

# No April portal could bring back spring games

BY STEVE MEGARGEE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The disappearance of the spring transfer portal window creates the opportunity for a reappearance of spring football games in campuses across the country.

Playing a game in front of fans to end spring practice had become a fading tradition in the age of conference networks and the transfer portal. Coaches feared the possibility that rival staffs could watch televised spring games and turn them into scouting opportunities.

"It just didn't incentivize us to be out there playing when people could watch that tape on national TV and call a kid," said Nebraska coach Matt Rhule, who did away with the spring game last year.

That's not as much of a concern now that college football no longer has a second transfer portal window in April. Nebraska responded to the change by bringing back its spring game.

"We missed it," Rhule said. "We wanted to do it. ... It's a great thing for the fans. It's a great thing for people who want to come watch us play. Once they kind of changed the calendar, we went back to a more traditional setting."

Nebraska is holding spring practice earlier than most schools, as it held its first workout Feb. 21 and will conduct its spring game March 28. Most schools won't finish spring practice until April.

At least a handful of Football Bowl Subdivision programs that responded to a survey from The Associated Press have decided to hold tradi-



Rebecca S. Gratz/AP photo

**Nebraska head coach Matt Rhule disputes a referee's call after Nebraska made a safety against Iowa during the second half of an NCAA college football game Friday, Nov. 28, 2025, in Lincoln, Neb.**

tional spring games this year after not having them in 2025. That list also includes Auburn, UConn, North Texas and San Diego State, among others.

Auburn, UConn and North Texas made their decisions following coaching changes. New staffs decided to go with new approaches that included going back to college football's past.

Spring football games once were an offseason staple. Teams would close spring practices by playing a game in front of thousands of their fans, either by matching the offense against the defense or conducting a pregame draft that divided the team into two separate rosters.

But less than half the Bowl Subdivision schools that responded to the AP's survey indicated they had a traditional spring game last year.

The change happened in part because of the arrival of a mid-April transfer portal window that opened as most teams were closing spring practice. Teams nowadays

still hold some sort of event to mark the end of spring practice, but it usually doesn't have a typical game format.

For instance, Nebraska had a skills competition last year that included a 7-on-7 game. Other schools staged open practices with some scrimmaging.

San Diego State also had a skills event similar to the Pro Bowl Games format that the NFL has adopted. This year, San Diego State instead plans to have an Offense vs. Defense spring game on May 2.

"We will block and we will tackle," San Diego State coach Sean Lewis said. "It's not going to be fan fest. It's not going to be dodgeball, right? Hearing some feedback from the fans year to year, obviously things are a little bit different, but with no spring portal, we can do things a little bit differently."

The NCAA removed the second window last fall and made Jan. 2-11 the lone opportunity for players to enter the portal. Coaching staffs don't have to worry anymore about players transferring after spring practice.

But this shift in the college football calendar also could cause teams to be cautious about how they handle spring workouts.



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Notice is hereby given that the City of Elizabethtown is requesting sealed bids for the "American Legion Park Food Truck Services". Bids will be received at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Third Floor, 200 West Dixie Avenue, Elizabethtown, Kentucky 42701 until **10:00 AM local time on Tuesday March 24, 2026**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bids received after this time will not be read. Bid shall be plainly marked "American Legion Park Food Truck Services" on the front of the envelope.

For Bidding specifications and a bid packet, contact Adam Case at (270) 765-5551.

The City of Elizabethtown reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to let the contract as a whole or for any part, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bids received.

/s/ Jeffrey H. Gregory, Mayor

Attest: Jessica J. Graham, City Clerk



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Local Notice as Part of the Environmental Notification Process for the Registration of Antenna Structures



## LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing will be held before the Vine Grove Board of Adjustment on Monday, March 16th, 2026 at 5 p.m. at Vine Grove City Hall to review a conditional use permit request.

The request is initiated by Benjamin Sheeran, for 1601 Crume Rd. Vine Grove, Hardin County, Ky 40175, Deed Book 1578, Page 1035. The lot is owned by Centennial Enterprises LLC and zoned Residential-3 (Two-Family). The lot is designated as Hardin County PVA Map ID number: 119-00-0A-004. Benjamin Sheeran as applicant is requesting for approval to place a manufactured home on this property.

This advertisement was paid for by the City of Vine Grove, using taxpayer dollars in the amount of \$75.26.

All interested parties are invited to review and request further environmental processing of an FCC application for Tag Towers III, LLC proposing the following telecommunications antenna structure located near 1775' NE of Bacon Creek Rd and Curtis South Rd Elizabethtown, Hardin County, Kentucky (N37 38 46.5 W85 54 33.2) FCC filing number A1377884 proposes a 259 ft lattice tower with Chapter E (a med-dual system-Chapters 4.8(M-Dual), & 15 lighting. This application may be reviewed by entering the above file number at this website: [www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications). Interested persons may raise environmental concerns by filing a "Request for Environmental Review" with the FCC within 30 days of this posting. Instructions for filing requests are contained on the following website: [www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest). The FCC strongly encourages requests to be filed online; however, written requests may also be sent by mail to the following address: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554

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