

Scribes' prediction contest close

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

The high school football season is in full swing, and the race is heating up. For league championship? No, pickup prediction game.

As long as neither Observer sports editor tries to runaway with the best-picks title, the contest should go down to the wire in Week 9. And based on initial returns it will.

After two less-than-sterling debuts, Dan O'Meara holds a one-game lead over Brad Emons. Danny Boy was 10-6 and The Big E 9-7.

FRIDAY'S GAMES (all times 7:30 p.m. unless noted)

Clarencville at Det. West, 7 p.m. They don't get any easier for the Trojans, who lost the opener 27-12 to Center Line St. Clement and must play another quality parochial school. Clarencville will have to contain Lutheran West quarterback Reggie Dalton, who runs the 40-yard dash in 4.5 seconds. Both picked against the Hawks for the first time in ages. Make that double for Dan, who also thought Trenton would beat Salem, Oh, on Sept. 10. The Lions started the season well and meet in a rematch of last year's 21-12 game won by Harrison. Neither has quite the power to match the season well and meet in a rematch of last year's 21-12 game won by Harrison. Neither has quite the power to match the season well and meet in a rematch of last year's 21-12 game won by Harrison.

Ionia vs. Blah, Burgess, 7 p.m. at Garden City J. High. The Spartans, trying to rebound from a loss to Class D Portland St. Patrick, face another mid-Michigan opponent. Class BB Ionia had an impressive win last week, defeating Lowell 13-7. Lowell has a solid program and usually a good team. The visiting Bulldogs go home winners.

Liv. Churchil at Wald. Glenn: The Rockets moved into the state rankings this week after opening with a 35-7 rout of Detroit Murray-Wright. The Chargers, who lost 28-6 to Dearborn, face a big challenge in this WIAA crossover game.

GRID PICKS

PICK: The Rockets fuel up for a Lakes Division title quest.

Liv. Stevenson: The anonymous caller to the Observer (obviously a young man of high school age) took exception to Brad Emons picking Lake Orion last week. (Franklin won 16-10.) He demanded we start picking the Patriots to win and stop "tagging on" the school, Oh, yes. He also tossed in this morsel: "We're going to show everybody we're the team and we're the best." Well, our friend might have something there. It was a good win for Franklin and the Patriots could be the team when it's all over. Stevenson had a rough first game, losing to Redford Union. PICK: Here it is — and not because of any amusing, either; Franklin is the unanimous choice.

Farm. Harrison at Pys. Salem, Oh, 8:30. Brad and Dan look like Doubting Thomases this week after missing on Harrison's upset of Dearborn Divine Child. Both picked against the Hawks for the first time in ages. Make that double for Dan, who also thought Trenton would beat Salem, Oh, on Sept. 10. The Lions started the season well and meet in a rematch of last year's 21-12 game won by Harrison. Neither has quite the power to match the season well and meet in a rematch of last year's 21-12 game won by Harrison. Neither has quite the power to match the season well and meet in a rematch of last year's 21-12 game won by Harrison.

Romulus at Garden City: The Cougars raised a few eyebrows with their 16-0 win over Dearborn Heights Crested. A Class BB playoff team last year, Romulus, meanwhile, opened with a 21-7 defeat of Taylor Truman and also appears headed in the right direction under third-year

coach Dan Henry. PICK: Romulus, by a whisker.

Wat. Kettering at Redford Union: Can the Panthers defend their Northwest Suburban League title? The 17-14 win over Stevenson indicates RU still has a solid team and could do it. We'll know in a week when they face the Panthers play Waterford Kettering, a 42-38 loss to Milford Lakeland. Can RU score that many points? Will they need to? Stay tuned. PICK: RU wins a squeaker.

Wayne Memorial at Monroe: Here we have a team (Wayne) that could/should have won and a team (Monroe) that could/should have lost. The Zebros gave top-ranked Adrian a battle before succumbing, 21-13. Monroe scored on the last play of the game to beat Plymouth Canton, 14-13. The Trojans will get a real test from Wayne and running back Bruce Calhoun. PICK: The Zebros defeat the Monroe balloon.

SATURDAY'S GAMES (all times 1 p.m. unless noted)

Pys. Canton at N. Farmington: Players on both teams no doubt feel bad after having last week, but there were exciting signs for each team. Canton should have beaten Monroe after scoring late to take a 13-6 lead, but the Chiefs gave up a touchdown pass (to the Detroit Lions) on the last play of the game and then a two-point conversion. Had it converted other scoring opportunities, Canton would have won. North was tied 7-7 at halftime with Pontiac Northern but gave up two long TD runs in the second half of a 20-7 loss. Two plays were the difference. The North defense is tough and won't have to contend with the speed of a Charles Taylor this week. PICKS: The Raiders get the nod.

W.L. Western at Farmington: Western is the favorite to win the WIAA title. The Division but needed 14 points in the last quarter to beat Novi 29-25. Farmington

will have to come around in a hurry after losing 28-0 to West Bloomfield. The Falcons won this game last year 13-3, but the Warriors are a better, more experienced team. PICK: Western picks up another win.

Allen Park at Red. Thurston: The Eagles started with a 6-0 win over Redford St. Agatha, but they face a much taller order this week in their 1st-1st League opener. Allen Park, which thumped Grosse Ile 28-0, is the defending TFL champion, and the Jaguars no doubt think they're ready to do so again in the Class BB playoffs now that Farmington Hills Harrison has moved up to Class A. PICK: Allen Park is still on top.

Harper Woods, at Luth. Westland: The Warriors go for their second win after beating Monroe City Cardinal Meyer 8-0, but so does Harper Woods. The Pantherslobbered Detroit Holy Redeemer 32-0. Harper Woods, 2-7 last year, runs the venerable offense and always hits hard, according to Lutheran Westland coach Dennis Tuomi. PICK: O'Meara says the Warriors win; Emons says the Panthers.

St. Agatha at Central Lake: The Aggies hope to rebound from their 6-0 loss to Thurston. The Trojans of Central Lake in the northwest corner of the lower peninsula, were a 40-30 loss by Macomb. PICK: St. Agatha mops sure the Trojans have a debt bus ride home.

Redford CC vs. Windsor Brennan, 7:30 p.m. at Liv. Clarencville: The Shamrocks have an edge on Brennan, having already played a game. CC checked out last year's John's, supposedly the Toledo City League favorite, in a 36-0 rout at the Silverdome Saturday night. Brennan, a Catholic code high school with an enrollment of about 1,000 students, will play its season opener against CC. Brennan was 4-4 last year, losing to Windsor Kennedy 11-6 in the first round of the Ontario AAA (equivalent to AA in Michigan) playoffs. PICK: CC rolls to another win.

Lutheran High wins gridiron debut

Despite six turnovers, Lutheran High Westland won its season football opener Saturday at Marine City Cardinal Mooney, 8-0.

"I was pleased with the score and the fact that the kids overcame mistakes," Lutheran Westland coach Dennis Tuomi said. "They could have quit at any moment, but they didn't."

The Warriors fumbled twice inside the Cardinals' 10 and threw an interception at the Mooney 12.

Junior halfback Steve Faith, taking a pitch-out, ranled 20 yards for the game's only score in the third quarter. Kent Wattsworth then caught the two-point conversion toss from Andy Mantel.

Faith led all rushers with 165

FOOTBALL

yards in 18 carries.

The Warriors had 220 yards total offense, 37 passing as Mantel connected on three-of-five attempts.

Mooney, meanwhile, was limited to 169 total yards.

Junior linebacker Troy Smith paved Lutheran Westland's way with eight solo tackles and six assists. Sophomore linebacker Jason Bayush was in on 11 tackles.

"They (Mooney) had a veteran group coming back and we didn't know how our kids would react," Tuomi said. "We're not where we need to be right now, but they're trying."

Trojans fall 27-12

Ray Henke was a one-man wrecking crew Saturday as host Center Line St. Clement, one of the state's top-ranked teams in Class D, turned back Livonia Clarencville, 27-12.

The Trojans had some success shutting down St. Clement's option attack, but Henke found other ways to score, including punt returns of 65 and 45 yards. He also scored on two other long runs.

"Big plays hurt us," Clarencville coach Russ McKenzie said. "We did not play terrible, but they (St. Clement) beat us."

Clarencville trailed only 13-6 at halftime as Carl Holsten scored on

a 1-yard run for the Trojans.

Mark Kalaj caught a 12-yard TD pass from Ryan McEwen in the first quarter for Clarencville's other score.

The Trojans had 210 yards total offense, 112 in the air as McEwen was eight-for-22.

Defensively, sophomore monster man Matt Walton had nine solo tackles and six assists. He also recovered a Crusader fumble. Teammate Steve Parks, a sophomore cornerback, was in on nine tackles and tipped away a pass.

Both Clarencville and Lutheran Westland open Metro Conference play this weekend. (See Week Ahead.)

Madonna wins volleyball title

By C.J. RUSAK
STAFF WRITER

Two years ago, Madonna University's volleyball team got nothing out of its season-opening trip to Oregon except a few lessons on what it would take to reach national prominence.

Last week, it was the Lady Crusaders doing the teaching.

Madonna swept through the Colorado Classic, hosted by Mesa State College in Grand Junction, with five wins in six matches to finish first. Both Madonna and Mesa State had 6-1 records, but the Crusaders were declared the winners by virtue of total points scored in the two matches against each other.

Madonna opened the tournament

VOLLEYBALL

Friday with straight-set victories over University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Tex. (15-11, 15-11, 16-6) and Fort Lewis, Colo. (15-9, 15-6, 15-9).

Then came the test — Mesa State, highly regarded in the NCAA's Division II. It took four games, 15-8, 10-15, 15-6.

On Saturday, the Crusaders opened play against Mesa State and this time lost, 15-8, 6-15, 15-11, 15-12. But they rallied to win their next two, defeating Mary Hardin (15-10, 13-15, 15-8, 16-8) and Fort Lewis (15-3, 13-15, 15-1, 15-9).

"They played super," said Madonna coach Jerry Abraham. "They very easily could have gone 6-0."

Which was a far cry from previous performances in Grand Junction. After going 0-for-6 in their first trip (1990), the Crusaders bounced back last year against an extremely challenging field (which included eventual NAIA champ Brigham Young-Hawaii) to go 3-5.

"It was an outstanding way for us to start the season," Abraham said of the team's '92 performance. "Our defense was very strong, our offense was consistent, and we played well together as a team."

"I think we picked up where we left off last year."

Triathlete in world competition

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

For most world-class athletes, the Olympics were last month. For Sharl Simpson of Livonia, they're this weekend.

Simpson hopes to finish among the top 10 women in the 20-24 age group Saturday at the Triathlon World Championships in Muskoka, Ontario.

"I think that's a realistic goal," she said, adding she will compete against 250 others in what is billed as "the Olympics for triathletes."

The triathlon consists of three events: swimming, bicycling and running. Athletes swim a mile, bike nearly 25 miles and run 6.2

SPORTS SHORTS

Items for the Sports Roundup should be submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday (for Thursday edition) and 5 p.m. Friday (for the Monday edition).

POMPON CHAMPS

The Mercy High School pompon squad won the title of grand champion at the Mid-American Pompon Camp.

Team members are seniors Patti Pacione, Krista Sutowick, Amber O'Connell, Tracy Winter, Tina and Leslie White, Lori Williams, Juniors Kelly LaDuke, Casey Parran, Carmen Dapkus; sophomores Sheri Soenen, Tara Radcliffe, Jenny Janosz, Staci Williams, Jessica Kaniowski, Jessica Daigler; freshmen Karrie Seifert, Andrea Jackson, Lexley Curlin, Katie Veeder and Lauren White.

YOUTH BASKETBALL

The Farmington Hills Recreation Department sponsored a 3-on-3 basketball league for boys and girls 11 to 15 last summer and bestowed several honors on those who participated.

Bobby Daidipati was the best free-throw shooter, Carl Berman was the "Top Gun" in the shoot around and Brett Foster was the speed layup champion.

A special feature of the program was the recognition of players who had excellent attendance records and demonstrated above-average skills.

John Padeski, Allison Hellala, Eric Donahue and Keith Battle were honored from the Blue Division. Paul Bourgoin, Brad Donahue, Bill Gable and Rob Granau were selected from the Red Division.

A special skills clinic and 3-on-3 league will begin in October for middle and high school students. Informational flyers are available at the Department of Special Services.

GYMNASTICS CLASS

The Farmington Area YMCA will start gymnastics classes Monday, Sept. 14. The classes are open to the beginner through advanced team member, for pre-schoolers to teenagers. For information, call Tim Wylie (563-4020).

HOOP LEAGUES

Women's and men's over-30 basketball leagues are being organized by the Farmington Area YMCA. Games will be played on Sundays and the cost is \$350 per team. There will be respective organizational meetings at 6:30 and 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27.

PRE-SCHOOL CLASS

Farmington Area YMCA is starting a program to give children ages 3 to 5 the opportunity to learn about movement, basic health and fitness. Classes start the week of Sept. 14. Call 563-4020 for registration details.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL

Friday, Sept. 11
Clarencville at Det. West, 7 p.m.
Ionia vs. Blah, Burgess (CC), 7 p.m.
Liv. Churchil at Westland Glenn, 7:30 p.m.
Liv. Franklin at Liv. Stevenson, 7:30 p.m.
Farm. Harrison at Pys. Salem, 7:30 p.m.
Romulus at Garden City, 7:30 p.m.
Wat. Kettering at Redford Union, 7:30 p.m.
Wayne Memorial at Monroe, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 12
Pys. Canton at N. Farmington, 1 p.m.
W.L. Western at Farmington, 1 p.m.
Allen Park at Red. Thurston, 1 p.m.
Harper Woods at Luth. Westland, 1 p.m.
St. Agatha at Central Lake, 1 p.m.
Redford CC vs. Windsor (O'Brien) at Liv. Clarencville, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday, Sept. 10
Canary at Huron Valley, 6:30 p.m.
Chicago Forest at R.O. Stone, 7 p.m.
Liv. Ladywood at Fiat N. Western, 7 p.m.
Ham. St. Florian at St. Agatha, 7 p.m.
Liv. Franklin at Trenton, 7 p.m.
Liv. Stevenson at Red. Thurston, 7 p.m.
South Lyon at Westland Glenn, 7 p.m.
Liv. Farmington at Waterford Mont. 7 p.m.
Howl at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Dearborn at Redford Union, 7 p.m.

Clarencville at Det. Trinity, 7:30 p.m.
Wayne at Taylor Center Tournament, TBA.

Friday, Sept. 11
Pys. Canton vs. St. Joseph, 6 p.m.
Farm. Mercy vs. St. Clair, 7:45 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 12
Liv. Churchil at Luth. Westland, 7:30 p.m.
Liv. Christian vs. Allen Park, Inter-City at Innes Park (Riverdale), 4:30 p.m.
Liv. Franklin at Farm. Harrison, 5:30 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER

Thursday, Sept. 10
Huron Valley at A.P. Inter-City, 4 p.m.
Bridges at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Pys. Canton at Farmington, 5:30 p.m.
Liv. Stevenson at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.
Liv. Farmington at Pys. Salem, 7 p.m.
Garden City at D.H. Crestwood, 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 11
U.D. Jesuit at Red. Thurston, 4 p.m.
Redford CC vs. H.W. Notre Dame at Red Creek Park, 4 p.m.
Liv. Christian vs. Allen Park, Inter-City at Innes Park (Riverdale), 4:30 p.m.
Liv. Franklin at Farm. Harrison, 5:30 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

Saturday, Sept. 12
Schoolcraft at Lakeland (Ohio), 1 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Saturday, Sept. 12
Schoolcraft at Eastern Michigan, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Friday-Saturday, Sept. 11-12
Madonna at Utah Indianapolis Torrey. Schoolcraft at Lake Michigan Torrey.

Marrriott SOCCER CLASSIC

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY • ROCHESTER, MICHIGAN
SEPTEMBER 19 and 20, 1992

ARIZONA - CALIFORNIA - MISSOURI - TWO MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL GAMES - YOUTH TOURNAMENT - 120 TEAMS FROM MICHIGAN, OHIO, AND CANADA

THE COMPETITORS	THE SCHEDULE	ADMISSION
University of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri (17-1) Ranked #2 nationally	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 8:00-8:00 P.M.—Youth Select Tournament 9:00 A.M.—Detroit Country Day School vs. Uica Eisenhower High School 11:00 A.M.—Livonia Church High School vs. London Ontario Youth Select Team 1:00 P.M.—University of Missouri-St. Louis vs. Grand Canyon University 3:30 P.M.—Oakland University vs. California State University-San Bernardino 7:30 P.M.—Tournament Banquet at the Oakland Center	YOUTH SOCCER PLAYERS NO CHARGE STUDENTS \$2.00 ADULTS \$4.00
Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan (13-2) Ranked #8 nationally	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 8:00-8:00 P.M.—Youth Select Tournament 1:00 P.M.—University of Missouri-St. Louis vs. California State University-San Bernardino 3:30 P.M.—Oakland University vs. Grand Canyon University	TICKETS TO AND OF THE OMAHA OAKLAND UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT 370-3180 TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE GATE
California State University, San Bernardino, California (15-4) Ranked #1 nationally	5:30 P.M.—Presentation of Trophies 4:15 and 5:30 P.M.—Youth Tournament Championship Games	SPONSORS BIRME FORD MOTOR COMPANY GENERAL MOTORS GMC TRUCK KWIK GOAL NIKE OAKLAND UNIVERSITY THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS PASS SPORTS PEPSI REUSCH SOCCER DRIVER SOCCER LOCKER SOCCER STORE & MORE SUBURBAN TOYOTA U.S. MONITORS
Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona (13-6-1)		MARRIOTT CORPORATION MARRIOTT BUSINESS & FOOD SERVICES MARRIOTT COURTVAUD MARRIOTT DEARBORN INN MARRIOTT DETROIT AIRPORT MARRIOTT EDUCATION SERVICES MARRIOTT FACILITIES MANAGEMENT MARRIOTT FAIRFIELD INN MARRIOTT HEALTH CARE SERVICES MARRIOTT LIVONIA MARRIOTT RESIDENCE INN MARRIOTT SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES MARRIOTT SOUTHWEST MARRIOTT ROMULUS MARRIOTT TROY

