

# Area teams attempt to keep magic alive in Week 6

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Four unbeaten remain in Oberverland football.

Redford Catholic Central and Farmington Harrison, ranked No. 1 statewide in their respective classes, both won again.

Harrison, by far, had the stiffer test, dumping previously unbeaten Walled Lake Western.

Westland John Glenn, also unbeaten, can set a date with Harrison in the Western Lakes Activities Association championship game (Oct. 24) with a win Friday at Plymouth Salem.

The other unbeaten is Redford Union.

But game of the week should be in the Michigan Mgrs Red Division when unbeaten Dearborn travels to once-beaten Wayne Memorial.

As far as the prediction race, things tighten up a bit.

Yours truly, correct picking 12 of 15 games last week, moved up one game on counterpart Dan

## GRID PICKS

O'Meara, who was 11-4. O'Meara is 55-18 overall; Emons is 53-20.

### FRIDAY GAMES (all at 7:30 unless noted)

Dearborn (50, 3-0) at Wayne (44, 3-1), 7 p.m.; Dearborn proved it was for real last week by dumping previously unbeaten Monroe, 48-26, as halfback Colin Wilkinson had 165 yards rushing and four TDs, while quarterback Kevin Kregar added 138 yards and one TD. Wayne, a last-minute 25-10 winner over Dearborn Edsel Ford, counters with tailback Cameron Mingo and quarterback Terry Turner. PICKS: Emons says Wayne pulls the upset. O'Meara likes Dearborn.

Highland Park (23, 2-2) at Redford Union (50, 3-0), 7 p.m.; They're trying to tan pit bulls in Highland Park, but these are the tamer Polar Bears, who are coming off a 22-16 win over winless Woodhaven. RU, which won last week against winless Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 28-6, may be without starting quarterback Jeff Rigley again (injured shoulder). PICKS: RU makes it six straight.

Taylor Truman (1-4, 1-2) at Garden City (1-4, 0-4); Truman posted its first win of the year with a 20-14 victory over winless Taylor Kennedy, while Garden City faced unbeaten Trenton, losing 28-7. This is a Mega-White encounter. PICKS: Flip a coin, both take CC.

Hamtramck (4-1, 3-1) at Clarenceville (4-1, 2-1); The loser will be out of contention for the Metro Conference title, while the winner stays alive. Hamtramck played tough for a half before losing to Metro Conference leader and unbeaten Harper Woods, 35-6, made it a triumph homecoming with a 49-12 shellacking of Harper Woods Lutheran East. PICKS: O'Meara says Hamtramck, but I like the Trojans.

Liv. Churchill (2-3, 2-2) at W.L. Westem (4-1, 2-1); The Chargers have to be getting rival Livonia Franklin in overtime, 10-7, on Mike King's 36-yard field goal. Western, a playoff bound team backed by Farmington Hills Harrison last week, 35-13, is led by fullback Dave Johnson, who rushed for 215 yards against the top-ranked Hawks. PICKS: It's Western's night all the way.

Northville (2-3, 1-2) at Liv. Franklin (0-5, 0-3); The Mustangs have to be reeling after being bounced by winless Plymouth

Canton, 27-7. But Northville seems to have a hex over the winless Patriots, who suffered a tough 10-0 OT loss to Churchill. PICKS: Has beaten the Mustangs only once (1996) in the last 10 years. PICKS: Northville finds a way to win.

Farmington (2-3, 2-2) at Liv. Stevenson (2-3, 2-2); The Falcons and first-year coach John Duchtel are on a mini-roll right now having beaten North Farmington, which unbeaten Westland John Glenn a score followed by a 14-7 win last week over Walled Lake Central. Stevenson, up-and-down so far in 1998, played a flat three quarters in a 25-6 loss to Glenn. PICKS: It's no walk in the park, but Stevenson wins.

Westland Glenn (5-0, 3-0) at Ply. Salem (3-2, 2-1); Glenn, a 25-6 victor last week over Stevenson, can wrap up another League Division title on enemy turf. The only team so far that has held Glenn tailback Reggie Spearman down is Farmington (125 yards). The Rocks, 39-20 winners last week over North Farmington, got 124 yards from Jason Lukasik. He scored on TD runs of 23 and 75 yards. PICKS: Glenn scores in orbit to another Lakes title.

### SATURDAY GAMES (all at 1 p.m. unless noted)

Ply. Canton (1-4, 1-2) at Farm. Hills Harrison (5-0, 3-0); The top-ranked Hawks, 35-13 winners over previously unbeaten Walled Lake Western, got a sterling performance from speedy wide receiver Ricky Bryant (four TDs). Canton, meanwhile, rushed for 300 yards in 59 attempts in steamrolling Northville coach John Duchtel are on a mini-roll right now having beaten North Farmington, which unbeaten Westland John Glenn a score followed by a 14-7 win last week over Walled Lake Central. Stevenson, up-and-down so far in 1998, played a flat three quarters in a 25-6 loss to Glenn. PICKS: It's no walk in the park, but Stevenson wins.

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Macomb Lutheran North, 42-14. PICKS: Cranbrook topples the Warriors.

St. Agatha (4-1, 3-1) vs. Wyandotte Mt. Carmel (1-4, 0-2) at RU's Kraft Field; The Aggies, led by David Jones' 161 yards rushing, earned a 24-13 victory over Detroit Holy Redeemer. Wyandotte Mount Carmel led to first-place and undefeated Dearborn St. Alphonsus, 23-0. PICKS: Go with the Aggies this week.

Redford CC (4-0, 2-0) at Dbn. Divine Child (3-1, 0-1), 1:30 p.m. at D.H. Greatwood; Both teams lost dates with Ontario teams, but there's no question who's boss in the Catholic League Central West — the unbeaten Shamrocks who scored in every conceivable way last week in a 42-0 out of ordermaned Pontiac Hotte Dame Prep. DC, even with Gary Dampton at quarterback and Bill McCartney coaching, couldn't keep up with these Shamrocks. DC is coming off a 39-7 loss to Orchard Lake St. Mary's. Standout inebacker Casey Rogowski is expected back this week. PICKS: Another walk in a park for CC.

Dishop Bergosa (2-3, 1-1) at Det. Benedictine (0-5, 0-2), 2 p.m.; Benedictine is still searching for its first win. The Ravens had their chance last week, but couldn't beat winless Allen Park Cabini (19-6). Meanwhile, Bergosa found the going tough in a 4-6 loss to Tri-Sectional at leader Riverview Gabriel Richard.

PICKS: Bergosa gets two votes.

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## Hawks from page C1

down catches, entered the game tied with 1993 all-tender Bryan Wauldran at 22 apiece.

He caught TD passes covering 46, 69 and 65 yards and, demonstrating his speed and athletic ability, made nice plays running with the ball after he caught it.

"I'd expect me to be a leader, and I want to be a leader," Bryant said. "Since it was a big game, I wanted to show I am the No. 1 receiver in the state, and I had a lot of help (from his teammates)."

Bryant gave the Hawks a 7-0 lead early in the second quarter, but the Warriors answered with a 14-play, 66-yard TD drive. Quarterback Chris Payton sprinted 4 yards around right end for the TD.

On first down at the Harrison 41, Pacci passed to Bryant going toward the right sideline with 1:06 left in the half. Bryant stopped, put a move on the defender and cut across the center of the field for his second TD.

"I thought he was going to take it out of bounds to stop the clock, and the next thing I was congratulating him in the end zone," Pacci said.

On the ensuing kickoff, Harrison's Nick Hall recovered a fumble at the Western 29. Pacci passed 26 yards to Brian Nelson and, from the shotgun formation on the next play, ran the final 6 yards with 17 seconds remaining for a 21-7 lead.

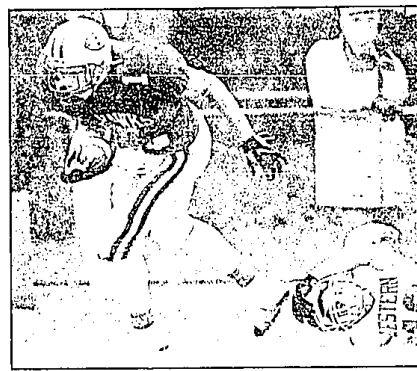
"They were playing man-to-man up tight," Pacci said. "The safety came up; once I got outside, I knew I was in. I called a pass but I knew I could run it in if nothing showed."

On the first play of the third quarter, Johnson broke several tackles and rambled 66 yards for a TD and a 21-13 score after a two-point attempt failed.

But the Hawks stole the momentum back when Bryant returned the kickoff 87 yards, giving Harrison a 28-13 lead after Joe Ghanman kicked the fourth of five PATs.

"Emotionally, it wasn't good," Appa said of the 21-7 halftime deficit. "We told the kids 'Don't worry about that. We'll score our share; just tighten it up.' Hey, we're right there and then, boom, the kickoff."

"The nice part is we didn't



Touchdown-bound: Ricky Bryant eludes a tackler and heads for the end zone to score his first TD Saturday.

quit. We kept playing but it wasn't meant to be Saturday. We don't like not being division champs, but we'll be ready to win the next four and go from there."

The Warriors fumbled the ball away on three straight fourth-quarter possessions, the first two at the Harrison 25 and 18.

Matt Turney, who recovered the previous fumble, forced the third with a hit while covering a punt, and Blake Ashley fell on it at the Harrison 44.

That led to Bryant's third TD reception with 2:58 left in the game.

"They're lightning fast and I knew (the Warriors) could score at any time," Herrington said. "I didn't feel comfortable until Ricky scored the last one."

Western outgained Harrison 330-24 on the ground and 362-240 overall.

Eric Sage added 60 yards on 13 carries for the Warriors, Payton 26 on 10. Payton completed two of seven passes for 32 yards. Harrison's Matt Reed rushed six times for 15 yards.

"I thought the defense did a good job," Herrington said. "You're not going to stop them

all day. The wet field was tough for Sage but good for Johnson. It was hard for us to get our footing to tackle him."

Harrison's Zach Burton and Western's Jim King also recovered fumbles.

Despite the loss, Appa remained positive, especially considering the Warriors had that many yards against a Harrison defense.

"We know we can play football with anybody," he said. "The thing is three times we had the ball inside their 20 and didn't score. We need to do that."

"We'll regroup and take care of what we have to do. I know my kids. They'll be ready to play anybody any place."

Herrington said he won't let his team rest on its laurels with two division games remaining.

"We have a little business left in the league," he said. "We'll make sure the kids don't overlook Canton."

"They're a much improved team, and they controlled the ball against a pretty good Northville team. We'll make sure they don't live on this one. We've got a lot of work to do."

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