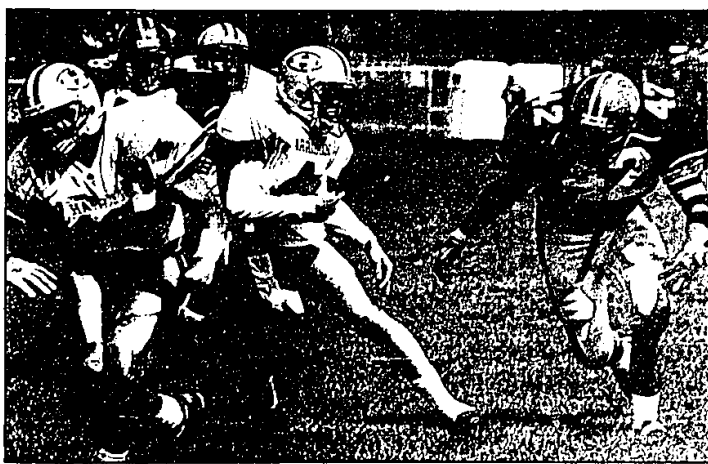


**Tough battle:** It was virtually a defensive standoff Saturday when Livonia Franklin beat Farmington Harrison in overtime, 3-0. Jason Facione (right) chases Harrison quarterback Jeff Cisto (with ball) on this play.



## Patriots strong in trenches

By DAN O'MEARA and BRIAN EDWARDS  
STAFF WRITERS

Was that Kojak's cousin, or maybe Joe Paterno with a brusque, in the Livonia Franklin locker room last Saturday?

No, it was football coach Armand Vigna, who resembled one of his bald-headed linemen (minus the big and burly) after his players shaved his locks, too, following their upset of Farmington Hills Harrison in overtime, 3-0.

"I think I made some rash promises," Vigna said. "I must have foolishly said 'If we beat Harrison, I'll shave my head.' The kids never brought it up until Thursday, and the coaches confirmed I said it."

Vigna might have to get a late-season trim if Franklin achieves the second of two preseason goals. In addition to beating Harrison, the Patriots set their sights on the Class A playoffs.

"We think we have potential," Vigna said. "I think we proved it today on defense, but we still have to prove it on offense. We're in a good position, but we have still four (division games) to go."

The win over Harrison, which ended Harrison's 15-game winning streak, puts Franklin (1-0, 3-0) a leg up on the other Western Division teams. Preseason favorite Walpole (1-0, 3-0) plays Saturday at Harrison.

The Patriots showed the ability to play a first-rate defensive game, holding Harrison scoreless and giving up 133 yards in total offense, but they were equally as ineffective on offense.

"I think our defense won the game for us," said quarterback Dave Little, who kicked a 20-yard field goal in overtime. "They gave us the shutout and the opportunity for me to win the game."

Franklin defensive coordinator Jim Karoub said his players, originally unsure of their ability to stop Harrison, were full of confidence by the end of the week.

"At first, they said 'I don't know if this (defense) is going to work, coach.' I said 'You guys believe in it, you're tough enough to do it.'"

"By Friday they had it down; we

had a great practice. I didn't know if we would win, but I knew we would play football."

In the contest between sports editors, Brad Emons and Dan O'Meara were 11-3 last week. Thus, the prediction race remains tied after three weeks at 32-12 each.

### FRIDAY'S GAMES (all times 7:30 p.m. unless noted)

**Redford Union at Edsel Ford, 8:30 p.m.** Judging by the records, it looks as if RU should be an obvious favorite at 1-0 in the Northwest Suburban League and 2-1 overall. The Thunderbolts are 0-1 and 0-3, losing to Howell, Warren DeLaSalle and Woodhaven. RU's confidence got a boost last week when the Panthers knocked off favored Dearborn. PICK: Emons likes the Edsel look, but O'Meara goes cursing with RU.

**Liv. Franklin at Liv. Churchill: The Patriots** can't afford a letdown against winless Churchill (0-1, 0-3) after beating perennial WLA power Harrison. With big games ahead, they don't want to slip along the way. Franklin has won three games despite scoring only 32 points, but the Chargers will find it difficult moving the ball against a solid defense that has allowed just 13. PICK: The Patriots rack up their fourth win.

**Liv. Stevenson at Wald. Glenn: The Rockets** (1-0 Lakes Division, 3-0) are unbeaten but Stevenson will see an opening week. Anderson set a school record with 273 yards on 30 carries. Salem (1-0, 2-1) has won two straight and a pair of wins around a loss to Harrison and showed a potent offense last week. The Rockets also remember last year when Harris scored in the last minute, denying Salem the Lakes title and a shot at the WLA crown. PICK: Anderson's running and a strong defense make North a winner.

**Northville at Ply. Canton: The Mustangs** (1-0, 2-1) have won two straight and recovered from an opening week bashing by state-ranked South Lyon. The Cougars (0-1, 0-3) have had difficult opponents the last two weeks and seem to make them forget that loss to Monroe, which used its last-second win as a springboard to a 10th record. PICK: The Mustangs stay in contention.

**Farmington at W.L. Central: After** opening with a murderous schedule that had them playing teams with a combined 8-1 mark, the Falcons (0-1, 0-3) have a legitimate shot at posting a victory. Central (1-0, 2-1) has lost two straight since beating Milford. PICK: The Vikings rate the edge.

**Woodhaven at Garden City: The Cougars** (2-1) had one of their best starts in years and would have been 3-0 if not for a one-point, overtime loss to Romulus. Woodhaven, the defending IGL co-champion with Redford Union, defeated Esset Ford 25-21 in its league debut last week but is 1-2 overall. PICK: The Cougars keep building momentum.

**Red. Thurston at Taylor Kennedy: Thurston** (1-1, 1-1) in River League, 2-1) gained some confidence by beating 1991 quarterfinal Crestwood last week, but the Eagles need another win here to show they are among the top IRL teams. Kennedy (1-1, 1-2) was trounced by Wyandotte (50-19) and to Melvindale (19-8) before beating Taylor Truman (27-24). PICK: Emons casts a vote for Kennedy, while O'Meara stumps for Thurston.

**Wayne Memorial at Wyandotte: The** host Bears (1-1, Wolverine A, 2-1) are the defending conference champs but slipped early by losing 30-6 to Lincoln Park. Wayne (1-1, 1-2) started with tough opponents but gave up 27 points to lonely Tension last week. PICK: The Bears maul the Zebras.

### SATURDAY'S GAMES (all times 1 p.m. unless noted)

**Ply. Salem at N. Farmington: The** Riders (1-0, 2-1) have won two straight, though they struggled in the mud against Stevenson last week. Senior tailback Todd Anderson set a school record with 273 yards on 30 carries. Salem (1-0, 2-1) has won two straight and a pair of wins around a loss to Harrison and showed a potent offense last week. The Rockets also remember last year when Harris scored in the last minute, denying Salem the Lakes title and a shot at the WLA crown. PICK: Anderson's running and a strong defense make North a winner.

**W.L. Western at Farm. Harrison: For** one of the few times in WLA history, the Western Division will have a championship race. Since the league was organized in 1982, Harrison is the only team to win the division. That's 10 straight titles. The Hawks (0-1, 2-1), who have never lost a WLA game to Western, can be the spoiler and also get back in contention by beating the Warriors (1-0, 3-0) their first loss. Besides, when was the last time Harrison lost two games in a row? PICK: The Hawks rebound.

**Blahop Dargosa at O.L. St. Mary's: The** Eagles are flying high while the Spartans are struggling. St. Mary's (3-0) ranked No. 5 in Class CC, with a victory over Country Day to its credit. Dargosa is 0-3 heading into this Catholic League Tension opener after losing to three outside teams. PICK: OLSN keeps rolling.

**Lutheran West at Luth. Westland: Lutheran West** is 3-0, though the games seem to keep getting for the Leopards, who edged Cranbrook 8-6 last week. The Warriors of Lutheran High in Westland are coming off a 25-0 loss to Clarenceville, which lost 20-14 to Lutheran West. PICK: The Leopards stay unbeaten.

**Clarenceville at B.H. Cranbrook: Clarenceville** got its first win last week and hopes to keep a good thing going. This one could go either way. Both teams are 1-2 and appear evenly matched. Both lost to Lutheran West, defeated another Lutheran school — the Eagles beat Lutheran Northwest 38-12 — and lost their openers to quality foes (Center Line St. Clement and Vale). PICK: Cranbrook claims the victory.

**Redford CC vs. Warren DeLaSalle, 7:30 p.m. at Roseville Mem. Field: This** was to be a matchup between state-rated Class AA teams until DeLaSalle (2-1) was upset 14-0 by Lake Union last week. Though the contest has lost some of its luster, it's sure to be a good, hard-fought game. While the Catholic League schedule begins this week, the No. 3 Shamrocks (3-0) can already lay claim to the Toledo city championship. CC has beaten St. John and St. Francis, supposedly the top teams in that Ohio town. PICK: The Shamrocks grind out another win.

**St. Agatha vs. A.A. Gab. Richard, 7:30 p.m. at RU's Kraft Field: Both** teams bring 2-1 records into this Catholic C-section debut. The Aggies are defending champs, but the Fighting Irish supposedly are much improved after a 3-2 finish. Following a 6-0 loss to Thurston, Agatha has won its last two. Richard started with wins over a pair of Class D teams — Weberville (47-7) and Whitmore Lake (50-0) — but lost a shootout 42-35 with Dundee (13-0) last week. Dundee is rated No. 3 in Class CC. The Irish have a potent running attack led by senior Gary Pickett (6-4, 193). Senior quarterback Jon Priest is a former CC player. PICK: O'Meara likes the Irish. Emons sides with the Aggies.

## Goodard gets 100th win

Redford St. Agatha football coach John Goodard had mixed emotions about getting his 100th career win Saturday night.

St. Agatha's 16-9 victory at home over Berrie's (Ontario) gave Goodard his milestone, which was good news. But it came at the expense of Berrie's coach Pete Donaldson, who happens to be Goodard's old roommate from Northwood Institute. "I told him every time we get together he's always going to know who I got my 100th win against," Goodard joked. "He said, 'I'll never live this one down.' But it's exciting because my son John is a senior on the team and that makes it extra special."

For one quarter it looked like St. Agatha would struggle. The Aggies trailed 9-0 after a 40-yard field goal and a 24-yard touchdown run off a reverse.

The Aggies closed to within 9-2 at halftime after Cajun Davis blocked a Berrie punt and the punter fell on the ball in the end zone for a two-point safety.

St. Agatha added two second-half TDs. The Aggies took the opening drive of the second half and marched 60 yards for a score.

Mike Tymczak capped the drive with a 2-yard run. Tymczak also had a 45-yard gain on the drive and quarterback Paul Parsell connected with Goodard on a 12-yard pass to bring the ball to the two. Liam Shivers' extra point was good to tie the score 9-9.

The Aggies went ahead in the fourth quarter with an eight-minute drive that was capped by Parsell's 1-yard quarterback sneak. Shivers' extra point made it 16-9.

Tymczak had a career high 150 yards on 28 carries. Parsell was 5-for-11 for 73 yards through the air

and Goodard caught three passes for 35 yards.

### Shamrocks win 3rd

Redford Catholic Central continued its dominance over northern Ohio with a 20-14 victory over Toledo St. Francis Saturday at Toledo's Glass Bowl.

CC crushed Toledo St. John's 36-0 in its season opener.

CC (3-0) opened the scoring less than two minutes into the game when senior linebacker Joe Herman intercepted a St. Francis pass and returned it 11 yards for a touchdown. Adam Borchardt's extra-point made it 7-0.

St. Francis' next drive stalled at the CC 11 when strong safety Jeff LaChapelle picked off another pass. But St. Francis scored on a 10-play drive to pull to within 7-6 at halftime. A 7-yard touchdown reception by Damian Orogodowski on a fourth-down play capped the drive but the point-after was missed.

Two plays after CC recovered a St. Francis fumble on a punt, Freddie Taylor scampered into the end zone four yards out. The extra-point made it 14-6 with 3:40 left in the third quarter.

CC took a 20-6 lead in the fourth quarter when Chris Barbara connected with Marcus McCauley on a 39-yard scoring pass. Barbara completed 6 of 13 passes for 79 yards.

St. Francis' (2-1) scored the game's final points on a one-yard quarterback sneak. CC outgained St. Francis in total yardage, 228-182. Jason Krueger rushed 13 times for 67 yards, while Taylor gained 58 yards on 15 carries.

Herman and Tate Dolbs led the CC defense with 15 and 11 tackles, respectively.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### PREP FOOTBALL

Friday, Sept. 25

Redford Union at Edsel Ford, 7:30 p.m.

Liv. Franklin at Liv. Churchill, 7:30 p.m.

Liv. Stevenson at Wald. Glenn, 7:30 p.m.

Wyandotte at Ply. Canton, 7:30 p.m.

Farmington at W.L. Central, 7:30 p.m.

Woodhaven at Garden City, 7:30 p.m.

Red. Thurston at Taylor Kennedy, 7:30 p.m.

Wayne Memorial at Wyandotte, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 26

Ply. Salem at N. Farmington, 1 p.m.

W.L. Western at Farm. Harrison, 1 p.m.

Bishop Burgess at O.L. St. Mary's, 1 p.m.

Lutheran West at Luth. Westland, 1 p.m.

Clarenceville at B.H. Cranbrook, 1 p.m.

Redford CC vs. Warren DeLaSalle, 7:30 p.m.

St. Agatha vs. A.A. Gab. Richard, 7:30 p.m.

St. Francis vs. Toledo St. John's, 7:30 p.m.

Redford CC vs. M.H. Bishop Foley, 7:30 p.m.

Red. Thurston at Taylor Kennedy, 7 p.m.

Wayne Memorial at Monroe, 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 25

Huron Valley at Oak. Christian, 7 p.m.

Ply. Christian vs. D.H. Farlane at Lower Middle School, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 26

Adrian at Ply. Salem, 6:30 p.m.

Boys Soccer

Thursday, Sept. 24

Cranbrook at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.

Huron Valley at Mich. School Dist. 5 p.m.

Redford CC at A.A. Huron, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 25

St. Francis vs. Harrison Valley, 4:30 p.m.

Ply. Christian vs. Warren Bethel, 4:30 p.m.

Huron Valley at Huron, 4:30 p.m.

Trenton at Liv. Franklin, 5:30 p.m.

Liv. Stevenson at Farm. Harrison, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 26

Redford CC vs. M.H. Bishop Foley at Bell Creek Park, 11 a.m.

Liv. Churchill at Sag. Heritage, noon

Tracy Adams at Ply. Salem, 1 p.m.

Ply. Canton at Brighton, 1 p.m.

Men's Soccer

Saturday, Sept. 26

Schockcraft at Grosse Pointe, 1 p.m.

Women's Soccer

Saturday, Sept. 26

Schockcraft at Farmington, 11 a.m.

St. Mary's vs. Farmington Valley, 11 a.m.

Schockcraft at Farmington, 11 a.m.

Schockcraft vs. Meramec (Mo.), 1 p.m.

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