High School Football Predictions By Rick O'Brien

Bensalem in a position to upset G. Washington

This time last season, Tropical Storm Ernesto wreaked havoc with the first weekend of high school football.

With clear skies forecast for tonight and tomorrow, wateriogged fields should be a thing of the past - unless an absent-minded grounds crew leaves the sprinklers on overnight.

That said, let's get right to the selections. And, needless to say, this is for amusement purposes only. Possibly, if we have a horrendous first week of forecasting, it will be to the amusement of many.

Bensalem vs. George Washington, at Northeast, tonight at 6. After squaring off in Week 3 the last two seasons, the Owls and Eagles meet in the season opener this year. Washington won, 26-20, a year ago. Bensalem triumphed, 28-14, in 2005. In junior Gerry Davis, the Owls have a breakaway running back, Dylan Manni, a 6-foot-4, 225-pound tight end and defensive end, will challenge the Eagles up front. Washington is sparked by quarterback Clinton Granger. Look for an upset.

Pick: Bensalem, 21-19

No. 4 Neshaminy at Coatesville, tonight at 7. After losing to St. Joseph's Prep in the last two season openers, Neshaminy kicks off the 2007 campaign against the Red Raiders, Neshaminy has a mobile quarterback in Justin Kinney, a strong rushing attack, and a bunch of aggressive defenders led by outside linebacker Jason Ulmer. Coatesville, as usual, is big up front. Mark Mounayar is a 6-2, 295-pound center and nose guard. The Red Raiders will have a new look on offense. using the veer option.

Pick: Neshaminy, 27-6

La Salle at Plymouth Whitemarsh, tonight at 7. La Salle leads the series, 5-3-1. The Explorers won last season's installment, 29-8. Prolific passer John Harrison and 6-5 wideout Joe Migliarese are back for the defending Catholic League Red Division champions. The Colonials, fa-

Council Rock North vs. Father Judge, at Northeast, tomorrow night at 7. Tom Coates, Council

Rock North's new coach, is very familiar with his first opponent. Growing up near Frankford Avenue and Levick Street, he attended Lincoln, Father Judge's Rowland Avenue neighbor and Thanksgiving Day rival, in the early 1970s. Coates played guard and linebacker for the Railsplitters, and later was an assistant at Lincoln, under former coach Lou Grandizio, Plus, Coates' four brothers graduated

With 15 starters back. Judge looks primed for a successful season. Paul Volpe returns at

vored to win the Suburban

from Judge.

One League's American Conference, have a potentially potent rushing game. Their defense features 6-2, 270-pound tackle D.J. Fox and middle linebacker Jamie Thomas. Pick: La Salle, 29-21

No. 5 Conestoga at West

Chester East, tonight at 7. West Chester East romped past the Pioneers, 33-13, last season. Expect a different result this time. The host Vikings lost a boatload of seniors. Conestoga, a good bet to win the Central League, returns quarterback Steve Richter and Nihja White, a 6-foot, 195-pound wide receiver who has been offered a scholarship by Northwestern, Doug Costin is East's new coach, replacing 20-year boss Joe Carroll. Costin's coaching debut will not be an enjoyable one.

Pick: Conestoga, 46-15

Unionville at Interboro, tonight at 7:30. Interboro, trying to win its 10th consecutive Del-Val League title, lost 10 offensive starters from an 8-3 team. Still, the Bucs will be as physical and gritty as ever. Keep an eye on running back/defensive back Dave Hallinan, a four-sport athlete timed at 4.6 seconds in the quarterback, Chris Dowling is a rugged rusher and linebacker, and Andrew Volpe is a multipurpose threat on offense.

Council Rock North has a bunch of first-time varsity starters, including sophomore quarterback Tyler Hamilton. The Indians will need substantial production from a pair of seniors: running back/safety Jimmy Mershon and tight end/fullback/defensive end Shane Kimmel, a Division

Under coach Tommy Covle. Father Judge is 0-7 against Suburban One League squads. The skid ends. Pick: Father Judge, 20-12.

- Rick O'Brien

I-A prospect.

40-yard dash. Unionville is coming off an 8-3 season and will be powered by versatile quarterback Matt Carroll and 6-4. 315-pound two-way lineman Steve Caputo, a Division I-A recruit. Carroll runs for

three touchdowns and the Indians should roll. Pick: Unionville, 32-14

Other games to watch · Hathoro-Horsham at Penn-

ridge, tonight at 7. Pick: Hatboro-Horsham, 19-14 · Bishop Shanahan vs. No. 7 Cardinal O'Hara in Ocean City, N.J., tomorrow at 11 a.m. Pick: Cardinal O'Hara, 39-6 . No. 9 Roman Catholic vs.

West Catholic in Wildwood, N.J., tomorrow at 11 a.m. Pick: Roman, 22-13

· North Catholic vs. Neumann-Goretti in Wildwood, N.J., tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. Pick: North, 16-0

Join Our Team

Even if we can't get to your game, we want your results in the paper and online. Help us spread the word about your team by calling 800-756-4570 after every home varsity event.

Scoreboard

Yesterday's Results

Cirls' Tennis

SUBURBAN ONE LEAGUE Wasshickon F. Quakertown 8

(Sara Seetecmeo and Ramps Shekumar, W. del. Launa Borgos and Manna Kodar, 6-3, 6-1, at 3d doubles) Upper Moreland G. Upper Merion 2

(Mary Hupka and Ashley Acuna, Ulflow, dot. Joanna Forman and Nicelo Brune, 6-2, PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Perkemen Volley G. Pottsgrove 1
(Abridan Partner, PV, def. Mexica Duroitin, E.O. E.G. at /st singles)

Harrison T, Flactor 0 Cases Rotanson, H. daf Olivou Kuchma. 6-2, 6-1, at fet singles

Hauspatic Habriera S. Carring O. (Jacons Hart and Jacobs Relig, BH, def. Ana. Lam and Sydney Taylor, 6-4, 7-5, at 2d

CATHOLIC LEAGUE

Father Judge 252, Cardinal Deugherty 558 (Vince Aville, F.J. 38: Shave Barton, CO. 46 of ner-3% Authorizonal MONLEAGUE

Lewer Merion 196, Glan Mills 274 (Gong Jannes, 144, 38; May House, GM, 57 st par-36 Glan Miles

Today's Schedule

Boys' Soccer CATHOLIC LEACHE

At Semilate City: November Counties, Control Climps 1 SUBURBAN ONE AMERICAN Upper Dublimat Springfield (M), 10 a.m. Wasahipion of Ulpper Marion, 10 a.m.

Upper Moreland at Methacton, 3:30 KICK MAD STICK TOURNAMENT Fernovet at Avon Grove, 12

Intercord vs. Bayard Rustin, 12 SOUTHERN LEHIGH TOURNAMENT Ford vs. Bethlehem Catholic, 10:30 NOW ENGLE

Abington at Chetwelliam, 10 a.m. West Catholic at Academy Park, 10 a.m. Gen Mils at Trumph, 10 a.m. Frends Select at Phil Mont Christian, 10 a.m. Bishop Shanshan at Arch. Carroll. 10:30 a.m. Central Bucks South at Fenn Charter, 11 a.m. Conwell Econ at Lower Moreland, 11 a.m. Lanectale Cathoric at North Penn, 11 a.m. Parkland at Souderton, 11 a.m. New Hope-Sole, at Delto Christian, 11:38 a.m. Central at Germantown Friends, 3 Germantown Academy at McGonogh, 3 Haveford Highlat Devon Pleo, 5:30

Girls' Soccer

CHES-MONT LEAGUE Octowe of Costewalls, 3:45 PHONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE **RUCK MAD STICK TOURNAMENT** Panyscrapt at Assor Grove, 2

Donningtown West at Seventown, 4

Corestogs at McDonogh (Md.) Geynodis-Mercy at Owen. J. Roberts Delco-Christian at Gampt Valley, 18 a.m. Fiction at Kennett, 10 a.m. Harriton at Shipley, 10 a.m. Agnes I variat il rainch Select, 10 s.m. St. Bosi at Archibethop Pyon, 11 a.m. Archibethop Wood at Bishop Shanahar, 11 a.m. ArchitekepPrendergastatUpperDesty, 11 a.m. Politicrove:Ricover Monon, 11 a.m. St. Hubert at Nazareth Academy, 11 a m Downingtown East of Villa-Joseph More. 3:30 Boyertown of Downingtown West, 346. West Catholic at Margie Newtown, 346. At Sec tale City: Geolise! O Hara vs. Cardinal Douglanty, 11

Field Hockey CHES-NONT LEAGUE

Konnett at Sishop Shenahem, 10 a.m. DEL VIAL LEAGUE Sur Valley at Heinton, 11 s.m. PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE Pottscroweut Spring-Ford, 10 a.m. Owen-J. Roborts at Perkiemen Valley, 11 a.m. Pottstown at Lanadale Carbolic, 3:45 Phoerinsleat St. Plus X 345

SUBURBAN ONE AMERICAN Quakertown at Phonouth Whitemarch, 10 a.m. Springfold (W) at Upper Dublin, 10 a.m.

Football Schedule

Today

PUBLIC LEAGUE

Imhotep at Ben Franklin, 3 At Simon Gratz: FitzSimons vs. Wm. Penn. 3 At Northnast: Freire Charter vs. Furness, 3 At West Philadelphia:

Communications Tech vs. Prep Charter, 2:30 NONLEAGUE Fels at Jenkintown, 11 a.m.

Pern Wood at L. Merion, 11 Roxborough at Edison, 1 Masthaum at Lincoln, 2 Hamiton at Springfield-D, 4 Northeast at Norristown, 6 Lower Moreland at Gratz, 6 Abington at C.B. East, 7 Arch. Ryan at Pennsbury, 7

Neshaminy at Coatesville, 7 McCaskey at Down, East, 7

Down, West at OJ Roberts, 7

Penncrest at Garnet Valley, 7 La Salle at P. Whitemarsh, 7

Phoenixville at Great Valley, 7

H.-Horsham at Pennridge, 7 Kennett at Marple Newtown, 7

Oxford at Hamburg, 7 U. Dublin at Perk. Valley, 1

Quakertown at Emmaus, 7

Parkland at Clen Mils. 7

Pottsgrove at Exeter, 7

At Bartram:

At Northeast:

NONLEAGUE

At Roosevelt Field:

Bayard Rustin at Kutztown, 7 Spring Ford at Souderton, 7

McDevitt at Wissahickon,

Arch. Wood at Paul VI (Va.), 7

Conestoca at W.C. East, 7:15

Unionville at Interboro, 7:30

Chester at Henderson, 7:30

Southern vs. Bok, 10 a.m.

Washington vs. Bensalem, 6

Kennedy-Kenrick vs. Bristol, 7

Hun at Chestnut Hill, 10 a.m. U. Merion at Lans. Cath., 12

Dougherty at Germantown, 1

W. Tennent at Cheltennam, 1 Methactor at St. Plus X, 1 Morrisville at Fleetwood, 1

Hill at Germantown Ac., 1:30 Overbrook at Arch. Carroll, 2

N. Penn at St. Joe's Prep. 7 U. Perkiomen at Wm. Allen, 7

Dobbins vs. University City, 11 At Ocean City, N.J.: B. Shanahan vs. C. O'Hara, 11

West Cath, vs. Roman Cath, 11

Council Rock North vs. Father

Simon Gratz:

At Wildwood, N.J.:

KECK AND STICK TOURNAMENT

imerboro vs. Bayard Rustin, 10 HONLEAGUE

Abington at Chekennam, 10 a.m.

Notre Dame at Ridley, 10 a.m.

Academy Park at Upper Barby, 10 a.m.

Central Bucks South at Nonistown, 10 a m.

Marple Newtown at Downingtown West, 10-a-m.

Nazareth Academy at Lower Moreland, 11 a.m.

Gwynedd-Mercy at Southern Lehigh, 10 a.m.

Hatboro-Horsham at Noshaminy, 10 a.m.

Kennedy-Kennick at Jenkintown, 10 a m.

Springfield (D) at Octorers, 10 a.m. Agnes (win at Continue C Hara, 10 a.m.

Pennsnest at Avon Grove, 10 s.m.

At Northeast:

Judge, 7

North Catholic vs. Neumann-Goretti. 3:30

Sun Valley at Str. Haven, 7:30

Fruman at Warwick, 7

Boyertown at Muhlenbarg, 7 Calvary Ch. at Springfield M, 7 Mons. Bonner at U. Darby, 7 8. Abington (NR) 9. Roman Catholic (10) 9-3 Academy Park at A. Grove, 7 Chichester at Haverford, 7 C.B. South at C. Rock South, 7 C.B. West at Beth. Freedom, 7

10. Souderton (NR) Haverford School at Radner, 7 U. Moreland at Con.-Egan,

- Jeff McLane

Merion Meroyat Haverford High, 1 Archb shop Fyzn at Morrisville, Pennindge at Contral Bucks West, 3:30 Mount St. Josephat Pennsbury, 3:30 Strath Haven at Archbishop Carroll, 3:45 W.C. Henderson at Lower Merion, 3:45. Moravian at Plumstead Christian, 3:45 Episcopal Academy et Unionville, 3:45 Christopher Dock at Lancaster Monnonite, 4 Lancaster McCaskey at Coatewille, 4 Cross-Country

The Inquirer

TOP 10

Football

Team Record

With fast year's rank in parentheses and last year's record.

2. North Penn (5)

3. Down. West (7)

4. Neshaminy (NR)

5. Conestoga (NR)

6. Malvern Prep (9)

1. St. Joseph's Prep (4) 9-3

7. Cardinal O'Hara (NR) 3-8

10-3

10-2

6-4

7-5

8-2

9-3

MAJOR MEETS

Arch, Wood Invitational at Tamanend Park, 4:30 Interhose at Kenneth 10 a.m.

Avon Grove at Oxford, 10 a.m. Interporo at Konnett, 10 a.m. Spring Ford at Upper Darby, 10 a.m. Upper Perkiomen at North Penn, 3:30 Great Valley at Haverdood High, 3:45-Deleo Christian, Bayard Rustin at Racinor, 4 Christopher Dock at Palisades, 4

Girls' Tennis SUBURBAN ONE LEAGUE

Abington at Upper Outrin, 10 a.m. bury at Hafooro-Horsham, 11 a.m. CHES-MONT LEAGUE Avon Grove at Oxford, 10 a.m.

Octorare at Poquee Valley, 10 a.m. Downingtown East at Linionville, 3:30 Bishop Shanahan at Great Valley, 3:30

NONLEAGUE Harriton at Shipley, 9 a.m. Firthwat Notre Dame, 10 n.m.

Deloo Christian at Upper Darby 10 a.m. Cardinal O Hara at Springfield (D), 10 a.m. Lower Moreland at Plameteed Christian, 10 a.m. Phil-Mort Christian at Jonkintown, 3:45 Girls' Volleyball

CENTRAL LEAGUE

Ficloy at Springhold (D), 1 Rednor at Pennorest, 3:45 Haveford Highart Connectogs, 5:45

Upper Darby at Strath Haven, 3:45 SUBURBAN ONE LEAGUE Aborground Challenham, 10 a.m. North Ponn at Central Bucks East, 3:30 Pennindge at Cantral Bucks West, 8:80

Avon Grove Tournament, 9 a.m. Notre Jame at Chichester, 10 a.m.

Souderton at Lansdale Catholic, 10 a m Villa Joseph Mane at New Hope-Solebury, 11:15 Eun Valley at W.C. Henderson, 3:30 Christopher Dock at Faith Christian, 3:45

Tomorrow's Schedule

Boys' Soccer

SUN VALLEY VANGUARD TOURNAMENT Upper Moreland at Sun Valley, 9 a.m. NONLEAGUE

Germantown Friends at Boiseppel Academy, 10 Central at LaSalle, 11 a.m. Germantown Academy at Archbishop Curley, 11 Pennindge at Central Bucks West, noon Lower Merion at Parkland, 1 Strath Haven at Father Judge 1. St. Joseph's Prep at Georgetown Prep. 1. New Hope-Sciebury at Villa Joseph Marie, 11 a.m.