

Kopko carries Hawks past Raiders, 21-14

By TOM BAER

While the band played Farmington Harrison's fight song, coach John Herrington stood on the muddy field, accepting kisses and congratulations.

For the eighth time this season, Herrington was getting the winner's treatment. But this time it was better. This time it meant a lot more.

"I don't think I'll ever quit smiling," said an exuberant Herrington minutes after his Harrison Hawks had turned back archrival North Farmington, 21-14, in a crucial high school football game Saturday before an overflow crowd at Harrison.

With the win, Harrison raised its overall record to 8-0 and kept alive its hopes for a berth in the state Class B playoffs.

The loss ruined North's heretofore perfect season and, barring a miracle, knocked the Raiders out of the Class A playoff picture.

Harrison's victory was a team effort, but one player — senior tailback Ken Kopko — played a starring role. The 6-foot, 190-pound Kopko carried the ball an incredible 38 times for 259 yards and two touchdowns.

Kopko logged the ball 18 times during the game's last drive, when Harrison killed off nine minutes and 50 seconds of the fourth quarter, marching 72 yards to the North eight before the final gun.

The Hawks didn't score on the drive, but they kept the ball away from North.

REGGIE UPSHAW, Harrison's top receiver, was double covered. But Dan Lacy, Upshaw's understudy, made his first reception this season and it went 31 yards for the opening touchdown. The score was set up by a short North punt, which gave the Hawks the ball on the Raider 30.

Kopko raced 49 yards on a sideline sweep for the Hawks' next TD. The drive was helped along by quarterback Jim Macielak's pass completion to



JOHN HERRINGTON: "I don't think I'll ever quit smiling."

Steve Sweeney for a first down on the North 49.

North came back to score a touchdown in the second quarter on a short run by Doug Schulte. Rick Roth, North's other running threat, set up the TD by exploding for a 45-yard gain to the Hawk 35.

North safety Chuck Kott intercepted a pass on the Raider 41 to make possible his team's next touchdown — a one-yard plunge by Roth in the third quarter.

On the next series, Kopko raced 54 yards for his second touchdown. Sophomore Dave Blackmer made good on all three Harrison extra points. Steve Magyari kicked both Raider PATs.

Hawk linebacker Bruce Yeager made 17 tackles and intercepted a pass, and teammate Dan Kehagias made seven tackles, including a key sack of North quarterback Jim Franchi in the fourth quarter.

That sack forced North to punt, and

Harrison held the ball for that clock-killing drive.

Upshaw may have been kept away from the ball on offense, but he was outstanding from his defensive safety spot, making 11 tackles.

Harrison ends its regular season at home Saturday against non-league opponent Plymouth Salem. Game time is 2 p.m.

FARMINGTON HIGH 8 BRIGHTON 0

Greg Koins ran one yard for a touchdown, and Jeff O'Malley caught a conversion pass from Steve Downey as Farmington High blanked non-league Brighton High, 8-0.

The win was Farmington's second in a row after six straight losses.

Koins' TD plunge capped a 32-yard drive started when O'Malley intercepted a pass. Downey, coming off an injury, had a good day passing — nine of 14 for 81 yards. Jim Steiner, Farmington's outstanding linebacker, recovered a fumble, made 11 solo tackles and assisted on five others.

Farmington ends its season Saturday with the traditional game against North Farmington. Game time is 2 p.m. at North.

HARRISON 21 — N. FARMINGTON 14

	HIS	NP
First downs rushing	10	9
First downs passing	1	2
First downs penalty	1	2
Yards rushing	277	198
Yards passing	41	13
Passes	2-9	3-7
Penalties — yards lost	4-40	4-30
Fumbles — No. lost	0-0	0-0
Points — average	2.50	6.28

HARRISON	14	0	7	0	— 21
NO. FARMINGTON	0	7	0	0	— 14

SCORING PLAYS

HARRISON — Dan Lacy 31 pass from Jim Macielak (Dave Blackmer kick).
HARRISON — Ken Kopko 49 run (Blackmer kick).
NO. FARMINGTON — Doug Schulte 1 run (Steve Magyari kick).
NO. FARMINGTON — Rick Roth 1 run (Magyari kick).
HARRISON — Kopko 54 run (Blackmer kick).

Rally lifts Hawk cagers

By TOM BAER

Farmington Harrison used a strong second half and a fine performance by sophomore Sue Ferguson to overcome visiting Livonia Churchill, 36-22, in Western Six League basketball Thursday night.

Coach Mike Hickey's Harrison team trailed by three points (16-13) at the intermission, but rallied in the second half to outpoint Churchill, 25-6. Ferguson, a 5-foot-8 forward, led the Hawks with 10 points and 14 rebounds.

"This win was good for our players," said Hickey, whose team has only two victories against 10 losses. "It showed them that they've been doing all the right things."

"We had ourselves an excellent second half against Churchill. We were very aggressive defensively, and on offense, we broke their press and got a few easy buckets."

Harrison's Andrea Parry contributed eight points. Carrie Scarr and Julie Steadman each scored seven for Churchill.

Harrison travels to Northville for a Western Six League contest at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 30.

In another recent game, four Farmington Our Lady of Mercy players scored in double figures to pace the Marlin's 67-37 win over Redford Bishop Burgess in Catholic League Central Division play. Mercy is 12-0 this season.

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Raider netters win title

North Farmington can keep the Northwest Suburban League girls' tennis title all to itself.

Coach Norm Slansickowski's Raiders last Wednesday compiled 13 points to win the NSL meet — and take sole possession of the conference championship. Had North finished second, it would have had to share the honors with Livonia Franklin, which beat North in a dual meet.

Franklin, the second-place team with eight points, and North had players in the finals of all seven flights. North won six flight championships.

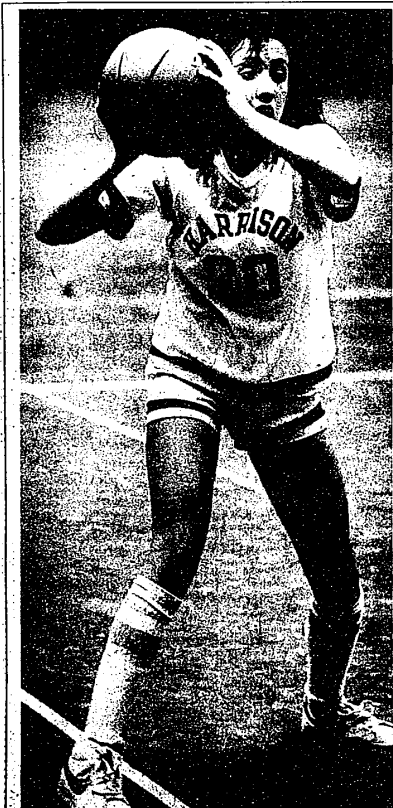
"The league meet finals looked just like our dual meets with Franklin," the North coach said. "I was expecting that. Franklin was really our only competition in the league this year."

Betsy Lee of North won the top singles flight, but she needed three sets to stop Sylvia Dvorak, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4. North's top doubles team of Stacy Smith and Barb Krone downed Sue Raymond and DeAnna Slavic, 6-4, 6-3.

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Ken Kopko gains yardage on one of his 38 rushes against North Farmington Saturday. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)



Sue Ferguson scored five points to help Farmington Harrison defeat Livonia Churchill Thursday. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

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