

PREP FOOTBALL

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Class 5A No. 2 Center Grove at Perry Meridian, 7 p.m.

Center Grove Trojans (0-0)



Head coach: Eric Moore, 11th season at Center Grove (90-32), 15th overall (140-39)

Conference: Metropolitan Interscholastic

Last season: 14-1

Key players: Kyle Barth, Sr., QB; Jimmy Boshears, Sr., RB; Jimmy Daggett, Jr., RB; Nolan Weidman, Jr., RB; Sean Egenolf, Sr., OL; Mark Riffle, Sr., OL; Jeff Ponder, Sr., C; Andrew Gudeman, Jr., TE; Joel Cox, Sr., DL; Bryce Krebs, Jr., DL; Blake Miller, Sr., DL; Joel Hale, Jr., DL; Garrett Mack, Sr., LB; Patrick Mennell, Sr., LB; Brian Jansen, Jr., LB; Zach Shupe, Sr., LB; Scott O'Brien, Sr., DB; Nick Stoner, Jr., DB; Zach Mattox, Jr., DB

Perry Meridian Falcons (0-0)

Head coach: Scott Marsh, first season at Perry Meridian (0-0), second overall (0-10)

Conference: Conference Indiana

Last season: 0-10

Outlook: Defending Class 5A state champion Center Grove begins its title defense against a struggling southside rival that hasn't had a winning season since 2003. The Trojans, who return only three starters from last year's 14-1 team, won the 2008 meeting against the Falcons 55-14.

Directions: Take U.S. 31 north to Stop 11 Road in southern Marion County. Turn left on Stop 11 and follow it about two miles. The school is on the left past State Road 135.

Whiteland at

New Palestine, 7:30 p.m.

Whiteland Warriors (0-0)



Head coach: Darrin Fisher, fifth season at Whiteland (33-16), 19th overall (94-88)

Conference: Mid-State

Last season: 11-1

Key players: Drew Smyth, Jr., WB; Brandon Giesekeing, Sr., WR; Zac VanDeman, Sr., OL; Colby Dickey, Jr., OL; Logan Chamberlain, Jr., OL; Jordan Lasiter, Sr., TE; Cody Phillips, Jr., RB; Jess Harris, Jr., LB; Caleb Canner, Sr., LB; Jesse Moistner, Sr., DL; Kollin Wheat, Jr., LB; Taran Bishop, Sr., DB; Zac Detherage, Sr., DB

New Palestine Dragons (0-0)

Head coach: Tom Able, first season at New Palestine (0-0), 18th overall (95-92)

Conference: Hoosier Heritage

Last season: 4-6

Outlook: Graduation took a heavy toll on the Warriors, who return only three starters from last year's 11-1 team. Moreover, Whiteland begins its first season in Class 5A after competing for several years at the Class

4A level. Yet the Warriors, who return a host of players who received meaningful varsity experience last year, are confident of earning a fourth consecutive winning season.

Directions: Take Interstate 65 North to Interstate 465 east to U.S. 52 (Brookville Road); turn right (east) on U.S. 52. Go about 10 miles to the traffic signal at Gem Road in New Palestine and turn right (south). The school is about a half-mile ahead on the left.

Greenwood vs.

Columbus East, 6:15 p.m.,
PeyBack Classic at
Lucas Oil Stadium

Greenwood Woodmen (0-0)



Head coach: Mike Campbell, fourth season (10-22)

Conference: Mid-State

Last season: 4-7

Key players: Sean Brown, Sr., QB; Paul Morrison, Jr., WR/DB; Drew Slaughter, Sr., WR/DB; Brad Carnes, Sr., RB/DL; Sean Deem, Sr., OL/DL; Nick Rice, Jr., OL/DL; Brent Rockwell, Jr., LB; Will Collier, Sr., TE/LB; Angelo Costantino-Brown, Jr., DB; Joe Furtado, Jr., DB

Columbus East Olympians

Head coach: Bob Gaddis, ninth season at Columbus East (76-23), 31st overall (194-123)

Conference: Hoosier Hills

Last season: 13-1

Outlook: The Woodmen open the 2009 campaign with a daunting challenge against the Olympians, a long-time Class 4A power that is making its Class 5A debut. Columbus East received multiple votes in the Class 5A preseason poll. Greenwood, meanwhile, is looking for its first winning season since 2005.

Northview at Franklin,

7 p.m.

Franklin Grizzly Cubs (0-0)



Head coach: Brian Harbin, first season at Franklin (0-0), second overall (2-8)

Conference: Mid-State

Last season: 3-7

Key players: Jake Hemrick, So., QB; Junior Ortega, Sr., RB/LB; Austin Clark, Sr., WR; Jake Moran, So., RB; Bryan Lawlis, Sr., OL/DL; Joe Habr, Sr., OL; Phil Conoley, Jr., OL/DL

Northview Knights (0-0)

Head coach: George Gettle, eighth season (43-27)

Conference: Western Indiana

Last season: 4-6

Outlook: Playing against the Knights for the third time since 2006, the Grizzly Cubs won the previous two meetings, including a 35-12 rout last year at Northview. The game is the first for Franklin under first-year coach Brian Harbin, who is trying to reverse the fortunes of a long-

struggling program that hasn't had a winning season since 1996.

Southport at Class 4A
No. 10 Roncalli, 7 p.m.

Roncalli Rebels (0-0)



Head coach: Bruce Scifres, 20th season (181-55)

Conference: Independent

Last season: 5-5

Southport Cardinals (0-0)

Head coach: Bill Peebles, fifth season (11-30)

Conference: Conference Indiana

Last season: 9-2

Outlook: Ranked in the top 10 despite last year's .500 campaign, the Rebels are looking to repeat the success of their 2008 season-opener, when they routed Class 5A Southport 27-7 on the Cardinals' home field. But the fortunes of both teams went in opposite directions after that. Southport, which narrowly missed cracking the top 10 of the preseason state poll, went on to win nine straight games, while Roncalli struggled the rest of the way.

Indian Creek at Edinburgh,
7 p.m.

Indian Creek Braves (0-0)



Head coach: Mike Gillin, ninth season at Indian Creek (68-21), 31st overall (234-93)

Conference: Mid-Indiana

Football

Last season: 7-4

Key players: Trey Reese, Jr., QB; Jordan Jackson, Jr., WR/DB; Walter Vleck, Jr., WR/DB; Joel Ankney, Jr., RB/DB; Brandon Cochran, Sr., RB/DB; Blake Smith, So., So., RB/LB; Levi Waltz, Sr., OL/LB; Caleb Tworek, Jr., OL/DL; Tyler McIntosh, Sr., OL/DL; Jake Stevenson, Jr., OL/DL; Josiah Harrell, Jr., DL; Bill Cornett, So., DL; Aaron Stevenson, Jr., DL; Ethan Waltz, Sr., LB; Jarrett Harlow, So., LB

Edinburgh Lancers (0-0)



Head coach: Kyle Wheeler, fourth season (0-30)

Conference: Mid-Indiana

Football

Last season: 0-10

Key players: Keith Burton, Jr., QB; Patrick Smith, So., OL; Jake Emerson, So., RB; Wade Teltoe, Jr., WR/LB; Andrew Burroughs, So., OL/DL; Cody Smith, Jr., OL/DL; Devin Burton, Jr., LB; Dylan Streeval, Jr., DL

Outlook: Indian Creek makes its Class 3A debut, while Class A Edinburgh looks to end the state's longest active losing streak at 46. Indian Creek features one of the area's most prolific passers in junior quarterback Trey Reese, while the Lancers return a host of starters, including junior quarterback Keith Burton.