

Short Picks Week 7

Last week's picks were a healthy 12 wins vs. 4 losses. Not bad, when you considered the quality of the games on the agenda. Speaking of good games, this week has a plethora of huge games in District One. I see at least six games involving undefeated and one loss teams all jockeying for playoff spots. The contests in District one will help separate the contenders from the pretenders. So let's get right to it.

Avon Grove suffered its first loss of the season two weeks ago. The Red Devils bounced back nicely last week with a 45-21 win. This week the Red Devils face PFN's fourth ranked Downingtown West. West is coming off a win over previously unbeaten Henderson. Avon Grove will absorb its second loss of the year...**Downingtown West.**

Two 5-1 teams meet in Newtown Square home of the Tigers of Marple-Newton. The Tigers opposition comes from the Jaguars of Garnet Valley. The Jags have had great success in the past three years finishing runner-up in AAA last year and champs the previous two campaigns. The Jags' run continues...**Garnet Valley.**

Neshaminy's Redskins travel to Holland (Pa.) to do battle with the Golden Hawks of Council Rock South. Both the Hawks and the Skins have but one loss. This one should be a real shootout...**Council Rock South.**

North Penn walloped the Panthers of Quakertown in '08 so the top ranked Knights might be taking this week's game with Quakertown a bit lightly despite the Panthers' 5-1 record. North Penn has some huge victories this season over very highly rated foes. North Penn is PFN's darling. How could you possibly pick against the Knights? The game is at Quakertown and it might be closer than you would expect, but I just can't bring myself to pick the upset special...**North Penn.**

In AAA action, the Falcons of Pottsgrove roll out the red carpet for the Wildcats of Owen J. Roberts. Both squads are undefeated! Didn't I tell you we had some great games in District One? I like the home team by a touchdown...**Pottsgrove.**

West Chester Henderson picked up its first loss of the season by a mere four points to Downingtown West. The Warriors host cross town rival Bayard Rustin. The Golden Knights are undefeated and ranked seventh in PFN. I hope to tell you that both of these teams are very good. West Chester residents should get off the couch and get a ticket to this showdown...**Bayard Rustin.**

Moving out of District 1, Greencastle-Antrim visits the Indians of Susquehanna Township. The Indians are sporting a 5-1 record while Greencastle-Antrim is 6-0. The Indians play at Roscoe Warner Field and the stands should be rocking for my upset special...**Susquehanna Township.**

The Thunderbolts of Littlestown are 5-1. The 'Bolts travel to Delone Catholic (5-1). These are two very good football programs and I expect a hotly contested ballgame. I am giving a slight edge to the home team...**Delone Catholic.**

Manheim Central has sights set on the District Three AAA title. The Barons face the Buckskins of Conestoga Valley who sport a 5-1 record. The 'Skins had better circle the wagons...**Manheim Central.**

Line Mountain (5-1) welcomes Upper Dauphin. Upper Dauphin is undefeated in District Three play. The Trojans will suffer their first loss at...**Line Mountain.**

The undefeated Rangers of Forest Hills travel to Cresson on Friday night to battle the Panthers of Penn Cambria. The Panthers feature a bruising rushing attack led by Zak Newton and Adam Zaliznock. The Panthers are "mudders" and this week's game will likely be played in the mud...**Penn Cambria.**

The Erie McDowell Trojans moved into the WPIAL this year and have played very well, having but one loss to McKeesport. The Trojans will get the litmus test this week when they travel to Walter "Pete" Antimarino Stadium home of the Gators of Gateway. This is "The Slobber Knocker of the Week", and I suspect both teams will bring their "A" game. In a thriller...**Gateway.**

Karns City picked up win number six last week by a 35-20 margin. The Gremlins opponent this week are the Clarion Bobcats who racked up 52 points last week for win number five. On paper this game looks like a potential offensive explosion. Maybe, but the weather looks grim. Gremlins get number seven...**Karns City.**

Farrell continues on its undefeated run as the Steelers hold on to PFN's coveted number one ranking in single A. The Steelers get tested by the Blue Devils of Sharpville. Steelers pass the test...**Farrell.**

Coming off a 7-6 record in '08 the Red Rovers of Easton have put together an impressive 5-1 record. The Red Rovers will have their hands full this week when they travel to Bethlehem Freedom. Beth Freedom's Patroits are led by running back Darrius Webb. Darrius might just be a bit too much for the Red Rovers...**Bethlehem Freedom.**

Wilson Area quarterback Tyler Smith looks like he will be playing on Saturdays for the U. of Maryland. Tyler's skills will be on display this week when he and his Warrior teammates host the Southern Lehigh Spartans. The Spartans hope to improve on their 5-1 record, but Tyler and company have other thoughts...**Wilson.**

In other games:

Schuylkill Haven over Tamaqua

Liberty over Northampton

Mercyhurst Prep over Eisenhower

Hickory over Greenville

Cameron County over Port Allegheny

Dubois over Chestnut Ridge

Woodland Hills over Fox Chapel

Sto-Rox over South Park

Cambria Heights over Bedford

Windber over Berlin

Wyalusing over Muncy

Bloomsburg over Montgomery

Wilson over Reading

West York over West Suburban

North Pocono over Scranton

Abington Heights over Delaware Valley