

Bitter memories of last season

Raiders ready for NSL title race

By TOM BAER

North Farmington football coach Ron Holland would settle for a replay of last season if he could do away with just one bitter memory.

NFHS dropped a 14-0 decision to Livonia Franklin. That loss cost the Raiders the Northwest Suburban League title and spoiled their chance for a perfect season. Holland's gridders had to settle for a 7-1 overall record and a 4-1 mark in the NSL.

But NFHS had an unbelievably strong squad last year and, with 14 men back from that team, it looks like more misery for the Raiders' opponents this season.

"I think we have a good football team with a lot of high-caliber players," said Holland, who is beginning his 12th year as head coach. "We don't have enough depth right now, and we don't have a big team. But we're optimistic about having a good football team."

Holland is hoping for good seasons from his two exceptional running backs—seniors Bob Patek and Bill Lough. Both are big: 6-2, 190 pounds. "Bob Patek has to be one of the

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"This year we should win the title—I hope," said Holland, remembering last season. "I think we're right in there with Garden City East. I figure that's the team to beat. We play them at our place (Oct. 5) and that has to be to our advantage."

Oak Park High School is leaving the Northwest Suburban League after this season. The NSL teams will play a "revolving schedule" with teams in the Wayne-Oakland League beginning with the 1975 season. For example, North Farmington will play Clarkston High in 1975.

Holland is carrying 55 players on his varsity team because reserve foot-

ball teams at the three Farmington high schools were victims of a recent school millage failure.

Like the other two football coaches in Farmington, Holland isn't happy about his huge team. "I'm just afraid that a lot of our kids aren't going to get a lot of opportunity to play football this season," he said.

NORTH FARMINGTON FOOTBALL

Sept. 14-Midland High	H 2 p.m.
Sept. 21-Walled Lake Central	H 2 p.m.
Sept. 27-Westland John Glenn	T 8 p.m.
Oct. 5-Garden City East	H 2 p.m.
Oct. 12-Thurston High	T 2 p.m.
Oct. 19-Hazel Park	H 2 p.m.
Oct. 26-Livonia Franklin	H 2 p.m.
Nov. 2-Farmington Harrison	T 2 p.m.
Nov. 9-Farmington High	H 2 p.m.



John Jajich—one of 55 NFHS gridders



North Farmington players prepare for another season



RON HOLLAND

"This year we should win the title—I hope."

15 veterans lead gridders

Southfield hopes its team keeps coming

By TOM BAER

Southfield High's football team was a pleasant surprise to a lot of people last year. The Blue Jays won their first three games — including an upset victory over Berkley High — after going winless the season before.



JOHN FINLAYSON Keeping the comeback coming despite some problems

Graduation and other factors have robbed Southfield of much of its size and experience, but head coach John Finlayson is confident he can keep the comeback alive during the upcoming season.

Southfield has 15 lettermen from last year's squad, which finished 4-5 overall and 2-3 in the Southeastern Michigan Association.

"Our starting 11, the way I have it now, is at least as good as last year," said Finlayson, who is beginning his second year as head coach at Southfield. "Our backfield is experienced, and our line has experienced people."

But Finlayson admits that there are "lots of holes in the offensive and defensive lines." Two experienced linemen are tackle Mark Arrowsmith (6-2, 210 pounds), and guard Brian Phillip (5-9, 175 pounds). They're both seniors who saw a lot of action last season. Missing from the team this year will be Mike Mann, an outstanding center last season.

Southfield's No. 1 quarterback will be senior Mike Jusino. A 5-10, 166-pound left-handed thrower, Jusino took over the QB duties at midseason last year. His passes accounted for 218 yards in four games.

"Jusino is doing a real good job," Finlayson said. "It was good that he was given the opportunity to play last year. That experience plus the work he's getting now should carry him through this season."

Other offensive backs expected to play key roles in Southfield's season are seniors Tony Leider, Don Fisher, and Roger Phillip. Carl Leider, Tony's brother, and Rick Weiland are up from the reserve team, which posted a winning record last season.

SOUTHFIELD OPENS its season at home on Sept. 13 with nonleague Birmingham Groves providing the opposi-

Southfield High Football

Sept. 13-Birmingham Groves	H 8 p.m.
Sept. 20-Brother Rice	H 8 p.m.
Sept. 27-Birmingham Seaholm	H 8 p.m.
Oct. 4-Berkley High	T 8 p.m.
Oct. 11-Hazel Park	H 8 p.m.
Oct. 18-Ferdale High	T 8 p.m.
Oct. 24-Kimball	T 8 p.m.
Nov. 2-Farmington High	T 2 p.m.
Nov. 8-Southfield-Lathrup	H 8 p.m.

Southfield Reserve Football

Sept. 13-Southfield-Lathrup	T 7 p.m.
Sept. 19-Birmingham Groves	T 7 p.m.
Sept. 25-Brother Rice	H 7:30
Oct. 2-Birmingham Seaholm	T 7:30
Oct. 16-Berkley High	H 7:30
Oct. 17-Hazel Park	T 7:30
Oct. 24-Ferdale High	H 7:30
Oct. 31-Kimball	H 7:30

tion. On the following Friday, Southfield entertains Brother Rice, a powerhouse from the Catholic League.

Brother Rice replaces Waterford Township in the schedule.

"We thought we'd pick up a breather," joked Finlayson about the Brother Rice game. "But I'm happy to play them. I wish I had a better team, but I think it'll be a good game. It's an improvement on our schedule."

When it comes to the SMA race, Finlayson (and every other league coach) fears defending champion Hazel Park.

"Hazel Park is the favorite according to everything I've heard," said Finlayson, whose team will meet the Vikings at home on Oct. 11. "They've got size and they've got speed. They should have a good team along with Ferdale and Kimball."

Assistant coaches at Southfield will be Calvin Fletcher (backfield) and Bob Haney (line), Leo Oshinsky and



A Southfield lineman works out during a pre-season drill

"You drill them and drill them until they don't make the same mistake more than three or four times. We play in a pretty tough league for them to make mistakes."

John Finlayson
Southfield coach

Walt Duda. The reserve team will be coached by Greg Sliwka. He replaces Bob Martin, who moved to Southfield-Lathrup High.

Finlayson is sure his team is capable of having a fine season despite the lack of size and experience.

"You just give them as much experience as you can, as much as they'll take," he said. "You drill them and drill them until they don't make the same mistake more than three or four times. We play in a pretty tough league for them to make mistakes."