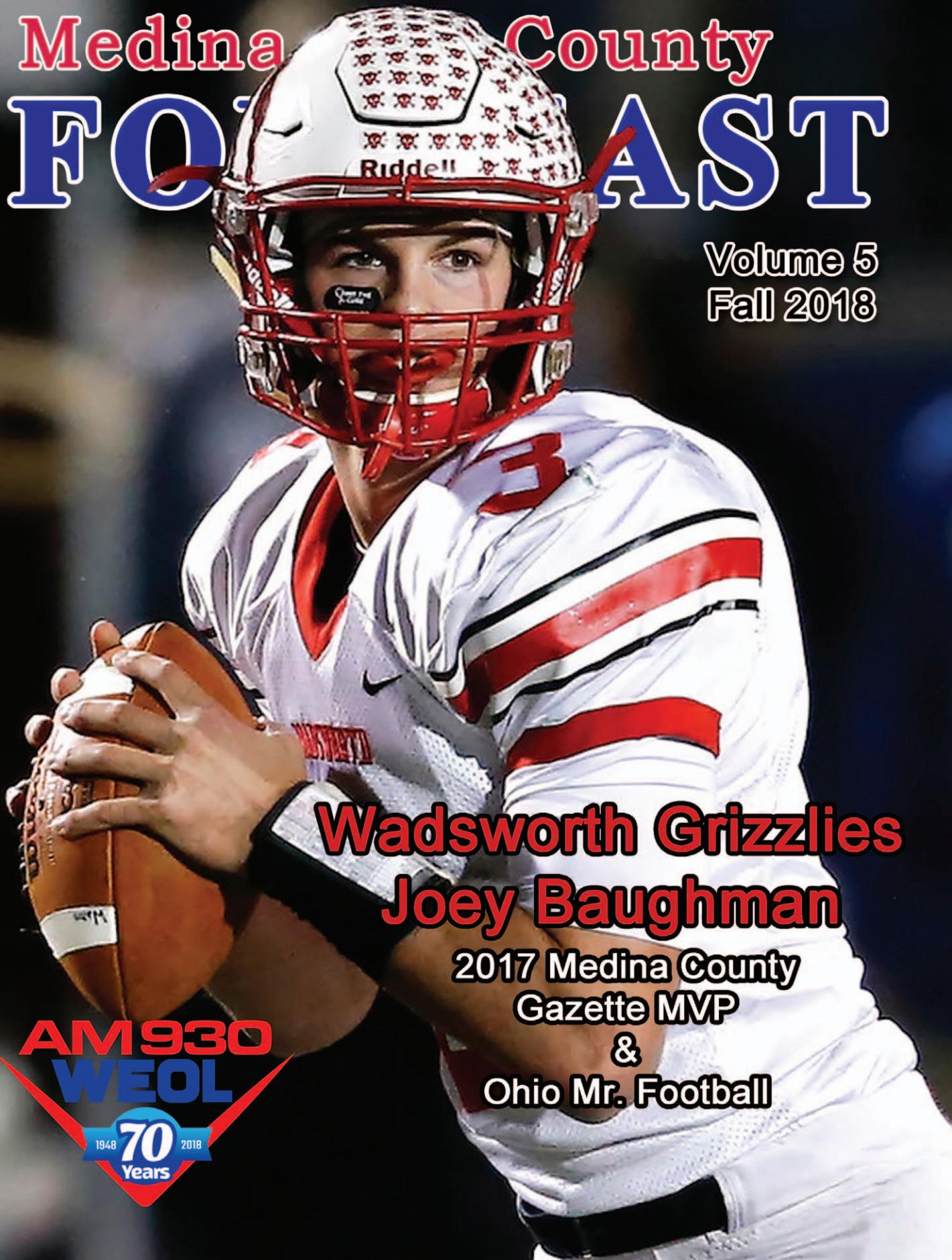


Medina County FOOTBALL FORECAST

Volume 5
Fall 2018



Wadsworth Grizzlies Joey Baughman

2017 Medina County
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&
Ohio Mr. Football

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Welcome to another edition of FORECAST!

Yes, it's time for another season of outstanding high school football on AM 930 WEOL, www.weol.com and the WEOL mobile app. Whether it's a single game on Thursday, three games on Friday, or multiple games on Saturday, you can count on us for wall to wall, in-depth team coverage of high school football.

Once again this year, AM 930 WEOL will be your home for The Ohio State University Buckeyes, a team that for the first time in recent years won't feature a quarterback named J.T. Barrett.

We hope FORECAST will help you enjoy the 2018 seasons of OSU and your favorite high school teams.

Look for our feature on the 2018 edition of the Cleveland Browns; a new season, a new front office and yet another new starting quarterback.

We thank our great sponsors who make our broadcasts and this magazine possible. And as always, we appreciate the assistance and support of high school athletic directors, coaches and staff.

See you under the lights!

Craig R. Adams
Operations Manager/News Director
WEOL AM 930



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WEOL FORECAST MAGAZINE FALL 2018 PREVIEW

A Publication of AM930 WEOL
Volume 5

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About the Cover:

It was a record setting year in 2017 for Wadsworth Joey Baughman who lead the Grizzlies to their first undefeated season since 1996 and the teams first Suburban League title since 2009. The 2017 Medina Gazette MVP broke three single game county records for passing yards (416 yards vs North Royalton), total offense (520 yards vs Hudson), and passing touchdowns (five vs Sylvania Northview). Along with earning the Gazette MVP, The Wadsworth quarterback earned the prestigious honor of Ohio's Mr. Football by passing for 3,060 yards, rushing for 1,533 yards and combining for 56 touchdowns on the season. Baughman was a tremendous athlete who had committed to the University of Virginia for wrestling, but after gaining national attention for his outstanding senior season, the former Grizzly decided to pursue football and will continue his career at Elon University in North Carolina this fall.

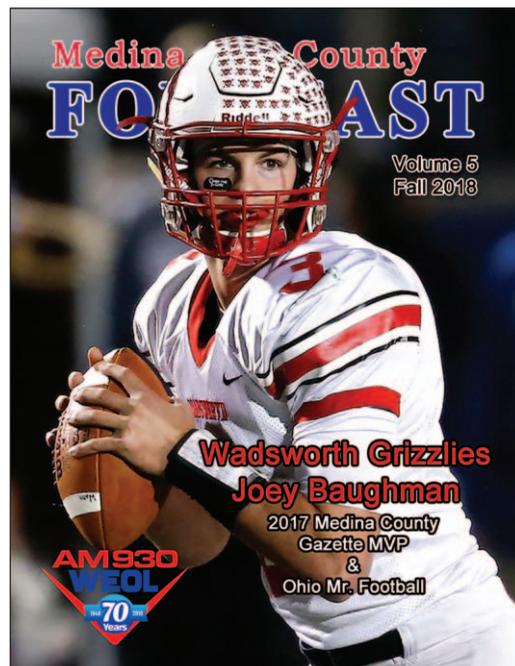


Photo by Ron Schwane | Medina Gazette



AM930/WEOL.COM

High School Football Line-Up

The Forecast Show

Friday nights from 5pm until kick-off we preview the night's games with the coaches.

Cleveland Clinic Gridiron Clash & Tri-C Medina County Match-Up

At 6:30pm Friday night we kick off the Cleveland Clinic Gridiron Clash on AM930 and on WEOL.com Stream 2.

On WEOL.com Stream 3, we feature The Tri-C Medina County Match-Up

All games can be heard at weol.com or on the WEOL mobile app.

THE SCOREBOARD SHOW

When the final horn sounds around 10pm on Friday we will let you know who the big winners are around Northeast Ohio

The Nick Abraham Saturday Sports Wrap-Up Show

On Saturday morning from 9am - 11am, get the scores and hear from the previous night's winning coaches in Lorain and Medina County.



2018 Medina County High School Football Preview

By Brad Bournival

There have been great seasons as a whole in Medina County, and last year was one of them with Black River, Buckeye, Highland, and Wadsworth playing past Week 10.

One thing that can't be argued is that from an individual standpoint it could have been one of the best years.

Wadsworth quarterback Joey Baughman became the first Mr. Football winner in area history and records fell almost weekly.

Here's a look at the seven county teams:

Black River (11-2, 4-1, 2nd in Patriot Athletic Conference Stars Division)

Coach Al Young certainly has holes to fill after losing second-team Division V All-Ohio fullback Jacob Campbell (1,462, 28 touchdowns), honorable mention all-state wingback Riley Gibbs (1,570, 22), and Travis Sexton (1,361, 16). The good news is the veteran coach has Riley Bartolic returning at quarterback/linebacker (Sr., 5-foot-9, 195 pounds) along with inside linebacker Alex Vormelker (Sr., 5-8, 175), outside line-

backer/running back Spencer Constable (Sr., 5-11, 170), guard/linebacker Mitchell Young (Sr., 5-9, 230), and tight end/outside linebacker Brennan Scheck (Sr., 6-1, 180).

"You don't replace them, you try to find somebody that can step in and do what you do," Al Young said. "Our program right now is probably as healthy as it has been. We've had great JV teams. The talent is good. We have a lot of kids that will be happy to step in."

Brunswick (5-5, 3-4, T-4th in Greater Cleveland Conference)

The first year under Coach Mark Pinzone is in the books and the Blue Devils are ready to take his offense to the next level. The Blue Devils have an experienced quarterback in Josh Stacho (Sr., 6-1, 190), who threw for 396 yards and a touchdown. There's also veteran leadership in safety Dakota Lavinder (Sr., 5-10, 175) and slot receiver/cornerback Ben Mewhinney (Sr., 5-10, 180), who was a state placer as part of Brunswick's 4x100-meter relay squad.



Ron Schwane

Wadsworth Grizzlies take the field.

"I expect us to be more competitive," Pinzone said. "While we improved last year and the record was better than last year, we were non-competitive in three or four of our five losses. We're certainly more organized as a whole."

Buckeye (10-1, 5-0, 1st in PAC Stars Division)

Adam Fauver (1,137 yards passing, 24 total touchdowns) may have graduated, but Dominic Monaco (547 yards rushing, 13 touchdowns) returns to a team that just seems to reload.

Monaco (Sr., 6-3, 200), tight end/defensive end Logan Schulz (Sr., 6-3, 275), defensive tackle Ryan Smith (Sr., 6-3, 275), and slotback/defensive back Anthony Watkins (Sr., 5-11, 175) are also back.

"Watkins helps us a lot because it gives us a guy we have confidence in," Bucks coach Greg Denison said. "We're solid up front, so we have to replace Adam Fauver and Justin Canedy. Those were the two guys that made most of our plays last year."

Senior Mike Knoll and junior Jacob Doerge are expected to replace Fauver.

Cloverleaf (3-7, 3-4, T-4th in Portage Trail Conference Metro

Division)

A losing streak that reached 22 games is dead. Now, Coach Justin Vorhies hopes to build from a team that broke a school record for points in a game (70-20, Field).

Brody Stallings (866 yards, 10 total touchdowns) is back under center, which is a huge help.

Stallings (Jr., 5-8, 175) will look for veteran help from defensive end Nate Clingan (Sr., 6-0, 255) and offensive tackle/defensive tackle Jake Kemp (Sr., 6-1, 275).

"We're excited after having a really good camp," Vorhies said. "Everybody has taken another step. Brody will have a new running back and new receivers, but we're ahead of where we left off last year. "The fact we won games last year has given us a different attitude. They've always worked, but now it's a sense of here's what we do and what we expect to do."

Highland (9-3, 4-2, 3rd in Suburban League American Division)

Hornets coach Mike Gibbons lost a big leader with Matthew Earnest (2,301 total yards), but he's got a star back in senior second-team D-II All-Ohio running back/cornerback Jake Rogers,

who rushed for 1,354 yards, caught for 584 yards receiving and 22 total touchdowns.

With Rogers (Sr., 5-9, 170), slot receiver/linebacker Brady Linder (Jr., 5-9, 170), and quarterback Jack McGinty (Sr. 5-11, 175) in the fold, Gibbons hopes there isn't much of a hiccup this season.

"You try to get Jake the ball in a variety of different ways," Gibbons said. "He's so explosive with the ball. He's always a threat to make big plays. These other kids are feeding off of how he goes about things. They want to go out there and do it themselves. I like our skill right now."

Medina (4-6, 3-4, T-4th in GCC)

Larry Laird is in his second season with the Bees and brings his winning attitude back to a team ready to take that next step. The veteran coach knows games are won and lost in the trenches and is expecting this year's Medina team to be good up front.

They'll have big-time players back in defensive linemen Dan Kasmarcak (Sr., 6-4, 235) and Noah Nunn (Jr., 6-5, 235) and

See FOOTBALL, 5



FOOTBALL

From 4

offensive lineman Ralph King (Sr., 6-4, 275).

“I think it’s night and day from us as far as strength,” Laird said. “People will definitely know that we’ve been in the weight room for a full calendar year.”

Wadsworth (11-1, 7-0, 1st in SL National Conference)

Quarterbacks need to be replaced all the time in high school, but few hit the level of Baughman, who had 4,593 yards total offense and 56 total touchdowns. Add that to the fact the Grizzlies lost two stud wide receivers in third-team D-II All-Ohioan Mitchell Blackburn (79 receptions, 1,180 yards, 7 touchdowns) and honorable mention all-state graduate Christian Szalay (67, 952, 10), and the offense will have a different look.

The good news is Brock Snowball is back with his 663 yards rushing and 23 touchdowns.

Snowball (Sr., 6-1, 210), running back/inside linebacker Mason McMillen (Sr., 6-0, 210),



Ron Schwane

Black River Coach Al Young talks with his team.

and quarterback Trey Shaffer (Jr., 6-1, 180) hope to have the answers.

“Here’s the reality, you don’t replace those guys,” Grizzlies

coach Justin Todd said. “What you do is you adapt and that’s the fun part about coaching. Our offense will look different than last year, but we think we have

the kids to step in. We’re not going to replicate the crazy, video game numbers from last year, but we feel really good about what our offense is going to be.”



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Adam Cahill



@AdamRCahill

Tri-C Medina County Match-Up

On WEOL.com Stream 3

Fri, Aug. 24
7:00pm



Highland v Brunswick

Fri, Aug. 31
7:00pm



Highland v Medina

Fri. Sept. 7
7:00pm



Ontario v Black River

Fri, Sept. 14
7:00pm



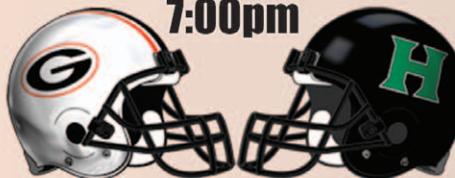
Coventry v Cloverleaf

Fri. Sept. 21
7:00pm



Columbia v Buckeye

Fri, Sept. 28
7:00pm



Green v Highland

Fri. Oct. 5
7:00pm



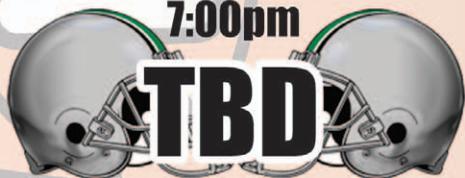
Black River v Buckeye

Fri, Oct. 12
7:00pm



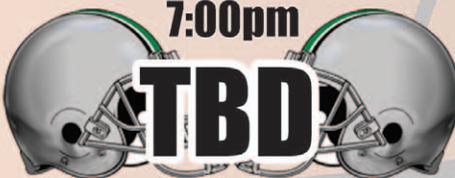
Elyria v Medina

Fri. Oct. 19
7:00pm



TBD

Fri, Oct. 26
7:00pm



TBD

MEDINA COUNTY 2018 High School Football Schedules

Black River Pirates

8/24	Western Reserve.....	Away
8/31	Northwestern.....	Away
9/7	Ontario.....	Home
9/14	Fairview.....	Away
9/21	Oberlin.....	Home
9/28	Keystone.....	Home
10/5	Buckeye.....	Away
10/12	Brookside.....	Away
10/19	Firelands.....	Home
10/26	Wellington.....	Home

Brunswick Blue Devils

8/24	Highland.....	Home
8/31	Cleveland Hts.....	Home
9/7	Valley Forge.....	Away
9/15	Shaker Hts.....	Away
9/21	Mentor.....	Home
9/28	Solon.....	Home
10/5	Elyria.....	Away
10/12	Euclid.....	Home
10/19	Medina.....	Home
10/26	Strongsville.....	Away

Buckeye Bucks

8/24	Revere.....	Away
8/31	Rocky River.....	Home
9/7	Cloverleaf.....	Home
9/14	Lutheran West.....	Away
9/21	Columbia.....	Home
9/28	Wellington.....	Away
10/5	Black River.....	Home
10/12	Firelands.....	Away
10/19	Keystone.....	Home
10/26	Brookside.....	Away

Cloverleaf Colts

8/24	Canton South.....	Away
8/31	Keystone.....	Home
9/7	Buckeye.....	Away
9/14	Coventry.....	Home
9/21	Norton.....	Away
9/28	Woodridge.....	Home
10/5	Springfield.....	Away
10/12	Ravenna.....	Home
10/19	Field.....	Away
10/26	Streetsboro.....	Home

Columbia Raiders

8/24	Independence.....	Away
8/31	Kirtland.....	Home
9/7	Northwestern.....	Away
9/14	Keystone.....	Home
9/21	Buckeye.....	Away
9/28	Lutheran West.....	Home
10/5	Clearview.....	Away
10/12	Brooklyn.....	Away
10/19	Fairview.....	Home
10/26	Oberlin.....	Home

Copley Indians

8/24	Twinsburg.....	Away
8/31	Firestone.....	Home
9/7	Lake.....	Home
9/14	Bedford.....	Home
9/21	Barberton.....	Away
9/28	Revere.....	Home
10/5	Tallmadge.....	Away
10/12	Highland.....	Away
10/19	Aurora.....	Home
10/26	Roosevelt.....	Away

Firelands Falcons

8/24	Edison.....	Home
8/31	New London.....	Home
9/7	Vermilion.....	Away
9/14	Ashland.....	Away
9/21	Fairview.....	Home
9/28	Brookside.....	Away
10/5	Wellington.....	Home
10/12	Buckeye.....	Home
10/19	Black River.....	Away
10/26	Keystone.....	Away

Green Bulldogs

8/24	Ashland.....	Home
8/31	Riverside.....	Away
9/7	Louisville.....	Home
9/14	MicKinley.....	Home
9/21	GlenOak.....	Away
9/28	Highland.....	Away
10/5	Perry.....	Home
10/12	Hoover.....	Away
10/19	Jackson.....	Home
10/26	Lake.....	Away

Highland Hornets

8/24	Brunswick.....	Away
8/31	Medina.....	Away
9/7	North Royalton.....	Home
9/14	Roosevelt.....	Home
9/21	Revere.....	Home
9/28	Green.....	Home
10/5	Aurora.....	Away
10/12	Copley.....	Home
10/19	Tallmadge.....	Away
10/26	Barberton.....	Away

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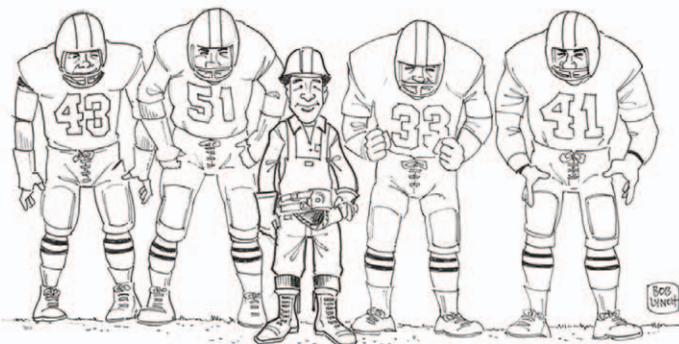


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Keystone Wildcats

8/24	Bay	Home
8/31	Cloverleaf	Away
9/7	Norwayne	Home
9/14	Columbia	Away
9/21	Brooklyn	Home
9/28	Black River	Away
10/5	Brookside	Home
10/12	Wellington	Away
10/19	Buckeye	Away
10/26	Firelands	Home

Medina Battling Bees

8/24	Cleveland Hts.	Away
8/31	Highland	Home
9/7	Wadsworth	Away
9/14	Euclid	Away
9/21	Shaker Hts.	Home
9/28	Mentor	Home
10/5	Strongsville	Away
10/12	Elyria	Home
10/19	Brunswick	Away
10/26	Solon	Home

Nordonia Knights

8/24	Bedford	Away
8/31	Woodridge	Away
9/7	Mayfield	Home
9/14	Wadsworth	Away
9/21	Hudson	Home
9/28	Stow	Away
10/5	Brecksville	Home
10/12	Cuyahoga Falls	Away
10/19	North Royalton	Home
10/26	Twinsburg	Home

Oberlin Phoenix

8/24	Vermilion	Home
8/31	Lutheran East	Home
9/7	Trinity	Away
9/14	Brookside	Home
9/21	Black River	Away
9/28	Columbia	Home
10/5	Fairview	Away
10/12	Lutheran West	Home
10/19	Brooklyn	Home
10/26	Columbia	Away

Revere Minutemen

8/24	Buckeye	Home
8/31	Eastlake North	Away
9/7	Firestone	Home
9/14	Barberton	Home
9/21	Highland	Away
9/28	Copley	Away
10/5	Roosevelt	Home
10/12	Aurora	Home
10/19	Bay	Away
10/26	Tallmadge	Away

Strongsville Mustangs

8/24	Berea-Midpark	Home
8/31	Hudson	Home
9/7	Central Catholic	Away
9/14	Mentor	Away
9/21	Solon	Home
9/28	Euclid	Away
10/5	Medina	Home
10/13	Shaker Hts	Away
10/19	Elyria	Away
10/26	Brunswick	Home

Tallmadge Blue Devils

8/24	Ravenna	Away
8/31	Ellet	Home
9/7	Coventry	Home
9/14	Aurora	Away
9/21	Dover	Away
9/28	Roosevelt	Away
10/5	Copley	Home
10/12	Barberton	Away
10/19	Highland	Home
10/26	Revere	Home

Wadsworth Grizzlies

8/24	Firestone	Home
8/31	Wooster	Away
9/7	Medina	Home
9/14	Nordonia	Home
9/21	Stow	Away
9/28	Cuyahoga Falls	Home
10/5	North Royalton	Home
10/12	Twinsburg	Away
10/19	Brecksville	Away
10/26	Hudson	Home

Wellington Dukes

8/24	Normandy	Away
8/31	Mapleton	Away
9/7	New London	Home
9/14	Clearview	Away
9/21	Lutheran West	Home
9/28	Buckeye	Home
10/5	Firelands	Away
10/12	Keystone	Home
10/19	Brookside	Home
10/26	Black River	Away



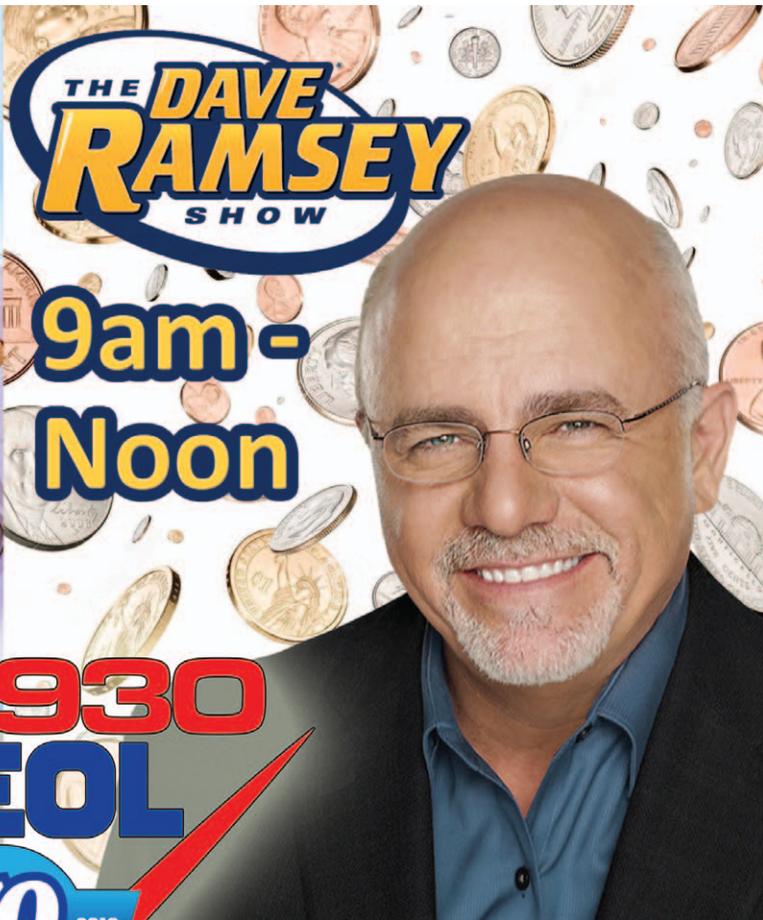
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noon - 3:00pm



2018 Ohio State Football Preview



OSU Marching band

By Rob Polinsky

Ohio State went 12-2 in 2017 including a five game winning streak to end the campaign. The Buckeyes once again defeated Michigan they won the Big Ten Championship game over Wisconsin and had a bowl victory by

dumping USC 24-7.

Urban Meyer begins his seventh season in Columbus with an overall record at Ohio State of 73-8. OSU will open the 2018 season by hosting OSU...no, this isn't the spring Scarlet and Gray game. Ohio State hosts Oregon State on Labor Day weekend Saturday September 1st at noon.

The highlight of the nonconference schedule is a trip to Dallas area where the Buckeyes will play Texas Christian University at the home of the Dallas Cowboys on Saturday September 15th at 8pm.

After a week two meeting with Rutgers on September 8th, The Bucks get into the full swing of conference play with a trip to Happy Valley and a tilt with Penn State on September 29th. The

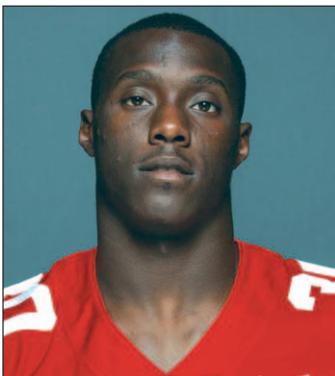
following Saturday, Ohio State will host Indiana University on October 6, that game will serve as homecoming. November has always been a big month in college football and OSU has some great matchups this November. They include hosting Nebraska November 3rd, going to MSU on November 10th, and hosting Michigan to end the regular season on November 24th. The Big Ten championship game will be played Saturday December 1st at 8pm in Indianapolis.

Kevin Wilson returns as the offensive coordinator along with seven starters from a year ago. During his first season in Columbus, Wilson's offense averaged over 500 yards per game and 41 points per game. However, a key cog to that offense,

quarterback JT Barrett, has graduated and it appears his replacement is still up in the air. Currently Dwayne Haskins and Tate Martell are battling to for the starting quarterback position. Earlier this year Joe Burrow, who was seen as a possible contender to take over as the play calling duties, decided to transfer to LSU.

Back at wide receiver this year are Parris Campbell and KJ Hill. The Buckeyes should also be strong in the backfield, returning JK Dobbins, Mike Weber, and North Ridgeville's own Demario McCall at running back. On the line, Michael Jordan and Isaiah Prince are expected to be two of the team's top offensive leaders.

Greg Schiano returns to his



DeMario McCall

See **OSU**, 12





Nick Bosa

OSU

From 11

seat as the team's defensive coordinator despite nearly leaving for Tennessee over the off-season. The Buckeye defense could be one of the team's biggest question marks with just four starters returning from a year ago. Last season this group allowed 300 yards per game and 19 points per game. The defense has to replace a ton of talent including five starters who were drafted this past spring in the NFL draft. Six of last year's top ten tacklers are gone. The good news, one of the nation's top defenders returns in Nick Bosa on the defensive line. The secondary will be young; Jordan Fuller who is the leading returning tackler should lead that group. Some of the issues for the defense appear to be that they are very young; they have to replace seven starters. They will have to get good in a hurry with

two big road tests in the month of September at Texas Christian and Penn State.

If Ohio State survives September the schedule gets easier in October. Football fans will want to circle the calendar for November 10th. That is the day the Buckeyes make the trip to East Lansing to take on the Michigan State Spartans. That game might just decide who represents the Eastern Division and goes to Indianapolis to contend for the Big Ten Championship Trophy.

Last November the Buckeyes were upset by the Hawkeyes in Iowa in a 55-24 loss that essentially cost the program a playoff spot. This year Iowa is off the schedule, but Ohio State will play at Purdue on October 20th and the Buckeyes must

avoid that upset if they want to have a championship season in 2018.

All Ohio State football games will be heard on AM 930 WEOL with the announcing team of Paul Keels, Jim Lachey, and Matt

Andrews. Tune in for the pregame coverage ninety minutes prior to kickoff each game. WEOL will also air the weekly Coach Urban Meyer show and the Buckeye Roundtable program.



JK Dobbins



2018 Ohio State Football Schedule



9/1	vs Oregon State	Noon
9/8	vs Rutgers	3:30pm
9/15	vs TCU in Arlington	8:00pm
9/22	vs Tulane	TBA
9/29	@ Penn State	TBA
10/6	vs Indiana	TBA
10/13	vs Minnesota	TBA
10/20	@ Purdue	TBA
11/3	vs Nebraska	TBA
11/10	@ Michigan State	TBA
11/17	@ Maryland	TBA
11/24	vs Michigan	Noon
12/1	BIG CHAMPIONSHIP	8:00pm



All games can be heard on WEOL



It couldn't get any worse, could it?

By: Andy "Bull" Barch

A year ago, in the opening paragraph of the fall Forecast Magazine Browns Preview, I mentioned that mathematically, things could get worse for the Browns. While I wasn't expecting them to go winless in the 2017 season, I can't say I was totally surprised by what I saw.

The good news for Browns fans is that mathematically, this time, I can confidently say, that it cannot get any worse. You'd like to think that 2017 was rock bottom for a franchise that has toed that line many times over the last two decades. However, if last year was not rock bottom, then Browns fans might want to make other plans for Sundays this fall.

While the Browns spent a good chunk of free agency in 2017 trying to build their offensive line, they decided to focus more on the skill positions this off season. Prior to drafting Baker Mayfield first overall to hopefully be the quarterback of the future, the Browns made many other moves that should give fans hope for a few victories this year.

All eyes will be on Mayfield, of course, but prior to making him the first overall pick, the Browns made a trade for another signal caller, as they parted ways with a third round draft pick in exchange for Tyrod Taylor, a three year starter for the Buffalo Bills. In 2017, Taylor led the Bills to the playoffs, marking Buffalo's first playoff appearance since 1999.

2018 will be Taylor's eighth in



Kristin Bauer

Jarvis Landry

the NFL, but his fourth as a starting quarterback. Throughout his career, he's completed 62.4 percent (793-for-1,271) of his passes, while throwing for 9,056 yards, 51 touchdowns, and only 18 interceptions over 42 career starts. Taylor has been effective as a rusher as well, running for 1,711 yards in his career, averaging 5.5 yards per carry, and he has 15 rushing touchdowns as well.

While the wide receiving corps has been routinely scrutinized in recent years, new Browns General Manager John Dorsey decided to upgrade that position by making a trade for Jarvis Landry. The Browns traded a fourth and seventh round draft pick to the Miami Dolphins for Landry. Browns fans have plenty of reasons to be excited about the NFL's leader in receptions in 2017. Landry is entering his fifth NFL season, and he's been very productive throughout his career. Landry has caught at least four touchdown passes in every season, and hauled in nine last year with the Dolphins. He's also tal-

lied a pair of 1,110-plus yard receiving seasons, and has not missed a single game over the last four seasons. Landry has caught 400 passes in his career for 4,038 yards, 22 touchdowns and he's been selected to the Pro Bowl three times.

In 2017, the Browns averaged 122 yards per game on the ground, and averaged 4.5 yards per carry. However, they will replace last year's leading rusher, Isaiah Crowell, who left via free agency. To fill part of the void, the Browns signed former Ohio State tailback Carlos Hyde. Hyde comes to Cleveland after spending the last four seasons with the San Francisco 49ers. He's coming off one of his finer seasons, where he ran for 940 yards, eight touchdowns—a career high, and more importantly, he registered a career high 240 carries without fumbling once.

In addition to Hyde, the Browns will also rely on Duke Johnson, who was one of their lone offensive playmakers a season ago. Johnson recently signed a three-

year contract extension through the 2021 season. In 2017, not only was he the Browns' second leading rusher with 348 yards, finding the end zone four times, but he was also the team's leading receiver. He caught 74 passes for 693 yards and caught three touchdown passes as well.

Defensively, the Browns showed some signs of improvement last year under Defensive Coordinator Greg Williams, but there's still a lot of room to grow. The Browns allowed just 97.9 yards per game on the ground, seventh best in the NFL, but their 25.6 points per game allowed average was second to last.

There's a lot of hype surrounding the return of 2017 first overall pick Myles Garrett. Garrett, when healthy, was a force up front. While injuries limited him to just 11 games last season, he made his presence felt with 31 tackles and had seven sacks.

Veteran linebacker Jamie Collins will return in 2018 for the Browns, after missing 10 games

See **BROWNS**, 15



Kristin Bauer

Denzel Ward



Kristin Bauer

Baker Mayfield

BROWNS

From 14

last season due to injury as well. 2018 will be his seventh year as a pro, and big expectations await the former Pro Bowler, who signed a four-year, 50-million dollar contract with the Browns after

the 2017 season.

In the secondary, the Browns have experienced quite a bit of turnover in recent years. In April, the Browns used their second top-5 pick on Ohio State cornerback Denzel Ward. Ward is expected to make an immediate impact on a secondary that strug-

gled a bit against the pass last season. The Browns surrendered 28 touchdown passes last season, only five teams in the NFL allowed more in 2017.

Ward, a native of Macedonia, Ohio, saw a significant amount of snaps as an underclassman before becoming a starter his junior year. The 5-11, 183-pound cornerback had a terrific junior season, with 37 total tackles, defended 15 passes and came away with a pair of interceptions. He was a First Team All-Big 10 selection and a consensus All-American.

What might be difficult for Browns fans in 2018 is the idea that they'll have to wait to see their first overall pick, Baker Mayfield, make an impact on the field. Mayfield, who faced some scrutiny in his college career for some of his off-the-field antics, did nothing but produce between the lines. A three-year starter at Oklahoma, Mayfield posted gaudy numbers as the Sooners signal caller. In three years at the helm with the Sooners, he threw for 12,005 yards, 117 touchdowns, and just 20 interceptions. May-

field showed the ability to make plays with his feet as well, rushing for 893 yards and 18 touchdowns as a three-year starter at Oklahoma.

The off-season has become so incredibly exciting for Browns fans over the last two decades, simply because once the season starts, their hopes fade quickly. With another new General Manager on board, and an experienced group of assistants along with him, Browns fans have been filled with hope yet again since the end of 2017 season.

However, expecting a gigantic turnaround is probably unrealistic. Very few know how thin the patience may be running with ownership and the front office in regards to Head Coach Hue Jackson, who is 1-31 as the Browns' sideline sergeant. Last year, I thought he needed to win at least five games to keep his job. He went winless, and kept his job, so that shows you how much I know. This year, I'd like to think he needs to win at least four games, perhaps two before the bye week in week 11 if he's going to be retained.

2018 SCHEDULE

<p>1 vs  SEP 9</p> <p>2 at  SEP 16</p> <p>3 vs  SEP 20</p> <p>4 at  SEP 30</p> <p>5 vs  OCT 7</p> <p>6 vs  OCT 14</p> <p>7 at  OCT 21</p> <p>8 at  OCT 28</p>	<p>9 vs  NOV 4</p> <p>10 vs  NOV 11</p> <p>11 BYE</p> <p>12 at  NOV 25</p> <p>13 at  DEC 2</p> <p>14 vs  DEC 9</p> <p>15 at  DEC 15</p> <p>16 vs  DEC 23</p> <p>17 at  DEC 30</p>
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September 21st vs Revere **NEXEN TIRE**

September 28th vs Green **YOKOHAMA**

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Thursday: 7:30a-6:00p

Saturday: 7:30a-1:00p

Contest Rules: Must be at least 18 years old to enter. One entry per person. Only need to register once for all eligible games. Must be registered by midnight the Tuesday following the last home game to be eligible for the drawing for that week's drawing. Drawing will be held at 5:00 pm the Wednesday following the last home game for that week's winner. Winners will be contacted by registered phone number. Winners will also be announced at the next home game. Eligible tires and patterns for drawing will switch from week to week. Eligible tires will be announced prior to that weeks game. Prize includes customer's choice of eligible tires, installation and tire fees. No cash equivalent. Tires must be original equipment size for vehicle. NO UPSIZING. Tires must be installed on vehicle. No carry outs.



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