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FOOTBALL

Akron-area high school football Week 11 recaps: Revere, Wadsworth, Walsh, Manchester win

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Revere 34, Copley 28: Minutemen top Copley in teams' first football playoff meeting

No. 8 seed Copley won "The Bell" two weeks ago and No. 9 seed Revere won the first OHSAA football playoff game between the two schools Friday night.

Senior Luke Farris threw two touchdown passes, junior James Perry ran for two TDs and sophomore Johlil Blanchard added a rushing TD to power visiting Revere (7-4) past Copley (5-6) in a Division III, Region 10 game two weeks after host Copley won 47-35.

"I am so proud of my brothers," Perry said. "All we talked about was if we get a second chance, we gotta take advantage of the opportunity. We work so hard."

Revere won its first OHSAA football playoff game since 2020, when every team in the state made the playoffs. Prior to that, the last playoff win for Revere was in 1990, when the Minutemen were Division III state runners-up. The all-time series with Copley is tied 37-37.

The Minutemen will visit Toledo Central Catholic (10-1) in Week 12.

"The whole thing was bizarre this week just to get these guys in this game after not really thinking we would see them again," Revere coach Bobby Nickol said. "I love the focus from the get-go. We talked to them Saturday when we knew this would be the opponent. They were locked in right from the start."

Farris finished of 15-of-19 passing for 191 yards and ran for 32 yard on 11 carries.

"It is great to extend our season," Farris said. "We were really happy when we heard that Copley was going to be our first round matchup. It is great to have a second chance at our rival. For us seniors, it is great to have another chance at Copley. I love my guys."

With Copley senior quarterback Gabe Mansel out with an illness, freshman Dane Winger completed 14 of 26 passes for 217 yards and three TDs. Winger also ran for a TD and 31 yards on eight carries.

"Copley has a heck of an offense," Nickol said. "They came out and counterpunched us non-stop, even with a freshman at quarterback. I am proud of how resilient our guys were. ... I was lucky enough to coach Gabe at St. Vincent-St. Mary my last year there when he was a freshman. He is a phenomenal kid."

Revere junior Chase Clifford and senior Aaron French each caught a TD pass. French had seven catches for 105 yards, junior Nicholas Hall added three catches for 29 yards and Clifford had two catches for 24 yards.

"We knew the defense had to step it up in this game," French said. "Our offense was rolling two weeks ago with 35 points against Copley. That was one of our better games offensively in the Suburban League."

Clifford said: "It is a brotherhood on this team."

Blanchard ran for 139 yards on 26 carries and had one catch for 20 yards behind linemen Aidan McKee, Toby Mullen, Joe Rozak, Ryan Ferrara and Michael McCauley.

Perry added 15 yards on eight carries and 13 yards on two catches.

"I like playing football," Blanchard said. "I love this game."

Junior Elijah Sedor and senior Joe Sunkin led Revere's defense up front, and senior AJ Hall covered an onside kick with 2:43 left in the game. Blanchard and Farris both had first-down runs to run out the clock.

Copley junior Andrew McKnight had three catches for 45 yards and two TDs. Junior Caleb Wisniewski had three catches for 63 yards and a TD and sophomore Jacob Kuczkowski added a 70-yard reception.

Copley senior Jason Baines Jr. ran for 69 yards on 15 carries.

"I am extremely proud of our football team," Copley coach John Kromalic said.

"Obviously, we have been battling injuries the last few weeks and some guys really stepped up in key areas and gave us a shot to win a football game."

Copley played without Mansel injured senior starters Tony Cox, Isayah Israel and Benny Garrett.

"We were missing senior captain Rowan Klein, our starting tailback at the start of the year [who last played in Week 5]," Perry said. "He is a great player for us. Miles Hunter is out with an injury [from Week 4] and he is a starting linebacker who is an outstanding contributor for us. He is a great leader on defense, and we played without Brody Bard, another stud for us at defensive end [who got hurt in Week 10]. Those three guys were part of the backbone of this team. We have rallied around them."

Wadsworth 38, North Royalton 7: Grizzlies avenge Week 10 loss to Bears with playoff rout

Revenge is a dish best served in the playoffs. North Royalton, which ruined a perfect season for the Grizzlies last week, played Wadsworth (10-1) in a Division III, Region 10 playoff opener, and the result was much different.

This time, fifth-seeded Wadsworth walked away a 31-point winner over 12th-seeded North Royalton (5-6).

"That loss [last week] was completely on our minds," Wadsworth defensive back Tommy Hohn said. "The whole week we were feeling that feeling from last week. ... The statement [we made] is we're the Suburban League champs, they're not. We'll use this as momentum next week."

While the two technically tied for the league title based on last week's North Royalton win, it's the Grizzlies moving on in Week 12. They'll play at No. 4 North Ridgeville (9-2) next week. The Rangers beat No. 13 Toledo Start 42-6.

Cooper Gray (10 carries, 186 yards, three TDs; one catch, 50 yards, TD) was all over the Bears in a game in which the Grizzlies scored the first 38 points.

Brysen Hall was 12-of-17 passing for 142 yards and a TD with Jacob Earnest (four catches, 51 yards) as his primary receiver.

Hohn had an interception and a forced fumble. Zach Wise registered two sacks.

Mannix Wasco (20 carries, 86 yards) was the big ground gainer for North Royalton. Nic Piazza (two catches, 51 yards) scored the lone touchdown for North Royalton.

Walsh Jesuit 42, Willoughby South 0: Aiden Henry's kick six to open game sends top-ranked Warriors to easy win

Aiden Henry opened the Division II, Region 5 playoff opener with a kick return for a touchdown and the Warriors (11-0) rolled from there.

Carlos Smith rushed 88 yards and a touchdown to lead top-seeded Walsh Jesuit over the Rebels (3-8). Marty Tobin (six carries, 58 yards, two TDs) and Keller Moten (11-of-17 passing, 76 yards; six carries, 35 yards, TD) also scored on the ground.

The defense shined as well, holding South to 82 yards passing and 76 yards rushing while forcing two turnovers. James Brewer added to the fun with a sack and fumble recovery on his way to a 65-yard touchdown.

Walsh will have a Week 12 home game against ninth-seeded Hudson (6-5).

Manchester 49, Liberty 14: Panthers score on first 7 possession en route to easy first-round playoff win

The second-seeded Panthers (10-1) scored on their first seven possessions, cruising to a win over No. 15 Youngstown Liberty (5-6) in a Division V, Region 17 game. Manchester advanced to face No. 7 Berkshire (8-3) in the second round.

"We came in with a game plan that we wanted to be physical. We wanted to run the ball," said Manchester coach Kevin Stacy. "It kind of opened up the passing game from there. We were really efficient in the passing game and I was happy to see that."

Manchester set the tone of the first play from scrimmage when quarterback Yadin Sharp scrambled for a 58-yard TD run. Sharp had a big night with his arm and legs, rushing for 95 yards and a TD on five carries, while going 8-of-16 passing for 78 yards and two TDs.

Manchester's main offensive weapon, Phil Partin, got in on the fun next, ripping off a 26-yard TD run. It was the first of two touchdowns for Partin, who ran up for 175 yards in the first half alone.

After Sharp's first TD pass, Liberty showed it could be explosive as Chamir Franklin ran

for a 43-yard TD just before the end of the first quarter.

But that was it for the Leopards offense until the fourth quarter. Manchester held Franklin to 47 yards rushing, and dual threat quarterback Dawaun Moody was limited to just 18 yards and completed only one pass.

Sharp had no such issues, as he hit Jake Livingston for a 4-yard TD pass in the first quarter and Ian Galloway for a 2-yard TD in the second.

Hoban 45, Firestone 6: Brayton Feister leads Knights to rout of Falcons

Sophomore Brayton Feister scored on touchdown runs of 9, 7 and 5 yards to power the second-seeded Knights (9-2) past the 15th-seeded Falcons (5-6) in a Division II, Region 5 game.

Trent Hayden threw a 25-yard TD pass to Jackson Callaway and an 18-yard TD pass to Ethan Roksandich. La'Near Folk ran for a 16-yard TD. Jeremy Hammel made a 21-yard field goal and 4 of 4 extra points before giving way to Oliver Nonno for the last PAT.

Firestone senior Dionte Younger Jr. ran for 53 yards and one touchdown on 11 carries.

Hoban will host Lake (7-4) in Week 12.

Nordonia 38, Solon 6

The third-seeded Knights (9-2) got off to a bit of a slow start, leading only 10-0 at the half, before pulling away from Suburban League rival and No. 13 seed Solon to open the Division II, Region 5 playoffs. Nordonia outgained Solon 272-115 on the ground.

Rocco DeLorenzo had TD runs of 1 and 4 yards, and Khylan Osbey had a 5-yard TD run and a 93-yard kickoff return for a touchdown. Ben Chesser led the Knights with 84 yards rushing, while going also 13-of-19 passing for 153 yards.

The Knights advanced to play sixth-seeded Green (7-4) in the second round.

Green 35, Painesville Riverside 14

Tyson Hunka rushed for 82 yards and a score on 10 carries and threw touchdown passes

to Anthony McMichael III and Evan Reed to lift the sixth-seeded Bulldogs (7-4) over the No. 11 Beavers in a Division II, Region 5 game. Reed added 67 yards and a touchdown on 11 carries. Green travels to No. 3 Nordonia (9-2) next week.

Hudson 37, Boardman 7

The ninth-seeded Explorers (6-5) ended a two-game losing streak with a dominant win at No. 8 Boardman in a Division II, Region 5 game. After leading 16-7 at halftime, Hudson pulled away with 21 unanswered points in the second half.

The Explorers got two rushing touchdowns from Brennan Funyak, and quarterback Nathan Judy, Reno Ferri and Nathaniel Coates each ran for one score. Brad Masiella kicked a 24-yard field goal in the second quarter.

Hudson advanced to face Walsh Jesuit in the second round, making this the fourth consecutive year the two teams will meet in the playoffs.

Lake 28, North Canton Hoover 0

Charlie Christopher ran for three touchdowns and 96 yards on 14 carries and had an interception and nine solo tackles to lead No. 7 seed Lake (7-4) past No. 10 seed Hoover (6-5) in a Division II, Region 5 game.

Lake ran 54 times for 319 yards and Hoover totaled 95 rushing yards on 24 carries. Lake's Davis Matson had 120 yards and a TD on 21 carries and Ty DeGeorge added 96 yards on 17 carries. Lake's Ethan Hunt also had two interceptions and Kyle Hammer had one interception.

Highland 52, Fremont Ross 7

The second-seeded Hornets (11-0) gave up their first points in four weeks, but still rolled the No. 15 Little Giants (5-6) in a Division II, Region 6 game. Up next is a home game against 10th-seeded Toledo St. Francis DeSales (8-3).

The opener against Fremont Ross was another Casey Myser special, with the junior scoring three rushing touchdowns and two receiving scores to raise his season total to 38. Dylan Borla added a passing touchdown to Nick Dobkowski, and Kyle Williams highlighted the defensive effort with an interception return for a touchdown.

See the complete Ohio rankings here: Final USA Today Network Ohio Super 25 High School Football Poll

Chardon 49, Tallmadge 14

The sixth-seeded Hilltoppers (8-2) scored 21 unanswered points in the second half to beat the No. 11 Blue Devils (7-4) for the right to play at third-seeded CVCA (9-2) next week in a Division III, Region 9 second-round game.

JD Kanatzar led the attack for Tallmadge with 83 yards and a touchdown on eight carries. Ryan Loveless threw a touchdown to Brady Headrick to account for the other score.

Third-down conversions were the downfall for the Blue Devils, who were 0-for-14.

CVCA 45, University School 14

Charley Levak ran for a TD and threw a TD pass to Zac Anderson to lead No. 3 seed CVCA (9-2) over No. 14 seed University School (5-6) in a Division III, Region 9 game. Levak completed 7 of 9 passes for 102 yards, and Brayden Harris had five catches for 58 yards.

CVCA ran for 290 yards on 46 carries, with Levak, Ryan Wiehe, Tommy Kopec and Joey Kopec each rushing for a TD. Wiehe ran for 104 yards on nine carries and Joey Kopec ran for 76 yards on 13 carries. Joey Kopec also returned an interception 44 yards for a score.

Aurora 42, Bedford 6

Xavier Board ran for two TDs and 166 yards on 16 carries to guide host and No. 4 seed Aurora (10-1) past No. 13 seed Bedford (5-5) in a Division III, Region 9 game. Zach Pannetti returned a kickoff for a TD and caught a TD pass from Ryan Dwyer.

Cole Walton and Tommy Tartabini each ran for a TD, Dan Shanholtzer had two interceptions and Colin Dockman made five PATs and recovered a fumble.

Gilmour Academy 45, East 12

Ziaire Stevens and Marlin Engram Jr. each ran for a TD in the first half for the 15th-seeded Dragons (6-5), but the Lancers (10-1) outscored the Dragons 26-0 in the second half to prevail in a Division III, Region 9 game. Gilmour's Aiden McNamara ran for four TDs in

the second half and Cooper Panteck threw three TD passes in the first half.

2024 OHSAA football state finals: Ohio high school football state championships schedule in Canton, ticket info

Streetsboro 42, Cardinal Mooney 21

Senior quarterback Cohen Klimak ran for 221 yards and four touchdowns to lead No. 3 seed Streetsboro (11-0) past No. 14 seed Mooney (3-8) in a Division IV, Region 13 game.

"Just refusing to go down, running through tackles, putting this team on his back when they needed it the most," Streetsboro coach Pete Thompson said of Klimak. "Love that kid."

Klimak also completed 8 of 12 passes for 105 yards, and Manny Gibson added a rushing TD.

Northwest 36, Orange 30

Parker Kraft ran for a school record 426 yards and scored five touchdowns on 27 carries to lead No. 6 seed Northwest (9-2) to a win over No. 11 seed Orange (7-4) in a Division IV, Region 13 game.

Lake County Perry 42, Buchtel 6

The reigning Division V state champion and No. 2 seed Pirates (9-1) led 35-0 at halftime and the No. 15 seed Griffins (4-7) were unable to rally in a Division IV, Region 13 game. Perry's Carter Hopkins and Chris Bezzeg ran for TDs in the first quarter.

Struthers 49, Norton 28

Buddy Willig opened the scoring for No. 10 Norton (7-4) with a 56-yard touchdown pass to Isaac Hunter, but it wasn't enough as the seventh-seeded Wildcats (8-2) advanced to a Division IV, Region 13 Week 12 game at Lake County Perry (10-1). Willig added two fourth-quarter rushing touchdowns and Markus Brown scored on the ground for Norton.

Mogadore 27, Hanoverton United 13

Aaron Rumschlag and Connor Lehner combined for 192 yards in the first half as the 12th-seeded Wildcats (6-5) scored the first 21 points to upset the fifth-seeded Golden Eagles (9-2), who had won their last seven games, in a Division VI, Region 21 game.

Rumschlag scored on touchdown runs of 17, 2 and 12 yards, and Karson Jabar threw a 23-yard touchdown pass to Nick Stephenson for the other Mogadore score.

The Wildcats will head back on the road next week to play at fourth-seeded Columbia (9-2).

— **Compiled by Michael Leonard, Brad Bournival and Michael Beaven**