

District 10 Week 9 Summary

by Todd Warner

Congratulations to the *Fairview Tigers* and *General McLane Lancers* for being the only two teams in all of District 10 to complete perfect regular season records. Both teams picked up impressive wins on Friday to move their records to 9-0 heading into the District 10 postseason. It is the first time since 1984 that Fairview has recorded a perfect regular season record; while General McLane's unbeaten run is the Lancers' first since 1998.

With the exception of Class AAA (Region 5), all other regional play was completed in Week 8 and this final week of the regular season featured some excellent inter-regional clashes as well as the renewal of some old rivalries.

It also should be noted that the District 10 committee made a decision to expand the playoff field in Classes A and AA from 4 to 6 teams. Playoff teams are highlighted in ***bold italicized*** print on the chart below and pairings listed later in this report.

Inter-Regional Games: PFN #8-ranked and Class A Region 1 Champion **Fairview totally dominated Class AA Region 4 Champion Girard, 28-0.** Coach Jerry Lightner's powerful Tigers scored a TD in every quarter and racked up nearly a 2-to-1 advantage in total offense to complete a perfect regular season. Returning 3rd Team All-PFN RB Ty Perry is looking for a higher spot on this year's All-PFN team. He once again made multiple PFN Stat Star lists as he rushed for 205 yards to eclipse 3,000 yards in his career. Amazingly, Perry never became the Tiger's main backfield threat until the second game of his junior season last fall. He also scored all 4 Fairview TDs on runs of 21, 4, 3, and 17 yards. The Fairview offensive line led by seniors Erik Pollard, a bonafide All-PFN candidate, and Alex Retcofsky, opened nice holes all night long for Perry to roll over and through the Yellowjackets. Retcofsky also played like a madman on defense laying a number of brutal hits on Girard ballcarriers and picking up a pair of sacks. Fairview got a magnificent 20-tackle PFN Stat Star performance from senior LB Alex Wagner and another outstanding game from super sophomore LB Pat Michael who seemed to spend as much time in the Girard backfield as any of the Yellowjackets' running backs. The Tiger secondary came up big as well as DB Kevin Stephenson grabbed a Girard fumble and picked off a pass; while DB/PK Zane Meeder, who booted a perfect 4-for-4 on his PAT kicks, made leaping interception. As he has just about every game this season, Fairview senior Michael Baer had yet another terrific "unsung hero" type of game as twice he launched booming punts that forced Girard to start possessions in the shadow of their own endzone. Baer also turned in a great performance as an emotional leader of the swarming Tiger defense. In a showdown between the AA and A champs in the south, **Wilmington got past Kennedy Catholic, 17-14**, when Nick Riggall booted a 32-yard FG a few minutes into the final period. In a first period that ended tied at 7, KC scored first when RB Lee Plotts rolled 63 yards for a TD. He finished with 193 yards rushing and scored the Eagles' other TD on a 35-yard burst in the 3rd period. Late in the first period, Wilmington's Jeremy Beatty blocked a KC punt and speedster Scott Lewis returned it 14 yards for a PFN Stat Star TD. Lewis bolted 40

yards for the Hounds' other TD early in the 3rd quarter. Wilmington plays in a larger classification, but KC had a physical size advantage. Wilmington's quickness and overall scrappy "never say die" team play made the difference in this great game between two very evenly matched teams who both have long-term playoff viability hopes. In a result that surely upset the diehard Tiger fans at Bianco Brothers Barbershop, **Sharpville slammed Sharon, 28-0**, as Blue Devil QB P.J. O'Connor connected on two TD passes (17 yards to Jarryd Summers and 64 yards to R.J. Golub). Summers was a perfect 4-for-4 on his PAT kicks. Golub also ran 9 yards for another TD and Ryan Morris rambled 16 yards for the other Blue Devil score. The defending D10A champs dominated the game from start to finish with their defense as they held the Tigers to just 5 first downs and a paltry 96 yards in total offense. **Iroquois flattened Fort LeBoeuf, 50-7**. In the final regular season game of his outstanding 4-year career as a varsity starter, Iroquois' returning All-PFN HM QB Dan Barringer had a brilliant game and torched the Bisons by passing for three scores and running for another TD. The playoff-bound Braves led 14-7 after one period as Barringer connected on an 80-yard TD pass to Tony Cassady and then ran seven yards for another TD. Adam Van Hooser was on the receiving end of a 16-yard Barringer TD strike in the 2nd quarter and then the standout QB went back to Cassady for a 19-yard scoring pass in the 3rd period. Barringer picked up PFN Stat Star status with his 209 yards through the air and Cassady also made the list with 134 yards receiving. Dan Barringer's twin, Stephen, a returning 3rd Team All-PFN selection at LB a year ago was in on 14 tackles in his final career regular season game to make the Stat Star list. Iroquois also got short rushing TDs from Jarryd Pearson, Jeremy Dornhoefer, and Andy Wallen in the rout. In a meeting of playoff-bound AA and A neighbors, **Hickory edged West Middlesex, 28-21**, when Nick Erdesky scored his second TD of the game on a 9-yard run in the final period to rally the Hornets from a 21-20 deficit. Erdesky's first TD run, a 15-yarder in the opening period, propelled Hickory to an early 7-0 lead that expanded to 20-6 at the half as Hornet speed back Rashad Campbell scored on two long runs to account for a big chunk of his 187 yards on the ground. WM rallied to take a 21-20 lead thanks in great part to the leadership of QB Kolt Hoffman who scored twice via the ground and also threw a 12-yard TD pass to Todd Miller. **Harbor Creek battered Bradford, 28-3**. The most complete football playing athlete in all of D10, Harbor Creek's sensational senior Stephen Blose, capped his high school football career with one final brilliant performance. He scored all 28 Harbor Creek points as the Huskies rallied from a 3-0 1st period deficit. Bradford's Steve Butler kicked a 36-yard FG to give the Owls the early lead before Blose put on one last great show for his fans and made several PFN Stat Star lists in the process. He rushed 31 times for 220 yards. He scored 4 TDs on runs of 3, 9, 13, and 9 yards. He kicked one extra point and connected on a 36-yard FG. **Northwestern rallied past Greenville, 13-9**. The winless Trojans carried a surprising 9-0 lead into the final period thanks to a safety and Cody Emmett's 37-yard TD pass to Phil Reasback in the 2nd period. Northwestern's Tyson Harmon ripped off a 54-yard TD run in the 4th period to cut the gap to 9-6. Then, with Greenville trying to mount a drive to clinch their first win, disaster struck. Northwestern LB Todd Morse had 16 tackles in the game, but his biggest play was the late interception he grabbed at the NW-45. Morse returned the INT 43 yards to the Greenville-12 and three plays later Wildcat Calvin Neckel scooted 6 yards for the winning TD. In an intriguing match-up of AA teams that will face each other again this week in the D10

playoffs, **Reynolds powered past Seneca, 28-14.** These teams have excellent size and are very physical on both sides of the ball. Thanks to Angelo Salvage's 11-yard TD run and Jim Stalford's 33-yard TD strike to Zach Smicker, Seneca had a 14-6 lead midway through the 3rd period before the Raiders scored 22 unanswered points. The difference in this game between two evenly matched teams was the great passing-rushing balance that Reynolds got from its offense. Standout RB Jake McBride, a 210-pound thumper with speed, rushed 28 times for 157 yards and scored on runs of 21 and 41 yards. Reynolds QB Corey Shaffer passed for 201 yards to make the PFN Stat Star list and his 24-yard TD pass to Joe Combine in the final period iced the win for Reynolds. **Mercyhurst Prep handled Union City, 28-7,** behind Jayson Nickson's 216-yard rushing PFN Stat Star performance. Nickson scored TDs on runs of 80, 5, and 23 yards and he broke MP's single season rushing record in the process. He now has 1,146 yards on the season with one regular season game remaining. **North East hung on to beat Eisenhower, 21-18.** The AA playoff-bound Grapepickers had their hands full on the road. North East got three short TD runs from Kyle Kirsch and three PAT kicks from Troy Budziszewski to take a 21-3 lead early in the final period. Brian Sharp's 32-yard FG accounted for Ike's only points until Eisenhower QB Dave Hoisington connected on a pair of 4th quarter TD passes to Jameson Curtis. **Saegertown clobbered Cochran, 42-7,** as Brandon Crum threw three TD passes to Dave Haskins and Todd Wisniewski rushed for 144 yards and two TDs. **Linesville dumped Cambridge Springs, 35-27,** and brought the Blue Devils soundly back to Earth shortly after they learned that they had become the beneficiaries of the D10 committee's decision to expand the playoff field by two teams. Linesville never trailed in the game, despite a PFN Stat Star 267-yard rushing performance by Cambridge Springs' bruising RB Josh Hobson. The big back churned out TD runs of 29, 49, and 65 yards, but his three scores were matched by Linesville's Jeremy Ladner. The Lions got their other two TDs from Doug Williams on an 11-yard run and a PFN Stat Star 82-yard punt return. **Lakeview dropped Youngsville, 26-6,** as Tommy Lewis scored twice on short runs and Adam Koontz tossed a 44-yard TD pass to Trev Stoops. **Grove City stopped D9AA Brookville, 25-16,** as the Eagles had an 18-11 half time lead and both teams scored a lone TD in the second half. GC iced the win on Chris Clark's 28-yard TD run in the final two minutes. **Mercer beat Maplewood, 28-10,** for the Mustangs 2nd win this season. It was Maplewood's 29th consecutive loss. **AAAA McDowell beat AA Slippery Rock, 26-7,** behind a 20-0 1st quarter lead and Anthony Weaver's 24-carry, 199-yard, 2-TD rushing performance. **AAAA Erie Central slipped by Corry, 13-7,** when Falcon Antonio Foster rumbled 27-yards for the game-winning PFN Stat Star INT TD return in the 4th quarter. Corry led 7-0 early on Brenden Carny's 16-yard TD toss to Will McCray, but the Falcons tied it at half time on Michale Cooley's 38-yard TD jaunt. **Cathedral Prep stunned Warren (Ohio) Harding, 27-24,** by rallying from a 24-7 deficit in the final period. The Ramblers' only points in the first half came via a 2-yard Jon Wentz TD run. Wentz then bulled in from a yard out in the final period to cut the deficit to 24-14. The Ramblers then proceeded to recover the first of two straight inside kickoffs. After the first special teams gem, Matt Fischer scored on a 3-yard run to make it 24-21. Then, after Prep snagged another inside kick, the stunning comeback win was achieved when John Csir hit Javon Rowan with a 47-yard TD strike to win the game.

Region 5 (Class AAA): PFN#6 ranked **General McLane trampled Titusville, 41-14**, to cap their first perfect regular season in seven years. It was pretty much the same old story for the offensive arsenal in Edinboro. The Lancers rolled out to an easy 28-0 half time lead as Brian Clark bolted 23 yards for a score, then star junior athlete Drew Astorino scored twice----once on a short run, then on one of his patented PFN Stat Star punt returns (73 yards), and finally Dan Skelton rolled 56 yards for a TD before the intermission. Brandon Saraceno scored on a one yard plunge before QB Ben Swank took off on a 60-yard scoring burst. GM gets a week off and then will bring a deep, talented, and well-rested offensive arsenal into the D10 semi finals. **Warren whipped Erie East, 48-22**, and secured the final AAA playoff spot with the win. The Dragons got three rushing TDs from QB Ben Paul and Christian Wood recovered a blocked punt in the end zone to make the PFN Stat Star list and key the win. East got three TDs from workhorse RB Idaniel Graham. **Strong Vincent hung on for a 37-34 win over Franklin** in a game that was televised live across the Commonwealth. Franklin's 6-0 lead after one period certainly did not foreshadow a wild 2nd quarter in which Strong Vincent took a 24-21 lead. Donte Harden scored twice for the Colonels on short runs and Harris Merhizic booted a 30-yard FG for SV. Colonel LaMont McWilliams made the PFN Stat Star list with a dazzling 52-yard punt return for a TD. Franklin QB Nick Wested scored on a one yard keeper and also threw a 26-yard TD pass to RB Sean Saunders. Early in the 3rd period, Wested put the Knights back on top with another short TD run. SV had a seemingly comfortable 37-28 lead in the final period after Marion Sanders scooted 3 yards for a TD and Durfey Wells returned a fumble 12 yards for a score. But Wested rallied Franklin with a 20-yard TD pass to Adam Moseley and then had the Knights in position to tie the game in the final seconds and send it to OT, but a 37-yard FG attempt just missed and SV escaped with the win. **Oil City smacked Meadville, 26-6**, behind QB Tanner Hall's 165-yard passing performance and two TD tosses.

D10 Class A Region 1 (South) Standings					
	Region	Overall	Points	Points	Next
Team	Won-Loss	Won-Loss	For	Against	Opponent
<i>Kennedy Catholic</i>	6-0	7-2	225	99	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
<i>Sharpsville</i>	5-1	8-1	308	77	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
<i>West Middlesex</i>	4-2	6-3	202	142	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
Linesville	3-3	5-3	169	127	SEASON OVER
Lakeview	1-5	3-6	133	213	A-C Valley
Conneaut Lake	1-5	3-6	100	224	SEASON OVER
Cochranon	1-5	1-8	59	204	SEASON OVER
D10 Class A Region 2 (North) Standings					
	Region	Overall	Points	Points	Next
Team	Won-Loss	Won-Loss	For	Against	Opponent
<i>Fairview</i>	7-0	9-0	326	91	<i>Playoffs see below</i>

<i>Iroquois</i>	6-1	7-2	248	116	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
<i>Cambridge Springs</i>	5-2	6-3	237	164	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
Eisenhower	4-3	4-5	209	130	SEASON OVER
Union City	3-4	4-5	171	180	@Corry
Saegertown	2-5	4-5	242	212	@Maplewood
Youngsville	1-6	2-7	120	216	SEASON OVER
Conneaut Valley	0-7	0-9	78	463	Mercyhurst Prep

D10 Class AA Region 3 (South) Standings

	Region	Overall	Points	Points	Next
Team	Won-Loss	Won-Loss	For	Against	Opponent
<i>Wilmington</i>	6-1	8-1	193	75	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
<i>Reynolds</i>	5-2	7-2	156	102	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
<i>Hickory</i>	4-3	6-3	239	166	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
Grove City	4-3	6-3	172	132	SEASON OVER
Sharon	4-3	5-4	157	152	Farrell (Nov 3 rd)
Slippery Rock	4-3	4-5	135	129	SEASON OVER
Mercer	1-6	2-7	104	177	SEASON OVER
Greenville	0-7	0-9	56	214	Oil City

D10 Class AA Region 4 (North) Standings

	Region	Overall	Points	Points	Next
Team	Won-Loss	Won-Loss	For	Against	Opponent
<i>Girard</i>	6-1	6-3	164	116	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
<i>North East</i>	5-2	7-2	192	107	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
<i>Seneca</i>	5-2	6-3	205	124	<i>Playoffs see below</i>
Harbor Creek	4-3	5-4	204	141	SEASON OVER
Northwestern	4-3	5-4	134	169	SEASON OVER
Mercyhurst Prep	3-4	5-4	268	150	@Conneaut Valley
Fort LeBoeuf	1-6	1-8	100	324	Bloomsburg
Maplewood	0-7	0-9	100	336	Saegertown

D10 Class AAA Region 5 Standings

	Region	Overall	Points	Points	Next
Team	Won-Loss	Won-Loss	For	Against	Opponent

General McLane	8-0	9-0	370	150	Playoffs see below
Strong Vincent	7-1	8-1	287	134	Playoffs see below
Franklin	5-3	5-4	236	170	Playoffs see below
Warren	4-4	4-5	234	278	Playoffs see below
Corry	4-4	4-5	131	146	Union City
Titusville	3-5	3-6	178	241	SEASON OVER
Oil City	3-5	3-6	218	268	@Greenville
Erie East	1-7	1-8	145	367	SEASON OVER
Meadville	1-7	2-7	101	288	SEASON OVER

D10 Class AAAA Region 6 Standings

	Region	Overall	Points	Points	Next
Team	Won-Loss	Won-Loss	For	Against	Opponent
McDowell	2-0	7-2	256	147	Playoffs see below
Cathedral Prep	1-1	6-3	307	129	Playoffs see below
Erie Central	0-2	3-6	118	245	SEASON OVER

Playoff Pairings:

Class A: Sharpsville (8-1) vs. Cambridge Springs (6-3) at Wilmington High School; 1pm on November 5th. Fairview (9-0) will play the winner in the semi finals on November 11 or 12 at a site and time to be determined.

Class A: Iroquois (7-2) vs. West Middlesex (6-3) at Erie Veterans Stadium; 1pm on November 5th. Kennedy Catholic (7-2) will play the winner in the semi finals on November 11 or 12 at a site and time to be determined.

Class AA: Reynolds (7-2) vs. Seneca (6-3) at Wilmington High School; 7pm on November 5th. Girard (6-3) will play the winner in the semi finals on November 11 or 12 at a site and time to be determined.

Class AA North East (7-2) vs. Hickory (6-3) at Erie Veterans Stadium; 7pm November 5th. Wilmington (8-1) will play the winner in the semi finals on November 11 or 12 at a site and time to be determined.

Class AAA: General McLane (9-0) vs. Warren (4-5) in semi finals. Strong Vincent (8-1) vs. Franklin (5-4) in semi finals. Weekend of November 11-12 (exact dates, times, locations to be determined).

Class AAAA: McDowell (7-2) vs. Cathedral Prep (6-3) for D10AAAA title at 7pm, November 4th at Erie Veterans Stadium.