

# 1994 from page 1C

Mulcahy, Livonia Stevenson hockey, seven years, resigned, Jack Grenan, Schoolcraft women's basketball, 11 years, resigned.

3. Bernie Holowicki: Talk about gratitude. Holowicki, the third winningest coach in Michigan prep basketball history, won his 600th game, took a team of meager talent to its seventh Catholic League title and to the regional tournament, and won Observerland Coach of the Year honors, only to be asked to leave by the Catholic Central administration.

Still, Holowicki bowed out gracefully and with all the class and poise his teams showed through the years. By the way, he's still at work in Observerland. He is serving as Chuck Henry's assistant at Wayne Memorial.

4. Profiles in courage: On June 27, 1993, Chuck Donaldson lost the use of his legs and very nearly his life in a horrific car accident. In August of 1994, Donaldson was back on the sidelines coaching the Clarenceville football team.

"I have the fear of seeing the kids not reaching their goals," said the 26-year-old. "And if it doesn't happen, I'll take it upon myself because I am their coach and leader. My priorities are for the kids. I want to see them suc-

ceed." And they did. Clarenceville posted a successful 5-4 season.

On June 17, 1993, Bryan Morrison dove into the surf off the coast of France and broke his neck in two places. In July of 1994, the former all-state swimmer, who had been paralyzed from the waist down and had no feeling in his left hand, began walking and swimming. Doctors termed his recovery amazing.

On Feb. 24, Plymouth Salem basketball coach, Bob Brodie learned that his 14-year-old son Joe suffered a potentially fatal injury while skiing. Joe Brodie's skull had been separated from the brain stem when he crashed into a safety fence at Riverview High-

lands. In December of 1994, just 10 months after surgery, Bob watched his son play basketball on the junior varsity team at Flat Rock High School.

"The other day," Bob Brodie told Mick McCabe of the Detroit Free Press, "I was watching him play and I thought: Boy, there are a lot of players out there better than Joe Brodie; but he's the most remarkable one."

5. DRC cancels Michigan Miller: It was one of the longest standing traditions in these parts, the running of the Michigan Miller

at DRC. The purse had grown to \$250,000. But last June the DRC pulled the plug on the tradition. Citing dwindling crowds and the inability to compete with casino gambling in Windsor, DRC cancelled the Michigan Miller.

6. Mark Beaufait, Olympian: As a kid growing up in Livonia, Mark Beaufait plastered his bedroom walls with posters of the 1980 Miracle on Ice U.S. Olympic triumph. In 1994, Beaufait was a member of the U.S. Olympic hockey team. The team failed to win a medal, but Beaufait, former Northern Michigan standout and IHL All-Star, was one of the team's leading scorers.

He currently plays for San Diego in the IHL.

7. James Head: A sad tale. Plymouth Salem's James Head signed a binding letter-of-intent to play basketball at the University of Iowa in November of 1993. In late August of 1994, just as Head was preparing to head west, he was told by university officials that he was denied admission for academic reasons. This even though Head had fulfilled all NCAA requirements.

Student-athletes with far less academic achievement and acumen than Head have been admitted to Iowa. That's the plain fact. But those students were perceived to be more of a sure-thing athletically. And that, more than any other reason, was why Iowa did not accept him.

Head will be fine, though. He is part of a strong Eastern Michigan University team.

8. Big Valley: Actually, this turned out to be a non-story for 1994. School officials sat down and tried to put together a mega conference featuring the 12 Western Lakes schools, the seven Kennington Valley Conference schools and the two Ann Arbor public schools. The conference would have spanned four counties, ranging from Howell to the west, Hartland to the north, the Livonia schools to the east and Ann Arbor to the south.

But, alas, the 12 Western Lakes



Hawk heaven: Farmington Harrison football players had reason to celebrate, again, in 1994. John Herrington's Hawks were one of four area teams to post state championships. It was the Hawks' second straight state title.

principals voted in August to keep the status quo, at least for this year. The officials agreed to pursue more cross-scheduling opportunities between the two conferences. "I think everybody at the meeting came away with a positive outlook on this item," said Churchill's Rod Hoeman. "We have all kinds of options, but the timing is not right now." Perhaps this will be on the top 10 list in 1995.

9. Madonna softball: In 1993, Jerry Abraham put Madonna University athletics on the NAIA map by taking his volleyball team into the NAIA final eight. In 1994, Abraham took over a struggling softball program at Madonna. Guess what? He took it to the NAIA World Series. The team won 40 games, including two in the Series.

10. Garden City Collegiate Baseball: Ouch. The first-year Livonia Collegiate Baseball League team won 11 of its final 12 games and appeared to be a good bet to win the league playoffs and a berth in the national tournament in Altoona, Pa. Unfortunately, due to a clerical error by coach Fred Holton, the team was banned from the post-season tourney. Player Marcus Saranovsky was ruled ineligible because the proper paper work wasn't delivered to the league until July 8, seven days after the league deadline.



Mark Beaufait

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