

# Brett Homovec has big game as Hawks win

By TOM BAER

Farmington Harrison may not end up in the finals of the state Class A playoffs as it did last year, but its fans can expect plenty of exciting football as long as triple-threat quarterback Brett Homovec keeps on producing as he did last Saturday.

Homovec, a 190-pound senior, had quite a day in leading Harrison to a 28-20 victory over Birmingham Groves in a non-league game on Harrison's turf. The result left both teams with 1-1 records.

Not only did Homovec kick a pair of school-record field goals of 47 and 48 yards, but he also completed 11 of 14 pass attempts for 224 yards, including a 62-yard touchdown strike to end Bert Barsch. Homovec scored three more TDs on runs of seven, one and two yards.

His 5 field goals shattered the old Harrison record of 42 yards set by Paul Rogind during the 1975 season. The 48-yarder was just six yards away from the state record established last year by Ecorse's Derrick Underwood. Rogind, now a first-rate place kicker for the University of Minnesota, may have had something to do with Homovec's present success.

"I think Brett kind of learned how to kick from Paul, and then just practiced on his own," said Harrison coach John Herrington. "I sure didn't teach him. I don't have the slightest idea how he does it."

GROVES COACH Bill Rankin "couldn't believe it" when the second long field goal went sailing between the uprights.

"I couldn't believe it happened," Rankin said. "In 19 years of coaching, nobody's ever kicked two field goals against a team I've coached — especially from 47 and 48 yards away. I was expecting a fake kick on that second field goal. I mean, their kicker is a reserve quarterback, and their kicker is the first-string quarterback."

Homovec established several other school records in last Saturday's spree. The 28 points he scored — three TDs, two field goals and four extra points — is a school standard, as is the 11 completions. And the 224 yards passing is just a few yards away from a school mark. No quarterback can pass successfully without some good receivers, and Harrison has some excellent ones this season. Barsch grabbed three passes for

92 yards, including a touchdown. John Brancheau caught seven for 78 yards, and Brad Bache hauled down three for 59.

On the ground, Harrison rushed for 148 yards to Groves' 112. Harrison tailback Fred Blackmer carried 14 times for 58 yards, including an eight-yard touchdown run. Homovec had 43 yards in 11 carries.

"We were pleased with the way our offense came around," Herrington said. "We thought our receivers did an excellent job. Groves is so big, and we had a lot of trouble with them at the line of scrimmage. We had to go outside because we weren't having much luck up the middle."

"Defensively, Groves was tough up front. We couldn't run our favorite offensive play very well. But we have some fine receivers and we gave Brett enough time to throw."

GROVES OPENED the scoring when Brian Almes ran eight yards for a touchdown in the first quarter. Bill Eberhart, a 5-foot-7 170-pound junior halfback, scored three touchdowns on runs of 16 and 12 yards, and a 10-yard scoring pass from quarterback Byron Onisko.

Eberhart also ran for a two-point conversion, and Onisko threw to Jim McKenna for another.

Groves opens its Metro Suburban Association season on Friday (Sept. 23) at home against Rochester Adams. Game time is 8 p.m.

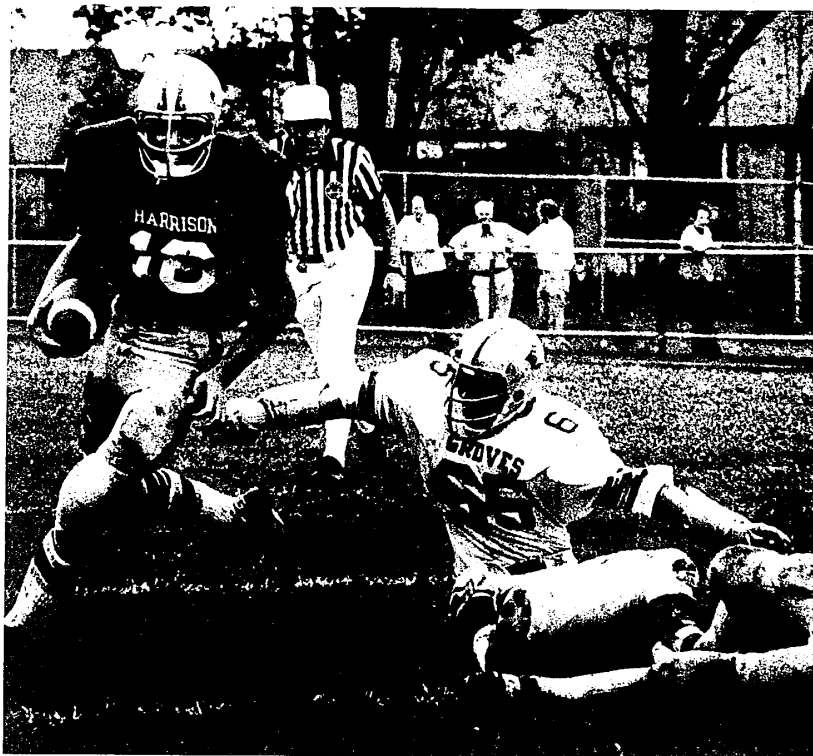
Harrison begins its Western Six League campaign on Saturday (Sept. 24) at home against Wall Lake Central. The game starts at 2 p.m.

| HARRISON — GROVES    |       | HHS   | OG |
|----------------------|-------|-------|----|
| First downs rushing  | 12    | 3     | 3  |
| First downs passing  | 6     | 3     | 3  |
| First downs penalty  | 1     | 0     | 0  |
| Yards rushing        | 148   | 112   |    |
| Yards passing        | 224   | 174   |    |
| Passes               | 11-14 | 10-13 |    |
| Points—average       | 140   | 341   |    |
| Penalties—yards lost | 8-108 | 4-55  |    |
| Fumbles—No. lost     | 6-0   | 1-0   |    |

| HARRISON | GROVES | 1 | 2  | 3 | 4 | T  |
|----------|--------|---|----|---|---|----|
| 0        | 0      | 7 | 14 | 7 | 0 | 28 |

## SCORING

GROVES — Brian Almes 8 run (kick failed).  
HARRISON — Bert Barsch 42 pass from Brett Homovec (kick failed).  
HARRISON — Homovec 47 field goal.  
HARRISON — Homovec 48 field goal.  
HARRISON — Homovec 47 field goal.  
GROVES — Bill Eberhart 16 run (Eberhart run).  
HARRISON — Fred Blackmer 8 run (kick failed).  
HARRISON — Homovec 7 run (Homovec kick).  
GROVES — Eberhart 10 pass from Byron Onisko (kick failed).  
GROVES — Eberhart 12 run (Jim McKenna pass from Onisko).



Harrison's Brett Homovec slips away from Groves' John Noonan during last Saturday's game. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

## Raiders rip Central, 41-8

North Farmington's football team is 20 this season, and the Raiders' offensive unit has played vital roles in both victories.

Last Friday, for example, North's defense accounted for two touchdowns to help clobber Wall Lake Central, 41-8, in a non-league game on Central's field.

"Our kids were really fired up for this game, because Central beat us up last year," said North Farmington coach Ron Holland. "We had a big crowd there. Our band and cheerleaders were there. It was a typical night football game, and our kids were enthused."

North safety Greg Hughes picked up a fumble and ran seven yards for a

touchdown to open the scoring in the first quarter. A few minutes later, North quarterback Ron Fredericks ran two yards for another TD. Tim Quinn kicked both extra points.

North's Jeff Cohen dashed four yards for a touchdown, and teammate Pat Collins returned a fumble 45 yards for another in the third quarter. Central avoided the shutout when John Urbank scored on a six yard pass from QB Jeff Dwyler in the third quarter.

North scored a pair of touchdowns in the fourth quarter. Quinn ran 45 yards, and Collins ran five. Mike Osterhage, a junior, kicked the last three extra points.

North outkicked Central, 265 yards

to 60. Central had the edge in the passing statistics, however, completing eight of 25 passes for 107 yards. North gained 22 yards passing with three completions in 11 attempts.

"Our offense improved over the week before, but it was the defense that did all the work," Holland said. "They rushed the punts and recovered the fumbles."

North Farmington begins its Northwest Suburban League season at home on Saturday (Sept. 24) against Thurston High. Game time is 2 p.m.

N. FARMINGTON — W.L. CENTRAL

|                     | NF | WLC |
|---------------------|----|-----|
| First downs rushing | 6  | 3   |
| First downs passing | 2  | 5   |
| First downs penalty | 5  | 4   |

|                      |       |       |
|----------------------|-------|-------|
| Yards rushing        | 265   | 60    |
| Yards passing        | 22    | 107   |
| Passes               | 3-14  | 8-25  |
| Punts—average        | 143   | 436   |
| Penalties—yards lost | 11-85 | 10-85 |
| Fumbles—No. lost     | 22    | 44    |

| N. FARMINGTON | W.L. CENTRAL | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | T  |
|---------------|--------------|---|---|---|---|----|
| 0             | 0            | 8 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 24 |

## SCORING

N. FARMINGTON — Greg Hughes 7 fumble recovery (Tim Quinn kick).  
N. FARMINGTON — Ron Fredericks 2 run (Quinn kick).  
N. FARMINGTON — Jeff Cohen 4 run (kick failed).  
N. FARMINGTON — Pat Collins 45 fumble recovery (Mike Osterhage kick).  
W.L. CENTRAL — John Urbank 6 pass from Jeff Dwyler (Urbank pass from Dwyler).  
N. FARMINGTON — Quinn 4 run (Osterhage kick).  
N. FARMINGTON — Collins 5 run (Osterhage kick).

## Farmington runners 2nd in cross country meet

One of Farmington High's best cross country runners didn't finish the race, but that didn't stop coach Gerald Young's Falcons from scoring 151 team points and finishing second in the Schoolcraft Invitational last Saturday at Cass Benton Park in Northville Township.

Wayne Memorial High School topped the 22-school field with 80 points, 21 fewer than second-place Northville High. Dearborn Edel Ford was fourth with 172 points, and Thurston High took fifth with 186.

Farmington Harrison and North Farmington also participated in the meet. Harrison finished 14th with 322 points, and North Farmington landed 15th with 336.

Wayne Memorial's Rick Blaha won the individual race with a time of 15:48 over the hilly three-mile course. Thurston's Brian Hess was second in 16:00. Dearborn Heights Crestwood's

Tim Barr took third at 16:05, and Thurston's Curt Reynolds was fourth in 16:37.

Farmington High's best finish came from senior Hugh Leidlein, who placed fifth in 16:11. Teammate Paul McKinnon finished 22nd in 16:51. Harold Rutla, one of Farmington's best distance men, didn't finish the race because of a hip problem.

"Our performance was fine considering the fact that Harold didn't finish," Young said. "He's our best kid, so it hurts us when he doesn't complete the race."

Charlie Rogers, a Farmington Harrison junior, finished 18th in 16:42. The best two Harrison finishers were Mike Foley (49th in 17:27) and Pat DeLano (49th in 17:32). North Farmington's Paul Welch finished 16th with a 16:39 clocking, and teammate Rich Stumpf ran his best Cass Benton race ever with a time of 17:18.

The Cass Benton course is one of the toughest in the metropolitan area, according to most coaches.

"It's up and down all the way with a lot of hills," said Farmington's Young. "It's one of the better courses in the area and a good test for the kids."

The three Farmington teams resume their dual-meet schedules on Thursday (Sept. 22). Waterford Township runs Farmington in an Inter Lakes League meet; Thurston runs North Farmington in the Northwest Suburban League; and Plymouth Canton runs Harrison in the Western Six League. All meets begin at 4 p.m. at Oakland Community College.

### Meet summary

Wayne placed its first five finishers in the 400 position and better last weekend to out-distance the 88-team field and win the championship of the 12th annual Schoolcraft College Cross Country Invitational.

Wayne finished first with 80 points. Northville placed second with 101 and Farmington ended up third with 151.

Rick Blaha, from Wayne, covered the three-mile course at Cass Benton in 15:48, 12 seconds better than Brian Hess, from Dearborn Thurston. Doug Tolson, Ron Mason and Paul Spencer, all from Wayne, placed 11th through 13th, respectively, and Tim Quintance, also a Wayne harrier, finished 43d.

The varsity portion of the meet consisted of 136 runners.

Thurston, which placed fifth in the team standings with 187 points, gained two of the 10 positions on the all-Invitational team.

Curt Reynolds, who placed fourth, joined Hess, the runner-up, among those who finished in the top 10. Other area runners on the all-Invitational team were Jeff Perrine, Garden City East, sixth, 16:11; Dave Hoesy, Livonia Bentley, seventh, 16:13; and Tobin Jones, Livonia Churchill, 10th, 16:25.



North's Rich Stumpf laces up before the Schoolcraft Invitational.

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