

High School

Aug. 21, 2025

FOOTBALL

2025 Preview



a special section of The Derrick. / The News-Herald

OIL CITY OILERS

Oilers’ ground game set to get back on track

By **RYAN KUNSELMAN**
Sports editor

Oil City’s 2024 football campaign looked a little different than usual.

Since taking over the team, Oiler head coach Dan York — who became the program’s winningest coach ever last season — has relied heavily on the run game for the Blue and White, and “heavily” might be an understatement.

Through York’s first eight seasons at the helm of OC, the Oilers racked up an astounding 26,209 rushing yards while passing for just 5,254.

Last season, however, that ratio was much more balanced. Oil City rushed for 1,814 yards and passed for 1,518, and it worked, as the Oilers went 5-5 in the regular season to earn a playoff berth before losing to Meadville in overtime in the opening round of the District 10 playoffs.

Some of that balance occurred out of necessity, but some of it was also because of the emergence of quarterback Cole Findlay.

The 6-0, 160-pound signal caller enters his senior season after earning all-region honors by completing 74-of-151 passes for 1,414 yards, 17 touchdowns and four interceptions. He also rushed for 256 yards and three scores on 51 carries.

“Cole is such an athlete carrying and passing the ball,” York said. “As long as he makes good decisions, we’ll be in good shape. We’d like to see his completion rate go up, so we may have to throw some shorter passes instead of trying the deep ball so much.”

OC also used a host of running backs last year with four different players reaching at least 250 yards. The leader of that contingent was Steven Heise, who notched 479 yards and six TDs on 75 carries.



Oil City players run through a footwork drill during heat acclimation week at the Oil Field.

Heise returns for his senior season and in better shape than ever. He’ll be joined at running back by Dylan VanWormer and Carter Thompson.

“We’ve got some kids that can run the ball,” York said. “Thompson has been running well, and VanWormer runs hard but he’s not really big. Heise has gotten faster, gained weight and gotten more experience. We should run the ball better than we did last year.”

At fullback, OC will have to overcome a training camp injury that sidelined its starter for the year. Brayden Bu-

zard and Tycen Sindlinger will step up to take over.

At wideout, the Oilers lose their top two receivers from a year ago in De’Vaughn Griffin and Gavin Stephens. Taking over will be Spence Singleton, Landon Baker and My’Saun Mills with Logan Heath and Carter Bialo seeing time also.

All of those skill positions hinge on the offensive line, though, and it’s a line that will be undergoing some changes as four starters from last year’s trenches are gone.

Carson Foster will start at center while Lucas Wolf, who returns as a starter, will be joined at guard by Deryk DeLong. Ashton Wagner and Matthew Brumbaugh will also be mixed in. At tackle, Caleb Sparks has one side locked down after starting at tight end last season while the other features a battle between Bradley Graham and Dominic Carson.

Sparks’ move to the line opens up a spot at tight end, and it will be filled by 6-3, 237-pound Noah Lucarelli.

See **OILERS**, Page 22

GOOD LUCK TO
ALL HIGH SCHOOL
SPORTS TEAMS!

www.tionestabuilders.us
EMAIL: tbs@penn.com
Tionesta 814-755-3561 Shippenville 814-226-5040

2025 High School Football Index

OIL CITY OILERS.....	2, 3, 22
FRANKLIN KNIGHTS.....	4, 5, 23
CENTRAL CLARION WILDCATS.....	6, 7
COCHRANTON CARDINALS.....	8, 9
UNION/A-C VALLEY FALCON KNIGHTS.	10, 11
REDBANK VALLEY BULLDOGS.....	12, 13
MAPLEWOOD TIGERS.....	15
GROVE CITY EAGLES.....	16, 17
KEYSTONE PANTHERS.....	18, 19
LAKEVIEW SAILORS.....	20
TITUSVILLE ROCKETS.....	14, 21
2025 DISTRICT 9 DIVISIONS.....	7
2025 DISTRICT 10 REGIONS.....	17

OIL CITY OILERS

OIL CITY OILERS ROSTER

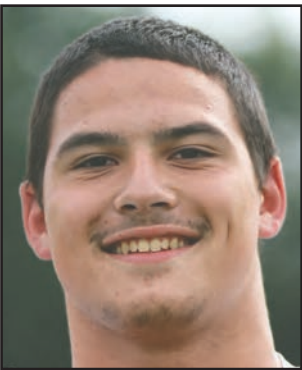
Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Spence Singleton	5-11	165	Sr.	SE-DB
Cole Findlay	6-0	160	Sr.	QB-DB
Bradley Smith	5-6	144	Sr.	SE-DB
Landon Baker	6-3	189	Sr.	SE-LB
Elijah Knox	6-1	163	Sr.	RB-LB
Steven Heise	5-10	181	Sr.	RB-DB
Noah Barbour	6-3	190	Sr.	TE-DB
Hunter Montgomery	6-0	152	Sr.	SE-DB
Zander Black	5-10	186	Sr.	TE-DL
Brayden Buzard	5-9	190	Sr.	RB-LB
Matthew Plummer	5-8	132	Sr.	SE-DB
Ashton Wagner	5-11	223	Sr.	OL-DL
Lincoln Fento	5-11	250	Sr.	OL-DL
Carson Foster	5-10	210	Sr.	OL-DL
Caleb Sparks	6-2	234	Sr.	OL-DL
Matthew Brumbaugh	6-1	260	Sr.	OL-DL
Lucas Brown	5-9	210	Sr.	OL-DL
Jasaun Williams	6-7	295	Sr.	OL-DL
My'Saun Mills	5-9	135	Jr.	SE-DB
Jaiden Watson	5-9	163	Jr.	K-P
Dylan VanWormer	5-9	148	Jr.	RB-DB
Ethan Shreffler	5-9	150	Jr.	SE-DB
Logan Heath	5-8	150	Jr.	SE-DB
Alex McIntyre	5-10	185	Jr.	QB-DB
Elijah Sabin	5-11	183	Jr.	SE-LB
Connor Williams	5-9	140	Jr.	SE-DB
Noah Lucarelli	6-3	237	Jr.	TE-DL
Lincoln Galla	6-0	200	Jr.	FB-LB
Blake Stevens	5-11	191	Jr.	FB-LB
Abdul Stanton	5-10	235	Jr.	TE-DE
Michael Rowland	5-9	175	Jr.	OL-DL
Lucas Wolf	5-8	265	Jr.	OL-DL
Ashton Wenner	6-0	320	Jr.	OL-DL
Dominic Carson	5-11	330	Jr.	OL-DL
Deryk DeLong	6-0	197	Jr.	OL-LB
Carter Thompson	5-9	167	So.	RB-DB
Owen McCullough	5-11	157	So.	SE-DB
Jamarcus Cooke	5-8	180	So.	RB-LB
Aaden Hibbard	5-10	155	So.	RB-LB
Carter Bialo	5-7	135	So.	SE-DB
Alexander Piercy	5-9	188	So.	FB-LB
Elijah Garver	6-1	130	So.	SE-DB
Skylar Hanlon	6-1	200	So.	QB-LB
Jordan O'Brien	5-5	150	So.	SE-DB
Colton Fento	5-8	135	So.	SE-DB
Luke Ralph	5-9	131	So.	SE-DB
D'Mellow Jones	5-7	150	So.	RB-DB
Landon Riley	6-0	175	So.	K-P
Tycen Sindlinger	5-8	190	So.	FB-LB
Christian Denny	6-2	240	So.	OL-DL
Seth Boocks	5-10	170	So.	OL-DE
Devon Battin	6-1	215	So.	OL-DL
Tristan Fox	6-3	287	So.	OL-DL
Bradley Graham	6-2	270	So.	OL-DL
Zach Shumaker	5-6	115	Fr.	SE-DB
Bryce Marchinke	5-10	175	Fr.	QB-DB
Matthew Antrilli	5-10	170	Fr.	TE-LB
Brycen Fleming	5-6	130	Fr.	SE-DB
Thomas Rennard	5-7	131	Fr.	SE-DB
Clark Findlay	6-0	180	Fr.	RB-LB
Erin Smith	5-3	160	Fr.	OL-DL
Kaleb Vitka-Sterner	5-8	160	Fr.	OL-DL
Colt Heath	5-10	255	Fr.	OL-DL
Chandler Denny	6-0	170	Fr.	OL-DL
Carsen Hartle	5-10	250	Fr.	OL-DL
Dylan Gregory	6-0	145	Fr.	RB-DB
Carter Ruditis	5-4	120	Fr.	SE-DB
John Shreve	5-7	131	Fr.	SE-DB



COLE FINDLAY



STEVEN HEISE



NOAH LUCARELLI



CALEB SPARKS



LUCAS WOLF



SPENCE SINGLETON

About the Cover

Oil City senior quarterback Cole Findlay and Franklin junior running back Caden Mincer are shown on the cover.

Both athletes were named District 10 all-region a year ago with Findlay beind named first team at safety and second team at quarterback while Mincer was honored with a second team selection at running back.

Sports editor Ryan Kunselman designed the cover and took photos of several teams for this section.

Also contributing photos were Kirkland Photography and Uriah Sampson.

Kunselman, staff writer Joe Henderson, former sports editor Ed Brannon and veteran correspondent Joe Sager authored previews for each of the area’s 11 football teams.

"Small Town Pride, Big League Style"

HOME TOWN HYPE
CUSTOM APPAREL

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

HOME TOWN HYPE.ORG

•Screen Printing • Embroidery • Spirit Wear Fundraisers
•Full Color Designs •Graphic Design •Business Branding
•Premium Apparel Brands •Ready to Shop items

VISIT OUR RETAIL LOCATION:

1246 LIBERTY ST

FRANKLIN PA

412.517.2631 Team@HomeTownHype.ORG

FRANKLIN KNIGHTS

Knights look to build on experience in 2025

By **JOE SAGER**
Correspondent

Franklin hopes last year’s deposits return dividends this fall.

The Knights, plagued by injuries, had their depth challenged right away in 2024. Young players were tasked with stepping into a variety of key roles.

Inconsistency was one result as the team struggled to a 2-8 record. However, there were bright spots along the way, too. The positive vibe continued throughout the off-season.

“We’ve had a great offseason. We had great weight room attendance. Summer attendance was excellent,” Franklin coach Matt Turk said. “The energy of the program is at an all-time high right now.”

That’s because the team, while still young, looks to build on its experience.

“We have 10 seniors and seven of them have three years of game experience,” Turk said. “Going through what we went through the past year with growing pains, now every single one of our starters already has experience under their belt. You can’t put enough emphasis on that. We hope their daily deposits of years past will benefit us this season.”

One spot that has a new starter is quarterback, where Eddie Mattocks and Freddie Blackhurst are competing for snaps along with freshman Harrison Doty.

“We have three really good quarterbacks to choose from,” Turk said. “That’s a good thing.”

Junior Caiden Mincer returns to lead the backfield. He rushed for 840 yards and 11 touchdowns last year. His tough running style allowed him to average 5.1 yards per carry.

“Caiden has grown. Now, he’s 6-foot-1, 205 lbs. Last year, he was 5-11, 185 lbs. And, he’s one of the fastest kids on our team,” Turk said. “Not only does he have the grit and desire, he has the size now. He is going to be a force to reckon with if we can keep him healthy.”

Blackhurst could see some carries, too, as he could see time at tailback and at receiver.

“His versatility is a really good thing for us,” Turk said.

Evan Steigerwald returns at fullback.

“He clears the way for Caiden,” Turk said. “A lot of Caiden’s yards can be attributed to Evan’s blocking. We look for him to have a really good season as well.”

Jayden Wilmoth, who led the team with 15 catches for 251 yards and a score, returns at receiver. Julian Johnson and Josiah Rodriguez, who is playing football for the first time, will see targets as well, along with tight ends Anthony Hutton and Luke Marsteller.



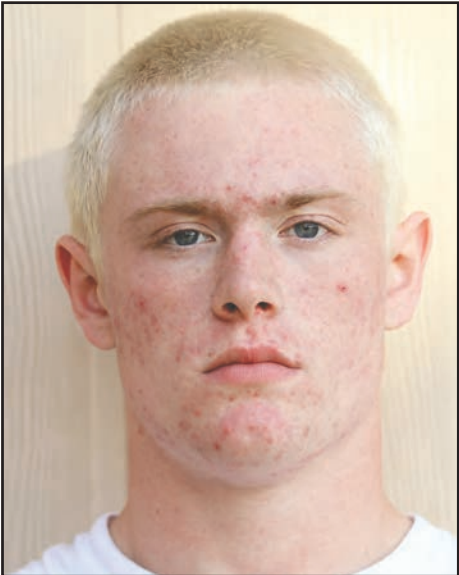
EDDIE MADDOX



FREDDIE BLACKHURST



HARRISON DOTY



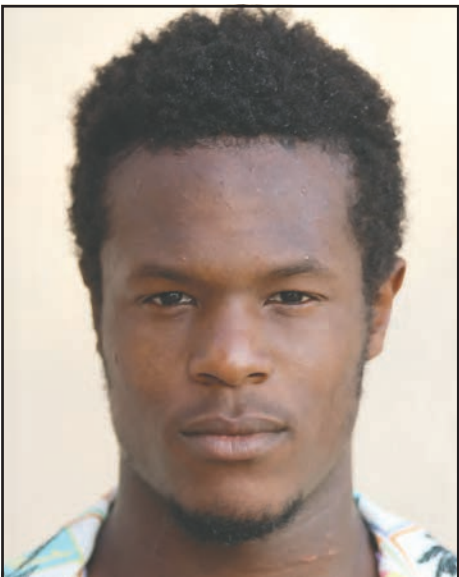
CADEN MINCER



EVAN STEIGERWALD



JAYDEN WILMOTH



JULIAN JOHNSON



JOSIAH RODRIGUEZ

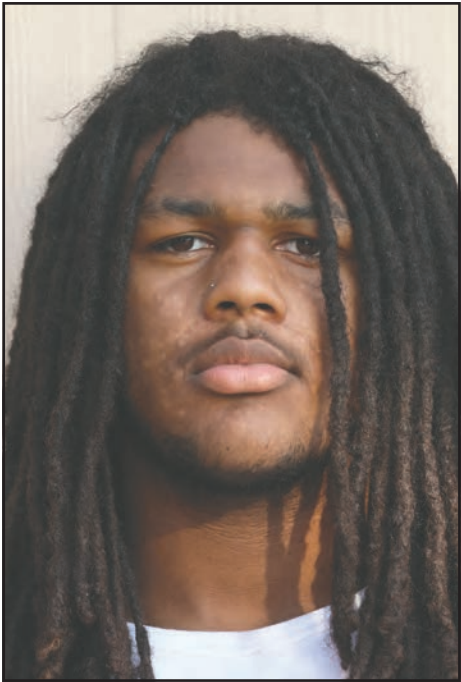


LUKE MARSTELLER

FRANKLIN KNIGHTS

FRANKLIN KNIGHTS ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Jayden Wilmoth	5-7	140	Sr.	WR-DB
Eddie Mattocks	5-8	160	Sr.	QB-CB
Julian Johnson	6-1	185	Sr.	WR-DB
Connor Ritchey	6-1	180	Sr.	K-P
Evan Steigerwald	5-9	195	Sr.	RB-LB
Ryan Taylor	6-0	220	Sr.	OL-DL
Jake Riddle	6-2	285	Sr.	OL-DL
Josh Rickman	6-1	260	Sr.	OL-DL
Josiah Rodriguez	5-8	147	Sr.	WR-DB
Henry White	6-4	225	Sr.	OL-DL
Caden Mincer	6-1	205	Jr.	RB-DE
Kaiden Kiselka	5-10	265	Jr.	OL-DL
Joshua Grossman	5-8	150	Jr.	WR-DB
Aaron Moore	6-6	340	Jr.	OL-DL
Freddie Blackhurst	5-10	180	Jr.	QB-DB
Conor Johnson	5-10	150	Jr.	RB-DB
Luke Marsteller	6-0	170	Jr.	TE-DE
Anthony Martin	6-3	210	So.	TE-DE
Carter Hutchinson	5-8	188	So.	OL-DL
Zay-Vion Harvin	6-0	226	So.	RB-LB
Hudson Greenlee	5-10	170	So.	OL-CB
Reese Hovis	6-0	140	So.	WR-DB
Devon Voto-Pelletier	6-3	234	So.	OL-DL
Robert Hoover	6-2	230	So.	OL-DL
Ebin Custer	5-10	200	So.	OL-DL
Kareem McNeely	5-7	140	So.	WR-DB
Elisiah Geer	5-8	177	So.	RB-DE
Justin Armant	6-0	175	Fr.	WR-DB
Cooper Carll	5-9	150	Fr.	RB-DE
Harrison Doty	5-10	140	Fr.	QB-DB
Tyler Hill	6-1	257	Fr.	OL-DL
Leyland McDonald	5-10	235	Fr.	OL-DL
Michael Miller	5-9	200	Fr.	OL-LB
Ryder Stevens	5-7	145	Fr.	WR-DB
Brian Platt	5-10	150	Fr.	WR-DB
Liam Brown	5-11	187	Fr.	OL-DL



ZAY-VION HARVIN



ANTHONY MARTIN



Aaron Moore



Jake Riddle



Henry White



Kaiden Kiselka



Carter Hutchinson



Ryan Taylor

Drive Into Savings - Tire Rebates Are Here!

Firestone

GET UP TO **\$180⁰⁰** back by mail on a Firestone Prepaid Mastercard®

GET UP TO **\$80⁰⁰** with purchase of 4 eligible Firestone tires

+ GET UP TO **\$100⁰⁰** when you use your CFNA Credit Card*
*Subject to credit approval.

BRIDGESTONE

GET UP TO **\$180⁰⁰** back by mail on a Bridgestone Prepaid Mastercard®

GET UP TO **\$80⁰⁰** with purchase of 4 eligible Bridgestone tires

+ GET UP TO **\$100⁰⁰** when you use your CFNA Credit Card*
*Subject to credit approval.

COOPER TIRES

GET UP TO **\$140⁰⁰** With the purchase of 4 qualifying tires.

GET UP TO **\$70⁰⁰** BACK BY MANUFACTURERS REBATE (mail-in or online)

+ GET UP TO **\$70⁰⁰** when you use your Goodyear Credit Card*
*Subject to credit approval.

GOODYEAR

GET UP TO **\$180⁰⁰** With the purchase of 4 qualifying tires.

GET UP TO **\$80⁰⁰** BACK BY MANUFACTURERS REBATE (mail-in or online)

+ GET UP TO **\$100⁰⁰** when you use your Goodyear Credit Card*
*Subject to credit approval.

Offers valid through August 31, 2025. See dealer for details.

Franklin Service & Supply

119 Grant Street, Franklin

814-432-8016 • www.tiresinfranklin.com

Mon-Fri 8-5, Closed Sat & Sun

CENTRAL CLARION WILDCATS

New season, same expectations for Wildcats

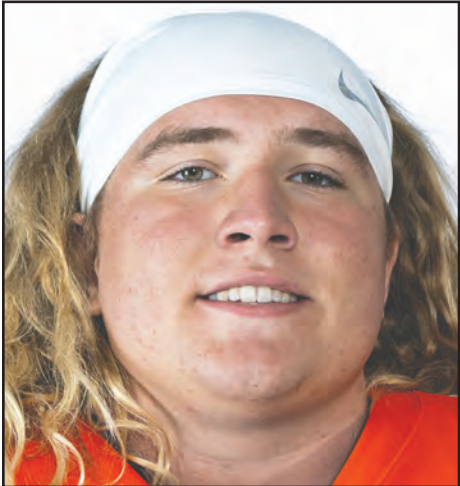
By RYAN KUNSELMAN
Sports editor

Central Clarion put together a story-book season in 2024, making it all the way to the PIAA Class 1A state championship game during a campaign in which the Wildcats looked nearly unstoppable. The only thing missing was the story-book ending as they fell short of the title by the narrowest of margins, losing to Troy in a 25-24 thriller. It was the type of season that most teams will never get to experience, but for the Wildcats, it feels like something else: unfinished business. “We liked the feeling of being there, but what we wanted to do didn’t happen,” standout defensive lineman Hayden Hindman said. “We want to get back there, and we’re prepared to do whatever it takes to do that.” It’s a sentiment echoed by his teammates. “It’s all about the drive to get back there,” senior Charlie Hepfl said. “Everybody is putting in that extra work and taking the time to learn a new position if

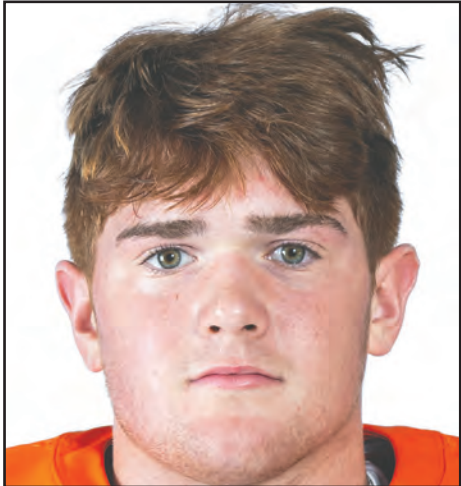
they have to. It’s just about doing whatever we have to do to get back there and prove that we weren’t a one-hit wonder.” Hindman and Hepfl are just two key cogs in a machine that returns plenty of talent from last season’s 15-1 team, but the biggest question facing Central Clarion is who takes over for Jase Ferguson after his career assaulting the program and district record books during his time with the Wildcats? The answer: Carter Hindman. The sophomore signal caller steps into the starting role after completing 4-of-8 passes for 55 yards and a TD last season in late-game action. This season, he’ll be working with the Wildcats’ full arsenal of weapons, including returning standouts Mason Burford and Ethan Rex. Wideout Burford stretched the field for CC in a big way last season, racking up 1,042 yards and 15 touchdowns on 49 catches (21.3 ypc). Rex, meanwhile, will line up in the backfield and in the slot after catching 83 passes for 993 yards and 19 scores while also carrying the ball 53 times for 331 yards and four more TDs a

year ago. Briggs Beckwith will line up at full-back with Alex Love seeing time in the backfield as well while Brody Beggs and Thalen Allison are set for time in the slot and Allison, Jeremiah Queenan and Logan Bish can split out wide. At tight end will be Hepfl with Beckwith also seeing time. Up front, Brynden Carrier returns to play tackle while the rest of the line will feature a combination of Brant Parker, Hayden Hindman, Benny Yang, Jacob Naser and Brendan Bracken. Patrick Durish could also be mixed in. On defense, Hepfl and Hayden Hindman created a disruptive 1-2 punch on the front seven as Hepfl returns to linebacker after recording a team-high 151 tackles (11 for loss) a year ago with Hindman racking up 95 tackles (11 for loss) and four sacks from the line. Hayden Hindman will be joined on the defensive line by a deep unit that features Parker, Yang, Naser, Durish, Carrier, Bracken, Leo Coradi and Carter Hindman. The linebacking corps is nearly as

deep. Hepfl and Rex (63 tackles, 3 for loss) will be featured, along with Allison, Love, Jackson Mravintz, Billy Kahle, Carter Hindman and Brady Guth all factoring into the equation. In the secondary, Burford and Beggs line up at the corners with Queenan and Guth seeing time as well while the safeties are Allison and Mravintz. “Our strength is the intelligence and leadership of our seniors,” Central Clarion defensive coordinator Dave Louder said. “They know the defense inside and out. These guys can teach it just as well as coach Eggleton and I can for the most part. They’re disciplined and they’re hungry to make sure that we don’t lose a step, and I don’t think we’re going to even though we lost 900 pounds of rotating men from last year. We have the depth this year still to keep guys fresh.” On special teams, Logan Bish will be kicking while either Bish or Rex will be punting. The Wildcats open their season Friday by hosting Kirtland, a perennial power out of Ohio that is coached by Oil City High School graduate Tiger LaVerde.



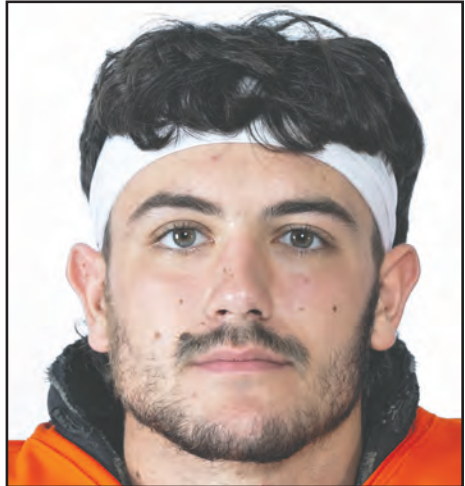
HAYDEN HINDMAN



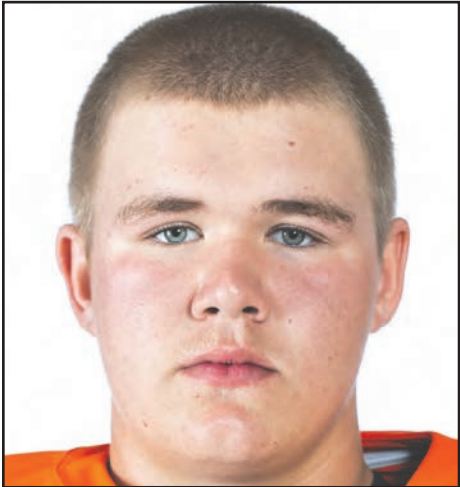
ETHAN REX



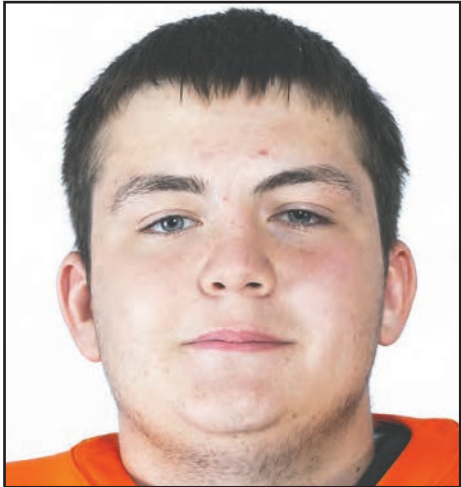
MASON BURFORD



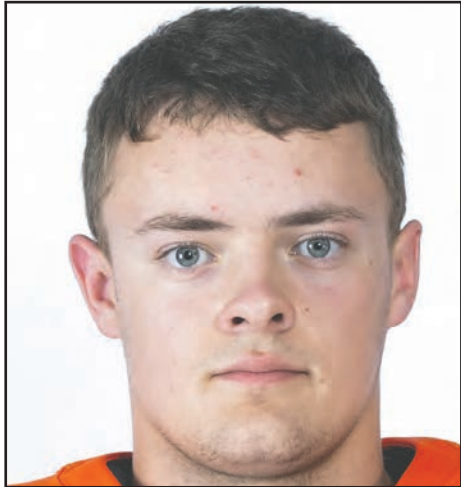
CHARLIE HEPFL



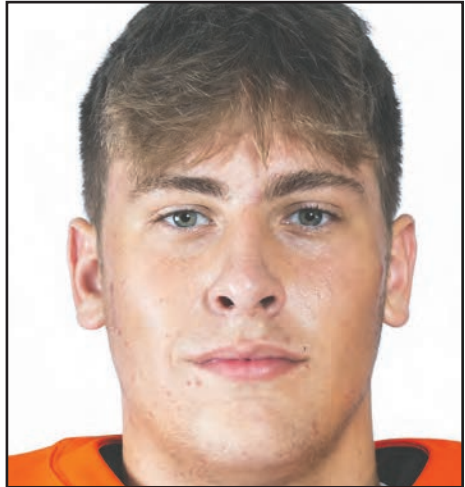
CARTER HINDMAN



BRYNDEN CARRIER

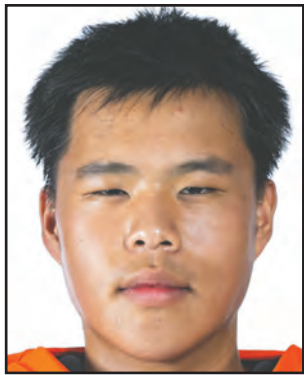


BRANT PARKER



BRENDAN BRACKEN

CENTRAL CLARION WILDCATS



BENNY YANG



BRIGGS BECKWITH



PATRICK DURISH



BRODY BEGGS



JACKSON MRAVINTZ



JEREMIAH QUEENAN



THALEN ALLISON



LOGAN BISH



LEO CORADI

WILDCATS SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 — KIRTLAND, OH
Aug. 29 — at Keystone
Sept. 5 — PORT ALLEGANY
Sept. 12 — PUNXSUTAWNEY
Sept. 19 — at Brockway
Sept. 26 — at Karns City
Oct. 3 — at St. Marys
Oct. 10 — BRADFORD
Oct. 17 — at DuBois
Oct. 24 — BUTLER

WILDCATS COACHING STAFF

Davey Eggleton — head coach, offensive coordinator
Dave Louder — defensive coordinator
Cam Kirkland — volunteer assistant
Doug Knepp — special teams, offensive line, defensive line
Jared Beggs — assistant coach
Mike Ferguson — quarterbacks
Mike Hindman — offensive line, defensive line
Cam Kirkland — volunteer assistant
Kevin “Fonz” Slike — equipment manager

2025 DISTRICT 9 FOOTBALL DIVISIONS

DIVISION I Central Clarion, DuBois, Karns City, Punxsutawney, St. Marys.	DIVISION III Kane, Keystone, Moniteau, Ridgway, Union/A-C Valley.
DIVISION II Bradford, Brockway, Brookville, Port Allegany, Redbank Valley.	DIVISION IV Bucktail, Cameron County, Couderport, Otto-Eldred, Smethport.

CENTRAL CLARION ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Thalen Allison	5-9	150	Sr.	SB/WR-FS/OLB
Briggs Beckwith	5-11	185	Sr.	SB/RB-LB
Logan Bish	5-10	145	Sr.	WR/P-K/CB
Mason Burford	6-3	180	Sr.	WR-CB
Brynden Carrier	6-0	245	Sr.	OL-DL
Gavin Davis	6-3	170	Sr.	WR-DB
Cam Early	6-0	280	Sr.	OL-DL
Nickolas Gross	5-9	230	Sr.	OL-DL
Brady Guth	5-11	165	Sr.	WR-DB/LB
Charlie Hepfl	6-0	185	Sr.	TE/RB-LB
Hayden Hindman	6-1	255	Sr.	OL-DL
Hunter Lechner	5-5	155	Sr.	SB/RB-LB
Brant Parker	6-3	220	Sr.	OL-DL
Jeremiah Queenan	5-11	168	Sr.	WR-DB/LB
Daniel Schweitzer	6-0	155	Sr.	P-K
Benny Yang	6-0	195	Sr.	OL-DL
Brendan Bracken	6-0	230	Jr.	OL-DL
Kingston Danner	5-9	145	Jr.	WR-DB
Conner Eberhardt	5-7	163	Jr.	OL-DL
Ian Hoke	6-3	196	Jr.	OL-DL
Ethan Rex	5-10	170	Jr.	SB/RB-LB
Billy Kahle	5-7	168	Jr.	RB-LB
Alex Love	6-3	185	Jr.	RB-LB
Reagan Parker	5-10	192	Jr.	WR-DB
Omari Scott	5-9	146	Jr.	WR-DB
Brody Beggs	5-10	180	So.	SB/RB-DB
Kayden Carnahan	5-8	148	So.	QB/RB-LB
Leo Coradi	6-2	299	So.	OL-DL
Patrick Durish	6-4	213	So.	OL-DL
Haydin Foster	5-8	148	So.	OL-DL
Carter Hindman	6-0	190	So.	QB-LB/DE
Lucas Ion	5-6	170	So.	OL-DL
Casey Kemmer	6-0	160	So.	TE/WR-LB
Jackson Mravintz	5-9	135	So.	WR/SB-FS/LB
Travis Myers	6-0	200	So.	OL-DL
Matthew Raymond	5-6	175	So.	OL-DL
Tyler Roush	5-5	150	So.	RB-LB
Tate Allison	5-11	140	Fr.	SB/RB-LB
Jeremy Duncan	5-11	245	Fr.	OL-DL
Ethan Ferguson	5-8	135	Fr.	QB/SB-LB
Brooks Fleming	5-5	127	Fr.	WR-DB/LB
Tyson Hooks	5-7	130	Fr.	SB/RB-DB/LB
Kolen Kemmer	5-6	120	Fr.	WR-DB
Brayden Langworthy	5-10	185	Fr.	OL-DL
Weston Lawrence	5-9	138	Fr.	WR-DB
Nathaniel McDonnell	4-11	106	Fr.	RB-DB
Kristopher Leonard	5-11	245	Fr.	OL-DL
Michael McSwain	5-1	115	Fr.	RB-LB
Hayden Nickerson	5-6	118	Fr.	WR-DB
Jayden Nicklas	5-10	143	Fr.	TE/WR-DB/LB
Cash Niederritter	6-0	241	Fr.	OL-DL
AJ Painter	5-5	153	Fr.	RB-LB
Parker Palmer	5-6	190	Fr.	OL-DL
Colt Ransom	5-8	135	Fr.	SB/RB-LB
Samuel Smail	6-0	137	Fr.	WR-DB

IT'S ON!



Friedhaber's
14 East First Street • Oil City
814-676-5694
www.friedhaber.com

Watch the BIG game
on a BIG Screen TV.



Experience the *BEST*
in *High Definition!*

The Brands You Know
and *The People You Trust.*



COCHRANTON CARDINALS

Haynes returns to lead Cardinals’ offense

By JOE SAGER
Correspondent

There’s a familiar face back on the sidelines at Cochrannton.

Tom Haynes returns to the Cardinals as offensive coordinator on John Svirbly’s staff this season. Haynes was Cochrannton’s head coach for 16 years before taking over Franklin’s program for seven more years.

Now, he’s back on Cochrannton’s staff for the first time since he stepped down in 2011 and his son, Ian, joins him as the Cardinals’ quarterback coach.

“We have a great group of coaches. We all mesh together well,” Svirbly said. “Those guys played for Coach Haynes. They are a great group of guys to coach with. Coach Haynes, his offense is super similar to what we did last year, but it’s a little bit more dynamic. We’re excited about it. It’s great having Ian, too.”

Cochrannton hopes to improve on last season’s 2-6 showing. However, depth is a concern.

“I had a bunch of guys who did not come back out this year, which was a surprise,” Svirbly said. “On paper, we should have had 43 kids. We are down to 24 kids. Some returning letterwinners didn’t come back. It’s frustrating, but the kids we have are working hard. With the kids we have, we have a lot of athletes and talent.”

The Cardinals have a small – but talented – senior class in Walker Carroll, Tim Deeter, Brad Counselman, Adrian Moore and Cole Schmitt.

“What’s nice is they are spread throughout the team, so we’re going to lean on them in all aspects,” Svirbly said. “We have good leadership. We have a good foundation. With our freshmen and sophomores, we have to keep them with it and buying into the system. They are super talented. We have a good mix of where we need to be. Maybe success will breed the numbers in the future?”

Offensively, the biggest change for Cochrannton is at quarterback. Carroll, a West Virginia baseball recruit, shifts from throwing the ball to catching it. He ran the ball 88 times for 288 yards last year, but the Cardinals want him to have more chances to utilize his talent.

“We’re going to try to get him the ball in open space and let him make plays,” Svirbly said. “He proved last year he could make plays when we thought plays couldn’t be made. He was super receptive to the role change. Baseball is in his future, but he loves football. He’s a diehard. You would want him on any team because he wants to win.”

See **CARDINALS**, Page 9



TOM HAYNES

COCHRANTON COACHING STAFF

- John Svirbly – head coach
- Tom Haynes — offensive coordinator
- Ian Haynes — quarterbacks
- Jarrold Morrison – wide receivers, defensive backs, special teams coordinator
- Brian Olson — running backs, linebackers, defensive coordinator
- Adam Whitling — offensive line, defensive line
- Jason Nesbitt — running backs, linebackers
- Curtis Freyermuth — running backs, linebackers

COCHRANTON CARDINALS ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Walker Carroll	6-1	191	Sr.	WR-S
Bradley Counselman	6-2	231	Sr.	OT-DT
Timothy Deeter	6-1	325	Sr.	OT-DT
Adrian Moore	5-11	200	Sr.	OG-LB
Cole Schmitt	5-7	135	Sr.	WR-S
Bill Beiter	6-2	153	Jr.	OT-DE
Austin Boozer	5-8	155	Jr.	OG-DE
Blake Kramer	6-0	182	Jr.	TE-DE
Joey Reibel	6-2	184	Jr.	OG-DE
Shawn Anderson	5-10	175	So.	WR-LB
Joshua Bender	5-7	162	So.	OG-DT
Garrett Irwin	5-10	155	So.	WR-S
Quin McCartney	6-2	154	So.	QB-CB
CJ Shorts	6-1	160	So.	WR-CB
Caden Slye	5-8	180	So.	OL-DL
Evan Walton	6-1	232	So.	C-DT
Aden White	6-1	185	So.	TE-DE
Brayden Williams	5-5	155	So.	FB-LB
Tatum Wolfe	5-11	138	So.	WR-CB
JJ Walker	5-11	150	Fr.	WR-CB
Noah Carroll	6-1	155	Fr.	QB-S
Carson Rodax	5-10	130	Fr.	WR-CB
Brayden Nuebert	5-7	128	Fr.	WR-CB
Parker Schmitt	5-7	153	Fr.	WR-S

COCHRANTON CARDINALS

Cardinals

Continued from Page 8

Either Quin McCartney or Noah Carroll, Walker's younger brother, will be at quarterback.

"They both have grown to where we can trust them at quarterback," Svirbly

said. "If we can get the ball to our play-makers out in the open, we can do good things."

Brayden Williams and Schmitt return to the backfield. Moore moves to fullback. C.J. Shorts and Garrett Irwin are two experienced players who could get the ball as well.

Deeter and Counselman return to anchor the offensive and defensive

lines. Joey Reibel, Blake Kramer, Evan Walton, Austin Boozer and Caden Slye will all see time there as well.

"I think we'll be solid on the line," Svirbly said. "We have a good set of guys up front."

Moore returns at linebacker. Shawn Anderson and Williams will see time. Walker Carroll, Shorts and Irwin are

some of the players expected to see time in the secondary.

"Our younger guys have to show us who wants to play. If they want to play, there are opportunities," Svirbly said. "There's a lot of competition going on for spots, which is good. The guys are very excited. We had a good start to the year. We just need to keep the energy going."



COLE SCHMITT



JOEY REIBEL



BLAKE KRAMER



WALKER CARROLL



TIM DEETER



BRADLEY COUNSELMAN

COCHRANTON SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 — at Iroquois
Aug. 29 — UNION CITY
Sept. 5 — MAPLEWOOD
Sept. 13 — at Greenville
Sept. 19 — EISENHOWER
Sept. 26 — Bye
Oct. 3 — at Cambridge Springs
Oct. 9 — at Lakeview
Oct. 17 — SAEGERTOWN
Oct. 24 — Bye



IAN HAYNES

FOR
OVER
45
YEARS!

MAURER'S TRADING POST

1696 Pittsburgh Rd. Franklin, PA • 814-437-9570

New & Used Guns
Buy, Sell & Trade

Rifles & Shotguns

Handguns

Blackpowder Guns
& Supplies

Ammunition

Scopes & Knives

Archery Pro Shop

ALL SAVAGE
RIFLES ON SALE!
Starting as low as \$359

Reloading Supplies

Fishing Department

Live Bait

Camping & Boating
Supplies

Licenses

Outdoor Clothing

French Creek
KAYAK & CANOE RENTALS

Call 814-671-0934 to make reservations.
"Enjoy The Beautiful Fall Foliage!"
www.frenchcreekkayaks.com

Cabin Rentals
at Silver Valley Lake

Beautiful rustic outdoor location
6 miles from Franklin
S. Penn Rd., close to bike trail,
Big Sandy & Allegheny River.
For info. call 814-671-0934
or 814-437-9570

Mon - Thurs 10-6 • Fri 10-8 • Sat 10-5 • Sun 10-2
WWW.MAUERSTRADINGPOSTINC.COM

UNION/A-C VALLEY FALCON KNIGHTS

Falcon Knights look to up the stakes in 2025

By JOE HENDERSON
Staff writer

After finishing with an 8-4 record and reaching the semifinals of the District 9 Class 1A playoffs last year, expectations are high for the Union/Allegheny-Clarion Valley football team heading into the 2025 season.

But, for the Falcon Knights to surpass or even duplicate what they did a year ago, head coach Dan Reed and his staff must get his talented younger players on the same page as his experienced veterans, and it starts with finding a new starting quarterback after losing previous starter Owen Bish to graduation.

The loss of Bish leaves a big hole to fill in the offense as he threw for 1,120 yards with 19 touchdowns while he was also the team’s leading rusher with 1,012 yards and 10 scores.

In the mix to be the head of the offense are a pair of freshmen in Andrew Kifer and Broc Gagliano and a sophomore in Peyton Wilson, who completed his only pass attempt last year for 17 yards.

“They all throw the ball really well and they are all really smart kids, too,” Reed said. “I would say that Andrew has the lead right now. He’s a natural thrower of the football.”

With so much uncertainty at quarterback in camp, the Falcon Knights could lean heavily on a running game that returns a pair of seniors in second leading rusher Max Gallagher (859 yards, 6 TDs) and Logan Skibinski, who missed all of last season with an injury. Michael Yerkey, a senior, and Parker Bish, a sophomore, could also see some action in the backfield.

“Our backfield looks pretty solid right now. Max was one of our leading players and he’s bigger, faster and stronger than he was last year,” Reed said. “Logan is also back after a year off and he looks really fast in the backfield as well. We have a lot of guys we think can play back there.”

Returning to help the new QB in the passing game are senior receivers Aidan Fox (29 catches, 320 yards, 7 TDs), Trent Fleming, (7-110-1) and Zach Johnson (2-18-0), plus junior Nick Ielase (2-33-0). Gallagher (33-419-5) is also dangerous as a receiver.

“We are very experienced at receiver and we have a lot of skill at the position,” Reed said. “We also have a lot of younger guys we think can contribute as well. Running back and receiver are two spots we feel we are very deep and talented.”



ANDREW KIFER



PEYTON WILSON



MAX GALLAGHER



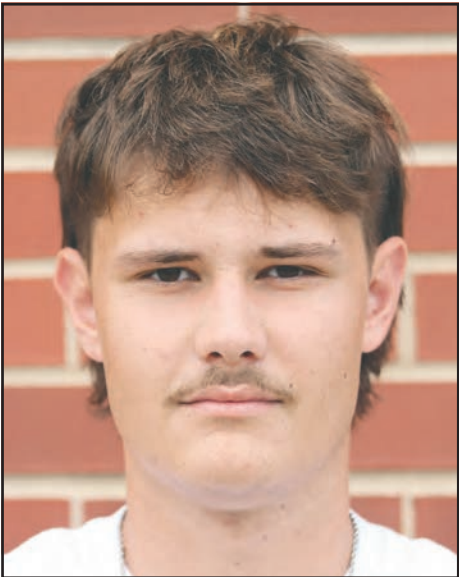
LOGAN SKIBINSKI



MIKE YERKEY



PARKER BISH



AIDEN FOX



TRENT FLEMING



NICK IELASE

UNION/A-C VALLEY FALCON KNIGHTS

Union/ACV

Continued from Page 10

But, the key to how well the offense gels will depend on the play of the offensive line, where the team returns a pair of starters in seniors Colbin Elliot and Cole Wilson. Also looking for playing time are seniors Jacob Heller and Jorge Reyes, sophomores Dane Wiant and Noah Yori as well as freshman Nash Earley.

“We lost two or three starters from last year, but we have Colbin and Cole returning as starters, and they will be anchoring everything up front,” Reed said. “Dane and Noah saw a lot of action last year and started various games, so I think we have a lot of potential up front. But, it’s going to be like the QB spot, we are going to have some growing pains. We’ve got to try and gel as fast as possible.”

On defense, the Falcon Knights look to be deep up front with Elliot, Cole Wilson, Wiant and Heller all in the mix at tackle while Reyes, Yori, Earley, senior Ryan Armagost, junior Stephen Hepler and sophomore Parker Wilson are all vying for playing time at the end position.

“Practices have been much more interesting this year as we have a lot of competition on the line, and any of those kids could potentially win a starting job,” Reed said.

Gallagher returns to start at linebacker in

the team’s 4-2-5 scheme with Yerkey and freshman Micah Kindel battling it out for the other starting spot.

Skibinski, Parker Bish and Fox are all looking for playing time at safety while all-conference selection Fleming returns at cornerback with Johnson and Ielase in the mix at the spot as well.

On special teams, Hepler and Skibinski are in competition for the placekicking job while Fox and Fleming are vying to be the punter.

“The first thing we need to do is get through the season in the best shape we can, and then we’d like to win the new region we are in,” Reed said. We reached the D-9 semis last year, so I think the players would like to set a goal to win the D-9 championship. But, winning D-9 is not going to be easy because we know there’s a lot of competition at that level.”

But, in order to accomplish those lofty goals, Reed feels it boils down to the right mix of savvy veterans and explosive youth.

“We have 11 seniors on this team with a lot of playing experience, and I think three or four of those guys have been starting since they were freshmen. I feel we have great senior leadership and I’m excited to see how that develops throughout the season,” Reed said.

“We also feel we have sophomore and freshmen classes that are very talented as well, so the biggest question for us is how quickly can our talented younger kids adjust to the speed of the varsity football game?”

UNION/A-C VALLEY ROSTER

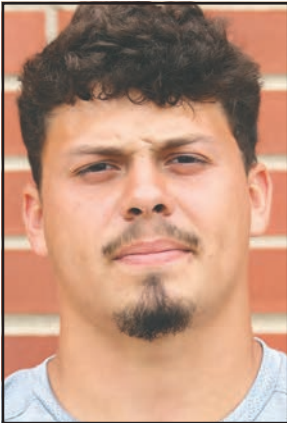
Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Lucas Yerkey	6-1	140	Fr.	WR-DB
Trent Fleming	5-9	135	Sr.	WR-DB
Parker Bish	5-9	160	So.	WR-DB
Peyton Wilson	5-9	150	So.	WR-DB
Aidan Fox	6-1	180	Sr.	WR-DB
Hudson Lutz	5-10	135	So.	WR-DB
Nick Ielase	6-1	160	Jr.	WR-DB
Cason Scott	5-7	150	Fr.	RB-LB
Andrew Kifer	5-11	160	Fr.	QB-DB
Broc Gagliano	5-11	135	Fr.	QB-DB
Micah Kindel	5-10	160	Fr.	RB-LB
Gabe Johnson	5-7	150	Fr.	WR-DB
Jorge Reyes	5-9	195	Sr.	OL-DE
Connor Langdon	5-8	145	So.	WR-DB
Brandon Kanizer	5-7	120	Fr.	QB-LB
Josh Shirey	5-2	105	Fr.	WR-DB
Mike Yerkey	5-9	190	Sr.	RB-LB
Stephen Hepler	6-1	200	Jr.	OL-DE
Max Gallagher	5-10	185	Sr.	RB-LB
Zack Johnson	5-11	152	Sr.	WR-DB
Hunter Wiencek	5-8	150	Jr.	WR-DL
Xavier Willis	5-3	100	Fr.	WR-DB
Marshall Hepler	5-7	135	Fr.	WR-DB
Joey Long	5-4	125	Fr.	WR-DB
Logan Skibinski	5-10	175	Sr.	RB-LB
Ryan Armagost	6-2	175	Sr.	WR-DE
Carson Crissman	6-0	165	Fr.	RB-LB
Parker Wilson	5-6	155	So.	WR-DE
Colbin Elliot	6-1	250	Sr.	OL-DL
Noah Yori	6-0	200	So.	OL-DE
Braden Kemery	5-7	200	Jr.	OL-DL
Nash Early	5-11	200	Fr.	OL-DE
Cole Wilson	5-9	230	Sr.	OL-DL
Jacob Heller	6-0	315	Sr.	OL-DL
David Lutz	6-0	200	So.	OL-DL
Ezra Myers	5-11	210	Fr.	OL-DL
Kohen Gagliano	5-10	210	Fr.	OL-DL
Dane Wiant	6-3	260	So.	OL-DL
Keagan Schreckengost	5-7	185	Fr.	OL-DL
Dakota Buzard	5-10	160	So.	WR-LB
Damien Beers	5-5	205	So.	OL-DE
Dawson Hepler	5-7	135	Fr.	WR-DB
Colbin Crew	5-5	110	Fr.	OL-DL
Titan Smith	6-1	140	Fr.	WR-DE
Damir Watson	5-7	130	Fr.	WR-DB



Colbin Elliot



Cole Wilson



Jorge Reyes

UNION/A-C VALLEY COACHES

Dan Reed — head coach, offensive coordinator, quarterbacks
Ray Fox — assistant head coach, co-defensive coordinator
Rick Atzeni — quarterbacks, linebackers
Rob Corrado — offensive line, defensive line, assistant offensive coordinator
Caden Rainey — co-defensive coordinator, defensive backs, wide receivers
Scott Kindel — special teams, running backs, linebackers
Matt Bish — volunteer
Ryan Wilson — volunteer
Brad Yori — volunteer

UNION/A-C VALLEY SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 — at Otto-Eldred
Aug. 28 — REDBANK VALLEY
Sept. 4 — at Keystone
Sept. 12 — CAMERON COUNTY
Sept. 19 — at Ridgway
Sept. 26 — at Moniteau
Oct. 3 — KANE
Oct. 10 — SMETHPORT
Oct. 17 — at Port Allegany
Oct. 23 — REYNOLDS

Have a FUN season!

WE PROUDLY SUPPORT OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS!

- FREE Student Checking Accounts
- PHEAA Student Loan partner

FIRST UNITED NATIONAL BANK
The FUN Bank!

Fryburg • Oil City • New Bethlehem • Franklin • Clarion • Cranberry

Member **FDIC** EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

fun-bank.com

REDBANK VALLEY BULLDOGS

Redbank aims to get rushing attack up to speed

By RYAN KUNSELMAN
Sports editor

After last season’s 9-4 campaign that saw them reach the District 9 championship game, the Redbank Valley Bulldogs know two things: their passing game is as potent as any in the district, and their running game needs to get up to speed.

“Our major focus is that we have to have a running game,” Redbank head coach Blane Gold said.. “We have to be able to run the football. Braylon (Wagner) broke the single season passing record last year with essentially no running game, and we can’t do that again. There’s no way we’re going to have success if we’re looking at 40-50 yards a game rushing like we had last year.”

Wagner did have a standout season, completing 203-of-349 passes for 3,083 yards and 37 touchdowns to just 10 interceptions as a junior. He also carried the ball 95 times for 391 yards and 13 TDs. The third-year starter (who also started five games as a freshman) is ready to continue that success.

“I have a lot more confidence,” Wagner said. “I’m ready to work hard, throw a lot of passes and run the ball.”

The running game that Gold wants to see get back on track will feature senior Brock George as the primary weapon. George played tailback as a sophomore, rushing 30 times for 278 yards and three TDs, but was forced into offensive line duty last season out of necessity.

“I’m excited for it,” George said of his return to running back. “I’m excited to be back beside Braylon and score some touchdowns. I’m ready.”

On the other end of Wagner’s passes will be a receiving corps that includes the duo of Jaxon Huffman and Carson Gould. Huffman, who will also see time at tight



Redbank Valley head coach Blane Gold (right) runs his team through a conditioning drill.

end, caught 47 passes for 725 yards and seven touchdowns last season while Gould pulled down 30 passes for 445 yard and eight scores. Also seeing snaps at wideout will be Wyatt Byers, Jace Clowers and Easton Magagnotti.

In order for all of those skill positions to have room to work, the Bulldogs’ will be looking for their line to make strides after being forced into some tough spots last season.

“We knew that last year was going to be a struggle up front,” Gold said. “We threw Malachi Stewart and Jace Huffman to the wolves as freshmen. We were hoping by getting those guys out there last year and not holding anything back or babying

them, it was going to set them up for success this year. They’ve got the bodies, so we’re hoping with 13 games experience, we can make a big jump there. We’re going to have to. If we don’t make a big jump up front, we’re not going to be successful.”

Senior Devon Weckerly returns as the team’s starting center while also starting along the front will be senior Canyon Martin and sophomores Stewart and Jace Huffman. Also expected to see time are sophomore Jarrett Gould and freshman Tayvin Kennedy.

Defensively, Jaxon Huffman returns to defensive end after a stellar junior campaign that saw him rack up seven sacks, 23 tackles for loss and two interceptions

on his way to 83 total tackles.

On the opposite end of the line will be Weckerly (30 tackles, 3 for loss), while between them will be Jace Huffman. Stewart, Kennedy and Bailey Bowser will also be vying for playing time.

Behind them, the linebackers will feature George (83 tackles), Peyton Kennemuth (33 tackles) and Jaren Christiaens (33 tackles), while the secondary features Carson Gould at the No. 1 corner after notching a team-high four picks last season. The other corner spot is up for battle between Connor Colwell, Jordan Titus and Wyatt Byers.

See **BULLDOGS**, Page 13



Wishing the best of luck
to all area teams!
Have a great season!

13626 Route 6, Corry, PA
814-665-8207 • 1-800-646-1298

Mon. & Thurs. 9 am - 7 pm • Tues., Wed. & Fri 9 am - 6 pm
Sat. 9 am - 3 pm, Closed Sunday





BRAYLON WAGNER

REDBANK VALLEY BULLDOGS

REDBANK VALLEY ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Wyatt Byers	5-8	148	Sr.	SB-DB
Jaren Christiaens	5-10	160	Sr.	WR-LB
Brock George	5-9	210	Sr.	RB-LB
Carson Gould	6-0	160	Sr.	WR-DB
Jaxon Huffman	6-0	181	Sr.	QB-LB
Canyon Martin	5-10	169	Sr.	OL-DL
Tanner McDonald	5-7	157	Sr.	OL-DL
Gavin Rodriguez	5-10	173	Sr.	OL-DL
Eli Shaffer	5-9	133	Sr.	WR-DB
Jordan Smith	5-10	195	Sr.	RB/TE-LB
Titus Smith	5-8	162	Sr.	K
Braylon Wagner	6-2	180	Sr.	QB-DB
Devon Weckerly	5-11	200	Sr.	OL-DL/LB
Bailey Bowser	5-8	275	Jr.	OL-DT
Aiden Byers	6-1	140	Jr.	OL-DL
Connor Colwell	5-10	165	Jr.	RB/WR-LB
Nathan Jimenez	5-6	172	Jr.	OL-DT
Peyton Kennemuth	5-11	173	Jr.	RB/WR-LB
Easton Magagnotti	5-9	138	Jr.	WR-DB
Eli Rex	6-2	181	Jr.	WR-DE
Riley Schrecengost	5-10	141	Jr.	RB-DE
Gabe Spence	5-8	152	Jr.	WR-DB
Jordan Titus	5-11	148	Jr.	WR-DB
Sloan Cornman	5-10	280	Jr.	OL-DL
Gage Franklin	5-9	124	Jr.	WR-DB
Jarrett Gould	5-10	220	Jr.	OL-DL
Luke Grafton	5-9	180	Jr.	OL-DL
Landon Hornberger	6-0	160	Jr.	RB-LB
Jace Huffman	6-0	238	Jr.	OL-DL
Owen Polka	6-2	155	Jr.	WR-DB
Tripp Riggelman	5-8	215	Jr.	OL-DL
Malachi Stewart	6-0	260	Jr.	OL-DL
Dawson Wright	5-9	119	Jr.	WR-DB
Kale Barnett	6-0	146	Fr.	RB-LB
Rowan Byers	5-8	180	Fr.	OL-LB
Gabe Clinger	5-4	132	Fr.	WR-DB
Jace Clowser	5-8	162	Fr.	WR-DB
Keihin Davis	5-9	258	Fr.	OL-DL
Gavin Kelly	5-7	193	Fr.	OL-DL
Tayvin Kennedy	5-9	221	Fr.	OL-DL
Parker Kennemuth	5-6	140	Fr.	WR-DB
Jarren Minich	6-3	344	Fr.	OL-DL
Cain Monrean	5-8	167	Fr.	WR-LB
Greysen Stewart	5-8	130	Fr.	WR-DB
Nico Rex	6-2	134	Fr.	WR-DB
Gabe Skursky	5-8	127	Fr.	WR-DL
Elliot Troup	5-5	175	Fr.	OL-DL
Michael Troup	5-6	109	Fr.	WR-DB
Kayleb Young	5-10	140	Fr.	QB-DB

Bulldogs

Continued from Page 12

Wagner (two interceptions) will serve as the free safety with Magagnotti at strong safety and Clowser in the mix as well.

On special teams, Jaxon Huffman will be doing the punting and Titus Smith the kicking.

And, if it all comes together, as it usually does for the Bulldogs, they could be looking at another deep trip into the playoffs. But, they'll be looking for a different result than last season's 62-28 district championship loss to eventual state runner-up Port Allegany.

"On paper, it looks good getting to the district championship game, and it's a goal that we were shooting for," Jaxon Huffman said. "But second place isn't what we hoped for. It isn't what we wanted. It still hurts, and we're going to take that into this year."

BULLDOGS COACHING STAFF

Blane Gold — head coach, defensive coordinator

Jason Kundick — offensive coordinator

Jason Huffman — quarterbacks, offensive line

Ron Geist — linebackers, offensive line

Scott Toth — defensive backs

Colt Stimmel — running backs, defensive line

Tom Wagner — running backs, defensive backs

Coltin Bartley — special teams coordinator, offensive line, linebackers

Cody Rainey — strength and conditioning



Brock George



Jaxon Huffman



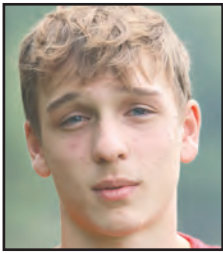
Carson Gould



Devon Weckerly



Canyon Martin



Jaren Christiaens

BULLDOGS SCHEDULE

- Aug. 22 — RIDGWAY
- Aug. 28 — at Union/A-C Valley
- Sept. 5 — at Brockway
- Sept. 12 — OTTO-ELDRED
- Sept. 19 — PORT ALLEGANY
- Sept. 26 — at Bradford
- Oct. 3 — PUNXSUTAWNEY
- Oct. 10 — at Brashear
- Oct. 17 — at Keystone
- Oct. 24 — BROOKVILLE

2024 RAM

2500&3500

SAVE UP TO

\$11,000

STOP IN TODAY!

Rt. 19 & 97 WATERFORD
9 MILES SOUTH OF MILLCREEK MALL
HOURS: MON & THURS 8:30AM-8:30PM
TUES, WED & FRI 9:30AM-6:00PM • SAT 8:30AM-2:00PM
814-679-3129 • www.humeschryslerjeepdodge.com

DISCOUNTS INCLUDE ALL ELIGIBLE INCENTIVES, COMMERCIAL CUSTOMER BONUS AND STELLANTIS LOYALTY. IN-STOCK UNITS ONLY. OFFER GOOD TIL 9/2/25.

TITUSVILLE ROCKETS

Rockets hope to continue winning culture

By ED BRANNON
Correspondent

TITUSVILLE — It’s hard to imagine that any area football team leaned more heavily on three offensive players than did the 2024 Titusville Rockets. After all, the three-headed monster of Jaxon Covell, Kamerin Mong and Ian McDonald accounted for a staggering 83% of the team’s total yards while having a part in 62 of the team’s 67 total touchdowns, an eyepopping 93%.



MIKE REYNOLDS

But, it was all worth it as coach Mike Reynolds and his staff rode those horses to a long-awaited playoff berth and a final record of 7-4, the program’s second straight winning season after a long drought.

Now, Reynolds’ crew will turn to a new group of Rockets to keep the good vibes going.

“In order to build a winning culture, you need to focus on doing the little things and getting better each day,” said Reynolds, who is 16-15 in his previous three seasons

at the helm. “It’s those little things that can win football games.”

While the Rockets return a number of key players, it’s not going to be super easy to replace Covell, Mong and McDonald. Covell, who is currently playing at Westminster, finished as the school’s all-time rushing leader after a senior season in which he ran for 1,697 yards (9.9 yards per carry) caught 18 passes for 425 more yards (23.6 yards per catch) and scored a combined 30 touchdowns (23 rushing seven receiving).

Mong added 376 yards rushing and led the team with 41 receptions for 572 yards and nine total TDs while McDonald, the team’s quarterback, threw for 1,278 yards and 14 TDs, ran for 445 yards and five scores and hauled in one pass for 69 yards and a TD. For good measure, Mong threw a pair of TD passes and Covell had one.

But, enough about the past, Reynolds is banking on some players who were key contributors on the school’s first-ever District 10 baseball championship this past spring — most notably senior quarterback Brody Sellen and senior lineman Coleman Knapp.

See **ROCKETS**, Page 21

TITUSVILLE ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Sawyer Wolfkiel	5-8	135	Sr.	WR-DB
Michael Culpepper	6-2	185	Sr.	WR-DB
Jimmy Becker	5-7	147	Sr.	RB-DB
Jaydin O’Neill	5-8	175	Jr.	RB-LB
Max Chatham	6-0	185	Sr.	K
Alex Hartshorne	6-0	170	Jr.	WR-DB
Jesse Nordin	6-0	160	Jr.	TE-DL
Adam Reynolds	5-8	175	So.	QB-LB
Brody Sellen	5-10	180	Sr.	QB-DB
Charlie Ackerman	6-1	153	Fr.	WR-DB
Blake Ross	6-0	175	Sr.	WR-DB
Chase Harrison	5-9	150	Fr.	WR-DB
Hunter Martin	6-0	145	Fr.	QB-DB
Kenrick Duran	5-7	145	Sr.	WR-DB
Jacob Ross	5-8	160	So.	WR-DB
Josh Nordin	5-10	175	Jr.	TE-LB
Axel Brooks	5-9	135	Fr.	WR-DB
Tim Fultz	5-9	159	Fr.	TE-LB
Cole Moore	5-10	145	So.	WR-DB
Weston Wakefield	5-6	150	So.	RB-DB
Jayden Wells	5-7	167	Jr.	RB-LB
Dalton Knapp	5-10	185	Fr.	TE-LB
Tanner Wolfkiel	5-10	195	Fr.	TE-LB
Tyler Tenney	5-9	195	Sr.	OL-DL
Tommy Martin	5-5	160	Fr.	OL-DL
Coy Campbell	6-0	200	So.	OL-DL
Jerrin Vroman	5-7	208	So.	OL-DL
Tanner Clifford	6-0	245	Jr.	OL-DL
Riley Porter	5-9	170	So.	OL-DL
Mason Smith	5-3	140	Fr.	OL-DL
Brayden Burt	5-8	190	Fr.	OL-DL
Jayce Waychoff	5-7	190	Fr.	OL-LB
Bentley Carson	5-5	170	Fr.	OL-DL
Xavier Willis	5-7	191	Jr.	OL-DL
Coleman Knapp	5-8	230	Sr.	OL-DL
Chad Roddy	5-11	205	Fr.	OL-DL
Andrew McQuown	6-1	245	Sr.	OL-DL
Joe Roddy	6-1	220	Sr.	OL-DL
Brock Middleton	6-4	185	Sr.	TE-DE
Byrce Watkins	6-3	260	Sr.	OL-DL



BRODY SELLEN



BLAKE ROSS



MICHAEL CULPEPPER



JAYDIN O’NEILL



COLEMAN KNAPP



DREW MCQUOWN

MAPLEWOOD TIGERS

Finkbeiner takes over as head coach of Tigers

By JOE HENDERSON
Staff writer

After head coach Jason Wargo stepped down at the end of the 2024 season to take a job as offensive coordinator at Geneva College, Maplewood did not have to go far to look for his replacement.

Having coached in the Tigers' program for the last 17 years, including the last 13 on the varsity level, Robert Finkbeiner was elevated to be the new leader of the program for the upcoming season.

"I am excited about taking the job, and with most of the football staff largely still intact, it has made the transition a lot easier and smoother," said Finkbeiner, who previously held the positions of assistant head coach, defensive coordinator, defensive backs coach and running backs coach.

Making the transition even easier for Finkbeiner and his staff are the return of some experienced offensive linemen, and a veteran quarterback in junior Kyle Jordan.

Coming back to lead the offensive line are a pair of seniors in Deegan Moyer and Max Merchant, while a pair of juniors in Jerad Lane and Grant Crosley also bring plenty of experience as well. Another senior in Charlie Snyder and a freshman in Broden Gibbs are also expected to see lots of playing time as well.

"I think our biggest strength coming into the season is our offensive line. We have a lot of experienced players returning at the position, and they have put in some work," Finkbeinder said. "Deegan and Max have shown some senior leadership by not missing a single summer workout, which is pretty impressive. They are the anchors of our OL. Jerad and Grant have lots of experience as well. The linemen all get along really well and they are a tight group."

Last season as a second-year starter, Jordan threw for 668 yards and seven touchdowns while he also ran for 419 yards and seven more scores.

"Kyle is in his third year as a starting QB and we are looking for big things out of him this season," Finkbeiner said. "He's a dual threat with a powerful arm. He also possesses good size at 6-3, 215 pounds and is a powerful runner. Overall, he's a good leader, he has a positive attitude and is very encouraging with his teammates."

The Tigers did lose their top running back from last year in AJ Proper, who ran for 1,109 yards and seven TDs as a senior, but Finkbeiner feels he has a solid stable of backs to pick up the slack in seniors Dakotah Crum and Hayden Onukiavage, juniors Leeroy Wolfgang and Chase MacQuarrie and sophomore Gavin Reynolds.

"We don't have a true breakaway type of back, so I think we are going to be more physical than fast in our backfield," Finkbeiner said. "But, some of our guys have gotten quicker with their feet this year."

The Tigers also lost their top two pass catchers from a year ago, but Finkbeiner feels the group of junior Nolan Dunkle, Reynolds and a pair of freshmen in Mason Potosky and Nathan Leonhart are more than capable of hauling in passes from Jordan this year.

"We'd like to have a good balance between the run and pass on offense, but I think we are going to be more of a grind it out type of offense where we use our size to our advantage, wear the opposing defense down a little bit, and control the pace of the game," Finkbeiner said.

On defense, the Tigers have plenty of size and experience on the line with Moyer, Merchant, Lane, Crosley, Snyder and Gibbs all vying for playing time.

"They are big in size and bring plenty of experience just like our offensive line," Finkbeiner said.

Jordan and MacQuarrie return to start at linebacker for the Tigers. Jordan was third on the team in tackles last year with 52, including four for loss, while MacQuarrie finished with 30 tackles with 2.5 tackles for loss.

"Kyle and Chase are tough competitors and we are looking for big seasons out of them," Finkbeiner said.

In the secondary, Reynolds returns to start at cornerback after also starting at the position as a freshman. He will be joined by Leonhart and either Potosky or Dunkle.

Wolfgang will start at safety and play alongside either Dunkle or Potosky.

"We have a lot of experience coming back on defense, which is nice to have. We are not changing much on the defensive side of the ball. We are working more on our technique," Finkbeiner said. "We are going to mix up our coverages a little more than we did in the past, but otherwise, this is the same defense these guys have been playing in since junior high."

After missing out on the playoffs last year with a 3-7 record, Finkbeiner is hoping the Tigers can return to the postseason again this season.

"One of the goals we have talked about is returning to the playoffs. We'd also like to finish with a .500 or better record, and we want to make sure we are competitive in every game we play," he said. "To do that, we need to minimize our mistakes, continue to communicate like we have all summer long, gel in the areas we need to improve on and to do the little things right like improving our footwork or making sure we are in the right position. If we do all the small things right, I think we'll be alright."

Maplewood will open the season Friday night at Union City.

"We've had some good back-and-forths with Union City over the years, so this is going to be a challenge," Finkbeiner said. "Hopefully, we can hit the ground running and get off to a good start with a win in Week 1 and look to carry that over to the next game and so forth."

MAPLEWOOD ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Micah Szympruch	5-5	125	Fr.	WR-DB
Zander Proper	5-6	161	Jr.	RB-LB
Nolan Dunkle	6-0	155	Jr.	WR-DB
Chase MacQuarrie	5-10	205	Jr.	RB-LB
Hayden Onukiavage	5-9	185	Sr.	RB-LB
Kyle Jordan	6-3	215	Jr.	QB-FS
Garrett Brucker	6-1	160	Sr.	WR-DB
Maddox Lentz	6-2	180	Jr.	TE-LB
Gavin Reynolds	5-10	155	So.	WR-DB
Mason Potosky	5-6	155	Fr.	RB-DB
Ty Neely	5-9	140	Fr.	WR-DB
Nathan Leonhart	5-6	145	Fr.	WR-DB
Leeroy Wolfgang	5-8	155	Jr.	RB-DB
Isaac LaDeur	5-7	160	Jr.	RB-LB
Dakotah Crum	5-10	180	Sr.	FB-LB
Gavin Davis	5-11	260	Jr.	OL-DL
Charlie Snyder	6-1	180	Sr.	OG-LB
Joseph Jordan	6-2	180	Fr.	OL-DL
Max Merchant	6-0	225	Sr.	OL-DL
Mak Koehne	5-11	260	Sr.	OL-DL
Jared Lane	6-0	260	Jr.	OL-DL
Grant Crosley	6-4	290	Jr.	OL-DL
Deegan Moyer	6-1	290	Sr.	OL-DL
Colton Smith	5-10	180	Fr.	OL-DL
Broden Gibbs	5-10	280	Fr.	OL-DL
Cameron Catania	5-9	155	Sr.	OG-LB
Jordan Sampson	6-1	185	So.	TE-LB
Justin Fry	5-7	135	Sr.	WR-DB

MAPLEWOOD SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 — at Union City

Aug. 29 — REYNOLDS

Sept. 5 — at Cochranon

Sept. 12 — LAKEVIEW

Sept. 19 — Bye

Sept. 26 — CONNEAUT AREA

Oct. 3 — at Saegertown

Oct. 10 — CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS

Oct. 17 — GREENVILLE

Oct. 24 — at Seneca

MAPLEWOOD COACHES

Robert Finkbeiner – head coach, defensive coordinator, running backs

Harry Zurasky — offensive coordinator, quarterbacks, linebackers

Gerald McKinley – special teams coordinator, wide receivers, defensive backs

Dustin Kingsley – offensive, defensive line

Jesse Staudt — receivers, defensive backs

Lance Smith – linebackers, offensive line

Wyatt Wright – junion high head coach, varsity assistant

Kurt Willison – assistant coach

Bill Malliard – assistant coach

Caleb Hoke – assistant coach

Sam Wright -- assistant coach

Ethan Wright — assistant coach



Knox Country Farm Supply, Inc

Pine Shavings - Straw - Hay
Purina Feed - Kalmbach Feed

Our Own House Blend of Feed
Elite Chicken Mash
Pig Chop • House Blend Beef Chop
Horse Feed • Wild Bird Seed

Mon.-Fri. 8am-5pm • Sat. 8am-1pm

6504 Rt. 208, Knox • 814-797-1256

GROVE CITY EAGLES

Quick turnaround may be on horizon for GC

By **ED BRANNON**
Correspondent

GROVE CITY — For the first time in several years, the Grove City Eagles football team struggled during the 2024 campaign, in part due to inexperience, but mostly due to a rash of injuries that resulted in a 3-6 finish.

But, veteran coach Sam Mowrey, entering his 12th season at the helm, believes last year's adversity could be a catalyst for a big turnaround in 2025.

"Our senior class has pretty much experienced everything high school football has to offer," said Mowrey, who is 77-44 as the Eagles' head coach. "They've been a part of district championship teams and they've also endured the challenge of difficult seasons, last year being one of those. But, those ups and downs have really helped build character and they know what it takes to be successful."

Leadership — especially from the interior offensive and defensive lines — is one of the major reasons why Mowrey feels this year's squad can once again return to the upper echelon of their region.

Senior Delathain Boanes anchors the lines while two other classmates — Karson Heckathorn and Logan Dice — have also started in the past.

"Delathian is a four-year starter who

has earned all-region and all-state honors," Mowrey said. "He's got an offer from Slippery Rock and just has a fantastic work ethic and picks up everybody around him. He's one of the best linemen we've had here. He's got so much athletic ability and even at 260 pounds, is one of our fastest players."

Heckathorn, a 6-6, 280-pound tackle and Dice are both returning from injuries.

"Karson missed most of last season with appendicitis while Logan suffered a knee injury and was out for a significant amount of time," Mowrey said. "Both are high-character guys and leaders, much like Delathian."

Another starter up front will be sophomore Jordan Gamble, who was recently cleared to practice after breaking an ankle last basketball season. "Jordan started as a freshman and did a really nice job last year," Mowrey noted. "He's stil working his way back, but he's strong and quick."

Two others who figure to see time in the trenches are junior Patrick Falder and sophomore Malachi Whitley.

Perhaps the most intriguing competition offensively is at quarterback where junior Drake Moore and freshman Heath Hohman are both having strong showings in practice.

"Both of those guys are handling it well and are very supportive of each other,"

Mowrey said of his young signal-callers. "We're kind of anxious to see how it pans out, but we also feel that both kids can handle the job. Drake has improved leaps and bounds over where he was last year and Heath has shown a lot of confidence in running the offense as a freshman."

Whoever is under center, they'll have the luxury of some playmakers at the skill positions.

In the backfield, seniors Jonah Stucchio and Jaxyn Wilson give the Eagles a powerful 1-2 punch.

Wilson started three games last season and showed his stuff as he wound up leading the Eagles in rushing yards with 732 yards and nine touchdowns.

Meanwhile, Stucchio added 260 yards on just 43 carries (6.0 yards per carry) with five TDs, despite missing the last three games with an injury.

"Jonah's a special type of athlete and maybe our fastest player," Mowrey said. "He won a silver medal at states in the triple jump."

Another weapon for Grove City is junior tight end Jimmy Cooper, who Mowrey says has "great hands" and is also a "solid blocker."

The receiving corps includes juniors Levi Toth, Peyton Miller, Austin Drake and Ben Moore, along with sophomore Charlie Miller while sophomore Luke

Gamble will back up Cooper at tight end.

Grove City only averaged 14.9 points per game a year ago, but Mowrey feels those numbers will improve in 2025.

"This group has the potential to be pretty good offensively," he said. "We should be strong up front and there's a lot of talent at the skill positions."

Most of the offensive starters also figure to play prominent roles defensively as well with Boanes, Heckathorn, Gamble, Falder and Whitley up front while the linebackers will include Dice, Cooper, junior Andres Navarro and Wilson. The secondary will feature Stucchio, juniors Austin Gothe and Keith Vandegrift, Toth, Drake Moore, Peyton Miller, Ben Moore and Charlie Miller.

"We have several kids who got a lot of playing time last year because of all the injuries," Mowrey said. "They had their highs and lows, but they gained a ton of experience in the process."

The Eagles will open up the season Friday night at home against North East in a non-region matchup.

As for the rugged Region 4, Mowrey is cautiously optimistic. "Hickory and Sharon are always tough, but I feel we can compete with anybody on our schedule," he concluded. "It's all about how well we handle adversity and of course, we need to stay healthy."



DELATHIAN BOANES



JONAH STUCCHIO

GROVE CITY SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 — NORTH EAST
Aug. 29 — at Fairview
Sept. 5 — TITUSVILLE
Sept. 12 — at Slippery Rock
Sept. 19 — at Fort LeBoeuf
Sept. 26 — OIL CITY
Oct. 3 — at Sharon
Oct. 11 — HICKORY
Oct. 17 — CONNEAUT AREA
Oct. 24 — Bye

GROVE CITY COACHING STAFF

Sam Mowrey — head coach
Jim Gamble — tight ends, defensive backs
Todd Warner — offensive line, run game
Brad Trezona — running backs, outside linebackers
Dwayne Lettie — tight ends, defensive line
Jordan Patterson — offensive line, defensive line, co-special teams coordinator
Joey Kosick — wide receivers, middle linebackers
Marcello Trezona — tight ends, outside linebackers
Anthony Nemec — running backs, middle linebackers
Judd Allan -- volunteer assistant coach

GROVE CITY EAGLES



JIMMY COOPER



JORDAN GAMBLE



KARSON HECKATHORNE



LOGAN DICE

GROVE CITY EAGLES ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Austin Gothe	6-0	165	Jr.	QB-DB
Levi Toth	5-11	175	Jr.	WR-DB
Ben Moore	5-8	130	Jr.	WR-DB
Zakk Lebaron	5-5	120	Sr.	WR-DB
Luke Gamble	6-3	210	So.	TE-LB
Heath Hohman	5-10	165	Fr.	QB-LB
Jaxyn Wilson	5-9	170	Sr.	RB-LB
Simeon Toth	5-9	170	Fr.	TE-LB
Drake Moore	6-0	175	Jr.	QB-LB
Gavin Purdy	6-1	190	Fr.	RB-LB
Jimmy Cooper	6-1	225	Jr.	TE-LB
Lamar Franklin	5-11	140	So.	WR-DB
Tyler McElroy	5-10	140	Sr.	WR-DB
Peyton Miller	5-8	150	Jr.	WR-DB
Derek Jones	5-7	115	Fr.	WR-DB
Charlie Miller	5-10	155	So.	WR-DB
Jonah Stucchio	6-0	170	Sr.	RB-DB
Jesse McCoy	5-7	185	Sr.	TE-DL
Gage Wanner	5-6	170	So.	RB-LB
Tanner Mong	6-4	185	Jr.	TE-LB
Dylan Bable	5-2	100	Fr.	WR-DB
Heath Werhnyak	6-0	170	Fr.	WR-DB
Zach Mathieson	5-9	180	So.	RB-LB
Joel Cooper	5-9	175	Fr.	OL-LB
Kaden Bable	5-3	235	So.	OL-DL
Andres Navarro	5-11	190	Jr.	OL-LB
DeLathian Boanes	6-0	260	Sr.	OL-DL
Ethan Cooke	6-1	220	Fr.	OL-DL
Nathan Metheney	5-4	135	Fr.	OL-DL
Logan Dice	5-10	205	Sr.	OL-LB
Patrick Faler	5-9	265	Jr.	OL-DL
Devin Kengor	5-9	220	So.	OL-DL
Brody Thompson	5-9	165	Jr.	OL-DL
Malachi Whitley	6-0	230	So.	OL-DL
Kade Anderson	5-9	200	Sr.	OL-DL
Titus Schepp	5-7	170	Fr.	OL-DL
Nicklas Belden	6-2	170	Jr.	OL-DL
Evan Uber	6-0	195	Jr.	OL-DL
Jordan Gamble	6-2	230	So.	OL-DL
Martwan Martin	6-1	205	Fr.	OL-DL
Karson Heckathorn	6-6	280	Sr.	OL-DL
Sebastian Aguirre	5-11	270	So.	OL-DL
Gage Gildersleeve	5-7	130	Fr.	WR-DB
Lucas Kelly	6-0	160	So.	K-P

2025 DISTRICT 10 FOOTBALL REGIONS

REGION 1
(Class 1A-2A)

Wilmington (1A), Reynolds (1A),
Farrell (2A), Sharpville (2A), Mercer
(2A).

REGION 2
(Class 1A)

Cochranton, Cambridge Springs,
Maplewood, Lakeview, Saegertown,
Greenville.

REGION 3
(Class 1A-2A)

Eisenhower (1A), Union City
(1A), Iroquois (2A), Northwestern
(2A), Seneca (2A), Mercyhurst Prep
(2A).

REGION 4
(Class 3A)

Hickory, Sharon, Slippery Rock,
Grove City, Conneaut Area, Titusville.

REGION 5
(Class 3A)

Fairview, Fort LeBoeuf, Girard,
North East, Harbor Creek, Corry.

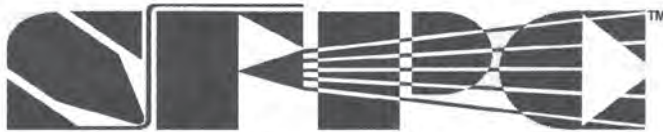
REGION 6
(Class 4A)

Franklin, Oil City, Warren, Mead-
ville, General McLane.

REGION 7
(Class 5A-6A)

Cathedral Prep (5A), Erie High
(6A), McDowell (6A).

“Fabrication and Powder Coating Specialists”



SPECIALTY FABRICATION AND POWDER COATING

CORE CAPABILITIES

DESIGN ENGINEERING SUPPORT • LASER CUTTING AND TURRET PUNCH
AUTOMATED FORMING • FULL FABRICATION AND WELDING
ROBOTIC WELDING • MACHINING • ASSEMBLY
POWDER COATING AND WET PAINTING

Rod Griffin, CEO

455 Allegheny Blvd. Franklin, PA 16323

E-mail: rgriffin@specfab.com • (814) 432-6406 • Fax: (814) 432-6394

KEYSTONE PANTHERS

Talented Panthers look to be on the prowl

By **JOE HENDERSON**
Staff writer

Despite having low numbers and a lot of youth on the roster, Keystone turned out to be quite a surprise last year as the Panthers reached the District 9 Class 1A playoffs, knocking off Ridgway in the opening round before falling to Port Allegany in the semifinals.

So with a lot of talent returning this year, combined with the experience of last season, head coach Todd Smith and his Panthers feel they are ready to make their mark on the 2025 campaign.

“We expected last year to be kind of a transition season for us, but the team ended up really coming together and we improved as the season went on,” Smith said. “We are pretty excited with the way we were able to finish last year and we are excited to get going this season.”

“I feel like we put in a lot of time in the weight room to get stronger, so overall, I think we are a stronger and more talented football team, Smith continued. “We really stressed in the off-season that if we wanted to mature and grow as a team, we needed to get stronger. We were able to put 16 guys into our 1,000-pound club, so I feel the guys have really bought into that.”

The team’s numbers have also increased, leading one to believe that last year’s success maybe played a part in that.

“We have 39 kids on the team, so we think we are going to be able to play junior varsity for the first time in a long time,” Smith said, “We are pretty pumped about that, too.”

The Panthers’ biggest returnee is at quarterback where junior Dom Corcetti returns after being an all-state selection last season. He finished with 1,827 yards passing with 13 touchdowns and six interceptions while also leading the team with 964 rushing yards and 11 more scores.

“Dom has been starting since he was a freshman, so just to have that experience at that position is huge for us,” Smith said. “With his two years of playing time, we are able to do a lot of things offensively, and we are putting a lot more on his shoulders with reads and RPOs. He’s also a very versatile athlete.”

Smith is also excited about the return of senior back Jake Henry and junior back Eli Nellis, who missed a few games last year with an injury.



DOM CORCETTI



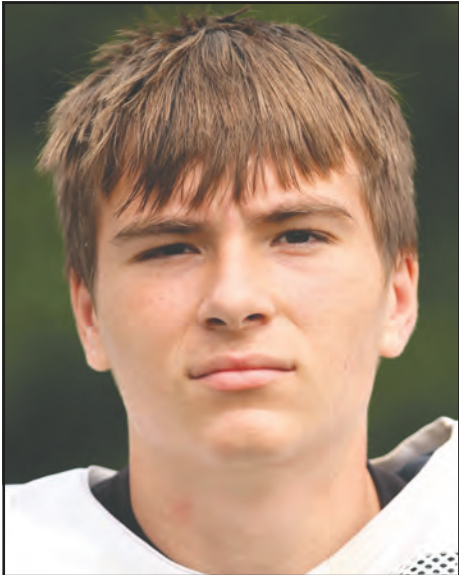
JAKE HENRY



ELI NELLIS



LJ RANKIN



LANDYN REED



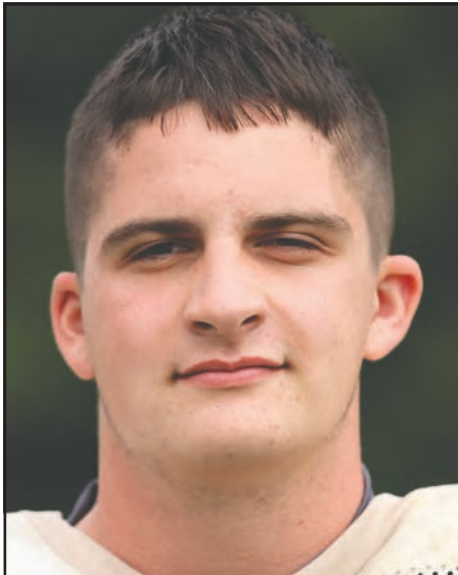
BRADY DUNLAP



JOEY SPENCE



EVERETT FULTON



JOSH KLINE

KEYSTONE PANTHERS



Monty Frederick



Dylan Albertine



Andrew Hoffman

Panthers

Continued from Page 18

“Eli was hurt for half the season last year. He’s another really good athlete that we expect big things from this year. We are excited to have him back at full strength and see what he can do,” Smith said. “Jake is a very versatile player, and we are able to utilize him at different positions. He can block and run.”

Also expected to play big roles in the offense are sophomores LJ Rankin, Landon Mohnney and Landyn Reed.

“All three of these guys might run the ball some and catch some passes for us,” Smith said.

After moving from tight end to the offensive line last year due to an injury, Smith is also looking forward to seeing junior Joey Spence back at tight end this season.

“Due to a lack of depth on our offensive line, Joey only got to play half the year at tight end, but he still made all-conference as a long snapper,” Smith said. “However, with us having more depth on the OL this year, we will be able to keep him at his natural position, which is big for us because he is a real talent at the position.”

But, any offense is only as good as its offensive line, and the Panthers are expected to have a good one as all five starters return from a year ago.

The line features a pair of senior tackles in Everett Fulton and Josh Kline, a pair of guards in senior Brady Dunlap and sophomore Monty Frederick and a center in junior Dylan Albertine. The group also features two steady backups in sophomores William Shawgo and Lucas Williams.

“We return all five starters from last year, which is big for us. William and Lucas have shown a lot in practice, and they are pushing the starters for playing time,” Smith said.

On defense, the Panthers plan to utilize their depth up front with Fulton, Frederick, Dunlap and Albertine all expected to see time at tackle, while senior Andrew Hoffman, junior Jimmy

Sprague, Mohnney and Shawgo are all expected to see time at end.

“We are going to try and stay fresh up front, so we have quite a few guys who are going to rotate,” Smith said.

The Panthers also look strong at linebacker where Henry and Spence return after each recorded over 100 tackles last year. Rankin is also expected to see some playing time at the position as well.

“Jake was all-state at linebacker last year and Joey also had a big year, so we expect them to be the core of our defense,” Smith said.

Nellis and Corcetti are expected to start at safety with Reed and junior Reese Runyan expected to start at cornerback.

“With Eli and Dom, we couldn’t have two more athletic and talented guys to put at safety,” Smith said.

Special teams will have a different look this year as senior Seth Slaugenhaupt and sophomore Bryce Mount will share the placekicking duties. Meanwhile, Corcetti will handle the punting duties after drilling a 44-yard boot in his only punt attempt last year.

“Seth and Bryce are joining us from the soccer team, and we are excited to have them. They are both able to put the ball through the uprights pretty consistently,” Smith said.

The D9 Football League saw some changes in the offseason and is now divided into four different divisions. The Panthers will compete in Division III with Kane, Moniteau, Ridgway and Union/Allegheny-Clarion Valley.

“Our first goal is to win our region and our second goal is to get to the D9 championship game,” Smith said. “There are a lot of good Class 1A football teams this year like Port Allegany, Redbank Valley, Union/A-C Valley and Ridgway, so it’s going to be a very competitive group of teams this year. But, we feel like we fit right in there with them.

“We have a tough schedule, so we just need to take it one game at a time and not take anything for granted,” Smith continued. “We also need to be prepared, and of course stay healthy. It’s very important to keep our guys on the field.”

KEYSTONE PANTHERS ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Andrew Hoffman	6-4	195	Sr.	OT-DE
Austin Pheiff	6-1	230	Sr.	OT-DT
Brady Dunlap	6-0	230	Sr.	OG-DT
Eli Anger	6-0	140	Sr.	SE-CB
Everett Fulton	6-2	235	Sr.	OT-DT
Jacob Henry	6-0	185	Sr.	SB-LB
Josh Kline	5-11	205	Sr.	OT-DE
Seth Slaugenhaupt	5-9	150	Sr.	K-P
Dom Corcetti	6-0	170	Jr.	QB-SS
Dylan Albertine	6-0	215	Jr.	OG-DT
Eli Nellis	5-11	170	Jr.	SB-FS
James Sprague	5-10	155	Jr.	TE-DE
Joey Spence	6-1	205	Jr.	TE-LB
Kaden Mathews	5-11	315	Jr.	OG-DT
Nate Beichner	5-10	160	Jr.	TE-FS
Reese Runyan	5-10	160	Jr.	SE-CB
Robert Walker	5-11	170	Jr.	FB-LB
Bryce Mount	5-11	160	So.	K-P
Jaiden DeLay	5-11	220	So.	OT-DT
James Rankin	5-10	165	So.	SB-CB
Jordan Carroll	6-2	260	So.	OT-DT
Kade Smith	5-8	150	So.	FB-LB
Landon Mohnney	5-11	180	So.	FB-DE
Landyn Reed	5-10	160	So.	SE-CB
Lochlan Fulton	5-10	185	So.	OC-DE
Lucas Williams	5-10	190	So.	OG-LB
Monty Frederick	5-9	225	So.	OG-DT
William Shawgo	5-10	175	So.	OG-DE
Christopher Campbell	5-10	210	Fr.	OT-DT
Dane Nicewonger	5-9	140	Fr.	SE-SS
Ethan Corcetti	5-9	145	Fr.	QB-SS
Griffin Tharan	5-9	195	Fr.	OG-DT
Hunter Traister	5-6	140	Fr.	SB-CB
Karter Pratt	5-7	180	Fr.	OG-DE
Kenny Hatzell	5-5	140	Fr.	OG-DE
Koltn Rex	5-5	220	Fr.	OG-DT
Kyden Carnahan	5-8	145	Fr.	SB-CB
Laughlin Plummer	5-8	130	Fr.	SE-CB
Mason Best	5-10	145	Fr.	SB-LB

KEYSTONE COACHING STAFF

Todd Smith — head coach, offensive coordinator, quarterbacks, running backs
Jason Nellis — defensive coordinator, linebackers
Lee Weber — offensive line, defensive line
Austin Ion — special teams, wide receivers, defensive backs

KEYSTONE SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 — at Brookville	Sept. 26 — BROCKWAY
Aug. 29 — CENTRAL CLARION	Oct. 3 — at Bucktail
Sept. 4 — UNION/A-C VALLEY	Oct. 10 — at Ridgway
Sept. 12 — at Kane	Oct. 17 — REDBANK VALLEY
Sept. 19 — MONITEAU	Oct. 24 — at Coudersport

PRIME

PRIME PURPOSE

PRIME fitness equipment is the new standard in maximizing any fitness program. Proudly made and manufactured in the USA, PRIME combines innovation, durability and aesthetic designs to produce fitness equipment with superior performance that lasts.

Find your PRIME.

855.269.4378 • PrimeFitnessUSA.com

Info@PrimeFitnessUSA.com

Owned & Operated by Specialty Fitness Systems, Franklin, PA

MADE IN THE USA

LAKEVIEW SAILORS

Reddick looks to steer Sailors in right direction

By JOE SAGER
Correspondent

Reinforcements are on the way for Lakeview.

The Sailors hope they can adapt quickly.

With a young roster and plenty of holes to fill, Lakeview must rely on many new faces playing key roles this fall. But, it's made practices intense.

"We're a young team. We're up and coming," Lakeview coach Blade Reddick said. "Whenever you have seven positions open on either side of ball, there will be heavy competition. The boys will be separated from the men, that's for sure."

Offensively, it's a whole different backfield as the team's top three rushers and quarterback graduated.

Owen Reynolds moves from receiver to under center this year. Gavin Schell is expected to be the team's top running back. However, he must sit out the first two games of the season after being ejected from a loss to Greenville in last year's District 10 Class 1A playoffs. Michael Strohl and Julian Zacherl could share the load in the meantime.

"We have to figure out running back since Gavin is out for the first two games," Reddick said. "We have some freshmen who could tote the rock, too. Hopefully, we can work them in and get them some carries. Our freshman class is going to be strong, but we're just not sure how many are ready for a full game of varsity at this point."

Kye Brown. Karson Mathieson and Zacherl are three veterans who could be passing game targets, along with fresh-

man Remi Marsh.

Wyatt Maxwell returns to anchor the team's offensive and defensive lines.

"We have a bunch of sophomores and freshmen competing for spots up front. It's going to be real interesting to see how it plays out," Reddick said. "We have some big boys, but do not have the experience, that's for sure. We look the part, but, hopefully after camp, we are the part."

Ethan Johnson returns to lead the linebackers. Schell will be there, too, once he's eligible to return to game action. Mathieson will be at outside linebacker.

Reynolds shifts from linebacker to safety. Julian Zacherl returns at cornerback. The rest of the spots are open.

"I think there's great competition there. Overall, these kids are very competitive. Competition breeds excellence,"

Reddick said. "If the guys stay committed, I believe we will achieve it."

Lakeview finished 5-6 overall last year. The Sailors hope to continue on an upward trend throughout this fall.

"If we improve a little bit every day, we'll be a pretty good team by the end of the year," Reddick said. "Really, going forward, we're going to lose some good guys in this senior class, which is going to hurt us next year. We want to improve all year for those guys, but also want to get better for next year because we return a lot of guys."

"I am really looking forward to the season," he continued. "Fall is my favorite time of year. Coaching has been fun. I am excited to watch another group of kids develop throughout the year, work hard and see what we can put together."



OWEN REYNOLDS



JULIAN ZACHERL



GAVIN SCHELL

LAKEVIEW SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 — at Northwestern
Aug. 29 — MERCER
Sept. 5 — SAEGERTOWN
Sept. 12 — at Maplewood
Sept. 19 — REYNOLDS
Sept. 26 — at Sharpsville
Oct. 3 — GREENVILLE
Oct. 9 — COCHRANTON
Oct. 17 — at Cambridge Springs
Oct. 24 — at Franklin

LAKEVIEW COACHING STAFF

Blake Reddick — head acoach
Craig Murdock — offensive coordinator
Mike Grimm — co-defensive coordinator
Doug Cole — co-defensive coordinator
Joel McAfoose — offensive/defensive lines
Marquis Spence — linebackers
Craig Andrezejewski — jr. high head coach

LAKEVIEW ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pos.
Finley Burns	5-11	180	Sr.	QB-S
Gavin Schell	6-0	177	Sr.	RB-LB
Owen Reynolds	5-6	145	Sr.	QB-S
Austin Toth	6-3	168	Jr.	WR-CB
Julian Zacherl	5-9	135	Sr.	WR-CB
Drew David Gilarno	5-10	134	Jr.	WR-LB
Gregory Leige	6-3	171	Sr.	WR-LB
Reid English	5-7	115	Fr.	WR-CB
Karson Mathieson	6-0	191	Jr.	TE-LB
Jayden Meier	5-10	145	Fr.	QB-CB
Bentley Fleet	6-0	197	Fr.	TE-LB
Charles Carlo	5-10	164	Fr.	RB-LB
Michael Strohl	5-10	150	Jr.	RB-LB
Kye Brown	6-1	167	Jr.	WR-CB
Remington Marsh	5-9	156	Fr.	WR-S
Carson Clark	5-5	151	Fr.	FB-LB
Owen Feltenberger	5-8	204	Jr.	FB-LB
Ethan Johnson	6-2	183	Jr.	TE-LB
Seth Cunningham	5-10	160	Jr.	FB-LB
Colin Whitcomb	6-2	215	So.	OT-DE
Jackson Vincent	5-9	244	Fr.	OG-DE
Jacob Barcheck	5-10	213	So.	C-DT
Cole Klonowski	6-2	221	Sr.	OG-DE
Richie Speir	5-8	169	Fr.	OG-LB
Trevor Shearer	5-11	256	Fr.	OG-LB
Xander Johnson	6-1	258	So.	OT-DT
Marcos Cabral	5-10	276	Fr.	OT-DT
Colton Hiles	5-11	324	So.	OT-DT
Derek Craig	5-11	205	Jr.	OG-LB
Montana Adams	6-1	220	Jr.	OT-DT
John Maxwell	5-11	232	Jr.	OT-DE
Weston Gilarno	5-8	229	Fr.	C-DT
Nick Wells	6-0	298	Jr.	OT-DT
Brayden Hartle	5-9	228	Fr.	OG-DT
Brayden Sanford	6-1	203	Fr.	OG-DE

TITUSVILLE ROCKETS

Rockets

Continued from Page 14

“Brody is just a true leader and is a kid who worked his tail off and has waited for this opportunity,” Reynolds said. “He’s a good football player and is very capable of leading this offense, whether it’s throwing the football or running with it. He’s a very good decision maker.”

Meanwhile, Reynolds said Knapp has been working hard on a lot of little things to improve his game. “What can you say about Coleman? He’s a returning starter who got a lot of great experience playing against some quality opponents in our region a year ago,” he said.

Another player who figures to get his number called a lot more often this year is junior running back Jaydin O’Neill.

“Jaydin saw significant playing time last year and he did extremely well in those instances when we gave Jaxon a break,” Reynolds said. “He can change direction well and has great hips. He’s a solid running back.”

O’Neill gained 394 yards on 63 carries (6.3 ypc) and scored a pair of touchdowns in his backup role.

Another key offensive player Titusville is hoping to break out is senior Michael Culpepper.

“Michael has spent a ton of time with the coaches at wide receiver and we’re excited to see what he can do,” Reynolds said. “He’s got great speed, very good hands and works the sidelines well.”

The only other returning offensive starter is lineman Drew McQuown.

“Our mindset offensively is that we want to run the football,” Reynolds explained. “In this region, controlling the clock is huge. We play in one of the toughest regions in western Pennsylvania and there are no Friday nights off.”

Eight starters return on defense as Knapp and McQuown, along with sophomore Coy Campbell, will anchor the defensive line with O’Neill and sophomores Jerrin Vroman and Adam Reynolds set at the linebacker slots.

Spearheading the secondary are Sellen, Ross, Culpepper and junior Alex Hartshorne.

Reynolds and his Rockets will open the season Friday night at home against Corry in a non-region matchup at historic Carter Field.

TITUSVILLE SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 — CORRY
Aug. 29 — GIRARD
Sept. 5 — at Grove City
Sept. 12 — at Conneaut Area
Sept. 19 — at Warren
Sept. 26 — NORTH EAST
Oct. 3 — at Hickory
Oct. 10 — SLIPPERY ROCK
Oct. 17 — SHARON
Oct. 24 — Bye

TITUSVILLE COACHING STAFF

Mike Reynolds — head coach, offensive coordinator
Mike Allison — defensive coordinator, quarterbacks
Kurt Ledebur — offensive line, defensive line
Scott Tenney — special teams, linebackers
Josh Griffin — wide receivers, defensive backs
Matt Hinkle — offensive line, defensive line
Cody Rodgers — running backs, linebacker
Mark Nicholson — quarterbacks, defensive backs
Marcus Allen — tight ends, defensive line
Shawn Fink — running backs, defensive backs



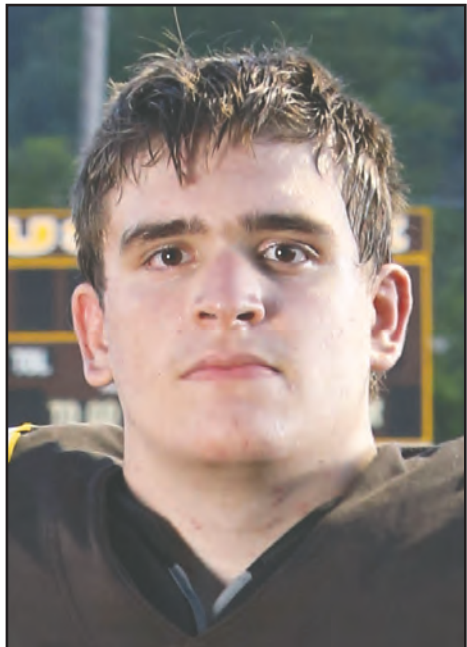
COY CAMPBELL



ALEX HARTSHORNE



MAX CHATHAM



BRYCE WATKINS



JERRIN VROMAN



ADAM REYNOLDS

AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS • MEDICARE

ROSSBACHER
INSURANCE GROUP

814.677.4095 • 7137 US 322 • Cranberry

P.S.* Personal Service Since 1928 | TeamRossbacher.com

OIL CITY OILERS

Oilers

Continued from Page 2

York knows how important it is for that group to come together in the trenches. “We’ll go as our offensive line goes,” he said.

On defense, Lucarelli and Findlay return to anchor the unit after both received all-region selections last year.

Lucarelli racked up 44 tackles (10 for loss) and five sacks from defensive end last year, but he’ll make the move to tackle this season. He’ll be joined in the middle by a combination of Sparks, Wolf and Graham, while the ends will be DeLong, Baker and Abdul Stanton.

Behind them, Buzard, Blake Stevens and Sindlinger will be the linebackers with Alexander Piercy working in also.

In the secondary, Findlay and Heise will line up at the safeties while the corners are up for grabs with Mills, Van-Wormer, Heath and Thompson battling. Singleton, Alex McIntyre and Aaden Hibbard are also possibilities for seeing time in the defensive backfield.

Meanwhile, special teams will feature Landon Riley at kicker while either Jaiden Watson or Heath will be punting.

All told, it should stack up for a formidable roster that’s built to do just one thing, according to York: “I want to win. I just want to win them all. I don’t know if we can with our strength of schedule, but I want to.”

The Oilers will get their first chance to do just that when they open the season Friday against Harbor Creek at the Oil Field.

OIL CITY COACHES

Dan York — head coach, defensive coordinator
Dave Skinner — offensive coordinator, running backs, defensive backs
Mario Fontanazza — offensive line, defensive line
Ritt Smith — offensive line, defensive line
Eric Cole — running backs, defensive backs
Bill Heber — offensive line, linebackers
Dylin Chapin — quarterbacks, defensive backs
Tony Bucholz — offensive line, defensive line
Jason Galla — linebackers, running backs
Caleb Bish — wide receivers, running backs
Bundy Fulmer — junior high
Matt Miller — junior high
Conor Taylor — volunteer assistant
Cade Cochran — volunteer assistant
Nate Neely — volunteer assistant
Josh Cherish — volunteer assistant
Tim Reed — volunteer assistant
Mel Wenmoth — athletic trainer
Dave “Bossman” May — equipment, hydration engineer



Oil City linemen work on their technique during a practice leading up to the start of the season.



BRAYDEN BUZARD



ASHTON WAGNER



BLAKE STEVENS



LOGAN HEATH

OIL CITY SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 — HARBOR CREEK
Aug. 29 — at Mercyhurst Prep
Sept. 5 — GENERAL McLANE
Sept. 12 — at Meadville
Sept. 19 — FAIRVIEW
Sept. 26 — at Grove City
Oct. 3 — at Erie High
Oct. 10 — WARREN
Oct. 17 — FRANKLIN
Oct. 24 — at Corry



DERYK DELONG



MY'SAUN MILLS



DYLAN VANWORMER

FRANKLIN KNIGHTS

Knights

Continued from Page 4

Up front, the Knights benefit from a massive offensive line, which features Aaron Moore (6-6, 340), Jake Riddle (6-2, 285), Henry White (6-4, 225), Kaiden Kiselka (5-10, 265) and Carter Hutchinson (5-8, 188).

“That’s, by far, the biggest offensive line we’ve had since I’ve been here,” Turk said. “Those are some big kids. It’s a good starting point for us.”

Moore, Riddle and White will be on the defense line, along with Kiselka, who could float around to linebacker and join Steigerwald and Marsteller.

“They are all having really good camps,” Turk said.

Mattocks, Wilmoth, Johnson, Blackhurst and Rodrigues could all see time in the secondary.

“These guys have gone through it and played some big teams, like General McLane, Meadville and Oil City. Let’s face it, that’s big brother beating you up. But, they are not little brothers anymore,” Turk said. “I am excited about them showcasing their hard work and having a lot of fun doing it.”

Despite winning only two games last year, the players believe they are building something special.

“Their energy has been fantastic. Just from their work ethic over the winter, it spoke volumes to me,” Turk said. “Last year was a building block. We’re going to build off it. We’re a different football



MATT TURK

team. We’re bigger, faster and stronger, but we have to continue to work every day. They are not looking back; they are focusing on the positive.

“This team is really connected, too. They are all in. They really are a true family. They take care of each other,” he continued. “I am pleasantly surprised to see that they have a mission as a team. I have not seen any individual try to make it about himself. As a high school coach, that’s half the battle. They are all in together as a family. We just have to stay healthy. If we stay healthy and focused, I am optimistic about a good season here.”



Liam Brown



Ryder Stevens



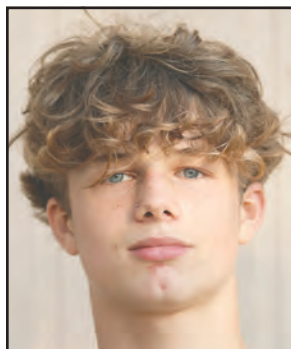
Tyler Hill

FRANKLIN SCHEDULE

Aug. 23 — at Mercer
Aug. 30 — SLIPPERY ROCK
Sept. 5 — WARREN
Sept. 12 — GENERAL McLANE
Sept. 19 — at North East
Sept. 27 — at Erie High
Oct. 3 — MEADVILLE
Oct. 10 — at Eisenhower
Oct. 17 — at Oil City
Oct. 24 — LAKEVIEW

FRANKLIN COACHING STAFF

Matt Turk — head coach
Kahlil West — assistant head coach
wide receivers, defensive backs
Lou Gonsalves -- offensive coordinator
Paul Weidman — defensive coordinator,
defensive ends
David Schull — special teams, tight
ends
Darrious Hughes — running backs,
linebackers.
Travis Huff — offensive line, defen-
sive line.
Jason Miller -- varsity volunteer,
equipment



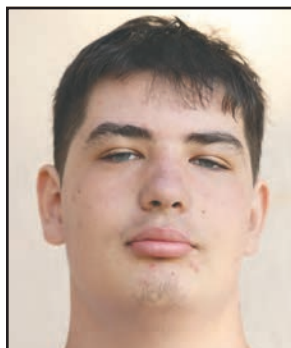
Brian Platt



Conor Johnson



Cooper Carll



Devon Voto-Pelletier



Joshua Rickman



Karriem McNeely



**ATTENTION
LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL
Fans**

RETURNING THIS YEAR ON THE DERRICK.COM:

The
SPORTS DEN

Unable to be at the game?
Count on **The Sports Den** to keep you updated.

The Sports Den is your source for:

- **Final scores** posted Friday nights for varsity games
- **Local coverage** published in **The Derrick** and **The News-Herald** all season long

The Sports Den can be accessed anytime by going to **TheDerrick.com** and selecting **The Sports Den** under the **Sports** menu. In addition, final scores will appear Friday nights on the home page of **TheDerrick.com**.

THE SPORTS DEN: YOUR DESTINATION FOR LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COVERAGE.



1283 Mays Rd. Clarion, PA — (814) 226-6657

UP TO \$140 BACK!

WITH PURCHASE OF FOUR SELECT COOPER TIRES

OFFER ENDS AUG. 31

**\$70 OFF
WITH REBATE**



**\$70 OFF
WITH GOODYEAR
CREDIT CARD**

NOW OFFERING

ALIGNMENTS - INSPECTION - OIL CHANGE - BRAKES

