

All-Great Lakes Conference

North Olmsted's Kelly selected as the conference's top offensive player

By BRIAN LOVE

His statistics are more than impressive, so it's no surprise when North Olmsted's Jared Kelly was selected as the Offensive Player of the Year for the Great Lakes Conference.

Kelly, who will sign with Kent State University on Dec. 16, finished this season with 1,571 yards and 17 touchdowns on just 153 carries. He also had 45 receptions for 792 yards and 12 touchdowns. He also had one punt return for 71 yards and a touchdown.

"Considering he didn't play many times in the fourth quarter, that's impressive," North Olmsted Coach Tim Brediger said. "He'd do all the damage in the first half. I'm really excited that Jared had the opportunity to be the Offensive Player of the Year. His stats are really solid."

Kelly was one of the top local players in the GLC.

"I'm just pretty excited overall," Kelly said. "There's a lot of good players in the

conference, a lot of competition all throughout the year. And I'm kind of just excited to be given the award."

The top name in the GLC for the past two seasons was Elyria Catholic's Levi Ellis. Ellis was named the conference's Player of the Year. Rocky River senior Mack Massad was named Specialist of the Year, and Elyria Catholic's Travis Merrill was named Lineman of the Year.

"Obviously, Levi Ellis won the award for the MVP, when you include offense and defense and rightfully so," Brediger said. "He was probably our best player in the conference all around."

Still, Kelly helped lead his Eagles team to an 8-4 record, including a trip to the playoffs before losing in the second round.

Kelly is excited about playing at Kent, which Brediger describes as the school of his choice.

"They want me to play both offense or defense, wherever they need," Kelly said. "It's overall very exciting for me."

Although he could graduate early and go through spring training, his coach believes he'll stay and run track.

"He's going to take a few weeks off to let his body heal up," Brediger said. "He's a state qualifier in track. I think he'll want to place somewhere in the state (meet) this year."

Kelly wasn't the only player from North Olmsted to be honored. Making first team

were teammates Xavier Balson (Sr.), Gavin Beasley (Sr.), Daniel Furdui (Sr.) and Collin Willard (Jr.), while named to the second team were Joey Wingstrom (Sr.), Jacob Holtz (Jr.), Logan Dangerfield (Jr.), Jio Rodriguez (Sr.) and Matthew Chalkwater (So.)

North Olmsted wasn't the only team that placed players on the All-GLC Team. The Westshore area was well represented on the two teams.

The Bay Rockets had Sean Anthony (Sr.), Nathan Dacek (Sr.) and Jack McAlea (Jr.) on the first team, while Charles Rice (Jr.), Adam Lonerowi (Sr.) and Mac Weingart (Jr.) were named to the second team.

At Glanc (Sr.) and Col. Karliak (Sr.) were Fairview's first-teamers, with teammates Jason Courtney (Sr.) and David Kramer (Sr.) making second team.

A pair of Lakewood juniors – Alex Symons and Aiden Maxwell – were on the first team, while Muyiman Salti (Sr.), Garrett Schweter (Sr.) and Jayon Chappell (So.) were on the second team.

Massad was joined by Rocky River's Aiden Andrako (Sr.), Stan Heuler (Sr.) and Josh Mommers (So.) on the first team. Teammates Julian Patti (Jr.), Cam Bulkowski (So.), Evan Merk (Sr.) and Charlie Fadel (Sr.) were Pirates

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