

Short Picks - Week 11

Last week a few schools began the journey to Hershey. This week the entire state's twelve districts are involved in the championship series. Short Picks was a respectable 16-6 for week 10. I cannot possibly get every playoff game covered, but I will try to pick out what I see as potentially close games.

Abington beat Neshaminy in week four of the season by a mere four points. The Ghosts must travel to "Redskin Country" for a first round game. Neshaminy lost in week 10 and it should be a wake-up call for the Redskins. The Ghosts pull out a win on the road...**Abington.**

The Pioneers of Conestoga visit the Whippets of Downingtown West. The Pioneers posted a very nice 7-3 record, but the West's Whippets are not impressed...**Downingtown West.**

Avon Grove hosts the Panthers of Quakerstown. The Red Devils are peeking at the right time...**Avon Grove.**

Unionville's Indians flexed its offensive muscle last week scoring 49 points. The Indians will be hard pressed to duplicate last week's offensive showing when they visit the Falcons of Pennsbury. The Falcons have too much defense...**Pennsbury.**

Berwick meets Abington Heights in a District 2 AAA game. The Bulldogs can't get a bite on the Comets...**Abington Heights.**

Too very evenly matched squads meet when the Chiefs of Lakeland travel to GAR Memorial. GAR has the home field advantage, but the Chiefs should have a huge fan following. In what could be an overtime thriller...**Lakeland.**

The Trojans of North Pocono and the Mountaineers of Dallas have identical 9-1 records. The 'Eers have the home field advantage, but I like the Trojans by a whisker...**North Pocono.**

Greencastle-Antrim entertains the Blazers of Daniel Boone. Blazers' quarterback, John Monteiro, will be too much for the Blue Devils...**Daniel Boone.**

Eastern Lebanon County (ELCO) will score points on the arm of quarterback Aaron Achey, but Cocalico's Eagles should score a few more...**Cocalico**.

Highly touted Lancaster Catholic will have its hands full with a pesky York Suburban Trojan bunch. In the end, the Crusaders should prevail...**Lancaster Catholic**.

Loyalsock's Lancers should match up well with the Ironmen of Danville. The Ironmen have the home field advantage, about a three point difference...**Danville**.

In a rematch, Williamsport's Millionaires travel to Hazleton. The Millionaires beat the Cougars earlier in the season in Williamsport. This time the Cougars turn the tables...**Hazleton**.

Bellwood-Antis rarely misses the playoffs, and this season is no different as the Blue Devils ride into the District 6 post season on an undefeated season. The Blue Devils play the red hot Vikings of Blacklick Valley. Not many give the Vikes much of a chance, but I think this one will be close. The Vikes regrouped after a blowout loss in the opener and won eight games with one additional loss to Portage. I guess I like these spunky Vikings' chances, and if Bellwood takes the Vikes lightly it could be very interesting. Bellwood's Memorial Stadium will be jumping. Close call...**Bellwood-Antis**.

Mount Union has an excellent football team. The Trojans meet the best team they have seen all season in the Crushers of Bishop McCort. The Crushers could possibly end up in Hershey...**Bishop McCort**.

Marion Center's Stingers have played against some good football teams this season, but the Stingers have seen nothing like the Portage Mustangs, especially that running game. The Mustangs romp...**Portage**.

Schenley beat Oliver by a 6-0 score in week four. The Spartans should repeat the feat...**Schenley**.

Punxsutawney's Woodchucks and the Clearfield Bisons at one time was an annual meeting. Now the Bisons and the Woodchucks

have to settle for a playoff meeting. The Bisons have the upper hand in this year's meeting...**Clearfield.**

Corry's Beavers step into the AAA playoffs against the Ramblers of Cathedral Prep. The Beavers are not quite in the Rambler league...**Cathedral Prep.**

General McLane won the Gold in 2006 and the Lancers might just have the team to get back to Hershey again. It will not be easy as the AAA is loaded with great teams in the West. The Lancers welcome the Trojans of Greenville. I don't see any surprises here...**General McLane.**

Southern Lehigh draws Allentown Central Catholic in a District 11 AAA first rounder. Look at the Allentown Central Catholic schedule. The Vikings went 9-1 with that schedule. That's all I need to know...**Allentown Central Catholic.**

Tamaqua's Blue Raiders have a rematch with the Panthers of Panther Valley. The Panthers won the first go around and I see the same results this week...**Panther Valley.**

The Burrs of West Catholic play the Royal Lancers of Bishop McDevitt in the District 12 AA semi-final game. The Burrs beat the Royal Lancers in week 8. Burrs again...**West Catholic.**

Aliquippa is 9-1 with some very good wins against top notch teams. The Quips face another top notch team in the Lions of South Fayette. The Lions are 10-0. The Lions roar...**South Fayette.**

Beth Center enters week two of the WPIAL class A playoffs with a 8-2 record. The Bulldogs take on the Spartans of Laurel who are coming off a 55-7 shelling of Burgettstown. Laurel is a definite contender...**Laurel.**

Center's Trojans have one of the best defensive units in the WPIAL. The Trojan defense will be tested by the Centurians of Greensburg Catholic. In playoff games I like defense...**Center.**

Shaler football has returned to prominence once again although the Titans will be hard pressed to win this week

against the Blackhawks of Bethel Park. The Blackhawks are a sleeper in the West AAAA...**Bethel Park.**

In other games:

Keystone Oaks over Mt. Pleasant

Beaver Falls over Sto-Rox

Downingtwn West over Conestoga

North Penn over Council Rock North

Garnet Valley over Penncrest

Dunmore over Mid Valley

Manheim Twp. over Gov. Mifflin

Littlestown over Milton Hershey

Forest Hills over Central Cambria

Central over Penn Cambria

Richland over Huntingdon

Woodland Hills over Pitts. Cent. Catholic

Bok Vo-tech over Lower Moreland