

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2021 • CUMBERLAND TIMES-NEWS

2021 HIGH SCHOOL

# FOOTBALL PREVIEW



## KEYSER GOLDEN TORNADO

PLAYER PROFILE: **38** **SAMMY BRADFIELD**  
SR./RB/DB, 5'11", 180 LBS



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## Keyser Golden Tornadoes

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# All Potomac Highlands 2020 Team

## First Team Offense

QB	Gavin Root	Keyser	Sr.
RB	Drae Allen	Keyser	Sr.
RB	Cole Hiett	Frankfort	Sr.
RB	Zion Powell	Keyser	Sr.
APB	Sammy Bradfield	Keyser	Jr.
WR	Trevor Sardo	Hampshire	Sr.
TE	Brock Robinette	Frankfort	Sr.
OL	John Bittinger	Frankfort	Sr.
OL	Vito Amoruso	Keyser	Sr.
OL	Grant Brill	Petersburg	Sr.
OL	Sam Moreland	Hampshire	Sr.
OL	Kyle Owens	Frankfort	Sr.
K	Atikilt Tamiru	Moorefield	Sr.

## First Team Defense

DL	Gabe Ryan	Keyser	So.
DL	Wyatt Arbaugh	Petersburg	Sr.
DL	Erik Flynn	East Hardy	Jr.
DL	Nathan Sions	Hampshire	So.
DL	Malachi Hinger	Moorefield	Jr.
LB	Jansen Moreland	Frankfort	Sr.
LB	Chayse Evans	Keyser	Jr.
LB	Dayton Miller	East Hardy	Sr.
LB	Alex Pritts	Hampshire	Jr.
DB	Andrew Tharp	East Hardy	Sr.
DB	Christian Dove	East Hardy	Sr.
DB	Asher Landis	Hampshire	Sr.
DB	Luke Robinette	Frankfort	So.
P	Christian Hicks	Hampshire	Sr.

## Second Team Offense

QB	Christian Dove	East Hardy	Sr.
RB	Matthew Jenkins	Moorefield	Sr.
RB	Peyton Clark	Frankfort	Jr.
RB	Peyton Day	Petersburg	So.
WR	Dawson Price	East Hardy	So.
TE	Jaydon See	Moorefield	Sr.
OL	Gabe Ryan	Keyser	So.
OL	Jacob Logsdon	Frankfort	Sr.
OL	Vincent Cyrus	Moorefield	Sr.
OL	Owen Kitzmiller	Petersburg	Sr.
OL	Zack Hill	Hampshire	Jr.
K	Seth Earnest	Keyser	Sr.

## Second Team Defense

DL	Vito Amoruso	Keyser	Sr.
DL	Sam Moreland	Hampshire	Sr.
DL	Brock Robinette	Frankfort	Sr.
LB	Zion Powell	Keyser	Sr.
LB	Montana Sindledacker	Petersburg	Sr.
LB	Mason Miller	East Hardy	So.
LB	Caden Youngblood	Keyser	So.
DB	Gavin Root	Keyser	Sr.
DB	Matthew Jenkins	Moorefield	Sr.
P	Atikilt Tamiru	Moorefield	Sr.

## Honorable Mentions

**East Hardy:** Dale Hockman, Noah Lang, Alex Miller, Brayden Ritchie

**Frankfort:** Corey Brieloff, Dalton Dent, Logan Kinser, Colton McTaggart, Chase Snyder, DJ Stump, Parker VanMeter, Andy Westfall

**Hampshire:** Michael Chaney, Ashton Haslacker, Grant Hicks, Alex Hott, Michael Gilman, Nevin Ludwick, Alex Pritts, Alex Shumaker

**Keyser:** Luke Anderson, Sammy Bradfield, Dameain Emerick, Seth Healy, Benny Oates

**Moorefield:** Blake Funk, Coleman Mongold, Axton Runions, Ethan Sines, Zaiden Stonestreet, Gavin Wolf

**Petersburg:** McCoy Fitzwater, Jacob Landis, Charlie Moomau, Cody Nuzum

# 2021 Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	SITE
8/27	ROBERT C. BYRD	Canc.	H
9/ 3	BERKELEY SPRINGS	7 p.m.	H
9/10	OAK GLEN	7 p.m.	H
9/17	OPEN		
9/24	HAMPSHIRE	7 p.m.	A
10/ 1	NORTHERN	7 p.m.	A
10/ 8	POINT PLEASANT	7 p.m.	H
10/15	ALLEGANY	7 p.m.	A
10/22	MOOREFIELD	7 p.m.	H
10/29	MOUNTAIN RIDGE	7 p.m.	A
11/ 5	FRANKFORT	7 p.m.	H

2020 Results	7-2	Score
@ Berkeley Springs	W	61-33
@ Oak Glen	L	12-35
WASHINGTON	W	55-35
NICHOLAS COUNTY	W	70-19
HAMPSHIRE	W	54- 0
@ Point Pleasant	L	28-38
JEFFERSON	W	63-44
PETERSBURG	W	62-26
@ John Marshall	W	53-21
Total Points		458-251

# 2021 Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Cl.	Hgt.	Wgt.	No.	Name	Pos.	Cl.	Hgt.	Wgt.
2	Benny Oates	RB/LB	12	5-10	200	42	Daniel Shoemaker	TE/LB	9	5- 8	155
2	Silas Crites	WB/LB	9	5-10	155	43	Cameron Stewart	TE/DL	11	5- 7	260
3	Jack Stanislawczyk	WR/DB	10	5-10	155	50	Lucas Hart	OL/DL	10	5-10	275
4	Logan Rotruck	QB/LB	10	5- 9	175	51	Ayden Costilow	OL/DL	11	5-11	240
5	Malachi Blowe	RB/DB	12	5- 9	155	52	Landon Rhodes	RB/LB	11	5- 9	190
7	Seth Healy	QB/DB	11	5-10	175	52	Nathaniel Bowers	OL/DL	9	5- 7	155
8	Samuel Hamric	TE/LB	12	5-11	195	53	Konner Bennett	OL/DL	11	6- 1	220
9	Joshua Shoemaker	WR/DB	10	5-11	185	54	Caden Youngblood	OL/LB	11	5-11	215
10	Jullian Pattison	FB/LB	9	6- 0	200	54	Ashton Youngblood	OL/DL	9	5- 4	170
11	E.J. Guy	WR/DB	12	5- 9	145	55	Lukas Anderson	OL/DL	11	5-11	290
11	Matthew Denne	WR/DB	9	5- 5	135	56	Bub Barbe	OL/DL	11	6- 6	290
12	Lucas Davy	QB/DB	9	5- 8	140	56	Jakeb Anderson	OL/DL	9	5- 8	220
14	Seth Sions	RB/DB	11	5-11	155	60	Ethan Glass	OL/DL	12	6- 0	215
20	Logan Hetrick	WR/DB	10	5- 7	145	61	Austin Smith	OL/DL	10	6- 0	255
22	Parker Anderson	RB/DL	12	5-11	180	62	Jake Bonner	OL/DL	12	6- 3	225
23	Hunter VanPelt	RB/DB	12	5- 8	165	62	Jett Sanders	OL/DL	9		
24	Chayse Evans	RB/LB	12	5-10	200	63	Waylon Paugh	OL/DL	10	5- 7	175
24	Nadim Smith	TE/LB	9	6- 1	170	64	Gabriel Ryan	OL/DL	11	6- 3	240
25	Cameron Green	TE/DL	10	6- 2	255	64	Jessie Evans	OL/DL	9	5- 6	210
30	Anthony Mele	RB/LB	11	5- 8	175	69	John Fazzalore	OL/DL	10	6- 1	245
31	Tristen Root	HB/DB	9	5- 9	160	71	Roger Rice Jr.	OL/DL	10	5- 9	290
32	Keith Lawrence II	RB/LB	10	5- 9	155	72	Jeremiah Kisamore	OL/DL	10	5-11	220
34	Christopher Furey	RB/LB	11	5- 9	160	74	Jacob Keating	OL/DL	11	6- 3	305
35	Chase Davis	WR/DB	10	5- 5	140	75	Drake Roy	OL/DL	11	6- 1	315
38	Samuel Bradfield	RB/DB	12	5-11	180	76	Alex Marshall	OL/DL	10	5- 9	155
39	Seth Earnest	K/P	12	6- 0	145	88	Braydon Keller	TE/DL	11	6- 3	220
40	Edan Parks	K/P	11	5-10	145						



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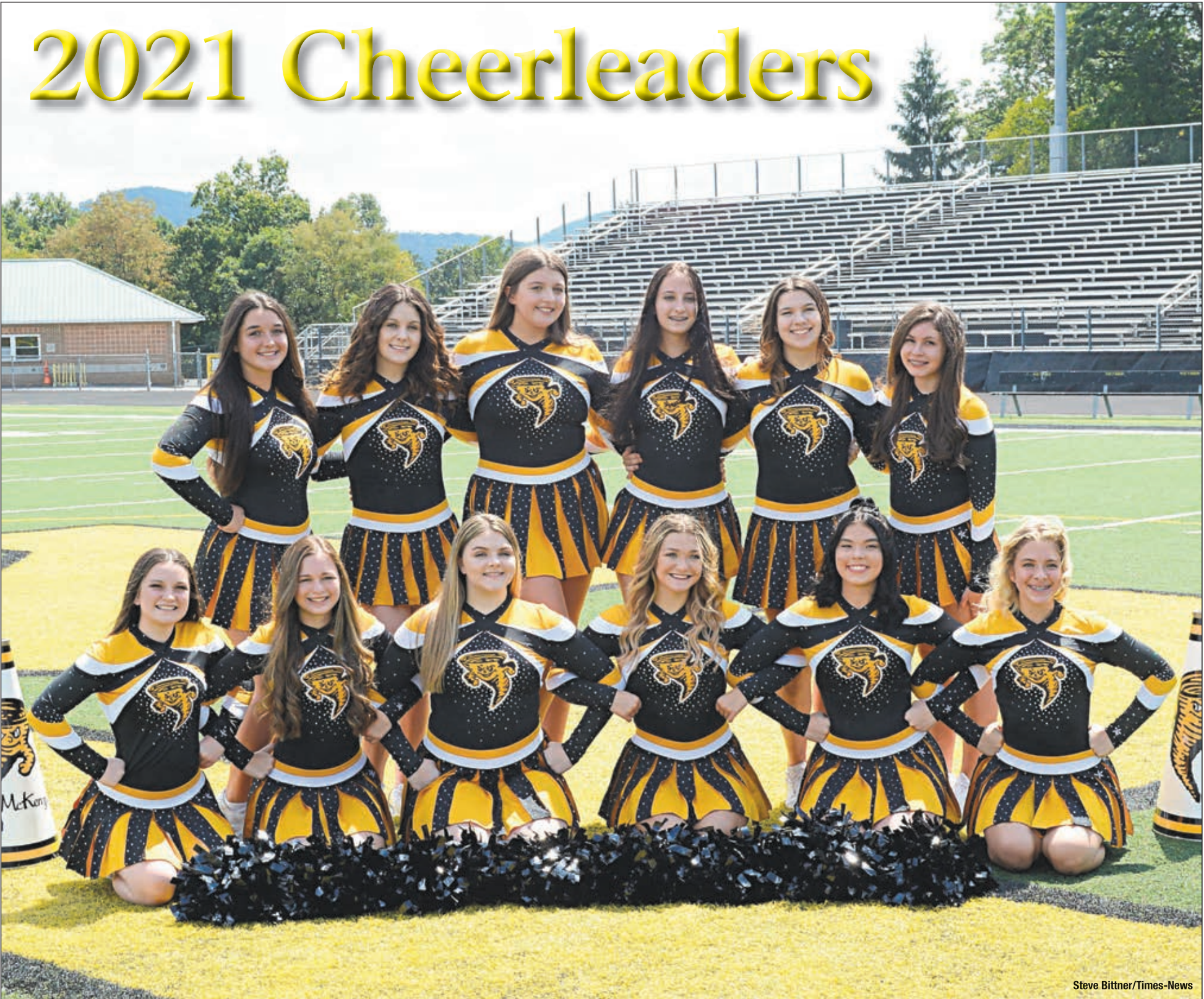
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Steve Bittner/Times-News



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Defensive lineman Gabe Ryan (64) attempts to block Hampshire's field goal attempt last season in Keyser. Ryan was named second team on the West Virginia All-State Team last year.

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# Delayed again, Keyser's success depends on players' improvement

## Replacing key offensive losses will be key to Golden Tornado's season

KYLE BENNETT

KBENNETT@TIMES-NEWS.COM

KEYSER, W.Va. — Many have been waiting about eight months to see how Keyser is going to replace the output of Times-News Player of the Year Gavin Root and Times-News Offensive Player of the Year Drae Allen.

"That's what we're hoping to find out — how we can replicate what our seniors did last season," said Golden Tornado head coach Derek Stephen. "I don't think one player is going to come in or two players that can do what they did, but we have a committee. We have two or three guys that can come in and be productive."

Those waiting to see how this year's team stacks up against last year's will have to wait at least another week, as Keyser's 2020 campaign ended the same way the 2021 season is beginning — COVID is ruling the roost as the Tornado's season opener on Friday against Robert C. Byrd was canceled due to COVID.

Stephen, entering his second year as a head coach, said nothing could have prepared him for what transpired last season.

"The challenges of being a head coach, then adding COVID onto that, I don't know how I did it the first year. I talked to Coach (Sean) Biser and was like, 'You prepared me, but not for this.'"

"I was lucky I had a good group of assistants and kids that followed the rules to a tee. It turned out to be a pretty successful year for us."

The Tornado finished 7-2 in Stephen's inaugural year, winning a season-opening shootout against Berkeley Springs, 61-33, before falling to .500 after a 35-12 loss at Oak Glen.

Keyser reeled off three emphatic wins over Washington (55-35), Nicholas County (70-19) and Hampshire (54-0) before a road loss to another high-ranked opponent, Point Pleasant, 38-28.

The Golden Tornado again won three in a row by multiple scores, defeating Jefferson (63-44), Petersburg (62-26)

"It's great to have those local rivalries back. Last year I think we totaled 33 hours on a bus. We were road warriors. We made one trip that was 11 hours, another that was six-plus. It makes a lot of difference for us. It keeps the kids engaged. And it brings in bigger crowds. It's a win-win for everybody."

Derek Stephen,  
Keyser head coach



Steve Bittner/Times-News

Sammy Bradfield stiff arms a Petersburg Viking defender on his way to scoring a touchdown last season at Alumni and Friends Field at Tornado Alley. Bradfield will be threat to opposing defenses both rushing and receiving.

and John Marshall, 53-21.

As Mineral County's COVID numbers started to head in the wrong direc-

SEE KEYSER — 7



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# Keyser: With most offensive weapons gone, defense will be counted on early

CONTINUED FROM 7

tion during the John Marshall week, the county slipped into the red category on West Virginia's COVID metrics map, thus canceling the Mineral Bowl match-up with Frankfort and forcing Keyser to forfeit its playoff game against North Marion.

Keyser, already having to cancel a scrimmage against Bridgeport on Aug. 20, will hopefully open at home against Berkeley Springs on Friday, Sept. 3.

After COVID postponed the 2020 Maryland season numerous times, the local West Virginia teams were forced to fill in the holes previously occupied by opponents across the Potomac River.

This year, some of those Maryland teams are back, as Keyser plays six area schools — Hampshire, Northern, Allegany, Moorefield, Mountain Ridge and Frankfort.

"It's great to have those local rivalries back," said Stephen. "Last year I think we totaled 33 hours on a bus. We were road warriors. We made one trip that was 11 hours, another that was six-plus. It makes a lot of difference for us. It keeps the kids engaged. And it brings in bigger crowds. It's a win-win for everybody."

Keyser's long road trips — to New Cumberland to face Oak Glen and at Point Pleasant — become games just a few hundred steps from the school this year, while also losing the road warriors moniker as the Tornado's longest trip will be to Accident to play Northern.

"We picked up those local teams, but the teams we made the travels to last year now have to come to us," Stephen said. "We got to experience their atmosphere. I think our fans are going to enjoy them coming here. Our fans will see they love to line up and play football."

Despite the statistical output the Tornado lost last season, Stephen anticipates his team will play in much of the same fashion as last year's team on both sides of the ball.

Root led an offense that passed more than a Keyser team has in recent history, throwing for 1,087 yards (66 for 107) and 18 touchdowns with 63 carries for 470 yards and 10 scores.

Allen rushed north of 1,000 yards, carrying the rock 140 times for 1,205 yards and 11 touchdowns.

"As of right now, we're running the same type of offense we've had the past few years," said Stephen. "A lot of teams packed the middle and let us run some RPO (run-pass option) type stuff, so we just try to take what the other team gives us."

"Defensively, we're going to stay with what we've been doing the last few years. We're returning more guys on the defensive side, so hopefully we can play a little faster."

Keyser was able to get a preseason tuneup in before contact tracing forced it into quarantine, as the Tornado scrimmaged University on Aug. 13 at home.

"It didn't go as well to our liking as we



Steve Bittner/Times-News

Defensive lineman Jake Bonner (62) moves in to help on a tackle against Petersburg last season at Keyser. Bonner is one of several returning players in the defense.

"Defensively, we're going to stay with what we've been doing the last few years. We're returning more guys on the defensive side, so hopefully we can play a little faster."

Derek Stephen,  
Keyser head coach

would've liked, but it was good in the sense that University did a lot of stuff we'll see throughout the year," said Stephen. "We saw things we can build off of. The outcome wasn't what we wanted, but we saw some things we liked. ... We never try to go out and only focus on winning a scrimmage, but we look to go out and find ways to better ourselves. We wanted to get a feel of what we can work on and how we can get better."

While Keyser is without its top three rushers from last season — Allen, Zion Powell and Root — Sammy Bradfield (5-foot-11, 180 pounds, senior) returns to lead the Tornado rushing attack, coming off a season where he was a

Swiss Army knife in Stephen's offense with 63 carries for 453 yards and four touchdowns while hauling in more than a third of Root's completions (26), over half of Root's passing yards (571) and nearly 56% of Root's TD throws (10).

"He got open in space quite frequently," Stephen said. "That in part attributed to how talented the guys around him were. We just hope

that can carry into this season."

Manning the fullback spot will be the duo of Chayse Evans (5-10, 200, Sr.) and Anthony Mele (5-8, 175, Jr.). Evans is more of a true fullback, Stephen said, while Mele provides a little more shiftiness and wiggle to the position.

SEE KEYSER — 13



BRADFIELD



EVANS

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# Head Coach Derek Stephen

**Season: 2nd**

Derek Stephen enters his second season as head coach of the Golden Tornado after finishing 7-3 during the first pandemic season.

Stephen succeeded Sean Biser, who compiled a 127-58 record over 16 seasons at Keyser before taking the head coaching job at Morgantown High School. Stephen has been a part of Golden Tornado football nearly as long as Biser was, playing as a senior on Biser's first team in 2004.

After graduating from Keyser in 2005, Stephen attended Shepherd University, attaining a bachelor's degree in education, and received a master's degree in physical education from West Virginia University.

Stephen started as an auxiliary coach on Biser's staff, working with running backs and linebackers, before being named the team's defensive coordinator in 2011 — he held the job until Biser left in 2019, spending 11 years on Biser's coaching staff before being appointed head coach.

"It is a little bit surreal getting to take over the program that I have grown up watching, played for and have coached for the last 11 years," Stephen said after being named head coach in April 2020. "It is like a dream come true. The stars aligned and it was the perfect opportunity."

In Stephen's first year as head coach, the Golden Tornado had a pair of three-game winning streaks, the first following a 1-1 start to the year. After multi-



score wins over Jefferson, Petersburg and John Marshall late in the year to cap the second three-game streak, Mineral County's COVID numbers forced the county to go into the red in the state metrics map, canceling a highly-anticipated Mineral Bowl between a 7-2 Keyser team and the 7-1 Frankfort Falcons in the last week of the regular season.

The county's coronavirus cases didn't improve, forcing the Golden Tornado and Falcons to forfeit their playoff games.



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# 2021 Coaching Staff



Steve Bittner/Times-News

Front row, from left to right, assistant coaches Jarell Ross, Corey Shoemaker, head coach Derek Stephen, assistant coaches R.C. Pratt and Greg Kerns. Back row, left to right, assistant coaches Logan DelSignore, Kris Steckman, trainer Mike Staggers, assistant coaches Mike Staggers Jr., Nick Whiteman and Randy Cirillo.

**Corey Shoemaker**  
Assistant Coach  
Season: 22nd

A 1996 graduate of Keyser, Shoemaker continues on Derek Stephen's coaching staff in Stephen's second season. Shoemaker will coach wide receivers and defensive backs. Shoemaker played football at Keyser before continuing his academic and football careers at Glenville State.



Biser's first team at Keyser in 2004, playing offensive and defensive line.

**Logan DelSignore**  
Assistant Coach  
Season: 8th

After spending some of his early coaching years working with the offensive and defensive fronts, DelSignore will work with running backs and linebackers in 2021, two positions he worked with under Biser. DelSignore, a 2010 graduate of Keyser, is also the JV coach. DelSignore played under Biser in 2008 and 2009.



**Kris Steckman**  
Assistant Coach  
Season: 8th

Steckman returns to work with the offensive and defensive lines in his eighth season, and will also serve as the special teams coordinator. Steckman, who also has experience coaching at the JV level, received a second-team All-Area honor as a player at Fort Hill in 2007.



**Jarell Ross**  
Assistant Coach  
Season: 5th

Ross will continue his work with the running backs and defensive backs in his fifth season. Ross is also a former Golden Tornado player.



**Mike Staggers**  
Assistant Coach  
Season: 12th

Staggers returns for his 12th season at Keyser, continuing to work with a young offensive and defensive line in 2021. Like Stephen, Staggers was a member of former head coach Sean



**R.C. Pratt**  
Assistant Coach  
Season: 5th

Pratt, a former Golden Tornado player, returns to coach the defensive backs and quarterbacks. He also has worked with wide receivers in seasons past.



**Nick Whiteman**  
Assistant Coach  
Season: 2nd

After joining Stephen's staff for his inaugural season, Whiteman returns to work with wide receivers and linebackers. Whiteman is a 2007 graduate of Keyser, where he played football under Biser.



Steve Bittner/Times-News

Front row, from left to right, Samuel Hamric (8), Hunter VanPelt (23), E.J. Guy (11), Chayse Evans (24) and Benny Oates (2). Back row, left to right, Seth Earnest (39), Samuel Bradfield (38), Jake Bonner (62), Ethan Glass (60), Malachi Blowe (5) and Parker Anderson (22).

## Staff: Three are new to the staff

CONTINUED FROM 10

**Anthony Hanlin**  
Assistant Coach

**Season: 1st**

Hanlin, a state trooper, will work with running backs and defensive backs in his first season under Stephen.

**Randy Cirillo**  
Assistant Coach

**Season: 1st**

Cirillo, the former public address announcer at Alumni and Friends Field at Tornado Alley, decided to step down from the press box and onto the sidelines, where he'll work with the offensive and defensive lines. "He's a real quick learner," Stephen said of Cirillo, who played football at Keyser. "He's going to be a real asset for us."



**Greg Kerns**  
Assistant Coach  
**Season: 1st**

Kerns, a former soccer player and soccer assistant coach at Keyser, will work with the team's kickers. Kerns graduated from Keyser before continuing his soccer career at Johnson & Wales University, a Division III school in Providence, Rhode Island.



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# Keyser Marching Band



**Staff:** *Barrick, Parks, Staggers*  
*are part of the athletic training crew*

CONTINUED FROM 11

Trainers

Michael Staggers

Ruda Parks

Chuck Barrick



STAGGERS



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Steve Bittner/Times-News

## Keyser: Seth Healy, Logan Rotruck competing to fill Gavin Root's shoes at QB

CONTINUED FROM 7

At wingback will be seniors Hunter VanPelt (5-8, 165) and Benny Oates (5-10, 200), with the former showing attributes of a scat back while the latter is more of a downhill runner.

Seniors Malachi Blowe (5-9, 155) and Parker Anderson (5-11, 180) return to an experienced backfield that will also serve as exceptional mentors for juniors Christopher Furey (5-9, 160) and Landon Rhodes (5-9, 190) and underclassmen Jullian Pattison (6-0, 200, Fr.), Tristen Root (5-9, 160, Fr.) and Keith Lawrence II (5-9, 155, So.).

The Golden Tornado have an obvious question mark at quarterback — as would any team that just graduated a player of Root's caliber. Thus far, there hasn't been an obvious answer, as junior Seth Healy (5-10, 175) and sophomore Logan Rotruck (5-9, 175) have been "neck and neck" all preseason for the starting job. "One has a bad day, another has a good day," said Stephen. "No one's really separated themselves for that job."

"Some big things we're looking for is how they carry the offense, how they control it, how they shake off a bad play. We run the read game, so if they can make decisions there and make decisions on the passing game, that'll play

a huge part. We don't care if they can't throw it down field, we just want them hitting the open guy."

Lucas Davy (5-8, 140, Fr.) is also on the depth chart at QB.

Whoever ends up at QB1, their targets are much more clear, with Seth Sions (5-11, 155, Jr.), Josh Shoemaker (5-11, 185, So.) and E.J. Guy (5-9, 145, Sr.) leading the charge at wide-out.

"We've had a couple of different guys step up on the outside," Stephen said. "Seth came on one day in 7-on-7 at Hampshire, he was running crisp routes. Josh Shoemaker has come a long way, as has E.J. Guy."

We have a bunch of guys that can go out there and block and catch passes. It's one of those things that'll probably be a game day or day-before decision."

Wide receiver is an underclassman-laden group for Keyser, with Silas Crites (5-10, 155, Fr.), Jack Stanislawczyk (5-10, 155, So.), Matthew Denne (5-5, 135, Fr.), Logan Hetrick (5-7, 145, So.) and Chase Davis (5-5, 140, So.) also on the depth chart.

Samuel Hamric (5-11, 195, Sr.) and Braydon Keller (6-3, 220, Jr.) split time at tight end last year and will likely do the same again this season.

"One of the luxuries we have at that spot is they both do things well," said Stephen, "so one of them can step up

when the other isn't having it on game day."

Also listed at tight end are Nadim Smith (6-1, 170, Fr.), Cameron Green (6-2, 255, So.), Daniel Shoemaker (5-8, 155, Fr.) and Cameron Stewart (5-7, 260, Jr.).

Along the offensive line, juniors Gabe Ryan (6-3, 240) and Caden Youngblood (5-11, 215) return as starters from last year's team and will line up at guard.

In between the guard spots at center will likely be Luke Anderson (5-11, 290, Jr.), who started at strong side tackle last year. Ethan Glass (6-0, 215), one of two seniors along the offensive line, will also see playing time at center.

The weak side tackle spot is up for grabs between Konner Bennett (6-1,

220, Jr.) and Jake Bonner (6-3, 225), the other senior up front.

"We've moved Bennett around," Stephen noted. "He showed us he can play. He's played at one tackle, moved to the other, he's worked his butt off."

The strong side tackle position will go to one of Bub Barbe (6-6, 290, Jr.) or Jacob Keating (6-3, 305, Jr.), both of which were on the JV team last year.

Among those on the depth chart at offensive line are Lucas Hart (5-10, 275, So.), Ayden Costilow (5-11, 240, Jr.), Nathaniel Bowers (5-7, 155, Fr.), Ashton Youngblood (5-4, 170, Fr.), Jakeb Anderson (5-8, 220, Fr.), Austin Smith

SEE KEYSER — 14



BLOWE



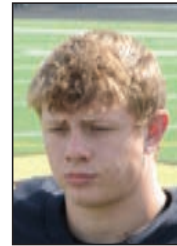
ANDERSON



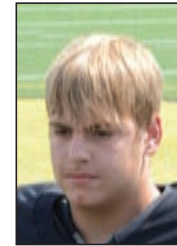
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# Keyser: W.Va. All-State-2nd teamer Gabe Ryan will anchor the defensive line

## CONTINUED FROM 13

(6-0, 255, So.), Jett Sanders (Fr.), Waylon Paugh (5-7, 175, So.), Jessie Evans (5-6, 210, Fr.), John Fazzalore (6-1, 245, So.), Roger Rice Jr. (5-9, 290, So.), Jeremiah Kisamore (5-11, 220, So.), Drake Roy (6-1, 315, Jr.) and Alex Marshall (5-9, 155, So.).

"The offensive line is coming together and that's been one of our big focuses," said Stephen. "We're trying to build them into teams we've had in the past of being a hard-nosed type of group. I don't think we'll have as much speed on the outside, we'll be more of a ground-and-pound team this year. We have the backs that can do that, so if we can get the line to follow I think we'll be pretty decent."

On the defensive side, Ryan will anchor the line after being named All-State second team defensive line as a sophomore in 2020.

Luke Anderson will also start along the defensive line, as well as Keller at defensive end and Bonner at defensive tackle, where he played the last few games of last season.

Parker Anderson will fill in at tackle and end, and Bennett can play a little bit of everywhere as well. Stephen hopes Barb and Keating can step up and get some looks up the middle.

Also listed on the roster at defensive line are Green, Stewart, Hart, Costilow, Bowers, Ashton Youngblood, Jakeb Anderson, Glass, Austin Smith, Sanders, Paugh, Evans, Fazzalore, Rice, Kisamore, Roy and Marshall.

A massive advantage for the Golden Tornado's 4-4 defense is the three returning starters at linebacker, plus another that started the last two games in 2020.

Mele and Oates will line up at outside linebacker, while Evans and Caden Youngblood will play inside.

Also at linebacker are Crites, Rotruck, Hamric, Pattison, Nadim Smith, Lawrence, Furey, Shoemaker and Rhodes.

Two of Keyser's three starting spots in the secondary are occupied by returning starters, with Healy playing at corner and Bradfield at safety.



BONNER



FAZZALORE



MELE



OATES



Steve Bittner/Times-News

Senior kicker Seth Earnest was 45 for 49 on point-after tries with 72 kickoffs totaling 2,309 yards with one touchback and an onside kick recovered. Stephen has added punting to his duties this season as well.

"The offensive line is coming together and that's been one of our big focuses. We're trying to build them into teams we've had in the past of being a hard-nosed type of group. I don't think we'll have as much speed on the outside, we'll be more of a ground-and-pound team this year. We have the backs that can do that, so if we can get the line to follow I think we'll be pretty decent."

Derek Stephen,  
Keyser head coach

Blowe, who started some on the outside last year, will likely start at cornerback with VanPelt getting some time there as well.

Stephen noted that Stanislawczyk, who got injured earlier in preseason, could see some time in the secondary once he returns.

Backing up that group in the secondary are Josh Shoemaker, Guy, Denne, Davy, Sions, Hetrick, Tristen Root and Davis.

Seth Earnest (6-0, 145, Sr.) returns as the kicker, with Stephen hoping he can handle punts replacing the graduated

Powell. Edan Parks (5-10, 145, Jr.) is behind Earnest on the depth chart.

During his junior campaign, Earnest was 45 for 49 on point-after tries with 72 kickoffs totaling 2,309 yards with one touchback and an onside kick recovered.

Following the cancellation of the RCB game, Keyser's new season-opener is Sept. 3 at Alumni and



EARNEST

Friends Field at Tornado Alley against Berkeley Springs.

"One of the things we preached last year is you gotta do what you gotta do," Stephen said in regards to preparing for another season with COVID at the forefront. "I think getting back to school in the spring, people started letting their guard down. I think we got this shock back to life that we have to do these things if we want to have a season."

Kyle Bennett is a sports reporter for the Cumberland Times-News. Follow him on Twitter @KyleBennettCTN.



Steve Bittner/Times-News



# Keyser High School

- LOCATION** — 1 Tornado Way, Keyser, W.Va.
- BUILT** — 1997
- MASCOT** — Golden Tornado
- PRINCIPAL** — Lois Spencer
- ENROLLMENT** — 820

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