

Farmington Teams Rolling On

Key Tilt Listed for Friday

They're whooping it up around Farmington High School. The footballers had won three straight. What's more, Farmington has jumped off to a flying start in the Interlake League.

And in three games, Farmington has yielded only nine points — one touchdown and one safe.

But wait until next Friday afternoon... 4:27 Farmington Coach John Rogers. "That'll be the day of decision for us."

Comes Friday afternoon at 3:30, Farmington squares off against powerful and perennial champion Walled Lake on the Farmington gridiron.

"If we get over this hurdle, we can be in great shape," says Rogers. "Walled Lake has to be the toughest opponent we'll meet this season."

But, while the coach and his players are looking forward, the fans and some of the team, too, can't help but rejoice over what happened last Friday when Farmington rolled to an easy 33-0 win over Pontiac Northern in the league opener.

The game actually was settled in a hurry.

Pontiac Northern kicked off to Farmington's Bruce Charles. Young Mr. Charles took the ball on his 10 and cut off to his right. Walled Lake was stopped, he had gone 35 yards and Farmington had the ball on the Pontiac team's five.

Two plays later Roy Leach snatched over and Farmington was in front for keeps.

A 50-yard march paved the way for Farmington score again in the fifth. Quarterback Mike Wilson slipped across from the one for the TD.

In the third period, Charles got his chance to tally, driving from the five. Then Dick Isbell, who had taken over for Leach who left in the first period with a turned ankle, accounted for two more touchdowns.

Isbell went in from the four in the third period and from the six in the last period.

While the Farmington offense clicked in high, Coach Hayes took particular delight in talking about his defense.

"You know that defense wasn't responsible for the one safety we gave up and the one touchdown we yielded resulted from a fumble deep in our own end."

"We have been trying to keep tabs of who makes our tackles, but it's a very difficult job. Our boys have been tackling in gangs. All of which naturally makes us happy."

Statistically last Friday, Farmington made nine first downs to three for Pontiac Northern.

In passing, Farmington hit four-for-four for 56 yards, tallied 53 on four out of nine completions.

Rushing-wise, it was Farmington 164, Pontiac Northern 40.

"The latter figure shows how great our defense was again," commented the Coach.

Hayes figures that all hands should be ready for Friday's pivotal game with Walled Lake. "We're going to have to spot them several pounds per man up front," said the coach. "This worries me."

However, the agility of the Farmington forwards could

offset the pound differential against Walled Lake. At least, that's what Hayes is hoping.



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Belleville Rips RU

There aren't many football teams which can succeed with just a running attack or a passing game.

Usually, it takes both elements to make a sound offense. Coach John Rogers must do something at Redford Union about building up his ground machine before his forces move down to Allen Park this Friday night.

Otherwise, RU could be in for another evening like last Friday when they dropped a 26-14 verdict to Belleville in the Suburban Six League opener for both sides.

Harry Kendrick did a neat job of throwing for RU.

He tossed 24 times and elicited on 12 for 142 yards. That's a decent figure — in fact, far above average — for a high schooler.

But lack at Redford Union's rushing figures for the Belleville game!



HIGH IN THE AIR goes Farmington's Tom Mitchell (83) as he rips a pass for a long gain in the 33-0 victory over Pontiac Northern.

Just 12 yards in 48 minutes. And these figures were supplied by the R.U. statistician.

"We have been trying very hard to bolster our running," explained Rogers. "We realize that we are making it possible for the opposition to sit back and wait for Kendrick to pass, because they figure we can't do much running."

Belleville, however, got away with a one-sided offense — all power on the ground.

The west-suburbanites piled up 210 yards rushing and made only six yards via the airline on one completion in five tries.

In first downs it was very lopsided—20 for Belleville and seven for the losers.

The Townshipers never were in the game as Belleville steadily put the proceedings back yard reach.

Don Savage, a power-running back, cut over from the one-yard line before the first quarter had advanced too far and Belleville had a 7-0 lead.

It was 20-0 by half time after Savage and George Rich cut and pushed in from around the two in the second period.

The third quarter was scoreless.

All of R.U.'s excitement came in the final period. But, it was too late to help pull the game out.

Kendrick's arm provided the fireworks. First he clicked on a neat 20 yarder to Ernie Bousa who ran it over the goal line.

Then came a six-yard toss in the flat to Bill Derouin for another R.U. score.

But when Savage counted from the four for his third TD of the game, Belleville had taken a very handsome lead and had the game in the bag.

St. Agatha Annexes 3rd Straight Victory

It was before St. Agatha high school's football team played its first game.

Coach Dave Brazil, in a meeting with reporters, said: "This could be our year. We have a lot of experienced boys back and some fine newcomers."

Well, there's no way to top St. Agatha's record thus far.

The Redford Townshipers have played three games and won them all. Two of the conquests have come in league play in the Catholic League.

St. Agatha turned in another sharp performance last Sunday in beating Waterford Our Lady of Lakes, 19-7, to prepare for this coming Sunday's homecoming in action against strong Royal Oak St. Mary's.

It will be a double homecoming. St. Agatha's Coach Glen Goodie (formerly assisted Brazil at St. Agatha).

St. Agatha jumped off to a 13-0 lead in the first quarter when Rick Collins rifled a pass to Jim Roope for 39 yards and

the game's first touchdown. Collins then added the point.

Shortly afterward, Gregory Peck continued his spectacular running for St. Agatha when he broke loose on a 55-yard dash to the land of no-yes.

In the second quarter, Waterford came back for its only score, but Collins streaked in from the six in the third period to put the game out of reach.

When the game was over, Brazil talked about his defensive players.

"They're great... kids like Mike Roemer, Ron Brunschried, Peck, Ron Zimmerman, Dan Gillies, Rose and Paul Davidson."

"We're not giving the opposition much chance to get any place. That always was our trouble here. When their toes began pounding at us, they sooner or later would break us down. This hasn't happened this year. At least not yet."

St. Agatha stands a half-game behind Orchard Lake St. Mary's which has won three league starts to date.

All signs now point to the St. Agatha-Orchard Lake head-on clash, scheduled for Oct. 25, deciding the divisional pennant.

St. Agatha never has won the pennant. They have made a habit of the Township school of finishing second. Coach Brazil hopes the habit is broken this year—provided the team wins the crown.

Stan Marshall is Wayne State University's eight coach in its 46-year football history. His predecessors were David Holmes (1918-1929), Norman A. Wain (1929-1931), Joe Gormis (1932-1943), John Hackett (1946-1947), Herb Smith (1948, 1955-1959), Lou Zarra (1949-1954) and Hal Willard (1950-1953).

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Bentley at Belleville, 8 p.m.
R. Union at Allen Park, 8 p.m.
Plymouth at Trenton, 8 p.m.
West Bloomfield at Clawsonville, 8 p.m.
Walled Lake at Farmington, 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES
North Farmington vs. Groves at Seaholm Field, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Royal Oak St. Mary's at St. Agatha, 2:30 p.m.
Our Lady of Sorrows at St. Michael, Pontiac, 2:30 p.m.

North '11' Rallies For Win

If the preliminary action means anything, North Farmington High starts its bid for Northwest Suburban League football honors this week as a top contender.

First there was Clarenceville, then Riverdale and last Friday Detroit Northern which wound up on the short end against North Farmington.

"We're ready for the league now," said Coach Ron Holland after North Farmington had subdued the tough Detroit eleven, 12-6.

The chase for North Farmington starts Saturday night against Birmingham Groves at the Seaholm High field at 8 p.m.

They will follow league battles with Oak Park, Thurston and Franklin.

"Four tough weekends in a row without a breather," commented Holland. "I can't ever recall when the league had so many good teams. Any are capable of scoring a victory or a lot of victories."

The North Farmington team has to win until the closing quarter to beat Detroit Northern.

In fact, just 1:14 showed on the big clock when Greg Wyckinski slipped over from seven yards out with the deciding touchdown.

But the hero's role actually belonged to Bob Linderman.

Just moments before Wyckinski's payoff run, North Farmington was maneuvering in its own territory. Things didn't look too hot to avert a tie finish.

Linderman got the ball, however, and clauded the tre complex of matters. He raced some 65 yards to pay the way for Wyckinski to drive home and lead the game.

It was Wyckinski's second TD of the game. He had registered the first on the first play of the final period and a shot from the one-yard line.

An interference call on a North Farmington pass on the second play had helped to keep the drive going.

After Wyckinski's first six-point play, the Detroiters roared right back to get even. A 40-yard pass did the damage against North Farmington.

When the game was over, Coach Holland had only praise again for his defense.

"What a job the defense turned in," commented the coach.

Individuals, who worked to check Northern, included Joe Stepping, Skip Moore, Andy Lawton and Don Robble.

SPORTS OBSERVER

By George Maskin

It's nice to be famous... or isn't that the word?

Ron Linford, who has done so much for kids and sports in Redford Township, has taken a few pot shots at yours truly because of our raps at Little League baseball.

Linford suggests we grow up.

When we are assigned to cover March 14, 1917, which means that we aren't exactly a novice on this earth.

Secondly, our first association with newspaper writing dates from 1931 when we first punched out a story for the now deceased Detroit Times.

In the interim period, Mr. Linford, we have sat in press boxes in such famed spots as Yankee Stadium, Tiger Stadium, the University of Michigan, Olympia, Kiel Auditorium, Michigan State University, Fenway Park, and a couple hundred other spots.

We have written, perhaps, five million... maybe ten million words, on athletes.

Not only have we reported sports events, but we have officiated football, basketball and baseball.

We have worked games involving Little Leaguers, high schoolers, collegians and professionals.

WE DON'T SIT HOME AND WAIT FOR THE PHONE TO RING... MR. LINFORD.

When we are assigned to cover 10 different high school football teams, we are for the Observer newspapers, we naturally can't be in 10 spots at ONE TIME. Hence, we must use the telephone.

Now, let's talk about Little League specifically.

Our big growl, Mr. Linford, on this subject has been twofold:

1.—That the mothers and fathers have become so absorbed in Little League, that they (the adults) have become the dominant figures—not the boys.

2.—Because of all the concentration placed on Little League youngsters, the parents seem to have NO TIME for boys when they get to be 13, 14 and even 17 and 18 years of age.

Who's to deny, Mr. Linford, that in your own community of Redford Township, where you have over 100 Little League clubs, there were only around a dozen Babe Ruth (13-14-year-olds), three or four teams for boys 15-16 and JUST TWO for boys 17-18?

Explain, Mr. Linford, why in the present baseball picture, the curve of participation shows that the peak in play is reached at age 12 and then takes a sudden downward swing?

It is that young boys are getting their fill of playing organized baseball at age 12? Is it that because of partial fathers who often play with their boys over for selfish reasons that so many boys get up with team baseball so early?

Oh, yes, Mr. Linford, We unpired a flock of Little League baseball this summer and last summer and for summers before that. The league in which we worked was on par with Redford Union's, Plymouth's, Farmington's, Livonia's.

What left us with a pain in the side was that the players showed no improvement—almost none—in the last week of the season over what they had exhibited when the schedule began.

The fathers—and we love them all—had taught the kids VIRTUALLY NOTHING. First baseman didn't know where to stand... pitchers lacked form in their deliveries... every batter had to look to the bench before each pitch... for a sign... And this was true with the count two strikes against him.

And, the mothers and fathers screamed... screamed at the umpires, who could do no right, and boys themselves.

Mr. Linford, we have three children of our own. One of them is a great source of great problems. He has done a few things wrong. But, am I to tell the law the kid is right and the police are wrong?

That's what you have in situation after situation in Little League. Partial parents overly protect their proteges. The boy takes a pitch right down the middle for a third strike. But, is the boy blamed for letting one sail in? Of course not. The Umpire was rotten, a bum, a thief, a blind man.

In conclusion, talk to anybody connected with law enforcement.

The big problem today is NOT WITH BOYS down around Little League age.

It's when the kids get to be 16, 17 and up to 20.

But, what are the communities doing for these boys... and girls?

Not much in baseball, Mr. Linford... or in any other sports, outside the schools. And, even in the schools only a small percentage of the boys can be accommodated on the varsity and reserve teams.

In Redford Township, a man like Al Turner told us just a few weeks ago that he might not be able to field his team for boys 17-18 next summer because of the pinch of funds.

So, come on, Mr. Linford, let's get down to the basics! Nobody's saying that it's harmful for kids to play baseball at the age of 11 or 12.

If they're going to play, LET THEM PLAY so that when they're 15 and 16, they'll still want to play baseball... and not be diverting their attentions elsewhere.

Little League baseball should be laying the seeds for an expanded youth and adult program. Instead, it's done exactly the opposite.

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Trojans Suffer 20-6 Loss

You scout and you plot. (You begin the coach.)

You then spend four or five days mapping strategy. You think you have done the right things.

Then comes the game.

What you plotted works. But something else doesn't. Your team winds up a loser.

In a nutshell, this is the story of Coach Ralph Tenby and his work last week with the Clarenceville High school football team.

The Trojans were to be matched against Northville. Scouting reports from previous Northville games had indicated that Northville liked to run to the outside. Up the middle, Northville could be contained.

The Clarenceville coaching staff included that it would have to keep Northville from making any wide sweeps. And this phase of drilling became important on the week's practice agenda.

The Trojans showed once the game began last Friday evening that they had learned their lesson. Northville didn't do too much around the flanks.

However, the story of up-to-the-middle was something else again. That's where Northville made most of its 277 yards and the final score read 20-6 in favor of Northville.

As a result, Northville left the field with a 2-0 record in Wayne Oakland League play, while Clarenceville stands at 1-1.

"All in all, I thought our kids played a very fine defensive game," said Tenby after the battle was over.

"A couple of offside penalties hurt us in the second quarter when they went ahead of us to play. Then they covered a fumble deep in our end to push over the clinching touchdown."

Northville didn't click to any degree with its passes. What few passes Northville completed wound up netting just a few yards.

The teams fought scoreless in the first quarter, before Northville began a march that put the invaders in front, 6-0, when Tom Baughman drove across from the one-yard line.

Clarenceville didn't stay behind very long.

The kickoff was returned to Tenby's Clarenceville 48. On the very next play, the slippery, fleet-footed Jimmy Bedson cut out to the right, then slipped to his left and in a few easy strides found himself in the end zone.

He streaked 54 yards to tie the score at 6-6 midway in the period.

Later in the half, Northville strung together a series of line bells—mostly up the middle—to move in for its second touchdown.

It was on this movement that Clarenceville twice was penalized five yards for being offside. Without the penalties we would have contained them," Coach Tenby observed later.

The touchdown came on a short smash again by Baughman and that put Northville ahead, 13-6, at halftime.

Early in the third quarter, Clarenceville began to rally.

But a third and second-yard situation on the Northville 13 called for a pass. Danny Freels dropped back and threw it. The ball was intercepted on Clarenceville's golden chance to tie up the game had gone out the window.

Later in the game, Clarenceville fumbled on its own 30. Northville took the fumble to the ground to add another touchdown.

"We're looking better with every game," added Tenby. "The member we have five sophomores out there in every game. We aren't going to be last in the league this season."

This Friday night, Clarenceville will celebrate homecoming. West Bloomfield will serve up the opposition.

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ATTENTION! GUN SHOW
Western Wayne County Conservation Assoc., Inc.
SUNDAY, October 18th
(8 a.m. - 6 p.m.)
Napier Road between North Territorial and
S. 5 Mile, 3 miles West of S. 5 Mile
For further info, call DOW 861-1444
For Further Info, Call Don Boyer GL 3-6441

LET'S GO BOWLING!
at Newly Remodeled
Wonderland Lanes
and Lounge
Saturday Nite **Mixed Doubles**
OCTOBER 10 (SAT.), 10:30 P.M.
Bowling (3 Games) All for Only
Buffet Lunch **6.50**
Cash Awards Per Couple
Reservations appreciated
WONDERLAND LANES
Home of the Wonderland Classic
28455 Plymouth Road, between Middlebelt and Inkster

Prep Schedule
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Our Lady of Sorrows at St. Michael, Pontiac, 2:30 p.m.

HOCKEY TRYOUTS
BOYS 10 to 12
—CALL—
GR 6-0264 or GR 6-0204

Thurston Falls To Oak Park

In sports, you must always deal with the present.

What happened in the past can mean nothing as Thurston High school's football team found out last Friday afternoon at Oak Park High.

In recent years, the Redskins have had their problems on the gridiron.

Oak Park has been swamped on a regular basis.

Perhaps, this fact penetrated the minds of the Thurston players last week as they:

1.—Prepared for Friday's game.

2.—Performed once the referee's opening whistle sounded.

The net result was a 20-0 triumph for the Redskins, who now have won three straight and are yet to give up a single point.

"This was the finest Oak Park team I ever have seen," said Thurston Coach Bill McDonald after the game.

"But, I think we were much better than we looked out there against the Redskins."

Members of the Oak Park coaching staff, who had scouted Thurston in two previous games, had to agree with McDonald.

What went wrong?

McDonald didn't really know. "Maybe we didn't prepare ourselves mentally as we should have," explained the Thurston mentor. "But nobody can take anything away from the showing Oak Park turned in out there on Friday."

In the third and fourth periods, the Thurston defense tightened up. Oak Park was held to 44 yards in the last 10 minutes.

(Continued on Page 3)

Franklin Harriers Triumph

Franklin high school's cross country team grabbed off the first seven places in sweeping to a 15-0 victory over Birmingham Groves.

Gary Francis was the individual winner, followed by Craig Roberts, Dan Ryan, Rick Hansen, Chuck Lipsett, Reg Nisbet and Ted Gozdzinski.

Franklin star Tom Lee, who has yet to lose this year, missed the meet because of an injury.

In the reserve meet, Franklin won 15-49 with Dave Thompson first.

Win 2 Games
Redford Union high's reserve football team has scored two victories to date. First there was a 12-0 win over North Farmington and then a 6-0 verdict against Franklin.

Ken Sola and Rodney Ferguson scored against North Farmington. Mark Ross returned a punt for a touchdown to win the game with Franklin.