

Taylor gets womens cage job

By C.J. Blask
Staff writer

The deadline Oakland University athletic director Paul Hartman set for himself to hire a new women's basketball coach was met when Bob Taylor was selected.

While filling the position before yesterday's high school signing date was important, it wasn't nearly as impressive as the man Hartman hired.

Taylor comes to OU after building an NCAA Division II power in just three seasons at Lake Superior State. The Lakers were 24-5 last season and finished second to Saginaw Valley State in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) with a 4-2 mark.

LSS was the only team to beat the three-time champions, dumping SVSC 78-77. In three seasons at the Lakers helm, Taylor compiled a 52-32 overall record.

Had he opted to remain at LSS, that mark no doubt would have been even better. All 11 of his players from last season's seventh-ranked team return next year, and nine of the 11 will be back in 1987-88.

STILL, THE 29-YEAR-OLD native of Sparta chose to leave OU to coach a team that was 13-15 last season, with only a 4-12 GLIAC mark.

"It kept coming back to where I want to be five years from now," Taylor said. "I have a chance to get my master's degree. I have a chance to build a solid program, and I can be in a metro area."

The last two factors weighed heavily in Taylor's decision. At LSS he had eight scholarships available; at OU he'll have 10, with a possible increase soon. Because of the shortage of scholarships and a team without seniors (and only two juniors), Taylor did not recruit at LSS this year.

Taylor was also well aware of the difficulty in attracting players from a metro area to Sault St. Marie. That problem should be eradicated at OU.

But perhaps the overwhelming factor for Taylor's switch was his reason for Taylor's switch was his job; at OU, he'll coach basketball. At LSS, he also coached men's and women's tennis, was the assistant building and taught classes.

"That was a big factor," he admitted. "When you coach men's and women's tennis and manage a building, you find yourself stealing time from one job to do another."

"I liked tennis too much not to devote the time to it to do a good job. And when you're coaching three sports, the travel can get really tiring."

WHOEVER SUCCEEDS Taylor

OU sports

at LSS will be stepping into a strong situation. That won't be the case for Taylor. OU graduated just two players, but the Lady Pioneers lack depth at guard and overall quickness.

"I really don't know anything about the team," admitted Taylor, who coached the Lakers to two wins over OU last season. "As a coach, I always try to zero in on what we do best, to concentrate on that instead of what the other team does. I played 5-9 players in the past. You could ask, 'Who are they going to guard?' I say who's going to guard them."

Taylor's teams won with quickness and athletic ability. That's what he plans to bring to OU.

"My goal is to get athletes who can run, jump and shoot," he said. "I've always told them, if you can do that, I can teach you to do the rest."

Taylor likes his teams to "beat them in transition. I like to get the ball up and down the court, and I like to play pressure defense."

HE ADDED that the Lady Pioneer team he inherits might not fit

that mold, but his future recruits would.

Taylor takes over for Sue Kruszewski (42-40 in three seasons at OU), who resigned March 4 to pursue a job outside of coaching. The nucleus he will work with includes the squad's top scorers, sophomore guards Sarah Knuth and Margaret Boyle.

Kruszewski also played during the November signing period; Audra Craig of Flint Northern and Dobby Delle of Warren Cousino. According to Taylor, indications were both were still excited about attending OU.

Taylor was an all-state basketball player in high school at Sparta, a suburb of Grand Rapids. After graduating in 1975, he attended Grand Rapids Junior College. He got a scholarship to Arkansas Tech, where he played both tennis and basketball. Taylor earned his bachelor of science degree in 1980.

He spent the last four years at LSS, the first as an assistant men's basketball coach. Taylor assumed the top job in the women's program the following season but continued as assistant men's coach as well.

Forty applications were received for the vacant position. The field was narrowed to four finalists, all interviewed by Hartman. Taylor was the only in-state candidate.

tennis

REDFORD UNION 4
REDFORD THURSTON 3
Monday at Thurston

No. 1 singles: Phil Doonan (RT) def. Todd Mielke 6-3, 7-6.
No. 2: Dan Snyder (RT) def. Brian McGrath 3-0, 6-4, 6-3.
No. 3: Dave Kopf (RT) def. Jerry Burdack 0-1, 6-1.
No. 4: Scott Czerniewski (RU) def. Dan Hanovsky 7-5, 7-6.
No. 1 doubles: Ed Williams-Todd Bayne (RU) def. Jim Man-Bob Grayson 6-3, 6-3.
No. 2: Dave Brackenkage-Jay Wilcox (RU) def. Larry Grube-Gary Glass 6-4, 6-6.
No. 3: Scott Burnham-Mike Hiss (RU) def. Mike Jensen-Scott Lindberg 6-2, 6-0.
Dual meet records: Redford Union, 1-0; Thurston, 0-1.

SOUTHFIELD-LATHRUP 7
NORTH FARMINGTON 0
Tuesday at Lathrup

No. 1 singles: Eric Kovan (SL) def. Josh Holman 6-1, 6-1.
No. 2: Eric LeKosky (SL) def. Jason West 6-4, 5-7, 6-3.
No. 3: Gary Fields (SL) def. Jeff Selman 6-2, 6-2.
No. 4: Dan McColl (SL) def. Jim Ragland 6-1, 6-2.
No. 1 doubles: Steven Weingerden-Mike Weingerden (SL) def. Brian Selman-Alex Sienkowski 6-4, 6-2.
No. 2: Kelly Gray-Jim Walsh (SL) def. Sanjay Ghosh-Scott Johnson 7-6, 6-4.
No. 3: Jim Scherer-Howard Cutler (SL) def. Tim McMillan-Tom Tusok 6-4, 6-1.
Dual meet records: Lathrup, 1-0; North, 0-1.

SOUTHFIELD 5
FARMINGTON 2
Tuesday at Southfield

No. 1 singles: Jon Coden (SF) def. Scott Mazy 6-1, 6-2.
No. 2: Chris Meeno (SF) def. Dave Graham 6-4, 6-0.
No. 3: Alex August (SF) def. Eric Pavlik 6-4, 6-1.
No. 4: Mark Boggs (SF) def. Chris Cahill 6-7, 5, 6-2.
No. 1 doubles: Dave Goodman-Dyan Kryger (F) def. Steve Bourberg-Mark Hogg 7-5, 6-2.
No. 2: Pete McCrooy-Aaron Targemant (SF) def. Dave Anderson-Scott Sheehy 6-4, 6-1.
No. 3: Chris Haus-Michael Kryger (F) def. Rich Harrell-Ted Ebyewski 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Dual meet records: Southfield, 1-0; Farmington, 0-1.

FARMINGTON HARRISON 7
WATERFORD MOTT 0
Tuesday at Mott

No. 1 singles: Ken Davidson (FH) def. Eric Berglund 6-1, 6-1.
No. 2: Mark Rakoczy (FH) def. Paul Hart 6-1, 6-0.
No. 3: Bal Brockhaus (FH) def. Rich Schet 6-2, 7-6.
No. 4: David Jaffe (FH) def. Yong Cho 6-0, 6-0.
No. 1 doubles: Rick Brockhaus-Brian Frederick (FH) def. Kirk Lamb-Van Dusen 6-0, 6-0.
No. 2: Jeff Levin-Aaron Tam (FH) def. Shaw Cassidy-Dan Kim 6-0, 6-1.
No. 3: David Levin-Scott Farabee (FH) def. Keith Hill-Jim Sparo 6-4, 6-1.
Dual meet records: Harrison, 1-0; Mott, 0-1.

Henry takes Borgess helm

By Brad Emons
Staff writer

Dan Henry was so excited about being named the head football coach at Bishop Borgess High School that he almost cancelled his family vacation last week.

"I didn't want to go to Florida," he said. "I wanted to get going right away. There's work to be done."

Henry, a physical education teacher in the Wayne-Westland Schools, was hired March 28 by Borgess High principal Dr. Don Bradley after being interviewed by the school's athletic director and former head coach Fred Mushinski.

Mushinski and Henry worked to-

gether on Gary Humphrey's staff at Garden City High in 1983.

"Fred will be coaching my defense," Henry said. "He's a good coach and he's going to have a lot of responsibility. When Fred got the AD's job, I really went after it. We've kept in close contact over the years."

Henry has held a variety of football and basketball coaching positions around the area.

HE SERVED as a football assistant at Dearborn Divine Child, Westland John Glenn and Wayne Memorial, where he was JV coach last season.

In basketball, Henry led John Glenn to a district and league cham-

plionship in 1981. Last season he served as JV basketball coach at Wayne High, where his brother Chuck, has built a successful varsity program. (To devote full-time to the Borgess job, Henry will not return as Wayne's JV basketball coach.)

A native of Riverview, Henry got recommendations for the Borgess job from University of Colorado head coach Bill McCartney, University of Missouri head coach Woody Widener along with University of Michigan assistant and former Glenn coach Lloyd Carr.

"I liked his real eagerness and the way Dan motivates kids," said Mushinski. "He has a sound working knowledge of the game. He's a guy who instills pride, discipline and a sense of achievement."

The fiery Henry is replacing Gary Cook, who posted a 22-32 overall

record in six seasons at Borgess. Last year the Spartans finished 2-7.

HENRY REALIZES he has been thrust into a tough assignment. Borgess has never finished first in one of the state's most rugged conferences, the Catholic League's Central Division, which includes three-time state Class A champion Birmingham Brother Rice and 1979 state champion and neighbor Redford Catholic Central.

"We're going to go all out in the off-season," Henry said. "It's going to have to be a 100 percent commitment from the coaches and the players."

"We're in the toughest division. The first thing we've got to do is get good linemen. We have the skill position players, but we have to get competitive linemen."

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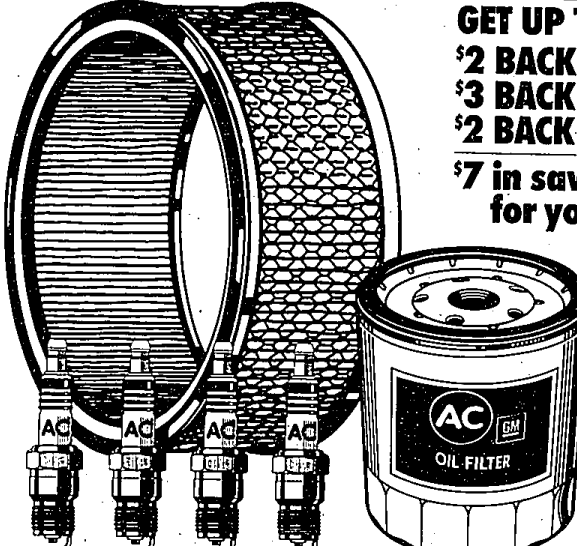
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