**ANOKA TORNADOES FOOTBALL**

**Established in 1904**

“It takes an endless amount of history to make even a little tradition.” H. James

**Attendance:** Kim Harris, Bruce Johnson, Dawn Heidemann, Tom Heidemann, Ashley Ferro-Asmussen, Jeff Buerkle, Elvis Presley, Randy Wehrenberg, Kristine Toensing, Chris Toensing, Kelly Carlson, Terry Protivinsky, Jennifer Asmussen, Pat Minor, Jill Minor, Marlene Mingo, Brad Pint, Lynette Pint, Dave Davitt, Kelly Carlson, Linda Gifford, Julie Steinberg, Nicky Lehn, Cindy Redmann, Brett Favre, Todd Protivinsky, Tim Harris

**Secretary’s Report:** Minutes were read & approved. Motion to approve minutes made by Cindy Redmann; seconded by Julie Steinberg. Motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Due to Sandy’s absence, we currently don’t have a treasurer’s report.

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**#27 Coach Buerkle's Report**

For years Arnold Jackson asked his brother Willis Jackson what he was talking about. In true sibling style, Willis refused to enlighten his brother. At one point in his life, Willis’ life path crossed with #27’s life path. They became the best of friends in 1972 and since that time Willis has been heard mumbling under his breath such things as ‘where did Buerkle learn to be such a big deal?’ While it may remain a mystery to Willis, those of us in Anoka know that Buerkle became a big deal when he signed on to be the head football coach at Anoka High School. The school that creates people who are big deals such as Gretchen Carlson, Jake Deitchler, and Garrison Keillor. So, Arnold, to answer the question for you Buerkle says “I’M WHAT WILLIS WAS TALKIN’ ABOUT.” Mystery solved.

1. #27 introduced the Boot Camp schedule for all to peruse. Looks like there will be running, swimming, and Fiber One bars. Their bodies will be taxed inside and out. Good thing a billion rolls of toilet tissue were purchased for camp. Should’ve included some Febreze too.

2. Buerkle needs volunteers to call those players who are currently missing items for Boot Camp (i.e. medical forms). Calls need to be made by Wednesday, 7/2. Volunteers: Todd Protivinsky, Cindy Redmann, Ashley Ferro-Asmussen, Jennifer Asmussen, Brad and Lynette Pint, Chris and Kristine Toensing and Kelly Carlson.

3. Equipment issued on Friday, 7/11 (Friday after Boot Camp). Rumor has it the new helmets are ‘tornado shaped.’ This will help to alleviate head injuries for our players. If they run fast enough and hit hard enough, their helmets will begin spinning in a clockwise motion causing the players to be lifted off the ground only to be deposited where they choose. Such as in the opponent’s end zone. There will be little physical contact between the Anoka Tornadoes and their opponents. Man, are we ahead of our time.

4. WEIGHT TRAINING ISSUES: Some players aren’t showing up. Those out of town – not a problem. Those in town but don’t lift – a problem. Guess what, “no show” guys? The coaches are on to your fabricated excuses. They’ve checked - no one has orthodontist appointments at 6:00 a.m. And going to the beach to swim is not an appropriate substitute for the physical work out that occurs at weight training.

5. 4 – Way Scrimmage: ALERT: Athletic programs in Brainerd are being negatively effected due to the community’s failed levy. This levy would have raised the money necessary to keep the programs afloat. Because Anoka Football believes in the value of extra curricular activities, especially FOOTBALL, they have decided to move the 4 – Way Scrimmage, traditionally played on Anoka soil, to Brainerd with the hope that the Brainerd community will embrace the importance of extra curricular programs and choose to fund such programs in the future. Research shows that those kids who are involved positively in their school experience tend to do better in school. This factoid leads to the betterment of our society…kids who play football (or other sports) do better academically. Doing well academically leads to a college degree. A college degree leads to better paying jobs. Better paying jobs lead to more consumerism. More consumerism leads to a strong economy. Our nation is a Super Power because of Anoka Football.

6. We currently are seeking a fourth team for the 4 – Way Scrimmage since Cretin Derham Hall is experiencing insomnia at epic proportions and therefore needs their sleep. And also, they are plum out of money. This means they won’t be able to purchase NEW uniforms. And they refuse to play in uniforms that have been used the previous year. They have an image to uphold people.

7. Motion to approve $1,500.00 for the buses made by Jill Bendiske-Minor and seconded by Bruce Johnson. Motion carries.
PAST BUSINESS:

1. Organizational structure of committee follows a process whereby an ‘experienced’ parent chairs a committee and is supported by those who have volunteered to work on the committee. The ‘experienced’ parent will mentor a new parent so that new parent can take over the committee chair position the following year. Our current list of committees is available upon request. We are in need of chairs for the following committees: 9th grade fall parent meeting; 9th grade banquet; 10th grade banquet.

2. Delivery of dry goods food for Boot Camp will take place on Wednesday, 7/2 between 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. at the high school. Dawn Heidemann, Terry Protivinsky, Cindy Redmenn and Jeff Buerkle will be there to accept and unload the cargo. Buerkle will get players to help carry food to the equipment room.

3. Program update: Julie (a.k.a. Lisa) Steinberg is having difficulty getting businesses to commit to placing an add in the football program. Needs people who shop and consume stuff to take some information to those businesses at which they shop.

4. Senior Salute: As per tradition, every year those parents of senior players are invited to write a message of sentiment/encouragement to their sons. These messages are posted in the program. Dawn Heidemann has sent letters to senior parents regarding this process, and letting them know that their messages are due on/before August 1st. We should be getting salutes trickling in soon.

PRESENT BUSINESS:

1. Youth Night Cook Out: On Monday, 7/14 Randy Wehrenberg will lead a fearless crew to prepare delicious dinners for those present at Youth Football Camp. A minimal fee will be charged for a hot dog, chips and a beverage. Buerkle hopes to create a welcoming atmosphere for Anoka’s up and coming football players and their families.

2. Age discrimination issue: Attorney Ron Meshbesher contacted President Heidemann regarding Coach Buerkle’s comment about ‘old people’ during last month’s meeting. The ‘old people’ reference was issued by Buerkle as he referenced the parents of alumni players. Many of these parents continue to be involved with the Anoka Football program in some fashion. It has been decided that #27 will attend a Sensitivity Training seminar, to take place in a nursing home. Along with this sentence, Buerkle has agreed to give Alumni Parents preferential seating at games, preferential parking, concession waiter, and easily accessible restrooms. Motion made by Dawn Heideman to hold Buerkle to the mentioned conditions; motion seconded by Lisa Steinberg.

3. Operation Mitshulis: People – Teddy junior and Girl Boat Mitshulis are in danger of attending school somewhere across the river (a.k.a. the Hennepin side of the Mississippi). Anyone willing to help get Chewy’s house ready for sale are invited to attend a painting party on Thursday, 7/3/08.

4. Motion to adjourn meeting made by Lisa Steinberg. Seconded by Marlene Mingo. Motion carries. 7:30 on the dot.
The first Alumni Newsletter has been written and is going to print. This newsletter will be sent to all Anoka alumni football players. The goal is to make a connection with previous players and encourage them to become involved in the Anoka football program again.

**HISTORY LESSON:** All great, historical cities have a claim to fame. New York has the Statue of Liberty, Paris has the Eiffel Tower. Rome has the colosseum. Settled by immigrants in 1844, Anoka has Goodrich Field. It is on this historic, nostalgic football field that many memories and traditions have been made. In 1948 the first Anoka Football Pumpkin Bowl was played. This football game was the brainchild of the 1948 coaching staff and it continues to be a big deal – there were no state tournaments in 1948. Dubbed “The Pumpkin Bowl” by Star newspaper reporter Barbara Flanagan, the game enhances Anoka’s Halloween celebration which is capped off with a parade* down Main Street. The victor of the Pumpkin Bowl earns the right to host the historic Pumpkin Bowl trophy at their school for a year. It is engraved with the winning team’s name and game score. For 60 years Anoka fans have gathered at Goodrich Field to witness the long held tradition of the Pumpkin Bowl; they will undoubtedly continue to gather for the next 60 years as well.

*Anoka is officially the Halloween Capital of the World. The first parade down Main Street occurred in 1920. It has been enjoyed by hundreds of people every year since, with the exception of 1942 and 1943 when the United States was involved in WWII.

**Parents:** Please let your players know that if they skip weight training they can count on being knocked over by a brisk wind on game nights. Their bodies will resemble the one pictured here. While his blue pants are attractive, and yes Sir Mick is very rich, he wouldn’t last 10 seconds on a football field. Unless he was singing at the SuperBowl’s halftime show. However, sculpted bodies such as the one pictured on the right, will go the distance on the football field tackling opponents and scoring touchdowns. All it takes is a little self discipline. And food.

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**Anoka Football Coaches**

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**Important Dates:**
- **July 14-17:** gr. 9-12 football camp @ 3:30-6:30 / gr. 2-8 football camp @ 6:30-8:00
- **August 5:** 6:30 parent meeting – 9th grade; **August 6:** 6:30 parent meeting – 10-12 grade

“American football makes rugby look like a Tupperware party.” --Voo Sue Lawley

Respectfully submitted by the A TEAM: Secretary: T. Protivinsky  Senior Editor/Creative Consultant: K. Haben