

# What To Watch For: Howell-Canton football



**7 p.m. Friday at Howell High School**

## **Howell**

**Record:** 1-5 overall, 1-3 KLAA Black (T-7th place)

**Points Scored:** 10.3 ppg

**Points Allowed:** 24.0 ppg

**Players to Watch:** Howell's run defense

It's been one of the biggest weaknesses of Howell's defense this year. That said, it did look better last Friday in the win over Brighton. However, the Highlanders are still surrendering 242.2 yards per game on the ground. That's not good news for Howell as it enters one of the state's best rushing attacks in Canton, a team that posts 400-plus-yard rushing games without breaking a sweat. For Howell to come up with another upset, the holes need to be completely patched up this week.

# Canton

**Record:** 5-1 overall, 4-0 CAAC White (1st place)

**Points Scored:** 44.0 ppg

**Points Allowed:** 19.2 ppg

**Player to Watch:** Steven Walker

Full season statistics for Canton football cannot be found online. But in the four games that can, here's what Walker's done: rushed for 803 yards and scored 12 touchdowns. FOUR GAMES. The Chiefs' junior running back is a monster, and probably the best player in the KLAA Black this season.

## Top Storylines

**1) Canton is playing at a different level than anyone in the KLAA Black**  
Howell's been playing much better as of late, nearly beating Livonia Stevenson in Week 5 (27-23) and then taking down Brighton in Week 6 (16-15), but Canton is a different animal. The Chiefs' offense is running wild on just about everybody and putting up ridiculous amounts of points in the process. The Chiefs are averaging 44 points per game while holding teams to just 19.2. Howell just had a giant upset of Brighton, but the Chiefs, ranked No. 6 in Division 1, look like a frontrunner for the Division 1 state title.

### **2) What are the implications of the game?**

After delivering a vicious blow to Brighton's hopes for a KLAA Black title last week, the Highlanders now have a chance to restore some hope. If Howell wins on Friday night, the Bulldogs would get a chance to play for a piece of the division championship against Canton in Week 8. A loss means Canton clinches the Black title outright.