

RAIDERS

FROM PAGE C1

"We have good coaches and good kids with good attitudes and some outstanding parental support."

The Raiders used two quarterbacks last year and both return. Both also had passing statistics.

Rich Hegstrom completed 55 of 98 attempts for 672 yards while Bryan Smith was 33-of-59 for 550. Each threw seven touchdowns last year. Smith returned 67 times for 243 yards, too. The passing game will "probably be even better," Burrell said. "We had a chance to run coach (Rick) Lee's passing game in the spring and all summer; whereas, last year we were running it for the first time."

"We're more and better prepared because we had more time to do it. If we need to spread it out and go, we can do that."

Jared Kirksey, whom Burrell believes has college potential, and Marcus Thornton will rotate at fullback, and halfback Kenny Uy rushed for a team-high 1,200 yards on the JV.

Marcus McComb, who caught 26 passes for 336 yards and three touchdowns, returns at flanker and Will Hathaway at tight end. The split end will be either Allan Wertheimer or Drew Roberts. Adam Vieder and Chris Prout can play the wideout positions, too, and Brad Stulberg is a capable tight end. "At the skill positions, a lot of folks will get a lot of rest," Burrell said, "because they won't be going two ways."

"The neat thing is I think we can do it all. We can throw the ball, run the ball and play the power game."

Center John Szymusiak and tackle Chris Cyrus are returning starters. The other linemen are apt to be Zachary Yost and Chris Doughty at the guards and Kyle Goldman at the tackle.

"The intelligence of the offensive line is outstanding and so is their mental toughness," Burrell said, adding the unit has an average grade point of 3.85.

"They're smart kids. As far as knowing who to block and where to go, that's not an issue."

"(The offense) has great potential. It's just a matter of the offensive line getting up to speed and they will. They'll be ready



BOB BRESLER/OBSERVER

Senior Jon Moll, who had 33 solo tackles and 10 assists last year, returns to play defensive end for the Raiders.

by game one."

"The Raiders will play their traditional 4-4 defense, and the strength of the unit could be its front four."

Tackle Lucas DiGlia and end Jon Moll are returning starters. North is just as solid on the opposite side with Safet. Cumulative playing tackle and Kirksey end. Goldman, Mark Colbert and Ashwin Raghu will play, too.

"We finally possess the ability to dominate on the defensive line," Burrell said. "Jared will lead this crew. His size, strength and quickness will give opposing tight ends fits."

North will miss linebacker Justin Kasgorgis, the school's all-time leading tackler.

Contending for the four linebacker spots are Brandon Smith, Steve Kahn, Jeff Levin, Smith, Thornton, Scott Jacobs, Gary Kennedy, John Koch.

"The biggest difference in the program is we finally have competition for positions," Burrell said.

"Coach (Mike) Lantry said to the players, 'Every day you're being evaluated. Every day you need to compete. You can't take

a day off, because someone is competing for your spot.'"

In the secondary, Vieder and McComb are the cornerbacks and Scott Hegstrom on the safety.

"With those kids, we have some quickness and athletic players," Burrell said. "Scott is great on run support, too. For a sophomore, he's picked things up well."

The Raiders start the season Thursday at Bloomfield Hills Andover, a member of the OAA Division IV.

"Being in the new league gives us a chance to compete in a more equitable situation and against schools of the same size and competitiveness," Burrell said. "We look forward to every week being in a competitive ballgame."

North will play eight games instead of nine and, therefore, needs five victories to automatically qualify for the playoffs — something the Raiders haven't done since 1991.

"We'll focus on one week at a time," Burrell said. "Our first goal is to get five wins and go from there."

Don't miss the Raiders' season opener Thursday at Bloomfield Hills Andover, a member of the OAA Division IV.

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RAIDER ROSTER

NORTH FARMINGTON ROSTER

Center/quarterbacks: Nick Valone (6-1, 185), Jr. Bryan Binder (5-7, 147), Sr. Josh Koch (5-7, 175), Jr. Zachary Yost (5-10, 165), Jr. Safet Cummin (6-3, 200), Jr. Chris Doughty (5-8, 153), Jr. Ryan Epstein (5-9, 211), Sr. John Szymusiak (5-11, 210).

Tackles: Sr. Mark Colbert (5-10, 185), Jr. Phil Wintz (6-1, 230), Sr. Jon Moll (6-1, 215), Jr. Michael Cotton (5-10, 205), Sr. Eric Shapiro (5-11, 175), Sr. Shaun Goodman (6-0, 210), Sr. Dan Frangle (5-9, 200), Sr. Dorian Bridges (6-2, 280), Sr. Chris Cyrus (5-10, 200), Sr. Lucas DiGlia (5-10, 220), Jr. Chris Lauterbach (6-4, 280), Sr. Corey Endall (5-11, 225), Sr. Nick Ciaccio (6-1, 310), Jr. Kyle Goldman (5-11, 220).

Linebackers: Sr. Rohit Burde (5-11, 180), Sr. Will Hathaway (6-3, 200), Sr. Ashwin Raghu (6-2, 180), Jr. David Lalajal (6-1, 205), Jr. Brad Stulberg (6-1, 185), Sr. Joey Willard (6-3, 215).

Wide receivers: Sr. Marcus McComb (5-10, 160), Sr. Chris Prout (6-1, 190), Jr. Nolan Yaloto (5-10, 150), Jr. Jake Polesky (5-11, 152), Sr. Drew Wertheimer (6-2, 160), Jr. Dean Sapp (6-0, 150), Sr. Alan Reis (6-2, 185), Jr. Ryan Harrison (6-1, 160), Jr. Mameel Dharis (5-8, 165), Sr. Spencer Wood (6-2, 165), Jr. Vince Jahl (5-9, 165), Jr. Michael Williams (6-0, 160), Jr. Zach Goodman (5-7, 146).

Quarterbacks: Sr. Rich Hegstrom (5-11, 152), Sr. Bryan Smith (6-0, 169), Soph. Scott Hegstrom (5-9, 160).

Fullbacks: Sr. Eugene Furman (5-10, 170), Sr. Jared Kirksey (6-1, 235), Jr. Jeff Levin (5-11, 195), Soph. Matt Bills (5-10, 155), Jr. Avery Huchley (6-0, 200).

Tailbacks: Jr. Scott Jacobs (5-8, 148), Sr. Marcus Thornton (5-7, 170), Sr. Brandon Silto (5-9, 125), Jr. Adam Vieder (5-8, 150), Sr. Steve Kahn (5-5, 150), Jr. Ken Oy (5-7, 161), Jr. Adam McPherson (5-10, 147), Sr. Patrick Koch (6-7, 155), Jr. Gary Kennedy (5-11, 165), Jr. Mike Matsumaki (6-1, 195).

Kicker: Kyle Lambert (6-1, 160).

NORTH FARMINGTON SCHEDULE

Thursday, Aug. 29: at Bloomfield Hills Andover, 7:30 p.m. Sept. 5: ROYAL OAK DOWNTOWN, 7: Friday, Sept. 13: at Rochester Shiner Creek, 7: Friday, Sept. 20: at Oak Park, 7: Friday, Sept. 27: BENTLEY, 7: Friday, Oct. 4: FERRIS, 7: Friday, Oct. 18: PONTIAC CENTRAL, 7: Friday, Oct. 25: at Farmington, 7: (Home games in capital letters).

SPORTS ROUNDUP

FALCONS 4TH IN TOURNEY

Farmington tied Ann Arbor Huron for fourth place Tuesday in a seven-team girls tennis tournament at Grosse Pointe South. The host Blue Devils won it; Rochester Adams was second and Livonia Stevenson third. Farmington's Kristie Boskey was a finalist at No. 3 singles.

"Grosse Pointe South, Adams and I Huron are powerful Division I schools," Farmington coach Carl Badyne said, "and we're just a little Division II team. But we took some of their girls out of this tournament, and that was really cool."

COHN FEATURED SPEAKER

ESPN SportsCenter anchor Linda Cohn will be the featured guest speaker at the Women's Economic Club, Thursday, Sept. 12, at the new home of the Detroit Lions, Ford Field.

Tickets are \$50 for members and \$55 for guests. The program includes a strolling gourmet dinner and Football 101, a humorous synopsis of the game, which will precede a tour of the new home of the Lions. Call (313) 963-5088 or visit www.womeneseconomicclub.org.

ADULT HOCKEY SIGNUP

The Farmington Hills Adult Hockey Association is conducting registration from Sept. 3 through March at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena for teams in the over-18 division, teams and individuals for the over-30 and individuals for the over-40 and over-48.

There will be a player draft in divisions that have individual registration. Goalsies are needed. Teams in the over-30, over-40 and over-48 loops will play 42 games plus playoffs. To sign up call (248) 471-6004.

PREP GOLF RESULTS

FARMINGTON INVITATIONAL

Aug. 21 at Huron Meadows Country Club (200, 9 holes, 2, title) University of Detroit Jesuit, Farmington, West Bloomfield, 312: 5. Walid Lake Central, 316: 6. Beverly Hills Detroit Country Club, 318: 7. South Lyon, 327: 8. North Farmington, 336: 9. Farmington Harrison, 338: 10. Farmington B, 348: 11. North Farmington B, 349: 12. West Bloomfield B, 351.

INDIVIDUAL SCORES

Hurd (299): Jack Tyler, 71; Brandon Egna, 81; James Fayal, 76; Brett Jass, 79; Jesse Luchman, 79; Eric Kyles, 81. Farmington (313): Keith Hay, 74; Mike Schuyler, 79; Brad Cresar, 79; Joe Stefan, 81; Jason Welet, 93; Adam Ellis, 90. 18-19 Jesuit (337): Craig Cornwell, 75; Nick Jallio, 79; Kyle Stefan, 79; Tom Capobres, 80; Thomas Dixon, 83; Charlie Thompson, 86. W. Bloomfield (333): Justin Shane, 73; Ross

Chawansky, 79; Kory West, 79; Josh Feisler, 82; Ryan Jahnke, 85; Adam Burgess, 88. Country Day (332): Joey Leone, 77; Matthew Wallace, 80; Denny Borab, 80; Chris Weber, 87; Eric Kruske, 84. N. Farmington (334): Jeff Peterson, 77; Tony Ryan, 82; Mychal Cooke, 83; Scott Weisler, 86; Eric Swedan, 86; Vince McKen, 89. Harrison (338): Dave Koch, 81; Matt Kothel, 81; Chris Fitzgerald, 82; Barry Boj, 84; Eddie Bettany, 84; Paul Mazara, 85; Ian Chomby, 85. N. Farmington B (349): John Noble, 84; Eric Behrmann, 87; Joe McKen, 87; Amirah Penmeticha, 92; Doug Courser, 94; Ross Kennedy, 103. Farmington B (348): Eddie Weinger, 80; Andrew Bernick, 88; Kyle Bolan, 89; Mike Welet, 93; Steve Butcher, 92; Kyle Schauer, 97. W. Bloomfield B (351): Seth Gold, 77; Mike Weitz, 89; Jason Lamport, 90; Clay Dangier, 95; Andy Waczorek, 95; Sean Wertz, 102.

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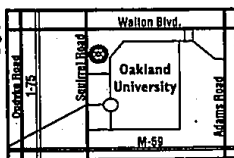
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