

THE INQUIRER PRESEASON TOP 10

With last season's record, and 2010 final ranking in parentheses. NR = not ranked.

1. Archbishop Wood (3) 13-1

It's no surprise that the Vikings sit atop the preseason rankings. They have experience, speed in the backfield, a savvy quarterback, and considerable muscle on both sides of the line. An already stocked roster was boosted by the addition of two transfers: Nate Smith and Benni Abernethie. A season-opening win over vaunted Pittsburgh Central Catholic, ranked No. 27 in the nation in an ESPN Rise preseason poll, would greatly strengthen No. 48 Woods' national profile.

2. La Salle (1) 13-2

Jamal Abdur-Rahman, a 3,900-yard career rusher, is new at Williams. But the capstone is far from here: Tim Wade, Abdur-Rahman's replacement at tailback; quarterback Matt Magarity; and sure-handed receivers Sean Coleman and Colin Backley are back in the fold. Matt Maginnis (6-3, 230), Connor Kerrigan (6-3, 265), and Dan Wasylenko (6-4, 250) will anchor a formidable offensive line. "We're bigger than we were the last few years," coach Drew Gordon said.

3. North Penn (2) 13-2

You think Souderton is going to rule the Suburban One League Continental Conference room? Not so fast. The Knights have a terrific nucleus in QB Corey Ernst, a 1,900-yard passer last season; fullback-tight end-middle linebacker Ralph Reeves; and two-way end Shayne Watson. The backfield will feature fleet halfback Kyle Mayfield and rugged fullback James Fielder. Dan Gevitz, a three-year starter, is a high-impacting receiver and cornerback.

4. Neshaminy (5) 12-2

Shifty tailback Sean Ulmer, who rushed for 1,100 yards and 10 touchdowns last season, looks set for an even bigger season. The other veterans are fullback-defensive end Kiser Terry, bound for Temple, and two-way linemen Chris Kutsarob (6-0, 285) and John Bell (5-11, 305). Bobby Marterella and Justin Andrews are quality receivers for new QB Joe Williams. The biggest concern for Redskins boss Mark Schmidt? Up to five sophomores might start on defense.

5. Downingtown East (8) 9-3

The Cougars have the ammunition to go toe-to-toe with Coatesville and West Chester Henderson for top honors in the Ches-Mont League National All-Conference. In addition to 4,300-yard career rusher Drew Harris, they will be powered on offense by Virginia Tech recruit Joe Willenbrock, a 6-3, 200-pound tackle, and speedy wideout Jake



Center Brandon Arcidiazano (52) is among the many experienced players on the powerful, top-ranked Archbishop Wood squad.

Harris. A 4-3 defense is led by ends Joe Wetty and Elijah Griffin, linebacker Dillon Martin, and safety Nick Dudley.

6. Council Rock S. (6) 11-2

Yes, the Golden Hawks have to replace signal-caller Billy Fleming and 1,200-yard rusher Mark Damirgion. But they bring back seven starters on both sides of the ball. A wishbone offense that averaged 31 points is headed by QB Brian Donnelly, fullback Ryan Whiteley, and halfback Ryan Hickey. Also, good luck trying to run on South. Maryland-bound EJ Gallo, fellow end Jake Pressley, and tackles Andrew Cohen and Anthony Miller are quick to clog up holes.

7. Malvern Prep (NR) 7-4

If the Friars can cut down on turnovers, they should give Kevin Pellegrini his first outright Inter-Academic League championship. They have three stalwarts to clear space for halfback Shawn Wilson and protect QB

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Tonny Runner, tackles Mike Mooney (6-5, 270) and John Bradford (6-1, 265), and guard Connor Mahoney (6-4,

270). Bradford and Mahoney are also full-timers on the defensive line. A stellar line-backing corps includes Joe Nisan, Ed Morris, Sam Schmucker, and P.J. Finley.

8. Souderton (NR) 9-3

The Indians' wing-T offense should flourish behind QB Tanner Allen, halfbacks Javon White and Tyler Scholl, and fullback Joe McNamara. Last year, the four combined for 2,459 rushing yards. "I'm pretty excited about what they bring to the table," coach Ed Gallagher said. Up front, the charge is led by guards Galby Johnson and Mike Dinnig, tackle Rick Young, and tight end Roy Aalians. Inside line backer Zack Hecht is a skilled playmaker for a 3-4 defense.

9. West Catholic (4) 13-2

The defending PIAA Class AA champs are so far from the last four seasons. Not too shabby. The bid to return to Hershey is led by up-and-com-

ing tailback David Williams, a junior drawing major Division I-A interest, and two ball-hawking defenders: outside linebacker Tristin Freeman (6-0, 200) and end T.J. Waters (6-3, 225). Mike Makor (6-2, 305) is a dependable two-way lineman. Davin Newell, who came over from Ridley, and Kevin Malone anchor the defensive secondary.

10. Coatesville (NR) 8-3

Speed, speed, and more speed. And a good amount of interior muscle. Yup, the Red Raiders are ready to make a big ruckus in the Ches-Mont League and beyond. QB Manny Stocker can turn to any of three dangerous wideouts: Kyle Kerrick, Chris Jones, and Farrell Boyd. Halfback Dae-Hon Cheung, who has a scholarship offer from Tennessee-Martin, will get the bulk of carries. Brothers Jewette (5-10, 225) and Jerrell Huggins (5-10, 210) are among the leading two-way punts.

The Inquirer Preseason State Rankings

With PIAA district and last year's record.

Class AAAA

1. Pitt. Cent. Cath. (7)	11-1
2. La Salle (12)	13-2
3. North Penn (1)	13-2
4. Neshaminy (1)	12-2
5. Upper St. Clair (7)	8-3
6. Cumberland Clair (3)	12-3
7. North Allegheny (7)	15-1
8. Downingtown E. (1)	9-3
9. Bethlehem Liberty (1)	7-6
10. Council Rock S. (1)	11-2

Class AAA

1. Arch. Wood (12)	13-1
2. Allentown Central Catholic (11)	16-0
3. Bishop McDevitt (3)	13-3
4. Mifflint (7)	9-3
5. Erie Catholic Prep (10)	9-5
6. Susquehanna Twp. (3)	9-1
7. Thom. Jefferson (7)	10-2
8. Abington Hts. (2)	12-1
9. Central Valley (7)	8-4
10. Mannheim Centrl (3)	10-4

Class AA

1. West Catholic (12)	13-2
2. Lancaster Cath. (3)	11-1
3. Alcopopa (7)	12-1
4. Geton-La Salle (7)	9-2
5. Trinity (3)	12-2
6. N. Schuylkill (11)	11-1
7. Lewisburg (4)	14-1
8. Tyrone Area (6)	12-1
9. Mount Carmel (4)	8-4
10. Seaver Falls (7)	10-2

Class A

1. Clairton (7)	16-0
2. So. Columbia (4)	10-3
3. Rochester (7)	12-1
4. Plus X (11)	8-4
5. Curwensville (9)	11-2
6. Line Mountain (4)	10-2
7. Sto-Rox (7)	7-3
8. Duncmire (2)	7-5
9. Springdale (7)	10-1
10. Farrell (10)	13-2

—Rick O'Brien

And our Readers' Winner is ...

With 160 of the 607 votes cast (26.4 percent), La Salle was selected by readers of *Rally* (the No. 1 preseason football team in Southeastern Pennsylvania). Here are the top five finishers in the reader poll, with their vote totals.

La Salle	160
Neshaminy	130
Archbishop Wood	124
Malvern Prep	68
North Penn	45

Under consideration

(Listed alphabetically): Pennsylvania (5-5), Ridley (10-2), Roman Catholic (8-4), St. Joseph's Prep (4-7), West Chester Henderson (8-4).