



Charlie Paige_____

Charlie Paige came to Harbor Springs straight out of Eastern Michigan University back in 1956. In his first season as head coach, the Rams were 10-7. His second year, 1956-57, was so-so until the Rams caught fire at tournament time. Pulling upset after upset the team captured the interest of Northern Michigan, advancing all the way to the Class C semifinals before bowing out with a 16-6 record.

From 1963 to 1971, his teams won four district crowns and two regionals but it was 1973 when the Rams really kicked into high gear. The 1973 team went 18-3 but was knocked off in the district opener.

1974 and 1976 were both 26-1 seasons ending in the Class D State Finals. In 1977 and 1978, Harbor put together back-to-back 24-2 seasons and in each case, lost in the state semifinals.

Before it was all over, Paige coached teams from 1974 through 1983 had won 10 straight districts and six regionals, including five in a row. Paige retired from coaching after the 1983 season with a 401-168 career record.

Paige, who taught physical education, ended his 30-year teaching career in 1986. Now, at 63, he spends most of his time doing the things he likes best, hunting, fishing and golfing. Paige and his wife Nancy, a Harbor Springs teacher, reside just outside of town with their son, Garrett. Paige has two older children, Charles and Jerri, who are married.