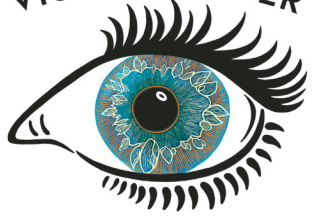




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Lakeland LAKERS (3-0)

| DATE | OPPONENT | TIME |
|-------|-----------------|---------|
| 8/23 | SB St. Joseph | W 21-20 |
| 8/30 | @ Churubusco | W 33-8 |
| 9/6 | Prairie Heights | W 48-6 |
| 9/13 | @ Garrett | 7 PM |
| 9/20 | Angola | 7 PM |
| 9/27 | @ Central Noble | 7 PM |
| 10/4 | West Noble | 7 PM |
| 10/11 | @ Fairfield | 7 PM |
| 10/18 | Jimtown | 7 PM |



TONIGHT: Lakeland (3-0) heads south to square off against fellow unbeaten Garrett tonight in one of the best early-season GameNight games. "Garrett is a really well-oiled machine," O'Shea said. "They run the ball efficiently and No. 2 (senior QB Calder Hefty) is one of the better running quarterbacks you'll see. He's tough and fast, and if you sleep on his arm he'll throw it over your head." Mickem (pictured) and fellow inside backer Drannon Miller will share "spy" duties on Hefty, while the D-end duo of Nick Huppenthal and Keegan Merrifield will be extra careful to keep the Garrett QB in the pocket. In this matchup last year, Hefty rushed for 174 yards and two TDs in leading the Railroaders to an 18-9 victory. The Lakeland ground game, conversely, produced just 64 yards on 22 official carries a year ago vs. Garrett.



HUPPENTHAL



PHOTO BY STEVE BOWEN

Garrett RAILROADERS (3-0)

| DATE | OPPONENT | TIME |
|-------|---------------|---------|
| 8/23 | Adams Central | W 20-7 |
| 8/30 | @ DeKalb | W 33-30 |
| 9/6 | @ Churubusco | W 41-0 |
| 9/13 | Lakeland | 7 PM |
| 9/20 | Eastside | 7 PM |
| 9/27 | @ West Noble | 7 PM |
| 10/4 | @ Fairfield | 7 PM |
| 10/11 | Angola | 7 PM |
| 10/18 | Central Noble | 7 PM |



TONIGHT:

It might be the best game on this week's slate of contests as the undefeated Lakeland Lakers come calling to G-town. "Lakeland has a D1 quarterback (junior Brayden Holbrook) and a lot of talent around him," DePew warned. "They throw the ball around pretty well." Blake Lewis, who sustained a minor ankle injury last week, was listed as questionable for tonight's contest. Otherwise, DePew said, the Railroaders are healthy. Skelly leads the "D" with three pass breakups, though Garrett has yet to record an interception this season. Holbrook threw for 193 yards vs. the Railroaders in 2023, but was just 13-of-27 passing with zero TDs.



LEWIS



RUBLE



SKELLY



PHOTO BY AIMEE CRETSINGER

LAST WEEK: The Railroaders took care of business early on last Friday night, wasting no time in dismantling Churubusco's Eagles 41-zip. "Overall a good performance by the kids handling a 'trap' game," coach Chris DePew said shortly afterward, referencing tonight's clash vs. Lakeland. DePew gave special praise to the beasts (pictured) in his offensive trenches: Nate Wells, Aiden Hunt, Cam Woods, Owen Baldwin, Jacob Reynolds and tight end Levi Chaney. "(Cam) Ruble ran hard," DePew said, while also noting Aiden Reed's 100-plus yards on the ground in the fourth quarter alone. The Railroaders put the 'Busco boys to bed on the first offensive snap of the second half when senior QB Calder Hefty bootlegged to his right, evaded a blitzing Eagle off the edge, and "chucked a 61-yard TD pass to Parker Skelly," DePew recanted. The one glaring aspect that needs improvement? "A couple special-teams turnovers," DePew noted. "We've gotta clean that up."