

Michigan high school football playoff outlook in all eight divisions

DIVISION 1

Defending champion: Detroit Cass Tech

Favorite: Utica Eisenhower

Contender: Belleville

Dark horse: Canton

State final prediction: Utica Eisenhower over Belleville.

Toughest district: Without a doubt District 2 in Region 2 with No. 14

Canton (8-1) playing host to No. 15 Saline (7-1) Friday night, the winner moving on to face Belleville — ranked No. 1 in The News Super 20 poll — or Salem.

Toughest region: Region 4 with four of the eight teams ranked in The News Super 20 poll with a possible regional final putting No. 3 Utica Eisenhower against either No. 13 Waterford Mott and its talented quarterback David McCullum, or No. 18 West Bloomfield and Bowling Green-bound quarterback Bryce Veasley and Wisconsin-bound receivers Taj Mustapha and A.J. Abbott.

Notable: Seven 5-4 teams made the field, including Detroit Catholic Central, which lost to Warren De LaSalle in the Catholic League championship game Saturday night at Ford Field, and Warren Mott which came through with a 35-17 win over Grosse Pointe South Friday.