

SPORTS

N. Farmington to face grid test

By TOM BAER

For North Farmington High the serious football starts at home next Saturday.

North Farmington, which opened its season with an impressive victory over Pontiac Northern and then coasted to wins over Walled Lake Central and Thurston High, hosts rugged Ann Arbor Pioneer at home on Saturday.

The North-Pioneer game, a non-leaguer, could make or break coach Ron Holland's Raiders as far as a place in the post-season state Class A playoff is concerned. North would certainly have to beat Pioneer—and that won't be easy—and win the rest of its games, too.

Pioneer, coached by Chuck Ritter, is surging this season after losing seven of its nine games last year. Pioneer has a 3-0 record this season, including a 33-0 win over Lansing Harry Hill last Friday.

"Pioneer has some talented people," Holland said. "We've scouted them, so we know they have a good running back in Keith Bostic (who scored three TDs against Hill), and a full back in Tom Hill. Overall, Pioneer is very quick and has some good size."

"Pioneer has a different type of defense—it's a 4-3—so we'll probably have to make some changes in our offense to cope with that."

NORTH FARMINGTON'S defense has been strong in the first two games this season, and that particular strength was showing again in the Raiders' 40-0 victory over Thurston High in the Northwest Suburban League opener for both teams last Saturday.

North defensive tackle Chris Koltz got things going early in the game by recovering a Thurston fumble on the Eagles' first drive. Four plays later, halfback Pat Collins ran seven yards for the touchdown.

Collins got into the act again during Thurston's next offensive series, when he blocked a punt and returned it three yards for a touchdown. Jeff Cohen, North's speedy running back, scored on a six-yard try a few minutes later.

Tom Quinn, who has been a reliable

place kicker so far, was successful on all three extra points, and North led 21-0 at the end of the first quarter.

North scored a touchdown in each of the first three quarters. Cohen ran six yards for one TD in the second stanza, Mark Thompson scored on a 35-yard pass play from quarterback Ron Fredericks in the third, and Quinn dashed 26 yards off tackle for the last score.

Mike Osterhage, a junior, kicked the extra point after the Fredericks-to-Thompson touchdown.

NORTH AMASED 315 total yards with 158 coming on the ground. Mike Miller, a 160-pound junior tailback, led the attack with 72 yards in 15 carries. Fredericks, a junior, completed four of his six pass attempts. Thompson was on the receiving end of all of them for 117 yards.

Tim Deighton, a first-string nose guard and a second-string linebacker, was another defensive standout. The 179-pound senior made four solo tackles and assisted on seven more.

The Pioneer game begins at 2 p.m. Pioneer should be quite a challenge for North Farmington, but Holland feels "I think our kids are ready to play some good people and find out how good we are."

| N. FARMINGTON - THURSTON | |
|--------------------------|------|
| First downs rushing | 6 |
| First downs passing | 1 |
| First downs penalty | 0 |
| Yards rushing | 117 |
| Yards passing | 117 |
| Passes | 4-6 |
| Yards-per-throw | 4.2 |
| Fumbles-No. lost | 1-0 |
| Penalties-yards lost | 6-50 |
| N. FARMINGTON | 31 |
| THURSTON | 0 |

| SCORING | |
|---|----|
| N. FARMINGTON—Pat Collins 7 run (Tim Quinn kick) | 7 |
| N. FARMINGTON—Collins 3 run with blocked punt (Quinn kick) | 6 |
| N. FARMINGTON—Jeff Cohen 8 run (Quinn kick) | 8 |
| N. FARMINGTON—Cohen 1 run (kick failed) | 0 |
| N. FARMINGTON—Mike Thompson 35 pass from Ron Fredericks (Mike Osterhage kick) | 35 |
| N. FARMINGTON—Quinn 26 run (kick failed) | 0 |

TEAM STANDINGS—North Farmington—1-0 in league; 3-0 overall; Livonia Franklin—2-1; Westland John Glenn—0-2-1; Garden City East—0-1-1; Thurston High—0-1, 0-1.



North Farmington's Pat Collins attempts to block a punt during last Saturday's game against Thurston. (Staff photo by Tom Baer)

Harrison clips Western, 14-0

By TOM BAER

Farmington Harrison eliminated a big stumbling block on the way to its second-straight Western Six League football title, and ended the Walled Lake Western football resurgence, marching to an easy 14-0 victory last Saturday.

But Harrison coach John Herrington isn't counting his proverbial chickens—not as long as his team has to play WSL-foe Livonia Churchill.

Harrison won't have to wait long for the test. The Hawks invade Churchill's field on Friday (Sept. 30) with a tentative starting time of 4 p.m. The starting time may be shifted to 8 p.m. if Churchill's new field lighting is ready.

Couch Ken Kaestner's Churchill squad, 2-1 this season, opened its Western Six season last Friday with a 7-0 victory over Plymouth Canton.

"Churchill has a good defense as always," Herrington said. "They also have a strong running back in this

Doran Mason, and a real good nose guard in Ken Boyles."

Herrington had said he was worried about his defense in general and his defensive secondary in particular. He's worried a lot less after the Western game.

"It (the defensive secondary) came on," Herrington said. "Our secondary really improved tremendously from the week before. It consists of three defensive ends and a linebacker from last year, and it just took them awhile to come around."

ONE KEY to the secondary is safety Brad Bache, who intercepted one Western pass and knocked down four more as Harrison held Western's potent passing attack to 91 yards. "Bache did a great job," Herrington said. "He was all over the field."

Western gained just six yards on the ground thanks to the likes of nose guard John Ford (six solo tackles and three assists), and linebackers Pete

Lambert (seven solos and one assist) and Fred Blackmer (seven solos and two assists).

Another defensive standout was tackle Mark Heppard, according to Herrington. "It wasn't the tackles so much, but he always seemed to be in the right place at the right time."

Offensively, Harrison rolled up 347 total yards, 204 on 10 of 20 pass attempts. Blackmer, who plays tailback on offense, carried the ball 22 times for 109 yards, including a seven-yard touchdown run in the second quarter.

Bret Homovec, a standout performer at quarterback, accounted for most of Harrison's passing yardage, and ran seven yards for the Hawks' other touchdown in the third quarter. Homovec also kicked both extra points.

Harrison's receivers—Bert Barsch, John Brancheau and Bache—have been "catching anything near them," according to Herrington.

Against Western, Brancheau caught three passes for 112 yards, Bache caught five for 70, and Barsch caught two for 57.

HARRISON-WESTERN

| | HHS | WLS |
|----------------------|-------|-------|
| First downs rushing | 7 | 3 |
| First downs passing | 9 | 7 |
| First downs penalty | 0 | 4 |
| Yards rushing | 10 | 6 |
| Yards passing | 204 | 91 |
| Passes | 19-21 | 13-12 |
| Punts—average | 34.7 | 44.4 |
| Fumbles—No. lost | 1 | 0 |
| Penalties—yards lost | 6-70 | 3-33 |
| HARRISON | 14 | 0 |
| WL WESTERN | 0 | 0 |

SCORING

HARRISON—Fred Blackmer 7 run (Bret Homovec kick).
HARRISON—Homovec 7 run (Homovec kick).

WESTERN SIX LEAGUE

LEAGUE STANDINGS—Harrison—1-0; W2 record: Northville—1-0; Livonia Churchill—1-0; Walled Lake Western—0-1; Warford Hill—0-1; Plymouth Canton—0-1.

Farmington '11' stings Northern

Farmington High's football team, which has plenty going for it already, got a boost from the weather last Saturday in its Inter Lakes League opener against Pontiac Northern at Wisner Stadium.

Farmington defeated Northern, 12-6, and Falcon coach Hal Beardsley was quick to credit last Saturday's constant drizzle and the resultant muddy field with holding down Northern's speedy running backs.

"The big difference in the game was our size and the fact that it was a rainy day," said Beardsley, whose team climbed to 2-1 overall with the victory.

"Northern couldn't move inside because of the muddy field, and we controlled the game on the outside with our size."

But the sloppy conditions didn't stop Farmington backs Dan Jamieson and Marty Bona. Jamieson, a 165-pound senior halfback, carried the ball 15 times for 150 yards, including a thrilling 70-yard touchdown in the opening quarter.

Bona, the team's quarterback and a good runner in his own right, gained 68 yards in eight carries and scored what turned out to be the winning touchdown on a 15-yard power sweep in the second quarter.

Bona also starred from his defensive halfback position. Northern completed just one pass in nine attempts, and Bona broke up several would-be completions.

"He's a fine team leader," Beardsley said. "He does a good job for us in many respects besides carrying and throwing the ball."

FARMINGTON'S SIZE—and the Falcons are as big as just about any team around—was evident last Saturday. Farmington ran the game off attack play time and time again with tackle Terry Hall (6-2, 225) and guard Dan Hickey (5-11, 190) leading the way.

Hall and Hickey were also the lead-

ers on defense. Hall was given credit for 19 tackles, including 13 solos, while Hickey recorded 10.

Northern got on the board and tied the game briefly on a play that covered 59 yards when Rodney Lee caught a touchdown pass from Robert Williams. Neither team made its conversions. Farmington's kicks missed after both touchdowns, and Northern's lone run failed.

Farmington also dominated most of the statistics, picking up eight first downs to Northern's six, and rushing for 243 yards to Northern's 151. Northern held the edge in passing yards.

Farmington continues its ILL season on Friday (Sept. 30) at Waterford Township. The game begins at 7:30 p.m. Waterford slipped by Milford Lakeland, 8-7, last Saturday.

"Waterford is smaller than we are, but they're very quick," Beardsley said. "They also do the unexpected. Against West Bloomfield, they ran some of their punts, and they opened the game by throwing four passes in a row."

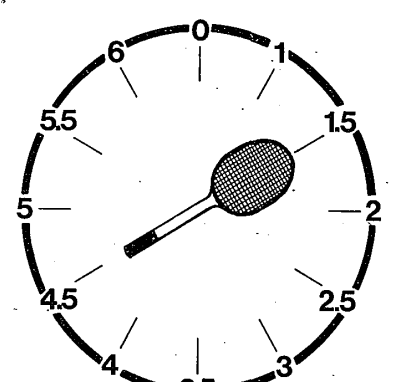
Farmington returns home on Oct. 8 for an ILL game with Livonia Stevenson.

| FARMINGTON - PONTIAC | |
|----------------------|-----|
| First downs rushing | PHS |
| First downs passing | PHS |
| First downs penalty | PHS |
| Yards rushing | PHS |
| Yards passing | PHS |
| Passes | PHS |
| Punts—average | PHS |
| Fumbles—No. lost | PHS |
| Penalties—yards lost | PHS |
| FARMINGTON HIGH | 12 |
| PONTIAC NORTHERN | 6 |

| SCORING | |
|---|---|
| FARMINGTON—Dan Jamieson 7 run (kick) | 7 |
| PONTIAC NORTHERN—Rodney Lee 59 pass from Robert Williams run (kick) | 6 |
| FARMINGTON—Marty Bona 15 run (kick failed) | 0 |

TEAM STANDINGS—Farmington—1-0 in league; 2-0 overall; Livonia Stevenson—1-0; Waterford Township—1-1; Pontiac Northern—0-1; Walled Lake Lakeland—0-1, 0-1.

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Raider golfers top DCDS

North Farmington bested Detroit Country Day School, 211-223, last Monday afternoon in a non-league high school golf match played over Oakland Hills Country Club's North Course. The win lifted North Farmington to 6-2 overall this fall.

Gary Laurin and Norm Lieberq