

St. Mary's captures Class CC crown, 35-7

BY BILL PARKER
STAFF WRITER

Scott Stewart missed his first game of the season Saturday, but the senior linebacker from Orchard Lake St. Mary's did all he could to assure his team of a victory.

Stewart, second on the team in tackles with 44, broke his leg in two places last weekend in St. Mary's semifinal victory over Montrose. With his leg in a cast to his waist, Stewart navigated the sideline in a wheelchair Saturday at the Pontiac Silverdome and gave St. Mary's an emotional boost as the Eagles won the Class CC state championship with a 35-7 victory over Constantine. It is the second state championship for the Eagles, who won the Class C title in 1977.

"We didn't see him (Stewart) until we walked out on the field for warmups," said senior captain Phil Lim. "When we did see him he was yelling and cheering and we got pumped up even more. He told us to take it to them, not let up, play four quarters and win it. He gave us an emotional lift."

When the championship trophy was presented to St. Mary's fol-

lowing the conclusion of the game, Stewart was one of the first to hoist the trophy above his head in victory.

"We've got 23 seniors on this team and they're a tight group," said St. Mary's coach George Fort, whose team finished with a school-record 13-0 ledger. "One of their buds was down and out and they wanted to play well for him, too. Since would have liked to have been out there, but he just wanted to see his teammates play well."

No one on the field played better than St. Mary's quarterback DiAllo Johnson. The 6-foot-4, 185-pound senior completed nine of 12 passes for 203 yards and a Class CC state record two touchdowns and rushed for another touchdown in leading the Eagles to victory.

"Everyone thought we were the top team in the state but we knew we could go out and win it," Johnson said.

St. Mary's scored quickly on the opening possession of the game and never trailed. Johnson capped a four-play, 74-yard drive with a 50-yard touchdown pass to senior tight end David Bowens.

Bowens, a 6-4, 225-pounder, caught the ball at the 20, powered through a tackle at the 15 and danced into the end zone. Mike Goddard kicked the first of his Falcons state-record five extra point kicks for a 7-0 lead just 1:58 into the game.

Constantine, which finished the season 12-1, came right back. Aided by a 15-yard personal foul penalty on third down and nine, the Falcons marched 76 yards and scored on a 27-yard TD pass from junior quarterback Pete Moe to senior Josh Hardman. Hardman kicked the extra point, which was the final point the Falcons would score this year.

St. Mary's converted a pair of Constantine fumbles into 14 points in the second quarter and led 21-7 at halftime. Chad Combe recovered a fumble at the St. Mary's 23 and the Eagles scored nine plays later on a 1-yard run by Bowens.

Bowens, who doubles as a middle linebacker, stripped the ball from Falcon Chad Stears on Constantine's next possession and gave the Eagles control at the Falcon 12. Facing fourth down and three at the 5, Johnson hit

senior wide receiver Darryl Adams with a pass in the flat. Adams decked the only defender between him and the goal line and raced untouched to pay dirt.

Junior running back Everett Morris (seven carries for 52 yards) did his part in the second half with a pair of rushing touchdowns.

A Class CC record 63-yard pass from Johnson to junior running back Malcolm McInnis set up a seven-yard TD run by Morris early in the third quarter.

Sophomore defensive end Torrance Craddeeth set up Morris' second TD when he sacked Moe and senior Chad Combe recovered at the Eagles' 42-yard-line. Nine plays later, Morris capped the scoring with a 15-yard touchdown run.

Defensively, the Eagles held Constantine to a high-scoring offense in check. The Falcons entered the game averaging 40.3 points and 298 yards offensively per game. Against St. Mary's they managed just seven points and 204 yards. Senior running back Jim Lewis totaled 122 yards on 17 rushes.



Senior farewell: Nick Williams (left) and Kevin Bryant catch some air and take in the sights as they leave the Silverdome playing field.

Belding wings way to 50-41 win over DCD

BY MARTY BUDNER
STAFF WRITER

The emotion was the antithesis of last time.

Eight years ago, Detroit Country Day defeated Muskegon Catholic Central with a last-second pass to capture the Class C football championship.

On that same Silverdome turf where they engineered their greatest victory in school history, the Yellowjackets dealt with an emotional defeat Friday.

After taking a 33-14 halftime lead thanks to a record-setting

quarter, DCD could do little right in the second half and lost its Class B title bid to Belding by the unbelievable score of 50-41.

It was the first state title for the Redskins (13-0), masters of the wing-T offense. DCD (11-2) allowed more points in the state final than in its first 10 games combined.

"I am disappointed and proud at the same time," DCD coach Joe D'Angelo said. "I sat up in this room eight years ago when we won on a very emotional last play of the game. You win sometimes when things happen right."

"Who's the better team? That's hard to say. Obviously, the score says (Belding). But in our hearts we feel we're a state championship team, too. It's just that a couple things didn't go right."

Everything went right in the first half, particularly the second

quarter when the Yellowjackets rolled up a state-record 31 points by scoring four touchdowns, three two-point conversions and a conventional point-after-kick.

Quarterback Matt Kives threw touchdown passes of 46 yards to Brian Rubin and 1 yard to Joe Cassine and ran 7 yards for another TD. He also passed to Dan Russo and ran for conversions. DCD's other second-quarter touchdown came on a 13-yard run by Rubin.

Belding scored twice in the second quarter to reduce its deficit to 19 points at halftime. But the Redskins were just beginning.

Junior Thomas Smith scored three times in the third quarter (12, 10 and 3 yards) to spark Belding's amazing comeback.

By the end of the third quarter, Belding led 38-33. The Redskins, who scored on all five second-half possessions, added two fourth-

quarter TDs.

Belding surged ahead 44-33 on a 23-yard run by Matt Hansen.

DCD mounted its best drive of the second half to get within 44-41 on Rubin's 1-yard run with 4:47 left in the game. Kives threw to Russo for the conversion.

The Yellowjackets were back in the game, but they needed to stop Belding. It never happened.

The Redskins recovered the onside kick and marched 47 yards in nine plays for a 50-41 lead when quarterback Mark Youngs completed his only pass — an 18-yard scoring strike to Mike Feuerstein.

Hawks

from page 1C

and Harrison's lead was 17-13 with 2:24 on the clock.

Central recovered its onside kick at the Harrison 46 and threatened to win the game. But Bryant intercepted a deep pass by Wood with 1:58 remaining.

It was Bryant's 10th (and no doubt his most important) interception of the season.

"It was a big game, the last game of my high school career, and I wanted to make a big play to remember it," Bryant said.

"I was telling my teammates, 'We have to step up; we can't let them take it from us and run the whole game. We played well the whole game, and I knew we were going to step up.'"

The Hawks, who took over at their 6, had fumbled late in other playoff games. Williams picked up the first down and Harrison was able to kill the clock.

"I knew lightning couldn't hit again," Herrington said. "We were going to go with power and give the ball to Nick. But (blocking back) Jeremy White was hurt, so we moved Nick (off) and ran the year over Steve Ghaisi. We knew Nick can be a dominant force in the game at that point."

GRID NOTES

Harrison junior tailback Jason Granger is already preparing for his senior year, when he won't have a big fullback like Nick Williams to open holes.

Harrison camera man Jim Horton reminded Granger of that when the two met in the press room after the game.

"Don't forget to say something about the offensive linemen; you're going to need them next year," Horton said.

The 5-foot-8, 148-pound Granger plans on being stronger next season.

"Defenses are just going to key on me," he said. "I've got to pick it up and gain some weight; I have to get in the weight room next week."

Granger said he's hoping Kenneth Worthly, a former Harrison student and football player who moved to Arizona, returns to Farmington with his family.

"He moved, but I heard he might come back," Granger said.

Granger, Kevin Bryant and Nick Williams, the players who came upstairs to the press conference, had to answer a lot of reporters' questions.

But the bonus was each got to eat sandwiches and soft drinks, which were part of the spread for the reporters and workers in the press box.

Despite not having the ball for long, Harrison was in good shape with a 14-0 lead after nearly three quarters.

Central had the ball for 33 minutes and 53 seconds, the Hawks for only 14:07.

But then Harrison didn't need long drives. Williams and Granger had long scoring runs on first down.

Playing in their first final, the Rangers came back to make it close.

"It was a hard-fought game," Herrington said. "They were tremendously prepared for what we do. They stopped a lot of things other people haven't stopped all year."

"It was a classic, hard-fought football game that went down to the end like a championship game should."

"I'd like to congratulate Farmington Hills Harrison," Central coach Tim McGee said. "They have a great football team and an outstanding coaching staff."

Herrington is getting used to the question: How do the Hawks keep on doing it? That's winning state championships. Harrison is 7-of-9 in the finals and 5-of-3 in this decade.

It was a classic, hard-fought football game that went down to the end like a championship game should.

"I'd like to congratulate Farmington Hills Harrison," Central coach Tim McGee said. "They have a great football team and an outstanding coaching staff."

Herrington is getting used to the question: How do the Hawks keep on doing it? That's winning state championships. Harrison is 7-of-9 in the finals and 5-of-3 in this decade.

COLD FRONT ALERT!

GAS FURNACE SALE!

• Save now on a new Carrier WeatherMaker Intensity—the world's most energy-efficient gas furnace.

• Save up to 40% on your winter heating costs.

• Enjoy quiet comfort and reliability.

FREE ESTIMATES 427-6092

BERGSTROMS

heating • cooling • plumbing

SOLIS SCHROEDER WORKS SINCE 1927

Carrier

We're The Inside Guys.

The Sports Academy

The Sports Academy In Novi Presents

- Indoor Hitting Leagues Session II & III
- Velocity Improvement Throwing Programs
- Thanksgiving Weekend All Night Sports Party
- Holiday Hit & Hoop Baseball / Basketball Camp
- Private Instruction / Basketball & Volleyball Court Rentals

Register Now - Don't Be Disappointed Later

Open 7 Days A Week (810) 380-0800 4230 W. 10 Mile Novi, MI

You decided to be an organ and tissue donor.

But you didn't tell your family.

Then you haven't really decided to be a donor.

Right now, thousands of people are dying, waiting for transplants. If you've decided to be an organ and tissue donor, you must tell your family now so they can carry out your decision later. To learn more about donation and how to talk to your family call 1-800-356-SHARE.

Share your life. Share your decision.

Condition On Donation

CLASS A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME Friday at the Silverdome	
SCORE BY QUARTERS Farmington Hills Central 0-0-0-13-13 Farmington Hills Harrison 0-7-0-23-17	
SCORING PLAYS	
First: Nick Williams 50 run, Kyle Vessell kick.	First: Jason Granger 80 run, Kyle Vessell kick.
Second: Jay McInnis 1 run, Keith Debbauter kick.	First: Kyle Vessell 28 field goal.
Third: Mike Miller 9 pass from Greg Wood, kick failed.	
INDIVIDUAL STATS	
RECEIVING: Central: Jay McInnis, 21-46; John Russo, 14-50; Steve Ghaisi, 9-34; Greg Wood 5-8; Totals: 49-178. Harrison: Nick Williams 14-123; Jason Granger 7-42; Kevin Bernhardt 5-23; Totals: 26-192.	
PASSING: Central: Greg Wood 6-10-67; Harrison: Kevin Bernhardt 14-111.	
DEFENDING: Central: Mike Miller 2-18; Jason Russo 1-3; Josh Quisen 1-22; Jay McInnis 1-0; Brian Grier 1-16; Totals: 5-67. Harrison: Kevin Bryant 1-11.	
PUNTING: Central: Brian Grier 6-37.8-61; Harrison: Kyle Vessell 4-38.0-55.	
TEAM STATISTICS	
First Downs: Central 16, Harrison 4; Rushing: Central 49, Harrison 28; Passing: Central 182, Harrison 227; Total Yards: Central 231, Harrison 255; First Downs: Central 16, Harrison 4; Rushing: Central 49, Harrison 28; Passing: Central 182, Harrison 227; Total Yards: Central 231, Harrison 255.	

Personals are a very '90s thing to do.

Our Personal Scene Directory can help you find the special person you're looking for—a partner for sports, a friend to travel with, or someone who enjoys the same things that you do. Plus, you place your message and receive your recorded replies with Voice Mail, so you have control. Very easy. Very fun. Very '90s.

Observer & Eccentric

Personal Scene

To place your ad call, 581-0800 or check today's Personal Scene Directory for specific instructions

To respond to a Personal Scene ad by phone, call 1-800-434-8008

Thank You please only • You must be 18 years or older • \$1.29 per minute