

## **Facts you might not have known about the Pittsburgh City League**

**By Joshua Funk  
For PA Football News**

The Pittsburgh City League Championship game is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, from Heinz Field in downtown Pittsburgh. Before the City League crowns either Perry (9-1) or Brashear (9-1) its 90<sup>th</sup> overall champion, here are some interesting tidbits from the PIAA's smallest geographic district:

- The first ever City League champion was Allegheny, in 1919. Allegheny won three of the first five City League championships. Allegheny is now a part of the Perry and Oliver school systems.
- Perry won its first City League championship in 1932. The Commodores next City title came in 1973, a 41-year drought.
- Speaking of title droughts, the longest active City League title drought belongs to Taylor Allerdice (41 years), which last won a City title in 1967. Allerdice, recall, lost last year's City title game to Brashear, 14-13, after falling 32-6 to the Bulls in the regular season.
- The second-longest active title drought belongs to Carrick, which is now 25 years in length. Peabody is third at 14 years, last winning a City title in 1994.
- Westinghouse, now mired in a downswing, leads all City League schools with 34 titles. The Bulldogs won their first title in 1927, and won 12 titles in a 13-year span from 1954-'66. But Westinghouse has not won a City League title since 1996.
- The last City League championship won by a school now defunct or no longer in operation came in 1977, when South Vo-Tech High School claimed the crown. South, now defunct, is not a part of any current City League representative.
- The Oliver Bears have won four City League titles, but only one of them is an outright title. The Bears defeated Brashear in 2006, advancing to the PIAA "AAA" quarterfinals before falling to General McLane. The Bears shared three consecutive titles from 1940-'42. Oliver shared the 1940 title with South Hills and the '41 and '42 titles with Westinghouse.
- From 1979-'88, Brashear won seven City League titles, all outright. Brashear is the only City League "AAAA" rep to play in a PIAA semi-final, falling in 1988 to Pittsburgh Central Catholic, 19-14. Brashear has never tied for a City League title.

- Perry is the only City League team to ever play for a PIAA football championship. The Commodores defeated Berwick Area 20-8 in 1989 at Hershey Stadium, and then fell to Berwick 17-14 in 1997 at Mansion Park Stadium in Altoona.
- Perry also owns the most PIAA semifinals appearances among City League schools with six. Perry appeared in PIAA semifinals in 1989, 1990, 1997, 1999, and 2001-'02.
- What other records does Perry hold? They scored the most points by any City League team in history (692 in 2002, 5<sup>th</sup>-best in PIAA history). Perry has topped the 500-point plateau two other times, scoring 571 points in 2001 and 519 points in 2003.
- Perry also owns the PIAA record most consecutive shutouts in a season, with 13. That mark, set in 2002, is also the state record for most shutouts in a single season.

*Source: Pennsylvania Football News Resource Guide*