

3-0 teams set for showdown

BY BRAD EMMONS
Sports Writer

Life is good, especially if you're talking football in Redford.

Four of the five Redford teams remain undefeated, while the other, Bishop Borgess made it a 6-0 weekend with a surprising 20-0 win over Royal Oak Shrine.

Redford teams are 12-2 so far this season.

But something has got to give this weekend as Redford Thurston travels to Redford Union in a battle for first place Friday in the Mega-Blue Division.

Get there early.

Meanwhile, Redford Catholic Central (2-0) passed its first test of the season with flying colors, ripping former Boys Bowl rival Birmingham Brother Rice, 36-14.

The Shamrocks will take on their new Boys Bowl opponent, Detroit St. Martin DePorres, 1 p.m. Sunday at Pontiac's Wiener Stadium.

Redford St. Agatha, under first-year coach Butch Conz, also remained unbeaten by whipping Taylor Light & Life, 38-0.

Another key battle will be Friday night when Metro Conference rivals Livonia Clarenceville and Harper Woods collide in a battle of unbeatens.

And that leaves only two other unbeaten left in Observerland — Western Lakes powers Farmington Hills Harrison and Westland John Glenn.

As far as the prognostication race goes, yours truly was 7-7 last week and is 30-14 overall.

Dan O'Meara, forged ahead with a 9-5 week. He now leads by two games at 32-12 overall.

FRIDAY GAMES

(all at 7:30 p.m. unless noted)

Red. Thurston (3-0, 2-0) at Redford Union (3-0, 2-0), 7 p.m. Ironically, the Mega-Blue teams were voted fourth and fifth best in a preseason coaches poll. But now the game has huge implications. Thurston, coming off a 19-7 win over Woodhaven, has won three of the past four meetings. RU,

GRID PICKS

which scored an eye-popping 41-0 win last week over Ypsilanti, could put itself in playoff position with a victory. PICKS: Emons is sick of picking against the Panthers, so Mr. Rigley, the pressure is on you and your teammates to come through and make me look like a genius.

Liv. Churchill (2-2, 1-0) at Northville (2-2, 0-1): The Chargers gave their fans something to cheer about last week by earning their first home victory since 1989, a 14-0 win over Plymouth Canton. Northville is coming off a 35-0 loss to top-ranked Harrison. Ouch! PICKS: Northville gets back on track this WLAA Western Division encounter.

N. Farmington (2-2, 0-1) at Liv. Stevenson (2-2, 0-1): Both teams lost last week by identical 14-7 counts — Stevenson (in overtime) to Plymouth Salem and North to rival Farmington. Spartan fans have made it known that questionable calls down the stretch led to the Salem defeat. North, outscored 105-21 in its first three games (they were forfeit when Orchard Lake St. Mary's used an ineligible player), is hoping to give coach Rick Burrell his first real win of the year. PICKS: Stevenson goes back to 500 with the WLAA-Lakes Division.

Ply. Canton (0-3, 0-1) at Walled Lake Western (3-0, 1-0): The Chiefs missed their chance last week to give first-year coach Tim Basciari his first victory, losing to Churchill, 14-0. Western, averaging over 40 points per game, appears here to another powerhouse. The Warriors blitzed Franklin last week, 49-7.

PICKS: Western gears up for its WLAA Western Division showdown with another lopsided win.

Walled Lake Central (0-3, 0-1) at Ply. Salem (2-2, 1-0): Salem coach Tom Mosher admitted feeling a little lucky after the Rocks pulled out some late heroics en route to a 14-7 OT victory over Stevenson. Central, the defending WLAA Lakes Division champion, got running back Nathan Bruce back in the lineup for limited duty, but the Vikings, who gave up eight sacks in a 20-0 loss to John Glenn, must protect quarterback Cory Hellick to have a shot at the Rocks. PICKS: Salem stays in the hunt.

Southgate (0-3, 0-2) at Wayne (2-2, 1-1): Wayne Memorial coach Floyd Carter proved you can come home again after last week's stunning 27-0 win over state-ranked Belleville. The Zebras are

also glad Cameron Mingo was back for limited duty. Southgate, definitely desperate for last place in the Westgate, is coming off a 43-0 loss to state-ranked Monroe. PICKS: Wayne wins again.

Lincoln Park (3-0, 2-0) at Garden City (2-2, 0-1): Life apparently is good for the Trailblazers in the Mega-White after a 31-0 win last Friday over Taylor Kennedy. GC made a respectable showing against Mega-Red contender Dearborn Fordson, falling 20-0. PICKS: Lincoln Park rides GC out on a rail.

Clarenceville (3-0, 2-0) at Harper Woods (3-0, 2-0): This game, moved from Saturday to Friday under temporary lights, could determine the Metro Conference champion. Clarenceville coach Chuck Donaldson, whose team beat Lutheran West 28-6 on Saturday, said "We'll definitely be tested next week. Harper Woods is a good team, but I think we can play with them."

The state-ranked Pioneers (Class C), a 37-14 victor last week over Detroit Holy Redeemer, are led by Aaron Cooper (160 yards and two TDs) and Leo Dorchak (87 yards and one carry).

Clarenceville counters with senior tailback Walter Ragland and speedy quarterback John Wallace. PICKS: Harper Woods prevails.

SUNDAY GAMES

(all 1 p.m. unless noted)

Westland Glenn (3-0, 1-0) at Farmington (2-2, 0-1): The Falcons gave coach John Bechtel his first win with a 14-7 win over rival North. Glenn's defense, meanwhile, held Walled Lake Central to 55 total yards in a 20-0 victory. PICKS: It's the pickiest afternoon.

Red. St. Agatha (3-0, 2-0) at Cardinal Mooney (2-2, 1-1): It's a long drive to Marine City, but the Aggies, a 38-0 win-

ner last week over Taylor Light & Life, should make the trip worthwhile. Mooney, a 35-8 victor last week over Wyandotte Mount Carmel, rely on Anthony Smerok, who had 101 yards in seven carries and a 70-yard kickoff return. PICKS: Agatha stays on top of the Catholic League's D-Section.

Luth. Westland (0-3) at Dbn. St. Alphonsus (3-0): This is a non-league. Dearborn St. Alphonsus, a member of the Catholic League's D-Section, has played three lightweights — Adrian Madison, Taylor Light & Life and winless Hamtramck St. Florian (22-8). Lutheran Westland, which gave unbeaten Livonia Clarenceville a mild scare, must stay away from turnovers to earn a win. PICKS: Emons says the Warriors will put one in the victory books. O'Meara thinks the Aggies will stay unbeaten.

Redford CC (2-0, 0-0) vs. Detroit DePorres (2-2, 0-0) at Wiener Stadium: The Shamrocks could be called the "clones" as far as Birmingham Brother Rice coach Al Fracassa is concerned after his team was dumped by the No. 1 Shamrocks, 35-14. This is the key game in Central-West this season. With the winner mostly likely going to the Prep Bowl. DePorres, coming off a 14-13 loss to Orchard Lake St. Mary, is led by All-State candidate Max West, a 6-foot-4, 300-pound two-way tackle. PICKS: CC riding high again.

Bishop Borgess (2-2, 0-0) vs. Det. E. Catholic (0-3, 0-0) at Detroit Denby: The Spartans made waves last week by surprising Royal Oak Shrine, 20-0, while East Catholic was downed by non-league opponent Eccles, 34-12. PICKS: Borgess keeps the momentum going.

Falcons down Rockets with late goal by Rais

Tim Rais scored the only goal in the 60th minute Monday to give host Farmington a 1-0 victory over Westland John Glenn in boys soccer.

Phil Gasparotto's throw-in landed in the box and Chris Holten delivered a short pass to Rais, who scored his 12th goal of the season.

Farmington goalkeeper Matt Gasparotto made 11 saves and earned his fourth shutout. The Falcons had 22 total shots.

Farmington had a few good scoring chances in the first half and was able to keep the pressure on in the second half, according to coach Luke Juncal.

"We played well as a team," he said. "A lot of our plays started from the defense, and we worked the ball up from there. We're doing a good job in transition, going from defense to attacking."

The Falcons improved to 2-1 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association and 4-1-1 in the WLAA with some big games coming up. Farmington was 7-3-1 overall, Glenn 4-4-1.

On Saturday, the Falcons defeated host Bloomfield Hills Andover in a non-league game, 4-1. Farmington led 2-0 at

halftime.

Rais scored two goals and had one assist. Patrick Faloon had one goal and one assist. David Tweedey, one goal, Stephen Wayne and Karl Lopata one assist each.

Farmington upped its lead to 3-0 in the second half before Andover scored. Justin Gerwowski made six saves in goal and blanked the Barons for two-thirds of the game.

LUTH. WELD, 6, CLARENCEVILLE 0: Freshman Jeff Broge notched his second hat trick of the season Tuesday, propelling Lutheran High Westland (9-2, 3-1) to the Metro Conference win over Clarenceville (0-0, 0-3).

Senior co-captains Ryan Ollinger and Clint Gowen, along with sophomore Ernie Fackler, also tallied goals. Clarenceville's Sept. 17 game, against Hamtramck was postponed due to lack of game officials. It will be rescheduled for a future date.

U.S. JESUIT 2, REDFORD CC 0: In a Catholic League Central Division game played at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills, Detroit-Jesuit dropped Catholic Central to 4-5-1 overall.

BROTHER RICE 3, REDFORD CC 2: On Sunday, Birmingham Brother Rice rallied from a 2-1 halftime deficit to beat host Redford Catholic Central in a Central Division matchup.

Matt Holcomb, Matt Cleary and Joe Morelli tallied goals for the Warriors (8-3-0, 2-0). Ken Toporek and Gavin Walsh scored for the Shamrocks.

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