

Mercy wins tourney trophy, but stumbles in dual defeat

Farmington Hills Mercy suffered a major breakdown on the court Thursday as Birmingham Marian handed the host Marlin a stunning defeat, 15-2, 16-2.

"We absolutely didn't play the girls' know it," Mercy coach Ed Moeller said. "We literally gave them no competition."

The Marlin fall to 2-3 in the Catholic League Central Division and 3-4 in all dual matches.

Mercy is 24-10 overall after winning the Silver Bracket in the East Kentwood Invitational Saturday.

The Marlin started in pool play losing to Portage Northern (8-16, 5-15) and defeating Muskegon Heights (11-12, 7-10).

In power-pool play, Mercy lost to Zeeland (1-16, 9-15) and Kalamazoo Central (16-8, 7-16, 7-16).

The Marlin determined which teams went into the Gold or Silver brackets.

In the Silver playoffs, the Marlin won quarterfinal, semifinal and final matches over Lansing Beeton (15-0, 15-1), Spring Lake (10-14, 15-1) and Grand Rapids South Christian (15-9, 15-13), respectively.

Mercy rallied from a 12-6 deficit to win the second game against South Christian.

Schoolcraft tourney
East Kentwood, ranked No.

Grid recruits from page C1

the previous spring, but he hurt it again when he went up for a pass and the opposing player landed on the ball.

"It was pretty disappointing, because you can't show your full ability when you're injured most of the year," Milus said. "Maybe some colleges do stay away from that, but I kinda thought I'd get something from either a Division I or II."

"Both (injuries) have cleared up now. They're looking for a backup long snapper, so I might be able to travel with the team my freshman year."

Milus played tight end and defensive end at Farmington.

W.MU plans to put him at tackle or down end in its 4-3 defense. Offensive tackle, which Milus played as a sophomore, is a possibility, too.

"He's going to be up to 280 or 290 with that frame," Bechtel said. "With his ability to run, he's going to get in quarterback's faces, and that's what they're looking for."

Milus also wanted Milus, who received a recruiting pitch from Ferris State, Saginaw Valley and Grand Valley, too.

"If I wasn't going to play football or basketball, I was going there (W.MU) for school," Milus said. "I've been up there a couple times, and I like the whole atmosphere there."

Compared with Central and Eastern, it seems (W.MU) is heading up the right way. They had a great season, coach (Gary) Darnell seems to win wherever he goes."

Brinsden starred at outside linebacker for the Falcons and anchored the other side of the defensive line opposite Milus.



Kevin Woods
Northern Illinois



Justin Milus
Western Michigan



Brian Brinsden
Ferris State

at our school for the last five or six years, and he was real happy to get one of our players," Herington said.

"They think Kevin has potential with his speed and strength to be a good runner in the MAC. It'll be a challenge for him, because they have excellent backs in that league."

Woods' roommate will be Orchard Lake St. Mary's receiver David McDermott, another freshman recruit whom Woods has known since grade school.

The Huskies recruited two other running backs from Illinois, but Woods said he was told he'll remain a tailback and will return punts, too.

"They said they have two ahead of me who might not make it academically," Woods said. "They have two seniors who take most of the snaps, and they're going to graduate."

"They'll probably redshirt me. They just give me an extra year to get ready."

Harrison's Nick Hall (6-2, 200), an All-Observer defensive back, will attend Central Michigan as a preferred walk-on.

"He wants to go to school there," Herington said. "He wants to play Division I, and he figures that's his best chance. They were very interested in him, and I think they'll give him a good shot as a walk-on."

Herington thinks Hall, like Milus, could be a sleeper in this year's recruiting class.

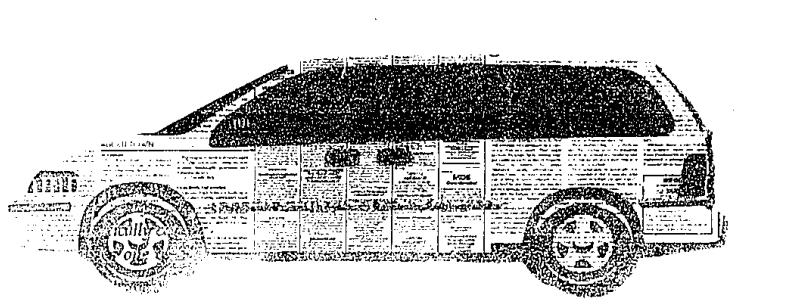
"Once they get him up there and see how fast he is, he'll have a good chance of making it and getting a scholarship his sophomore year," Herington said.

Harrison's Brad Person has received a partial scholarship to Michigan Tech, which plans to make him a defensive end.

Kent Taylor, an All-Observer defensive tackle and fullback for Harrison, has partial offers from Ferris State and Michigan Tech and will decide between the two.

Harrison linebacker Ryan Lukas will attend Ferris State as a preferred walk-on. Lukas and Person were second-team, all-area players.

Farmington's Grant Weber, the All-Observer quarterback, is going to the University of Michigan and will concentrate on his studies.



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