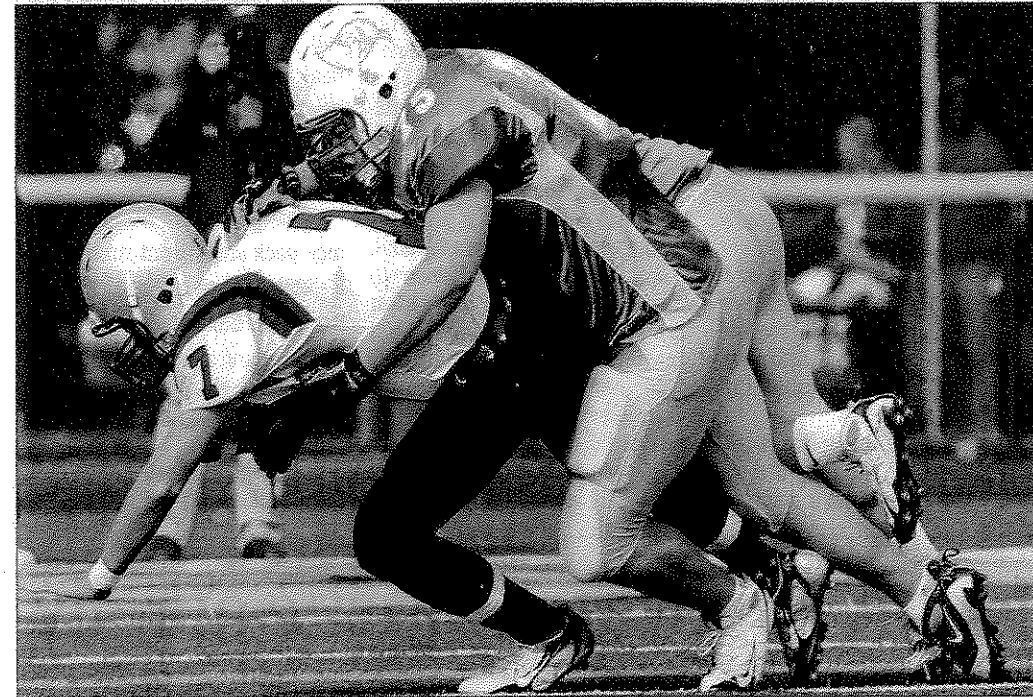


FOOTBALL FRIDAY

Postseason wishes hinge on this weekend's games



MARY IUVONE/FOR THE TIMES

West Windsor-Plainsboro South's Zach Hundertmark, shown here sacking WW-P North's Rob White, leads the Pirates into a key matchup against Steinert tomorrow.

KEVIN MALONEY
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

While much of the buzz this weekend will be fixated on tomorrow's meeting between the Notre Dame and Princeton High football teams, No. 2 and No. 3, respectively, in The Times Top 10, the pair of contests with the most pressing NJSIAA playoff implications will take place when the two West Windsor squads take the trek to Hamilton Township.

West Windsor-Plainsboro North takes on Hamilton at William J. McEvoy Field at 11 a.m., tomorrow in a game with a possible berth in the NJSIAA Group III Central playoffs on the line. If the Knights can knock off Hamilton for the first time in program history, it would go a long way to helping them secure their first playoff berth since 2004.

A win for the Hornets - whose game against Notre Dame next week will count towards their power point totals due to a week

two bye that is put in place for the annual Thanksgiving Day game - would help them leapfrog the Knights, possibly into one of the top eight seeds.

"Since we lost to Nottingham, we've just been telling them to take it one game at a time," Hamilton head coach Tom Hoglen said. "Our kids are focused on the game this week against a very good West Windsor North team. They're big and physical up front, and they have one of the premier running backs in the county that can break one at any time. We have our hands full. It's a big game for both teams."

It will be a monster game for West Windsor-Plainsboro South and Steinert when the two teams do battle tomorrow afternoon at 2 p.m.

The Pirates will look to reach the playoffs for the fifth straight season since Todd Smith took over as head coach while the Spartans will look to take one step

closer to securing their first berth in the postseason since 2004.

"We've been hitting a lot more in practice," said Smith, whose team finds itself in the hunt for a NJSIAA Group IV berth behind a two-game winning streak thanks in large part to one of the top defenses in the Colonial Valley Conference.

"We've hit a lot more than we've ever hit since I've been the coach here. It's just making sure the kids know how to play the game, how to fight off the blocks, how to scrape off the linebackers. We think that if our kids are tough during the week that that's going to translate into how they play the game."

Steinert head coach Dan Caruso thinks a win over WW-P South will go a long way to giving the Spartans the credibility that many have not yet given them despite a four-game winning streak. Steinert hasn't knocked off WW-P South in four years.

FOOTBALL LEADERS

(Statistics through Thursday)				WW-P South			
TIMES TOP 10				Lawrence			
1. Hunterdon Central	(7-0)	7	1699	242.7	7	1740	248.6
2. Notre Dame	(7-0)	7	1871	267.3	7	1940	277.1
3. Princeton	(6-1)	6	1702	283.7	7	1762	293.7
4. Montgomery	(5-2)	6	2064	344.0	6	2064	344.0
5. Hamilton	(4-2)						
6. West Windsor-Plainsboro South	(4-3)						
7. Lawrence	(5-2)						
8. Pennington	(5-2)						
9. Steinert	(4-2)						
10. Nottingham	(3-4)						

COLONIAL VALLEY CONFERENCE				
Rushing				
Player, School	Att	Yds	TD	
Sean Reed, WW-P North	155	960	10	
Ransford Quarrie, Notre Dame	121	915	12	
David Ogbonnaya, Ewing	120	910	8	
Ross Scheuerman, Allentown	156	850	11	
Jihad Bryant, Lawrence	159	829	5	
Josh Gordon, Princeton	132	737	5	
Teddy Fully, Trenton	144	573	4	
Jamie Williams, Hamilton	70	528	3	
Chris Jones, WW-P South	132	508	6	
Andre Simmons, Nottingham	121	498	3	
Passing				
Player, School	Comp	Att	Yds	TD
Mark Newlin, Nottingham	73	142	1128	12
Anthony Perna, Notre Dame	61	99	895	9
Ryan Phelan, WW-P North	42	101	752	4
Kevin Monahan, Hightstown	51	121	751	6
Mike Orlentine, Princeton	54	111	744	5
Sean Eccles, Allentown	40	89	623	4
Chris Coyle, Lawrence	50	95	583	7
Steve Arnold, Ewing	35	77	462	5
Zack Donohue, WW-P South	24	51	389	6
Ryan DeAngelis, Robbinsville	35	62	384	1
Receiving				
Player, School	Rec	Yds	TD	
Robert Wiggs, Nottingham	41	712	6	
Doug Bryant, Princeton	19	332	3	
Justin Adams, Notre Dame	17	327	2	
Ryan Lynady, Notre Dame	20	325	4	
Jamil Robinson, Hightstown	17	291	3	
Matt Mueller, Allentown	17	276	4	
Murphy Wallace, Hightstown	9	241	2	
Jack Dennehy, WW-P South	12	238	3	
Bernard Darrin, Trenton	8	232	2	
Zak Krakower, WW-P South	10	217	1	
Scoring				
Player, School	Pts			
Sean Reed, WW-P North	78			
Ransford Quarrie, Notre Dame	74			
Ross Scheuerman, Allentown	72			
Mark Newlin, Nottingham	62			
David Ogbonnaya, Ewing	54			
Trevor Barsamian, Princeton	44			
Keith Sherman, Lawrence	42			
Robert Wiggs, Nottingham	42			
Jake D'Angelo, Hamilton	38			
Chris Jones, WW-P South	38			

Team Offense			
Team (Record)	G	Yds	Avg.
Nottingham (3-4)	7	2243	320.4
Notre Dame (7-0)	7	2155	307.9
WW-P North (4-3)	7	2071	295.9
Allentown (3-3)	6	1730	288.3
Hamilton (4-2)	6	1723	287.2
Princeton (6-1)	7	1951	278.7
Lawrence (5-2)	7	1755	250.7
WW-P South (4-3)	7	1712	244.6
Hopewell Valley (2-5)	6	1420	236.7
Ewing (2-5)	7	1567	223.9
Robbinsville (2-4)	6	1240	206.7
Trenton (0-7)	7	1354	193.4
Steinert (4-2)	6	1093	182.2
Hightstown (1-6)	7	1163	166.1
Team Defense			
Team	G	Yds	Avg.
Notre Dame	7	1219	174.1
Hamilton	6	1165	194.2
Steinert	6	1166	194.3
Princeton	7	1490	212.9
Hopewell	7	1571	224.4
Ewing	7	1668	238.3
WW-P North	7	1673	239.0

PREP				
Rushing				
Player, School	Att	Yds	TD	
Brendan Morgan, Hun	191	828	4	
Malcolm Perry, Pennington	99	689	9	
Dylan Kelly, Princeton Day	99	500	5	
Colin Weingrad, Hun	64	387	6	
Gary Sharp, Peddie	44	292	1	
Passing				
Player, School	Comp	Att	Yds	TD
Keith Dearden, Pennington	63	118	1076	11
Brendan Dudeck, Hun	47	90	517	4
Rhett Bender, Peddie	34	92	464	2
Aaron Aiken, Lawrenceville	24	51	330	6
Dan Reynolds, Princeton Day	11	47	121	3
Receiving				
Player, School	Rec	Yds	TD	
Harold Spears, Pennington	27	525	4	
Dontae Johnson, Pennington	22	371	6	
Hakeem Valles, Peddie	20	309	3	
Dave Dudeck, Hun	16	265	2	
Sam O'Donnell, Lawrenceville	13	214	5	
Scoring				
Player, School	Pts			
Malcolm Perry, Pennington	54			
Colin Weingrad, Hun	42			
Dontae Johnson, Pennington	38			
Brendan Morgan, Hun	30			
Sam O'Donnell, Lawrenceville	30			
AREA				
Rushing				
Player, School	Att	Yds	TD	
Sean Reed, WW-P North	155	960	10	
Ransford Quarrie, Notre Dame	121	915	12	
David Ogbonnaya, Ewing	120	910	8	
Kevin Azimi, Montgomery	130	886	7	
Ross Scheuerman, Allentown	156	850	11	
Jihad Bryant, Lawrence	159	829	5	
Brendan Morgan, Hun	101	828	4	
Josh Gordon, Princeton	132	737	5	
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Kevin Monahan, Hightstown	51	121	751	6
Mike Orlentine, Princeton	54	111	744	5
D.J. Ruhiman, Montgomery	43	86	707	10
Sean Eccles, Allentown	40	89	623	4
Chris Coyle, Lawrence	50	95	583	7
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Malcolm Perry, Pennington	54			
Kevin Azimi, Montgomery	46			

Stats for Bordentown, Hunterdon Central, Northern Burlington and South Hunterdon were not submitted; Lawrenceville's individual stats against Hun, Peddie and Blair are not reflected; Hopewell Valley's individual and team stats against Hightstown are not reflected.

"They were the team to beat last year, and in my mind, they're still the team to beat this year," Caruso said.

"They're in the position where we as a program want to be — a

contender year in and year out. It's a big game for us; it's state-ment game.

There's a lot of people saying (Steinert is) pretty good on de-fense, but they're not great on

offense.' A win over West Windsor South, maybe people will see that it wasn't so much luck."

Contact Kevin Maloney at kevmaloney33@yahoo.com.