



OL-Steve Dominguez Catholic Contral





OL-Josh Abels Garden City WR-Brian Nelson Farmington Harrison



TE-Brad Buckler Livonia Stevenson



QB-Grant Weber Farmington



RB-John Kavs Catholic Central



Top coach: Farmington Harrison

Coach of the Year after leading the Hawks to a

10th state title. He's the only head coach the Hawks have

ever had, compiling a 271-58-1 record in 30

football coach John Herrington was named the Observer

Herrington, top gridders earn accolades

ALL-AREA

AULOSSERVER FOOTRALL

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IF AND RESPONSE

43. Ryan Luken (CO, 212), Ferm. Plantico Defentivo Backle pr. Birndoo Gentec (5-8, 103), Chiarbin pr. Loy Hyder (5-11, 105), Farm. Harrison Ser. Deeve Patrice (6-1, 103), U.F. Frankley ov. Alark Cistoch (6-11, 170), Farmbettoo N. Alark Cistoch (6-11, 170), Read (CC Jr. Oxdot: Blanc (5-9, 146), Red. Tuyrston

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By Dan O'Meara Staff Whited

demear@ochoanccommand
You didn't see Farmington
Harrison ranked among the top
football teams in the state last
August. Neither did the Hawks
have anyone on the preseason
list of outstanding players.
But there they were at the
once again. When it was all over,
the Hawks were back on top as
state champions.
Coming off back-to-back Class
A championship seasons, Harrison had just one full-time starter
back and was not considered a
strong contender to win a third
astrong contender to win a third

strong contender to win a third straight.

But the Hawks not only reloaded for 1999 but overcame early se a so n adversity to do just that. Harrison arow for the first time cand captured itself.

10th state title when it defeated Grand Rapids Creston in the Division 3 fand Nov. 27.
For the job he and his coaching staff did to remake the Hawks into a championship team, Harrison's John Herrington has been selected Observerland Coach of the Year.

"I think we were more talented than some people think," he soid. "We did have four or five really outstanding players. The great thing was how other players stepped up and did the job."

The Hawks, who forfeited two victories for using an ineligible player, were 2-4 and facing early elimination from playoff contention. But they won their final three regular-season gomes, including wins over Division I qualifier Livonia Stevenson and Division 6 champ Country Day, to qualify as a wild-card team.

The Hawks went on to have a Cinderella-like finish, winning their last last eight games, including five in the post-season.
"It was really gratifying to see the improvement the kids mode from Game 1 to 14," Herrington Sid. "A lot of players were asked to switch positions and we had so many combinations of starters — offensively and defensively—and they just kept winning.

"When we got to the tough competition at the end of the year, they were up to the task of beating those teams like (Livonia) Stevenson, Country Day and the last three playoff teams."

The consensus opinion is that Herrington and his staff did one of their best coaching stoff put in a lot of hours and thought, trying to prepare for each game, Herrington was a career record of 271-58-1 spanning 30 creasons, all at Harrison. The Hawks have appeared in the playoffs a state-record Herrington were acreed in the playoffs a state-record Herrington and complex were very through and really helped us prepare.

"The key to our season we special teams were outstanding. Coach (John) Withowski did an excellent job."

Herrington, whose teams hive did not of their best coaching stoff much as the results will be a good, but we'll have a special team were outstanding. Coach (John) Withowski did an excellent job."

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strongest CC player, the bench presses
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and "Colleges are looking at him as a
defensive player, but I tlink he's good
enough to play offense or defense. He
spa excellent movement.
I looked at him as the kind of impact
player Doug Brze/maki (Philadelphia
Eagles) was. He controlled this side of
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Nelson caught 20 passes for 400 yards and five touchdowns. He also was

4-01-4 possing for 120 yards, and he punted 37 times for a 36-d overage. On defense, he was one of the leading tacklers with 102 hits, and he led the team with eight interceptions.

"He was our best pass receiver," Herrington said, "He had to play tight end whon our tight ends got hurt, but he's really more of a split end, the tuned into an extraording punter, too...

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able to get our defensive backs in the right postions. On offense, he has our cutoming hands. If he was near the ball, he would cache. If were near the ball, he would cache it. Broads afterwaren. The ball backs is a third to both sides of the ball of the Spartans.

He led Stovenson with 15 receptions for 291 yeals, On defense, the was the team's leading tackter of linebacker (291) and had four sacks.

"Brad was just relemities on defense," Stevenson coach Tim Gabel sold. "He played overy down just this side of out-of-cortont, which equated him to win our weekly" light the ward four times in 10 gene used is inceeded with the town our weekly "light" ward four times in 10 gene used in sinceities. The book form. He was our goto accever."

Grant Waber, GB, Farmington Weber was the main offensive threat for the Falcons, rushing for 1,167 yards and 15 Couchdowns on 195 carries. He made size that went 20 yards or more. Weber also passed for 654 yards and three touchdowns, completing 55 of 203 attempts a speed of 454 yards and three touchdowns, completing 55 of 203 attempts and socret 18 touchdowns on 195 carries. He made big playes when we needed it all seeks and those touchdowns, completing 55 of times for a 354 everage.

"I'm not sure employely in the weals any tougher than he is," coach John Sechle sald. "He has geret moves and three touchdowns, completing 55 of times for a 354 everage.

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"I'm not sure employely in the weals any tougher than he is," coach John Sechle sald. "He has great moves and three touchdowns, completing 55 or 10 through the wealth of the completing of the sale and the sale of the sale and the sale of the sale and the sale and the sale and tought of the sale and the sale and

In two years as the Shismrocks' starting taiback. He totaled 1.324 years in 197 carries this year for a 6.6 yads percary carries this year for a 6.6 yads percary overage in 10 genes. He socked 1.33 touchdowns. As a starting linebacker les had 45 touchdowns. As a starting linebacker les had 45 touchdowns. As a starting linebacker les had 45 touchdowns. As a starting linebacker les dout the district championship geme against Walled Lake Western with a spinal problem.

"He's one of the best backs we've ever had," Mach said. "He has a great he type of the percare provided the western with a spinal problem.

"He's one of the best backs we've ever had," Mach said. "He has a great he type of the percare provided in a formation of the percare provided in a formation of the percare provided in a formation of the percare provided in the type of the percare provided in a formation of the percare provided in a formation of the percare provided in a formation of the percare provided in th Mike Macek, RB, Redford Union: Few players in the state have better high light film material than Mocek, a three

players in the stole have better high right film material than Moves, a three-year starter on both sides of the ball. Hobbited by a feg injury midway through the year, Macek still gained 844 yards, for an average of 6.4 per carry, and six louchdowns. He also screed three times on special teams, runs that covered 98, 33 and 54 yards. Macek caught seven posces for 169 yards with the seven seven the seven that covered 98, 33 and 54 yards. Macek caught seven posces for 169 yards and one score. He also excelled at linebacker, nichiling with 185 carer totelles, 13 sacks, and seven interceptions. Macek whom smot RU records on offense, accounting for 4,622 total yards and 53 touchowns. He amassed 3,146 yards rushing and sourced 39 yourdowns. He also except 129 passes for 476 yards and five 10s. Macek also hards the seven the seven that the seven sever cached in 20 years," RU couch closes, the also except 129 passes for 476 yards and five 10s. Macek also hards also the seven sever cached in 20 years," RU couch closes seld. "He did whatever it took to give us the odvantage and win the game. He never give up, even this year, when he was hurt a few games pulled handstring), be played as hard as he could."



be could."

Tim Shaw, RB, Livenia Clarenceville:
Just a sophomore, Shaw is already
sewriting the record books for the Tro-jans and is one of the reasons
Clarenceville was undefeated during the

Please see ALL-OBSERVER, B5









LB-Brian Brinede: Farmington



RB-Eric Jones Westland John Glenn

DL-Kent Taylor Farmington Harrison



RB-Mike Macek Redford Union







DL-Dominio Freds Llyonia Stavenson



Di-Scott Rycerz Fermington

RB-Kevin Woods Farmington Harrison



LB-Jako Therp Westland John Glenn