

COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS . . .

**BEN SHERMAN
WILLIAM PENN
FOOTBALL
Troy Area 2017**

The Statesmen football team failed to build on its momentum from last weekend as it fell 28-14 to Evangel in a Heart of America Athletic Conference crossover game Friday.

Playing a day earlier than normal, WPU (1-3) and EU (3-1) attacked the matchup in different ways. Evangel passed for 194 yards and rushed for an additional 98 for 292 yards, while the visiting Statesmen notched all of their 256 yards on the ground. The visitors passed the ball just twice, completing only one try for -1 yard.

Coming off a 45-44 win over MidAmerica Nazarene six days earlier, the navy and gold went on defense right away and forced a quick three-and-out. Unfortunately, William Penn's first play from scrimmage gave the pigskin right back to EU on a fumble.

The hosts were unable to take advantage of the takeaway, but WPU's ominous offense start continued as it was required to punt after picking up a first down. The snap to the punt was not corralled, though, and the ball was recovered deep in Statesmen territory. Two plays later, Evangel claimed a 7-0 lead.

The Statesmen sought an answer, pushing into EU's red zone. They were stopped there, though, and Olivas, last week's hero, had his 41-yard field goal blocked to preserve the 7-0 margin.

The home squad doubled the score to 14-0 in the early minutes of the second quarter before WPU finally answered. The first play of the next possession was an incompleteness by Rodney Hall (Fr., Detroit, Mich., Psychology), who was starting at quarterback in place of an injured Alex Crehan (Grad., Troy, Ill., Master's of Business Leadership), but the remainder of the drive was on the ground, headlined by a 34-yard sprint by Archer Charles (Jr., Guntersville, Ala., Sports Management).

It took WPU a total of 11 plays to march 75 yards, but Ben Sherman (Grad., Troy, Pa., Master's of Sports Management) drew his team within seven points on a one-yard dive with 4:42 to go until half-time. The graduate student carried

the ball 17 times for a team-best 95 yards.

The home crew did not flinch, scoring inside the final minute of play for a 21-7 halftime lead.

Hall took control of the opening drive of the second half, running the pigskin six times, including putting the ball across the goal line from four yards out. The TD narrowed the deficit to seven at 21-14 with 8:25 still left in the third period. Hall called his own number 21 times Friday, finishing with 67 total yards rushing.

Both teams were shut down on their ensuing possessions and the matchup remained tight entering the final quarter. Unfortunately, Evangel once again put the Statesmen in a 14-point hole, doing so with 10:37 remaining.

WPU forced itself into EU territory for a response, but the drive stalled out. That proved to be the team's final battle cry as Evangel ran out of the clock with two first downs (both sides had 16 first downs).

Rives Grogan (So., Mansfield, Texas, Political Science), with 56 yards, and Charles, with 48 more, also found success as ball carriers. D'Mauryon Hunter (So., Bolingbrook, Ill., Sports Management) paced the defense with nine tackles, while Rogan Pforts (So., Wapello, Iowa, Industrial Technology) finished with seven, including two for loss.

"We did not start out with much energy and enthusiasm, but I am proud of how we responded," Head Coach Todd Hafner said. "Once we all got moving in a good direction, we showed how good of a team we can be. We started making great plays on defense and controlling and moving the ball on offense."

"We will take a couple of days off to refresh and get read for Homecoming week," Hafner said. "We look forward to getting back in front of the best student section in the nation!"

**BEN KNAPP
PENN STATE UNIVERSITY
FOOTBALL
Canton 2021**

The No. 10/12 Penn State football team celebrated the annual Penn State White Out game with a 28-20 win over No. 22/20 Auburn on Saturday night.

The Nittany Lions have defeated two ranked opponents in their first three games of the season for the first time in program history. The win is Penn State's first regular-season victory over an SEC opponent since the Nittany Lions defeated Alabama 9-0 in 1990.

Penn State's high-powered offense was on display in this prime-time contest, compiling 391 total yards in the game.

Quarterback Sean Clifford continued his fast start to the 2021 campaign, completing 28-33 passes for 280 yards and two touchdowns.

Wide receiver Jahan Dotson corralled a career-high 10 catches for 78 yards and a touchdown in the contest. He has now reached the end zone in five consecutive games dating back to last season. Tight End Brenton Strange also put together a career-best performance, setting a new high mark with 71 yards on four catches and a touchdown.

The Penn State defense would seal the victory in the closing minutes, forcing Auburn to turn the ball over on downs at the Penn State two-yard line with 3:08 remaining in the game. Brandon Smith paced the Nittany Lion defense with career-high 10 tackles.

The crowd of 109,958 was the ninth largest in Beaver Stadium history.

After Penn State turned the ball over on downs on its opening drive, Auburn got on the board first with a 45-yard field goal by Anders Carlson.

The Nittany Lions got the offense going on their third possession. Sean Clifford delivered two long passes to his tight ends on back-to-back plays, first a 23-yarder to Brenton Strange and then a 37-yarder to Theo Johnson to set Penn State up inside the five. Penn State would score on the next play when Clifford hit Jahan Dotson in the back of the end zone for a 4-yard touchdown to give Penn State a 7-3 lead.

Auburn would reclaim the lead on its ensuing drive on a 4-yard touchdown run by Tank Bigsby.

In the closing minutes of the second, Penn State would go on a 14-play, 91-yard drive to jump back in front. The long scoring drive was capped off by a 4-yard

TD pass from Clifford to Strange to put the Nittany Lions ahead 14-10 at the half.

On the first play of the second half, a botched trick play by Auburn resulted in Derrick Tangelo falling on a loose ball to set Penn State up at the Auburn 20-yard line. The Nittany Lions would extend the lead on Tyler Warren's first career rushing touchdown to give Penn State a 21-10 advantage.

Bigsby would reach the end zone for the second time in the game with 5:52 remaining in the third, when his 6-yard TD run cut the Penn State lead to 21-17. The Tigers would add three more on the first play of the fourth quarter when Carlson converted on a 43-yard field goal attempt.

Penn State would fire back on the following drive, highlighted by a 40-yard connection between Clifford and Strange that put the Nittany Lions inside the five. Noah Cain would find the end zone for the third time this season with a 5-yard TD run to give Penn State a 28-20 lead.

The Nittany Lion defense would put the finishing touches on the victory, forcing Auburn to turn the ball over on downs at the Penn State three-yard line with 3:08 remaining in the game.

**JACK IMBT
MARIST COLLEGE
FOOTBALL
Troy 2019**

The Marist football team dropped its season opener at Columbia, 37-14 on Saturday afternoon at Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium.

Dwayne Menders ran a punt back 82 yards for a touchdown at the 11:36 mark of the first quarter for the first score of the game.

On the ensuing kickoff, Kyle Fleitman forced a fumble that Teddy Wright recovered at the Columbia 42. On the next play, Austin Day hit Scott Scherzer for a 42-yard touchdown pass down the sideline, which extended the Red Foxes' lead to 14-0 at the 11:19 mark.

Gabriel Hollingsworth's 15-yard touchdown run with 2:13 left in the first quarter started a run of 37 unanswered points for the Lions.

Columbia scored 17 points in the second quarter, which all came in a span of 7:15.

Ernest Robinson's second

touchdown of the day, a 17-yard run, put Columbia up 31-14 early in the third quarter.

Alex Felkins added a pair of field goals – one in the third quarter, and one in the final period – to close out the scoring.

Scott Scherzer led Marist in receiving yards (82) on two receptions; Antoine Morales had a team-best four receptions for 66 yards. Hunter Cobb led the Red Foxes with 52 rushing yards.

Mike Arrington and Jayden Johnson led the Red Foxes with 10 tackles apiece.

Aaron Acosta had three tackles for loss and a sack. Acosta had eight total tackles, including five solo stops.

Columbia outgained Marist, 463-242. The Lions held a 312-64 advantage in rushing yards.

Menders' punt return was the Red Foxes' first for a touchdown since Zach Adler ran one back 90 yards for a score against Georgetown in 2014.

Menders' return of 82 yards was tied for the fourth longest for a touchdown against Columbia all-time.

Marist had five plays – four from scrimmage, and Menders' punt return touchdown – of at least 40 yards.

Marist is now 0-5 against Columbia all-time.

PARADY "Fantastic beginning for our football team," head coach Jim Parady said. "We got a big play on special teams, we hit a big vertical, and had a lot of momentum going on. After that, we couldn't get things going on the offense to sustain any drives, we put our defense out there for a long time, and Columbia wore us down on that side."

Marist plays its home opener on Saturday, Sept. 25 against Bryant. Kickoff is set for 6 p.m.

It will be the Red Foxes' first night game at Tenney Stadium since 2017.

**BROOKE LOVELAND
MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY
SOCCER
Troy 2018**

Senior goalkeeper Stephanie Moir finished with 10 saves and the Mansfield University women's soccer team held East Stroudsburg University scoreless for the final 82 minutes of competition, but the Warriors scored the game's only

goal in the eighth minute to steal a PSAC East Victory at home on Saturday night, Sept. 18.

After allowing the early score, the Mounties' defense tightened and did not allow another goal for the remainder of the contest. However, the dagger in the eighth minute proved to be the game-winner.

Mirthe Bos was credited with the Warriors lone score.

Moir surrendered one goal in the 90 minutes, while finishing with her second double-digit save performance of the season.

Freshman Alexandra Benedict led the Mounties' offense with two shots on goal.

The Mounties next match is a rematch with PSAC East foe West Chester University at 1 p.m. on the road on Wednesday, Sept. 22.

**HUNTER MCCLELLAN
LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY
SOCCER
Troy 2018**

The Lock Haven University women's soccer team (2-2-1, 0-2-1 PSAC East) fell to West Chester University (3-0-1, 3-0-1 PSAC East), 4-0, in Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Eastern Division play on Saturday afternoon at Hubert Jack Stadium.

The two teams were locked in a scoreless draw for the entire first half as LHU goalkeeper Kylie Auman (Centre Hall, Pa./Penns Valley Area) made a handful of fine saves to keep the two teams scoreless.

West Chester and the Bald Eagles remained deadlocked until the 78th minute when some fine Golden Ram passing in the attacking zone set up the opening goal by Kaitlynn Haughey. With the one-goal lead in hand, West Chester went on to find the back of the net three more times in the final 10 minutes to take the 4-0 victory.

Auman did all she could in goal to keep The Haven tied. The freshman goalkeeper was forced into six saves on the day, including a fine double save sequence late in first half to keep the match scoreless.

The Bald Eagles registered four shots on goal, including one each from Evelyn Ciacca (Fairless Hills, Pa./Pennsbury) and Taylor Moritz (Harleysville, Pa./Souderstown Area High), who each turned in notable performances for The Haven.



photo provided

Troy volleyball falls to Wellsboro

Troy was able to take a game from Wellsboro, but ultimately fell 3-1 in NTL volleyball action Saturday.

The Hornets took the first two sets 25-19 and 25-11, but the Trojans rallied in the third to win 25-22. Wellsboro, though, pulled away in the fourth set to win 25-11.

Madison Vargas had eight points, a kill, four assists, and seven digs for Troy, while Meredith Cole had two

points, three kills, and five digs.

Kaitlyn Ensminger had two points, and four digs, with Tyra Williams getting six points, a kill, and five digs.

Jalayna Young had four points, as Lydia Lewis had five points, and four digs. Savannah Spencer notched two points, and a kill, had while Alexis Bellinger and Tailyann Stahle had one dig each.

Trojans come up short against Wellsboro

Troy's Wyatt Hodlofski continued his goal scoring streak, but it wasn't enough, as Wellsboro pulled away from Troy 5-1 in NTL boys' soccer action Saturday.

It was the Trojans taking the lead as Hodlofski drove through the Hornet defense for a goal halfway through the opening half.

Wellsboro responded quickly, though, with back to back goals by Owen Richardson and Jack Poirier to make it 2-1 at midway point.

Then, in the second half, a Richardson penalty kick less than 10 minutes in made it 3-1, and it was all downhill from there for Troy.

Poirier, and Ethan Barlett netted their final two goals.

The Hornets had a 12-5 edge in shots, and a 4-3 advantage in corner kicks.

Troy keeper Eli Randall made seven saves in net as the Trojan backline drew 13 offsides calls on Wellsboro.



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NORTHERN TIER SPORTS REPORT

Complete coverage of Canton and Troy athletics, and the rest of the Bradford County schools, too