

# Raiders fail NSL football test

By C.J. Fleak  
staff writer

North Farmington and Westland John Glenn have engaged in some classic struggles over the years.

1978: North hangs on to edge the Rockets, 9-7, and goes undefeated until the Class A finals. 1980: This one went three overtimes before North prevails, 28-21. 1981: Amado Varona drops a sure John Glenn touchdown pass and the Raiders win, 14-6, forcing a tie for the Northwest Suburban League title.

There was always one consistent element in these contests. North always won.

Or, as Glenn coach Chuck Gordon re-

called, "We've lost to them every way imaginable."

But not anymore. Not after Friday night. For the first time in five years, the Rockets whipped the Raiders, 12-0, before an overflow homecoming crowd at Glenn.

IT WAS THE first time in Gordon's six years as coach the team won its first five games. And it kept the Rockets' hopes for their first state playoff berth ever alive.

Friday, all the Rockets were concerned with was winning. They got all the scoring they needed on the game's first play as quarterback Jeff Howley launched a 75-yard scoring bomb to

Rob Bell. Todd Jennings' extra point kick was wide, but Glenn had a 6-0 lead.

"We put that play in because we knew they'd jump all over the sweep with Jennings," Gordon said. "It was a hunch — sometimes they work, some times they don't."

North took the ensuing kickoff and drove it out to near midfield, but the Rocket defense came up with the first of several big plays as Bryan Dye fell on Eric Collier's fumble, giving Glenn the ball at the North 46.

NINE PLAYS later, Glenn faced a third-and-10 at the Raider 20. North's defense was every bit as rug-

ged as Glenn's, and the Rockets struggled to get that far, converting on third-and-12 and fourth-and-two plays.

Another big play was needed, and Jennings provided it, tipping down the right sideline 29 yards for the TD. A two-point conversion failed, but the Rockets had a 12-0 advantage with 2:59 remaining in the first quarter.

It was all they needed, as the defenses took over from there.

"We're playing better," North coach Ron Holland said of his 1-4 team. "We just can't get going. We're inexperienced, a young team, and one or two little things keep going wrong."

That they have: the Raider's have been sacked by Glenn, Livonia Franklin, Walled Lake Central and Plymouth Salem. Only Central (3-2) has been beaten.

THERE WASN'T much North could do offensively against Glenn. And, after the first quarter, the same was true for the Rocket offense, working against a tough North contingent.

Glenn managed just 69 yards rushing on 34 tries, with Jennings limited to 43 on 20 attempts. Hawley connected on five of 11 tosses for 120 yards.

North ran for 74 yards on 35 carries, with Collier getting 38 in 11 attempts. Quarterback Matt Shepard was four of

12 passing for 40 yards and had three picked off.

The first two interceptions were costly, ending the Raiders' best scoring chances. Chris Stomboa got the first one, battling Shepard's pass and grabbing the rebound after North had driven to the Glenn 30.

Late in the third quarter, North had a first down at the Rockets' 45 when John Erickson pilfered an errant Shepard toss.

"I'm really happy for our players," Gordon said afterward. "They wanted this one badly."

It made up for a lot of past Rocket frustrations.

# Hawks need breaks to bust Canton, 38-7

By Tom Baer  
staff writer

"Glenn's break," a Farmington Harrison football fan was heard to moan after Plymouth Canton passed for a first-quarter touchdown to take the lead in their Western Lakes Activities League game Saturday.

Well, Canton obliged. And obliged. And then obliged some more.

Breaks, in the form of Canton mistakes, made all the difference in the Hawks' 38-7 victory before a large homecoming crowd at Harrison's Buller Field. The win was Harrison's fifth in a row this fall. Canton is 2-3.

"We got beat up," said Harrison assistant Jim Miller after the game. "We didn't play well at all. We just got the breaks."

Agreed head coach John Herrington. "That team (Canton) played us tough. But they just kept giving up the ball."

Canton capitalized on a Harrison mistake — a roughing the punter penalty — to retain the ball with a first down at the Harrison 36-yard line. Two plays later, quarterback Pat Murphy completed a 31-yard touchdown pass to tight end Bob Waszczenki.

Matt Santilli kicked the extra point, and the Chiefs found themselves where few teams have been this season — ahead of Harrison.

BUT CANTON'S lead was of short duration. The Hawks came back to



John Herrington  
Hls Hawks fly high

score three second-quarter touchdowns, and the rout was on.

HIS next offensive effort resulted in an 80-yard, 16-play drive, ending in a one-yard touchdown plunge by senior upback Dave Blackmer. Sophomore tailback John Miller, who was to gain

113 yards on 23 carries, got the call 11 times on that drive.

Blackmer, a long-range kicking specialist, then added the PAT to tie it up. Canton's fortunes really took a tumble after that. Several Chiefs fumbled the ensuing kickoff, and the ball was recovered by Harrison's Tim Smigiel-ski on the Chief 16. QB Ken Kish completed a pass to Jamie Schaefer to the eight, and Miller brought the Hawks to the three before Blackmer went over for the TD and then added the extra point.

On the next kickoff, Canton's Jim Burczyk had a nice runback to the Chief 40. Tailback Chuck Davis then ripped off a 13-yard gainer to the HHS before he fumbled. Scott Novis, an opportunistic nose guard, pounced on the ball, and the Hawks started again from their 45.

"This time Herrington chose to move the ball through the air, and Kish completed three passes, the last a 97-yarder to Gordie Dawson for a touchdown. Another extra point by Blackmer made it 21-7 as the first half expired.

CANTON'S DEFENSE stopped the Hawks on the Chief one in the third quarter, and Davis ran for what looked like a big gainer on the second play of the next offensive series. But, as he was being tackled, he was stripped of the ball by cornerback Flin Baker, who dashed untouched 21 yards for the score.

Blackmer kicked that extra point as well as a 21-yard field goal in the fourth quarter. Bill Wood ran six yards for the final TD with 36 seconds left to play.

Harrison rushed for 177 yards to Canton's 45. The Hawks' passing game — 13 attempts, eight completions — resulted in 109 yards. Canton completed seven of 14 for 99 yards.

"Mrs. Kish, the quarterback's mother, told me we had to throw the ball more because her relatives were coming in from Pennsylvania for the game," said Herrington with a laugh.

"We usually throw seven or eight times a game. We threw 13 today in the league, plays next on Friday at Walled Lake Central.

For a few hopeful minutes, Farmington entertained upset thoughts.

The Falcons scored first, but Plymouth Salem crossed the goal line the next five times in keeping both team's records perfect with a 35-0 rout Friday in front of a huge Salem homecoming crowd.

The Rocks muffed the opening kickoff and the Falcons took immediate advantage, traveling 35 yards, the last three on a Tim Berry-to-Dan Zang pass for the touchdown. Zang booted the extra point and it was 7-0, Farmington.



GARY CASKEY/staff photographer

A happy Dan Zang lifts his arms to signal a Farmington touchdown Friday against Plymouth Salem. The Falcons scored first, but Salem dominated thereafter, winning 35-7.

# Mercy cruises to 9th cage win

Farmington Our Lady of Mercy continued its winning ways and dominance in the Catholic League Thursday as the Marlinas trounced Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher, 57-23.

Mercy took a 32-0 lead at the half, and coasted to the win.

The Marlinas were represented in three classes in the scoring department as senior Carolyn Burt scored 20 points, junior Sarah Basford collected 14 and sophomore Amy Demattia added 10.

Four Gallagher players tied for team honors with four points each.

Mercy, 9-0 overall, will take its show on the road Tuesday to battle Redford Bishop Borgess.

FARMINGTON HARRISON held Farmington to less than six points in each quarter Thursday, and posted a convincing 49-15 victory over the winless Falcons.

Harrison, 8-2 overall, had leads of 15-4, 24-6, and 36-10 after the first three quarters.

Sue Ferguson scored 17 points to lead all scorers, and Alice Short tallied 16 points.

Jullie Dunn led Farmington with six points.

Tuesday, Farmington hosts Livonia Stevenson while Harrison hosts Redford Union.

NORTH FARMINGTON outscored Westland John Glenn, 14-3 in third quarter Thursday night en route to a 41-45 victory over Westland John Glenn.

The win improved the Raiders' overall mark to 6-3.

"We just tore them up," North coach Greg Grodzicki said about the third quarter. "They just got one bucket, and that was at the end of the quarter."

Amy Austin led all scorers with 13 points, and teammate Margie Lee added 11.

Michelle McCullen scored nine points to lead John Glenn.

North is at Southfield-Lathrup Tuesday.

The Raiders' junior varsity extended its winning streak to 35 Thursday with a 39-19 win over John Glenn. Tracy Toccalino and Patti Kozicki each scored eight points for coach Greg Kaplaga's crew.

There's an awful lot of pressure in a game like this, and we came out like champs," said Cathol Central coach Tom Mach, whose team is now 4-1 overall this year (their only loss being 3-0 to Ypsilanti). The Shamrocks are

ry over Brother Rice since the 1979 season when the Shamrocks eventually went on to win the state championship.

"There's an awful lot of pressure in a game like this, and we came out like champs," said Cathol Central coach Tom Mach, whose team is now 4-1 overall this year (their only loss being 3-0 to Ypsilanti). The Shamrocks are

now 3-0 in the Central Division of the Catholic League.

"We don't play for revenge. We thought we played an excellent game last year. We're just glad that we were able to shut them out this year," Mach said.

After three scoreless quarters, the Shamrocks scored at the 9:06 mark of the fourth quarter when Malone went

# Salem mauls Farmington, 35-7

in on a quarterback sneak from one yard out. The play climaxed a 16-play, 87-yard drive that began late in the third quarter.

The key play of the drive was a 15-yard pass from Malone to junior receiver Scott Ronan that came on a Rice blitz. A pass interference call also aided the Shamrocks.

The touchdown compensated for a series of second-quarter mistakes that cost Catholic Central a possible scoring chance.

On a second-down play, senior fullback Jeff Alcala ran around left end for a 14-yard gain down to the Brother

Rice 24-yard line. However, three straight Shamrock penalties moved the ball back to their own 45-yard line.

That was the only good scoring chance by either team in the first half as defenses dominated.

"In the first part of the game we were so enthused that we made some errors that shook us up," Mach said. "But we kept our pulse after failing to score in the first half. We played a tremendous game in the second half.

"Rice has an excellent defense. . . . We knew that coming into the game," he said. "We thought we were going to pass more than we did, but we didn't

go-ahead Rock touchdown.

Three third-quarter TDs assured Salem of its fifth win without a loss. Jurek capped a four-play, 46-yard drive with a 1-yard dive, and sophomore placekicker Mark Dixon booted the third of his five extra points to give the Rocks a 21-7 lead.

A 16-yard pass from Dave Haut to Dave Hutton put Salem ahead, 25-7, with 6:54 to play in the third quarter. Jurek then finished the scoring by booting three yards for the final score.

"In the second half we played with a

lot of enthusiasm," Moshimer said. "(Dave) Houle and Jurek both played well (defensively) — Farmington didn't go outside on us at all."

The Rocks rushed for 168 yards, with Bunch gaining 60 on just two carries. Quarterbacks Pete Steywart and Haut combined to complete three of 10 passes for 70 yards.

Berry hit on six of 19 tosses for Farmington for 36 yards. The Falcons were limited to 63 rushing yards and 99 yards in total offense.

# CC blanks Rice in annual Boys' Bowl battle

By Marty Budner  
staff writer

It was almost a replay of last year — a defensive battle all the way — with different results.

Catholic Central, paralyzing a fourth-quarter touchdown run by Tom Malone, scored a 7-0 victory over Birmingham Brother Rice Saturday evening at Eastern Michigan University's Ryerson Stadium in the 38th annual Boys' Bowl. Last year, Brother Rice won, 3-0.

It was Catholic Central's first victory

## football

over Brother Rice since the 1979 season when the Shamrocks eventually went on to win the state championship.

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"Rice has an excellent defense. . . . We knew that coming into the game," he said. "We thought we were going to pass more than we did, but we didn't

want to put it up for grabs in a 0-0 ballgame."

Brother Rice resorted to a shotgun offense late in the game, but it failed to click. The Warriors were completely bottled up by the Shamrock defense, led by linemen Ed Ewald and Mark Messner.

"It was a typical Brother Rice-Catholic Central football game," said Brother Rice coach Al Precassa, whose team is now 2-3 for the season. "We tried to keep them off balance by throwing a few short passes. They beat us, but we played a good game against them."