

THE WASHINGTON GO COACH

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTON STATE COACHES ASSOCIATION

Congratulations Spring 2002 Champions!

Baseball:

4A - Woodinville
2A- Ridgefield
B- DeSales

3A - North Thurston
1A- Colfax

Boys Track:

4A- Mead
2A- Mount Baker
B- Willapa Valley

3A- Yelm
1A- Tacoma Baptist

Boys Golf:

4A- Auburn-Riverside
2A- Cascade (Leavenworth)
1A- Royal

3A- Lakeside (Seattle)
B- Ritzville

Girls Track:

4A- Snohomish
2A- Mount Baker
B- Riverside Christian

3A- Eastmont
1A- King's

Girls Golf:

4A- Gonzaga Prep
2A- Steilacoom

3A- Bellingham
1A/B- Overlake

Boys Tennis:

4A- Richland
2A- Cashmere

3A- Seattle Prep and
Lakeside (Seattle)
1A/B: St. George's and
Cascade Chr.

Boys Soccer:

4A- Decatur
2A- Connell

3A- Sehome

Girls Tennis:

4A- Southridge
2A- South Whidbey

3A- Mercer Island
1A/B: Brewster

Softball:

4A- Kentridge
2A- Othello
B- Mossyrock

3A- Camas
1A- Adna
SP- Touchet

Have A Great Summer!





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PREP SPORTS

Cliff Gilies
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All-State Girls' Basketball

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From The President

June 2002

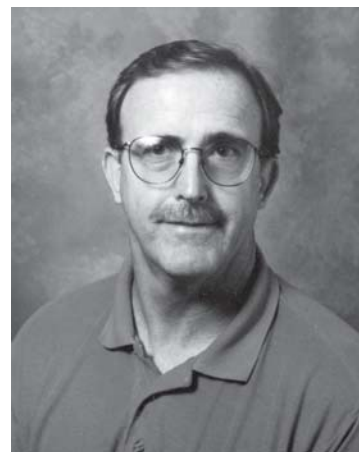
WSCA Members:

As the school year ends and the spring sports tournaments are finalized, we either begin to prepare for next year or seek to find time away. Which ever we choose, there is one thing that makes us do what we do—dreaming. Dreams might be visions, goals, or other grown-up terms that we use. These terms help us to direct ourselves. We as adults don't like to refer to these terms as dreams, but that is really what they are.

We have been dreaming for years—the perfect date; the ideal car; the undefeated season; the perfect coaching position. The list goes on and on. Without these thoughts of hopes and anticipation, we would not be able to make progress through the daily trenches of reality. Do we do what we do just for the trophy, or do we do what we do because of the excitement of a dream being fulfilled?

A dream is an unbelievable gift that we have as human beings. We have the ability to fantasize, theorize and imagine issues and events that we have never experienced or maybe never will. Do we see these dreams fulfilled? Probably not. Does this mean we stop dreaming? I certainly hope not!

Our athletes need to dream. There needs to be a time when they fantasize about making the winning basket, or being the starting QB. Our athletes need a chance to get away from the reality of playing games and practicing year round. Reality sets in, and this hard work and constant pressure to be at their best makes them callused and tired. The more they are criticized and they experience failure, the more their dreams are shattered. Young people need more role models, not more critics. So, when kids say they are going to do something great next year for the school or team, don't tell them to stop dreaming and to work harder. Let them relax. Let them dream. Dreaming is the reason why they show up everyday and dreaming is the reason why they will work hard. They want to accomplish their dreams. They are dreaming just like you.



Relax! Enjoy the “Great Northwest” this summer and do some good ole’ **“daydreaming”**.

Jim DeBord, WSCA President

FROM THE SIDELINES

by Jerry Parrish



From The Sidelines

Web Site

I would like to encourage all WSCA members to check out our new web site. The correct address is www.washcoach.com

The site has been revised through the efforts of Chris Franklin, ACT, at North Kitsap High School, and in conjunction with President Jim DeBord. Chris has taken the page and updated content, made content more assessable, made contact via email addresses, the entire WSCA membership listed by school, plus application for membership, a rotating message board, plus who to contact if interested in a particular sport group. New site was up and running on or about April 10th. Any questions about putting an announcement on the web page give me a call. (1-800-441-7776).

Insurance Report

The WSCA secretary was investigating options for insurance coverage and made a report to the WSCA Executive Board. After careful consideration of the options presented, the Executive Board voted unanimously to stay with the National Federation. WSCA is looking for the best coverage possible and at this time the National Federation is our best associate. Since this decision other information has been discovered that caused this board decision to be a good choice.

Orchids and Onions

It might be time for an identification of Orchids and Onions. An Orchid is something that smells good, is beautiful and usually identifies something well done. Onions are smelly, tough to handle, and often times unwelcome. Using these guidelines may better help you understand the aim of the column.

Orchids

- To our state's athletic directors for having a fine conference in Spokane in April. Director's Greg Hart, Mt Si AD, and Steve Bride, Elma AD, did a great job with a lot of help from other athletic administrations.
- To certified athletic trainers who spend countless hours preventing and correctly rehabilitating injured athletes and getting them

back to playing time in as short a time as possible.

- To the WIAA web site where one can easily read the WIAA Executive Board minutes and all other important announcements for coaches and their athletes.
- To the "die hard" fans of track and field that help put on track meets through good and bad weather without even a thought of compensation. A small group of dedicated fans of JH/HS student athletes.
- To Puyallup School District Athletic Administrators and coaches for sharing a very good coaches association contractual agreement they have with their school district—very professional.
- To teachers in small schools that buy their gas/groceries/supplies from the town that is supporting their job
- To administrators that still know the meaning of "supervision"
- To the teachers/administrators/staff members that continually step up to the plate to donate their time to supervising and supporting student/athletes of their schools and their activities. In particular those coaches and teachers who stay and support band/choral/drama even after a three-hour practice.

Onions

- To athletes and fans who do not treat opponents with respect and dignity.
- To the "so-called" scouts and agents who tell high school athletes that they can guarantee our athletes a scholarship.
- To athletes who are not coachable. Accept coaching as a way to improve. Don't dwell on criticism. Instead focus your attention on improving your performance.

WASHINGTON STATE COACHES ASSOCIATION



2002 – 2003 Membership Application *And Take Advantage of the Benefits*

Date _____
Name _____
Home Address _____ Address Change
City, State, Zip _____
Home Phone _____
Email Address _____
School Where Coaching _____
School Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
School Phone _____
School Email Address _____
Which sport group should receive credit for your membership? _____

Send completed application with \$35.00 to:

Jerry Parrish, Exec. Secretary
18468 8th Ave NE
Poulsbo, WA 98370

**Benefits effective upon receipt of application and \$35.00.
Membership is from September 1, 2002 through August 31, 2003.**

- State Tournament Pass accompanied by picture I.D.
- Window decal upon request.
- Coaching clinics.
- Eligibility for "Coach of the Year" honors State-Regional-National.
- Makes you eligible to be selected as All-Star Coach.
- National Federation Coaches Association membership includes \$1,000,000 General Liability Insurance, \$25,000 Accident Medical Insurance (excess of a \$500 deductible), and \$10,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance. Note this insurance coverage is excess of any other valid and collectible insurance. Please contact an American Specialty representative for more information regarding coverage at 1-800-245-2744. Membership in the NFCA affords non-insurance benefits such as the Coaches Quarterly magazine and the opportunity for participation in the National Awards Program.
- Your senior son or daughter would be eligible to receive scholarships being offered by WSCA.
- Hall of Fame eligibility.
- Enhanced professional growth and opportunity to contribute to your profession.
- Provides a line of communication and a forum for the exchange of ideas and information.
- Opportunity to express your opinion or write an article for your magazine THE WASHINGTON COACH.

**Check Sports
Coached**

- Baseball
- Basketball (B)
- Basketball (G)
- Bowling
- Certified Trainer
- Cheer
- Cross Country
- Dance and Drill
- Football
- Golf (B)
- Golf (G)
- Gymnastics
- Retired
- Soccer (B)
- Soccer (G)
- Softball
- Swimming (B)
- Swimming (G)
- Tennis (B)
- Tennis (G)
- Track (B)
- Track (G)
- Volleyball
- Wrestling

Local High Schools Begin Coaches v. Cancer Program

In 2000 Washington Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association Board approved the formation of a Coaches v. Cancer program for our state's high school basketball teams. As coaches, we have all been touched, directly or indirectly, by this disease. More than 500,000 Americans die each year from cancer. So, in partnership with the National Basketball Coaches Association and the American Cancer Society, state coaches are taking the challenge dedicated to reducing the risk of cancer and aiding in the research for a cure.

Through the efforts of Coach Gary Wusterbarth, his team and Sentinel fans, the Steilacoom Boys' Basketball program has collected \$1,000 over the last two years. Lyle McIntosh, Gig Harbor Coach and Coaches v. Cancer Chairman, in conjunction with the Gig Harbor Boys' Basketball team and parents, sponsored Hoop Quest Winter Break Holiday Tournament. In a collaborative effort, parents, fans and players donated over \$3,900.00 to the American Cancer Society. Other teams who participated included Puyallup, Peninsula, Cascade (Everett), North Mason and Eastmont High School.

Coaches can get involved in many different ways. This is a great opportunity for students and coaches to im-



L-R: Lyle McIntosh, Larry Andrus, Gary Wusterbantu

pact their communities in a positive way. If you are interested in starting a program at your school or have any questions about how to get involved, contact Lyle McIntosh at:

Lyle McIntosh
 Coaches v. Cancer Chairperson
 Gig Harbor High School
 Gig Harbor, WA
 (253) 851.6131
 e-mail: mcintoshl@peninsula.wednet.edu

RATES for the WASHINGTON COACH MAGAZINE

If you would like to advertise in the *WASHINGTON COACH*, check out our rates!

Full Page	4 Issues	\$500.00
½ Page	4 Issues	\$320.00
¼ Page	4 Issues	\$200.00

1, 2 or 3 issue rates are also available.

Contact Terry Ennis at 425-259-6028
 for additional information.

New Equipment; should a change be made?

by Patrick Olsen

Each year there is a number of new pieces of equipment that flood the market. Everyone is out to make old products better, cheaper, lighter, more efficient, better fitting and, of course, to make their companies more profitable. The question that needs to be asked is, "Does purchasing these new products pose a safety risk to my athletes?"

It is always great to have the newest equipment to show off to parents, players and other coaches. There is a bit of a spring in players' steps when they know that they have the newest, and supposedly, best product available. There is also the idea of new equipment helping to start new attitudes, making people forget old regimes, etc. All of these ideas are somewhat valid reasons to make a change. The most valid reason is the safety potential for the players.

Today's equipment is so much better than the equipment of ten years ago that you really can't make a comparison between the two. Having uniforms that fit better, spikes that are safer on different terrain, helmets that are lighter and are able to absorb more impact, shoulder pads that are able to be adjusted to fit each players positions, better fitting knee pads and a proliferation of splints, braces, sleeves and other items designed to decrease torque on body parts and increase performance are all advantageous to athletes and coaches. Along with the positives do come some pitfalls that can happen if you don't do your homework before ordering.

The Bike helmet started a trend of lighter helmets that could absorb more impact. The mere thought that you didn't have to wear a helmet that weighed 4-5 pounds brought joy to all players. The research seemed to be impeccable, the homework seemed to be done, the testing seemed to succeed.....and now Bike is out of the helmet business. Most of the programs that used these helmets tended to have some problems with cracking along the ear hole or discoloring after extended use. Did

these cause injuries? There is nothing scientifically documented but at least the chance existed. The new Riddell helmet brings positives to the table and according to some high schools that tested this helmet last year it was a good product. The problem, that seems to be getting fixed, was how to remove the facemask in case of an emergency. The clips that hold the mask in place are not the same so the tools that people used can't be used. This problem needs to be taken care of **BEFORE** these helmets are used in any more game situations. A screwdriver is not a reliable source as an emergency tool since screws can be rusted, screwdrivers can strip the screws, etc.

There are a number of ankle braces on the market today for athletes. Some of these have shown that they are not as good for competitive activity as they are for non-competitive activity. In fact, there have been some ankle braces that have been removed from the market because they caused some injuries in people wearing them. If you are planning on purchasing braces for your athletes and requiring them to wear that brace make sure that you are purchasing a brace that your athletes like to wear, has shown no injury rate increase potential, and is comfortable for your athletes during their sport.

Equipment can be a tremendous asset to your athletes and program or it can be a huge risk. Make sure that you do your homework before purchasing new equipment for your athletes. Ask yourself some questions like, "Can this be used in conjunction with my older equipment? Am I helping my athletes prevent injuries with this or is it just for "looks"? Will my athletes be comfortable playing in this equipment or will it be a daily fight to make them wear it?" And probably the most important question, "Will the company stand behind their equipment if one of my athletes gets injured and their parents decide to sue?" Have a safe and successful fall.

Equipment can be a tremendous asset to your athletes and program or it can be a huge risk.

The Passing Parade

DAROLD JACKSON TALLEY

Born on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28, 1929 in St. Helens Oregon. Passed away on January 5, 2002 in the home he loved, following a long illness. Darold grew up in Longview, WA, graduating from R.A. Long HS, Class of '48. He attended the University of Washington on a football scholarship, 1948 to 1952, and was an assistant coach there in 1952. His first job was teaching science at Centralia HS and he was hired to coach football, basketball and baseball at Centralia Jr. College from 1953 to 1956. He moved to California where he taught and was an assistant coach to Don Coryell at Whittier College. He returned to Washington in 1959 and was hired in the Clover Park School District. He taught science, math and physical education at Clover Park HS. He was a CP head football and track coach and an assistant wrestling coach. He was instrumental in the planning and construction of the Lakewood Stadium while serving as district athletic director before retiring from the district in 1985. His 1968 track team were state champions. One member, Mac Wilkins, went on to win Olympic Gold Medals.

Darold always expressed that he had had the best of students and young athletes, who went on to become the finest of men and citizens in later life. Darold, accompanied by his wife Jackie, rarely missed an athletic event involving the Clover Park Warriors, and he was kidded about having the "Green and Gold" in his blood.

LAWRENCE 'TAG' CHRISTENSEN

Lawrence Moore "Tag" Christensen, 79 passed away peacefully at home March 25, 2002.

Born August 26, 1922, in Ballard, Mr. Christensen graduated from Ballard High School, where he was known as an all-around athlete, won several varsity letters and was captain of the football team.

He devoted his life to developing and coaching high school football teams at Concrete High School and Mercer Island High School.

He assumed the football coaching job at the new Mercer Island High School in 1955, and he served many years as teacher and coach at MIHS.

Later he became athletic director for the high school; and headed up the Island's new Parks and Recreation Department, where worked on the acquisition of the Luther Burbank property as a park.

He later started a football program at the newly-constructed Mariner High School. He served as head coach until his final retirement from a long and rewarding career in teaching and coaching.

He touched the lives of both young and old and is survived by his loving wife of nearly 50 years, Carloine; son, Larry Christensen; daughter, Cathy Wride; grandchildren, Melissa and Jonathan Wride; and brother, Raymond Christensen.

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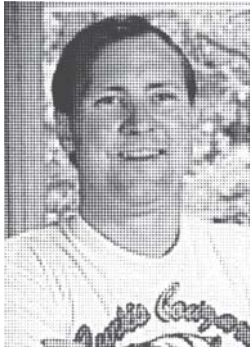
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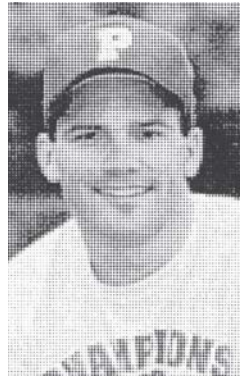
Portland
(503) 222-9739
1-800-732-9259



Gene Bowen
Puyallup High School

Gene has been the head wrestling coach for the past 7 years at PHS and has been the offensive line coach for 6 years. He graduated from WWU ('84) and received his M.A. (secondary administration) in '94. Gene is in coaching for the same reasons he chose education; he hopes to contribute to a high quality experience for students and athletes.

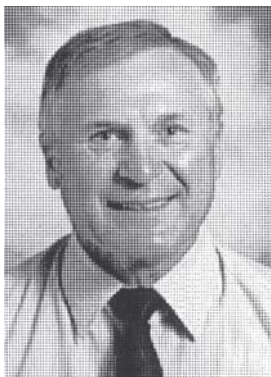
His inspiration has come from great coaches he has played for or worked with. His family includes wife Jackie and sons Tyler (12) and Shawn (9). His coaching rewards come from watching the courage and strength of character shown by his athletes as they not only believe they could do it but are willing to pay the price everyday to get better. "Give it your best shot."



Brian Knutsen
Curtis Junior High

Brian has been coaching wrestling for 11 years and track for 8 years. He graduated from WWU ('91) with a degree in physical education. Coaching has given Brian the chance to teach young people the value of dedication, commitment, discipline and compassion. His wife Theresa, Emily (7), and Blake (6) make up the

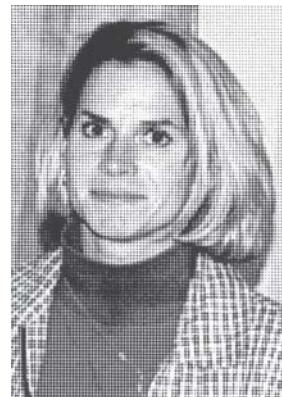
Knutsen family. His wrestling teams are consistently outstanding and had a perfect 9-0 season in 2001-02. His track team was undefeated in 2001. His proudest coaching moment came as he watched 16 of his wrestlers compete in the finals at the league tournament. "If it's worth having, it won't come easy."



John Giannandrea
Medical Lake High School

John has been at MLHS for 22 years, but he has also coached in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Idaho and Nevada, coaching football for 42 years. In addition, he has coached track for 20 years and basketball for 12. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati ('59), John's family includes his wife, Pat, sons Tony,

John, Michael, Matt, and daughters Mary and Kathy. His teams have made the state playoffs 9 times with second and third place finishes. John was coach of the year twice in Idaho and has three such honors at Medical Lake. For John, coaching keeps him young, and next to playing the game, coaching is the best. "Every day, in every way, we get better and better."



Lisa Schultz
Lakeside High School
(Nine Mile Falls)

A graduate of EWU ('89), Lisa has been the head coach for the girls' basketball the past 12 years at Lakeside. She has lead her teams to 7 consecutive league titles and district championships, as well as 8 consecutive state appearances. Lakeside was

state "AA" champion in '98 and 2001. One of her proudest moments in coaching came in the 2001 state championship game as her team erased a 22 point deficit, confirming for her players the value of heart, determination, and teamwork. Lisa is married to Rex. T. Schultz. Lisa has been the "NFA" coach of the year ('93 and '96), "GNL" coach of the year ('98 & '99) and the Inland Northwest SMACNA Good Sport Award for District 7 coach of the year in 2001. "Those that work the hardest are the last to surrender."

ON THE SIDELINE NOMINATION FORM

The WSCA needs your help! If you feel that there is a current member of the WSCA who deserves recognition for his/her contributions to coaching please fill out this form and send it to Mike Schick. The nominated person will then be contacted to fill out a complete nomination form.

Nominee's name _____

Address _____

Currently Teaching at _____ Phone # _____

Please send your information to:

Michael H. Schick, Edgemont J.H. 10909 24th St. E., Edgewood, WA 98372

Please nominate WSCA members only!

I need your help in contacting deserving members who contribute to the success of your athletic programs.

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July 12-14, 2002

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Relationships, Spirit

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that you will
long remember."

Don & Carol James
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Steering Committee



Coaches' Getaway

For singles and marrieds, this three day, two night break in Vancouver, WA is designed for coaches & their spouses. It will be the most relaxing, most relationship-strengthening, most parental-skills enhancing, most financially-freeing experience of your life! You'll learn things and meet people that will impact you forever!

Understanding that reaching the minds and lives of the ones you coach takes energy, this break will focus on your spouse and family, allowing you to recharge and equip for the months ahead.

REGISTER FOR A TIME YOU'LL WISH WOULD NEVER END.
CALL TOLL FREE at 1-800-733-7306 or find out more online at www.PAO.org



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Deadlines for the WASHINGTON COACH Magazine

Next Issue - Fall: August 14

Fall Issue: August 14, Winter Issue: December 1
Spring Issue: February 14, Summer Issue: May 14

SUBMISSION PROCESS

Submit via email as an attachment to
Terry Ennis at terry_ennis@msn.com

Please submit on-line photos in black and white

If you do not have access to email you may
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Registration deadlines are: Fall sports June 14, 2001, Winter sports September 15, Spring sports December 8.

So take the initiative and recognize your leaders, your top performers and your most motivated players.



Register today at **1-877-WILL-2-WIN** or **www.gatorade.com/w2wcoaches**

-2002- Washington All State Girls Basketball Games



**Saturday, June 22nd
Whitworth College
Spokane, WA**



Sponsors?

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ADMISSION: (all day)

Adults - \$5.00

Children (12 & under) - \$3.00

Senior Citizens - \$3.00

Schedule:

12:00 – B-East vs B-West

1:30 – 1A-East vs 1A-West

3:15 – 2A-East vs 2A-West

4:45 – 3A-East vs 3A-West

6:30 – 4A-East vs 4A-West

**Come see the best players in the State
compete!**

For more information contact:

Tom Oliver
Lakeside High School
(509) 466-1369
toliver@9mile.org

HAWKES SQUAWKS

by Dee Hawkes
Retired



SO HERE WE GO AGAIN

Parents are complex, and it's easy to feel overwhelmed when they continue to push. The script was played out this spring at Marysville-Pilchuck High School. As a result, the school board ordered an investigation, which centered around complaints that student athletes were being harassed and intimidated. After a two-month search, which involved interviewing parents, athletes, and coaches, the hired investigator didn't find a single incident of harassment. What impressed many was how the coaches under review stood up to the investigation.

Its mind boggling that nine pushy parents could convince members of the school board that what they charged warranted an investigation. The formal charge included concerns about playing time, how individuals are showcased, how teams are picked, and the standard complaint about college scholarships. Another area of their focus was how funds and facilities are controlled and the lack of procedure for filing a complaint. Nothing gets my dander up faster than parents whose expectations are so far out of line with reality. The high school coaches survived this ordeal.

READY TO OBLIGE

School sports programs are a blessing, not a curse for those who choose to play. Here are the realities:

- Coaches have the right to pick their teams. If it's a sport that must "cut," then a fair turnout plan must be established. If kids are cut, never post the list.
- Coaches decide who plays and when they play. This decision is made easier when an athlete knows his or her role on the team.
- Coaches must be competitive and field teams that hold that same belief. To do it any other way is wrong.
- Coaches build trust relationships with their athletes. One caution though, always be a friend, but never a buddy.
- Coaches push team goals, not individual statistics. With this approach, everybody wins.

THERE'S NO MYSTERY ABOUT ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

There is no disguise, no trickery, now way to hide someone from getting an athletic scholarship. It's a cop-out by a parent to blame the lack of scholarships on a coach. College recruiting is so highly organized that any talented athlete will be discovered whether they play for a small or big city school. The following comment was made by an athlete caught up in the scholarship frenzy. "Everyday I suit up, I suit up to win, It improves my scholarship chances because I will be seen more." As most of these kids are very competitive, very goal-oriented, and very motivated to play college sports, they are going to be more talented and more dedicated. Their parents often hire a specialty coach for extra tutelage. Private instruction can be both a benefit and/or a problem depending on how the high school coaches accept it and how diligently the athlete works. The bottom line, however, is that some parents pay money and their kids will never get better.

SCHOLARSHIP MENTORING A LUCRATIVE BUSINESS

We know they are out there. With the demands so high, there are plenty of parents willing to shell out some big bucks to get their kids extra help. The demand for outside instruction has produced a wide variety of those who offer their services, often for a hefty fee. This includes speed coaches, pitching and hitting instructors, plyometric trainers, and strength and conditioning trainers. These are often the most expensive. Their client base is in the prep market where parents are driven to help their kids become stronger, faster, or better skilled for a certain sport. They spend money in quest of an athletic scholarship. Today, even cheerleaders are recruited for scholarships.

Tuition rates are skyrocketing here in Washington. The Seattle Times reported that state colleges are growing too pricey for the middle class family. While tuition goes sky high, the cost-of-living index creeps along at a snail's pace. Everyone knows college isn't cheap. You can't

argue with one whose mind is made up to pursue a scholarship by getting specialized training. Paying as much as \$30 per half hour for pitching instruction doesn't seem to bother them.

MAKE NO MISTAKE, IT'S ABOUT WINNING

Then there's the matter of the importance of winning. If a coach is held accountable for victories on the scoreboard, then he or she will play those who can perform. You don't need a calculator to figure this. There is no point to even discussing strategy. Coaches who are under pressure to win in order to keep their job know that the outcome of a game means more to these zealous parents than in their kids. These days, many school coaches are not trained educators so they may need more help. One problem with having so many non-school coaches willing to offer their services is that their opinions and philosophies may conflict with school policy. The measuring stick, good or bad, win or lose, should be that the coach is a good role model.

THE DAY OF RECKONING IS COMING

Perhaps in the not-too-distant future, all schools will require a user fee in order for students to play athletics. By denying proper funding for education, legislators have tossed the ball back to each school district to juggle their local budgets. Legislators have thrown the change-up so many times that this year educators were looking for a fast ball up. We were fooled again. Promises to fully fund education have been broken more than kept. There is no guess work as to what will be cut from the district budget. After pulling all the strings to save curriculum and teachers, school districts look to cut athletics.

One issue raised by coaches is why there is no explanation as to how all-state teams are selected. Coaches are not satisfied when they don't understand the selection process. They say it happens behind closed doors. Another issue is the use of school fields and gyms to continue practicing the sport after the season is finished.

The number one concern for coaches is caused by the infringement of outside school programs and specialty coaching. If any proof is needed, just check what little regard there is for the school sports calendar. Kids often do double duty in the same sport at the same time. The

conflicts between all parties should be resolved. Regrettably, until coaches' voices are heard loud and clear, nothing will be done.

What's needed is a one-day shutdown of prep and select sports where both parties can come together throughout the state, especially communities having problems. These summit meetings could bring about a negotiable compromise. It is better to solve these problems before they hit the crisis stage. Certainly, without getting everyone together head to head, no legitimate solutions can be worked out. It's difficult to adequately express my disappointment that so little is being done to correct this problem.

Some may think the WIAA should grab the reins but this is not necessary. Let's face it, if you've got this problem then solve it at the local level. If you're fed up with what's happening, then get your school athletic director to do something about it. You say what you want, but they call the shots. Time is running out, so get after the task.

READY, SET, SUMMER

You say you have no plans yet for the summer. Here's an idea that might get your heart pumping. There's a good chance you haven't looked at old school annuals. They are probably gathering dust on a bookshelf or are put away in a storage box. Collect them all, dust them off, and start reading each one beginning with the oldest. Whenever you need to recall a name or remember a season write it down.

Naturally, you'll wonder how many of those you cached have turned out. One thing for sure is that you did impact their lives in one way or another. Check out the hairstyles, including your own. Do you remember when long hair was written into the discipline code? How annoyed some coaches became with hair below the collar, facial hair, and hair on the face. The bubble finally burst with shaved heads, colored streaks, and hair dryers in the locker room. My lineage includes a brown crewcut followed by shades of gray. At the age of 35 I had silver locks, and in my early forties a full crop of feathered white locks appeared. What was your hairstyle in the years from athlete to coach?

See you around, I hope.

P.S. To all those readers who email, thanks. (hawkes32@attbi.com)

By denying proper funding for education, legislators have tossed the ball back to each school district to juggle their local

Helping Baseball Grow Around The World

by Todd Naskedov



If people still believe that baseball is solely America's game, all they need to do is watch a big league game for a reality check. Last year, more than 23% of players on Major League Baseball's opening day rosters, and more than 44% of players under contract to Major League teams were born outside the United States (MLB). The International Baseball Association estimates that more than 40 million people participate in organized baseball around the world, and counted 109 baseball federations as of last year. Professional baseball leagues can be found in such countries as Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Venezuela, Nicaragua and Italy. Locally, Ichiro Suzuki, the American League MVP and Washington's most popular baseball player last year, hails from Japan (along with teammate Kazuhiro Sasaki). Shortstop Carlos Guillen and pitcher Freddy Garcia come from Venezuela, Edgar Martinez and Ruben Sierra from Puerto Rico, and minor-league prospect Chris Snelling from Australia. The game has grown in Europe as well – The Netherlands knocked off international powerhouse Cuba in the last Summer Olympics. The point is simple: Baseball is worldwide. More and more kids around the globe are picking up a bat, ball, and glove wanting to learn the game. The problem is that these and other baseball items are difficult to obtain.

In my short career as a high school coach I've had the opportunity to travel abroad twice in the name of baseball. The first was to Havana, Cuba with Scott Knight and the Washington Wranglers. We found kind people and some great baseball. We also found baseball players who lacked decent equipment to play with. The second was to Great Britain with Major League Baseball International as an envoy coach. The baseball wasn't so good, but those involved are hungry to learn and getting better. While the average Brit may be better off financially than the average Cuban, he faces the same problem when it comes to equipment – it's simply too expensive and too hard to find.

In Britain, a dozen game baseballs cost around \$80,

not including the national import tax. Not only are the balls expensive, the majority of fields don't have the necessary fencing to keep balls on the field. It is truly surprising how many balls are lost in a two-hour practice session. High school-aged players are often forced to use bats far too small for them, and vice versa for younger players. A new bat can cost \$400 dollars, quite a bit for a fledgling sport in a country in love with soccer and cricket. Players and coaches who know Americans usually ask for help in obtaining equipment.

In Cuba, the national amateur teams have the necessary equipment, but baseball is seemingly played by *everyone* in the Caribbean country. Kids hounded us for bats, gloves, balls, batting gloves and hats. Nobody but the big league and senior national teams has matching uniforms. The majority of our group came home with far less baseball equipment than we originally packed for the trip. This is a story common in dozens of other countries as well. As expensive as our bats, balls, and gloves are here in the U.S., we are blessed to have such easy access to them.

With this in mind, former WSBCA President and Prairie High School Head Coach Don Freeman recently proposed a plan that would both put decent equipment in the hands of young players in these countries and put the WSBCA on the national map. What if high school coaches, when cleaning out our equipment cupboards, storage sheds, and uniform closets, took still usable bats, gloves, catcher's gear and uniforms and donated them to baseball clubs and leagues in other countries?

The idea came to Freeman when he traveled to Mexico as the Pitching Coach with USA Junior Baseball. "The poverty level was very high. Kids were literally begging us for hats, balls, gloves. Of course, our players wanted to give gear to them, and most of them did. The looks on their faces were amazing!"

The seed of an idea was planted for Freeman, but it didn't sprout until a history teacher he worked with at Prairie came to him with an unusual request for uniforms and

equipment. The teacher's son was living in Russia at the time, and he didn't have much to do there. So he asked his father to round up some baseball gear and send it over – he wanted to teach them baseball. Freeman was able to secure three sets of used uniforms from a local Babe Ruth league, as well as some old gloves, bats and other equipment, and sent them over. They were a hit with the Russians, who started a local league and immediately requested more uniforms and equipment. The same teacher has also asked for old and used equipment from his students, and they've overwhelmed him with the amount they've donated.

Freeman has since discussed the idea of sending used equipment and uniforms to other countries with USA Baseball, and received positive feedback. He is waiting to hear more from them over the summer, when he is with Team USA in Venezuela. There, he also hopes to make contacts with international baseball organizations to arrange such equipment donations. Major League Baseball International, who sends roughly 40 coaches a year to nearly 25 countries, is a possible avenue for distributing the equipment as well. The two major details

still to be worked out are where to send the collected gear, and how to pay for shipping that gear overseas. One possibility for help with the shipping is local youth baseball development organizations, such as the Randy Myers Foundation in Vancouver.

So what can you do with uniforms and equipment you'd like to donate? For now, hang on to it. Freeman and the other executive members of the WSBCA are working on the specifics of a plan to make all of this happen. As soon as that plan is in place, you will find the details and contact information in the Coaches Magazine, Coaches Newsletter, the WSBCA web site, possibly the November and February Clinics.

Other Notes: An update on Scott Knight and Jim Clem's pursuit of 400 wins: Clem captured his on April 19th with a 4-1 win over Ferndale. Knight finished with 389 wins, he'll have to wait until next year...the WSBCA web site address is <http://home.attbi.com/~traynor/homeplate.html>, check it out...have an article idea? E-mail me at tnaskedov@sheltonschoools.org...good luck to members who will be coaching anywhere in the world over the summer!



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Why do officials quit? Too often it's athletes, fans

by Cliff Gillies, Prep Sports Columnist, reprint The Everett Herald

Depending upon your interpretation of statistics, the biggest reason most high school referees quit officiating is career and job demands.

That's a very good reason, but the real official-killers come from much darker corners.

Here's a summary of reasons from 463 high school officials who, having quit, responded to a nationwide survey conducted by the National Federation of State High School Associations: 167 cited career/job demands; 105 cited poor sportsmanship of participants; 96 said it was the poor sportsmanship of spectators; 84 cited time away from family and friends; and 83 blamed low game fees.

(The full survey results can be found at www.nfhs.org.)

Poor sportsmanship by spectators, says the federation, ranked second in basketball, football, soccer and softball. And more than half of the officials who dropped out (or burned out) did so during their first 10 years of officiating.

But look further. When the 105 who cited poor sportsmanship by participants is combined with the 96 who gave poor sportsmanship by spectators as their reasons for quitting, that's 201 of the 463 responses. So 43 percent named poor sportsmanship as their No. 1 one reason for quitting.

Correcting or tolerating the epidemic of shabby sportsmanship is not the primary skill or responsibility of a referee. Have referees become the only effective standard bearers for sensible behavior during school competitions?

Before the official arrives, the school administration, coach and spectators have to determine whether behavior will be good or bad. The responsibility for sportsmanship does not lie with officials. When behavior is not controlled, officials are being required, often by rule, to manage players and spectators rather than the game.

Even though officials have a near-perfect record of showing up, the shortage of officials is real. An education

sport recruits, trains and welcomes new officials every year. Apparently the welcome fades quickly, often with insidious comments.

Closer to home, Todd Stordahl, the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association coordinator assigned to the Washington Officials Association, agrees that poor sportsmanship combined with career responsibilities top the list of reasons why referees quit officiating.

Stordahl points out that educators officiating school sports no longer make up the majority of WOA members. The growing majority of officials have job/career responsibilities other than in schools. Even with excellent cooperation by employers, the availability of referees for afternoon games is declining at an accelerating rate.

Regardless of whether poor sportsmanship comes from participants or spectators, too many officials are giving up a needed avocation because of it. Those who have the authority and responsibility for teaching the basic tenets of competitive athletics are committing fouls against education through their inattentiveness.

Are referees expected to police sportsmanship for coaches and administrators at games? Based on recent rule changes, that is probably true. Today referees are required to police everything from players wearing uniforms according to the rules to disrespectful gestures.

Why has it become necessary for referees to also discipline spectators? Why should they substitute for an administrator by ejecting a spectator for unacceptable language?

Why are some coaches depending upon referees to eject one of their wrongdoing players? Are there two different standards of behavior?

Nearly everyone agrees that what adults are willing to accept sets the standard of sportsmanship. How about

Regardless of whether poor sportsmanship comes from participants or spectators, too many officials are giving up a needed avocation because of it.

you and me? Is it better to lose than be ashamed of victory? Growing pressure to win from parents is being transferred to coaches and imposed on kids.

Scapegoating referees may be out of control, but it has no gender-bias. Steve Colby referees girls basketball in Island, Skagit and Whatcom counties. He has dedicated more than 30 years to school programs. He has been a part of the terrific achievements in sports opportunities since Title IX went into effect in 1972.

According to Colby, an escalating disrespect has been permitted in what has become a education sports culture that is heading for major quakes and aftershocks.

No gender-exemption exists in sports discourtesy or rudeness. Female officials ranked "time away from family and friends" higher than their fellow male refs as the reason for leaving. An excellent motive, but the problem is too few want to start.

One would hope that as young female players had positive experiences, the number of women officials would increase. Instead, an obvious conclusion is reached: Many,

if not most, players experience up close that refereeing is not worth the dissin' they have to take.

It has been said that veteran officials have survived by progressing from rabbit ears to selected oblivion. The strange part about high school sports is that there are new spectators and participants each year. New officials begin a career in sportsmanship, but too many who have learned the values of good sportsmanship end up leaving.

Maybe experience helps deal with being the target of poor sportsmanship. Or perhaps it takes six years to decide serving the game isn't worth the senseless abuse. Or it may be that our respect for those who keep fair play a top priority applies to everyone except those with a whistle or flag.

Cliff Gillies, former executive director of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association, writes weekly during the school year for The Herald. His mailing address is 7500 U.S. Highway 101, South Bend, WA 98586. His e-mail address is cliffsal@techline.com.

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THOUGH MANY, WE ARE ONE!

By Tom Doyle, CAA, Athletic Director Seattle Prep

As I painfully watch the news about the conflict between the Palestinians and the Israelis, I am constantly reminded how often we focus on our differences rather than on our similarities. It amazes me that people with so much in common, from their Biblical ties to the ancestor Abraham to their similar daily struggles to survive in a somewhat inhospitable environment, cannot find grounds for peace rather than conflict.

As I listen to the debate over public versus private school issues in our state, I wonder again why we focus on our differences rather than those things we have in common. Do we have differences? Absolutely. Do those differences dictate that we should isolate ourselves from each other? I hope not!

Not only are there differences between public and private schools, but also there are enormous differences between many of the private and parochial schools. If you think you understand one, you don't necessarily understand them all. Many are religious based, many are not. Many, like Seattle Prep, have been in existence for more than 100 years; some have only been founded in the last few years. Some are larger, most are very small. The largest common denominator is that they all charge tuition, which means that private school parents are supporting their kids in private education as well as, through their taxes, other people's kids in public schools.

What makes private schools so mysterious to many is their "local" control. Few of the private schools have organization and decision making relationships with other private schools. They may belong to a certifying organization or some other group like a diocese, but most are one school district within themselves. That means that not as much public light shines upon their decisions and policies as does on public education. That adds a mystique that is multiplied by the number of private schools in the state.

How can we demystify the debate? First of all, private school educators and athletic directors in particular must become active in WIAA, district and league activi-

ties. Only 18 private schools were represented at the recently completed WSSAAA Conference. What a great place that would be for developing relationships! Private School administrators should strongly encourage their athletic directors to be involved. We must get to know our counterparts in the public sector and let them get to know our programs and us. Biblically, private schools must allow "light" to shine on our programs because, "everyone who practices evil hates the light; he does not come near it for fear his deeds will be exposed. But he who acts in truth comes into the light" (John 3:16-21).

We must allow others to understand how we operate, especially in the areas of "recruiting" and financial aid.

Because private schools are so different from each other, I can only speak in generalities or specifically about my school. We are all, private and public, guided by the WIAA Handbook,

Rule 17.25.0 that says that we may not induce a student to enroll in our schools for athletic reasons. Any school that violates this tenet should be brought into the light and accused of a school violation according to WIAA policies. We should know and trust each other enough that one school can ask another about perceived violations without causing great problems between the two schools.

Most private schools do offer tuition assistance programs. In Seattle Prep's case, parents fill out a national form similar to college FAFSA forms, and submit it to a national organization that tells us how much aid a family qualifies for. The national organization looks only at the family financial situations and has no interest in school

What makes private schools so mysterious to many is their "local" control.

activities as part of their decision. Seattle Prep may not offer scholarships based solely on athletic prowess according to WIAA guidelines. We do have athletes receiving financial assistance, but only those who qualify as described. The percentage of athletes vs. non-athletes receiving financial assistance is roughly equivalent. Like high schools, colleges, universities, and businesses, we are concerned about diversity issues, too. We encourage students of color to enroll at our school and find, again, that the percentage of students of color participating in athletics is roughly equivalent to the percentage of students of color in the school.

Seattle Prep does “recruit” students. We, along with the other local Catholic High Schools, go to the Catholic grade schools in the Seattle area for High School Information nights and tell grade school parents and students about our program of academics and student activities. Those parents and students then make choices about public or private education and, if they choose private, what specific private school to attend. Contrary to rumors, we do not hang around park department and CYO athletic contests evaluating potential athletes. We do not visit homes of athletes to try to convince them to come to our school. If we did, we would be in violation of WIAA rules and subject to penalty. And if we or some other school did, we would hope that others would have the courage to question those practices by bringing them to the light of day. Most of our students come out of the Catholic grade schools, just as many of the kids in private high schools came out of their own private grade school as well.

All schools, public and private, have this in common: we all struggle daily to teach our students to be better citizens, to challenge them to a better education, and to participate in CO-curricular activities. We have all sorts of reasons stated in our mission statements about why students should be involved in our athletic programs. I don’t believe I personally have ever seen one that stated that the reason we participate is to get to the state tournament or to obtain college scholarships. Why then do we focus so much on this issue? The only answers can be that someone thinks another is either cheating or has an “unfair” advantage. If it is the former, we must all stand up and call the school in question on its practices – bring possible violations to light. Don’t sit back and allow rumors to propagate more rumors. If it is the latter, is there really ever such a thing as a level playing field? When we come from a state with rural and urban areas, with schools nearly twice as large as another competing in the same classification, with diverse populations, and with

communities with financial resources far and above others, can there ever really be anything but an “unfair” advantage from someone’s perspective?

We are all about educating today’s youth to be tomorrow’s productive citizens. We may have slightly different ideas on how to best accomplish that, but we all want only the best for all of our kids. We should be focused on what we have in common and how to build trust between public and private schools so that we may complement each other in accomplishing this difficult, but worthwhile task. We should develop relationships so that we have the confidence to raise questions and issues and believe that we will get honest answers to our concerns. We should find ways to allow peace and trust flourish in our state. Let’s each take steps to make this happen!

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An American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors Position Paper on Cheerleading as a Sport

by Jim Lord, Executive Director, AACCA

The American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors is a national non-profit educational organization dedicated to the promotion of cheerleading safety and the education of cheerleading coaches through certification programs. The association is often asked about the status of cheerleading in the school environment and whether it should be considered to be a sport or an activity. The purpose of this paper is to determine the definition of the term sport, the role of the cheerleading squad in the school setting, and the status of the cheerleading squad within these parameters.

THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOL CHEERLEADING SQUAD

Since Johnny Campbell led the first cheers at a Minnesota University American football game on November 2, 1898, cheerleading has been primarily a support group that leads group yells at sports events.

The increased athleticism of cheerleading over the past twenty years has also seen the development of competitive events for cheerleaders. These competitions are voluntary, and in fact, the majority of cheerleading squads do not choose to enter competition. The competitions are also secondary to the main function of the school cheerleading team, which remains one of building school unity and supporting the other athletic teams in competition.

THE ATHLETICISM OF CHEERLEADING

Cheerleading has evolved over the past twenty years from being an ac-

tivity where members were selected based on their popularity to one that now claims some of the more talented athletes at school.

Today, cheerleading involves skills which require the strength of football, the grace of dance, and the agility of gymnastics. Complex maneuvers are performed which challenge the limits of the body. Safety organizations such as the AACCA were formed to develop safety rules to guide programs in the safe performance of cheerleading gymnastics, which include jumps, partner stunts, pyramids and tumbling.

The athleticism required of modern cheerleading means that institutions must match the development of their cheerleading coaches. In the past, cheerleading teams were able to get along with the support of a faculty "advisor" that did not need to have intricate knowledge of cheerleading skills. Today's cheerleading squad needs a knowledgeable director, more often being called "coach" than "advisor" or "sponsor". These coaches need the training that is given at summer cheerleading training camps and at state and national conventions that provide expert instruction in all areas of cheerleading.

DEFINITION OF SPORT

A recent position paper by the Women's Sports Foundation included the following elements as the most commonly agreed upon when defining a sport activity:

- "Contesting" or competing against/with an opponent.
- Governed by the rules which explicitly define the time, space and purpose of the contest and the conditions under which a winner is declared.
- Acknowledged primary purpose of the competition is a comparison of the relative skills of the participants.

The paper further explains that "any physical activity in which relative performance can be judged or quantified can be developed into a competitive sport as long as (1) the physical activity includes the above defined elements and (2) the primary purpose is competition versus other teams or individuals within a competition structure comparable to other 'athletics' activities."

CHEERLEADING AS A SPORT

Cheerleading in its current format, does not meet the second criteria listed above. The primary purpose is not competition, but that of raising school unity through leading the crowd at athletic functions.

Recently, some cheerleading coaches and cheerleaders, upset with the lack of funding and respect for their programs, felt that getting cheerleading recognized as a sport would resolve these issues. They believed that if cheerleading was made an official school sport, schools would hire qualified coaches, provide uniforms pay cheerleading coaches salaries like other sport coaches and the community would see cheerleaders

as the athletes they are. Administrators and activities associations viewed the change in a slightly different light. With cheerleading as a sport, there could be state championships and the possibility of helping to meet Title IX requirements for gender equity.

The result of recognizing cheerleading as a sport was much different than what was anticipated by all parties. Without increasing funding, most states added the restrictions that go along with being a sport: transfer rules, limited practice time, fundraising restrictions and limits on competition travel and participation in national competitions. In extreme cases, cheerleading squads were required to compete at least the same number of events as they cheered for to meet the requirements for sport status. This meant either drastically increasing the number of competitive events, or lowering the number of support events.

For state associations, the hopes of Title IX consideration were ended when the Office for Civil Rights once again stated that cheerleading would not be considered when looking at gender equity issues. Another trend that is alarming is that where states have limited voluntary participation in out-of-state events, participants are leaving the school cheerleading programs to take part in "all star" cheerleading programs, usually run from local gymnastics centers. This situation is leaving school teams with less than the best available and school coaches are fighting to retain their best student athletes.

CHEERLEADING AS AN ACTIVITY

The long-held view of cheerleading as merely another school activity is also a concern. If the athleticism of cheerleading is not recognized, the

supervision will continue to fall to teachers that are not qualified to adequately supervise. Additionally, existing advisors will not receive the training necessary to provide adequate supervision of an increasingly athletic activity.

THE BEST CATEGORY FOR CHEERLEADING

It is the position of the American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors that cheerleading is in a new, developing category called "athletic activity". This group can also include dance and drill teams and marching bands, all of which share the special balance between school spirit functions and athletic competitions.

Some states are now officially recognizing cheerleaders as "student athletes", which provides opportuni-

ties for academic honors and even coverage under the athletic catastrophic insurance policy carried by the school or state athletics or activities association. They are allowing reasonable participation in competitive events. State activities and athletic associations are working together with state cheerleading coaches associations to provide training in safety and the day-to-day program development needed to continue the safe participation in cheerleading. In this category of "athletic activity", where the participants are recognized as "student athletes", cheerleading can continue to provide great benefits to both the participants and the entire school community.

For more information, the AACCA may be contacted at 1-800-533-6583, or on the internet at <http://www.aacca.org>.

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2002 WIAA/WOA FALL RULES CLINICS

Curtis High School	Thursday, August 29	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, SW, VB
Ephrata High School	Tuesday, August 20	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Fort Vancouver High School	Thursday, August 29	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Kamiah High School	Thursday, August 22	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, SW, VB
Kelso High School	Wednesday, August 21	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, SW, VB
Kettle Falls High School	Tuesday, September 3	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Mercer Island High School	Thursday, August 29	7:30 p.m.	FB, SO, SW, VB
Mt Vernon High School	Wednesday, August 28	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
North Central High School	Monday, August 19	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Okanogan High School	Wednesday, August 21	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Port Angeles High School	Tuesday, August 27	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Pullman High School	Tuesday, August 20	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Rainier Beach High School	Tuesday, August 27	7:00 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Sehome High School	Wednesday, August 21	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, SW, VB
Selah High School	Thursday, August 29	7:00 p.m.	FB, SO, SW, VB
South Kitsap High School	Tuesday, August 20	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, SW, VB
Southridge High School	Wednesday, August 28	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Tumwater High School	Thursday, August 22	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, SW, VB
WF West High School	Wednesday, August 28	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Walla Walla High School	Thursday, August 22	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB
Wenatchee High School	Tuesday, August 27	6:30 p.m.	FB, SO, VB

REMINDER! Golf and tennis coaches must attend a WIAA/WOA rules clinic as do all other sports coaches.

Note: Golf and/or tennis coaches in leagues or districts that participate during the fall sports season may meet the WIAA Coaches Standards by completing one of the following three options:

1. Leagues may request the WIAA office provide a sports rules clinician for golf and tennis coaches, with the clinic fees to be paid by the leagues.
2. Pass the specific sports rules test during the first three weeks of the season.
3. Attend a sports specific rules clinic in the spring.

SPIRIT CLINICS

Interlake High School	Saturday, August 24	10:00 a.m.
Summit Inn, Snoqualmie	Saturday, September 14	10:00 a.m.
Mt Vernon High School	Monday, September 16	6:30 p.m.
TBD (Bellevue area)	Tuesday, September 17	6:30 p.m.
Mark Morris High School	Tuesday, September 17	6:30 p.m.
Ferris High School	Wednesday, September 25	6:30 p.m.
Eisenhower High School	Thursday, September 26	6:30 p.m.

Check the WIAA Web site (www.wiaa.com) for updates for the fall sports clinics. Using the index to the left of the WIAA home page, click once on Affiliates, once on WOA (Officials), and once on Fall Clinics to access the latest information.

Reminder: All head coaches must attend the rules clinic in the sport they coach or pass the NFHS rules test by the end of the third week of the season.

Mark your calendars now . . .
6th ANNUAL WIAA COACHES SCHOOL

August 2-3, 2002

*Yakima Convention Center,
10 North 8th Street, Yakima, (1-800-221-0751)*

Another opportunity to learn beyond the X's and O's.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The registration fee of \$75 (\$85 after July 10, 2002) includes a BBQ Dinner, Luncheon, Continental Breakfast, Handouts and Clock Hours. The pre-conference Sports Medicine First Aid and CPR training has a separate pre-registration fee of \$25 if paid by July 26, 2002, and a \$35 fee if paid on-site at the workshop. To register for pre-conference, contact Patrick Olsen: 360-876-7318 #1102 or email at olsen@skpte.org.

Housing: WestCoast Yakima Center Hotel has given the WIAA a special room rate of \$78 plus 10.9% occupancy tax. The hotel is on the same property as the Yakima Convention Center. Since August is the prime tourist season, the WestCoast Yakima Center Hotel has quoted the WIAA Coaches School an advantageous room rate. Please make housing reservations directly with the hotel by calling (509-248-5900). Identify yourself as being with the WIAA Coaches School.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Submit the registration form along with \$75 per registrant before July 10.
- After July 10, a \$10 late fee per registrant will be required.
- No mail registrations will be accepted beyond July 22.
- After July 22, only on-site registrations will be accepted.
- WIAA cannot guarantee that all on-site registrants will receive a packet of handouts.

**NO REFUNDS AFTER
JULY 22, 2002**

**School districts will receive one (1) additional registration
at no charge for every ten (10) paid registrations.**

2002 WIAA COACHES SCHOOL PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Please TYPE or PRINT

Name _____ School _____

Home Address _____ School District _____

City _____ Zip _____ Email Address _____

Telephone () _____ Home () _____ Sport/Activity _____

- For Meal Count, Please Check: BBQ Lunch Continental Breakfast
- Pre-Conference Workshop - First Aid and CPR Training, Thursday, August 1st - 12 Noon (Davis HS)
 - Pre-Conference Workshop - True Colors Presentation, Thursday, August 1st - 6 PM
 - Pre-Conference Workshop - Hands-on Athletic Taping Session, Thursday, August 1st - 6 PM

- Registration fee enclosed (\$75 before July 10, 2002)
- Late Registration fee enclosed (\$85 from July 11-22, 2002)

Make check or purchase order payable to WIAA School P.O. Personal Check

NO MAIL REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER JULY 22

Return to: Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA)
435 Main Avenue South, Renton, WA 98055, Phone: 425/687-8585 FAX: 425/687-9476
Questions: Contact Chee Chee Brusklund, Tim Stevens or Jim Meyerhoff at the WIAA Office

(This form may be photocopied as needed.)

2002 3A/4A East - West Football Roster

West Team

No.	Name	Ht	Wt	Position	School	Coach
1	Jason Peters	6'2"	215	RB-DB	Evergreen	Jim Fortner
2	Ryan Cole	6'0"	205	RB-DB	South Kitsap	DJ Sigurdson
3	Kevin Jones	5'10"	168	RB-DB	Kentwood	Tom Ingles
4	Dominic Dixon	5'10"	180	DB-RB	O'Dea	Monte Kohler
5	Isaiah Stanback	6'3"	195	QB-DB	Garfield	Luther Carr
6	Nathaniel Robinson	5'10"	170	WR-DB	Rainier Beach	Mark Haley
7	Chris Jordan	6'1"	185	DB-WR	Kentlake	Mark Torgeson
8	Markee Broussard	6'0"	185	RB-DB	Mariner	John Ondriezek
9	Brett Bergstrom	6'3"	175	WR-DB	Mount Si	Charlie Kinnune
11	Carl Bonnell	6'3"	195	QB-DB	Kentwood	Tom Ingles
12	Alex Bean	6'2"	190	QB-DB	Eastlake	Jeff Chandler
13	Justin Rusler	6'2"	190	QB-DB	Emerald Ridge	Kelly Susee
14	James Monrean	6'2"	220	ILB-QB	Sehome	Jamie Plenkovich
24	Simi Reynolds	5'10"	155	DB-RB	Skyline	Steve Gervais
31	Steve Dildine	6'1"	205	DE-RB	Bethel	Eric Kurle
32	Joseph Boitano	5'9"	180	RB-ILB	Arlington	John Boitano
33	Ryan Campbell	5'11"	205	DE-RB	Eastside Catholic	Bill Marsh
38	Justin Adkins	6'1"	242	ILB-TE	Mount Vernon	Paul Christianson
42	Jay Johnson	5'1"	210	ILB-RB	Bellevue	Butch Goncharoff
44	Darrell Visser	6'5"	210	DB-WR	Lynden	Curt Kramme
50	Shea Tonkin	6'2"	230	OL-DL	Shorewood	Jeff Weible
51	Max Wilson	6'3"	235	DL-C	Nathan Hale	Ron Cunningham
52	Julian Tapscott	6'1"	260	DL-OL	Sammamish	Dwaine Hatch
60	Garrett Quinn	6'5"	255	OL-DL	Eastlake	Jeff Chandler
62	Brandon Torrey	6'3"	255	OL-DL	Bethel	Eric Kurle
65	Thoma Sa'au	5'10"	285	C-DL	Rainier Beach	Mark Haley
66	Peter VanDatta	6'2"	240	OL-DL	Central Kitsap	Mark Keel
70	Pouli Tupou	6'2"	280	DL-OL	Evergreen	Jim Fortner
72	Kevin Farnam	6'0"	230	DL-OL	Snohomish	Mark Perry
76	Nate VanerPol	6'6"	295	OL-DL	Federal Way	John Meagher
80	Cody Boyd	6'8"	220	TE-DE	Ferndale	Vic Randall
82	Eric Hass	6'2"	220	DE-TE	Kentridge	Marty Osborn
84	Jason Benn	6'5"	240	TE-DE	O'Dea	Monty Kohler

Head Coach: Eric Kurle

Assistant Coaches: John Ainslie, Gordon Elliott, Jim Hadland, Scott Logan

3A/4A East-West Football Game
Friday, June 28
Everett Memorial Stadium

2002 3A/4A East - West Football Roster

East Team

No.	Name	Ht	Wt	Position	School	Coach
1	Cameron Rogers	6'2"	208	OLB	Woodrow Wilson	Don Clegg
2	Andrew Banks	5'7"	155	WR-DB	White River	Dominic Yarrington
3	Cade Kittrell	6'0"	205	OLB	Moses Lake	Greg Kittrell
4	Josh Williamson	6'4"	215	TE	West Valley (Yakima)	Bob Altshuler
5	Sam Grovon	6'1"	185	DB	Columbia River	John O'Rourke
6	Marshall Smith	6'0"	180	WR	Pasco	Steve Graff
7	Demetrius Wells	5'10"	156	DB	Henry Foss	Scott Nordi
8	David Thompson	5'9"	170	DB-WR	Walla Walla	Marc Yonts
9	Marcus Clift	6'2"	175	WR	Ferris	Clarence Hough
11	Kose Kuaea	6'2"	240	OLB	Lakes	Dave Miller
12	Tim Benzel	6'3"	190	QB	Evergreen	Cale Piland
14	Mark Manning	6'1"	215	ILB	Bellarmine Prep	Mike Baldassin
17	Adam Carriker	6'6"	245	OLB	Kennewick	Warren Hull
19	Sawyer Smith	6'5"	200	QB	W.F. West (Chehalis)	Ivor Hoglund
22	Nolan Teasley	6'0"	200	RB-DB	Ellensburg	Randy Affholter
23	Jonathan Carlson	6'0"	180	RB	Camas	Bob Holman
24	Jordan Reffett	6'5"	250	DT	Moses Lake	Greg Kittrell
32	André Anderson	5'10"	180	RB	Lincoln	Dick Zatkovich
44	Scott Davis	6'0"	210	RB	Kamiakin	Craig Beverlin
47	Joey Cwik	6'1"	220	ILB	Mead	Sean Carty
49	Justin Moody	6'3"	245	DE	East Valley (Spokane)	Adam Fisher
50*	Devin Jones	6'0"	271	DL-OL	Ellensburg	Andy Affholter
52	Ben Warren	6'0"	210	ILB	Mountain View	Mike Woodward
53	Caleb Miller	5'10"	210	NG	Walla Walla	Marc Yonts
54	Mike Greenberg	6'2"	260	OL	Mountain View	Mike Woodward
55	Brycen Wesen	5'8"	180	ILB	Centralia	John Schultz
56	Harrison Nikolao	6'3"	230	DE	Lincoln	Dick Zatkovich
58	Jeff Nasland	6'4"	220	C	Mead	Sean Carty
61	Cade Granberg	6'2"	305	OL	Fife	Adam Greve
68	Ryan Clivton	6'2"	265	OL	Kelso	Pay Hymes
70	Tony Volponi	6'6"	285	OL	Olympia	Bill Beattie
79	Chris Reeves	6'5"	305	OL-DI	Central Valley	Rick Giampietri
90	Ryan Cogley	6'2"	195	WR	Cheney	Tom Oswald
95	Brandon Arenas	6'2"	220	TE	Henry Foss	Scott Nordi
96	Jimmy Hopkins	6'1"	265	DT	Woodrow Wilson	Don Clegg

*Injured

Head Coach: Marc Yonts

Assistant Coaches: Mike Braddock, Ryan Carter, Mike Gobel, Mark Thompson

3A/4A East-West Football Game
Friday, June 28
Everett Memorial Stadium

2002 3A/4A East - West Football Coaches

East Team

MARC YONTS - Head Coach **Walla Walla High School**

Marc is a graduate of Central Washington University with a BA in Biology and of Northwest Nazarene College with an MA in Education. He and his wife Gina have been married for 12 years and have two children; Ryan (7 yrs.) and Kennedy (6 yrs.). He has been the head football coach at Walla Walla for 6 years and enjoys working with young people in competition and being part of a great staff. Marc's proudest coaching moment was when he had the opportunity to coach in the 1994 Kingbowl vs. South Kitsap.

MIKE BRADDOCK - Assistant Coach **Walla Walla High School**

Mike is a graduate of Eastern Washington university and holds a BA in Secondary Education/Social Studies. He has two children with his wife Lisa, a son Andrew (10 yrs.) and a daughter Alison (5 yrs.). He likes coaching because of the camaraderie of the coaching staff and also because of the energy he gets from his student/athletes. His proudest coaching moment occurred during the 2001 football season when his team limited their opponents to few yards after the catch.

MIKE GOBEL - Assistant Coach **Walla Walla High School**

Mikes holds a BA from Eastern Washington University and a MA from Northwest Nazarene University. He and his wife Mira have two children; Emylee (8 yrs.) and Bryson (6 yrs.). He likes coaching because of the opportunity it provides him to influence young people in a more personable way than classroom teaching provides.

RYAN CARTER - Assistant Coach **Walla Walla High School**

Ryan is a graduate of Central Washington University with a degree in Special Education. He is the varsity football defensive coordinator, assistant girls basketball coach and assistant baseball coach at Walla Walla High School. He likes coaching because of the lessons he feels that his student/athletes take away from participating in

athletics and because he loves working with kids. His proudest moment was when two of his student/athletes earned invitations to play in the all-state game.

MARK THOMPSON **Walla Walla High School**

Mark graduated from Whitman College with a degree in History. He and his wife MaryLynn have four children; Matt, Andy, David and Megan. He likes coaching because it provides him with an opportunity to help young people develop life skills – time commitment, character, integrity and leadership. His proudest coaching moment is simply being a “Blue Devil.”

West Team

ERIC KURLE - Head Coach **Bethel High School**

Eric is a graduate of Pacific Lutheran University with a degree in Physical Education/Special Education and a Masters in Technology. He has three children with his wife Erika; Tyler (5 yrs.), Ian (3 yrs.) and Colby (4 months). He is the winner of the 1997 PCL Coach of the Year award, the SPSC Coach of the Year award for 1999, 2000 and 2001 and the 2001 Washington State Football Association's Coach of the year. He likes coaching for the relationships he establishes with his student/athletes and the challenges that occur. Eric's proudest moment came when he coached the state championship game in 2000.

JIM HADLAND - Assistant Coach **Bethel High School**

Jim graduated from Pacific Lutheran University with a degree in Communication Arts. He spent 30 years as an assistant football coach at Washington State and has been the assistant football coach at Bethel HS for the past 3 years. Jim and his wife Susan have two daughters; Hillary (13 yrs.) and Hannah (10 yrs.). He likes coaching because it allows him to continue to compete athletically despite his age and for the times when he can feel that he's really made a difference. He is proudest of those occasions when what he has suggested or instructed works successfully for his players or team.

SCOTT LOGAN - Assistant Coach
Bethel High School

Scott has a degree in Education from Pacific Lutheran University and has been the Defensive Line Coach at Bethel High School for the past 3 years. He and his wife Stacy have four children; Jeff (11 yrs.), Greg (10 yrs.), Brooke (8 yrs.), and Lauren (7 yrs.). He likes coaching because it keeps him involved with kids and he loves the game. His proudest moment occurred when he was coaching at Lakes High School in 1997 and they won the State AAA Championship.

GORDON ELLIOTT - Assistant Coach
Auburn High School

Gordon holds a BA from the University of Puget Sound and an MA from the University of California – Davis both in Political Science. Together with his wife Sue he has two daughters; Amanda (19 yrs.) and Jenna (16 yrs.). Gordon was the Greater St. Helens League Coach of the

Year in 1990, 1991 and 1992 and received the NW Small College Coach of the Year award in 1994. He enjoys coaching because of the relationships he establishes with his student/athletes and also for the challenge of accomplishing something as a group. Gordon's proudest moments are his first winning season at UPS in 2000 and his first League Championship at Columbia River in 1990.

JOHN AINSLIE - Assistant Coach
Bethel High School

John graduated from Central Washington University with a BA in Social Studies/Physical Education. He and his wife Brenda have four children; Loni, Dawn, Cory and Ryan. He was the SPSL Coach of the Year 1996-2000 and All Area Coach of the Year in 2002. John likes coaching because he loves working with kids in a setting that they love. One of his proudest moments was winning the state football final in 2000 after seventeen years.

2002 Earl Barden Classic Football Rosters

East Team

Name	Ht	Wt	Positions	School
Andy Collins	6'2	195	QB FS	Zillah High School
Garrett Stroscher	6'4	205	WR LB	Lake Roosevelt High School
Shawn Townsend	5'11	200	RB LB	Okanogan High School
Jeff Pittman	6'5	225	TE DL	Colfax High School
Jason Rinker	6'0	175	QB DB	Reardan High School
Michael Griffiths	6'4	200	TE DE	Chelan High School
Andy Gylling	5'9	165	RB LB	Colfax High School
Sam Hall	6'0	175	WR DB	Colfax High School
Nathan Neddo	6'0	175	QB	Cashmere High School
Chris Tran	5'11	162	RB DB	Columbia-Burbank High School
Casey Sanford	6'1	175	WR DB	Naches High School
Antonio Torres	5'7	160	WR DB	White Swan High School
Nick Portrey	6'1	180	RB LB	Ritzville High School
Drew Killian	6'6	215	TE DL	Othello High School
Matt Mullennix	6'5	220	RB LB	Liberty High School
Eric Bozarth	6'1	170	WR DB	Royal High School
Jacob Gonzalez	5'11	225	FB LB	Connell High School
Jeremy Whitney	6'0	195	RB LB	Lakeside High School
Jodan Tilla	5'10	185	RB LB	Jenkins High School
James Richardson	6'2	240	OL DL	Waitsburg High School
Joe Jewett	6'2	290	C DL	Highland High School
Shane Pyper	6'1	205	C DL	Omak High School
Clark Pauls	6'0	250	OL LB	Davenport High School
Michael Broeckel	5'9	225	OL DL	LaCrosse-Washtucna High School
Nate Rubio	5'9	195	OL DL	Brewster High School
Derek Berry	6'2	250	OT DL	Cle Elum High School
Cole Wiggins	6'5	250	OL DE	Warden High School
Timote Uasike	5'10	275	OL DT	Zillah High School
Pat Woodiwiss	6'1	285	OL DL	Kittitas High School
Joey Onigkeit	6'4	265	OL DE	Riverside High School
Tim Calhoun	6'4	230	TE DL	Zillah High School

Head Coach: Dan Graham - Reardan High School

Assistant Coaches: Eric Nikkola - Reardan, Matt Bona - Lk. Roosevelt, Brian Dunn, Lakeside (Nine Mile Falls)

**Congratulations 2A-A-B All-State
Football Players!**

2002 Earl Barden Classic Football Rosters

West Team

No.	Name	Ht	Wt	Positons	School
Brian	Sunderland	6'0"	175	WR/DB	Orting
Jason	Wargo	5'10"	200	RB/LB/Kicker	Orting
Eric	Gordon	5'10"	165	QB/SS	Onalaska
Mark	Simmons	5'9"	160	QB/DB	Meridian
Cory	Harrington	5'11"	170	QB/DB	Orcas
Sean	O'Rourke	5'10"	165	QB	Eatonville
Chris	Bannish	6'1"	175	QB/DB	Willapa Valley
Jacob	Washburn	6'4"	187	WR/DB	Cascade Christian
A.J.	Geiss	6'1"	195	QB/DB	Foster
Dustin	Schmitt	5'11"	165	DB/RB/Rec.	Napavine
Gavin	Wofford	6'0"	170	DB/RB	Tacoma Baptist
Sam	Price	5'10"	195	RB/WR/DB	Foster
Rusty	Wilson	6'2"	225	RB/LB	Concrete
Brandon	Young	6'2"	185	RB/LB	LaConner
Clint	Bosman	5'10"	160	WR/DB/Ret	Lynden Christian
Brian	Wilson	5'11"	185	RB/DB/Ret. Specialist	Willapa Valley
Adam	Thoeny	6'2"	215	LB/DE/TB/FB	Woodland
Zeth	Simpson	5'10"	170	RB/DB	Blaine
James	Scheer	6'1"	205	LB/FB	Onalaska
Kyle	Hawes	6'0"	175	LB	Rochester
Drew	Davison	6'3"	220	RB/LB	Sultan
Ryan	Vessey	5'8"	230	LB/OL	Montesano
Bobby	Kelly	5'5"	150	LB/RB	White Pass
Mike	Wild	6'2"	235	RB/LB	White Salmon
Mike	Morris	6'1"	190	OL/LB/Snapper	Port Townsend
Matt	Padgett	6'1"	230	OT/DT	Willapa Valley
Kevin	Jones	5'10"	225	G/T	Darrington
Mitch	Thompson	5'10"	200	OL/LB	Nooksack Valley
Bob	Tuttle	5'11"	205	OL/DL	Rainier
Eric	Sutton	6'3"	230	OL/DL	Elma
Otani	Tovia	5'9"	250	OL/DL	Elma
Lee	Hinton	6'0"	205	LB	LaConner
Darrin	Heerspink	6'6"	240	OL/DL	Lynden Christian
Mike	Allinson	6'2"	245	OL/DL	Meridian
Zeb	Bagley	6'0"	230	OL/DL	Toledo
Jamie	Rakevich	6'2"	230	OL/DL	Elma
Dain	Carsen	6'2"	175	TE/LB	Tacoma Baptist
Keith	McMillen	5'10"	165	FL/DB	White Salmon

Head Coach: Mark Smith - Tacoma Baptist

Assistant Coaches: Jack McDicken - Sultan, Ron Bagby - Coupeville

EARL BARDEN CLASSIC BECOMES A SINGLE-HEADER

Finances Reduce All-Star Game to a Single Contest

In the summer of 1995, under the direction of Earl Barden the “small-school” All-Star Classic was born. Earl was a businessman in Yakima that spent most of his life supporting the youth of the Yakima valley. The Classic flourished for several years under his direction and was a summer event enjoyed by all. As many of you know, Earl passed away in the winter of 1999. That year the WIAA reclassified the schools in Washington and the “Classic” double-header was born. We expanded to 2 all-star

It was always an awesome feeling for me when I called or talked to a player and being selected was “the greatest thing that ever happened to me coach...”

games. We brought 120 players, 16 coaches and many, many volunteers to Yakima to play in 2 all-star contests.

It was with great disappointment that the game was cut from a double-header to a single game this year.

The main reason

for this decision was financial. The single game had always brought in plenty of money to support the costs of putting on the contest. The fund-raising, ticket-selling and ad sales allowed us to spend more on the players each year. The difficulty came with the double-header. Housing, feeding and entertaining 120 players was an amazing fete. Uniforms, insurance and transportation became a major concern. We were definitely losing ground each year.

But, there was another factor that prompted the decision to scale back. For whatever reason there seems to be a bit of apathy by players that were selected. The honor of being in the game had lost some of the sparkle.....Perhaps because we had too many players from single teams, perhaps the game had become watered down.....Coaches weren't promoting the honor of being selected to their teams and players. It was always an awesome feeling for me when I called or talked to a player and being selected was “the greatest thing that ever happened to me coach...” One of the coaches

selected to play this year made the statement to me, “This is just incredible, I am so honored....are you sure you have the right guy??” When we had one game, we NEVER had any players say, “I'll think about it and get back to you....” Players did not fulfill their financial obligations to play in the game and we let it slide... We have never denied a player his spot on the team because of finances. Well, the days of financial stability have changed that. We were losing ground in large chunks due to the costs of the game. The “lack of effort” by players selected fulfilling their obligations have also hindered our ability to continue. We have lost some of our major sponsors that have been having financial problems in the past year. Coaches need to get on board with their players and help them organize fund-raisers and get their ads and paperwork completed on time.

Perhaps some of the problems are in the process, perhaps in the fund-raising, perhaps people feel that they aren't included. I have written article after article in the WSCA magazine inviting coaches to participate as go-phers in the games. Any help in making this a better situation for all are welcomed... Yes, we could use a major sponsor, but to all those who have offered help, thanks. To those who have promised and not returned my calls or letters, thanks too.

The games committee for the WSCA Earl Barden Classic would love to go back to a double-header. I feel that there are many good small school athletes out there that should be playing in the game. Hopefully this year we will “cut back on the fat” and finish with a balance that we feel will allow us to sponsor a double-header next year. So far, the response from this years players and coaches has been fantastic. Kimmel and Pepsi of Yakima continue to support us, the community of Yakima and the Yakima Public Schools have continued to extend a helping hand....Hopefully, in the summer of 2003, you will see the return of the “Earl Barden All-Star Double-header”. It will be up to you, the coaches of the WSCA that will help us return to this format. Oh, yes there is still time for sponsors to participate if you know of any.....

Coach Bill “Alex” Alexander
Classic Committee Chairman
787-3501, Quincy High School, 787-1152, home
walexand@qsd.wednet.edu

THE FINANCIAL CORNER

by Ed Crafton
Shelgren Financial Group, Inc.
(800) 367-4388 ext. 121 or (206) 310-1357
Email: ecrafton@shelgrenfinancial.com

Ed is a Retirement Planning Specialist and Investment Advisor with Shelgren Financial Group, Inc. in Renton, WA.



Legislative Update -

Two bills that I wanted you to keep an eye on, where the \$150,000 Death Benefit for employees that die as a result of injuries sustained in the course of employment and a limit to post-retirement hiring....both failed to pass.

Employee Contribution Levels for PERS, SERS and TRS

New contribution rates have been established for employees, effective 4/2002. The new rates are:

PERS 2 - 0.65%

SERS 2 - 0.35%

TRS 2 - 0.15%

Plan 1 employees are still 6% and of course Plan 3 employees have a choice of various contribution levels.

DRS website, www.wa.gov/DRS/leg/index.htm

Market Update - "Have we seen the bottom?"

People are still asking that question. The markets continue to struggle to find a base to work from. There are no areas in the market that look significantly better than another at this point. I happen to think that our real rebound may coincide with the next September 11th! I have been looking for a fall rebound since last year anyway, so why not! The markets will not rebound until the fear of another drop is very significant. It's just the way markets have "behaved" for decades.

I asked Steve Shelgren, President of Shelgren Financial Group to give us his opinion regarding investment fees, here is Steve's perspective:

Are Fees hurting your investments?

Lately in the investment world there has been a lot of discussion about fees and how they affect the growth of an investment. One of the by products is clients wanting to invest in accounts that have the lowest fees because it

is seen as the most important issue. We have seen this mentioned by mutual fund companies, state agencies, and some money managers and in periodicals published by the financial planning industry. An investment decision based on *fees only* could be one of the costliest mistakes of one's financial career. When selecting the right type of investment program, there are four issues that should be considered:

1. The issue of fees should be understood from all aspects.
2. Always look at past performance of investments and choose an allocation model that is best suited to achieve your financial goals.
3. Know yourself. Seek help if you are unable to devote the time and effort required to keep up on investments and changing tax codes.
4. Always invest through a financial planner that will on an ongoing basis be able to service your accounts and help you reach your financial goals.

When contemplating a new car purchase, how many of us go to the nearest car lot to buy the cheapest car? I would guess that very few people do. Most of us decide what type of car we want before going shopping. Then we find a car with the options we want, then negotiate the best deal we can for what we want.

Let's look at four things you should consider when choosing an investment:

1. You should know and understand what fees are being

cont. on page 32

tions available for each investment being considered, and add those deemed appropriate. The cheapest investment may not be the most suitable for what is necessary for your particular financial plan.

2. It is absolutely imperative to consider past performance when selecting investment for your portfolio. As an example, many lower cost funds, called index funds, structurally have no portfolio manager, so you would be investing in a group of stocks (and/or bonds) that a third party has chosen to represent that particular sector of investments. One of the most common indexes used is the S & P 500. Looking back three years from March 31, 2002 at the performance of the entire pool of mutual funds available (totaling 14,502*), you will find 9,363 specific mutual funds that have out-performed the S & P 500. Another very common fund is MSCI EAFE Index, which is made up of international stocks. This particular index fund has actually lost money in the last three years and within its own universe (1066 funds with a three year track record**), 772 out-performed this particular index. The bottom line is, two of the most popular indexes used have been out-performed by hundreds of funds. Direct investment cannot be made in any of the indexes cited and index performance is not indicative of any specific investment. Past performance is not indicative of future results. All indices are unmanaged. Investments are subject to market risk and potential loss of principle.
3. Find a financial planner you are comfortable with. Have them assess your risk tolerance and then build a proper asset allocation model designed to adequately prepare you for your financial future. Many financial planners will charge somewhere in the neighborhood of 1% of invested assets to do so, and if they can assist you in finding just one of these hundreds of funds that out-perform the low fee funds, you could very likely find yourself in a better position for retirement. Again, buying the cheapest fund may not provide you with the best overall results.
4. Find a financial planner that has a history of longevity in working with clients. This is not only to help you with your investment decisions overtime but also to keep current with ever-changing tax laws, ensuring that you are in the right investment plan for you, i.e., should you have some money in a Roth IRA, or should you stay in a 457 Plan? Should you contribute more money to a TSA for future loans? Should you go to a nondeductible IRA or should you stay in a Variable Annuity? Many questions will come up and the answers, as well as the tax code, are ever changing.

In summation, be careful of groups that only advertise low fees with no mention of ongoing investment services. In the long run, there may not be anyone there to help make individual decisions in this ever growing and complex world of investing and tax code changes.

*The 14,502 funds are tracked by a data base call Mutual Fund expert.

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