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COLLEGE ROUNDUP: Lackawanna football heading to Valley of the Sun Bowl



Lackawanna College President Mark Volk speaks to players in the gym during a ceremony announcing that team will accept a bid to play in a NJCAA bowl game. Michael J. Mullen / Staff Photographer



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After a perfect regular season, the Lackawanna College football team will have the chance to cap its season in style.

On Tuesday afternoon inside the school's Student Union Gymnasium, head coach Mark Duda announced the Falcons accepted a bid to play in the Valley of the Sun Bowl against Mesa Community College on Dec. 3. The game is scheduled for 4 p.m.


(2 p.m. Mountain Standard Time) and will be played at the Thunderbirds' John D. Riggs Stadium in Mesa, Arizona.

Lackawanna is 10-0 and ranked seventh in the NJCAA football poll, while Mesa is 8-2 and ranked eighth.

The game will be the Falcons' second appearance in the Valley of the Sun Bowl. They

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defeated Glendale Community College, 17-16, in 2006.

This will be Lackawanna's 10th bowl game in school history and first since the 2011 Salt City Bowl when it lost to Hutchinson Community College, 70-20.

Men's basketball

Mid Valley graduate Jason Kenny scored a career-high 37 points to lead Misericordia University to a season-opening, 120-116, double-overtime victory against Susquehanna University at Selinsgrove on Tuesday night.

Lakeland grad Tony Harding had 23 points and 10 rebounds in his collegiate debut and Tre Fields netted 26 points and added six assists in his program debut for the Cougars, who built a 35-16 lead midway through the first half.

Harding hit a pair of 3-pointers early in the second half to put Misericordia ahead, 59-51, but Susquehanna battled back and took its first lead, 90-89, with 2:56 remaining before the game eventually went into overtime tied at 93.

Steven Weidlich scored a game-high 49 points for the River Hawks.

King's 77 Penn State-Hazleton 66

At Wilkes-Barre, Holy Cross grad Connor Callejas scored a team-high 17 points and grabbed six rebounds to lead King's College in its season opener.

Dan Rutecki had 14 points, nine rebounds and six assists and John Fazzini had 11 points and five rebounds for the Monarchs, who held just a one-point lead with 6:23 left to play, but finished the game on a 22-12 run.

Wilkes 85

PSU-Wilkes-Barre 54

At Wilkes-Barre, Wilkes University scored 54 points in the second half to roll to a season-opening win.

Marcus Robinson scored a game-high 18 points, Connor Evans added 15 and Zach Brunner chipped in 10 for the Colonels, who shot 44 percent (11 for 25) from 3-point range.

Luzerne CC 105, Johnson 99

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At Scranton, Jaleel Parlin scored 32 points and Lenny Rabziak added 23 to lead Luzerne County Community College in a Region 19 game.

Zahir Gillis scored a game-high 34 points and Zahir Robinson had 29 for Johnson College.

Five Towns 105 PSU-Scranton 92

At Dix Hills, New York, Jeff Griffin scored 20 points, Levert Comas had 18 and Arel Lamour added 15, but Penn State-Scranton dropped a non-conference game to Five Towns College.

Women's basketball

Western Wayne grad Rachel Carmody scored a game-high 15 points to lead Misericordia University to a season-opening 56-26 win over Penn State- Harrisburg and give coach Jason Rhine his first career victory in a non-conference game at Harrisburg.

Japriya Carroll added nine points and Justine Seely grabbed a game-high nine rebounds for the Cougars, who held a 20-3 lead after the first quarter and were 7 for 15 from 3-point range overall.

Keystone 81, PSU-Berks 49

At Reading, West Scranton grad Nina Hodanich scored a team-high 21 points to lead Keystone College in its season opener and give head coach Meghan Sullivan her first collegiate win.

Dyjae Williams scored 14 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, Bryce Garrett had 15 points and Emily Hutton added 11 points for the Giants, who held a 31-point lead heading into the fourth quarter.

Neumann 61, King's 45

At Wilkes-Barre, King's College shot just 28.8 percent (19-66) from the field and dropped its season opener.

Olivia Hoffman scored 14 points and added 10 rebounds and five assists and Rebecca Prociak had 11 points and seven rebounds in her collegiate debut for the Monarchs, who shot

0 for 10 from 3-point range.

Harcum 74, Lackawanna 69

At Bryn Mawr, Alexandra Jackson scored a game-high 25 points, but Lackawanna College was outscored in the fourth quarter, 26-12, and fell to Harcum College in a Region 19 game.

Holy Cross grad Lindsey Dippre scored 17 points and Western Wayne grad Ariana

Sanders had nine points and nine rebounds for the Falcons, who held a 57-48 lead heading into the start of the fourth, but ultimately suffered their first setback of the season.

Contact the writer:

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