



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



West Lafayette's Travis Rolle finishes off a second-quarter touchdown reception against Rensselaer on Friday night.
BRENT DRINKUT/J&C

PURDUE MEN'S BASKETBALL

Boilers will allow Hale to transfer

Forward likely headed to DII Bellarmine

By Jeff Washburn
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Hale

Purdue redshirt sophomore forward Donnie Hale has asked for a release from his scholarship and will transfer to another school, likely Division II Bellarmine in Louisville.

The 6-foot-8 Hale averaged 3.8 points and 2.8 rebounds in 32 games as a redshirt freshman.

Coach Matt Painter said Friday afternoon that Hale wants to be closer to his New Albany home and has a desire for more playing time. Painter has granted Hale's request.

Contacted Friday afternoon, Hale said he plans to finish the semester at Purdue and then transfer, probably to Bellarmine, which is just a few miles across the Ohio River from his home in New Albany. Hale, who will be 22 in October, wants to be closer to his girlfriend, with whom he has a daughter who will be 3 in November. Hale said he is 99.9 percent sure Bellarmine is where he will transfer.

Hale's girlfriend and daughter live in Charlestown, which also is near New Albany.

If he transfers to Bellarmine, Hale will be eligible to play there at the start of the second semester, as soon as Purdue's first-semester grades are posted. After graduating from New Albany in 2010, Hale spent the 2010-11 season at a prep school. He enrolled at Purdue the following season and redshirted. Last season, as a redshirt freshman, he made eight starts.

"It's really all family-based, wanting to be closer to home," Hale said Friday. "That really is the main factor. I've thought about this for a little bit. After thinking about it, I just decided that this was the best choice for my family."

"That part has been tough for me, really wanting to be a lot closer to them while I am playing basketball and getting my education. They want to be more of a part of my life as well."

Hale said he anticipated receiving an opportunity to play extended minutes during the upcoming Purdue season.

"That part of it was going to be just fine," Hale said. "There are really a lot of good guys in the locker room. It was a great time here. (The decision) didn't have anything to do with that. I have no hard feelings towards Purdue at all. I will always wish the guys in that locker room and the coaching staff the best of luck. I will be cheering for them."

West Side stays perfect

Watt delivers big plays as Red Devils top Rensselaer in battle of unbeaten, 20-14

By Nathan Baird
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Brandon Watt can look back on three big plays in Class 3A No. 4 West Lafayette's 20-14 victory over 2A No. 2 Rensselaer at Straley Field on Friday.

The Red Devil senior returned the opening kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown,

breaking a school record that had stood for 46 years. He hauled in a go-ahead 79-yard touchdown pass from Parker Ronchetto that stood up as the game-winner. And he ended the Bombers' ensuing drive with an interception in West Lafayette territory.

But Watt could look back with a chuckle on one that got away: a pass that could have gone for a back-breaking 94-yard touchdown when he beat the Rensselaer secondary. Instead, the ball fell harmlessly through his hands.

Watt and his teammates had to sweat out the pivotal Hoosier Conference vic-

tory, which Matt Nordlund sealed with a sack of Bombers quarterback Dylan Wright in the final minute.

"We were just prepared," Watt said. "We had our assignments. We knew what we were doing. We scouted all week. They had a great offense, but we had a defense that was prepared to come out and hit them hard."

Big plays in all three phases pushed the Red Devils to 6-0 overall and 4-0 in the Hoosier Conference.

"It's huge," said West Lafayette defen-

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Better late than never for Knights

Witteveen's heroics save CC in 14-7 triumph over Tipton

By Sam King
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TIPTON — Mitch Witteveen was sitting in the stands when Central Catholic defeated Delphi in the season opener.

The senior hadn't played football since he was a scrawny freshman. He didn't want to have regrets about giving up on potential lifetime memories with his peers and sought out coach Kevin O'Shea the following Monday with a desire to return.

The coaching staff and the



Witteveen

captains made a rare exception, allowing Witteveen back on the team under the following conditions: He would not have a starting spot "unless something funky happened" and he would run two miles a day for three weeks to show his commitment after missing preseason training.

Friday night assured those who allowed him back that they had made the right decision, and Witteveen proved to himself he did as well with his 67-yard punt return that sealed Class 2A No. 3 CC's 14-7 victory at Tipton.

"I was in pain watching them, and my senior year, I thought I wanted to have no regrets after looking back at high school," Witteveen said. "I came out and I feel like I am helping the team out as much as I can."

Friday night, Witteveen was a difference-maker both on special teams and defensively.

In a game defined by defense and penalties, it was an untimely decision to punt the ball inbounds, but away from playmaker Jackson Anthrop, that spoiled the Blue Devils' homecoming.

Tipton had the ball with 1:40 to go, but threw an incomplete and CC burned two timeouts. With 1:06 to go, Witteveen capped a fantastic football

game with a fantastic finish.

"This is really the first time I've let (someone join the team after the season started)," O'Shea said. "Something funky happened, and we had to put Mitch out on the field. And we're very blessed that he came out because without that, he wouldn't have bailed us out tonight."

The prior Tipton series, an undersized Knights defense plugged up the middle on a fourth-and-inches play, offsetting a bad punt snap that gave Tipton the ball with a short field and time dwindling.

"On defense, every play is crucial and we're just coming at them full steam," said line-

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Standings

American League

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Div.	Home	Away
Boston (d)	97	63	.606	—	W-2	6-4	44-30	53-28	44-35
TB (e)	90	70	.563	7	L-1	8-2	42-32	51-30	39-40
Balt. (e)	83	77	.519	14	L-1	3-7	34-40	44-35	39-42
x-NYY (e)	82	77	.516	14½	L-4	3-7	37-39	46-35	36-42
Toronto (e)	73	87	.456	24	W-1	4-6	29-45	39-40	34-47

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Div.	Home	Away
Detroit (d)	93	67	.581	—	L-1	6-4	47-29	51-30	42-37
Clev. (e)	90	70	.563	3	W-8	9-1	42-32	51-30	39-40
KC (e)	85	75	.531	8	W-2	6-4	43-31	44-37	41-38
Minn. (e)	66	94	.413	27	L-4	2-8	29-45	32-47	34-47
Chicago (e)	62	98	.388	31	L-4	3-7	25-49	36-43	26-55

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Div.	Home	Away
x-Oakland (d)	94	65	.591	—	L-2	6-4	42-31	52-29	42-36
Texas (e)	89	71	.556	5½	W-5	7-3	51-23	44-35	45-36
LAA (e)	78	82	.486	16½	L-2	5-5	32-42	39-42	39-40
x-Seattle (e)	70	89	.440	24	W-2	4-6	35-38	35-43	35-46
x-Houston (e)	51	108	.321	43	L-12	0-10	25-51	24-54	27-54

National League

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Div.	Home	Away
Atlanta (d)	95	65	.594	—	W-2	6-4	46-28	55-24	40-41
x-Wash. (e)	84	75	.528	10½	L-3	5-5	43-33	47-34	37-41
NYM (e)	73	87	.456	22	L-2	6-4	34-42	32-47	41-40
Phila. (e)	72	88	.450	23	L-3	2-8	36-38	43-38	29-50
Miami (e)	60	100	.375	35	W-2	5-5	29-47	34-45	26-55

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Div.	Home	Away
St. Louis (d)	95	65	.594	—	W-4	8-2	44-30	51-27	44-38
Pitt. (p) (e)	92	68	.575	3	W-1	5-5	43-31	50-31	42-37
Cin. (p) (e)	90	70	.563	5	L-3	6-4	40-34	49-29	41-41
Milw. (e)	73	87	.456	22	W-3	6-4	34-42	37-44	36-43
Chicago (e)	66	94	.413	29	L-1	3-7	25-49	31-50	35-44

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Div.	Home	Away
x-LAD (d)	91	68	.572	—	L-2	5-5	36-37	46-32	45-36
x-Arizona (e)	80	79	.503	11	L-2	4-6	36-40	44-34	36-45
x-SD (e)	75	84	.472	16	W-2	6-4	34-39	45-36	30-48
x-SF (e)	74	85	.465	17	W-2	6-4	42-31	40-39	34-46
x-Colo. (e)	72	87	.453	19	L-1	4-6	36-37	45-36	27-51

(magic number) (e) - eliminated from division race
(p) - clinched playoff berth (d) - clinched division title
x - Friday's game not included

AL pitching leaders

Through Thursday

ERA	Player	Team
2.64	Ani Sanchez	Detroit
2.64	Colon	Oakland
2.66	Iwakuma	Seattle
2.82	Darvish	Texas
2.90	Scherzer	Detroit

Strikeouts	Player	Team
269	Darvish	Texas
240	Scherzer	Detroit
221	Sale	Chicago
210	Fernandez	Seattle

Saves	Player	Team
48	Ji Johnson	Baltimore
46	G Holland	Kansas City
44	M Rivera	New York
41	Nathan	Texas

Wild card standings

American League

Team	W	L	PCT	GB
TB	91	69	.569	-
Cle	90	70	.569	-
Tex	89	71	.556	1

National League

Team	W	L	PCT	GB
Pit (p)	92	68	.575	-
Cin (p)	90	70	.563	-

Results

HOME team in caps

Friday's games

BRAVES 1, Phillies 0 Atlanta's **Chris Johnson** led off the eighth inning with a homer to spoil an otherwise dominant start by **Cliff Lee**, and **Kris Medlen** allowed only two hits in eight innings.

Brewers 4, METS 2 Milwaukee's **Norichika Aoki** hit a leadoff homer, and **Khris Davis** connected three batters later.

BLUE JAYS 6, Rays 3 Toronto's **R.A. Dickey** lead the Blue Jays to a victory that stopped the Rays' seven-game winning streak. Tampa Bay wasted a 2-0 lead and committed a season-high three errors, including a pair by two-time Gold Glove third baseman **Evan Longoria**.

MARLINS 3, Tigers 2 Detroit's **Jhonny Peralta** played in his first game since completing a 50-game suspension, going 1-for-4 with an RBI. Miami's **Giancarlo Stanton** drove in three runs.

Pirates 4, REDS 1 Pittsburgh's **Marlon Byrd** had three hits, and **Pedro Alvarez** hit a two-run homer. Both teams clinched postseason berths this week. Whoever wins the three-game series would be assured of hosting the one-game wild-card playoff on Tuesday night.

Red Sox 12, ORIOLES 3 Boston's **Clay Buchholz** allowed three runs over seven innings as the AL East champion Red Sox moved closer to securing home-field advantage throughout the postseason.

Royals 6, WHITE SOX 1 Kansas City's **James Shields** struck out 10 and scattered four hits over seven innings for his 100th career win, and the Royals ensured Chicago of its worst record since 1970.

CARDS 7, Cubs 0 St. Louis clinched its first NL Central title in four years behind the strong pitching of **Lance Lynn** and home runs by **David Freese** and **Matt Holliday**. St. Louis is tied with Atlanta for the best record in the NL. It is assured of home-field advantage when the NL division series starts Thursday.

Yankees 3, ASTROS 2 New York's **David Robertson** got the save as **Mariano Rivera** looked on, and the Yankees sent the Astros to their team-record 13th consecutive loss.

RANGERS 5, Angels 3 **Thursday:** Texas pinch hitter **Jurickson Profar** homered leading off the ninth inning, and the Rangers overcame a four-error inning to beat Los Angeles 6-5.

Indians 12, TWINS 6 **Thursday:** Cleveland reliever **Joe Smith** struck out pinch hitter **Oswaldo Arcia** to stop a ninth-inning rally and the Indians held off Minnesota 6-5.

Nationals at D'BACKS (late) **Arizona note:** GM **Kevin Towers** said the fate of his team's coaching staff will be determined soon after Sunday's final game.

Athletics at MARINERS (late) **Seattle note:** Manager **Eric Wedge** told the Mariners on Friday he will not return for next season, saying it became obvious he did not have a future with the organization.

Rockies at DODGERS (late) **Colorado note:** The Rockies handed out 35,000 **Todd Helton** bobblehead dolls on Wednesday.

Padres at GIANTS (late) **San Diego note:** Padres SS **Ronny Cedeno** missed his third straight game Thursday after being beaned by Arizona's **Heath Bell** on Monday night.

Look ahead

All times Eastern

Today's probable pitchers and lines

AMERICAN LEAGUE	GS	W-L	Pct.	WHIP	ERA	IP	BA
L.A. Angels at Texas, 12:05 ET (Line: Tex, -170)							
LAA: Richards (R)	16	7-7	.500	1.34	4.09	140.2	.266
TEX: Holland (L)	32	10-9	.526	1.28	3.33	208.1	.256
Cleveland at Minnesota, 1:05 ET (Line: Cle, -190)							
CLE: Kazmir (L)	28	9-9	.500	1.32	4.14	152.0	.262
MIN: De Vries (R)	1	0-1	.000	2.40	11.70	10.0	.356
Tampa Bay at Toronto, 1:07 ET (Line: TB, -160)							
TB: Archer (R)	22	9-7	.562	1.10	3.21	126.1	.221
TOR: Happ (L)	17	4-7	.364	1.52	4.85	85.1	.254
Oakland at Seattle, 4:10 ET (Line: Oak, -155)							
OAK: Parker (R)	31	12-7	.632	1.21	3.74	192.2	.239
SEA: Maurer (R)	13	4-8	.333	1.58	6.48	84.2	.313
Boston at Baltimore, 7:05 ET (Line: Bos, -120)							
BOS: Lester (L)	32	15-8	.652	1.27	3.67	208.1	.249
BAL: Chen (L)	22	7-7	.500	1.30	4.03	131.2	.267
Kansas City at Chicago White Sox, 7:10 ET (Line: KC, -120)							
KC: Ventura (R)	2	0-0	.000	1.06	1.59	11.1	.179
SOX: Johnson (R)	4	2-2	.500	1.57	2.82	22.1	.290
N.Y. Yankees at Houston, 7:10 ET (Line: NYY, -155)							
NY: Pettitte (L)	29	10-11	.476	1.36	3.88	176.1	.279
HOU: Clemens (R)	4	4-6	.400	1.50	5.69	68.0	.285

NATIONAL LEAGUE	GS	W-L	Pct.	WHIP	ERA	IP	BA
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 1:05 ET (Line: Cin, -135)							
PIT: Morton (R)	19	7-4	.636	1.24	3.14	111.2	.260
CIN: Arroyo (R)	31	14-11	.560	1.14	3.60	197.1	.255
San Diego at San Francisco, 4:05 ET (Line: SF, -135)							
SD: Stults (L)	32	10-13	.435	1.28	3.94	196.2	.276
SF: Pettit (R)	6	4-0	1.000	1.13	2.84	44.1	.236
Milwaukee at N.Y. Mets, 4:10 ET (Line: NYM, -115)							
MIL: Nelson (R)	0	0-0	.000	.60	.00	5.0	.063
NYM: Harang (R)	25	0-1	.000	1.35	5.57	137.1	.268
Philadelphia at Atlanta, 7:10 ET (Line: Atl, -250)							
PHI: TBA							
ATL: Minor (L)	31	13-8	.619	1.08	3.22	198.2	.233
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis, 4:15 ET (Line: StL, -180)							
CHC: Jackson (R)	30	8-17	.320	1.42	4.74	172.2	.273
STL: Wainwright (R)	33	18-9	.667	1.08	3.01	236.1	.250
Washington at Arizona, 8:10 ET (Line: Ari, -125)							
WAS: Haren (R)	29	9-14	.391	1.26	4.87	162.2	.273
ARI: McCarthy (R)	21	5-10	.333	1.37	4.64	128.0	.301
Colorado at L.A. Dodgers, 9:10 ET (Line: LAD, -230)							
COL: Nicasio (R)	30	8-9	.471	1.50	5.32	152.1	.272
LAD: Greinke (R)	27	15-3	.833	1.13	2.67	171.2	.236

INTERLEAGUE	GS	W-L	Pct.	WHIP	ERA	IP	BA
Detroit at Miami, 7:10 ET (Line: Det, -170)							
DET: Sanchez (R)	28	14-8	.636	1.18	2.64	177.0	.231
MIA: Eovaldi (R)	17	4-6	.400	1.31	3.50	100.1	.245

Wednesday's results

NYM 1, Cin 0
StL 4, Was 1
LAA 3, Oak 1
TB 7, NYY 2
Bal 9, Tor 5
Cle 7, CWS 2
Mil 4, Atl 0
Mia 3, Phi 2
Tex 7, Hou 3
Det 1, Min 2
Bos 15, Col 5
SD 12, Ari 2
Sea 6, KC 0
SF 6, LAD 4

Thursday's results

SD 3, Ari 2 (11)
TB 4, NYY 0
Bal 3, Tor 2
Mil 4, NYM 2
Atl 7, Phi 1
Tex 6, LAA 5
KC 3, CWS 2
Cle 6, Min 5
LAD at SF

Sunday's games

TB at Tor, 1:07
Mil at NYM, 1:10
Det at Mia, 1:10
Pit at Cin, 1:10
Bos at Bal, 1:35
Phi at Atl, 1:35
KC at CWS, 2:10
Cle at Min, 2:10
Atl 7, Phi 1
NYM at Hou, 2:10
ChC at StL, 2:15
LAA at Tex, 3:05
SD at SF, 4:05
Oak at Sea, 4:10
Was at Ari, 4:10
Col at LAD, 4:10
End of regular season



By Joe Nicholson, USA TODAY Sports

Seattle starter Felix Hernandez pitches against the Oakland Athletics during the first inning at Safeco Field.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Johnson's touchdowns lift Delphi

Staff reports

Trevor Cox's second interception of the night set up Garrett Johnson's game-winning 1-yard touchdown run with 4:44 remaining to give Delphi a 12-6 victory Friday night at Hammond Gavit.

Johnson, who ran 37 times for 187 yards, scored both touchdowns for the Oracles (3-3). His 2-yard run tied the game in the first quarter.

Delphi intercepted three passes and held Hammond Gavit (2-4) to 175 total yards.

Winamac 51 West Central 0

This Class A top-five showdown at Francesville was anything but after Tyler Katschke rushed for a pair of first-quarter touchdowns for No. 3 Winamac (6-0).

Katschke rushed for 141 yards and three touchdowns on 11 carries. The Warriors gained 445 yards on the ground, averaging 12 yards a carry.

Hunter Holiday rushed for 61 yards to lead No. 5 West Central (5-1).

Twin Lakes 42 Benton Central 12

Cameron Bennington and Michael Griffin led an Indians running game that gained 444 yards and had 120 called back by penalties at Monticello.

Griffin had 126 yards and a

touchdown on 12 carries. Bennington rushed for 87 yards and had two second-quarter touchdowns after Benton Central (1-5) took a 6-0 lead on Gunther Balensiefer's 8-yard run in the first quarter.

Johnny Lanie's 15-yard touchdown pass to Tyler Souligne drew the Bison within 21-12 in the third quarter, but Griffin's 73-yard touchdown run regained the momentum for Twin Lakes (4-2).