

Farmington wins finale

Farmington High (3-5) finished the football season Saturday with a 19-7 victory over visiting Lakeland.

The Falcons led 7-0 at halftime after junior quarterback Joel Lewis connected with junior Dave Viane for a 68-yard touchdown pass in the first quarter. Aram Sahiner kicked the extra point.

Lewis upped the lead to 13-0 when he scored on a 1-yard sneak in the third quarter.

The Eagles (0-9) cut the Farmington lead to 13-7 with a long TD run in the final period. Matt Ostach's 10-yard run enabled the Falcons to clinch the victory, 19-7.

Junior Jay Guth, who moved from upback to tailback in the second half in place of injured junior Jon Zampfner (ankle), was Farmington's leading rusher with 82 yards on 22 carries.

Lewis completed three of 10 passes for 126 yards, and

junior tight end Bryant Bronner caught two for 58 yards.

HOWELL 42, N. FARMINGTON 32: Quarterback Kirk Pletilla ran for two touchdowns and passed for another Saturday to lead the visiting Highlanders.

He scored on runs of 2 and 7 yards and passed to Bill Riddle for a two-point conversion, giving Howell a 14-0 lead in the first quarter. Junior quarterback Grant Reilly's 2-yard run cut the deficit to 14-6, but Pletilla passed 20 yards to Andrew Ratke for a TD. The extra point made it 21-6 at halftime.

The Highlanders (6-3) added three TDs in the third quarter. Ryan Arnold ran 27 yards for a touchdown, Chris Truwerler 12 and Josh Dukes 2.

Reilly passed 5 yards to junior Kirk Moudros in the fourth period to finish the scoring.

Moudros carried 14 times for 68 of North's 78 rushing yards. Reilly connected on eight of 24 passes for 81 yards.

Howell piled up 235 yards on the ground. Ratke rushed for 96 yards on 12 attempts, and the extra point made it 30 passes for 74 yards.

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The Yellow Jackets (4-4) had just completed a 40-yard drive that ended with Javin Hunter scoring on a 14-yard reverse.

After the Hawks recovered an onside kick, Shaieb broke over the middle on first down and outran the last defenders up the right sideline.

It was the second-longest run in school history and one yard short of John Miller's record. Harrison missed the extra point and led 20-14.

"I thought I had to get outside, because that's where the yards are," Shaieb said. "I was trying to keep my knees up, so they wouldn't trip me; I knew they would be diving at my ankles."

"I was surprised because I heard Hunter was one of the guys chasing me, and he's supposed to be one of the fastest kids in the state."

"He's as fast as any of our backs," Harrison said, adding Shaieb runs at least a 4.7 in the 40. "I was a little surprised he ran away from some of those

guys, but Hunter was not on that side of the field. He's the one guy I thought could catch him."

After a Country Day punt, the Hawks got the ball at midfield and scored again in seven plays. Shaieb carried four times, including the final yard for the TD. The two-point pass was incomplete; Harrison led 26-14.

"I think they saw the trap was working and kept going to it because we weren't stopping it," coach Joe D'Angelo said.

"It was just good, smart coaching there."

"I think what happened, in our 4-3 defense, the tackles might have been coming upfield and getting trapped, and they did a good job of sealing our linebackers."

But the Yellow Jackets weren't out of it and kept fighting back. Hunter returned the kickoff 45 yards to the Harrison 36, and Kevin Salla scored three plays later on a 12-yard run. DCD trailed 26-21 after the PAT with 6:38 remaining.

A 53-yard run by Shaieb put Harrison in scoring position again. Kevin Bamberk passed 20 yards to Sean Sarsfield for the TD and to Ricky Bryant on the conversion, giving Harrison a 34-21 lead.

The Yellow Jackets answered with yet another TD as quarterback Charlie Mayne scored on a 1-yard sneak with 1:50 on the clock. Chris Ghanam blocked the extra point, keeping Harrison seven points ahead, 34-27.

"Every time we had a safe lead they came right back," Harrison said. "When they had the outside kick, if they got that and score, they're right back in it. At least Ghanam blocked the PAT. Otherwise, they could have scored (again) and bent us."

Harrison took a 7-0 lead in the first quarter after Matt Reed's 5-yard run. DCD tied the score before the period ended as Mayne completed a screen pass to Hunter, who took it 65 yards.

The Hawks were twice stopped on fourth down in the first half

at the Country Day 3 and 14. "That was really a momentum shifter, and at halftime I thought they had it," Harrison said. "I could tell as they went off the field they were fired up, because they had stopped us."

The Hawks turned a Bryant interception into the go-ahead TD in the third quarter. Bamberk scored on a 1-yard keeper, and Zack Cornwell's PAT made it 14-7.

"The key play was when we had them on their 17 and they broke out with a long run," D'Angelo said. "That does demoralize you, but give them credit. They know how to win, how to stay in there."

Harrison had 428 yards rushing. Sarsfield added 65 yards. Bamberk 42 and Reed 27. Ray Littleton had 84 of DCD's 120 yards on 17 attempts.

Mayne completed nine of 27 passes for 177 yards, and Hunter caught five passes for 107. Bamberk was 2-of-8 for 65 yards.

Chiefs down Falcons in tournament game

Plymouth Canton pulled away from host Farmington in the second half Thursday to take a 34-20 in the first round of the Western Lakes Activities Association girls basketball playoffs.

The Chiefs led just 1-0 after the first quarter and 10-8 at halftime, but Canton outscored the Falcons 24-12 in the second half.

The low score was a combination of Canton playing great defense and Farmington shutting off the lane with its 2-3 zone, according to Falcons coach John Verdura.

"Our girls played hard," Verdura said. "We had trouble scoring, but their defense had a lot to do with it. They wore us out; they're pretty physical."

Canton senior center Kristi Fiorenzi scored 14 points, including six in the third quarter to help the Chiefs take a 23-15 lead. Melissa Marzolf added eight.

Farmington senior guard Amanda Porter, who didn't play in the first quarter after hurting her thumb in warmups, finished with nine points.

The Falcons made 12 of 18 free throws, the Chiefs 10 of 19.

Canton (16-2) will play host to Plymouth Salem in a semifinal game Tuesday.

Farmington (7-11) travels to Walled Lake Western in the consolation round Tuesday.

NORTHVILLE 55, STEVENSON 42: Top-seed Northville, playing without second-leading scorer Gina Chelsson (ankle injury), won its Western Lakes tournament opener Thursday at Stevenson.

Junior forward Lauren Metel picked up the slack with 18 points as Northville improved to 14-4 overall.

"She was on a mission defensively, stealing passes and converting layups," said Stevenson coach Wayne Henry, whose team couldn't overcome a 18-5, first-quarter deficit. "Metel is just a wonder to watch. She's for real."

Senior guard Lindsay Huot and junior center Christine Herndon added 12 and 10 points, respectively, for the Mustangs.

Senior forward Jackie McClellan had 11 points and seven rebounds for the Spartans, the eight-seed which dropped to 7-11. Junior guard Carolyn Courtright contributed 10 points.

"Our coaching staff and our girls believed this game was winnable," Henry said. "We made mistakes here and there, but it was a lack of defense; plus, we were sloppy with the ball. We dug ourselves a hole and got behind. They're too good a team to let a lead get away early."

Stevenson trailed by as many as 18 points in the second half before closing the deficit to nine.

N. FARMINGTON 72, GLENN 31: Junior Kellie Fournier scored 15 points, including three triples, as host North Farmington (6-11 overall) downed Westland John Glenn (0-18).

Three other Raiders scored in double figures. Michelle Sklar and Tricia Traczak had 12 points each and Katie Vitellio 10. Katie Callahan added eight rebounds.

Kathie Suda scored 10 points for the Rockets, who were outscored 41-12 in the second half after trailing 31-19 at intermission.

CHURCHILL 46, FRANKLIN 38: The Chargers outscored the host Patriots 26-21 in the second half after leading at halftime, 20-18. Both are 4-14.

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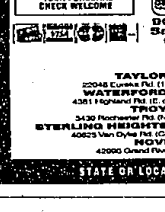


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