

Lathrup blanks Lahser

Groves grabs share of MSA grid crown

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In a noisy Birmingham Groves locker room, a radiant coach Bill Rankin joined his team in a rather unmelodious rendition of the Falcon fight song.

It was an especially sweet victory for the Falcons because they were assured of at least a tie for the Metro Suburban Activities Association (MSAA) league title.

Troy Athens went into the game with high hopes of upsetting the Birmingham squad. But the Red Hawks, now 4-2 and 2-2 in the league, suffered a 14-0 shutout and sent Groves, 4-0 in the MSAA, into a contest for the league title.

The Falcons travel to Southfield-Lathrup (3-1 in the MSAA) in a battle for the crown at 8 p.m. Friday.

"Our kids, as a whole, played absolutely excellent football," said a smiling Rankin. "We're a good ball club."

"Athens didn't surprise us with anything they did."

"I thought (halfback Sam Lunetta) had a hell of a game and I thought (quarterback) Bill Rankin (the coach's son) played well," said Rankin. This little of quarterback over here went five-for-eight for 61 yards. Not a bad job, huh?"

A DISAPPOINTED coach John Walker took the defeat gracefully.

"It was our first chance in five years to get that close," said Walker.

"Groves is a superior team. They're bigger, stronger and they executed well."

"I'm proud of our kids for the way they hung in there, but they just weren't good enough to win. We're a young team and we have the potential to get better, but we have to work at it," he said.

The fired-up Falcons scored on the first possession in each of the first two quarters and played nearly flawless football.

Groves marched down the field almost effortlessly in the first quarter and with five minutes remaining, fullback Dave Hurlbise darted five yards for the touchdown.

Ken Granader's kick was good to give Groves a 7-0 lead.

For openers in the second quarter, the Falcons gave the capacity crowd almost a repeat performance. A 12-play, 69-yard drive was capped by a quarterback sneak for the score.

The extra-point attempt by Granader was good.

With the Falcons' homecoming festivities set to begin at the half, Groves enjoyed a 14-0 lead that they never relinquished.

ATHENS' OFFENSE gained 61 yards in the third quarter and penetrated as deep as its own 22-yard line, but failed to score. The defense held Groves to only 41 yards.

In the fourth, the Redhaws were shut down by Groves and lost six yards on offense.

Quarterback Tim Drumheller was the bright spot for the Redhaws with 111 yards.

Groves' pass defense held quarterback Steve Mazur to four completions in 14 attempts for 17 yards.

Groves racked up 310 yards total offense with top contributor Lunetta gaining 83 yards in 14 carries.

Athens takes its 4-2 record to Rochester Adams at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

ANDOVER 28, HAZEL PARK 22

Bloomfield Hills Andover stayed right on Royal Oak Kimball's tail with a harrowing 28-22 Suburban Michigan Association (SMA) victory over Hazel Park.

The Barons, like Kimball, 5-0 in the SMA, held on in the fourth quarter as the Vikings scored 16 points. Andover will play at Kimball in two weeks.

Coach Frank Buford's team scored in every quarter. The Barons held a 14-6 halftime lead, and a 22-6 lead after three quarters.

Hazel Park scored a pair of touchdowns in the fourth quarter on a four-yard run by Harold Thibodeau and a three-yard run by Tom Weston. Weston ran in both extra points.

Andover's Steve Mazur scored the game-winning touchdown on a 57-yard fourth-quarter run.

"We had a hard time stopping them, and they hit very hard," said Buford, whose team improved its overall record to 5-1.

Robin Peterson scored the game's first touchdown for Andover on a pulsating 45-yard punt return. The next two Barons scores were by quarterback

Rick Forzano Jr. — both on one-yard runs.

Weston, who ran for 115 yards on 28 carries, scored Hazel Park's first touchdown.

Mazur rushed for 214 yards to break the 1,000-yard mark with 1,022 yards.

Andover rushed 268 yards, and passed for 15 for a 283-yard total.

Hazel Park had 256 total yards, 187 rushing and 69 passing.

The Barons, 5-1 overall, travel to Birmingham Seaholm for an 8 p.m. Friday contest.

CRANBROOK 53, HARPER WOODS 0

The Cranbrook offense has been sputtering all year.

But it finally roared to life Friday.

Poor Harper Woods was the victim of five weeks of frustration as the Cranes picked up their first win of the year.

Cranbrook started with 14 points in the first quarter, 26 points in the second quarter and 53 points in the third quarter.

Quarterback Mark LaFontaine got the Cranes on the board in the first quarter with a one-yard sneak. Gerard Rabinowitz kicked the extra point.

Rabinowitz was good on five of eight extra-point attempts.

LaFontaine scored one other touchdown, and passed to Tim Hazen for another. Running back Scott Estes scored three touchdowns on runs of one, two and seven yards.

John Zigleman scored on a 37-yard run. Sophomore Aaron Honigman scored Cranbrook's final touchdown late in the third quarter on a one-yard run.

Cranbrook rushed for 174 yards while holding Harper Woods to 69.

LaFontaine connected on six of seven passing attempts for 125 yards. The Cranes allowed one completion in eight Harper Woods attempts, intercepted one pass, and held Harper Woods to a negative 15 yards passing.

Cranbrook had 299 total yards — Harper Woods had 54.

Cranbrook is now 1-5. The Cranes take on arch-rival Detroit Country Day at 2 p.m. Saturday. The game is Country Day's homecoming.

LATHRUP 16, LAHSER 0

Southfield-Lathrup held Bloomfield Hills Lahser star tailback Alex Clark to only 53 yards in 11 carries — 16 yards on five carries in the first half — en route to a 16-0 football victory Friday night.

"Our defense was fantastic," said Lathrup coach Bob Marten. "They were all over the field."

The Chargers, who have won two in a row, host Birmingham Groves in a Metro Suburban Association (MSAA) showdown at 8 p.m. Friday. Groves, 4-0 in the league, wrapped up at least a

share of the title with a 14-0 win over Troy Athens. Lathrup, 3-1 in the MSAA, can share that crown with the Falcons if they upset the Birmingham squad.

Lahser, conversely, has lost two in a row and is 3-3 overall. The Knights host Royal Oak Benders at 8 p.m. Friday.

Lathrup (4-2 overall) scored on its first possession of the game. George Schultz capped a nine-play, 58-yard drive with a five-yard touchdown run.

Terry Bobbitt kicked his first of two extra points for a 7-0 lead.

CHARGER TAILBACK Paul Bobbitt, Terry's brother, broke open a 75-yard run in the second quarter for the Chargers' second score in the second period.

Lathrup's final score came when defensive tackle Todd Babich blocked a punt midway in the fourth quarter. The ball sailed out of the end zone for a safety.

The Chargers finished with 219 total yards to only 93 for Lahser. Paul Bobbitt carried the ball 13 times for 102 yards.

Terry Bobbitt hit six of 15 passes for 82 yards. Receiver Rich Denno caught four of the passes for 69 yards. For the season, Denno has caught 22 passes for 425 yards, breaking all Lathrup school records.

FG lifts Hawks

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touchdown. The big play on the drive was a 37-yard " flea-flicker" pass from halfback John Shell to end John Harless to the Harrison five.

HARRISON TIED it on a six-yard Macielak-to-Upshaw pass in the second quarter.

Blackmer, a sophomore, made good on all four point-after kicks in addition to his game-winning field goal. Western had a talented punter in Paul Burke, who had a 42-yard average for six tries.

"Their punter kept us in bad field position all night," Herrington said. "It wasn't just the average. It was hitting the ball in the coffin corner consistently."

Harrison can clinch the WSL title outright if it can beat Livonia Churchill on Saturday, Oct. 18, at home. A Harrison loss combined with a Western win would mean the two teams would share the title.

	HHS	WLW
First downs rushing	8	4
First downs passing	1	2
First downs penalty	2	0
Yards rushing	184	69
Yards passing	33	103
Passes	6-11-0	6-12-1
Fumbles — No lost	1-1	1-1
Penalties — Yards lost	8-60	11-85
Punts — average	7-36	6-42
HARRISON	0	7
WESTERN	7	0

	WLW	HHS
WLW — John Generous 3 run (Mike Xenos kick)		
HHS — Reggie Upshaw 6 pass from Jim Macielak (Dave Blackmer kick)		
WLW — Xenos 6 pass from Generous (Xenos kick)		
HHS — Ken Kopko 2 run (Blackmer kick)		
WLW — Jim Johnson 10 pass from Generous (Xenos kick)		
HHS — John Perry 10 pass from Macielak (Blackmer kick)		
WLW — Generous 4 run (Xenos kick)		
HHS — Perry 5 pass from Macielak (Blackmer kick)		
HHS — Blackmer 18 field goal		

in the pocket/W. W. Edgar

The importance of having a bowling league sanctioned early was brought to light very forcibly last week when Jeff Newsom, the 17-year-old lad, fired his 807 series at Plaza Lanes.

In the course of registering this count — the highest in the area for some time — Jeff bowled a perfect game. Both of these feats earned awards from the American Bowling Congress, provided the league was sanctioned.

In Jeff's case, it was a new league that had just changed officers and the sanction was just being applied for. So a question arose as to whether Jeff would have his scores recognized.

Tom McKay, secretary of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association and an ABC director, explained that the scores will be honored because of the change

in officers. Had it not been for that, the lateness of the sanction application could have denied approval.

So, league secretaries, if you haven't had your league sanctioned, don't wait any time. It may pay dividends later on.

THE HEAVY FIRING continued in the Wonderland Classic when the Ben Rovin team, captained by Mel Margolian, put together games of 1115, 1126 and 1096 for a 3337 total — the highest of the season in the western suburbs.

Along the way, Dave Kaliszewski had a 278 middle game in 722 to set the pace, and Bob Patterson followed with a 710, due mainly to a 248 opener.

AL CRAWFORD, who has lived to the ripe old age of 86, found an unusual

way to help his bowling. He just added another hole in the ball and now has a four-finger ball to toss at the pins.

"I found as I grew older," he said between games at Garden Lanes the other day, "it was getting more difficult to get the ball away. So I had a hole drilled for a small finger and now things are working out well."

THEY HAD another close finish at Merri-Bowl this week when only six pins separated the top three bowlers in the senior house league.

George Barenberg finally landed on top with 540. Six pins back was Hal Davis and he had a one-pin edge on E.J. Archer, who also had high game with a 246.

HELEN BURGER had reason to be proud at Woodland Lanes. She rolled a

230 in 618 to show the way in the Thursday Ladies League. She had to yield high game, though, as Jean Moore had a 241 in 541. In her big game, Jean had six strikes in a row before she faltered.

In the Hits and Misses loop, Eileen Sachau had 221 in 566 to pace the early birds with a high game of 216.

WOMEN DOMINATED play at Westland Bowl and Marg Bennett took the top rung on the ladder in the early risers league with 235 in 575.

In the Monday men's league, Greg Proctor survived a hard fight with Bob Grenier to earn the piecemeal role. He had games of 200 and 248 in 625 to beat his rival by five pins.

AT PLAZA LANES, top man of the week was Dave Keuppi of the business and industrial league, who closed with a 257 for 617.

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