

Monday, October 13, 1986

Blackmer's overtime field goal lifts Harrison

By TOM BAER

Dave Blackmer won it by kicking an 18-yard field goal. Bill Miller set up the field goal by snatching an enemy pass.

These were two key plays in Farmington Harrison's thrilling 31-28 victory over Wall Lake West on in four overtimes Friday night on Wall Lake Central's field.

The victory gave Harrison a 6-0 overall record and at least a tie for

the Western Six League football championship.

"It was one thrilling high school football game," said Harrison coach John Herrington, who watched the two teams battle to a seven-all tie after the regulation four quarters.

"Our kids did a lot of growing up here tonight," Herrington said. "It's just a tremendous experience for them — something that'll stay with them for a long time. They faced a lot of pressure out there, but they

overcame it and won."

Harrison wore the coin toss before the fourth overtime and elected to go on defense. On the first play, Western quarterback John Generous, who passed for 103 yards and one touchdown, threw the ball into the arms of Harrison's Miller, who returned it to midfield.

The ball came back to the 10-yard line and Harrison had four chances to score. Two plays later,

Blackmer ended the marathon game with the field goal.

KEN KOPKO, a hard-running tailback, carried the ball nine times and scored a touchdown in overtime. For the game, he carried 37 times and gained 128 of Harrison's 184 yards on the ground.

Harrison's John Perry caught two touchdown passes in OT from quarterback John Macielak. Generous threw OT touchdown passes to Jim

Johnson and Mike Xenos, and ran four yards for another score.

Two of the game's biggest offensive threats — Harrison split end Reggie Upshaw and Western fullback Angelo Buttazzoni — weren't that prominent.

Upshaw, who caught seven passes for 194 yards against Waterford Mott a week earlier, managed only a couple of receptions against the tight Western coverage. Buttazzoni was held to 128 yards in 37 carries.

"They shut down Reggie," Herrington said. "They double-covered him and bumped him off the ball. So we stayed with our power game and Ken Kopko really came through for us. And our defense was tough. We really keyed on Buttazzoni and it paid off."

Western scored on its first possession as Generous capped a 60-yard drive by running three yards for the

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North passes grid test

By TOM BAER

Something had to give in the Northwest Suburban League football race. Redford Union gave.

North Farmington passed its big football test with flying colors Saturday afternoon by turning back a strong RU squad, 10-0, in a crucial NSL contest. Both teams had been unbeaten in league play.

By winning, North Farmington gained at least a share of the NSL title and increased its season record to 6-0. RU's Panthers fell to 5-1 overall.

North tailback Rick Roth ran nine yards for a touchdown midway through the final quarter and Steve Magyari added the extra point to break a scoreless tie. Magyari made good on a 25-yard field goal later in the quarter.

Redford Union rushed for 196 yards to North's 181. However, the Panthers, known for their strong passing game this season, were held to just 17 yards through the air. RU quarterback Mike Lowney completed two of 15 with three interceptions.

"We worked very hard at shutting down their passing game," said North coach Ron Holland after the game. "That was our game plan, and by the looks of things we're very successful."

RU missed a good scoring chance in the second quarter. After driving from their own three (where Doug Schulte's punt went out of bounds), the Panthers marched to the North 16.

But then Lowney, who has passed for eight TDs this season, was unsuccessful on four-straight pass attempts, and North took over on downs.

ASKED WHY HE elected to throw

four passes in a row, RU coach Harvey Heitman said: "We just did what we do best. We're a throwing club this season. We're passing 60 or 70 percent of the time."

Another Panther drive stalled on the North 10 when tailback John Utch, who gained 93 yards in 20 carries, fumbled a handoff. The ball was recovered by North tackle Scott Williams.

RU halfback Tim Holme was taken by ambulance to Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills after suffering an injury in the fourth quarter. He was sacked while releasing the ball on a pass play. An observer said the RU player was experiencing chest pains and having difficulty breathing.

It'll be homecoming at North Farmington next Saturday, Oct. 18, and Livonia Franklin will provide the opposition. Game time is 2 p.m. North will own the tie outright with a win.

RU hosts Garden City East at 8 p.m. next Friday.

NORTHERN 22 FARMINGTON 21

Derrick Simpson sprinted 10 yards with a pitchout for the winning touchdown Saturday as Pontiac Northern edged Farmington High, 22-21, in the Inter Lakes League. Farmington is winless in six starts this season.

Northern's Lucius Williams gained 103 yards in 32 carries, scored two touchdowns on short runs and ran for a pair of two-point conversions.

Farmington tailback Greg Koinis scored three TDs, two on short runs and another on a 46-yard pass play from Dan Antishin. Teammate Ed Hickey caught a two-point conversion pass

from Antishin, and Brian Funni kicked an extra point.

Farmington plays next on Saturday, Oct. 18, at home against Waterford Township.

NORTHERN 22 — FARMINGTON 21

	FIN	FHS
First downs rushing	8	9
First downs passing	0	2
First downs penalty	0	0
Yards rushing	226	215
Yards passing	62	71
Passes	5-10-0	4-9-0
Fumbles - No. lost	1-0	2-0
Penalties - yards lost	2-11	4-30
Punts - average	2-14	3-30

NORTHERN	0	0	0	0	22
FARMINGTON	0	15	6	0	21

SCORING PLAYS

mPNI — Lucius Williams 2 run (run good).
FHS — Greg Koinis 2 run (Ed Hickey pass from Dan Antishin).
FHS — Koinis 46 pass from Antishin (Brian Funni kick).
FNI — Williams 2 run (Williams run).
FHS — Koinis 1 run (pass failed).
PNI — Derrick Simpson 10 run (run failed).

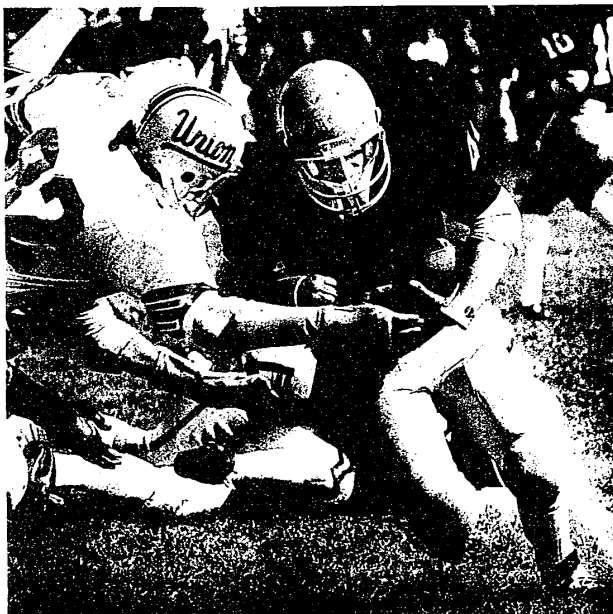
N. FARMINGTON 10 — REDFORD UNION 0

	NF	RU
First downs	8	13
Yards rushing	181	196
Yards passing	62	17
Passes	3-6-0	2-15-0
Fumbles - No. lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties - yards lost	6-35	1-15

N. FARMINGTON	0	0	0	10	10
REDFORD UNION	0	0	0	0	0

SCORING PLAYS

NF — Rick Roth 9 run (Steve Magyari kick).
NF — Magyari 25 field goal.



Redford Union's Craig Ferguson (82) takes a shot at stopping North Farmington's Doug Schulte. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

Mercy stays perfect

By BOB GROSS



North Farmington's Margie Lee (left) shoots during a recent game. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

They should play the Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy-Birmingham Marian basketball game in a larger gymnasium.

The archrivals played Thursday at Mercy, and there was an overflow crowd that spilled onto the floor and around the sidelines.

But don't get the idea that the rematch — to be played at Marian — might be switched to the Brother Rice gym.

"We're gonna play them at home," said Marian coach Karen Lafata, whose team lost 60-53. "I want them in my gym."

Mercy coach Larry Baker acknowledged the home-court advantage.

"It's a good thing we were playing on our floor," said Baker. "If we were playing at Marian, I don't know what would've happened."

Lafata was a little perplexed after the loss. She couldn't figure out why her two tallest players — Debbie Zelazny and Sue Flood — were both sitting on the bench at the end of the game, disqualified because they had exceeded the foul limit.

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Farmington swim squad still unbeaten

Jenny Ratliff and Dawn Stanton each established a variety record to help Farmington High School win its sixth-straight dual meet this season with a 55-74 showing over Redford Union Wednesday.

Ratliff compiled 222.3 points in diving for one record, and Stanton went 1:07.9 in the 100-yard backstroke for the other. Teammate Kim Pogue qualified for the state meet in the 100-yard freestyle with a winning time of :56.6.

Earlier last week, Farmington slipped by Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 88-84, in a non-league meet. Farmington needed — and got — a one-two finish in the final event, the 400-yard freestyle relay. The winning team (Dawn Stanton, Amy Edwards, Sabina Catlett and Kim Hinkle) went 4:07.5, and the second-place team (Jo Smith, Pogue, Diane Buckner and Debbie Britly) was clocked at 4:10.3.

Ratliff was the diving event with 181.2 points, and teammate Jill Rospis took third place with 144.15. Edwards won two events, the 50 free (:35.2) and the 100 free (:57.9). Pogue won the 200 free (:2:02.6) and the 500 free (:5:26.0).

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