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HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Who are Northeast Ohio's Top 25 high school football teams? Matt Goul's 2026 preseason rankings

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[Glenville embracing new roles for Kaylon Bailey and Co.](#)



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Who are Northeast Ohio's Top 25 high school football teams? Matt Goul

About 46 Minutes



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By Matt Goul, cleveland.com

CLEVELAND, Ohio — The road to Canton kicks off Thursday with defending OHSA Division II state football champion Avon facing St. Ignatius at Huntington Bank Stadium.

On Friday, Glenville heads to Massillon as most of the state gets the season under way with Week 1.

It is the start of a 16-week season, which culminates at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium for the state championships. Northeast Ohio left Canton last year with three state champions, including Avon, Glenville and Kirtland.

The cleveland.com power rankings began Monday with a look at the area's top 50 teams beyond the Top 25. Now find out how the best teams in Northeast Ohio stack up in the cleveland.com preseason Top 25:

RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS STORIES

Southwestern Conference football preview: Matt Goul's preseason picks and power rankings

Aug. 17, 2026, 10:05a.m.

Greater Cleveland Conference football preview: Matt Goul's preseason picks and power rankings

Aug. 17, 2026, 8:05a.m.

Chagrin Valley Conference football preview: Matt Goul's preseason picks and power rankings

Aug. 17, 2026, 7:05a.m.

25. Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy

2025 finish: 12-1, Division III state semifinalist

Coach: Nick Cook (sixth season)

Players to watch

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Alex Mammone, QB, 6-2, 185, sr.

Tommy Kopec, RB/LB, 6-0, 200, jr.

Zac Anderson, RB/DB, 5-11, 185, sr.

Carter Walkley, TE, 6-2, 205, sr.

Josiah Neumeyer, G/C, 5-11, 245, sr.

James Jeffers, OL/DL, 6-0, 250, jr.

Paul Tepley, DE, 6-2, 210, jr.

Bennett McCubbin, DL/OL, 6-3, 240, sr.

Mason Frye, DL/RB, 5-10, 210, sr.

Reed Jones, LB, 5-11, 200, sr.

Luke McQuillen, K, 5-11, 155, sr.

About the Royals: CVCA made its first run to the state semifinals, led by All-Ohio co-Defensive Player of the Year Joey Kopec, who is now at Rutgers. Younger brother Tommy Kopec (61 tackles, five TFL, three sacks) returns to lead the Royals at running back and linebacker. CVCA nearly got to the state finals, but suffered a heartbreaking end vs. Toledo Central Catholic.

Schedule

Aug. 21 at Brecksville-Broadview Heights

Aug. 28 vs. Canton South

Sept. 4 at Woodridge

Sept. 11 at Akron Garfield

Sept. 18 vs. Boardman

Sept. 25 vs. Lake Catholic

Oct. 2 vs. Holy Name

Oct. 9 at Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin

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Oct. 16 vs. Padua



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Oct. 23 at Elyria Catholic

24. Benedictine

2025 finish: 8-3, Division III regional qualifier

Coach: Matt Wilson (first season)

Players to watch

Giovanni Iacampo, QB, 5-9, 155, sr.

Corde Blair, RB, 5-9, 155, sr.

Kayden Forte, RB, 5-9, 190, jr.

Earl Jackson Jr., RB, 5-9, 165, jr.

Antowine Smith, WR/CB, 6-0, 165, sr.

Xander Smith, WR, 6-2, 195, sr.

Tramell Reese, WR, 6-1, 185, sr.

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Kai Caldwell, WR/DB, 6-2, 160, jr.

Kellan Whaley, TE, 6-2, 180, so.

Eric Charmley, OT, 6-3, 255, sr.

Matthew Wilson, C/DT, 5-9, 240, sr.

Jalon Goode, IOL/DT, 6-3, 310, jr.

Dontryll Wilson, DL, 6-3, 255, jr.

MaurQuise Norman, DL, 6-3, 250, sr.

Will Eshghy, LB/TE, 6-0, 210, sr.

Nnaoma Nzekwe, LB, 6-1, 195, sr.

Santino Arrietta, LB, 5-10, 205, sr.

Kameron Hill, CB/WR, 5-9, 155, jr.

Antwan Livingston, DB, 5-10, 180, sr.

Owen Slemc, S/LB, 5-10, 170, sr.

Kellen Donnelly, S, 5-11, 165, jr.

Nathan Majors, K/P, 5-9, 180, jr.

About the Bengals: Next year, Benedictine will compete for a North Coast Conference championship. For now, the Bengals remain independent despite getting a taste of NCC competition with four future conference rivals on the schedule. Benedictine has a trio of running backs that few can match, led by Forte (894 yards, six TDs), Jackson (289 yards, five TDs) and Blair (464 yards, three TDs). Their defensive front took with the graduation of Tyrell O'Neal (Toledo) and Sean O'Connell. Wilson, a 2002 graduate of the school, takes over for Joe Prevesk as head coach with experience at quarterback, running back, receiver and the offensive line. The secondary brings back Hill and Livingston, too.

Schedule

Aug. 31 at Gilmore Academy

Aug. 21 at Gilmour Academy

Aug. 28 vs. Padua

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Sept. 4 at Lutheran West

Sept. 11 vs. Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin

Sept. 18 at Lake Catholic

Sept. 25 vs. St. Ignatius

Oct. 2 at Youngstown Cardinal Mooney

Oct. 16 at Villa Angela-St. Joseph

Oct. 23 at St. Vincent-St. Mary

23. Rocky River

2025 finish: 11-3, Division III regional finalist

Coach: Josh Wells (12th season)

Players to watch

Carter Atwater, QB, 5-8, 165, jr.

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Will Allen, QB, 6-2, 175, jr.



Tristin Hughes, WR/S, 6-1, 190, sr.

Rowan Kennedy, WR/S, 6-2, 180, jr.

Danny Berg, WR/S, 5-7, 155, sr.

Brendan Konet, WR/CB, 6-5, 195, jr.

Nathan Ishmael, WR/CB, 6-2, 170, jr.

Michael Bebie, WR/CB, 5-9, 165, sr.

Connor Novosel, TE/LB, 6-4, 225, jr.

Blake Goerz, OT, 6-3, 255, sr.

Bryant Hurt, OL, 6-1, 215, sr.

Steven McHenry, DE/OL, 6-2, 235, sr.

Jackson Greear, DE, 6-5, 235, jr.

Tom Van Meter, DL, 6-2, 255, jr.

Cayden Farrell, LB, 5-11, 185, jr.

Rocco Baon, S/RB, 5-8, 165, jr.

About the Pirates: Rocky River made it to the regional finals, avenging its Cleveland West Conference championship loss to Buckeye. While they graduated standout quarterback Ryan Taylor, Atwater started for a stretch last season in his place. Hughes (1,332 yards, 17 TDs, 75 receptions) is the headliner as a Kentucky commit. He could break a handful of school receiving records, including yardage and receptions. Kennedy (1,103 yards, 13 TDs, 43 receptions) isn't far behind. McHenry is one of Northeast Ohio's better two-way linemen.

Schedule

Aug. 21 at Manchester

Aug. 29 at John Marshall

Sept. 4 vs. Uniontown Lake

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Sept. 11 vs. Lakewood



Sept. 18 at Valley Forge

Sept. 25 at Normandy

Oct. 2 vs. North Olmsted

Oct. 8 vs. Westlake

Oct. 16 at Buckeye

Oct. 23 vs. Bay

22. Hudson

2025 finish: 10-3, Division II regional semifinalist

Coach: Jeff Gough (11th season)

Players to watch

Hayden Lipinski, QB, 6-3, 175, sr.

Reno Ferri, RB/LB, 5-9, 200, sr.

Ethan Hall, RB/LB, jr.

Carter Markey, RB/LB, jr.

Chris Horner, WR/TE, 6-2, 195, sr.

Gavin Hitchcock, WR/DB, sr.

Keswick Ritley, WR/DB, sr.

Mark Salem, WR, sr.

Lucas Orr, WR/DB, jr.

Otto Grill, OT, 6-6, 285, sr.

Joey Lyons, OL/DL, jr.

Ted Pawelec, DL, sr.

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Cooper Sullivan, DL/OL, sr.



Aiden Rengers, LB, sr.

Trent Smith, LB, sr.

Anthony Paolucci, CB/WR, 5-10, 175, sr.

Evan Wolenski, DB, sr.

Benny Hegedish, DB/QB, jr.

About the Explorers: Ferri (874 yards, six TDs) and Grill are back for Hudson, which graduated two-way standouts Nathan Judy and Brennan Funyak. Lipinski (1,653 yards, 19 TDs) took over at quarterback with Judy concentrating more on linebacker and tight end last season, and that should pay more dividends this season. Hudson opted to move up and play this fall in Division I, as part of the Region 1 field.

Schedule

Aug. 21 at Austintown Fitch

Aug. 28 at Massillon Jackson

Sept. 4 vs. St. Vincent-St. Mary

Sept. 11 vs. North Royalton

Sept. 18 at Nardon

Sept. 25 at Solon

Oct. 2 vs. Medina

Oct. 9 at Wadsworth

Oct. 16 vs. Stow-Munroe Falls

Oct. 23 vs. Highland



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21. St. Ignatius

2025 finish: 1-10, Division I regional qualifier

Coach: Tom Kaufman (first season)

Players to watch

Jacob Mikin, QB, 6-2, 190, jr.

Dane Donovan, QB, 6-0, 195, sr.

Teague Deinhart, RB, 5-9, 175, jr.

Ty McMillon, RB, 6-0, 175, so.

Trey Haddad, WR, 6-1, 180, sr.

Billy Cole, WR/DB, 5-10, 165, jr.

Jake Lamirand, WR, 6-6, 210, jr.

Brandon Paul, WR, 5-9, 175, sr.

Aidan Kelly, WR, 6-0, 170, so.

Charlie Blasko, TE/DL, 6-3, 220, sr.

Andrew Davalla, O'I, 6-6, 290, sr.

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Grayson Halkiadakis, G/DL, 6-3, 290, sr.

Jackson Janosek, OL/DL, 6-3, 250, sr.

Colin Beran, OL, 6-5, 265, jr.

David Hughes, DE, 6-3, 250, sr.

Luke Spinos, DT, 6-2, 275, jr.

Josh Hanson, DL, 6-2, 255, sr.

Matthias Michalek, DL, 6-3, 250, jr.

Nathan Hay, DE, 6-5, 230, so.

Jack Favret, DE, 6-5, 220, so.

James Conrad, LB, 6-3, 225, sr.

Dillon Baker, LB, 6-1, 215, sr.

Nick Chime, LB, 6-2, 215, jr.

Logan Drummond, CB, 5-9, 175, jr.

C.J. McLean, CB, 5-11, 170, sr.

Anthony Anghilante, S, 6-2, 200, sr.

Joey Granzier, S, 5-11, 190, sr.

Jimmy Myers, S, 5-11, 180, sr.

Laytham Majeed, S, 6-0, 190, so.

Griffin Roberts, K, 6-0, 190, sr.

About the Wildcats: Expectations don't change at St. Ignatius. Not after its recent struggles on the field or with a new coach, as Kaufman returns to Northeast Ohio. He previously led Gilmour Academy to a school-record 12 wins in 2024 before one year at Marietta College.

Kaufman has talent and depth led by speed at receiver with Haddad (552 yards, five TDs, 22

Schedule

Aug. 20 vs. Avon at Huntington Bank Field

Aug. 28 at Pickerington North

Sept. 4 vs. Mentor

Sept. 11 at Walsh Jesuit

Sept. 18 vs. John Marshall

Sept. 25 at Benedictine

Oct. 2 vs. St. Edward

Oct. 9 vs. Cincinnati Archbishop Moeller

Oct. 16 at Cincinnati St. Xavier

Oct. 23 vs. Clarkson Football North (Canada)

2025 finish: 10-2, Division III regional finalist

Coach: Jeff Rotsky (sixth season)

Players to watch

Julian Harris, QB, 5-11, 185 so.

Ronnie Taylor, RB/S, 6-0, 205 sr.

Leontae Wright, RB, 5-6, 160, jr.

Braylon Boyd, RB/S, 5-10, 190, so.

Jerry Black Jr., WR/LB/S, 6-3 220, sr.

Jamir Martemus, WR/DB, 5-9, 160, sr.

Teon Brasmon, WR/CB, 6-1, 165, jr.

D'Angelo White, TE/DE, 6-5, 255, sr.

Zac Gembus, C, 5-10, 245, sr.

Jordaine Taylor, OT/DE, 6-2, 215, jr.

Montrae Stubbs, G/DT, 5-9 265 sr.

Keon Bennett, OT, 6-4, 255, sr.

Chance Stevens, DE, 6-3, 230 sr.

Antonio Hodges, DE, 6-3, 255, sr.

Jordan Kirk, DT/G, 6-1, 300, sr.

Marcel Dickson, LB, 5-9, 215 sr.

Arvontae Rodgers, LB, 5-11, 220, sr.

Kaden Hopkins Bey, LB, 5-7, 190, sr.

Simon Ferguson, S, 5-11, 185 sr.

Simeon Ferguson, S, 5-11, 185, Sr.

 **About the Vikings:** VASJ ran roughshod on opponents in the Region 9 playoffs until it met Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy in the Elite Eight. Now, the Vikings find themselves in Division II and Region 5 as an independent. They graduated only 10 players from last season's team, but they were significant losses in WR/CB Savion Lewis, running back T.J. Moore and Sean McCall on the line. However, Taylor is an Akron recruit at running back and White is one of the state's top tight ends, committed to Louisville. Dickson is a third-year starter, coming off injury last season, while Black is a Kent State commit. The Vikings enter the season with 11 players holding scholarship offers. Five are committed to schools.

Schedule

Aug. 21 at Sandusky Perkins

Aug. 28 vs. Cincinnati Taft (neutral site)

Sept. 4 at Nordonía

Sept. 11 vs. Columbus St. Francis DeSales

Sept. 18 vs. Garfield Heights

Sept. 25 vs. St. Vincent-St. Mary

Oct. 2 at Columbus Bishop Hartley

Oct. 9 at Youngstown

Oct. 16 vs. Benedictine

Oct. 23 at Delaware Hayes



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19. Garfield Heights

2025 finish: 9-2, Division II regional qualifier

Coach: Mac Stephens (second season)

Players to watch

Jariah Morgan, QB/CB/WR, 5-9, 165, sr.

Amere Harris, QB, 6-1, 180, jr.

Julian Claxton, QB, 5-10, 160, fr.

Elijah Harris, RB, 5-10, 180, jr.

Terence Byrd Jr., RB/S, 6-2, 185, sr.

King Young, WR, 5-8, 165, sr.

Chase Aniton, WR/QB/S, 5-11, 160, sr.

Sam Nurse, OL/DL, 6-2, 310, jr.

Tremere Charles, OT, 6-2, 245, jr.

Cameron McEwen, G, 6-0, 325, sr.

Jermaine Wingo, C, 6-2, 260, sr.

Carro Holley, DE, 6-2, 225, sr.

Derion Smith, DE, 6-2, 220, sr.

Kameren Zebbs, DT, 6-3, 290, sr.

Byron Turner Jr., LB/FB, 5-11, 195, sr.

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18. Berea-Midpark

2025 finish: 7-5, Division I regional quarterfinalist

Coach: Jonathan Hunek (11th season)

Players to watch

Dylan Papushak, QB, 6-1, 190, sr.

Xaviere Harden, RB/S, 6-0, 180, jr.

Nick Reece, WR/S, 6-1, 192, sr.

Andre Alexander, WR/CB, 5-9, 155, sr.

Denym Gray, WR, 6-3, 170, so.

Tyson Clay, WR, 5-10, 160, sr.

Nikolai Hanchuk, C/DT, 6-1, 285, sr.

Gabriel Bagger, OL, 6-4, 270, sr.

Josh Hartman, DE/C, 6-1, 250, sr.

JOSH HARTMAN, DE/G, 6-1, 250, sr.

Bryce Brunner, LB, 5-10, 225, sr.



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Cooper Booth, LB/WR, 6-0, 205, sr.

Dominic Swancer, LB, jr.

Adonis Shider, CB, 5-8, 150, jr.

Mayson Nichols-Price, DB, 6-1, 170, sr.

Nathan Byland, S, 6-0, 170, sr.

Caleb Letterle, S/LS, 5-8, 155, jr.

About the Titans: Berea-Midpark should light up the scoreboards this fall, led by Papushak (2,496 yards, 27 TDs) with his top returning receiver in Reece (1,323 yards, 15 TDs on 77 receptions). The passing game took a hit this spring, as Clay (781 yards, 10 TDs on 52 receptions) suffered a knee injury during AAU basketball that is expected to sideline him until at least November. The Titans ran into state semifinalist St. Edward in the second round of the playoffs, but should have their sights set on a different set of Eagles in the regular season with defending Southwestern Conference champion Avon. Consider the Titans as one of the top challengers to that throne.

Schedule

Aug. 21 vs. Brunswick

Aug. 28 at Euclid

Sept. 4 vs. Brecksville-Broadview Heights

Sept. 11 vs. Amherst

Sept. 18 at Midview

Sept. 25 at Avon

Oct. 2 vs. North Ridgeville

Oct. 9 at Olmsted Falls

Oct. 16 at Elyria

Oct. 23 vs. Avon Lake



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17. Riverside

2025 finish: 7-4, Division II regional qualifier

Coach: Jeremy Ishmael (third season)

Players to watch

Bo Brandehoff, QB, 5-9, 175, sr.

David Seibert, WR/CB, 6-3, 185, sr.

J'Ayvion Kyser, WR/DB, 6-2, 180, sr.

David Tarawallie, OT, 6-6, 265, sr.

Charlie Petrilla, OT, 6-5, 265, sr.

Alex Boergert, C, 6-1, 240, sr.

Ayden Voytek, DL, 6-2, 200, sr.

Jackson Jasinski, DE, 6-0, 216, sr.

Alexavier Calogar, LB/RB, 5-10, 150, sr.

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Nico Valvoda, LB, 5-11, 180, sr.

Jaxon Moore, ATH, 5-9, 175, jr.

About the Beavers: Riverside makes its Greater Cleveland Conference debut after coming over from the Western Reserve Conference. Tarawallie is a Penn State commit and anchors the line for an offense that graduated leading rusher Kyndall McCaleb, but returns Brandehoff (1,264 yards passing, 11 TDs; 417 yards rushing) as a dual threat with top receiver Seibert (354 yards, four TDs, 21 receptions). Calogar (101 tackles, 14 TFL) leads the defense at linebacker.

Schedule

Aug. 21 at Steubenville

Aug. 28 vs. Aurora

Sept. 4 vs. Austintown Fitch

Sept. 10 at Shaker Heights

Sept. 18 vs. Mentor

Sept. 25 vs. Strongsville

Oct. 2 at Cleveland Heights

Oct. 9 at Brunswick

Oct. 16 vs. Euclid

Oct. 23 at Lorain



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16. Kirtland

2025 finish: 15-0, Division VI state champion

Coach: Tiger LaVerde (21st season)

Players to watch

Ben Loncar, QB, 5-11, 175, jr.

Tommy Caimi, WR/RB/DB, 5-10, 160, sr.

Carter Luzar, RB/OLB, 6-1, 210, sr.

Mario Lorber, WR/DB, 5-9, 160, sr.

Caden Fall, OT, 6-2, 240, sr.

Jack Turk, OT, 6-2, 310, sr.

Vince Prusock, G/DL, 5-8, 260, sr.

Jackson Zahn, G, 5-10, 190, sr.

Lucci Cantini, C/DL, 5-11, 220, sr.

Zander Perko, LB/RB, 5-9, 180, sr.

Sebastian Becker, DB/WR, 5-9, 170, sr.

Howie Ayers, DB, 5-9, 170, sr.

Marco Valentic, K, 5-9, 160, jr.

About the Hornets: For the defending state champs, it starts up front with most of the line

back from their undefeated run. Cantini leads them at center with tackles Fall and Turk while

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back from their undefeated run. Cantini leads them at center with tackles Fall and Turk, while
Perko (93 tackles, eight TFL, three sacks) and Becker (75 tackles, 13 TFL, two interceptions)
head the defense. Four-year starting quarterback Jake LaVerde and record-setting rusher John
Silvestro are among the biggest losses to graduation. But when has that slowed down the
Hornets? They have been to the state championships 14 times in the last 15 years, winning eight
of them under LaVerde.

Schedule

Aug. 22 vs. Cincinnati Taft

Aug. 28 at Poland Seminary

Sept. 4 at Perry

Sept. 11 at Rootstown

Sept. 18 vs. Conneaut

Sept. 25 at Chagrin Falls

Oct. 2 at Crestwood

Oct. 9 vs. Beachwood

Oct. 16 vs. Fairview

Oct. 23 vs. Berkshire



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15. Perry

2025 finish: 10-3, Division IV regional finalist

Coach: Bob Gecewich (sixth season)

Players to watch

Nate Trefzger, QB, 6-1, 175, sr.

Traxton Richards, QB/RB/WR/S, 5-8, 160, jr.

Carter Hopkins, RB/LB, 6-0, 190, sr.

Greg Mechenbier, WR/CB, 5-10, 175, sr.

Nick Gustin, OT/DL, 5-11, 210, sr.

Mason Bilicic, DL, 6-1, 255, jr.

Michal Niedzwiecki, LB, 5-10, 165, sr.

Carter Crofoot, LB/RB, 6-1, 185, jr.

Miles Osburn, CB, 5-11, 180, sr.

Chase Sivon, S/WR, 5-10, 160, sr.

Brody Krantz, S/WR, 5-10, 155, sr.

Colton Crissinger, K, jr.

About the Pirates: After back-to-back runs to the Division IV regional finals, Perry is back in Division V. The Pirates won the state title there in 2023 and have a seasoned squad to make another run. Trefzger (1,652 yards, 19 touchdowns to two interceptions) took over at quarterback after entering camp last year splitting reps with McKoy Richards, who suffered a broken leg last September. Hopkins (512 yards, 11 TDs, 58 tackles, two TFL, two sacks), who broke out as a sophomore, returned from injury down the stretch while Niedzwiecki (66 tackles, five TFL, four sacks) led the defense at linebacker. Crofoot (86 tackles, four TFL, seven sacks) and Sivon (71 tackles, three TFL) emerged on the defense, too. Gustin anchors the line, where Gecewich sees

opportunities for new standouts to step up. Traxton Richards (seven total TDs, including two as a kick returner) also can be one of Northeast Ohio's most explosive and versatile players.

Schedule

Aug. 21 at Madison

Aug. 28 at Kenston

Sept. 4 vs. Kirtland

Sept. 11 at Jefferson Area

Sept. 18 vs. Hawken

Sept. 25 at Geneva

Oct. 2 at Orange

Oct. 9 vs. Chardon

Oct. 16 vs. Ashtabula Edgewood

Oct. 23 vs. West Geauga

14. Olmsted Falls

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**2025 finish:** 7-5, Division II regional quarterfinalist**Coach:** Tom DeLuca (14th season)**Players to watch**

Cameron Pesch, QB, 5-11, 190, sr.

Khye Gilbert, SB/LB, 5-9, 185, sr.

Adam Smith, WR/DB, 6-2, 170, sr.

Mason Cerovac, LB/RB, 6-2, 240, sr.

Lucas Hewett, LB/OL, 5-8, 190, sr.

Kyle Alvarez, LB, 6-1, 210, sr.

About the Bulldogs: Cerovac (79 tackles, eight TFL, five sacks) leads the defense, which should be strong and deep at linebacker, while Pesch (737 yards passing, seven TDs; 571 yards rushing, three TDs) is back at quarterback to lead a new-look spread offense. Question is, can they replace leading rusher Owen Singleton and six of their top linemen. Three are playing college football, led by Nathan Scheffler. The Bulldogs look to overcome that with a change of scheme to take advantage of Pesch's strong arm, running ability and athleticism around him.

Schedule

Aug. 21 at Mentor

Aug. 28 at Brunswick

Sept. 4 vs. Strongsville

Sept. 11 at Elyria

Sept. 18 vs. Avon

Sept. 25 vs. Amherst

Oct. 2 at Avon Lake

Oct. 9 vs. Berea-Midpark

Oct. 16 vs. Midview
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Oct. 23 at North Ridgeville

13. Strongsville

2025 finish: 8-3, Division I regional qualifier

Coach: Jason Trusnik (third season)

Players to watch

Jack Kasner, QB, 5-10, 160, sr.

Nick Carrossellia, QB, 5-10, 160, jr.

Kendrick Boddie, RB, 5-9, 195, sr.

Austin Tatulinski, RB, 5-9, 160, so.

Brayden Alfred, WR, 6-3, 190, so.

Colin Tobias, WR, sr.

Ethan Wolfe, WR, 6-0, 165, so.

Top 25 Labenweather, 6-4, 200, so.



Marcos Finks, OT, 6-3, 240, so.

Ben Hocevar, OT, 6-1, 245, sr.

Faisal Abuhamdeh, G/DT, 6-3, 285, jr.

Johnathon Ware, DE/OLB, 6-2, 235, sr.

George Majernik, LB, 5-10, 185, sr.

Nathan Rodak, LB, 5-10, 180, sr.

Andrew Cox, S, sr.

Austin Trusnik, S, 5-9, 150, so.

Vincent Roncone, K, 5-11, 150, sr.

About the Mustangs: The defense takes a hit with big losses to graduation in Texas A&M recruit Storm Miller, an All-Ohio linebacker, and two teammates up front in Ohio University recruit Austin Adkins and Braelin Dally. However, Strongsville's senior and sophomore classes are full of potential. Tatulinski (1,105 yards, nine TDs) led the Mustangs in rushing as a freshman with Boddie (1,043 yards, 10 TDs) missing time because of injury. Boddie and linebacker George Majernik (75 tackles, 13 TFL) are among players to watch in that senior class. Roncone (6-11 on field goals with a long of 47 yards) also could be the X-factor in special teams.

Schedule

Aug. 21 at Avon Lake

Aug. 28 vs. Highland

Sept. 4 at Olmsted Falls

Sept. 11 vs. Cleveland Heights

Sept. 18 at Euclid

Sept. 25 at Riverside

Oct. 2 vs. Mentor

Oct. 9 vs. Lorain
 Set weather ▾



Oct. 16 at Shaker Heights

Oct. 23 vs. Brunswick

12. Mentor

2025 finish: 12-1, Division I regional finalist

Coach: Matt Gray (seventh season)

Players to watch

Brogan Jones, QB, 6-3, 190, sr.

Ryan Orsog, RB, 6-0, 185, sr.

Braylon Callahan, RB, 5-10, 180, jr.

Logan Berwald, WR, 6-0, 160, sr.

Jeremiah Claridy, WR, 6-1, 185, jr.

Phelan Harrold, WR, 6-1, 105, sr.

Elijah Tandler, OT, 6-0, 270, jr.

Hayden Overall, G, 5-11, 260, sr.

Rocco Fiore, G, 6-5, 280, sr.

Nick Grano, C, 6-2, 270, sr.

Kenny Hamilton, DT, 6-3, 275, sr.

Charlie Brunkala, DL, 6-1, 215, sr.

Logan Land, DL, 6-1, 225, jr.

Jaxon Callahan, OLB, 6-0, 205, sr.

Dom Oskowski, LB, 5-11, 185, jr.

Jack Lisachenko, LB, 5-10, 160, sr.

Charlie Grano, LB, 6-2, 215, jr.

Cooper Russo, DB, 5-9, 170, jr.

Rylan Fint, DB, 5-10, 165, sr.

Marcus Cvetichan, DB, 6-0, 190, sr.

Jacksen Schultz, DB, 5-11, 175, sr.

Daniel Kristo, K, 5-11, 175, so.

About the Cardinals: Jones (1,987 yards, 21 TDs) returns at quarterback for the Cardinals, who have questions to answer around him. How will the offensive line adjust after graduating three Division I college recruits? Can the skill positions remain as strong after graduating receiver Justen Hodge, who is now at Miami (Ohio)? Jones has eight new starters around him on offense, but he is familiar with them while coming up through Mentor's youth program. Berwald, one of those returning starters, and Jones already have a connection. So does Harrold. Gray specializes in the line, and Callahan showed potential to take over for Jackson Farley at running back. Orsog has gotten the early carries in camp with Callahan coming on as a change of pace.

The Cardinals have won 18 straight games in the Greater Cleveland Conference. making them

favorites until someone beats them



Set weather ▾



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Schedule

Aug. 21 vs. Olmsted Falls

Aug. 28 vs. Erie McDowell (Pa.)

Sept. 4 at St. Ignatius

Sept. 11 vs. Brunswick

Sept. 18 at Riverside

Sept. 25 vs. Cleveland Heights

Oct. 2 at Strongsville

Oct. 9 at Shaker Heights

Oct. 16 vs. Lorain

Oct. 23 at Euclid

Coach: Scott Barwidi (first season)

Players to watch

- Steven Fakult, QB, 6-2, 190, sr.
- Dominick Jackson, WR/CB, 5-11, 185, sr.
- Collin Atha, WR/S, 6-0, 180, sr.
- Luke Williams, G/DL, 5-10, 250, sr.
- Karsen Fisher, LB/TE, 6-3, 220, sr.
- Brock Barwidi, S/WR, 6-0, 180, sr.

About the Knights: Barwidi takes over for Jeff Fox, who is now the athletic director of his alma mater at Willoughby South. Barwidi had been on his staff for 18 years, most recently serving as assistant head coach. He has Fakult (3,072 yards, 27 TDs) and Jackson (933 yards, 12 TDs, 49 receptions) back with Fisher (103 tackles, 17 TFL, three sacks) at linebacker and tight end to lead this squad. Their Suburban League opener Sept. 11 will be a big one with a trip to Highland.

Schedule

- Aug. 21 at St. Vincent-St. Mary
- Aug. 28 vs. Akron East
- Sept. 4 vs. Villa Angela-St. Joseph
- Sept. 11 at Highland
- Sept. 18 vs. Hudson
- Sept. 25 vs. North Royalton
- Oct. 2 at Solon
- Oct. 9 at Stow-Munroe Falls
- Oct. 16 vs. Medina

10. Highland

2025 finish: 12-1, Division II regional finalist

Coach: Mike Gibbons (12th season)

Players to watch

Johnny Prucha, QB, 6-0, 185, sr.

Colton Winston, RB, 5-10, 185, sr.

Jake Weber, WR, 5-10, 165, sr.

Ben Radigan, WR, 6-0, 185, sr.

Anthony Depompei, WR/DB, 5-9, 165, sr.

Frankie Iannaggi, WR/DB, 5-9, 165, sr.

Spencer Marquis, OT/C, 6-2, 250, sr.

Ethan McCarthy, OT/DE, 6-1, 230, sr.

 **Set weather** 
Wyatt Sitz, G, 5-11, 265, sr.



Lukas Grillis, DE, 6-1, 225, jr.

Nathan Capotosto, DE/TE, 6-2, 215, jr.

Evan Foust, LB/TE/P, 6-0, 192, sr.

Ryan Haney, LB, 5-10, 185, sr.

Jonah Kowza, K/P, 6-1, 170, sr.

About the Hornets: Highland will have a new look after graduating record-setting rusher Casey Myser and Co. Gibbons can lean on Foust (73 tackles, 3.5 sacks, 255 yards, four TDs, 14 receptions) on both sides of the ball, while Kowza returns as one of Northeast Ohio's top kickers. The defense should remain one of the best, but how quickly can a new-look offense adjust? Prucha steps in as a first-year starter replacing Grady Gibb, bringing a strong arm and accuracy to the position with Foust and Weber (305 yards, six TDs, 14 receptions) as returning starters on offense. Winston, like Myser before him, also is a standout baseball player. Overall, the Hornets have five returning starters on offense. That includes Sitz and Marquis on the line. Two are back on defense, led by Foust and Grillis (51 tackles, 11 TFL, four sacks). They led Highland to the last two Suburban League championships in the American Conference — and have won three of the last four — but the Hornets are moving up to the Suburban's bigger National Conference. They also have reached three straight Region 6 finals, falling to two-time state champion Avon each time, but are moving over to Region 5.

Schedule

Aug. 21 vs. Walsh Jesuit

Aug. 28 at Strongsville

Sept. 4 vs. Avon Lake

Sept. 11 vs. Nordonnia

Sept. 18 at Medina

Sept. 25 at Stow-Munroe Falls

Oct. 2 at North Royalton

Oct. 9 vs. Solon
Set weather



Oct. 16 vs. Wadsworth

Oct. 23 at Hudson

9. Austintown Fitch

2025 finish: 9-2, Division II regional semifinalist

Coach: T.J. Parker (seventh season)

Players to watch

Collin Kalaher, QB, 5-11, 180, sr.

Deon'Dray Richard, RB, 5-9, 210, sr.

Dyionn Tutwiler, RB, 5-10, 185, sr.

Antuan Williams, RB, 5-8, 165, so.

Anthony Blalock Jr., OT, 6-6, 320, jr.

Rashad Harris, DE/TE, 6-2, 224, sr.

Wayne Holloway, CB/WR, 6-0, 150, sr.

Isaiah Porch, S/WR, 6-1, 180, sr.

About the Falcons: Richard (All-Ohio back) and Blalock (Ohio State offer) are big reasons to like the Falcons, who are moving up to Division I and will compete in Region 1. Fitch opens the season against Hudson, which also made the jump from Region 5 to Region 1. The Falcons bookended their season last year with losses against the Explorers and Walsh Jesuit.

Schedule

Aug. 21 vs. Hudson

Aug. 28 at Bethel Park (Pa.)

Sept. 4 at Riverside

Sept. 11 vs. Maple Heights

Sept. 18 vs. Butler (Pa.)
Set weather



Sept. 25 vs. Erie (Pa.)

Oct. 2 vs. Massillon Perry

Oct. 9 at Erie McDowell (Pa.)

Oct. 16 vs. Boardman

Oct. 23 vs. Warren Harding



Massillon's Ja'Dyn Williams makes a tackle on McKinley running back Kyelin West for a short gain Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025, at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium. John Kuntz, cleveland.com

2025 finish: 9-3, Division I regional semifinalist

Coach: Renzy Parnell (second season)

Players to watch

Braylon Cook, QB, 5-11, 175, jr.

Kyelin West, RB, 5-9, 170, jr.

Darius Hill, WR/P, 5-8, 165, sr.

Legacy Lee, TE, 6-5, 220, so.

Treyshawn Quincy, OT/DT, 6-5, 280, sr.

Amare Mitchell, DE, 6-3, 230, sr.

Javier Moore, DE, 6-0, 220, sr.

Antonio Stevens, LB, 6-0, 230, sr.

Shad Davis, S, 5-10, 180, sr.

Dwoyne Robinson, S, 5-7, 150, sr.

About the Bulldogs: Could McKinley spoil the reign in Region 1 for St. Edward? Only the Eagles and Mentor have come out of Northeast Ohio in Division I for the last nine seasons. Other than St. Ignatius, no other school has won Region 1 since 2009, when Glenville did it. West (1,500 yards, 12 TDs) and Davis are coming off All-Ohio seasons for the Federal League favorites.

Schedule

Aug. 21 vs. Warren Harding

Aug. 28 at St. Edward

Sept. 4 vs. Sandusky

Sept. 11 at Canton GlenOak

Sept. 18 vs. Massillon Perry

 Set weather 
Sept. 25 at Green



Oct. 2 vs. North Canton Hoover

Oct. 9 at Uniontown Lake

Oct. 16 vs. Massillon Jackson

Oct. 24 at Massillon Washington

7. Archbishop Hoban

2025 finish: 10-2, Division II regional finalist

Coach: Tim Tyrrell (14th season)

Players to watch

Israel Cribbs, QB, 6-1, 170, jr.

Kahlil Diming, RB/S, 6-0, 185, jr.

John Johnson, WR, 6-4, 185, sr.

Malachi Cook, WR/DB, 6-1, 175, jr.



Set weather ▾



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Mario Manningham Jr., WR, 5-10, 150, so.

Ryland Oliphant, TE, 6-5, 235, jr.

Julian Jenkins, OT, 6-4, 320, sr.

Caleb Williams, OT, 6-4, 290, sr.

Rylee Pickering, G, 6-0, 285, sr.

Cadderly Meeker, C, 6-2, 280, fr.

Devanaire Riley, DE, 6-2, 245, sr.

Kiren Green, DT, 6-4, 300, jr.

Jace Campbell, DL, 6-3, 280, jr.

Giovonie Wyatt, LB, 6-1, 205, jr.

George Camuso, LB/QB, 6-2, 215, jr.

Jaiden Daniels, CB/RB, 5-11, 160, sr.

Carlos Gordon Jr., CB, 6-3, 170, jr.

Cameron Chaney, CB/WR, 6-3, 180, jr.

Fred Wood, CB, 5-9, 160, so.

Jeremy Hammel, K/P, 5-10, 140, sr.

About the Knights: Hoban took some hits since late last season, falling to rival Walsh Jesuit in the Region 5 finals and then losing leading tackler Brayton Feister and junior brother Brydon, who transferred to Massillon. The older Feister also led the Knights in rushing, and senior Jance Henry moved back to Pennsylvania. Diming takes over as the lead tailback with Daniels in the mix after a big junior season at cornerback in which he earned a spot on the all-district second team and committed to Ball State. There will be a new quarterback, too, but it is one who has been waiting for his time in Cribbs — the son of former Kent State and Browns sensation Josh Cribbs — who will have a premier receiver back in Johnson (Bowling Green commit). The offensive line is seasoned with two senior bookend tackles in Williams (Buffalo commit) and Jenkins, who moved back to Akron from Arizona. Pickering moves over from center with the

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JENKINS, WHO MOVED BACK TO AKRON FROM ARIZONA. PICKERING MOVES OVER FROM CENTER WITH THE
emergence of a freshman in Meek while the defensive front is strong with Green at tackle and
Riley at an end. The linebackers will have a new look, but four starters are back in the secondary
with Daniels, Gordon, Diming and Johnson. The Knights enter the season with a nine-game
schedule and an open date for Week 10.

Schedule

Aug. 20 at Winter Garden West Orange (Fla.)

Aug. 28 vs. Loughborough NFL Academy (Europe) in Canton

Sept. 4 vs. Brooklyn Eagle Academy II (N.Y.)

Sept. 11 at St. Edward

Sept. 18 vs. Cardinal Gibbons (Fla.)

Sept. 25 at Walsh Jesuit

Oct. 2 vs. Cincinnati Woodward

Oct. 9 vs. Glenville

Oct. 16 vs. Indianapolis Cathedral (Ind.)

2025 finish: 11-1, Division II regional semifinalist

Coach: Justin Todd (11th season)

Players to watch

- Brysen Hall, QB, 6-0, 195, jr.
- Jude Haller, RB/S, 6-0, 215, jr.
- Jay'len King, WR, 6-3, 195, jr.
- Kyle Schmeltzer, WR/QB, 5-9, 155, sr.
- Donny Bettis Jr., WR/S, 6-2, 175, sr.
- Anderson Tetzl, OT/DE, 6-3, 275, sr.
- Carter Raymond, G, 6-1, 210, sr.
- Aiden Meisterics, G/DT, 5-11, 230, sr.
- Nathan Shipley, DT/G, 6-0, 260, sr.
- Bryson Bupp, OLB, 5-9, 170, so.
- DeVaughn Thompson Jr., CB/WR, 5-11, 165, jr.
- Cal Pierce, CB/WR, 6-0, 175, sr.
- Reid Close, DB/WR, 6-2, 180, jr.
- Brandon Dishauzi, DB/WR, 5-11, 185, jr.

About the Grizzlies: The three-time defending Suburban League National Conference champions didn't skip a beat until meeting state champion Avon in the Region 6. They will be in Region 5 this year and without the 26 seniors who graduated from last year's team. Hall (2,490 yards, 29 TDs) is Northeast Ohio's top quarterback in the Class of 2028 with offers that include Pittsburgh and South Florida. Haller (73 tackles, nine TFL, three interceptions) leads the defense after making the All-Northeast Inland District second team. He will be in the backfield as the starting running back now, too.

Schedule

Set weather ▾



Aug. 21 at Cleveland Heights

Aug. 28 at Hilliard Davidson

Sept. 4 at Massillon Jackson

Sept. 10 vs. Solon

Sept. 18 at North Royalton

Sept. 25 vs. Medina

Oct. 2 at Stow-Munroe Falls

Oct. 9 vs. Hudson

Oct. 16 at Highland

Oct. 23 vs. Nardon

5. Walsh Jesuit

2025 finish: 11-2. Division II state semifinalist

Players to watch

- David Ternosky, QB, 6-0, 195, sr.
- Kinzy Shea, QB, 6-3, 180, fr.
- Dominick Courtad, RB/LB, 5-11, 210, jr.
- Emmett Tobin, RB/LB, 5-10, 190, sr.
- Cambell Lann, WR/TE, 6-4, 200, sr.
- Cayden Levert, WR, 5-11, 175, so.
- Owen Pelkowski, OT, 6-5, 280, sr.
- Calvin Brunson, OT, 6-5, 315, fr.
- Dario Jeras, DE, 6-2, 240, sr.
- Caleb Buckner, DL, 6-1, 245, sr.
- John Wollschleger, LB/RB, 6-0, 210, sr.
- Caden Mariola, S/LB, 5-10, sr.
- Drew Wollschleger, S/OLB, 5-11, 165, sr.
- Ben Biel, S/QB, 5-11, 160, sr.
- Oliver Nonno, K/P, 5-10, 162, jr.

About the Warriors: Walsh made its first state semifinal appearance last year since winning it all in 1999 and could get back to that stage. Ternosky (1,466 yards, 19 TDs) is back at quarterback with one of his top two receivers back in Lann (289 yards, four TDs, 21 receptions), while Milan Parris has since graduated on to Miami. The line bolsters Division I college prospects, led by Pelkowski and the defense returns experience at all three levels with Jeras (67 tackles, 13 TFL, six sacks), Tobin and Biel.

Schedule

Aug. 28 vs. Springfield
Set weather



Sept. 4 vs. Toledo Central Catholic

Sept. 11 vs. St. Ignatius

Sept. 25 vs. Archbishop Hoban

Oct. 2 vs. St. Vincent-St. Mary

Oct. 9 vs. Youngstown Ursuline

Oct. 16 vs. Columbus Bishop Watterson

Oct. 23 at Trotwood-Madison

4. Avon

2025 finish: 14-1, Division II state champion

Coach: Mike Elder (20th season)

Players to watch

Trevor Sykora, QB/P, 6-0, 165, jr.

 **Set weather** 
Casey Birth, QB, 6-0, 205, jr.



Colin Fox, QB, 5-9, 155, so.

Michael Colburn, RB, 5-9, 185, sr.

Fin Jerdonek, WR, 5-9, 170, sr.

Caeden Bennett, WR, 6-0, 170, sr.

Jackson Palmer, WR, 5-10, 170, sr.

Gavin Koehler, WR/CB, 6-0, 190, jr.

Caden Krugman, G, 6-1, 255, sr.

Derek Weitzel, G/DT, 6-3, 285, jr.

Jack Fitch, C, 5-10, 235, sr.

Ryan Wysocki, OL/DL, sr.

Grady Szucs, DE, 6-1, 210, sr.

Nolan Robke, DT, 6-2, 250, sr.

Jack Goldian, OLB/TE, 6-2, 210, sr.

Nathan Peters, LB/TE, sr.

Jairel Fenton, S/WR, 5-10, 180, sr.

Johnny Scott, DB, 5-9, 175, jr.

About the Eagles: This will be Elder's least experienced team since the Eagles have been in Division II state-title contention, making eight state final fours in the last nine years. They have just four returning starters on offense and two on defense from the state-title game against Cincinnati Anderson. Jerdonek (776 yards, 10 TDs on 54 receptions) is a big one at receiver, while Fitch and Krugman lead the line for a run game that will have a seasoned player carrying the football in Colburn (424 yards, seven TDs). He took the bulk of the carries while starters Quiante Smith and Cam Wendell were out because of injury. Quarterback Blake Elder will be tough to replace, but Avon has already proved it can do that. Elder himself stepped in for

cleveland.com Offensive Player of the Year Nolan Good, who led the Eagles' 2024 title run.

Defensively, ~~Set Weather~~ was a pickoff  at last season with six interceptions at corner. He is moving to safety, similarly to how Jakob Weatherspoon (now playing college football at North Carolina) did for the Eagles. Fenton also has offensive duties at running back to complement Colburn. The defense could be a big question after the graduation of All-Ohio linebacker Ryan Stolarski (now at Miami of Ohio) and end Lance Dawson (Cincinnati), but depth on the interior could help keep the Eagles in the state-title hunt.

Schedule

Aug. 20 vs. St. Ignatius at Huntington Bank Field

Aug. 28 vs. Pine-Richland (Pa.)

Sept. 4 at Upper Arlington

Sept. 11 vs. North Ridgeville

Sept. 18 at Olmsted Falls

Sept. 25 vs. Berea-Midpark

Oct. 2 at Midview

Oct. 9 vs. Amherst

Oct. 16 at Avon Lake

Oct. 23 vs. Elyria



Set weather ▾



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3. Glenville

2025 finish: 12-3, Division IV state champion

Coach: Ted Ginn Sr. (30th season)

Players to watch

LaMarques Greenwood II, QB, 6-1, 180, sr.

Elvis Koutsakis, QB, 5-10, 175, jr.

Chase Youngblood, QB/S, 5-11, 185, so.

Da’Von McDougle, RB/LB, 5-11, 215, sr.

Jahmal Goodson, RB, 5-4, 205, jr.

Garry Pritchett Jr., WR/RB, 5-7, 155, jr.

Emiere Lemons, WR, 6-3, 195, jr.

DeAnthony “Duke” Crittenden, WR, 5-9, 150, sr.

Da’vontae Miller, WR/S, 6-2, 196, sr.

London Hearn, WR, 5-7, 160, sr.

Dionte Shephard, WR/CB, 5-9, 165, so.

Elijah Harden, TE/DE, 6-2, 200, jr.

Lorenzo Smith, TE/DE, 6-1, 200, jr.

Eason Hankins, OT, 6-4, 265, sr.

Makahi Maddox, G/OT, 6-3, 305, sr.

Amaud Lessears, G, 6-5, 320, sr.

Ashtyn Anderson, DL, 6-2, 230, sr.

 **Set weather** 
John Morris, LB/RB, 5-10, 190, jr.



Kaylon Bailey, LB/DE, 6-2, 225, sr.

Tae'vion Lacey, LB, 5-8, 160, jr.

Martez Gullatt, LB, 5-11, 200, sr.

Emir Stevens, LB, 5-10, 225, jr.

Jaylen Edwards, CB, 5-8, 150, jr.

Khyier Robinson, CB/WR, 6-4, 195, sr.

Cordale Scott, CB, 5-9, 160, jr.

Devron Mills, CB/WR, 6-1, 175, sr.

Dontez Shephard, CB/WR, 5-9, 160, so.

Alex Smith, CB, 5-8, 165, jr.

Jaquan Gibson, S, 5-11, 165, jr.

Jayden Jordan, DB, 6-0, 175, jr.

Dawawn Whitner, S, 6-1, 190, so.

About the Tarblooders: Glenville will find out in September what division it will compete in for postseason play. The Tarblooders have won three state titles in four years in Division IV. They welcomed back Greenwood (1,118 yards, 15 TDs passing; 547 yards, six TDs rushing) after a year at Cleveland Heights and added Koutsakis from Pennsylvania. Youngblood could move over to play at safety this fall, joining an already loaded group with Power Four prospects in Edwards and Gibson. Bailey leads the defense, moving from defensive end to linebacker in preparation for college, while the running backs and receivers remain deep. Ginn will need new linemen to step up around Hankins to make it work.

Schedule

Aug. 21 at Massillon Washington

Aug. 28 at Olentangy Liberty

Sept. 4 vs. Clarkson Football North (Canada)

Set weather



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Sept. 11 at Columbus Bishop Watterson

Sept. 18 at Rhodes

Sept. 25 at John Hay

Oct. 2 vs. East Tech

Oct. 9 at Archbishop Hoban

Oct. 16 at John Adams

Oct. 23 vs. John Marshall

2. St. Edward

2025 finish: 11-3, Division I state semifinalist

Coach: Tom Lombardo (12th season)

Players to watch

Langston Lucas, QB, 6-0, 105, sr

Colin Tedesco, RB, 5-9, 175, sr.

Ronnie Neal Jr., RB, 5-11, 188, jr.

Landon Lehmer, WR/S, 6-0, 195, sr.

Dace Williams, WR, 5-8, 160, sr.

Caleb Hall, WR, 5-9, 160, jr.

Joe Moore, TE, 6-4, 225, sr.

Jack Marquard, OT, 6-5, 275, sr.

Samuel Shahid, OT, 6-3, 305, jr.

Brody Kincaid, OT, 6-4, 265, sr.

Xavier Krzak, G, 6-3, 310, sr.

Landon Walkem, C, 6-2, 325, sr.

James "Peter" Whiteside, OL, 6-4, 290, sr.

B.P. Paulozzi, DE, 6-3, 235, sr.

Tyler Browne, DT, 6-3, 280, so.

Xavier Williams, DT, 6-2, 320, so.

Luke Ardito, LB, 5-11, 225, sr.

Josh Webber, LB, 6-0, 185, sr.

John Troy, LB, 6-0, 185, sr.

Noble James, CB, 6-4, 190, sr.

Rowan Kelly, CB, 5-11, 190, sr.

BranDon Gay, DB, 6-1, 178, sr.

Kellen Thomas, DB, 5-11, 160, so.

About the Eagles: It will start up in Steward, which has reached the state final four for five straight seasons. Missouri commit Jack Marquard leads four returning starters on the offensive line, not counting Connecticut commit Moore at tight end. Lucas earned time at quarterback last year behind Jonny Evanchick, while the defense is led by Paulozzi (Syracuse) and Lehmer (Miami of Ohio).

Schedule

Aug. 21 vs. Olentangy Liberty

Aug. 28 vs. Canton McKinley

Sept. 4 at Huber Heights Wayne

Sept. 11 vs. Archbishop Hoban

Sept. 18 vs. Massillon Washington

Sept. 26 vs. Washington St. John's (D.C.)

Oct. 2 at St. Ignatius

Oct. 9 vs. Clarkson Football North (Canada)

Oct. 17 at Cincinnati Archbishop Moeller

Oct. 24 vs. Loudoun Sports Academy (Va.)





Massillon running back Savior Owens stiff arms McKinley's La'Nauz Brown on a rush in the second half Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025, at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium. John Kuntz, cleveland.com

1. Massillon Washington

2025 finish: 9-4, Division II regional finalist

Coach: Nate Moore (12th season)

Players to watch

Mandwell Patterson, QB, 5-11, 160, sr.

Rasmus Haines, QB/P, 6-4, 185, jr.

Savior Owens, RB, 5-11, 215, sr.

Georgio Jackson Jr., WR, 6-4, 185, sr.

DaShun Williams, TE, 6-5, 220, jr.

Micah Walker, OT, 6-7, 315, jr.

Marcus Garner, OT/DT, 6-3, 280, sr.

Dayvionne Floyd, C/DL, 6-2, 275, sr.

Brayton Feister, LB/RB, 6-2, 238, sr.

Brydon Feister, LB, 6-3, 210, jr.

Christian Culler, LB/S/RB, 5-9, 185, sr.

Isaac Maxheimer, LB, 6-2, 215, sr.

DeVaughn Williams, LB, 5-9, 190, jr.

Deontay Malone, CB/WR, 6-0, 185, sr.

Brayton Gamble, CB, 6-1, 195, sr.



Chayce White, CB, 6-1, 165, sr.

Johnny Adams, CB, 6-2, 170, fr.

Mateo Herrera, K, sr.

About the Tigers: A loaded squad got better in the spring with the additions of Brayton and Brydon Feister from Hoban. They give the Tigers two more future Division I college talents to join a Michigan State commit in Owens (1,572 yards, 12 TDs), Ohio State commit in Malone and Boston College-bound Gamble. It all starts Week 1 with a massive showdown vs. Glenville at Paul Brown Tiger Stadium. Brayton Feister (133 tackles, 13 sacks, 39 TFL) is arguably Ohio's top linebacker in the Class of 2027. He committed last week to Oregon. Meanwhile, Brydon Feister (110 tackles, five sacks) is one of the best linebackers in the Class of 2028. The older Feister (1,098 yards, 17 TDs as a junior, 2,000 yards as a sophomore) also can relieve Owens in the offensive backfield. Question is, could it lead to a rematch with Sunbury Big Walnut in the regional finals? Both appear poised to get there, but last year's Division III state champion Columbus Bishop Watterson also is in Region 7 and could spoil that rematch for someone.

Schedule

Aug. 21 vs. Glenville

Aug. 28 at Canton GlenOak

Sept. 4 vs. Loughborough NFL Academy (Europe)

Sept. 11 vs. Buffalo Canisius (N.Y.)

Sept. 18 at St. Edward

Sept. 25 vs. Clarkson Football North (Canada)

Oct. 2 vs. Farrell (Pa.)

Oct. 9 vs. San Antonio Cornerstone Christian (Texas)

Oct. 16 at Warren Harding

Oct. 24 vs. Canton McKinley



Matt Goul Set weather ▾



Matt Goul has covered high school sports with some college and pros sprinkled in since 2005 with a bachelor's degree from Kent State University. He has covered high school basketball and football in Northeast...more

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