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## St frances academy baltimore football

Given article text here # St. Frances Academy Starts Strong in Maryland High School Football Season St. Frances Academy has kicked off the 2024 season as the top-ranked team in the Maryland High School Football Media State Poll, collecting eight out of ten first-place votes. The Baltimore power's dominance is not surprising, given their reputation for producing talented players who go on to excel at NCAA Division I programs. The team's preseason ranking is a testament to their strength and depth, with 29 players already committed to top-ranked teams. Quince Orchard and Wise are the only public school programs in the Top 10, showcasing the caliber of competition St. Frances faces each week. Other top-ranked teams include Archbishop Spalding at No. 3, followed closely by DeMatha, McDonogh, and Riverdale Baptist. These six private schools have a combined total of 29 players committed to NCAA Division I programs, with many of them destined for nationally ranked teams. The preseason Top 25 list features all six defending state champions, including Wise at No. 8 and Dunbar at No. 12. Fort Hill, Oakdale, Mergenthaler Vo-Tech, and Stephen Decatur round out the top 16. St. Frances Academy's success is a result of their dedication to shaping young minds and empowering students to achieve excellence. Their passionate educators are committed to building a legacy of achievement that extends beyond the football field. Good Counsel's dominance in state polls continued from 2018 to 2022, with a brief dip in rankings due to an early season losing streak that ended their top spot reign since 2017. The team regained the No. 1 ranking in 2023 after winning its final 10 games. St. Frances Academy started strong as Maryland's top program according to USA Today and began the High School Football America Top 25 rankings at No. 13, alongside Good Counsel (No. 16), St. Frances (No. 18), and DeMatha (No. 20). This week's schedule features a showdown between Archbishop Spalding and DeMatha, while St. Frances Academy and Good Counsel have opportunities to enhance their national reputation with challenging games against top teams from New Jersey and Florida. St. Frances Academy is notably ranked No. 6 nationally in the SBLive Sports/Sports Illustrated Power 25 and tops the Baltimore Banner/Varsity Sports Network Preseason Football Top 15, which highlights the best high school football teams in Baltimore. Defending MIAA A Conference champion Calvert Hall comes in at No. 2. Mount St. Joseph Gaels are looking strong with 10 returning starters from their MIAA A semifinalist team. Quarterback Winston Watkins will lead an explosive offense featuring running back Bryce Cox and wide receiver Tre Goodridge. The defensive unit, led by senior Boston College commit Carter Davis, is expected to be top-notch. Archbishop Spalding Cavaliers are motivated after last year's perfect season was cut short in the MIAA A semifinals. Sophomore quarterback Malik Washington will lead a new group of starters, while senior linebacker Gio Boone and defensive line veteran Damien Wilburn anchor the defense. McDonogh School Eagles return 10 starters from their MIAA A runner-up team, with premier offensive and defensive fronts led by Power 5 commits Mason Robinson (Northwestern) and Tamarus Walker (Maryland). Freshman quarterback Braden Palizzo is expected to step up behind a speedy and experienced receiver group. Dunbar Poets are defending Class 2A/1A state champs, returning 15 starters from last year's team. Quarterback Devin Roche, an Old Dominion commit, headlines the group, along with two-way standouts Josh Fedd, Tony Hart, Detwan Player, and Tristan Keenan. Milford Mill Academy Millers are looking strong after losing in the Class 2A state final last year. Quarterback Deshawn Purdie will lead a new-look team featuring senior wide receiver/defensive back/returner Daysen Shell and senior offensive/defensive lineman Rashard Herring, who is among the region's elite interior performers. Milford Mill's faces, including Mount St. Joseph transfer Purdie, give the team hope to end its state championship drought this season. Loyola Blakefield returns to the MIAA A after a three-season hiatus, with Shane Elliott and Marcus Hines leading the offense and defense, respectively. Mervo, which won its first state championship last year, has some retooling ahead in 2022 with only four starters returning. However, the team is expecting several players from last year's junior varsity team to contribute. Dundalk has 10 starters back from last year's state runner-up squad, led by running back Jordan Fiorenza and offensive/defensive lineman Julian Haddix. The Owls will be anchored by linebackers Kevaun Briscoe and Dale Martin on defense. Broadneck hopes to continue its reign in Anne Arundel County with quarterback Cam Catterton replacing four-year starter Josh Ehrlich. The Bruins have a deep secondary led by defensive back Anthony Hawkins, who has major interest from Colgate, Army, and Navy. Concordia Prep will aim for a second straight MIAA B championship this season with 12 starters returning, including all-league performers Jaden Alston and Josh Derry. Given article text here Loyola will be led by a young and talented front, consisting of both an offensive and defensive team. Concordia's upcoming schedule is filled with challenging non-league tests against established teams like Gilman School and McDonogh before moving on to conference play. On the other hand, Franklin's squad, which boasts a 9-3 record from last season, will again be a force in Baltimore County despite having an inexperienced roster. The Indians' offense features Khalil Bilal as their sole returning starter, with Billy Hartman and Zander McCracken vying for the quarterback position. On the defensive side, Dab Duru is set to anchor the front, backed up by several senior linebackers including Calvert Hall transfer Antwan Morante. In contrast, Atholton's team, led by Coach Eric Woodson, appears formidable entering 2022 with a 10-2 record from last year. The Raiders boast a strong backfield consisting of Miles Scott, Deacon Watkins, and Dillon Watkins, who will be moving to linebacker in an effort to bolster their defense. With their speed at wide receiver and several newcomers on the interior, Atholton is looking to make a deeper run in the playoffs. St. Mary's, meanwhile, has a solid core returning from last season's 6-4 campaign under Coach Jason Budroni. The Saints are expected to challenge for the MIAA B championship, led by Cotton, Casey Cavanaugh, and Carson Pettibon on offense, as well as Dylan Carl, Nick Golini, and Gabe Villatoro on defense. Saint Frances Academy is a top-tier private Catholic school with 213 students in grades 9-12, boasting a student-to-teacher ratio of 12 to 1. With a tuition of \$10,800 for the highest grade offered, the school's graduates go on to attend four-year colleges at an impressive 96% rate. Here at St. Francis Academy, students are known for their creativity and artistic flair, with many parents and students agreeing that they're also athletic and have engaging lessons with genuinely caring teachers who adequately lead the classroom. One of the best things about this school is its strong sense of community, where students from different backgrounds quickly find common ground and become friends. The school's athletics program is also a highlight, with top-notch football and basketball teams that make watching their games an exciting experience. However, some parents have expressed concerns about inconsistent disciplinary measures, such as allowing students to attend class without proper uniforms or bags. Overall, many alumni and current students have shared positive experiences at St. Francis Academy, citing its supportive environment, opportunities for growth, and preparation for college life.