Fortunately, Kathy had left a couch beneath one of those windows only a few minutes earlier.

"The couches are covered in glass, including the one I had I just been sitting in watching TV," Kathy said. "Thank goodness 'Saturday Night Live' was so terrible that night. I decided it wasn't worth me staying up."

Once Mitch realized what had just happened around him, his thoughts turned to his family.

"I came to and got the debris off me," he said. "I thought my house was gone, my mom was dead, my sister was dead. I can't believe I'm not dead."

He managed to get into the house, and started yelling out the names of his sister and mother. Seconds later Mitch was overcome with relief when he could hear them yelling from the basement.

"I know what bothers him," Nancy said of her son. "By the time he got up and climbed into the house, we had run down to the basement, so he couldn't find us. He thought we were both dead."

After regrouping, Mitch met with some of his neighbors out on the street where a roll-call of sorts was taken as the group ex-



**A headstone remains intact at the base of an uprooted tree following a Saturday night tornado at Van Riper Cemetery on Twin Lakes Road between Cassopolis and Dowagiac.**

changed stories and damage reports. It became quickly apparent that the damage was concentrated in about a three-quarter mile area, stretching through the neighborhood, just north of LaGrange Township, from the northwest to the southeast along Michigan 62.

**Concentrated damage**

"Nobody can believe it," Mitch said. "You go half a mile down the street and there is no damage. The guy across the street, you can't even tell the storm hit him."

But the neighbors next to Mitch's nine acres certainly felt the damage. Tom and Mary Cagney live three lots south of the Hessesingers, and their two

garages, a 100-year-old wooden barn and a newer metal barn, were both completely flattened by the storm.

An easily recognizable painted Mail Pouch Tobacco sign adorned the wooden barn, but now is lost in a pile of hand-hewn beams and paneling with exposed nails, while the metal barn became an assortment of twisted sheets of metal in trees, extending as far south to Van Riper Cemetery three-quarters of a mile away.

"Just about 30 seconds before it hit, we were standing in the doorway," Mary Cagney said. "I was trying to get the cat to come into the house, and he wouldn't come in. My husband was yelling, 'leave him, get into

the basement.'"

The only trees still standing on the front half of the Cagneys' lot are the two trees that tower above the house.

"Looking at how we got missed, that tree didn't come down," Mary said. "I have no idea how the two most unhealthy trees on the lot didn't come down, and if they did, they would have taken out the house."

Instead, the house was still standing, so Sunday night a certain cat was able to return home.

"He showed up last night, all crusty and knotted up. He couldn't meow, and now he is just hiding from everything."

**Rethinking life**

Mitch Hessinger is still a

little startled himself. The Saturday-night experience made him think things he had never before considered, he said.

"I did five years of service in the military. I'm almost 50 years old, and I've never thought I was going to die. I thought I was going to die Saturday night," he said. "I figured they would find me in Three Rivers in pieces."

Instead, both the Hessesingers and the Cagneys have flattened trees, garages and barns to clean up, but they remain grateful.

"I've cried about (the damages) too," Mary Cagney said. "But the thing is, we're all here."

Staff writer Douglas Farmer.  
dfarmer@sbtinfo.com

**Germany, UK plan financial cuts**

LUXEMBOURG (AP) — Europe's economic picture darkened further Monday as Britain's prime minister declared the nation's finances to be worse than feared — requiring sacrifices that will affect "our very way of life" — and the euro slid further toward parity with the dollar.

Parity with the dollar like Hungary and Greece to big ones like Germany, which on Monday announced its own harsh austerity measures, the continent's economic and fiscal crisis is showing no sign of letting up.

Germany, Europe's economic powerhouse, promised a raft of spending cuts, vowing to "set an example" for heavily in-

debted Greece, Spain and Portugal, which are buckling under their debt loads and threaten to drag Europe's currency union down with them.

With even an unprecedented multi-billion dollar rescue package failing to fully convince investors, European nations are scrambling to regain credibility and shore up market confidence by proving they can get their houses in order.

There is no doubt the cuts will be painful, and government leaders are preparing their citizens for the blow.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel says Germany needs to save euro80 billion (\$96 billion) through 2014 by reducing hand-

outs to parents, cutting 15,000 government jobs and delaying projects such as construction of a replica of a Prussian palace in Berlin.

British Prime Minister David Cameron warned in a speech of painful cutbacks that may shape the nation for an entire generation and are necessary because "the overall scale of the problem is even worse than we thought."

"How we deal with these things will affect our economy, our society — indeed our whole way of life," he said. "The decisions we make will affect every single person in our country. And the effects of those decisions will stay with us for years, perhaps decades to come."

Cameron's government will announce cuts at a June 22 emergency budget, less than two months after coming to power at the head of Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition. On Monday, he remained vague on details of how his government plans to close its record deficit, which reached 152.8 billion pounds (\$221.5 billion) or 10.9 percent of economic output in the last fiscal year.

German and British efforts to close their budget deficits — or the yearly gap in government spending and revenue — come after Spain and Portugal were ordered to toughen austerity programs to keep them from needing a bailout like Greece.

**FROM PAGE A1**  
**Closure: Meetings to be held**

Frankly, I don't think it's sustainable at LaSalle," he said.

The library staff is compiling additional data about LaSalle, including number of visitors, number of library cards requested there and number of reference questions answered at the branch. "My experience has been, if circulation is high, so is everything else," Napoli said.

If the library board decides that LaSalle must re-

main open, it likely will mean recommending more hour and staffing cuts at library locations systemwide, the director said.

During the past 18 months, the county library has cut \$1.2 million from its operating expenses, mostly the result of reduced property tax support because of Indiana's tax cap law. Hours, staff,

services and purchases have been reduced.

For more data and additional information about the possible closing, visit the library's website: [www.libraryforlife.org](http://www.libraryforlife.org).

Staff writer Margaret Fosmoe:  
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**FROM PAGE A1**  
**Fees: Debate lands in Congress**

While the largest banks and the largest retailers have the most dollars riding on the congressional outcome, the two combatants have cast the debate in terms of hurting small community banks and credit unions on one side or small businesses on the other.

The Senate proposal, written by Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., would require the Federal Reserve to set "swipe" fees for debit cards that are "reasonable and proportional" to the cost of processing the

transaction. To win votes for it, Durbin exempts banks that have assets of \$10 billion or less.

But small banks and credit unions argue they would still be hurt, saying they, too, would have to lower their fees to remain competitive with larger institutions whose fees would be lowered by the Fed.

"Currently, the smallest credit union and the largest bank in the world receive the same interchange fee when their respective customer uses their debit card," Fred Becker, president and CEO of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions, wrote last week to Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke. "The interchange amendment, however, destroys this equal footing."

Durbin's success in the Senate stunned banks and their lobbyists. Years of lobbying by retailers for limits on credit or debit cards had

failed to generate a single House or Senate vote. But banks aren't popular these days and the pressure from home-state retailers tilted the scale. Of the 64 senators who voted for Durbin's proposal, 17 were Republicans — a strong bipartisan signal to lawmakers blending the larger financial regulations bill.

Both sides claim that placing limits on the fees will have direct consequences for consumers — banks, Visa and MasterCard say it will be for the worse; merchants say it will be for the better.

Australia cut credit and debit card fees on merchants by half and debit card holders particularly benefited from the change, according to the Reserve Bank of Australia. But credit card holders saw an increase in their bank fees and a reduction in cardholder rewards, such as fewer points or airline

miles. Merchants also started imposing surcharges on some credit card transactions.

Banks and credit card networks warn of similar ill effects in the United States, ranging from higher fees on credit cards to service fees on charge accounts. "We are convinced that fees to consumers would go up and services would be reduced," William Sheedy, group president of the Americas for Visa Inc., said in an interview.

Retailers dismiss that claim as a cynical attempt to sway lawmakers.

"Their response to being told that they're doing something wrong is to say, 'OK, if you keep us from doing something wrong to somebody else,'" said J. Craig Shearman, vice president for government affairs at the National Retail Federation.

**Lotteries**

Drawings held Monday, June 7

**Indiana**

- pMIDDAY DAILY 3: 544
- pMIDDAY DAILY 4: 7346
- pEVENING DAILY 3: 213
- pEVENING DAILY 4: 2034
- pMIDDAY LUCKY 5: 01 25 26 29 34
- pEVENING LUCKY 5: 02 12 20 32 36
- pQUICK DRAW: 03 05 08 21 22 25 28 32 38 42 52 58 59 64 70 71 73 74 78 80
- pEstimated Hoosier Lotto Jackpot: \$14 million
- pEstimated Powerball Jackpot: \$28 million

**Michigan**

- pMIDDAY DAILY 3: 106
- pMIDDAY DAILY 4: 3581
- pEVENING DAILY 3: 880
- pEVENING DAILY 4: 6481
- pFANTASY 5: 08 11 15 25 38
- pKENO: 01 12 26 28 32 33 34 36 37 41 42 46 48 54 56 58 62 64 65 71 75 78
- pTonight's Mega Millions Jackpot: \$26 million
- pWednesday's Classic Lotto 47 Jackpot: \$1.2 million

**CorrectionsINDEX**  
SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

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**Finding a job shouldn't be work.**

STEELERS NOTEBOOK

# Haley happy with variety of running backs

By Gerry Dulac  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Offensive coordinator **Todd Haley** does not seem worried about beginning the regular season without running back **Rashard Mendenhall**, who is on the physically unable-to-perform list while he recovers from surgery to repair a torn anterior cruciate ligament.

In fact, Haley said he is "excited" about the group of running backs he has behind Mendenhall, including **Isaac Redman**, who will be the starter.

"I'm not just talking ... we got a wide range of body types and skill sets, and that's good," Haley said.

"You got some big, strong guys like [Redman], where you can hump it up in there when needed. But you also got some of the sports car-type bodies that offer some different weapons. It's a good mix, a good group of guys."

The latter reference was to rookie **Chris Rainey**, the team's fifth-round pick from Florida who is not very big (5 feet 8, 178



Steelers offensive coordinator Todd Haley is excited about the running backs he has behind injured Rashard Mendenhall.

pounds) but makes up for his lack of size with 4.3 speed and elusive moves.

"He's going to be awesome," said center **Maurkice Pouncey**, who also played at Florida. "He's a smaller guy, but he's been dealing with that his whole life.

We can use him like **Darren Sproles**."

The Steelers averaged 4.4 yards per rush in 2011, their best average since '01. But they stalled too many times in short yardage and at the goal line, one of the reasons they finished 21st in the league in scoring.

"That's the name of the game offensively, being able to get yards on the ground when the defense knows you're running wherever that falls in the game," Haley said. "Same goes with throwing. If you can be successful in those situations, you can be pretty good."

**Hampton praises McLendon**

The Steelers drafted nose tackle **Alameda Ta'amu** in the fourth round with the idea he eventually might replace five-time Pro Bowler **Casey Hampton**, who likely is in his final year with the team.

But Hampton, on the PUP list after having ACL surgery in late January, thinks the Steelers already had his replacement on the roster — **Steve McLendon**.

"He's a beast man," Hampton

said of McLendon, who is 6-4 and listed at 280 pounds but actually weighs 325. "Everybody thinks he's a little dude — he's not a little dude, he's a big, strong guy. He can be dominant, so I'm looking forward to seeing what he can do."

McLendon was an undrafted rookie in '09 who has been starting at nose tackle with Hampton on the sideline.

It has been a long road to that spot for McLendon, who was released in the final cut of training camp in '09 and spent the next two seasons being signed three times and cut three times by the Steelers.

But he played in 14 of 16 games last season and eventually passed longtime backup nose tackle **Chris Hoke** on the depth chart.

"He's definitely a good player," Hampton said. "He has a chance to be a really, really good player."

"I'm one of those who really wants to see what he can do, week in and week out, because he's progressed a whole lot. I just really want to see what he's going to do."

**New officials struggle**

Replacement officials were used for the first time at the afternoon practice, and not everything went smoothly.

After one of the officials unknowingly blew a kickoff drill dead because the ball went through the end zone, Coach **Mike Tomlin** screamed from the other end of the field. "Put your damn whistles away, we're working."

The NFL and their regular officials have not reached agreement on a new contract, forcing the league to use replacements.

**New task for Timmons**

**Larry Foote** has started at both inside linebacker positions in the Steelers defense, but **Lawrence Timmons** is getting his first taste of playing the "back" linebacker — the position **James Farrior** had manned since '02.

The Steelers flip-flopped Foote and Timmons this week because they want Timmons, who plays the "muck" position, to get comfortable calling defen-

sive signals and setting the front seven.

"It's a flexibility issue in case injuries happen," Timmons said. "I'm getting the calls and getting everyone set. I'm looking forward to getting it down. I'm practicing it now and trying to make the best of it."

Timmons was the team's leading tackler two years ago, but his production dropped last season when he started four games and played portions of three others at outside linebacker because of injuries.

"I'm always a guy willing to help the defense," said Timmons. "Wherever they need me, that's what I'm going to do."

**Woody due back tonight**

Outside linebacker **LaMarr Woodley** did not practice for the second day in a row, but Tomlin would not say if he was injured. All he said was Woodley would return to practice tonight at Latrobe's Memorial Stadium.

Gerry Dulac: g.dulac@post-gazette.com and Twitter @gerrydulac

NFL NOTEBOOK

## Steelers minority owner buys Browns

From local and wire dispatches

Here's one to make Cleveland fans shake their heads: A partial owner of the hated Steelers is buying the Browns.

**Randy Lerner** reached a deal to sell the club to Tennessee truck stop magnate **Jimmy Haslam III** — a minority stockholder in the rival Steelers.

Lerner reportedly will sell 70 percent of the Browns to Haslam now, with the other 30 percent reverting to him four years after the closing date, but details have not officially been announced.

"This is a very exciting time for my family and me," Haslam said through the team.

"To own such a storied franchise as the Cleveland Browns, with its rich tradition and history, is a dream come true. We are committed to keeping the team in Cleveland and seeing it get back to the elite of the NFL — something all Browns fans want and deserve."

Haslam scheduled a news conference at Browns headquarters for today.

Steelers owner **Dan Rooney** had praise for Haslam, even if he is buying a division rival.

"He was a great partner, a good man. He'll be very good for the league. He knows football," Rooney said.

As for buying a division rival? "Hey, you have to be ready to play," Rooney said.

While the papers have been signed, the NFL still must approve the sale. Getting the nod from 24 of the 32 teams is no rocket, and no date has been set for a vote because the sale has not been presented to the league yet. Approval is expected by the end of September.

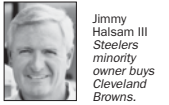
ESPN reported the sale price was more than \$1 billion. For comparison, the Miami Dolphins sold at a value of more than \$1 billion in 2009.

The Browns were valued at \$977 million a year ago by Forbes magazine, 20th in the NFL.

Lerner, whose family has owned the franchise since it returned to the NFL in 1999, first announced he was in negotiations to sell the club last week. The late **Al Lerner**, Randy's father, purchased the franchise from the NFL in 1996 for \$530 million after the original Browns moved to Baltimore in 1996 and became the Ravens. The elder Lerner died in 2002.

Randy Lerner also is the owner of Aston Villa, a club in the English Premier League.

The expansion Browns entered



Jimmy Haslam III, Steelers minority owner, buys Cleveland Browns.

the NFL in 1999 and have made the playoffs just once, a 2002 first-round loss to the Steelers. They've had only two winning records in 13 seasons and are 68-140 since they returned.

**Panthers**

The **Jeff Otah** era is over in Carolina. Panthers general manager **Marty Hurney** announced the team had terminated the contract of the offensive tackle, a former first-round draft pick from Pitt, after he failed a physical.

Otah's agent said his client is "one thousand percent" committed to playing again this season and has no plans to retire. Otah plans to attend **LeCharles Bentley's** Offensive Line Academy in Cleveland to continue to strengthen his knee and work on his conditioning so he can continue playing.

**Eagles**

Philadelphia traded linebacker **Moise Fokou** and **Greg Lloyd** to the Indianapolis Colts for cornerback **Kevin Thomas** and a conditional seven-round pick in the 2013 draft.

**Lions**

NFL commissioner **Roger Goodell** said the league has met with the players union and teams about what can be done after a series of offseason arrests. Goodell was in Detroit Thursday, visiting the Lions. He said he may discipline defensive tackle **Nick Fairley**, who is charged with marijuana possession and a DUI in two separate cases in Alabama, before the courts have their say.

**Bills**

Buffalo signed undrafted rookie free-agent running back **Zach Brown** a week into training camp. Brown completed his college career at Pitt last season, and had 357 yards rushing and five touchdowns in 11 games. He spent the 2007-10 seasons at Wisconsin, where he had 1,152 yards rushing and 11 touchdowns in 36 games.

**Broncos**

Defensive tackle **Mitch Unrein** is setting his alarm for the wee hours Saturday morning, even though Denver's stadium scrimmage isn't until mid-afternoon. Unrein is hoping to watch his girlfriend, Olympic trap shooter **Corey Cogdell**, strike gold in London.

"Hopefully I'll be really excited because she won gold and I'll go out there and have a good scrimmage," he said.



Steelers guard Willie Colon lines up during workouts Thursday at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe.

## At last, Steelers place Colon on guard duty

STEELERS, FROM PAGE D-1

camp show the move to be a good one.

"Moving Willie to guard, I think, is great because he's just a mauler in there, he's so physical," Roethlisberger said. "You put him in a phone booth, and he's just an animal."

His performance at left guard through the first week of practices has been nothing short of sensational and he got off with a bang. In the first practice in pads Saturday, he flattened linebacker **Lawrence Timmons**, a block that prompted a brief scuffle on the ground.

"Oh my God. He's a dog, man," center **Maurkice Pouncey** said. "He's a big dude in there, man — a monster in there, actually."

The Steelers list him at 315. Colon says he weighs 345, same as last season only leaner this year after working out twice daily in the offseason for his first time.

"I was never really against the change," Colon protested during a lunch break at training camp. "I just wanted to have a fair shot to really work at it and really make it mine. I've been in this business long enough to see



Steelers defensive back Lee Taylor catches his breath on the sidelines during workouts Thursday at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe.

guys tackle forever and the second week of camp. "We want you to be a guard."

"It's a hard transition, you have to be able to really have the time to get it, get it in your head and own it. They respected that request of mine, and I'm just taking it slowly."

Others see a rather fast transition, like **Larry Foote**, who has had to try to fend off Colon's blocks at inside linebacker.

"I'm getting acquainted with him early in camp at guard," Foote said. "We've been having a couple of run-ins. He looks good at it. Real strong. Ask guys about him, and the first thing they'll say is once he gets his hands on you, he's going to get you. That's what you need at guard."

Count 6-8 **Max Starks** among those who thought Colon would be a good fit at guard as soon as he saw him.

"When he came in as a rookie, I thought he would be an exceptional guard when he got the opportunity, and now, six years later, he's getting the opportunity, he looks really good, really strong," Starks said.

So what makes Colon a better fit at guard than tackle?

"He has one of those bodies,"

## Undrafted players like new roster rule

By Douglas Farmer  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

**Bridger Buche** was tending the cash register July 19 at his father's textbook store in Lansing, Mich. Thursday, the 300-pound offensive lineman was back behind that register. Seemingly between customers, he tried out for, signed with, practiced with and was cut by the Steelers, all in two weeks' work.

Today, instead of making change for a \$20, he will work out for the Minnesota Vikings.

Buche wasn't on the roster the Steelers initially released. Without a rule change by NFL owners raising the offseason roster size from 80 to 90, Buche might never have spent any time in Latrobe. The change, instituted the day before the 2012 draft, allowed 220 more players to vie for spots on the 53-man roster.

"It gets guys like me a chance, and coming from a smaller school like Eastern Michigan, that's all I really wanted," Buche said after practice Friday. "Just a chance to come into a camp and show what I could do, so I'm glad they're giving me this opportunity."

That opportunity did not last long because Buche was cut before practice Tuesday. The cut brought an end to a two-week roller-coaster ride posing as a vacation from the cash register. Buche's phone rang July 20, five days before camp opened. After a quick flight and workout, he signed with the Steelers July 23 and first saw the playbook two days later. In four days of practice, while Buche may not have digested the entire playbook, he learned quite a bit.

"The speed of the game is a lot faster," he said. "Just a couple steps up from college football to the NFL, and I got a taste of that. It's a humbling experience, but it's good to know what I need."

After being cut, Buche headed home to Portland, Mich., for what turned out to be a short visit. The Vikings called him Wednesday. Meanwhile, other undrafted rookie free agents have hung on with the Steelers a bit longer, taking full advantage of the 10 extra roster spots.

Three days after the rule change, defensive end **Jake Staller's** phone rang within minutes of the draft ending April 29. The Steelers were on the other end, quickly easing the disappointment of going undrafted with an invitation to training camp.

"If it helped me get here, then obviously I'm a fan," Staller said of the rule. "On top of that, I'm a fan of competition."

One of only two current NFL players from Yale — the other being Kansas City Chiefs fullback **Shane Bannon**, a 2011 seventh-round pick — Staller certainly had other, more secure options than fighting for an outside chance at a roster spot.

The political season major never considered any other field, though, instead thinking perhaps he could earn a spot on the practice squad.

"Football has definitely been my goal all along," he said. "I want to take this as far as it can go. When the next step comes, I've been lucky enough to go to a good school, graduated and know a lot of great people."

Staller and the other remaining undrafted rookies at camp will have until after the third preseason game, Aug. 25 at Buffalo, to make enough impact to avoid the first round of roster cuts.

**KOKA 02 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**

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# SportsDay HS Football Playoffs Week 1



**WATCH** slideshow highlights from key Friday night games. [SportsDayHS.com](#)

LINCOLN 17, SOUTH OAK CLIFF 16 (OT)

# SOC falls to Lincoln in overtime

Botched snaps lead to missed extra point, fumbles, failed plays

By **DOUGLAS FARMER**  
Special Contributor

Touchdowns are worth six points, and only six points. The mythical seventh comes, or fails to come, on the extra point.

South Oak Cliff will not take that extra point for granted for a long while, as missing one in overtime ended the Golden

Bears' season in a 17-16 loss to Lincoln.

Down a touchdown in overtime, South Oak Cliff needed two plays to cover 25 yards — a 19-yard pass from quarterback Kenneth Authur to receiver Fonzae Davis followed by a 6-yard fade route to Anjeus Jones for what should have been the tying touchdown.

It would have been the tying touchdown, if not for that fateful missed kick, ruined from the outset when the snap rolled to the holder, rather than shot

South Oak Cliff	3	0	0	7	6	16
Lincoln	0	3	0	7	7	17
SO — Abel Luviano 21 FG						
LC — William Mosqueda 30 FG						
SO — Devin Williams 1 run (Abel Luviano kick)						
LC — Erick Neal 6 run (William Mosqueda kick)						
LC — Monterric Surrell 25 run (William Mosqueda kick)						
SO — Anjeus Jones 4 pass from Kenneth Arthur II (Abel Luviano kick failed)						
	SO			LC		
First Downs	9			16		
Rushing Yards	32-108			31-183		
Passing Yards	152			92		
Punts-Avg	16-24.0			10-16.0		
Punts-Avg	4-37.50			3-36.33		

Penalties	7-70	1-5
Fumbles-Lost	4-0	2-2
<b>INDIVIDUAL LEADERS</b>		
Rushing	— LC: Monterric Surrell 11-78, Erick Neal 16-62, Rodney Allen 2-30, Derrick Neal 2-13, SO: Devin Williams 22-108, Kenneth Arthur II 9-1, Anthony Smith 1-1	
Passing	— LC: Erick Neal 9-14-0-88, Derrick Neal 1-2-0-4, SO: Kenneth Arthur II 16-23-0-152, Richard Franklin 0-1-0-0	
Receiving	— LC: Derrick Neal 2-33, Javien Jones 1-31, Brenson Davis 1-17, Rodney Allen 4-7, Erick Neal 1-4, Monterric Surrell 1-0, SO: Fonzae Davis 11-135, Anjeus Jones 2-12, Anthony Smith 1-4, Melvinson Hartfield 2-1	

plays. A botched snap on a punt led to a turnover on downs.

Lincoln forced the overtime by finding the end zone for the first time with only 55.7 seconds remaining in regulation.

The Tigers defense stopped South Oak Cliff on a fourth-and-1 on the Bears' 49-yard line with 1:36 left. Three plays later, quarterback Erick Neal ran for a 6-yard touchdown.

A successful point-after attempt later and the extra period was needed. "We wanted the ball back in

our hands to try and tie it up," Lincoln coach James Argenti said. "Then we went into that two-minute offense and my quarterback made some plays tonight."

Lincoln running back Monterric Surrell took an option pitch for 25 yards for the Tigers' overtime score.

South Oak Cliff kicker Abel Luviano missed a game-winning 43-yard field goal attempt at the end of regulation. Luviano made a 21-yard field goal in the first quarter.

CLASS 4A

# Freshman leads Lovejoy in rout of Hallsville

Guyer quarterback Heard has huge game in victory over Saginaw

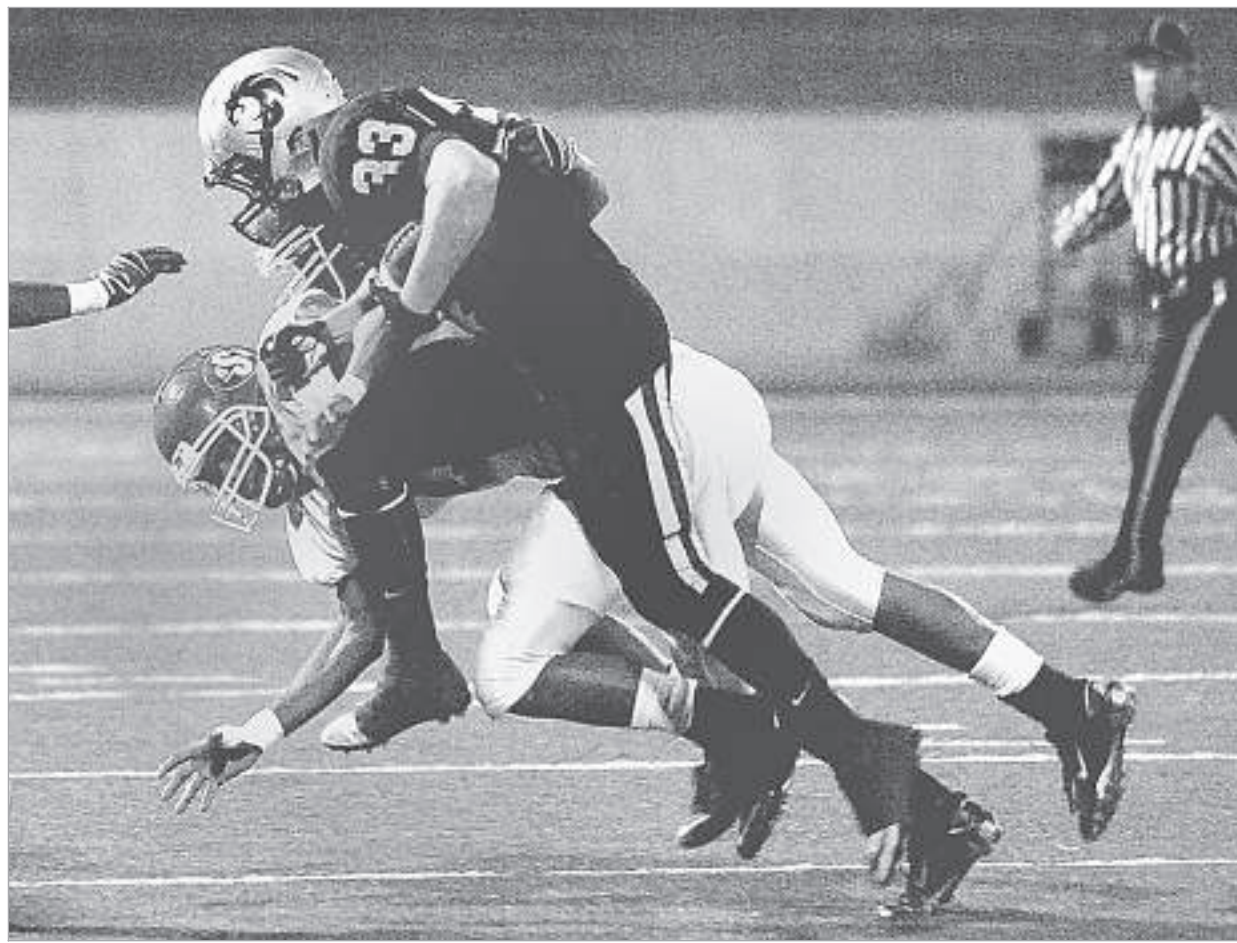
FORNEY — Freshman quarterback Bowman Sells completed 17 of 23 passes for 297 yards and one touchdown to lead Lovejoy (11-0) to a convincing 40-13 victory over Hallsville in a Class 4A Division II bi-district game at City Bank Stadium on Friday.

Daniel Sefcik caught six passes for 156 yards, including a screen pass that he took 45 yards for a score. Sefcik added a rushing touchdown.

After trailing, 7-3, at the end of the first quarter, Lovejoy scored 37 straight points, including Thomas Kotecki's 52-yard interception return for a score with 1:26 left in the first half that made it 24-7.

Lovejoy meets Lancaster at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Richardson's Eagle-Mustang Stadium in the area round.

Lovejoy	3	21	13	3	—	40
Hallsville	7	0	0	6	—	13
LJ — Mick Ellis 23 FG						
HA — Coby Bradford 11 pass from Macailyn Wilder (Paden Brown kick)						
LJ — Zach Saffle 2 run (Mick Ellis kick)						
LJ — Daniel Sefcik 2 run (Mick Ellis kick)						
LJ — Thomas Kotecki 52 interception return (Mick Ellis kick)						
LJ — Cullon Oldham-Greene 3 run (Mick Ellis kick)						
LJ — Daniel Sefcik 45 pass from Bowman Sells (pass failed)						
LJ — Mick Ellis 33 FG						
HA — Thaddeus Fagan 36 run (kick failed)						
	LJ			HA		
First Downs	23			16		
Rushing Yards	43-180			37-189		
Passing Yards	297			112		
Punting	17-24.1			10-26.1		
Punts-Avg	2-40.50			6-39.17		
Penalties	4-20			4-25		
Fumbles-Lost	0-0			2-1		



Al Key/Denton Record-Chronicle

SW — Anthony Malloy 34 pass from Dalton Wachel (Arnulfo Ibarra kick)						
DG — D.J. Breedlove 12 run (Brad Grems kick)						
	SW			DG		
First Downs	8			29		
Rushing Yards	23-154			46-308		
Passing Yards	81			245		
Punting	4-12.1			20-32.1		
Punts-Avg	5-36.80			1-43.00		
Penalties	4-23			2-15		
Fumbles-Lost	2-2			2-2		

Rushing — JT: DeQuante Woods 7-150, Greg Ward 9-80, Reggie Gipson 3-45, Jeremy Wilson 5-29, Rodrick Smith 4-27, Darion Flowers 1-32, Justice Liggins 3-4, WX: Treyvon Hughes 20-195, Trevon Smith 8-44, Paul Debase 2-21, Kriss Woods 4-15, Payton Stewart 4-9, Bryce Barrett 1-6, Kenneth Washington 1-1, Jake Villarreal 2-11

Receiving — JT: Fred Ross 6-181, Darion Flowers 4-85, Justice Liggins 4-47, DeQuante Woods 1-24, Reggie Gipson 1-15, WX: Quinn Sargent 6-143, Treyvon Hughes 2-38, Tracy Morrison 2-13, Braden Henry 1-10, Isiah Parrish 1-4

## Carter 19 Woodrow Wilson 7

Jermiah Brown caught a 35-yard touchdown pass from Chris Henry in the fourth quarter, and Corey Avery added a touchdown run as Carter beat Woodrow Wilson in a Class 4A Division II bi-district game at Franklin Field.

Woodrow (5-6) had taken a 7-6 lead in the second quarter on Colin Spencer's 42-yard scoring run on a reverse. Woodrow's defense came up with four interceptions and a fumble recovery but couldn't add to the lead.

Carter (9-2) advances to play Prosper at 2 p.m. Saturday at Grand Prairie's Gopher-Warrior Bowl.

Woodrow Wilson	0	7	0	0	—	7
Carter	6	0	0	13	—	19
CA — Kenneth Gray 60 run (Francisco Hernandez kick failed)						
WW — Colin Spencer 42 run (Jonah Guedea kick)						
CA — Jermiah Brown 35 pass from Chris Henry (pass failed)						
CA — Corey Avery 8 run (Francisco Hernandez kick)						
	WW			CA		
First Downs	12			13		
Rushing Yards	37-125			29-157		
Passing Yards	13			136		
Punting	30-37.0			18-31.2		
Punts-Avg	4-42.75			3-39.33		
Penalties	4-50			3-21		
Fumbles-Lost	10-6			10-9		

Rushing — CA: Corey Avery 12-82, Kenneth Gray 10-73, Ja'Core Wynn 2-10, Kenneth Spencer 1-2, Joshua Dennis 2-1, Chris Henry 2-9, WW: Colin Spencer 7-70, Jeremy Fulcher 17-50, Tracey James 2-5, Sam Keeter 10-0, Desmond Handy 1-0

Passing — CA: Chris Henry 7-19-1-99, Kenneth Spencer 3-7-3-37, WW: Sam Keeter 5-24-2-11, Ace Fleder 1-2-0-2

Receiving — CA: Nigeria Rushing 1-37, Jermiah Brown 1-35, Ja'Core Wynn 3-28, Corey Avery 2-27, Cordarius Hayslette 2-5, Kenneth Gray 1-4, WW: Chance Houston 1-7, Desmond Handy 3-4, Colin Spencer 1-2, Jeremy Fulcher 1-0

## Denton Guyer 42 Saginaw 14

JUSTIN — Jerrod Heard accounted for 353 total yards and three touchdowns to help Denton Guyer pull away for a victory over Saginaw in a Class 4A Division I bi-district game at Northwest ISD Stadium.

Denton Guyer, the No. 1 team in SportsDay's Class 4A area rankings, quickly built a 14-0 lead as Heard and running back Nate Maki scored on a pair of short touchdown runs. Saginaw trimmed the deficit to 14-7 midway through the second quarter on Russell Murphy's 89-yard touchdown run, but that's as close as Saginaw got.

Guyer (9-2) built its lead to 21-7 at halftime, and Richard Whitaker and Heard added touchdowns in the third and fourth quarters to put the game away.

Guyer faces Aledo in the area round.

Saginaw	0	7	0	7	—	14
Denton Guyer	7	14	7	14	—	42
DG — Jerrod Heard 2 run (Brad Grems kick)						
DG — Nate Maki 8 run (Brad Grems kick)						
DG — Russell Murphy 89 run (Arnulfo Ibarra kick)						
DG — Ellis Jefferson 12 pass from Jerrod Heard (Brad Grems kick)						
DG — Richard Whitaker 13 run (Brad Grems kick)						
DG — Jerrod Heard 3 run (Brad Grems kick)						

## Tyler John Tyler 77 Waxahachie 20

GARLAND — Greg Ward passed for 352 yards and four touchdowns to lead Tyler John Tyler (10-1) to a thumping of Waxahachie (6-5) in a Class 4A Division I bi-district game at Homer B. Johnson Stadium.

Ward, who also rushed for 80 yards and a touchdown, hooked up with Fred Ross on touchdowns of 87 and 33 yards in the second quarter as Tyler built a 35-20 halftime lead.

Ward then ran for a 49-yard touchdown on the third play of the second half, the first of Tyler's six unanswered scores.

Waxahachie	7	13	0	0	—	20
Tyler John Tyler	14	21	21	21	—	77
WT — DeQuante Woods 8 run (Porfir Benitez kick)						
WX — Quinn Sargent 38 pass from Jake Villarreal (Dylan McLain kick)						
JT — Darion Flowers 18 pass from Greg Ward (Porfir Benitez kick)						
JT — Justice Liggins 1 run (Porfir Benitez kick)						
WX — Treyvon Hughes 35 pass from Jake Villarreal (run failed)						
JT — Fred Ross 87 pass from Greg Ward (Porfir Benitez kick)						
JT — Fred Ross 33 pass from Greg Ward (Porfir Benitez kick)						
WX — Quinn Sargent 13 pass from Jake Villarreal (Dylan McLain kick)						
JT — Greg Ward 49 run (Porfir Benitez kick)						
JT — Justice Liggins 3 run (Porfir Benitez kick)						
JT — Reggie Gipson 1 run (Porfir Benitez kick)						
JT — Justice Liggins 21 pass from Greg Ward (Porfir Benitez kick)						
JT — Reggie Gipson 42 run (Porfir Benitez kick)						
JT — Jայոո Reese 42 fumble return (Porfir Benitez kick)						
	WX			JT		
First Downs	22			27		
Rushing Yards	42-278			32-347		
Passing Yards	208			352		
Punting	12-31.3			16-23.0		
Punts-Avg	3-36.33			2-35.00		
Penalties	3-30			2-30		
Fumbles-Lost	4-2			0-0		

Receiving — WT: DeQuante Woods 2-35, Justice Liggins 1-10, WX: Treyvon Hughes 3-35, Darion Flowers 1-10, Tyler John Tyler 1-34

Rushing — JT: Fred Ross 6-181, Darion Flowers 4-85, Justice Liggins 4-47, DeQuante Woods 1-24, Reggie Gipson 1-15, WX: Quinn Sargent 6-143, Treyvon Hughes 2-38, Tracy Morrison 2-13, Braden Henry 1-10, Isiah Parrish 1-4

Passing — JT: Fred Ross 6-181, Darion Flowers 4-85, Justice Liggins 4-47, DeQuante Woods 1-24, Reggie Gipson 1-15, WX: Quinn Sargent 6-143, Treyvon Hughes 2-38, Tracy Morrison 2-13, Braden Henry 1-10, Isiah Parrish 1-4

Receiving — JT: Fred Ross 6-181, Darion Flowers 4-85, Justice Liggins 4-47, DeQuante Woods 1-24, Reggie Gipson 1-15, WX: Quinn Sargent 6-143, Treyvon Hughes 2-38, Tracy Morrison 2-13, Braden Henry 1-10, Isiah Parrish 1-4

## Denton Guyer's Nate Maki runs through the Saginaw defense in the first quarter at Northwest ISD Stadium.

Guyer amassed 553 total yards in its 42-14 victory.

SL — Michael Sheffield 86 kickoff return (Jesus Mercado kick)						
SL — Quentrel Lathan 2 run (Jesus Mercado kick)						
SL — Quentrel Lathan 50 run (Jesus Mercado kick)						
AD — Julian Baeza 22 pass from Keith Jackson (Jose Ibarra kick)						
	AD			SL		
First Downs	14			8		
Rushing Yards	41-167			30-213		
Passing Yards	58			45		
Punting	4-11.1			4-8.0		
Punts-Avg	5-15.20			2-40.00		
Penalties	4-30			9-67		
Fumbles-Lost	2-2			3-2		

Rushing — AD: Keith Bryant 20-124, Chris Gonzalez 13-37, Braylon Smith 4-5, Keith Jackson 3-1, Fidel Lopez 1-0, SL: Quentrel Lathan 8-91, Tra'Veon Williams 6-65, Keith Hill 2-55, Devontae Smith 4-8, Michael Sheffield 1-8, Kamron Jones 3-3, Javonta Jones 2-5, John Galvan 1-5, Stat Team 3-7

Passing — AD: Keith Jackson 4-11-58, SL: Kamron Jones 4-8-0-45

Receiving — AD: Julian Baeza 1-22, Christian Conde 1-19, Keith Bryant 2-37, SL: Michael Sheffield 2-39, Quentrel Lathan 2-6

## Red Oak 58 Corsicana 20

MIDLOTHIAN — Austin Van Hove passed for 212 yards and three touchdowns as Red Oak (8-3) beat Corsicana (4-7) in a Class 4A Division I bi-district game.

Corsicana	0	0	7	13	—	20
Red Oak	14	20	14	10	—	58
RO — Casey Nichols fumble recovery in end zone (Jose Flores kick)						
RO — Tyler Scott 22 pass from Austin Van Hove (Jose Flores kick)						
RO — Cameron Bausley 21 run (Jose Flores kick failed)						
RO — Travler Jackson 39 pass from Austin Van Hove (Jose Flores kick)						
RO — Kendrick Garrett 30 pass from Austin Van Hove (Jose Flores kick)						
RO — Jeremiah Gaines 1 run (Jose Flores kick)						
RO — Cameron Bausley 82 run (Jose Flores kick)						
CI — Bobby Wallace 12 pass from Zachary Rash (Ryan Conley kick)						
RO — Jose Flores 38 FG						
CI — Bobby Wallace 2 run (Ryan Conley kick failed)						
RO — Abbas Fofanah 11 run (Koby Simon kick)						
CI — Ronnie Deveaux 2 run (Ryan Conley kick)						
	CI			RO		
First Downs	18			19		
Rushing Yards	53-331			36-318		
Passing Yards	22			212		
Punting	3-10.0			6-9.0		
Punts-Avg	4-32.75			1-49.00		
Penalties	6-30			9-85		
Fumbles-Lost	6-30			1-0		

Rushing — CI

## Big Ben should talk to holdout



RON  
COOK

Get you anything there isn't one Steelers player who holds it against Mike Wallace for not being at training camp. Players know better than anyone that the NFL is a cold, cruel, ugly business. Wallace's contract issue today could be theirs next July. They want to see Wallace get every dollar he can. They're going to want theirs when the

time comes. But that doesn't mean that one of Wallace's teammates — that would be you, Big Ben

SEE **COOK**, PAGE C-2

# Wallace, not agent, calls shots

Colbert confirms decision to suspend contract negotiations with wide receiver

By Ed Bouchette  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE

Mike Wallace has an agent named Bus Cook, who has some high-profile NFL clients including Cam Newton and former great Brett Favre.

What he does not have in Mike Wallace, however, is his ear, apparently. According to sources, Wallace is driving the bus on this one. It is the wide

receiver's idea to hold out of training camp and, because of it, his relationship with the Steelers has taken a new turn.

Kevin Colbert confirmed a

story in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Thursday that the Steelers have suspended negotiations with Wallace and his agent for a multiple-year contract, and that their last, best offer is off the table.

"We've chosen to not progress with negotiations at this point," Colbert said Thursday. "Once we made that decision, now we're in a different mode. We'll have to address any new negotiations if

we get to that point."

Colbert said Wallace will have to sign the one-year tender of \$2.7 million before they will resume negotiations on a multiple-year deal.

"Him not being here, really we have to focus on what we can control because we can't control that. Again, every negotiation is unique, you put your best foot

SEE **STEELERS**, PAGE C-2

## Highmark Stadium continues to develop

By Douglas Farmer  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Drive down to Station Square and take a look at the large parking lot just to the west of the Gateway Clipper Fleet.

It is a torn-up parking lot, its landscape dotted by a few machines and piles of rock. A few holes, as well.

But look closer at one of the fences bordering a sidewalk cutting through the construction zone. There hangs a banner announcing "Highmark Stadium."

Though a few months behind schedule, the Riverhounds' new stadium will appear piece-by-piece at the site and should be ready for play sometime this fall, perhaps as soon as late September. The stadium will become a reality after six years of planning from the soccer club's ownership.

"There were many times I was walking it, and would think, 'How is this going to work?'" Riverhounds midfielder and chief executive Jason Kutney said.

"I'd be standing near the river thinking about a corner kick, and I would hit a car from there."

The stadium was first announced in January and the expected completion date of the site along the Monongahela River was this summer. But as the torn-up parking lot, construction equipment and piles of rock indicate, that date was a bit ambitious.

"The timing of everything, obviously, you don't know," Kutney said.

"It looked like if we could click these things into place, we'd be able to start construction in March, coming out of the winter, with a five-month window of time, weather-dependent, where we'd be able to potentially be open for late summer."

"Then reality sets in. You hit some snags. Some things here and some things there take a little longer for approval, this signage variance or what have you."

SEE **STADIUM**, PAGE C-5

PIRATES 5, ASTROS 3

# A STARLING BEGINNING

Marte delivers HR on first pitch of first at-bat in major leagues

By Michael Sanserino  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

HOUSTON — The Pirates waited and waited and waited for the right time to call up Starling Marte, their prized outfield prospect. Marte didn't wait long to make his mark.

First pitch. First swing. First home run.

Marte led off the game — and his career — with a first-pitch home run, sparking the Pirates to a 5-3 victory against the Houston Astros Thursday night at Minute Maid Park.

"This is a dream come true for me," Marte said before the game, as interpreted by first-base coach Luis Silverio.

It could be a wish come true for the Pirates, who have been looking for an impact bat for months while Marte pounded 20 homers in Class AAA Indianapolis.

"I'm pretty humble, from where I'm coming from," Marte said. "I'm from a very low-income family, and I'm very excited to be here in the big leagues. I'm just looking forward to whatever I can do."

As he stepped to the plate for his first career at-bat — with concerns about how he would handle major league pitching and the pressure of a pennant race — Marte tapped Astros catcher Carlos Corporan on the shin-guards, a common greeting, and dug in against Houston starter Dallas Keuchel.

Keuchel fired with an 86-mph cut fastball that he left up in the zone. Marte cranked it to left-center for the Pirates' second leadoff home run this season.

"I got goosebumps when he hit it," manager Clint Hurdle said.

SEE **PIRATES**, PAGE C-5



Pat Sullivan/Associated Press

Starling Marte, called up Thursday from Class AAA Indianapolis, rounds the bases after hitting a solo home run on the first pitch of his first plate appearance with the Pirates against the Astros in Houston.

### First things first

Starling Marte became the third Pirate to hit a home run in his first at-bat Thursday in Houston. The other two:

- Walter Mueller — May 7, 1922
- Don Leppert — June 18, 1961



### Today

- **Game:** Pirates at Astros
- **When:** 8:05 p.m.
- **Where:** Minute Maid Park, Houston.
- **TV, Radio:** Root Sports, KDKA-FM (93.7).



PENN STATE

# Mauti balances support, offers to transfer

Nittany Lions try to focus on upcoming season

By Mark Dent  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

CHICAGO — His email inbox filled up quickly, as did the list of missed calls on his cell phone. Penn State linebacker Michael Mauti is all of a sudden a very

popular man. He loves the emails. They've come from strangers wishing him and the team success. The phone calls ... not so much.

He's gotten as many as 10 calls a day in the past four days. While some of the calls are also from well-wishers, he also has had some less-welcome calls. Forty schools, he said, have contacted him about transferring.

It's been that kind of week for Penn State players. On one hand, alumni and fans have provided the kindest, strongest support

they could imagine, making them wonder why they'd ever leave. On the other, there's the temptation to transfer. Plenty of Division I schools are calling, schools that can compete for national championships and play in bowl games, unlike Penn State.

Mauti, John Urschel and Jordan Hill, Penn State's player contingent at the Big Ten media days, have all said they would stay. Coach Bill O'Brien said no players have yet made the decision to leave. The three players

and their coach add that a strong "core" has joined their pledge.

That "core" is made up of 50-plus players who have said they would stay at Penn State, O'Brien said. He declined to comment on whether star running back Silas Redd was one of them. Mauti said the projected starting defense has committed to stay even though they are playing for nothing besides a regular season.

"I'm not going to sugarcoat it, but I have brothers here who are going to stick it out with me,"

Mauti said. Mauti and Urschel said the decision to stay was not difficult, nor has it been tough to press the ignore button on their cell phones. They've lived and breathed Penn State for years.

On Monday, the team gathered at the Lasch football building to watch the NCAA news conference. The seniors affirmed their loyalty immediately after. Conversations between underclassmen differed.

SEE **PENN STATE**, PAGE C-7

### NHL offseason

Free agent forward Alexander Semin signs a one-year, \$7 million deal with the Carolina Hurricanes.

— **Notebook**, Page C-8

### L O N D O N



2 0 1 2

### Olympics

A minute-long moment of silence in memory of those who died in 1972 in Munich is not too much to ask.

— **Column**, Page C-6

### Online today

- **VIDEO:** Watch new episodes of "SportsNOW" and Gene Collier on "Two-Minute Warning."
- **BLOG:** Ed Bouchette reports from training camp at Saint Vincent College on the PG+ Steelers Blog.

Go to [www.post-gazette.com](http://www.post-gazette.com)

BASEBALL / SOCCER

# Rodriguez embraces new team, new role

By Michael Sanserino  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

**HOUSTON —** Wandy Rodriguez took a familiar drive Thursday afternoon. Walked through familiar doors. Saw familiar faces.

But, at one point, he took a different turn in the tunnels of Minute Maid Park. Walked into a different clubhouse. Pitched off a different bullpen mound. Same stadium. New team. Worlds apart.

"It's a hard situation for me, but I understand everything," Rodriguez, the Pirates newest pitcher, said Thursday, his first day with the organization after the Pirates acquired him from

**PIRATES NOTEBOOK**

The Houston Astros for three minor leaguers Tuesday night.

He remained in Houston until the Pirates arrived and met his new teammates and manager Thursday. Rodriguez left a team that was 31 games under .500 heading into Thursday for a team aiming for its first winning season and playoff appearance in the past 20 years. And his first start in black and gold will be on the same mound he has called home for his eight major league seasons.

Rodriguez's debut as a Pirate will come Saturday, with origi-

nally scheduled starter Erik Bedard moving to Monday. "I told him he doesn't have to be the ace in this staff," manager Clint Hurdle said. "I think it was very important he understood that. He's one of five in the rotation."

In Houston, he was the ace of a young staff — and a young team all around. With the Pirates, there are more veterans in the starting rotation than on the Astros' roster.

"I'll try to help this team, playing really good right now," Rodriguez said. "I'll try to help because we need to make the playoffs. I'll try to make it the best I can every time I have the opportunity."

**Correia to bullpen**

To make room for Rodriguez in the rotation, the Pirates moved Kevin Correia to the bullpen. The move was disappointing to the veteran pitcher, who had won his past six starts.

"Usually you don't win six starts in a row and then get taken out of the rotation," he said. "But that's a decision they made, and it's just something I'm going to have to live with for now."

Correia was the opening day starter in 2011 and was 8-6 this season with a 4.24 ERA.

"This is one of the harder decisions we've had to make," Hurdle said. "First time in your career you win six straight

games, you get moved to the bullpen. I'm wrestling with that one."

In the bullpen, Correia will pitch in long-relief situations, which will allow Brad Lincoln to move into a late-innings role.

"Starting pitching is what I want to do," Correia said. "That's how I think I best help the team. I'm not happy about it, but it is what it is. If I need to pitch out of the bullpen to help us win, then I'll do that."

The Pirates likely will try to trade Correia before the non-waiver trade deadline next week.

**Gone and mostly forgotten**

Thursday was the one-year anniversary of the 19-inning marathon game that ended when home plate umpire Jerry Meals called Julio Lugo safe at home plate as the Pirates lost to the Braves. To the Pirates, the memory is much more distant than 366 days.

"That's long gone," Garrett Jones said. "That's long in the past. That's last year stuff, and last year's over."

Catcher Michael McKenry, who applied the tag Meals said missed Lugo's leg, remembers the night but never thinks about it, adding, "After that night, I remember Hurdle saying, 'Hey, way to battle. Great job today. Lost a tough one.'" McKenry said. "We moved on as a team."

## Marte hits homer on first pitch in majors

PIRATES, FROM PAGE C-1

Marte said he planned to give the home run ball to his grandmother, who helped raise him.

He made his major league debut with confidence, not nervousness. He can credit that partly to a strong spring training in which he hit .520 with three home runs in 12 games. At the time, Hurdle told the 23-year-old he wanted him to focus on having fun — and not on the pressure to produce.

"This has more meaning now," Hurdle said. "He understands where we are in our season because he's been watching it. He understands that he doesn't have to do it all. He doesn't have to be the guy. He's our left fielder who's batting leadoff tonight."

That message was reiterated Thursday afternoon before Marte's first swing.

"Respect everything and fear nothing," Hurdle told him. "It is a bigger arena, but it's the same game."

He became the third Pirate to homer in his first career at-bat — and the first since Don Leppert did it June 18, 1961. In a four-year career, Leppert hit 15 home runs. Marte hopes he can stick around a few years longer.

"Quince o veinte," he said. That means 15 or 20.

Marte finished 2 for 4. He was caught stealing home in the fifth after Andrew McCutchen was caught between first and second on a pickoff move.

Pirates starter A.J. Burnett allowed two earned runs on four hits in 7 1/3 innings.

"He spotted the ball very well and had a dynamite curveball to go with it as well," Hurdle said.

Burnett credited catchers Rod Barajas, who caught Burnett Thursday, and Michael McKenry for the success of his curve. He lost his shutout bid in the eighth, when he allowed a pair of solo home runs to Chris Johnson and Corporan.

Keuchel lasted six innings, allowing five earned runs and five hits. He walked two and struck out two. But he surrendered three costly home runs — all before he recorded his fourth out of the night.

Three batters after Marte's homer, Garrett Jones sent a Keuchel fastball into the right-field seats for his 15th homer, a two-run blast that made it 3-0. It was his second homer against a left-handed pitcher this season.

In his first at-bat at Minute Maid Park since signing a two-year deal with the Pirates, former Astro Clint Barmes hit his own two-run homer in the second to make it 5-0.

## PIRATES REPORT

**Today**



**Game:** Pirates at Astros, 8:05 p.m., Minute Maid Park, Houston.  
**TV, Radio:** Root Sports, KDKA-FM (93.7).  
**Probables:** RHP Jeff Karstens (3-2, 3.52) vs. RHP Jordan Lyles (2-7, 5.50)

**Key matchup:** In two career starts vs. the Pirates, Lyles has a 9.31 ERA and allowed seven earned runs in four innings against them earlier this season.

**Hidden stat:** In nine career appearances — eight starts, Karstens has a 2.83 ERA against the Astros.

**On deck**



Sat. at Astros, 7:05  
**Wandy Rodriguez (7-9)**  
vs. TBA (7-9)  
Root/KDKA-FM (93.7)



Sun. at Astros, 2:05  
**James McDonald (10-4)**  
vs. Lucas Harrell (7-7)  
Root/KDKA-FM (93.7)



Mon. at Cubs, 8:05  
**Erik Bedard (5-11)**  
vs. TBA  
Root/KDKA-FM (93.7)

**Thursday's game**

**Pirates 5, Astros 3**

Pirates	ab	r	h	bi	bb	so	avg.
S.Marte lf	4	1	2	1	0	0	.500
Walker 2b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.293
A.McCutchen cf	4	1	1	0	0	1	.368
G.Jones rf	4	1	1	0	0	0	.264
Presley rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.231
McGehee 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.233
P.Alvarez 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.228
Barajas c	3	1	0	0	1	1	.206
Barmes ss	4	1	1	2	0	0	.206
A.J.Burnett p	3	0	1	0	0	1	.094
Lincoln p	0	0	0	0	0	0	.200
c-Sutton ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Hanrahan p	0	0	0	0	0	0	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	

Houston	ab	r	h	bi	bb	so	avg.
Altuve 2b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.296
Ma.Gonzalez ss	4	0	0	0	0	0	.265
Maxwell cf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.218
S.Moore 1b	3	1	1	0	1	1	.227
J.D.Martinez lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.241
C.Johnson 3b	3	1	2	2	1	1	.276
Bogusevic rf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.215
Corporan c	3	1	2	1	0	1	.389
Keuchel p	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
a-Schaffer ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.224
Del Rosario p	0	0	0	0	0	0	—
X.Cedeno p	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
b-M.Downs p	0	0	0	0	0	0	.200
R.Cruz p	0	0	0	0	0	0	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	

Pirates	320	000	000	—	5	8	0
Houston	000	000	022	—	3	5	0

a-grounded out for Keuchel in the 6th. b-walked for X.Cedeno in the 8th. c-lined out for Lincoln in the 9th.

**LOB**—Pirates 4, Houston 4, HR—S.Marte (1), off Keuchel; G.Jones (15), off Keuchel; Barmes (5), off Keuchel; C.Johnson (7), off A.J.Burnett; Corporan (2), off A.J.Burnett. **RBIs**—S.Marte (1), G.Jones (2) (47), Burnett (27), C.Johnson (24), Corporan (5). **CS**—S.Marte (1). **S**—Keuchel.

**Runners left in scoring position**—Houston 2 (Altuve, Bogusevic). **RISP**—Pirates 0 for 1; Houston 1 for 4.

**GDP**—J.D.Martinez.

**DP**—Pirates 1 (Walker, Barmes, McGehee).

Pirates	ip	r	er	bb	so	np	era
Burnett	W,12:37 1/3	2	2	1	5	103	3.52
Lincoln		0	0	0	1	16	2.78
Hanrahn	S,30:33 1/3	1	1	1	2	21	2.23

Houston	ip	r	er	bb	so	np	era
Keuchel	L, 1-3 .6	5	5	2	2	88	4.63
Del Rosario	1 1/2	2	0	0	1	14	7.80
X.Cedeno	1/2	0	0	0	1	8	2.70
R.Cruz	1	1	0	0	0	18	6.88

**Inherited runners scored**—X.Cedeno 1-0. **WP**—Hanrahan 2.

**Umpires**—Home, Derryl Cousins; First, Alan Porter; Second, David Rackley; Third, Jim Wolf.

T—2:49. A—19,926 (40,981).

**How they scored**

**Pirates first.** S.Marte homered to center on a 0-0 count. Walker flied out to center fielder Maxwell. McCutchen singled to left. G.Jones homered to right on a 1-0 count, McCutchen scored. McGehee flied out to center fielder Maxwell. P.Alvarez grounded out, first baseman S.Moore to pitcher Keuchel. 3 runs, 3 hits, 0 errors, 0 left on. Pirates 3, Astros 0.

**Pirates second.** Barajas walked on a full count. Barmes homered to left on a 2-1 count. Barajas scored. A.J.Burnett struck out. S.Marte flied out to center fielder Maxwell. Walker flied out to center fielder Maxwell. 2 runs, 1 hit, 0 errors, 0 left on. Pirates 5, Astros 0.

**Astros eighth.** Presley in as right fielder. C.Johnson homered to left on a 1-0 count. Bogusevic grounded out, first baseman McGehee to pitcher A.J.Burnett. Corporan homered to right on a full count. M.Downs pinch-hitting for X.Cedeno. Lincoln pitching. M.Downs walked

on a full count. Altuve flied out to center fielder McCutchen. Ma.Gonzalez grounded out, first baseman McGehee to pitcher Lincoln. 2 runs, 2 hits, 0 errors, 1 left on. Pirates 5, Astros 2.

**Astros ninth.** Hanrahan pitching. Maxwell was out bunting, third baseman P.Alvarez to first baseman McGehee. S.Moore walked on four pitches. On Hanrahan's wild pitch, S.Moore to second. J.D.Martinez struck out. C.Johnson singled to center. S.Moore scored. On Hanrahan's wild pitch, C.Johnson to second. Bogusevic struck out. 1 run, 1 hit, 0 errors, 1 left on. Pirates 5, Astros 3.

**Schedule**

Date	Opponent	Time	TV
7/31	Cubs	8:05	Root
8/1	Cubs	2:20	
8/3	Reds	7:10	Root
8/4	Reds	7:10	Root
8/5	Reds	1:10	Root
8/6	Diamondbacks	7:05	Root
8/7	Diamondbacks	7:05	Root
8/8	Diamondbacks	7:05	Root
8/9	Diamondbacks	4:05	Root
8/10	Padres	7:05	Root
8/11	Padres	7:05	Root

Home games in bold

**Minor league report**

*Wednesday's results*

**INDIANAPOLIS (65-41)** lost to Pawtucket, 4-2. RHP Rick Vandenhurk (9-3, 3.55) took the loss, allowing four runs, three earned, on eight hits in six innings. SS Chase d'Aund (228) went 2 for 4.

**ALTOONA (51-52)** lost to Reading, 6-1. RHP Gerrit Cole (2-4, 4.85) took the loss, allowing five runs, three earned, on six hits in five innings. SS Brock Holt (.317) went 2 for 4.

**BRADENTON (47-55)** lost to St. Lucie, 6-5. RHP Jameson Taillon (5-7, 4.37) allowed four runs on eight hits. 3B Kirk Singer (.265) went 1 for 3 with a double.

**WEST VIRGINIA (41-62)** defeated Greensboro, 4-2. LHP Zack Dodson (5-6, 5.07) earned the win, allowing two hits in five scoreless innings. 2B Dan Gamache (.273) went 2 for 4 with a double and a home run.

**STATE COLLEGE (21-16)** defeated Connecticut, 2-0. RHP Clay Holmes (4-1, 0.80) earned the win, allowing three hits in five scoreless innings. C Jacob Stallings (.291) went 2 for 4 with a double.

**GCL PIRATES (20-13)** lost to the Tigers, 4-2. RHP Tyler Glasnow (0-3, 2.84) took the loss, allowing one unearned run on three hits in four innings. C Wyatt Mathisen (.308) went 1 for 3.



A view of the future Highmark Stadium in Station Square. The stadium should be ready for play sometime this fall.

## Riverhounds set sights on stadium completion in fall

STADIUM, FROM PAGE C-1

The Station Square site now may be far from resembling a stadium, but much of the privately-financed \$10.2 million project will be assembled off-site. Kutney hopes to have the field, seating, lights and scoreboard ready for use this fall for high school football games and other events. Offices, restaurants and suites would be completed before the Riverhounds open their United Soccer League season next spring.

The stadium site, wedged between Mount Washington and the Monongahela River near the Fort Pitt Bridge, presented little physical room for the imaginations at ThenDesign Architecture to roam, so the architects capitalized on the benefits of the tight fit.

"It's not an existing building, or surrounding any existing buildings. We had a nice clean site, kind of an easier site to work through," said Chris Smith, a partner in ThenDesign. "One of the views we had was, from the corner of the stadium, looking back up at the [Downtown] skyline, knowing how beautiful that was going to be."

Following the precedents set at PNC Park and Heinz Field, the majority of the 3,500 seats at Highmark Stadium will face the downtown skyline. A building on the western side of the stadium will house Riverhounds offices, locker rooms, suite seating, a restaurant and a bar.

"Every stadium of this size is a little different," said Smith, whose Ohio-based firm has designed numerous sports and recreation facilities. "This

"Really, bringing soccer to at least a professional level in a city like Pittsburgh, you have to be downtown. You have to be in the mix with the other teams. And if you're not, then you're not real. So that's one thing we said years ago."

—Jason Kutney, Riverhounds midfielder and chief executive

one had the emphasis on the fan experience and the player experience."

Kutney, a former player for Duquesne, understands the player experience. Before coming to the Riverhounds, Kutney spent two seasons with the Charleston Battery, a fellow USL Pro team. In Charleston, Kutney played at Blackbaud Stadium, the first privately funded soccer-specific stadium in the United States.

Kutney and the Riverhounds play their games at Chartiers Valley High School, on a football field with a track circling its perimeter.

"Playing [in Charleston], and then when I came to Pittsburgh ... it was tough," he said. "To move from there to a high school with football lines, a track around the field, and metal bleachers, no beer for the fans, even tougher."

"You show up at these games and it's harder to get up for the games."

Thus, when the Riverhounds were about to be disbanded in 2006 and Kutney and his partners at the Greentree SportsPlex purchased the organization, one of the first ideas he put on the table was a new stadium. Their pursuit of a suitable site brought them from alongside Route 51 near Neville Township to behind an IHOP in Robinson Town Center to, finally, Station Square.

"Really, bringing soccer to at least a professional level in a city like Pittsburgh, you have to be downtown," Kutney said. "You have to be in the mix with the other teams. And if you're not, then you're not real. So that's one thing we said years ago."

With that goal nearly realized after six years, a few months past an estimated deadline hardly fazes Kutney.

"The first time it really hit me, honestly, was when I drove, very recently. It was the first day our construction crews were going to be there. I was driving over the bridge and I saw the first vehicle there."

Usually a vehicle in a parking lot is far from noteworthy. A stadium standing where a parking lot used to sit qualifies as a bit more so.

In a few months, drive down to Station Square. Take a look just to the west of the Gateway Clipper Fleet.

Highmark Stadium will not be hard to spot.

Douglas Farmer: dfarmer@post-gazette.com and Twitter @D\_Farmer

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# Hit the lights

More than two decades later, dramatic echoes of its last night game still ring in Notre Dame Stadium

By DOUGLAS FARMER  
Editor-in-Chief

When Rick Mirer found Adrian Jarrell in the end zone for the winning score over Michigan on Sept. 15, 1990, nobody thought Notre Dame would wait 21 years, one month and seven days to host another night game.

In fact, the majority of current undergraduates were born after Mirer's fourth quarter heroics under the lights in his first start.

The wait is over.

Tomorrow night Notre Dame will take the field at Notre Dame Stadium to add another chapter to its rivalry with Southern California, just as the Irish did in 2005, 2007 and 2009.

This time, there will just happen to be lights on from before the warm-ups to after the post-game Alma Mater, just as there were for Mirer.

"Honestly, it's kind of hard to believe ... it's been that long," Mirer said. "Under the lights is just kind of a bigger stage. I think a lot of guys would agree."

When the Irish, led by their sophomore quarterback and his sophomore target, Jarrell, took the field 21 years ago, playing a night game was not all that out-of-the-ordinary. "It wasn't a big deal," said Mirer, who finished the 28-24 victory with 165 yards and one touchdown. "We played at night at other places."

Even the players who, like Mirer, had not yet played much in their careers had played under the lights before in high school, a sentiment even more true of this year's team.

"It kind of takes you back to your high school days," said Reggie Brooks, a sophomore in 1990, when he intercepted

Michigan quarterback Elvis Grbac's final pass attempt. "You always played Friday nights around 7:00. It had a high school feel to it to some degree, but there was a different vibe from an atmosphere standpoint playing under the lights.

"It was kind of like playing 'Monday Night Football' at the professional level. There was certainly a little more to it than just another game."

Mirer and the Irish offense started strong against the Wolverines that long-ago evening, but Michigan held a 24-21 lead with only 4:33 remaining when Notre Dame took over at its own 24. Nine plays, 76 yards and 2:53

later, the Mirer-to-Jarrell pass provided the winning margin.

"When they turn the lights on the field in sports, it kind of adds excitement," Jarrell said. "Football is already exciting, and Notre Dame football is already exciting, but playing at night creates an extra aura. Everybody gets a little extra-hyped for the game."

In 1990, Notre Dame's next three home games all began at noon, a full nine hours earlier than the Michigan encounter. The lack of activity throughout the afternoon and evening led to some anxiety in the team hotel, Jarrell said.

"You go stir-crazy sitting in the hotel," he said. "Instead of checking out first thing in the morning, you're there all day ... You try not to watch too many games of other teams playing, but you have to peek at them. Nervous energy can make you tired. You're going to be watching those games for eight hours."

While today's Irish are accustomed to 3:30 p.m. kick-offs, the four-and-a-half hour wait will still pose many of the same challenges Jarrell's and

Brooks' nine-hour wait did.

"It takes a little bit of an adjustment," Brooks said. "There is some level of discomfort you could say, not having played at that time. Most athletes are creatures of habit, so it throws your scheduling off more than anything else."

Even if schedules are thrown off and habits disrupted, the consensus among the last 20 years of Irish players is they would have loved to enjoy the night game atmosphere.

"I'm jealous," said Golden Tate, Irish receiver from 2007-09. "I'm jealous they get to play at night against SC. It sucks that I didn't get to experience that. I wish I could have played in it."

Tate's former teammates feel the same way. Tom Zbikowski (2003-07) was a pivotal player in the 2005 encounter with USC, returning a punt for a touchdown shortly before half-time.

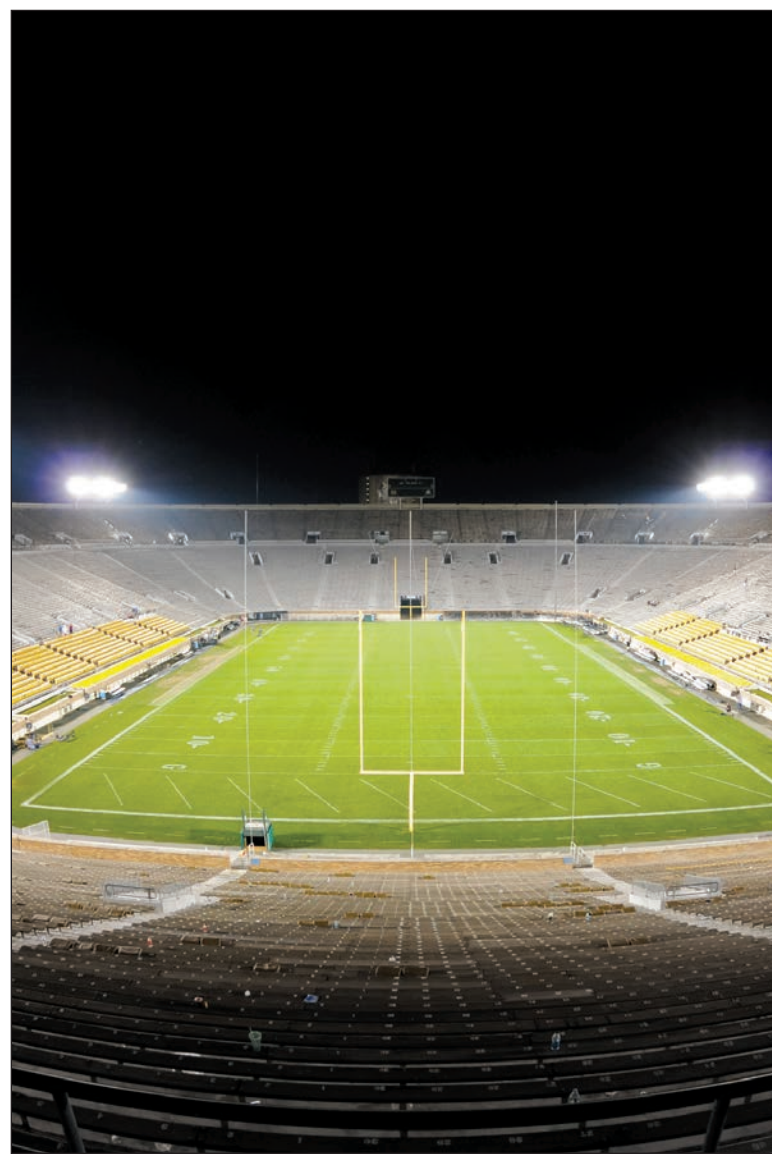
"It should be fun," Zbikowski said of the return to the prime-time hour. "We've been looking for a night game at Notre Dame for quite some time. It's a good audience, a good stage for a university to be on Saturday night."

Even Irish senior captain and safety Harrison Smith — the same Harrison Smith who sealed last year's victory over USC with an interception in the closing seconds a la Brooks in 1990 against Michigan — didn't hide his excitement for the first night game in more than two decades.

"It's the kind of an environment that you never see at Notre Dame, a night game," Smith said at a Wednesday press conference. "[The fans] are going to be, I don't know, pretty rowdy I think."

Sitting next to Smith was junior linebacker Manti Te'o. Four years ago, Te'o was expected to sign with USC. Te'o himself expected to sign with USC. But when National Signing Day came around, Te'o changed his mind that morning and committed to Notre Dame instead.

"I told the story a lot of times," Te'o said. "I was going to go to USC. I prayed about it. I was directed here. I think that



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Saturday's contest will mark the first time Notre Dame Stadium hosts a night game since Sept. 15, 1990.

was the only thing that could persuade me to come here. I was all sold on USC. I grew up a USC fan."

But now, Te'o will take the field under the lights to face the Trojans for the third time in his career.

"It's something new," he said. "It's something that I'm looking forward to. It's something all the guys are looking forward to."

Perhaps the fresh nature of the night game is why the players, past and present, are so excited about the opportunity.

"Clearly our players are looking forward to being that one game at night at Notre Dame Stadium," Irish coach Brian

Kelly said. "They haven't experienced anything, so this is a first-time experience. You know, like anybody else, they love those first-time experiences."

As usual, NBC will air the home game, but even the broadcaster is not treating the occasion as a normal one. An NBC spokesman said there will be about 20 cameras at the game, including a blimp, three slow-motion cameras and one in the student section.

The camera in the student section should have some interesting shots if Mirer's expectations are correct.

"For the fans, the gameday activities and preparation and all that, that affects the fans a lot more than it does the players," Mirer said. "There is more of a buzz, more of a buildup, thanks to the length of the day."

Contact Douglas Farmer at [dfarmer1@nd.edu](mailto:dfarmer1@nd.edu)



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Fans reenter Notre Dame Stadium as the Irish warm up after a two-and-a-half hour weather delay at halftime of Notre Dame's 23-20 loss to South Florida on Sept. 3. The contest would be later interrupted by another weather delay in the fourth quarter.

# SportsDay Basketball

## RESULTS

### BOYS BASKETBALL

#### SATURDAY'S RESULTS

##### DISTRICT 4-5A

Keller Tim. Creek ..... 14 14 12 23 - 63  
Denison ..... 6 9 16 17 - 48  
KTC (1-2): Ray Munson 24, Dare Brazael 22, Millet 8, Jon Hatcher 5, DeVante McDonald 4.  
DEMI (0-2): Carlton Hines 15, Kendrick Golston 14, McShane Wyatt 7, Jaleel Dade 4, Josh Henry 3, Yan Sosnovskiy 3, Daniel Batay 2.

##### NONDISTRICT

John Paul II ..... 18 14 22 23 - 77  
Greenhill ..... 7 10 7 14 - 38  
JP II (4-1): Chandler Malone 21, Jackson Forbes 20, Bola Alade 12, Jason Martin 7, Colton Shearer 6, Brandon Baker 5, Conrad Polkosnik 4, Donovan McNair 2.

GHL: Auston Evans 12, Regis Johnson II, Jalen Sharp 4, Jake Goldberg 3, Cooper Raiff 3, Chandler Notley 2, Dylan Roberts 2, Alex Weinberg 1.  
Gar. Lakeview ..... 19 26 15 17 - 77  
Terrell ..... 6 7 12 16 - 41

LAK (2-1): Charles Beaugreard 21, Termir Sutton-Durham 12, Cameron Hardy II, Elbert Robinson 8, Andrew Reyna 7, Michael Thomas-Vaughan 6, Montell Scott 4, Richard Pegues 3, Demeion Mundine 2, Marvin Livingston 2, Adrian Atos 1.  
TER: E Lewis 15, I Pickens 8, Wyatt 5, Ashby 5, Williams 4, M. Johnson 3, R. Brown 1.

Arl. Bowie ..... 13 16 24 16 - 69  
Coppell ..... 18 19 11 8 - 56  
ABOV: Malcolm Hughes 18, Chavlovich 17, Senglin 13, Hall 8, Kevin Hervey 8, Galvan 3, William Anthony 2.  
COP: Josh Feitl 14, Simi Socks 12, Landon Goelling 11, Cody Carver 10, Galvin Michaelis 5, Patrick Barden 2, Chad Kaiser 2.

Paris ..... 14 16 14 25 - 69  
Greenville ..... 12 17 10 22 - 61  
PAR (1-1): K.D. Moore 31, S. Johnson 13, M. Bawcum 10, R. Bell 7, Jay Milton 6, T. Barry 2.  
GRE (1-3): Dartanon Wilson 15, Darion Neal 13, Marquis Taylor 9, Collen Wilburn 8, Brady Mulkey 8, Marlon Mack Jr. 6, Jerry Dickson 2.

Bishop Lynch ..... 16 23 18 20 - 77  
Hou. St. Plus ..... 17 12 10 20 - 59  
BL (4-1): Lupe Alba 26, Drew Bodensteiner 16, Chris Adams 14, Ryan Dooley 8, Andrew Grado 8, Jamie Skarzenski 3, Colton Paradowski 2.  
STP (5-6): Jackson 17, Griffin 15, Coleman 11, Udenuwenu 9, Ray 6, Brown 1.

Argyle ..... 11 11 8 8 - 38  
Polk Central ..... 4 11 10 9 - 34  
ARG: Zack Dickerson 19, Spencer McCloud 11, Jonathan Davis 6, Carson Cline 2.  
CTRL: Metts 14, Jackson 9, Ponsion 8, Jones 3.

Prosper ..... 11 21 12 32 - 76  
Thomas Jefferson ..... 8 15 15 22 - 60  
PRO (2-1): Gatlin Parr 19, Chase Schupp 15, Brandon Grudzielanek 8, Cameron Barnes 7, Armann Charaniva 7, Robert Mott 4, Riley Davis 3, Tyler Opar 3, Stephen Reilly 2, Ryan Cleary 2.  
TJ (0-4): Tashaun Beavers 25, Kadeem Mays 13, Ha'Bryan Preston 7, Domingo Dahn 7, Quadre Espada 5, Malik Redrick 3.

Samuell ..... 15 27 10 17 - 79  
Sunset ..... 11 25 7 15 - 58  
SNL: Keshun James 18, Samuel Pritchett 16, Kevin Campbell 15, Caleb Quinney 8, A. Richardson 7, Davontae Baneke 6, Walton 4, Carey 3, Riley 2.  
SUIN (1-5): Jacob Huerta 19, Jose Mendoza 14, Michael Lira 10, Rene Mendiola 5, Joe Castillo 3, Alphonso Sanchez 3, Carmello Johnson 2, Keelin Glowney 2.

Richardson ..... 14 25 18 21 - 78  
North Dallas ..... 6 8 16 1 - 31  
RCHA (3-1): Brandon Scott 15, Josh King 11, Jacob Duncan 9, Nylan Yancy 9, Jordan Walker 8, Jake Moore 7, Clark Randall 6, Devin Young 5, Ben Nakwaasah 4, Jakory Clark 2, Josh Ford 2.  
ND (0-3): Jaylen Donahue 12, Kris Magee 8, Jeremiah Gantt 4, Medina 4, Larry Horn 2, Wilbert Wiggins 1.

Cedar Hill ..... 17 19 8 11 - 55  
Crowley ..... 11 7 10 10 - 38  
CH (3-1): Jalen Jones 20, Charles Wesley 10, Clayborn 8, C. Hill 8, Kendrick Hanes 6, Charlie Middleton 2, J. Webb 1.  
CRO: Dion Malone 17, Kyle Wilson 9, Daneaz Moses 6, Deandre Adams 2, K. Harper 2, Wyatt Beene 2.

FM Marcus ..... 17 15 9 11 - 52  
Denton ..... 12 14 11 7 - 44  
MARC: Aaron Steele 16, Michael Mayhew 16, Jack Holden 8, Sean Campbell 5, Michael Wheeler 2, Elliot 2, Smith 2, Alexander 1.  
DENT: Greg Helt 12, Manny Patterson 11, Ryan Daniels 7, Michael Jackson 6, Chavis Johnson 5, Deamonte Hughes 3.

North Garland ..... 8 8 15 17 - 48  
Lake Highlands ..... 18 8 5 16 - 47  
NG: Aaron Williams 11, Beniam Debebe 9, Seanc Christian 7, Michale Allen 6, Rodarius Mosely 5, Esmael Ahmed 5, Sebastian Bermea 3, Jon Trel Boldeon 2.  
LH: Nick Thurman 16, Max Mueller 12, Nate Welty 7, Jacob Woo 4, E. Faris 4, Kevin Throver 2, Chris Guerrero 2.

Sanger ..... 8 20 12 14 - 54  
Ponder ..... 18 11 11 12 - 52  
SANG (3-1): Tyler Roelofs 12, Tanner Thomas 11, Drew Lyons 10, Brennan Bloom 9, Jake Stastny 6, Wilding Smith 4, Wyatt Broxton 2.  
PONB: Clay Morgan 21, Josh Peterson 14, Brady Anderson 8, Copp 4, Micah Broadstreet 3, Sanders 1, James 1.

Denton Ryan ..... 9 12 7 12 - 40  
Decatur ..... 4 4 9 17 - 34  
RYAN: Gilbert Jackson 14, Montarius Banks 10, Quincy Jones 7, Jeremy Lenoire 7, Allen Grant 1.  
DEC.

##### TOURNAMENT

ARL. MARTIN SPRING CREEK THANKSGIVING CLASSIC  
McKinney Boyd ..... 27 17 14 16 - 74  
Keller ..... 14 13 19 14 - 60  
MCK BOYD: Mikel Parish 13, Taber McFadden 12, Daylon Markham 10, Chris Stanton 9, Tre Von Boles 6, Zach Rubel 6, Cooper Welch 6, Martez Butler 6, Manney Collins 3, J. Barrio 2.

KEL: Austyn Kennedy 20, Andy Opolski 10, Kyle Tanner 8, Brock Anders 6, Alec Ingraham 5, Nolan Taylor 5, Blake Stewart 4, Erik Fredericks 2.  
Mansfield ..... 12 12 10 12 12 - 58  
FW Wyatt ..... 6 23 11 6 5 - 51  
MNS: Johnson 14, Littlejohn 12, Mitchell 10, Eason 6, Derrick Anderson 5, Porter 5, Kuykendall 3, Funk 3.

WYA: Deon Daniels 13, Kendrick Salone 11, Andrew Nunley 10, Byron Smith 6, Washington 6, Trae Dary 2, Mills 2, Polk 1.  
Arl. Martin ..... 15 12 22 20 - 69  
Carr. Ranchview ..... 6 6 15 12 - 39  
MART (5-1): Nick Babb 16, Andrew Dotson 12, Patrick Burke 11, Swearingin 8, C. Butson 5, Kor-dell Ellits 4, Jordan Smith 4, C. Shannon 4, L. Blamton 3, Shawn Hammler 2.

CRVV: Donavan Minter 14, Eric Washington 9, Dequcelan Bagsby 6, Charles Venters 3, S. Shankar 3, Parker Terry 2, R. Hinkle 2.  
FW Southwest ..... 31 14 14 32 - 91  
Waxahachie ..... 19 21 23 21 - 84  
FWSW: B. Hawkins 30, Victor Holmes 19, F. Norman 16, A. Williams 11, Joseph Collier 6, William Luke 5, Gordon Dean 4.

WAX: Sargent 33, Qua-Darrious Waters 21, Lee Wheaton 10, Antoine Taylor 9, Sammy Overtan 6, Lonnie Johnson 5.  
FANTASY OF LIGHTS TOURNAMENT  
Episcopal Dallas ..... 15 19 22 14 - 70  
AMA. Tascosa ..... 12 11 14 10 - 47  
ESD (4-2): Gordon Gehan 15, Grant Trout 12, Corey Henderson, Jr. 10, Christian Albright 8, Brock Anglin 6, Hamid-Khani 6, O'Neal Galbraith 6, William Butler 4, Jason Goolsby 2, Jonathan Page 1.

TAS: Smith 12, Shoels 10, Thompson 7, Davidson 6, E. Elvins 4, Marshall 3, Pitner 3, Williams 2.  
FORT WORTH COCA COLA CLASSIC  
FW Dunbar ..... 15 21 16 23 - 75  
Mans. Lake Ridge ..... 8 22 18 18 - 66  
DBR: DeLante Brooks 26, Dennis Jones 23, Logan Ray 8, Anthony Ashley 6, Byron Felder 4, Dan Harris 2, Jonathan Graves 2, Zachery Evans 2, Quinton Brigham 2.

MLR: Ott 19, Woodridge 12, Vann 11, Taylor 8, Harris 5, Onilgobgo 5, Rowe 2, T. Robinson 2, B. Tucker 2.

### FINISD COCA-COLA CLASSIC

Irving MacArthur ..... 23 13 5 15 - 56  
FW Trimble Tech ..... 8 11 3 20 - 42  
MAC: Kevin Booze 16, Tavarus Shine 14, Michael Fletcher 12, Donny Belcher 9, Channing Starks 2, K. Cooper 2, Jonathan Bulaba 1.

TT: Cheston, King 14, Jordan Gales 7, Quavon Parks 6, Franklin 6, Clark 4, Treyan Randolph 3, Rayvon Parks 2.  
FW Arl. Heights ..... 15 13 13 10 - 51  
FW Paschal ..... 6 15 13 14 - 48  
AHTS: Damontra McFarland 19, Justin Hemphill 17, Leavelle 6, Mendenhall 4, Nolley 3, Avant 2.

PAS: Xavier Mayes 16, John Ray 14, Da'Mon Smith 10, C. Hendricks 3, James 2, Studey 2, D. Clay 1.  
NIKE THANKSGIVING HOOPFEST  
Triple A Acad. .... 11 13 18 23 - 65  
Rockwall ..... 14 14 12 12 - 52

AAA (3-1): King McClure 25, Tyler Singleton 13, Jeremiah Jefferson 11, Gary Breaux 6, Daylan Mumphy 6, Harrison Henderson 4.  
ROCK: Elijah Thomas 25, Austin Grandstaff 12, Skyler Simmons 9, Aaron Maxwell 4, David Broach 2.  
Grand Prairie ..... 18 10 12 21 - 61  
TC-Cedar Hill ..... 14 16 8 18 - 56

GP (3-1): Jarron Boles 17, Jaylen Falls 12, Jordan Jones 12, Jordan Tyous 10, Juzzi Linzy 4, Chris Chestham 4, Ahmad Stark 2.  
TCCH: Kevin Beasley 11, Kaelen Malone 11, Garrick Williams 9, Charles Williams 9, Derrick Strong 8, Albert Owens 5, Isaiah Hartwell 3.  
Lincoln ..... 60 0 0 0 - 60  
Bishop Dunne ..... 52 0 0 0 - 52

LINC: Derrick Neal 17, Mark Johnson 17, Erick Neal 10, King Easley 9, Rodney Allen 3, Traven Donnell 2, Juan'ye Edmund 2.  
BD: Lasani Johnson 26, Bobby Griffin 10, Scottie Allen 8, Jaughn Meshack 4, Brandon Moore 4.  
TEXAS JAMBOREE (HOUSTON)  
Houston Episcopal ..... 13 13 9 22 - 57  
Kimball ..... 9 12 14 9 - 44

Hou Ep: Ken Williams 24, Brandon Williams 12, Jonathan Rutherford 11, Jamal Williams 7, Cameron Williams 3.  
KIM: Jordan Adams 14, Gabe Lilly 11, D'Angelo Allen 8, Trent Brinkley 7, Randlelle Jones 2, Cor-deal Finley 2.  
UT-TYLER'S BURGER KING CLASSIC  
MP Chapel Hill ..... 6 7 19 20 - 52  
Canton ..... 4 8 8 16 - 36

MPC: A. Nunn 11, D. Neuber 11, G. Kaplan 11, B. Rogers 9, A. Metzger 7, L. Millsap 3.  
CABE: Ryan Anderson 13, Jared Grace 8, Reese Frisch 5, Brad Wiggins 4, Kelby Nixon 2, Saxon Adams 2, Ty Gebauer 2.  
GIRLS BASKETBALL  
SATURDAY'S RESULTS

### NONDISTRICT

Frisco Lone Star ..... 18 15 10 18 - 61  
Arl. Martin ..... 9 15 7 11 - 42  
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ALL (8-2): McKenzie Martin 22, Anna Horowitz 14, Tamara Turner 7, Ericka May 6, Amanda Brown 6, Kelsey Paul 5, Briana Mitchell 5, Rachel Piles 4, Kayla Bise 3.  
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COP: Jaidyn Phillips 15, Kara Williamson 9, Adaiwu Nwaiwu 8, Caitie Galvin 6, Elena Grijalva 6, Kajah Jiggets 5, Carina Zhao 2.

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CON: Cassidy Evans 23, Jaszmin Brown 11, Lasandra Brown 6, La'Shana Johnson 4, Kailauna Miller 3.

FWEH: L. Tarkington 23, Armani Allen 16, Manns 7, Amber Elems 4, Kyniquea Henry 3, D. Rainey 2.

## THANKSGIVING HOOPFEST

# Scotlandville falls to Prime Prep

Playing as JV squad, Academy scores win, 63-50, at annual event

By DOUGLAS FARMER  
Special Contributor

DUNCANVILLE — Playing with a "Junior Varsity" moniker but looking like a Varsity squad, Prime Prep Academy sent Scotlandville back to Louisiana with a 63-50 defeat Saturday during Duncanville's fourth annual Thanksgiving Hoopfest.

Prime Prep junior Emmanuel Mudiay and seniors Jordan Mickey and Karvair Shepherd all started, though all have also been ruled ineligible by either the UIL's state executive committee or the District II-3A district executive committee. By playing as a JV squad, the players were able to contribute 15, 22 and four points, respectively, to the victory.

"They make life a little easier," Prime Prep coach Ray Forsett said. "We didn't play defensively like we should. We have to get better with defensive rebounding and taking care of the ball."

**Defense leads Triple A:** Triple A Academy coach Trey Washington knew his Stallions — who were trailing by four points at halftime — needed to find a way to generate some offense, so he turned to his defense.



Steve Hamm/Special Contributor

**Prime Prep's Shirmane Thomas** (1) goes over the top as teammate Emmanuel Mudiay (0) combines to sandwich Scotlandville player Brian Bridgewater (5).

A mixture of full-court press and half-court traps throughout the second-half allowed Triple A to outscore Rockwall by 13 over the final 16 minutes and cruise to victory.

"We had to pick up the pressure defensively," Washington said. "We use that half-court trap sometimes to get back in our rhythm."

That defensive intensity limited Rockwall 6-foot-9 sophomore Elijah Thomas to only eight second-half points, compared with his 18 in the first half.

Sophomore King McClure led Triple A with 22 points, while sophomore Tyler Singleton and junior Jer-

emiah Jefferson chipped in 11 each.

**Briefly:** Plano got the day off to a quick start with a 77-45 victory over TC-Cedar Hill, nearly outscoring TC-Cedar Hill's total with a 39-point first half. ... Lincoln needed 17-point efforts from both Tafari Witter and Derrick Neal to survive 26 points from Bishop Dunne's Lasani Johnson. Lincoln prevailed 60-52. ... Richardson Berkner cruised to an 80-63 victory over Louisiana's Carroll High School, despite Robert Pratt's 23 points. ... DeSoto squeezed past Madison Prep, also from Louisiana, 63-59, largely thanks to Matt Jones' 28 points.

## RANGERS

# Teams talking to Napoli

By GERRY FRALEY  
Staff Writer  
gfraley@dallasnews.com

With the winter meetings approaching, the market is beginning to take shape for upper-echelon free agents such as catcher-first baseman Mike Napoli, who spent the last two seasons with the Rangers.

According to several reports, Napoli and his representative,

Brian Griepner, are meeting with the Boston Red Sox this week. They are scheduled to have a similar session with the Seattle Mariners before the winter meetings begin Dec. 3 in Nashville.

Griepner did not respond to a request for comment.

Rangers general manager Jon Daniels said the "lines of communication remain open" with Napoli.

As is the case with outfielder Josh Hamilton, another of their high-profile free agents, the Rangers are letting Napoli explore the market before having definitive talks with him. The sides are likely to get together during the winter meetings.

Boston and Seattle envision Napoli as a first baseman-designated hitter with some time at catcher rather than a full-time receiver. Napoli's right-handed power appeals to both clubs.

The Rangers currently have three catchers on the major league roster: Luis Martinez, Geovany Soto and Konrad Schmidt.



MIKE NAPOLI

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SOUTH

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

# xtra

sports

S-10

Thursday, Aug. 16, 2012



Duquesne University

Duquesne senior wide receiver Akeem Moore, a Brentwood High School alumnus, has missed most of two seasons with injuries and underwent knee surgery in November.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# Brentwood grad could be answer for Dukes

By Phil Axelrod  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Akeem Moore could be the answer for a Duquesne team that has a huge question mark at the wide receiver position.

But there is a question Moore has been asked often the past nine months: "How are you feeling?"

Moore, a fifth-year senior who graduated from Brentwood High School, shrugged and grinned widely before he repeated the words he's said so many times: "Yes, I'm good ... my fingers are crossed."

Moore, who has missed most of two seasons with injuries, underwent knee surgery on his left knee in November and sat out this spring and is participating only in non-contact drills at fall camp.

If he's healthy, Moore is a fleet wideout who could provide the Dukes with a much-needed deep threat. Although his playing time has been severely limited because of injuries, he still is Duquesne's top returning receiver with 29 career catches for 425 yards and two touchdowns.

After starting at defensive back as a freshman, Moore switched to receiver as a sophomore but suffered internal injuries

on the third play against Nicholls State in the season's second game and was lost for the remainder of the season.

He came back as a junior and had 22 catches for 322 yards and two touchdowns despite missing three games with injuries. He played just three games as a redshirt junior in 2011 before a season-ending knee injury.

"I never let myself get down [after each injury]," said Moore, who is on course to earn a degree in sports management in December. "Doubts? I never ... never had them. I knew it wasn't the end of the world and I knew I had to work hard to get back. It's been a rocky road, with a lot of ups and downs. It's been a wild ride so far."

Moore said he started his college career on defense when the coaches asked him to play there, but offense always has been his first love.

"I knew I was going back to offense," said Moore, a 6-foot-1, 205-pounder. "My running, cutting and jumping are back to where I left off, but I haven't taken a hit since the surgery."

Asked if he still catches the ball like always, Moore grinned broadly and said, "You don't lose the hands. They have

always been there ... they always will be."

Moore hasn't set a timetable for his return to full-scale practice, but he said, "My first goal is to start hitting game week and play in the opener. I'm anxious, but I'm more excited. It was hard last year watching your team be successful without you being out there with them."

The Dukes, who return a solid nucleus of starters from a 9-2 team that was co-champion of the Northeast Conference, were picked to finish second in a preseason poll of the league's nine coaches.

Moore displayed the scars on his left knee and talked about the strenuous rehabilitation he's done over the summer to prepare for the 2012 season.

"I believe in it," he said. "After the first two months following the surgery I was in a lot of pain and on crutches, but then I started to walk again and that gave me hope. I'm not worried about staying healthy. I've gained some weight and put on a couple pounds, great pounds of more meat to sustain my knees."

"I just want to let loose and stay healthy week by week."

If he can do that, the question about his health will finally stop.

## SOCCER

# Costanzo puts kick in 'Hounds offense

By Douglas Farmer  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

In his time at Thomas Jefferson High School, Rich Costanzo made a habit of scoring goal after goal, followed by a few more goals, and then he would add another few while he was at it.

"He's the best player I've ever coached, ever, and I mean I've had some good players," Thomas Jefferson coach Dr. Mike Kulish said matter-of-factly.

By the end of his four years, Costanzo notched 107 scores, a school record, including seven goals in only three games during an injury-limited sophomore season. Since his 2004 graduation from TJ, he has added the 2008 NCAA Championship and two try-outs with MLS clubs to his list of accolades, which also includes a spot on the 2004 Under-18 U.S. National Team.

"This will be my 20th season at [Thomas Jefferson], and I've had a lot of good athletes," Kulish continued. "But he far exceeds in the ability level and the enthusiasm with which he plays the game and the desire with which he plays it."

Costanzo returned to Pittsburgh this season, starting 18 of the Riverhounds' 23 games. With one game left this season Saturday at the Rochester (N.Y.) Rhinos, Costanzo is already pondering where he may be next season. The Riverhounds are currently in 10th place in the 11-team USL Pro. It's not the top level of professional soccer in the United States.

"That's still my goal, to play at the highest level if a good opportunity comes up," he said. "[The Riverhounds] know that here."

Costanzo began his college career at Penn State, but transferred after his sophomore season, and proceeded to win the NCAA College Cup in 2008 at Maryland. After graduating the following spring, he tried out with the New York Red Bull, but was cut shortly before the season began.

"One reason I transferred out was I wanted to play professional," Costanzo said. "I had seen at Penn State not many were going to play professional, but at Maryland they were putting four or five guys in the pros every year."

The following year, Costanzo tried out with the Kansas City Wizards, now known as Sporting Kansas City. Again released shortly before the season, Costanzo still hopes to break through to the MLS ranks soon, as ankle surgeries have limited his chances recently, including



Bill Wade/Post-Gazette

Rich Costanzo, a Thomas Jefferson High School graduate, has started 18 of 23 games for the Riverhounds.

forcing him to turn down calls from Kansas City.

"The last two seasons I've had ankle surgery in both pre-seasons, so I've missed some opportunities when the timing wasn't right," he said. "If something comes along with a better opportunity at a higher level, that's what I'm striving for."

"If you're here and you're content with just being here, it's not the best thing for the program."

Former teammates expect high-reaching ambitions from Costanzo. On the U.S. U-18 National Team, he played alongside current National Team mainstay Michael Bradley, and at Maryland he patrolled the backline with current Los Angeles Galaxy defenders Omar Gonzalez and A.J. DeLaGarza, the latter serving as a tri-captain with Costanzo and current West Point assistant coach Michael Marchiano.

"[Costanzo] wanted to get on the field wherever he could, and he found a spot at right back, and he did really well with that," DeLaGarza said. "He was one of the best passers on our team. He was one of those guys you could always count on."

DeLaGarza and Costanzo still speak regularly, including trading barbs whenever one is interviewed about the other, and DeLaGarza said he expects Costanzo to continue moving upward and forward.

"Rich always fought hard," the defending MLS champion said. "He's a competitor, so he wants to get on the field, no matter where."

For now, Costanzo is on the field in Pittsburgh, the same city where he once tallied 106 points in a mere 28 games.

"They are doing a lot of great things here," he said. "Being from Pittsburgh, it seemed a good time and a good place to be."

Next year, the Riverhounds will have a new home. They are departing Chartiers Valley High School, where they closed out their home schedule with a 3-0 loss to the Charlotte Eagles last Saturday, to play in their own facility, Highmark Stadium at Station Square

Douglas Farmer: [dfarmer@post-gazette.com](mailto:dfarmer@post-gazette.com) or on Twitter @D\_Farmer.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# By limiting turnovers, W&J sees opportunity

By Ken Wunderley  
Tri-State Sports & News Service

Washington & Jefferson College football coach Mike Sirianni is cautiously optimistic as the Presidents prepare for the 2012 season.

Sirianni has the most talented group of skilled players returning in the Presidents' Athletic Conference, but realizes that group must improve for the Presidents to claim their first conference title since 2007.

"We have to eliminate the mental mistakes, especially turnovers and penalties," said Sirianni. "We stressed the importance of taking care of the football during spring practice."

"I think close to half of our turnovers last year came in the red zone and that was the difference in the close games we lost. That's on us as a coaching staff and we are determined to change that. Our goals have never changed, but last year was a wakeup call to all of us."

The Presidents finished eighth in last year's nine-team conference in turnover margin (24 turnovers lost, 17 caused).

Washington & Jefferson posted a 6-4 record last year. Three of the Presidents four losses were by three points or fewer.

"We clearly have the best group of returning skilled players in the conference," said Sirianni, who also serves as the Presidents offensive coordinator.

It's not often that a team has its quarterback, top three running backs and three of its top four receivers coming back. Add to that three experienced linemen returning.

Matt Bliss (5-11, 195, Jr.), a Bethel Park High School graduate, returns at quarterback after completing 193 of 303 passes for 2,153 yards and 15 touchdowns. He also rushed for 313 yards and three touchdowns, but was intercepted 10 times.

"Matt is a good leader. He loves the game and he has

worked hard to get better," Sirianni said. "His scrambling ability gives us an added dimension, but he has to be careful with the football in those moments."

Bliss is joined in the backfield by Tim McNeerney (5-10, 200, Sr.), a Knoch High School grad who has rushed for 1,875 yards and 26 touchdowns over the past two seasons.

"Timmy is the best back in the conference, but he needs to take better care of the ball, too," Sirianni said.

The Presidents have a stable full of talented receivers returning, led by preseason All-America selection Alex Baroffio (5-10, 185, Sr.). Baroffio, another Bethel Park graduate, is the first player in school history to catch 100 passes during his first two seasons. Last season, Baroffio accounted for 70 catches, 1,102 yards and 10 touchdowns.

"Alex has been fantastic his first two years," Sirianni said. "We hope to utilize him in different ways by moving him around."

Other targets returning for Bliss are Hunter Creel (6-2, 200, Sr.) and Max Creighan (5-10, 180, Jr.). Creel, a Western Beaver graduate, had a breakout season with 43 catches, 394 yards and four touchdowns. Creighan, a North Hills grad, had 20 catches for 175 yards.

"We have a number of great receivers who can make plays," Sirianni said.

The Presidents also have three linemen returning, left guard Mike Mastellino (6-1, 275, Sr.), right guard Andrew Pingitore (6-1, 295, Jr.) and right tackle Zach Wildey (6-2, 280, Jr.). Mastellino is a North Hills graduate, and Wildey is from Connellsville.

"As we do every year, we want to develop the best five linemen no matter what position they play," Sirianni said. "I am excited about these returnees and I think we did our best job recruiting this position. We

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# New coach, same goals for Cal

By Ken Wunderley  
Tri-State Sports & News Service

A new era of California University football begins Aug. 30.

The Vulcans play host to Michigan's Hillsdale College in a game that marks the debut of Mike Kellar as head coach.

Kellar has the challenging task of replacing a coaching legend, John Luckhardt, who retired during the past off-season due to health concerns.

"It's an honor to be chosen to replace a coaching legend, somebody who means as much to me as John," Kellar said.

Luckhardt compiled an astounding 137-37-2 record in his 17 seasons with the Vulcans and that came after a successful run at Washington & Jefferson.

There may be a new man at the helm, but don't expect many changes with the Vulcans.

"I'm doing some tweaking to put my stamp on the program, but 95 percent of what we were doing hasn't changed," said Kellar, who served as Luckhardt's

"I'm doing some tweaking to put my stamp on the program, but 95 percent of what we were doing hasn't changed."

—Mike Kellar, California University coach

offensive coordinator six of the past eight years in two different stints. "We were very successful under this setup, so there's no reason to fix something that isn't broke."

"Our goal remains the same," Kellar said. "We want to win the [Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference] title and make a return trip to the NCAA [Division II] playoffs."

California finished with a 10-3 record last season after tying with Slippery Rock for the PSAC West title. The Vulcans advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division II playoffs before dropping a 35-28 decision to Winston Salem.

"I like our talent level," said Kellar, who will continue to call

the offensive plays. "I just wish we had more depth. But then every coach wishes he had more depth."

Kellar has six starters returning from a potent offense that averaged 31.5 points and 429.6 yards per game, including a trio of skilled players who have received preseason All-American honors.

Quarterback Peter Lalich (6-6, 245, Sr.) returns with a deeper understanding of the Vulcans offense after a record-setting junior season. Lalich set a single-season school record and led the PSAC with 3,725 yards passing. He completed 63 percent of his passes and threw for 31 touchdowns.

Tailback Lamont Smith (5-10,

185, Sr.), a Central Catholic graduate, gives the Vulcans a good 1-2 punch. He rushed for 1,113 yards and five touchdowns on 200 carries. Smith also caught 33 passes for 275 yards and three touchdowns.

"It's huge to have that quarterback/running back tandem coming back, especially when you have two players of their caliber," said Kellar, referring to Lalich and Smith. "Add Blake Williamson (6-3, 230, Sr.) to the picture and we have three [offensive] players who have been recognized on preseason All-America teams."

Williamson, a Chartiers-Houston graduate, is a four-year starter at tight end who has 63 career receptions, 777 yards, and eight touchdowns.

The biggest concern on offense is replacing the Vulcans top three receivers, who graduated. The top returnee is Mike Williams (5-11, 185, Jr.), who had only 15 catches last season. Trey

SEE **VULCANS**, PAGE S-11

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

# Burn, baby, burn

*Offense's change of pace slows down Pittsburgh*

By DOUGLAS FARMER  
Sports Editor

Nearly half of Notre Dame's field goals came from behind the 3-point arc Monday night. Nonetheless, the No. 14 Irish toppled second-ranked Pittsburgh 56-51. Why the low scores despite the hot shooting? One word: Burn.

Irish coach Mike Brey first instituted the burn offense late last season. Since then, whenever Notre Dame (17-4, 6-3 Big East) breaks out the burn, it tests the patience of the players, its opponent and its fans.

"It is a drastic style of play," Brey said Tuesday afternoon. "Everybody gets less shots, everybody touches the ball less. The mental concentration and sacrifice of reps on the offensive end I think is underrated and it tells you how this group really believes."

see BURN/page 14



Fourth-year forward Tim Abromaitis holds the ball during Notre Dame's 80-75 victory over Marquette Saturday. Abromaitis and the Irish routinely let the shot clock dwindle in their burn offense.

SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

**SMC BASKETBALL**

# Belles look to rise in standings

By LAURA COLETTI  
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's continues its second round of MIAA Conference play when it faces Olivet tonight at 7:30.

The Belles (12-6, 5-4) are looking to rebound from a 74-60 road loss to Calvin over the weekend. They defeated Olivet (6-11, 5-4) once already during the 2010-11 season, a 72-67 victory away from home. The winner of tonight's game will move into sole possession of fourth place in conference standings, behind only Calvin (9-0), Hope (8-1), and Albion (6-2).

Belles Coach Jenn Henley said she liked parts of what she saw in her team against Calvin, even if the outcome was a loss.

"We got good looks in our offense against Calvin in the first half," Henley said. "Our shots just

see BELLES/page 14

**FENCING**

# Unexpected lessons from grade school lead to college passion

By MICHAEL TODISCO  
Sports Writer

Elementary school gymnasiums are often filled with dull activities; square dancing, gymnastics and dodge ball are among the pastimes dreaded by young students. For freshman fencer Ariel DeSmet, however, his elementary school gymnasium was where his future passion would be identified.

"A local fencing coach came to

my grade school back in 1999 and offered a few classes," DeSmet said. "When he saw that I did well he offered to give me free lessons and free stuff, and from there I really got into it."

While DeSmet did not fence for his school, he refined his skills at the Northwest Fencing Center in Beaverton, Ore. Under the tutelage of top coaches, DeSmet excelled on the junior circuit, competing for the United States team at world competi-

tions on four occasions.

Many of these tournaments were hosted in different countries, an aspect of the sport that DeSmet truly enjoys.

"Fencing is a pretty unique sport in that it allows you to travel all over the world; Europe, China, Japan," DeSmet said. "Turkey was my favorite. I got to spend three weeks right on the Mediterranean coast."

When it came time to choose a school, DeSmet's decision was easy. Notre Dame's combination

of competitive dominance and top coaching was too good to pass up.

"Notre Dame [is] the powerhouse of my weapon, the foil," DeSmet said. "The coach here [Gia Kvaratskhelia], is one of the best, nicest, and most amazing coaches in the country. Also, because everyone on the team fenced at such a high level before coming here, I'm familiar with so many of them. It's fun to be teammates with former rivals who I have known for

years."

Notre Dame's prominence in the foil has provided DeSmet with many mentors and role models on the team.

"Our team captain (senior) Zach Schirtz has been really helpful, and the upperclassmen have helped me manage balancing fencing and travel with school," DeSmet said.

DeSmet is also learning to balance fencing for Notre Dame

see DESMET/page 13

**MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING**

# Dyer leads ND in four events

By JOSEPH MONARDO  
Sports Writer

As a freshman, swimmer Frank Dyer is making an impact both in the lanes and in the locker room. The freestyle specialist holds the top times for the Notre Dame team in four events this year, and has become a key member of a strong Irish squad.

When Notre Dame (5-3) hosts the Shamrock Invitational this weekend, Dyer will be one of the swimmers to watch. Having swum the 50-, 100-, 200-, 500- and 1,000-yard freestyles this year, Dyer can claim the team's best time for the events in all but the 50-yard

see DYER/page 13



Freshman freestyler Frank Dyer heads toward the wall during the Dennis Stark Relays at Notre Dame Oct. 8.

COLEMAN COLLINS/The Observer

**WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD**

# Miler rises to second in NCAA with 4:42.14

By ANDREW GASTELUM  
Sports Writer

As a little girl growing up in the suburbs of Chicago, Rebecca Tracy would keep a jar filled with little pieces of paper, detailing her latest aspiration. Unraveled, they spelled out dreams like soccer player, interior designer and paleontologist, among many more.

At that young age, nowhere in the jar did she scribble college runner, let alone second fastest miler in the NCAA. Ten years later, the sophomore distance runner finds herself surprising everyone who sees her

run, as well as herself.

"[I'm] thrilled," Tracy said about her personal record mile time this past Saturday. "Every time that I [set a personal record] I am utterly surprised. Coach tells me to just run to win the race and the times come. So I just ran."

By just running, Tracy posted the second fastest mile time in the NCAA with a 4:42.14 at the Notre Dame Invitational. Not only did she set a personal best, but Tracy also beat out Michigan State senior and NCAA finals veteran Emily MacLeod by a mere 0.61

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## Burn

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Prior to the road upset, every time Notre Dame scored less than 60 points in a game, it stumbled to that low total thanks to abysmal shooting.

The Irish shot a disappointing 18.8 percent from 3-point range in a 22-point trouncing to Marquette, 20 percent from deep in a loss to St. John's, and a 7.7 percent performance from deep in the second half against Kentucky.

At Pittsburgh, the Irish shot 9-of-18 from behind the arc and took just 39 total shots. The vast majority of those shots came with only seconds left on the shot clock — neither team scored a single fast-break point.

"We knew going in that we wanted to work [the shot clock] down," senior guard Scott Martin said. "We were just happy to be hitting those shots when we had those opportunities."

Martin opened Notre Dame's scoring with two 3-pointers in the opening minutes. In the second half, senior forward Carleton Scott hit multiple 3s, ending the night five-of-six from deep. Even when the Irish took their first lead since leading 8-5, it was on a 3-pointer courtesy of senior guard Ben Hansbrough, giving Notre Dame a 42-41 lead.

"I just felt like I was in the zone last night," Scott said. "[Martin] started out in the zone, and I guess he passed it on, and I passed it on to Ben. That's the great thing about our team, anybody can start feeling it at any moment."

In the burn offense, Notre Dame works the shot clock down to 10 seconds before

looking to attack the hoop, on every possession, to the extent that on some possessions Notre Dame endures a shot clock violation, and thus a turnover, rather than give the ball back to its opponent quickly.

"We are still just as aggressive as we normally are, it just takes us longer to get to it," Martin said. "We don't stop looking to score, we just wait for it, wait for it, let the clock burn down a little bit, then we have our aggressive mindset the rest of the shot clock."

Thus, the Irish force their opponent to play defense for 30 seconds at a time, rather than the usual 15 to 20.

"I felt it was definitely frustrating [Pittsburgh] a little bit," Martin said. "When you have to play defense for 30 seconds every time down the floor, it gets old. I could tell they were getting a little frustrated."

As Pittsburgh's frustration grew Monday night, its deep bench stewed, not having an opportunity to create a difference in the game. Notre Dame avoided foul trouble, and its starters controlled the pace throughout the slow-paced, close match. This storm resulted in a Notre Dame upset that Brey said may be the biggest of his career.

Now, the Irish head into a nine-day break before heading to DePaul on Feb. 3 for the second half of its Big East season. With the break, the NCAA tournament will be on Notre Dame's mind, an invitation to which could come as a result of the burn, just as it did last season.

"If it wouldn't be for [the burn], we wouldn't have gotten a bid last year," Brey said. "So you have a great selling point."

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*"We knew going in that we wanted to work [the shot clock] down. We were just happy to be hitting those shots when we had those opportunities."*

**Scott Martin**  
senior guard

## Belles

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weren't falling."

Henley said she feels confident in her squad entering tonight's game.

"Last time we played Olivet, we did a good job forcing them into turnovers," Henley said. "Unfortunately, we had turnovers as well, which kept it a close game. As we prepare to play them tomorrow, we need to cut down our turnovers. We need to do a better job of defending the drive against Olivet and limit the number of points they get in the paint."

Junior forward Kelley Murphy led a balanced attack for the Belles with 24 points the last time they faced Olivet. Three other players reached double-figures in

scoring during the contest, and the four together combined for all but nine of Saint Mary's points.

"We have a pretty balanced attack on offense, so I can't really pick out one person in particular [to lead us offensively]," Henley said. "We as a team need to step up our defense if we want to be successful. Tomorrow is all about defense. It has really been a focus of ours all season long."

Henley expects the game to be close, and knows what her team has to do in order to achieve the outcome they are looking for.

"Olivet always plays us tough," she said. "They do a nice job of attacking the paint in their offense. We really need to focus on that and keep them off the foul line."

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**Jenn Henley**  
Belles coach

Jamba Juice  
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