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High school football | Akron-area Week 10 breakdowns, predictions

Michael Beaven, Michael Leonard, Nate Ulrich and Brad Bournival Akron Beacon Journal

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Six Summit County-area teams will look to complete undefeated regular seasons Friday night in Week 10 of the Ohio High School Athletic Association football season.

Here's our look at those games, including a breakdown of each matchup and who we predict will win.

Friday's Summit County high school football predictions, breakdowns

Padua (5-4) at Walsh Jesuit (9-0)

What to watch: Walsh Jesuit has clinched the No. 1 playoff seed in Division II, Region 5, but the Warriors still have plenty of incentive to win in Week 10. They're going for their first 10-0 regular season since 1998. The 1998 team guided by former longtime Walsh coach Gerry Rardin went 13-0 before losing 21-14 to Columbus St. Francis DeSales in the Division III state championship game. ... In last year's regular-season finale, coach Nick Alexander's Walsh team prevailed 44-41 at Padua. The Warriors have a four-game winning streak in the series. ... Walsh is averaging 40.7 points this season. Senior QB Keller Moten is the team's leading passer and rusher. He has gone 81-of-132 passing for 1,301 yards and 16 touchdowns with three interceptions. He has rushed 84 times for 855 yards (10.2 average) and 13 TDs.

Who will win: Walsh 42-21

Manchester (9-0) at CVCA (7-2)

What to watch: The Panthers can finish the regular season 10-0 for the first time since 2010. The Royals have won seven consecutive games, with their only losses coming to undefeated Streetsboro 29-21 and unblemished Lake Catholic 33-7. ... Manchester holds a

16-7 all-time record against CVCA but has lost the last two games. The Panthers' longest winning streak in the series is nine (2009-17). The Royals' longest winning streak is three (2006-08). ... Manchester has a standout sophomore tailback in Phil Partin (185 carries, 1,380 yards, 25 TDs), who averages 7.5 yards per carry. Yadin Sharp had 375 yards on 63 carries with seven TDs. The run-heavy offense has accumulated 2,464 yards on 339 carries and has scored 41 TDs on the ground. When Sharp (46-of-82 passing, 634 yards, four TDs) throws the ball, Jake Livingston (16 catches, 252 yards, two TDs) is his main target. ... Much like their opponent, the Royals love to run, and showed it last week in a 55-carry, 435-yard performance in a 41-14 win over Triway. ... They're led by Joey Kopec (146 carries, 978 yards, 11 TDs) and QB Charley Levak (95, 666, 11). When Levak (41-of-76 passing, 662 yards, six TDs) goes through the air, his main targets are Brayden Harris (16 catches, 254 yards, three TDs) and Kopec (10, 149, one). ... Manchester is second in Division V, Region 17. The Panthers have clinched a top-four spot in the playoffs and could claim No. 1 with a win and a few breaks. CVCA is eighth in Division III, Region 9 and has clinched a postseason berth. The Royals will clinch a home playoff game with a win. The worst they can fall is to 10th.

Who will win: CVCA 28-20

Highland (9-0, 6-0) at Aurora (9-0, 6-0)

What to watch: Week 10 games don't come bigger than this. Not only will the winner claim the Suburban League American Conference title, but pick up a ton of computer points heading into the playoffs. ... Last year's game between these two was an instant classic, as Aurora won 9-7 at Highland with two late plays by then-backup quarterback Ryan Dwyer. ... Dwyer is Aurora's starting QB now. He is 66-of-96 passing for 1,188 yards this season with 14 TDs and three interceptions. He's captained an offense scoring 48.1 points a game. ... Lucas Manderbach is Aurora's chief weapon, having run for 798 yards and 16 TDs on 72 carries. ... Xavier Board, Cole Walton and Tommy Tartabini each have six rushing TDs. Ben Lukasik, Alex Brooker and Quincy John have caught three TDs apiece. ... Aurora's six leading tacklers are Tartabini, Walton, Manderbach, Josh Harrell, Brooker and Ryan Slisz. ... Aurora has yet to play a competitive game this season; its closest score was a 45-14 win over Tallmadge in Week 7. ... Highland hasn't played a close game since Week 1, when it scored a comeback 31-24 win over Hudson. ... Casey Myser breaks Highland's single-season TD record every time he scores. Myser has 31 TDs (26 rushing, five receiving). Myser has 140 carries for 1,346 yards and 11 catches for 322 yards. ... QB Dylan Borla is 71-of-94 passing for 1,484 yards with a 20-1 touchdown-to-

interception ratio, and has 41 carries for 211 yards and three TDs. ... Evan Foust has four TD runs and caught three TD passes. Dylan Lazar has three TD runs, Nick Dobkowski has caught five TDs and Lucas Gerding has caught three TDs. ... Highland's top six tacklers are Foust, Ryan Zywiec, Jameson Gordon, Carson Noonan, Kallen Whitling and Caleb McKeen.

Who will win: Aurora 35-34 in overtime

North Royalton (4-5, 4-1) at Wadsworth (9-0, 6-0)

What to watch: The Grizzlies clinched their second straight outright Suburban League National Conference title last week with a 28-27 win over Solon. They can finish the regular season undefeated for the first time since 2018. ... Wadsworth has won 15 consecutive regular-season games against Ohio opponents since a 40-23 loss to Medina on Sept. 1, 2023. The Grizzlies last lost a regular-season game to Fort Hill, Md., 36-35 Oct. 14, 2023. ... Gavin Madigan (ankle) remains a game time decision for Wadsworth. If he can't go, Cooper Gray will get the nod. Gray has rushed for 617 yards and eight TDs on 62 carries since Madigan left with an injury three weeks ago against Nordonia. Gray has 132 carries for 1,110 yards and 16 scores this season. ... Brysen Hall got his first start in Week 3 at quarterback and is 102-of-165 passing for 1,664 yards. He has 17 TD passes and seven interceptions, although five came last week against Solon. Calix Lemp (29 catches, 595 yards, 10 TDs) is his main target... The Bears have three straight wins (Stow, Twinsburg and Hudson). ... North Royalton likes to get a plethora of stars involved behind QB Joe Kinney (83-of-186 passing, 1,1402 yards, 17 TDs, 11 interceptions). Kinney likes to target Nin Piazza (27 catches, 449 yards, five TDs), Joey Calarco (20, 407, eight) and Mannix Wasco (19, 325, two). ... Wasco (60 carries, 403 yards, two TDs) and Cameron Saul (96, 403, one) carry the rushing load, but the Bears like to go to Grady Baugh (58, 235, nine) near the goal line. ... North Royalton won two of the last three meetings but lost 49-0 last season. ... Wadsworth is ranked fourth in Division II, Region 6 and has clinched a playoff spot. The Grizzlies can finish as high as second with a win and as low as seventh with a loss. North Royalton is 14th in Division II, Region 6 and will clinch a playoff spot with a win.

Who will win: Wadsworth 35-14

Streetsboro (9-0, 6-0) at Cloverleaf (5-4, 3-3)

What to watch: One could argue a Week 10 loss at Cloverleaf kick-started Streetsboro's current run of success. The Rockets' overtime loss in Lodi to end the 2018 season left

them 4-6 and simmering and stewing all offseason before bouncing back to post an undefeated regular season the next year. Now, Streetsboro is looking to complete another perfect regular season, its third in six years, when it travels to Cloverleaf. ... The Colts are coming off a huge win as they snapped a three-game skid by shutting out Woodridge 17-0. That said, Cloverleaf has continued to struggle to score, averaging 10 points over the last four weeks, which could prove problematic against Streetsboro's high-octane offense. ... Expect a quick game as both teams love to run the football. Colts RB Ethan Gray had 30 carries for 224 yards last week against the Bulldogs. Meanwhile, the Rockets are averaging a whopping 359 rushing yards per game, led by QB Cohen Klimak (108 carries, 1,225 yards, 24 TDs) and RBs Marcus Council (62 carries, 763 yards, 10 TDs), Janiere Cook (54 carries, 515 yards, 10 TDs) and Logan Fincham (41 carries, 482 yards, eight TDs).

Who will win: Streetsboro 42-7

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Buchtel (3-6, 2-2) vs. North (0-9, 0-4), at Ellet

What to watch: Buchtel enters Week 10 in the OHSAA playoffs at No. 14 in Division IV, Region 13. A win helps the Griffins advance. A loss would be damaging. ... Buchtel lost 22-14 to East last Saturday with Stevie Diamond and Anthony McMullen each rushing for a touchdown. Dwight Shade added a two-point conversion run and recovered a fumble forced by Jeremiah Manuel. Marcus Britt, Daurean Johnson, Arman Gable and Demetric Coates are other key players for the Griffins. ... North, which lost 34-0 to Firestone last Thursday, is No. 28 in Division II, Region 5. The Vikings are led by Jair Bell, Jaydein Echols and Tyreon Jones.

Who will win: Buchtel 28-7

St. Vincent-St. Mary (1-8) vs. Benedictine (7-2)

What to watch: The 8 p.m. matchup at John Carroll University's Don Shula Stadium at Wasmer Field will be the season finale for STVM. With Doran Grant in his first season as coach, the Fighting Irish started 1-0 but have lost eight consecutive games since then. Benedictine has lost to one Ohio team this season — 20-12 to undefeated Walsh Jesuit in Week 6. In Week 3, Walsh beat STVM 52-0.

Who will win: Benedictine 42-7.

Ex-NFL players coaching HS football: Browns legend Phil Dawson has advice for high school coaches who used to play in the league, like STVM's Doran Grant

Copley (5-4, 4-2) at Tallmadge (6-3, 4-2)

What to watch: After a 1-4 start, a victory for Copley would clinch a home playoff game in Division III, Region 10. Gabe Mansel led Copley to a 47-35 win over Revere last Friday. He rushed for 160 yards and three touchdowns and completed 18 of 22 passes for 229 yards with two touchdowns to Andrew McKnight (seven catches, 81 yards) and another to Jacob Kuczkowski (two catches, 65 yards). ... Tallmadge is back in the playoffs as well and looking to head into them on a three-game winning streak. Tallmadge beat Kent Roosevelt 21-14 last week with Ricky Maclean rushing for 141 yards on two TDs on 26 carries and Caleb Reifsnnyder returning a kickoff for a TD. ... Third place in the Suburban League American Conference behind the two undefeated teams is on the line.

Who will win: Tallmadge 21-20

Cuyahoga Falls (2-7, 0-6) at Barberton (1-8, 1-5)

What to watch: This game will be about building for next year for both teams. ... After a decent start, Falls has allowed at least 44 points to all of its Suburban League opponents. ... Barberton has played better in the second half, but needs consistent offense to win the finale.

Who will win: Barberton 21-7

Stow (2-6, 1-5) at Twinsburg (3-6, 1-5)

What to watch: Twinsburg's playoff hopes are hanging by a thread. It needs to beat the Bulldogs to have any hope of a second straight postseason. ... Stow is trying to end a four-game losing streak. ... This could come down to a battle of quarterbacks between Twinsburg's Joey Pollock and Stow's Jacob Harrington.

Who will win: Twinsburg 21-14

Brecksville (3-6, 3-3) at Nardon (7-2, 4-2)

What to watch: The Knights are 6-2 against the Bees since joining the Suburban League and have won three in a row. Nardon snapped a two-game losing streak with a win over Stow last week. ... Brecksville has back-to-back wins over Solon and Twinsburg ... The

Knights are fourth in Division II, Region 2 and have clinched a playoff spot. They can clinch a postseason home game with a win. The Bees are 19th in Division II, Region 6 and will be eliminated from the playoffs with a loss.

Who will win: Nordonia 28-7

Hudson (5-4) at Solon (2-7)

What to watch: Hudson is sixth in Division II, Region 5, and a win would give the Explorers a chance to host a first-round playoff game in Week 11. They still could host with a loss. Solon is 17th in the same region and needs a win to have any hopes of extending its season. ... Hudson is coming off a 43-35 loss to North Royalton. Solon has lost six in a row, but has been competitive in most of those games, including a 28-27 loss to unbeaten Wadsworth a week ago.

Who will win: Hudson 34-17

Coventry (1-8, 1-5) at Norton (6-3, 5-1)

What to watch: Norton and Coventry have split the last four games, but the Panthers have won the last two. Norton is ninth in Division IV, Region 13 and has clinched a playoff spot. The Panthers can go as high as seventh with a win and as low as 12th with a loss. Coventry is 23rd in Division IV, Region 13 and is mathematically eliminated from the postseason.

Who will win: Norton 42-0

Kent Roosevelt (2-6, 1-5) at Revere (5-4, 2-4)

What to watch: Two straight losses have dented Revere's postseason standing, but the Minutemen could still host a playoff game with a win over the Rough Riders. ... Revere has struggled since losing Rowan Klein to a knee injury, but Roosevelt comes in on a five-game losing streak.

Who will win: Revere 21-7

Springfield (1-8, 0-6) at Woodridge (2-7, 2-4)

What to watch: The Bulldogs have never lost to the Spartans in Metro Athletic Conference play and have shut out Springfield two of the last three seasons. ... Woodridge has outscored the Spartans 113-0 the last two seasons and 211-6 the last four seasons. ...

The Bulldogs are 19th in Division IV, Region 13. Springfield is 24th in Division IV, Region 13. Both teams have been mathematically eliminated from the postseason.

Who will win: Woodridge 35-0

Lake (5-4, 1-4) at Green (6-3, 3-2)

What to watch: A week after being knocked out of Federal League contention with a 21-16 loss to Perry, Green seeks redemption against another league opponent. Last season, Green defeated Lake 28-0. ... Lake has lost its past three games, including an 18-17 defeat last week to Hoover on a 39-yard field goal by Paul Koskovich as time expired. ... Both teams will be in the OHSAA playoffs in Division II, Region 5. The only remaining mystery is which one will enter the postseason with a win.

Who will win: Green 20-17

Rootstown (4-5, 1-1) at Mogadore (4-5, 1-1)

What to watch: These teams have played for league titles a number of times. That's not the case this year as Warren JFK already has the PTC championship locked up. But the stakes are as high as ever with Mogadore likely needing a win to keep alive the area's longest postseason streak of 25 years. The Wildcats are a lock to make it if they win, per Drew Pasteur's Ohio Fantastic 50, with just 7% odds if they lose. It's a similar story for the Rovers, who are projected at 99% odds of making the postseason if they win, compared to 5% with a loss. ... A year ago, Mogadore shut out previously undefeated Rootstown 27-0 behind huge games on both sides of the ball by Aaron Rumschlag and Nick Stephenson — with both poised to make a big impact yet again on Friday night. ... The key for the Rovers is to avoid turnovers, as they had five against the Wildcats a year ago. They'll also need to establish their ground game, with Damien Reuting rushing for 123 yards in last week's loss to Martins Ferry, against a tough Mogadore defense led by Rumschlag, Stephenson and linebacker Will Baskey.

Who will win: Mogadore 28-21

High school football: 2024 USA Today Network Preseason All-Ohio Football Team

Saturday's Summit County high school football predictions, breakdowns

Hoban (7-2) vs. St. Edward (5-4), at Lakewood Stadium, 2 p.m.

What to watch: This will be the third state champion the Knights have faced this season, joining Bishop Spalding, Md., and Glenville. ... Hoban finished runner-up in Division II three years in a row. St. Edward has won three straight state titles in Division I. ... The Knights hold an 8-5 series edge over the Eagles but have lost three straight, including a 14-7 Week 10 game last season. ... St. Edward is led by Thomas Csanyi (126-of-220 passing, 1,747 yards, 20 TDs). His main target is Zach Hackleman (50 catches, 848 yards, 10 TDs), who has single-season records in all three categories. Hackleman is coming off a game against Moeller in which he ran for 91 yards, caught passes for 93 yards and had 89 yards in kick returns. He also scored four TDs in a 35-30 loss. Tyrese Buchanan (103 carries, 377 yards, two TDs) is the Eagles' leading rusher. St. Edward senior Nate Gregory is a Stow resident... Hoban is led by Brayton Fiester (140 carries, 902 yards, 12 TDs) on the ground and can go to a two-look quarterback set with Trent Hayden (38-of-58 passing, 544, five TDs) or Ethan Roksandich (57 carries, 399 yards, five TDs). Elbert Hill (11 catches, 289 yards, three TDs) is the leading receiver. Division I standout Tayte Crable is also an option if needed. ... The Knights are second in Division II, Region 5 and have clinched a home game for the first round of the playoffs. They can not overtake Walsh Jesuit for the No. 1 spot but could fall as low as fifth with a loss. A win would secure the No. 2 seed. The Eagles are fifth in Division I, Region 1 and have clinched a home game. They can go as high as second with a win and as low as seventh with a loss.

Who will win: Hoban 20-17

East (5-4, 3-1) vs. Garfield (4-5, 3-1), at Kenmore Stadium, noon

What to watch: Garfield hosts East with each team needing a win to earn at least a share of the City Series championship and advance to the OHSAA playoffs. Garfield enters Week 10 in the playoffs at No. 16 in Division II, Region 5. East is 17th in Division III, Region 9. ... Garfield beat host Ellet 20-6 last Friday with Thomas Walker running for two TDs and Isaiah Mathews running for one TD. Walker and Ta'Kwon Hilton each had an interception, William Lockett blocked a punt that Martino Mitchell recovered and Brima Barry added a two-point conversion for the Golden Rams. Kevin Strickling, Jamir Jenkins, Santura Foreman, Ziiyahn Blair and Roy Bell Jr. also pivotal players for Garfield. ... East beat Buchtel 22-14 last Saturday with QB Marlin Engram Jr. rushing for a touchdown, throwing a TD pass to Donte Swain Jr. and scoring a two-point conversion. Swain had eight catches for 147 yards. Purdue recruit Ziaire Stevens ran for a TD and became East's all-time leading rusher with 5,492 yards and 46 TDs on 639 carries.

East's MarQuan Davis had eight tackles (six for loss) and two sacks. ... Terrell Wharton Jr., Denico Knight Jr., Darshawn Spragling, Darshaun Sales, Dereon Ballard, Jon Jeffries and Braylon Bush are also key players for the Dragons.

Who will win: East 21-14

Firestone (4-5, 3-1) at Ellet (1-8, 1-3), noon

What to watch: Firestone visits Ellet in need of a win to earn at least a share of the City Series championship and advance to the OHSAA playoffs. Firestone enters Week 10 in the playoffs at No. 13 in Division II, Region 5. Ellet is 26th in Division III, Region 9. ... Daniel Peterson and Dionte Younger Jr. each ran for two TDs to lead Firestone to a 34-0 win over North last Thursday at Ellet. Peterson ran for 110 yards on 13 carries and had a two-point conversion run. Younger added 84 yards on nine carries. Falcons quarterback Daylyn Taylor threw a TD pass to Taron Bowden, Gucci Stephens had an interception and Evan Riley had three sacks. Blake Harris, Mario Jones, Dereon Christian, Micah Townsend and Isaiah Ramer are also leaders for Firestone. ... Ellet lost 20-6 to Garfield last Friday. Isaac McCoy threw a TD pass to Jeff Lutz, Terrance Parker Jr. ran for 65 yards and Brandon Knowles had 13 tackles (three for loss).

Who will win: Firestone 28-14

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