

# PREP BLITZ

## High school football previews: Sectionals

### COUNTY LEADERS

| Records               |            |                     |              | Defense Tackles     |          |       |       |      |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|----------|-------|-------|------|
| W-L                   | PF         | PA                  | Name, school | UT                  | AT       | Total |       |      |
| Center Grove          | 8-1        | 425                 | 108          | Josh Pflifer, F     | 72       | 62    | 134   |      |
| Edinburgh             | 0-9        | 87                  | 395          | Adam Chandler, E    | 77       | 49    | 126   |      |
| Franklin              | 3-6        | 119                 | 240          | Mitch Meador, W     | 50       | 60    | 110   |      |
| Greenwood             | 3-6        | 154                 | 243          | Jared Neff, IC      | 55       | 47    | 102   |      |
| Indian Creek          | 6-3        | 246                 | 131          | Tyler Osborn, F     | 53       | 45    | 98    |      |
| Whiteland             | 9-0        | 368                 | 125          | Devin Burton, E     | 44       | 36    | 80    |      |
|                       |            |                     |              | Ryan Willard, E     | 60       | 17    | 77    |      |
|                       |            |                     |              | Alex Perritt, W     | 37       | 33    | 70    |      |
|                       |            |                     |              | Johntel Smith, F    | 43       | 25    | 68    |      |
|                       |            |                     |              | Anthony Elias, CG   | 32       | 32    | 64    |      |
|                       |            |                     |              | Wade Teltoe, E      | 43       | 19    | 62    |      |
|                       |            |                     |              | Nick Smith, F       | 42       | 18    | 60    |      |
| Offense Scoring       |            |                     |              | Sacks               |          |       |       |      |
| Name, school          | Pts.       | Name, school        | Sacks        | UT                  | AT       | Total |       |      |
| Luke Harris, W        | 150        | Kevin Bales, IC     | 7.5          |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Zac Tharpe, IC        | 99         | Andre Biggers, W    | 6            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Tanner Riley, CG      | 98         | Josh Phelps, IC     | 5            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Luke Swift, CG        | 90         | LaMarr Stevenson, G | 5            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Mike Wood, CG         | 77         | Jared Harris, G     | 4.5          |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Brandon Collins, IC   | 62         | Josiah Harrell, IC  | 3            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Jordan Luallen, CG    | 60         | Interceptions       |              |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Clayton Simmons, F    | 60         | Name, school        | Int.         |                     |          |       |       |      |
| LaMarr Stevenson, G   | 50         | Kevin Jones, CG     | 4            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Brandon Giesecking, W | 48         | Brandon Cochran, IC | 4            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Kenny Polley, W       | 40         | Brandon Collins, IC | 3            |                     |          |       |       |      |
|                       |            | Jermaine Harris, W  | 3            |                     |          |       |       |      |
|                       |            | Mitch Meador, W     | 3            |                     |          |       |       |      |
|                       |            | Derek Million, F    | 3            |                     |          |       |       |      |
|                       |            | Alex Perritt, W     | 3            |                     |          |       |       |      |
|                       |            | Josh Phelps, IC     | 3            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Rushing               |            |                     |              | Special teams       |          |       |       |      |
| Name, school          | Att.-Yds.  | Avg.                | TD           | Punting             |          |       |       |      |
| Luke Harris, W        | 176-1,772  | 10.1                | 24           | Name, school        | No.      | Yds.  | Avg.  |      |
| Tanner Riley, CG      | 93-1,060   | 11.4                | 14           | Craig Buck, F       | 34       | 1,278 | 37.6  |      |
| Luke Swift, CG        | 125-1,041  | 8.3                 | 10           | Zac Tharpe, IC      | 27       | 1,004 | 37.2  |      |
| Drew Smyth, W         | 51-558     | 10.9                | 7            | Mike Wood, CG       | 9        | 323   | 35.9  |      |
| Drew Slaughter, G     | 97-507     | 5.2                 | 7            | Will Collier, G     | 15       | 494   | 32.9  |      |
| Clayton Simmons, F    | 124-474    | 3.8                 | 9            | Brad Carnes, G      | 20       | 649   | 32.5  |      |
| Matt Heller, G        | 59-454     | 7.7                 | 0            | Kicking             |          |       |       |      |
| Jordan Luallen, CG    | 52-367     | 7.1                 | 10           | Name, school        | FG       | Long  | XP    | Pts. |
| Joel Ankney, IC       | 116-345    | 3.8                 | 5            | Mike Wood, CG       | 4-5      | 48    | 53-54 | 55   |
|                       |            |                     |              | Kenny Polley, W     | 1-2      | 25    | 40-46 | 44   |
|                       |            |                     |              | Zac Tharpe, IC      | 0-0      | N/A   | 19-30 | 19   |
|                       |            |                     |              | Toby Kemp, G        | 0-0      | N/A   | 17-18 | 17   |
|                       |            |                     |              | Hilary Fox, F       | 1-3      | N/A   | 10-11 | 13   |
| Passing               |            |                     |              | Kickoff returns     |          |       |       |      |
| Name, school          | Comp.-Att. | Yds.                | TD           | Name, school        | No.-Yds. | TD    | Avg.  |      |
| Keith Burton, E       | 154-358    | 1,827               | 10           | Clayton Simmons, F  | 10-150   | 0     | 25.0  |      |
| Trey Reese, IC        | 149-274    | 1,972               | 18           | Brandon Collins, IC | 11-264   | 1     | 24.0  |      |
| Dan Bechman, F        | 101-186    | 1,364               | 11           | Derek Kern, G       | 17-295   | 0     | 17.3  |      |
| Jordan Luallen, CG    | 36-65      | 688                 | 12           | Zac Tharpe, IC      | 8-138    | 0     | 17.2  |      |
| Bryan Webb, W         | 26-44      | 502                 | 5            | Junior Ortega, F    | 16-244   | 0     | 15.2  |      |
| Paul Morrison, G      | 17-45      | 222                 | 0            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Matt Heller, G        | 12-30      | 200                 | 2            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Receiving             |            |                     |              |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Name, school          | Rec.-Yds.  | Avg.                | TD           |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Brandon Collins, IC   | 77-914     | 11.8                | 10           |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Wade Teltoe, E        | 62-835     | 13.5                | 6            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Zac Tharpe, IC        | 51-712     | 13.9                | 13           |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Sean Hansen, E        | 43-431     | 10.0                | 2            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Austin Clark, F       | 23-312     | 13.6                | 3            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Dylan Hodges, F       | 23-305     | 13.3                | 0            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Nick Harrison, E      | 17-284     | 16.7                | 1            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Clayton Simmons, F    | 17-107     | 6.3                 | 1            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Luke Swift, CG        | 16-269     | 16.8                | 5            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Chris Burton, E       | 15-177     | 11.8                | 0            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Alec Dewitt, F        | 15-136     | 10.9                | 0            |                     |          |       |       |      |
| Walker Vleck, IC      | 15-214     | 14.2                | 2            |                     |          |       |       |      |

### Terre Haute South at Class 5A No. 1 Center Grove, 7 p.m.

**Center Grove Trojans (8-1)**  
**Head coach:** Eric Moore, 10th season at Center Grove (83-34), 14th overall (131-39)  
**Last week:** Won 56-7 against visiting Warren Central  
**Conference:** Metropolitan Interscholastic  
**Key players:** Jordan Luallen, Sr., QB; Tanner Riley, Sr., RB; Luke Swift, Sr., WB; Mike Wood, Sr., WR/P/K; Austin Pendygraft, Sr., OL; Derek Long, Sr., C; Trey Thompson, Sr., OL; Brook Bemis, Sr., OL; Devin Jacquin, Sr., OL; Ethan Hedeem, Sr., DB; Kevin Jones, Sr., DB; Geoff Sissom, Sr., LB; Shelby Mappes, Sr., LB; Anthony Elias, Sr., LB; Joel Cox, Jr., DL; Keith Dietel, Sr., DE; Jon Rifkind, Sr., LB; Scott O'Brien, Jr., DB



### Terre Haute South Braves (3-6)

**Head coach:** Mark Raetz, second season (5-14)  
**Last week:** Lost 28-21 against visiting Lawrence North  
**Conference:** Metropolitan Interscholastic  
**Outlook:** Center Grove puts its No. 1 ranking on the line for the first time since ascending to the top spot in the final state poll.

The Trojans average 47.2 points per game and yield only 12. They have a six-game winning streak and routed visiting Terre Haute South 35-6 during the regular season Sept. 19.

### Terre Haute South is on a two-game skid and has lost five of its past six games.

### Class 4A No. 6 Whiteland at New Palestine, 7 p.m.

**Whiteland Warriors (9-0)**  
**Head coach:** Darrin Fisher, fourth season at Whiteland (31-15), 18th overall (92-87)  
**Last week:** Won 42-14 at Decatur Central  
**Conference:** Mid-State  
**Key players:** Bryan Webb, Sr., QB; Luke Harris, Sr., RB; Michael Robison, Sr., WR; Mitch Meador, Sr., LB; Alex Perritt, Sr., DB; Jermaine Harris, Sr., DB; Nick Scheidler, Sr., TE; Drew Smyth, So., RB; Tony Couch, Sr., DB; Tyler Croy, Sr., OL; Jordan Sharp, Sr., OL; Chase



### Greenwood is on a three-game skid. Franklin, meanwhile, has lost six of its past seven games.

### Indian Creek at Clarksville, 7 p.m.

**Indian Creek Braves (6-3)**  
**Head coach:** Mike Gillin, eighth season at Indian Creek (67-20), 30th overall (233-92)  
**Last week:** Won 19-6 against visiting South Decatur  
**Conference:** Mid-Indiana Football  
**Key players:** Trey Reese, So., QB; Joel Ankney, So., RB; Zac Tharpe, Sr., WR/DB; Brandon Collins, Sr., WR/LB; Joel Ankney, So., RB/LB; Isaih Tworek, Sr., OL/DL; Chi Lawrence, Sr., OL/DL; Josh Bales, Sr., OL/DL; Jared Neff, Sr., LB; Levi Waltz, Jr., LB



### Clarksville Generals (3-6)

**Head coach:** Brad Troutman, second season (8-11)  
**Last week:** Lost 63-24 at Providence  
**Conference:** Mid-Southern  
**Outlook:** With Triton Central's regular season-ending loss against Milan, the Braves earned a share of the Mid-Indiana Football Conference championship with last week's win against South Decatur.

The Braves will try to parlay their good fortune into postseason momentum. They are bidding for their first sectional title since 2002.

### Franklin Grizzly Cubs (3-6)

**Head coach:** Mike McClure, fourth season (9-21)  
**Last week:** Lost 14-6 against visiting Martinsville  
**Conference:** Mid-State  
**Key players:** Dan Bechman, Sr., QB; Clayton Simmons, Sr., RB; Dylan Hodges, Sr., WR; Neal Lane, Sr., OL; Dillon Johnson, Sr., OL; Mark Mathews, Sr., OL; Aaron Rodriguez, Sr., LB; Derek Million, Sr., DB; Craig Buck, Sr., DB; Ross Sypfers, Jr., LB; Josh Pflifer, Sr., LB



**Outlook:** Both teams have struggled throughout the season, but Franklin might have at least a psychological edge by virtue of beating the Woodmen 32-21 at Greenwood on Oct. 10.

Both teams are coming off a loss in the regular-season finale, but

### South Decatur Cougars (4-5)

**Head coach:** Ken Wendling, 16th season at South Decatur (84-82), 20th overall (100-103)  
**Last week:** Lost 19-6 at Indian Creek  
**Conference:** Mid-Indiana Football  
**Outlook:** The Lancers look to avenge a 47-0 loss against South Decatur this season and end the state's longest active losing streak, which stands at 45.

Edinburgh also is bidding for its first postseason victory since 2001, when it beat Indiana Deaf 32-14.

### Edinburgh at South Decatur, 7 p.m.

**Edinburgh Lancers (0-9)**  
**Head coach:** Kyle Wheeler, third season (0-29)  
**Last week:** Lost 38-0 at Guerin Catholic  
**Conference:** Mid-Indiana Football  
**Key players:** Keith Burton, So., QB; Adam Chandler, Sr., RB; Devin Burton, Sr., RB; Chris Burton, Sr., WR; Sean Hansen, Sr., WR; Wade Teltoe, So., WR/LB; Aaron Knue, Jr., DL; Jake Smith, Jr., DL; Cody Smith, So., OL; Ryan Willard, Sr., OL/DL

### Roncalli vs. Class 4A No. 4 Cathedral, 7 p.m.

**(game will be played at Arlington High School in Indianapolis)**  
**Roncalli Rebels (5-4)**  
**Head coach:** Bruce Scifres, 19th season (181-54)  
**Last week:** Lost 28-21 at East Central  
**Conference:** Independent  
**Key players:** Kevin Banich, Sr., QB; Charlie Kolisek, Jr., WR; Ben Polizzi, Sr., RB; Drew Oeschle, Sr., LB; Dan Lauck, Jr., DB; Matt Millott, Sr., DB; Cole Williamson, Jr., OL/DL



**Cathedral Fighting Irish (6-2)**  
**Head coach:** Rick Streiff, 14th season at Cathedral (128-29), 19th overall (149-72)  
**Last week:** Won 61-0 against visiting Gary Wallace  
**Conference:** Independent  
**Outlook:** The Rebels look to rebound after last week's loss at East Central. But the task is daunting.


Cathedral, which received one first-place vote in the final state poll, is widely regarded as a frontrunner for the 4A state title. The Fighting Irish won the regular-season showdown against the visiting Rebels 17-3 on Sept. 26.

**Directions:** Take Interstate 65 north to I-70 east. Take the Emerson Street exit and turn left on Emerson. Take Emerson to 46th Street and turn right. Take 46th Street to first stoplight (Arlington) and turn left. The school is about 1½ blocks on the right.

## TOP PLAYERS

A look at some of the top performances in Week 9 of the high school football season:

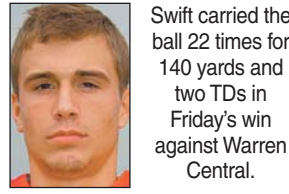
**Tanner Riley**  
Senior, Center Grove



**STAFF PHOTO BY JOE SABA**

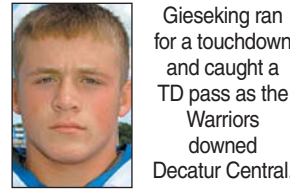
Riley carried the ball 16 times for 267 yards and three scores in the Trojans' win against Warren Central. He scored on a 80-yard run on Center Grove's first play from scrimmage.

**Luke Swift**  
Senior, Center Grove



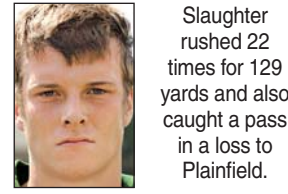
Swift carried the ball 22 times for 140 yards and caught two TDs in Friday's win against Warren Central.

**Brandon Giesecking**  
Junior, Whiteland



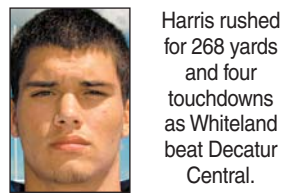
Giesecking ran for a touchdown and caught a TD pass as the Warriors downed Decatur Central.

**Drew Slaughter**  
Junior, Greenwood



Slaughter rushed 22 times for 129 yards and also caught a pass in a loss to Plainfield.

**Luke Harris**  
Senior, Whiteland



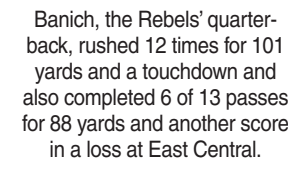
Harris rushed for 268 yards and four touchdowns as Whiteland beat Decatur Central.

**Brandon Collins**  
Senior, Indian Creek



Collins caught nine passes for 143 yards and returned a kickoff 100 yards for a score against South Decatur.

**Kevin Banich**  
Senior, Roncalli



Banich, the Rebels' quarterback, rushed 12 times for 101 yards and a touchdown and also completed 6 of 13 passes for 88 yards and another score in a loss at East Central.

## BY THE NUMBERS

A look at key statistics from Week 9 games and this week's sectional matchups:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>495</b><br>Rushing yards by Center Grove in its win against visiting Warren Central.  | <b>30</b><br>Number of rushing yards Martinsville held Franklin to in the Artesians' victory against the Grizzly Cubs.           |
| <b>100</b><br>Number of yards covered by Indian Creek's Brandon Collins while scoring on a kickoff return in Friday's win against South Decatur. | <b>3</b><br>Teams (Indian Creek, Milan and Triton Central) tying for this season's Mid-Indiana Football Conference title.        |
| <b>14-0</b><br>Center Grove's record against sectional opponent Terre Haute South in the teams' past 14 meetings.                                | <b>5</b><br>Years since Greenwood and Franklin have met in a sectional game. The Cubs won the most recent matchup 37-14 in 2003. |

## WHERE THEY STAND

A look at the standings in conferences that include southside teams:

| Metropolitan Interscholastic | Conf. | All |
|------------------------------|-------|-----|
| Center Grove                 | 6-1   | 8-1 |
| Carmel                       | 6-1   | 8-1 |
| Warren Central               | 5-2   | 6-3 |
| Ben Davis                    | 4-3   | 6-3 |
| Lawrence North               | 4-3   | 5-4 |
| Terre Haute South            | 2-5   | 3-6 |
| North Central                | 1-6   | 1-8 |
| Terre Haute North            | 0-7   | 1-8 |

| Mid-State       | Conf. | All |
|-----------------|-------|-----|
| Whiteland       | 6-0   | 9-0 |
| Plainfield      | 5-1   | 7-2 |
| Mooreville      | 4-2   | 7-2 |
| Martinsville    | 2-4   | 3-6 |
| Decatur Central | 2-4   | 2-7 |
| Franklin        | 1-5   | 3-6 |
| Greenwood       | 1-5   | 3-6 |

| Mid-Indiana Football | Conf. | All |
|----------------------|-------|-----|
| Triton Central       | 4-1   | 7-2 |
| Indian Creek         | 4-1   | 6-3 |
| Milan                | 4-1   | 6-3 |
| South Decatur        | 2-3   | 4-5 |
| North Decatur        | 1-4   | 2-7 |
| Edinburgh            | 0-5   | 0-9 |

## FRIDAY'S SECTIONAL GAMES

|  |   |  |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Terre Haute South at Center Grove</b><br>7 p.m. | <b>Edinburgh at South Decatur</b><br>7 p.m. | <b>Greenwood at Franklin</b><br>7 p.m. | <b>Indian Creek at Clarksville</b><br>7 p.m. | <b>Whiteland at New Palestine</b><br>7 p.m. | <b>Roncalli vs. Cathedral at Arlington</b><br>7 p.m. |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|