



SD of L's Athletic Program Largely in Disarray

Many of us can recall times when McCaskey High School was a strong contender in county and state-wide sports. But not now.

During last season, the boys' soccer team went 1 and 17 while the girls were 6 and 10 with 2 ties.

Girls' volleyball was 3 and 14. Girls' tennis was 1 and 13. Girls' field hockey was 2 and 16.

Boys' baseball 4 and 16. Girls' softball 5 and 14.

Boys' swimming was 1 and 10; girls', 0 and 11!

McCaskey was barely competitive in football (3 and 7) and wrestling (5 and 8).

The scant good news is that McCaskey continues to excel in boys' and girls' basketball with 22 and 5 and 17 and 11 win / loss records respectively during this past winter. Students also did well in boys' track with a record of 8 and 1 and in cross country with boys 13 and 8 and girls 10 and 11.

Observers of middle school soccer have noted the lack of drills and the almost total reliance on scrimmaging. Spectators commented that the players were taught no skills and simply practiced their mistakes. They also noted that players were not required to sprint and run sufficiently to build speed and endurance.

Moreover, a failure to post the starting date for soccer practice on the McCaskey web site prevented most of the youngsters from attending practice until

school started.

It is not enough for coaches to be well-meaning and to have been good players. They need to be versed in teaching skills and fostering team play.

And player recruitment and good teaching must start at the middle school level. Also the fundamentals of sports need to be taught in gym classes to prepare students to join a team.

Since Athletic Director Allen W. McCloud is in charge of teams throughout the entire system, all of this should be achievable.

McCaskey soccer boosters funded a Saturday session whereby several soccer coaches from the School District of Lancaster attended a clinic by One-on-One Soccer (www.OneOnOneSoccer.com). However, an offer by the boosters to have One-on-One provide additional training sessions for coaches and assistance at school practices was turned down.

Sadly, many talented athletes are declining to return to teams that consistently lose, thus depriving the youngsters of an opportunity for school sports and depriving the teams of their talents.

Inner-city youngsters have enough problems with self-esteem without belonging to teams that continually lose. The school district owes more to its youngsters than 1 and 17 and 1 and 13 records.

It isn't the kids. It's the poor athletic program!

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Lancaster Post Well Received

Although there exists no common ownership, *NewsLanc* “paper boys” handed out the *Lancaster Post* with a *NewsLanc* newsletter insert at the Central Market on Saturday morning.

Response was very gratifying, as six hundred copies were quickly distributed.

A few asked why *NewsLanc* was helping to distribute the *Post*. The answer: *Lancaster desperately needs competition in news reporting and commentary. The more, the better!*

Hopefully *Post* readers will encourage merchants to permit the free distribution of the *Post* on their premises.

Commissioners should junk electronic voting machines

The following is excerpted from www.BlackBoxVoting.org:

“The entire premise of technology-based elections is based on support for the ‘verifiable voting’ concept. But before designing technology for elections, we must first determine how it will empower citizen controls, enabling the counting of votes in public rather than counting them in secret.

“In addition to hiding the counting of votes from public view, computer-counted elections hide the chain of custody of the vote data. Citizens are never

allowed to view the original input in order to compare it to the output, and are relegated to trusting circumstantial evidence controlled by insiders. Such a system is, in fact, a transfer of power...”

The County Commissioners should junk the “bargain” used electronic voting machines lacking verifiable paper trails that their predecessors foolishly purchased. So long as some of those machines are present at the polling places, the public cannot be assured of an accurate count and a fair election.

LETTER: Commissioner Martin Running the Show

It is so very evident that Scott Martin is running the show using Dennis Stuckey as the front.

Craig Lehman enjoys being the martyr so to speak.

All three answered yes when asked if Dale

High contributed to their campaign. Scott Martin has his sights on Senator Rick Santorum’s former U. S. Senate seat.

Martin was the ring leader for getting rid of Mark Esterbrook. I will bet the house on that as well!

WATCHDOG

The *Sunday News* reported on April 20, “[*Manheim*] township said High must pay for about \$27 million worth of traffic improvements at Harrisburg Pike and Route 30. High is eyeing government sources for most of the cost.”

More accurately, The High Group is eyeing taxpayers for most of the cost. High makes a specialty of funding its projects at public expense.