

North Farmington will contend for league title

By C.J. RISAK

North Farmington's football team is lacking in some respects, but should have enough to keep them in the title chase throughout the season.

The Raiders, who are coached by Ron Holland, were 9-1 a year ago. Their only loss was to league rival John Glenn; Glenn eventually tied for the Northwest Suburban League title with Livonia Franklin.

Holland expects last year's co-champions to provide severe tests again this season. But, then again, he sees a tough game every week.

"I think we'll have problems with everyone," Holland stated. "Both John Glenn and Livonia Franklin have their starting backfields returning, and both

have a lot of football players. But I think they'll all be tough."

But John Glenn and Franklin aren't the only ones returning their starting backfields. North will be led by returning quarterback Ron Fredericks, a 6-2, 170-pound senior. Joining him in the backfield will be senior running backs Jeff Cohen (6-1, 190) and Mike Miller (5-8, 165).

"We're strong at the end positions—we're two deep at the offensive end positions," Holland said. "On defense, we're solid at linebacker and at defensive back. And, our depth is good everywhere."

However, Holland is going to have to solve some problems if the Raiders are going to be a winner and contender.

"Our big problem area right now is the offensive and defensive lines," Holland said. "We're not real big, either. But our tackles are going to have to show some improvement if we are going to be successful."

Holland expects the offense to be split evenly between the passing and

running game. Also seeing action in the quarterback position for the Raiders will be Rick Barrell, who started North's final game last year.

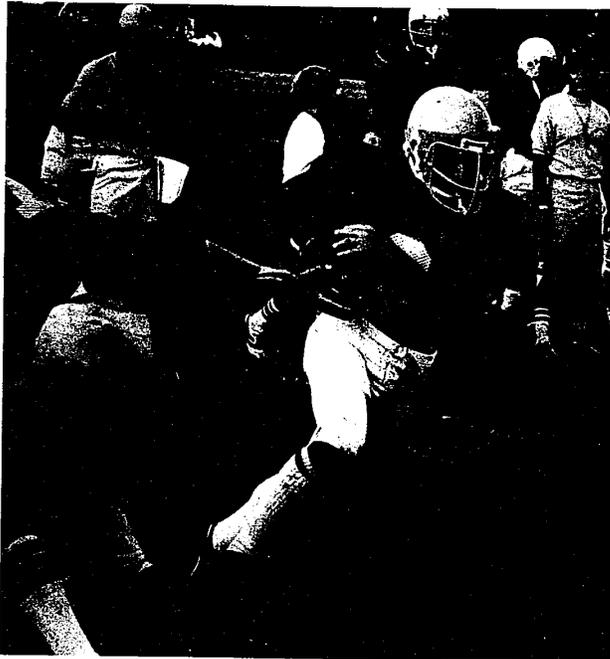
The kicking game should pose no problem for North Farmington. Two year placekicker Tim Quinn will return, with Fredericks handling the punting chores.

Overall, North returns 23 seniors to this year's squad and 20 lettermen. Their experience and skill will be tested in the team's first game.

The Raiders open the season against Pontiac Northern as part of a football doubleheader in the Pontiac Silverdome. North Farmington players are already prepared for the game, which will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9.

"We're pretty psyched up for that game already," one player said. "The only problem we're having is finding shoes for the astro-turf."

If Coach Holland's team jells, especially at the line positions, then finding the right shoes to wear may be the most serious problem he faces all season.



A North Farmington running back scoots for daylight during a scrimmage as the team prepares Saturday in the Pontiac Silverdome. (Photo by Harry Mauthe) for their opening game against Pontiac Northern next

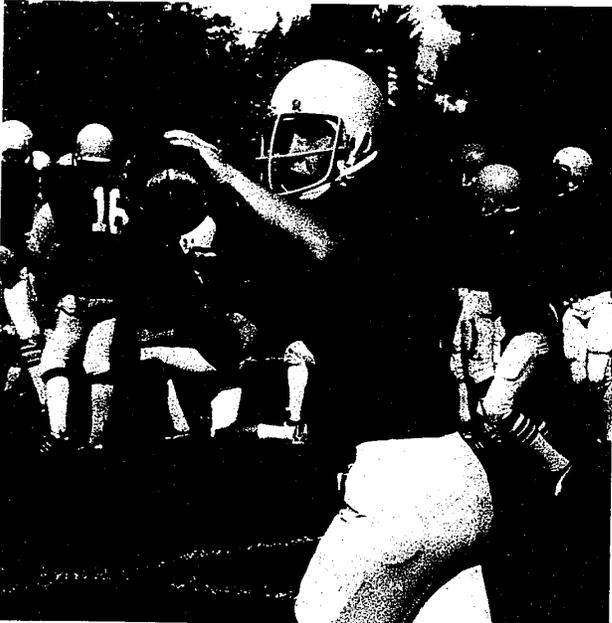


North Farmington football coach Ron Holland. (Photo by Harry Mauthe)

Farmington Observer SPORTS

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Wide receiver Robby Henderhan keeps his eyes on the ball as he snares a pass during a North Farmington practice session. (Photo by Harry Mauthe)

O&E golf entries going fast

Entries to date have been returned at a faster rate than ever before for the upcoming Observer & Eccentric Open Golf Tournaments.

Co-sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Whispering Willows Golf Course in Livonia, the 36-hole men's event will be contested

Sept. 9 and 10, with the women taking to the course for their 18-hole tourney Sept. 12.

Amateur golfers who reside in the O&E circulation area may participate.

"We're now over the 100 mark (registrants) by a good number and that doesn't even include the mail of the

last couple of days," said Gary Whitener, pro at Whispering Willows and the tournament director.

"We've had a tremendous mailing response.

"I had 200 entry forms made up, 100 for here and 100 for Idyl Wyld (Livonia's other municipal course) and I only have about 30 left." Whitener continued.

"A lot of people have picked them out and will be bringing them back with their checks."

Entry fee for the men's tournament is \$24, \$10 for the women's get-together.

"Every year during the last three or four days (of registration), we get about 50 entries," Whitener added. "I know we'll get a good response over the Labor Day weekend."

Registration deadline for men is Sept. 5 or when 225 golfers have registered. The women's deadline is Sept. 7.

Whitener said that as of last weekend he had received nearly 40 entries for both the men's Championship Flight (zero through eight handicap) and Flight 1 (nine through 14 handicap).

Thirty-eight women had signed to compete.

Bill Curtis, from Farmington, a former Championship Flight winner, has

registered as has Meg Park, a Redford resident, who has won the women's Championship Flight the past two years.

Andrea Hodel, a Birmingham resident who was runner-up to Park last year and Flight 1 titlist in 1976, has also registered.

Whitener said that he does not expect John Van Vleck, from Farmington Hills who has won the men's Championship Flight crown the last two years, to compete next month.

Van Vleck is attending college in Tennessee, Whitener said.

Duck clinic

The Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department, in cooperation with the Michigan Duck Hunters Association, will sponsor a Duck Identification Clinic on Sept. 6, 13, and 20 from 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Subjects of the three-session clinic will include point value of ducks, bone structure, habitat, duck identification, and more. The charge for the three sessions is \$2, payable at the first class. The fee includes all materials.

The meetings will be held at the Farmington Hills City Hall, Court Chambers, 31555 Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. For further information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 474-6115.

Netter wins three events at tourney

JENNIFER BRIELMAIER of Bloomfield Hills was the big winner at the annual Birmingham Tennis Club tournament, which finished Monday at Kingswood School Cranbrook.

Brielmaier was on the winning mixed and women's doubles teams in addition to winning the women's singles division.

She defeated Julie McKnight of Southfield-Lathrup in singles.

Jeff Muhn of Troy combined with Brielmaier to beat Marc Neugebauer of Orchard Lake and Norm Fredericks of Birmingham for the mixed doubles honors.

Jean Safford of Bloomfield Hills teamed with Brielmaier to win the women's doubles competition. Diana Fewer of Bloomfield Hills and Valerie Strath of Bloomfield Hills were runners-up.

Fredericks topped the men's singles action with a victory over Ken Lango of Rochester in the championship match.

Reid Rundell and Jim Tobin, both of Birmingham, were the top men's doubles team. Ken Kotiza of Bloomfield Hills and Peter Rea of Troy were runners-up.



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Men's, Women's Open Golf Tournaments
Sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Whispering Willows Municipal Golf Course

MEN'S
36 holes medal play; Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 9 and 10. Entry fee: \$24 (greens fees, trophies and prizes.)

WOMEN'S
18 holes medal play; Tuesday, Sept. 12. Entry fee: \$10 (greens fees, basket of practice balls and trophies). Make checks payable to Gary Whitener, tournament director and enclose with entry blank.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ HANDICAP _____

Men's entries close Tuesday, Sept. 5 at 6 p.m. Call for starting times on Friday, Sept. 8 after 9 a.m. (479-4455).
Women's entries close Thursday, Sept. 7 at 5 p.m. Call for starting times Saturday, Sept. 9 after 9 a.m.
Open to all residents of Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Garden City, Westland, Redford Township, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Southfield, Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield Township, Bloomfield Hills, Troy, Rochester and Avon Township.

Entries may be mailed to Tournament Director Gary Whitener, Whispering Willows Golf Course, 20500 Newburgh, Livonia