

## FOOTBALL

# Akron-area football Week 5 recaps: Nordonia, Woodridge, Wadsworth among winners

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A week after absorbing its first loss of the season, [Nordonia](#) earned the most noteworthy victory among [Akron-area teams](#) Friday, Sept. 18, in Week 5 of the Ohio high school football regular season.

After falling behind 9-0, the Knights scored the game's final 23 points to hand [Hudson](#) its first loss. [Wadsworth](#), [Woodridge](#) and [Northwest](#) didn't suffer the Explorers' fate, with all winning to improve to 5-0.

[Walsh Jesuit](#), the other undefeated team in the Akron area and the top-ranked team in the latest [Beacon Journal power poll](#), was off before its big game next week against rival [Archbishop Hoban](#), which earned its first win Friday.

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## Nordonia 23, Hudson 9: Knights rally to beat Explorers

The Suburban League National Conference football race is getting fun. [Nordonia](#) spotted [Hudson](#) the first nine points and then rolled to an impressive home win.

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The result left Wadsworth (5-0, 2-0) and Highland (4-1, 2-0) in the conference

lead and made it a traffic jam everywhere else.

Reno Ferri (31 carries, 157 yards, TD) gave the Explorers (4-1, 2-0) the lead at the break with a 21-yard run midway through the second quarter. A snap through the end zone made it 9-0 with 5:06 left in the third quarter.

It was all Knights, and more to the point, Grant Kaminski (two catches, 88 yards, two TDs) the rest of the way.

Kaminski took a swing pass from Steven Fakult and went in from 26 yards to bring Nordonia within two points heading to the fourth quarter. The senior then caught a slant pass from Fakult (11-of-21 passing, 158 yards, two TDs) and outraced Hudson 61 yards to give the Knights their first lead. He added a two-point catch to make it 15-9.

After Fakult scored from 6 yards out with 4:42 left, Kaminski caught another two-point conversion.

C.J. Mayes ran for 105 yards on 14 carries for the Knights. Brock Barwidi added two picks in the win with his father, Nordonia coach Scott Barwidi, on the sidelines. Nordonia (4-1, 1-1) forced four turnovers.

## **Copley 35, Revere 10: Dane Wininger, Noah Slattery, Landon Dorsey guide Copley to big second half**

[Copley outscored Revere 35-0 in the second half to earn back “The Bell”](#) in a Suburban League American Conference rivalry game at Copley Stadium.

Juniors Dane Wininger, Noah Slattery, Landon Dorsey and Mason Chapman and seniors Jalen Owens and Ashton Smith played starring roles as [Copley](#) (4-1, 1-1) won the 76th meeting between the two teams. Each team has 38 wins in the series.

Wininger ran for two touchdowns and threw two touchdown passes, both to

Slattery. Wininger completed 20 of 33 passes for 268 yards and ran for 66 yards on 11 carries.

“At halftime we had a players-run meeting,” Wininger said. “We all talked. We talked it through. We just came out with a different intensity [in the second half], and it showed on the field.”

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Slattery finished with 10 catches for 195 yards and two TDs. Copley junior Breylen Stanford had five catches for 28 yards.

“We knew all week that this was going to be a close game knowing that this is our rival, the team up north,” Slattery said. “Us going down 10-0 in the first half, we got in the locker room, and we just knew what we had to do. We came out and did what we said in the locker room.”

Owens finished with 82 yards and a TD on 19 carries, and three catches for 28 yards.

“We went into the locker room and we knew what we had to do,” Owens said. “We low-key got our butts kicked at first and then we came out and fired off. Thirty-five to zero is not easy. It starts with our defense, who shut them out the whole second half. That is not an easy thing to do.

“We were gritty. We played with violence. Our offense, it clicked every possession, back-to-back-to-back-to-back-to-back, and we were able to come out on top.”

Copley forced three turnovers in the second half and held a 15-3 edge in first downs in the final two quarters. Chapman and Dorsey combined to force a fumble that Chapman recovered, and Smith and Dorsey each contributed an

interception.

“The kids were pretty calm [at halftime],” Copley coach John Kromalic said. “One thing that we talked about all offseason was responding to adversity. We were not very far out of it. We knew that it was only a 10-point game. We have a team with an offense that at any point can score a lot of points.

“Our defense has really been the tale of this season. They have held people at bay rather consistently and given the offense a lot of chances to score points.”

Senior David Kennedy made a 21-yard field goal in the first quarter and a PAT in the second quarter after junior Lane Shenigo ran for an 8-yard TD for [Revere](#) (3-2, 1-1). Shenigo ran for 117 yards on 19 carries. Junior Marco Geise recorded an interception, senior Joel Caipen had a sack and forced a fumble and junior Teagan Klein recovered a fumble.

“They started off running the ball down the middle,” Chapman said. “We knew they were going to do that, and it was working at first. We went into halftime, and coach [Dylan] Minick, best defensive coordinator out there, he adjusted and we shut them out in the second half.”

Copley scored a TD on all five of its possessions in the second half and sophomore Matthew Panzner made 5 of 5 PATs. Wininger ran for a 17-yard TD and threw a 20-yard TD pass to Slattery in the third quarter. The fourth quarter featured a 3-yard TD run by Wininger, an 84-yard TD pass from Wininger to Slattery and a 5-yard TD run by Owens.

“Last year, they beat us and took ‘The Bell’ from us,” Smith said. “We knew coming into this game we had to play strong. The first half, we weren’t doing our best. We had to pick it up. Coach Krom was telling us, ‘They are on our field. We gotta take ‘The Bell’ back.’”

Dorsey said: “I knew throughout this whole game I was going to give it everything I had. After last year, watching all those seniors and how they reacted after that

loss, I knew I had to step it up big time.”

## **Mogadore 49, North 0: Wildcats dominate Vikings**

The Wildcats (4-1) scored seven touchdowns in a win over the Vikings (1-4) at Ellet.

Mogadore’s Quarviyon Siggers-Greco, Jake Hopkins, Calieb Tompkins, Peyton Cluster and Jackson Wallace each ran for a TD. Wallace’s TD was 62 yards. Maddox Smith threw a 24-yard TD pass to Collin Hendrickson and Landen Williams returned a fumble 49 yards for a TD.

## **Shaw 12, Ellet 7: Cardinals win close game in East Cleveland**

The host Cardinals (2-3) earned a win over the Orangemen (1-4). Jordan Robinson ran for a TD for Ellet and Ayden Bunn kicked the extra point.

**High school football:** [Cuyahoga Falls cancels high school football game against Field](#)

## **Parma Padua 41, Garfield 6: Bruins roll to win over Golden Rams**

Donavin Friscone threw three TD passes to lead host Padua (3-2) past Garfield (0-5). Friscone connected with Jack Boswell on two TD passes and Reed Cervenka on one TD pass. Maks Karasek ran for two TDs and Jack Lorz added one TD. Darius Sales ran for a TD for the Rams.

## **Maple Heights 50, Firestone 20: Mustangs soar past Falcons**

Host Maple Heights (3-2) topped Firestone (0-5). Falcons RB Kyrel El-Travis ran for 145 yards and two TDs, QB Donniven Younger ran for 101 yards and a TD and Cloud Anderson made two PATs.

## **Woodridge 49, Ravenna 0: Bulldogs stay unbeaten with rout of Ravens**

Woodridge (5-0, 2-0) continued to roll under coach John Daraio with a comprehensive win over Ravenna (3-2, 1-1) in a Metro Athletic Conference game on the synthetic blue turf at PCB Stadium.

The Ravens had no answer for Bulldogs running back John Tyree, who finished with 120 yards and three TDs on just eight carries. Backup running back Will Owens added 74 yards and a TD on five carries.

Woodridge QB Blake Pumper was efficient, going 5-of-8 passing for 110 yards, including 69-yard TD to Andrew Stull.

Carter Maxa made a big impact on both sides of the ball. Maxa scored a TD on a 2-yard run and recovered a fumble, which set up Kai Jones for a 2-yard TD run. Jones had seven tackles, Maxa had six tackles (three for loss) and Sean Thompson contributed four tackles and an interception.

## **Wadsworth 38, North Royalton 0: Grizzlies keep rolling with shutout of Bears**

The Grizzlies (5-0, 2-0) won their 15th consecutive regular-season game in a row under coach Justin Todd, holding the Bears (3-2, 0-2) to 13 rushing yards and 129 total yards to stay atop the Suburban League National Conference.

Brysen Hall (17-of-21 passing, 190 yards, three TDs) led the way. Gavin Miller (six carries, 52 yards) and Brayden Todd (two carries, 50 yards, two TDs) carried the rushing load.

Jay'len King continued his dominance with a touchdown reception for the fifth straight game. Kyle Smeltzer and Donny Bettis Jr. also had receiving scores for the Grizzlies, who had 12 players catch at least one pass.

## **Elyria Catholic 42, St. Vincent-St. Mary 14: Balanced offense lets Elyria Catholic move up and down field**

Than Panthers had 227 ground yards and another 271 yards through the air as the visitors ran and threw with ease to beat the Irish (1-4). Robbie Duray was 17-of-20 passing for 261 yards and three touchdowns for the Panthers (3-2). Donovan Shumpart had five catches for 155 yards and two TDs.

Damiere Avery gave STVM the lead with a 3-yard TD run in the second quarter. Avery finished with a game-high 137 yards on 26 carries. In the fourth quarter, Dom Scott caught a 13-yard pass from Will Adamson for the other Irish touchdown.

## **Archbishop Hoban 19, Cardinal Gibbons (N.C.) 14: Host Knights earn first win**

The Knights (1-4) picked up their first win of the season with strong play on both sides of the ball against the Crusaders (3-2), who reached the North Carolina state semifinals last season.

Kahlil Diming put Hoban on the board first with a 3-yard TD and Jeremy Hammel gave the Knights a three-point lead at the break with a 27-yard field goal. Hammel made an 18-yard field goal to make it 13-7 with 4:34 left in the third.

Diming's 6-yard TD run 90 seconds into the fourth quarter gave Hoban a 12-point lead, and it held on for the win.

## **Mayfield 35, Barberton 3: Magics lose quarterback in loss to Wildcats**

Jackson Hanlin (4-of-5 passing, 62 yards) drove the Magics (2-3, 0-2) down the field on the opening drive but was injured and didn't return to the game. Jordan Johnson's 30-yard field goal gave Barberton an early 3-0 lead.

Mareon Peters (6-of-15 passing, 70 yards, two interceptions) took over when Hanlin departed. Ran'Tonio Thomas picked up 17 of the Magics' 32 rushing yards, and Vernon Reynolds contributed six catches for 79 yards against the Wildcats (5-0, 2-0).

## **Highland 47, Medina 0: Hornets' ground game gets it going against Bees**

Week 5 hasn't been kind to the Bees (1-4, 1-1), who lost at the midpoint of the season for the third consecutive season and were shut out for the second season in a row. Last year, Mentor blanked the Bees 49-0.

The Hornets (4-1, 2-0) stayed atop the Suburban League National Conference with a win with a healthy running game that included three rushing TDs by Evan Foust.

## **Solon 24, Stow 21: Comets' last-second field goal stuns Bulldogs**

Stow suffered a heartbreaker for the second consecutive week when Solon's Bradyn Sulzer hit a 24-yard field goal as time expired.

Stow led 14-6 heading into the fourth quarter before Solon scored two TDs to take the lead. The Bulldogs' Caden Boyd scored on a 48-yard run with 4:13 to play to tie the score 21-21 before Sulzer's game-winner.

Boyd led Stow with 109 yard rushing on 11 carries, and QB Gideon Larlham went 9-of-15 passing for 129 yards and two TDs.

Jack Sanders led Solon with 122 yards rushing and two TDs.

## **Norton 38, Tallmadge 7: Trey Kersten leads Panthers to rout of Blue Devils**

Norton (4-1, 1-1) took out its frustrations on Tallmadge (3-2, 1-1) on both sides

the ball in a Metro Athletic Conference game.

With Tallmadge's defense keying on running back Jason Beverly, Panthers QB Trey Kersten took over. He was 8-of-16 passing for 114 yards with a TD and an interception, but did most of his damage with his legs, finishing with 227 yards and a TD on 22 carries.

"This one was big for me because [Tallmadge], they used to be all my guys," Kersten said. "They're a great team and well coached. We knew it was going to be big tonight."

Beverly was held to 56 yards rushing on 14 carries, but he scored on two short TD runs. Jackson Ford caught a 33-yard TD pass from Kersten.

Tallmadge had its chances, but its offense self destructed on numerous occasions. Tallmadge QB Chase Waller went 13-of-28 passing for 195 yards and a TD, but was picked off three times. Norton's Cash King returned Waller's first interception 25 yards for a first-quarter TD.

Tallmadge's lone TD came on a 35-yard pass from Waller to Brenden Conley, making it 24-7 Norton at the half.

Norton squashed any comeback hopes when its opening second-half drive ended with Beverly's second TD.

After Norton's defense made a goal-line stand to start the fourth quarter, Kersten put the game away. He turned a quarterback draw into a 70-yard TD with 5:06 left in the game, and Blake Kaminski made his fifth and final PAT. Kaminski also kicked a 31-yard field goal in the first quarter.

"We just wanted to get back to business and being 1-0 this week," Norton coach Glen Kruger said. "I thought our guys did a great job of coming out right from the start. I'm super proud of how they played tonight."

## **CVCA 28, Boardman 7: Royals running game leads to win over Spartans**

CVCA (3-2) will enter North Coast Conference play with a bit of momentum after a solid win over the Spartans.

In a battle between two run-oriented teams, CVCA finished with a 213-83 edge in rushing yards, while holding the Spartans to just one completed pass.

Four different Royal runners reached the end zone. QB Alex Mammone led off with a 3-yard TD run, which was the game's lone score in the first half.

Tommy Kopec led CVCA with 63 rushing yards and scored on a 4-yard run. Reed Jones (3 yards) and Zac Anderson (7 yards) ran for TDs in the fourth quarter. Anderson finished with 60 rushing yards.

Frank Butto had Boardman's lone score with a 3-yard TD run with 3:13 left in the game, but Anderson's TD with 1:53 left erased all doubt.

## **Aurora 28, Twinsburg 7: Greenmen top Tigers to snap 3-game skid**

The Greenmen snapped a three-game skid with a commanding performance. Mathew Huth set the tone with a 60-yard touchdown run midway through the opening quarter and Carter Fitzgerald added a touchdown run minutes into the second quarter for Aurora (2-3, 1-1 Suburban American).

Tommy Stenger ran for the last two touchdowns, one apiece in the second and third quarters, for the Greenmen. Huth had a team-high 94 rushing yards on nine carries and Stenger added 65 yards on 10 carries.

Fitzgerald had a monstrous game on both ends of the field, tallying nine tackles, four tackles for loss and four quarterback hurries on defense.

Aurora shut out Twinsburg over the first three quarters, with the Greenmen's

defensive heroics also including an interception by Luke Hilditch.

## **Manchester 56, Coventry 0: Panthers rout Portage Lakes rival**

The “Portage Lakes Bowl” turned out to be a one-sided affair.

Manchester (2-3) led 28-0 at the end of one quarter and never looked back, routing Coventry (1-4) at Coventry.

Phillip Partin led Manchester with 89 yards rushing and two TDs.

Manchester’s Lorenzo Donatelli scored on both sides of the ball. He caught on a 27-yard TD pass from Greyson Swaino after he opened the scoring with a 45-yard interception return for a TD. Bryce Mauger also returned an interception 43 yards for a TD.

## **Streetsboro 41, Kent Roosevelt 24: Rockets outlast Rough Riders for MAC win**

Streetsboro scored the last 14 points to run away from host Roosevelt in a Metro Athletic Conference game.

A year ago, the Rockets (4-1, 2-0) won comfortably over the Rough Riders (2-3, 0-2) on that same Roosevelt Stadium turf. The rematch wasn't nearly as comfortable as Roosevelt erased 7-0 and 21-7 deficits on a flurry of big plays, including two 70-plus yard touchdown passes from Kingston Bryant to Zachary Coleman.

But Streetsboro had all the answers. First, senior quarterback Colton Cox connected with freshman Liam Fincham for 42 yards to set up senior Logan Fincham's 11-yard TD run to push the Rockets' lead to 34-24 with 7:53 remaining.

After Streetsboro forced a punt, Cox then threw a 37-yard TD pass to a wide-open Kyle Giacomo behind the defense with 3:23 remaining to seal the victory.

## **Jackson 16, Green 10: Polar Bears end Bulldogs' winning streak**

Linebacker Jared Kiser intercepted Green quarterback Chase Herbert's desperation pass to the end zone with five seconds to play to preserve a Federal League victory for visiting Jackson (3-2, 1-0). The loss snapped a three-game winning streak for the Bulldogs (3-2, 1-1).

Jackson defensive end Reese Myers was in on at least four sacks of the elusive Herbert and numerous other negative plays as Jackson held the Bulldogs to 259 yards and a season low in points.

Herbert finished 15-of-27 passing for 199 yards, one TD and one interception. He gained 69 yards on the ground but lost 46 through sacks and other negative play.

Chase Maurer led the Polar Bears with 198 yards on 24 carries. He had 168 yards by halftime for his fifth consecutive game of at least 100 yards this season.

## **Lake 37, GlenOak 7: Ty DeGeorge helps Blue Streaks maintain mastery over Golden Eagles**

Ty DeGeorge ran for 105 yards and three touchdowns on 15 carries and host Lake defeated GlenOak for the ninth consecutive time in a Federal League game.

Lachlan Baker scored on a 98-yard TD run and Riley Lovell added a 25-yard pick six for the Blue Streaks (4-1, 2-0).

Jamel Hall was 21-of-32 passing for 211 yards and two interceptions for the Golden Eagles (1-4, 0-2), who have lost 14 straight Federal League games. Hall ran for GlenOak's lone touchdown.

## **Cloverleaf 57, Springfield 0: Colts keep Spartans winless**

Visiting Cloverleaf rolled to a Metro Athletic Conference victory over winless Springfield. No details were available.

## **Northwest 24, Canton South 7: Northwest stays perfect**

Northwest (5-0) stayed undefeated with a Principals Athletic Conference win at Canton South. No details were available.

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