

# Hawk assets: program, players

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players' around that talent to fashion another winner.

In addition to Buchanan and Hannawa, seniors Dale Katz, Rob MacDonald, Tim Horton, Scott Nichols, Carl Schumacher, Mark Sitter, John Kennedy and Jason Lichtman didn't become regular players until their senior year, but one would never know that by their consistent performances and this team's success.

ALL OF THEM were present a year ago for the game with Grand Rapids CC, but they will have an active role in the '89 outcome.

"I said: 'You guys were in the Dome last year,'" said Herrington, who will coach a Harrison team in the final for the fifth time, having won twice. "They said: 'We didn't play in the Dome last year.' So it's new to the team. They want to play for this year's team."

Sitter's older brother, Matt, was a guard on the '81 team that upset heavily favored Muskegon

Catholic Central, and he'd like to say he played on a championship team, too.

"This will probably be the biggest thing that's happened in my life so far," he said. "The big thing is not that we're playing there, but to win."

"I felt kinda helpless last year. This year we go to have the team come out victorious. We're going there to win this year."

MacDonald found spectating to be a more nerve-racking experience than any pre-game jitters might be Saturday night.

"I WAS MORE nervous last year because the game was not in my hands," he said. "This year I'll have more input."

"We didn't know what it was like to get to the Silverdome last year. So it was like we had reached our goal."

"This year we thought we could get to the Dome. Nobody said it, but it was in the back of everybody's mind. We think we can win it."

The 232-pound Katz, who spent a lot of time

along with Nichols in the weight room getting ready for this season and has been one of the biggest surprises, will help the Hawks balance the scales against a huge St. Joseph team.

"I felt the emotion of the seniors last year," he said. "It was such a horrible feeling when we lost."

"We've got a chance to win it this year, and we know what it takes to win it. The idea is to win it if we've got this far."

The Hawks have not lacked confidence this year, but it will be important what a player in Coleman's position, one whose decisions will directly affect the game, thinks about a second chance at a state title.

"WE'RE A LITTLE more experienced going into this Dome game," he said. "I think we should be better prepared this year."

If their confidence, determination and grit are borne out on the Silverdome carpet Saturday, the Hawks may well close this latest chapter to their ongoing success story with another victory.

FARMINGTON HARRISON PLAYOFF FOOTBALL HISTORY	
1988 — CLASS B PLAYOFFS	
First round: Farmington Harrison 32, Clawson 0.	Semifinal: Farmington Harrison 36, Ypsilanti Willow Run 0.
Regional: Farmington Harrison 35, Riverview 0.	Final: Farmington Harrison 7, Muskegon Catholic Central 0.
1987 — CLASS B PLAYOFFS	
First round: Farmington Harrison 29, Aton Park 6.	Semifinal: Farmington Harrison 42, Auburn Hills Avondale 7.
Regional: Farmington Harrison 35, Monroe St. Mary-Cath-Jo Central 9.	Final: Farmington Harrison vs. St. Joseph, 8 p.m. Saturday.
1986 — CLASS B PLAYOFFS	
First round: Farmington Harrison 21, Riverview 14.	Semifinal: Farmington Harrison 35, Monroe St. Mary-Cath-Jo Central 9.
Regional: Farmington Harrison 36, Detroit Northern 16.	Final: Farmington Harrison 22, Farmington Harrison 6.
1984 — CLASS A PLAYOFFS	
Regional: Farmington Harrison 17, Birmingham Seaholm 6.	Semifinal: Dearborn Fordson 9, Farmington Harrison 6.
1982 — CLASS A PLAYOFFS	
Regional: Farmington Harrison 23, Bloomfield Hills Lathrop 0.	Semifinal: Farmington Harrison 6, Mt. Lakeland 3.
Final: Farmington Harrison 17, Dearborn Fordson 14, double OT.	
1981 — CLASS B PLAYOFFS	
Regional: Farmington Harrison 23, Marysville 13.	

FARMINGTON HARRISON OFFENSE	
Quarter: Carl Schumacher, 5-9, 174, senior; Guards: Mark Sitter, 5-7, 167, senior; Jeff Skinner, 5-8, 180, senior; Tackles: Dale Katz, 6-5, 232, senior; John Kennedy, 5-8, 196, senior; Ends: Bryan Wauldron, 6-3, 170, senior; Chad Burgess, 6-3, 170, senior; Quarterback: Matt Coleman, 5-9, 164, junior; Fullback: Scott Nichols, 5-10, 185, senior; Tailback: Matt Conley, 5-11, 154, junior; Joe George, 5-10, 174, junior; Swigback: Steve Hill, 6-3, 195, junior; Tim Horton, 5-9, 147, senior.	
SAINT JOSEPH DEFENSE	
Noesgaard: Eric Fruendberg, 6-1, 195, senior; Tackles: Bryan Richards, 5-11, 204, senior; Bruce Modigell, 6-1, 201, senior; Ends: Todd Fechner, 5-11, 187, senior; Tom Hollinger, 5-9, 187, senior; Linebackers: Marty Baginski, 5-11, 194, senior; Bob Fredrickson, 6-4, 210, senior; Halfback: Ken Ruppel, 6-3, 173, senior; Tom Thorn, 5-11, 154, senior; Safety: Rick Wales, 5-8, 154, senior; Monsterback: Mike Fette, 5-11, 170, senior.	
SAINT JOSEPH OFFENSE	
Quarter: Phil Cole, 6-2, 195, senior; Guards: Andy Rayle, 6-0, 186, senior; Marty Baginski, 6-1, 221, senior; Tackles: Colin Cronin, 6-7, 215, junior; Eric Robinson, 6-2, 240, senior; Right end: Rob Fredrickson, 6-4, 210, senior; Split end: Ken Ruppel, 6-3, 173, senior; Quarterback: Ebon Sanders, 5-8, 150, junior; Fullback: Todd Fechner, 5-11, 187, senior; Tailback: Scott Hurley, 6-2, 182, senior; Swigback: Jeremy Larson, 5-9, 153, senior.	
FARMINGTON HARRISON DEFENSE	
Noesgaard: Jason Buchanan, 5-4, 146, senior; Tackles: Jeff Skinner, 5-8, 232, senior; Joe Hannawa, 5-9, 173, senior; Ends: Dale Katz, 6-5, 232, senior; Matt Sperry, 5-10, 161, junior; Linebackers: Carl Schumacher, 5-9, 174, senior; Scott Nichols, 5-10, 185, senior; Halfback: Rob MacDonald, 5-9, 167, senior; Chad Burgess, 6-3, 170, senior; Safety: Bryan Wauldron, 6-3, 170, senior; Jason Lichtman, 5-10, 144, senior.	



RANDY BOCT/Staff photographer  
Craig Murray attempts a second-half pass in the Avondale game.

THE COACHES: Harrison's John Herrington has a 155-40-1 record in 19 years as the school's only head football coach.

His Mullenkamp is 100-60-1 in 21 years at St. Joseph. He was an assistant (1963-64) at Alton High School, the alma mater of Milford Coleman Sr., former of Harrison quarterback Matt Coleman, who played for the Wildcats as a freshman.

BEAR FACTS: Mullenkamp has coached seven undefeated (9-0) teams at St. Joseph. The Bears were perfect in 1971, 1973, 1980, 1984 and 1988-89. St. Joseph has won 32 consecutive regular-season games, and the seniors on the 1988 team have never lost a regular-season game, dating back to seventh grade.

Notable football alumni include Jim Carr (1976-77), a former All-American senior at the University of Michigan; Dave Ziebart (1974-75), a four-year starting quarterback at Air Force; and Mike Gillette (1983-1984), the current Michigan kicker who was an all-state quarterback.

PLAYOFF HISTORY: St. Joe's three playoff victories this year evened its post-season record at 4-4. The Bears were eliminated by the eventual state champion in 1980, 1984 and 1987. While it has never played in a state

championship game, St. Joseph is no stranger to the Pontiac Silverdome. The Bears played Redford Catholic Central there in the 1985 season opener, losing 27-13.

Harrison is 17-5 in playoff games. The Hawks are making their fifth appearance in a state final game and have been semifinalists every time (B) they have qualified for the playoffs.

REBUILT TEAM: Like the Hawks, St. Joseph has produced another winning team after losing a load of seniors from last year's 10-1 squad. Rob Fredrickson, Marty Baginski, Bryan Richards, Bruce Modigell and Scott Hurley were the only returning starters.

KICKING ACES: Both teams have excellent kickers. Harrison's Steve Hill has kicked 59 extra points and made six of seven field goals. Sophomore Gary Layton is averaging 41.4 yards per punt, and only 12 of his 31 punts have been returned. Placekicker Eric Fruendberg is 31-of-38 on PATS and is said to be accurate on field goals but has limited range.

STAT STORY: Harrison's turnover rate is an incredible plus-29. The Hawks have intercepted 30 passes and recovered 17 fumbles. Harrison averages 159 yards passing per game, 145 rushing. St. Joseph averages 225 yards rushing per game, 68 passing.

UNUSUNG HEROES: JV coaches Jim Weston and John Witkowski deserve a large share of the credit for playoff success, but they rarely get to enjoy it.

While the Hawks are playing, they're on the road scouting the next opponent. They're able to see the championship game Saturday since there won't be anyone scouting to do.

"They work so hard that we rely totally on their judgment in preparing," said Herrington, who also credits assistant coach Bob Sallow for his doing his part.

"The kicking game has been so strong Bob Sallow should get credit for what we've accomplished," he said. "They always give us good field position."

GRID HYSTERIA: Harrison football fans love their Hawks, and St. Joseph loyalists are going wild over their Bears, who are enjoying their most successful season in school history.

"The town is about crazy," Mullenkamp said. "They were last week, and it's probably be worse this week."

## Harrison, St. Joseph in 'B' finale

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Sanders isn't the passer that Coleman is. He has completed 55 of 85 passes for 721 yards and seven TDs, while the Hawk all-star is 91-of-155 for 1,835 yards and 24 touchdowns.

"Both can run and can throw the ball, but Coleman has a little more experience," Mullenkamp said. "Coleman is a little bigger, and Ebon might be a little quicker. Coleman has a quicker release, but Ebon can throw the ball pretty well."

Because of Sanders, the Bears have been running more option plays this year. He usually gives the ball to Hurley, but Sanders has 261 yards on 64 carries.

"He plays a lot like Mill, and I know the trouble people have had trying to defend him," Herrington said. "So we'll have to do a good job with our defensive ends and not let him get outside."

Despite Matt Conley's 120-yard, six-TD game in Harrison's 42-7 thrashing of Auburn Hills Avondale in the semifinals, Coleman remains the leading rusher with 452 yards.

CONLEY'S BIG afternoon gives him 12 rushing TDs and vaulted him to No. 3 among the team's top scorers with 78 points. End Bryan Wauldron has 96 and kicker Steve Hill 83.

A key Saturday will be Harrison's ability to protect Coleman against the St. Joseph behemoths. That was a key last year when GRCC pressured Coleman and threw the Hawks out of sync.

"I felt he played a good game," Herrington said. Coleman was 9-of-16 for 144 yards in the Dome. "It was the offensive line that had a bad game — or Grand Rapids' defensive line had a great game."

Herrington hopes the Hawks can offset a heavy rush from the Bears

and relieve the pressure, if not strike a decisive blow, with a few well-placed passes by a more experienced group of skill players.

"I think we can open it up," he said. "If we throw the ball well and protect well, size won't be a factor. I think we can move the ball, and we will have all year."

The Hawks, who average 304 yards per game, want to take advantage of their speed on the dry, smooth surface the Silverdome's artificial turf provides. Wauldron, who set a career record for receiving yardage last week, has 44 catches for 1,013 yards and 12 touchdowns.

PASS DEFENSE was a preseason question mark for St. Joseph, possibly due to the move of all-star Fredrickson from defensive back to linebacker.

But the Bears have allowed only 104 yards passing in three playoff games, and they're apt to go with a nickel defense — Sanders becomes the fifth back — against the Hawks.

Harrison and the Bears essentially have adopted the other's traditional approach to offense.

St. Joseph, which averages 232 yards per game — three quarters of which is rushing, used to be a passing team when Mike Gillette, now the University of Michigan kicker, was an all-state quarterback in 1984 and the Hawks a running team when Michigan State's John Miller starred for them.

"We've got 37 pass plays," Herrington said. "We run just about everything there is. You go with whatever you have and do best."

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