### 2A 32-Team Projection

This projection will change as teams meet during the next few weeks. Some teams will win, others will lose. But here's our current guess for top 16 of the 32-team field.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8.	Tumwater Arch. Murphy Franklin Pierce Anacortes Othello W. F. West West Valley (S.) Ridgefield	6-0	
10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15.	Lynden Orting Eatonville East Valley (Y.) Bainbridge Chief Sealth Clarkston Woodland	5-1 5-1 5-1 4-2 5-1 5-1 3-3 4-2	NWC SPSL SPSL CWAC OLY METRO GSL GSHL

### **IN THE CHASE:**

**D1:** Sehome, Squalicum. **D2:** Cedarcrest, Nathan Hale, Foster, Lindbergh.

**D3:** North Kitsap, Fife, Steilacoom, Olympic, Sequim, North Mason.

**D4:** Washougal, R.A. Long, Mark Morris, Columbia River **D5:** Selah, Ephrata, Prosser, Toppenish.

**D6:** Rogers, Deer Park.

### **LAST WEEK:**

Arch. Murphy 34, Anacortes 28
East Valley (Yak.) 34, Toppenish 7
Eatonville 32, Fife 7
Franklin Pierce 44, Steilaccom 7
Lynden 36, Squalicum 30
North Kitsap 30, Sequim 7
Othello 34, Ephrata 13
West Valley (Spo.) 58, Clarkston 44

### THIS WEEK: Archbishop Murphy at Lynden

Chief Sealth at Nathan Hale
Columbia river at Ridgefield
East Valley (Yakima) at Selah
Eatonville at Washington
Ephrata at Toppenish
Franklin Pierce at Fife
North Kitsap at Bainbridge
Olympic at Sequim
Prosser at Othello
Tumwater at W.F. West (2 Wks)
Washougal at R.A. Long

# Handicapping the Top 16

DI Northwest Conference Should Have 2 in Top 8; 3 in Top 16

s the final three weeks of the 2024 football season come to a close, the chase to the new 32-team playoff field is coming into focus.

Although there are key games to be played (Tumwater vs W.F. West and Archbishop Murphy vs Lynden for ex.), the cream of the crop is rising to the top.

In the column on the left, are possible projections into the top 16, all of whom would host games in the opening round on week ten.

Although most are current (2A) division leaders, there will probably be a couple second place teams in the mix as well.

The Northwest Conference (District 1) appears to be the strongest league and may feature three of the top teams in the state.

Last weekend, Archbishop Murphy beat Anacortes 34-28. The Wildcats were 0-8 as recently as 2022. But made 11 state appearances from 2002-17. This week, they travel to Lynden.

Tumwater and W.F. west of the Evergreen Conference are also among the state's best and figure in the top sixteen.



Everett High grad and former O'Dea assistant coach, **Joe Cronin**, has Archbishop Murphy off to a 6-0 start. Last week, they snapped Anacortes' 18-game winning streak. Things don't get any easier with Lynden Friday.

Franklin Pierce of the South Puget Sound League has rolled over everyone they've met. They have dealt both Orting (36-8) and Eatonville (50-0) their only losses while disposing of Steilaccom last Friday (44-7).

Right now, the Cardinals appear to be an easy top four seed if they continue to take care of business.

In the CWAC, Othello is 6-0 and their win over Ephrata last Friday (34-13) left no doubt about their dominance.

Previously, they beat East Valley 26-13 and Selah 10-3. This week, they host Prosser (3-3), who is coming off a tough loss at 1A power Royal, 52-8.

A win could basically clinch the CWAC title.

Behind them, it's a dogfight with Selah (4-1) and Toppenish (4-2) while East Valley, Ephrata and Prosser are all 3-2.

Most of those teams play each other the next three weeks, so this could go down to the wire.

In Spokane, West Valley beat Clarkston in a shootout last week 58-44. They previously beat Rogers 27-22 and a win at Deer Park (4-2) this Friday will secure the D6 top seed.

### **Allocations Field of 32**

(	Conference Tear	ns	2024	2025
D1	(NWC)	9	4	5
D2	(Seattle)	9	5	4
D3	(SPSL/OLY)	16	9	8
D4	(EVCO/GSHL)	13	7	6
D5	(CWAC)	9	4	5
D6	(Spokane)	7	3	4

### Joe Cronin File

- Everett High Graduate
- Coached at Lake Stevens, Cascade and O'Dea.
- Was ass't coach/ass't athletic director at O'Dea.



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### **Playoff Chances**

### Win Out

The potentially muddied playoff chase for the 4 CWAC playoff spots will continue another week.

Othello has the inside They only need to win one of their last three games to get in. You can pencil that in since they play at Quincy (1-6) the last week of the season.

For the next five teams, win out and you're in.

For Ellensburg, who is laying in the weeds, they need to win their last two games and get some help. That would make them 4-4.

The Bulldogs would need East Valley and Prosser to lose 2 of 3 or 3 of 3. Selah would need to lose their final three games and Toppenish their last two.

It probably won't happen, but Ellensburg can play a key spoiler

This week the playoff chase will get clearer with the top six teams playing each other.

An Othello win over Prosser doesn't eliminate the Mustangs, eliminate the Mustangs, but it puts them in a must-win situation. It basically guarantees the Huskies the top seed. (They have beaten Selah, who potentially could also have just one loss.)

Don't be surprised if the last week, **Selah** at Prosser vaults the winner into the 32-team

Sitting 4-1, the Vikings only need to win one of 3 and they will probably advance into week 10. Lose all three and they're 4-4.

If they beat East Valley this Friday, they're 5-1, can lose their last two games and they should be fine.

The playoff chase comes to this for the schools involved; 0 or 1 loss and you're in; 2 losses and you're probably OK.

Three losses put you on the edge and four losses probably eliminates you.

There are too many combinations to mention and that's what makes this playoff chase exciting.

### 2024 CWAC Football Standings & Results

### Could the CWAC Be facing a Mini-Playoff? - Probably

TEAM	*	W	L	PS	PA	W	L	PS	PA	Upcoming Games
Othello	1029	5	0	140	38	6	0	182	55	Fri., Host Prosser
Selah	858	4	1	95	26	4	2	102	54	Fri., Host East Valley
Toppenish	744	4	2	102	94	4	2	102	95	Fri., Host Ephrata
East Valley	796	3	2	166	90	4	2	216	90	Fri., at Selah
Ephrata	664	3	2	77	95	3	3	94	119	Fri at Toppenish
Prosser	655	3	2	158	86	3	3	166	138	Fri., at Othello
Ellensburg	729	2	4	80	72	2	4	80	72	Fri at 1A Zillah (NL)
Quincy	697	0	5	31	232	1	5	55	244	Fri., at Grandview
Grandview	853	0	6	47	162	0	6	47	162	Fri., Host Quincy

\* Actual Enrollment. 2A classification is 450-899 students, adjusted enrollment. Othello is 2A because adjusted number is 751.

### 2024 CWAC Football Schedule (4 Berths)

EAST	VAI	LE	Y RED DEVILS	(4-2)
Thu Sept	5	W	at 2B River View	50-0
Fri Sept	13	W	Grandview	44-14
Thu Sept	19	L	at Prosser	35-36
Fri Sept			Ephrata	40-7
Fri Oct	4	L	at Othello	13-26
Fri Oct	11	W	Toppenish	34-7
Fri Oct	18		at Selah	
Fri Oct	25		Quincy	
Fri Nov	1		at Ellensburg	

### ELLENSBURG BULLDOGS (2-4)

Fri	Sept 6	L	Othello	9-2
Fri	Sept 13	L	at Selah	3-7
Fri	Sept 20	L	Ephrata	6-9
Fri	Sept 27	L	at Toppenish	3-7
Fri	Oct 4	W	Grandview	19-7
Fri	Oct 11	W	at Quincy	40-1
Fri	Oct 18		1A Zillah (NL)	
Fri	Oct 25		at Prosser	
Fri	Nov 1		East Valley	

### **EPHRATA TIGERS (3-3)**

Fri	Sept 6	W	Prosser	15-14
Fri	Sept 13	W	Quincy	33-0
	Sept 20		Ellensburg	9-6
Fri	Sept 27	L	at East Valley	7-40
Fri	Oct 4	L	4A Davis (NL)	17-24
Sat	Oct 12	L	Othello	13-35
Fri	Oct 18		at Toppenish	
Fri	Oct 25		Selah	
Fri	Nov 1		at Grandview	

### **GRANDVIEW GREYHOUNDS (0-6)**

Fri	Sept 6	L	Toppenish	6-17
Fri	Sept 13	L	at East Valley	14-44
Fri	Sept 20	L	at Othello	0-41
Fri	Sept 27	L	Prosser	13-29
Fri	Oct 4	L	at Ellensburg	7-19
Fri	Oct 11	L	at Selah	7-12
Fri	Oct 18		Quincy	
Fri	Oct 25		at 2B TC Prep	
Fri	Nov 1		Ephrata	

### **OTHELLO HUSKIES (6-0)**

Fri Sept 6		at Ellensburg	28-9
Thu Sept 12		Connell	42-17
Fri Sept 20 Fri Sept 27	W	Grandview	41-0 10-3

Fri	Oct	4	W	East Valley		26-13		
Sat	Oct	12	W	at Ephrata		35-13		
Fri	Oct	18		Prosser				
Fri	Oct	25		Toppenish				
Fri	Nov	1		at Quincy				

### PROSSER MUSTANGS (3-3)

Fri	Sept 6	L	at Ephrata	14-15
Fri	Sept 13	L	at Toppenish	21-23
Thu	Sept 19	W	East Valley	36-35
Fri	Sept 27	W	at Grandview	29-13
Fri	Oct 4	W	Quincy	58-0
Fri	Oct 11	L	at Royal	8-52
Fri	Oct 18		at Otĥello	
Fri	Oct 25		Ellensburg	
Fri	Nov 1		Selah	

### **QUINCY JACKRABBITS (1-5)**

Fri	Sept	6	L	Selah	0-59
Fri	Sept	13	L	at Ephrata	0-33
Fri	Sept	20	L	Toppenish	17-42
Fri	Sept	27	W	1A Wapato (NL)	24-12
Fri	Oct	4	L	at Prosser	0-58
Fri	Oct	11	L	Ellensburg	14-40
Fri	Oct	18		at Grandview	
Fri	Oct	25		at East Valley	
Fri	Nov	1		Othello	

### **SELAH VIKINGS (4-2)**

Fri	Sept 6	W	at Quincy	59-0
Fri	Sept 13	W	Ellensburg	7-3
Fri	Sept 20	L	at West Valley	7-28
Fri	Sept 27	L	Othello	3-10
Fri	Oct 4	W	at Toppenish	14-6
Fri	Oct 11	W	Grandview	12-7
Fri	Oct 18		East Valley	
Fri	Oct 25		at Ephrata	
Fri	Nov 1		at Prosser	

### TOPPENISH WILDCATS (4-2)

			at Grandview	17-6
Fri	Sept 13	W	Prosser	23-21
Fri	Sept 20	W	at Quincy	42-17
Fri	Sept 27	W	Ellensburg	7-3
Fri	Oct 4	L	Selah	6-14
Fri	Oct 11	L	at East Valley	7-34
Fri	Oct 18		Ephrata	
Fri	Oct 25		at Othello	
Fri	Nov 1		Lakewood (NL)	)

### **CWAC Highlights**

Leaders: Othello, Selah In the Hunt: East Valley, Ephrata, Prosser, Toppenish.

Spoiler: Ellensburg.

### **Each Team's Odds**

East Valley (2-2): Their game this week at Selah is important. A loss doesn't eliminate them but puts them in a tough spot.

Ellensburg (0-4): Picked up their first league win at Quincy.

Ephrata (1-2): Need to beat both Toppenish and Selah the next two weeks.

Grandview (0-5): Host Quincy this week. Winner gets out of last

Othello (3-0): Basically earned a playoff spot, even if they lost 2 of their next three. Don't count on that happening.

Prosser (1-1): Had rough game against 1A power, Royal. Have to travel back up there to Othello this week and their last two games are tough too.

However, win 2 of 3 and playoff chances are good.

Quincy (0-4): Returning to the 2A ranks had been rough. How they play this week against Grandview is their season.

Selah (2-1): Their defense has carried them this year. It will be quite the battle this Friday when East Valley heads to Karl Graf Field.

Toppenish (1-2): The past three weeks, the Wildcats have sputtered offensively, averaging just under seven points a

Toppenish has to win one of two. If they lose both, their hope is for a miniplayoff at 4-4.

Overall, the winners this week are pretty close to securing one of the four playoff spots.

The losers will have to win out and hope for help. (Except Othello.)

\* The record above is against the top 6 teams.)

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### **Coaches Poll**

(Courtesy of Dan Teeter.)

Here is the Washington Football Coaches Association Poll. (First place votes in parentheses.)

### 4Δ

	., .
1.	Camas (10) 6-0
2.	Sumner (1) 6-0
3.	Arlington 6-0
4.	Lake Stevens 4-2
5.	Kennedy Catholic. 6-0
6.	Gonzaga Prep 6-0
7.	Chiawana 5-1
8.	Graham-Kap 4-2
9.	Mead 6-0
10.	Skyview 4-2
Glad	ers Receiving Votes: Yelm, cier Peak, Moses Lake, Curtis, npia, Eastlake.

### **3A**

1.	Bellevue (11)	5-0				
2.	O'Dea	6-0				
3.	Kennewick	6-0				
4.	Eastside Catholic	5-1				
5.	Decatur	7-0				
6.	Lakes	6-0				
7.	Roosevelt	4-2				
8.	Sedro-Woolley	6-0				
9.	Lincoln					
10.	Monroe	5-1				
Others Receiving Votes: Mercer Island, Enumclaw, Central Valley, Bellarmine Prep, Interlake.						

### 2A

1. 2. 3. 4.	Tumwater (10) Archbishop M (1) Anacortes Lynden W. F. West	6-0 5-1 5-1
8. 9. 10.	Othello	6-0 6-0
Othe Clark Bain	ers Receiving Votes: Squal kston, Eatonville, Orting, bridge.	icum,

#### 1A

D - -1/4

١.	Royal (11)	0-0			
2.	La Center	6-0			
3.	Seton Catholic	6-0			
4.	Nooksack Valley	5-1			
5.	Cashmere	5-1			
6.	Meridian	5-1			
7.	Life Chr. Academy.	5-0			
8.	Kalama	5-1			
9.	Lynden Christian	3-2			
10.	Montesano	4-2			
	Zillah	4-2			
Others Receiving Votes: Blaine, Mount Baker, King's.					

### **2B**

1.	Okanogan (9) 6-0
2.	Asotin 6-0
3.	Toledo 6-0
Nor	Onalaska, 5. Freeman, 6. thwest Christian, 7. La Salle, 8. pavine, 9. Liberty Bell, 10. fax, Tri-Cities Prep.

### 1B

1. Liberty Chr. (6)	. 6-0
2. Naselle	. 5-0
3. Wilbur-Creston, 4. DeSales Pomeroy, 6. Neah Bay, 7. Alm Coulee-Hartline, 8. Odessa, 9 Tulalip-Heritage, 10. Quilcend Entiat.	nira- ).

### 2024 SCAC Football Standings & Results

### **Royal Flexing Their Muscles Once Again**

TEAM	*	W	L	PS	PA	W	L	PS	PA	Upcoming Games
Royal	435	5	0	282	48	6	0	332	56	Fri., at Wahluke.
Cashmere	390	5	1	277	73	4	1	277	73	Fri., Host Connell.
Zillah	325	4	2	172	103	4	2	172	103	Fri., At 2A Ellensburg
Connell	447	3	2	170	70	3	3	185	112	Fri., At Cashmere.
College Pl.	361	2	3	123	224	3	3	150	250	Fri., Host Naches Valley.
Wahluke	588	2	3	77	114	2	4	85	138	Fri., Host Royal.
Ki-Be	336	2	4	72	265	2	4	72	265	Fri., At Wapato.
Wapato	649	1	4	94	205	1	5	106	229	Fri., Host Ki-Be.
Naches Vly.	298	0	5	44	246	0	6	30	210	Fri., At College Place

\* Actual Enrollment. 1A is 225-449 students. Wahluke and Wapato are 1A because of adjusted enrollment. (Wahluke 353, Wapato 402.)

### 2024 SCAC Football Schedule (D6 4 Berths w/Caribou Trail)

### **CASHMERE BULLDOGS (5-1)**

Fri Sept 6	W	at Wapato	56-0
Fri Sept 13	W	Ki-Be	68-0
Fri Sept 20	W	at College Pl.	59-12
Thu Sept 26	W	Wahluke	45-0
Fri Oct 4	L	Royal	14-55
Fri Oct 11	W	at Zillah	35-6
Fri Oct 18			
Thu Oct 24		1A Chelan (NI	)

### COLLEGE PLACE HAWKS (3-3)

at Naches Vly.

Fri Nov 1

27-2
6-69
2-59
7-42
3-34
5-20

### **CONNELL EAGLES (3-3)**

Fri	Sept 6	L	Zillah	7-8
Fri	Sept 13	L	at Othello	17-42
Sat	Sept 21	L	Royal	7-42
Fri	Sept 27	W	at College Pl.	42-7
Fri	Oct 4	W	Naches Valley	56-7
Fri	Oct 11	W	at Ki-Be	56-6
Fri	Oct 18		at Cashmere	
Fri	Oct 25		Wapato	
Fri	Nov 1		Waĥluke	

### **KIONA-BENTON BEARS (2-4)**

Fri	Sept 6	L	Royal	0-65
			at Cashmere	0-68
Fri	Sept 20	W	Wahluke	16-12
Fri	Sept 27	W	at Naches Vly.	38-6
Fri	Oct 4	L	at Zillah	12-48
Fri	Oct 11	L	Connell	6-56
Fri	Oct 18		at Wapato	
Sat	Oct 26		College Place	

### NACHES VALLEY DANCEDS (O.C.)

IN.	AUTI	י כיי	V A.	LLEI KANGERS	( <del>0-0)</del>
	Sept			Wahluke	13-14
Fri	Sept	13	L	at Zillah	0-48
Fri	Sept	20	L	at Cascade (LW)	14-36
Fri	Sept	27	L	Ki-Be	6-38
Fri	Oct	4	L	at Connell	7-56

Fri	Oct	11	L	Wapato 14-54
Fri	Oct	18		at College Place
Fri	Oct	25		at Royal
Fri	Nov	1		Cashmere

### **ROYAL KNIGHTS (6-0)**

Fri	Sept	6	W	at Ki-Be	65-0
Fri	Sept	13	W	College Place	69-6
Sat	Sept	21	W	at Connell	42-7
Fri	Sept	27	W	Zillah	49-21
Fri	Oct	4	W	at Cashmere	55-14
Fri	Oct	11	W	2A Prosser	52-8
Fri	Oct	18		at Wahluke	
Fri	Oct	25		Naches Valley	
Fri	Nov	1		at Wapato	

#### WAHLUKE WARRIORS (2-4)

Fri	Sept	6	W	at Naches Vly.	14-13
Fri	Sept	13	W	Wapato	31-6
Fri	Sept	20	L	at Ŕi-Be	12-16
Fri	Sept	27	L	Cashmere	0-45
Fri	Oct	4	L	at Granger (NL)	8-24
Fri	Oct	11	L	College Place	20-35
Fri	Oct	18		Royal	
Fri	Oct	25		at Zillah	
Fri	Nov	1		at Connell	

### WAPATO WOLVES (1-5)

Fri	Sept 6	L	Cashmere	0-56
Fri	Sept 13	L	at Wahluke	6-31
	Sept 20		Zillah	0-41
Fri	Sept 27	L	at Quincy	12-24
Fri	Oct 4	L	College Place	34-63
Fri	Oct 11	W	at Naches Vly.	54-14
Fri	Oct 18		Ki-Be	
Fri	Oct 25		at Connell	
Fri	Nov 1		Roval	

#### **ZILLAH LEOPARDS (4-2)**

Fri	Sept 6	W	at Connell	8-7
			Naches Valley	48-0
Fri	Sept 20	W	at Wapato	41-0
Fri	Sept 27	L	Royal	21-49
Fri	Oct 4	W	Kiona-Benton	48-12
Fri	Oct 11	L	Cashmere	6-35
Fri	Oct 18		at 2A Ellensburg	
Fri	Oct 25		Wahluke	
Fri	Nov 1		at College Pl.	

### **SCAC Highlights**

SCAC Leaders: 1.) Royal, 2.) Cashmere, 3.) Žillah. In the Hunt: Connell, Col. Place, Wahluke, Ki-Be.

Caribou Trail: Cascade (Leavenworth), Omak and Chelan.

Cashmere: Another showdown with red-hot Connell.

College Place: Coming off two straight wins, they have a good chance at making in three-in-arow this week. Two wins in the next three weeks and they could secure fourth place.

Connell: At Cashmere, they have won three ina-row. A win against cashmere this week could shake up the SCAC

Kiona-Benton: The Bears travel to red-hot Wapato this week.

Naches Valley: With Royal and Cashmere the final two weeks their only hope for a victory might be this week.

Royal: Royal dominated Prosser from start to finish last week. There is no doubt they are the best 1A team in the state. Senior quarterback, Lance Allred is electric.

Wahluke: After starting 2-0, they have lost four straight. It does not get any easier with Royal, Zillah and Connell on

Wapato: The past two weeks, the offense has gotten untracked scoring 88 points including 54 in a win over Naches Valley. After this week, it's a tough finish with Connell and Royal.

Zillah: Zillah lost to Cashmere last week and if the Bulldogs defeat Connell, the Leopards will have to settle for third place.

But, if Connell wins, there could be a threeway tie for second. (Zillah beat Connell 8-7 in week one.)

Caribou: Chelan travels to Omak this week in the CTL opener. Cascade has a non-league contest.

Next week Cascade hosts Omak

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