

# Former FHS gridder helps Michigan State

It's been an up-and-down football season for Rick Milhizer. But now it appears the Michigan State starting quarterback has his game on a strong upswing.

Milhizer, a junior from Farmington, moved into a starting role earlier this season when regular Al Davis switched to cornerback. Davis later returned to the safety spot, but Milhizer soon regained the starting position when Davis

sprained a knee the week before the MSU-Notre Dame game.

Since then, the 1977 Farmington High School grad has been a star on the defensive secondary and has earned the respect of defensive backfield coach Sherman Lewis.

"Rick has come up with some big plays," Lewis said. "He still needs consistency and he occasionally has breakdowns, but those things improve with

experience. He came to MSU as a walk on on the recommendation of his high school coach, Hal Beardstrey.

Milhizer enjoyed a standout performance in Michigan State's 14-7 loss to Purdue. He was second among Spartan tacklers with nine, including one for a loss of seven yards, and he played an important role in the overall effort against Purdue's All-American candidate quarterback Mark Herrmann.



RICK MILHIZER

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# Season winds down Tankers lose

(Continued from page 1B)

That gave Southfield a 14-0 lead at the half, and Farmington could never catch up. By the fourth quarter, the Blue Jays had worn down the Farmington defense and put together two long scoring drives.

Quarterback Dave Schultz returned to action for the Falcons in the second half, and will probably start against North. Rick Curtis also returned for Farmington and was the team's leading rusher against Southfield, as well as intercepting a pass on defense.

Both teams should be mentally ready for this cross-town clash. Farmington might be a little better off physically, but North has the superior talent. The contest will start at 2 p.m. Saturday, and Farmington will have the home field advantage.

PICK — NORTH.

lem, costing them a shot at a playoff spot. But despite the closeness of the score, Edsel Ford dominated offensively.

It is Salem's defense that has buoyed the Rocks this season. Linebackers Phil Anderson (6-3, 205 pounds) and Jeff Powers (6-2, 200) and linemen Scott Piper (6-0, 180) and Stan Snider (6-3, 214) are the anchors of that defense.

Salem runs the ball most of the time, out of a wishbone offense. The team has averaged only eight passes a game, but has a fine set of receivers in Ron Schultz and Jeff Spencer.

Jim Anderson is the quarterback, with Craig Stack the leading running back.

It is Salem's defense that has had its problems of late, managing only four touchdowns in the last three games. The team may also be suffering from a mental letdown after its loss to Edsel Ford.

The Hawks shouldn't be down. They finally found another runner to take some of the pressure off of junior Ken Kopko, the team's leading rusher. Reggie Upshaw switched from flanker to tailback and responded with 103 yards on the ground against North, including a 77-yard touchdown jaunt.

There are a lot of factors in this game. Salem will have the home field, an advantage for them. But the Rock offense has been sluggish and they're coming off a tough loss that eliminated them from the playoffs.

Harrison's offense has played well, and don't forget the defense. It hasn't been scored upon since the opening period of the Churchill contest, 11 quarters ago.

Game time is 8 p.m. Friday at Salem. It'll be close, but look for Harrison to come out on top — by a slim margin. PICK — HARRISON.

West Bloomfield's superior depth proved to be more than North Farmington could handle, as the Lakers surged past North 125-43 in a girls' swim meet last Tuesday at North.

North won two of the first three events, but those were the only firsts the Raiders managed. West Bloomfield's Linda Stevens was the only individual double winner in the meet, capturing the 100-yard freestyle (58.4) and the 100-yard backstroke (1:06.4).

Stevens also combined with Chris Weber, Kirsten Schipper and Dara Stevens for a first-place finish in the 200-yard medley relay (2:09.5).

North's Kirsten Kingman won the 200-yard individual medley (2:24.2) and Debbie Houser captured the 200-yard freestyle (2:06.9).

Other firsts for the Lakers were Weber in the 50-yard freestyle (25.2), Sue Schwartz in diving (211.90 points), Kirsten

Schipper in the 500-yard freestyle and Deb Ochs in the 100-yard breaststroke.

The win was the seventh in nine meets for West Bloomfield, while North fell to 3-8 overall. The Lakers next event will be the Oakland County meet Saturday, while North hosts Livonia Franklin Thursday at 7 p.m.



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**HARRISON — SALEM**

Harrison's win over North was the biggest for the Hawks this season. It was almost satisfying enough for Herrington to forget about the one-point loss to Livonia Churchill — almost.

Harrison really has nothing to look forward to. That single loss cost the Hawks the Western Six League title and there is virtually no chance for a state playoff berth.

But that shouldn't keep them from getting mentally set for this game. Salem is a power, having lost only to Livonia Franklin in the opening game of the season and to unbeaten Dearborn Edsel Ford last Friday 12-7.

The loss to Edsel Ford was a tough one for Sa-

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