# Harrison- Glenn clash area's top game

By Brad Emons
and Dan O'Meara
staff writers

THE AREA'S BIGGEST prep football game this season will take place Friday when the Western Lakes Activities Association is at stake.

Farmington Harrison (7-0) will tackle host Westland John Glenn (6-1) for the coveted crown. A win would also help cement a state playoff berth for either team.

Harrison has captured the WLAA crown four of five years, but Glenn took the title two years ago when Tony Boles, now at the University of Michigan, ran wild for 244 yards in a 28-7 Glenn win over the stunned Hawks.

Meanwhile, the season is also winding down for the rest of Observerland.

Two clubs to keep an eye on are Redford Catholic Central (6-1) and North Farmington (6-1). Both are fighting for regional playoff spots.

Last week, rookie prognosticator O'Meara correctly picked 13 of 15 games to take his biggest lead of the year. His total is 79-23, while Emons took a bath last week, slipping to 74-28 overall after picking only nine of 15 correctly.

Here are the weekend picks:

### FRIDAY GAMES
(all at 7:30 p.m.)

Farm. Harrison at Westland Glenn: Get there early because an overflow crowd is expected at the Rocket launching pad. Glenn is big and strong; Harrison is quick and elusive. Quarterbacks Millard Coleman (Harrison) and Clint Stroub (Glenn) will be the keys. Picks — Emons says Glenn is going beat the odds. Harrison will no doubt be in the playoffs regardless, but O'Meara says the Hawks will be league champs once again.

Liv. Churchill at Ply. Salem: This is a Western Lakes crossover. Both teams are 4-3 and have been up and down this season. Turnovers will determine the final outcome. Picks — Emons goes with the host Rocks. O'Meara won't argue that call.

Walled Lk. Western at Liv. Stevenson: The Spartans (5-2) are cooking now, but post-season play seems remote. Rob Chanko, who rushed for more than 200 yards last week and scored five touchdowns, is a junior to watch. Picks — Stevenson keeps rolling.

Redford Union at Waterford Mott: RU (2-5) perked up a bit last week, beating Dearborn. Mott (4-3) is coming off a 14-6 loss to Pontiac Northern despite 90 yards rushing from senior tailback Kirk Brandon. Picks — RU makes it two straight.

Bay City Glenn at Garden City: Not to be confused with Westland's John, this Glenn team is not too shabby. The Bobcats (4-3) clinched a share of the White Pine Conference crown last week, but suffered a big blow when two-way all-league back Steve Johnson broke his leg. They are facing a Garden City team that has yet to win. Picks — Glenn overcomes Johnson's absence.

Wyandotte at Wayne Memorial: It's a home game for the Zebras (5-2), who are in the midst of a battle for second place with Monroe and Lincoln Park in the Wolverine A League. Wyandotte is 3-4, but barely beat lowly Belleville last week. Picks — Wayne pleases the home folk.

Clarenceville at H.W. Lutheran East: The Trojans (5-2) can claim second place in the Metro Conference with a win over East (6-1). William Thompson of East rushed for 232 yards and four TDs in a 49-0 win over Hamtramck. Picks — The Trojans get lost in Harper Woods.

### SATURDAY GAMES
(all 1 p.m. unless noted)

Liv. Franklin at N. Farmington: The Patriots (4-3) are back at full strength for the first time this season as four suspended players returned to the lineup in the second half during last week's 17-16 win over Walled Lake Western. North (6-1), is in the hunt for a playoff berth in Class A Region III. Picks — North picks up some valuable playoff points.

Ply. Canton at Farmington: This appears to be an even matchup. Canton (2-5) is coming off a tough overtime loss to Churchill. The Falcons (1-6) gave North all they could handle before falling 7-0 last week. Picks — Farmington picks up a victory.

N. Branch Wesleyan at Lutheran Westland: North Branch (3-4) has been up and down this year. The Eagles lost last week to unbeaten Flint Academy, 34-0, but own a 19-0 win over Grosse Pointe University-Liggett. Lutheran (2-4) fell to Mount Clemens Cardinal Mooney, 30-28. Picks — North Branch goes home a winner.

Red. Thurston at D.H. Annapolis (1:30 p.m.): Erik Palmer's field goal paced Thurston to its first victory of the season last week, a 3-0 shutout of Taylor Center. Annapolis has yet to win and probably won't this season. Picks — Go for Thurston and two in a row.

Bishop Borgess vs. Brother Rice (2:30 p.m. at GC Junior High): The Spartans could be 6-1 instead of 4-3 had it not been for a pair of one-point defeats. Rice (6-1) is trying to hold onto a playoff berth in Class A Region III. The winner will also earn a wildcard spot against Orchard Lake St. Mary's in the Catholic League Prep Bowl Sunday, Nov. 1, at the Pontiac Silverdome. Picks — Rice displays the winning touch.

Catholic Central vs. Warren DeLaSalle (7:30 p.m. at Clarenceville): The Shamrocks (6-1) have already locked up a berth to play for the Catholic League A-B Division title game Nov. 1 against Double-AA champ Southgate Aquinas. DeLaSalle (4-3) is coming off a stunning 6-3 loss to Borgess. The Pilots seem to lack the necessary muscle up front. Picks — CC finishes its Central Division season unbeaten.

St. Agatha vs. Pontiac Catholic (7:30 p.m. at RU's Kraft Field): The Aggies (3-4) haven't beaten Pontiac Catholic (2-5) since Mike Skiver and Co. left the scene six years ago. Third place is at stake in the C-Bracket. Picks — The Aggies have to settle for fourth.

## Rice rebounds with win

*football*

Brother Rice's football team rebounded from its disheartening overtime loss Oct. 11 to Redford Catholic Central with a 28-7 victory Saturday over Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher.

But the Warriors only can manage a share of the Central Division title with a win this weekend combined with a CC loss.

Rice (3-1 league, 6-1 overall) concludes Central Division action at Garden City High School 1:30 p.m. Saturday against Redford Bishop Borgess High School. Catholic Central (4-0, 6-1) plays its final division game 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Livonia Clarenceville High School against Warren DeLaSalle.

Catholic Central has locked up a berth in the Nov. 1 Prep Bowl at the Pontiac Silverdome for the Catholic League's championship game against the winner of the AA Division. Rice most likely will qualify for the Prep Bowl as a wild card. The Warriors' opponent could very well be A-Intersectional winner Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

Against Gallagher, the Warriors surged to a 14-0 lead on a 1-yard quarterback sneak by John Gieselman in the first quarter and a 4-yard run by Jason Wolf in the second quarter.

Gallagher cut the lead in half on a 17-yard, second-quarter pass from quarterback Sean McEvoy to Kevin Kukendall.

Rice scored two quick touchdowns before halftime to take a 28-7 lead. Wolf, the Warriors' leading rusher this season, scored on an 11-yard run and Mark Meissner wrapped up the scoring with a 35-yard run.

Bob Fekete booted all four extra points.

Rice gained 345 yards total, including 209 rushing and 136 passing. Gieselman completed 8 of 10 passes and Matt McLean caught three passes for 68 yards. Wolf gained 82 yards in 16 carries in only two quarters of action.

Gallagher gained 282 yards against the Warriors defense, including 132 rushing and 150 passing.

# Not-so-easy time

## Hawks start fast, cool off in 2-0 win

*soccer*

Farmington Harrison had visions of a rout in its first-round district soccer game Monday with Oxford.

That never came to be, but nonetheless the Hawks chalked up a 2-0 victory as they began their quest for a Class B trophy on their home turf.

Harrison wasted no time lighting up the scoreboard. It took just 47 seconds for the Hawks to get their first score.

Craig Bailey scored both goals and Mark Lebovitz assisted each time, but the second didn't come as quickly nor as easily.

"We came out like a house on fire," Harrison coach Glenn Bruehan said.

"We were really fired up when we came out to start the game, and we really controlled the ball. We were pressing their goalkeeper, and the ball went right in."

But that quick goal must have had a calming effect on the Hawks. As is sometimes the case when points come so quickly, it appeared to have taken the edge off Harrison's emotion.

"The guys kinda thought it was going to be a blowout and went flat," Bruehan said. "We started playing sloppy soccer. We had a lot of individual play, no team play.

"The guys thought we were going to win easily, and it didn't quite turn out that way," he added.

The Hawks had many more scoring chances, but the 1-0 score held up through halftime.

"We did everything in the first half but put the ball in the goal," said Bruehan, adding Harrison could have had two or three goals in the first 10 minutes.

The second Bailey-Lebovitz goal came early in the second half, and, though the Hawks never put distance between themselves and the Wildcats, they were never really challenged, either. Harrison did dominate the game in that it had 18 shots on goal to Oxford's two, the lowest number by an opponent this season. Gary Wegner was in goal to get the shutout.

"We really stopped them at midfield," Bruehan said, "but it definitely was not one of our best games.

"We were pleased to get out of there with the win. Again, we played to our competition. If our competition is strong, we seem to play really well."

The Hawks improved their record to 9-5-2, increasing the school record for single-season victories. Seven wins by last year's team was the previous mark. Oxford ended up 12-4.

Harrison was scheduled to play the Cranbrook-Avondale winner Wednesday, with the survivor advancing to the district final Saturday at Madison Heights Bishop Foley.

NORTHVILLE 2, N. FARMINGTON 1: The Raiders were eliminated from the Class A district tournament with an opening-round loss to the Mustangs, who were scheduled to face Farmington in the second round Wednesday.

Northville led 1-0 at halftime following Noel Corbin's goal, and the score stayed that way until Steve Yzeback made it 2-0 with three minutes left in the game.

On the latter goal, North had executed a corner kick, but the Mustangs cleared the ball and Yzeback beat the North goalie 1-on-1.

The Raiders, who finished at 4-9-2, came right back with Tim McMinn's goal at 2:42. His first shot bounced off the goalkeeper's knees, and McMinn scored off the rebound.

North outshot the Mustangs 12-8, but Northville had quality shots, North coach Cathy Cole said. "Basically, it was a defensive game with a lot of play at midfield," she said.

Cole had praise for midfielders Dave Appel and Pete Keller. Appel was moved from defense to replace a teammate who was given a one-game suspension for a foul in the previous game.

"(Keller) did an outstanding job distributing and accounted for half the shots we had," Cole said.

N. FARMINGTON 8, W.L. CENTRAL 2: McMinn, Brett Wills and Keller scored two goals apiece as the Raiders ripped Walled Lake Central Oct. 12.

Mike Cowen and Jeff Juliano scored the other goals for North, which led 3-1 at halftime.

The Vikings scored their goals on a pair of penalty kicks.


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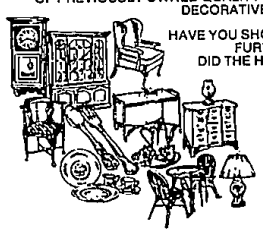
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