

Ohio high school football 2026 | Greater Akron rankings heading into Week 7



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Key Points

Recent wins by Hoban and Norton have caused a major shake-up in the Greater Akron high school football power rankings.

Despite their first loss, the Walsh Jesuit Warriors remain a top team due to their strong record and previous wins.

Well, look at this, there's absolute chaos in the Greater Akron high school football power rankings.

[Archbishop Hoban's win over Walsh Jesuit](#) and [Norton's win over Woodridge](#) threw all of it into a frenzy. Every school finds itself in a new spot.

Here's where things stand ... for now.

1. Wadsworth Grizzlies (6-0, 3-0)

Previous ranking: 2

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Why Wadsworth: Raise your hand if you're in Greater Akron and still undefeated. Just you, Grizzlies? OK, the argument begins and ends there. The end of the season is crazy for this Medina County team with games at home in Weeks 8 and 10 against Hudson and Nardon and a game on the road against Highland in Week 9.

Last week: 42-7 win over Medina

This week: at Stow (2-4, 0-3)

2. Hoban Knights (2-4)

Previous ranking: 7

Why Hoban: The Knights make the biggest jump not just because they beat previously undefeated Walsh Jesuit, but in how they did it. Hoban not only beat the Warriors, they shut them out and turned them over six times. Look at the how close Hoban's results have been against teams that are a collective 25-6 this season. It's hard to argue the Knights don't deserve to be No. 2.

Last week: 30-0 win at Walsh Jesuit

This week: vs. Cincinnati Woodward (1-5)

3. Walsh Jesuit Warriors (4-1)

Previous ranking: 1

Why Walsh: Yes, the Warriors lost to Hoban. Yes, the Warriors are still the No. 1 team in the Harbin rankings for Division II, Region 5. Walsh has some very good wins over one-loss Highland and Toledo Central Catholic. Their wins have come against teams with a combined 18-6 record. End of argument.

4. Highland Hornets (5-1, 3-0)

Previous ranking: 3

Why Highland: The Hornets are on a five-game winning streak and have seemingly found their quarterback in Colton Wadle. Their only loss came to Walsh Jesuit 34-0 in Week 1. They also beat one-loss Nordonia 23-21. It's No. 4 for Highland this week.

5. Nordonia Knights (5-1, 2-1)

Previous ranking: 4

Why Nordonia: Like the Hornets, the Knights slip a spot simply because Hoban dominated Walsh Jesuit so much in Week 6. Nordonia lost to Highland but beat Hudson 23-9 at home. Their resume is solid. The difference between No. 2 and No. 6 is razor thin. Nordonia is No. 5 this week.

Last week: 34-25 win over North Royalton

This week: at Solon (3-3, 1-2)

6. Hudson Explorers (5-1, 2-1)

Last week: 6

Why Hudson: The Suburban League National Conference keeps its fourth school in the rankings. The Explorers had no problem with Solon last week and should do the same with Medina this week. After that, they play at undefeated Wadsworth and close out the season against one-loss Highland at home.

Last week: 38-3 at Solon

This week: vs. Medina (1-5, 1-2)

7. Norton Panthers (5-1, 2-1)

Why Norton: An 18-yard touchdown pass from Trey Kersten to senior Alex Meinen with three seconds to play lifted the Panthers over previously unbeaten Woodridge. Norton should win out until Week 10, when it faces current Metro Athletic Conference leader Cloverleaf on the road.

Last week: 28-21 win at Woodridge

This week: vs. Cuyahoga Falls (3-3, 1-2)

8. Woodridge Bulldogs (5-1, 2-1)

Previous ranking: 6

Why Woodridge: The Bulldogs lost Johnathan Tyree early last week to injury in their loss to Norton. Still, it took some late-game heroics by the Panthers to beat them. For that reason alone, Woodridge doesn't fall completely out of the rankings. Wow. Week 6 was a game for the ages.

Last week: 28-21 loss vs. Norton

This week: vs. Tallmadge (4-2, 2-1)

Out of the rankings: Green (3-3)

Also considered: Copley (5-1), East (5-1), Northwest (6-0)

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