

Falcons, Raiders win season finales

Farmington senior Mike Tokar threw four touchdown passes and scored on a quarterback sneak Saturday, leading the host Falcons past Redford Union 35-19 in a non-league season finale.

Farmington finished its first season under coach Lauri Niskanen at 2-7 overall. RU junior quarterback Brian Berryman completed 15 of 30 passes for 189 yards and three TDs but was intercepted three times as the Panthers finished 1-8 overall.

Tokar, Stan Lewis, Harvey Hicks, Bryan Pasini, Dan Bojic, Rob Lhamon and Mike Prough were starting their final games for Farmington.

Lewis caught five passes for 144 yards, including three that went for TDs, and Hicks scored on an 11-yard pass. Tokar was 11 for 20 through the air for 227 yards, with four being caught by Bojic for 48 yards.

"Tim Wheelis had two interceptions and Prough one."

"It's a great finish for the seniors and a great beginning for the young kids to build on," Niskanen said. "I told the seniors they'll never forget this one. They can remember they're the begin-

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ning of a program and can go out as winners."

After a scoreless first quarter, RU's Brian Szostak recovered a Farmington fumble at the 60 to set up the game's first score. Berryman capped the scoring drive with a 5-yard pass to Tom Crowley, and the extra point by Kurt Coulter was good for a 7-0 lead with 7:54 left in the half.

Farmington responded with a 54-yard scoring drive, capped by Tokar's sneak, and the extra point by Sean Noble tied the score at 7-7.

Farmington took advantage of a short RU punt to score again on a 39-yard pass from Tokar to Lewis with 1:53 left. RU's next possession ended with an interception, and Farmington went ahead 21-7 before halftime on an 11-yard strike to Lewis and the extra point.

Tokar ran 19 yards and threw a 35-yard pass to Lewis to keep the drive alive.

Farmington finished its scoring in the second half with TD passes to Lewis and Hicks.

RU scored on a 12-yard TD

pass from Berryman to Mike Bjerke in the third quarter. Berryman capped an 85-yard, 15-play drive in the fourth quarter with a 10-yard toss to Bjerke.

Sophomore tailback Jake Siskosky led the Falcons with 56 yards rushing on 11 carries. Jason Goble led the RU rushers with 68 yards on 12 carries.

NORTH 24, SOUTH LYON 13: Junior tailback Jeff Kong, a converted fullback, gained 143 yards on 30 carries and scored two TDs Saturday, leading host North Farmington to an upset win over South Lyon.

The Raiders didn't allow a first down in the second half and finished their worst season since 1975 with a 3-6 record. South Lyon, which lost three earlier games to playoff-bound teams Brighton, Northville and Howell, finished 5-4.

Kong scored on a 2-yard run and 58-yard screen pass from quarterback Dave Zietz, who completed 16 of 30 passes for 178 yards and two TDs.

"Kong is such a powerful kid. He runs so well we had to get the ball to him more," North coach Jim O'Leary said of his decision

to move Kong to tailback.

South Lyon scored its first midway through the first quarter on a 61-yard run by Rick Peters, and the extra point by Steve Bartsche made the score 7-0.

Kong responded with a 58-yard screen pass for a TD with 1:53 left in the first quarter, and Scott Lord's first of three extra points tied the score.

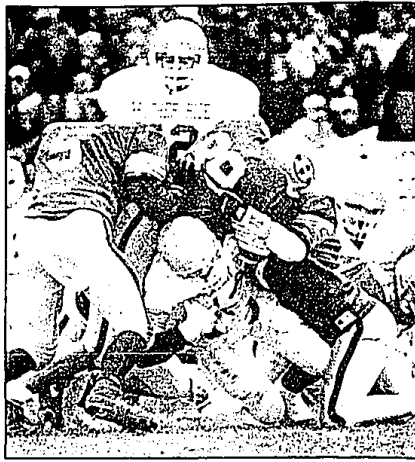
North went ahead to stay as Kong went over from 2 yards out after Ben Summers returned a punt 60 yards to the South Lyon 15.

South Lyon made the score 14-13 on an 8-yard run by Mike Watson, but North's Jason Pawlowski blocked the extra point to keep the Raiders ahead at halftime.

Lord's 24-yard field goal in the third quarter capped a 17-play drive and put North ahead 17-13. The Raiders ended the scoring in the fourth quarter with a 51-yard drive capped by an 8-yard TD pass to Lord.

O'Leary said he's looking forward to next season.

"We don't have great talent, but we have great kids willing to work hard," he said.



SHAWN LAMM/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tackling trio: Harrison defenders Nick Burgess (5), Chuck Bambenek (89) and Brock Gove combine to stop Rice quarterback Derek Canine.

CC trounces Gallagher in Prep Bowl

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

As far as the Redford Catholic Central football team is concerned, the 1993 season ended in the right place at the wrong time.

The Shamrocks finished an amazing weekend and week of Halloween night with a 35-0 victory over Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher Sunday for the Catholic League championship at the Pontiac Silverdome.

Despite an 8-1 overall record, CC failed to qualify for the Class AA playoffs and won't be able to return to the Silverdome to defend its state championship. The Shamrocks have reached the state final five of the last six years, winning twice.

Dearborn Fordson, which ended the regular season with Friday's 38-21 win over Harper Woods Notre Dame, qualified for the fourth and last playoff position in Region III with an 8-1 record, 237 ahead of fifth-place CC, according

to CC athletic director Bob Santello.

What made the news harder to accept was that Santello received unofficial word over the telephone during the fourth quarter from the Michigan High School Athletic Association that the Shamrocks were in the playoffs. The Shamrocks allowed only 21 points in nine games and Sunday's shut-out was their sixth of the season.

"We always plan on ending our season in the dome," said CC linebacker Tute Debbie, one of six Shamrocks on the All-Catholic team. "We saw our season slowly diminishing this weekend and the seniors treated this as the state championship."

"The coaches said to us that we're the best defense they've ever had and definitely carried on the 'Brick Wall' tradition."

"We know there's a couple teams in Class AA breathing sighs of relief that we're not in, CC two-way lineman Doug Brzezinski said.

CC ended five of its six possessions with touchdowns and gained 413 total yards while holding Gallagher to 144 total yards and only two first downs after halftime, one on a CC penalty.

Senior quarterback Barry Lingelbach completed five-of-six passes for 66 yards, including a 19-yard TD pass to Matt Applebrook. Lingelbach also scored on a pair of quarterback sneaks and sophomore fullback John Spolsky and junior running back John McHale had one rushing TD each.

CC senior tailback Freddie Taylor had 153 yards on 17 carries and Spolsky finished with 82 yards on 14 carries. CC's defense finished with four sacks, one each by Joe Walsh, Andy Short, Nick Kallas and Ryan Kato.

The only discouragement, besides the playoff snub for CC coach Tom Mach, was an uncharacteristically high 10 penalties. CC's only loss came in Sep-

tember to Toledo St. Francis, 7-0.

"A lot of tears were shed because this is the end; it's probably the first victory we've cried after," said Mach, who did not fault the playoff system. "But at least we can say that we had another team that could have won the state if we got in. At the end of the year, if they say we're in, I go. I'm a football coach, not a mathematician."

Gallagher drove to CC's 12 early in the second quarter after a fake punt produced a 50-yard reception to wide receiver Raymond Curry but a 30-yard field goal attempt was wide right. The Shamrocks reached the Raiders' 13 on their next possession before consecutive quarterback sacks put Gallagher out of field goal position.

Gallagher coach George Sahadi said the Shamrocks deserve a playoff berth.

"They didn't lose to a team from the state of Michigan," he said.

St. Mary's makes grid playoffs, denies DeLaSalle

BY BILL PARKER
STAFF WRITER

Orchard Lake St. Mary's, the team ranked Class CC football team in the state, put the finishing touch on a perfect regular season Sunday with a convincing 21-0 route of Class AA Warren De La Salle in the opening game of the Catholic League's annual Prep Bowl at the Pontiac Silverdome.

"We came out and hit people and we executed very well," said St. Mary's coach George Porritt. "That's a great football team. De La Salle plays great football and if they get the momentum going you're in trouble, but our defense didn't allow it."

"We believe we have a great football team," added Porritt. "It was very important for us to go 9-0. There are a lot of great football

teams out there but not all of them have gone 9-0."

The Pilots had momentum early. De La Salle's Jason Szostak returned the opening kickoff 23 yards to the 34-yard-line and the Pilots promptly marched to the St. Mary's 14. But Eaglet Chad Abuhall stole the momentum when he came up with a huge interception in the end zone.

"I saw a guy going vertical and no one was with him so I jumped him," explained Abuhall, a senior linebacker. "The pass was a little short and I just picked it off."

St. Mary's turned all the over into a touchdown. Senior quarterback DiAllo Johnson (9-of-17 for 138 yards) capped the ensuing 80-yard drive when he connected with senior wide receiver Chad Bush on a 9-yard TD pass. Tim

Harrington kicked the extra point, his first of three on the day. Senior runningback Darrell Martin (12 carries for 84 yards) gained 30 yards on two carries in the drive and Johnson completed four passes for 46 yards.

"That [interception] was a big momentum builder for us," Abuhall said. "Once our offense gets going there's no stopping us."

"I don't know who we play next week (in the opening round of the state playoffs), but I feel sorry for them," he added.

The Eaglets wrapped up the scoring in the fourth quarter when Phillip Martin capped a 69-yard drive with a 3-yard TD run.

Hawks from page 1C

made a stand on Rice's third drive. The Warriors went from their 14 to the Harrison 3 on 15 plays but stalled.

On fourth down at the 21, Harvey rolled right with a pitch and passed to quarterback Derek Canine on the left for a TD. Canine, who completed five of eight for 51 yards and rushed for 36, passed to Joe Kalczynski for the two points and a 14-0 halftime score.

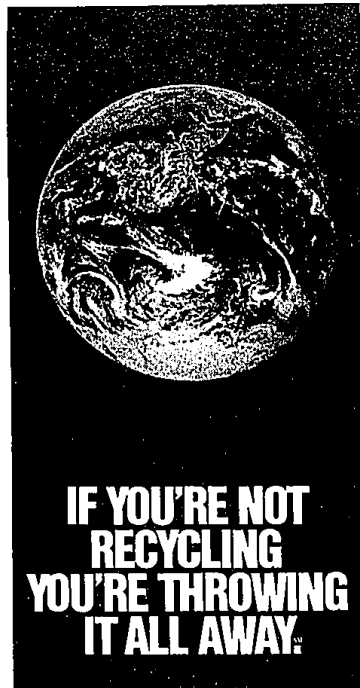
Rice made it 20-0 when Harvey sprinted 42 yards following the second-half kickoff. The Hawks lost a fumble at their 38 on the kickoff, and Kalczynski scored seven plays later from the 2 and caught another two-point pass. Rice led 28-0 with 5:55 left in the third quarter. John Benefield added a TD on a 1-yard run late in the game.

The Hawks will play host to Dearborn Edsel Ford in the first round of the playoffs. As of Saturday evening, it was believed that Rice and neighboring Birmingham Senohm would meet in the first round.

Herrington said the playoff situation as it affected both teams should not have been a factor Saturday.

"Playing a team like Brother Rice with a great program, you want to play well," he said. "It's not just losing but losing that bad that hurts."

The win over No. 2-ranked Harrison helped the No. 9 Warriors recapture some prestige after losses to Catholic Central and De LaSalle, according to Franchessa.



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