

Milhizer to coach Falcons

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Because there was no teaching position available in the Farmington system, Milhizer will be limited to just coaching for now. Both he and the administration hope to employ him in the classroom also.

"They told me it's a high priority to have a teacher in the building, and I think it's a high priority," he said. "I feel it's important to be in the school with the kids."

A football coach with a history background automatically has something in common with the late Woody Hayes, who taught the subject at Ohio State and led the Buckeyes to greatness on the gridiron.

THUS, ONE WONDERERS if Milhizer's coaching style reflects the noted curmudgeon. While he might draw upon his knowledge of past military conflicts to illustrate some aspect of the game, that's where the similarities end, however.

"I don't know how to identify with him as a role model," Milhizer said. "As a coach, it's important to keep your head in the game. Not to be a robot, but you can't get carried away with your emotions."

"The players shouldn't be afraid of how you'll react. In situations like that, the players get uptight and lose confidence.

"If you put on a front and try to be someone you're not, players see through that and see you're not sincere," he added. "It was a very effective coaching style for (Hayes)

football

RICK MILHIZER
FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
VARSITY FOOTBALL COACH

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Milhizer earned three letters in football at Farmington High. He was twice named to All-League teams as a defensive back and receiver. In his senior year of 1976, he was team captain and received all-state recognition as an honorable mention.

Milhizer worked on at Michigan State the following fall and played four years with the Spartans, the first three under Detroit Lions coach Darryl Rogers and the last one for Buddy Waters. A member of MSU's 1978 co-championship team of 1978, Milhizer won an all-league membership for two junior years and earned for two seasons an all-league membership.

He was a three-sport standout at Farmington and also earned three letters in both basketball and baseball. He was a two-time all-league choice in basketball and one-time honoree in baseball.

EDUCATION

Milhizer is a 1977 graduate of Farmington High where he was a member of the National Honor Society and earned a 3.0 grade-point average. He graduated from Michigan State University in 1982 with a degree in hotel, restaurant and institutional management. He completed work on a

master's degree in education, with an emphasis on social studies, at Tulane University last year. He is currently student teaching at Birmingham Groves High School.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

After graduating from MSU, he served as Farmington's freshman football coach (1982) and varsity assistant (1983). He was a graduate assistant at Law & Co. State University for one year and Tulane University for two years. He spent last but not a full-time member of the Wayne State University staff, coaching defensive backs and special teams. In recent spring practices, he was responsible for the offensive backs.

COACHING PHILOSOPHY

"Play to win. Play aggressively, don't play passively or cautiously. Players should not be afraid to make a mistake, offensively or defensively. Make things happen both ways."

OTHER COMMENTS

"I really wanted to be a head coach. After analyzing my coaching career, I realized the most enjoyable job was when I was the Farmington freshmen coach."

"I feel I'm ready to be a head coach. You always want to have your own program, implement your own ideas, and as a head coach you can do that."

and others, but that's not mine."

Milhizer takes over a program that has labored in the shadow of its neighbors, Harrison and North Farmington, but he hopes to put the Falcons on a par with area teams eventually.

IN HIS JUNIOR year at Farmington, Milhizer played on a team that went 6-3 and won the Inter-Lakes League championship, and his ambition is to raise the Falcons' level of play to the point that winning the league title is always thought of as an attainable goal.

"It always gnaws at me that when

I tell people I'm from Farmington (High), they think I mean Harrison or North," he said. "They've never heard of Farmington. It bothers me how Farmington has always taken it on the chin."

"The water isn't any different over there (at the other high schools)," he added. "They don't grow them any differently. It's the same kids; it's what you do with them."

Milhizer plans to meet with the players and their parents next week, but he wants to talk with the former assistant coaches and select his coaching staff first.

Red-hot Rockets blast Farmington

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REDFORD CC 9, DELASALLE 3: Redford Catholic Central won the first game of a double-header Wednesday from host Warren Delasalle, but the nightcap was canceled because of bad weather.

The win raises CC's mark to 11-3 overall, 6-3 in the Central Division of the Catholic League.

Mike Dorosak picked up the win in relief of starter John Gotta, who lasted just two innings. Gotta allowed just one run, but gave up five hits on two days' rest.

Dorosak improved to 5-1, tossing five innings of no-hit ball, and fanning seven. He allowed one earned run.

Gotta had trouble on the mound, but he was 2-for-3 at the plate, delivering two RBIs. First baseman Leo Hutchinson had a double, single, and one RBI. Dorosak helped his own cause with a triple and one RBI. Keith Boryk also had a banner day, collecting two of CC's eight hits total.

SALEM 12, STEVENSON 9: Plymouth Salem held off a Livonia Stevenson rally, winning the Lakes Division game as Salem raised its record to 5-2 overall. Stevenson is 3-4 over-

all, 1-3 in the Lakes.

The Spartans trailed 11-2 after 4 1/2 innings, but scored seven runs in the last three innings to make it close.

Howie Blanchard came on in relief of winner Dan Boyle for Salem, after Boyle had allowed three runs in the fifth for Salem. Blanchard gave up four more runs in the final two innings.

Mike Dallmonte started for Stevenson and suffered the loss. Todd Marlon led Salem's nine-hit attack with a 2-for-4 outing and three RBIs. Steve Woodard had a double and single for the Rockets.

Stevenson collected 14 hits, an attack that was paced by Dallmonte and Dan Piergentilli with three hits each. Piergentilli and Jason Cotton had three RBIs apiece.

One of Dallmonte's hits was a triple.

WESTERN 4, FRANKLIN 1: Three runs in the fourth inning was all Walled Lake Western needed to hand host Franklin its third loss in seven games. The Patriots are 3-2 in the Western Lakes.

Steve Olson started and took the loss for Franklin, giving up eight hits and fanning four in 5 1/2 innings.

J.J. Swindall went 1-for-3 with an RBI for Franklin, which topped the bases in the sixth inning, but mana god just one run.

Stunning! Mercy surprises Canton

soccer

Farmington Hills Mercy extended its soccer winning streak to five games Monday with a monumental victory in the young program's brief existence.

The Marlins, 5-2 overall, knocked off Plymouth Canton, which had been ranked No. 1 in the state two weeks ago, in a 2-0 shutout on the losers' field.

"That is probably the biggest victory in five years of Mercy soccer," coach Gene Fogel said. "The Chiefs are definitely a super team, and our kids just played the best game of their lives."

"The kids were keyed up for the game and just played their hearts and souls out."

Though Canton tended to dominate the action by keeping the ball in the Mercy end of the field, the Marlins, who have made strong defenses their trademark, continuously cleared the ball and denied the Chiefs.

The Marlins led 1-0 at halftime following a goal by Colleen Rafferty. Stacy Nott's corner kick traveled to the near post where Dana Lehnkuhl flipped the ball back to the hard-charging Rafferty, who directed the ball to the far side of the net.

Lehnkuhl scored Mercy's second goal with 10 minutes remaining. Rafferty took a centering pass from the right wing and dropped the ball over to Lehnkuhl on the other side, giving her the right angle from a distance of eight yards.

Kelly Beaudry spent the first half in goal for the Marlins, making a fine save on a Canton breakthrough. The ball bounced off her, and a defender was able to clear it.

Fogel continued to alternate his goalies, and freshman Renee Larabell was equal to the task in the second half. She tipped a couple shots over the crossbar and made several diving saves.

"(Canton) started like a house afire in the second half," said Fogel.

"It was a miserable day to play, and (the weather) hampered everyone's performance." North coach Matt Davis said. "It reduced the level of play, but we prevailed against the elements and the other team."

"That is probably the biggest victory in five years of Mercy soccer. (The Chiefs) are definitely a super team, and our kids just played the best game of their lives."

— Gene Fogel
Mercy soccer coach

of the offensive pressure the Chiefs applied. "They attacked us for about 10 minutes before we could settle down."

The unranked Marlins, who lost their first two games before starting their current hot streak, attempted 22 shots to Canton's 31. The Chiefs, ranked No. 2 in the state last week, slipped to 6-2 overall.

"Some wins were against weaker teams, but nobody can deny Canton is a super, super team," Fogel said.

"The win, to me, proves my feeling that on any given day there are about 15 teams in the state that can beat anybody. The difference between being one of the top teams and an also-ran is maintaining consistency."

N. FARMINGTON 1, HARRISON 0: Beth Chrisco's first goal of the season was the difference in this intra-city rivalry Wednesday.

She broke the scoreless deadlock midway through the second half with a crossing shot from 10 yards out.

North goalkeeper Leanne Adle got her second shutout of the season. The Raiders, 2-5 overall, had 10 shots on goal.

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