

# Steelers preparing Jones at QB

# Report

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THE SPORTS XCHANGE

Landry Jones is preparing to start for the Pittsburgh Steelers but will do so in the shadow of the team's franchise quarterback.

Ben Roethlisberger plans to wrap his injured knee and participate fully in Wednesday's practice. Coach Mike Tomlin said Tuesday that Jones is preparing to start.

"He's the one that's healthy," Tomlin said. Roethlisberger is recovering from a sprained medial collateral ligament and bone bruise. If he practices without limitations and is cleared medically, Tomlin would not stand in the way of his return.

Watkins, Harvin and Kyle Williams will be absent this week and Goodwin was placed on injured reserve.

## Eagles staying with Bradford

Sam Bradford has been woefully inconsistent through the Philadelphia Eagles' first six games of the 2015 season, but head coach Chip Kelly made it clear Tuesday that he is not considering replacing Bradford with backup Mark Sanchez.

"Sam is our quarterback," Kelly said. "We have full confidence in Sam."

Bradford, who has missed most of the past two years with ACL tears in his left knee, is 28th in the league in passing (80.0). He is 30th in third-down passing with a 48.5 rating.

## Taylor to start for Bills

Quarterback Tyrod Taylor is pushing to start Sunday's game when the Buffalo Bills and Jacksonville Jaguars square off in London.

Taylor missed the Bills' loss last week with a sprained medial collateral ligament in his left knee. Taylor was injured Week 5 in a win over the Tennessee Titans. He said the injury has "progressed each and every day."

The Bills began last week's game without Taylor (knee), running back Karlos Williams (concussion) and wide receiver Percy Harvin (hip). During the game, they lost receivers Sammy Watkins (ankle) and Marquise Goodwin (ribs) and offensive tackle Seantrel Henderson (concussion). On defense, tackle Kyle Williams (knee) went down in the fourth quarter, joining safety Aaron Williams (neck), who is on short-term injured reserve.

Offensive tackle Jordan Mills signed with the Bills and wide receiver Marquise Goodwin was placed on injured reserve.

Mills started 29 games for the Chicago Bears in 2013 and '14. He was signed to the

Detroit Lions' practice squad on Sept. 17.

The Bills signed wide receiver Titus Davis to the practice squad.

## Bryant to test foot

Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Dez Bryant plans to test his surgically repaired foot running routes in practice on Wednesday and Thursday. If he advances through both workouts without setbacks, Bryant could play Sunday for the first time since Sept. 13.

Bryant had surgery on Sept. 15, two days after he injured his foot in the regular-season opener against the New York Giants.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said Tuesday in a radio interview with 105.3 The Fan that Bryant will have his status determined by the medical staff. Gauging his response to cutting and breaking in his routes is a key factor. Bryant returned to practice on a limited basis last week, but it was also his first week participating in weight-bearing rehab. His conditioning level is another unknown.

## Brown sign LB

The Browns signed linebacker Jayson DiManche to their active roster from the practice squad of the Kansas City Chiefs.

Running back Shaun

Draughn was waived to create a roster spot and the Browns signed tight end Brian Leonhardt to the practice squad and released defensive back Ty Zimmerman from the practice squad.

## Giants to re-evaluate Pierre-Paul

New York Giants defensive end Jason Pierre-Paul will be re-evaluated by the New York Giants on Wednesday, according to a report.

Pierre-Paul is coming to New York from his Florida home and will meet with team doctors and officials to assess the progress of his right hand that was damaged during a fireworks accident in July, CBSSports.com reported Tuesday.

Giants coach Tom Coughlin said Tuesday that was no news on Pierre-Paul, who came to New York last month to meet with the team before returning to Florida to continue his rehabilitation.

## Giants' Fells leaves hospital

Giants tight end Daniel Fells is out of the hospital after nearly three weeks of treatment for MRSA.

Fells entered Hackensack University Medical Center on Oct. 2 — two days before the Giants played the Buffalo Bills — and was diagnosed with the life-threat-

ening, antibiotic-resistant bacteria that kills thousands every year. He suffered an ankle injury earlier in the season, but the Giants were uncertain how his foot became infected. There were reports last week that the foot would be amputated to prevent the infection from spreading.

The 32-year-old Fells won't return this season after he was placed on injured reserve and likely will not be able to resume his football career.

## Falcons release Godfrey

The Atlanta Falcons signed linebacker Philip Wheeler and released safety Charles Godfrey.

Wheeler spent the past two seasons with the Miami Dolphins and started 20 of 31 games he played in, posting 164 total tackles, including 118 solos. He began his career with the Indianapolis Colts in 2008 and had 141 tackles in 61 games and 24 starts. In 2012, Wheeler signed with the Oakland Raiders and started all 16 regular-season games, finishing with 109 tackles, three sacks and two forced fumbles.

Godfrey started his career with the Carolina Panthers as a third-round draft pick in 2008 and spent six years there before signing as a free agent with the Falcons in 2014.

The midfield is patrolled by twin sisters Kelsey and Jillian Brooks and Lily McVetty. All are juniors. Kelsey Brooks is the central midfielder.

Up front, there is another Brooks, Makenna, who is a first cousin to the twins. She is a senior. She is joined up there by sophomore Casey Pine and freshman Abby Veilleux.

Freshman Gabby Straka and Hope Butler also see duty up front, and senior Brianna Dugan sees a lot of time in the midfield.

Butler was the star of the Mariners' most noteworthy result: a 2-2 tie with defending state "B" champ Waterville.

The Mariners trailed 2-0 at Waterville with 10 minutes left when standout senior back Rebecca Boggs suffered a season-ending knee injury.

The Mariners overcame the loss of Boggs, who was one of their captains, to tie it on two Butler goals in the final seven minutes.

Townsend is hoping the Mariners can make a deep run in the tournament. He pointed out that there are a lot of quality teams capable of winning the regional crown.

"We learned a lot from the Waterville game. We just try to get better each time out. There's no magic formula. The kids have been very sound and consistent," said Townsend.

# Hockey

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and some of the Maine players there."

The Ice Breakers will practice three days per week.

The closest high school girls team is Winslow/Ersikine Academy. They are one of nine co-op teams with either two or three high schools supplying players.

There are 16 girls varsity programs in the state, and White has contacted each one for games.

The schedule is a work in progress. Their first game is tentatively scheduled against Edward Little/Leavitt/Poland in Auburn on Nov. 7.

# Patriots

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about the other team on Sunday."

## Pats linebacker Collins leads team with 37 tackles

Linebacker Jamie Collins is quickly becoming a star in the middle of the New England Patriots defense.

The third-year pro leads the team with 37 tackles while also collecting 3.5 sacks and three forced fumbles. Over the last two weeks, while Dont'a Hightower was sidelined with a rib injury, Collins displayed his football IQ, serving as the play-caller for the defense.

But Collins will always be most notable for his athletic ability, which was on full display on a blocked PAT late in the fourth quarter of the win in Indianapolis. Collins perfectly timed the snap to leap over the Colts long snapper, land and easily block Adam Vinatieri's kick.

It was just the latest example of Collins' ability to wow everyone, including teammates, with his athleticism.

"The Colts field-goal pro-



STEW MILNE | USA TODAY

New England Patriots outside linebacker Jamie Collins (right) tackles Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown during their game last month at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts.

tection, they try to get real low and protect those guys from not getting knocked out of there by the defensive linemen." Patriots head coach Bill Belichick said of the play that must be seen to truly be appreciated. "I thought we had an opportunity to go over the top of them, and Jamie did and made a great play on it."

Meanwhile, Hightower did not make the trip to Indianapolis. He left last week's win over Dallas in

the first quarter due to the rib injury. Although he practiced on a limited basis last week, he wasn't ready for live action Sunday.

## Blount turns in solid game

Running back LeGarrette Blount wasn't quite as dominant Sunday night against the Colts as he was in a pair of recent playoff blowouts over that team, when the big back combined for more than 300 yards and seven rushing scores. Still, Blount

churned out a game-high 16 attempts for 93 yards rushing, including a 38-yard touchdown. He also hauled in an 11-yard touchdown reception.

Blount was by no means bothered by the lesser role against a team the Patriots used at least 40 rushing attempts against in the last three meetings. This was a more balanced effort against an improved Indy run defense.

"Every win is satisfying," Blount said. "We worked hard this week. We prepared for them, we prepared for everything that they were

throwing at us. And they're a really good team. They have a great quarterback, great receivers, obviously a great running back. And they've got great guys on defense, new faces, and we had to prepare for them well, and we got out with a grinding win."

"Everybody prepared for them, as we would do any opponent. Everybody was ready to play this game. We were excited about it, just like we would be excited about playing anybody else. It doesn't matter who it is, as long as we get the win, I feel we'll be satisfied with it."

# ALCS

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Hendriks allowed one hit in 4 1/3 scoreless innings before right-hander LaTroy Hawkins took over in the seventh and could not retire a batter.

A leadoff walk to catcher Salvador Perez and singles by left fielder Alex Gordon and Rios loaded the bases before right-hander Ryan Tepera replaced Hawkins. Orlando entered the game as a pinch runner for Rios.

Escobar hit a sacrifice fly to the warning track in center. A wild pitch scored another run, Cain hit an RBI single, and Hosmer hit a sacrifice fly.

Escobar hit his second sacrifice fly of the game in the eighth after the Royals loaded the bases on Tepera. Cain hit a two-run single before Tepera was replaced by right-hander Mark Lowe.

**NOTES:** The Blue Jays' Game 3 win on Monday ended the Royals' nine-game AL Championship Series winning streak, one short of the record held by the Baltimore

Orioles. ... The Royals had 15 hits Monday in a 11-8 loss to Toronto, the second time a team lost in the ALCS with 15 or more hits. The Boston Red Sox had 15 hits in a 19-8 defeat to the New York Yankees in Game 3 of the 2004 ALCS. In postseason history, a team lost with 15 or more hits 10 times. ... First-game loser Marco Estrada (13-8, 3.13 ERA regular season; 1-1, 3.09 postseason) will start Game 5 for the Blue Jays on Wednesday. First-game winner Edinson Volquez (13-9, 3.55 regular season; 1-1, 2.31 postseason) gets the call for Kansas City.

# Fort Kent

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He also said that Fort Kent is a "soccer-skiing community" but he hopes to change the culture so basketball can have its place of prominence along with the soccer and ski teams.

The school board approved dual-sport participation in the spring and that could open the door for O'Leary to get more athletes involved in his program.

Dual sport participation means student-athletes can par-

ticipate in two sports during the same sports season such as skiing and basketball.

"But we've got to get all of the coaches on board," said O'Leary.

O'Leary graduated from Allagash High School in 1986 and was the valedictorian.

He led the Bobcats to four postseason appearances and played in the McDonald's Senior All-Star game before going on to play at the University of Maine at Fort Kent.

He graduated from the University of Maine at Fort Kent Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in computer science.

He has coached at various levels in the Aroostook Youth Basketball League the past eight years.

O'Leary spent nine seasons as the club pro and manager of the Fort Kent Golf Club. He was also on the MSAD 27 school board for the past nine years.

O'Leary runs a heating, ventilation and air conditioning business and resides in Wallagrass with his wife, Joanne, and daughters, Jordan and Kassidy.

Jordan will be a sophomore on his team this winter.

O'Leary will inherit a team that went 2-16 last winter and finished 13th among 16 teams in Eastern Maine Class C.

winter, could face discipline from the NFL if found to be in violation of the personal conduct policy during last week's traffic stop.

Manziel was stopped by police in a traffic incident last week and now faces discipline from the Cleveland Browns and possibly the NFL.

Manziel was arguing with

his girlfriend, Colleen Crowley, who accused him of hitting her "a couple times."

Manziel admitted to drinking, but the police determined he was not intoxicated. No charges were filed, but the incident is a concern to the Browns because partying last year is what led Manziel to enter rehab.

# NFL to examine Manziel incident

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

BEREA, Ohio — Quarterback Johnny Manziel, praised for months for being a changed man after spending 70 days in rehab over the



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