



TOMMY GILLIGAN | USA TODAY
St. Louis Rams quarterback Case Keenum (center) looks for the ball after Baltimore Ravens outside linebacker Courtney Upshaw (ground) stripped it away during the fourth quarter at M&T Bank Stadium on Sunday. Baltimore Ravens defeated St. Louis Rams 16-13.

NFL investigates Keenum’s hit

League reviews why Rams QB was not tested for concussion

BY STEVE GINSBURG
REUTERS

The National Football League said on Monday it was investigating as to why St. Louis Rams quarterback Case Keenum was not tested for a possible concussion after smacking his head on the turf in Sunday’s game and staggering to get to his feet.

When he was tackled by Baltimore Ravens’ 300-pound defensive lineman Timmy Jernigan, Keenum immediately held his head before managing to get on to his knees while game officials sorted out a penalty.

St. Louis’ backup quarterback Nick Foles put his helmet on and began warming up, but a wobbly Keenum managed to stand up and stay in the game. Two plays later, Keenum fumbled, a crucial late-game turnover that enabled the Ravens to win the game, 16-13.

Keenum, 27, was diagnosed with a concussion shortly after the game ended.

The NFL said on Monday it began a review on Sunday why Keenum was not taken off the field for “the necessary evaluation” by a team doctor or the independent

neuro-trauma physician as required by its concussion protocols.

“We are continuing that review today, which includes discussions with the Rams and their medical staff, the ATC spotter, the game officials, our medical advisors and the NFLPA,” the league said.

“In the meantime, prior to this week’s games, we will reinforce with all involved the need to ensure that these injuries are properly identified and addressed in a manner consistent with our protocols.”

The NFL this year gave independent certified ath-

letic trainers, or ATC spotters, the power to stop play to remove from the field players potentially suffering from concussions.

But that was not implemented on Sunday in Baltimore.

Neither the Rams nor the NFL Players Union responded to a request for comment.

The NFL and more than 5,000 former players agreed to a settlement of concussion-related lawsuits in April that could cost the league \$1 billion, if approved. The players claimed the league hid the risk of concussions.

UM-Machias holds off UMFK 85-81

MACHIAS — Brandon Blakely hit two free throws and Ben Teer added a 3-pointer in the game’s final 90 seconds to lift the University of Maine-Machias Clippers to an 85-81 men’s basketball victory over the UM-Fort Kent Bengals Monday night.

UMFK’s Joe McCloskey hit a jumper to give the Bengals an 81-80 lead with 2:17 to play in a seesaw final 10 minutes, but Blakely answered for UMM with two free throws and Dexter Moore grabbed the defensive rebound on a UMFK miss to set up Teer’s 3-pointer with 32 seconds left. UMFK then missed its next two attempts.

Brandon Blakely paced UMM with 28 points and Ivory Snead contributed 19 points and 18 rebounds. Teer finished with 15 points and seven assists.

McCloskey poured in 35

points to lead UMFK. He also had nine rebounds. Roosevelt Smith added 17 points and 10 rebounds while Jake Rioux had 13 points.

St. Joseph’s 60, UMF 56

At Farmington, the St. Joseph’s College Monks took an eight-point lead with 21 seconds left and then held off the University of Maine-Farmington Beavers for the victory.

Ian Mileikis hit two free throws with 21 seconds left to give the Monks a 59-51 lead, but UMF’s Logan Nichols hit a jumper and Sean Murphy followed with a 3-pointer to cut it to 59-56 with 14 seconds left.

Mileikis then hit one of two free throws with two seconds left to secure the win for St. Joe’s, now 1-1. UMF is now 0-2.

John Crawley sparked the Monks with 18 points, Ben Malloy added 12 and Quinn Richardson-Newton put in

11. Jerome Diggs grabbed nine rebounds and Darian Berry had eight to help St. Joe’s gain a 47-34 team advantage.

Nick Hilton paced UMF with 17 points and five rebounds. Eric Berry and Murphy each added 10 points. Murphy had eight rebounds.

Women’s Basketball

St. Joseph’s 62, UMF 54

At Farmington, St. Joseph’s outscored UMaine-Farmington 22-15 in the third quarter after trailing by three at halftime and then enjoyed a four-point scoring margin in the final quarter to earn the victory.

Morgan Cahill paced St. Joe’s with 20 points, eight rebounds and five blocked shots. Emily Quirion chipped in with 14 points while Kelsi McNamara contributed with 10 points, five steals, five assists and five

rebounds.

Meghan Smith paced UMF 20 points and 22 rebounds. Kennadi Grover added 15 points and five rebounds.

UMFK 78, UMM 40

At Machias, Romanalyn Inocencio recorded 22 points, six rebounds and three assists to help the UMaine-Fort Kent Bengals roll by the UM-Machias Clippers.

Inocencio hit 10 of 11 shots from the field, sparking UMFK’s strong 28-for-53 team effort (52.8 percent).

Ahjana Coleman chipped in with 16 points and six assists for UMFK while Samantha Carapellucci contributed 14 points and seven rebounds. Danielle Carrillo added 12 points.

Brooklynnne Lewis paced UMM with 12 points and Meagan Cope added 10. Kali Alley chipped in with nine points and 11 rebounds.

2 Husson players receive top awards

Husson University football players John Smith and Bryant Wade received top awards from the Eastern Collegiate Football Conference Monday when Smith was named offensive player of the year and Wade was named the defensive player of the year.

Smith, a sophomore running back, led the conference in rushes (296), yards (1,733), yards per rush (5.9), and touchdowns (20). He averaged better than 170 yards per contest, surpassing the 100-yard mark in all but two

contests, and surpassing the 200-yard mark twice.

Wade, a senior linebacker, anchored an Eagle defensive unit that allowed the fewest points (17.6), yards (226.1), and rushing yards (60.4) per game. He led the conference with three fumble recoveries while collecting 69 tackles.

Smith and Wade helped lead Husson to a 7-3 overall record and a share of the ECFC title with Norwich, but the Eagles of Bangor didn’t earn the NCAA Division III tourney berth because they lost to Norwich during the regular season. Husson played in an ECAC

bowl game Friday, losing to Salve Regina 42-39.

Smith also earned a spot on the ECFC first-team offense along with teammate Matt Archer, a senior left tackle. Husson wide receivers Robenson Saintard, a sophomore, and junior Deon Wiggins were named to the second team.

Teammate Matt Pellerin, a senior nose guard, joined Wade on the league’s first team defense while Husson sophomore tackle Luke Washburn, junior linebacker Ellis Throckmorton and junior cornerback Marquis Jimenez also gained second-team honors.

Husson players earning honorable mentions were junior safety Alonzo Connor, senior defensive end Ian Palmer, senior quarterback Joe Seccareccia and Wiggins as a return specialist.

The awards were based on votes from the conference coaches.

Becker College’s Mike Lichten was named the league’s coach of the year while other player of the year awards included: special teams, Norwich kicker/punter Wesley Medeiros; offensive lineman, Castleton University’s Eric Decker; and top rookie, Castleton running back Moe Harris.

Fort Kent High names Nordic ski coach

FORT KENT — Carl Theriault, a fixture in the Aroostook County Alpine and Nordic ski scene for over 20 years, has been named the new boys and girls Nordic ski coach at Fort Kent Community High School.

Theriault replaces Melinda Bard, who moved out of the area last summer.

Theriault, born in Massa-

chusetts, has family roots in Fort Kent and has skied for over 55 years. He was involved in the ski industry while working in Wyoming and Montana and upon his return to Fort Kent joined the Alpine Ski Board at Lonesome Pines Trails in 1995.

Theriault also was the head Alpine ski coach at Fort Kent CHS from 1998-

2004 where he worked with current head Alpine ski coach Greg Voisine as well as longtime Nordic coach Ben Paradis, who remains on the school’s ski coaching staff.

Theriault is a founding member of Maine Winter Sports Center and is the vice president of the Fort Kent Outdoor Center.

“We are thrilled to have

coach Theriault take over our Nordic ski program and couldn’t be more pleased to have a person with his vast experience and knowledge of skiing at all levels,” Fort Kent athletic director Eric Werntgen said in a news release.

The team will open its season in a 3-kilometer freestyle race on Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Caribou High School.

Doctors call for removal of football

Proposal to pull program from schools

BY JEREMY OLSON
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Two University of Minnesota doctors are recommending that the nation’s schools eliminate football, reducing the pressure on children to engage in a sport riddled with concussions.

Dr. Steven Miles said an outright ban on youth football would be unrealistic. But he is among the first to recommend removing football from schools, where the pressure of school spirit or being the only kid big enough to play nose guard can rope players into a sport in which 5 percent to 20 percent of players suffer concussions each season.

“If you went to nonschool leagues, those types of coercive pressures would end,” he said.

Miles, a bioethics professor, and Dr. Shailendra Prasad reviewed studies on football-related concussions for their statement, which is online and will appear in the American Journal of Bioethics.

They disagreed with the American Academy of Pediatrics’ recent call to preserve tackle football while increasing flag football and noncontact alternatives. They called the group “optimistically speculative” in its belief that neck strength-

ening exercises and other approaches can reduce concussions without major changes to the game.

“For the Academy of Pediatrics to place the health interests of kids against the design of a sport just seemed quite amazing,” Miles said.

Concussion rates are also high in hockey, but the University of Minnesota doctors argued that football merits action because it has so many more players.

Miles said schools fail to warn athletes of concussion risks with consent forms that read like “negligence waivers for a roller coaster,” and justify participation with statements such as “everything in life has risks.”

Miles, who has studied war crimes and torture, is surprised he hasn’t received more criticism, considering how Friday night varsity games are embedded in American culture.

“This one is turning out to be the most widely accepted paper, in terms of the comments I’m getting back, that I’ve ever written,” he said. “Now that doesn’t mean it will go anywhere, but I think people are looking for a solution to the concussion/school football player issue that does not involve something as difficult as banning the sport.”

UM’s Hayes out for season after surgery

BY LARRY MAHONEY
BDN STAFF

Hard-nosed University of Maine men’s hockey team sophomore right wing Malcolm Hayes underwent shoulder surgery last Wednesday at the Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor and will be out for the season.

But because Hayes had played in just three games, he will be a medical redshirt and will retain three years of eligibility.

Under NCAA guidelines, student-athletes can earn medical redshirt status if they suffer a season-ending injury in the first half of the season and don’t play in more than 20 percent of the team’s games. Maine is playing 36 games this season.

“It started hurting during the preseason. I tried to play in Portland, but it got worse from there. The big problem was I was unable to play my physical game. So I got it fixed,” said Hayes, who played in Maine’s season-opening 3-3 overtime tie against Michigan State in

the Ice Breaker Tournament in Portland.

He also played in a 1-1 tie at Union and 4-0 loss at Quinnipiac. He didn’t have any points.

“The surgery went pretty well,” said Hayes, who will be wearing a sling for six weeks and then will start rehabilitating the shoulder. He is facing a recovery period from four to six months and should be ready for next season.

He had two tears, one in the front of the shoulder and the other in the back, and there wasn’t a particular hit that created the injury.

“It happened over time,” he said.

The 6-foot-2, 220-pound Hayes had four goals and two assists in 33 games last season. He had two power-play goals and a game-winner. He was named the Hockey East Rookie of the Week after notching a goal and an assist in a weekend series against New Hampshire last December.

The Atlanta, Georgia, native became an Alford Arena favorite with his punishing body checks.

Arizona

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point in the game like that. I trust our guy to be honest with me.”

Asked if the officials gave him an explanation for the flag, Lewis said, “If they did give me an explanation, it doesn’t matter now.”

Cincinnati (8-2) led 14-7 at halftime but watched Palmer lead the home team to three consecutive touchdowns in less than 10 minutes during the third quarter for a 28-14 advantage.

First, Palmer hit rookie wide receiver J.J. Nelson (four receptions, 142 yards) with a touchdown pass that covered 64 yards. After forcing the Bengals into a quick three-and-out, Palmer did it again, driving the Cardinals down the field before hitting wide receiver John Brown for an 18-yard score.

Following another strong defensive stand, the Cardinals used a 36-yard pass from Palmer to Nelson to set up their third touchdown of the quarter, a 16-yard pass from Palmer to rookie running back David Johnson.

Palmer has 27 touchdowns for the season, putting him ahead of the New England Patriots’ Tom Brady (24) for the NFL lead.

“He was out of sync in the first half and tried to force one down the middle that wasn’t even there,” Arians said of Palmer. “I think he wanted to get after these guys a little too much early, and then he settled down and got into a rhythm.”

The Bengals got two rushing touchdowns from running back Jeremy Hill, whose second score on a 1-yard run cut the deficit to 28-21 with 11:26 to play. A sack and lost fumble by Dalton, however, led to a 24-yard field goal by Catanzaro.

Cincinnati wasn’t done. Dalton quickly drove the Bengals toward the end zone again and hooked up for a second time with tight end Tyler Eifert, whose 10-yard touchdown reception cut the lead to 31-28 with 3:44 to play.

Dalton finished 22-for-39 with no interceptions. Bengals running back Giovani Bernard caught eight passes for 128 yards.

The Bengals were flagged 10 times overall for 108 yards.

“We’ve got to clean it up,” Lewis said. “It’s just hurting us and it’s hard.”

Cincinnati was called for seven penalties for 73 yards in the first half alone, but despite all the flags, the Bengals still managed to hold a seven-point lead at intermission.