Traditional 'B' powers face off

Continued from Page 1

than Jesse Walker (of Milan who rushed for more than 2,000 yards). "They didn't punt in their last two games. They just keep moving the

Sall."

Since the Hawks also can move the ball, the key will be Harrison's ability to stop the Ploneers, and that should be a most interesting matchup because the Hawks possess an excellent defense, too.

Harrison, giving up a touchdown per game, is especially tough against the run, holding Allen Park to 13

FARMINGTON HARRISON		
34	Saginaw Arthur Hill	18
56	Walled Lake Central	ō
48	Liverila Churchill	7
51	Northville	10
31	Livonia Franklin	ō
35	Walled Lake Western	7
28	Plymouth Canton	7
23	Westland John Glenn	15
55	Farmington	0
l	ū	
ļ	CLASS B PLAYOFFS	
23	Riverview	7
28	Allen Park	6
412	11-0-0	77
	EAST GRAND RAPIDS	
9	Holland W. Ottawa	12
26	Grand Rapids N'view	6
29	Zecland	0
32	Lowell	7
21	Wyoming Park	14
35	Sparta	13
35	Wyoming Rogers	15
9	Forest Hills Central	0
41	Grand Rapids Creston	8
	2	
	CLASS B PLAYOFFS	
37	Pinckney	30
28	Oxford	14
302	10-1-0	119

rushing yards and 11 opponents to an average of 70.

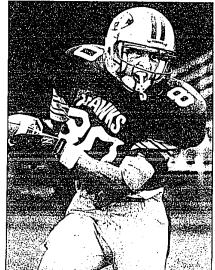
"Hopefully, our big linebackers can get on them and stop them." Herrington sald. "It (Blaze) Sarcevich and (Steve) Hill have good games scraping and getting to the tackle hole, we should be OK."

Tackles Cres Gove and Monnel Hightower, both of whom have played well this year, will have to be on their toes since East rurs a lot of trap and counter plays. For that matter, noseguard Gary Devine and ends Matt Sperry and Joe George will need to be, also.

"You can't blitz or anything." Herrington said. "We'll have to play tough at the line and not allow any holes to open. It's really going to take 11 guys getting on the ball. And we have to be alert for the pass, too."

IF THE DEFENSE can get the ball for Coleman and the offense, the Hawks should have success, with the tast 24 games supporting that claim. Harrison has outgained its opponents by an average of 200-plus yards per game. Coleman is 108-01-77 passing for 1,736 yards and 16 touchdowns, and he has rushed for 618 yards and five TDs. Matt Conley is the leading rusher with 851 yards and 16 touchdowns on 184 carries. Herrington, however, is concerned about the condition of the artificial turf at Atwood. If it rains or snows, that could make the field slick and bad for the fleet-footed Coleman and his receivers.

his receivers.
Harrison tried unsuccessfully to have the game switched to Alma College. Two years ago the Atwood surface was still covered with snow when the Hawks arrived on Saturday for their semifinal game with Mar-ysville. Harrison was two TDs be-hind but railled to win 35-20.



Mike Saputo leads the Harrison team with 413 yards in pass receiving, and his 20 catches puts him second to Joe George, who has 25 receptions.

"Friday nights up there are at-ways tough because it's (usually) wet," Herrington said. "A coach said (Detrott) DePorres couldn't stand up on it last week."

If the Hawks have a dry field, that will make Coleman especially dan-gerous since he can scramble and

confuse the East pass coverage.
"If there's any footing, it will be good, because (Coleman) is quicker than anything they have." Herring-ton said, "He'll be running on them." Harrison will play a school with a reputation for physical — clean but hard hitting — football, and the bigger offensive line the Hawks have employed of late will help in that regard.

employed of late will help in that re-gard. "They've got an all-state lineback-er (Jamie Billo) we've got to block." Herrington said. "The bigger line) has really helped us the last few games when we couldn't throw for the whole game because of the wind and had to run."

by Farmington

Milhizer fired

administrators, parents - outside people basically."

He added he thought he was fired because of a personality conflict be-tween he and Potter. Milhizer said Potter told him he didn't like the way he talked to him and that he (Milhizer) tried to intimidate him.

"I'm not his kind of guy," Milhizer said, "He likes having yes men around him. He's got his inner circle, and I'm not part of it and never tried

and I'm not part of it and never ware to be.

"It's just a big political game here.
"It's just a big political game here.
There's a reason why Farmington Iligh has been so had for so long. As soon as I got the job, people were trying to undermine me.

Potter said the decision to fire Milhiter didn't stem from a personality conflict, and it wasn't because he refused to do things the way Potter wanted them done.

"THAT'S NOT true, not accurate."
Potter said. "There's no such thing
as a yes man in this building as far
as the principal and a coach. All you
have to do is interview the other
coaches.

have to do is interview the other coaches.

"That's certainty not a prerequisite to the job. That's just his own perception as far as I'm concerned."

The administrators acknowledged Milharer's committened to the job and the effort he expended in an attempt to review the program.

"But if you look at some of your (Observer) papers you'll see a lot of controversy." Dickson said.

Milhizer said that is probably a reference to a series of news stories written last month about the football backers (separate from the boosters club) and their concern with the program.

club) and their concern with the program.

"The positive moral-chuiding feeling you want in any program" was lacking, said Dickson. "For various reasons, some of them beyond Rick's control, that wasn't developing here."

Milhizer, in his desire to gain support for the program and acquire needed equipment, said he initiated the backers club against Potter's wishes.

football

Player response, 4D

"WE NEEDED a hot of help, and I was supposed to sit back and wait for these things," he said. "Something like that is confrontational, and (Potter) didn't appreciate that." The backers, however, became the tail that wagged the dog, according to Milhitzer. Eventually, they tried to gain control of the program instead of serving as supporting players in the larger scheme, he said. "When they get involved, they want to run the program, and they can turn on you," he said, "I'm sure same of them led to my downfall." It hank they wanted a yes man, too, and I refused to be a yes man for them, too. There's some good ones, but a lot are not being football backers."

ers."
At his meeting with the administrative trio, Milhizer said Potter told him he could have better utilized personnel available to him within

personner the school.

To Milhizer, that meant continuthe senson.

To Millizer, that meant continuing to use former coaches in coaching capacities. Millizer said some people in the inner circle he avoided rired to undertnise his integrity and the program by spreading rumors and gossip.

"It was decision on my part not to use those people," he said "It was my feeling some of those people were part of the problem and not the solution.
"As a matter of fact, we had a meeting at the end of last year with all the head coaches at Farmington High about coaches bad-mouthing other coaches.

High about coaches bad-mouthing other coaches, "There are people who sit back and judge others, and I avoided getting involved in all that," he added "I didn't cultivate that group, and iddn't want to. As far as interacting the state of th

EGR not impressed by foe's press

By Dan O'Moara

The fact Farmington Hills Harrison is the defending Class B football champion doesn't carry much weight in East Grand Rapids.
Neither does the team's No. 1 ranking in Michigan, its No. 3 rating in the Midwest nor its No. 9 ranking nationally.

in the Midwest nor its No. 9 ranking nationally.

East coach George Barcheski acknowledges Harrison quarterback Mill Coleman to be a line player, but he bristled Tuesday when asked if the Ploneers have played a team or faced a player comparable to the Always and Coleman.

Harrison (11-0) plays East (10-1) in a senditinal game at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Filint Atwood Stadium.

The Ploneers are champlons of what some consider the best Class B league in the state — the Ottawa-Rent White Division — which includes Zeeland, Wyorning Park and Forest Hills Central, and they open and end the regular season with Class A opponents.

"WE KNOW all about the publici-ty coming out of the Detroit area," Barcheski said. "You people had bet-ter start looking, because there's Zeeland and us and we're in the same conference.

same conference.

"We've heard all the erap coming out of the Detroit area, making it sound like this (Harrison) team is a Godsend. We're not impressed."

The Ploneers also have a line tradition and annually are among the best teams in the Grand Rapids area, if not the state. East has been in the playoffs six times and has won

East Grand Rapids has won more state championships in all sports combined than any other high school in Michigan.
The Ploneers hope to win a third Class B football tille, but Farmington Hills Harrison stands in the way. The teams need at 7:30 p.m. Friday in a semilinal game in Filan Atwood Stadium.
The majority of East's state titles have been won in swimming and tennis.

When Harrison and St. Joseph played in the Class B football linal last year, it snapped a five-year stretch in which Grand Rapids teams had played in the

game.
EGR beat Battle Creek Lakov-lew in 1983, Wyoming Park beat Morroe Catholic Central in '84 and lost to Dearborn Divine Child in '85, South Christian lost to Mar-ysville in '86 and Catholic Central beat Harrison in '87,

bott Harrison in '87.

Key offensive players for the Picneors are OB Sam Middleton (6-1, 175), FB Brilan Davis (5-11, 180), HB Dave Hacker (5-10, 175), HB Zac Zeritas (5-9, 200), OT Matt Molitar (6-3, 225) and OT Matt Schad (6-3, 217). The top defensive players are DT Aarnie Billo (6-11, 195) and DB Kyll Barcheski (5-10, 175), The latter is a nophew of : coach George Barcheski.

two Class B titles.

"We're not going to be standing there in awe," Barcheskt said. "In fact, they're going to get hit. The best team is going to win. But we're not going to be in awe, because — Christ — there's this All-American kidt here."

Christ — there's this All-American kid there."

The All-American kid is Coleman, whom Barcheski saw for the first time last Saturday in Harrison's 28-6 win over Allen Park.

"It's everything everybody sail he is, Barcheski said. "He's the quarterback It's ever seen.

"Defending a passer and a runner of the college of the passer and a runner is really hard to 40. We have our

GET THEM STARTED

work cut out for us."

Work cut out for us.

UNLIKE IIIs two championship teams, Barcheski's current group doesn't have any bilg-name players, the control of the co

"Davis and bitto are real good and the rest are just good, hard-working kids. In two years, we've won 18 games and lost two, and we've taken on the best teams available."

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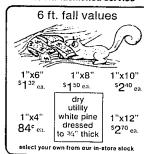
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