

# LETTERS



to  
the

# EDITOR

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## Laurel's silence on soccer

Editor, The News:

In response to recent letters regarding soccer in the Laurel School District, I offer the following:

Please note, as well as being a soccer parent, coach and board member, I am also an avid football, basketball and hockey fan.

In response to Vincent Bejgrowicz's comments, I am in total agreement. After several presentations to the school board, administration and "consultant," we as an organization have yet to hear a firm, factually based reason as to why the sport cannot be included in the district's athletic program.

I am a rational individual and can accept a justified answer of "no." However, without this justification, I can only assume that it is the personal opinion of those on the board and administration. That is not acceptable.

Though not worthy of it, I must also address the narrow-minded letter of Fred J. Harlan. He should not express ignorance and suppression as American values. That is not the America I live in, love and respect.

Harlan's comments regarding the game as being easy and without skill are so misguided they are absurd. The physical endurance, body control and coordination of the soccer athlete, I would put against an athlete of any sport.

This summer the United States sent the national soccer team to the World Cup (ranked fifth in the world) and as Harlan indicated, did not win the cup. However, the United States also sent a Major League all-star baseball team and an all-star basketball team to international competition, both of which failed to win.

National Hockey League all-stars have not fared well internationally and the National Football League does not even compete internationally.

I hope, and pray, that Harlan's line of thinking is in a small minority in this great nation.

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