

Sports

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(F)10

Hawks earn another landslide victory

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Livonia Franklin football coach Armand Vigna wishes he had seen the last of Mill Coleman.

Vigna shook his head in amazement after the Farmington Harrison quarterback scrambled and passed the Hawks to a 38-0 triumph over the Patriots Saturday afternoon.

"No. 6 is unbelievable," Vigna said. "I've never seen anybody as good as him, especially when you consider when he's only a Junior and we have to do this again next year."

Coleman, who led a 41-0 victory over the Patriots last year, ran for one touchdown and passed for three others to give the Hawks a 28-0 half-time lead.

"I told (Harrison coach John) Herrington he had better graduate early," Vigna said. "Why does he want to stick around in high school? I hate the thought of facing him next year."

VIGNA KNEW Coleman could throw the football. What impressed him most was Coleman's ability to avoid pressure from the defense and remain free to run or fire a quick pass.

Coleman, having already thrown for three first downs, scored the first TD after rolling out to pass and then running 21 yards. He turned, upfield and sidestepped a pair of Patriots en route to the end zone.

Herrington had planned to give Coleman the green light to run since Franklin has been strong against the rush and the Hawks haven't been effective on the ground without injured Matt Conley.

Coleman had 39 of Harrison's 58 rushing yards, but the Hawks, once again, didn't have to worry about running. The elusive Coleman's arm was enough to make that a moot point and quickly put the Patriots in the hole.

"(Franklin's defense) came hard, but we were able to hold them off

football

long enough that Mill found the open receiver," Herrington said.

"I'm proud of the line. They're small except for (tackle Dale) Katz, but they gave Mill time. And, of course, Mill's feet helped a little, too."

COLEMAN WASN'T the only Harrison player who impressed Vigna, however. Tight end Bryan Wauldron had another big day with two TD catches and four interceptions on defense.

"They're a great ballclub because of those two kids," Vigna said. "Those two make them out of this world."

"They ought to be ranked in Class A," he added. "They're not No. 1 in Class B."

Wide receiver/defensive back Chad Burgess caught the other TD pass and had two pass thiefs as he and Wauldron combined to intercept Franklin quarterbacks Craig Allard and Jeff Roth six times. Harrison turned three of the pickoffs into first-half TDs.

Coleman threw 15 yards over the middle to Wauldron at the end of the first quarter, and the Hawks used a little trickery to make it 21-0 in the second.

On fourth-and-10 deep in Patriot territory, Steve Hill was set to try a 28-yard field goal, but Coleman, the holder, spun out and hit Burgess for an 11-yard TD.

COLEMAN, WHO was 8-of-17 for 133 yards, had 119 of those yards before half-time as he later hit Wauldron, streaking toward the corner on a flag pattern, for a 33-yard connection and the 28-0 margin.

"We might as well do what's easiest when the pass is there," Herrington said. "It's been fun; I like to have a team that can throw."

"But we work hard on the run in practice, because someday we're going to have to run the ball to beat somebody."

Harrison scored on its first possession of the third quarter — Coleman scrambled twice for gains and passed 14 yards to Wauldron before Joe George went the final yard — and, with the Hawks leading 35-0, the game was all but over at 8:16 in the third period. Hill later added a 28-yard field goal.

Coleman has thrown for 10 touchdowns in four games, and Wauldron, who had five catches for 82 yards, continues his assault on the school record for receiving yards.

Harrison's defense also was outstanding, holding the Patriots to 93 total yards, 78 on the ground. But the Hawks limited Franklin to just 16 rushing yards until the Patriots picked up 61 on their next-to-last possession, which saw Joe Ransley's 58-yard scoring run on a reverse called back because of a clipping penalty.

"MOST TEAMS think they can overpower us, because our nose-guard (Jason Buchanan) and the other tackle (Joe Hannawa) are small," Harrison tackle and tri-captain Jeff Skinner said.

"Both play at 185 pounds, but they've got a lot of heart. We just pull together and get the job done."

Harrison, the state's top-ranked Class B squad, improved to 2-0 in the Western Division and 4-0 overall. Franklin is 1-1 and 2-2.



RICK SMITH/staff photographer

Mill Coleman gets set to throw as Franklin defender Greg Panzi makes a last-ditch effort to

stop him. Coleman passed for 133 yards and three TDs as Harrison routed the Patriots 38-0.

Raiders romp over Spartans for win No. 4

By C.J. Risak
staff writer

Geez, this North-Farmington-at-Livonia-Stevenson game was made-to-order for a football fan's film collector. There were easily a season's worth of looney plays, more than enough to keep a guy who thrives on that kind of stuff chuckling for hours.

Course, neither North coach Jim O'Leary nor Stevenson's Jack Reardon were laughing much about 'em. Yet, when the goofiness finally ended for the evening, it was O'Leary who could muster a smile. After all, his Raiders ended up blowing out Stevenson 38-13 Friday at Stevenson.

And while the plays the fans will remember best will be the tipped-pass-touchdown, the fourth-down-and-long scoring bomb and the on-side kick that wasn't supposed to be, the Raiders

actually won the game the old-fashioned way — they earned it, with crushing blocks, hard runs and adept passes.

"WE DID a good job offensively," said O'Leary, stating the obvious. "That's the strength of our team. We knew our offense would have to move the ball, and they have."

But to move the ball, the Raiders first had to hold onto it. They suffered three fumbles and an interception, getting themselves in trouble before their offense got on the field when Bart Sinanis fumbled the opening kickoff and Stevenson recovered at the North 31-yard line.

Three plays later the Spartans faced a fourth-and-10 at the 31. They went for it, and quarterback Michael Dalmonte loosed a perfect pass to streaking wide receiver Scott Kosikowski for the touchdown. With less than 90 seconds gone in the

game, Stevenson had a 7-0 lead.

WHICH LASTED exactly 3:10. North's offense — spearheaded by Joe Sturtz, who finished with 187 yards rushing on 19 carries, scored three touchdowns and caught three passes for 15 yards — chewed up the Spartans. Sinanis set up the Raiders' first score, redeeming himself by returning the kickoff 46 yards.

A personal foul penalty against Stevenson added 15 additional yards to the return, putting the ball at the Spartan 28. Seven plays later, Sturtz bulled his way into the end zone from 5 yards out to tie it.

Before the first quarter was over, the Raiders had the lead for good. They marched 79 yards in 10 plays, the big one a 45-yard pass from quarterback Mike Filipovich to Jerry Hakala. Sturtz plunged in from a yard out to make it 14-7.

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RANDY BOWEN/staff photographer

Jennifer Kiel of Farmington (right) and Lisa Rives of North Farmington had their third head-to-head meeting of the season in Thursday's cross country dual meet. Kiel won the overall winner, taking a 2-1 edge in the rivalry.

Farmington runners win battle of unbeaten teams

Farmington overcame injuries and a record performance by North Farmington's Lisa Rives at Oakland Community College to remain unbeaten in girls cross country Thursday.

The Falcons are 4-0 after winning the Lakes Division opener for both teams, while the Raiders suffered their first defeat after four straight victories.

North junior Lisa Rives ran a school-record time of 20:15, but she had to settle for second place overall behind Farmington's Jennifer Kiel, who was first at 20:02.

It was the third meeting for the two, with Kiel now holding the edge.

Both were neck-and-neck for a while in the West Bloomfield Invitational before Rives eventually won by 50 seconds. Kiel won the individual dual in the Schoolcraft Invitational, but Rives was ill and dropped out. The rivals were running side-by-

girls cross country

side for the first 1 1/4 miles Thursday before Kiel jumped in front and proceeded to win by a comfortable margin.

"(KIEL) IS REALLY doing well," Falcons coach John Barrett said. "If only we can get everybody healthy and get the other runners up there, I think we'll come around by the end of the season."

"Now that we've beaten North, it looks like it will come down to us and Stevenson," he added.

The Falcons meet the Spartans, runner-up to Plymouth Canton in the Schoolcraft event, on Thursday, Oct.

13, at Stevenson. Farmington was fourth at SC.

Barrett said he was concerned prior to Thursday's meet since Amy Trunk, one of the team's top three runners, was still out and Maureen O'Dell withdrew just before the race. Trunk has been sidelined for a couple weeks with sore legs, and O'Dell complained of a sore foot beforehand and didn't run.

Kiel still received good support as sophomore Jenny Derwinski finished third at 21:42, Margaret Martin fourth at 22:45 and freshmen Sherri Ylitalo and Carrie Walters fifth and sixth, respectively, at 23:16 and 23:19.

North's next finisher was Angie Martin in seventh place with a 23:34 time. Teammates Tracy Mitchell was eighth (23:46) and Lisa Alperin 10th (24:59). Farmington's Jodi Vardon served as a blocker, taking the No. 9 spot in 23:55.

Falcon boys remain perfect, too

Farmington cleared an early-season hurdle in its quest to regain the Lakes Division boys cross country title Thursday.

The Falcons, who were runners-up to Plymouth Salem in the division last year, trimmed North Farmington 22-34 at Oakland Community College.

Farmington, which rebounded to beat Salem in the league meet and retain the Western Lakes Activities Association championship, is 4-0 overall and 1-0 in the division. The Raiders are 0-1 and 4-1.

The Falcons face Salem in the final dual meet on Thursday, Oct. 26, at OCCC.

"It could come down to that again," Farmington coach Jerry Young said. "We beat them at Schoolcraft,

and they weren't far behind. I'm sure they'll be laying for us."

North's Jason Kocembo was the overall winner, topping the field of runners with a 17:02 time, but the next four places belonged to the Falcons.

Ben Goba and Brad Moore paced Farmington with 17:15 times, Matt Langdon was fourth at 17:37 and Paul Brandt finished fifth at 18:00. That all but sealed the victory for the Falcons, with Gene Tokras rounding out the team scoring when he ran 18:15 and took eighth place.

North's Jim Nader was sixth at 18:04, Jeff Simpson seventh, 18:04; Jason Biederman ninth, 18:27; and Scott Simpson 11th, 18:40.