

Mendocino Coast Sports Foundation News

President's Message "I thought the Stadium was done"

Madeleine Melo

I cannot tell you how many times I hear that. At every fundraiser for the Mendocino Coast Sports Foundation, I hear that comment over and over again. No, we are not done. We have accomplished so much in the 12 years since the foundation's inception in 1991, but we still have things to do. The school district has had use of the playing field since the fall of 1997, but completion of the stadium has still not been realized.

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, the Rec. District has applied for a grant. This last year has seen the placement of one set of bathrooms. When the project is complete there will be two sets of bathrooms. We have worked towards completion of the snack shack, the ticket booth and the announcer's booth. The construction report will give you an update on plans for this summer and next year.

Financially, this last year has seen a huge improvement in our overhead costs. At the end of 2002 we sold the property, located across from the McDonald's restaurant, which had been donated to us by James G. Cummings. Through the generous donation of time and effort by Bill Crecilius of Century 21 we sold the property, paid all debts and are currently able to accomplish more at the stadium. Thank you Bill.

We can now boast that our foundation costs are minimal, mostly paper and stamps. I see in the news there are a lot of questions about charitable foundations and where the donated money goes. I can tell you the Mendocino Coast Sports Foundation has **NO** paid staff and **NO** one paid for fundraising activities. All of the work for fundraising is done by board members and volunteers. Of course we buy paper and stamps for the newsletter and correspondence but that is about it for normal expenses. Our total focus and monies go toward the construction and completion of the James G. Cummings Timberwolf Stadium. So if you like to get the most for your donation and help your community, send your contributions to the Mendocino Coast Sports Foundation.

I would like to tell you that the Sports Foundation Board is one of the most diverse and hardworking boards I have ever had the pleasure to work with. Much tenure on this board originates from the beginning, 1991, which includes Jerry Murphy, Rich Pyorre, Fred Guisti and Joe Sutphin. Many other board members have tenures of nearly ten years, Jere Melo, Rick McMillen (although interested from the beginning, he did not actually join the board until later) and Sue Nowlin. Other long term members are Bert Mitchell, Toby Brazil and Ryan Perkins.

They are dedicated, nearly never get any thanks, tenacious and successful. I am very proud to be part of such a group.

Annual Board meeting June 18

7:00 PM at Dietrich Center, everyone welcome for conduct of business as well as election of board members and officers for the 2003-2004 year. The board meets on the third Wednesday of each month at this location.

Help find a home for this seat

Help find a home for this seat in Timberwolf Stadium!

Adoption is easy and the benefits are many. Just think of the warm and cozy feeling of sitting in an individual seat with a back instead of on a cold old metal bleacher. If you have sponsored a seat the Sports Foundation thanks you, and if you have not it is easy to do. Just complete an application and send in with \$150, or you can make payments of as little as \$10 a month for 15 months (see I told you it was easy). You can name your seat after you, or your business, or give it as a gift or in memory. Tell all of your friends and help find a home for this seat and all his brothers and sisters.



Help complete the stadium

Timberwolf Stadium is continuing to be changed and improved due to the outstanding support of the community. The latest additions to the stadium are the new bathrooms and the sound system that are being installed and should be ready for graduation ceremonies this June.

For those who have donated labor, materials or money we thank you for your support and urge you to let your friends know they too can help with this project. Timberwolf Stadium is a community effort of huge proportion and one that the community can rightfully be proud. There have been other communities that have tried to develop a project similar to Timberwolf Stadium but they have not gotten off the ground. This success of the stadium project speaks volumes about the volunteer efforts of this community.

We still have much to accomplish toward the completion of the stadium and it is hoped that support through the sponsorship of seats will do much to fund the remaining project. For those who do not know, a seat can be sponsored for \$150 and that person's name, business or someone that person wishes to recognize can be placed on a plaque on that seat. To make it even easier to sponsor a seat a person can make the \$150 in monthly payments of as little as \$10 a month. The purpose of the seat sponsorship is to make participation in Timberwolf Stadium available to everyone in the community. Please pick up the phone today and call 964-0676 or 964-6331 today and get your sponsorship form to complete. Virtually all of the money collected from the sponsorship goes directly to the construction project as everyone involved in this fundraising effort is a volunteer.

Approximately 1,000 seats have already been sponsored leaving about 1500 left. Those who wish to contribute more can do so by purchasing advertising space on billboards that are available or by making tax deductible donations to the Mendocino Coast Sports Foundation P O Box 2812 Fort Bragg.

Please go by and look at what has been accomplished at Timberwolf Stadium and feel the pride of having one of the best, if not the best, school and community facilities available.

You'll feel even better if you do your part to help complete it!



MCSF seeks grant funds

On May 1, 2003, a grant request was filed with the state Department of Parks and Recreation that could provide about \$45,000 for work at James G. Cumming Timberwolf Stadium. We expect the DPR to select those projects for funding by September 2003. Funds will then be available after January 1, 2004.

The entire project for which funding was requested is expected to cost about \$94,000. It will provide a stamped concrete entry, concrete or chip seal walkway adjacent to the south retaining wall, a 24' X 40' group picnic area near the concession stand and about 20 individual picnic sites in the trees at the south end of the stadium. The result will be a much-improved entry, handicap accessible, that will tie together the home seating and visitor seating areas, ticket booth, concession stand and restrooms, along with a lot of space for folks to picnic during events or on their own time.

The grant proposal was a cooperative venture by the school district administration and board, recreation district administration and board and the sports foundation. Our special thanks go to Steve Lund and Allen Overfield (FBUSD) and to Charlie Boise and Bob Krebs (MCRPD).



Yes! Please accept this contribution of \$ _____ for _____ seats (@\$150 each) in the Stadium. I would like the following name or inscription on the seat(s):

No more than 24 letters per seat please

Adoptable and easy to care for!

One time \$150, or you can pay monthly. You can name this seat and help finish the stadium. Your seat will thank you and so will the Sports Foundation!

**Please send this form and your payment to:
Mendocino Coast Sports Foundation
P O Box 2812, Fort Bragg, CA 95437**

If you would like a payment plan or need a gift card please telephone us at 707-964-0676

1st seat

2nd seat

3rd seat

Your name

Address

City, State, zip

Phone Number

Comments or suggestions:

Construction report:

When you see the stadium next you should notice the bathroom buildings that should be complete, or very close to complete. Once school is out for the summer we will begin working on the visitor seating on the west side of the field and hope to have that accomplished by the start of next school year.

The decision to work on the visitors seating now before completing the home side is for a couple of reasons. The first and most important is that if we can complete the visitors seating we won't have to disturb the track any more. We can complete the home side stands later from the west side without infringing on the track. The second reason is that the visitor stands are smaller and require less cement so we should have enough money to do them. Cement costs, like everything, have gone up substantially. When we put the home stands in a few years ago the cost per yard was approximately \$60 and it has now gone to about \$100. Just the visitor stands will require about 350 yards of cement.

Another thing you will notice when you are in the stadium is the new sound system that has just been installed. We were able to find a sound system that was being removed from Crusher Stadium in Rohnert Park (the system was only four years old and originally cost \$30,000) and purchased it for \$4,000. This is just another example of the watchful spending and leveraging of the money that comes in to the Sports Foundation. We estimate that for every dollar contributed to this project we have managed to use it to get three to four times its worth.

This project is unique and I doubt you will find anything like it elsewhere.

We are fortunate to have Virgil Nelson in this community who has adopted this project and worked with Joe Sutphin to make everything run smoothly. Every community should be so lucky as to have people like this.

Mendocino Coast Sports Foundation
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