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#### WPPA/A-106 FOOTBALL BROADCAST SCHEDULE

#### All Games Start @ 7:00 Unless Noted

Fri	Aug	22	Shamokin @ Pottsville
Fri	Aug	29	Pottsville @ Jim Thorpe
Fri	Sept	05	Pottsville @ Tamaqua
Fri	Sept	12	Bangor @ Pottsville
Fri	Sept	19	Pottsville @ Southern Lehigh
Fri	Sept	26	Pottsville @ Lehighton
Fri	Oct	03	Northwestern Lehigh @ Pottsville
Fri	Oct	10	Minersville @ Nativity
Sat	Oct	11	Pottsville @ Wilson Area 12:00
Fri	Oct	17	Blue Mountain @ Pottsville
Fri	Oct	24	North Schuylkill @ Pottsville

#### T-102 FOOTBALL BROADCAST SCHEDULE

#### All Games Start @ 7:00

Fri

Oct

24

Fri	Aug	22	North Schuylkill @ Mount Carmel
Fri	Aug	29	Tri-Valley @ Marian
Fri	Sept	05	North Schuylkill @ Notre Dame GP
Fri	Sept	12	Williams Valley @ Minersville
Sat	Sept	13	Panther Valley @ Pine Grove
Thu	Sept	18	Minersville @ Schuylkill Haven
Fri	Sept	19	Williams Valley @ Tri-Valley
Fri	Sept	26	Schuylkill Haven @ Williams Valley
Sat	Sept	27	Minersville @ Marian
Fri	Oct	03	Mahanoy Area @ Nativity
Thu	Oct	09	Blue Mountain @ North Schuylkill
Fri	Oct	10	Williams Valley @ Marian
Fri	Oct	17	Tri-Valley @ Minersville
Thu	Oct	23	Nativity @ Marian

Tamagua @ Blue Mountain



On autumn Friday nights in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, the air changes. There's crispness, a kind of electric stillness that hums just beneath the surface - like the pause before a drumline thunders or a quarterback calls out the first play. From Shenandoah to Minersville, Mount Carmel to Pottsville, a powerful undercurrent stirs when the sun dips behind the hills and the stadium lights blaze to life.

You hear it first. The cadence of a snare drum echoing off coal-streaked mountains. The chirp of whistles, the steady rumble of vehicles crunching into gravel lots. It's a ritual not choreographed, but felt. Families, neighbors, friends moving toward the glow. The field rises before you, lit and lined. And suddenly, it all makes sense.

Here, football surpasses "sport". It's a language. A pulse. A promise. This game is a shared inheritance, carried in trophies or headlines, but alive in calloused hands and full hearts. Every snap, every tackle, every yard gained reflects something deeper, a kind of silent agreement that no matter what, we move forward. Together.

You see it in the way a lineman helps his quarterback up, in the eyes of a mother clutching a hot chocolate tighter than she lets on. In the little kids reenacting touchdown runs in the shadow of goalposts. In the coach who teaches more than formations and plays - how to show up, how to believe, how to carry yourself when no one's watching.



patches of grass, are sacred ground for Leaders. Friends. Belief.
Under these lights, players become athletes and transform into
symbols of possibility. Proof that strength isn't just measured in pounds or points,
but in character, loyalty, grit.

These hills have a rhythm, weathered, winding, beautiful, that is mirrored in the game. Fast and slow. Quiet and

roaring. Joyful and difficult. There's no separation between fan and family here. Everyone wears the same colors. Everyone stands a little taller when the marching band plays. And when the final whistle blows, we remember the scoreboard and the spirit. When the lights eventually fade and the field grows quiet what remains? The bond. The discipline. The pride. Unfiltered. Unshakable. Undeniably ours.



## **Blue Mountain Eagles**

Fri 8-22	Schuylkill Haven	Н	7:30	
Fri 8-29	Southern Lehigh	A	7:00	
Fri 9-05	Jim Thorpe Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-12	Northwestern Lehigh	A	7:00	
Fri 9-19	Bangor	A	7:00	
Fri 9-26	Palisades	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-03	Lehighton Area	Н	7:00	
Th 10-09	North Schuylkill	A	7:00	
Fri 10-17	Pottsville Area	A	7:00	
Fri 10-24	Tamaqua Area	Н	7:00	1
		-	-	_

#### 2024 Regular Season

#### Head Coach Chuck Kutz 1st Year

Schuylkill Haven:	19-14	WIN
Southern Lehigh:	35-20	WIN
Jim Thorpe Area:	49-0	WIN
Northwestern Lehigh:	8-30	Loss
Bangor:	49-7	WIN
Palisades:	63-13	WIN
Lehighton:	55-14	WIN
North Schuylkill:	14-38	Loss
Pottsville:	14-28	Loss
Tamaqua:	21-7	WIN

#### LOSS 3



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#### WHEN BLUE MOUNTAIN NEEDED A HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

over the winter, the Eagles didn't have to look far. When Chuck Kutz, who guided the Eagles to great success during 11 years on the sidelines, applied for the job, Blue Mountain had its man --- again.

Kutz, in his 17th season overall, served as an assistant coach on Tom Gallagher's staff last season, so he knows the current players and they know him. They got to know each other better over offseason workouts. During his first stint at Blue Mountain, Kutz led the Eagles to six District 11 Class 3A titles and three trips to the PIAA playoffs. He then coached for five seasons at Hamburg Area, compiling a 101-74 career record.

Last season, the Eagles went 7-4, beating Schuylkill Haven, Southern Lehigh and Tamaqua before getting

upset by Lehighton 29-28 in a District 11 Class 4A quarterfinal. Blue Mountain will lean on its experienced linemen this fall as the skill position players build their timing.

Returning up front are one senior, tackle Dylan Foose, and four juniors: guard Ryan Clemas and Hunter Reichart, center Vaughn Helverson and tackle Kurt Krammes. They will block for sophomore quarterback Cohen Kirby, who completed 23-of-37 passes for 352 yards with five TDs and two interceptions last season. Senior Brady Strause, who passed for 1,489 yards and 14 TDs a year ago, is listed as a wide receiver/running back. Also returning on offense are senior running back Reese Miller and junior speedster Chase Guers at wide receiver.

Providing depth and battling for playing time are seniors Josh Hoover (WR), Tyler Pritchett (OL), David Renninger (TE) and Carter Smith (RB); juniors Frankie Russo (RB), Lucas Pritiskutch (WR) and Cole Luckenbill (WR); and sophomores Brody Foose (RB) and Nate Driscoll (RB).

Defensively, the Eagles must replace six starters. They will build around Dylan Foose and Helverson at defensive tackle and senior William Shaner at defensive end. Miller (82 tackles, 6 sacks) and Brody Foose return at linebacker, with Hoover and Guers back in the secondary. Others looking to contribute are Renninger at end; Pritchett and Clemas at tackle; Strause, Smith, Russo, Pritiskutch, Driscoll, senior Preston Whalen and freshman Sonny Amato at linebacker; and junior Brady Dagon and Luckenbill in the secondary.

Senior Josh Hoover will be the kicker, with Smith long snapping. Guers will return punts.

"We're entering the season with an experienced offensive line," Kutz said. "The key offensively will be the development of our young players at the skill positions... Overall, our success will depend on the development of our new players at the skill positions, both offensively and defensively. Given our strong early schedule, our summer development will be key for our younger players to gain experience and confidence."



M-F: 8AM - 4:30PM

SAT: 8AM-NOON

> SUN: CLOSED

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## MINING *SPIRIT*

By: Kasey Owen

The poms have gotten smaller. The bows have gotten bigger, Through the years one thing remains the same. Cheerleading remains the region is as dynamic and powerful For the girls who really enjoy stunting? region is as dynamic and powerful as the plays carried out on the field. What started out many decades ago as girls in long skirts smiling along the sidelines has evolved into a competitive sport. Athletes put their physical stamina to the test year after year working to learn new dances, stunts, and ways to engage the crowd. Cheer is no longer limited to the sidelines of a Friday night football game, or relegated to the bleachers of a basketball game. It's become so much more.

In recent years, the PIAA has sanctioned Competitive Spirit as a recognized sport. Each team is tasked with combining creativity, endurance and strength into an intense two minute routine. The goal is simple: showcase power and perfection better than any other squad on the mat. Dances are cardio-heavy. Movements are sharp. The stunts are risky. Teamwork is the ultimate key to success. Gone are the days of pony sits and thigh stands. J-ups, tick tocks, and basket tosses are now what captures the judges attention.

altogether, simply called Stunt. Stunt focuses on two schools battling head to head in an exhibition of the best builds. Squads are judged on execution, sharpness and power behind complex builds comprised of single stunt groups and full-team pyramids up to 2 1/2 levels high.

However, not everything has changed. Locally, favorite traditions decades in the making remain intact. Squads still find value behind attending camp each summer. While some prefer a home camp with UCA, many are still heading to Pine Forest where they hone their skills and compete for awards like Top Banana.

This year alone, over 20 local cheerleaders have been chosen as All Americans, presenting the opportunity to perform in locations such as Hawaii, London, Philadelphia, and the coveted NYC Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Some have even been asked to apply for UCA staff positions, a top honor in the cheer world.

Looking toward the future, cheerleading is certain to continue to change and grow. Slowly the cheers will change from one generation to another. Stand dances will begin to look different. Stunts will become more complex. Through it all, one thing remains the same: the pride and spirit cheerleaders carry for their schools will always run as deep as a vein of anthracite coal.



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"Hey Baby." "Seven Nation Army." "Land of a Thousand Dances."

These songs are the heartbeat of Friday night football. While the players battle it out on the field, marching bands bring the energy that electrifies the stands.

Behind every halftime show is months of hard work, teamwork, and intense competition. Marching bands don't just play music, they compete in events like the Tournament of Bands, where precision, performance, and passion collide.

It's "a marriage of the visual program with the music – the drill and characterizations of the performer need to be attuned to the music," says North Schuylkill Band Director Jacob Shoener. Judges score bands on everything from musical talent to visual storytelling, while students give it their all rain or shine.

Shoener says "There's so much more to a marching band competition than what the audience sees on the field. It takes an incredible amount of dedication and teamwork from students, staff, and families to bring each performance to life."

So next time you're in the bleachers, watch the field & listen to the soundtrack. It's telling a story of its own.

Local Band Show Dates -

Saturday, 9/13 - Shamokin Area Cavalcade of Bands Black Diamond Cavalcade of Bands

Saturday, 9/27 - Mahanoy Area Tournament of Bands

Saturday, 10/4 - North Schuylkill Tournament of Bands

Saturday, 10/11 - Shamokin Black Diamond Cavalcade Tournament of Bands

Saturday, 10/18 - Blue Mountain Tournament of Bands Chapter 02 Championships

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## Jim Thorpe OLYMPIANS

Palmerton Area	A	7:00
Pottsville Area	Н	7:00
Blue Mountain	A	7:00
Tamaqua Area	Н	7:00
North Schuylkill	A	7:00
Southern Lehigh	Н	7:00
Catasauqua	A	7:00
Northwestern Lehigh	Н	7:00
Bangor	A	7:00
Lehighton	Н	7:00
	Pottsville Area Blue Mountain Tamaqua Area North Schuylkill Southern Lehigh Catasauqua Northwestern Lehigh Bangor	Pottsville Area H Blue Mountain A Tamaqua Area H North Schuylkill A Southern Lehigh H Catasauqua A Northwestern Lehigh H Bangor A



Head Coach Mark Rosenberger 27th Year

WIN Palmerton: 38-15 Pottsville: 7-48 Loss Blue Mountain: 0-49 Loss Tamaqua: 7-48 Loss North Schuylkill: 7-50 Loss Southern Lehigh: 12-56 Loss 39-0 WIN Catasauqua: Northwestern Lehigh: 0-55 Loss Bangor: Lehighton:





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# WILL BE YOUNG THIS SEASON. HOW YOUNG?

How about the Olympians having just four seniors on their varsity roster. Jim Thorpe faces that rebuilding process after going 3-8 last season and falling 56-27 to Southern Lehigh in the District 11 Class 4A quarterfinals.

Fortunately for Jim Thorpe, two of those seniors are big-time playmakers. Senior quarterback Cole Lazorick returns for his third season as the starter under center. Last season, he completed 167-of-266 passes for 2,059 yards with 17 touchdowns and nine interceptions. In two seasons, Lazorick has passed for 3,803 yards and 33 TDs. Joining him in the backfield will be senior Josh Louk, who will likely line

up at wide receiver in some sets. Louk caught 49 passes for 629 yards and nine touchdowns a year ago. Senior tackle Gavin Strohl and senior tight end Connor Zurawa round out the 12th-graders for the Olympians. Junior guard Gavin Baker and junior guard/tackle Logan O'Shura give Jim Thorpe six returning starters on offense.

Junior Adam Ziolkiewicz and sophomores Michael Solt and Gaetano Sarnelli are newcomers competing for jobs on the offensive line. Sophomore Nick Faust is a fullback, with sophomore Anthony Kiehl and freshman Robert Levins listed as a running back and wide receiver. Junior Angel Rivera, sophomore Spencer Gothard and freshman Phil Garner provide depth at wide receiver, with freshman Ben Remmel doing the same at tight end.

Defensively is where Jim Thorpe must improve dramatically to become more competitive. The Olympians gave up 40.5 points per game a year ago. Louk, who had 78 tackles and two interceptions, is back at safety, with Lazorick at cornerback. Strohl anchors the defensive line, while junior Kaiden Hess, sophomore Dominick Kiehl and Zurawa return at linebacker. Solt is a newcomer at defensive end, while junior Paxton Novack and Faust are linebackers. Junior Ralph Clay, sophomores Anthony Kiehl and Gothard and freshman Garner bolster the secondary.

Lazorick returns as the punter, while Blaize Flyzik takes over as the placekicker.

"We are returning only four seniors from last year's team," said Mark Rosenberger, who is 168-120 as Jim Thorpe's head coach. "We do have two skilled players returning that are exceptional athletes in Lazorick and Louk. We have a lot of sophomore and freshman skilled players that will need to step up into varsity roles. We return a lot of linemen that got quality experience last season. We hope our offensive and defensive lines take a big jump this season. We're emphasizing the importance of playing with consistent, exceptional effort on every single play."





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## Lehighton INDIANS

Fri 8-22	Northern Lehigh	Н	7:00	
Th 8-28	Bangor Area	A	7:00	
Fri 9-05	Southern Lehigh	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-12	Palmerton Area	A	7:00	
Fri 9-19	Northwestern Lehigh	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-26	Pottsville Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-03	Blue Mountain	A	7:00	
Fri 10-10	Tamaqua Area	A	7:00	
Fri 10-17	North Schuylkill	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-24	Jim Thorpe Area	A	7:00	
SOUTH STORY				

2024 Regular Season

#### Head Coach Tom McCarroll 12th year

Northern Lehigh: 14-15 Loss WIN 33-7 Bangor: Southern Lehigh: 3-34 Loss Palmerton Area: WIN 61-17 Northwestern Lehigh: 7-42 Loss Pottsville: 3-21 Loss Blue Mountain: 14-55 Loss 34-14 WIN Tamaqua Area: North Schuylkill: 21-58 Loss WIN Jim Thorpe Area: 42-26



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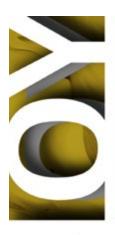


## Mahanoy Area GOLDEN BEARS

	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	1443	STATE OF THE PARTY	
Fri 8-22	Catasauqua	Н	7:00	
Fri 8-29	Williams Valley	Н	7:00	al to
Fri 9-05	Minersville Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-12	Schuylkill Haven	A	7:00	
Fri 9-19	Marian Catholic	Н	7:00	=
Fri 9-26	Pine Grove Area	A	7:00	
Fri 10-03	Nativity BVM	A	7:00	
Fri 10-10	Tri-Valley	A	7:00	A COUNTY
Fri 10-17	Panther Valley	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-24	Shenandoah Valley	A	7:00	
2024 0			AUNI A	ART AND
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Head Coach Mi	ick Connolly 1st Year	2000	LOSS 6	Photos BY: Skook News
Catasauqua:				NET THE

Williams Valley: 6-48 Loss Minersville: 19-49 Loss Schuylkill Haven: 8-59 Loss 26-7 WIN Marian Catholic: Pine Grove Area: 48-22 WIN Nativity BVM: 8-50 Loss Tri-Valley: 14-28 Loss Panther Valley: 35-0 WIN







Mahanoy Area will have a new head football coach. Paul Babinsky didn't return after the 2023 season. Dave Holman returned to the sidelines last season but then stepped down at the end of the 2024-25 school year.

Now, Mick Connolly takes over as head coach.
Connolly, Mahanoy Area's head junior high coach for the past two seasons, got the varsity job June 26 when the Mahanoy Area School Board approved him for the position. So there hasn't been much time to get everything in place. Connolly had to assemble his staff of assistant coaches; organize the players with their offseason weightlifting and training; start

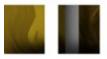


installing new plays and terminology; and take care of all of the administrative tasks a head coach must do.



"It's super exciting, a great opportunity," said Connolly, a 1988 Mahanoy Area High School graduate. "I plan to be here for a while. It's my dream job, and I'm looking forward to it. It's a huge challenge we have ahead of us, but we're going to work hard, and we're going to make this work."

Fortunately for Mahanoy Area, it has a big-time running back to build its offense around. Senior Kyler Quick, a star wrestler as well, returns to the gridiron after rushing for 1,085 yards and 12 touchdowns on 146 carries last season. Mahanoy Area also returns a pair of junior linemen in Braylon Komosinsky and Francisco Cruz as well as senior tight end Joseph Rick. After that, many positions remain as open competitions. A pair of running backs, senior Jose Phillips and sophomore Yobiel Perez, figure into the mix as well as three freshmen: wingback Quentin Rucker, quarterback J.D. Kowalchick and tight end John Redgate.



Quick leads the defense from his linebacker spot, with Rick and senior Damian Contreras returning at linebacker, too. Komosinsky and Cruz anchor the defensive line, with senior Yandell Santos back in the secondary. Look for junior Rasheed Jackson (DL), Perez (DB), Phillips (DB), Rucker (LB-CB), Kowalchick (S) and Redgate (DE) to contribute on defense.



Mahanoy Area got off to a slow start last season, dropping its first four games before knocking off Marian 26-7 in Week 5. The Golden Bears won four of their final six regular season games to qualify for the District 11 Class AA playoffs. Williams Valley eliminated Mahanoy Area in the quarterfinals.

"We're young now, but these kids are going to be something special," Connolly said.
"There's a tight bond with these kids, and I think the future is very bright. I want to build a program here."

## **Marian Catholic COLTS**

Fri 8-22	Hanover Area	A	7:00	
Fri 8-29	Tri-Valley	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-05	Panther Valley	A	7:00	
Fri 9-12	Shenandoah Valley	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-19	Mahanoy Area	A	7:00	
Sat 9-27	Minersville Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-03	Schuylkill Haven	A	7:00	
Fri 10-10	Williams Valley	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-17	Pine Grove Area	A	7:00	
Thu 10-23	Nativity BVM	Н	7:00	
				-

#### 2024 Regular Season

Head Coach Billy O'Gurek 2nd Year

WIN Hanover Area: 35-0 Tri-Valley: 0-24 Loss Panther Valley: 27-0 WIN Shenandoah Valley: WIN 47-23 Mahanoy Area: 7-26 Loss WIN Minersville: 20-14 Schuylkill Haven: 0-36 Loss Williams Valley: 0-33 Loss WIN Pine Grove Area: 34-7 Nativity BVM: 21-18 WIN





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#### OFTEN SAY THEIR TEAMS IMPROVE MOST

between the first and second games of the season. That can be true for head coaches, too, as Billy O'Gurek enters his second season leading the Marian Colts. By defeating Pine Grove and Nativity in the last two weeks of the regular

Pine Grove and
Nativity in the last
two weeks of the regular
season, Marian made the
District 2/11 Class A subregional
semifinals. Its season ended
with a 27-0 loss to Tri-Valley as
the Colts finished 6-5. Now,
with O'Gurek's system in place.

Marian will look for more success this fall.

Marian's offense has playmakers, but it will have to replace seven starters. Sophomore Greg Tirpak, who had some varsity experience last season, likely will be the starting quarterback. He'll have a big-time featured back to hand off to in junior Rory Dixon (237-1,229, 14 TDs) & an experienced wide receiver/running back in sophomore Tyler Price. Up front, senior Jah Bushati and junior Dominick Rodino lead the way. The club has just six seniors on the roster.

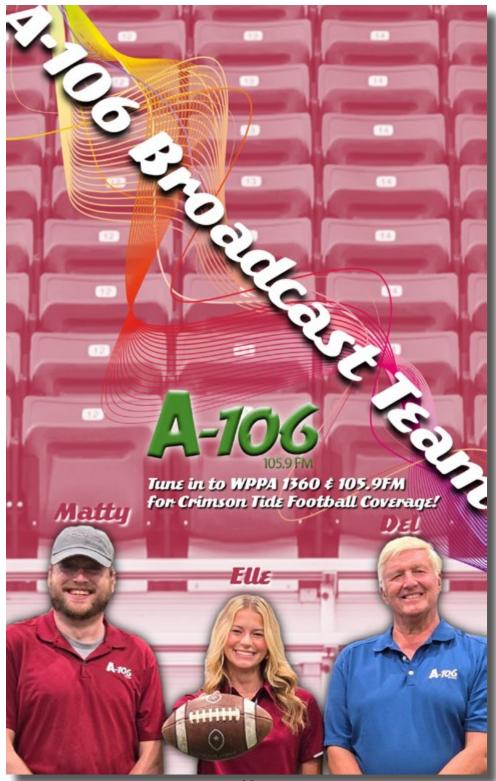
After that, competition among newcomers will determine the rest of the starting lineup. Senior Damian Rodino, who missed most of last season with an injury, juniors Billy Ebert and Walker Sheer as well as Nick Polakovic, Jack LeClair and Evan Perez are candidates to start on the offensive line. Senior Matt Spino provides depth at wide receiver and quarterback. Look for senior Jake Tom and juniors Dante Tate and Nolan Marsch at wide receiver. "We will be a young team," O'Gurek said. "I like our athleticism. We have a good collection of skill players. ... How our young linemen develop will be key for our success."

Bushati, who paced the team with 112 tackles (14 for loss), leads the defense at linebacker. Price can play linebacker or defensive back, while senior Hunter Sartori, Spino and Dixon return in the secondary. Dominick Rodino is back on the line. Ebert and Sheer are newcomers to the line, with Damian Rodino and Tirpak at linebacker and Tom, Marsch and Tate providing depth in the secondary. "Defense should be the strong suit of our team again," O'Gurek said.

Bushati went 22-of-25 kicking extra points last season; Bushati and Tirpak are competing to be the punter. Sheer is the long snapper; Dixon, Price, Tom and Tate will return kicks.

"Our goals as a program are always the same: Finish with a winning record, play meaningful games in October and have an opportunity to compete for a championship," O'Gurek said. "If our young players develop and our top-level players (Dixon, Price, Bushati) produce as expected, we feel like we can reach those goals again this season."





## Minersville BATTLIN' MINERS

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	Fri 8-22	Halifax Area	A	7:00		94	Su	
	Fri 8-29	Shenandoah Valley	Н	7:00		10		
	Fri 9-05	Mahanoy Area	Α	7:00				
	Fri 9-12	Williams Valley	Н	7:00		5		
	Th 9-18	Schuylkill Haven	A	7:00				B
	Sat 9-27	<b>Marian Catholic</b>	A	7:00				
	Fri 10-03	Pine Grove Area	Н	7:00				10
	Fri 10-10	Nativity BVM	A	7:00		19		1/4
	Fri 10-17	Tri-Valley	Н	7:00				
	Fri 10-24	Panther Valley	Н	7:00			4	
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	Head Coach Ju	ustin Frantz 7th Year		LOSS	3	Pho	to BY: Leroy Boy	
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Halifax: 39-0 Shenandoah Valley: 44-0 WIN Mahanoy Area: 49-19 WIN Williams Valley: 36-42 Loss Schuylkill Haven: 52-72 Loss Marian Catholic: 14-20 Loss Pine Grove Area: 31-14 WIN Nativity BVM: 49-28 WIN Tri-Valley: 42-14 WIN Panther Valley: 43-0 WIN



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a Division I commit to Central Florida and a dual threat like Dante Carr, you give him the ball --- and the freedom to make plays.

"We will look to let Dante take complete control of the offense, throw the ball around and make plays like he has for the past three seasons," Minersville head coach Justin Frantz said.

Emerging as a major college prospect, Carr completed 98-of-180 passes for 1,757 yards with 22 touchdowns and eight interceptions last season. He thrilled fans by breaking off huge runs, carrying 90 times for 1,182 yards and 23 TDs.

The Battlin' Miners surround Carr with enough talent and depth to enable the senior signal-caller and the team to shine. Seniors Ethan Borrell, Dominico Yourey and Colby Leshko return on the offensive line. Seniors Gavan Allan (RB), Ty Atkinson (TE) and Matt Dube (WR) are back as well. Other targets for Carr include seniors Shazier Bethea and T.J. Bowers, junior Justin Cutler and sophomores Nate Halupa and Oscar LaRosa. Looking to fill out the offensive line are seniors Peyton Killian, Riley Rumberger, Julian Sorge and Gavin Spirko; juniors Chase Beach and Jayce Rizzardi; and sophomores Ryan Daubert and Adam Eckert. Senior Brandon Adams, junior Derek Derenzo and sophomore Alan Zulick are competing at running back and sophomore Thomas Zimmerman at tight end.

"I am very excited about our athleticism and returners," Frantz said. "We must fill a couple spots on the line that were left because of big-time losses from graduation. If we can fill these spots, we love the team we will be putting on the field."

Many of the same names will fill the defense as Minersville looks for playmakers to emerge. Atkinson and Dube return at defensive end, with Borrell, Killian, Rumberger, Yourey, Spirko and Rizzardi at defensive tackle. Derenzo, Eckert and Allan return at linebacker, with Carr and Cutler in the secondary. Adams (LB), Bethea (DB), T.J. Bowers (DB) and Sorge (DL) are seniors who could help on defense.

"Working on being a great tackling unit is the focal point of all drills and workouts," Frantz said. "The defense is focused on being aggressive and causing havoc. We stress winning the battle up front as games in the Coal Region are won in the trenches. The defensive line play is key, and disrupting the offense at the line of scrimmage is vital to stopping the run."

Junior Jordan Bowers will handle both the placekicking and punting. Last season, Bowers converted 34-of-38 extra points and 3-of-4 field goals; he averaged 38.9 yards per punt.







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## Mount Carmel RED TORNADOES

Fri 8-22	North Schuylkill	Н	7:00	_
Fri 8-29	Central Columbia	A	7:00	_
Fri 9-05	Mifflinburg	Н	7:00	_
Fri 9-12	Southern Columbia	A	7:00	_
Fri 9-19	Montoursville	Н	7:00	_
Fri 9-26	Hughesville	A	7:00	_
Fri 10-03	Danville	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-10	Central Mountain	A	7:00	_
Fri 10-17	Milton Area	Н	7:00	_
Fri 10-24	Shamokin	A	7:00	

2024 Regular Season WIN 7
Head Coach John Darrah 10th Year LOSS 3

North Schuylkill: 30-37 Loss Central Columbia: 43-16 WIN Mifflinburg: 35-34 WIN Southern Columbia: 7-6 WIN Montoursville: WIN 41-17 Hughesville: 42-21 WIN Danville: 19-22 Loss Central Mountain: 49-20 WIN Milton Area: 48-28 WIN Shamokin: 0-21 Loss



TURNADUES





ARE ALWAYS HIGH AT MOUNT CARMEL AREA. With All-State players on both sides of the ball and an experienced quarterback, this season will be no different. The Red Tornadoes finished 8-4 and reached the District 4 Class 3A semifinals last season; they want to make an even deeper postseason in 2025. Entering his 11th season, head coach John Darrah has enjoyed consistent success at Mount

they want to make an even deeper postseason run in 2025. Entering his 11th season, head coach John Darrah has enjoyed consistent success at Mount Carmel Area, compiling an 80-32 (.714) record, and the Red Tornadoes seem primed to add to that win total.

Mount Carmel Area has eight returning starters on offense, led by senior quarterback Gavin Marshalek, who completed 142-of-236 passes last season for 1,822 yards with 15 touchdowns and four

interceptions. Joining him in the backfield are junior Cooper Karycki (140-921, 10 TDs) and senior Michael Kismal (65-329, 4 TDs), along with junior fullback Max Karycki. Junior wide receiver Jaylen Delaney returns after receiving All-State honors after catching 63 passes for 791 yards and 6 TDs. Mount Carmel will be big up front, with seniors Logan Herb, Seth Spears and Jerry Sheganoski back, too. Seniors Elijah Rempel and Jabari Kines, junior Josh Blessing and freshman Dominick Lentini are battling for the other starting jobs on the offensive line.

Other offensive newcomers include seniors Ezekiel Noel (WR) and Lucas Carpenter (WR), sophomores Jason Klokis (RB), Aidan Brokenshire (TE) and Chance Swatski (TE) and freshman Michael Higgins (RB).

Two-time All-State defensive lineman Max Karycki leads the defense after racking up 94 stops, including 13 tackles for loss, last season. At linebacker, Klokis led the team in tackles as a freshman with 124 (10 for loss), and Delaney is a returning starter at cornerback. Kismal (77 tackles) is back at defensive back, and Kines is a starter on the defensive line.

Competing to fill in the other starting spots are Swatski, Lentini, junior Azazil Lilly and freshman Christian

Bibbus on the defensive line; Brokenshire, Higgins and junior Kenny Miller at linebacker; and juniors Logan Shuder and Cooper Karycki, sophomores Jaylen Lilly and Jaxon Boblick and freshmen James Spears and Zandr Lukoskie at defensive back.

Mount Carmel Area also should be strong on special teams, with junior Josh Miller back as the kicker and Max Karycki doing the punting. Delaney, Carpenter, Cooper Karycki and Kismal will return kicks.

"MCA will be a mix of veteran players along with talented newcomers," Darrah said.

## Nativity BVM GREEN WAVE

Sat 8-23	Holy Redeemer	A	7:00
Fri 8-29	Pine Grove Area	A	7:00
Fri 9-05	Williams Valley	A	7:00
Fri 9-12	Tri-Valley	Н	7:00
Fri 9-19	Panther Valley	Н	7:00
Fri 9-26	Shenandoah Valley	A	7:00
Fri 10-03	Mahanoy Area	Н	7:00
Fri 10-10	Minersville Area	Н	7:00
Fri 10-17	Schuylkill Haven	Н	7:00
Thu 10-23	Marian Catholic	A	7:00

2024 Regular Season WIN 6

#### Head Coach Pat Mason 20th Year

Holy Redeemer:	52-0	WIN
Pine Grove Area:	53-7	WIN
Williams Valley:	31-34	Loss
Tri-Valley:	34-13	WIN
Panther Valley:	60-0	WIN
Shenandoah Valley:	50-0	WIN
Mahanoy Area:	50-8	WIN
Minersville Area:	28-49	Loss
Schuylkill Haven:	28-29	Loss
Marian Catholic:	18-21	Loss





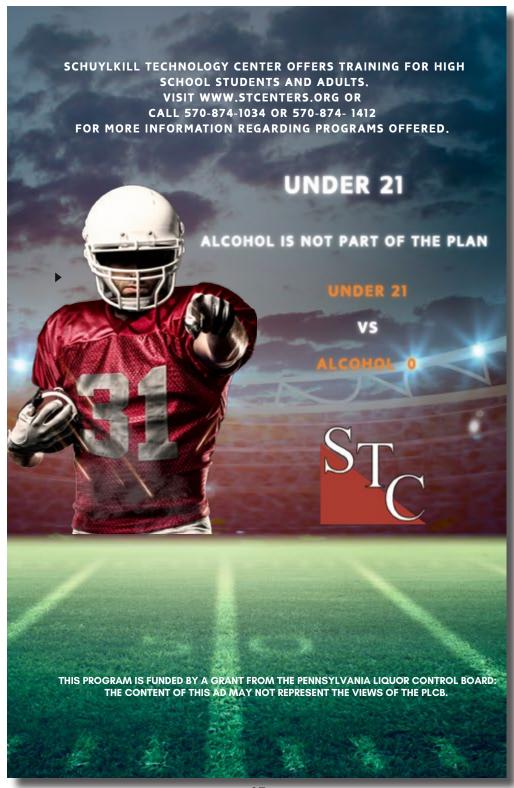
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#### AFTER MORE THAN TWO DECADES

on the sidelines as an assistant coach and head coach, Pat Mason has seen the cycles of small-school high school football. Some years, numbers are up; others, numbers are down. Some years, a big, talented senior class comes through and makes their mark; others, experience is thin and rebuilding must begin.

After graduating 16 seniors from last year's 6-5 club, that's where the Green Wave find themselves entering the 2025 season. Nativity has exactly one returning offensive starter and just five on defense.

"We have a lot of work to do this summer," Mason said

Senior lineman George Shimko will anchor the offensive line. Senior Colt Mason, who played wide receiver last season, will play quarterback for the Green Wave.



After that, a slew of newcomers will fill in around them. That group includes seniors Aidan Becker (RB), Evan Ritter (RB), Dalton Seisler (OL) and Aidan Ricard (OL); juniors Jacob Williams (WR), Noah Bulino (WR), Sean Kramer (TE), Connor Felty (RB), Aaron Sinko (TE), Connor Palerino (OL), Vaughn Vesay (OL) and Kyle McCormick (WR); and sophomores Cooper Felty (RB), Luke Strausser (OL), Marshall Dolbin (OL) and Jacob Fletcher (RB).

The Green Wave have a few more veterans on defense. Shimko again leads the way up front. He spent a lot of time in the opponent's backfield with 14 tackles for loss, including four sacks. Becker (4 sacks), Ritter, Felty and Palerino return at linebacker. After that, replacements are needed on the line and in the secondary. Options up front include Seisler, Ricard, Vesay, Strausser and Dolbin. Kramer, Sinko and Felty provide depth at linebacker. Mason, Williams, Bulino, McCormick and Fletcher are competing for jobs at defensive back. Sinko will take over the placekicking and punting jobs.













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Fri 8-29	Tamaqua Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-05	Notre Dame GP	A	7:00	
Fri 9-12	Southern Lehigh	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-19	Jim Thorpe Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-26	Northwestern Lehigh	A	7:00	
Fri 10-03	Bangor Area	Н	7:00	
Th 10-09	Blue Mountain	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-17	Lehighton Area	A	7:00	
Fri 10-24	Pottsville Area	A	7:00	

2024 Regular Season WIN 7

#### Head Coach Wally Hall 13th Year

Mount Carmel: 37-30 WIN Tamagua Area: 17-35 Loss Notre Dame GP: 31-29 WIN Southern Lehigh: 14-36 Loss Jim Thorpe Area: 50-7 WIN Northwestern Lehigh: 7-49 Loss 39-14 WIN Bangor: Blue Mountain: 38-14 WIN Lehighton: 58-21 WIN Pottsville Area: 36-0 WIN





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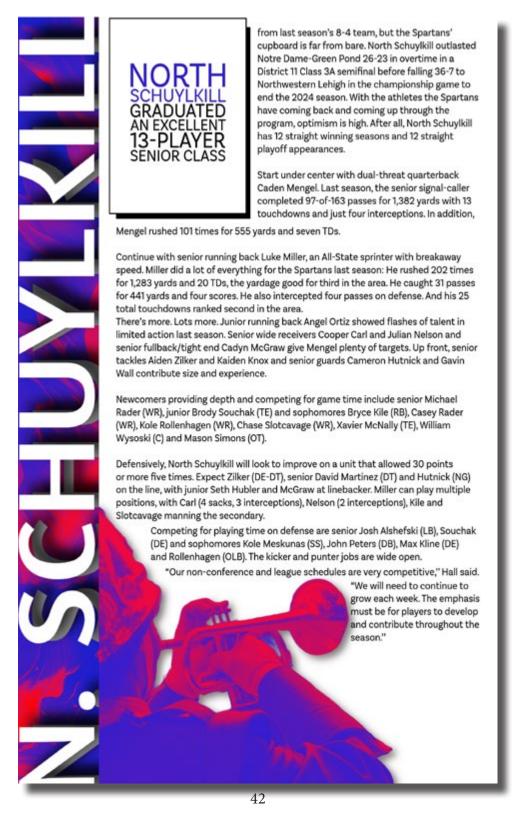
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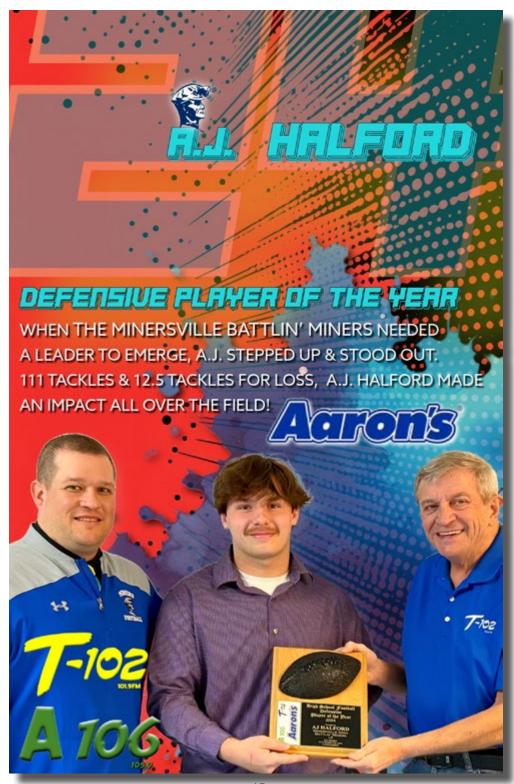








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## Panther Valley PANTHERS

Fri 8-22	Salisbury	Н	7:00	_
Fri 8-29	Schuylkill Haven	Н	7:00	_
Fri 9-05	Marian Catholic	Н	7:00	_
Sat 9-13	Pine Grove Area	A	7:00	_
Fri 9-19	Nativity BVM	A	7:00	_
Fri 9-26	Tri-Valley	Н	7:00	_
Fri 10-03	Williams Valley	A	7:00	_
Fri 10-10	Shenandoah Valley	Н	7:00	_
Fri 10-17	Mahanoy Area	A	7:00	_
Fri 10-24	Minersville Area	A	7:00	_
				-

2024 Regular Season WIN

Head Coach Mark Lavine 4th Year

Salisbury: 6-28 Loss Schuylkill Haven: 0-57 Loss Marian Catholic: 0-27 Loss 21-13 Pine Grove Area: WIN 0-60 Nativity BVM: Loss Tri-Valley: 7-49 Loss Williams Valley: 0 - 47Loss 32-0 Shenandoah Valley: WIN Mahanoy Area: 0-35 Loss Minersville: 0-43 Loss





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when head coach Mark Lavine looks at his players, he sees a much more experienced team looking back at him. The Panthers struggled last season, winning just twice --- over Pine Grove and Shenandoah Valley --- and suffering six shutout defeats. They were outscored 359-66.

Out of those struggles, though, comes optimism for the 2025 season. Panther Valley returns eight starters on offense and nine on defense, and the lessons they learned last season will be applied to become more competitive this fall. The veteran group has a chance to find more consistency in carrying out assignments, and the Panthers should have a little more size to help their cause.

Leading the offense is senior quarterback Brody Breiner, who passed for 224 yards and two touchdowns a year ago. Senior running back Marcus Rodriguez joins Breiner in the backfield, with seniors Gavin Yuricheck and Ben Baneravage back at wide receiver. Up front, senior Marco Tessitore and juniors Jerry Harrison, Spencer Black and Carlos Maldanado give the Panthers linemen to build around.

Sophomore Brody Vermillion looks to join the men up front, with senior Gino Williams competing at tight end. Sophomore Chase McArdle adds to the wide receiver group, while sophomore Troy Nunez and freshman Carson Jones are newcomers at running back.

Defensively, Rodriguez, Tessitore, Harrison and Black return up front, with senior Peter Kruslicky and Vermillion at linebacker. Breiner, Yuricheck and Baneravage are back in the secondary.

Maldanado is in the mix at defensive line, with freshman Carson Jones and sophomore Lyric Ingrassia competing at linebacker. McArdle and sophomore Cy Maynard add depth at defensive back.

Panther Valley planned to look for a kicker and a punter during summer workouts. Returners will be Breiner, Yuricheck, Nunez, Jones, Baneravage and McArdle.

"We return a lot of players who gained valuable experience last season, and we had a very good offseason in the weight room," Lavine said. "We feel that we have the pieces in place to be much improved if we can stay healthy and work to get better each week."





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## **Pine Grove CARDINALS**

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Fri 8-29	Nativity BVM	Н	7:00
Fri 9-05	Tri-Valley	Α	7:00
Sat 9-13	Panther Valley	Н	7:00
Fri 9-19	Shenandoah Valley	A	7:00
Fri 9-26	Mahanoy Area	Н	7:00
Fri 10-03	Minersville Area	A	7:00
Fri 10-10	Schuylkill Haven	A	7:00
Fri 10-17	Marian Catholic	Н	7:00
Fri 10-24	Williams Valley	A	7:00
	_		



### 2024 Regular Season Head Coach Dave Shiffer 4th Year

Nothern Lebanon:	0-10	Loss
Nativity BVM:	7-53	Loss
Tri-Valley:	0-42	Loss
Panther Valley:	13-21	Loss
Shenandoah Valley:	28-21	WIN
Mahanoy Area:	22-48	Loss
Minersville:	14-31	Loss
Schuylkill Haven:	6-81	Loss
Marian Catholic:	7-34	Loss
Williams Valley:	13-56	Loss



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had to replace its quarterback, leading rusher, four offensive linemen and its top defensive players. The Cardinals put many underclassmen into those roles in 2024 as the team went through some growing pains during a 1-9 season.

Now, however, Pine Grove hopes the experience gained during that tough season will pay off this fall. The Cardinals return eight players on offense and eight on defense who saw significant action, giving the program several veteran players to build around.

Guiding the offense for a second season will be senior quarterback Wyatt Snyder, who completed 29-of-73 passes for 389 yards, with four touchdowns

and seven interceptions. Top running back, junior Logan Troup (173-650, 5 TDs), has a full varsity season under his belt, as do senior wide receiver Wyatt Dixon and junior wide receiver Teagan Schneck-Haines. In addition, the Cardinals return four offensive linemen: senior tackle James Barra, senior center Jackson Snuffer, junior tackle Kolbey Buffington and junior guard Scout Frantz.

Juniors Zach Kurtz and Torren Crochunis are competing to be the fullback, with seniors Adam Dorsey and Peyton Renninger and juniors Angel Ditzler and Gavin Zmijewski providing depth at wide receiver. Sophomores Cody Schneck and Beau Lyons are looking for time on the offensive line.

Snyder returns at linebacker as the Cardinals' defensive leader with 89 stops, including 10 tackles for loss. Buffington, Barra and Frantz are back on the defensive line, as are Troup at linebacker, Schneck-Haines at cornerback and Ditzler and Dorsey at safety. Newcomers competing for playing time on defense include seniors Antonio Randazzo, Bobby Brown, Crochunis and Snuffer on the line; Zach Kurtz, seniors Colton Wickenheiser and Waylon Flasher and sophomores Beau Lyons and Sam Krawchuk at linebacker; Dixon and senior Peyton Renninger at cornerback; and sophomore Kendrick Wolfgram at safety.

Sophomore Dru Herber returns as the kicker after converting 6-of-8 extra points and one field goal last season. Renninger will be the punter, with Schneck-Haines returning kicks.

"We are looking to improve our record from last season," Pine Grove coach Dave Shiffer said.

We were a young team, and our players gained a lot of experience last season."



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## Pottsville Area CRIMSON TIDE

Fri 8-22	Shamokin Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 8-29	Jim Thorpe Area	A	7:00	
Fri 9-05	Tamaqua Area	A	7:00	
Fri 9-12	Bangor Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-19	Southern Lehigh	A	7:00	
Fri 9-26	Lehighton Area	A	7:00	
Fri 10-03	Northwestern Lehigh	Н	7:00	
Sat 10-11	Wilson Area	A	12:00	
Fri 10-17	Blue Mountain	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-24	North Schuylkill	Н	7:00	



## 2024 Regular Season Head Coach Mike Brennan 2nd Year

Shamokin Area:	13-27	Loss
Jim Thorpe Area:	48-7	WIN
Tamaqua Area:	21-24	Loss
Bangor:	38-7	WIN
Southern Lehigh:	25-34	Loss
Lehighton:	21-3	WIN
Northwestern Lehigh:	0-35	Loss
Wilson Area:	53-0	WIN
Blue Mountain:	28-14	WIN
North Schuylkill:	0-36	Loss



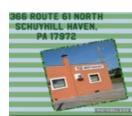


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# YEAR 2

of the Mike Brennan Era begins at Pottsville Area. After playing catch-up throughout last season, the Crimson Tide's head coach has put his squad through a full offseason training and lifting weights. Brennan and the Tide hope that hard work translates into more victories on Friday nights. Pottsville had some signature wins during its 6-6 season a year ago, including a 28-14 victory over Blue Mountain in Week 9 and a 14-7 win over Allentown Central Catholic in the District 11 Class 4A quarterfinals. Pottsville had Southern Lehigh on the ropes in the district semifinals before falling 41-34.

With eight starters returning on offense, Pottsville should have an explosive attack this season. Junior

Andrew Allen returns for his second season at quarterback after completing 134-of-227 passes for 1,814 yards with 13 touchdowns and nine interceptions. Joining him in the backfield is senior JuJu Bainbridge, who displayed speed, power and smarts as he emerged as a featured back last fall. Bainbridge carried 200 times for 1,128 yards and 16 TDs. Senior wide receiver Christian Alvarez (23-324) and junior tight ends Max Clews and Shay Strencosky lead the receiving corps. Three seniors - tackles Logan Kessler and Cole Cesari and center Brody Baddick - lead the line.

The Crimson Tide will look to senior Jacoby Hay, juniors Eli Accardi and Pat Bolich and sophomores Christian Artz and Dmitri Crochunis to fill in other spots on the line. Senior Brett Holley and juniors Nick Huda, Donovann Durham, Colin McGinley and John Mahan will compete at wide receiver. Sophomore quarterback Owen Holley is an up-and-coming player, too.

With just three returning starters, Pottsville must rebuild its defense. Senior linebacker Brody Herndon (70 tackles), Cesari on the line and Strencosky (67 tackles, 5

interceptions) in the secondary are the returnees. After that, seniors Brett Holley (S), Bryce Sophy (DL) and Alan Kushwarra (LB); juniors Brody Eroh (S), Clews (OLB), Colin Kline (DB), Harrison

Ciavarella (LB) and Ryan Beltz (OLB); and sophomore Dayn Stillwagner (OLB) are competing for starting jobs.

The Tide should be strong on special teams as Allen returns as a placekicker and punter. He connected on 16-of-18 extra points and 3-of-4 field goals last season. Alvarez made 15-of-18 extra points a year ago. Long snappers Eroh and Herndon as well as punt returner Huda are back as well.

"The Tide look for further improvement in 2025," Brennan said. "The offensive line needs to find replacements at guard and depth. The wide receivers must mature quickly. Key newcomers on all three levels of the defense must develop quickly. The Tide must become more physical and stay healthy."



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# FOOTBALL FRIDAY

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#### 6:30 PM - Mike Brennan Show

Coach Brennan & Alfredo Mercuri break down last week's game & preview this week's Crimson Tide showdown!

6:45~PM - Tide Talk Pre–Game Show Matt Freiler, Elle Walasavage & Del Hauck hype you up for the game!

#### 7 PM - Crimson Tide Football

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#### **'25-'26 PLAN DISTRICT CLASSIFICATIONS**



District 11 Tri-Valley (113) Marian Catholic (112) Nativity BVM (82)

#### Class AA

District 11
Pen Argyl (208)
Northern Lehigh (202)
Catasauqua (193)
Palisades (193)
Executive (166)
Mahanoy (166)
Minersville (164)
Williams Valley (159)
Shenandoah Valley (148)

Schuylkill Haven (145)

District 11

District 11

District 4 Southern Columbia (158)

#### Class AAA

Tamaqua (281)
North Schuylkill (280)
Panther Valley (280)
Northwestern Lehigh (269)
Saucon Valley (268)
Notre Dame GP (259)
Palmerton (249)
Salisbury (242)
Pine Grove (238)

District 2 Berwick (281)

District 4 Danville (254) Mount Carmel (248)

#### Class AAAA

East Stroudsburg N. (416) Southern Lehigh (404) Bangor (394) Pottsville (389) Blue Mountain (363) Jim Thorpe (323) Wilson (306) Lehighton (301) Allentown Central C. (220)

Bethlehem Catholic (194)

District 2 Crestwood (358)

District 3 Hamburg (298)

District 4 Shikellamy (385) Selinsgrove (337) Shamokin (299)

#### Class AAAAA

District 11
East Stroudsburg S. (588)
Whitehall (575)
Pocono Mountain E. (564)
Pleasant Valley (558)

#### Class AAAAAA

District 11
Easton (1391)
Parkland (1379)
William Allen (1326)
Emmaus (1208)
Liberty (1068)
Louis E Dieruff (856)
Northampton (788)

Stroudsburg (734)

Freedom (719) Nazareth (635) Pocono Mountain West (629) District 2 Hazleton (1619)

District 3 Reading (2273)

District 4 Williamsport (716)



Statistics based on enrollment of boys grades 10-12

## Schuylkill Haven HURRICANES

Fri 8-22	Blue Mountain	A	7:00	_
Fri 8-29	<b>Panther Valley</b>	A	7:00	
Fri 9-05	Shenandoah Valley	A	7:00	
Fri 9-12	Mahanoy Area	Н	7:00	
Th 9-18	Minersville	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-26	Williams Valley	A	7:00	
Fri 10-03	Marian Catholic	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-10	Pine Grove Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-17	Nativity BVM	A	7:00	
Fri 10-24	Tri-Valley	Н	7:00	

2024 Regular Season WIN 9

#### Head Coach Mike Farr 21st Year

Blue Mountain: 14-19 Loss WIN Panther Valley: 57-0 77-0 WIN Shenandoah Valley: Mahanoy Area: 59-8 WIN Minersville: 72-52 WIN Williams Valley: 38-30 WIN Marian Catholic: 36-0 WIN 81-6 WIN Pine Grove Area: 29-28 WIN Nativity BVM: 66-16 WIN Tri-Valley:







Photo BY: Ashley Farr Donatti

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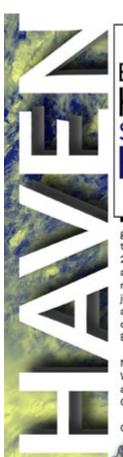












#### EVERYBODY KNOWS SCHUYLKILL HAVEN

likes to run the football. Knowing what's coming is one thing; stopping it ... well, that's a whole lot harder. Coming off an 11-2 season that ended with a 28-13 loss to Williams Valley in the District 11 Class AA championship game, the Hurricanes are primed for another huge season. The roster is stocked with seniors, many of whom are entering their fourth year as starters.

The goals now are to become even more dominant on a week-to-week basis, play their best football at the end of the season and make a deep playoff run.

Schuylkill Haven's offense put up video-game-type numbers last season, averaging 50.7 points per

game. Most of the damage was done by three running backs, and all of them return this season. Start with senior Niko Carestia, who carried 239 times for an area-best 2,702 yards and 38 touchdowns. Continue with senior Niko Castillo (72-829, 12 TDs) and junior Colton Reber (84-1,114, 17 TDs), and the Hurricanes' three-headed monster returns intact. Senior Max Heim takes over at quarterback, with senior Adam Balulis, junior Triston Davis and sophomores Logan Goad and Chase Yoder providing depth at running back. Senior split ends Aaron Gilbert and Blake Rossi return as do four offensive linemen: seniors Ethan Kline, Wyatt Keefer and Chase Williams and junior Brody Brand.

Newcomers looking to contribute include seniors Carter Williams (RB) and Elijah Whalen (SE); juniors Chase Leibensperger (TE), Garrett Keefer (OL), Bryce Reber (OL) and Ethan Tracey (OL); and sophomores Jack Krammes (SE), Ayden Flannery (OL), Garrett Knoblauch (OL) and Luca Wessner (OL).

Carestia (127 tackles, 17 tackles for loss, 4 sacks) sparks the defense from his linebacker spot. He's got plenty of help in Williams (17 tackles for loss), Gilbert (5 sacks), Keefer (4 sacks), Kline and Brand on the line; Davis (92 tackles, 14 tackles for loss) and Yoder at linebacker; and Castillo (3) interceptions), Balulis, Colton Reber (70 tackles, 3 interceptions), Goad & sophomore Bradyn Diehl in the secondary. Newcomers providing depth include seniors Ryan Bergey and Whalen; juniors Keefer, Bryce Reber and Tracey; and sophomores Flannery, Knoblauch and Wessner on the defensive line; Leibensperger at linebacker; and Carter Williams and Krammes at defensive back. Junior Grayson Fessler will be the kicker, with Colton Reber (41.3 average, 8 inside 20) back as the punter. "We had another great year in the weight room," Farr said. "There are a couple positions that we have competitions going on this summer, but our core class senior have all started since their freshman year. I'm excited to see what they can produce."





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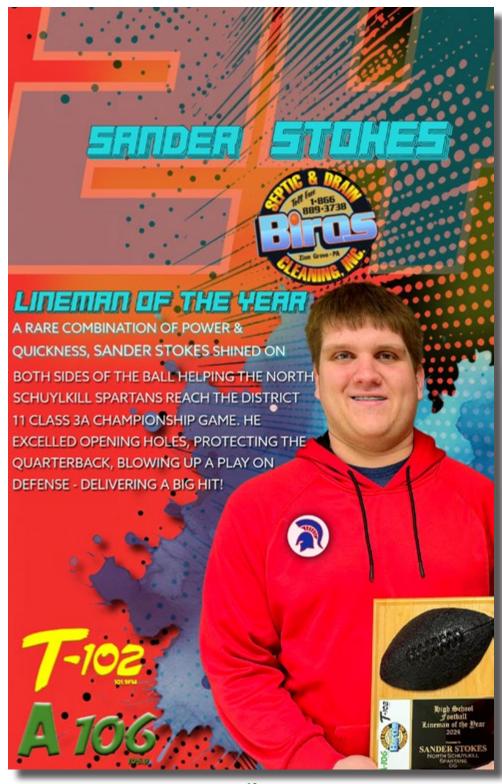
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## Shenandoah Valley BLUE DEVILS

Fri 8-22	Columbia-Montour	Н	7:00
Fri 8-29	Minersville Area	A	7:00
Fri 9-05	Schuylkill Haven	Н	7:00
Fri 9-12	<b>Marian Catholic</b>	A	7:00
Fri 9-19	Pine Grove Area	Н	7:00
Fri 9-26	Nativity BVM	Н	7:00
Fri 10-03	Tri-Valley	A	7:00
Fri 10-10	Panther Valley	A	7:00
Fri 10-17	Williams Valley	Н	7:00
Fri 10-24	Mahanoy Area	Н	7:00



## 2024 Regular Season Head Coach Dave Bench 2nd Year

Col-Montour Vo-Tech: 17-48 Loss Minersville Area: 0 - 44Loss 0-77 Schuylkill Haven: Loss Marian Catholic: 23-47 Loss Pine Grove Area: 21-28 Loss Nativity BVM: 0-50 Loss Tri-Valley: 10-42 Loss Panther Valley: 0-32 Loss Williams Valley: 3-75 Loss Mahanoy Area: 13-42 Loss



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# THE REBUILDING PROCESS CONTINUES

at Shenandoah Valley. The Blue Devils went winless in 2024 and got overmatched in most games. They have not had a winning season since 2012.

Dave Bench, entering his second season as head coach, sees brighter days ahead. The Blue Devils return nine players on offense and eight on defense and have worked to add numbers to the program. The experience they gained last season gives Shenandoah Valley a chance to be more competitive this fall.

Leading the offense is sophomore quarterback Ethan Bench, who completed 42-of-84 passes for 469 yards with four touchdowns and seven

interceptions last season. Juniors Jonnuel Reyes and Mike Elichisak are back at running back, though Elischak, senior Dakota Delaura and junior David Burrous may see action at tight end. Delaura and Burrous also could move to the offensive line. Junior Caden Myers and sophomore Aiden Longo return on the offensive line, too. Junior Todd Seiger and sophomore Gene Sinkus are back at wide receiver.

Seniors Ethan Appenzeller, Steven Rodriguez and Ezequiel Reyes; junior Fernando Belmonte; sophomore Kvyonn Christopher and freshman Christopher Redanuer are newcomers vying for time on the line. Senior Andrew Czerny, juniors Niko White and Zaylexx Serrano, sophomore Xavier Hernandez and freshman Albany Gonzalez add depth at wide receiver. Freshman Dylan Getz

depth at wide receiver. Freshman Dylan Getz competes at running back.

Defensively, Delaura is back at end & Longo returns on the line. Elchisak & Burrous are veteran linebackers, while Jonnuel Reyes, Seiger and Sinkus are back in the secondary.

Rodriguez, Ezequiel Reyes and Christopher are newcomers on the defensive line, with Bench at defensive end. Getz and Redanuer provide depth at linebacker, while senior Edwanny Bido, Hernandez and Gonzalez join the defensive backs.

Kicker/punter Sam Mentusky will miss most or all of the season with an injury. In 2024, he made 10-of-11 extra points and 3-of-6 field goals.

"The 2025 season should be a positive, more productive season than 2024," Dave Bench said.

"Several younger players got a lot of playing time as freshmen and sophomores, and we expect this core group to lead this team on both sides of the ball this year. We do have some seniors that got some playing time last year joining the team late in the season, but they can have a big season for us by getting the work in prior to this season starting. We have several new faces this year on the roster that will be competing for playing time, which will make us better as a team by having more internal competition. We will continue to grind it out, working on the fundamentals of the game & making sure we are aggressive on both sides of the ball.

We expect to surprise a few teams this year."



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## **Tamaqua BLUE RAIDERS**

Fri 8-22	Pen Argyl	Н	7:00	
Fri 8-29	North Schuylkill	A	7:00	
Fri 9-05	Pottsville	Н	7:00	
Thu 9-11	Jim Thorpe Area	A	7:00	
Fri 9-19	Salisbury	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-26	Bangor Area	A	7:00	
Fri 10-03	Southern Lehigh	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-10	Lehighton	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-17	Northwestern Lehigh	A	7:00	
Fri 10-24	Blue Mountain	A	7:00	

2024 Regular Season WIN 6

#### Head Coach Sam Bonner 18th Year

Pen Argyl:	38-7	WIN
North Schuylkill:	35-17	WIN
Pottsville Area:	24-21	WIN
Jim Thorpe Area:	48-7	WIN
Salisbury:	49-7	WIN
Bangor:	51-0	WIN
Southern Lehigh:	7-43	Loss
Lehighton:	14-34	Loss
Northwestern Lehigh:	0-51	Loss
Blue Mountain:	7-21	Loss



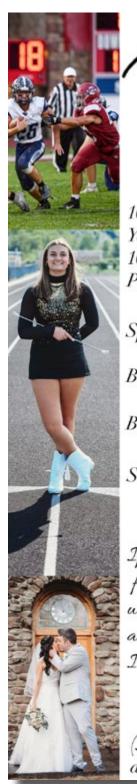


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## WILL HAVE FRESH FACES

in its starting lineup this season. The Blue Raiders will have new players at quarterback, running back, wide receiver, offensive line and on the line and in the secondary on defense.

A stellar senior class helped Tamaqua start last season 6-0 with wins over North Schuylkill and Pottsville before suffering a four-game losing streak. Though the Blue Raiders didn't make the District 11 playoffs, they rebounded by routing Pequea Valley 35-0 to capture the Eastern Conference Class 3A championship.

"That definitely carried over," Tamaqua coach Sam Bonner said. "We've had good numbers in the

summer, some our best ever. ... We're having 10-12 seniors show up to every workout in the summer."

Tamaqua returns five players on offense: senior linemen Luke Frohnheiser and Logan Pribila, senior wide receiver Brady McCabe, senior fullback Malachi Stewart and junior tight end Damian Jazowski. Much of the attention in the preseason will focus on the competition to be the starting quarterback among three candidates: senior Chase Serfass, junior Kaden Krajcirik and sophomore Ace Schickram. If Schickram doesn't become quarterback, he could help the team at wide receiver. Senior Logan Zimmerman, junior Flynn Coleman and sophomore Carter Trotman will fill out the offensive line, with sophomore running back Terrance McDowell looking to lead the team on the ground.

On defense, Tamaqua returns a pair of standout linebackers in McCabe (10 tackles for loss) and Frohnheiser (63 tackles). Seniors Shawn Chen (LB) and Stewart (DT) are back, and Jazowski (DL/LB) also returns. Others competing for time and starting positions include senior Myles Schlosser (DB); juniors Alex Alcantara Pojoy (DL), Coleman (DL) and Krajcirik (DL); and sophomores Dylan Garcia (DL), James Wronski (DL), Jon Kraueter (LB), McDowell (DB), Schickram (DB) and Trotman (DL).

The Blue Raiders will be auditioning for a new placekicker and punter as well.

"We have good numbers and lot of question marks," Bonner said. "We have a lot of new faces. We have some holes to fill. We have some challenges where 4-5 kids are battling for positions. I think that's a good thing.... Kids who haven't had the opportunity to play varsity yet will have that chance this year. The kids realize there's a lot of opportunity to play this year... We have to see how they perform when the pads go on.









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**GO TEAMS!** 



Photos, Announcements, Sports, Schuylkill Fire District Numbers & More!

## Tri-Valley BULLDOGS

Fri 8-22	York Catholic	Н	7:00	
Fri 8-29	<b>Marian Catholic</b>	A	7:00	
Fri 9-05	Pine Grove Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-12	Nativity BVM	A	7:00	
Fri 9-19	Williams Valley	Н	7:00	
Fri 9-26	Panther Valley	A	7:00	
Fri 10-03	Shenandoah Valley	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-10	Mahanoy Area	Н	7:00	
Fri 10-17	Minersville Area	A	7:00	
Fri 10-24	Schuylkill Haven	A	7:00	

2024 Regular Season WIN

Head Coach Jeff Sampson 19th Year

York Catholic: 36-16 WIN Marian Catholic: 24-0 WIN Pine Grove Area: 42-0 WIN Nativity BVM: 13-34 Loss Williams Valley: 7-42 Loss WIN Panther Valley: 49-7 Shenandoah Valley: 42-10 WIN 28-14 Mahanoy Area: WIN Minersville Area: 14-42 Loss Schuylkill Haven: 16-66 Loss









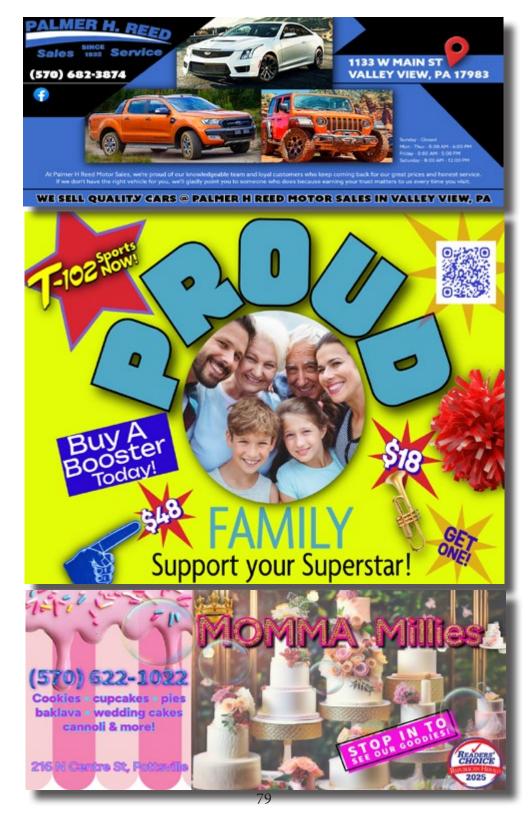


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**■PEQUEA** 















## HEAD COACH JEFF SAMPSON LOOKS

he sees experience: running back, wide receiver, tight end, linebacker, defensive back and some linemen, too. That's why optimism is high in the Hegins Valley as the Bulldogs look to improve last season's 7-5 record that ended with a loss to Lackawanna Trail in the District 2/11 Class A subregional championship game.

The major question the Bulldogs have to answer: Who will be the quarterback? A pair of sophomores, Chase Gemberling and Remington Klinger, are competing for the starting job. Gemberling can also play wide receiver.

Fortunately for the young signal-callers, they will have veteran talent all around them. Start with a pair of productive running backs in senior Cole Gemberling

(135-702, 16 TDs) and sophomore Parker Hatter (102-645, 5 TDs). Senior Jimmy Fetterhoff and juniors Donovan Keeth and Mikade Mowery are the fullbacks. Senior Max Masser and juniors Trey Porter and Doyle Flory are back at wide receiver, with 6-foot-5, 220-pound junior Lucas Schwartz returning at tight end. Up front, seniors Owen Mitchell, Randy Heckman and Elliot Stiely lead the way.

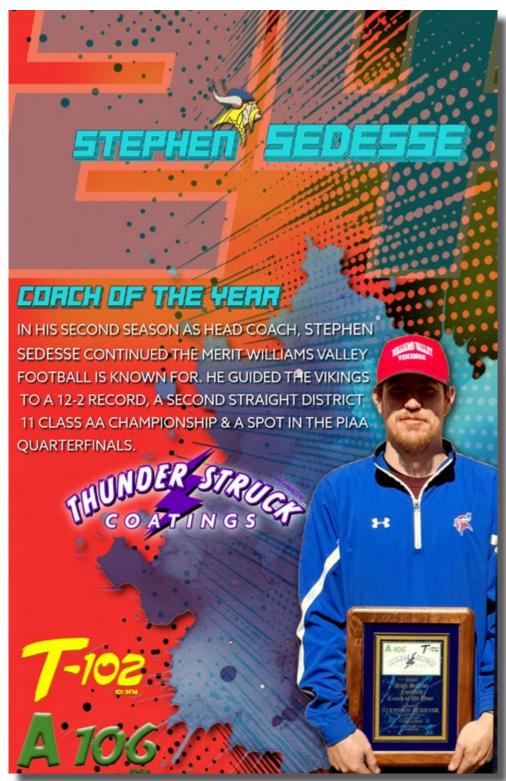
Junior Cayne Schadel and sophomores Kaden Harner, Q.J. Koppenhaver and Carsyn Stiely are candidates to fill the other spots on the line. Junior Gabriel Weikel and sophomores Hayze Hornung and Carter Troutman provide depth at wide receiver, with sophomores Kent Rodichok and Ty Troutman doing the same at tight end. Sophomore Ashtyn Warford is in the mix at running back.

Tri-Valley has experience all over the defense, as DB Flory (83 tackles), LBs Cole Gemberling (79 tackles), Stiely (69 tackles) and DB Porter (4 interceptions) producing for the Bulldogs. Lucas Schwartz returns at defensive end, with Heckman and Keeth at defensive tackle. Fetterhoff and Mowery are back at linebacker, too.

Newcomers like senior Randy Hartz and Rodichok at defensive end; Mitchell, Schadel, Harner and Koppenhaver at defensive tackle; Carter Troutman, Warford and freshmen Landon Horoschak and Robert Schwartz at linebacker; and Weikel, Chase Gemberling, Hornung, Ty Troutman, Klinger and sophomore Connor Middleton in the secondary will look to contribute to a defense hoping to be a lot stronger this season.

Tri-Valley's special teams should be solid as the Bulldogs return both kickers. Junior Nathan Hillard connected on 28-of-33 extra points last season, while Klinger is back as the punter.





## Williams Valley VIKINGS

Fri 8-22	Upper Dauphin	Н	7:00
Fri 8-29	Mahanoy Area	A	7:00
Fri 9-05	Nativity BVM	Н	7:00
Fri 9-12	Minersville Area	A	7:00
Fri 9-19	Tri-Valley	A	7:00
Fri 9-26	Schuylkill Haven	Н	7:00
Fri 10-03	Panther Valley	Н	7:00
Fri 10-10	Marian Catholic	Α	7:00
Fri 10-17	Shenandoah Valley	A	7:00
Fri 10-24	Pine Grove Area	Н	7:00

2024 Regular Season WIN

#### Head Coach Stephen Sedesse 3rd Year

Upper Dauphin: 21-6 WIN Mahanoy Area: 48-6 WIN Nativity BVM: WIN 34-31 Minersville Area: 42-36 WIN Tri-Valley: 42-7 WIN Schuylkill Haven: 30-38 Loss 47-0 WIN Panther Valley: WIN Marian Catholic: 33-0 Shenandoah Valley: 75-3 WIN Pine Grove Area: 56-13 WIN

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#### 2025 T-102 WPPA A-106 Football Guide

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The Vikings want to play for --- and win --- championships every season. The Vikes reloaded last season, going 12-2 and capturing the District 11 Class AA championship with a 28-13 victory over Schuylkill Haven before falling 28-21 to Riverside in the PIAA quarterfinals. The district crown marked Williams Valley's seventh in the past nine seasons and its ninth overall; the Vikings have made the postseason every year since 2008. In two seasons as head coach, Stephen Sedesse's teams are 22-5.

With a slew of players returning on both sides of the ball, expect a lot more of the same this season. Start in the offensive backfield with dual-threat senior quarterback Brady Shomper. Shomper led the area in

passing last season, completing 122-of-211 for 2,413 yards with 35 touchdowns and 11 interceptions. He also rushed 185 times for 1,124 yards and 18 TDs. When Shomper wants to hand off, he can give the ball to sophomore running back Fletcher Thompson, who finished second in the area in rushing (188-1,462, 17 TDs). Though they'll need to add a receiver or two, senior wideouts Evan Achenbach (19-539, 9 TDs) and Blazer Lords return. So does junior fullback Trevon Bair. The Vikings are loaded up front with five seniors: tackles Camron Green and Brayden Archer, guards Bryce Zilinski and Eli Weiss and center Robby Hoffman.

Newcomers looking to fill in and provide depth include senior tight end Evan Kandybowski, junior wide receiver Colin Crisswell and sophomore guard Koen Zilinski.

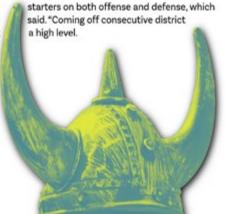
While Williams Valley averaged 41.2 points per game last season, the Vikings allowed just 14.9. Williams Valley showed remarkable consistency, scoring at least 30 points in 11 games. The Vikings held six opponents to one touchdown or less.

Williams Valley returns plenty of talent on defense. Green (91 tackles), Archer and senior Shawn Romberger man the tackle spots with Bryce Zilinski (14 tackles for loss, 5 sacks) and Weiss at defensive end. Linebackers Bair (136 tackles, 3 interceptions), Kandybowski (90 tackles), Thompson and linebacker/cornerback Lords (2 interceptions) are back. Achenbach (4 interceptions) and Shomper return in the secondary. Koen Zilinski provides depth at defensive tackle, while Crisswell figures in at cornerback.

Seniors Quin Smeltz and Christian Davis will be the placekickers; Achenbach returns as the punter.

"We're bringing back a strong core of gives us a solid foundation," Sedesse championships, this team will play at

"The league is very competitive, with tough opponents," Sedesse added.
"Our focus is on strengthening our team culture and developing leadership from within. We've got a group of hungry, experienced players ready to step up, and I'm confident we can build on our success and make a strong run this year."





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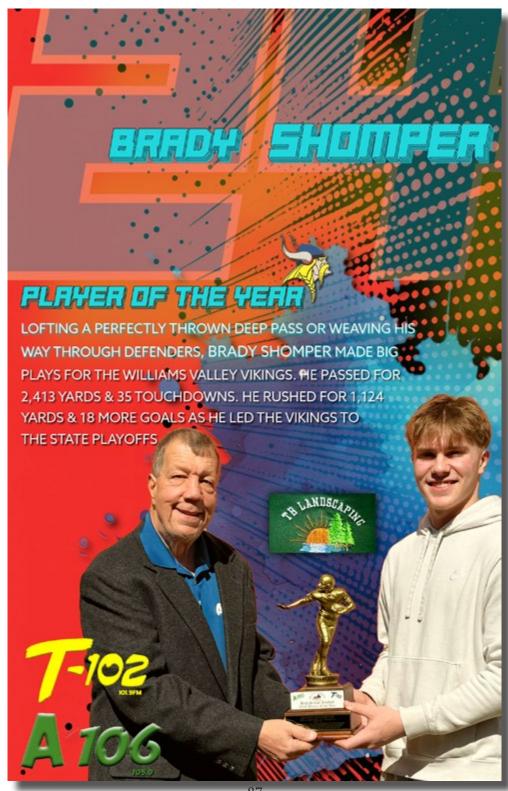


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Ask any member of your high school marching band - it's an intense, high-energy journey combining music, teamwork, discipline and athleticism. It's a unique experience that shapes friendships, hones life skills and builds unforgettable memories.

At first glance, it might seem like all the band members do is play music, but that's the result of hard work and dedication. Marching band fuses music and movement, and it's physically demanding. Long practices in scorching summer heat or freezing winter temperatures are just the beginning. Add in the challenge of marching in formations while holding heavy instruments, and you'll quickly realize it's a serious workout.

Mental stamina for memorizing music and intricate marching routines requires focus and concentration. You need to know your part and how your movements align with every other band member. One misstep can throw off the whole group, so everyone has to stay sharp and in sync.

What really sets marching band apart from other high school activities is the level of collaboration and inclusivity. You bridge your individual skills to become part of a moving orchestra. Everyone has a role to play, whether you're in the drumline, playing a brass instrument, or twirling a flag, and everybody needs to be in tune.

Friendships are the best part whether you're practicing in the sweltering heat or braving the cold for a late-night performance. Together you persevere, offer mutual support, rely on one another in stressful situations.

The time commitment is no joke between summer band camps, after-school rehearsals, and weekend performances - it's a year-round effort. The schedule may seem overwhelming at times, but it's all discipline. In high school, balancing academics, social life, and extracurricular activities can be tricky, but marching band teaches you how to manage your time, prioritize tasks, and stick with it even when it's tough.

Everyone puts in their hours of practice, early mornings, and sweat. The moment you step onto the field for a performance knowing you've poured your heart and soul into months of preparation is unforgettable. Standing under the stadium lights with the crowd cheering, you feel a part of something bigger than yourself.

Marching band pushes you past your limits. It forges friendships that can last a lifetime, hones skills that extend far beyond music and provides opportunities for personal growth and achievement. If you're looking for challenges, connection and memories you'll never forget, marching band might be your perfect fit.

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## PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS



Sat 08-30	Nevada	H	3:30	
Sat 09-06	Florida	Н	12:00	
Sat 09-13	Villanova	H	3:30	
Sat 09-27	Oregon	H	7:30	
Sat 10-04	UCLA	A	TBA	
Sat 10-11	Northwestern	Н	TBA	24
Sat 10-18	lowa	A	TBA	
Sat 11-01	Ohio State	A	TBA	
Sat 11-08	Indiana	H	TBA	
Sat 11-15	Michigan State	A	TBA	
Sat 11-22	Nebraska	H	TBA	
Sat 11-29	Rutgers	A	TBA	

## 2024 Regular Season Entire Broadcast airs on WPPA/A-106 105.9 FM Game only on T-102 FM

West Virginia:	34-12	WIN	Wisconsin:	28-13	WIN
<b>Bowling Green:</b>	34-27	WIN	Ohio State:	13-20	Loss
Kent State:	56-0	WIN	Washington:	35-6	WIN
Illinois:	21-7	WIN	Purdue:	49-10	WIN
UCLA:	27-11	WIN	Minnesota:	26-25	WIN
Southern Cal:	33-30	WIN	Maryland:	44-7	WIN



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## Pittsburgh Panthers

Sat Aug 30	Duquesne	Н	12:00	Ŷ.
Sat Sep 06	Central Michigan	Н	12:00	100
Sat Sep 13	West Virginia	A	3:30	
Sat Sep 27	Louisville	Н	TBA	
Sat Oct 04	Boston College	H	TBA	
Sat Oct 11	Florida State	A	TBA	<u> </u>
Sat Oct 18	Syracuse	A	TBA	3 10
Sat Oct 25	N.C. State	Н	TBA	
Sat Nov 01	Stanford	A	TBA	
Sat Nov 15	Notre Dame	Н	TBA	
Sat Nov 22	Georgia Tech	A	TBA	
Sat Nov 29	Miami	Н	TBA	13
				/

## 2024 Regular Season

Kent State: 55-24 WIN Syracuse: 41-13 Cincinnati: 28-27 WIN SMU: 25-48 Loss West Virginia: 38-34 WIN Virginia: 19-24 Loss Youngstown: Clemson: 71-17 WIN 20-24 Loss North Carolina: Louisville: 34-24 WIN 9-37 Loss California: **Boston College:** 17-15 WIN 23-34 Loss





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Sat 09-13	Texas A&M	H	7:30	4
Sat 09-20	Purdue	H	3:30	
Sat 09-27	Arkansas	A	TBA	_
Sat 10-04	Boise State	H	3:30	
Sat 10-11	N.C. State	Н	3:30	4
Sat 10-18	Southern Cal	H	7:30	
Sat 11-01	Boston College	A	TBA	
Sat 11-08	Navy	H	7:30	_
Sat 11-15	Pittsburgh	A	TBA	
Sat 11-22	Syracuse	H	3:30	_
Sat 11-29	Stanford	A	TBA	

### 2024 Regular Season

Texas A&M: Georgia Tech: 23-13 WIN 31-13 Northern Illinois: Navy: 14-16 Loss 51-14 WIN Purdue: 66-7 WIN Florida State: 52-3 WIN Miami (Oh): Virginia: 28-3 WIN 53-14 WIN Louisville: 31-24 WIN Army: 49-14 WIN Stanford: WIN Southern Cal: 49-7 49-35 WIN



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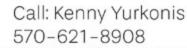
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Sun 09-14	Kansas City	A	4:25	_
Sun 09-21	L.A. Rams	H	1:00	
Sun 09-28	Tampa Bay	A	1:00	100000
Sun 10-05	Denver	Н	1:00	Contractor Contractor
Thu 10-09	N.Y. Giants	A	8:15	
Sun 10-19	Minnesota	A	1:00	
Sun 10-26	N.Y. Giants	Н	1:00	
Mon 11-10	Green Bay	A	8:15	_
Sun 11-16	Detroit	Н	8:20	
Sun 11-23	Dallas	A	4:25	
Fri 11-28	Chicago	H	3:00	E
Mon 12-08	L.A. Chargers	A	8:15	_
Sun 12–14	Las Vegas	Н	1:00	
Sat 12-20	Washington	A	TBD	-
Sun 12–28	Buffalo	A	4:25	-
TBD	Washington	Н	TBD	



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Sun 09-28	L.A. Chargers	Н	1:00	_	
Sun 10-05	New Orleans	A	1:00	_	
Thu 10-09	Philadelphia	H	8:15	_	
Sun 10-19	Denver	A	4:05	_	
Sun 10-26	Philadelphia	A	1:00	_	
Sun 11-02	San Francisco	_H.	1:00		
Sun 11-09	Chicago	A	1:00	1000	
Sun 11-16	Green Bay	Н	1:00	7.11	
Sun 11-23	Detroit	A	1:00		
Mon 12-01	New England	A	8:15	_	
Sun 12-14	Washington	Н	1:00	_	
Sun 12-21	Minnesota	Н	1:00	_	
TBD	Las Vegas	A	TBD	_	
TBD	Dallas	н	TBD		





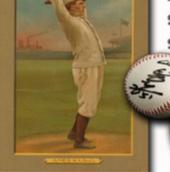




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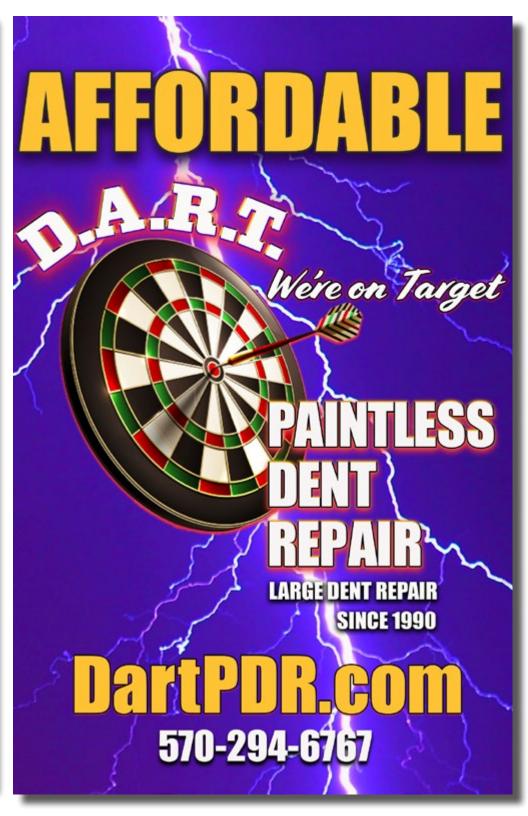
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