

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1981

Bayside's **Harmon** Brothers Continue a Tradition

By AL HARVIN

In the 10 years that the Public Schools Athletic League has had championship playoffs in A division football, Bayside has won five times. The Commodores, currently in quest of a third straight city title, owe a lot of their recent success to the **Harmon** family.

There are five **Harmon** brothers, four of whom have played for the Commodores. The two youngest, Ronnie, a senior tailback, and Kevin, a junior quarterback, have led unbeaten Bayside, which has clinched first place in the Bronx-Queens A Division, to seven victories.

"All five of the brothers went to Bayside," said Tony Yacovone, in his fourth year as the Commodores' head coach. "Derrick played here two years ago and he is now the starting tailback for Cornell."

"Greg is the oldest," said Jesse **Harmon**, the proud father, who attends most of the games along with his wife, Jacqueline. "Greg played here and graduated in 1978, and went to William Paterson College in New Jersey. Gary also graduated in 1978 but he didn't play ball. He never liked it. He's now an accountant. Derrick graduated in '79 and is now a sophomore at Cornell, studying engineering."

The **Harmons**, whose school defeated Lehman, 13-12, yesterday, have accumulated some impressive statistics. Ronnie has rushed for 409 yards on 58 carries, has nine receptions for 206 yards, and has 12 touchdowns, nine rushing. With Bayside trailing, 12-6, in the fourth quarter yesterday, **Ronnie** returned the kickoff 77 yards for a touchdown, and Jim Leible's kick provided the margin of victory. Kevin, the quarterback, who did not play against Lehman because of a broken thumb on his right hand, has completed 23 of 39 pass attempts for 572 yards and five touchdowns and has rushed for 120 yards and one score. Kevin is determined to play in the playoffs that begin next week despite the injury to his passing hand. The **Harmons** usually play only the first half, after which the reserves take over.

In addition to the **Harmons**, Bayside has another star running back in 5-10, 205-pound Lonnie Bellamy. He has carried the ball 57 times for 494 yards and scored 11 touchdowns, nine rushing.

Bellamy, sought after by such schools as Syracuse, North Carolina, South Carolina State and C. W. Post, was the star of last week's homecoming victory over Andrew Jackson, with 11 carries for 66 yards and three touchdowns. However, he dislocated his right shoulder in yes-

Ronnie Harmon running for Bayside as his brother, Kevin, who is injured, watches.



terday's victory and will probably be out for the rest of the season.

Yacovone has already received letters on Ronnie **Harmon's** behalf from 15 to 20 schools, including Notre Dame, Penn State, Rutgers, Iowa, Arizona St., Maryland, Syracuse and West Virginia.

"I can't say anything about the two brothers at the school now, because I haven't seen them play yet, but I recruited Derrick for Cornell," said Pete Noyes, an assistant to Coach Bob Blackman and the scout for the metropolitan area. "I heard about Derrick from another scout. He is an outstanding athlete. He played quarterback and tailback and after I saw the films of him, I told him point-blank to just pick the position he wanted to play."

Two weeks ago Derrick was the Ivy League rushing runner-up behind Rich Diana of Yale, but he was injured in last week's game against Dartmouth and dropped to fourth place in the standings.

Praise for Ronnie Harmon

"Ronnie is 6-foot-1, 190 pounds and he's a most talented running back," says Yacovone. "He'd probably be a running back in college. I'm sure he could play at any Division I school. He has 4.6 speed for the 40-yard dash. He's elusive, but he might be a better defensive player. He plays defensive back. He has pro potential as a defensive back because he might be a little too light for running back in the pros."

"Kevin is an excellent athlete, too. He could be a running back but plays quarterback reluctantly because his brother is a running back. We use a wing-T offense with a lot of misdirection."

Ronnie, who also plays defense and has five interceptions, including a 60-yard return for a touchdown, says he likes offense better.

"Syracuse wanted me for defense," he said, "and it's not too far from Cornell where my brother is, but I want to go to school out of state."

The **Harmons** and Bellamy would like to win the P.S.A.L. playoffs, which begin next week, and earn another shot at a title that has eluded the school.

"I want to win the Metro Bowl," says **Ronnie**, referring to the game between the champions of the P.S.A.L. and Catholic High Schools Football League. "We lost it for the last two years, but I think we're better than the Catholic schools. We hit harder but somehow they always seem to win."