

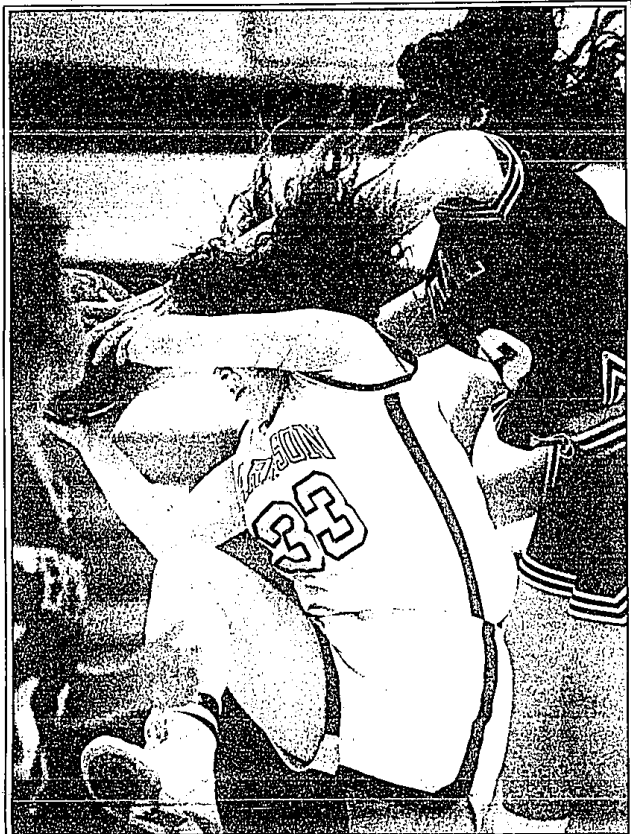
## Sports

Dan O'Meara editor/591-2312



(F)10

Thursday, October 19, 1989 O&amp;E



## Girls basketball

Andrea Najarian of Farmington Hills Harrison struggles to hold on to a rebound Tuesday while being swarmed over by Walled

Lake Central's Heather Glennie. The Hawks lost the game 62-33. See story on Page 2D.

## It's Hawks vs. Rockets again for WLAA crown

By Brad Emons  
staff writer

You would think Westland John Glenn would have all the incentive in the world against Farmington Hills Harrison when the two unbeaten (each 7-0) collide Friday night (game time 7:30 p.m.) for the Western Lakes Activities Association championship.

The Rockets are playing at home... and that's good news because they've beaten Harrison twice before (1984 and 1987) to win WLAA titles.

But Glenn's home field is not a jinx for the defending state Class B champion Hawks, who own a 20-game winning streak and a national ranking.

"We beat Detroit Northern there once in the playoffs, and we even used the Glenn side," cracked Harrison coach John Herrington. "I don't remember those two other games."

And if that's not incentive enough, Glenn is hoping to make amends for last year's embarrassing 45-7 defeat at the hands of host Harrison in the 1988 WLAA title game.

"No one from John Glenn played that day the way they were capable of, but I'm not sure if we could have won that game anyway," said Glenn coach Chuck Gordon. "That Harrison team of a year ago was the best team in the state, regardless of class."

"It's a new year and a different set of circumstances, but they beat us so badly last year that it makes me nervous, and that it could happen again."

Gordon and Herrington have formed a mutual admiration society despite last year's surprisingly wide spread.

The Glenn coach respects just about every facet of Harrison's game, starting with All-State quarterback Matt Coleman, who has completed 66 of 109 passes for 1,142 yards and 12 touchdowns (only two interceptions), not to mention his 413 yards rushing and three more TDs.

"They came at you in so many

## football

## FARMINGTON HARRISON

34	Saginaw Arthur Hill	16
55	Walled Lake Central	0
40	Livonia Churchill	7
51	Northville	10
31	Livonia Franklin	0
35	Walled Lake Western	7
28	Plymouth Canton	7
263	7-0-0	49

## WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

26	Highland Park	22
45	Walled Lake Western	0
9	North Farmington	0
38	Walled Lake Central	7
45	Farmington	7
55	Livonia Stevenson	0
7	Plymouth Salem	6
227	7-0-0	45

ways," Gordon said. "Mill is not only a great thrower, but he has tremendous feet. He has that great escape ability and that presents a problem."

Herrington, meanwhile, is leery of Glenn quarterback Eric Stover, who was the starting QB last season against Harrison.

This season, Stover has passed for nearly 800 yards and completed 60 percent of his passes.

Last week he engineered a Joe Montana-like two-minute, 82-yard drive to give Glenn a 7-6 last-second win last week over previously unbeaten Plymouth Salem.

"He's very poised and he runs the team very well," Herrington said. "He has a good arm, too. He's a year older, an experienced quarterback."

Gordon, meanwhile, realizes that Harrison is more than just "Mill." "The Thrill."

SENIOR TAILBACK Matt Conley has rushed 326 yards and 10 TDs, while Joe George has caught 18 passes for 325 yards. Another Harrison receiver, Mike Saputo, has added

312 yards in 12 receptions.

"They're excellent," said the Glenn coach. "They can come at you with so many weapons. They're not a one-dimensional team at all."

Herrington, meanwhile, is concerned about the Rockets' launching pad, which consists of tailback Shannon Layne (nearly 800 yards rushing), fullback Alanzo Jackson, tight end Garnett Woody and wide receivers David Ryan and Mark Wetmore.

"That scares you because they have a little bit of everything," Herrington said of Glenn. "They're terrific because they can run the ball with Layne and Jackson, but they can also pass well."

"And their linemen are always big. The numbers change from year to year, but they always have people who are big and physical."

Gordon must also be concerned with Harrison's defense, which has adjusted well this season despite 10 new faces in the lineup.

"With coach (Bob) Sutter they're always sound fundamentally," Gordon said. "They're always well-coached. They won't do dumb things to hurt themselves. They're also sound in what they do strategically."

DESPITE SEVEN STRAIGHT lopsided wins this season, Harrison needs to be sharper going into the Glenn game this week, according to Herrington.

"We haven't played as well as we've liked that past few weeks, but we had 411 yards in offense last week against Plymouth Canton (previously unbeaten), so I guess I can't complain too loudly," said the Harrison coach. "But we've made some mistakes and had some penalties that I wish we could avoid."

The high-powered Hawks have seen just about every defense imaginable over the course of the 1989 season.

Glenn may present a different look, but both coaches agree the

Please turn to Page 2

## Harrison girls are regional champions

Farmington Hills Harrison coach Bernie Goldstein never expected his girls tennis team to be where it is today.

That was at the beginning of the season, however.

The Hawks are a perfect example of just how a young team can mature during the course of a campaign.

Though half of the 10 players in its lineup Saturday were freshmen, Harrison won its first regional championship at Monroe.

"If we qualified, I thought we'd be doing very well," Goldstein said, "and (all the girls) just played out of their minds. The last two weeks, the ninth graders have improved tremendously."

"I THOUGHT it would be a rebuilding year and we won it. That gives me a lot to look forward to the next few years."

The Hawks, who last qualified for state in 1983, won the 15-team Class B tournament with 21 team points. Saline was second (17), Grosse Ile third (12) and Dearborn fourth (10).

After the team's strong showing last weekend, Goldstein is even more optimistic about the possibilities for

## tennis

## Mercy qualifies, 4D

the Hawks in the state meet Friday and Saturday at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn.

"If they play the same way, we could be in the top 5-6-7 teams," he said. "I would be very happy with that."

While the Hawks have a young team, there was no doubt about the ability of their No. 1 singles player, junior Kori Davidson. She defeated Saline's Erin Bowber 6-1, 6-0 to win the regional championship and extended her season record to 21-0.

Davidson was runner-up to former Dearborn player Susan Sommerville in the Class B finals the last two years, and Davidson looms as the favorite now that her nemesis has graduated.

"SHE'LL BE the first seed," Goldstein said. "The girl she beat in the (regional) quarterfinals Saturday was a highly-ranked Western player. I really don't know of any other girl in Class B at her level."

Goldstein added he is certain, when the national rankings next appear in January, Davidson will be ranked among the top five in Girls 16s.

Davidson was only one of four regional winners for Harrison, which also had champions at two other single flights and one doubles championship.

Lisa Tomle whipped Maria Olmedo of Grosse Ile 6-2, 6-1 in the No. 2 final, and Merrilyn Onisko took Allen Park Cabrin's Shannon Kaye in three sets at No. 3 singles, 6-1, 4-6, 7-5.

In doubles play, it was Harrison's Kristi Cornwell and Melissa Pendergast defeating the Saline duo of Cheryl Armstrong and Sarah Berz 6-2, 6-0 at No. 2.

Harrison's Julie Heist also made it to the finals at No. 3 singles but lost to Heidi Pearson of Saline, 6-4, 6-2.

The No. 1 doubles team of Jill Barringer and Jodi Whitehead, though it didn't advance as far as the others, had a big victory in the first round, defeating the top-seeded team from Cabrin, 6-4, 6-2.

"They stopped another team from getting more points," Goldstein said.

Barringer and Whitehead were eventually eliminated in a three-set semifinal match.

## Falcons 2nd in regional, headed for state tourney

Observerland had reason to be proud of its showing in the Class A boys regional golf tournament at Brighton last week.

Farmington and Plymouth Canton were among the top three teams Friday at Oak Pointe Golf Course in Brighton and will compete for the state championship at Michigan State University's Forest Akers Golf Course this weekend.

Howell won the regional with 310 strokes, Farmington was the runner-up with 321 and the Chiefs were a close third with 323.

The emergence of the Falcons and Canton in post-season play was a reverse of the Western Lakes Activities Association meet three days earlier.

Walled Lake Western won the league title with Livonia Churchill finishing second. Canton was third and Farmington a distant fifth, but that was turned around Friday with Western (335) coming in sixth and Churchill (346) 11th.

"I TOLD (HIS players) they'd have to play well and they did," said Farmington coach Gene Schoeneich, who admitted to being "sorta

## golf

shocked" by the impressive regional results.

"I think they were feeling pretty low, because we had lost the city (crown), and they had to prove to themselves they could do it. And they are a good team."

Canton junior Rod Jesena, the regional runner-up last year, settled for second place again after losing a sudden-death playoff with Howell's Colby Pace on the second hole.

Both had tied for first place with 72 strokes, but Jesena hit his tee shot over the green on the par-3 11th hole, which measured 175 yards in length.

"I was on the green with (Plymouth Salem) coach (Rick) Wilson and said: 'Boy, I bet Rod doesn't know about the bird,'" Canton coach Fred Libbing said, adding the conditions had changed.

"He had to hit first, and he used the same club he had earlier. The tee is in a sheltered area, so you couldn't

detect the wind but on the green you could."

"(JESENA) BLEW it over the hole; the Holly kid saw what he did and was short. That's what happened, but it's still quite an honor to be runner-up to the medalist."

While the Chiefs, who were helped greatly by Geoff Allen's round of 80, will be making their first trip to the state meet, Farmington has qualified for the second time in three years.

The Falcons were led by Adam Hibbs and Brian Desantis, who shot 77 and 78, respectively, to finish fourth and fifth. Teammates Chris Zbanek (82), Brian Link (84) and Jason Buba (84) were among the top 28 golfers, also.

Desantis had a career low and earned a medal. Schoeneich said, "I was real pleased with that, because it's something he's always wanted. It's nice to have something like that when it really means something."

Low scorers for other area teams were Bill Durham (Churchill) 79, Dan Alcock (Salem) 79, Chris Sobleck (Western) 82, Mark Peterson (Livonia Stevenson) 84, and Aaron Mason (Walled Lake Central) 84.

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