

# MHSAA<sup>®</sup>

michigan high school athletic association

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Volume LXXXIII  
Number 7

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### *Spring Cleaning —*

**Visit the School Directory page of [mhsaa.com](http://mhsaa.com) to update  
school personnel and building information**

*The Only Official  
Interpretations Are Those  
Received In Writing*

ON THE COVER

Spring is here, and with it comes the beginning of several outdoor sports seasons, including boys tennis and boys and girls track & field.

*MHSAA file photos*

**MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**  
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Board of Education  
Tawas Area Schools  
Appointee

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Negaunee Public Schools  
Class C-D — Upper Peninsula

**Ken Dietz\*\***

Athletic Director  
Watervliet High School  
Class C-D — Southwestern Michigan

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Dean of Students  
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Junior High/Middle Schools

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Private and Parochial Schools

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**Roberta Stanley (ex-officio)**

Office of Administrative Law and Federal Relations,  
Michigan Dept. of Education  
Lansing  
Designee

\*Term Expires December 2008

\*\*Term Expires December 2007

**Any individual who is a representative of a member school (faculty member or Board of Education member) may become a candidate for the MHSAA Representative Council. Please contact the MHSAA Executive Director for an outline of procedures.**

**MHSAA Staff**

**Randy Allen**, Assistant Director

**Tony Bihn**, Director of Information Systems

**Jordan Cobb**, Assistant Director of Information Systems

**Andy Frushour**, Marketing and Special Programs Coord.

**Nate Hampton**, Assistant Director

**John R. Johnson**, Communications Director

**Rob Kaminski**, Publications and Web Site Coordinator

**Camala Kinder**, Administrative Assistant

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**Peggy Montpas**, Bookkeeper

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**Thomas M. Rashid**, Associate Director

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**Sharla Stokes**, Administrative Assistant

**Mark Uyl**, Assistant Director

**Jamie VanDerMoere**, Administrative Assistant

**Faye Verellen**, Administrative Assistant

**Debbie Waddell**, Executive Assistant

**Kathy Vrugink Westdorp**, Assistant Director

**Karen Yonkers**, Executive Assistant

Not all the facts presented to the Executive Committee and Representative Council as part of requests to waive eligibility regulations are included in the reports of those meetings, either because of the volume of material reviewed or the confidentiality requested by schools for their students, parents or faculty.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, March 22, 2007

### Members Present:

Paul Ellinger, Cheboygan  
Keith Eldred, Williamston  
William Newkirk, Meridian  
Dan Flynn, Escanaba  
Ken Dietz, Watervliet

### Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid  
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

The Executive Committee reviewed its authority under Article VII of the MHSAA Constitution and specifically its responsibility to consider each application for waiver of an eligibility requirement on its individual merits, determining if the regulation serves the purpose for which it was intended in each case or if the regulation works an undue hardship on any student who is the subject of a request for waiver. (These underlying criteria may not be restated for every subject of these minutes.)

The Executive Committee was reminded that it was the responsibility of each member school involved to provide sufficient factual information about the specific request for the Executive Committee to reach a decision without further investigation. If information is incomplete, contradictory or otherwise unclear or has been received too late to be studied completely, the Executive Committee may deny the request for waiver or delay action. Such requests may be resubmitted to the Executive Committee with additional information at a subsequent meeting or appealed to the full Representative Council.

It is possible that some of the information presented as facts to the Executive Committee by school personnel and others may be inaccurate. However, to avoid constant repetition in this report of phrases such as "it was alleged" or "it was reported," no attempt is made in the introduction of each waiver request to distinguish between truth,

allegation, hearsay, opinion, summary or conclusion. If any information provided to the Executive Committee is inaccurate, any decision of the Executive Committee to grant waiver of a regulation shall be null and void.

The Executive Committee is not authorized to grant waiver based on alleged or actual differences between schools based on "environment," demographics, curriculum or extracurricular offerings. A determination of undue hardship is a matter addressed to the discretion of the Executive Committee within the educational philosophy and secondary role of voluntary extracurricular competitive athletics in the academic environment. The Executive Committee will avoid making exceptions that would create precedent that effectively changes a rule without Representative Council action or local board of education adoption, which would exceed Executive Committee authority. The contract the MHSAA has with member schools obligates the MHSAA to not change rules during the school year.

Students for whom waiver of a particular regulation is granted must be eligible in all other respects under all sections and interpretations of the regulations prior to their participation.

Adoption of these regulations, as well as policies, procedures and schedules of MHSAA tournaments, is a choice schools make locally when they consider their option of MHSAA membership. Consistent with rulings of the Attorney General and Michigan Supreme Court, schools are not bound by the decisions of the Executive Committee, but the association may limit participation in the postseason tournaments it sponsors to those schools which choose to apply rules and penalties as promulgated by the MHSAA and adopted by each member school's board of education. The MHSAA exercises no independent authority over schools or students.

**Ann Arbor-Pioneer High School (Regulation I, Section 1)** - A request to waive the enrollment regulation and specifically Interpretation 51 (specialized curriculum member school) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Pioneer High School for the 9th and 10th grades before enrolling at a non-member school, Washtenaw Middle Technical College, to begin the 2006-07 school year. The student continues to reside in the Pioneer attendance area and is enrolled full time at Washtenaw Middle Technical School.

Noting the specific requirement of Interpretation 51 (that both schools are MHSAA member schools), the Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Burton-Valley Christian Academy and Flint-The Valley School (Regulation I, Section 1[E])** - The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two schools in girls basketball and girls soccer. The combined enrollment of 78 students will place the teams in the Class D and Division 4 tournaments, respectively. Valley Christian High School sponsored both sports previously and will be the primary school. The Valley School was previously in a girls soccer cooperative program begun in September 2003 with Flint-Michigan School for the Deaf. This program was inactive and formally dissolved on March 12, 2007. The Inner State Athletic Conference approved the agreement.

**Chassell and Dollar Bay High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E])** - The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls cross country between these two schools. Chassell sponsored a team previously and will be the primary school. The combined enrollment of 176 students will place the program in Division 3 of the Upper Peninsula Cross Country Tournament. Support from conference opponents was received.

**South Lyon and South Lyon-East High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F])** - The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls bowling, boys and girls swimming & diving, boys and girls lacrosse and ice hockey between these two schools of the same district. South Lyon East is a new high school which will be opening for the first time to begin the 2007-08 school

year with 9th- and 10th-grade students only. South Lyon High School sponsored all sports previously and will be the primary school. The combined projected enrollment for the 2007-08 school year is 2,146 students (431 students at South Lyon East). All seven teams will be placed in MHSAA Division 1 tournaments. Support from the Kensington Valley Conference was received for all sports.

**Waterford Mott and Waterford Kettering High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F])** - A request was made to delay implementation of the 3,500-student enrollment cap for cooperative programs on behalf of these two schools of the same district for cooperative agreements in boys and girls skiing and boys and girls lacrosse until the end of the 2007-08 school year if the combined enrollment remains in excess of 3,500 students. The school district learned on March 15, 2007 that enrollment figures submitted by the school would require dissolution of four existing cooperative programs to comply with the 3,500-student cap. The school district asked for waiver of the 3,500-student enrollment limit for one year because scheduling, participation levels and budget plans for 2007-08 are not sufficient at this time to support one team from each school in the sports involved, and projections are that enrollment will be declining in its two high schools. The school district indicated the goal of stand-alone teams in these sports, and it indicated it would not request waiver for 2008-09 if the schools' combined enrollment exceeds 3,500. The supervisor of athletics and assistant principal at Warren Mott High School met with the committee.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver for boys and girls skiing and boys and girls lacrosse for the 2007-08 school year only. Waiver is not to be granted if the combined enrollment exceeds 3,500 students by any amount for any reason.

**Middleton-Fulton High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5)** - A request to waive the maximum semesters portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who was expelled from Ithaca Middle School in the 8th grade in May 2003 and placed in the Saginaw County Juvenile Detention Center School, attending classes from Aug. 4, 2003 until Oct. 23, 2003.

His grade designation on the Saginaw ISD transcript for the Detention Center School was "Grade 9" and he was given passing grades for five of seven courses during the first quarter of the 2003-04 school year. Ithaca Schools did not grant any credit for these classes. In December 2003, the student was assigned a homebound teacher by Ithaca Schools for the second semester of 2003-04. The student did not earn any homebound credits and was returned for six days to the detention center school. In the fall of 2004, the student began at Ithaca High School as a 9th-grader and continued for four semesters there until enrolling at Middleton-Fulton High School to begin the 2006-07 school year in the student's seventh and eighth semesters since attending classes in the detention center school in 2003-04. The school indicated that the student never left expelled status in 2003-04 (detention center school and homebound) and did not begin the 9th grade until the 2004-05 school year.

The Executive Committee noted that educational records show the student has been in attendance and received grades in four first semesters, the maximum opportunity allowed all students in MHSAA member schools; and the request for waiver was denied.

**Birmingham-Seaholm High School (Regulation I, Section 7)** - A request to waive the previous semester record regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who suffers from multiple medical/emotional conditions so severe the student has undergone intensive inpatient and outpatient care several times in the past year and as recently as January 2007. The student enrolled at Brother Rice High School to begin the 9th grade in the 2004-05 school year and transferred after one semester, enrolling at Seaholm in January 2005. The student struggled academically throughout his schooling and was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder in September 2005 as he began the 10th grade. The student entered a hospital for eight days in February 2005 and then attended a wilderness camp in Utah until early May 2006 when the student returned to Seaholm High School and underwent outpatient therapy. In December 2006, the student attended an inpatient program in Howell from Dec. 17, 2005 to Jan. 6, 2007. As a result of the stu-

dent's condition, the student received "health" grades from Seaholm except for two classes listed as failures. The student was hospitalized again on Feb. 26, 2007.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver of Section 7 only and advised the school to closely observe the situation for compliance with the current semester record regulation and local eligibility rules. Furthermore, the first semester of the current school year counts against the maximum of four first semesters and eight total semesters allowed.

**Roscommon High School (Regulation I, Sections 7 & 9)** - A request to waive the previous semester record and transfer regulations was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended school in Indianapolis and now resides with an aunt in the Roscommon School District, enrolling Jan. 22, 2007. The student was the victim of a crime in September 2004, witnessed an auto accident where a man was burned alive in his truck, and experienced the suicide of a close friend. The student has been unable to focus on class work, attempted adult education in Indiana and passed one class in the first semester of the 2006-07 school year. This current semester is the student's eighth overall semester of enrollment.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**Ypsilanti-Willow Run High School (Regulation I, Sections 7 & 9)** - A request to waive the previous semester record and transfer regulations was made on behalf of an 18-year-old 12th-grade student who previously attended Monroe High School before enrolling at Willow Run High School on Feb. 1, 2007. The student moved out of her guardian's home and into her own residence in the Saline High School district which did not enroll the student after two weeks. As a child, the student was injured in a tractor accident, and she has many medical problems. The student was on homebound status, undergoing therapy four days a week for 2.5 hours per day and unable to pass 20 credit hours during the first semester of the 2006-07 school year at Monroe High School before moving to Saline and enrolling at Willow Run High School. An Educational Transfer Form is in process.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver upon completion of an Educational Transfer Form by both schools and the MHSAA office.

**Auburn-Bay City Western High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B & D])** - A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year. The student previously attended Adrian High School, did not participate in athletics, and lived with her mother. The student now lives with her paternal grandparents in the Bay City Western School District, enrolling at Bay City Western on March 1, 2007.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Bay City Western High School.

**Battle Creek-Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Battle Creek Public Schools for his entire career except for ten school days from Feb. 26 - March 9, 2007, when the student and his 8th-grade brother attended Battle Creek-Lakeview for safety reasons. The students were threatened by gang members in connection with a parent's employment. The student reenrolled at Central High School on March 12, 2007.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**Battle Creek-St. Philip Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D])** - A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Battle Creek-Central High School where she participated in basketball and enrolled at St. Philip on March 6, 2007.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at St. Philip Catholic Central High School.

**Burton-St. Thomas More Academy (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 60 (closest school of the same denomination) was made on behalf of a 9th-

grade student who previously attended a Catholic boarding school in Rhode Island. Her mother was in a serious auto accident and the student returned to the family home in Davisburg, enrolling at St. Thomas More on Feb. 20, 2007. The family residence in Davisburg is closer to Clarkston-Everest Catholic Academy than to St. Thomas More Academy. The student's relatives operate St. Thomas More and several cousins are enrolled there.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**Canton-Agape Christian Academy (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A late request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who previously attended Agape Christian Schools for elementary and middle school and enrolled at Ypsilanti High School to begin the 2006-07 school year before reenrolling at Agape Christian for the start of the second semester. The student played basketball at Ypsilanti High School and was challenged daily by other students.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Center Line High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended school in California while residing with her parents and two siblings. The student's parents are separated and have filed for divorce. The mother remains in California. The father moved to Michigan on Sept. 8, 2007, eventually residing in Center Line and finding a job at Macomb Community College. Due to volatility between the student and her mother, it was determined that the student should move to Michigan to reside with the father, enrolling in late December at Center Line High School. The mother retains shared custody for this student, and two of the student's siblings continue to live with the mother.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Edwardsburg High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who currently resides and previously attended school in Indiana before enrolling at Edwardsburg High School to start

the second semester of the 2006-07 school year. The family purchased land in the Edwardsburg School District in November 2006 and intended to have a home completed and ready for occupancy the last week of March 2007. Low temperatures and enforcement of frost laws have caused great delays in the construction. No date was provided for completion or occupancy.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Grand Haven High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B])** - A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year. The student previously attended school in Florida and has moved with his father into the Spring Lake School District. The student enrolled at Grand Haven High School on Feb. 7, 2007, and did not participate in high school athletics previously.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year.

**Holland High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B & D])** - A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year. The student resides in the Holland School District and previously attended West Ottawa High School. The student enrolled on March 5, 2007, and did not participate in high school athletics previously.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Holland High School.

**Homer High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 11th-grade student whose parents never married and who previously attended school in Oklahoma while residing with her mother. The student moved to the residence of her father who lives in Litchfield and enrolled in Homer High School on Feb. 2, 2007 because the student's three step-siblings (a graduate, a current 12th-grader and an 8th-grader) have been lifelong students at Homer Schools. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer

Form was received, as well as a birth certificate which indicated both parents.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**Kalamazoo Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request was made to waive the transfer regulation in accordance with exception 9 on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended the other high school of the district, Loy Norrix, before enrolling at Kalamazoo Central High School to begin the second semester of the 2006-07 school year. To protect the student from situations that were not her fault, the student was placed at Kalamazoo Central by the Loy Norrix principal and the transfer was approved by the assistant superintendent of student services, as is school board policy. The school reported that the threatening situation was not the fault of the student.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**Kinde-North Huron High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A late request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port High School before enrolling at North Huron High School on Dec. 4, 2007, because of harassment by students at the previous school which prompted the principal at Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port to ask that this student be allowed to attend North Huron High School.

On the basis of the late and limited information available, the Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Kinde-North Huron High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A late request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Bad Axe High School but dropped out of school in the fall to work and support himself. The student's mother is an alcoholic and the father is not a part of the student's life. The student became emancipated on Jan. 24, 2006 while attending Bad Axe High School, living on his own and working 45-50 hours per week. Eventually, the student moved in with another family in the Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port School District and enrolled at North Huron High School on Dec. 4, 2006.

On the basis of the late and limited infor-



mation available, the Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Ludington High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 60 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Ludington Schools since the 5th grade before moving to Pennsylvania to reside with his divorced father and enrolled in high school there to begin the 2006-07 school year. The student reenrolled at Ludington High School the week of March 5, 2007, and is residing with his mother, a sister and four step-siblings who all attend Ludington Schools but reside in the Scottville-Mason County Central School District. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted except that the student does not live in the Ludington School District.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**Niles High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request was made to waive the transfer regulation and specifically the elements of Exception 8 (Educational Transfer Form signed by both principals) on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose parents are divorced. The student previously attended Buchanan High School where she participated in athletics. She enrolled at Niles High School on Feb. 13, 2007. The student's father resides in Buchanan and the student's mother in Niles. The father has custody of the student, who lived with the father but spent additional time with the mother. Buchanan High School would not sign and thus certify that the Educational Transfer Form was correct because the Buchanan High School enrollment form was filled out by the mother with the Niles address in order to receive school correspondence.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Onaway High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B])** - A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year. The student moved to Onaway to live with his grandparents, enrolled on Jan. 19, 2007, and did not participate in high school athletics previously.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year.

**Otsego High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Otsego Baptist Schools through the 8th grade and enrolled in the 9th grade and participated in athletics at Kalamazoo-Christian High School. The student made the volleyball team in 10th grade but never played due to health issues. Confidential information was submitted. The student was hospitalized from Dec. 18-26, 2006 and continues to receive treatment. She changed schools to begin the second semester of the 2006-07 school year, enrolling at Otsego High School. The family resides in the Allegan School District but enrolled at Otsego because more of the student's classmates from Otsego Baptist enrolled at Otsego High School when Otsego Baptist closed in the fall of 2006 and because she has two sets of cousins who attend Otsego High School.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**South Lyon High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B])** - A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only. The student previously attended school in Indiana, has moved to the residence of an aunt who has legal guardianship, and enrolled at South Lyon High School on March 20, 2007. The student did not participate in athletics previously.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until the first day of the second semester of the 2007-08 school year at South Lyon High School.

**St. Joseph-Lake Michigan Catholic High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B])** - A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year. The student previously attended Benton Harbor-Countryside Academy High School, participated in the football cooperative agreement between these two schools, and enrolled at Lake Michigan Catholic on Jan. 15, 2007.

Citing the specific requirement of the section (no previous participation), the

Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Warren-Macomb Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who attended Macomb Christian Schools for the past eight years except for four days of attendance at Madison Heights-Lamphere High School from Jan. 15-18, 2007. The student withdrew from Macomb Christian at the end of its first semester on Dec. 20, 2006, attended four days to begin Lamphere's second semester and then reenrolled at Macomb Christian High School on Jan. 19, 2007.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**Watervliet High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who was enrolled in Watervliet Schools since the 7th grade before moving to live with his mother and enrolling in high school in Alabama to begin the 2006-07 school year. On Dec. 23, 2006, the student returned to Watervliet to live with his divorced father and the father's second wife and enrolled to begin the second semester at Watervliet on Jan. 22, 2007. After several weeks, the student and stepmother were incompatible, and in mid February the student moved in with friends of his father in the Niles School District but continued to attend Watervliet High School. The Educational Transfer Form has been submitted for the student.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver, noting this is the one time that the Educational Transfer Form may be used for this student.

**Westland-John Glenn High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended another high school and participated in athletics there before enrolling at John Glenn High School on Jan. 22, 2007. The student's mother moved with this student only into the John Glenn attendance area. The student's father and two minor siblings (ages 12 and 8) remain in the previous residence.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**Westland-John Glenn High School (Regulation I, Section 9)** - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Dearborn Heights-Crestwood High School while residing with her parents, siblings, and grandmother in the home of their handicapped uncle. The student, siblings and mother moved into the home of the grandmother in the John Glenn attendance area but the father continues to live between the two houses to provide care for the handicapped uncle. The student enrolled at John Glenn on Jan. 29, 2007, and previously participated in athletics at Crestwood.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver.

**Pewamo-Westphalia High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D])** - A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Portland High School and enrolled at Pewamo-Westphalia on March 12, 2007.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Pewamo-Westphalia High School.

**Escanaba High School (Regulation II, Section 6)** - A request to waive the travel limitation was made to permit Escanaba High School's football team to compete against Foley High School in Foley, Minnesota. Escanaba High School has exhausted scheduling opportunities in Michigan, Wisconsin and Canada for the third week of football. Foley High School exceeds the 600-mile round-trip limit.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver and directed the staff to schedule a discussion of this section and its application at the May Representative Council Meeting.

**Allegan High School (Regulation II, Section 11)** - A request was made to include tennis in the exemption of the summer dead period restrictions (enacted in May 2006 to take effect June 1, 2007) similar to the allowance for baseball and softball. Tennis is a traditional summer team sport and the summer dead period would be a disruption and interrupt scheduled play.

The Executive Committee denied the

request for waiver. It was noted that the Representative Council will discuss in May several matters related to the summer dead period.

**Ann Arbor-Huron High School (Regulation II, Section 11)** - Pursuant to Interpretation 217, a request was made to waive the three-player rule for the 2007-08 school year on behalf of the boys swimming & diving coach whose sole full-time income comes from coaching and who is employed with Club Wolverine, a private USS Swim Club which is conducted at the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University. The program is open to the general public and involves 400-500 participants from age 5-18. There are students from 12 schools or districts other than Huron High School, which has 12 students participating this year.

The Executive Committee tabled the request pending receipt of additional information.

**Bay City-John Glenn High School (Regulation II, Section 11)** - Pursuant to Interpretation 217, a request was made to again waive the three-player rule for the 2007-08 school year on behalf of an individual who serves as the head girls and assistant boys swimming & diving coach at John Glenn High School. The coach is also a college student with 90 percent of his income coming from coaching the Bay Area Youth Swim Club. The program is open to the general public and involves approximately 150 participants from age 5-18 each year. It is anticipated that there will be 3 high school age participants and 20 K-8 participants who are residents of the Bangor Township Schools. There are students from at least 7 other schools or districts other than John Glenn High School who may have students participating in 2007-08.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver for the 2007-08 school year.

**Commerce-Walled Lake Northern and Walled Lake Western High Schools (Regulation II, Section 11)** - Pursuant to Interpretation 217, a request was denied by the Executive Committee on Feb. 21, 2007 to waive the three-player rule on behalf of the high school boys and girls swimming & diving coach at Walled Lake Western and the

girls swimming coach at Walled Lake Northern who were also employed by the Walled Lake Community Education Recreation Division as coaches of the Trident Swim Club. The program was sponsored by the Walled Lake Schools (Community Education) and involved students from grades 1-12. There are 40 swimmers in the program currently, 35 enrolled in the Walled Lake Schools and 19 of these in high school. There are five students from two other high schools and two grade schools. The coaches are employed full-time by this program.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver, noting that Interpretation 217 is intended to assist situations where a school coach's primary employment is as a director or coach of a non-school entity where he/she would have contact with students from many different school districts in a setting involving the sport this person coaches for the school.

The school submitted additional information and actions taken to comply with the stipulations of Interpretation 217 and asked for reconsideration of the previous decision in an effort to get this new program off the ground. The Trident Swim Club has separated from the Walled Lake Schools Community Recreation Department and has become a private club, renting pool time from the district, paying coaches' salaries and advertising separately from the school district. Two of the school coaches involved with the Trident Swim Club reported swim coaching as their sole source of income, the third is employed full-time in private industry and coaches part-time.

The Executive Committee granted the request for waiver for the two full-time club coaches only for the 2007-08 school year only.

**Cooks-Big Bay de Noc High School (Regulation II, Sections 11 & 12)** - A request was made to waive the out-of-season coaching restrictions and prohibition on post-season contests to allow Division 4 schools in the Upper Peninsula which sponsor soccer to be allowed to coach in practice more than three players from their school to a maximum of 15 times out of season and to permit two competitions outside the season during the school year. The request for a variance was

made because of the geographical size of the Upper Peninsula, the population base, the distance between schools, and the lack of access to private indoor facilities and leagues which other parts of the state have. The requesting school hoped to allow these changes to keep students involved to the point that they are not starting over each season from a technical standpoint. The correspondence was given to the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee in January 2007, which did not act because a waiver of the rules was outside its jurisdiction.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Regulation III, Section 1(C)** - Pursuant to Interpretation 242, the following junior high/middle school was granted waiver of the enrollment regulation to permit 6th-grade students to participate with and against 7th and 8th-graders for the sports listed in the 2006-07 school year only.

**Southfield-Faith Christian Academy**  
(girls track & field, baseball)

**Kalamazoo Central and Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix High Schools (Regulation V, Section 4)** - A request was made to waive the forfeiture requirement which occurred as a result of a violation of the current semester record regulation. Interpretation 47 states that non-traditional school students may participate at the base school if the non-traditional program does not have an interscholastic athletic program. Both schools of the district counted and listed non-traditional schools on their 2006 Enrollment Declaration Forms, but the non-traditional program also had a team that participated in the Alternative School Athletic Association's basketball league which, while considered less structured, involves competition against other alternative schools and has been considered to be a school or program with athletics in all other situations. One student from the Kalamazoo Public Schools' non-traditional school (Phoenix Alternative High School) played football, another student wrestled, and by rule, those contests should be forfeited. The school discontinued involvement in the alternative school basketball league.

The Executive Committee denied the request for waiver.

**Detroit-Winans Academy of Performing Arts (Regulation V, Section 4)**

- On Feb. 21, 2007, the Executive Committee reaffirmed the application of the transfer regulation regarding an 11th-grade student who previously attended Walled Lake Central High School before enrolling at Winans Academy on Jan. 22, 2007, due to conflicts with the basketball coach at Walled Lake Central. The student participated in at least five basketball games while ineligible in spite of written (Jan. 29 and Feb. 2, 2007) and verbal (Jan. 24 and 29, 2007) instructions to the contrary from MHSAA staff. The school was also informed again on Feb. 2, 2007 that it must discontinue allowing the student to participate and forfeit previous contests the student participated in while ineligible. The school then opted out of the MHSAA Boys Basketball Tournament and continued to allow the student to participate in games on Feb. 6 and 9, 2007, again in spite of written and verbal instructions to the contrary on Feb. 6, 2007.

On Feb 12, 2007, the school was notified that it must show cause as to why its membership resolution had not been violated. The Executive Committee also reaffirmed the requirements of forfeits for the student's participation and continuing ineligibility under Interpretation 273; and pursuant to Article II, Section 2 of the MHSAA Constitution, the Executive Committee determined that members of the school's administration and governing board would be required to meet with the Executive Committee on March 22, 2007, to show cause why the school had not been in violation of its MHSAA Membership Resolution.

Meeting with the Executive Committee were the chancellor and athletic director, as well as the parents of the transfer student.

The presentation of the chancellor concerned the Executive Committee because it did not assure that the school would not act similarly when another student who was believed to have been unfairly treated transferred into the school. Only following the presentation and in response to direct questions were affirmative answers given to the following:

- (a) That the school understands and agrees that each new student to a school is assumed ineligible under the transfer regulation and must be withheld from interscholastic competition until his/her circumstances are demonstrated to comply with at least one of the 15 stated exceptions of the regulation, which is a condition of the privilege, not right, of participation.
- (b) That the school understands and agrees that it does not require that another school makes a formal complaint or that the MHSAA initiate an investigation before a school must withhold a student from competition over questions of eligibility.

Also, it was only in response to a direct question that it was affirmed that the athletic director is the person directly responsible for administration of the interscholastic athletic program and that the chancellor would "push back" from involvement.

The Executive Committee noted, as did the chancellor, that the school is not new to MHSAA membership. The committee was extremely concerned that the school principal had been removed from his responsibilities for athletics after it was acknowledged to the

MHSAA that this student would be participating in violation of the transfer regulation as a result of the chancellor's involvement.

The Executive Committee determined that the intentional, repeated violations of the regulation in the case of this transfer student required that the school be placed on probation through the end of the 2007-08 school year with all the conditions of *Handbook Interpretation 275* imposed, except that the prohibition on MHSAA tournament participation is for boys basketball only. An additional condition of probation is that the school's athletic director again attend the MHSAA's new athletic director orientation in August 2007.

**Future Meetings** - The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at 8:30 a.m. (Finance Committee Meeting follows); Saturday, May 5, 2007, at 5 p.m. (Representative Council meets Sunday, May 6); Wednesday, June 13, 2007, at 9 a.m.; Monday, Aug. 13, 2007, at 8:30 a.m.; Thursday, Sept. 6, 2007, at 8:30 a.m.; Monday, Oct. 1, 2007, at 9 a.m. (following Annual Business Meeting); Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2007, at 8:30 a.m.; and Thursday, Nov. 29, 2007, at 8:30 a.m. (Representative Council meets Friday, Nov. 30). ■

## ELDRED, HICKMAN RECEIVE FORSYTHE AWARD

Keith Eldred, athletic director at Williamston High School, and Tom Hickman, who recently retired after 39 years of service at Spring Lake High School, are the recipients of the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Charles E. Forsythe Award for 2007.

This annual award is in its 30th year of existence and is named after former MHSAA Executive Director Charles E. Forsythe, the Association's first full time and longest-serving

chief executive. One or two recipients are selected each year by the MHSAA Representative Council, based on an individual's outstanding contribution to the interscholastic athletics community. Eldred (**left**) and Hickman (**right**) were presented the award by MHSAA Representative Council President Paul Ellinger (**center**) on March 25 in East Lansing at halftime of the Boys Basketball Class A Final



Visual Image Photography

# REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

## East Lansing, March 23, 2007

### Members Present:

Renee Bird, Tawas City  
Paul Ellinger, Cheboygan  
Keith Eldred, Williamston  
William Newkirk, Meridian  
Dan Flynn, Escanaba  
Jim Derocher, Negaunee  
Ken Dietz, Watervliet  
Lafayette Evans, Detroit  
Eric Federico, Gibraltar  
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven  
Leroy Hackley, Jenison  
Karen Leinaar, Benzonia  
Vic Michaels, Detroit  
Linda Myers, Morley  
Pete Ryan, Saginaw  
Randy Salisbury, Britton  
Wendy Shepard, Rochester Hills  
Fred Smith, Kalamazoo  
Roberta Stanley, Lansing

### Also Present:

Don Gustafson, St. Ignace  
Paul Polfus, Carney  
Joe Reddinger, Felch  
Catherine Shamion, Ewen  
Ed Sikorski, Ann Arbor  
Jim Thelen, Lansing  
Mike Hawks, Lansing  
Bill Zaagman, Lansing

### Staff Members Present:

Randy Allen  
Tony Bihn  
Jordan Cobb  
Andy Frushour  
Nate Hampton  
Tom Minter  
Tom Rashid  
Jack Roberts (Recorder)  
Mark Uyl  
Kathy Westdorp  
Karen Yonkers

President Paul Ellinger opened the meeting by welcoming Rochester High School Principal Wendy Shepard to her first meeting since being appointed to the Representative Council in December, and he welcomed four members of the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee whose members are invited to attend this meeting on an annual basis.

**Accounts of Meetings** - Motion by Randy Salisbury, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the minutes of the Representative Council Meeting of Dec. 1, 2006; the minutes of the Executive Committee Meetings of Nov. 30, 2006, Jan. 17, 2007 and Feb. 21, 2007 (amended); and the minutes of the Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee Meeting of Jan. 11, 2007. Adopted.

### REPORTS

**Legislation** - Mike Hawks and Bill Zaagman of Governmental Consultant Services, Inc. reviewed the discussion and debate over the State of Michigan's finances; the changes in legislative leadership positions; and the legislation introduced that might directly or indirectly affect inter-scholastic athletics or the Michigan High

School Athletic Association, all of which are re-introductions from the previous legislative session and only two of which have had any progress through the legislative process.

**Litigation** - Ed Sikorski reviewed two judicial matters of long standing, and Jim Thelen reported regarding the association's successful defense of the maximum semesters section of the eligibility regulation in February.

**Administration** - The executive director described the process of publicizing the reclassifying of schools for MHSAA tournaments in 2007-08. Andy Frushour provided a report on the second year of the new scholar-athlete process and the expansion of the MHSAA-sponsored Captains Clinics.

The information systems update from Tony Bihn described the evolutionary process which is occurring to move more of the internal processes of the MHSAA and interaction between the association and its constituents to an online basis and the resulting efficiencies. Jordan Cobb demonstrated a brief portion of an online rules meeting as background to Council discussions later in this meeting and in May.

## OLD BUSINESS

### **Physical Examination and Consent Form**

- In December, the Council discussed the proposal to include a consent to disclosure feature in the physical examination form and the requirement of Regulation I, Section 3. The Council's concern was whether the effective date should be Aug. 1, 2008, as proposed, or Aug. 1, 2007.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Pete Ryan, to approve the following changes in Regulation I, Section 3 and Interpretation 17, effective Aug. 1, 2008 (underscored is new):

"SECTION 3 - No student shall be eligible to represent a high school for whom there is not on file (in the offices of the superintendent or principal or athletic director of that school) statements for the current school year certifying that (1) the student has passed a physical examination and is physically able to compete in athletic tryouts, practices and contests, and (2) there has been consent for the disclosure to the MHSAA of information otherwise protected by FERPA and HIPAA for the purpose of determining eligibility for interscholastic athletics.

"17. A school may use a locally created physical examination card and consent form in complying with this section; but in all instances there must be at least (a) a signed statement by the medical examiner (M.D., D.O., Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner) that the student is physically able to compete in the athletic activity concerned, and (b) a signed statement by the parent or guardian or 18-year-old student to consent for the disclosure to the MHSAA of information otherwise protected by FERPA and HIPAA for the purpose of determining eligibility for interscholastic athletics."

Adopted. It was recommended that the MHSAA form containing the new language be of a different color than the current form.

**Master Eligibility Lists** - As a result of discussions with attendees at 2006 Athletic Director In-Service programs and by the Representative Council last December and with the administrator of the MHSAA-purchased catastrophic accident insurance poli-

cy, two changes in *Handbook* language have been recommended that require Council ratification before appearing in the 2007-08 MHSAA Handbook. Motion by William Newkirk, supported by Scott Grimes, to approve the following:

- (1) Add to Regulation II, Section 4: "Regardless of the method used to submit an eligibility list, the school principal or superintendent shall verify that the list which is submitted is truthful and accurate, has met with the approval of the appropriate school administrator and is submitted on the school's behalf."
- (2) Modify page 96 of the Handbook to read as follows (underscored is new): "All eligible students who participate in interscholastic athletic activities at an MHSAA member school in sports which end with an MHSAA tournament are covered provided their school principal attests in writing and the MHSAA agrees that they were eligible under all MHSAA regulations at the time of the injury. Ineligible student-athletes are not covered. Student-athletes are covered while traveling directly to and from a scheduled event as a representative of the school while traveling in transportation sponsored by the school, and while participating in-season in an allowed activity under the direct supervision of a full-time school employee or coach designated by the school acting within the scope of his/her coaching duties in those sports for which the MHSAA provides a tournament series."

Adopted.

### **Lower Peninsula Swimming & Diving Classification**

- Throughout the discussion of this topic, there has not been serious objection to three equal divisions in Lower Peninsula swimming & diving. There has been concern, however, that Michigan does not have three venues large enough and consistently available to host three divisions in both genders every year (six events). Before approving the expansion from two to three equal divisions, it has been necessary to assure the field of qualifiers in each division would be of a size that could assure there would be several smaller sites available in the state each year to host final tournaments.

The Council reviewed the process and results for limiting qualifiers to the Lower Peninsula Girls and Boys Swimming & Diving Finals in both divisions during 2006-07. These results were not completely acceptable.

Motion by Keith Eldred, supported by Fred Smith, to approve three equal divisions for Lower Peninsula boys and girls swimming & diving, commencing in 2007-08, with the charge to MHSAA staff to limit the field to four heats in each event of each division, utilizing all available means including some not yet utilized, to assure there would be a similar number of total qualifiers as in the past, but spread over three venues per gender, not two (no decrease in total qualifiers, but 50 percent increase in award recipients). Adopted.

**Individual Wrestling Tournament** - In December, the Representative Council approved inclusion of Upper Peninsula schools in a unified statewide MHSAA Individual Wrestling Tournament and requested staff to bring to this meeting details of this accommodation with an eye toward the possibility of improving at least the District level tournament administration and experience. Mark Uyl described the discussions of the MHSAA Wrestling Committee and the options that were studied for shortening the Saturday of Individual District wrestling.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Dan Flynn, to approve the Wrestling Committee recommendation as follows: "For the Individual District Tournament, all sites shall require entries of contestants, followed immediately by the seeding meeting, on the Friday night before Saturday competition. If a wrestler does not make weight in that class the following morning, the wrestler is unable to compete in the tournament and all other wrestlers shall be advanced the appropriate number of bracket or seeded positions." Adopted.

**Calendar Issues** - The Council was presented further results of last fall's online survey of school calendars, as well as results of a recent survey in which schools reported the dates for their required summer dead period in 2007.

For its meeting in May, the Council will receive additional information and a proposal for a modified calendar that will incorporate areas of consensus found during membership

discussions of the past year. The Council may be asked to approve this comprehensive calendar proposal for distribution to the membership (not adoption) to elicit discussion prior to the Council's vote on some or all of the proposals during the 2007-08 school year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Rules Meeting/Rule Publication Policies** - Information and ideas were shared with the Council for its consideration over the next few weeks and vote in May to set the MHSAA on a course (not irreversible) toward online alternatives for rules meetings and alternative sources, frequencies and distribution means for the playing rules themselves.

**National Federation** - The Council reviewed concerns of the MHSAA and other state high school associations for both the operations and program initiatives of the National Federation of State High School Associations. Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by Scott Grimes, to approve with changes the letter from the MHSAA president and the executive director to the National Federation executive director and board of directors in advance of its April meeting. Adopted.

**Vern L. Norris Award** - The Representative Council was presented with the four finalists for the Vern L. Norris Award who had been screened by the MHSAA Awards Committee from all nominees. The Council selected the recipient of the award, which will be presented at the Officials' Awards & Alumni Banquet on May 12, 2007.

**Meetings** - The Representative Council approved expenses for the March Council Meeting and the schedule for the May 2007 Council Meeting.

The Council approved expenses for the National Federation Summer Meeting July 1-5 in Palm Springs at the convention hotel room rate for up to five days, with specified meeting registration fees set by the National Federation, the IRS limit on per diem for up to five days and the transportation limit not to exceed \$873.

**Audit and Finance Committee Report** - Motion by Jim Derocher, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the addition to the investment policy to require the signatures of the executive director and either the associate



director or the assistant to the executive director to transfer funds necessary to purchase or redeem investments. Adopted.

Motion by Randy Salisbury, supported by Pete Ryan, to approve the Audit and Finance Committee recommendation to increase from \$7 to \$8 for the Girls Semifinal Basketball Tournament ticket at Eastern Michigan University during 2007-08 and 2008-09. Adopted. The MHSAA will pay a flat parking cost to the facility so that all patrons have free parking.

Motion by Keith Eldred, supported by Fred Smith, to approve the Audit and Finance Committee proposal to increase the Individual District wrestling officials fee from \$125 to \$150 and the District and Regional volleyball officials fee from \$35 to \$40. Adopted.

Motion by Karen Leinaar, supported by Linda Myers, to approve the Audit and Finance Committee proposal to increase the Girls Gymnastics Finals manager's honorarium from \$200 to \$250 and to increase the Lower Peninsula Boys and Girls Tennis Finals manager's honorarium from \$150 to \$200. Adopted. The Audit and Finance Committee will consider at its April 18 meeting if there is a fair and practical formula for paying the honorarium on a per-day basis when the MHSAA tournament is a multi-day event.

Motion by Ken Dietz, supported by Karen Leinaar, to table the Audit and Finance Committee proposal to increase the mileage reimbursement from 30¢ to 40¢ for Council members, committee members, rule interpreters and staff using their personal vehicles for MHSAA business. Adopted. The committee is to consider the mileage reimbursement for officials and present its recommendation to the Council in May when the Council will take this matter up from the table.

Motion by Vic Michaels, supported by Keith Eldred, to approve the Audit and Finance Committee recommendation regarding the executive director's compensation for 2007-08. Adopted.

Motion by Dan Flynn, supported by Karen Leinaar, to approve the Audit and Finance Committee recommendation for total compensation increases for salaried staff in 2007-08, to be individually determined and administered by the executive director. Adopted.

Motion by Fred Smith, supported by Randy Salisbury, to approve the Audit and Finance Committee recommendation for the total salary compensation for MHSAA hourly staff for 2007-08, to be determined and administered by the executive director. Adopted. ■

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### PERSPECTIVE ON FOOTBALL PLAYOFF EXPANSION

The MHSAA Football Playoffs sometimes get blamed for scheduling difficulties of local schools and stress within leagues and conferences. We're not sure that's fair.

The current Football Playoff plan was designed to, and does accomplish, getting all deserving teams into the season-ending playoffs.

It was designed to assure that no undefeated teams are left out, as once was the case, and to allow one-loss and two-loss and even three-loss teams to get in. It was designed to allow teams to schedule some tough opponents and not worry that a loss or two would disqualify them from the playoffs.

The current plan was not designed for mediocre teams to schedule their way to six

wins. We didn't care that most 5-4 teams missed the playoffs. We were fixing the problem of missing 8-1 and 7-2 teams. That mission was accomplished.

More than 40 percent of the football sponsoring schools qualify for the playoffs, and that's enough; and a five-week, five-game playoff is more than enough.

Moreover, history teaches that there has never been a Football Playoff expansion that has reduced criticism of the playoff format or reduced stress on leagues and conferences. Eventually, every expansion has expanded criticism, and has added to the strain on leagues and conferences. Further expansion will be no different. ■

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### OUR STORY

*Note: This is a portion of the closing message of MHSAA Executive Director John E. (Jack) Roberts At the Mid-Winter Meeting of the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, March 18, 2007.*

Last January I attended a training session on how to give interviews. It was really excellent; and of the several good tips and techniques I picked up, this one may have been the best, and the most useful beyond the interview setting. The trainer urged us to develop and rehearse our "I story," which he said is an explanation of how we got to where we are, who helped us, why we do what we do, what we believe, value and stand for.

Our trainer urged us to repeat this "I story" to ourselves silently before each and every interview, regardless of the topic, and regardless of the importance of the audience. He said it would get us emotionally ready for the interview, more confident, sincere, passionate, persuasive, and more able to get across the points that we wanted to make.

I think this trainer is right. Thinking back, my best interviews, my best articles, my best speeches, my best meetings, my best days – in and out of the office and in and out of controversy – are the times I have remembered and repeated my "I story," how it is I got here, who helped along the way, why it is I do what I do, and what it is I believe, value and stand for.

So I ask you to reflect now: how it is that you got here; who helped you; why it is that you do what you do; and what it is you believe, value and stand for. Get that in mind. Keep it in mind every day. Let it guide you; let it motivate you; and let it reward you.

Those of you who read my little editorial in the December/January *Bulletin* know that I am intending to spend as much time reading about the history of our nation as I do about the trends of modern society. You may also know that I've summarized our high school association's litigation history and have prepared an instructional outline. I'm working on a written history and rationale for the essen-

tial rules of school sports in Michigan. Someday I hope to write a sequel to L. L. Forsythe's book on the first hundred years of high school sports in Michigan.

I think it's important to remember the people and policies that have preceded us in this work, and I strive to be equal parts change agent for our future, and custodian of what's important from our past. I think it's important to remember.

Stop for a moment now and think about the word "remember." Break it down. Remember. Consider the opposite. It's not "forget." The opposite of remember is dismember. To disconnect. To disengage.

Remember means a lot more than merely to think back. Remember means to connect and engage with the past and its people, policies and principles. Remember means to repeat our "I story" again and again. This kind of remembering is essential for our effective and inspired administration of school sports in Michigan.

What would your answer be if I asked you to think of high school sports in your community as a human body, and to choose the part of the body that you represent?

Would you be the head of the body? Would you be the arms and legs that carry out so many tasks? Would you be the heart of the body? Would you be the little toe, providing a little balance to this thing? Or might you be the liver – seeing some of the poison in the body, and doing something about it.

I think our respective "I stories" would reveal what part of this body we're each most like; and also it would reveal a feature common to all of our stories: we see ourselves as just one part of this thing, a part of a greater effort, a part of a team.

Last November at the MHSAA office, Jamie Gent, the veteran athletic director as Haslett High School, gave a short talk to new members of this team at a New Athletic Directors Orientation. His talk was on time-management tips.

Of the many fine ideas that Jamie presented, none may have been more insightful than this. He said, "The little things are real-

ly the big things."

Now I've seen this stated other ways – like, "There are no little things." And yes, I've also read the book, *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff (and It's All Small Stuff)*. But that book is focusing on self-talk and management of emotions. It's not about organizational conversation and the management of a complicated and comprehensive community athletic program.

In our work, the little things are the heart of the matter. It's a series of little things that add up to a successfully run big event, whether that's at the local, league or MHSAA level.

And as the years have gone by, I've appreciated more and more on another level how little things matter so much. Most especially, how a kind word or a compliment here, or a note of encouragement or thanks there, can create or strengthen a human bond that makes a deep difference in how well things get done, and how much joy we have in the doing.

One of my worst failings is that I have not paused every day, in fact that I do not start every day, by jotting a note to a colleague in the office, or to a Representative Council member, or to a coach, or one of our officials, or one of you, every day. It would do so much good, for both the sender and receiver. I know it would, because of how it makes me feel on those rare occasions when I receive such a note.

Ultimately, when my career is over, it will be these kinds of so-called little things that I'm most likely to remember and to value most. So just in case I don't get the opportu-

nity – for how many of our colleagues have we lost unexpectedly this past year (Mike Popson, Gene Balawajder, Don Knight, and others you may have known) – just in case we don't have the opportunity later, here now is a corporate note of thanks and encouragement. It is this:

You people amaze me. Your ability, your likeability, your civility in tough times. The hours you give to local, league and MHSAA events. The student-centered, education-focused programs you run. It is gratifying and humbling to witness. It is energizing and keeps me wanting to serve you longer and better.

You – whatever body part you think you are – you are the heart and soul of educational athletics. You are preserving pure, wholesome, amateur, educational athletics like nowhere else in this country.

Please do not tire of this good work. Do not be seduced by ill-conceived and sexy-sounding promotions. Do not be deceived by simpleminded policies that merely are escapes from the responsibility of regulating this program, of not only promoting it but mostly protecting school sports.

If we don't stand tall against the rot that is in sports generally in this country and the ruin that is creeping into school sports in many parts of America, no one else will. It is only you that stands between a program of excellence and a program of excesses in school sports. School sports are the last chance for sanity in sports in America, and we may be the best chance for sanity in school sports.

That's *my* story, and I'm sticking with it. ■

**Remember to visit**

**[mhsaa.com](http://mhsaa.com)**

**to make all personnel, telephone and address  
revisions necessary for the 2007-08 school year**

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### FROM SMOKE AND MIRRORS TO MIRACLES

Schools are being told to deliver more demanding curriculum to students, but they are being told to do so with an old-fashioned, agriculture-based academic calendar, an almost third-world academic calendar.

Just after 75 percent of the schools in America had moved to a pre-Labor Day start to academic classes, Michigan moved to a post-Labor Day mandate for the start of classes. How can that inspire business investment and corporate confidence in this state?

Just as schools are being told that too many of their students graduate from high school without being college or job ready, the Legislature delays the start of the instructional year, and school districts are reducing the number of instructional days during that year. How can that retool Michigan's economic future?

These contradictions can't continue. Even in a nearly bankrupt state, with many nearly bankrupt school districts, and a legislative process that appears bankrupt of good ideas, even here these contradictions simply can't continue. Students, parents, educators and business and civic leaders will see how senseless and harmful an abbreviated academic calendar is to students and schools in Michigan, and to business and industry in Michigan – how foolish this is for the future of our state.

Surveys of parents across the country and across the years have consistently and overwhelmingly favored longer school years. In Colorado, where there is statewide mandated school of choice, school districts are starting classes earlier and earlier. Why? Because they know it's what their customers want; they know there's a marketplace advantage by opening school early.

And everybody seems to know - our local news says it over and over, our governor says it over and over, business and civic leaders say it over and over: jobs go not only to where taxes are low; jobs also go to where workforce education is high.

If Michigan is going to have a recovery, then Michigan schools must lead it; and they simply can't lead it with a late starting and shortened school year.

Michigan schools of the future, if we will have a future, must be in session later each day and longer each year than in 2006-07.

Michigan schools of the future, if we will have a future, must be reorganized through something like intermediate school districts, consolidating administrators, support services and technology; but not the identity of most schools and their extracurricular programs that are essential to motivating students and attracting parental involvement.

Michigan schools of the future, if we will have a future, must not only test well for reading, writing and arithmetic; they must teach well the need for lifetime learning, and lifetime learners.

The system is broken, or at least unsuited for our future needs; and the repair requires a different approach than what we've seen so far. Delaying the start of the academic year and reducing the number of instructional days in the year won't help. Buyouts for veteran employees are little more than delaying tactics to facing up to reality. School of choice as well as charter school and magnet school alternatives to neighborhood schools weaken both the schools and neighborhoods that need the most support. In too many places authorities are simply renaming a building and pretending to have reformed education.

But our children can't wait for the genuine, systemic reform that is needed. They need now individual classroom teachers – always the heart and soul of education – to break through in spite of the system and the smoke and mirror remedies relied on so far.

A good teacher can teach and inspire lifetime learning – the critical need for Michigan's economic future – and a great teacher does so even in a broken and barren classroom. For its teachers, a school district that "invests in the best and removes the rest"

will rise above most of what's wrong with our economy and educational system.

Michigan children have not been well served by much of what's been happening to fix our educational system, and they cannot wait for grander schemes and designs. They need more than anything – and they need it **now** – more of the daily miracles I and my children experienced because of passionate teachers who gave us more than instruction, who gave us also the inspiration to learn and do more than we thought we had in us.

Schools which will break through the mess in Michigan's educational and econom-

ic systems will focus on instruction, on the delivery system, on the teacher. They will do so right now and not wait for help from Lansing, Washington or anyplace else. Outside help will be slow in coming, if at all. The right teacher can help today.

Michigan schools of the future, if we will have a future, must recruit the best and brightest of our college graduates to teach in our schools, reward them with good pay and benefits, and retain them with the kind of priceless emotional capital that comes from few vocations like it can from teaching that is inspired and is respected. ■

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## TO BOO IS TABOO

A misleading headline from Washington State made national news, and initiated a national discussion that shouldn't end quickly in the state of Michigan.

The headline reported that the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association was considering a ban on booing at high school sports events. In fact, the association was examining the different standards of sportsmanship at local, league, region and state levels, and it was exploring if one common set of expectations could be adopted.

Intended or not, the notion of no booing stimulated discussion in the news and sports portions of print and broadcast media on all levels nationwide. Brilliant. We need such discussion, at least in school sports, to draw us toward accountability between our mission statements and the ways and means of our programs.

The notion that a ban on booing is absurd, is absurd itself. The fact is that at most of the events in most of the sports the

MHSAA sponsors, no booing ever occurs, and in most of the other sports, it rarely occurs.

Which begs the question: why? Why is the boo okay in one sport when it's taboo in another?

If we can operate events in bowling without booing, why not also in baseball and basketball? If there are never boos in competitive cheer, cross country, golf and gymnastics, why not also in football? If never in skiing, why not also in ice hockey? If never in tennis or track & field, why not also in soccer and softball? If rarely here, why then commonly there? Why should it be okay in some sports but rarely or never in others?

Any of us can make a few excuses for the differing behaviors, but it still begs the question: why? Really, why?

I'm grateful some guy in Washington State goofed up a headline. We need to focus on why. And we need to say, "To boo is taboo," in more school sports settings. ■



**Spring Officials Ratings  
Are Due May 25  
See Page 462 for Details**

## TOURNAMENTS

### MHSAA TOURNAMENT EVALUATION IN PROGRESS

The MHSAA was the first statewide high school athletic association in the United States to operate entirely without the sources of revenue that are the "bread and butter" of many of its counterpart organizations: membership dues, tournament entry fees and sport service fees.

The MHSAA removed schools from its revenue sources decades ago; and in more recent years, a few other state high school associations have done the same, or nearly so.

In a typical year, nearly 90 percent of all MHSAA revenue is from the sale of tickets at District, Regional and Final rounds of MHSAA postseason tournaments. Consequently, MHSAA finances are affected by weather, which influences attendance; and MHSAA finances can be threatened by anything that could interrupt the few revenue-producing tournaments it sponsors.

While several sports will have direct tournament revenue in excess of direct expenses, only the Football Playoffs and the Boys and Girls Basketball Tournaments generate a surplus after functional expenses. These three tournaments support the MHSAA's other 25 tournaments and all the other programs and services of the MHSAA, as well as the expenses for MHSAA office operations and staff.

To maintain these extensive programs and services, the MHSAA's leadership must be attentive to those trends and developments which could affect tournament revenues as well as factors that might affect tournament expenses.

The MHSAA staff has begun an A to Z review of its tournament policies, procedures and promotions. Every venue on every level of all 28 tournaments is also subject to review.

At the same time the microscope is fixed on tournament operations, the MHSAA as an organization also must take a wide-angle lens

to sports and society, view what is going on around us, and consider ways to assure that school sports events correctly balance what may be competing interests: remaining relevant to the public and relevant to the education of students. Here are some of the questions that will get this process started:

1. How has the growth of 24-hour-a-day televised sports of college, professional and other levels affected the environment of school sports? How will it affect the future of school sports?
2. How has the growth of non-school youth sports programs affected the environment of school sports? How will it affect the future of school sports?
3. How has school of choice and the establishment of charter school and magnet school alternatives to neighborhood schools affected the environment of school sports? How will they affect the future of school sports?
4. Where does school sports – the "family brand" of sports – fit in the sports "entertainment" options available to Michigan youth and adults, and what are they willing to pay for this "product"?
5. What are the acceptable types and amounts of alternatives to gate receipts for funding the MHSAA's programs and services to member schools and their constituents?
6. Are there alternative dates or sites for MHSAA Finals to substitute for college arenas no longer reliably available because they must be reserved for GLIAC, MIAA, MAC, Big Ten, NIT and NCAA tournaments?

These are only conversation starters, and the conversation should involve the full range of the MHSAA's constituency. No circumstance should delay this conversation and an expedient conclusion. ■

### SCHOOL SPORTS' TIME AND PLACE

With all the discussion and debate going on over the start of school and the length of the school day and school year, we did not want anybody to think that school sports considered itself above any need to examine its programs and schedules. Therefore, the Michigan High School Athletic Association has been leading discussions in groups across the state, open-mindedly, even playing devil's advocate with tough questions, as we examined the school sports calendar in relationship to the new academic calendar of our schools.

When we started the process, we anticipated finding a lot of problems with the late start of school and a lot of criticism of the earlier start of the athletic calendar, and the even earlier start for band and sideline cheer-leading activities that go largely unregulated in the summer.

But that's not been the case. We found there have been a few problems, but not a lot of problems, not major problems, and much more support for the athletic calendar as it exists than suggestions for its change.

Therefore, it is our current conclusion that there should not be major changes in the school sports calendar at this time. In the first place, it is possible that the education reform movement in this state will be seen as more important for the general business environment in this state than a school-free month of August is for the business of tourism in this state.

Secondly, we need to assess the effect of athletic changes that we have already made, which go into effect June 1: the summer dead period, the preseason down time, and the ban on single-sport physical education classes. Together, these three changes are a gentle breeze in the direction of depressurizing out-of-season demands on coaches and athletes and their families, demands which give the false impression that high school seasons are too long.

It is true that the girls basketball season seemed too long to some people, but actually it was shorter than the boys basketball season

in the winter; yet after basketball all spring and summer, the fall basketball season felt too long to some people.

Likewise, after football in physical education class, several camps, seven-on-seven passing leagues, and weightlifting three to five days each week for months in the off-season, of course football gets old for some people in October.

But high school **seasons** are not the problem here. **High school** seasons are shorter in length and fewer in contests than most every non-school sport program. Those who would attack our school sports seasons as starting too early and lasting too long need to know that the **school** sports seasons are not the problem. It is all that happens **outside** of the schools' seasons and control that burdens and burns out coaches and participants.

The sports calendar changes we might make, if we make any at all, would make our seasons a bit shorter – in days, not games – to make our seasons less overlapping from fall to winter and winter to spring, and thus more multi-sport friendly for both coaches and students.

The sports calendar changes we might make, if we make any at all, would make it less necessary to have out-of-season practice and would permit bona fide tryouts in-season, not preseason, and would make sense from both medical and legal points of view by prescribing a minimum number of days of practice for teams in every sport, not just football.

The sports calendar changes we might make, if any are made at all, might remove as many MHSAA tournaments as practical from March when college basketball sucks all the public and media attention from the high school scene.

The sports calendar changes we might make, if we make any at all, might reduce MHSAA tournament overlap: five Finals on the second weekend of March is two to four too many.

So there is work for us to do with the

sports calendar. However, that work should not include retreating from the 200 instructional school day year that the athletic calendar fits so well and the state of Michigan needs so badly to improve its educational delivery and performance and attract to the kinds of businesses that will restore Michigan's finances and future.

In fact, the model for interscholastic athletics might have something to offer those who are struggling with education reform. For where do you find it like you do in

extracurricular activities that teachers are teaching what they want to teach to students who are learning what they want to learn and both teacher and student are willing to work hour after hour on their own time after school to be sure that everything that can be taught is taught and everything that can be learned is learned (and where students apply lessons in regular testing, open to the public). Perhaps this is a model that all education should seek to emulate as it seeks to enhance instruction and inspiration of students. ■

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### ANOTHER LOOK AT THE MONEY PROBLEM

These are tough economic times for many folks, and especially tough financial times for Michigan schools.

We predicted precisely today's financial mess for schools when Proposal A was debated and passed a decade ago and transferred school funding from relatively stable property taxes to less reliable sales taxes and from local investment in neighborhood schools to state control of public education.

So in these difficult times for public education, it will not surprise you to hear me say that money is a problem for school sports. But hear this also: in my opinion, lack of money is much less the problem than too much money when it comes to sports.

Yes I am concerned, very concerned, that the failure of state funding to adequately meet the needs of local schools has negative effects on school sports; and I'll address that concern now, before developing my primary message that it is the overabundance of money in sports generally, not the underfunding of local school sports, that is the greater threat to the real essence of school sports.

My concern for school sports resulting from the underfunding of schools is that desperation will drive many schools to do long-term, if not permanent, damage to interscholastic athletics.

For example, some districts will turn junior high/middle school sports over to community groups. Those districts will find high school sportsmanship decline because the students and their parents' orientation into the philosophies and policies of educational athletics was delayed.

Some districts will turn to participation fees, to "pay for play." These districts will find this reduces participation, especially on the subvarsity levels, and in winter and spring sports, and with the second, third and fourth children in a family. These are really **anti**-participation fees.

And ironically, these districts will learn that the imposition of **anti**-participation fees actually worsens school district finances. New families moving into communities will enroll their children where there are not fees. And with school of choice, many families will transfer their children to schools where there are not participation fees.

The loss of state aid for one student costs the district more than the participation fees for 100 athletes. It's a bad business plan.

No, in this day and age of competition between schools for students, extracurricular programs (speech, music, debate, drama and sports) are not luxuries. They are the features that attract and hold students. They are the bells and whistles of education that attract customers through the door. ■



# ALLERGIES AND ASTHMA IN THE ATHLETE

Happily, we're entering spring, expecting warmer weather, sunnier skies and getting outdoors. The indoor gyms start to empty as more athletes and fitness enthusiasts take their activities into the fresh air. Exercising outdoors is great for most, but it can be problematic for athletes who have seasonal allergies or asthma. At the very least, allergies and asthma can limit the athlete's performance. At its worst, it can be life-threatening.

Allergy symptoms can be mild and include nasal stuffiness, clear runny nose, sneezing, cough, tearing, eye redness, itchiness of the roof of the mouth. These symptoms occur after exposure to specific allergens. In the spring, the most common allergens are tree and grass pollen. Exposure to the allergens causes a reaction in the body which releases a chemical called histamine. The histamine is what causes the symptoms noted above. Symptoms can occur immediately after exposure or up to several hours after exposure.

There are several types of medications used for seasonal allergies: anti-histamine tablets (sedating and non-sedating), and nasal sprays. Benadryl, Zyrtec, Contac are common antihistamines. These minimize the body's reactions to the released histamines. They can be used prior to the expected exposure or afterward. These medications are effective and have been used for a number of years, but can cause sedating side effects (drowsiness). If athletes are using these medications, they should use them cautiously because of the sedating effects, especially if the athlete is trying them for the first time. The non-sedating antihistamines include Claritin, Alavert, and Allegra. These are dosed either once or twice daily and offer moderate-to-good relief of symptoms with minimal-to-no sedation.

Nasal sprays have shown to be very helpful with allergy symptoms and are preferred by many clinicians. There are two types of nasal sprays: corticosteroid nasal sprays (Flonase, Rhinocort, Nasacort), and mast-cell stabilizers (Nasacrom). The nasal sprays are

most effective if used daily and if started prior to the allergy season. It takes 3-10 days of regular use to achieve maximum benefit. So, initially, a combination therapy of a nasal spray and an antihistamine tablet are commonly recommended. As the effect of the nasal spray takes hold, the use of the antihistamine is weaned.

Athletes who have allergies should be monitored for proper hydration (sufficient fluid intake). Increased body fluid loss occurs, and some of the medications may alter fluid losses and natural body cooling mechanisms.

These seasonal allergy symptoms are more of a nuisance to the athletes, and rarely cause severe problems. In contrast, athletes who have allergies to more sinister objects (i.e. bees, wasps, certain foods) can have life-threatening anaphylactic reactions. Anaphylactic symptoms can include lip swelling, sensations the throat closing, and inability to breath. They can also include severe eye swelling, hives and earlobe swelling. This is a medical emergency. Immediate medical attention is warranted. If available, low-flow oxygen is helpful. Epipens are also used in this instance. An Epipen is an auto-injector that administers epinephrine-and epinephrine is the definitive emergency treatment for severe allergic reactions. If athletes have a history of such reactions or a history of severe allergic reactions to items, it is imperative that they are prepared. Athletes should alert their coach or trainer to their allergies and be sure they are prepared for this type of emergency.

## ASTHMA

Approximately 17 million adults and 5 million children in the United States have asthma. Asthma is a pulmonary disorder characterized by chronic inflammation of the airways leading to bronchial hyper-reactivity. Episodic symptoms of airflow obstruction: cough, wheeze, chest tightness, or shortness of breath are hallmarks for asthma. Sometimes the athlete presents with "windedness" greater than expected or greater than

teammates. Symptoms can be very subtle. Formal pulmonary testing is available to assess severity of asthma and to diagnose subtle cases of asthma.

There are several possible triggers for asthma. These triggers include allergens (pollen, mold, ozone), exercise and cold air. The athlete may have occasional asthma symptoms that occur only while they're ill with a cold or bronchitis. Athletes who have asthma should either practice indoors on bad weather days or use a mask. Athletes who have exercise-induced asthma may benefit from a longer warm-up, longer cool-down, and aggressive hydration.

Athletes who have asthma absolutely should be monitoring their lung capacity regularly. This is done with peak flow meters usually given by their physicians. Decreases in lung capacity can be subtle. Peak flow meters help to identify when the athlete's capacity is waning. Changes in their medication regime can be made to allow them to breathe easier.

Medications commonly used in asthmatic athletes are inhaled B2-agonists (albuterol, Ventolin, Proventil, Serevent), inhaled corti-

costeroids (Pulmicort, Azmacort), combination inhalers (Advair), and anti-leukotrienes (Singulair, Accolate). The only inhaler that is helpful in the acute setting is the short-acting B2-agonists: i.e. albuterol, Ventolin, Proventil. The others types are not "rescue inhalers."

Ongoing discussions with their clinician are imperative. "Rescue inhalers" are too often overused. If the athlete requires them more than twice a week, it's time to consider a different regime. We used to worry about kids becoming addicted to the inhalers. However, keeping asthma under excellent control is necessary to limit permanent changes that can develop in the lungs. Over a lifetime, asthma flare-ups take its toll on the lungs' architecture and their ability to function properly.

Certainly, asthma can be life-threatening. If you have an athlete who is in respiratory distress, get them immediate medical attention.

For further information on this article or for priority appointments for sports injuries please contact Henry Ford Center for Athletic Medicine at 313-972-4216. ■

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### **CRANBROOK'S JOHNSON ELECTED TO NATIONAL FEDERATION HALL**

Jim Johnson, prolific hockey player at Cranbrook HS in Bloomfield Hills from 1971-74, has been elected to the National Federation of State High School Associations Hall of Fame.

Johnson, currently athletic director at Troy High School, scored 249 goals during his four-year (1971-74) ice hockey career at Cranbrook High School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, and his national record for career goals has stood the test of time for 33 years. Amazingly, many of his goals were scored on Cranbrook's outdoor ice rink. Johnson was an all-state selection four times and a two-time high school all-American. He then played four years at Michigan State University.

Johnson will be inducted into the Hall on July 4 at the Desert Springs Marriott Hotel in Palm Desert, California.

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### **MHSAA'S UYL SELECTED TO UMPIRE 2007 PAN AM GAMES**

Mark Uyl, MHSAA assistant director, has been selected to umpire baseball competition at the 2007 Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The baseball portion of the Games will begin on July 14 with pool play between the eight competing nations, and culminates with the gold medal game on July 19. Uyl was nominated by USA Baseball and the Amateur Baseball Umpires Association (ABUA). This is Uyl's first international assignment.

"It is a tremendous honor and privilege to be selected to umpire the 2007 Pan American Games," Uyl said. "It is a thrill to be representing the ABUA in this tournament, and I look forward to this opportunity of a lifetime."

Uyl has umpired baseball at the collegiate level for the past 11 seasons, and currently works league games in the Big Ten, Big East and Mid-American conferences.

### TO STRETCH OR NOT TO STRETCH

**Q: When is the best time to stretch?**

A: It is best to stretch before and after practices and games. Stretching before activity allows the muscles and tissues to become pliable and increase range of motion giving the athlete the ability to perform at a higher level. Before competition it is important to stretch a half hour to an hour before game time. This allows for proper warm up prior to other pre game activities. After activities athletes should perform a lighter stretch as compared to pre activity that decreases soreness and tightness.

**Q: How long should it take for a team to stretch?**

A: Your team should take at least 10-15 minutes to stretch which gives enough time to target all the areas involved with the competition. Some stretches may take longer than others depending on their size or the use of them during activity. For example if you have track athletes you may concentrate more on the lower half of the body as compared to the upper half.

**Q: Is it better to warm up before or after stretching?**

A: To get the maximum benefit from stretching the muscle needs to be warmed up close to competition level. Therefore, athletes should perform sub maximal sustained activity for 5-10 minutes allowing for increased blood flow to the working muscles. An example for lacrosse a good choice would be to perform a jog while tossing the ball back and forth.

**Q: Which is better – static or dynamic stretching?**

A: To better answer that question you need to address what you are trying to accomplish. Static stretching by definition is a holding stretch for 20 to 30 seconds at a time and performed from 3-5 reps each. Static stretching should be used to increase range of motion (flexibility). This may be beneficial to perform with athletes that are just starting a season or one that may be hitting a growth spurt. In comparison dynamic stretching is stretching while moving (not bouncing) in directions of athletic movement. These stretches should be done about 10 reps on both sides and held for 2-3 seconds each. Dynamic stretching is more of a functional warm-up, preparing the muscles prior to activity (i.e. not isolating joints to address range of motion deficits).

**Q: At what age is it best to start stretch?**

A: There is no specific age at which it is best to start stretching; however, there are ages at which it would be more beneficial to work of flexibility. Males and females should concentrate on increasing range of motion at times of increased growth especially during puberty. This is important timing because it is at these ages when they usually increase their athletic activities. As for the other end of the age spectrum it is never too late to start.

**Q: I've heard that the hurdlers' stretch is bad for your knee is that true?**

A: The short answer is yes. When the back leg is bent behind the athlete it is putting a lot of stress on the knee joint ligaments which could cause pain and injury. The better way to perform the stretch is to put the bent knee so that the foot is flat against the stretch leg (as in a half butterfly stretch). This gives the same hamstring stretch without the irritation to the knee joint. ■

## 2007-08 UPDATE MEETING AND ATHLETIC DIRECTOR IN-SERVICE DATES

Please coordinate calendars now to avoid conflicts with other dates in your area. If possible do not schedule league or regional meetings on the dates of Update and AD In-service in your area. **We would appreciate your assistance in communicating these long standing dates to others who may be scheduling school or multi school activities possibly including intermediate school district meetings.**

**Every Athletic Director** should attend an AD In-Service and an Update Meeting each year. AD In-Service programs begin at 8:30 a.m. Update Meetings start with lunch at noon and conclude before 2 p.m. School Board members, Superintendents and Principals are encouraged to join us for the Update Meetings. Registration material will be available in the fall. The fall 2007 AD In-Service and Update Meeting schedule is below.

Mon. Oct 1	Acme (Grand Traverse Resort) MASSP Conference	Update Only MASSP Breakfast
Wed. Oct 3	Kalamazoo (Pine West)	In-service and Update
Mon. Oct 8	Comstock Park (English Hills Country Club)	In-service and Update
Wed. Oct 10	Frankenmuth (Zehnder's)	In-service and Update
Mon. Oct 15	Gaylord (Hidden Valley Otsego Club)	In-service and Update
Wed. Oct 17	Lansing, Holiday Inn South ( <b>new location</b> )	In-service and Update
Wed. Oct 24	Warren De Carlos Conference Center	Update Only
Fri. Oct 26	Marquette <b>10 a.m.</b> Site set by UP Athletic Directors	Update Only <b>10 a.m.</b>

## FIRST-YEAR ATHLETIC DIRECTORS REQUIRED TO ATTEND A.D. ORIENTATION PROGRAM

Attendance is now required for first-year athletic directors or athletic directors at new member schools **as a condition of entering MHSAA Tournaments** (see Regulation II, Section 15).

### PREFERRED SESSIONS:

**Thursday, Aug. 9, 2007 or Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2007** (8:30 am - 2:00 p.m.)

**Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2007** (1st or 2nd year athletic directors are encouraged to attend)

August and November sessions are separate programs, with new program content in November. Registration materials are available on [mhsaa.com](http://mhsaa.com) and in the May and August *Bulletin*.

## MHSAA SEEKS STUDENTS FOR ADVISORY COUNCIL

The MHSAA is looking for a group of student-athletes to be named to its Student Advisory Council. Four boys and four girls from the Class of 2009 will be selected to a two-year term, and will meet on matters related to maintaining and promoting a proper perspective and sensible scope for high school sports in Michigan. Eight members of the Class of 2008 are already serving on the council.

**To be eligible** for the committee, candidates must:

- Complete the official application, including answering the three short-answer questions AND submitting a letter of recommendation from a school administrator.
- Be a member of the Class of 2009.
- Intend to participate in varsity athletics as an upperclassman.
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.
- Be available for all scheduled Sunday meetings. The 2007-08 meetings are tentatively scheduled for Aug. 12, October 7, Dec. 9, Feb. 17 and April 27. Meetings will be held at the MHSAA office in East Lansing.

In addition, **candidates should:**

- Show a history of leadership on athletic teams as well as with other extra-curricular activities, community service projects, or in the workplace.
- Show an understanding of the role of school sports, and have ideas for promoting a proper perspective for educational athletics.

Applications are due in the MHSAA office by 4:30 p.m. on April 25. Applications can be downloaded from the MHSAA Web site, filled out on the computer or handwritten, and returned to the MHSAA office by e-mail, fax or any mail delivery service.

SAC is funded through AT&T, the MHSAA's corporate sponsor promoting the proper perspective on high school sports. In addition to the Student Advisory Council, AT&T sponsors the new SCOPE Award given to schools displaying continuous emphasis toward promoting a sensible scope for school sports. Each school athletic department represented on SAC will receive a check for \$1,000 recognizing the student's involvement with the SAC.

Among other things, the council will:

- Act as the voice of Michigan's student-athletes.
- Serve as a student sounding board for the MHSAA's Representative Council.
- Assist in planning Sportsmanship Summits, Captain's Clinics and other student leadership events.
- Participate in a yearly focus group about the state of high schools sports for Michigan State University's Institute for the Study of Youth Sports.
- Help with medal ceremonies at MHSAA championship events.

The eight members current members of the Student Advisory Council were selected in May 2006 and will serve a two-year term through the 2007-08 school year. Members of the committee include:

- Andria Baker, Constantine HS
- Dustin Baker, St Louis HS
- Bryce Bilinski, Southgate Anderson HS
- Brittany Bullock, Lansing Catholic HS
- Rachel Gebauer, Alpena HS
- Eric Howard, Hudsonville Freedom Baptist HS
- Blake Laethem, Caro HS
- Molly Waterhouse, Vicksburg HS

The eight new members of the Student Advisory Council will be notified by May 11. The 2007-08 meetings are tentatively scheduled for Aug. 12, Oct. 7, Dec. 9, Feb. 17 and April 27. Meetings will be held at the MHSAA office in East Lansing.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Andy Frushour at the MHSAA - 517-332-5046 or [afrushour@mhsaa.com](mailto:afrushour@mhsaa.com).

## MUSKEGON HEIGHTS HONORED AS BOYS BASKETBALL “LEGENDS”

*In an effort to promote educational athletics by showcasing some of the great teams of past years, the Michigan High School Athletic Association instituted a program called “Legends Of The Games” in 1997. This year, the 1954, 1956 and 1957 Class A championship teams from Muskegon Heights were honored at halftime of the Class B Final on March 24 at the Breslin Student Events Center in East Lansing. The text that follows was written by MHSAA historian Ron Pesch of Muskegon.*

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The times, they were a-changin'. America in the 1950s moved forward in fits and spurts. Television and Rock and Roll took the country by storm. Jonas Salk won science's race to conquer Polio. The successful launch of the Soviet Union satellite, Sputnik, shocked Americans and launched the Space Race. In the courts, the war to end racial discrimination was fought. In 1954, the Supreme Court handed down its landmark decision known as Brown vs. the Board of Education, outlawing racial segregation in public schools.

On the basketball court, the move toward what was then called “race-horse basketball” had begun. In Michigan, the shift away from two-handed set shots began with Coach Floyd Eby and the 1949 Coldwater champs.

At Muskegon Heights, Coach Oscar E. “Okie” Johnson had seen it all. A native of Cadillac, the veteran mentor had attended Western State Normal College (Western Michigan University) in the early 1920s, where he emerged as a star in football, basketball and track. Cut from the old cloth, when the term “coach” meant master of every sport, Johnson accepted the head coaching position at Mt. Pleasant High School upon graduation. Fresh out of college, he led Mt. Pleasant to back-to-back Semifinal appearances in the MHSAA basketball tournament.

When Muskegon Heights went looking for an accomplished young leader to head the athletic programs at the high school, it selected the proven Johnson. It would be decades before they would need to conduct another search. Johnson guided Heights athletics from the fall of 1927 until the end of the 1963 school year.

At “The Heights,” Johnson's teams found incredible success. Under his watchful eye, the Tigers earned at least a share of six mythical state football crowns in the 1930s and 1940s. On the basketball court, his teams excelled as well. Yet, despite seven trips to the final rounds of the basketball tournament, only the 1938 team advanced to the championship game. Johnson's Tigers fell to Flint Northern, 37-27, in the Class A contest that season.

Heights remained very competitive. With an array of talented athletes, Johnson was an early advocate of the fast break and while his 1953 cagers ended the season with a 9-7 campaign, he expected a strong showing from the team in the coming year.

Unfortunately, just prior to the season opener, it was reported that Johnson would miss the season to repair a ruptured disk in the spinal column. As the cage season began, the team was placed in the capable hands of Johnson's assistant, C.P. Ziegler. Yet, in a surprising turn of events, Johnson suddenly announced that he had rejected the hospital stay to return to the helm. He missed only the first four games of the season.

The team rolled through those opening games with ease. Seniors Mert Johnson, Jim French, Otto Smith and Lee Howell were joined by junior M.C. Burton on the starting five in the early going. Following Johnson's return, the Tigers upped their win streak to nine straight, as Burton and Johnson quickly emerged as the big guns.

Heading into their game with longtime Southwestern Conference archrival Benton Harbor, the Tigers lost Howell to mid-year graduation. Searching for a replacement, Coach Johnson rotated Don Haan, Len Hartman and Jim McMurray into the vacant spot. Benton Harbor took advantage of the departure, and, using a zone defense, upset the Heights, 53-49, the lone loss on the Tigers regular-season slate.

Johnson's squad avenged the defeat in the season finale, as Burton established a new Heights single-game scoring record with 36 points in a 70-54 win.

The path to a Class A title, however, was far more challenging.

After downing Muskegon and Grand Rapids Central in the opening round, the Tigers squared off against Grand Rapids Christian for the second time during the season in the Regional final. The game was spectacular by all accounts, with the score tied on nine occasions, including five times in the final quarter before the Tigers escaped with a 42-40 win.

Next up was Kalamazoo Central, the MHSAA Class A champ in 1949, 1950 and 1951. The Maroon Giants jumped out to an early 17-9 lead in the early going, and remained in control, 20-15, at the intermission. The Tigers rebounded with a strong second-half to win, 44-39, before 6,500 fans.

Heavily favored and undefeated Highland Park was next. The Heights held a 38-30 advantage as the game entered the final frame. A furious fourth-quarter rally allowed the Parkers to knot the score at 47-47, but Hartman, substituting for the injured Smith, hit two of four late free throws for a 49-47 Muskegon Heights victory and the school's second title shot.

"Our team was supposed to lose in the Semifinals," recalled M.C. Burton, "and when we upset the top-seeded Highland Park, with their two consensus all-staters, it was hailed as a fluke. Likewise, the sports writers predicted that we would surely lose to No. 2 seed Flint Northern in the Final on Saturday."

Instead, the Tigers capped a 20-1 season with a thrilling 43-41 overtime victory over the Vikings – ironically, their opponent in the Class A Final back in 1939. Burton, solidifying his status as one of the state's premier players, scored 22 points. Mert Johnson scored nine, including the game-tying field goal from the right of the free throw circle in regulation. Tied 41-41, as the teams entered the extra frame, a pair of missed shots by the Tigers gave Flint Northern the ball with 2:22 remaining. Electing to stall for the final shot, all-state guard Bob Failing finally drove to the basket for the game-winning shot with four seconds left. However, Failing was called for a charge, sending Johnson to the foul line. After a Heights timeout, Johnson calmly stepped up and drilled both shots to propel the Tigers and their long-time coach to the school's first-ever basketball crown.

With 423 points, Burton eclipsed Mert Johnson's single-season scoring mark set a year earlier, while Johnson ended his senior season with 315 points. Both received all-state accolades and, thanks to their play in the state tournament, each were given a berth on the Associated Press all-tourney team.

Still, perhaps most amazing was the scene that awaited the team upon their return home. A police escort, with sirens screaming, met the team bus at the city limits, and guided the team to the central business district. There, a throng of 5,000 people of all races, colors and creeds jammed the downtown intersection of Broadway and Peck on Sunday afternoon to welcome home their champions.

"That's when it happened," said Mert Johnson. "It was like someone hit the light switch. When we won that state title, the focus in the Heights changed from football to basketball."

The city-owned Baker Street courts served as the laboratory for the transition. Day-in and day-out on these asphalt slabs, alumni and underclassmen, many of whom had known each other since grade school and junior high, would practice the game. Large crowds began to assemble and cheer the action and the athletic abilities of the young men: M.C. and his "little" brother, 'Big Ed' Burton; Ossie and Willie McCarty; Lee Howell's brother, Kenny, the last of the long line of Howell siblings; Ron Robinson; Pete Pelotes; and many others honed their skills and basketball knowledge.

While the team lost Johnson, Smith, French and the Haan twins, Don and Tom, to graduation, the Tigers were still a favorite to repeat in 1955. Burton, McMurray and Hartman were joined by M.C.'s brother Ed and a number of other underclassmen, but the team was upset in the Quarterfinals by Benton Harbor.

Prior to the 1956 season, Muskegon Heights had played its home games at the junior high, with seating for only a few hundred fans. After a season-opening road win over Grand Rapids Central, the Tigers christened their spacious new home, C.F. Bolt Gymnasium, with a 56-44 victory over Grand Rapids Union before a packed house of 1,700. Ed Burton, now a junior, lit up the scoreboard with 35 points in the team's home debut.

In game nine against Holland, Burton shattered the school's single-game mark with a 45 points in a 76-59 victory. Johnson's crew cruised through the preliminary rounds of the tournament with ease. A 40-33 victory over Grand Rapids Creston, coached by Okie's son, Bob Johnson, sent the team to the Quarterfinals for the third straight season.

This time a 70-61 win over Saginaw Arthur Hill, followed by a 61-54 triumph over Detroit Catholic Central set the stage for a championship showdown with Hamtramck. Trailing the Heights, 55-45, late in the final quarter, the Cosmos managed to rally within 57-54 with 45 seconds to play. But free throws by junior Kenny Howell and sophomore Ron Robinson sealed a 63-53 win for the Tigers.

"On the bus trip back home after we won the state championship, we all made a vow that the next year we would not lose a game," remembered Peliotes. "And we didn't."

Indeed, in 1957, the Tigers were the media's preseason No. 1, and they rolled to a perfect 20-0 mark. McCarty missed the opening games due to a football injury, but returned in time to replace Howell in the starting lineup when Howell was lost to mid-year graduation. This time, the team never missed a beat, vanquishing Benton Harbor, 67-44, at home in early February, and again a month later by 14 points on the road before 3,200 fans, 63-49. It was the closest anyone would come to knocking off the Tigers in the regular season.

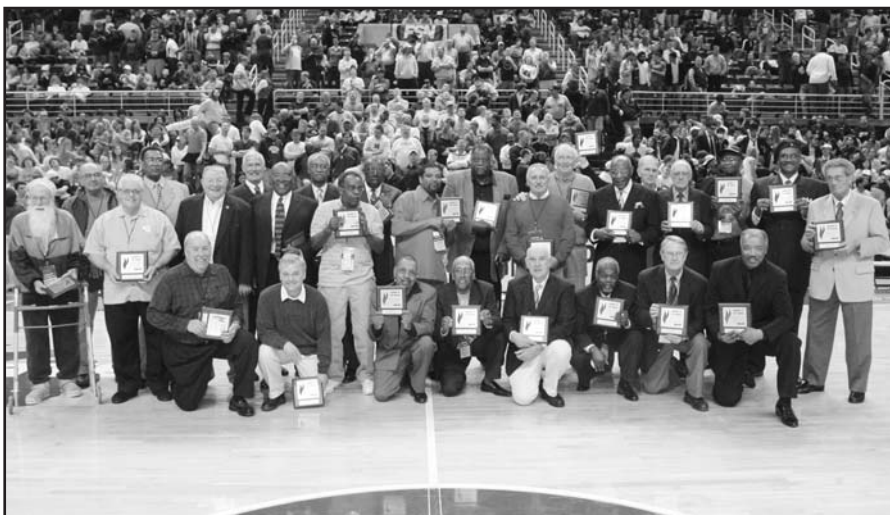
Eager to witness the Quarterfinal showdown with Traverse City, at least 1,500 fans had to be turned away at the gates of the fieldhouse at Central Michigan College. Inside, an overflow crowd of 5,200 packed the facility to watch as Burton destroyed the Trojans' hopes for a Semifinal berth, posting an amazing 44-point, 31-rebound performance in the Tiger's 79-52 win. In their third meeting of the year, Muskegon Heights again thumped Benton Harbor and future NBA great Chet Walker in the Semifinals, 74-52.

One night later, Johnson's machine disposed of Detroit Austin, led by another future NBA star, Dave DeBusschere, 61-49. Burton crowned his prep career with 25 points, while the sharp-shooting junior, Robinson, added 21. Burton ended his prep career with 1,143 points, breaking his brother's career record by two points.

With the win, the Tigers extended their win streak to 27 in a row. With their third championship trophy in four years in tow, they again returned home to a huge welcome in the central business district.

The die was cast, as the Tigers remain a constant threat come tournament time. ■

## 2007 Legends of the Games – Muskegon Heights



Visual Image Photography



## 2006-07 SCHOLAR-ATHLETE RECIPIENTS HONORED

In ceremonies at halftime of the 2007 MHSAA Boys Basketball Tournament Class C Final on March 24 at the Breslin Center in East Lansing, 32 students were honored as the 2006-07 recipients of the Association's Scholar-Athlete Award, sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance. Following the game, the group enjoyed a reception with their families, friends and MHSAA staff in recognition of their achievement. All 32 honorees were in attendance for this year's ceremony.

In its 18th year of sponsoring the award, Farm Bureau Insurance gives a \$1,000 college scholarship to these 32 individuals, to be used at the college, university or trade school of their choice during the 2007-08 school year. Each of the 2,206 applicants for the award are presented with a certificate, and each of the 120 finalists received a commemorative medallion.

2007 BY THE NUMBERS: 1,253 of the 2,206 applicants (56.8%) were females. There were 902 Class A applicants from 150 Class A schools, 695 Class B applicants from 146 Class B schools, 447 Class C applicants from 127 Class C schools, and 162 Class D applicants from 70 Class D schools. The 120 finalists averaged 2.89 sports played, and 78 of the finalists participated in at least three sports.

Applications for the 2008 Scholar-Athlete Award will be available on the MHSAA Web site in the fall.



Jim Hastings Photography, Haslett

**2006-07 Scholar-Athletes – Front Row (L to R):** Allison Assaly, Grand Rapids Forest Hills Eastern; Hilary Beauchamp, Iron Mountain; Kerry Brennan, Dearborn; Alessa Cekauskas, Birmingham Seaholm; James Ciennik, Waterford Mott; Andrew Cuthbert, Dowagiac; Alexander Davenport, Grosse Pointe North; Adam DeWolf, Marshall. **Second Row:** Emily Feldhake, Cedarville; Aaron Fletcher, Walkerville; Riley Ford, Harbor Springs; Ben Halbower, Holton; Michael Harden, St. Johns; Alexandria Henry, Alma; Allyson Karaba, North Muskegon; Jeffrey Koelzer, Grand Rapids Northview. **Third Row:** Jessica Konal, Berkley; Tyler McCoy, Tawas Area; Spencer McFarland, Mackinaw City; Seth Meyer, Okemos; Nicole Naidoo, Brighton; Daniel Olsen, St. Ignace; Katelyn Preisel, Imlay City; Chelsey Quinlan, Plymouth. **Fourth Row:** Chelsea Read, Grand Ledge; Alexander Ralston, Fenton; Shane Sinda, Capac; Shazia Singh, Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern; Brenda Sisung, Fowler; Ashley Theobald, Kingsford; Jason Thompson, Ludington; Kayla Thompson, Marlette.

## SCHOOLS HONORED AS GIRLS VOLLEYBALL "LEGENDS"

*In an effort to promote educational athletics by showcasing some of the great teams of past years, the Michigan High School Athletic Association instituted a program called "Legends Of The Games" in 1997. This year, the 1982 Girls Volleyball Champions from Battle Creek Lakeview in Class B, and Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Class D were honored on March 17 prior to the start of the MHSAA Class A Girls Volleyball Final at University Arena in Kalamazoo. The 1982 Class C champions from Berrien Springs have previously been honored, and the Class A champion from that year, Portage Northern, will be honored at a future finals as part of a group of multiple title-winning teams from that school. The text that follows was written by MHSAA historian Ron Pesch of Muskegon.*

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The 1982 season yielded once-in-a-lifetime memories for teams from Battle Creek Lakeview and Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary, two schools which earned their first and only MHSAA volleyball championships to date. Lakeview's script included a storybook homecoming for its first-year head coach, while Seminary's journey nearly hit a detour until its fans joined the team en route to the title.

The 1982 season marked the return of Linda Marick to Battle Creek Lakeview. A 1977 graduate, Marick excelled in softball and volleyball for the Spartans, then took her talents to Kellogg Community College, where she helped lead the volleyball team to a National Junior College title in 1978. She continued her college and athletic career at the University of Miami, playing volleyball for the Hurricanes.

She returned home and accepted the challenge of turning her alma mater's volleyball team into champions.

"Based on personal experiences gained from playing volleyball in my college days, I tried very hard to instill in my players the importance for each of them to believe in their ability to be the best," said Marick about the 1982 season.

"Practices were non-stop and exhausting," remembered Ann Jereck, one of the few sophomores on the team. "Even the best players were put to the test."

"We had so much fun," recalled Ann's sister, Jeanine Jereck. "It was exciting to win throughout the season – and we usually did – but we worked really hard."

Lakeview was ranked No. 1 for much of the season, finishing the year with a 40-3 record. The Spartans cruised through the early rounds of the MHSAA tournament with relative ease and advanced to the final day of tournament play, hosted at Howell High School.

Early in the day, the team quickly dispatched Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 15-11, 15-6 in the Semifinal. In an era when the final two rounds of the tournament were played on the same day, Lakeview had to wait five and one-half hours before taking the court for Final against defending champ Stevensville Lakeshore.

The effect of the long layover was apparent in the first game as the team played flat and quickly fell behind, 14-3. The Spartans rebounded to knot the score at 14-14 before ultimately dropping the first game, 14-16.

"We tried to tell 'em that it wasn't Lakeshore that was beating us, but it was us making errors," said Marick at the time.

Facing elimination in game two, Jackie Campbell, who had led the Spartan offense earlier in the day, again took charge. Campbell buried a pair of sets from Michelle Marz to pull the team within a point, 11-10. Following a handling violation that tied the game at 11-11, Campbell continued the assault, scoring the go-ahead point with another spike. Cheryl Barea upped the Spartan lead to 13-11 with another blast, followed by a service point by Kris Lundstrum. Lundstrum's next serve was returned long by Lakeshore, and after a moment of silence, pandemonium struck Spartan fans as they realized the game was won.

"I remember the game winning point," said Jeanine Jereck. "Not how it was scored, but how it felt after it happened. Everything seemed to stop – almost like there was this extended moment of complete silence and disbelief – then, the whole place erupted with excitement. It remains one of my most hard-earned and proudest achievements. I'm happy to have shared it with my sister, and so many wonderful friends."

"We were all great friends and teammates, and had a fabulous season together," noted Barea. "My volleyball memories, especially my senior year, are very precious to me."

In the Class D title game, played at Battle Creek High School, Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary earned its first MHSAA crown with a 15-7, 15-12 victory over traditional power Leland.

"The championship game was so easy compared to the Semifinal game we played earlier," remembered Coach Joann Hart. We lost the first semi game (to Ottawa Lake-Whiteford, 8-15) and were in the process of losing the second game when our fan bus finally showed up."

"As soon as we saw them walk in, we started to turn things around" recalled Patricia Long, one of the team's hitters.

Indeed, with the arrival of the fans and a shrewd substitution by Coach Hart, the tide quickly turned.

"We were down and coach was desperate," recalled Sue Carter. "My role that year was basically front row sub. However, coach subbed me in for my sister Betty – something she had never done. Playing front row, I rarely served, but I was sent to serve when that rotation came up. Talk about pressure! I ended up serving several times, which was enough to turn the momentum."

"It turned out to be a crucial change at a perfect time in the game", continued Hart.

"If I remember correctly, I never got back in that game," laughed Betty Carter, one of the regulars on the squad. "There was no need to sub me back in."

Indeed, Seminary rallied back to win, 17-15, then took game three with relative ease, 15-7 to advance to the Final.

"Our coach, JoAnn, was exceptional," stated Barbara Fisher, a setter on the team. "She led us not only in athletics, but also in morals and values."

"My sister and I were from East Jordan," said Betty Carter. "The school had a dormitory for high schoolers, and there were kids from all over. The school was run by our church, and there were a number of students who lived in the Saginaw and Bay City area, but I can remember kids in the dorm from Ohio and Detroit. I believe there was one kid whose father was a missionary in Africa."

For Laura Jankens, the only sophomore on the team, being part of the varsity squad was a huge honor.

"I learned so much from the upper class girls, and I absolutely loved being able to play for Coach Hart," said Jankens. "I did not have much time on the court during the championships, but I still remember the excitement of being in Battle Creek that year. And MLS won the state title on my 16th birthday!" ■

*Editor's Note: Photos forthcoming in May Bulletin*

## MIAAA HONORS 2007 AWARD WINNERS

Michigan's professional organization of school athletic directors, the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA) recently honored several administrators in Traverse City on March 19, 2007, at the annual MIAAA Mid-Winter Conference attended by more than 500 athletic directors.

### **LEINAAR NAMED A.D. OF THE YEAR**

Karen Leinaar, athletic director at Benzie Central High School, was named Michigan Athletic Director of the Year by the MIAAA for 2007, an award given annually to one athletic director in the MIAAA membership.

Karen has served as athletic administrator for 20 years in three different school districts. She has hosted numerous MHSAA tournaments throughout her career, assisting the association as a volunteer at Finals on numerous occasions as well. Karen has emerged as a state leader of athletic administrators by serving on the MIAAA executive board both as a board member and as President of the association. She has also provided expertise in the athletic arena by serving as an elected member of the MHSAA Representative Council for the past six years. According to Jack Roberts, executive director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, "Few, if any, athletic directors have served Michigan with more frequency or variety than Karen Leinaar has. Karen displays the attitude that coaches like best in players: she plays by the rules and willingly plays any position she is assigned."

Karen began her educational leadership journey at Delton-Kellogg High School as the Driver Education Program Coordinator and Instructor. She soon added the responsibilities of coaching and athletic director to her repertoire and has been serving school districts and students throughout the state ever since. In her current position as athletic administrator at Benzie Central, where she coordinates all athletic events and related responsibilities in grades 7-12, "She has brought a fresh look and energy to provide growth and accountability through being committed, dependable, and giving of herself

to the position," states Benzie Principal Peter Olson. "It is this attitude that has helped her to develop a cohesive group of individuals into a team that provides effective athletic leaders and role models for students."

### **BELL RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

Midland Dow athletic secretary Jean Bell was honored with the Jack Johnson Distinguished Service Award for 2007.

Dan McShannock, Certified Master Athletic Director with the MIAAA and Athletic Director for Midland Dow HS, says Jean is, "everything that an athletic director could ask for."

Jean "has also shared her skill, knowledge and her profession to hundreds of other secretaries around Michigan and the Midwest," says Dan McShannock.

Her award not only encompasses her work at Midland Dow HS but also her work with the MIAAA. In 1994, Jean reorganized the athletic secretary's one-day conference. With her expertise and leadership, attendance has grown from 23 participants in 1994 to more than 120 in 2006.

Jack Johnson, MIAAA Convention Co-Chairperson, says "Jean has been an integral element in the success of the athletic secretary's one-day conference."

Jean also works with McShannock to produce the MIAAA newsletter three times a year which involves numerous phone calls, letters, and prep work.

### **SMITH RECEIVES AWARD OF MERIT**

Fred Smith, athletic director at Comstock High School, received the George Lovich State Award of Merit.

Smith grew up in Battle Creek and attended St. Philip High School. He obtained his baccalaureate degree in education from Western Michigan University in 1979, and began teaching in 1981. Smith began his career in education at St. Joseph Lake Michigan Catholic High School. After three years in the classroom, Smith became the Athletic Director at Lake Michigan Catholic and served in the capacity of Teacher /

Athletic Administrator until 1991. In the fall of 1991, Smith became the Athletic Director at Comstock High School and has served in that capacity for the last 15 years.

Fred Smith has received the two top honors from the MIAAA for his accomplishments as an Athletic Administrator, being named MIAAA Regional Athletic Director of the Year in 1997, and MIAAA State Athletic Director of the Year in 2000. Aside from the awards that Smith has won at the state level, he has also been honored at the national level. In 1999, Smith received the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) Commendation Award. In 2000, Smith received the NIAAA's Distinguished Service Award, and in 2004, he received the NIAAA's Thomas E. Frederick Award of Excellence.

Smith, who is recognized statewide as one of the strongest proponents of professional development for Athletic Directors, has served the MIAAA in many ways. He formerly held the Recording Secretary, 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President, President, and Past President positions on the MIAAA's Board of Directors. Smith is the chairperson of the MIAAA's Professional Development Committee, and he is Michigan's coordinator for Leadership Training Courses. He is also a respected member of the MHSAA's Executive Council.

"We all expect to see the athletic director on the field or on the court. Fred's classroom extends to the auditorium, cafeteria and beyond. He is always teaching and promoting excellence. His grasp of the total picture is very keen and always student centered," said Kelley Howard. Comstock assistant principal.

#### **DR. CAROL HULETT RECEIVES SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Dr. Carol Hulett of Mt. Clemens received the 2007 Special Recognition Award, a prestigious award for service to the MIAAA and Michigan school district athletic programs.

Dr. Hulett is a lifelong resident of the state, attending Flint Southwestern High School and Albion College, culminating with the acceptance of her medical degree from Wayne State University. High school athletics and orthopedic medicine are both passions of Dr. Hulett. Dr. Hulett first became

involved in high school athletics in 1979 when she served as the team doctor for football for six years at Grosse Pointe North High School. In 1984, she became the team physician for Mt. Clemens High School and continues to volunteer her time to this day. Along with her service as team physician, Hulett also conducts annual sports physicals for middle and high school athletes and served as the athletic trainer for Mt. Clemens Schools until she personally hired a trainer for the district.

Dr. Hulett's kindness has not gone unnoticed by the community or her peers. In 1994 Dr. Hulett was named Macomb County Volunteer of the Year; in 1998 she was honored by the Girl Scouts as the Woman of Distinction, and in 2001 Dr. Hulett was the first female inducted into the Albion College Sports Hall of Fame as an athletic trainer.

Bob Giles, long-time athletic director for Mt. Clemens Schools describes Hulett in the following manner: "Through rain, shine, sleet or snow, Dr. Hulett has been a fixture at football and basketball games, wrestling and track meets. She has been a timer, scorekeeper, clock operator and parent to many of our students providing them opportunity for scholarship. The Mt. Clemens students have adopted Dr. Hulett and affectionately call her Doc."

#### **14 SELECTED FOR REGIONAL A.D. AWARDS**

This year's Regional Athletic Director of the Year Awards went to: Region 1 - Tim Hall; Region 2 - Jim Kanine; Region 3 - Tim Genson; Region 4 - Bruce Foster; Region 5 - Don Knight (posthumously); Region 6 - Wes Gall; Region 7 - Ron Beegle; Region 8 - Mike Thayer; Region 9 - Lorri Glidden; Region 10 - Jan Sander; Region 11 - Curt Ellis; Region 12 - Bob Dropp; Region 13 - Pete Donaldson; Region 14 - Terri Clock.

The MIAAA is a 47-year old association with nearly 700 members serving as athletic administrators in numerous high schools and junior/middle highs throughout the state. Partnered with the MHSAA, the MIAAA works to promote the educational value of interscholastic athletics and the role of athletic directors. ■

## INAUGURAL SCOPE AWARD GOES TO FOUR

To help promote the proper perspective for educational athletics, the Michigan High School Athletic Association has teamed with AT&T to create an awards program which acknowledges the efforts to schools to maintain student-centered, educationally focused sports programs.

Four schools were selected for the 2006-07 school year to receive the SCOPE Award, and were presented \$2,500 checks from AT&T to be used in the continued promotion of an educational attitude for their programs in ceremonies at halftime of the MHSAA Class D Boys Basketball Final on March 24.

Alpena, Richland Gull Lake, Grandville Calvin Christian and Caseville were selected as the inaugural recipients of the SCOPE Award in their respective classes (A-B-C-D). All schools entering the program were required to submit an essay describing how they would use the \$2,500 to further the promotion of a proper perspective for school sports; a series of essays from an athletic administrator, student, school faculty member and community member about how the school's perspective on educational athletics affects the school and community; and any materials the school has used to promote its perspective on athletics.



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“The biggest challenge school sports faces in maintaining its different niche from all other levels of athletics by all other sponsors is maintaining a sane scope – realizing that these programs are here to educate students,” said John E. “Jack” Roberts, executive

director of the MHSAA. “Schools which promote the proper perspective will find success in all respects – including between the lines.

We’re proud of the schools which have been selected to receive this year’s SCOPE Award.”

AT&T is also the sponsor of the MHSAA’s new Student Advisory Council, a 16-member group which provides feedback on issues impacting educational athletics from a student’s perspective, and is also involved in the operation of MHSAA championship events and other programming.

Operating globally under the AT&T brand, AT&T companies are recognized as the leading worldwide providers of IP-based communications services to business and as leading U.S. providers of high speed DSL Internet, local and long distance voice, and directory publishing and advertising services. Additional information about AT&T Inc., and AT&T products and services is available at [www.att.com](http://www.att.com). ■

### 2007 SCOPE Award Recipients



Visual Image Photography

## 2006-07 WINTER COACH EJECTION LISTING

<b>City</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Coach</b>	<b>Sport</b>
Adrian	Adrian HS	Mark Comstock	Boys Basketball
Ann Arbor	Huron HS	George Tyler	Ice Hockey
Baldwin	Baldwin Community Schools	Doug Bolles	Boys Basketball
Belding	Belding Area HS	Mikayla Linebaugh	Volleyball
Berkley	Berkley HS	Brian Lavierge Jr	Ice Hockey
Big Rapids	Big Rapids HS	Brian Miller	Boys Basketball
Breckenridge	Breckenridge HS	Andy Siradakis	Volleyball
Burton	Bentley HS	Jeremy Trent	Boys Basketball
Burton	Faith HS	Mark Tyler	Boys Basketball
Canton	Canton HS	Casey Randolph	Wrestling
Charlotte	Charlotte HS	Nick Bond	Boys Basketball
Concord	Concord HS	Rob Casto	Wrestling
Constantine	Constantine HS	Mike Sellers	Boys Basketball
Dearborn Heights	Robichaud HS	Craig Lewis	Boys Basketball
Decatur	Decatur HS	Rick Athey	Boys Basketball
Detroit	Cody HS	Bryant Tipton	Boys Basketball
Detroit	Detroit City HS	Shaheed Saleem	Boys Basketball
East Lansing	East Lansing HS	Don Behm	Wrestling
Fenton	Fenton HS	Kevin Powers	Boys Basketball
Flint	Beecher HS	Leonard Robinson	Boys Basketball
Flint	Hamady JHS	Royce Stephens	Boys Basketball
Frankenmuth	Frankenmuth HS	Josh Spencer	Wrestling
Fremont	Fremont HS	Peter Zerfas	Boys Basketball
Gibraltar	OA Carlson HS	Chris Boller	Boys Basketball
Gibraltar	OA Carlson HS	Patrick Rice	Volleyball
Grand Blanc	Grand Blanc HS	Rick Daly	Volleyball
Grand Ledge	Beagle Middle School	Jeremy Norris	Boys Basketball
Grosse Pointe	Grosse Pointe North HS	Bryan Lorenzo	Wrestling
Hartford	Hartford HS	John Jonatzke	Wrestling
Highland Park	Highland Park HS	Glen Washington	Wrestling
Horton	Hanover-Horton HS	Johnny Stewart	Boys Basketball
Howell	Howell HS	Jim Storm	Ice Hockey
Hudson	Hudson Area HS	Wayne Perry	Boys Basketball
Inkster	Inkster HS	Jerome Orr	Wrestling
L'Anse	L'Anse HS	Tyler Lloyd	Boys Basketball
Lansing	Pattengill Middle School	Benjamin Pena	Boys Basketball
Lawrence	Lawrence HS	Troy Zimmerlee	Wrestling
Macomb	Dakota HS	Bill Snyder	Boys Basketball
Marysville	Marysville HS	Rob Churchill	Ice Hockey
Mason	Mason HS	Chad Burge	Wrestling
Melvindale	Strong Middle School	Ellis Slaughter	Wrestling
Muskegon	Muskegon HS	Ron James	Wrestling
New Boston	Huron HS	George Tyler	Ice Hockey
Niles	Niles HS	Bob Galvin	Wrestling
Norton Shores	Mona Shores HS	Mike Johnson	Ice Hockey
Novi	Detroit Catholic Central HS	Mike Rodriquez	Wrestling
Riverview	Gabriel Richard HS	Rick Desane	Ice Hockey
Romulus	Romulus HS	Avery Taylor	Boys Basketball
Romulus	Romulus Middle School	Troy Williams	Boys Basketball
Rose City	Rose City Middle School	Lori Shelly	Boys Basketball
Saginaw	Swan Valley HS	Craig Monahan	Boys Basketball

Sanford	Meridian HS	Andy LaFave	Boys Basketball
Sault Ste Marie	Sault Area HS	Al Dunbar	Ice Hockey
Schoolcraft	Schoolcraft HS	Rob Ling	Wrestling
Southgate	Davidson Middle School	Brandon Reaume	Boys Basketball
St. Clair Shores	Lakeview HS	Dean Haratsaris	Boys Basketball
Sterling Heights	Utica Ford II HS	Pat Cusumano	Boys Basketball
Suttons Bay	Suttons Bay HS	Keven Cross	Boys Basketball
Traverse City	Traverse City Central HS	Ron Bohne	Boys Basketball
Troy	Troy HS	Aaron Smith	Boys Basketball
Walled Lake	Walled Lake Central HS	James Hogan	Ice Hockey
Waterliet	Grace Christian HS	Dennis Fox	Boys Basketball
Wayland	Wayland Union HS	Bill Merchant	Boys Basketball
Westland	John Glenn HS	Bill Polk	Wrestling
Wyandotte	Mt Carmel HS	Brian Hoke	Ice Hockey
Wyoming	Wyoming Park HS	Craig VanVliet	Boys Basketball
Ypsilanti	Lincoln HS	Mike Hotchkiss	Boys Basketball
Ypsilanti	Lincoln HS	Mike Hotchkiss	Boys Basketball
Ypsilanti	West Middle School	Ken Johnson	Boys Basketball
Ypsilanti	West Middle School	Darren Wheeler	Boys Basketball

## SCHOOLS WITH THREE OR MORE OFFICIALS REPORTS — Winter 2006-07

School	City	No. of Reports
Huron HS	Ann Arbor	5
East Lansing HS	East Lansing	4
O.A. Carlson HS	Gibraltar	4
Lincoln Park HS	Lincoln Park	4
L'Anse Creuse North HS	Macomb	4
Romeo HS	Romeo	4
Troy HS	Troy	4
Walled Lake Western HS	Walled Lake	4
Canton HS	Canton	3
Escanaba HS	Escanaba	3
Northview HS	Grand Rapids	3
Highland Park Community HS	Highland Park	3
Howell HS	Howell	3
Jackson HS	Jackson	3
Dakota HS	Macomb	3
Huron HS	New Boston	3
Swan Valley HS	Saginaw	3
Southgate Anderson HS	Southgate	3
Trenton HS	Trenton	3
Walled Lake Central HS	Walled Lake	3
Cousino HS	Warren	3

*Ejections for cooperative programs are assigned to the primary school regardless of the student's enrollment.*



## OFFICIALS REPORTS SUMMARY FOR WINTER 2006-07

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Concern</b>	<b>Praise</b>	<b>Player Ejection</b>	<b>Coach Ejection</b>	<b>Other Ejection</b>	<b>Taunting</b>
Boys Basketball	103	11	51	40	1	0
Boys Swimming	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ice Hockey	129	3	143	10	0	0
Volleyball	7	6	1	4	0	0
Wrestling	83	9	55	16	5	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>

### Distribution of Reports

<b>Reports of Concern</b>	<b>No. of Schools</b>	<b>Reports of Praise</b>	<b>No. of Schools</b>
1	164	1	25
2	43	2	2
3	13		
4	6		
5	2		

**The Officials Report Form may be completed electronically. Download the PDF file from the Officials page of the MHSAA Web site, [mhsaa.com](http://mhsaa.com)**

### BASKETBALL OFFICIATING CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

Basketball officials looking to hone their games can do so at one or more of the following summer camps:

Michigan Collegiate Basketball Officiating Camp  
 June 15-17 & June 22-24  
 Central Michigan University  
 Contact: John Kirk - [kirkgliac@aol.com](mailto:kirkgliac@aol.com)

Capital Area Basketball Officials Camp  
 June 15-16  
 Michigan State University  
 Contact: Mike Conlin - [mrconlin@hotmail.com](mailto:mrconlin@hotmail.com)

Mike Smith's Basketball Officiating Camp  
 June 22-24  
 Oakland University  
 Contact: Mike Smith - [msmith627@hotmail.com](mailto:msmith627@hotmail.com)

Tri-City Basketball Officials Camp  
 July 27-29  
 Saginaw Valley State University  
 Contact: Jim Eastman - [jeastman2002@yahoo.com](mailto:jeastman2002@yahoo.com)

## SPRING RATINGS DUE MAY 25, 2007

Officials ratings for varsity or subvarsity boys basketball, girls volleyball, wrestling and ice hockey are due by May 25, 2007. Ratings received after this date will not be processed.

Athletic directors are reminded that only one rating should be submitted for each official regardless of the number of times the official

works contests for one school. Each official may receive a varsity and a subvarsity rating from one school for working more than one level of competition.

All ratings must be done online at mhsaa.com. Following are instructions:

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING ONLINE RATINGS

#### TO ACCESS THE ONLINE RATINGS SYSTEM:

1. Click on the *School Login* link on the left-hand side of the mhsaa.com home page
2. Enter your school ID and password to access the "MHSAA School Services" Web page.
3. Click the red *Enter Officials Ratings* link in the middle of the page. To learn how to enter ratings, click the Help link in the upper right-hand section of the "MHSAA Officials Ratings Center" Web page to access up to date instructions.

Athletic directors have the option to provide their coaches the ability to add officials ratings. Once logged on to the "MHSAA School Services" Web Page:

1. Click the *Update Your Coaches' Information* link.
2. Click the corresponding *Edit* link found in the right-hand column of the table row containing the sport you wish to select.
3. Check the box to allow the coach in the rated sport to enter ratings online.
4. Enter a password for the coach.
5. Re-enter the same password (to verify).
6. Notify your coach of her/his access. Coaches should use the two or three character sports code + the school ID for a login ID. For example, Brighton High School's Girls Basketball Coach would use GBB1016 for a login ID (GBB for girls basketball and 1016 for Brighton's school ID). For Baseball, BA1016 would be the login ID. The password assigned by the athletic director should then be used. Below is a list of pre-fixes for your school's sport codes.

Baseball-BA	Boys Basketball-BBB
Boys Lacrosse-BL	Boys Soccer-BSO
Football-FB	Girls Basketball-GBB
Girls Compet. Cheer-CC	Girls Lacrosse-GL
Girls Soccer-GSO	Ice Hockey-IH
Softball-SB	Volleyball-VB
Wrestling-WR	

Login instructions for coaches can be downloaded from the "MHSAA Officials Ratings Center" Web page. Coaches cannot approve online ratings. That responsibility remains with the athletic director. Once the ratings are entered by the coach, she/he can click on a link to notify the A.D. that they have submitted ratings for approval. **Important: A valid e-mail address for the athletic director is necessary for online ratings.**

# AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON ELIGIBILITY OF NON-TRADITIONAL SCHOOL STUDENTS

East Lansing, February 27, 2007

## Members Present:

Melvin Atkins, Grand Rapids  
Mike Butterfield, Waterford  
Tom Davis, Holt  
Richard Diebold, Charlevoix  
Lafayette Evans, Detroit  
Gail Ganakas, Flint  
Marty Embry, Flint

Dick Sebring, St. Louis  
John Smith, Corunna

## Staff Member Present:

Camala Kinder  
Tom Rashid  
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

**Purpose/Make-Up** - This ad-hoc committee was requested by the MHSAA Executive Committee as part of the effort to review MHSAA policies and procedures regarding the interscholastic athletic eligibility of students enrolled in non-traditional programs connected to MHSAA member schools.

Because of the growth in the number and variety of non-traditional programs and schools, the MHSAA several years ago broadened the reference from "alternative schools" to "non-traditional programs." Now the association is attempting to assess if its rules work best for the variety of situations that exist.

The persons invited to participate in this meeting represent one of three situations:

1. A multi-high school district with one or more dedicated non-traditional schools;
2. A single high school district with one or more dedicated non-traditional schools;
3. A consortium setup where several different school districts have students attending the same non-traditional school(s).

Each committee member described the non-traditional schools and programs of the school district he or she serves, exposing a wide variety of types of schools. They discussed financial and societal trends affecting the development of these programs.

**Current Policies & Procedures** - The procedures for classification of MHSAA member schools include the following (*Handbook* p. 93): "Students enrolled in a 'consortium' or on a 'shared time' basis shall be counted by the school where the permanent records are on file. In a school which sponsors a non-traditional program for its students only, all those students must be counted and the actual program(s) named if

any of them are permitted to participate on that school's interscholastic teams."

The Enrollment Declaration Form states that if a school allows non-traditional programs to participate on its MHSAA sports teams, it must include in its enrollment count for MHSAA classification purposes the total number of students who reside in the attendance area of the sponsoring school and attend the non-traditional program(s) named on the form.

The interscholastic athletic eligibility of students enrolled in non-traditional programs is controlled by *Handbook* Interpretation 47 (part d. identifies where these students may be eligible):

"47. a. If a student is enrolled in a non-traditional program **administered directly by the school district**, and that program does not have an interscholastic athletic program, that student is eligible at the base school as defined in d. below, provided all other conditions of eligibility are met and the base school included in its MHSAA membership count all students that are enrolled in this non-traditional program.

"b. If a student is enrolled in a non-traditional program **administered through a consortium of more than one school district**, and that program does not have an interscholastic athletic program, that student is eligible at the base school as defined in d. below, provided all other conditions of eligibility are met and the base school included in its MHSAA membership count all students that are enrolled in this non-traditional program who reside in that district or attendance area of a multi high school district.

"c. If a student is enrolled in a non-tradi-

tional program **administered by a single school district that has more than one high school**, and that program does not have an interscholastic athletic program, that student is eligible at the base school as defined in d. below provided all other conditions of eligibility are met and the base school included in its MHSAA membership count all students who reside in the attendance area of the school or who were randomly assigned to that school.

"d. The **base school** for a first-time 9th-grader is the public high school which serves his/her residence, as described in Interpretation 59 or the public school academy or nonpublic school closest to the student's residence as described in Interpretation 60. The **base school** for a student previously enrolled in grades nine through twelve (unless that student has transferred and is immediately eligible under one of the exceptions to the transfer rule) is that school in which the student has most recently been enrolled prior to being enrolled in the non-traditional program."

The committee focused next on the fundamentals of the current policies.

#### **A. What are the Requirements of Eligibility?**

For a student to be considered eligible in the interscholastic athletic program of a traditional MHSAA member school, the student must meet at least the minimum requirements of MHSAA *Handbook* Regulation I. In addition, (1) the governing board of the traditional school must have determined that the students of this non-traditional school may participate on its interscholastic sports teams; and (2) the administration of that traditional school must have counted on the MHSAA Enrollment Declaration Form of the previous February all the students who are enrolled in the non-traditional program who reside in the attendance area of the traditional program (traditional schools without attendance boundaries must count all students who were enrolled in that traditional school immediately before they began to take their course work in that non-traditional program).

#### **B. What is a Non-Traditional School?**

The essential requirement for a school or

program to be considered a non-traditional school or program is that it does not sponsor any interscholastic teams in any MHSAA tournament sport. It is intended to apply to schools or programs which cannot or do not provide any interscholastic athletic opportunities for any of their students in even one sport served by the MHSAA.

**Connection to Traditional School** - The committee discussed the type and degree of relationship that must exist between the traditional school and non-traditional school or program that would allow the traditional school to permit athletic eligibility for the students in the non-traditional (no sports) setting, including FTEs, location of permanent records, diploma sources, and the time and place of graduation ceremonies. It was agreed that not all of these connections should be required in every case, but some of them would be desirable. While flexibility is desirable, it should not be so much that very small religious and charter schools and home schools could be deemed non-traditional programs for a traditional member school. There was consensus that close proximity between traditional and non-traditional schools should not be a factor in determining relationships.

**Base School Determination** - In addition to the current policies and procedures, the committee discussed these alternatives:

- Should the school for athletic eligibility be the school located closest to the non-traditional school?
- Should the local board of education have the authority to determine where students attending non-traditional schools have athletic eligibility (base school, closest school, or other school)?
- Should the school board's policy be subject to MHSAA review?

There was clear consensus, although not unanimous opinion, that the current policies (Interpretation 47[d]) was much preferred over any alternative discussed, even for "schools within a school" and when the traditional and non-traditional school are located in close proximity. It is preferred that the current rules be maintained and universally applied by all MHSAA member schools.

**Follow-Up** - At its May 2007 meetings, the MHSAA Representative Council will discuss this report and the results of other discussions on this topic.■

# SWIMMING & DIVING COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, February 20, 2007

## Members Present:

Bill Andrew, Plainwell  
Mike Bakker, Fenton  
John Dudley, Ypsilanti (Advisory)  
MaryAnn Egnatuk, Albion  
Brian Foust, Plymouth  
Scott Hedges, Bloomfield Hills  
Denny Hill, Ann Arbor  
Dave Jolly, Chelsea  
Mike Matter, Saginaw  
Joe O'Brien, Grand Rapids  
Bob Oliver, Haslett  
Corrin Poppo, Battle Creek

Mike Rado, Bloomfield Hills (MISCA)  
Doug VanderJagt, Rockford (MASSP)  
Hooker Wellman, Ludington

## Members Absent:

Wendy Daniel, Flint  
Tom Flynn, Beverly Hills (MIAAA)  
Ray Greenland, Eaton Rapids  
Catherine Stevens, Kentwood

## Staff Member Present:

Gina Mazzolini (Recorder)

The committee was reminded of its responsibility and of the process for rule changes. After a brief welcome and introductions, the following action was taken.

## PRESENTATION

Tom Rashid, Associate Director of the MHSAA, discussed calendar concerns, length of seasons and starting/ending dates of the school year. Committee members were given the opportunity to comment and complete a survey on the presented items.

## TABLED ITEMS

1. Require swimmers or relay teams that don't meet the qualification time at the Final, to present proof that they, in fact, were qualified to participate. The discussion included time line by which to report, penalty and additional action toward the school or coach.
2. Determining a multi-year rotation for Finals.
3. Determining the number of diving regions per division.

## FINAL SITE RECOMMENDATIONS

Fall 2007	Winter 2008
Division 1 - EMU	Oakland U.
Division 2 - Oakland U.	EMU
Division 3 - Holland Aquatic	Holland Aqua.

The committee recommends that the MHSAA staff survey all interested facilities to determine their interest in hosting and specifically: which division(s), what are pool dimensions, how much deck space, seating capacity, and availability. **Finals Start Time**  
- If a high school hosts a Final meet on its

campus, it may select the start times.

## RULES MEETINGS

Require Varsity coaches and officials working postseason to attend a rules meeting every year.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Divide LP Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving into three (3) equal divisions (15-0).
2. Use Bob Klapthor's formula for establishing qualifying times (goal is for 32 participants in each event) (15-0).
3. Modify the cut process for diving at the Regional meets. Each diver will perform five (5) dives, cut to 20, do three (3) more dives and cut to 16. The 16 divers will finish their list (11) and the top 12 advance to Finals (15-0).
4. Stipulate that any swimmer or diver, whether exhibition or scoring, may use their result to qualify for the Regional Diving Meet or Final Swim Meet (15-0).
5. Establish that the Regional Manager shall select the start time of the meet - no earlier than 3 pm, no later than 5 p.m. (12-0).
6. Stipulate that no one, including the host school's divers or any diver coached by the host school's coach, may use the Regional diving facility one hour preceding the scheduled warm-up (15-0).
7. Require rules meetings every year for coaches and also for officials who wish to officiate postseason events (12-0-3). ■

# BOWLING COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, March 16, 2005

## Members Present:

Larry Boyer, Battle Creek  
Karl Bosman, Trenton  
Rudy Godefroidt, Hemlock  
Janet Greaves, Waterford  
Greg Hermsen, Battle Creek  
Mike Johnson, Grand Rapids  
Rich Kimball, Jackson  
Jay Kulbertis, Escanaba (MASSP)  
Greg Kozdembra, Haslett  
Tracy Long, Flint  
Pat Richardson, Grass Lake  
Randy Shank, Sterling Heights (Advisory)

Mel Wolf, Jackson (Advisory)  
Harry Burkey, Grosse Pointe Woods  
(Advisory)

## Members Absent:

Danielle Hare, Saginaw  
Scott Bennett, Flint (BCAM)  
Vic Michaels, Detroit (MIAAA)

## Staff Member Present:

Randy Allen (recorder)

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## PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE

The MHSAA bowling Committee is a standing committee which meets annually to develop recommendations to the Representative Council and the MHSAA staff regarding policies and procedures associated with the MHSAA Bowling tournament. The makeup of the committee represents coaches, athletic administrators and tournament officials.

## TOURNAMENT REVIEW

All aspects of the MHSAA Regional and Finals tournament were reviewed. The move to three separate sites for the Division Finals was a success. It was agreed to use different lane blocks in some of the houses to better accommodate traffic flow and spectator seating. Spacing of match games will also be reviewed at each location. Although no specific criteria will be developed, the general policy of having a lane condition at the Regional that is more challenging than house conditions, and a Finals condition that provides a reasonable difference from normal house conditions and Regional oil patterns will continue at the discretion of the MHSAA and its host tournament centers. Several new centers and host schools were part of the expanded Regional tournaments with great success at the new venues. Finals attendance averaged 1,000 at each of the three sites.

After a two year experience, it was decided to continue the use of alternating lanes for Baker games in the MHSAA tournament. It

was also agreed to keep the same substitution rule that allows for mid-frame changes of bowlers. A review of tiebreaker procedures resulted in a recommendation to better define policies at the MHSAA tournament. The current practice of lane assignments for singles and team events will be maintained. It was also suggested that each Regional site make efforts to have lane monitors for every two pairs of lanes.

A motion was approved to reduce the number of games bowled in the qualifying round and match game round at the Team Finals to shorten the time of competition. Regional singles & team formats will remain the same, as well as the Finals singles format. A motion was approved to have the Regional Team event on Friday and Singles on Saturday as is done at the Finals.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

The current season dates and limits of competition were reviewed. There was some support for moving the season later, but it was pointed out that leagues & conferences that use Saturdays as their main day of competition need the season to start in December to accommodate their schedules.

Several additions and clarifications were suggested for the MHSAA Coaches Manual and coaches rules meetings, including an emphasis on non-school competition restrictions, dress code adherence by coaches and athletes, coaching duties, restrictions on adult leagues, amateur status, and sportsmanship

by coaches, fans and athletes.

The committee reviewed NCAA collegiate playing rules for use in MHSAA competition. The rules are available on-line and have a basis more suitable to school competition than USBC playing rules. It was suggested they could be adopted with exceptions for MHSAA tournaments formats and other rules that are different than the college code. The committee preferred a year of continued study of the NCAA rules and their application to MHSAA bowling and to revisit the subject at the 2008 committee meeting.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

1. Standardize team tournament lane rotation at the Regionals and Finals as follows: Even lane rotates one pair right and odd lane rotates one pair left (11-0).
2. Change order of Regional qualifying to team on Friday and singles on Saturday. (11-0).
3. Change the qualifying round format at the Finals to two regular games and eight Baker games. Change the team match game round format at the Finals to one regular game and four Baker games. Rationale: This will reduce the time in the team event by about 90 minutes (11-0).
4. Advance to the classification committee a recommendation that when the number of school-sponsored bowling programs reaches 320, conduct the MHSAA tournament in four equal divisions with six Regionals in each division (11-0).  
**Rationale:** Approval by the classification committee allows the change to be made without waiting for another year after the threshold is reached.
5. Should the number of schools sponsoring bowling exceed 300, a 7th Regional be added to the existing three-division tournament to accommodate the growth and keep Regional size manageable. Adjust Finals qualifiers to maintain approximately the same Finals field (11-0).
6. Standardize the regular-season format to be two regular and two Baker games for all conference team competition with a 30 point system. School and conferences may determine order of games and tiebreaker policies. Other formats may be used for invitational events and non-conference matches (11-0).
7. Tiebreaker procedures for champions and final qualifier position at Regionals, and champions and final qualifier position at the Finals will be as follows: **Singles** - One regular game, if still tied then a 9-10th frame roll-off repeated until the tie is broken. **Team** - One Baker set (2 games), if still tied then a 6-10th frame Baker format roll-off repeated until tie is broken (11-0).
8. Approve the 2007-08 Finals sites as Northway Lanes in Muskegon for Division 1 (new), Sunnybrook Lanes in Sterling Heights for Division 2 and Airport Lanes in Jackson for Division 3 (11-0). ■

## LITIGATION

### COURT UPHOLDS MAXIMUM SEMESTER RULE

The first new legal challenge for the MHSAA in two-and-one-half years resulted in a successful defense of the maximum semesters regulation.

Plaintiff repeated the 9th grade when transferring from one high school to another and sought to play lacrosse in the spring of 2007, the student's 10th semester since first enrolling in the 9th grade. It was argued that because lacrosse was not an MHSAA tournament sport during the student's first 9th-grade year, those two semesters should not count toward the eight-semester maximum for interscholastic athletic eligibility.

It was argued that the student was promised by an administrator of his new school that he would be able to play lacrosse as a 12th-grader. The defendant school argued this was not so; and regardless, that plaintiff's claim is barred by Michigan's statute of frauds.

The Oakland County Circuit Court cited previous decisions of Michigan courts that students' participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege, not a right; that membership in the MHSAA is voluntary; and that compliance with MHSAA rules on the part of student-athletes is an appropriate and justifiable condition of the privilege of participating in interscholastic athletics under the auspices of the MHSAA.

The court stated: "This Court is of the opinion that the eight-semester rule is reasonable as a means to ensure interscholastic athletic equity among the many thousands of athletic participants at the member high schools of the MHSAA." The court found that the association's interest in uniformity and predictability was greater than the plaintiff's desire to play. ■

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### MHSAA DENIED CERTIORARI BY US SUPREME COURT IN SPORTS SEASONS LITIGATION

The United States Supreme Court on April 2 denied a certiorari request by the Michigan High School Athletic Association in its Sports Seasons litigation.

As a result of the Supreme Court's decision, the previous changes in seasons ordered by lower courts will occur beginning with the 2007-08 school year: girls basketball will move from Fall to Winter; girls volleyball will move from Winter to Fall; boys golf and girls tennis in the Lower Peninsula will move from Fall to Spring; girls golf and boys tennis in the Lower Peninsula will move



from Spring to Fall; and the MHSAA will offer Upper Peninsula post-season tournaments in soccer for girls in the Fall and boys in the Spring.

The MHSAA issued the following statement after the announcement: "The MHSAA is disappointed that the

Supreme Court has decided against reviewing this case. Now is the time for our schools to step up and work with the decision of the Court to continue to maximize the quantity and quality of interscholastic athletic participation opportunities for young people in our state." ■



## NOW MORE THAN EVER

*MHSAA Executive Director John E. "Jack" Roberts' Edited  
Address to the Media and Membership on April 2, 2007*

This morning I had the opportunity to speak about leadership to nearly 400 Macomb Area Conference student-athletes who are or who hope to be captains of teams at their respective high schools. This afternoon, I want to speak to you, and through you to the MSHAA constituents across the state, about a new challenge of leadership that has been given to Michigan's schools.

In the sports seasons litigation, the US Supreme Court has denied the petition to review the Opinion and Order of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. The effect of the Supreme Court's refusal to give further review to this case is that the MHSAA will be conducting several tournaments according to a different schedule in 2007-08 than has been in place by the decisions of local boards of education for many decades.

- The Girls Volleyball Tournament will move from March to November;
- The Girls Basketball Tournament will move from December to March;
- The Lower Peninsula Boys Tennis and Lower Peninsula Girls Golf Tournaments will move from spring to fall;
- The Lower Peninsula Girls Tennis and Lower Peninsula Boys Golf Tournaments will move from fall to spring;
- A separate Upper Peninsula Soccer Tournament will be offered for girls in the fall and boys in the spring.

These changes are outlined in the Contingency Plan that has been on the MHSAA Web site for more than two years. Spared from MHSAA tournament schedule changes are boys and girls swimming & diving, Lower Peninsula boys and girls soccer, Upper Peninsula boys and girls tennis and Upper Peninsula boys and girls golf.

Those involved in the directly affected sports have provided many examples of the negative effects of these changes, but none of this persuaded the District Court whose unusual findings of fact could not be seriously challenged under our system of jurisprudence.

- The court-ordered change means thousands – many thousands – of boys and girls who had been planning on playing a certain combination of sports in high

school will find that combination impossible. My heart aches most for those ninth, tenth and eleventh graders who are caught in the transition and harmed most by the change.

- It means that no longer will college volleyball coaches and players be available to coach and officiate schools' girls volleyball teams. What great role models they were for our young women.
- It means many coaches who have chosen to coach both boys and girls basketball will have to choose one or the other. My gratitude goes out to these truly dedicated people who have given so much for so long to help so many student-athletes.
- It means our schools will battle the colleges for volleyball officials in the fall.
- It means girls high school basketball will join boys high school basketball in the fight with men's and women's college basketball for game officials in the winter.
- It means facilities won't be used as wisely and media attention to high school basketball will be spread more thinly.

It means that school districts must immediately get to the tasks of voiding contracts for some coaches and recruiting new coaches from a shallow pool of candidates; voiding contracts for officials and seeking replacements from an already inadequate supply; rescheduling contests and practices, and then reschedule the use by other school and community groups around the new realities. It is unfortunate at any time, much less at a time of severe financial stress for our state and its schools, that Michigan's most efficient, fair and proactive model for utilizing community resources must be changed.

Many people have observed that the MHSAA has maintained the strong support of the schools throughout this case; and it's true that at every step, there has been almost unanimous support. In fact, briefs have been filed multiple times in these proceedings by the state school boards and athletic directors associations.

However, it is more accurate to observe that the MHSAA has been supporting the schools than to say the schools have been

supporting the MHSAA. Schools made the sports seasons decisions, not the MHSAA. Schools set the seasons for their local regular season play; and when enough schools sponsored the sport, then the MHSAA sponsored a tournament in that sport; and placed the tournament logically at the conclusion of the season that had already been used for regular season competition sponsored by local schools.

In this case, the MHSAA has been defending schools' decisions, not MHSAA mandates. Every portion of our constituency has favored the current seasons: athletes, their parents, coaches, administrators, school boards, officials and the sports media.

Many times I have met with athletes, especially female athletes, and I have said to them: "If you tell me you believe the seasons should be switched, then to the limits of my authority, I will advocate for that change." The students did not ask; and therefore, I did not advocate what they did not want.

If **ever** our constituents had said we should not defend the current seasons because they are not beneficial to boys and girls, then the MHSAA would not have defended those seasons. Because our constituents believe their seasons structure is much better than what the District Court has ordered, the MHSAA gave its best effort to defend those seasons; and we did so without any expenditure of time or money by schools, and without any distraction from MHSAA services to those schools.

Ultimately, our efforts to preserve schools' seasons have been unsuccessful. We have to apologize to schools, not for making the efforts, but for not making **successful** efforts. We are disappointed with the results; but we could not have lived with ourselves if we were also disappointed with the effort.

It is extremely important now that our schools remember who we are in Michigan. We are the schools which decided to maximize high school sports participation; and we are the schools which, more than in any other state, have accomplished that mission. We are eighth in the nation in high school age population but fourth in the nation in girls high school athletic participation, including third in the nation in girls high school volleyball and tennis participation. In every sport at issue in this case, our national rank in girls sports participation is sixth or better, not eighth or worse.

In a nearly bankrupt state, with many nearly bankrupt school districts, and declining enrollment in rural towns and urban centers, in spite of this, Michigan schools have amazed everybody and continued to maximize participation.

So the challenge now – and it's a huge one – is to do in Michigan what no other state has done: to avoid decreasing participation in the wake of seasons changes. Some states saw double-digit percentage drops in girls and boys basketball participation and girls volleyball participation following the change of seasons. We must do better.

Michigan schools must continue to avoid easy choices, including plans convenient for adults. We must continue to seek out and implement creative plans that will maximize participation for students.

The goal that has guided this association of schools like no other in America has been maximizing participation. It must be our continuing passion.

The job just got harder. But blaming and whining will not help. Imagination and energy are what we need, now more than ever, to turn this disappointing day into a brighter tomorrow than we believe is possible right now for our kids and coaches.

Michigan schools, and especially their young women, may have lost their special seasons. That's bad. But it will be worse if schools lose sight of their special mission that gave rise to those seasons decisions: maximizing participation.

We will keep working, and we believe our colleagues in Michigan schools will do the same, to continue to realize that goal.

There are two lessons of high school sports that are relevant here: guts and grace. In school sports you must have the guts – the courage and persistence – to play the full contest. When the going gets tough, coaches ask their athletes to make a "gut check." A good high school athlete doesn't quit before the contest is completed. And we did not quit either.

A second lesson of high school sports is that you must accept the final outcome with grace. Sometimes you win when you deserve to lose, and sometimes you lose when you deserve to win. But in either case, accepting the result gracefully is what we expect of our athletes; and it is what we expect of ourselves now.

I know you have questions now, and the answers require candor, and that will not always sound positive. But it is my desire that we approach our future with optimism, with the hope and even the expectation that Michigan will continue to represent the best of what school sports has to offer in America: pure, wholesome, local, amateur, educational athletics, the family brand of sports in a world where sports is too often out of perspective and out of control. No state has been in hotter pursuit of the highest ideals of

school sports than this great and wonderful state in which I serve, and that will continue.

My personal passion for this is not diminished; and if you had been with me as I addressed the team captains today or had the opportunity I did for private conversation a week ago with this year's MHSAA scholar-athletes, I think you would share my optimistic view of our future. These kids, who give their very best, deserve our very best attitudes and efforts, now more than ever. ■



# REVISED 2007-08 CALENDAR

SPORT	FIRST PRACTICE DATE	FIRST CONTEST DATE	DAYS OR CONTESTS	OPT OUT DUE DATE	DUE DATE OF RATINGS	MHSAA TOURNAMENT DATES				
						DISTRICTS	REGIONALS	QTR FINALS	SEMI FINALS	FINALS
<b>FALL</b>										
Cross Country: LP	Aug 13	Aug 13	15D	Oct 10			Oct 26-27			Nov 3
Cross Country: UP	Aug 13	Aug 13	15D	Oct 5						Oct 20
Football	Aug 6	Aug 23	9C	N/A	Nov 30	Oct 26 or 27 & Nov 2 or 3	Nov 9 or 10		Nov 17	Nov 23-24
Golf: LP Girls	Aug 9	Aug 13	16D	Sep 21			Oct 11 or 12 or 13			Oct 19-20
Soccer: LP Boys	Aug 13	Aug 20	18C	Sep 26	Nov 30	Oct 15-20	Oct 23-27		Oct 31	Nov 3
Soccer: UP Girls	Aug 13	Aug 20	18C	Sep 26	Nov 30				Oct 24	Oct 27
Swimming: LP Girls	Aug 13	Aug 25	17D	Nov 12			Dive: Nov 13			Nov 16-17
Tennis: LP Boys	Aug 13	Aug 13	16D	Sep 26			Oct 11 or 12			Oct 19-20
Tennis: UP Girls	Aug 13	Aug 13	16D	Sep 21						Oct 4
Volleyball	Aug 13	Aug 24	18D	Oct 17	Nov 30	Oct 30-Nov 1 & Nov 2 or 3	Nov 9 or 10	Nov 13	Nov 15-16	Nov 17
<b>WINTER</b>										
Basketball: Boys	Nov 12	Dec 3	20C	Feb 6	Mar 21	Feb 25, 27 & 29	Mar 3 & 5	Mar 11	Mar 13-14	Mar 15
Basketball: Girls	Nov 5	Nov 26	20C	Feb 1	Mar 21	Feb 18, 20 & 22	Feb 26 & 28	Mar 4	Mar 6-7	Mar 8
Bowling: Boys & Girls	Nov 8-UP Nov 15-LP	Nov 24-UP Dec 1-LP	20C	Feb. 8			Feb 22-23			Feb 29 - Mar 1
Competitive Cheer	Nov 5	Nov 19	12D	Feb 15	Mar 21		Mar 1			Mar 7-8
Gymnastics	Oct 29	Nov 17	15D	Feb 22			Mar 1			Mar 7-8
Ice Hockey	Oct 29	Nov 12	24C	Feb 6	Mar 21		Feb 25-Mar 1	Mar 4-5	Mar 6-7	Mar 8
Skating: Boys & Girls	Nov 12	Dec 8	15C	Feb 8			Feb 14 or 15			Feb 25
Swimming: LP Boys	Nov 19	Dec 1	17D	Mar 3			Dive: Mar 4			Mar 7-8
Swimming: UP Boys & Girls	Nov 5	Nov 17	17D	Feb 11						Feb 16
Wrestling: Individual	Nov 12	Nov 28	16D	Feb 6	Mar 21	Feb 16	Feb 23	ALPHA WEIGH-IN 10/22/07 - 2/1/08		Mar 6-8
Wrestling: Team	Nov 12	Nov 28	16D	Feb 6	Mar 21	Feb 13 or 14	Feb 20			Feb 29 - Mar 1
<b>SPRING</b>										
Baseball	Mar 10	Mar 10	56 G+D	May 7	May 23	May 27 & 30 or 31	Jun 7	Jun 10	Jun 13	Jun 14
Golf: LP Boys	Mar 10	Mar 13	16D	May 7		May 22 or 23 or 24	May 29 or 30 or 31			Jun 6-7
Golf: UP Boys & Girls	Mar 10	Mar 10	16D	May 16						May 30
Lacrosse: Boys & Girls	Mar 10	Mar 21	18C	Apr 30	May 23		May 15-31		Jun 4	Jun 7
Soccer: LP Girls	Mar 10	Mar 17	18C	May 7	May 23	May 27-31	Jun 3-7		Jun 11	Jun 14
Soccer: UP Boys	Mar 10	Mar 17	18C	May 7	May 23			May 29	Jun 4	Jun 7
Softball	Mar 10	Mar 10	56 G+D	May 7	May 23	May 27 & 30 or 31	Jun 7	Jun 10	Jun 13	Jun 14
Tennis: LP Girls	Mar 10	Mar 10	16D	May 7			May 15 or 16			May 30-31
Tennis: UP Boys	Mar 10	Mar 10	16D	May 16						May 29
Track & Field	Mar 10	Mar 10	18D	May 12-13			May 16-17			May 31

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL  
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.  
1661 Ramblewood Dr.  
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823-7392

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