



Rick Mihizer of Farmington takes off on a good gainer in the Falcons' 7-0 grid victory over West Bloomfield. He also came up with a key Farmington interception on defense.



Coach Had Beardsley of Farmington High School, drenched with rain, appears oblivious to the elements while his Falcons

fight to hold their edge over West Bloomfield on the latter's gridiron Friday (Staff photos by Mitch Booth)

Kansman's TD turns the trick

Farmington High nips West Bloomfield, 7-0

Scoring first on a muddy, rain-swept gridiron is the key to many a football victory, as Farmington High School found out Friday night in its 7-0 triumph over West Bloomfield.

"We were just glad to get on the board first and then let the defense do the job," recalled Farmington Coach Hal Beardsley as he peeled off his rain-drenched togs, still exulting in fullback Kevin Kansman's six-yard first quarter touchdown plunge which led to a 13 mark for the season for the Falcons.

There was far less joy in the West Bloomfield quarters where the Lakers had to reflect that they still are scoreless and winless after two games following a heady 7-2 win and lost mark last year.

"We played well defensively but never got untracked with our offense," said Coach Dominic Lavedola.

THE STATISTICS bore him out, showing that Farmington outscored the Lakers on the ground 188 yards to 69 and had a 10-3 edge in first downs.

all of the WB's coming in the second half.

After a sluggish opening, with a heavy rain drenching the small gathering of loyalist spectators, Farmington began a drive from its own 39 following a punt exchange that led to the game's only touchdown.

Kansman, a 6-1, 180-pound senior, finally scored from the six yard stripe, with Randy Meyer kicking the extra point that lit up the board to stay-7-0.

The only real scoring chance West Bloomfield had was a field goal attempt from the Farmington 30 late in the first half, but a pass from center that went awry killed that shot. Other than that the Lakers inched inside the Farmington 30 only once all night, and even that was negated by an interception.

them, they played well," said Lavedola. "Still, don't overlook that we lost last year's leading rusher, Rob Wilson, 6-3 and 190, with a broken hand last week."

Mark Tostial, defensive end and linebacker, played an excellent game and so did Kevin Jung, 6-2, 215-pound defensive tackle.

After losing the first two starts in Waterford Township, 8-0, and Farmington, 7-0, in non-league contests, West Bloomfield will host powerful Clarkston at 7:30 Friday in the opener of the revised Greater Oakland Activities League.

Farmington also has a big one coming up following its successive 16-14 loss to Farmington Harrison and then the 7-0 win Friday, this being next Friday's 3:30 homecoming battle with defending Inter-Lakes Conference champion Livonia Stevenson.

Beardsley will count again on Todd Schneberger, co-captain who plays offensive center and defensive end, as well as guard and linebacker Co-Capt. Dennis Bond in the same leadership role they provided in the West Bloomfield game.

"They were our leaders and they did the job," said Beardsley as a wicket summation of the 7-0 roadblock that left West Bloomfield wondering whether a 6-2 rating should be defined as being over-rated or over-confident.

IN JUSTICE to both clubs, one of the coaches of long experience commented that "other than for cold weather, these are the worst playing conditions and the worst field I've ever seen."

For the most part, the game was played inside the 30 yard lines, as often is the case with mud battles, and working in Farmington's advantage was the punting of Meyer who booted six times for an average of 25 yards and had one blocked.

"I can't take anything away from

Observer & Eccentric SPORTS

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(FPA)

Raiders top WL Central

TD saves NFHS

North Farmington coach Ron Holland has quite a task replacing some of the graduated football talent from last year's team. But some of his younger players seem to be doing nicely.

Paul Patek, for example, is a 5-10, 180-pound running back who shows a lot of promise. Patek ran 44 yards for a fourth-quarter touchdown which gave North Farmington a 14-0 victory over Walled Lake Central last Friday night in a non-league game.

Patek was the game's leading ground gainer with 60 yards in four carries. A week earlier, he led all

runners in North's 22-12 loss to Pontiac Northern.

"He just picks his way through the secondary," Holland said. "He can run deep and cut back. He's pretty quick. He's not an out-and-out fast kid, but he's elusive."

Another Raider who's gaining experience is senior Quarterback Larry Lichtman. He didn't play at all last year, but he seems to get the job done now. Against Walled Lake Central, Lichtman completed only two out of three passes, but one resulted in the opening touchdown to senior John Patek, the play covering 60 yards.

The point after touchdown snap was fumbled, but North's Rob Reed picked up the ball and ran into the end zone for two points.

Central's Kevin Chynoweth scored on a 22-yard pass play in the second quarter, and then caught another pass for the conversion points. Central took the lead when its defense nailed John Patek in his end zone for a safety in the third quarter.

Holland praised his defense. "Greg Miller was the standout," he said. "He sacked the quarterback four times. He was all over the field and he made quite a few tackles. Mark Schwartz and Tom Dillon played well at tackle."

North Farmington, now 1-1 this season, begins its Northwest Suburban League season next Saturday (Sept. 27) at Livonia Franklin.

Sports coming up

Cross Country

Monday (Sept. 22): Southfield High and Southfield-Lathrup in combined Metro Suburban Association and Southeastern Michigan Association League Meets, Southfield High School, Ten Mile and Lahser roads, 3:30 p.m.

Monday (Sept. 22): Southfield Christian at Country Day, Thirteen Mile and Lahser roads, 4 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Thurston High at Farmington Harrison, OGC Orchard Ridge campus, 1:00 and Orchard Lake Road, 4 p.m.

Golf

Monday (Sept. 22): West Bloomfield at North Farmington, site to be determined, 3:30 p.m.

Monday (Sept. 22): Livonia Churchill at Farmington Harrison, site to be determined, 3:30 p.m.

Monday (Sept. 22): Livonia Stevenson at Farmington High, site to be determined, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Northville High at Farmington Harrison, site to be determined, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Farmington Harrison at Plymouth Salem, Brae Burn Golf Course, Five Mile and Napier roads, Plymouth 3 p.m.

Wednesday (Sept. 24): North Farmington at Bedford Union, Salem Hills Golf Course, 8:00 Six Mile Road, Northville 3 p.m.

Girls' Tennis

Monday (Sept. 22): Southfield-Lathrup at Royal Oak Dendron, 709 N. Washington, 4 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Walled Lake Central at North Farmington, 3280 Thirteen Mile Road, 4 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Farmington High at Walled Lake Western, 600 Beck Road, 4 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Farmington Harrison at Country Day, Thirteen Mile and Lahser roads, 4 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Southfield High at Berkley High, 2436 Catalpa, 4 p.m.

Wednesday (Sept. 24): Birmingham Groves at Southfield-Lathrup, 1801 Twelve Mile Road, 4 p.m.

Wednesday (Sept. 24): Farmington Our Lady of Mercy at Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher, Harper near Seven Mile Road, 4 p.m.

Girls' Swimming

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Detroit Dominican at Farmington Our Lady of Mercy, Eleven Mile and Middle Beck roads, 5 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Livonia Berkley at Southfield-Lathrup, 1801 Twelve Mile Road, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Walled Lake Central at North Farmington, 3280 Thirteen Mile Road, 4 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Southfield High at Royal Oak Dendron, 709 N. Washington, 4:15 p.m.

Tuesday (Sept. 23): Farmington High at Walled Lake Western, 600 Beck Road, 4 p.m.

Mosquitos a problem

Raider runners triumph

North Farmington defeated Livonia Franklin, 25-22, in a Northwest Suburban League cross country meet last Thursday. But unfortunately both the winners and the losers had to be scratched.

The meet was run over Franklin's home course, Hines Park, in a rainstorm. Wet weather wasn't the only problem the athletes had to put up with.

"We went out there and stripped off our sweats, and it was like running a downer ball for the mosquitoes," said North Farmington coach Ed Davis.

"It was muddy and rainy and the times were terrible."

North Farmington's Dave Good finished first with a time of 16:30. Franklin's Phil Mardeck was second in 16:40, and North's Dave Levy took third in 17:12. The victory lifted North Farmington to 1-0 in the league and 4-1 overall.

Lahser-Lathrup

Southfield Hills Lahser defeated Southfield-Lathrup, 36-29, in a Metro Suburban Association cross country contest last Thursday. Lahser's Doug

Van Zeeven led the pack with a 17:40 clocking. Lathrup junior Dave Clifford was second in 17:40, while Lahser's Dan Pompreen took third in 18:03. Two Lathrup runners, Mike Driscoll and Tom O'Rourke, finished fourth and fifth respectively.

"Some ran good, some ran bad," said Lathrup coach Dale Petaloid. "It's going to be kind of an up-and-down year. We have 18 kids out, but they have to develop some consistency."

N. Farmington outswims Western

Mercy starts another winning season

By TOM BAER

It's an understatement to say that Farmington Our Lady of Mercy has built a winning tradition in high school girls' swimming.

Mercy, under coach Deloris Yager, has piled up 110 straight dual-meet victories over the past 10 years. Mercy also has won 10 straight Catholic League girls' swimming titles and has finished no lower than fifth in the three state meets held for prep girl swimmers.

Mercy won the state meet in 1972, the first year the event was held for girls. The Marlins finished third in 1973 and fifth last year.

"There's no secret formula for our success," said Mrs. Yager after her

squad defeated St. Clair Shores Lakeshore, 67-16, in the season opener last Thursday.

"At all girls' schools, the kids are highly competitive. I think that, even if they're not the best in that particular field, they work twice as hard to become better than the girls next to them. They really do have that attitude."

Against Lakeshore, Mercy's Carol Kolon was a double winner, taking the 200-yard freestyle in 2:14.0 and the 100 freestyle in 1:09.8. Miss Kolon also swam on Mercy's 100 medley relay, which won in 2:08.9. Ann Fletcher, Kathy Smith and Kris Johnson also swam on the relay.

"Carol was our only double winner," Mrs. Yager said. "Most of it

was done by freshmen. I changed the lineup and put our younger kids in—and we still beat them."

Miss Yager, who also coaches the boys' swimming team at Detroit Catholic Central, outlined her goals for this season.

"We want to win the Catholic League of course. And then we want to do the best we can in the state meet."

"We don't think we're going to win it. We think Livonia Stevenson has the best chance because Stevenson has eight top-notch AAU swimmers. Birmingham Groves (which finished second behind East Lansing in last year's state meet) graduated a lot of kids. I taught most of those girls right here in Mercy's pool."

"I definitely give the edge to Livonia Stevenson or East Lansing in the state meet this year. (Coach) Lole MacDonald is doing a beautiful job with those girls."

N. Farmington-W.L. Western

North Farmington provided coach Pat Dunlap his first victory ever as a girls' swimming coach. The Raiders defeated Walled Lake Western, 100-55, last Thursday in a non-league meet.

North Farmington's Patty Ganser was a double winner, she won the 200 freestyle (2:12.7) and the 100 free (1:19.1). She was also part of North's 600 free relay, which won in 4:12.3. The rest of the team consists of Sue Ganser, Debbie Somerville and Debbie Hatch.

Earlier last week, West Bloomfield defeated North Farmington, 111-41, in another non-league. Patty Ganser qualified for the state meet in the 200 freestyle with a 2:08.6 clocking. Another Raider, Jane McLaren, qualified in the 100 breaststroke with a 1:14.1 performance.

"Probably by the end of the season we'll be shaping up pretty good," said Dunlap, who coached North Farmington's boys to the Northwest Suburban League swim title last season.

"We've only been practicing for about two weeks. Some of the kids who've been working out all summer are doing pretty good right now. But some of the kids who aren't as involved in swimming are just starting to bloom up."



DELORIS YAGER
No secret formula