

# Prep experts?

## 12-3 start gives prognosticators hope

By Chris McCosky  
and Brad Emmons  
staff writers

**NOT A BAD START.** The two expert prognosticators survived a rough first week of non-league games, each selecting 12 of 15 correct.

There were some surprises. Both missed on Plymouth Canton's 7-6 victory over Willow Run and West Bloomfield's upset 28-27 win over perennial power Farmington Harrison.

It doesn't get any easier in Week No. 2, but the boys are certainly feeling confident.

### FRIDAY'S GAMES (all games at 7:30 p.m.)

**LIV. CHURCHILL at PLY. SALEM:** The Rocks are coming off a shocking 49-0 loss to Trenton, while Churchill blanketed Higgins in a road test, 9-0. Turnovers bailed Salem last week, something it can afford to do against a strong Churchill defense. This is gut-check week for the Rocks. Picks — McCosky says the Rocks get rolling, but Emmons takes the Chargers.

**PLY. CANTON at WALLED LAKE CENTRAL:** Canton's defense is as good as it's always been in the past. Unfortunately, the offense is as ineffective. To win on the road is quite a different story against formidable Walled Lake Central team, which is coming off a 17-0 win against Milford. Picks — The consensus is Central.

**WESTLAND JOHN GLENN at NORTHWILLE:** The Rockets soared into space last weekend, destroying Belle-

### grid predictions

vie, 35-0. They've always had Northville's number and this meeting should be no different, considering the Mustangs were beaten by Brighton last week, 42-21. Picks — Go Glenn.

**CLARENCEVILLE at AVONDALE:** The young Trojans are much improved, but Avondale, a 27-0 winner last week over Class A Rochester, is the Metro Conference favorite. The Trojans will put up a battle, but could be a year away. Picks — Avondale prevails.

**BISHOP BORGESS at REDFORD UNION (Kraft Field):** Last year RU got a scoreless tie against Boro at Knapp's before taking 7-0. This appears to be a more even matchup, giving Borgess' offensive side against RU's defense. Picks — Emmons gives slight edge to RU, but McCosky likes Borgess.

**WARREN WOODS TOWER at GARDEN CITY:** An uncertain mileage vote could put this game on hold. Tower forfeited last week to L'Anse au Loup, showing the Titans an extra week of practice. Garden City looked awful in the first half last week in a 21-12 loss to Wayne. If Tower can't play, then the Chargers will host Ann Arbor Pioneer, which has an open date. Picks — Garden City even its mark at 1-1 (against Tower, but not against Pioneer).

**RED, THURSTON at MELVINDALE:** The Eagles 19-0 open the Tri-State League schedule against Melvindale, a 23-0 winner last week over Lincoln Park. Thurston must be the ball in order to win. Picks — Melvindale wins.

**WAYNE MEMORIAL at ANN ARBOR HURON:** The Eagles led the second game, and by Garden City, who rushed for 139 yards last week against Garden City. But the

passing attack needs to improve after an 0-6 loss showing Huron to come off a 20-7 loss to Lansing Eastern. Picks — Huron beats Wayne for the second straight year, both agree.

**SPSILANTI vs. CATHOLIC CENTRAL (at Clearville):** The Spartans got lucky last week, via 10-7 overtime win over Flint Northwestern. The defense looks strong again, but CC backs a breakaway runner. That means quarterback Greg Hager has to go to the air more than coach Tom Mach would like. Ypsi is coming off a heart-breaking 21-14 overtime loss to Lansing Eastern. Picks — CC makes it 2-0, both concur.

**SATURDAY'S GAMES**

**LIV. STEVENSON at LIV. FRANKLIN (1 p.m.):** The Patriots proved they can play defense in an 8-0 loss last week to Dearborn. They're not looking in recent years against Stevenson's blazing defense. The Spartans, a 7-6 loser last week to RU, could unleash a potent passing attack. Picks — McCosky likes Stevenson, but Emmons (naming) takes Franklin.

**FARMINGTON at FARM. HARRISON (1 p.m.):** When was the last time Harrison was below .500? You have to go back all the way to 1952 when the Hawks won the state GAA title. If Farmington's defense against Harrison's potent offense, Picks — Harrison takes by.

**W.L. WESTERN at N. FARMINGTON (1 p.m.):** The game could have pitted the Western Lakes conference's top two running backs, Scott Setzer of North and Mike Hall of Western, against each other. But Hall is now a quarterback on a Western team which was defeated soundly last week by Novi. 27-0. Western may need more Mike Setzer this week. Picks — North wins again.

**ST. AGATHA at TRAVERSE CITY ST. FRANCIS (2:30 p.m.):** Another road test for the Aggies, who surprised their coach, John Goddard, with a 20-6 win last week over Dearborn St. Alphonsus. St. Francis, a state-ranked team, which led to beat Tawas last week, 14-13. Picks — St. Francis wins at home.

### the week ahead

**PREP FOOTBALL**  
Friday, Sept. 12  
Liv. Churchill at Ply. Salem, 7:30 p.m.  
Ply. Canton at W.L. Central, 7:30 p.m.  
West. John Glenn at Northville, 7:30 p.m.  
Clarenceville at Avondale, 7:30 p.m.  
Bishop Borgess at Redford Union, 7:30 p.m.  
Warren Woods Tower at Garden City, 7:30 p.m.  
Red. Thurston at Melvindale, 7:30 p.m.  
Wayne Mem. at Ann Arbor Huron, 7:30 p.m.  
Ypsilanti vs. Redford Catholic Central at Clarenceville High School, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 13  
Liv. Stevenson at Liv. Franklin, 1 p.m.  
Farmington at Farm. Harrison, 1 p.m.  
W.L. Western at N. Farmington, 1 p.m.  
St. Agatha at T.C. St. Francis, 7:30 p.m.

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Sept. 11  
Northville at Liv. Churchill, 7:30 p.m.  
Liv. Franklin at Farm. Harrison, 7:30 p.m.  
Liv. Stevenson at Farm. Harrison, 7:30 p.m.  
Ypsilanti vs. Redford Catholic Central at Clarenceville High School, 7:30 p.m.

**BOYS SOCCER**  
Thursday, Sept. 11  
Allen Pk. at Garden City (Old West), 4 p.m.  
Catholic Central vs. Boro, Brother Rice at Redford's Bell Creek Park, 4 p.m.  
Friday, Sept. 12  
W.L. Western at Farm. Harrison, 4 p.m.  
Liv. Franklin at Liv. Churchill, 5 p.m.  
Liv. Stevenson at Farmington, 5 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 13  
Plymouth Int'l. TBA  
Sunday, Sept. 14  
Boro, Borgess at Warren Daleside, 1 p.m.  
Catholic Cent. at Harper Woods, 1 p.m.

### rankings

The following high school rankings are compiled by the Observer sports staff. Schools considered are located in Livonia, Westland, Garden City, Redford, Plymouth, Canton, Farmington, Farmington Hills and Wayne.

#### FOOTBALL

1. John Glenn
2. Catholic Central
3. North Farmington
4. Livonia Churchill
5. Redford Union

#### GIRLS BASKETBALL

1. Plymouth Salem
2. Farmington Hills Mercy
3. North Farmington
4. Garden City
5. John Glenn

#### BOYS SOCCER

1. Livonia Stevenson
2. Farmington Hills Mercy
3. Plymouth Salem
4. North Farmington
5. Livonia Churchill

Garden City at D.H. Annapolis, 7:30 p.m.  
Redford Union at Boro, Borgess, 7:30 p.m.  
Red. Thurston at Riverview, 7 p.m.  
Clarenceville at Allen Park, 7:30 p.m.  
Wayne Memorial at Gouthrie, 7:30 p.m.  
(Mary Hoops Classic)  
St. Patrick vs. Wat. Kettering, 8:15 p.m.  
Farm. Mary vs. U.S. Elmhurst, 8 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 13  
Mary Hoops Classic, 8 and 7:45 p.m.

**BOYS SOCCER**  
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Saturday, Sept. 13  
Plymouth Int'l. TBA  
Sunday, Sept. 14  
Boro, Borgess at Warren Daleside, 1 p.m.  
Catholic Cent. at Harper Woods, 1 p.m.

**CROSS COUNTRY (BOYS)**

1. Farmington  
2. Catholic Central  
3. Livonia Churchill  
4. Plymouth Canton  
5. Livonia Stevenson

**CROSS COUNTRY (GIRLS)**

1. Farmington
2. Livonia Churchill
3. Plymouth Canton
4. Livonia Stevenson
5. North Farmington

#### GIRLS SWIM

1. Livonia Stevenson
2. Farmington Hills Mercy
3. Plymouth Salem
4. North Farmington
5. Livonia Churchill

## C'ville, Eagles, Aggies all 1-0

Livonia Clarenceville's young football team opened the season impressively Saturday with a 32-8 victory over Redford St. Mary's in a game played at Benedictine High in Detroit.

Leading from start to finish, Clarenceville dominated every aspect of the game.

The Trojans piled up 384 yards total offense to a mere 25 for the Rustics.

Quarterback Gregg Buell, a junior, enjoyed a big day.

He opened the scoring in the first quarter with a six-yard run and came back with a 19-yard TD run with 26 seconds left in the third quarter after St. Mary's closed the gap to 20-8, thanks to a 68-yard punt return.

Buell then closed out the scoring with a 37-yard TD toss to Joe Jentzer. The Clarenceville QB hit 12 of 16 passes for 147 yards. Darin DeRoock caught six passes for 93 yards. (Buell also averaged 42.2 yards per punt.)

Scott Pyle, a 6-foot-4, 246-pound sophomore who alternated between tight end and fullback, scored on a 14-yard run in the first period and a 1-yard run in the second period. He finished with 79 yards in 15 carries, while the other half of the Pebbles and Bam Bam combination, 125-pound tailback Bill Butera, added 46 yards in eight carries.

Defensively, the Trojans recorded 10 sacks, including 5½ by outside linebacker Pete Van Zant. The 6-4, 170-pound senior also came up with a key tackle, one of nine on the day, stopping a fourth-and-one attempt by the Rustics in third quarter.

Other Clarenceville defensive standouts included DeRoock, an out-

### football

side linebacker, seven tackles and three sacks; tackle Chris Chwalek, eight tackles and one sack; and nose guard Sam McElterhan, six tackles.

"I couldn't believe our pass rush," said Clarenceville coach Ralph Weddle. "We contained their quarterback and kept him inside."

**THURSTON 21, ST. HEDWIG 0:** The Eagles got unranked in the second half Saturday to beat visiting Detroit St. Hedwig.

Redford Thurston held the Knights to 60 total yards, only 18 on the ground. Linebackers Chris McFarland and Larry Wyatt, who spearheaded the defense, were Thurston's leading tacklers.

The Eagles grabbed a 6-0 second quarter lead when senior quarterback Kevin O'Connor hit Pat Laird on a 2-yard touchdown pass.

In the third quarter, Tim Wojcik scored on a 3-yard TD run and Paul Buford added an extra TD point to make it 13-0.

Wojcik then caught a 25-yard TD pass from O'Connor in the final quarter, and O'Connor followed with a two-point conversion toss to Laird to end the scoring.

O'Connor hit seven of 13 passes for 121 yards, while Wojcik rushed for 73 yards in 13 carries. The Eagles totaled 229 yards, 108 coming on the ground.

"I thought we were in for a pick-up along the momentum," said Thurston coach Ron Powell. "We started played better in second half. In the first half we had too many mistakes and fumbles (the Eagles lost three)."

**ST. AGATHA 20, ST. ALPHONSUS 6:** Even coach John Goddard was taken by surprise in Redford St. Agatha's season-opening win over Dearborn St. Alphonsus in a game played Saturday night at Redford Union's Kraft Field.

"The kids played pretty well," Goddard said. "I was more than pleasantly surprised. There's been a big difference since training camp began."

The Aggies got a sterling performance from 6-2, 180-pound senior Kevin Foulks, who rushed for 154 yards in 22 carries.

He also intercepted two passes. "Kevin is bigger and stronger and he's playing with lot more confidence this year," said the Agatha coach. "He's got to make the big plays like he did against St. Alphonsus if we're going to win."

In the second quarter, Agatha jumped out to a 6-0 lead on Foulks' 72-yard run. Later in the period, St. Alphonsus scored on an 88-yard drive to make it 6-6 at the half.

In the third quarter, 6-5, 220-pound tight end Kevin Richter caught a 13-yard TD pass from Paul Gardner and Foulks ran for the two-point to make it 14-6.

The Aggies then put it away in the final quarter as Foulks intercepted a pass and raced 60 yards down to the Arrows' 1, setting up Gardner's TD sneak.

Agatha rolled up 235 yards on the ground as sophomore running back Matt Schick contributed 57.

Defensively, the Aggies held St. Alphonsus to 107 total yards with ends Rich and Larry Burnett (52, 215) leading the way along with defensive tackle Jason Tonti (62, 205).

**EDSEL FORD 22, BISHOP BORGESS 14 (OT):** Redford Bishop Borgess rallied in the second half but couldn't sustain the momentum in overtime as Dearborn Edsel Ford escaped with a season-opening win against the Spartans in a game played at Garden City Junior High.

"We should have won," said Borgess coach Dan Henry. "We're down, but not out."

Borgess did not make a first down in the first half, and a pair of first quarter fumbles resulted in a 14-0 Edsel Ford lead.

In the third quarter, Borgess' offense began moving, as the Spartans marched 85 yards in eight minutes, capped by

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