

NJ Football: The Star-Ledger Top 20, Nov. 22

THE STAR-LEDGER, November 21, 2010 8:45 p.m.

1-Don Bosco Prep (10-0)

Last week: 1

Cornerback Jabrill Peppers didn't play like a freshman as he returned a fumble 87 yards and an interception 94 yards for touchdowns when Don Bosco beat No. 8 St. Peter's Prep, 37-0, in the Non-Public, Group 4 semifinals. Next: Thursday at No. 6 St. Joseph (Mont.).

2-Bergen Catholic (10-1)

Last week: 2

Once again, there was no slowing quarterback Tanner McEvoy. He threw for 163 yards and three scores, two to wide receiver Cameron Dickerson, and rushed for 184 yards and two touchdowns in a 60-17 victory over No. 9 Seton Hall Prep in a Non-Public, Group 4 semifinal. Next: Non-Public, Group 4 final vs. No. 1 Don Bosco Prep.

3-Cherokee (10-0)

Last week: 3

Quarterback Andy Martin accounted for two touchdowns and nose guard Nick Foster and safety Mike Zeuli anchored yet another sterling defensive outing in a 28-7 victory over Egg Harbor in the South Jersey, Group 4 semifinals. No team has scored more than two touchdowns against Zeuli's crew this season. Next: Thursday vs. Seneca.

4-Holy Spirit (10-0)

Last week: 6

It faced its first deficit this season and rallied with fourth-quarter TDs by Donta Pollock and Joe Sarnese to edge No. 15 Pope John, 34-27, in the Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals. Pollock has carried for 290 yards and scored five touchdowns in two playoff games. Next: Thursday vs. Atlantic City.

5-Lacey (11-0)

Last week: 7

Quarterback Craig Cicardo, son of the team's offensive coordinator by the same name, had 96 rushing yards and two TDs and threw a 20-yard TD pass in a 34-14 victory over Winslow in the state playoff semifinals. Next: South Jersey, Group 3 final vs. Delsea.

6-St. Joseph (Mont.) (8-2)

Last week: 8

A ground game featuring backs Dane McDermott, John Sanford and Presley Beauvais powered St. Joseph to a 49-32 triumph over DePaul in the Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals. Next: Thursday vs. No. 1 Don Bosco Prep.

7-Piscataway (10-0)

Last week: 9

Piscataway scored the go-ahead touchdown with four seconds remaining in the first half, then scored the winning touchdown with four seconds left in the game on a 1-yard sneak by QB Nadir Barnwell to secure a 28-21 victory over No. 14 Phillipsburg in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 semifinals. Next: Thursday at Franklin.

8-St. Peter's Prep (9-2)

Last week: 4

The Jersey City team dropped a 37-0 decision to No. 1 Don Bosco Prep in the Non-Public, Group 4 semifinals. Returning next season will be quarterback Brandon Napoleon and running back Jared Crayton for coach Rich Hansen. Next: Season complete.

9-Seton Hall Prep (10-1)

Last week: 5

An injury to running star Kevin Monangai and the brilliance of Bergen Catholic QB Tanner McEvoy became too much for the Prep to handle in a 60-17 loss in the Non-Public, Group 4 semifinals. Monangai closed his career with 4,486 yards and 69 touchdowns. Next: Season complete.

10-Sayreville (10-1)

Last week: 10

Delon Stephenson scored on a 98-yard kick return and a 35-yard run while DL George Koblentz led a stellar defense as Sayreville beat Manalapan, 32-20, in the Central Jersey, Group 4 semifinals. Next: Central Jersey, Group 4 final vs. Brick Memorial.

11-Matawan (10-0)

Last week: 11

Quarterback Jared Allison continued to be the master of the big play, returning a punt 84 yards to a TD in the first quarter and then adding a 92-yard TD run late in the fourth quarter of a 26-14 victory over Manasquan in the Central Jersey, Group 2 semifinals. Next: Saturday vs. St. John Vianney.

12-Hunterdon Central (10-1)

Last week: 12

It avenged a 20-3 regular-season loss to Bridgewater-Raritan in convincing fashion, pounding the Somerset County school, 42-7, in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 semifinals. Christopher Ibrahim passed for 129 yards and two TDs and ran for a score. Brandon Brocklehurst had two TD runs and Kenny Wilson scored on a 103-yard interception return. Next: North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 final vs. No. 7 Piscataway.

13-Wayne Hills (10-1)

Last week: 13

Fumble recoveries by Matt Greenfield, Russ Piekarsky, Jimmy Kenny and Roberto Alvarez led to touchdowns and a 49-0 triumph over High Point in the North Jersey, Section 1, Group 3 semifinals. Next: North Jersey, Section 1, Group 3 final vs. No. 16 Old Tappan.

14-Phillipsburg (8-2)

Last week: 14

Without starting quarterback Justin Scuurzo (concussion), Phillipsburg fell to Piscataway, 28-21, in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 semifinals. Dana Lee returned a punt for a touchdown and Sean McNerney recovered a fumble in the end zone. Next: Thursday vs. Easton (Pa.) at Lafayette College.

15-Pope John (10-1)

Last week: 15

It stuck with No. 4 Holy Spirit to the end but a fumble on its 12-yard line in the closing moments set up the Absecon school for the winning touchdown in the Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals. Tailback Kyle McGrath had two touchdowns in the 34-27 loss. Next: Season complete.

16-Old Tappan (10-0)

Last week: 16

Amazing junior quarterback Devin Fuller rushed for 367 yards and six TDs and passed for 98 yards and a score in his team's thrilling 63-56 victory over Paramus in the North Jersey, Section 1, Group 3 semifinals. Next: Thursday vs. Demarest.

17-St. Joseph (Hamm.) (8-1)

Last week: 17

Steady running back Gordon Hill scored four touchdowns and the defense sparkled once again in a 50-7 victory over previously undefeated St. Anthony in the Non-Public, Groups 2/1 semifinals. St. Joseph averages 37.2 points per game and has allowed just 59 all season. Next: Saturday at Hammonton.

18-Randolph (10-1)

Last week: 18

Todd Nigro and Tyler Healy are main targets for quarterback Chris Westenhiser, who has 11 TD passes for the season. Next: North Jersey, Section 1, Group 4 final vs. Montclair.

19-Middletown South (8-2)

Last week: NR

Running backs Andrew Suarez (162 yards, two TDs) and Kyle Bunge (131, TD) led a ground game that chewed up 339 yards in a 21-13 victory over Hamilton in the Central Jersey, Group 3 semifinals.

Next: Thursday at Middletown North.

20-West Deptford (10-0)

Last week: NR

Running back Vaughn Scott and QB Jake Hannan power an offense that averages 42.5 points per game and seems to be picking up speed as the competition grows fiercer. Scott had three TDs in a 56-7 victory over Barnegat in the South Jersey, Group 2 semifinals. Next: Friday vs. Paulsboro.

Out: 19-DePaul, 20-North Brunswick.