

Falcons hopeful despite low numbers

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

The Farmington High football team ended practice Monday with a series of sprints, and one of the fastest guys was Rick Milhizer.

Unfortunately, he's the coach. Milhizer, in his second year, runs sprints as often as possible with his players at practice. Monday, the temperature reached the low 80s, and there was Milhizer, dressed in shorts and a T-shirt, keeping up with the rest of the team.

"I figure we're not asking them to do anything a 30-year-old man can't do," said Milhizer, who could run a 4.7 40-yard dash in his playing days at Michigan State. "Unfortunately, I can still beat some of our guys."

HE'S AN inspiration to the players, senior quarterback Chris Schmid said. "It makes us work a little harder," Schmid said. "He's real dedicated to the program and deserves more credit than he gets. Our record didn't show it, but he puts a lot more time into it."

The Falcons last year had trouble keeping up with the rest of the Western Lakes Activities Association and were winless in nine games.

Milhizer has a better outlook this fall for his alma mater, although he wishes he had more players to count on. Twenty players came out to Monday's afternoon workout, and Milhizer said he isn't expecting to dress

Team tries to rebound from winless campaign

more than 25 for the season opener next Friday night at West Bloomfield.

Farmington will compete in a four-team scrimmage today at 4 p.m. at Novi High School.

"IT'S RIDICULOUS to have 25 out for a team," Milhizer said. "When I was here, we had 40 to 45, and that gives you so much more flexibility. I've got a lot more players with experience coming back, but I thought we'd have more total numbers."

"The players are starting to understand what it takes to be a winner. Being a winner isn't just winning on game day. It's being a winner all the time. The little things are important, but we're still hurt by numbers."

Because of the low turnout, most of the Falcons will play both ways. Leading the Farmington pro-set offense is Schmid. He played wide receiver the first six games of 1988 before starting the final three games at quarterback.

He also will line up in the Falcons' secondary.

"The best thing about him is he's real competitive," Milhizer said. "He's a good leader, and he's got to set the tempo and keep his head

wasn't good.

LEADING THE list of returnees is senior tackle Derek Mehreban, a 6-4, 235-pounder. Ron Caramagno (5-11, 180) will line up at the other tackle, and the guards are senior Benny Hannah (5-7, 165) and junior Brad Smith (5-8, 160) — are a little on the small side. The center is Junior Steve Walter.

Milhizer would like to see more holes opened by Mehreban, and the V-LAA's bigger players.

"He is working harder and has a little more tenacity," Milhizer said. "With his size, he should be able to blow out the line of scrimmage. He's got to get meaner. Last year he was too nice."

"That's where games are won and lost — on the line. Last year we lost the battle on the line, and we've got to control the line of scrimmage."

Mehreban and Caramagno will be the defensive ends, and Hannah and Smith are the defensive tackles in Farmington's 4-3 defense.

Walter will be the other linebacker, and Schmid, Miller, Economy and Viechlo comprise the secondary.

The placekicking and punting duties belong to Eric Meyer, who doubles as a soccer player in the fall. Meyer made a 43-yard field goal last fall against Westland John Glenn, but it was nullified because of an off-side penalty.

The play typified the kind of season Farmington endured and hopes to change this year.

when things get down."

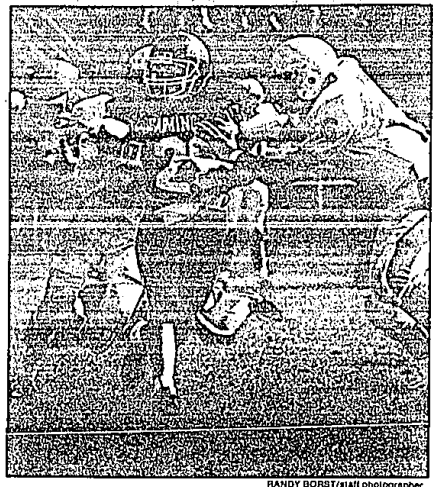
RETURNING AT flanker is senior Brian Viechlo, who runs a 4.9 in the 40. Senior J.J. Coyte and Junior Tom Economy are other receiver candidates. Eric Miller (5-11, 170), who quarterbacked the Falcons the first six games of '88, has been impressive in the preseason as a tight end and defensive back, Milhizer said.

"It wasn't easy for (Miller)," Milhizer said. "He didn't get much help and took a lot of heat last year. He's really matured and gives everything he's got as a player."

The tailback is senior Dave Winey, who last year gained about 350 yards in a starting role. Winey, who can beat Milhizer in a race, also is the Falcons' middle linebacker and will get help from fullback Matt Siskoski, who started last year as a freshman.

On the first play from scrimmage Friday in a Blue-White intrasquad game, Winey raced 80 yards for a touchdown "and that was a good sign," Milhizer said. "I look for a big year from Dave. I want to mix it up, but I'd like to give him the ball 20 times a game."

Farmington's running game, however, will be only as good as its offensive line play and last year it



Chris Schmid pitches the football under pressure from Plymouth Salom's Brian Burlison last fall. Schmid returns to quarterback the Farmington team in his senior year.

Defense asset for Farmington soccer

By Dan O'Moara
staff writer

Soccer opponents should expect to work extra hard if they hope to score on Farmington's team this year.

The Falcons return their entire defense, a pair of veteran goalkeepers from a team that was 11-5-1.

The all-senior unit is spearheaded by Mike Waker, who earned all-league recognition last year, and includes Scott Gibson, Mike Popyk and Brian Purdom.

In addition to the senior defenders, juniors Steve Heakl and Brian Yoder, both of whom played JV soccer last year, will supply depth on defense.

"We have a strong defense, so hopefully we can keep the ball out of our defensive third," coach Cathy Cole said, "and have positive transition to work with our offense."

SENIOR MIKE Sheehy, who will serve as tri-captain with Waker and Matt Giese, also received post-season honors in the Western Lakes Activities Association, but he split time in goal with senior Greg Bjedov.

"I'd say we have the two best keepers (in the area)," Cole said. "We had less than 20 goals scored against us. They're tough.

"To be blessed with two good goalkeepers, a team can do well.

"Sheehy has a bit of an edge," she added. "He's quicker and has more experience in terms of club soccer. Greg has great size and good hands, and he has the ability to do just as well."

The Falcons, however, were hit hard by graduation at midfield, losing Pete Frauenheim, Scott Seabolt and Scott Phillips.

Farmington returns Giese in a starting role, and Cole, who employs a 4-2 system, has moved senior Mike Gammerrath to midfield from a forward position to fill the gaps.

SENIOR PETE Elmgrabl gained starting experience late last season, and juniors Scott Dolash and Rob Cook will play a lot at the midfield positions.

"Gammerrath has a lot of ball control and, for the system we'll be using, he'll be very effective there," Cole said.

"The guys have the ability to play as defenders as needed and make as quick a transition as possible to support the offense," Cole said. "All of them have good ball control and are in good shape."

No matter how good the defense is, the Falcons will

have to score some goals to make it pay off. Cole can live with low-scoring games.

"I can take a 1-0 win," she said. "That's all right with me."

Senior Chris Johnston brings back starting experience at forward, and either senior Tim Shelton or senior Gary Kurzer will take the graduated Joe Crow's place at the other forward.

Cole also has hopes for freshman Mike Giese, who has attained all-regional honors in his age group while playing club soccer. Juniors Eric Meyers and Chris Grossman, both of whom can play forward or midfield, round out the squad.

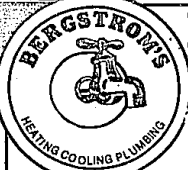
COLE COACHED the No. 1-ranked Farmington girls team to within one game of the Class A championship last spring, and she'd like to see the same kind of success come to the boys team.

"I'd like to look at them as being one program — all part of Farmington soccer," Cole said. "Hopefully, one would have some bearing toward the other, meaning support."

"We have the potential to do as well as we want. If everybody stays healthy, we should have a fine, fun season."

The Falcons get started at 7 p.m. next Wednesday with an away game at West Bloomfield.

◎ Your hometown voice ◎ Your hometown voice ◎ Your hometown



BERGSTROM'S
HEATING COOLING PLUMBING

BERGSTROM'S
INSTALLATION
SPECIALS
FREE IN HOME
ESTIMATES!!!

25425 W. FIVE MILE
REDFORD
TWP.
532-2160
OR
532-5646

Carrier
HIGH EFFICIENCY
BOILER

Model 61AW075
75,000 BTU
STARTING AT
\$1699⁹⁵

- Available Electronic Ignition
- Heavy Duty Cast Iron Boiler Section
- No Scheduled Maintenance Required

Carrier
THE WEATHERMAKER® SX
GAS FURNACE

- Super Low Operating Costs.
- Lifetime Limited Warranty on the Heat Exchanger.
- Top Quality Throughout.

STARTING AT
\$1695⁰⁰
PLUS TAX AND PERMIT 68SX040

Carrier
We aren't comfortable until you are.

Carrier
ELECTRONIC
AIR CLEANER

Removes up to 98% of Pollutants
INSTALLED FOR ONLY
SAVE \$140
\$549⁹⁵
Reg. \$690

Carrier
THE NEW CRUSADER
HIGH EFFICIENCY
FURNACE

INSTALLATION SPECIAL!
STARTING AT
\$1349⁹⁵
PLUS PERMITS AND SALES TAX

Carrier
WATER SAVER
POWER
HUMIDIFIER

- Up to 19 gal. per day
- INSTALLED FOR ONLY

\$209⁹⁵
SAVE \$40.00

Carrier
MEDIA STYLE
AIR CLEANER

INSTALLED FOR ONLY
\$289⁹⁵
Reg. \$359.95
SAVE \$70.00

Carrier
WATERFALL STYLE
HUMIDIFIER

- Up to 16 gal. per day
- INSTALLED FOR ONLY

\$199⁹⁵
SAVE \$45.00

Carrier
SCRATCH
AND DENT
INSTALLATION SPECIAL!

STARTING AT
\$799⁹⁵
PLUS PERMITS + SALES TAX

SALEM
ARMSTRONG

30650 plymouth road
Livonia
422-1000

"home of old-fashioned service"

decorate and insulate!
with Armstrong high-performance

Fiberglass
Ceiling
Panels

407 sandstone 2x4' 408 captured 2x4'

Armstrong **\$3⁹⁹** per panel

Summer Time Values

2" x 2" @ 72¢

2" x 6" @ \$2³⁰

2" x 8" @ \$3³⁰

6 ft. lengths

#2 or better dry pine

2" x 10" @ \$4⁹⁰

2" x 12" @ \$6⁹⁰

select your own from our In-store stock
*also available in select grade at higher price

recent shipment

1/2" x 6"
dry white woods

6 ft. @ \$2⁴⁰

8 ft. @ \$3²⁰

mostly 8 ft. lengths

pick your own from our in store racks all priced in \$ and c's

Promontory®
oak railing

It's as easy as 1-2-3!

\$24⁰⁷ lin. ft.

Includes balusters and railings, newel post extra.

Enjoy the beauty of a real wood stair rail in your home. Promontory is "do-it-yourself" easy because only Promontory can be installed without cutting balusters or spacer pieces.

PINE MILL® PANELING

4' x 8' x 1/4"

etched groove choice of:

- cream
- tan
- grey

\$13⁴⁹ sheet

A grade all in stock

national pride

self storing aluminum combination door
your choice
30" 32" 36"

mill finish \$97⁸⁸

white \$107⁸⁸

prehung right or left

store and shed hours
monday thru friday 8 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.
saturday 8 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.
sunday 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

prices effective thru sept. 6, 1989