

FARMINGTON HARRISON		
Oxford	6	
North Farmington	0	
Walled Lake Western	14	
Plymouth Canton	6	
Livonia Churchill	14	
Northville	3	
Livonia Franklin	0	
Livonia Stevenson	0	
Country Day	27	
Detroit Chalmers	22	
Trenton	21	
10-1-0	119	
GROSSE POINTE NORTH		
Anchor Bay	8	
Port Huron Northern	18	
Utica Ford	18	
L'Anse Creuse North	26	
Warren Cossino	6	
Warren Mott	14	
Rompo	14	
Fraser	13	
Grosse Pointe South	28	
B Ham Brother Rice	31	
Ferndale	22	
10-1-0	198	

FOOTBALL

TWO PLATOONS: Grosse Pointe North has only two players who start on both sides of the ball: senior guard/defensive end Troy Bergman (5-2, 220) and senior quarterback/cornerback Steve Champagne. Harrison, on the other hand, has five players who go both ways and four others who start one way and rotate in the other.

"Sometimes it seems to work our way because of conditioning," North coach Frank Sumbers said. "But the games get so big now that emotion takes over."

"I've seen Harrison on film. They don't look like they get tired in the fourth quarter. They're big strong young men and doing a fine job."

Both teams are about even in terms of size on the line. North averages 215 pounds among its front eight on defense and 213 between the offensive tackles.

COMMON GROUND: Besides being longtime coaching acquaintances, Harrison's John Herrington and Sumbers attended Central Michigan University and are members of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. "But he's a couple years older than me," Sumbers said.

This will be the first time their teams have played each other. Sumbers is 106-45 in 16 years as head coach at North.

"I'm really looking forward to the matchup," Sumbers said. "In high school football, Harrison has as big a name as anybody. They have the reputation with all the state championships."

HOW TO GET THERE: The game site will be Chippewa Valley High School, which is located at 19 Mile and Romeo Plank roads in Clinton Township (Mount Clemens School District).

Take 696 east to Grossebeck Highway. Go south to Mount Clemens and turn left at Cass Avenue. Cass turns into Romeo Plank; as the road bends right (north), 19 Mile Road will be just ahead. Turn left on 19 Mile and the school is directly ahead.

PLAYOFF HISTORY: The Norsemen are enjoying their longest tournament run in four playoff appearances.

North lost in the Class A regional finals to Detroit Catholic Central (1985) and Detroit Henry Ford (1986) and the first round a year ago to Royal Oak Kimblik.

Hawks from page C1

into a running team, but I've never been that way. I've always throw the ball 20 times a game.

"I hope people keep thinking we're one-dimensional, and then Steve will sneak up on them."

In North's 29-22 victory over Ferndale last week, Harris was held to a season low of 148 yards despite a season high of 39 carries. But Champagne was 11-of-20 passing for 156 yards and a touchdown (with two interceptions).

"It's hard to commit and put everyone on the tailback, because they'll hurt you in other ways," Herrington said. "The quarterback has a lot of poise and throws the ball well."

Herrington hopes the Hawks, who have been strong against the run, can put the brakes on Harris, too, and avoid getting into a shootout with the Norsemen.

"I want defensive coordinator Bob Sutter to step him, so I just have to get a field goal somewhere along the line," he said. "Since we know he's going to carry the ball 30 times, we'd better be there to stop him."

Offensively, the teams are a

mirror image of each other in many respects. Besides wearing the same team colors, both run from the I-formation, have veteran quarterbacks and match up well on the line.

"Their fullback reminds me a lot of our own," said Herrington of 5-11, 190-pound senior Chris Morkut, who has 465 yards. "He slashes in there and makes big yards."

"They do a lot of the same things; they run the fullback trap; they pitch and throw. They mix it up, although they only averaged eight passes during the regular season."

"I think, if we wore plain gold helmets, we'd look very similar," Sumbers said. "Leonard has done more at tailback than Harrison's have, but it looks like he uses three tailbacks."

Harrison's offense has produced all season with few exceptions, but the Hawks seem to have taken their game to a higher level in recent weeks and will pose a challenge for North, too.

Senior Kevin Bambenek is 72-of-147 passing for 1,268 yards and eight TDs. Sophomore Ricky Bryant has 22 receptions for 465

yards and seven TDs.

Senior fullback Nick Shniab has rushed for 764 yards and 12 touchdowns, and senior Sean Sarsfield is the leading rusher among the tailbacks with 354 yards and three TDs.

"I think our offensive line is very good and able to pick up just about any kind of defense it sees," Herrington said. "They give us a good chance at the point of attack, and then it's up to the backs to get through the hole, hang on to the ball and keep the chains moving."

Sarsfield has given us a boost at tailback after he recovered from the broken wrist. Shafab and Bambenek have been key players all year."

The Hawks will face a 4-4 defense for the first time this year.

"They've given up some points but always hung in there," Herrington said. "When they beat Brother Rice, that gave them great confidence in the tournament. They took on Ferndale, which has excellent speed, and were able to contain them pretty well."

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Heslop's

Saturday, November 23, 1996

12:00-2:00 p.m. at Eastlake Commons location
44891 Hayes Rd., Sterling Heights, MI 48313
810-247-8111

4:00-6:00 p.m. at Merit-Five Plaza
31224 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48154
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PEACE OF MIND WITH THE LLADRO INSURANCE PROGRAM

Rockets challenge No. 1-ranked team

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

Coach Chuck Gordon of Westland John Glenn has concerns about his upcoming opponent.

For Rick Bye of Sterling Heights Stevenson, the feeling is mutual.

No. 1 (Stevenson) meets No. 2 (Glenn) in the Class AA football semifinals, 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Rochester High School. Both teams are 11-0.

Stevenson, which opened the season with a 40-21 victory over Livonia Franklin and advanced in the playoffs last week with a 21-13 win over Utica Eisenhower, employs a balanced offensive attack.

Quarterback Pat Collins, a 5-foot-9, 160-pound senior, will throw to a pair of talented receivers in Tim Steele (40-plus receptions) and Dan Valik.

The Titans' running attack revolves around three people: Junior Joe Alle (5-10, 165), senior Andy Frank (5-11, 175) and senior Kyle Komusin (5-11, 200).

"I've always had to stay balanced, because some teams are

going to give up one thing and others are going to give away another," Bye said.

As for Glenn, Bye is leery of just about every facet of its game.

"They do a ton of things well," he said. "I can't find something they don't do well."

"They're fast and physical on defense. They're a good running team and a good passing team. They go with a 6-6 quarterback (Justin Berent) and a couple of 6-3 wideouts (Lou Hartwig and David Jarrett). And along with that No. 10 (Paul Merandi), they all have excellent hands. And their tight end (Jon Becher) is a great player."

Bye also offered a carrot to his coaching counterpart Gordon.

"I'd ask him to make it an even game by letting his quarterback throw from his knees," he joked. "But, really, he has good feet and good accuracy."

"And the way those 6-3 kids go after the ball they're scary."

Gordon, meanwhile, knoys playing Stevenson is going to be far from a walk in the park.

"They deserve to be ranked No. 1," he said. "They're a good team and they're well coached. I have a tremendous amount of respect for them, but in the same respect we look forward to playing them."

Gordon's biggest concern is dealing with all the motion in Stevenson's offense.

"They run a lot of different formations, and they'll throw in some motion," he said. "We need to have good coverage and pressure their quarterback."

"They have tremendous size on both sides of the ball, and they'll mix it up good. Catholic Central and Fordson were predominantly running teams, but Stevenson is more balanced."

When told Glenn was tied or trailing at halftime in five games, Bye remarked: "That's a sign of a team with a lot of character that can come back like that. We've also had teams in the past that would get down, but because of a sense of urgency, would come back."

MIRACLE ON MAIN STREET

PARADE

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN NORTHVILLE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

5:00 pm Choir Sing-A-Long
Northville Community Recreation Center

6:00 pm Miracle on Main Street Parade
Featuring floats, musicians, Santa and his live reindeer, and the 1996 Northville Snow Queen Kathi Jerome, downtown Northville (see map)

After The Parade - At the Gazebo -

- * Miracle Star Lift-Off with Northville's 1996 Snow Queen
- * Music and Dance Performances
- * Visit Santa and his Live Reindeer
- * Free Carriage Rides till 9pm
- * Businesses Open till 8pm

Map showing streets: I-96, Back Rd, North Rd, Eight Mile Rd, Livonia, Haggerty, I-275, Seven Mile Rd, M-14, I-96.