

Hawks try to avoid making history

By DAN O'MEARA
and BRAD EMMONS
Staff Writers

Those Observer guys didn't look so smart Saturday — the day of upsets in Western Lakes Activities Association football.

Northville, Plymouth Canton and Walled Lake Central surprised the experts and cost doubt on their prognosticating abilities.

Brad Emons wasn't singing an entirely blue tune, however. In fact, it was something like "When Welsh Eyes Are Smiling" after going 11-4 and gaining ground in the prediction contest.

Dan O'Meara says it's too early to push the panic button following a 10-5 performance that saw him slip to 53-21 overall. Emons leads with a 55-19 record.

FRIDAY'S GAMES (all times 7:30 p.m.)

Lutheran East at Clarenceville: The records might give a different impression, but this isn't an easy game to predict. East is 4-1 and the Trojans 2-3. They've played one common opponent: Lutheran West. Clarenceville lost 20-14 to the Leopards, East 28-0. The Eagles have played Ligett, Hamtramck, Harper Woods and Lutheran North but nobody as good as St. Clement or Cranbrook — the other teams to beat the Trojans. PICK: Emons likes the Lions, but O'Meara favors the East Siders.

Farm, Harrison at Liv. Churchill: It's been 20 years since the Hawks (3-3, 2-3) last suffered three consecutive defeats. Harrison, which opened in 1970, had its only losing season in 1972 when it finished 3-6. Coach John Hamilton said he believes the Hawks will rebound and "play some good football," but he's still waiting for the improvement he and his staff anticipated. The Chargers (0-3, 0-5)

GRID PICKS

were the first Western Division team to beat Harrison in 1983 and one of only two this year. Churchill also hopes to end a losing streak but was scoreless in its last three. PICK: The U.S.S. Harrington plays the hole in its bow.

Liv. Franklin at Ply. Canton: Franklin (2-1, 4-1) suffered its first loss Saturday while Canton (1-2, 1-4) got its first win. After losing to co-leader Northville and with a big game against Walled Lake Western coming up, Franklin can't afford another division loss. Canton's season took a positive turn in a 23-15 win over Harrison — its first ever. Coach Bob Kheola's decision to start sophomore quarterback Brett Elodig was reminiscent of an identical move four years ago. The Chiefs went 0-4 then, too, when sophomore QB Karl Wulke got his first start. He passed for 199 yards and two touchdowns as Canton upset Northville 21-15. The Chiefs finished 3-6 in 1988 and had two winning seasons after that with Wulke leading the offense. PICK: The Patriots win with defense.

Liv. Stevenson at W.L. Central: Suddenly, Central (2-1, 2-3) looks pretty good after beating North Farmington 26-21 last week. That victory also made the Vikings contenders in the Lakes Division, however unrealistic the prospect of winning the title. Stevenson (1-2, 1-4) got its first win at the expense of winless Farmington, 10-6. With the exception of Westland Glen, the Spartans have been close in all their games and should be good competition for the upstart Vikings. PICK: Central wins its third straight.

N. Farmington at Wald. Glenn: The Glenn express keeps gaining momentum, and the Rockets (3-0, 5-0) haven't allowed a point in their last three games — all against Lakes Division teams. The schedule keeps getting tougher for Glenn, and now it faces its best opponent yet in the Raiders (2-1, 3-2). The Rockets can expect a first-up North team eager to rebound from its loss to Walled Lake Central.

it's a must-win game for the Raiders if they are to stay in the division race and keep their playoff hopes alive. PICK: The Rockets stay unbeaten.

Garden City at Redford Union: This promises to be one of the better GOU matchups in several years. Both are 1-1 in the Northwest Suburban League and 2 overall. Each team needs a win to stay in the NSL race. Their only common opponent (Edsel Ford) defeated Garden City 34-0 and Redford Union 21-14. In this case, don't put too much stock in those scores. PICK: RU wins a close one.

Wayne Memorial at Belleville: Wayne has been a hard team to figure, but it appears the Zebras are headed in the right direction. After starting 0-2, Wayne (3-1, 3-2) has won its last three in the Wolverine A Conference. The last two wins were over respectable foes — Wyandotte and Lincoln Park. Belleville (2-2, 3-2) has long been a dormat in the WAC but has a good squad this year. The Tigers only lost 14-7 last week to first-place Fordson, a team the Zebras have yet to play. PICK: Emons switches and takes Belleville; O'Meara switches and picks Wayne.

SATURDAY'S GAMES (all times 1 p.m. unless noted)

Lutheran N'west at Luth. Westland: The Lutheran schools again present a dilemma with this game. Northwest (0-5) and Westland (1-4) have played three common opponents, all with similar records. The Warriors have generated lots of offense this year. In a 45-8 loss to Cranbrook last week, Steve Faith accounted for all eight points on a 41-yard touchdown run followed by the two-point conversion pass from Andy Mantel. PICK: The Warriors prevail; O'Meara says, but Emons flies Northwest.

D.H. Annapolis at Red. Thurston: How about those Eagles? Thurston is 3-1 in the Tri-River League and 4-1 overall. The Eagles will try to win their fourth consecutive game against the winless Cougars (0-4, 0-5). Relying on comparative scores can be a dangerous business, but consid-

er this: Thurston beat Crestwood 35-0; Annapolis lost to Crestwood 35-0. PICK: The Eagles soar.

Ply. Salem at Farmington: The Rockets (1-2, 2-3) have lost two straight and been shut out each time, but they got the Lakes heavyweight (North and Glenn) out of the way. After some big losses early to powerful teams, Farmington (0-3, 0-5) has been close in its last two. We've seen enough surprises in the WLA to think the Falcons can make a game of it. PICK: Salem casts a spell on Farmington.

Bishop Burgess at Det. Benedictine: In defense of winless Burgess, the Spartans (0-2, 0-5) have played five excellent opponents; however, they haven't played little opposition in any of those games. Benedictine (2-1, 3-2) hasn't played the schedule Burgess has and, compared to the others, can be considered the easiest opponent yet for the Spartans. PICK: The Ravens keep Burgess winless.

St. Agatha vs. Waterford Our Lady: 7:30 a.m. at RU's Kraft Field: The Aggies (4-1) are 2-0 in the Catholic League C-Section and two games ahead of the Lakers (3-2), who lost their last two to St. Clement and Ann Arbor Richard. St. Agatha has won four straight since losing the opener to Thurston. The Aggies are the defending division champs and need a win to keep pace with state-ranked St. Clement. PICK: The Aggies are O'Meara's pick, but Emons foresees a Lakes victory.

SUNDAY'S GAME

Redford CC vs. Brother Rice: 2 p.m. at Pontiac Warner Stadium: The Shamrocks (1-0, 5-0) can't afford a letdown after their big win over DePue in which they ended the Eagles' string of four shutouts, 15-6. But CC is used to playing big games on back-to-back weekends, and we can assume the Shamrocks will be as pecked to play their arch rival as they were DePue. Rice (1-0, 4-1) is having another good year, but the Warriors strong enough to stand up to CC, which has an offensive line bigger than some college teams? PICK: CC cruises the Rice Brothers.

Warriors rout Irish

Birmingham Brother Rice withstood a second-quarter onslaught by Harper Woods Notre Dame to emerge victorious in its Catholic League Central Division football opener, 48-20.

The Warriors moved to 4-1 overall. The Fighting Irish dropped to 1-1 and 2-3.

Marcus Harvey, who carried 14 times for 171 yards, scored Rice's first two touchdowns on runs of 40 and 67 yards.

Notre Dame responded with 20 second-quarter points to grab a 20-14 lead late in the second quarter, but Willis Marshall's 90-yard kickoff return moved the Warriors back on top, 21-20, at the half.

In the third quarter, the Warriors returned the favor with 20 points of their own. Quarterback Derek Kanimo scored on a three-yard run, then tossed a seven-yard touchdown pass to Jason Snooks. Rice's defense answered Notre Dame's second-quarter insult when Marshall intercepted a pass and returned it 15 yards to a touchdown.

The Warriors capped the scoring in the fourth quarter on another interception return, this one 17 yards by Mike Mustal.

Mike Rushwin kicked six extra points for Rice.

The Warriors rolled up 289 yards on the ground and 65 through the air. The Irish had 51 rushing yards and 93 passing.

Wolf from page 1B

"In the run-and-shoot, I'm more of a possession-type receiver," he said. "As a third-down receiver, that's the only way I'd make it (in the pros). My forte is catching the ball and running with it."

Should SMU football survive the latest round of troubles and complete its turnaround, Wolf probably won't be around to reap the greatest laurels. Those shouldn't arrive until next year. The 1992 Mustangs are improved, but a bowl game is unlikely.

Which, in regards to Wolf —

the only SMU player to collect two President's Awards, presents the most to the total football program — seems unjust.

He doesn't seem to mind. Wolf refuses to burden himself with any remorse. "That's the way I've been going about the whole season," he said. "I'm working as hard as I can. I want to leave it on the field. I'm having as much fun as I can, I don't want to have any regrets."

The way he's performed throughout his career, he won't.

Western girls win invite; Shively places 3rd

By STEVE KOWALSKI
Staff Writer

Three years ago, Jennifer Ray was one of only three runners on the Walled Lake Western girls cross country team.

Now the only time Ray feels lonely is when she's far ahead of the pack.

Ray, a senior, runs among good company and it's shown this fall with the Warriors earning a No. 19 ranking in the latest Class A poll. Western did nothing to hurt its status with a victory in Monday's Redford Union Invitational at Cass Benton Park.

The Warriors, who placed four of the first five runners, finished with 26 points, 30 less than second-place Dearborn Edsel Ford. North Farmington took third (60), followed by RU (126), Northville (129) and Farmington Hills Harrison (134).

The Warriors have between 15-18 runners in their program and second-year coach Mary Bellingher is glad to have all of them. The Warriors are undefeated in four dual meets and have won three invitational.

"They're the greatest kids," she

But coach Bill Pinnell still isn't sure how his Raiders stand in the Western Lakes Athletic Association Western Division without Plymouth Canton showing. Canton decided not to run the RU Invitational after running in Saturday's and having a dual meet Thursday.

said. "They work, give their all and run as a pack."

Ray, who missed the last week after aggravating a knee injury sustained last year, came in first place in 19 minutes, 16 seconds.

Teammate Bridget Byrne was second (19:52), while Warriors' Stacy Duff (21:10.02) and Brenda Halibozek (21:10.39) were fourth and fifth, respectively.

Western's Kristin Heib (21:49) came in 14th.

Ray, who considered knee surgery over the summer, has been

instrumental getting some of the girls to join the team.

"Everyone has found out how close cross country people are," Ray said. "We're all like a family."

North got a strong run from senior Emily Shively, who came in third place (20:06) and the Raiders also were boosted by runs from Keegan Keefover, eighth place (21:17), Alicia Crossland, 15th (22:07) and Kerrie Simpson, 17th (22:57).

But coach Bill Pinnell still isn't sure how his Raiders stand in the Western Lakes Athletic Association Western Division without Plymouth Canton showing. Canton decided not to run the RU Invitational after running in Saturday's and having a dual meet Thursday.

"I was hoping Canton would be here to see if we're on target toward the conference and our goals to finish among the top three or four teams," Pinnell said.

RU, which won its own invitational two years ago, settled for fourth place but coach Bob Ouellette is enthused about the future. Sophomores Kelly Kohler (22:27),

Amy Ruff (22:31) and Kellie Lyons (22:31) were 19th, 22nd and 22nd, respectively.

"The proverbial cry will come from RU: wait till next year," Ouellette said. "If we can get out of next year's regional, we will be in the Top 10 in the state."

Warrior boys 1st

Walled Lake Western's boys team rallied to top Plymouth Canton, 47-51, in the boys race at Monday's RU Invitational. Western coach Dennis Keeney said the Warriors trailed by nine points with a half-mile remaining.

Harrison took third place (64), followed by Novi (90), Northville (105), RU (169), Dearborn and Garden City (188), North Farmington did not finish.

The Warriors also edged Canton in a dual meet earlier this season.

Novi's John Crawford won the individual title in 16:38. Harrison's Justin Dreyer was second (16:46) followed by third place Art Schuetzler (16:51) of Western.

Canton had the fifth and sixth place finishers, Dave Yack (17:04)

and Casey Moothart (17:10), teammate Todd Smith came in ninth (17:22) and Jeff Keith was 14th (17:30). But Western runners Brandon Keeney (17:16), Frank Stevens (17:24) and Trevor Keeney (17:28) took the 8th, 10th and 11th spots, respectively, and Brian Clark was 15th (17:30.95).

Canton also lost a close dual meet to Western.

"You can say we're in the same league," so to speak," Canton coach Mike Spitz said. "They beat us in a close dual and nipped us in a big invitational and that's pretty close. Western runs a fine program and has for years. It's nice to be running with them. We got another shot at them at the league and the regional."

Garden City had a 12th place finish from Rob Mangan (17:27) and RU's Brian Mockeridge finished 13th (17:29).

Some other local runners included: Harrison's Justin Koonce, 16th (17:31); Canton's Shawn McNamara, 17th (17:32); Harrison's Chad Koonce, 18th (17:38); Western's Tony Mentles, 20th (17:50); Harrison's Roger Stadler, 21st (17:51).

CROSS COUNTRY

REDFORD UNION INVITATIONAL
CROSS COUNTRY MEET
Tuesday at Cass Benton Park

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Walled Lake Western, 47 points; 2. Plymouth Canton, 51; 3. Farmington Hills Harrison, 64; 4. Novi, 90; 5. Northville, 105; 6. Redford Union, 169; 7. Dearborn, 174; 8. Garden City, 180; 9. Trenton, 255; 10. Woodhaven, 323; 11. North Farmington, did not finish.

Boys individual results: 1. John Crawford (Novi), 16:38; 2. Justin Dreyer (Harrison), 16:46; 3. Art Schuetzler (W.L.W.), 16:51; 4. Vince Meehan (Novi), 16:58; 5. David Yack (PU), 17:04; 6. Casey Moothart (PU), 17:10; 7. Todd Harvey (H.W.), 17:16; 8. Brandon Keeney (W.L.W.), 17:16; 9. Todd Smith (PU), 17:22; 10. Frank Stevens (W.L.W.), 17:24; 11. Trevor Keeney (W.L.W.), 17:28; 12. Rob Mangan (G.C.), 17:27; 13. Brian Mockeridge (RU), 17:29; 14. Jeff Keith (PU), 17:30; 15. Brian Clark (W.L.W.), 17:30.95.

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Western, 26; 2. Dearborn Edsel Ford, 56; 3. N. Farmington, 80; 4. Redford Union, 125; 5. Northville, 129; 6. Harrison, 134; 7. Trenton, 197; 8. Woodhaven, 211; 9. Novi, 218; 10. Dearborn, 261.

Girls individual results: 1. Jennifer Ray (W.L.W.), 19:16; 2. Bridget Byrne (W.L.W.), 19:52; 3. Emily Gahney (RU), 20:06; 4. Stacy Duff (W.L.W.), 21:10.02; 5. Brenda Halibozek (W.L.W.), 21:10.39; 6. Michelle Wilson (EF), 21:11.7; Allison Hoe (PU), 21:16; 8. Keegan Keefover (W.L.W.), 21:17; 9. Veronica Gordon (EF), 21:19.

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