

# Football to revisit division format after lopsided scores

By **BERNIE PUCHALSKI**

High school football coaches are being asked to give their opinions on having four distinct football championships.

This year, the senior teams were divided into three divisions, A, AA and AAA/AAAA, and the suggestion is to split the upper division into AAA and AAAA divisions. Since 2001, there have been nine football games decided by 50 or more points and five of those games have happened this season in the AAA/AAAA league. This year's scores of 72-0, 65-0 and 63-8 represent the three most lopsided scores of the past decade.

"What we are discussing is quite simply a proposal. We are requesting feedback from all schools that are involved in football. The next step would be to get the football group together and discuss the feedback or recommendations that come out of that first semi-annual meeting," athletic convenor Rina Rode said.

Motions arising from that meeting can then be brought forward to the April 2012 meeting with the hope that they can be implemented for the 2012 season.

"It's going to be a process. It's not going to happen overnight -- baby steps, I guess -- and we will take it from there," Rode said.

## PATRIOTS CLINCH

The St. Paul Patriots improved to 7-0 in AAA/AAAA football action last Friday with a 39-27 victory over the Notre Dame Fighting Irish (5-2).

Scoring for St. Paul were: Stefan Oreskovich with runs of two and seven yards; Ryan Nieuwesteeg with a 45-yard interception return and a six-yard run; Miklos McMaster with an eight-yard run; and, quarterback Evan Murdza on a seven-yard scramble.

Jon Mataya threw three TD passes for Notre Dame and Johnny Augustine scored on a five-yard run.

St. Paul's win clinches a spot for the Patriots in the Nov. 4 game to determine which teams move out of the region to contest the Golden Horseshoe Bowl. Lakeshore Catholic has also clinched a spot in the bowl and if both teams win their games this week, a coin flip will be used to determine who hosts the all-important final. The loser of the Nov. 4

game will get a bye into the final. The second-through sixth-place team will play quarter-finals and semifinals to determine who else plays in the league final.

AAA/AAAA standings: St. Paul and Lakeshore Catholic 7-0; Notre Dame 5-2; Sir Winston Churchill and Blessed Trinity 4-3; Stamford and St. Mike's 3-4; Denis Morris 2-5; Westlane and A.N. Myer 0-7.

#### RAIDERS SITTING PRETTY

In the AA League, Holy Cross (5-0) has already clinched a share of first place. With six of seven teams in the league making the playoffs, Thursday's game between winless Beamsville and St. Catharines Collegiate will likely decide the final playoff spot in the division.

AA standings: Holy Cross 5-0; St. Francis 4-1; Centennial 3-1; Eden 2-2; Governor Simcoe 1-3; St. Catharines Collegiate and Beamsville 0-4.

#### A QUARTER-FINALS SET

In the A Division, the regular season ended last week with West Park (4-1) and South Lincoln (4-1) earning byes into the semifinals.

In quarter-final action Thursday at 2 p.m.: Ridgeway/ Crystal Beach (3-2) hosts Port Colborne (0-5); and, Eastdale (3-2) host the Thorold Golden Eagles (1-4).