

Harrison's Coach Herrington named a "Michiganian of the Year" by *The Detroit News*

Farmington, Michigan — Recently, John Herrington, head football coach at Harrison High School, was named one of the Michiganians of the Year by *The Detroit News*. It is a fitting accolade for someone who has been inspiring and motivating the people around him, both on and off the field, for nearly half a century.

As Mr. Herrington anticipates his 50th year on the football field, he remembers always being associated with sports. While attending Central Michigan University, he was involved in athletics and thought about becoming a sportswriter. Nearly 50 years later, nationally ranked among the Top 10 of active coaches, Herrington has been interviewed by nearly every sportswriter in the state. With 376 wins, he's second in the state in career victories.

Throughout his career, Coach Herrington has mentored players that have gone on to become All-State, and even NFL pros like Drew Stanton. But what he enjoys most is when his former players stop by to say hello, work out in the weight room, or take part as a volunteer coach.

This season represents Herrington's 42nd year as Harrison High School's only head coach, in the school's history. But as distinguished as he is on the football field, his influence doesn't end there. As a teacher, Herrington's been educating students in social studies and history for 49 years, with a particular interest in the Civil War . "It keeps me young," Herrington said of his long tenure. "I enjoy it."

Doing what he enjoys, and feeling young in the process explains why, for John Herrington, any retirement plans remain a long way off.