

# Falcon harriers finish 8th in state

For the fourth straight year, Farmington finished among the top 11 teams in Class A boys cross country.

The Falcons captured eighth place Saturday in the state championships at Lansing, taking home their second-highest finish in four seasons. Farmington was second last year, 11th in 1985 and 10th in 1984.

"That's where we hoped to be, somewhere between eighth and 12, and that's about as good as we could do," Falcon coach Jerry Young said.

"Our kids ran a nice race. That meets our highest expectations, and you can't ask for any more than that."

North Farmington and Farmington Harrison also had runners capture high places in the Class A and B individual races, respectively.

FARMINGTON was led by Brandon London, who netted 25th place in the team race with a 16:47 time. Brad Moore and Matt Walter were only one place and one second apart, taking 56th and 58th place, respectively, with 17:10 and 17:11 times.

Ron Smedley, who ran in only three races this season, was the league, regional and state meets — because of injury and illness, ran real well, considering how few races he's had, Young said. Smedley was 73rd with a season best of 17:19, and Greg Endres finished 75th in 17:20 to cap the team scoring.

Furthermore, Farmington was only one of three schools to have its seventh runner finish among the first 100 Redford Catholic Central and state champion Ann Arbor Pioneer were the others. Farmington's Steve Quenneville was 83rd (17:25) and Rob Holloway 92nd (17:31).

"I was very pleased," Young said. "All seven ran well. It was a real good performance out of all of them."

London, Walter, Smedley and Quenneville are seniors, but the Falcons will return Moore (due at Willow Metro Park, and sophomore teammate Dave Foss was 65th at 17:32.

## boys cross country

**'(Members of the 1987 team) know Farmington has a long tradition of being tough in cross country, and they come into the season expecting to carry that on. This group has certainly done that well.'**

— Jerry Young  
Farmington boys coach

YOUNG ADDED the current group of runners had a lot to learn, being ranked second in Observance and winning the Western Lakes title and Schoolcraft Invitational. The Falcons also were runners-up behind Dearborn in the Redford Union Invitational and Catholic Central in the regional, and they were fourth in the Oakland County meet.

"They represented Farmington real well and with a lot of class," Young said. "I don't get any back from them. They just go out and do what they have to. And they're committed."

"They know Farmington's a long tradition of being tough in cross country, and they come into the season expecting to carry that on. This group has certainly done that well."

In the Class A individual race, North Junior Jeff Simpson was 49th with a 17:25 time. Harrison junior Chris Hart was 49th and had a 17:11 time at Willow Metro Park, and sophomore teammate Dave Foss was 65th at 17:32.

# St. Mary-CC playoff veteran, too

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

Unlike its first-round playoff opponent, the next team standing in the way of Farmington Harrison has a history in post-season play.

While Monroe St. Mary-Catholic Central can't match Harrison's illustrious record, the Falcons are in the football playoffs for the fourth time and hope to return to the Silverdome, too. The Hawks beat first-time entry Allen Park 29-6 last Saturday.

St. Mary-CC made its only appearance in the Class B state final in 1984, losing to Wyoming Park. Harrison played in the first Class A final to be contested in the Dome, falling to Midland Dow in 1976. But they returned to win back-to-back championships, as a Class B school in 1981 and a Class A outfit in 1982.

This year's St. Mary-CC squad is just the opposite, in terms of personnel and style, from what the '84 ball club was like.

## football

**ABOUT THE OPPONENT**

• Monroe St. Mary-Catholic Central was founded in 1948. The school year when it merged with the former all-girls boarding school, St. Mary Academy.

St. Mary was the older of the two schools, having been founded in 1948. MCC opened its doors during World War II, instead of calling the new school simply Catholic Central, longtime St. Mary supporters apparently believed in the school's name.

• St. Mary-CC junior Nick Russo, a 6-foot-4, 180-pound defensive end, is the younger brother of newly-crowned All-American Keya Land (see page 10).

• St. Mary-CC has had just two losing seasons in coach Joe Sanderson's 13 years at the controls. After going 4-5 season in 1983, the Falcons went to the Silverdome the next year and played in the Class B final. St. Mary-CC was 4-5 a year ago, too.

In the first round of the playoffs, have played all Class B teams. Harrison's nine-game regular season schedule consisted entirely of Class A schools.

"They're a very fine football team," said Sanderson, whose '85 team was eliminated by eventual state champion Dearborn Divine Child. "We knew they would be. They've got a great program, and

success breeds success."

A HARRISON victory could set up a possible rematch with Marysville, providing the Vikings win their game Saturday. The Hawks were beaten by Marysville in last year's semifinal round and went on to claim the Class B crown.

"No, none at all," said Harrison coach John Herrington when asked if there had been any talk of that. "I don't feel the kids are even considering that. We're just looking at this game."

"This is a regional championship, and that brings home a trophy and everybody gets a medal. They're 10-0 and we're not."

Herrington hopes the Hawks don't turn the ball over against St. Mary-CC the way they did in their 29-6 win over Allen Park. Both teams had five turnovers, but Harrison left no doubt it was the dominant team.

"It amazes me that we could turn it over that many times and still score that many points," Herrington said. "So that tells you, if we don't turn it over, we have a pretty good game."

"BUT I think we were a little tense. It was our first game of the tournament, and most of our players

had never played in the tournament.

"I don't think you'll see us turn it over like that Saturday," he added.

Maybe it was nervous anxiety, but the Hawks didn't seem tense when one considers the hard hitting the Harrison players exhibited against Allen Park.

Defensive tackle Mark Bonasso and special teams players John Kennedy were credited with big hits, but everybody was cooing and aaahing over Brian Soeder's bone-jarring tackle.

Allen Park quarterback John Leverton passed to Mike Donigan near the sideline, and Donigan flipped the ball to John Jaskowski on an attempted flea flicker. Soeder read the play perfectly and popped Jaskowski, causing a fumble that led to Harrison's last touchdown.

"WE THINK we are a pretty physical team," Herrington said. "What we really felt we had to do was hit Jaskowski hard because of his ability to bounce a play outside."

"We wanted to make sure our cornerbacks were there to stick him — and I think we did. I don't think Jaskowski or fullback Mike (burger) ran as hard after (some early tackles)."

# Hawks to test foe's defense

Continued from Page 1  
3,589 to 1,150.

Yaverski went over the 1,000-yard mark last Saturday and has 1,030 yards and 14 rushing touchdowns on 175 carries. The Hawks will also have to contend with Coleman, who can hurt a team with his passing (77 completions, 146 attempts, 1,410 yards and 13 touchdowns) and also his running as the Allen Park defense found out.

WHEN THE Jaguars, who apparently feared giving up the big play via the long pass, covered the deep routes, Coleman scrambled for 48 yards and a touchdown, and he also had a 55-yard scoring run called back because of a penalty.

"He did that on his own," Herrington said. "Those were called passes, and he did a Bobby McAllister act."

The Hawks threw short passes to fullbacks Rob Bruhn and Rich Esker when Allen Park denied them the bomb, and Harrison will probably do that again since St. Mary-CC runs the same three-deep zone defense.

And Herrington liked Coleman's imitation of Michigan State's quarterback so much he wouldn't mind seeing that show again.

"When the ball is in his hands something good usually happens," Herrington said.

"IN FACT, I'd kinda like to see him run more. When he gets outside he's hard to stop. When he rolls out to

pass, he's got the green light to run.

Besides the fact Coleman can rifle the ball to his receivers and was 9-of-15 for 133 yards last week, his running gives the Hawks one more offensive weapon.

"(The Falcons) will have to worry about the run, the pass and Aaron's power inside," Herrington said.

"He's a fine athlete and can certainly throw the ball with a lot of touch," Sanderson said.

St. Mary-CC is virtually a one-dimension team. If the Falcons throw more than six times a game, it's considered an aerial circus, noted one neutral observer.

QUARTERBACK Brent Orr is usually limited to handing the ball to tailback Doug Lipford and sometimes Laybaw, a strong-legged fullback who impressed Herrington with his hard running.


Lipford (6-0, 170) has rushed for more than 1,200 yards, and he missed one game at that. He has been over 100 yards in eight of the nine he has played in. Laybaw carries the ball about 12-15 times a game.

The Falcons, behind DeCarlo, Ivey and center Scott Plinter (6-11, 320), have been able to power the ball at every opponent they've played, averaging 275 yards per game on the ground. But the same neutral source noted the defense gave the offense such consistently good field position it was difficult to amass big totals, and passing was usually not necessary.

But Herrington pointed out that Allen Park only threw the ball an average of 5-6 times a game, too, and the Jaguars ended up passing 18 times against Harrison, gaining 120 of their 185 yards through the air.

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