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FOOTBALL

Akron-area high school football Week 12 recaps: Walsh, Hoban, Nordonia, Manchester win

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Walsh Jesuit 35, Hudson 21: Top-seeded Warriors run over Explorers, into regional semifinals

The top-seeded Warriors (12-0) ran through and around the ninth-seeded Explorers (6-6) Friday night to advance to a Division II Region 5 semifinal against fourth-seeded Austintown Fitch (9-3).

The Falcons advanced with a 42-14 win over fifth-seeded Warren Harding.

Walsh Jesuit's Keller Moten (15 carries, 86 yards, two TDs), Lucas Weaver (24 carries, 119 yards, two TDs) and Marty Tobin (five carries, 86, TD) picked up yards all night against the Explorers in a game old-school fans would have loved.

"Our offensive line is a brotherhood," Walsh tackle Kodey Kish said. "To be able to run like that, to get six or seven yards a carry, it's huge for us. Coach [Nick] Alexander really trusted us. I think the third or fourth quarter we just kept pounding the ball."

The Warriors did that with great success, finishing with 310 yards on 54 carries, an average of 5.7 yards a carry.

"The offensive line is amazing," Weaver said. "They couldn't make my job any easier. It starts in the trenches with Kodey and the O-linemen."

The Explorers (6-6) were led by Nathan Judy, who went 15-of-26 passing for 252 yards with a touchdown and an interception. Louie Castellarin was Judy's favorite receiver with six catches for 121 yards. Christian Horner added three catches for 70 yards and a TD.

Nathaniel Coates also had two 1-yard scoring runs for Hudson.

"It's back to work tomorrow morning," said Warriors linebacker Declan Norton, who had three sacks against Hudson. "We'll watch film from this win and then we'll be back at 6 a.m. on Monday morning. Then we'll take it day by day and keep getting better."

Hoban 21, Lake 14: Underdog Blue Streaks battle before Knights pull out victory

Junior Trent Hayden threw two touchdown passes to junior Jackson Callaway and sophomore Brayton Feister ran for a TD to lead the host Knights (10-2) to a Division II, Region 5 quarterfinal win over the Blue Streaks (7-5) at Dowed Field.

"This game was exactly what I thought," Archbishop Hoban coach Tim Tyrrell said. "We knew on both sides possessions would be limited because we are both running the football [and running the clock]. It is that time of year where we are kind of mirror images of each other with big offensive linemen who come off of the football."

Hayden completed 10 of 14 passes for 127 yards.

"The offensive line has been great and the receivers made plays for me," Hayden said. "Everyone from the top of the depth chart to the bottom has been great. ... I try to give our best athletes a chance with a pass and let them be athletes."

Feister ran for 172 yards on 28 carries, and his 1-yard TD and Jeremy Hammel's third extra point gave Hoban a 21-14 lead with 5:01 remaining in the third quarter.

"We kept our heads on straight and kept pounding the ball forward," Feister said. "We made a lot of mistakes with two fumbles and a bunch of penalties. Stuff that shouldn't happen, but we wiped it off and moved onto the next play."

Hoban sophomore John Johnson had four catches for 53 yards and Callaway had two catches for 38 yards.

"I couldn't make plays without my linemen," said Callaway, who scored on a 25-yard catch in the first quarter and a 13-yard catch in the third quarter. "They were blocking very well the whole game and Trent was throwing good balls all game."

Senior Owen Turner recovered a fumble that senior Nicholas Crawford and junior Patrick

Kinsell caused.

"We had two fumbles on offense, but the defense came right back out and we held our ground and got our offense back out there and we finished it," Turner said.

Senior linebacker Eli Lee, an Ohio State University recruit, had 10 solo tackles and Crawford added five solo tackles.

"We knew coming into this game that Lake is a good football team," Lee said. "I went and watched their game against Green, and I knew they could play ball. They obviously run the ball a lot, which is a fun game for linebackers, so me and Tanner Mintz try to make the best out of that. We knew that we had to be focused, and they were going to give us everything that they had."

Said Mintz said: "We were able to adapt to what they were doing. ...They remind me of Glenville from last year with a big running back who can run up the middle to go along with a lot of athletes and a good offensive line."

The big running back to whom Mintz referred is Lake senior Charlie Christopher, an Ohio University recruit, who ran for 99 yards and two touchdowns on 18 carries on offense and had 17 tackles (13 solo) and forced a fumble on defense. He scored on a 10-yard run in the second quarter and a 38-yard run in the third quarter.

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

"Charlie is just a football player," Lake coach Dan DeGeorge said. "He is the best overall high school football player I have ever coached, not just as a linebacker and how good he is there, but as a leader in the weight room, carrying the ball and in school. He is as good as they come. He is going to do some really, really good things in the future."

DeGeorge's son, sophomore Ty DeGeorge, completed 4 of 7 passes for 101 yards. Senior Ethan Hunt had one catch for 65 yards.

Lake junior Chase Fuller and senior Hunter Patterson each recovered a fumble.

"Hoban is a very good football team," said Dan DeGeorge, a 1992 Hoban graduate. "We made too many mistakes tonight to win that football game. We had our chances. Special teams killed us. We gave them a short field a couple of times [on kickoff returns by Turner and Tylan Boykin]. Their offense is too good to do that. I am really proud of my kids and

how they played. There are no moral victories. It is unfortunate. We were there. We had our chances.

"... I love my team, love my kids and love being the head coach at Lake."

Nordonia 42, Green 17: Rocco DeLorenzo leads Knights over Bulldogs

Nordonia outscored Green 21-3 in the second half to pull away in a Division II, Region 5 game at Boliantz Stadium.

Nordonia's four-player rushing attack was the story of the game. Quarterback Ben Chesser and running backs Rocco DeLorenzo, Khylan Osbey and Liam Kountz all had big nights.

DeLorenzo led the Knights (10-2) with 132 yards rushing and two TDs, Osbey had 123 yards and TD and Kountz added 72 yards on just six carries. Chesser didn't have his most explosive night, but ran for 44 yards and TD, while going 5-of-19 passing for 93 yards and a TD.

It all added up to a 425-125 rushing edge for the Knights.

"We've been preparing all week," DeLorenzo said. "As far as the rushing goes, I've got to give thanks to the guys up front. To have a committee of backs like that, if one of us gets tired, another one comes in fresh. We're all super close with each other."

Early on, Green (7-5) countered the Knights with its passing game.

Antonio Martin snagged three long passes from Tyson Hunka in the first quarter, including a 25-yard TD. He also caught a 50-yard pass that set up Hunka for a 2-yard TD run.

After the first quarter, however, Nordonia allowed Green just seven more passing yards. Hunka finished 7-of-18 for 129 yards and was sacked three times.

Riley Edgehouse booted two field goals in the second quarter to give Nordonia a 21-14 halftime lead. However, a poor punt by Edgehouse gave Green a chance to score early in the second half, and the Bulldogs cashed in with a 25-yard field goal by Logan Noirot to make it to 21-17.

The rest of the game belonged to the Knights.

A 50-yard run by Kountz set up Chesser to hit Brandon Chaddock with a 5-yard TD pass to take a two-score lead. DeLorenzo then scored his second TD of the night, breaking tackled on his way to a 30-yard score. Osbey hit the knockout blow midway through the fourth quarter, blasting up the middle for a 64-yard TD run.

Manchester 41, Burton Berkshire 19: Panthers amazing season continues with another lopsided win

They turned out the lights on the first year of football at Manchester's shiny new James R. France Stadium on Friday.

But for the Panthers' amazing season, it's still go time with a game against Poland Seminary next Friday in a Division V, Region 17 semifinal at a site to be determined after an easy win over Berkshire.

The season has reminded longtime fans of the great teams coached by the man the new and old stadium was named for. The Panthers (11-1) were a combined 1-19 during the 2022 and 2023 seasons.

In the Panthers' mind, the final home game was not a time to reflect on how great of a comeback season it has been.

"It hasn't really sunk in yet," Manchester coach Kevin Stacy said. "We're still trying to take a one week at a time approach. ... I'm just trying to look at the next week, and then we'll reflect back on it later.

"I do know we were undefeated on this field this year, which is pretty cool. I'm just looking forward to next week."

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

Phil Partin ran for 151 yards and three touchdowns and Yadin Sharp threw three TD passes for the Panthers, who reached the third round of the playoffs for the first time since 2019.

Manchester led 28-0 at halftime and forced a running clock in the second half for the second straight week. A defensive stand actually set the wheels in motion for what was to come.

Sharp had his first pass intercepted deep in his own territory. The Panthers defense forced a turnover on downs at the 26-yard line.

"That helped a lot," Partin of the stop. "We can rely on them when bad times happen."

The Panthers also can rely on Partin to ignite the offense. He quickly did it on the first snap of Manchester's third drive when he raced 70 yards for a touchdown.

"That was a big momentum shift," Stacy said. "We were trying to see what they were going to give us formation-wise and got into a different series of formations. That run right there was our bread and butter. He looked really fast."

"I have to give it up to my line, though," Partin said. "It wouldn't have been possible without them."

Sharp threw touchdown passes to Dominic Allen, Jake Livingston and Zeke Sundbury. He was an efficient 6-of-7 passing for 103 yards after the interception.

"He's our facilitator," Stacy said. "His stats don't necessarily show it, but he has accounted for about 36% of our total offense. He really does a great job of distributing the ball. He's always a threat."

Streetsboro 34, Northwest 7: Marcus Council, Cohen Klimak power Rockets to dominant win over Northwest

The Rockets did what they've done all season on their home field — and gridirons across Northeast Ohio.

They dominated.

Marcus Council and Cohen Klimak both ran for more than 100 yards — by halftime — as Streetsboro secured a school-record 12th win with an easy Region 13 quarterfinal victory over Northwest.

The undefeated and third-seeded Rockets (12-0) got off to a bit of a shaky start with back-to-back illegal motion penalties on the game's opening drive. Backed up within their own 2-yard line, they quickly bounced back with Klimak, Streetsboro's senior quarterback, faking a sweep handoff and breaking a couple of tackles for a 20-yard gain. Council, a sophomore speedster, followed by taking a sweep for 58 yards with Klimak capping the

drive with a 1-yard plunge.

The theme was set as sophomore speedster Council (seven carries, 118 yards) and Klimak (14 carries, 147 yards, three touchdowns) were dominant all game.

Another theme also was set on Northwest's opening drive, when two of its first three carries went for first downs. But bend as it might, Streetsboro wouldn't break, with sophomore defensive lineman Demetrius Fuller snuffing out a second-and-goal run at the line of scrimmage and the Rockets following up by forcing two incomplete passes to garner a turnover-on-downs.

After getting the ball back, Council took a sweep and, with a nasty inside cut, was off to the races for a 34-yard gain. Two plays later Klimak made two nasty cuts of his own, tossing the final defender to the ground en route to a 47-yard touchdown run and a 13-0 lead.

Highland 49, Toledo St. Francis DeSales 20

Casey Myser (28 carries, 255 yards) continued an incredible junior season, and the second-seeded Hornets (12-0) rolled to a Division II, Region 6 quarterfinal win over the 10th-seeded Knights (8-4). Myser scored four touchdowns, all rushing, to bring his season total to a school-record 42 scores. He has also scored nine touchdowns in the playoffs.

Dylan Borla (5-of-7, 97 yards) threw touchdown passes to Lucas Gerding and Evan Foust to give him 25 for the season, which is also a school record.

Gerding added another touchdown on the ground to account for all the scoring for Highland.

The Hornets move to a neutral site next week, when they will play third-seeded Whitehouse Anthony Wayne (12-0). The Generals beat 11th-seeded Sandusky 35-14 to advance.

Wadsworth 21, North Ridgeville 10

The fifth-seeded Grizzlies (11-1) relied on defense to take down the fourth-seeded Rangers (9-3) and advance to a Division II, Region 6 semifinal against top-seeded Avon (12-0).

Wadsworth forced Brett Lienerth into two second-half interceptions and got North Ridgeville to cough up the ball twice on the ground to pull away.

Cooper Gray got Wadsworth on the board with a 45-yard touchdown run in the first half and Gavin Madigan scored on a 4-yard touchdown pass from Brysen Hall 11 seconds before halftime for a 14-3 lead at the break.

The defense took over after that when Jacob Ernest clinched the win with a scoop and score for 85 yards with 10:17 left in the third quarter.

Aurora 42, Geneva 14

The Greenmen scored another blowout win, outgaining the Eagles 467-192 in overall yards in a Division III, Region 9 game.

Aurora's Tommy Tartabini ran for 81 yards and two TDs on 13 carries and quarterback Ryan Dwyer went 16-of-23 passing for 223 yards and two TDs against Geneva (10-2). Dan Shanholtzer and Alex Brooker each caught a TD pass.

Cole Walton had 11 carries for 81 yards and a TD and Xavier Board added 10 carries for 71 yards and a TD for Aurora (11-1). Zach Pannetti had nine catches for 89 yards.

"Complete team win in all three sides of the ball — offense, defense and special teams," Aurora coach Bob Mihalik said. "Proud of our 23 seniors who close out their home field career with a win."

Aurora will face top-seeded Youngstown Ursuline in regional semifinal next Friday.

CVCA 19, Chardon 16

After falling behind 9-0 in the first quarter, the host Royals (10-2) rallied to defeat the Hilltoppers (8-3) in a Division III, Region 9 game, avenging last year's first-round playoff loss.

CVCA won on a 35-yard touchdown pass from Charley Levak to Joey Kopec with 1:26 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Chardon outgained the Royals 145-119 on the ground, but Levak completed 9-of-23 passes for 120 yards and two TDs.

Kopec led CVCA with six catches for 101 yards and two scores. Ryan Wiehe finished with 90 yards and a TD on nine carries.

CVCA's defense picked off Chardon quarterback Drayton Allgood three times.

The Royals advanced to a regional semifinal against second-seeded Gilmour Academy.

Toledo Central Catholic 48, Revere 0

The host Irish (11-1), a state champion in each of the past two seasons, scored 42 points in the first half to dispatch the Minutemen (7-5) in a Division III, Region 10 game.

Isaiah Fox threw a TD pass to Jerome Davis on TCC's first possession and Jeremiah Fuller ran for two touchdowns.

Columbia 28, Mogadore 0

Jimmy Stofey scored three touchdowns to lead the host Raiders (10-2) past the Wildcats (6-6) in a Division VI, Region 21 game for their seventh consecutive win. Stofey caught a 46-yard TD pass from Logan Menge and had TD runs of 46 yards and 14 yards. Menge added a 1-yard TD run. Columbia will meet No. 1 seed Kirtland in a regional semifinal on Nov. 15.

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