

Jones, Not Sturdivant, Set To Visit Ohio State

By Adam Jardy

One week ago, Ohio State was set to welcome in a pair of three-star recruits from Cleveland Glenville on the last weekend before National Signing Day. Now it appears just one of the two Tarblooders will be on campus.

Quarterback Cardale Jones is planning to make the trip while defensive end Andre "Tank" Sturdivant will not. As a result, only the 6-5, 230-pound Jones is viewed as a likely addition to the Buckeyes' class of 2011.

In a Jan. 26 video interview with BuckeyeSports.com recruiting analyst Bill Greene, Sturdivant said he had changed course and did not plan to take any visits during the final weekend before the Feb. 2 signing day.

The 6-3, 245-pounder listed OSU, Penn State and Michigan State as his finalists although Ohio State is not known to have issued Sturdivant a scholarship offer. All three schools were scheduled to be at Glenville on Jan. 27.

Sturdivant added that he is fully qualified academically and that he will be making a decision on signing day. He described his recruitment as having alternated between fun and stressful.

"Any kid my age, they'd be excited having coaches come in and talk to you,"

he said. "But at the same time, deciding where you're going to be the next four years of your life is tough. You want to make sure it's definitely the right move for you."

Scout.com rates Sturdivant the No. 53 defensive end in the nation.

Meanwhile, Jones confirmed his visit via his personal Twitter page. Current OSU freshman defensive back and former Tarblooders star Christian Bryant asked him if he would be in Columbus this weekend, and Jones replied that he would be, following his team's Friday night basketball game.



Cardale Jones

Rated the No. 23 player in the nation at his position, Jones is viewed as a likely addition to the Ohio State class due to his pending visit despite not being known to hold a scholarship offer from the Buckeyes. With the connection OSU head coach Jim Tressel enjoys at Glenville, it is unlikely the coach would invite Jones for a visit during the final week and deprive him

of the chance to commit elsewhere without planning to issue him a scholarship offer.

In order to put some separation between Jones and five-star quarterback Braxton Miller from Huber Heights (Ohio) Wayne, who is already enrolled in courses at OSU, it is possible that Jones could take a gray-

shirt or spend the 2011 season at a prep school.

Updated Predictions

Aside from the Glenville duo, the Buckeyes remain in the hunt for four national prospects, and according to Scout's experts, they can expect to land as many as two of them.

The most likely to become a Buckeye hails from Glenville. Four-star offensive guard Aundrey Walker (6-6, 355) is pegged by national recruiting editor Allen Wallace, Midwest recruiting manager Allen Trieu and Greene as a future OSU commitment.

Five schools remain in the running for Walker – Ohio State, USC, Wisconsin, Florida State and Michigan State.

Meanwhile, two of three Scout analysts are forecasting the nation's top outside linebacker prospect to Columbus. East recruiting manager Bob Lichtenfels and Wallace each feel Curtis Grant from Richmond (Va.) Hermitage will be a Buckeye while Virginia recruiting analyst Miller Safrin lists the 6-3, 215-pound Grant as being Florida-bound.

The five-star prospect has narrowed his list to include Florida, OSU, North Carolina and Virginia.

Finally, it appears unlikely in the eyes of Scout's analysts that the Buckeyes will land either of the four-star wide receivers still on their radar.

Darius Jennings, a 5-11, 178-pound target from Baltimore Gilman School, is viewed as a lock to Virginia in the eyes of East analyst Matt Alkire, Wallace and Lichtenfels. Jennings is also considering OSU and Wake Forest.

Likewise, wideout JaJuan Story from Brooksville (Fla.) Nature Coast Tech is seen as likely to maintain his previous verbal commitment to the Gators. South regional manager Chad Simmons, Florida analyst Mike Bakas and Wallace all see the 6-4, 192-pound Story selecting Florida from a list of finalists that also includes OSU and Oregon.

The Buckeyes also remain interested in two-star long snapper Bryce Haynes from Cumming (Ga.) Pinecrest Academy. Haynes looks set to pick from a list consisting of OSU, North Carolina, Notre Dame and Harvard.

Scout.com 2011 Updated Rankings

Rk.	School	Commits	Rk.	School	Commits
1	Texas	22	6	Alabama	21
2	Florida State	24	7	USC	25
3	Auburn	22	8	Georgia	22
4	Ohio State	21	9	LSU	21
5	Notre Dame	23	10	Oregon	23



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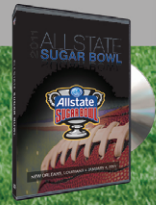
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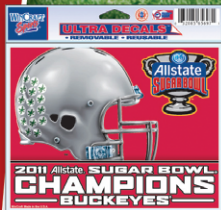
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Champions
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Champions Decal \$2.95



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Striped Banner \$23.95



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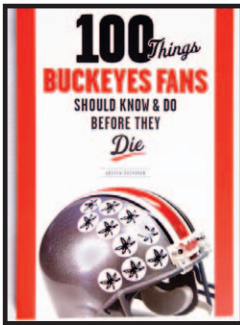


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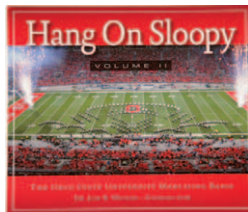
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Ohio State Verbal Commitments

Players in the class of 2011 who have issued verbal commitments to play football at Ohio State.

Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Stars	High School
Michael Bennett	DL	6-3	275	★★★★★	Centerville, Ohio
Brian Bobek	C	6-2½	278	★★★★★	Palatine (Ill.) Fremd
Tommy Brown	OT	6-5	300	★★★★	Akron Firestone
Chris Carter	OG	6-4	325	★★★★	Cleveland John F. Kennedy
Jeremy Cash	S	6-2	190	★★★★	Plantation, Fla.
Conner Crowell	MLB	6-1	219	★★★★	Waldorf (Md.) North Point
Chase Farris	DT	6-6	270	★★★★★	Elyria, Ohio
DerJuan Gambrell	CB	6-2	180	★★★★★	Toledo Rogers
Doran Grant	CB	5-10	177	★★★★★	Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary
Joel Hale	DT	6-5	295	★★★★	Greenwood (Ind.) Center Grove
Ken Hayes	DE	6-5	255	★★★★★	Toledo Whitmer
Jeff Heuerman	TE	6-5	230	★★★★	Naples (Fla.) Barron Collier
Braxton Miller	QB	6-3½	199	★★★★★	Huber Heights (Ohio) Wayne
Steve Miller	DE	6-4	230	★★★★★	Canton (Ohio) McKinley
Ejuan Price	LB	6-0	235	★★★★★	Pittsburgh Woodland Hills
Ryan Shazier	OLB	6-2	202	★★★★★	Plantation, Fla.
Devin Smith	WR	6-1	175	★★★★★	Massillon (Ohio) Washington
Evan Spencer	WR	6-1	185	★★★★★	Vernon Hills, Ill.
Ron Tanner	S	6-1	190	★★★★★	Columbus Eastmoor
Antonio Underwood	OG	6-3	295	★★★★	Shaker Heights, Ohio
Nick Vannett	TE	6-6	230	★★★★★	Westerville (Ohio) Central

Players in the class of 2012 who have issued verbal commitments to play football at Ohio State.

Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Stars	High School
Warren Ball	RB	6-2	200	★★★★★	Columbus DeSales
Jacoby Boren	OG	6-2	273	★★★★	Pickerington (Ohio) Central
Bri'onte Dunn	RB	6-1	215	★★★★★	Canton (Ohio) GlenOak
Kyle Kalis	OT	6-5	305	★★★★★	Lakewood (Ohio) St. Edward
Joshua Perry	OLB	6-3	225	★★★★	Lewis Center (Ohio) Olentangy