

Grid picks: so easy, a kid could do them blindfolded

A few odd items to take care of before we start the show:

■ Chatted the other day with a friend of mine, who happens to teach at Detroit Urban Lutheran. Seems she took umbrage the other week when we referred to the football-only merger between Dearborn St. Alphonsus and Urban Lutheran as St. Als.

■ Urban Lutheran never gets any publicity as it is," said the woman, who will remain nameless so she doesn't feel I'm picking on her too much. "We would like a little recognition."

From now on, we use our back-up plan. We'll refer to the team by its acronym - DUL - which we hope, at 1-3, doesn't reflect



PAUL BEAUDRY

the team's offensive strategy. ■ From now on, we're not going to pick any Harrison games. We're going to make up opponents for them like NFL or college teams. Picking Harrison is like having Tiger Woods in a fantasy golf pool: You know everyone is going to take him, so what do you gain? This week's opponent? Read on.

■ Will the Brother Rice fans behave themselves this week against Catholic Central, or will they revert to the childish form that got their team dropped from the annual Boys' Bowl a few years ago? ■ A couple of weeks ago, Redford Union coach Miles Tomasiatis relayed a message from his wife, Judy, who informed me that picking RU to lose to Dearborn Heights Robichaud proved to be a little off the mark. Or something along those lines. (OK, it was like, "Hey dummy..." and then she got really mean, I cried.)

So the next week, I picked RU to beat Thurston. Naturally, I was wrong again and Thurston beat RU.

For the record, Maria Snell, wife of Thurston head coach Bob Snell, didn't hold a grudge for my picking RU.

■ A year ago, I thought these picks were so easy a child could do them. After a 12-3 showing

last week, it's apparent a child can do them, but I can't. So once again, I trudged out to a football game and asked the students in the stands to make the picks.

Will the students at the Westland John Glenn-Plymouth Salem game fare better than the Four Stooges? I will be tough, but my money's on the kids.

For the record, Brad Emons, the scourge of Livonia and Westland, went 15-0 and 51-9 overall. Dan O'Meara, who really puts the "ing" in Farmington, went 14-1 and 48-12. I'm 12-3 and 46-14 overall and C.J. Riskak, the best thing to happen to Plymouth and Canton since free flu shots, went 12-3 and 46-15. As for the kids, we'll let you know how they do next week.

Friday's Games
(All games 7:30 p.m., unless noted)

Green City (3-3, 0-3) at Wayne (3-3, 2-3), 7 p.m.; Garden City, because they had a strong varsity team last year and I don't like Wayne. ■ Dan Cover, 14, John Glenn. (His dislike might also give new meaning to the term "drop and run for cover.") Gotta live in the present, Dan. PICKS: Wayne - Beaudry, Emons; Garden City - O'Meara, Riskak.

Redford Union (3-3, 1-2) at Southgate (3-3, 2-0), 7 p.m. ■ RU, because Southgate doesn't have that good of a team. All the years I've followed Southgate, they haven't. OK, I've never followed Southgate, but heard RU had a good squad. ■ Brandon McCullen, 16, John

Glenn. (Apologies to Brandon and Judy Tomasiatis. Got to disagree with the kid about Southgate. It's a really good team.) PICKS: St. Southgate - Beaudry, Emons, O'Meara, Riskak.

Thurston (3-3, 2-1) at Trenton (2-2, 2-3), 7 p.m. ■ Trenton, I like them better because I heard they had a good team. ■ Kim Hegethorst, 14, John Glenn. (I also heard that Thurston has never beaten Trenton. Don't know if it's true, but I don't think it will happen this year.)

PICKS: Trenton - Beaudry, Emons, Riskak; Thurston - O'Meara.

Westland John Glenn (3-3, 2-0) at N. Farmington (3-3, 1-1), 7 p.m. ■ Glenn will win because I go to school here and our team is good this year. ■ Chelsea Janis, 15, John Glenn. (And I'm never picking against Rocky Boy Chuckie - who in his 30 years of coaching has at least 110 wins - again. At least not this week.) PICKS: John Glenn - Beaudry, Emons, O'Meara, Riskak.

Churchill (3-3, 0-2) at Harrison (4-0, 2-0). ■ Harrison? Because they have a good team? No? ■ Angela Strachen, 15, John Glenn. (I don't care which Chargers they're playing - Churchill, Hillsdale or San Diego - I'm pickin' Harrison.) PICKS: Harrison - Beaudry, O'Meara, Emons, Riskak. San Diego - None.

Canton (3-3, 3-3) at Franklin (2-2, 3-3). ■ I think Canton's going to win because the have a good team this year. Canton's got a strong first string. ■ Hillary King, 15, Salem. (Second and third strings are pretty damn good too. And after last week, they've got some-

thing to prove.) PICKS: Canton - Beaudry, Emons, O'Meara, Riskak.

W.L. Central (3-3, 2-0) at Stevenson (2-2, 3-3). ■ Walter Lake Central will win because they play really good as a team and I know some of the kids that go there. ■ Anna Sowinski, 17, Salem. (I don't know any of the kids who go there. But I do feel that Stevenson is smiling upset.) PICKS: Stevenson - Beaudry, Riskak; W.L. Central - Emons, O'Meara.

Farmington (0-4, 0-2) at Salem (0-4, 0-2). ■ I think Salem is a good team and a strong team. If they pull together, they will win. If they put their mind to it, they will win. ■ Natalie Beattie, 15, Salem. (They should be able to put their minds to it or my name's not C.J. Riskak.) PICKS: Salem - Beaudry, Emons, O'Meara, Riskak.

Riv. Richard (0-4) at Cville (4-0). ■ Riverview because my mom grew up there and I heard they had a really good team. ■ Adam Bone, 16, Salem. (Past, Aubrey. They don't. Greenville does.) PICKS: Cville - Beaudry, O'Meara, Emons, Riskak.

Luth. East (3-3, 0-3) at Luth. Wald (2-2, 5-2). ■ Lutheran East, but I don't know why. They're a better team than the other one. ■ Joe Terry, 14, John Glenn. (Two straight losses by the Warriors might give your argument some credence, Joseph. But not this week.) PICKS: Luth. Wald - Beaudry, Emons, O'Meara, Riskak.

St. Agatha (3-3, 0-2) vs. Holy Redeemer (3-3, 1-1) at Ham. Keyworth Stadium. ■ Holy Redeemer, because they

have a good team and big guys, too. I went to one of their games when they played. Ummm, I don't remember against who. ■ Kevin Combs, 11, Westland. (And after the Lions hung a 53-0 win on Wyandotte Mt. Carmel, I might be inclined to agree with him.) PICKS: Redeemer - Beaudry, Emons, O'Meara, Riskak.

Saturday's Game
A.A. Richard (3-3, 2-0) at Borgess (4-0, 1-0), 1 p.m. ■ Ann Arbor because they are good and they have a good running back. I don't know who he is, but I went to one of their games last year. ■ Kyle Shemanski, 8, Canton. (And Kyle was adamant about his seeing a Richard game too. He should start going to Borgess games. He'll see several good running backs.) PICKS: Borgess - Beaudry, Emons, O'Meara, Riskak.

Sunday's Game
Catholic Central (3-3, 2-0) vs. Brother Rice (3-0, 2-0) at Pontiac Wiener Stadium, 1 p.m. ■ For some reason, I think CC's gonna win, but I really don't know why. I just have a gut feeling they're gonna win. ■ Andrew Thom, 12, Westland. (Dunno, maybe they have something to prove from last year? Then again, maybe Rice does too.) PICKS: CC - Emons, Beaudry, O'Meara; Rice - Riskak.

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Marlins rally but Saddlelites comeback nets a win

Kristin Wright-Guinn thinks she has the solution.

I've got to start taping my halitine speeches. The Farmington Mercy coach said Tuesday, and play them before the games."

Mercy dug itself a big hole with a seven-point

second quarter, then pulled itself out with a big second half, only to see visiting Harper Woods Regina take out a 57-54 victory in their mutual Detroit Catholic League opener.

The Marlins were on the back end of a 16-12 score after one period and the

Saddlelites stretched their lead to 31-19 by halftime.

That's when coach warmed up her voice. Mercy, no doubt inspired by Wright-Guinn's halftime chat, outscored Regina, 16-9, in the third period and took a one-point lead with 26 seconds to

play.

"That second quarter killed us. We had a horrible first half," Wright-Guinn said. "Then we came out and have great second halves."

Protecting that one-point lead, the last thing Mercy wanted to do was foul —

which is just what it did.

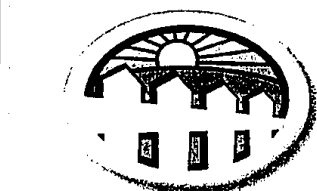
Regina made the two free throws with 21 seconds to play to take a one-point lead, then got the ball back when Mercy threw it out of bounds with seven seconds to play. Two more free throws sealed it.

Center Sarah Thompson

led Regina with 18 points.

Guard Whitney Johnson scored 15 to pace Mercy (4-2) in its Catholic League opener, while Deidre Jones scored 13 and Tessa Kuykendall 10.

The Marlins made 16-of-18 foul shots to 14-of-19 for the Saddlelites.



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