

Making the Stops

The biggest defensive play was a blocked punt by Brad Johnson late in the second quarter. The special-teams gem led to the first TD of the game.

"That was a huge momentum switch in the ballgame," Farrell said. "That play really changed the field position (the Bison took over on the Hersey 23-yard line)."

Johnson has certainly paid his dues.

"He's a great leader in our practices," said Farrell, "and he's a key guy on a lot of special teams."

Game Day

The top spot in the MSL East will be on the line when Rolling Meadows (5-2, 3-0) entertains the Bison on Friday night (7:30 p.m.)

Much of the Bison focus will be on Mustang quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo.

"He's a multi-threat kid," said Farrell of Garoppolo's ability to run and pass. "He creates a lot of opportunities for himself. He can avoid the pass rush, and he's big enough to get a rusher off him."

The Bison counter with talented junior quarterback Mike Garrity. He also has a knack for running when necessary, and has shown he can deliver the ball to receiver Mike Cornely .

"Both teams can run the football, have athletic quarterbacks and both teams are playing good defense," Farrell observed.

"The coaches wanted me to call the plays for the JV team, so I'd have a better understanding of what works. I've definitely learned a lot. There's a lot of pressure, and it's fast-moving."

Zev Katz