

Hawks give Herrington 199th win

Farmington Hills Harrison gave coach John Herrington his 199th career football victory Saturday with a 36-0 win over visiting Livonia Churchill.

The Hawks will try to get No. 200 for Herrington at 7:30 p.m. Friday when they play host Westland John Glenn in the Western Lakes Activities Association championship game.

Herrington is 199-48-1 in 24 seasons. The Hawks finished 5-0 in the Western Division and improved to 6-1 overall. Churchill is 0-5 and 0-7.

Harrison scored early after Kevin Bryant returned the opening kickoff 94 yards to the Churchill 2-yard line. Nick Williams scored on a 1-yard run, and Brock Gove kicked the first of four extra points.

Joe Pesci passed 20 yards to Bryant for a touchdown, and his conversion pass to Williams made it 15-0 in the first quarter.

Jason Granger and Bryant had 1-yard TDs runs in the second quarter, and the Hawks led 20-0 at halftime. Pesci ran 7 yards for the final TD in the third period. Granger rushed for 49 yards on seven carries, and Pesci completed four of nine passes for 72 yards. Harrison had 217 total, 130 of it rushing.

The Hawks held Churchill to 43 rushing yards and 56 total. Evan Jefferson had four tackles and a fumble recovery to lead the Harrison defense. Jake Lawson and Ed Kennedy had three solos and two assists each.

North puts up fight but falls to Glenn, 14-0

By BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Victory eluded North Farmington's football team for the sixth time in seven tries this season, but the Raiders certainly earned the respect of state-ranked and unbeaten Westland John Glenn.

In front of a soggy homecoming crowd Saturday, the underdog Raiders put up a battle, but it wasn't enough, as Glenn gained a 14-0 victory.

The Rockets, under orders from coach Chuck Gordon, let the clock run out on North's 1-yard line as time expired. The

gesture acknowledged the effort put forth by the underdog Raiders.

"North played a great game and I thought coach (Jim) O'Leary and his staff prepared their team well. They did a super job," said Gordon, whose team will meet Farmington Harrison Friday at home in a rematch for the Western Lakes Activities Association title. "Anybody who has been around the Glenn-North series knew it would be a game, and that's the way it turned out."

Glenn, limited to 159 total yards, took advantage of a pair

of Raider turnovers to score a both of its first-half touchdowns.

Dave Irwin recovered North's fumble off a muffed punt return in the opening quarter at the Raiders' 4. Two plays later, Tarle Home crashed into the end zone from 2 yards out and Steve Hower added the extra point to make it 7-0.

In the second period, Glenn linebacker Jerome Cosby picked off David Zietz pass and raced 23 yards for the score.

That was the extent of the scoring as Glenn's defense, getting workmanlike efforts from

interior linemen Jason Fuller, Jason Batchelor and Jim Tenant, allowed the Raiders only one first down and a mere 55 total yards.

"They're good, especially on defense," O'Leary said. "We just couldn't do anything offensively. We thought we'd catch them early out of the shotgun. We wanted to run guys in motion and hit some quick passes, but we had to kind of back off of that because of the wet field conditions."

It was the second straight shutout by Glenn. "I think our defense is getting

better. They've been working hard," Gordon said. "But obviously we'll know a lot more next week when we play Harrison."

North's stunning defense, led by linebackers Ryan McGlinch and Scot Lord, gave Glenn fits all afternoon.

Glenn averaged only 2.6 yards per carry (32 rushes for 85 yards). Rockets quarterback Brian Morrison completed six of 17 passes for 74 yards.

The victory also proved costly for the Rockets, who lost Hower, the team's kicker, wide receiver and free safety, to a neck injury midway through the fourth period.

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get in a muscle sandwich like that and someone is going to win.

"We'll get better at it. Our kids played their best, and the scoreboard said differently."

The Falcons were looking good early, scoring on the opening drive. Jake Siskosky carried 18 yards to the Salem 15 but fumbled. However, wide receiver Stan Lewis scooped up the ball and took it the rest of the way for a TD.

"We tell our wide receivers they have to sprint to the running lanes, because you don't know what's going to happen," Niskanen said. "The block you throw could spring the guy for a touchdown. He didn't show up there by accident."

Salem's first two series netted just 7 yards, but Lear got outside for his long run on the next. Adding to Salem's frustration was its failure to make a two-point conversion after its first three TDs, resulting in a 21-18 halftime deficit.

The Rocks lost fumbles on their next two chances, the second of which occurred on a kickoff. Getting the ball at the Salem 41 and 15, Farmington converted both turnovers into TDs.

Siskosky ran 1 yard for the first, and Mike Pringle threw a halfback pass 16 yards to a wide-open Robert Lhamon in the end zone. Sean Noble kicked three extra points and the Falcons led 21-

6 with 9:52 still remaining in the first half.

"We thought we could move the football, and we had a lot of time left," Moshimer said. "Football is an emotional game and you have to play it with a lot of emotion. If you do that, you've got a chance."

"We didn't have any emotion at the beginning. When we discovered we were about to get beat, everybody woke up and played with some inspiration."

Salem responded with a pair of 44-yard scoring drives after Farmington's third TD. Perko's run made it 21-12, and Neal scored his first TD with 30 seconds left in the half.

"From that point (21-6) on, other than us falling asleep on the (second-half) kickoff, I thought

our kids played pretty decent football," Moshimer said.

"I wasn't confident when we were down 21-6. When we got the second score, my confidence was restored a bit. When we got the third and were down 21-18, I thought we'd win the game."

The Rocks lost another fumble on the second-half kickoff, but they went 70 yards on their next possession to take the lead, 26-21. Neal ran for the TD and two points.

Salem controlled the ball with its ground game in the second half and scored twice in the fourth quarter to cement the victory. Mike Kley kicked the extra point after the last two TDs.

"We told (the players) at half-

time it was time for a gut check," Moshimer said. "If they had it in them, they would come back in the second half and take over the ball game, and I think that's what we did."

Siskosky rushed for 78 yards on 11 carries, but Farmington relied mostly on its passing game. Mike Tokar was 8-of-23 passing for 114 yards, and Lewis caught five passes for 84 yards.

"We keep people off balance (with the pass)," Niskanen said. "We have to throw the ball. We can't line up and knock people off the ball. Eventually, we hope to do that."

"You can't fault the effort of our players. We're not there yet, but we're going to get there."

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