FRIDAY NIGHT 3A FOOTBALL ON PSP NETWORK

Week 5 Stays Non-Conference for Pack, Stangs, Pats & Magi

by James Jackson, PSP Network analyst

Steeped in the fervor of North Dakota high school football, teams from all across the "Peace Garden State" are already hitting their mid-season stride while racing towards potentially pivotal showdowns less than a month into pigskin action. Covering yet another scorching slate of games on the horizon for Week 3, the PSP Network went one step further with a deep dive into the history and numbers surrounding this week's premier matchups.

#5 Minot High Magicians (1-2) at West Fargo Packers (1-3): 6:00 p.m. CST

Going head-to-head with their third Fargo squad in as many weeks, the No. 5 Minot High Magicians (1-2 overall, 0-0 WDA) hit the road for a non-conference battle against the West Fargo Packers (1-3 overall, 0-0 EDC).

Finishing off a four-game stand against Fargo area teams to start their 2024 campaign, No. 5-ranked Minot High enters Friday night's battle intent on closing the gap on their 10-12 overall record against West Fargo High. Outscoring their opponents by an average margin of 23-16 over the opening three weeks of the 2024 season, the Magi are focused on capturing the momentum of last season's 46-8 dismantling of the Packers to extend their current winning streak over West Fargo to three games.

Going 1-3 against WDA opponents Bismark Legacy, Bismarck High, and Williston to kick off their 2024 campaign, West Fargo High will need all the points they can muster to overcome the No. 5-ranked Magi. Averaging just over one touchdown (8.7 PPG) in their three losses this season, the Packers have to dig deep into the offensive output showcased in their 40-18 victory over Williston on Sept. 6 to have any hopes of downing their more-than-formidable WDA adversary.



The Valvoline Instant Oil Change Pre-Game Kicks off at 5:30 pm. Nick Hulberg and Bryce Gutknecht have the call.

#3 West Fargo Sheyenne Mustangs (3-1) at (RV) Bismarck Century Patriots (2-1): 6:30 p.m. CST



Opening the 2024 season with three consecutive wins (one over top-5 ranked Minot High), the No. 3-ranked West Fargo Sheyenne has their eyes set on breaking the 5-5 head-tohead lifetime record against the Patriots on Friday evening. Yet, considering the Patriots are averaging 30.3 PPG in 2024, the Mustangs will need to channel their 31.7 PPG offensive consistency harnessed within their wins over Williston, Minot High, and Mandan to escape on the road with a massive victory.

Despite a 14-35 season-opening loss to Fargo Davies, Bismarck Century has bounced back in impressive fashion to outscore Fargo North and West Fargo in back-to-back weeks by a combined margin of 77-21 to enter Friday evening's clash with a non-conference record of 2-1. Having lost their last three contests against West Fargo Sheyenne, the Patriots look to reclaim the football energy they

displayed in their 34-0 shutout win over the Mustangs in the 2020 Class AA (now AAA) championship. The Valvoline Instant Oil Change Pre-Game Kicks off at 6:00 pm. Scott Woodmansee and Chuck Clairmont have the call.

