Browns

Quarterback Sanders to get first start Sunday. Page B3



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Section

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FOOTBALL: ALL-NORTHEAST INLAND DISTRICT TEAMS

Three area stars named players of year

Albert Grindle The Gazette

As has been the case in recent seasons, Medina County took home multiple top honors Thursday morning



when the All-Northeast Inland District football teams were released by the Ohio Prep Sports Media Association.

I Defensive Player

Brunswick defensive end Eli Nichols was the Division

of the Year, Highland running back Casey Myser was the D-II Offensive Player of the Year and Black River outside linebacker Zane Bugard was the D-VI Defensive Player of the Year.

Wadsworth's Justin Todd and Buck-



Nichols Bungard

eye's Greg Dennison were coaches of the year in D-II and D-III, respec-

A 6-foot-2, 225-pound senior, Nichols was a dominant force for the Blue Devils with Medina County highs of 20 tackles for loss, nine sacks and five forced fumbles to go with 66 total tackles.

The 6-3, 190-pound Bungard, a senior, had 67 tackles (7 for loss) and three fumbles for the Pirates and also smashed school records for recep-







tions (63), yards (1,051) and touchdowns (14) in his first full season at wide receiver.

Myser is the county's career leader for points (540), total touchdowns (90) and rushing touchdowns (79) while also ranking fourth in rushing yards (4,742). The 6-2, 215-pound senior has 1,313 yards from scrimmage (1,163 rushing, 150 receiving) and 25 total touchdowns in limited playing time this season for the Hornets (12-0), who will play Avon (11-1)

in the Region 6 championship game at Brunswick on Friday.

Dennison, who shared his award with Canfield's Joe Ingazio, saw his team become the darling of the county, winning four one-possession games to reach 11 victories for the first time. The Bucks captured the Cleveland West Conference title for the second consecutive season.

Todd piloted Wadsworth to its sixth 10-0 season (1966, '67, '96, '17, '18) and third straight Suburban League National Conference crown. The Grizzlies have won six league championships in his 10 seasons.

In D-I, other first-team selections were Brunswick right tackle Andrew Hayes (6-1, 230, sr.), quarterback Sean Barnett (6-4, 200, sr.) and kicker Vincenzo DiTeodoro (6-0, 225, sr.) and Medina defensive end Cliff Nicholson (6-3, 235, sr.) and linebacker Jack Fletcher (6-0, 190, sr.).

In D-II, first-team nods went to Highland H-back Evan Foust (5-10, 200, jr.), quarterback Grady Gibb (6-0, 195, sr.), kicker Jonah Kowza (6-1, 170, jr.) and linebacker Jameson Gordon (6-3, 225, sr.) and Wadsworth wide receiver Calix Lemp (6-0, 180, sr.), running back Cooper Gray (5-11, 170, sr.), quarterback Brysen Hall (6-0, 195, so.), linebacker Jacob Earnest (6-2, 230, sr.) and safety Gavin Madigan (6-0, 220, sr.).

Among the county's smaller schools, Buckeye linebacker Ryan Wilhelm (5-11, 211, sr.) and punter Brayden Bonnett (5-11, 167, sr.) were D-III first-team selections and Black River punter Dom Bell (5-11, 170, fr.) got the award in D-VI.

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ALL-DISTRICT

All first-team selections will receive at least

All Inst-team selections will receive at least honorable mention All-Ohio. Second-team honorees were Black River line-backer Kayden Hendershot, Buckeye tight end Derek Snyderburn, right tackle Ben Lazar and linebacker Denis Shevchenko, Clovetleaf right tackle Dominic Nau, linebacker Adam Gray, safety, Ashton Gray and cornerback Kellen Price IDAU Highland side precipe Lucas Gerling. in D-IV, Highland wide receiver Lucas Gerding, right guard Cody Bendau and defensive end Dan Miller and Wadsworth left tackle Jordan Jones

ingin galati Oxiy perioda and userisis ee and Dan Miller and Wadsworth left tackle Jordan Jones and safety Jude Haller.

D-I did not hawe a second team due to there being only five schools.

Honorable mention was awarded to Black River's Broce Murray (WR/S), Brunswick's Bryaden Milles (S), Buckeyès Kyle Landes (C/DF), Jacob Milles (S), Buckeyès Kyle Landes (C/DF), Jacob OS nyderburn (WR/DE), Logan Letner (S) and Liam Hillips (IRS/CB), Cloverleaf's Elliot Jordan (DE/OLB), Austin Sustersic (S) and Ethan Gray (BB/S), Highland's Nick Dolkowski (WR/S), Josh Messina (LT/DT) and Kallen Whilting (S), Medina's Brian Wuchter (WR) and Colin Kasmarcak (C) and Wadsworth's Tommy Hohn (CB), Colton Leavirt (TE/RT/DF) and Gabe Lurdtee (LG).

The All-Northeast Inland District roughly follows U.S. Route 224 and honors top players from parts of Sark, Summi, Portage, Medina, Wayne, Trumbold. Columbiana, Mahoraing and Ashland

Trumbull, Columbiana, Mahoning and Ashland counties. The teams are selected by a media panel from those areas.

Contact Albert Grindle at (330) 721-4043 or agrindlettmedine-gezette.com.

All-NE Inland District teams

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