

Will top-ranked Harrison be pressed by Franklin?

By Dan O'Meara and Brad Emmons staff writers

In terms of preseason favorites, three weeks of high school football have produced the expected results, with a few surprises.

Farmington Harrison, Redford Catholic Central, Westland John Glenn and North Farmington were considered the teams to watch back in August. To no one's surprise, all four are undefeated as Observational ballclubs gear for Round No. 4.

As for this week's action, Harrison expects to be tested by Livonia Franklin, and CC begins defense of its Central Division title against a potentially dangerous Redford Bishop Borgess squad.

North tangles defending Lakes Division tri-champion Livonia Stevenson, which could still live up to preseason billing despite its current injury problems.

The biggest surprise has been Plymouth Salem, which also boasts a record. The Rocks began the year with a young, untested line, but they appear to be gaining confidence each week.

The prognosticators also came through last weekend's action in good shape. Brad Emmons went 13-2 and gained a game on Dan O'Meara, who was 12-3. The season totals reflect a close contest, too. O'Meara is 35-10 and Emmons 32-13.

Here are the predictions for the next slate of games:

grid predictions

N. Farmington at Liv. Stevenson: A title history in order. We recall one year ago the host Spartans also were 1-2 at this point. But they started a six-game winning streak that lasted for the duration of the '87 season when they surprised unbeaten John Glenn. And the Raiders came into the game with a 3-0 record. The question is whether Stevenson can do it again despite injuries. **PICK** — A strong defense wins for North.

Ply. Canton at W.L. Western: There's always one game that is more difficult than the rest in which to pick a winner. This is that one. Both teams are 0-3, and Canton coach Bob Pienka must wonder what the Chiefs have to do for a victory. His team has lost two games by six points, including one to unbeaten Monroe. The bad news is Canton traditionally has trouble with Western. The recent history is on the side of the Warriors, according to O'Meara. Emmons thinks it's time to change that.

W.L. Central at Ply. Salem: The Rocks, 3-0, have served notice they intend to be a factor in the Lakes Division race. Their opponent is winless in three games. Salem's winless record is more recent in years when he junior Ryan Johnson at quarterback. He called his own number on two TD runs last week in the Stevenson game and threw for another TD. **PICK** — It's yet another remake of the Stevenson game. The Rocks give Livonia Central a losing margin.

Garden City at Woodhaven: Garden City, 1-2, blanked winless Inkster in its last game, but the host Warriors could be helped for a Northwest Suburban League title. Woodhaven is 2-1 and fresh from a win over Edsel Ford. **PICK** — The visiting Cougars are not ready to contend yet.

Thurston at Melvindale: The Eagles still haven't gotten off the ground in Division, losing their first three games. Melvindale, 1-2, has lost to Lincoln Park, one of the Downriver area's best teams, and Crestwood, 2-0. Here's a clue: The Cardinals beat Taylor Truman by two TDs, Thurston lost by three to Truman. **PICK** — Melvindale keeps the Eagles out of the win column.

Wayne Memorial at Lincoln Park: This is a key Wolverine game for both squads, because each needs a win to stay in the race with Fordson and Monroe. Both teams are 2-1 and have lost to Monroe. Emmons will be a factor here. Wayne routed back to slaughter Southgate 51-0 last week. But can the Zebres stay hot? Lincoln Park will be eager to regain its pride. The Mustangs look pretty tough on paper. **PICK** — Northville is a team on the rebound this week.

SATURDAY'S GAMES

(all 1 p.m. unless noted)

Harrison at Liv. Franklin: This game should provide a test for the Hawks, but the same was supposedly true of last week's game with Northville. Harrison won that one 35-14. If the Hawks, rated No. 1 in Class B, prevail over the Panthers, they could have clear sailing to another Western Division title. On the other hand, Harrison struggled to beat Northville last year and pounded Franklin. Will it be just the opposite in '88? **PICK** — O'Meara believes the Hawks are too explosive and too aggressive on defense. Emmons is the only sports writer in the state picking the Pats.

John Glenn at Farmington: The Falcons just never get a break. Or it seems in the first half of the season. Farmington has played undefeated opponents the last two weeks and faces another in John Glenn. While the visiting Rocks have won their last two games by shutout, winning Farmington is still looking for its first point. **PICK** — The schedule — not to mention John Glenn — deals the Falcons another cruel blow.

Clairencville at Luthern North: The prognosticators are disappointed in the Trojans, who were picked to win the last two weeks and lost each time. So what about this one? Well, the Mustangs are 1-2 but have lost to recent teams in St. Clair and Cranbrook. **PICK** — Maybe a change of pace will alter Clairencville's fortunes. O'Meara favors Luthern North, but Emmons remains loyal to the Trojans.

St. Agatha vs. Ann Arbor Richard at Kent Field, 7:30 p.m.: The Apostles have some momentum heading into division play after winning their first game last Saturday, 21-0 over Ligtgett. Gabriel Richard is 2-1 against non-league teams and usually fields a strong team. **PICK** — Look for the Fighting Irish to win this battle.

Bishop Borgess vs. Catholic Central at Garden City Junior High, 7:30 p.m.: The Spartans also got their first win last week, but it's unlikely a streak will continue. Not with Catholic Central up next. The Shamrocks, 3-0, will have to avoid a letdown, however, after their comeback behind win over defending Class A champion Ann Arbor Pioneer. CC has to be riding an emotional high after averaging its 3-0 loss in last year's state final. **PICK** — The Shamrocks find continued success in their division opener.

football standings

PREP FOOTBALL STANDINGS CATHOLIC LEAGUE Central Division									
Team	W	L	T	W	L	T	W	L	T
Redford Bishop Borgess	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Warren DelaCade	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Warren DelaCade	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Warren DelaCade	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Warren DelaCade	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

C-Section									
Team	W	L	T	W	L	T	W	L	T
A. G. G. Richard	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Warren DelaCade	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Warren DelaCade	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Warren DelaCade	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Warren DelaCade	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

WESTERN LAKES Lakes Division									
Team	W	L	T	W	L	T	W	L	T
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Westland	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

Western Division									
Team	W	L	T	W	L	T	W	L	T
Farmington	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Park	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Park	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Park	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Park	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Park	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Park	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Park	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Park	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln Park	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

TRI-RIVER LEAGUE									
Team	W	L	T	W	L	T	W	L	T
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

METRO CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	W	L	T	W	L	T
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN LEAGUE									
Team	W	L	T	W	L	T	W	L	T
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

WOLVERINE LEAGUE									
Team	W	L	T	W	L	T	W	L	T
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

AREA INDEPENDENTS									
Team	W	L	T	W	L	T	W	L	T
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Ann Arbor	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

Borgess, St. Agatha win 1st games of year

Redford Bishop Borgess won its first game football game of the season Saturday, shutting out host Dearborn Divine Child, 14-0, in a game played at Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

The Spartans are 1-2, while the Falcons are winless in three games. "Somebody had to go 0-3, and we didn't want to be the one," Borgess coach Dan Henry said.

Senior fullback Mario Araquist scored on a 2-yard run in the second quarter, and quarterback Eddie Herbert returned a punt 55 yards for the other TD in the third quarter.

Herbert led Borgess' ground attack with 67 yards and he also completed six-of-nine passes for 72 yards.

"We decided to run the option a lot more because they blitz a lot, and that opened up the option for Eddie," said Henry.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 42, LUTHERAN NW 38: Sophomore tailback David Giesow scored three touchdowns on runs of 1, 2 and 12 yards and quarterback Steve Aumann tossed two TD passes Saturday for visiting Lutheran Westland.

Westland is 2-1, and Rochester remains winless at 0-3. Senior Bruce Rivera scored the other rushing TD for Westland, which outgained Northwest 267-193 in total offense.

Aumann's TD strikes went for three yards to Eric Warner and five yards to Mike Hardies.

Westland led 14-0 after one quarter and 20-14 at halftime.

ST. AGATHA 21, UNIVERSITY LIGGETT 0: Matt Schick, injured the entire 1987 season, has returned to the form of his sophomore year when he was an All-Catholic League C-D Division choice.

Schick ran by Grasse Pointe University-Liggett Saturday at Redford Union's Kraft Field, scoring two touchdowns and rushing for 155 yards on 16 carries. He has four TDs on the year and more than 400 yards rushing.

"Matt hasn't grown a lot more since his sophomore year, but he's much stronger," said Agatha coach John Goddard.

Agatha dominated the line play in raising its record to 1-2. Liggett fell to 0-3. The Aggies had 301 yards in total offense, including 91 passing yards from quarterback Brian Kutch, while holding Liggett to 107. Kutch completed seven of 14 passes for 91 yards.

Agatha scored one touchdown in each of the first, second and third quarters. Schick scored on runs of 41 and 15 yards. Agatha's second quarter score came on a 15-yard pass to Ken Kroll, capping a 72 yard drive.

TRUMAN 20, THURSTON 0: Martin McKinney ran for one touchdown and threw for another Friday night, leading host Taylor Truman to a convincing 20-0 win over Redford Thurston.

The loss leaves Thurston winless in three games, 0-3 in the Tri-River League. Truman improved to 2-1 overall, 1-1 in the Tri-River.

The Cougars scored all their points in the opening half.

Several breakdowns, both offensively and defensively, contributed to the loss, some, Thurston coach Bob Snell said.

"It looks like we saved our big mistakes for Friday," said Snell. "I'm proud of the way we hit, but our big breakdowns led to scores."

Thurston held to 112 yards in total offense, missed an opportunity to score first when placekicker Eric Palmer's 28-yard field goal attempt was wide. Defensive tackle Shane Berns set up the field goal try by recovering a Truman fumble on his first possession at the 38-yard line.

McKinney scored Truman's first two touchdowns, scrambling 35 yards for the score in the first quarter. "We must have missed five or six tackles on that run, 4-ter we had him hemmed in," said Snell.

A Thurston fumble in the second quarter at its own 16-yard line led to Truman's second score three plays later. The Cougars last TD came on a 25-yard pass from McKinney to tight end, who was wide open in the secondary.

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