PIAA DISTRICT III MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Rod Frisco
Phone: 717-645-6923
Email: d3piaa@piaa.org
Twitter: @piaadistrict3

DISTRICT III FOOTBALL POWER RANKINGS NOTE / CLASS 1A & CLASS 2A FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS AT BOILING SPRINGS HS

The purpose of this note is to inform the media and the public about the release of the 2017 District III final football power rankings and the Class 1A and Class 2A championship site.

In recent years, District III has been able to provide accurate first round matchups soon after the completion of Friday’s games, even if there were a couple of games to be played on Saturday.

Not so this year.

In an unusual quirk, five of our current top six seeds play on Saturday with four of those top seeds in head-to-head matchups. Those matchups are:

- Class 6A No. 1 Cumberland Valley at Class 5A No. 1 Harrisburg
- Class 3A No. 1 Middletown at Class 1A No. 1 Steelton Highspire
- Class 2A No. 1 York Catholic at unranked York County School of Technology

Of those top-ranked teams, only Steelton-Highspire is guaranteed to remain the top seed regardless of outcome.

Preliminary calculations by District III show the other top-seeded teams are in jeopardy of losing the top seed with a loss. In every case, should a top seed lose and the No. 2 seed in its class win, the final power ranking numbers for both the current No. 1 seed and the current No. 2 seed will be extremely close.
In addition, Friday’s results could scramble the current rankings, especially in Class 6A. If all of the current top 9 seeds in 6A win this weekend, there will be only slight changes, if any at all.

The exception, of course, is the outcome of No. 3 Red Lion and No. 6 Dallastown. A Red Lion will likely keep the Lions at No. 3 and place Dallastown in danger, but not a guarantee, of not qualifying. A Dallastown win would guarantee the Wildcats a playoff spot (Red Lion would also likely qualify), but seed would be determined by the results of other 6A teams.

But if any or multiple teams in seeds 3 through 8 suffer losses, the final rankings will be dramatically altered. One of the few certainties in Class 6A is that No. 1 Cumberland Valley cannot drop below No. 2 and may even hold the No. 1 spot with a loss to Harrisburg depending on opponents’ outcomes.

Without a supercomputer, it is impossible to run and publish every possible scenario for this weekend in the top five classes. Only Class 1A with Steelton-Highspire at No. 1 and Fairfield at No. 2 is locked. Should York Catholic defeat York Tech, Class 2A will also be set with the Irish at No. 1 and Newport at No. 2. An Irish loss would flip those spots.; it does not appear that Delone Catholic, with a win over Hanover, would gain enough points to displace York Catholic, although that will not be certain until all contests are entered.

To the bottom line: The rankings on District III’s Fan Page are unofficial pending review by the district, but will be accurate once all results are entered. Please understand that because the power rankings software is dynamic, the rankings will change throughout the night. The software updates the power rankings immediately once a school enters its contest, but both schools must record their results for the rankings to be accurate.

**Ergo, final and official rankings will not be released by District III until late Saturday afternoon or early evening.** District III will review the rankings once all Saturday games are entered. The official rankings will be posted on the District III website in pdf form on the Home Page and the Football Page.

**Official brackets with sites and times will be released on Sunday morning at approximately 10 a.m. at the District III Committee meeting at Lower Dauphin HS.**

Regarding the Class 1A and Class 2A District III M&T Bank Football Championships, those games will again be played at Boiling Springs High School on Saturday, Nov. 11. The Class 1A Championship will kick off at 1 p.m. The Class 2A Championship will kick off at 7 p.m.

Thank you for your indulgence and your interest in District III M&T Bank Championships.