

Ohio high school football predictions, Akron-area Week 9 breakdowns

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Key Points

- Breaking down Week 9 games with predictions of who will win.
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The [Ohio high school football](#) regular season has reached its penultimate week, and there are several big games for [Akron-area](#) teams.

The action kicks off with 21 games Friday, Oct. 16, the best of which include undefeated [Wadsworth](#) (8-0) playing at [Highland](#) (7-1) in a Suburban League battle; [Walsh Jesuit](#) (6-1) entertaining state power Columbus Watterson (7-0); and [Woodridge](#) (7-1) playing at [Streetsboro](#) (6-2) in a Metro Athletic Conference showdown.

The weekend concludes with three City Series games at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Friday's games kick off at 7 p.m. unless noted. Who will win? Keep reading to see which teams the Beacon Journal staff thinks will prevail.

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Greater Akron area high school football games | Friday, Oct. 16

Columbus Watterson (7-0) at Walsh Jesuit (6-1)

- **What to watch:** The [Warriors](#) lead the series 8-5 but have lost the last two meetings. ... Walsh is first in Division II, Region 5 and has clinched a home game. The Eagles are second in Division II, Region 7 and have clinched a home game. Whoever wins clinches a first-round bye, although both are expected to do so by season's end. ... Watterson is on a

37-game winning streak and hasn't lost since dropping a 27-7 decision to Toledo Central Catholic in the Division III 2023 state championship game. ... This will be the first career start for Walsh quarterback Kinsey Shea (13-for-18 passing, 173 yards, four TDs). He replaces David Ternosky (56-for-103 passing, 803 yards, seven TDs), who was injured last week [against Youngstown Ursuline](#) and is out 6 to 8 weeks, according to coach Nick Alexander. Dom Courtad (82 carries, 511 yards, seven TDs) leads the running game. Cayden LeVert (25 catches, 413 yards, three TDs) and Cam Brunson (18 catches, 287 yards, two TDs) are the leading receivers. ... Emmitt Tobin (45 tackles, six for loss, six sacks), Caden Mariola (39 tackles, two for loss, two sacks), Ben Biel (30 tackles, three for loss, two forced fumbles, five pass breakups, interception), Davion Hereford (25 tackles, three for loss, 2.5 sacks) and Dario Jeras (18 tackles, three for loss, 1.5 sacks) lead the defense. ... Watterson is led by Dash Hoy (40-of-75 passing, 695 yards, 11 TDs; 56 carries, 618 yards, 11 TDs). Hoy has been clocked in the 40-yard dash at 4.3. His primary wide receiver is Miami (Ohio) commit Carter Bellisari (19 catches, 341 yards, five TDs). Caden Mangini (121 carries, 670 yards, 13 TDs) leads the rushing attack. Ohio State commit Davis Seamon anchors the line at left tackle... The Eagles are tremendous on defense. They've registered three shutouts and held five opponents under seven points. Youngstown Ursuline (10 points) and Glenville (13 points) are the only schools to score more than a touchdown. The defense is led up front by Ohio State wrestling commit Michael Boyle (64 tackles, 21 for loss, nine sacks) and Michigan State pledge Jack Schuler (34 tackles, 14 for loss, seven sacks). Ohio University commit Ben Uhlenhake (77 tackles, seven for loss, two sacks) leads the linebackers. Kaden Jones (71 tackles, five for loss, sack). Bellisari and Ohio State lacrosse commit Joe Hayes (two interceptions) each have

- 15 pass breakups.

Who will win: Watterson 28-17

Wadsworth (8-0, 5-0) at Highland (7-1, 5-0)

What to watch: Undefeated [Wadsworth](#) topped [Hudson 24-22](#) last week. ...

"Offensively, we have been really efficient in the throw game," Wadsworth coach Justin Todd said. "[Junior quarterback] Brysen Hall is completing nearly 70% of his passes. We have a number of guys who catch the ball. Obviously, everything starts with Jay'len King, but the amount of guys who have caught the football in meaningful games this year is more than any I have had in my career. I was just looking at the stats today and I didn't even realize that we have double-digit guys that have caught the football, which is wild. ... We have very versatile players." ... King, Kolbey Ostervich, Kyle Schmeltzer, Alex Porter, Jude Haller, Braydan Todd, Noah Nixon, Donny Bettis and Reid Close are key receivers.

Haller and Todd are also the primary running backs. ... Aiden Meisterics, Carter Raymond and Anderson Tetzels lead Wadsworth's offensive line. ... Braydan Todd is Justin Todd's son. ... "Defensively, this is probably the most tenacious group that we have had," Justin Todd said. "We are undersized. We are not overly big. Nathan Shipley is our biggest defensive lineman and he is 270 pounds at nose guard. We have smaller defensive ends that are really tough. We put Carter and Anderson in the game for more of a big package. We are all underclassmen in the secondary. We have got a sophomore [Bryson Bupp] and a senior [Luke Kinser] starting at linebacker. Luke Kinser has really come on strong. He moved into our district over the summer [from Orrville]. He is playing really high-level football. ... We are very scrappy." ... Wadsworth's leading tacklers are Braydan Todd at safety, Haller at safety-linebacker and Kinser at linebacker. Braden Sterpka is the Grizzlies leader in sacks. ... "I have been so impressed with how sound they are," Justin Todd said of [Highland](#). "You can tell that they are clearly well coached. They do a great job program-wide with their system. They are really sound in what they do. It is fun to watch. If you are a football purist, you like watching them because they don't make mistakes." ... Highland beat Solon 51-7 last week for its seventh win in a row. ... "We continue to get better every single week," Highland coach Mike Gibbons said. "That is always positive to see. Obviously, we have a huge test with Wadsworth this week. They are a very well-coached team and they play hard. I think this is going to be a great game. I am happy with the progress we have made. ... Offensively, we have been able to spread the ball around to a lot of different guys. Unfortunately, our senior quarterback [Johnny Prucha] got hurt in the Strongsville game in Week 2. Then we had sophomore Colton Wadle come in. He is 6-foot-5 and 210 pounds. He has got a 77% completion percentage and he has thrown for over 1,000 yards in about six games that he has really played. That jumps out at you right away." ... Highland's offense also features linemen Spencer Marquis and Wyatt Sitz, running backs Evan Foust, Colton Winston and Levi Clark and receivers Jake Weber, Anthony DePompei and Ben Radigan. ... "Evan Foust led the team in tackles as a sophomore and junior, and then again as a senior right now," Gibbons said. "The kid is all over the place. He is a tremendous linebacker. He is the heartbeat of our team this year. Jake Weber at corner is doing an excellent job for us. Lukas Grillis at defensive end, he has got 15 sacks this season. He is playing at a very, very high level. Nathan Capotosto at will linebacker and Nate Painter at rover/safety are also playing really well. Jonah Kowza is awesome. Jonah is rated as one of the top kickers in the state of Ohio and in the

▪ country. I have never had a kicker like this. He is good from all over the place."

Who will win: Highland 38-35

Woodridge (7-1, 4-1) at Streetsboro (6-2, 4-1)

What to watch: This is one of the Metro Athletic Conference's biggest rivalries, dating back to the days of the Portage County League. ... Both the [Bulldogs](#) and [Rockets](#) have clinched playoff spots in Division IV, Region 13, but this game will have a big impact on the computer rankings. Streetsboro is second in the rankings and Woodridge is fifth. ... Although Will Owens has performed well at running back, picking up a rushing and passing TD in Week 8 vs. Springfield, the Bulldogs hope to have RB Johnathan Tyree back this week. The junior has been a threat to score every time he touches the ball this season. ... QB Blake Pumper is enjoying a big year for Woodridge. He threw for 152 yards and two TDs in limited time vs. Springfield. Pumper set a school record with seven TD passes in a game earlier this season. ... Streetsboro comes in off its best defensive effort the season in a shutout of Field in Week 8. ... The Rockets offense has been explosive all year. Streetsboro is scoring 39.5 points a game. ... RB Logan Fincham has been a threat both ways for Streetsboro. He ran for 106 yards and three TDs in the win over Field, along recovering a fumble in the end zone for another TD.

Who will win: Woodridge 42-35

Hoban (3-5) at Indianapolis Cathedral (5-3)

What to watch: This is the first meeting between the [Knights](#) and Fighting Irish. ... [Hoban](#) is 10th in Division II, Region 5 and can clinch a playoff spot in its final game of the regular season (it has a bye in Week 10). Cathedral has already clinched a bye and is the top seed in Class 5, Sectional 13. The Irish have won 14 state titles, with the last one coming in 2021. ... Hoban has a dual-threat in quarterback Major Cribbs (80-of-143 passing, 869 yards; 99 carries, 753 yards, four TDs). Kahlil Diming (72 carries, 406 yards, six TDs) is the feature back. John Johnson (31 catches, 397 yards, two TDs) is Cribbs' main target. ... The Irish show a two-quarterback look with Emmett Knowles (32-of-56 passing, 510 yards, five TDs) and Luke Finn (47-of-72 passing, 610 yards, six TDs). Evan Johnson (33 catches, 452 yards, two TDs) is the main target. Xavier Dangerfield (120 carries, 644 yards, six TDs) and Tell'i McCullough (61 carries, 277 yards, five TDs) are a great one-two punch. .. Caden Nelson (101 tackles, 5.5 for loss, one sack, two interceptions, forced fumble), James Groepper (22 tackles, four interceptions, pass breakup, forced fumble, fumble recovery) and Tim Onghetich (27 tackles, two interceptions, forced fumble, fumble recovery) lead the defense. ... Cathedral has 797 career wins and is three away from becoming the first 800-win program in Indiana history.

Who will win: Cathedral 28-24

■ **Aurora (4-4, 2-3) at Barberton (2-6, 0-5)**

What to watch: The [Greenmen](#) hold a 7-4 series edge over the [Magics](#) and have won the last three games. ... Barberton is 19th in Division II, Region 5. Aurora is 19th in Division III, Region 9. ... The Greenmen and Magics are all but eliminated from the postseason. ... Cleophus Thompson (765 all-purpose yards, six TDs) and Vernon Reynolds (675 all-purpose yards, six TDs) lead the Barberton offense. ... The defense is paced by Michael Ellis (69 tackles) and Logan Cunningham (55 tackles, two sacks, two forced fumbles). ... Aurora goes on the ground with Tommy Stenger (71 carries, 379 yards, four TDs) and Carter Fitzgerald (56 carries, 279 yards, two TDs). Matthew Huth (59-of-104 passing, 577 yards, three TDs) has a main target in Luke Hilditch (17 catches, 180 yards, TD). ... Fitzgerald (49 tackles, nine for loss, two sacks, five quarterback hurries), Hilditch (46 tackles, one for loss, three interceptions, pass breakup, fumble recovery) and Carter Romancak (41 tackles, five for loss, sack, two quarterback hurries, fumble recovery) pace the defense.

Who will win: Aurora 28-21

■ **Brecksville (4-4, 3-2) at Twinsburg (1-7, 1-4)**

What to watch: [Twinsburg](#) will look to rebound from a loss to Copley in which it gave up a season-high 42 points. ... Twinsburg QB Dylan Fantone has played well in recent weeks. He threw for 200 yards and two TDs in the loss to Copley. ... Quentin Bailey and Troy Smith each caught a TD pass vs. Copley. ... Brecksville will look to rebound from a loss in overtime to Aurora in Week 8.

Who will win: Brecksville 28-14

■ **Kenston (4-4, 3-2) at Revere (5-3, 3-2)**

What to watch: [Revere](#) will look solidify its playoff position, as the Minutemen are eighth in the Division III, Region 9 computer standings. ... The Hajdu brothers have been the backbone of Revere's offense, with Carter Hajdu coming off a monster game against Barberton in which he scored two rushing TDs and also threw a 16-yard TD pass to TJ Meech. ... Lane Shenigo has been also played big on both sides of the ball for Revere. ... Kenston gave undefeated Mayfield all it could handle in Week 8 and will look to move back above .500.

Who will win: Revere 24-21

Mayfield (8-0, 5-0) at Copley (6-2, 3-2)

What to watch: Copley gets its shot against Mayfield, the leader in the Suburban League American Conference. ... Copley rolled to a 42-23 win over visiting Twinsburg last week. Dane Wininger ran for two touchdowns and completed 11 of 19 passes for 185 yards with a TD pass to Noah Slattery. Slattery also returned a kickoff for a TD and Jalen Owens contributed 161 yards and two rushing TDs on 20 carries. Jacob Kuczkowski led Copley in tackles last week with seven (two for loss), and Ashton Smith and Landon Dorsey had six tackles apiece. Justin Chatmon added four tackles (two for loss) and a sack. ... Mayfield topped Kenston 7-3 last week in an SLAC game. The Wildcats have wins over Aurora (40-0), Barberton (35-3), Brecksville (21-7) and Revere (33-10) in their other SLAC games. ... Mayfield is led by Ben Koret, Gavin Heikkila, Brody Colello, Derrick Robinson, Ryan Eppich, Dario Dagostino, Jayden Haynes and Biagio Pietrafese.

Who will win: Mayfield 28-21

Medina (2-6, 2-3) at Nordonía (7-1, 4-1)

What to watch: The [Bees](#) hold a 2-1 edge in the series and have won the last two but the schools haven't played each other since a 55-10 Medina win in 2010. ... The [Knights](#) are third in Division II, Region 5 and have clinched a playoff spot. ... Medina is 13th in Division I, Region 1 and is a 99% lock to make the playoffs with a win in Week 9. ... Medina can go to Adam Barr (112-of-140 passing, 1,140 yards, nine TDs) or Kaden Patrick (69-of-134 passing, 678 yards, six TDs, five interceptions) at quarterback. Their primary receivers are Cooper Sokolowski (48 catches, 502 yards, five TDs) and Ashton Knowles (38 catches, 389 yards, TD). ... Steven Fakult (116-of-181 passing, 1,872 yards, 22 TDs) has lit things up along with Grant Kaminski (31 catches, 421 yards, six TDs), Dominick Jackson (26 catches, 403 yards, two TDs), Brock Barwidi (16 catches, 303 yards, five TDs), Jamiere Davis (11 catches, 278 yards, four TDs), Collin Atha (15 catches, 243 yards, three TDs) and Karsen Fisher (11 catches, 177 yards, TD).

Who will win: Nordonía 42-14

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Stow (2-6, 0-5) at Hudson (7-1, 4-1)

What to watch: Throw out the records. This is one of Summit County's biggest rivalries. ... [Hudson](#) has clinched a playoff spot in Division I, Region 1 despite a 24-22 loss to Wadsworth in Week 8. ... Reno Ferri continues to be the workhorse for Hudson. He ran

for 147 yards and TD vs. Wadsworth. ... Hudson's offense got a lift with the return of

- Hayden Lipinksi from injury last week. ... [Stow](#) comes off a tough loss to Nordonia in which RB Israel Purkiss finished with a flourish. ... Stow's defense has struggled in recent weeks, giving up 122 points in its last three games.
- **Who will win:** Hudson 35-28

Parma Padua (4-4, 1-2) at CVCA (4-4, 1-2)

What to watch: [CVCA](#) need to win its final two games to have any hope of returning to the Division III, Region 9 playoffs. ... The Royals will look to rebound from their worst loss of the season, 35-7 to Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin. ... The Royals running game was held to 82 yards in the loss. CVCA will need to reassert itself against Padua, particularly

- by getting Tommy Kopec up and running, although he did score a TD in Week 8. ... Padua is coming off its best win of the season, 28-7 over Lake Catholic, which vaulted the Bruins into playoff contention in Division III, Region 10.
- **Who will win:** CVCA 21-14

Youngstown Mooney (5-3) at St. Vincent-St. Mary (1-7)

What to watch: Cardinal Mooney is 23-6 in the series but has lost the last three meetings. The two schools haven't played each other since 2019. ... The Cardinals are fifth in Division V, Region 17 and clinch a playoff spot with a win. The [Fighting Irish](#) are 22nd in Division III, Region 10 and will be eliminated from the postseason with a loss. ... STVM

- is led by Will Adamson (101-of-185 passing, 1,160 yards, nine TDs; 12 carries, 103 yards, two-point conversion). ... Mooney has standouts in quarterback Vince Gentile and running backs Brady Desmond and Tyree Dawson.
- **Who will win:** Mooney 42-7

Coventry (1-7) at St. Thomas Aquinas (2-6)

What to watch: [Coventry](#) has lost five consecutive games since their only win, a 20-2 victory over Springfield. The Comets have been shut out in six of their seven defeats. ... [St. Thomas Aquinas](#) likely won't experience postseason football again this year. Still, it has been a season of progress for the Knights under first-year coach Isaiah Robinson. Aquinas has won multiple games for the first time since 2020. The Knights came close in other

- games, too, including last week's 20-12 defeat to Leetonia. Aquinas rallied to within a point twice before the Bears held on for the win. ... With rival Canton Central Catholic looming in Week 10, the Knights must avoid what is easily a trap game.
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Who will win: St. Thomas Aquinas 27-6

Kent Roosevelt (4-4, 2-3) at Cuyahoga Falls (3-5, 1-4)

What to watch: [Cuyahoga Falls](#) comes in after a [47-36 loss to Ravenna](#) in Week 8. ...

The Black Tigers offense has shown some punch this year. Much of that is due to the play of QB Waseem Mustafa, who scored a 3-yard TD run on the final play of the game vs.

Ravenna. ... RB Joshua Bell also scored vs. the Ravens. ... Defense has been Falls' issue in recent weeks, as it has allowed 154 points in its last three losses. ... [Kent Roosevelt](#) gave Norton everything it could handle in Week 8, before a fourth-quarter TD allowed the

- Panthers to escape. ... Roosevelt's Makhi Jones ran for a 10-yard TD and Chace Dennison caught a 13-yard TD pass from Kingston Bryant last week against Norton. Bryant completed 22 of 27 passes for 240 yards, Dennison had eight catches for 116 yards and
- Brock Catalucci recorded an interception in the loss.

Who will win: Kent Roosevelt 28-21

Springfield (0-8, 0-5) at Norton (7-1, 4-1)

What to watch: [Norton](#) has won four in a row, beating Tallmadge (38-7), Woodridge (28-21), Cuyahoga Falls (56-7) and Kent Roosevelt (14-13) after a 42-35 loss to Streetsboro in Week 4. ... Trey Kersten ran for a 5-yard TD and threw a 12-yard TD pass to Alex Meinen last week against Kent. Kersten completed 13 of 24 passes for 173 yards, and ran for 71 yards on 15 carries versus Kent. Meinen finished with six catches for 112 yards and Jason Beverly ran for 56 yards on 16 carries. Blake Kaminski converted both PATs and Ian Starling blocked a PAT in Norton's one-point win. ... Starling, Parker Pearce, Debari Johnson Jr., Jaxon Ford, Cortes Everett, Xavier Penny, Carter Brown and Jackson Lewis are leading Norton's defense. ... Pearce had seven tackles (four for loss) and a sack against Cuyahoga Falls and eight tackles (four for loss) and two sacks versus Kent. ... Johnson had five tackles (four for loss) and a sack versus Cuyahoga Falls and five tackles (two for loss) and a sack against Kent. ... Penny and Meinen recovered fumbles forced by Everett and Johnson against Kent, and Lewis recorded an interception. ... "Our veteran senior class has done a great job to put us in position to contend for a MAC title, and we look forward to going out this Friday with another opportunity to go 1-0 this week,"

- Norton coach Glen Kruger said. ... [Springfield](#) has lost the last five weeks in MAC play to Ravenna (40-0), Cloverleaf (64-0), Cuyahoga Falls (50-3), Kent Roosevelt (46-0) and Woodridge (48-7). ... Springfield's Owen Kiser ran for a 28-yard TD last week against
- Woodridge.

Who will win: Norton 49-7

Tallmadge (4-4, 2-3) at Field (2-6, 1-4)

What to watch: The [Blue Devils](#) almost handed Cloverleaf its first MAC loss last week, with the Colts scoring the game-winning touchdown with 2:50 remaining. How did

- Tallmadge almost pull the upset? Well, it helps to have Angelo Gotto, who turned 37 carries into 154 yards. ... [Field](#) has lost its last three games and has been outscored 165-14 over that stretch. Watch for Mason Ford (521 passing yards, 342 rushing yards) to seek
- out Alex Williams (381 receiving yards, 82 rushing yards) early and often. ... This will be the first time these neighboring schools have played since 2004.

Who will win: Tallmadge 35-14

Lake (4-4, 2-2) at North Canton Hoover (4-4, 1-3)

What to watch: These are two Region 7 teams in need of a win. [Lake](#) has dropped three straight games and is 15th in the region. [Hoover](#) has lost two straight games and is 10th. The top 12 teams in the region after Week 10 qualify for the playoffs. ... After losing 16-15 at Louisville in Week 6, the Blue Streaks lost to Jackson and [McKinley](#) — the Federal League's top two teams — by a combined score of 71-27 the last two weeks. "It's time for us to respond," Lake coach Dan DeGeorge said. "We've had a rough couple of weeks."

Hoover has allowed 70 points the last two weeks, including 551 yards and nine touchdowns on the ground. After losing 35-7 to McKinley in Week 7, the [Vikings lost 35-10](#) last week as Perry snapped a five-game losing streak behind Jonathan Lemon's 289 yards and four touchdowns. ... Both Lake and Hoover lean on one player for a lot of offense. Senior Ty DeGeorge has gained 1,110 yards from scrimmage for the Blue Streaks. That includes 717 on the ground, at 5.5 yards a carry, and 393 receiving on 33 catches. DeGeorge has scored 16 of Lake's 22 touchdowns this season. ... Hoover senior QB Nolan Bonner has run for 545 yards at 5.3 a carry and 10 touchdowns while throwing for 796 yards, four TDs and five interceptions. He's accounted for 14 of Hoover's 20 TDs overall. ... Senior RB Michael Lammlein adds 497 yards at 4.0 a carry and three TDs for the Vikings. Lake junior QB Wyatt Jones completes 54.0% of his passes for 859 yards, four touchdowns and four interceptions. ... Lake CB Mitch Wise has a team-high four interceptions. DE Simon Humphrey leads the Blue Streaks with 11 tackles for loss and five sacks. ... Junior Elijah Fryson returned a kickoff 93 yards for Hoover's only touchdown

- last week. Fryson also has three of the Vikings' five receiving TDs on the season. ... Hoover LB Justin Oster has a team-high 80 tackles, while LB Jake Lukens and S JT Gregory have

- 75 each. ... Lake held on to [beat Hoover 20-14](#) last year, forcing four straight incompletions inside the 10-yard line late in the game. Hoover leads the all-time series 21-18.

Who will win: Lake 14-10

Perry (3-5, 1-3) at Green (4-4, 2-2)

- **What to watch:** Perry just snapped a five-game losing streak while [Green](#) has dropped three of its last four games as these two Region 7 teams look to finish the regular season strong. Green is ranked 11th in the region, while Perry is 14th. The top 12 teams in each region after Week 10 qualify for the playoffs. ... Perry bounced back from a 62-14 loss at Fitch in Week 7 to [beat Hoover 35-10](#) at home last week behind a monster game by senior RB Jonathan Lemon, who ran for a career-high 292 yards and four touchdowns on 37 carries. It was Lemon's second 200-yard rushing game of the season and it put him at 1,277 yards for the season. Lemon has scored 16 touchdowns, one of them a 90-yard kick return. ... Green allowed 272 yards rushing last week in a 30-14 loss at Louisville. "We're going to have to stop the run," Green coach Mark Geis said. "Lemon is a stud and they are playing well. Last week they put it all together." ... Senior Chase Herbert has proven to be one of the area's more versatile quarterbacks in Green's spread offense. He had completed 52.2% of his passes for 1,429 yards, 12 touchdowns and one interception. He added 498 yards and four TDs on the ground. Aiden Rice and Reed Liberatore have combined for 50 receptions for 919 yards and nine touchdowns for the Bulldogs. ... Liberatore has four receiving TDs and one each on interception and kick returns for Green. ... Senior LB Luke Schaal leads a fast Green front seven defensively. He has 84 tackles — 38 more than his closest teammate — to go with 9.5 TFLs, four sacks and three forced fumbles. Jayden Hall has a team-high three interceptions. Junior LB Mitchel Takacs leads Perry's defense with 61 tackles — 33 more than his closest teammate. The Panthers limited Hoover to 213 yards of offense last week. ... Green beat Perry 28-21 last year. The Panthers lead the all-time series 7-3.

Who will win: Perry 20-17

Orrville (7-1, 4-1) at Manchester (4-4, 4-1)

What to watch: The Red Riders hold an 18-8 series edge over the [Panthers](#) and have won three of the last four meetings. ... Orrville is eighth in Division IV, Region 13 and has clinched a playoff spot. Manchester is 12th in Division V, Region 17 and holds onto the final playoff spot. It is a 99% lock to make the playoffs with a win in Week 9. ... Orrville is

well-rounded and has a dual-threat quarterback in Mark Lorson (101-of-177 passing, 1,227 yards, 12 TDs; 125 carries, 722 yards, 10 TDs). Parker Hostetler (121 carries, 752 yards, eight TDs) is the head of a running unit that averages 205.0 yards. Lorson's main targets are Tyson Woodruff (28 catches, 396 yards, five TDs), Case McDaniel (19 catches, 226 yards, TD), Hostetler (19 catches, 203 yards, TD) and Aiden Shoup (17 catches, 172 yards, TD). ... Phil Partin (193 carries, 1,309 yards, 16 TDs) is responsible for 163.6 of the Panthers' 245.1 yards rushing per game. Greyson Swaino (57-of-110 passing, 758 yard, 11 TDs) keeps defenses honest, with Noah Lance (17 catches, 374 yards, five TDs) and Lorenzo Donatelli (23 catches, 291 yards, two TDs) as his main targets.

Who will win: Orrville 35-21

Mogadore (6-2) at Marlington (2-6)

What to watch: This will be the first meeting between these two programs. ... [Mogadore](#) has won two straight and five of its last six games. The Wildcats are scoring 32 points per game this season. ... The top offensive weapons are QB Maddox Smith and RBs Kade Thomas and Quarviyon Sigers. Thomas will take direct snaps out of the wildcat at times for Mogadore. Smith has a big arm and Sigers is explosive. ... [Marlington](#) is looking to snap a four-game losing streak. The [Dukes](#) have been held to 11 points or less in three of those games. ... The players to watch for Marlington are QB Tyler Walder, WR Cameron Evanich, WR Austin Ring, WR Parker Jones and WR Colton Jones.

Who will win: Mogadore 28-7.

Fairless (4-4, 1-3) at Northwest (7-1, 3-1)

What to watch: [Northwest](#) has wrapped up a playoff berth in Division IV, Region 13. A win over Fairless will keep Principals Athletic Conference title hopes for coach John DeMarco's team. The Falcons need to beat Northwest to have a realistic shot at a postseason spot in Division V, Region 17. They can take comfort in knowing they upset Northwest in overtime last year for their only PAC-7 win. ... Northwest scored a season-high 55 points in last week's win over Tuslaw. QB Brayden Venables finished 13-of-16 passing for 220 yards and three touchdowns with no interceptions and Conner Stephenson ran for three TDs as Northwest bounced back from its first loss. ... Stephenson, Venables and Jakob Garber have combined for 1,483 rushing yards and 19 of Northwest's 20 touchdowns. Venables has thrown 10 TD passes, including five to Ty Lipkins. ... Fairless hopes to finish the regular season strong after ending a three-game losing streak last week. ... QB Mikey Ritterbeck has had a hand in 23 of the Falcons' 29

- offensive touchdowns. He has thrown 15 touchdown passes and rushed for a team-leading eight TDs. Bronson Brown leads Fairless with seven TD catches. Jack Kirby has a team-leading 389 rushing yards and five TDs.

Who will win: Northwest 28-21

Greater Akron area high school football games | Saturday, Oct. 17

Firestone (1-7, 1-2) vs. East (7-1, 3-0), 10 a.m., at Ellet

What to watch: [East](#) enters Week 9 tied atop the Akron City Series standings with Buchtel. ... The Dragons feature Naseer Williams-Clay, Timothy Tate, Emmanuel Jefferson, Marcus Council Jr., Elijah Grice, Lawrence Cherry Jr., Mariece Fenn, Lamar Saulsberry, Sean Echols, Cashmiere McKinney and Keon Williams. ... Williams-Clay ran for a 76-yard touchdown and completed 6 of 6 passes for 199 yards with four TDs last Saturday in a 60-0 win over North at Ellet. ... Tate, Jefferson, Council and Grice each caught a TD pass from Williams-Clay against North. Cherry contributed a 68-yard TD run, Grice returned a kickoff 60 yards for a TD, Williams added a rushing TD and McKinney forced and recovered a fumble. ... [Firestone](#) moves forward after losing to Garfield 27-26 last Saturday at Kenmore Stadium. Derrick Kruger lined up at quarterback, defensive back and as a return man against Garfield, and scored 20 points with three touchdowns and a two-point conversion. Kruger returned two kickoffs for TDs (85 yards and 80 yards), ran for 115 yards and TD on 20 carries and recorded an interception on defense. Jaylen Croff added 60 yards and a TD on 10 carries. ... Firestone's other players to watch are Nae'than Milliner, James Boyer, Me'khi Young, Cory Griffith and Anwar Haslam.

Who will win: East 42-14

North (1-7, 0-3) vs. Ellet (1-7, 0-3), 10 a.m., at Kenmore Stadium

- **What to watch:** [Ellet](#) is trying to snap a four-game losing streak, with losses to East Cleveland Shaw (12-7), Firestone (14-7), East (38-7) and Buchtel (18-16). ... Freshman Constantine Pierce threw a 25-yard TD pass to Maurice Smith, Dae'zhaun Winters had a 4-yard TD run and Ayden Bunn made both of his PATs against Buchtel. Silas Scurry contributed two interceptions and Ellet also recorded a safety when Buchtel had an errant snap on a punt attempt and a Griffins player fell on the loose ball in the end zone. ... [North](#) has lost five games in a row and is looking to score points after being shut out in each of its past four games, losing 49-0 to Mogadore, 42-0 to Buchtel, 49-0 to Garfield and 60-0 to East.

Who will win: Ellet 35-7

Garfield (2-6, 2-1) at Buchtel (5-3, 3-0), 10 a.m.

What to watch: [Buchtel](#) enters Week 9 tied atop the Akron City Series standings with East. ... The Griffins feature Arthur Thomas, Tramir Jones, Travis Owens, Davell Tyler, Jamarion Dawkins, Julion Hicks, Steven Harris, Ernest Pitts, Samir Brown, Auldyn Lovelace and Braylon Solomon. ... Thomas completed 11 of 26 passes for 170 yards with two touchdowns last Saturday in Buchtel's 18-16 win over visiting Ellet. Jones and Owens each caught TD passes from Thomas. Jones had two catches for 63 yards and Owens had four catches for 62 yards. ... Buchtel recorded four interceptions against Ellet. Tyler

- returned an interception for a touchdown, Dawkins had two interceptions and Hicks added an interception. ... [Garfield](#) defeated Firestone 27-26 last Saturday at Kenmore Stadium when Darius Sales threw a 10-yard TD pass to Monty Thompson on a 4th-down play with 34 seconds to play. Sales finished with three passing TDs — a 25-yard pass to Kemonte Harrison, a 33-yard strike to Jordan Spaulding and the game-winner to Thompson. Spaulding also returned a kickoff 64 yards for a TD and Claude Asifiwe made 3 of 4 PATs. ... Garfield's other players to watch are Xavier Ward, Garland Merkins, Sheldon Corley, Ja'von Jackson, Tyrinn Austin and Rami Sommerville.

Who will win: Buchtel 28-14

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