

Short Picks

Week three is behind me as it proved to be a very difficult one for this prognosticator. Week four should prove to be just as tough as I have scanned the schedule to find the best games. Most of my picks this week involve 3-0 teams meeting head to head. Football fans have some real humdingers on tap this week.

In one of the bigger rivalries in the state the Little Lions of State College visit the Mt. Lions of Altoona at beautiful Mansion Park. Both schools have dropped to 2-1 record in the District 3/6 Mid-Penn Conference. I think this league is still up for grabs as either of these two teams could emerge as champions. That said, this is a very pivotal game for both squads. State College has the field goal kicker, Russell Nye, if things get really close. Altoona has A.J. Alexander to break things open. This one should be a real delight for the fans...**Altoona.**

Northern Bedford travels to Glendale where the Vikings are off to a winning season after putting up a 8-3 record in '06. N. Bedford's Black Panthers find the Vikings to their liking...**Northern Bedford.**

Canton's Warriors put a 3-0 record on the line when the Warriors visit Towanda. Towanda's head coach, Craig Dawsey will have his Black Knights ready and able...**Towanda.**

Hughesville is coming off its first loss of the season to a very good Montoursville team. The Spartans hope to get running back Ammon Swisher back on track this week against the 3-0 Lancers of Loyalsock Twp. Spartans suffer second loss...**Loyalsock Twp.**

Head Coach Chuck Tinninis takes his Blue Devils of Greencastle-Antrim into Robert F. Bostic Field, home of the Northern York Polar Bears. Both the Blue Devils and the Polar Bears are undefeated. The Blue Devils may be accustomed to a hot environment, but they will get a very cold welcome from the Polar Bears...**Northern York.**

District 3 fans get a sweet treat as the Trojans of Hershey roll out the red carpet for the undefeated Warriors of Gettysburg. Coach Bob "Gump" May and his Trojans are on an all-time high after that one point victory last week over Manheim Central. This is the game of the week in District 3. I see the Trojans of Hershey hanging tough to the end...**Gettysburg.**

Valley View (AA) travels to Quad A Delaware Valley. Delaware Valley is sporting a 3-0 record. Valley View's Cougars has a schedule with a number of AAAA teams as opponents. My vote goes to the David in this battle...**Valley**

View.

Ridley's Green Raiders are ranked in PFN's top ten while this week's opponent, Conestoga is noted in the teams to watch. Conestoga's Pioneers have the home field advantage and I like them in this situation...**Conestoga**.

You want the slobber knocker of the week? How about two undefeated W.P.I.A.L. quad A teams? How about North Allegheny's Tigers at Upper St. Clair. Both teams were picked by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette as the teams to beat in their respective conferences. Both squads have Division 1 talent galore. I like USC in the home field advantage, but I give a slight nod to...**North Allegheny**.

Ryan Matsook takes his Tigers of Beaver Falls into Aliquippa. The Quips have one of the top players in the country in WR-DE, Jonathan Baldwin. Matsook's Tigers have ten returning starters on offense and nine on defense. That Quips' loss in the opener has me a bit confused here, but maybe it was a good wake up call...**Aliquippa**.

Blackhawk's Cougars will find out just how good a team they are in the upcoming three weeks as the Cougars play four top ranked teams in a row. The Cougs visit Hopewell this week where everyone finds the Vikings awfully tough. I think the road to Hershey goes through...**Hopewell**.

Ford City is 39-10 in the past 49 games. That is quite an impressive record for the Sabers and head coach John Bartolovic. The Sabers hope to avoid loss number 11 this week as they host undefeated Valley. Valley's Vikings have been a surprise as this looked like a rebuilding year with just four starters returning. The Vikes taste defeat for the first time...**Ford City**.

District 9 has two undefeated squads meeting in Kane where the Wolves' fans are thinking big things for this season. The Wolves welcome the Gators of Port Allegheny. The Gators could put a real bite on the Wolves, but there are no gators in too cold...**Kane**.

Dan Budziszewski (I'll bet they call him Coach Bud) has his Harbor Creek Huskies on the prowl again in District 10. The black and orange are coming off a stellar 8-3 record last year and a 3-0 start this year. Coach Bud has his hands full as the Tigers of Fairview trot into Harbor Creek this Friday evening. PFN has Fairview ranked at #10. Someone once told me that Rich Vetock knows football and that's good enough for me...**Fairview**.

Shenandoah Valley is looking for win number four on Friday evening when the Blue Devils travel to Minersville to take on the undefeated Battlin' Miners. Veteran's Memorial Stadium will be rockin' during this game. I think the Blue Devils have the better defense. **Shenandoah Valley**.

In the Philly Catholic League a real battle real take place between Northeast Catholic and Roman Catholic. Northeast's Falcons has the home field advantage over the Eagles, but like the high soaring Eagles...**Roman Catholic.**

In other games:

Muhlenberg over Blue Mt.
Jeannette over Southmoreland
Trinity over Waynesboro
Hanover Area over Myers
Pottsgrove over Perkiomen Valley
Haverford Twp. over Strath Haven
Father Judge over Archbishop Ryan
Abe Lincoln over West Philly
Parkland over BeCa
Easton over Whitehall
General Mclane over Oil City
Cathedral Prep over McDowell
Hollidaysburg over Dubois
Brookville over St. Mary's
Brashear over Carrick
Pittsburgh Central Catholic over Woody High
New Castle over Montour
Kittanning over Shady Side Academy
Westmont over Somerset
Homer Center over Northern Cambria
Shamokin over Mt. Carmel
Bloomsburg over Danville
Steelton over Scotland School
Dunmore over Montrose
Neshaminy over Abington