



ALL-COUNTY BOYS SOCCER

FIRST TEAM

Player of the Year LUKE ROBERTON

URBANA Senior Midfielder
■ Difficult to muscle off the ball, Robertson set up his fair share of scoring chances in addition to establishing himself as a scoring threat, but he also provided several other intangibles such as leadership and the ability to consistently win balls in the air.
■ Put his all-around skills on full display after spending much of his first three years on the Hawks' back line. Led Frederick County in assists (14) while also bagging 16 goals to tie for the area lead in scoring (46 points).
■ Earned first-team All-State honors from the Maryland Association of Coaches of Soccer, becoming the only Frederick County player to do so.
■ Will play collegiately at Washington and Lee University.



**FIIFI CANN
SENIOR MIDFIELDER
WALKERSVILLE**
■ A transfer from Watkins Mill, injected some firepower into the Lions' offense with a nice mix of speed and accurate long-range shooting. Collected five goals and eight assists for Class 2A West Region runner-up Walkersville.



**RILEY DAIGER
JUNIOR MIDFIELDER
OAKDALE**
■ Intensity on offense and defense along with a knack for scoring goals in clutch situations stood out on an Oakdale team that won its third state title in the past five years. MACS honorable mention All-State pick collected 10 goals and three assists.



**DAMIAN ELAM
SENIOR GOALKEEPER
BRUNSWICK**
■ Routinely faced more than 10 shots per match, and his performances usually featured several saves of the spectacular variety. Made 118 saves, averaging 7.87 per match while recording four shutouts. Also scored two goals.



**EYOB GAFFIGAN
SOPHOMORE DEFENDER
WALKERSVILLE**
■ Throughout the course of a match, could toggle between center back and defensive center midfielder, playing a big role in the buildup of the Lions' potent attack. Had two goals and four assists for a team that finished 10-3-2.



**LUKE GAFFIGAN
SENIOR FORWARD
WALKERSVILLE**
■ Focal point for a team that made the Class 2A West Region final and turned in its best season in 11 years. Led the area in goals (19), tallied eight assists and tied for the area lead in scoring (46 points). Earned MACS second-team All-State honors.



**CARSON GROVE
SOPHOMORE FORWARD
THOMAS JOHNSON**
■ Great work rate coupled with strong technical skills make for a player the Patriots can build around for the next two seasons. Collected six goals and two assists for a Thomas Johnson team that built up steam late and advanced to the section finals.



**ANTHONY KOCAN
SENIOR MIDFIELDER
OAKDALE**
■ Started and ended his high school career with state titles, developing into a steady veteran presence in the midfield for a relatively young Oakdale team. Amassed five goals and four assists for the Class 2A state champion Bears.



**NOE MELGAR
SENIOR DEFENDER
OAKDALE**
■ Stalwart of an Oakdale team that hung its hat on defense down the stretch, posting four consecutive shutouts (nine overall) before beating River Hill in penalty kicks in the state final. Also a threat on set pieces, collected two goals and two assists.



**TYLER MICHAEL
JUNIOR MIDFIELDER
MIDDLETOWN**
■ Intensity and strong decision-making at the defensive center midfielder position helped the Knights' offense get on track. Also showing the versatility to play on the back line, finished with two goals and three assists.



**WILL MICOL
SENIOR DEFENDER
URBANA**
■ Standout on a disciplined back line that played a big role in Urbana reeling off five consecutive shutouts before finishing as the Class 4A state runner-up. Also a factor on counterattacks, amassed five goals and two assists.



**GERALD NORGBE
SENIOR DEFENDER
FREDERICK**
■ Strong vocal leader and cerebral player on what has been one of the area's best defensive teams the past two years. Earned first-team All-County honors for the second straight season, finishing with two goals for the Cadets.



**MAX RILEY
FRESHMAN FORWARD
URBANA**
■ Despite being a freshman, made a major impact on a team with several established players. May have been one of the area's best finishers but also proved just as adept at creating scoring chances for others, collecting 12 goals and seven assists.



**CRISTIAN URBINA
SENIOR FORWARD
FREDERICK**
■ Wasn't the biggest of players, but a healthy mix of speed, quickness and strong possession skills again made Urbina one of the area's most dangerous offensive players. Finished with four goals and eight assists.



SECOND TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Grade
F	GABE BRUSCO	SENIOR	MIDDLETOWN
MF	CARSON COOLEY	SENIOR	URBANA
D	EMMANUEL DOUGE	JUNIOR	OAKDALE
F	MAURICIO GALLEGOS	FRESHMAN	WALKERSVILLE
D	JACK LILLIS	JUNIOR	TUSCARORA
F	ETHAN MILLER	JUNIOR	WALKERSVILLE
MF	BRYCE MARTIN	SENIOR	MIDDLETOWN
F	JACOB OSAFO-MENSAH	JUNIOR	SICP
D	DAN POLYNIAK	SENIOR	BRUNSWICK
GK	DANIEL ROBISON	JUNIOR	MIDDLETOWN
D	LUKAS SNYDER	SENIOR	LINGANORE
D	JACK TOPPER	SENIOR	TJ
MF	FABIAN VALENZUELA-RUZ	SENIOR	URBANA
MF	GRIFFIN VINAL	JUNIOR	OAKDALE

HONORABLE MENTION

Brunswick—Tommy Cicmanec, Ben Leazer, Scott Leazer
Catoctin—Pablo Archila, Logan Rickerd
Frederick—Sam Gonzalez, Ian Prins, Dalton Shifflett
Linganore—Payton Ford, Luciano Iocco, Christian Nolan
Middletown—Matthew Barlow, Graham Brown
Oakdale—Owen Cunha, Bryce Fischer, Kerem Yilmaz
St. John's Catholic Prep—Dylan Fisher, Andrew Russell, Jacob Shakesprere, Drew Strayton
Thomas Johnson—Habraam Gonzalez-Escalera, Sean Weiland
Tuscarora—Joe Thompson, Alex Tran, Nicky Wolcott
Urbana—Jack Eskay, Nico Forero, Zach Gibbons, Conor Robertson
Walkersville—Walker Owen, Thomas Sniezek

Shakira Austin: the start of something big at Maryland

By AVA WALLACE
The Washington Post

The 6-foot-5 center who ranks among the nation's best rebounders goes by "Shak," but it's a coincidence — she promises.
"It's not because of Shaquille O'Neal!" Shakira Austin said with a smile Tuesday in the Maryland women's basketball lounge at Xfinity Center, doubling over and slapping her hands on the couch for emphasis. "It's just the short version of my name. It just goes."
Unintentional though it may be, the nickname that

evokes one of basketball's best-known big men is perfect for the freshman center who is already making a name for herself. As fifth-ranked Maryland's nonconference schedule comes to a close Thursday at Delaware, Austin is tied for fifth in the nation in blocks (27) and 10th in rebounds (118). She is the only freshman in the top 10 on both lists.
She is also the Terrapins' fourth-leading scorer at 10 points per game, and with her average of 11.8 rebounds, she is the only player on the roster averaging a double-double. Thanks in part to the contri-

butions of the Fredericksburg, Virginia, native, Maryland ranks 12th nationally in scoring defense and second in rebounding margin.
Coach Brenda Frese isn't surprised at what Austin's raw talent has allowed her to do after just a few months of working with Maryland's coaching staff.
Austin, as ESPN's No. 3 overall player in the class of 2018, was Frese's highest-ranked recruit in the past decade, beating out eventual Maryland greats such as Alyssa Thomas (No. 7 overall in 2010) and Lynetta Kizer (No. 5 in 2008). To Frese, Austin is

simply living up to her billing.
"I'm excited. I mean, the way we develop pros, she's got a chance to be a pro, she's got a chance to be really special," Frese said Tuesday. "When I look at her from a coaching end, by the time she graduates we need to make sure she's the No. 1 pick in the draft."
Part of what makes Austin special is the way she moves. Though she isn't as fluid as some of the more veteran bigs at Maryland, she is fast — and aggressive, particularly for a freshman. Opponents have made just 3 of 14 post-up shots against the freshman,

and 11 for 41 overall when she is the primary defender, according to Synergy Sports. She is comfortable just about anywhere on the court.
"I've played people who have her size, but not anybody who's as agile as she is," junior guard Kaila Charles said. "She's kind of like a guard who's 6-5. She can handle the ball, she's very athletic, she can really run the floor, she has good footwork, she can move very well for her size."
Austin's transition to Maryland was both quick and smooth, on and off the court. Austin is used to change. She went to three high

schools, playing her sophomore and junior years at Colonial Forge High in Stafford, Virginia, where she won a state championship, then went to Riverdale Baptist in Upper Marlboro, for her senior year. Instead of commuting from home in Fredericksburg, Austin lived with her coach during her senior year.
"Moving, it definitely made me more independent," said Austin, who grew up shuttling between her parents' homes. "It made me more responsible. ... It just made me overall a better woman, and prepared me a lot for college."