

November 2002

North Penn Alumni Athletic Association

Knight Times



FOUNDED AUGUST 2000

ISSUE #5

1997 North Penn High School Graduate Meredith Moore

PO Box 322 Harleysville, PA 19438

Board of Directors

President

Al Brodhag

NP Coach and Faculty

Secretary

Ken Schmidt

Lansdale 1950, NP Faculty, Coach
and Principal

Treasurer

Russ Stewart

NP 1961, Faculty, Coach and Athletic
Director

Rick Carroll - NP Coach

Jim Heimer - NP 1970

Greg Kobasa - NP 1969

Tom Strickland - NP 1962

Carol MacBain Yoder -
NP 1976

Administrative Secretary

Carole MacBain Yoder
NP 1976

NPAAA Founder

Art Wurster
NP 1962

Committees

Membership

Greg Kobasa

NP 1969 Chair

Marketing and Communications

Art Wurster - NP 1962 Chair

Tom Strickland - NP 1962

Jim Church - Lansdale 1950

Dick Shearer - A.M.

Photography

Ken Zepp - NP 1966 Chief
Photographer

Knight Times Newsletter

Art Wurster - NP 1962

Desktop Publisher

Kenneth McLarnon - NP Teacher

"Knight Line"

215-368-9800 Ext. 105

Web Site

<http://www.npaaa.org>



Meredith Moore a 1997 NP graduate now a second year Eagles Cheerleader.
Cheerleader Uniform-With Permission of the Philadelphia Eagles Football Club.
Photo by Ken Zepp, Knight Times

Reflections/Excerpts from Motivational Speech by Steve Miller -- Presented 11/9/02 at the NPAAA Annual Meeting

(Steve Miller is a 1967 NPHS graduate, outstanding student and three- sport letterman. He is presently CEO of a successful brokerage firm.)

Steve addressed the perennial question of the overall meaning of athletics, what athletics meant to him during his student days at NPHS, and how those lessons impacted both his professional baseball career and later life. He outlined how athletics taught him the meaning of hard work, sacrifice, desire, enthusiasm, conditioning, mental toughness and discipline--all topics frequently mentioned by many insightful athletes. Steve focused on four qualities that had special significance to him and what those qualities entail:

1) **LOYALTY:** 100% commitment to all who depend upon you. Loyalty is found within any successful team, at any level, in any successful business.

2) **RESPECT** Everyone has personal goals. Respect those goals and the life experiences of your opponents, but do not confuse fear with respect. Respect your parents and the authority they represent in your life. A gentle look, a kind word, or a smile can do wonders. The American writer Herbert Casson said that, in handling men, three feelings you must not possess are fear, dislike and contempt.

3) **UNSELFISHNESS:** Think of all consequences before you talk or act. Ask yourself the question, "How would I want to be treated in this situation?" What you say or do affects the lives of others. What makes a perfect day? Say or do something nice for someone who can never repay you!

4) **HONESTY:** It's habit-forming in either case, honesty or dishonesty. Self-honesty is imperative in athletics or in any other field. You can never become an effective leader if you are dishonest--in sports or life in general.

All of us realize that the future holds extraordinary challenges for us; we must accept those challenges as a part of life. Honesty and integrity must be sacrosanct when dealing with these challenges. There is no middle ground when it comes to honesty; it's black and white. There is **NO** special time to be honest. Its time is **NOW** and **ALWAYS**.

These four traits are really about **CHARACTER**, which is the foundation for everything in your life. An athlete must be dependable and consistent, regardless of the time or place.

Crisis Intervention

When we were in school, many of us were fortunate enough to have a coach or a teammate in whom we could confide, and who could help us with a personal problem. Even as adults, there are many times when we need someone who will listen and give us the benefit of another point of view.

The NPAAA has instituted a Crisis Intervention Hotline. If you would like to reconnect with that special coach or teammate, call 215-368- 9800, ext. 105. The operator will assist you in re-establishing a connection.

Remembering Hatfield High School (Reprinted from North Penn Life May 1, 1998)

Harry Wurster must have turned out the lights because he was the last one out. Fifty-two students made up the Hatfield Joint High School's last graduating class in 1995. Through alphabetical coincidence, Wurster was the last to throw his hat, to bask in the pomp, experience the circumstance. "It was like fading away at a very young age," he said.

Wurster does not need Homecoming to reminisce. All he needs is a receptive ear. "Our circle of friends was so close in those days, and that closeness still exists," he said. "Gerry Moyer was here the other day, and he said to me, "We have to find that ball." Moyer is a perfect example of the bond between

Hatfield High grads. After all, who but a close pal could get away with keeping the ball from your own no-hitter?

"Moyer was my catcher," Wurster said of his bid with high school sports immortality, "and I threw a no-hitter. And he kept that ball! Can you believe that?" That is just one of a myriad of sports memories recalled vividly by Wurster, who today runs his own public relations firm in Harleysville.

He also played basketball and soccer, but not football. "I grew up in the Souderton School District and wanted to play football so bad," he said. "When I heard football was coming, it was a dream come true." Because of a uniform controversy, the sport was dropped; however, it led the way for Wurster to play soccer, a game that produced his most vivid memory.

While trying to defend their Tri-City soccer title in 1954, Hatfield was beaten by a Bethlehem school. Wurster played goalie, and the new champs did not let him forget the game's outcome. "The kids from Bethlehem got hold of a Bethlehem Globe photo of me giving up the winning goal. They sent it to me to rub it in."

It wasn't just the athletics that made the school special, though. It was the people. "I remember our class advisor," Wurster said. "Gerald Kriebel. It just amazed me how we became friends. He was the favorite person of many classes."

Wurster wrote for "Orange and Black," the school newspaper. He danced the night away at many dungaree hops, listening to Bill Haley. He helped tear mufflers away from cars and cruised Hatfield's streets in the subsequent hot rod. In short, he lived a normal high school life at a school which lives no more--except in memories.

He harbors no special remembrance of high school graduation on May 25, 1955. "I was thrilled about my upcoming trip to the shore and thrilled that I got an athletic award. I suppose that I had no different feeling from those who graduate today." Memories return via his many stories. Playing soccer so roughly that he broke several ribs of one of his opponents. Standing in the Fairgrounds Road baseball field, remembering how far away the home run fence used to seem. High school gymnasiums so small that spectators had to tuck their feet under the seats so they wouldn't trip anyone walking by.

When Wurster walked into the gym at NPHS shortly after his graduation, he was stunned by the immensity of the facility "That's when I realized there was no more Hatfield. It was like death. It was final." So Wurster indeed shut out the lights. But the memories linger on.

In Mernoriarn

Carl M. "Hicks" Weingartner, 92, died 8/5/02 in the health care facility of Normandy Farm Estates, Blue Bell. He was the husband of the late Virginia (Brien) Weingartner. The couple had been married 62 years at the time of her death in 1998.

Hicks graduated from NWHS in 1928. In 1938, he opened a sporting goods business. Inducted into the US Army in August 1943, he landed in Normandy on D-Day, and served as a medic in the 358th Battalion of 90th Division. He earned many citations, and won both a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for injuries sustained in France. Following the war, he returned to North Wales and restarted his sports store, opening in Lansdale in 1950. The store closed in the mid-70s.

Hicks was a tennis enthusiast and champion, winning his first major club championship at the former West End Tennis Club in North Wales in 1926. In 1986, he won a gold medal for both singles and doubles in the Senior Olympics. He was awarded the National Senior Olympics bronze medal in 1987. He was inducted into the North Penn/Souderton Sports Hall of Fame in 1995. Hicks was the oldest member of the North Penn AAA.

Please send death notices and Newspaper Articles to:
North Penn AAA, P.O. Box 322, Harleysville, PA 19438.
Include name and daytime phone number.

Meredith Moore, NPHS 1997
Philadelphia Eagles Cheerleader

Many of you heard Meredith Moore's Interview on WNPV "On The Bench" Sports talk show with Jim Church on June 29th. Meredith is starting her second year as an Eagles Cheerleader. She also was captain of the Cheerleading squad at N.P.H.S.

Meredith's NP squad attended the Universal Cheerleading Association Camp and won first place in all divisions. Along with three teammates, Meredith made the All-Star Cheerleading Team and traveled to London. The NP Squad traveled to Orlando FL after qualifying for the National Championship. Team cheerleading is a grueling sport, demanding top physical and aerobic conditioning. Meredith will graduate from West Chester University in June with a degree in Elementary Education, and will begin Teaching in September.

The following interview is excerpted from "**Health and Fitness Lifestyle Magazine,**' February 2002.

Growing up, what did you want to be? A famous gymnast. **When did you realize cheerleading was in your future?** Since junior high school, and especially in high school when I began to compete in both regional and national competition. **What do you do to stay in shape?** I run and lift weights three times a week. I enjoy kick boxing, yoga, gymnastics, horseback riding and dancing. I also practice with the Philadelphia Eagles Cheerleaders twice a week doing a vigorous 3-hour dance rehearsal. **What is your diet like?** I maintain a low-carb, low-fat, low-sugar diet. I eat lots of egg whites, tuna fish, turkey and chicken. I snack on fruits and vegetables. On workout days, I eat a few more carbs for extra energy. Moderation is the key to a successful diet. **What is your favorite junk food?** Chocolate! **Do you like a favorite song while performing?** Yes, "Start the Commotion." **Do you have a favorite player on the Eagle squad?** It's very hard to pick a favorite player when they are all very talented. However, if I had to choose one, it would be Donovan McNabb. He is a great leader and role model who inspires team spirit. **How does the public react when they find you are a cheerleader?** People are usually very excited to hear I am a cheerleader. They ask questions like, "Have you met the players? Do you travel with the team? How much do you get paid?" I am often asked for my picture and autograph. It's always a delight when the public takes such interest in knowing about my role as an Eagles Cheerleader. **Do passionate fans pump you up during your performances?** The fans definitely play an exciting role. It's always a thrill when the best fans in the NFL cheer on not only our team but also the cheerleaders! **What is the way to your heart?** Flowers and chocolate. **Your favorite movie?** "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" **Favorite website?** www.philadelphiaeagles.com. **What would you take to a deserted island?** My best friend.

What do you like to do on days? Snuggle up on the couch and watch a good movie. **How does it feel to be a cheerleader?** Exciting and challenging. **Any advice on life?** Never underestimate yourself! You'd be surprised what you can achieve!



Photo by Art Wurster, Knight Times

More of Meredith In Future Issues and Web Site!