
Subscribers Like You
Make the Difference
New Subscribers pay only $39 for 12 months of local news delivered weekly to your mailbox! Ask about our Senior Citizen's Discount!
Call 901.476.7116


Collierville
Herald Independent

Collierville's hometown news since 1870

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026 $1 VOL. 156 ISSUE 41

OH NO, BROTHERS!

Saints hold off CBHS with late two-point conversion, remain unbeaten

By Thomas Sellers, Jr.
Richardson Media Group



MEMPHIS — Riding high off a win over previous unbeaten Southwind, the Briarcrest Saints knew a rivalry showdown was next on the agenda before a clash of titans with Brentwood Academy.

Boarding the bus on campus Friday evening to leave Eads, Saints Head Coach Phil Massey gave his players a not so subtle reminder about their opponent the Christian Brothers High School Purple Wave.

"We tried to tell our kids that they're a very competitive, very physically tough team," he said. "They do a great job. Their coaches do a great job so I knew they would be very prepared."

The textbook October conditions of mild temperatures and a mist gave the backdrop to Tom Nix Stadium on Landers Field for a classic. By the time the final whistle blew, the Saints marched out of Memphis still undefeated and survivors of a 29-28 decision.

"They played a hard fought game," Massey said of the Purple Wave. "That's what we told our kids before we even got on the bus to leave Briarcrest. It's going to be a dogfight. I wasn't too sure how much they believed it, but I know they believe it now. Certainly it was a hard-fought high school football game."

Briarcrest (7-0, 2-0 in Division II-3A West) struck first with a Octavius Flynn 5 yard touchdown run to make the score 7-0 just 4 minutes into the game.

The Brothers (4-3, 0-2) came out the corner swinging a haymaker when quarterback Nate Brick threw a picture-perfect deep ball hitting receiver Christian Harris in stride. The connection deadlocked the game at 7-7 midway through the first quarter.

Before the opening period concluded, Saints quarterback Cayden Dixon toss a pitch to Flynn leading to his second TD of the night. Briarcrest was ahead 14-7 entering the second quarter.

The Purple Wave continued the trend of answering back with its passing attack. Brick's next target was Trey Burse. The TD pass tied the game at 14-14 just a minute into the period.

As both defenses held the opposition for most of the quarter, Briarcrest had a breakthrough when Caden Sage caught a pass from Dixon setting up the Saints at the 1-yard line. Dixon did the honors a couple of plays later to regain the lead for Briarcrest.



Purple Wave athletes (above) fight for a couple of extra yards Friday night on the turf of Landers Field at Tom Nix Stadium against rival Briarcrest. The Saints were able to leave Memphis victorious 29-28; A Briarcrest player looks for an opening to throw the ball (inset, left) during the game Friday night.

With 2 minutes and 36 seconds on the clock, CBHS had plenty of time to answer back again. Brick threw his third touchdown pass of the night. Ezra Caswell was on the receiving end of the TD with a minute and 24 ticks on the clock before halftime.

The tally was deadlock at 21-21 at the break. The Brothers received the ball first in the second half and made a statement. Brick tossed his fourth touchdown pass of the night. The 45-yard strike to Burse made the score 28-21 in favor of CBHS with 8:19 on the clock.

"Our head coach actually told us that before the game that we were going to be in for a dogfight," Dixon acknowledged. "So we were ready for it."

Briarcrest was stopped time and time again in the second half. The Purple Wave was neutralized

See **Football,** *page 8*

COLLIERVILLE POLICE OFFICER RECEIVES LAW ENFORCEMENT MEDAL

Staff Report

COLLIERVILLE, Tenn. – When Collierville Police Officer Ethan Stewart arrived at the scene of a crash shortly after midnight July 5, there was little time to think.

A vehicle lay upside down on Houston Levee Road, south of Poplar Avenue, engulfed in flames. Inside, an unconscious man was trapped in the wreckage.

Stewart, working the midnight patrol shift, was the first officer to arrive.

He initially tried to pull the driver through the driver's-side window but was unable to free him. With smoke and flames spreading through the wreck, Stewart moved to the passenger side, crawled through the window of the overturned vehicle and reached the unconscious man.

Grabbing the driver's ankles, Stewart pulled him through the front passenger window and out of the burning vehicle.

A second Collierville officer arrived moments later and helped Stewart move the unconscious man farther away from the wreck.

The driver was taken by ambulance to Regional One Health in Memphis, where he was initially listed in critical condition. After receiving treatment, his condition was upgraded to stable.



Collierville Police Officer Ethan Stewart, left, receives the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from Mark Norris, president of the Isaac Shelby Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, on Sept. 9. Stewart was honored for rescuing a man from a burning, overturned vehicle on July 5. (Courtesy Photo)

Stewart also required medical attention. He was taken to Baptist Memorial Hospital-Collierville for evaluation for smoke inhalation.

The rescue ultimately saved the man's life.

For his actions, Stewart was recognized Sept. 9 with the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from the Isaac Shelby Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution during the chapter's monthly meeting.

Chapter President Mark Norris presented Stewart with the medal and a certificate during the ceremony.

The award recognizes Stewart's actions at the July crash, where he entered a burning, overturned vehicle and pulled an unconscious stranger to safety.

In doing so, Stewart put himself in danger as he worked through smoke and flames to reach the trapped driver.

What began as a routine midnight patrol became a life-or-death rescue — one that earned Stewart recognition for his courage and his willingness to put another person's life ahead of his own.

Inside: Community News - Pages A2 & A3 | Faith - Page A4
Classifieds - Page A5 | Puzzles - Page A6

Collierville Herald Independent
Go to ColliervilleHerald.news
Your online source for local news.