North gridders edged in opener

North Farmington's pass defense crumbled under the weight of Filmt in the last period as Rich Nutter bulled Southwestern quarterbase. Derrick in from two yards out. Nutter also con-Jackson's three touchdown tosses last verted the two-point conversion to cut. Saturday and dropped a 22-16 decision Film's lead to 22-16, but it was the final time North could get on the board. North inpured out to an early 8-0 lead in the first quarter. Dante Divition and the first quarter. Dante Divition and the most conversion to cut mailed Jackson in the end zone but overall we looked good. The kids from two yards out for the first North, played their hearts out.

"OTHER THAN SOME first game and two verall we looked good. The kids from two yards out for the first North, played their hearts out.

"OTHER THAN SOME first game to the world well," shall the receiver Darry Turner race, with two touchdown passes in the secured at game, the state of the

Harrison to face Groves

Raiders, Falcons look to rebound

By C.J. RISAK

Harrison gripped, North dipped and Farmington slipped.

The only Farmington-area high school to win its opening football game last weekend was Harrison, which defeated crosstown-rival Farmington, last year's Class A runner up, probably endered to the state of the season of the property of the season of the season of the school to be much improved over last season. The Falcons trailed several times Saturday, but kept battling back and, with a few breaks or the absense of some costly penalties, might have come away with the win.

But there are some big "ifs" there. Harrison quarterback Bruce Morrison unleashed a great passing attack to accounted for 199 yards. He trew for two touchdowns and ran for another. If Morrison can continue to pass like

two touchdowns and ran for another. If Morrison can continue to pass like that, there may not be a team on Harrison's schedule that can stand between the Hawks and a Western Six League title and even a playoff berth. But the playoffs are a long way off. Farmington has to improve in two areas: the offense has to move the ball (it started to in the second half against Harrison), and there has to be some sort of pass defense.

North faced a fine team in Flint

Southwestern last Saturday, and did it in front of a hostile crowd at Flint's Atwood Stadium. North Coach Ron Holland blaunded he loss on Southwestern's superior speed, and three Flint touchdown passes may indicate where the lack-of-speed problem may be. Still, North did outgain the Flint squad. When Holland said the seniors on this team, who had seen the varsity loss only twice before this season on this team, who had seen the varsity loss only twice before this season with the same that the seniors of the sen

HERE'S A PREVIEW of the upcoming games this weekend for the three Farmington teams:

HARRISON vs. GROVES

Harrison showed last Saturday that it possesses a strong, balanced offense that can strike from anywhere. Morrison, who completed 12 of 17 passes, threw for more than half of the team's total yardage, 362 yards.

The Hawks may find the going tougher against Birmingham Groves this Saturday, Groves lots its opener last Friday to Southfield High, 21-7, but still should provide Harrison with more than an even game.

The big gun for Groves is Chris Vogt, who quarterbacks and sees some action in the defensive secondary. Vogt had a rough opener against Southfield, throw-

ing four interceptions.

Vogt may not have to throw so much this week, as the Groves running attack came alive in the second half against Southfield. Running backs Don Olsen (71 yards in 13 carries) and Rex Aubrey (49 yards in eight carries) lead a potent backfield.

The Groves defense isn't as big or as tough as it was last year. That should be good news to Harrison's fans and players.

players.
The game, the home opener for Har-rison, will start at 2 p.m. on Saturday. PICK—HARRISON

FARMINGTON vs. WEST BLOOM-FIELD

Last Saturday's loss to Harrison was a tough pill to swallow for Farmington coach Hal Beardsley. His team is coming off a 1-8 1978 season, his worst ever in 29 years of coaching, and he wants an improvement this season. That should happen. The Falcon offense began to click last Saturday in the second half, mostly on the running of Bob Benge and Dave Hall. Still, the whole offense gained only 143 yards. That will have to improve against West Bloomfield.

Bloomfield.

The Farmington pass defense, which plagued the team last year, is again a problem this year. If something isn't changed in the secondary, it could cause quite a headache for Beardsley. West Bloomfield is commig off a 14-6 loss to Waterford Township, played last

Friday in the Pontiac Silverdome. But West Bloomfield seems to be in much-better shape mentally. The Lakers stuck with a tough Township team de-spite the loss of one key player, quart-

spite the loss of one key player, quart-erback Chris Mayone. If Mayone is able to return to action, against Farmington — he bruised his elbow falling on the Silverdome carpet-i-I'll be trouble for Farmington. The game will be West Bloomfield's borne opener, and will start at 7:30 p.m. Friday, PICK — WEST BLOOMFIELD

NORTH FARMINGTON vs W.L. CENTRAL

North Farmington is still the best

North Farmington is still the best team in the area.

That's hard to say after one game (and a loss as well), but any team that can travel to Flint and then play the home team evenly — and a very good home team at that — is no slouch.

It's true the Raiders have lost a lot

from last season's team. But they're not lacking in talent.

They proved it last Saturday night. Behind what coach Holland termed an inexperienced offensive line, the North running backs, Dan Cohen and Rich Nutter, combined for 150 yards rushing.

Quarterback Greg Goldstein wasn't overpowering in his performance, but he did pass for 80 yards. All told, North outgained Flint, 273 to 258 in yardage.

Now North must face Walled Lake Central. "They're a very big, physical team," Holland said. It's doubtful that

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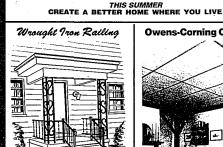
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