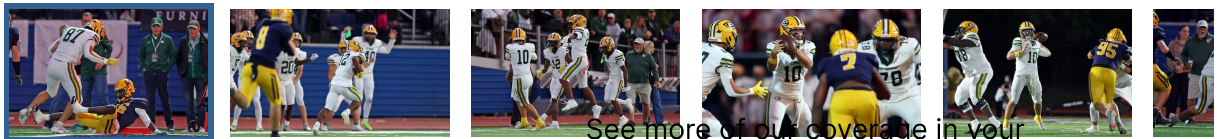


HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Who is on the move? Matt Goul's NE Ohio high school football Top 25 for Week 8

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High school football; St. Edward Vs. St. Ignatius, October 2, 2026



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CLEVELAND, Ohio — Seven weeks are in the books for the high school football season, and Week 8 should provide more answers on the road to Canton.

St. Edward provided a big one Friday night with its [31-14 victory](#) against St. Ignatius in their rivalry game at John Carroll University's Don Shula Stadium. The Eagles took control on the second play from scrimmage with Langston Lucas' long touchdown pass to Caleb Hall and their defense didn't give up a score until the fourth quarter.

The Eagles remain No. 2, just behind No. 1 Massillon as the top eight remain in place [since last week](#).

More changes could be in store this week, as No. 5 Glenville heads to No. 7 Archbishop Hoban and No. 3 Wadsworth entertains No. 11 Hudson.

There are 10 undefeated teams left in Northeast Ohio, and two of them meet Friday night, as Columbia hosts Keystone in Lorain County. Another one is guaranteed to fall by next week, when Eastlake North and Willoughby South meet in their rivalry, but there is plenty to address for Week 8 with this breakdown of the area:

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On The Edge

If there was ever an indication of how unpredictable high school football can be, consider the Greater Cleveland Conference. Strongsville is coming off a [26-point win](#) against defending GCC champion Mentor. A week earlier, Strongsville suffered a 48-14 loss at Riverside. A week before that, Riverside lost by 21 points to Mentor.

So who goes where?

That could change by the week, but Mentor's wins against Olmsted Falls and Riverside are enough to give an edge to the Cardinals. Olmsted Falls beat Strongsville in Week 3.

For now, the Mustangs (4-3) are on the cusp with Akron East (6-1), Brunswick (5-2), Columbia (7-0), Eastlake North (7-0), Keystone (6-0), Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin (6-1), and Ursuline (5-2).

Copley (5-2, was No. 25) dropped out after its upset loss at Brecksville-Broadview Heights.

25. Riverside (4-3)

Last week: Not ranked; won at Cleveland Heights 21-18

This week: Friday at Brunswick

24. Girard (7-0)

Last week: Ranked No. 24; beat South Range 46-42

This week: Friday at Poland Seminary

23. Mentor (5-2)

Last week: Ranked No. 17; lost at Strongsville 56-30

This week: Friday at Shaker Heights

22. Willoughby South (7-0)

Last week: Ranked No. 23; won at Geneva 45-7

This week: Friday at Harvey

21. Jackson (5-2)

Last week: Ranked No. 22; beat Uniontown Lake 37-20

This week: Friday vs. GlenOak

In The Mix

The Bulldogs' win at Avon Lake has established them as the No. 2 team in the Southwestern Conference behind defending Division II state champion Avon, which continues to steadily rise back up the rankings. St. Ignatius drops five spots to No. 14, back to a neck-and-neck spot with Avon after their close encounter to start the season.

20. Olmsted Falls (5-2)

Last week: Ranked No. 21; won at Avon Lake 28-10

This week: Friday vs. Berea-Midpark

19. Mayfield (7-0)

Last week: Ranked No. 20; beat Revere 33-10

This week: Friday at Kenston

18. Garfield Heights (5-2)

Last week: Ranked No. 19; won at Bedford 40-6

This week: Thursday at Warrensville Heights

17. Villa Angela-St. Joseph (5-2)

Last week: Ranked No. 18; beat Bishop Hartley 57-20

This week: Friday vs. Youngstown

16. Rocky River (7-0)

Last week: Ranked No. 16; beat North Olmsted 42-0

This week: Thursday vs. Westlake

15. Kirtland (6-1)

Last week: Ranked No. 15; won at Crestwood 32-0

This week: Friday vs. Beachwood

14. St. Ignatius (4-3)

Last week: Ranked No. 9; lost to St. Edward 31-14

This week: Friday vs. Archbishop Moeller

13. Avon (5-2)

Last week: Ranked No. 14; won at Midview 56-12

This week: Friday vs. Amherst

12. Austintown Fitch (5-1)

Last week: Ranked No. 13; beat Massillon Perry 62-14

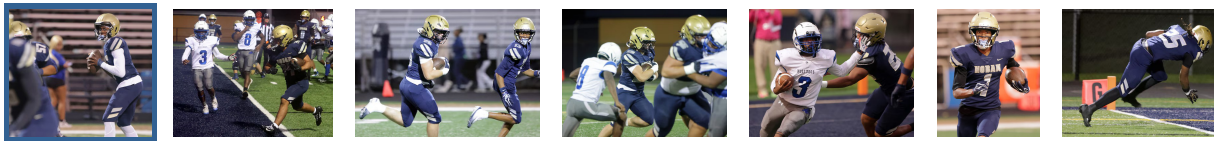
This week: Friday at Erie McDowell (Pa.)

11. Hudson (6-1)

Last week: Ranked No. 12; beat Medina 41-7

This week: Friday at Wadsworth





Hoban vs Woodward, October 2, 2026

The Top 10

10. Nordonia (6-1)

Last week: Ranked No. 11; won at Solon 44-14

This week: Friday at Stow-Munroe Falls

Despite a Week 4 loss at Highland, Nordonia remains in the Suburban League National Conference title hunt. The Knights also are in position to earn a first-round bye in the Division II, Region 5 playoffs.

9. Highland (6-1)

Last week: Ranked No. 10; won at North Royalton 52-14

This week: Friday vs. Solon

The Hornets are a week away from a showdown with defending Suburban League National Conference champion Wadsworth. The former American Conference champions are 4-0 in their first year in the National.

8. Walsh Jesuit (5-1)

Last week: Ranked No. 8; beat St. Vincent-St. Mary 56-7

This week: Friday vs. Ursuline

Walsh bounced back from that 30-0 loss to Archbishop Hoban in a big way. The Warriors' next three games will be challenges, starting with visits from Ursuline (5-2) and Bishop Watterson (6-0) before a trip to Trotwood-Madison (6-1).

7. Archbishop Hoban (3-4)

Last week: Ranked No. 7; beat Cincinnati Woodward 46-0

This week: Friday vs. Glenville

Hoban has now won three straight games since that tough start. The Knights' first four opponents are now 20-3.

6. Perry (7-0)

Last week: Ranked No. 6; won at Orange 56-14

This week: Friday vs. Chardon

The Pirates shut down Orange's big-play threats to continue their dominance in the Chagrin Valley Conference. They have a CVC crossover this week, as they inch closer to the top seed in Division V, Region 17.

5. Glenville (5-2)

Last week: Ranked No. 5; beat East Tech 33-0

This week: Friday at Archbishop Hoban

Glenville's Senate League win streak is now up to 178 games. That will be put on hold for Friday's trip to Akron, where Hoban offers a chance to move up the Division III, Region 9 playoff standings.

4. Canton McKinley (6-1)

Last week: Ranked No. 4; beat Hoover 35-7

This week: Friday at Uniontown Lake

Darius Hill became the Bulldogs' all-time receptions leader in their win vs. Hoover, while Kyelin West rushed for 199 yards a week after he ran for 271 yards. Are all signs pointing to a rematch with Canton McKinley? Bishop Watterson (6-0) is a tough opponent to face.

with St. Edward in the Division 1, Region 1 playoffs?

3. Wadsworth (7-0)

Last week: Ranked No. 3; won at Stow-Munroe Falls 35-14

This week: Friday vs. Hudson

The Grizzlies begin their Suburban League gauntlet with the Explorers, followed by a Week 9 trip to Highland and then Nordonia. Those three games will dictate whether Wadsworth can win a fourth straight National Conference title.

2. St. Edward (6-1)

Last week: Ranked No. 2; won at St. Ignatius 31-14

This week: Friday vs. Clarkson Football North (Canada)

The Eagles have won two straight games since their lone loss to Massillon, and the defense has enjoyed its moments: shutting out St. John's College (D.C.) for a half and St. Ignatius for three quarters.

1. Massillon (7-0)

Last week: Ranked No. 1; idle

This week: Friday vs. Cornerstone Christian (Texas)

The Tigers were off last week because Farrell (Pa.) forfeited their Week 7 game. This week, they await the status of six players — including Brayton Feister, Brydon Feister, Da’Shun Williams, Micah Walker and Gary Yeager III — after they were granted a temporary restraining order against the OHSAA, which had yet to approve their transfers for the second half of the season.

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How do you feel about the construction of a data center in your area to support artificial intelligence (AI) technology?

- ☐ Strongly favor
- ☐ Somewhat favor
- ☐ Somewhat oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose
- ☐ No opinion

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