

Akron Beacon Journal

FOOTBALL

High school football | Akron-area Week 6 breakdowns, predictions

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It's [Week 6](#) of the [Ohio high school football season](#), with 21 games featuring [Greater Akron](#) teams.

One game, however, overshadows the rest — Walsh Jesuit (5-0) at Archbishop Hoban (4-1) in a battle of two of the best teams in the state.

Who will win? Keep reading to see who the Beacon Journal staff thinks will prevail in that game as well as all the others this weekend.

All games kick off at 7 p.m. unless noted.

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Friday's high school football games in the Greater Akron area

[Walsh Jesuit \(5-0\)](#) at [Hoban \(4-1\)](#)

What to watch: The No. 1 and No. 4 teams in the Greater Akron power rankings are set for their 57th meeting with Walsh holding a 31-25 edge. ... By the way, Walsh is also the No. 5 team in the state and Hoban is No. 6, according to [the USA Today Network's Ohio Super 25](#) poll. ... The Warriors snapped an 11-game losing streak to the Knights last season with a 19-14 win

at home. Hoban got revenge in the Division II, Region 5 final with a 21-7 victory. ... It's the second season in a row the Knights beat the Warriors in the elite eight. ... Walsh is 25-3 in its last 28 games. All three losses came to Hoban. ... Brayton and Brydon Feister are having a heck of a season at linebacker for the Knights, but Elbert Hill (23 tackles, two for loss, five interceptions, 22 pass breakups) has shown why he's the No. 6 ranked cornerback in the country and a USC commit. ... Jance Henry (60 carries, 402 yards, six TDs) and Brayton Feister (34 carries, 215 yards, seven TDs) lead the rushing attack. Nick Kinsey (44-of-89, 627 yards, seven TDs) has been good at quarterback for the Knights. He's spreading the wealth with Jackson Callaway (10 catches, 188 yards, two TDs), John Johnson (four catches, 110 yards, TD), Payton Cook (11 catches, 104 yards, two TDs) and Grady Falkenstein (10 catches, 98 yards) all getting involved. ... Walsh might be the most complete team in Greater Akron. David Ternosky (54-of-72, 714 yards, eight TDs) has stepped right in for Mr. Football finalist Keller Moten at quarterback. Milan Parris (24 catches, 463 yards, seven TDs) has been incredible at wide receiver. Marty Tobin (58 carries, 664 yards, seven TDs) and Carlos Smith (40 carries, 196 yards, TD) are averaging 8.8 yards per carry and the team is averaging 217.0 yards rushing per game. ... Dario Jeras (38 tackles, four for loss, three sacks), Alex Dachille (35 tackles, five for loss and James Brewer (20 tackles, two for loss, four pass breakups, interception) lead a defense that has given up only 26 points. ... In this week's [OHSAA computer ratings](#), Walsh is third in Division II, Region 5. Hoban is fourth.

Who will win: Walsh 21-20

CVCA (4-0) at Mentor Lake Catholic (4-1)

What to watch: CVCA will play its first North Coast Conference game this week and it faces its toughest challenge so far this season ... Lake Catholic is the defending NCC champion. The Cougars are coming off a 12-1 season, where they advanced to the Division IV regional semifinals before losing to Glenville. ... CVCA lost to Lake Catholic 33-7 last year in non-conference play.

... CVCA averages 47.25 points per game, as the Royals running game has been unstoppable. ... Thanks to its three-man T formation, CVCA has shown its depth at running back. Zac Anderson, Joey Kopec, Wesley Keeler and Tommy Kopec all have contributed to the Royals' attack ... Despite being in a run-first offense, QB Charley Levak has shown himself as a two-way threat. Levak threw for three TDs and ran for another during CVCA 42-10 win at Boardman. Dirk Geiger, Zac Anderson and DonGino Bickley each caught a TD pass. ... Lake Catholic is on a four-game win streak, including a 6-3 win over Benedictine in Week 5.

Who will win: CVCA 28-21

Norton (4-0, 2-0) at Streetsboro (4-1, 2-0)

What to watch: Two of the top teams in the Metro Athletic Conference meet after Streetsboro won at Norton 55-0 last year. The Rockets are the reigning MAC champions and both teams made the Division IV playoffs. ... Buddy Willig continues to be a standout for Norton after he scored four TDs in a 69-0 win over Field last week. Willig scored on a 1-yard run, a 43-yard punt return and caught 3- and 17-yard TD passes from Trey Kersten. Willig finished with six catches for 106 yards. Kersten completed 10 of 12 passes for 191 yards and three TDs. ... Jason Beverly is another versatile player for Norton who had six carries for 55 yards, two TDs, nine tackles, a sack and a forced fumble against Field. ... Norton's Isaac Hunter caught a TD pass from Kersten against Field. Alex Meinen returned an interception for a TD, Debari Johnson caught a TD pass from Corion Spragling, Xander Wilhelm ran for a TD and Jack Terzic had two sacks. ... Janiere Cook is a player to watch for Streetsboro after he ran for 120 yards and four TDs on 14 carries in a 49-7 win over Springfield last week. Cook also had two catches for 74 yards and a TD. ... Cook has 86 carries for 835 yards and 13 TDs this season. ... Streetsboro's offensive line features two Division I college recruits: Cooper Richmond (Columbia) and Arthur Scott III (Wisconsin). ... Rockets QB Colton Cox ran for a TD and threw a TD pass against Springfield, and Noah Hodge added a

rushing TD.

Who will win: Streetsboro 35-28

East (3-2) at Ellet (1-4)

What to watch: Coach Marques Hayes leads East into City Series play after winning at University School 28-6 last week, as QB Marlin Engram Jr. completed 15 of 23 passes for 278 yards with two TDs against US. He also had 11 carries for 86 yards. ... Terrell Wharton Jr., Terrel Karim Jr., Donte Swain Jr. and Lawrence Cherry Jr. are four key playmakers in East's offense. Wharton caught a 55-yard TD pass last week, finishing with four catches for 124 yards. Karim Jr. caught a 10-yard TD pass in the win, finishing with six catches for 100 yards. Cherry ran for 51 yards on seven carries. ... Wharton, Karim, Swain and Cherry also play defense. Karim had five tackles, including two sacks and one tackle for loss last week and Cherry forced a fumble. ... East's Tarrell Robinson recovered a fumble and had six tackles last week, while Lamarion Brown and Lavance Bratton each scored on fumble returns of 5 and 40 yards, respectively. ... The Dragons also have a reliable kicker this year in Lamine Soumah, who made 4 of 4 PATs last week. ... Ellet has lost three games in a row to Kent Roosevelt (40-20), Alliance (26-0) and Mogadore (21-18). ... Ellet QB Terrance Parker Jr. completed six passes to Trey Carter for 176 yards and two TDs against Mogadore. Brandon Knowles added a TD run. ... East beat Ellet 42-0 last season en route to sharing the City Series title with Firestone and making the Division III playoffs.

Who will win: East 42-7

Copley (3-2, 1-1) at Aurora (2-3, 1-1)

Dane Wininger (62-of-112 passing, 937 yards, eight TDs) has been the rock for Copley this season, with all of his TD passes going to Andrew McKnight (23 catches, 528 yards). Jacob Kuczkowski is a great complementary piece to McKnight with 19 catches for 299 yards and Bryce Martin is getting it done on the ground with 561 yards and eight TDs on 71 carries. ... Aurora is led by

Ryan Ziegler (32-of-64, 324 yards, two TDs) and Luke McGovern (15 catches, 177 yards, TD) in the passing attack. Xavier Board (90 carries, 426 yards, six TDs) takes care of the ground game. Aurora holds a four-game winning streak against Copley that includes a 49-12 game Suburban League American Conference win last season. ... Copley is ninth in Division III, Region 10. Aurora is 19th in Division III, Region 9.

Who will win: Aurora 21-10

Tallmadge (2-3, 0-2) at Highland (5-0, 2-0)

What to watch: The Hornets haven't lost to the Blue Devils since Sept. 28, 2012 (11 games in a row) and beat Tallmadge 49-0 last season. ... The onus will be on Devin Bell (38 tackles, three for loss, three sacks), Sonny Cuva (27 tackles, four for loss, sack) and Robbie Reid (16 tackles, one for loss) to keep Highland's high-powered offense in check. ... Braxton Dente (44-of-96, 561 yards, four TDs), Cuva (66 carries, 359 yards, four TDs) and Chad Rusinko (nine catches, 198 yards, two TDs) lead the offensive charge for Tallmadge. ... The Hornets are averaging nearly 50 points per contest. They're doing it behind a three-headed attack led by Suburban League American Conference Player of the Year Casey Myser (62 rushes, 410 yards, eight TDs), Nick Dobkowski (seven catches, 198 yards, two TDs) and Grady Gibb (45-of-51, 821 yards, eight TDs; 41 carries, 286 yards, three TDs). ... Highland beat Copley 42-9 last year. Gibb completed 13 of 16 passes for 175 yards and two TDs against Copley. Myser ran for 117 yards and three TDs on eight carries. Jake Weber caught both TD passes from Gibb. ... Tallmadge beat Barberton 21-20 last week after Quenton Johns blocked an extra point. Cuva scored two TDs for Tallmadge and Reid caught a TD pass. ... Highland is first in Division II, Region 6. Tallmadge is 21st in Division III, Region 9.

Who will win: Highland 42-7

Brecksville (3-2, 1-1) at Wadsworth (5-0, 2-0)

As much love as Wadsworth's offense gets, its defense is just as good. The

Grizzlies have two shutouts and have only given up 28 points behind Gavin Madigan (20 tackles last week against Twinsburg) and Jacob Earnest (41 tackles, two sacks this season). ... Brysen Hall (55-of-89, 1,225 yards, 15 TDs), Cooper Gray (45 carries, 429 yards, eight TDs), Gavin Madigan (36 carries, 396 yards, six TDs) and Calix Lemp (20 catches, 500 yards, seven TDs) lead the Grizzlies' offense. ... Brecksville is led offensively by Jacob Eterovich (102 carries, 481 yards, seven TDs), Nathan Henegar (65-of-114, 747 yards, eight TDs), Carson Zabkar (18 catches, 239 yards, three TDs) and Max Ritter (15 catches, 167 yards, TD). ... The Grizzlies hold a three-game winning streak over the Bees, including a 56-14 win last season. ... Wadsworth is second in Division II, Region 6. Brecksville is 10th.

Who will win: Wadsworth 42-0

Hudson (4-1, 2-0) at Twinsburg (4-1, 1-1)

What to watch: This key Suburban League National Conference matchup pits a Hudson team on a three-game win streak against a much-improved Twinsburg squad. ... The game could come down to Hudson's run game vs. Twinsburg's passing attack. ... Hudson RB Reno Ferri has become one of the best in the area. He ran for 180 yards and a touchdown in the Explorers' 35-3 win over Solon in Week 4. ... Hudson beat Stow 35-0 last week as Hayden Lipinski completed 13 of 17 passes for 151 yards and two TDs. Lipinski also ran for a TD. ... Brennan Funyak and Nathan Judy are key players on Hudson's offense and defense. Both caught a TD pass against Stow. ... Christopher Horner and Anthony Paolucci are also threats to score. Horner ran for a 70-yard TD against Stow and Paolucci returned a punt 58 yards for a TD. ... Trent Smith and Kyler Boyle recorded interceptions against Stow. ... Twinsburg QB Dylan Fantone has emerged as a force. He threw for a six TDs in Week 4 vs. Stow. ... Twinsburg will look to rebound from a 39-0 loss at Wadsworth in Week 5.

Who will win: Hudson 24-21

Nordonia (5-0, 2-0) at North Royalton (1-4, 0-2)

What to watch: Nordonia will look to remain undefeated as it takes a trip west on Route 82 to face a Bears team on a three-game losing streak. ... Nordonia's Steven Fakult has become one of the best QBs in Greater Akron. Against Solon in Week 5, he went 13-of-21 for 278 yards and three TDs. Nordonia's offense is averaging 42.2 points a game. ... Nordonia's Collin Atha caught a 22-yard TD pass from Fakult, threw a 37-yard TD pass to Braden Myers, recorded an interception and finished with three catches for 55 yards against Solon. ... Karsen Fisher and Dominick Jackson are also impact players on offense and defense. Both caught a TD pass from Fakult last week. ... Nordonia's Connor Whapham has emerged as a threat at running back. He ran for 179 yards in Week 4 against Brecksville. ... Micah Buxton is another player to watch defensively for Nordonia after grabbing an interception last week. North Royalton will look to rebound from a 22-15 loss to backyard rival Brecksville in Week 5.

Who will win: Nordonia 35-14

Northwest (3-1) at Lake (5-0)

What to watch: One of the leaders of the Federal League hosts one of the leaders of the PAC-7 in this Division II vs. Division IV matchup. Lake is Stark County's highest scoring team, averaging 39.4 points a game. Northwest answers with a defense allowing 13.3 points on average through its four games (Northwest had its season opener cancelled due to an outbreak of hand, foot and mouth disease at Norton). ... With a win, the Blue Streaks can tie their best start to a season since beginning 6-0 in 2022. ... Lake senior Alex Quior threw four touchdown passes to four different receivers in last week's 35-21 win at GlenOak. Senior Davis Matson registered his third straight 100-yard rushing game since missing the first two games of the season due to an appendectomy. Senior Chase Fuller caught a 31-yard TD pass, picked off a pass and gained 214 all-purpose yards. ... Quior's 847 yards and nine TDs

passing lead all Federal League QBs. ... Lake senior LB Grady Widner is coming off a 14-tackle game, including 2.5 TFLs and one sack. ... Northwest RB Joey Medure ran for 152 yards and a touchdown on 22 carries in last week's 24-14 win vs. Canton South. QB Brayden Venables added 99 yards and a TD on 12 carries. Northwest piled up 270 yards on the ground and 454 yards overall. ... Venables completed 18 of 28 passes for 184 yards, one TD and one interception. Logan Allman caught 11 passes for 114 yards for Northwest. ... Allman owns a team-high three interceptions. ... Lake and Northwest last played in the 2017 season opener, with the Blue Streaks winning 41-13 against their old Senate League foe. Lake leads the all-time series 16-14.

Who will win: Lake 35-10.

Cuyahoga Falls (1-4, 0-2) at Revere (3-1, 1-1)

What to watch: After suffering its first loss of the season, Revere will look to rebound against a Falls team reeling from its third straight loss. ... The Minutemen were shut out in Week 5, as their running back was held in check by Aurora. Revere RB Johlil Blanchard will look to reestablish himself. ... Falls needs to find its offense following a 56-0 loss to Kent Roosevelt.

Who will win: Revere 42-7

Stow (2-3, 0-2) at Solon (1-4, 0-2)

What to watch: Both Suburban League National Conference members need a win after suffering heavy losses in Week 5. ... Nothing seemed to go right for Stow — including a blackout in the fourth quarter — against rival Hudson. QB Jake Harrington was intercepted twice in the first half and Stow never got its offense going. ... Solon has struggled on offense all season. The 14 points it scored against Nordonia in Week 5 was the most this year.

Who will win: Stow 28-14

Kent Roosevelt (3-2, 1-1) at Barberton (1-4, 1-1)

What to watch: Angelo Gotto (69 carries, 338 yards, two TDs), Trent

DeWitt (nine catches, 227 yards, two TDs) and Brayden Louk (36-of-81 passing, 470 yards, five TDs) lead the Magics. ... Rough Riders QB Gavin Peeps is having a great season and continued that last week by throwing five TD passes against Cuyahoga Falls. Jaiden Portis caught two of the TD passes, and Tyler Ellington, Sewyn Jones and Maccarone each had one TD catch. ... The Magics are undefeated against Roosevelt since the Rough Riders joined the Suburban League in 2015. ... Roosevelt is 15th in Division III, Region 9. Barberton is tied for 22nd in Division II, Region 6.

Who will win: Barberton 28-24

Green (1-4, 0-2) at McKinley (4-1, 2-0)

What to watch: It's been polar opposite starts to the season for the Federal League's two Bulldogs. McKinley seeks a fourth straight win, while Green has dealt with the frustration of all four of its losses being by one score. ... McKinley coach Renzy Parnell believes Green is the most skilled team McKinley has faced to this point. Green senior QB Tyson Hunka is coming off a huge game in last week's 38-35 loss at Jackson. He completed 12 of 15 passes for 243 yards, four touchdowns and no interceptions while adding 78 yards on 14 carries. Hunka has thrown for 812 yards and seven TDs while rushing for a team-high 354 yards. ... A hamstring injury has hampered Green RB Evan Reed since the preseason. But he had a big night last week. The senior caught four passes for 123 yards and three TDs and added another 57 yards and a TD on nine carries. ... McKinley sophomore Kyelin West, coming off a season-high 192 yards rushing in last week's 28-18 win vs. Perry, leads the Federal League and is second overall in Stark County in rushing with 648 yards at 8.1 a carry. McKinley can do damage over the top, as well, with senior QB Trent Hayden (eight TD passes) throwing to senior DeeJay Britt and junior Darius Hill. ... McKinley is a handful defensively. Junior LB Antonio Stevens has team highs of 45 tackles and nine TFLs. Senior CB Chris Crook has three interceptions. McKinley is limiting opposing offenses to 185.4 yards a game. ... McKinley is 10-0 all-time against Green and 9-0 since Green joined the

Federal League.

Who will win: McKinley 24-10.

Tuslaw (2-3, 0-2) at Manchester (4-1, 1-0)

What to watch: Ayden Meade (85 carries, 702 yards, five TDs) has been more than capable in leading the Manchester running game in place of injured All-Ohio RB Phil Partin. ... Tyler Pappas (46-of-71, 916 yards, 14 TDs) has targets in Jake Livingston and Malachi Cintron who have combined for 25 catches, 509 yards and nine TDs. ... Nathan Eberhardt (74 carries, 358 yards) and Ethan Haer (42-of-70, 395 passing yards, seven TDs) lead the Mustangs. ... Manchester is ninth in Division V, Region 17. Tuslaw is 16th.

Who will win: Manchester 28, Tuslaw 7

Coventry (1-4, 0-2) at Woodridge (3-2, 2-0)

What to watch: This Metro Athletic Conference game pits two teams headed in opposite directions. ... The contest could come down to which running back has the better game. John Tyree ran for 126 yards and 2 TDs in Woodridge's win over Ravenna in Week 5, while Lamar Taylor has been the engine of Coventry's offense. ... Outside of its win over Chippewa, Coventry has scored just 13 points this season.

Who will win: Woodridge 21-7

Field (0-5, 0-2) at Springfield (1-4, 0-2)

What to watch: Springfield looks to snap a four-game losing streak following setbacks to Rootstown (44-6), Minerva (34-0), Cloverleaf (42-7) and Streetsboro (49-7). ... Field has lost to Canton South (42-16), Ellet (29-27), Poland (50-6), Woodridge (48-35) and Norton (69-0). ... Victor Brown is the Falcons' top offensive player. ... Field beat Springfield 49-8 last year.

Who will win: Field 35-14

St. Vincent-St. Mary (0-5) at Elyria Catholic (2-3)

The Fighting Irish travel to Lorain County looking for win No. 1 with Rylan Hurley (46 tackles, three sacks), Giovonni Vinson (30 tackles, interception for TD) and Andrew Lowther (28 tackles) leading the charge on defense. ... Both of STVM's scores this season have come on pick sixes. ... The Panthers are led by Zion Castillo (98 carries, 406 yards, two TDs), Robbie Duray (47-of-82, 636 yards, six TDs) and Connor Lattea (21 catches, 202 yards, TD). ... Elyria Catholic won last season's meeting 28-22. ... The Panthers are 11th in Division III, Region 10. ... The Irish are tied for 26th in Division II, Region 5.

Who will win: Elyria Catholic 28-7

Cleveland Central Catholic (3-2) at Mogadore (4-1)

What to watch: The [Wildcats](#) are taking on a Division III opponent for the second week in a row, after [edging Ellet in a thriller last week](#). QB Maddox Smith shone bright in Mogadore's Week 5 win, with 159 rushing yards, 151 passing yards, three passing TDs and an interception on defense to boot. ... Collin Hendrickson caught two TD passes from Smith and Kade Thomas caught the other TD pass. ... The Ironmen have their own dual-threat quarterback to watch out for in senior Damond Brown. Both Brown and sophomore Luciano Locklear are averaging 4.5-plus yards per carry for CCC. ... Smith also will have to watch out for Ironmen defensive standout Eric Johnson (four sacks).

Who will win: Mogadore, 28-21

Saturday's high school football games in the Greater Akron area

[Firestone \(0-5\) at \[Buchtel \\(0-5\\)\]\(#\), 2 p.m.](#)

What to watch: Firestone and Buchtel enter City Series play in need of a victory after both teams were in the OHSAA playoffs last year. ... Firestone defeated Buchtel 31-26 last year on its way to sharing the City Series

championship with East. ... Firestone lost at Mayfield 50-8 last week and Buchtel lost at Austintown Fitch 54-6. ... Gucciano Stephens, Mekhi Tatum and Donniven Younger lead the Falcons. ... Arthur Thomas, Quadire Harvey and Dwight Shade guide the Griffins.

Who will win: Buchtel 21-14

Garfield (2-2) vs. North (1-4), at Ellet, 2 p.m.

What to watch: Darius Sales leads Garfield into City Series play after throwing three TD passes in a 20-0 win at Carrollton last week. Sales' TD passes went to Avanti Caldwell (40 yards), Ziiyahn Blair (5 yards) and Reginald Edwards (20 yards). Brandon Williams, Warren Lockett and Xavier Ward recorded interceptions. ... Garfield's leaders up front defensively are Corey Williams, Jamir Jenkins, Santura Foreman and Reginald Edwards. ... North has lost four games in a row, including a 41-8 loss at Harrison Central last week. ... Garfield beat North 35-22 last year.

Who will win: Garfield 35-7