

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Board hears program on soccer

Editor, The News:

More than 60 members of the Laurel Soccer Club attended the Laurel School District board meeting on Tuesday.

They went to hear Jay Hill, an owner of the professional men's soccer team, the Pittsburgh Riverhounds, address the board on the importance of athletics in young people's lives and especially the benefits of soccer.

The Laurel School District has resisted many requests by many soccer parents to allow any form of soccer program at the high school level.

Hill recounted the personal accomplishments of his own children and their pursuit of soccer throughout their school years. He also reminded the board that a great problem with the youth of our country today deals with obesity and other health issues.

Many of these problems can be reduced through regular exercise and what better way, than to run up and down a field and kick a ball.

There aren't too many sports that allow a player to participate with such simple skills, far easier than swinging a bat to try and hit a baseball or swing a golf club.

Hill told the board that whatever negatives they may have toward implementing a soccer program in Laurel that his team the Pittsburgh Riverhounds would take care of, whether it is providing quality coaching, equipment or assuring there is liability insurance.

At the end of Hill's address, the audience gave him a standing ovation and he, in turn, invited all of the board members to contact him to discuss the matter further and offered for them to attend a Riverhounds game on him.

Vincent Bejgrowicz
president
Laurel Soccer Club