

Sports

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Hawks 3-peat with shutout of Glenn

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

On a day that was simply divine for Farmington Hills Harrison, senior Gary Devine deserved the football equivalent of sainthood Saturday.

The diminutive tailback rushed for 132 yards and scored all four touchdowns as the Hawks shocked Westland John Glenn, 29-0, in the Western Lakes Activities Association championship game.

It was the third consecutive title for Harrison, which won its seventh straight game, and the third runner-up finish for the Rockets, who suffered their first loss. Both teams are 7-1.

"These guys are a really good team, and today we can play with good teams," said Devine, who has become the primary offensive weapon in the absence of former all-state quarterback Mill Coleman. "It's still Hawk football."

The 5-foot-8, 155-pounder pushed his season rushing totals to 1,028 yards and 21 touchdowns — numbers Harrison coach John Herrington believes are good enough to make Devine an all-star, too.

"HE JUST amazes me on every down,"

Herrington said. "You think he's down, and he keeps running. He's got a lot of heart."

Devine and Herrington also acknowledged the offensive line, which spearheaded an attack that enabled the Hawks to move the ball against a quality defense and compile 300 yards in total offense.

"We're getting great blocking out of the line, especially (Tony) Shaieb and (Jason) Gloczner," Herrington said. "They've just been crushing people."

What was surprising was that Harrison won by such a margin and shut out the Rockets, who were rated No. 6 in Class AA poll and ranked No. 1 in their playoff region.

Glenn tailback Tad Quattlander rushed for 73 yards on 11 carries, but Harrison held the Rockets to 87 yards rushing and 133 in total offense.

The Class BB Hawks intercepted Glenn quarterback Lawrence Scheffer (seven of 16) three times. Harrison quarterback Plamen Magdevski might have played his best game, completing 12 of 15 passes for 147 yards.

"I COULD tell when we got here today we were going to have a good game," Harrison linebacker and all-state candidate Blazo

Sarcevic said. "We had that look in our eyes. This was the best game we've played all season."

"We've been on and off in games all year, but today everybody's light bulb was on all game."

"Our intensity was great," Herrington said. "The defensive secondary played its best game of the year, and we've stopped the run all year."

Penalties and unfortunate circumstances worked against Glenn. The Rockets also lost a fumble instead of scoring the tying touchdown early in the game and were penalized seven times for 105 yards.

"Breaks had nothing to do with it," Glenn coach Chuck Gordon said. "They were too strong for us. The best team won today."

Harrison used 7:05 of the first-quarter clock on its first possession, which ended with Devine's 2-yard run. But Glenn was penalized twice during the drive — once on third down and later on fourth — for roughing the passer.

WHEN THE ROCKETS finally got the ball, Quattlander was headed for a touchdown, but the ball popped out at the 2-yard line and went out the back of the end zone for a

touchback.

That balanced out, however, when Devine had the ball knocked loose at the Glenn goal line on Harrison's next possession, resulting in another touchback.

So the ball didn't bounce Harrison's way all the time, according to Herrington.

"Not when we score our second touchdown and they call it a fumble," he said.

"I can't say we got all the breaks, but there definitely were some penalties that helped us."

The Hawks got a psychological lift when they scored 58 seconds before the end of the half and led 14-0.

Harrison needed only 30 seconds to do it, with Magdevski throwing first-down passes of 18 yards to Sarcevic and 39 to Greg Piscopik. That put the ball on the 1 and set up Devine's second touchdown.

Andy Smith's second interception on the second play of the third quarter led to Harrison taking a 21-0 lead.

ON FOURTH-and-inches at the Glenn 46, Devine carried for 3 yards and, following a face-mask penalty that put the ball on the

11, weaved his way into the end zone again.

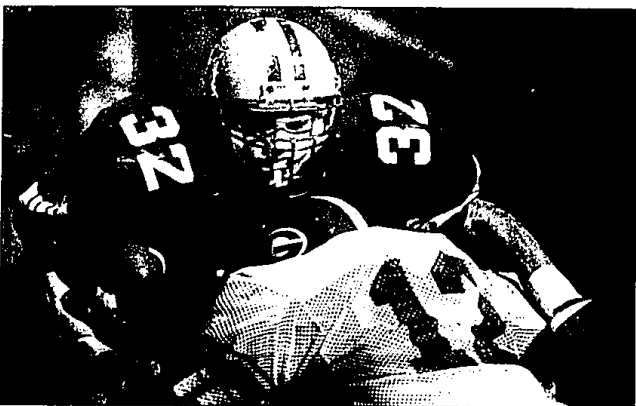
"I didn't want to give them any momentum," said Herrington of his fourth-down decision. "If we had missed, it would have been stupid, because they probably would have scored. But I thought we could run over Shaieb and we did."

A short punt and Sarcevic's bold move to return it for a 20-yard gain gave Harrison the ball at the Glenn 21. Devine carried four times and scored his fourth touchdown from 2 yards.

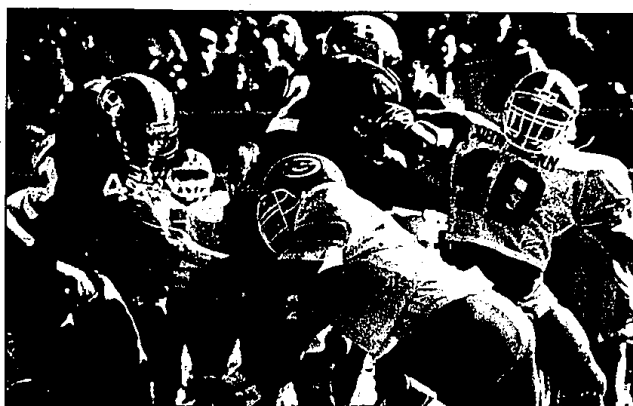
"The offensive line played great," Devine said. "They really came together today. It's a great inspiration playing for these guys, because they never get down on one and other. When they stay up, it makes you want to stay up, too."

The win virtually assures Harrison, which finishes the season Saturday at Standish-Stirling, of a playoff berth. Glenn should still qualify if its beats Wayne Memorial.

"After three-peat (in the league), I'd like to three-peat as state champs, too," Sarcevic said. "Clintondale is tough and we may have to play another (Bay City) John Glenn down the line, but if we play like this we may have a chance."



Gary Devine struggles to break the grasp of a Glenn defender. Devine rushed for 132 yards and four touchdowns Saturday. Harrison's Tony Shaieb blocks Dave DeMara at right.



Glenn linebacker Jason Gould sticks his helmet on the numbers of upback Mike Pesci. Harrison won its third straight WLAA championship 29-0, beating the Rockets each time.

North, Marlins swim winners

North Farmington had double winners in Karrie Kranz and Kerry Doran while dominating its dual meet Thursday with Livonia Stevenson.

The victory improved the Raiders to 3-0 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association and set the stage for this week's clash with Plymouth Salem in the division. North is 6-0 overall.

"It's going to be a good one," North coach Pat Duthie said. "We're going to have to swim well to win."

Kranz won the 300-yard freestyle (2:00.02) and the 100 freestyle (56.13). Doran's victories came in the butterfly (1:02.41) and the 500 freestyle (5:18.55).

"There's only one event between the events Doran swam, so you don't often see that," Duthie said.

"It's an unusual combination. I can't think of any other North Farmington swimmer who has done both those events in the same meet."

Each was on two winning relay teams, too. Julianne Markey, Anna Palmer, Doran and Jenny Wagner won the medley in 1:57.51, and Wagner, Carrie Worthen, Sherri Richardson and Krantz won the 300 freestyle in 1:47.05.

Kranz, Richardson, Markey and Doran combined for a 3:49.73 time in the 400 freestyle and enabled the Raiders to sweep the relays.

Palmer also won the individual medley (2:17.96). Markey the backstroke (1:04.47) and Elyse Turner the diving with 158 1/4 points.

Jennifer Knapp had Stevenson's only first places, winning the 50 freestyle (28.74) and the breast stroke (1:09.68).

"Palmer's IM tonight was real good, her

best time ever," Duthie said. "That's the first time Elyse has won the event, and she's only a freshman."

"We had a lot of good swimmers throughout besides the first places. It was a real team effort."

FARMINGTON HILLS Mercy cruised to a 146-42 Catholic League swimming victory Wednesday over Madison Heights Bishop Foley.

The Marlins, who improve their dual meet record to 4-0, won all 12 events.

Sophomore Jenna McCombs captured two events for Mercy, including a state-cut effort in the 100-yard backstroke (1:03.9) and a personal best in the 100 individual medley (2:26.0).

Erica Smith placed first in the butterfly

(1:04.0), while Michelle Welch took first in the 500 freestyle (5:56.0).

Katie Kallper, with a time of 26.7, won the 50 freestyle and Jennifer Duda had a season best in the breast stroke (1:17.09).

Duda joined with fellow teammates Welch, Michelle Giza and Heather Noll to win the 400 freestyle relay in 4:08.73.

"We used our depth tonight to give as many of our swimmers as possible an opportunity to race fast and score," Mercy coach Terri Eddi-Teeters said. "We qualified some for the Catholic League meet and picked up another state cut. It was a good meet."

After Tuesday's meet with Livonia Ladywood, the Marlins will take on defending state champion Ann Arbor Pioneer on Thursday.

Falcons record 1st win

Farmington entered Friday's game at Livonia Churchill looking for its first win of the season and when the final whistle blew, the Falcons earned a 21-13 triumph over the Chargers.

"This win took a long time in coming," Farmington coach Bernie Call said. "I almost forgot what it feels like."

Churchill (0-8) did all its scoring in the first quarter. Ryan Kukla carried the ball 7 yards into the end zone and Mike Brooks intercepted a pass and sprinted 35 yards for a touchdown.

Farmington's Chris Marting took a first quarter kick-off 85 yards for a score, as the Falcons trailed 13-7 at halftime.

Farmington added a touchdown in the third quarter when Ryan Adams grabbed a 10-yard pass from quarterback David Link and scurried into the end zone.

Link plunged for a 1-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter to conclude the scoring.

Farmington finished the game with 247 yards total offense, 193 of which came on the ground.

"Our running game was strong tonight," Call said. "Our offensive line did a good job of blocking."

Churchill accumulated 188 yards, 155 in the air.

Brooks completed 7-of-14 passes for 112 yards to lead the Churchill passing attack.

HARPER WOODS Lutheran East, behind two touchdowns from James Tubbs, defeated host Livonia Clarenceville 18-6 Friday.

The Trojans fall to 4-4 overall and 3-4 in the Metro Conference. Lutheran East is 4-4 and 4-3.

Carl Holston scored Clarenceville's only touchdown.

Claar nets 36, but Central gets 'W'

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Walled Lake Central couldn't stop Eve Claar, but that wasn't necessarily its objective Thursday night.

The Vikings had plenty of offense themselves, enough to offset Claar's game-high 36 points and defeat host North Farmington 79-58 in the Lakes Division girls basketball game.

Central improved its record to 6-3 in the Western Lakes Activities Association and 9-5 overall. The Raiders are 2-7 and 5-9.

"We don't play any gimmick defenses. Besides, she's probably seen all of them," said Central coach Ken Butler of Claar. "I won't do that to a good ballplayer. Just let 'em play. No one ballplayer is going to beat you."

Butler was right on the last point, not with the scoring combinations the Vikings had.

KAREN KOSLOWSKI put in 23 points to lead Central, 17 coming in the second half when the Vikings outscored North 42-29 and overcame a one-point halftime deficit, 23-28.

The sophomore duo of Jenny Czach and Cindy Muha scored 14

points apiece, and Kelly Glennie, Kim Kobus and Brandy Sereno combined for another 16.

"I've got four three-point shooters on the floor," Butler said, referring to Muha, Czach, Koslowski and Kobus, and we moved the ball well against their zone. They were packed in so much we had to take that (perimeter) shot."

"We're playing very well right now, and we're awfully fast. As you see, we like to run and run. We've got a good bench, and we're getting better."

Claar had 19 points, including five two-point field goals and one triple. In the first half despite missing a number of outside shots. But, while the Raiders were 5-of-13 in the second quarter, Central made only four of 22 attempts.

Claar, who was 10-of-11 shooting free throws, sat out part of the third quarter and had only four points before finishing strong in the final period. Driving for layups instead of taking the perimeter shot, she scored 13 of her team's 19 points in the last quarter.

"I try to take what the defense gives me," Claar said. "Tonight they were playing an aggressive man-to-

girls basketball

man, and I thought I could take (the defender) to the basket."

"I DIDN'T FEEL I was shooting the ball well. That's why I was taking it to the basket and trying to draw some fouls."

"Coach sat me down (in the third quarter), and that helped me to get focused," she added. "I was getting a little antsy on the bench. After watching for so long, I was ready."

But even a great fourth quarter by Claar, mentioned as a candidate for the prestigious Miss Basketball honor, couldn't overcome the Vikings balance.

After its poor shooting in the second quarter, Central started the second half 7-of-10 before finishing 10-of-22. But the fast start was enough to give the Vikings the upper hand and enable them to take control of the game.

"The third quarter has been our downfall in the last five games," North coach Lance Davis said. "We were giving up the jump shot, play-

ing a tight 2-3. In the first half, it was working and they were missing."

"In the third quarter, they made some adjustments to the defense we were playing and were hitting the shots. Then we opened up inside, which compounded the problem."

Central outscored the Raiders 24-10 in the third quarter with Czach scoring nine points and Koslowski eight. Czach scored six points, Koslowski had two baskets and Muha added a triple as the Vikings outscored North 13-2 at the start to lead 41-31.

"WE CHANGED our press a bit, and they didn't read it right," Butler said. "That's why we got the four or five steals there."

"Everybody reads it as a man-to-man press, but after the first pass we go to a zone. A lot of people don't realize that. We get them lulled in that way."

With the Vikings leading 52-39 entering the final period, Koslowski scored the first three baskets as Cen-