

RAIDERS
FROM PAGE C1

run well, gaining 163 of their 257 yards on the ground. Smith was 5-of-11 for 94. Marcus Thornton gained 87 yards on 17 carries, Ken Uy 42 on eight and Smith 35 on 12.

"We like to throw the ball 15 times a game and not out of necessity but as part of the offense," North offensive coordinator Rick Lee said. "We try to stay away from those third-and-long situations."

"(The Raiders) were hungry to prove we can put more than six points up. But six points was all it took, because the defense did a great job."

Ferrdale was limited to 85 yards. The Eagles rarely crossed midfield and never entered the red zone.

The Raiders struggled to do anything offensively the rest of the first half, although they had a sure TD pass dropped in the end zone just before halftime.

It was the North defense that set up the next two scores. Ferrdale fumbled on its first two possessions of the third quarter, and North turned each one into seven points.

The Raiders got the ball at the Eagles' 27 and 10. Ken Uy ran 10 yards for the first score, and Smith passed 10 yards to Hathaway for the second. Suddenly, it was 28-0 four minutes into the second half.

"I couldn't be more pleased with the defense," Burrell said. "The defense has played well all year and has given up just 21 legitimate points. They're amazing kids. I think we have a great defense."

Veider and Scott Hegstrom intercepted Ferrdale passes later

in the half, and Uy scored his second TD on a 3-yard run with 7:20 left in the game followed by Lambert's fifth PAT.

"I'm just real proud of our kids," Burrell said. "They have a lot of resiliency, a lot of character. They're on a mission."

"Our theme for the year is 'Nothing has come easy for us. Everything we get we're going to have to earn.'"

The Raiders hope to earn a playoff berth, too. They're 3-1 in the OAA Division III and 4-2 overall.

They need to win one of their final two games - Friday at home against Pontiac Central and Oct. 25 at Farmington - to qualify. Ferrdale is 2-2 and 4-3.

"We figure Week 9 is the first playoff game anyhow," Burrell said. "If we happen to get in, we'll end up playing Farmington somewhere."

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Marcus McComb runs past Chris Hayes on his way to the end zone for the first North touchdown in a 35-0 victory Friday.

ELL BRESLER/OBSERVER

FARMINGTON
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"He had a fine game; he was eager to get back into it," Bechtel said, adding tailback Danny Preston didn't play because of an ankle injury. "Champion had a good day, too. He played some tailback."

A lot of kids got to carry the ball.

The Cougars are 1-4 in the division and 1-0 overall. Their only win resulted from a North Farmington forfeit.

"We played a team that was inferior in terms of talent, but our kids played great," Bechtel said. "Our kids played at our level and not theirs today."

"It was a great game because all our kids got to play. It's neat when you put in the second- or third-team kids, and you don't see a dropoff. That's a tribute to our kids."

"(The 7-0 record) has been a progression for two years. That's what has been fun about this whole thing. Even last year, we got better every week."

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We were young a year ago and, heading into this year, it has been a natural progression of our kids getting better every single week.

"We're fortunate because our kids are giving us everything they have in all phases of the game."

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HAWKS
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back to go ahead 21-14 only to lose 28-21. We played the top two teams in the state two weeks in a row and tonight we were able to come out on top."

Lake Orion coach Chris Bell, whose team was controlling the line of scrimmage and clock throughout the first 30-plus minutes, said his team didn't make the plays down the stretch.

"When we were up 21, I don't want to say that we didn't play hard," he said. "Harrison simply made the plays down the stretch and we didn't. We'll bounce back."

With Lake Orion not scoring on its possession in the first overtime, the Hawks only needed to kick a field goal to win. But Harrison decided to go to Woods on the ground.

"We figured we'd line Marcus up twice and then kick (the field goal) on third down if we didn't score," Herrington said.

"We fumbled it there, but we got another chance in the second (overtime)."

Saddled with a 21-0 deficit, Harrison began its comeback with 3:30 left in the third. On a third-and-8 from the 50, Jake Ghanann was about to be sacked when he connected with Woods on a short pass, which Woods turned into a touchdown, zig-zagging down the field to put the Hawks on the board.

After Lake Orion (6-1, 4-1) punted on its next possession, Harrison (5-2, 4-1) put together a 13-play, 73-yard drive, which was capped when Ghanann hit tight end Kyle Taylor with a 15-yard TD strike with 8:08 to play. Harrison,

however, botched the snap on the PAT attempt and then convert, leaving the score at 21-13.

The Dragons turned the ball over on downs when their 10-play drive stalled at the Hawks' 27-yard line with 2:29 to play.

Harrison responded by tying the score at 21-all when Ghanann once again hooked up with Taylor for a 16-yard TD toss with 1:11 remaining.

Junior Scott Struble's reception on the two-point conversion pass sent the game into overtime.

Harrison only had the ball during 6:17 of the 24-minute first half, while the Dragons built a comfortable 14-0 lead. Allison scored on a 9-yard sprint up the middle in the second quarter, and he added a 2-yard plunge 30 seconds before halftime for a 14-0 advantage.

It was Allison who put the

Dragons up 21-0 with 5:09 left in the third with a 9-yard TD run.

Note Recknagel's third PAT of the night was the final PAT for Dragons, who failed to move the ball in the fourth quarter and overtime.

Woods finished with only 67 yards rushing on 13 carries. Ghanann was 14-for-22 passing for 212 yards and one interception. Mike Bartley had four catches for 58 yards - 50 of which came in the game-tying drive - and Charles Fickett collected four receptions for 59 yards.

Recknagel was 8-for-15 passing for 127 yards, but he mis-fired on his final five attempts. Allison chalked up 171 yards on the ground on 35 carries, and Makasin had four catches for 62 yards.

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