

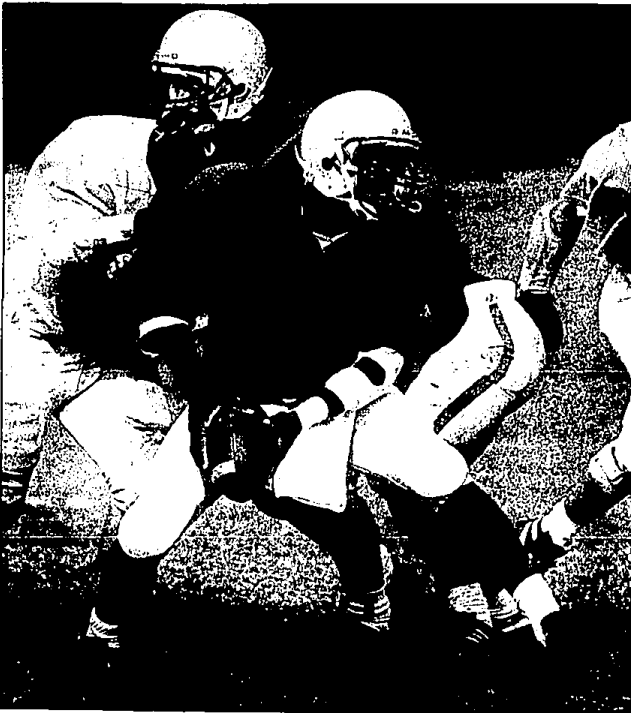
## Sports

Brad Emons, Dan O'Meara editors/591-2312

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RANDY BOHST/staff photographer

## Coleman will make Hawks tough again

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

The good news, for Farmington Harrison football opponents, is the Hawks had to do some rebuilding.

With returning starters at just five of 22 positions, there will be a lot of new faces on both sides of the line.

The bad news, for teams on Harrison's schedule, is coach John Herrington and the Hawks were faced with the same dilemma last year.

And the rest is history. Harrison had another outstanding season, making a fourth trip to the Pontiac Silverdome for a state championship game and posting an 11-2 record.

Herrington and longtime assistants Bob Sallow and Bob Sutter have made Harrison one of the top football programs in the state, and the Hawks, who return 20 lettermen, have plenty of "program players" ready to assume larger roles.

"THEY'VE ALL been in the program since the ninth grade and know the system," Herrington said. "It's always like that. We seldom have more than two or three starters back."

"A lot of kids got to play last year. We were able to play the second team a lot, so we don't feel it's an inexperienced team necessarily."

While the regular holdovers might be few in number, one of them is quarterback Millard Coleman (5-9, 166), who won all-state honors during a sensational sophomore year.

His return will certainly cause opponents distress since he threw for 2,087 yards and 17 touchdowns in 13 games, completing 112 of 204 passes. Including his freshman year at Albion High School, he has 5,417 career passing yards and 32 touchdowns.

### football

**'A lot of kids got to play last year. We were able to play the second team a lot, so we don't feel it's an inexperienced team necessarily.'**

— John Herrington  
Harrison football coach

"It's hard to improve on what he did last year," Herrington said, "but he may be reading defenses even better. It's possible he won't have as many interceptions (10)."

Furthermore, the other returning starters on offense just happen to be Coleman's top receivers from a year ago: split end Chad Burgess (6-2, 170) and tight end Bryan Wauldron (6-2, 165), who gives the Hawks another deep threat.

BURGESS HAD 30 catches for 535 yards and five TDs, Wauldron 29 grabs for 712 yards and six TDs. Both are seniors.

"That's the biggest part of our game this year," said Herrington of the pass. "I think it will help open up our running game and put pressure on the defense."

"We know we'll have to protect Mill because teams will put a pass rush on us."

Rebuilding the offensive line was

the top priority at the end of the '87 season, and the five interior linemen are seniors with varsity experience.

Dale Katz, who could be the success story of the year, will anchor both lines. A reserve player last year, he has grown an inch to 6-foot-6 and weighs in at 232 after adding another 20 pounds.

"He's improved tremendously, and his attitude is great," Herrington said. "Bob (Sutter) called him the project and worked hard with him in the off-season to make him a player."

College recruiters also have taken notice of Katz, the biggest player Harrison has ever had.

"WITH HIS SIZE, he's definitely a big-time prospect, but he has to prove it on the field, however," Herrington said.

Jeff Skinner (5-9, 232), who started at defensive tackle, will do double duty at offensive guard, too. The line includes center Carl Schumacher (5-9, 174), guard Mark Sutter (5-6, 167) and tackle John Kennedy (5-6, 196).

"It's progressing but it's still an area of concern," Herrington said. "We don't have much depth in the offensive line."

Herrington expects the running of junior Matt Conley (5-11, 188), who gained 238 yards and scored five TDs while playing behind tailbacks Rick Wille and Aaron Yavetski, will take some pressure off Coleman.

Senior Scott Nichols (5-10, 185) takes over at the upback position, and the Hawks have another fine prospect and good blocker in swingback Steve Hill (6-3, 198), who also made a sophomore contribution as a kicker.

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Mill Coleman gives up the football on a running play this time, but his forte is passing. The 5-foot-9 junior is the key to an experienced Harrison passing game, having thrown for more than 2,000 yards last season.

## Falcons lack numbers but not spirit

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

Preseason indicators might not be too encouraging, but Farmington's football team isn't letting lack of numbers and experience dampen its desire for the coming season.

First-year coach Rick Milhizer is charged with reviving the grid program without the help of many experienced players.

Only 26 reported for the start of practice, and the Falcons, who were 2-7 last year, have just one returning starter — lineback-

er Norm Celinske — and eight seniors on the team.

"The cupboards were not full; that's for sure," said Milhizer, a Farmington alum who later played four years at Michigan State. "We're inexperienced all over."

"BUT IT'S NOT fair to the seniors to call it a rebuilding year," he continued, "because this is their last shot. We're doing everything possible to win now."

"The kids who are out have a superior attitude. They want to win so bad; I can tell

they're hungry for it."

Celinske (5-10, 190), one of many players who will have to play both ways, will double at fullback and be a key player in Farmington's hopes for 1988. The Falcons, in fact, are deepest in the offensive backfield.

Senior Paul Wojtowich (5-10, 175), who was the JV fullback last year, is the No. 1 tailback, and Milhizer said junior Eric Miller (6-0, 160), who started on the JV team, has the potential to be a "real good" quarterback.

"(Miller) expects a lot out of himself, and he's disappointed when he feels he doesn't come through," Milhizer said.

Farmington is in good shape with senior Pat Bernhardt (5-9, 160), a varsity veteran, and Dave Winney (5-8, 150), the JV tailback a year ago, providing support, according to Milhizer.

"ONE OF THE great priorities is finding a backup quarterback," he added.

Miller's wide receiver prospects include senior Bill Wooster (6-0, 150), a varsity hol-

dover, senior Chris Adams (5-11, 160) and freshman Matt Siskosky (5-8, 150). The tight end is senior Matt Jones (6-3, 180). Adams and Jones played JV football last year when Farmington had a senior-dominated varsity.

Siskosky, who will start on defense at safety, impressed Milhizer while playing in the summer passing league at Wayne State and, coupled with the small turnout, won a spot on the varsity.

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## Austin eyes net return

By Marty Budner  
staff writer

TRACY AUSTIN WAS in the midst of a clinic last week at the Detroit Tennis & Squash Club in Farmington Hills.

She asked for questions. A woman named Esther inquired about the exact details of tennis elbow. Austin didn't pretend to be a doctor, but she did have some knowledge of the subject.

After all, it was injuries which knocked her career for a loop at the tender age of 20.

One of them was tennis elbow. Assorted ailments to her shoulder, foot and back were other factors forcing her from the game for a while.

Those injuries came at a critical stage of her youthful pro career.

Austin, at 14 years, was the youngest player ever to compete at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. Two years later Austin won the U.S. Open title and later worked her way up to a No. 1 world ranking.

"Then her career was grounded like a great offensive lob. The injuries crept up one after the other to force her early retirement."

Austin, now 23, is working her way back into playing shape. She is currently playing the doubles circuit and plans to play mixed doubles with partner Ken Flach at this year's U.S. Open.

"She is excited about her return to tennis."



THOMAS ARNETT/staff photographer

Tracy Austin demonstrates proper technique while giving a tennis clinic at the Detroit Tennis & Squash Club in Farmington Hills last week.

helping to promote the Ford Sports Tennis Championships, Austin took objection to any notion that it was tennis "burnout" that caused her premature pro circuit exit.

Austin said that's a common misconception. She said it was simply the injuries that forced the tennis saboteur.

"People love to put me in that (burnout) category. I just had injuries," emphasized Austin. "It had nothing to do with my age."

"The only thing that I look back on is that I didn't give myself enough time (to heal) when I had the injuries," she said. "Because I was so young I'd always bounce back before (it was ready), and I didn't listen to my body. I kept playing when I was injured."

week, Austin emphasized that injuries and not tennis burnout forced her from the pro circuit.

rich with youthful tennis talent. Three Oakland County schools, for instance — Birmingham Brother Rice, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook and Detroit Country Day — won state titles last spring in their respective classes.

A pair of young female tennis stars — Rochester's Amy Frazier and Livonia's Carrie Cunningham — are gaining attention from the pros. Austin has heard of them both. And neither of them have yet graduated from high school.

Those are just a couple examples. Young talent is plentiful.

WHAT ADVICE does Austin offer such serious young tennis players who entertain thoughts of attaining the pro circuit?

"The first thing you have to do is

listen to your body," she maintains. "You have to give yourself time. At that stage, when you're that young, you only think of that week or that month, you don't think of the long term of something. When you're older you somehow do, and you feel a little smarter about that aspect."

"I'd give myself time. And, also, just for the parents to make sure it's fun. I always enjoyed it. This was something I always wanted to do. There are a lot of parents out there now who are pushing the kids."

"As soon as the kids have their choices they will stop if they don't enjoy it," she said. "I just think encourage them and make sure it's fun."

Austin says everybody handles pressure differently. She insists one

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