

Tonight, mothers of Tivy football players will get a chance to see how their sons practice and prepare for games. During Moms 101, which begins at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Antler Stadium, moms will go through drills with Antler football coaches and face off in a flag football game. Check Friday's paper for photos and reaction from the festivities.

No. 2 in Cleveland

Brian Hoyer wins starting job in Cleveland, Johnny to be backup

BEREA, Ohio (AP) — Brian Hoyer defied long odds — and stiff-armed Johnny Football — to keep his dream job.

Through sweat and tears, he fought his way back from a serious knee injury only to be faced with the Browns drafting Johnny Manziel, college football's dynamic quarterback with the major following.

Hoyer, though, persevered. He endured grueling rehab to get back on the field sooner than expected, stayed focused as Manzielmania consumed the Browns, and ignored trade rumors. It will be Hoyer who will lead the Browns, his hometown team, onto the field for the Sept. 7 opener against the archrival Pittsburgh Steelers.

For a Cleveland kid cut by three NFL teams and waiting for his chance, it doesn't get any better.

"Obviously it's very special for me," Hoyer said. "It's amazing how you appreciate the game when it's taken away from you."

Needing to fix his offense quickly, first-year Browns coach Mike Pettine chose Hoyer as his starter Wednesday over Manziel, who wasn't able to do enough during training camp or two preseason games to convince Cleveland he deserved the job.

"It's obviously disappointing," Manziel said. "I feel like if I would have come out and played better it would have been a different

outcome. I don't think I played terrible, but I didn't do anything to jump off the page. I made strides and got better throughout training camp and that's what I wanted to do."

Despite a 40 percent completion percentage, 57.9 rating and seeming to buckle under the pressure this month, Hoyer will start the season. However, in Cleveland that usually only guarantees one game. After all, the Browns have had 20 starting quarterbacks since 1999. Hoyer is the 12th QB to start the opener, a damning indictment toward a franchise that has only made the playoffs once in its expansion era.

The first major decision of Pettine's coaching career wasn't easy. He chose Hoyer's experience over Manziel's potential and he may have to make another switch. Pettine knows the best plans can change in an instant.

"Give me a crystal ball, and I'll tell you," he said when asked if Manziel will play this season. "The NFL season is so long, so much can happen. You could foresee a scenario where he doesn't play this year and there are other scenarios that are absolutely possible as well."

Pettine brushed aside the notion Hoyer is on a short leash.

"This is Brian's job," he said. "I never think of it whether it's a leash or we want a guy to be a game manager. We want him to be confident and go out and play."

Pettine's selection of Hoyer will finally allow the Browns to move on to other things, and there's plenty of work to be done.

Pettine had targeted the third preseason game as the drop-dead date to pick his starter, but after both Hoyer and Manziel looked so bad in a loss at Washington on Monday, he met with his staff Tuesday night. He informed Hoyer and Manziel of his decision before a team meeting.

Manziel temporarily is pushed aside, and that appears to be OK with the attention-drawing 21-year-old, who hopes the hysteria quiets down a little.

"I'm the backup quarterback," he said. "I shouldn't be in the spotlight."

Manziel has no regrets about the way he approached his competition with Hoyer. He was widely criticized for some weekend partying, but the 2012 Heisman Trophy winner insists he wouldn't change a thing. He's developing as a player, maturing as a man, and hopes to one day take over.

"Now next time I come into training camp I won't be surprised by it," he said. "But I wouldn't go back from the point after the draft to now and change a single thing. I'm going to continue to live my life and the offseason is the offseason. I'm going to go places, I'm going to do things and that's going to have no effect."

"Obviously I need to do it in the proper way, but I'm still going to continue to have fun in my life and continue to live my life."

For now, as a backup.



Cleveland Browns quarterback Johnny Manziel (2) walks on the field after an NFL preseason football game against the Washington Redskins on Monday in Landover, Maryland. After averaging 4.7 yards per pass completion in the preseason, Manziel will start the year in Cleveland as the backup QB.

Evan Vucci/Associated Press

Manziel-Browns Timeline

May 8

Tivy High School and Texas A&M alum Johnny Manziel, right, poses with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell as Manziel is selected by the Cleveland Browns with the 22nd overall pick of the NFL Draft.



AP Photos

July 25

The Cleveland Browns report for their NFL training camp, as head coach Mike Pettine confirms that Manziel (2) and NFL veteran Brian Hoyer (6) will be competing for the starting quarterback position.



August 9

Manziel gets his first NFL action as he throws for 63 yards on 11 attempts and rushes for 27 yards against the Detroit Lions. However, the Browns lose 13-12 as Brian Hoyer throws for 92 yards.



August 18

Manziel struggles against the Washington Redskins, including being sacked for the first time in his professional career. Manziel completes less than half his pass attempts as the Browns lose 24-23.



Martinez K's 7 as Rangers top Marlins, 5-4

MIAMI (AP) — Nick Martinez enjoyed his homecoming. And, after an anxious ninth inning, his friends and family got to celebrate a win.

Martinez allowed two runs and struck out a career-high seven in six innings of work, Alex Rios drove in two runs and the Texas Rangers survived Miami's last-inning rally to beat the Marlins 5-4 on Wednesday afternoon.

Marcell Ozuna and Jarrod Saltalamacchia homered in the ninth for Miami, but the Rangers held on for a split of the quick two-game series.

"It was great," said Martinez, who had about 100 family and friends in the stands. "It was very special. I got to pitch where it all started against a team I grew up watching. I thought that was pretty cool and even better than we came out on top."

Martinez (3-9) allowed six hits and threw 62 of 96 pitches for strikes. He was born in nearby Hialeah and pitched at Belen Jesuit Prep, about 12 miles from Marlins Park.

Leonys Martin had three hits for Texas, which grabbed a 5-0 lead after two innings.

After giving up the two solo homers, Neftali Feliz got his fifth save in six tries, striking out Donovan Solano to end the game with the tying run on base.

Feliz closed it out moments after manager Ron Washington visited the mound and nearly pulled him.

"He said, 'Give me one more hitter' and he said it like he meant it," Washington said. "So I gave him one more hitter."

Marlins starter Nathan Eovaldi (6-8) gave up nine hits and five runs, four earned, in five innings.

Martinez had a 3-0 lead before taking the mound in his home city for the first time. Texas — which had been held to three runs or less in 14 of its last 18 games entering Wednesday — strung together four straight two-out hits in the opening inning. J.P. Arencibia's double brought Rios home with the first

run, and Adrian Beltre came around when Marlins shortstop Adeiny Hechavarria dropped the relay.

Martin's single made it 3-0, and Rios' second-inning double — on a popup that dropped in right — pushed the lead to 5-0.

"I was leaving the fastball up in the zone, couldn't get that slider to have that good bite to it," Eovaldi said. "It's tough for us to come back from 5-0 after two innings but we were right there, knocking on the door at the end."

Martinez gave up an RBI double to Ozuna in the fourth, then let Ozuna score Miami's second run on a wild pitch.

Otherwise, he largely escaped trouble.

Ozuna and Christian Yelich each had three hits for Miami.

"Too many runs early," Marlins manager Mike Redmond said. "It's a day game, 12:40 start, we've got to come out of the chute and put up some zeroes, give our offense a chance to get going. To give up five runs in two innings, that can't happen."



Martinez

► Triathlon

Kerrville Triathlon Festival coming soon

Registration is open for the fourth annual Kerrville Triathlon Festival, featuring several types of races, including half-distance races, 3-person relays and sprints. The races are Sept. 27-28.

Regular registration is until Aug. 31, with late fees attached to any applicants after the date. To register, and for more information, go to kerrvilletri.com. Race organizers encourage those training for the triathlon to post progress photos to the race's Facebook page, "Getting Ready for the Kerrville Tri."

► Hill Country Youth Sports

YMCA fall sports registration open

Registration is open for Kerr County YMCA fall sports. Tackle football is available for boys and girls in two age groups before Nov. 1: ages 9 through 10 and ages 11 through 12. Flag football is available for boys and girls ages 4 through 10. Flag and tackle football cost \$80 per player, and tackle football players may rent equipment for an additional \$40 instead of bringing their own. The season, including playoffs, runs Sept. 13 through Nov. 8.

Volleyball is available for girls age 8 through 13. Cost is \$80 and includes a team t-shirt. Each player must bring her own shorts and knee pads. The season runs eight consecutive Saturdays beginning Sept. 13.

The registration deadline for tackle football, flag football and volleyball is Friday. Register online at www.kerrYMCA.org or at the YMCA office, 1609 Sidney Baker St.

► Bowling

Senior League seeking bowlers

Kerrville's Senior Bowling League is seeking bowlers of all skill levels ages 50 and older for a 32-week team league. Teams consist of three bowlers. The league will host a meeting for teams on Tuesday, Aug. 26, where bowlers not already on a team can sign up. League play begins Tuesday, Sept. 2, and runs through April. Contact the Kerrville Bowling Center at 895-5555 for more information.