Rice tops St. Mary's in thriller

Talk about a memorable game. Those who watched Birmingham Brother Rice's incredible, 63-44 high school football victory Saturday over previously undefeated Orchard Lake St. Mary's are sure to remember it for a long time.

The Warriors (7-1) wrapped up the Catholic League Central East crown and earned a spot in the Prep Bowl championship game Saturday against Detroit Catholic Central.

The two teams amassed 967 yards of total offense, and the 63 points represented a Rice single-game record.

Rice junior halfback Tony Ciautsos rushed for 153 yards on 18 carries and scored on runs of 57, 6, 2 and 5 yards.

Mark Goebel added 121 yards on 24 carries and a 4-yard TD run. Matt Baker, who was 8-of-14 passing for 184 yards, ran for two scores and threw touchdown passes of 38 and 44 yards to Matt Mueller.

Jermaine Gonzales scored on a 1-yard run and threw TD passes of 17 yards to Charles Davis and 51 yards to Maurice Swaright for St. Mary's (7-1).

Quenell Williams had a 60-yard touchdown run, and Keyvon Barbee scored on runs of 2 and 3 yards.

The Warriors trailed at halftime, 38-36, but held the Eaglets to just six second-half points.

CATHOLIC CENTRAL 21, U-D 7: The Shamrocks cruised into the Prep Bowl championship game with a win Saturday over the University of Detroit-Jesuit at Ferndale High.

CC, 8-0 overall and 4-0 in the Catholic League Central-West Division, plays Birmingham Brother Rice for the championship 7 p.m. Saturday at the Silverdome. The Warriors are 7-1 overall. Their only loss was to CC, 14-10.

CC scored 14 points in the first quarter and seven more in the fourth before U-D could get on the scoreboard.

The Shamrocks took the opening kickoff and drove 59 yards in 14 plays with Mike Wilk scoring from 2 yards.

After stopping U-D on downs, the Shamrocks drove 51 yards in five plays, scoring on a 1-yard run by Wilk with 1:53 left in the opening quarter for a 14-0 lead.

The Shamrocks increased their lead to 21-0 when Dave Groth raced 48 yards for a touchdown with 11:12 left in the game to cap a five-play, 73-yard drive.

U-D scored with 3:36 left on a 13-yard touchdown pass. The Shamrocks had 318 total yards, 303 on the ground. U-D had 146 total yards, 104 rushing.

Mike Morris led the CC defense with nine tackles, including one sack. Jeff Moore, Mike Sgrol and Anthony Coretti had seven tackles each.

Groth led CC rushers with 104 yards in eight carries. Wilk had 98 yards and John Kavo 95 yards in 20 rushes each.

COUNTRY DAY 65, LAKEVIEW 6: Jeremy Battler returned the opening kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown Saturday as the host Yellow Jackets qualified for the state playoffs.

Country Day (6-2) led 27-6 at halftime and never looked back. Jason Probert rushed for 155 yards and two touchdowns; Andy Petcoff added 120 rushing yards and two TDs; Aaron Morrell gained 88 yards and scored one touchdown, and Matt Collins hooked up with Battler on a 49-yard TD pass.

Trojans from page C1

"Our defense revolves around him. He's usually in double digits for us in tackles and he also plays offensive guard."

Junior Scott Wion, a 6-4, 226-pound wingback and linebacker, is questionable for this week's game against North (5-3, 4-3) because of a sprained ankle.

"It's a day-to-day thing," Hudkins said.

North, 6-3 overall and 4-3 in the Metro, is fighting for a playoff spot.

"North has a nice team," Hudkins said. "They're one of the better teams in the conference. They run out of the pro-set, I-backfield with some option. They'll isolate the tailback and throw 40 percent of the time. It will be a good challenge for us."

Hudkins, who came to Clarenceville after being an assistant under Ralph Carducci at Monroe, is a graduate of Mount Union (Ohio) where the Purple Raiders set an NCAA record for consecutive victories —48 — for all divisions in last Saturday's 44-20 win over Otterbein (Ohio).

Hudkins was there during coach Larry Kehres' first season.

"He was a good guy," Hudkins said. "It's become quite a program. I don't care what level you're at, that's quite a run they've got going."

And playoff-bound Clarenceville put together quite a run in 1999.

"I thought coming in we'd have a pretty competitive team, but even I never envisioned us coming this far," Hudkins said.

Maybe a little of that Mount Union magic is rubbing off.

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Preps await Sunday show

BY ERIC BAGG
STAFF WRITER

[illegible]

Dearborn [illegible] Fordson (5-2) at Dearborn Divisions (6-1), 2 p.m. PICKS: Fordson [illegible]

Well, [illegible] place you at Ford and who and where your favorite Observer-area playoff football teams will play next week in the state playoffs.

The show starts on Saturday with the [illegible] eight Division 2 teams.

You could provide [illegible] plays these five games [illegible] tournament basketball [illegible]

We do know that these seven teams are in two-team district play state playoffs: Catholic Central (8-0), Western Conference champ Livonia Clarenceville (8-0), Western [illegible] John Glenn (6-2), Livonia Stevenson (6-2), Wayne City (6-2), Redford Thurston (6-2), and Redford St. Agatha (6-2).

Knocking on the door is Farmington (6-2), which [illegible] area's long shot to get into the 256-team field appears to be Farmington Harrison (4-4).

As for the predictions, [illegible] things are a little more clear.

The Lucky Irishmen, Dan O'Meara, stubbed his toe slightly last week, going 10-4. But he still holds a commanding six-game lead over Jerry Lisko, who went 11-3.

O'Meara, no relation to the U.S. Ryder Cup golfer (that's for sure), is 95-22 on the year. Lisko, who will have to work a string of upsets this week, is grasping for air at 89-28 overall.

Here is a look at this week's action:

THURSDAY GAMES

Red. St. Agatha (9-0) vs. Cass Cantrile (2-6), 3:30 p.m. at Eastern Darby: The Eagles, behind the running of Don Spohler, extend their second straight playoff berth with a 23-13 win over Dearborn St. Alphonsus. Meanwhile, Cass Cantrile defeated Detroit Loyola. PICKS: Go with the Eagles.

Lutheran W-Westland (5-3, 4-2) at Hamtramck (4-4, 4-2), 4 p.m.: The Warriors lost 8-0 after any number last week, nothing. Lutheran Rochester Hills Lutheran Northeast, 30-16. Hamtramck despite 275 yards by current MAC and Michigan [illegible] fell to Riverview Gabriel Richard, 46-28. PICKS: Hamtramck knee over the .500 mark on its artificial turf at Keyworth Stadium.

FRIDAY GAMES

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

Bishop Borgess (3-5) at Salem Garfield (5-3), 7 p.m.: Borgess [illegible] 20 yards passing and [illegible] Flat[illegible] Rogers [illegible] in the last two [illegible] Garfield [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

[illegible] (5-2) at Redford [illegible] (2-6): [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Redford Catholic Central (8-0) at Redford Bishop Foran (2-6), 7 p.m.: Could be an interesting game. No one was [illegible] while Foran is coming off an [illegible] 21-14 upset over previously undefeated Fenton to reach its first playoff berth in school history. PICKS: Enough said about the Eagles. Sorry, Mr. O'Meara, I'm [illegible]

Farmington (6-2) at Lakeland (5-3), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Livonia Clarenceville (8-0) at Livonia John Glenn (6-2), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Livonia Stevenson (6-2) at Livonia Churchill (6-2), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Wayne City (6-2) at Livonia Franklin (5-3), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Redford Thurston (6-2) at Redford Union (5-3), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Wayne Memorial (2-6) vs. Romulus (3-5), 7 p.m. at Romulus: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Dearborn (2-6) vs. Fry, Detroit (3-5), 7 p.m.: Maybe Salem should have invited the 7-4 undefeated team back for one round earlier. The Vikings have been [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Ferndale (2-6) vs. Ecorse (3-5), 7 p.m.: Ecorse [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Southfield (2-6) at Southfield-Lathrup (2-6), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Livonia Ladywood (4-4) at Livonia Stevenson (6-2), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Livonia Franklin (5-3) at Livonia Churchill (6-2), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Wayne City (6-2) at Livonia Clarenceville (8-0), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

Redford Catholic Central (8-0) at Redford Bishop Foran (2-6), 7 p.m.: [illegible] PICKS: [illegible]

**Farmington (6-2) at Lakeland (5-3