



Stockbridge Panther Football

Hi, my name is Ryan Garrett. I was Quarterback and Co-Captain of the undefeated 1978 Panthers "Gonzo" football team. Throughout the years since that championship season, I have recognized the tremendous value that participating in Stockbridge High School athletics gave to me and my family. My rise to become a Partner of a Fortune 500 investment firm can be directly attributed to the leadership and team building skills that I learned on the field as a Panther. It set me on a path of success through the understanding of what putting other's needs ahead of my own, dedication to team and perseverance could create for myself and others.

My wife, Jill Kaywood Garrett and I have been discussing ways to give back to our local community for quite some time. After seeing the many fundraising events the football program was running, I contacted Coach Killinger to determine what type of funding requirement he was trying to satisfy each year. Once I understood the costs of running the program we came up with this idea to launch an annual fundraising program to benefit the Stockbridge Football Program and Stockbridge Varsity sports in general. This fundraising program will be called the **SHS Annual Sports Alumni Fundraiser – Battle of the Classes**. The goal is to have an annual fundraising drive each year to support Stockbridge Athletic Programs. Although you can make donations to the athletic program at any time during the year, this event will take place each year for 2 weeks in August. **I am proud to announce that this year, Jill and I will match up to \$10,000 raised between now and September 5th**. 75% of the funds raised will be kept by the football program for program funding and the remaining 25% will be dispersed to the remaining SHS Varsity Athletic teams. The event is also a competition between the classes to see which group can raise the most money. A banner will be erected at the school to recognize the group that raises the most each year.

In order to ask you to support this program it is important that we all understand the costs associated with running the football program. These costs have been outlined on next page.

To cover the cost of running his program Coach Killinger has used many fundraising activities over the years. These include attending Michigan International Speedway to park cars, collect cans, and pick-up trash. They have also run a scrap drive each May for the last 6 years and sell Community Discount cards.

These events are not what they once were. Due to changes in MIS funding, and a lack of interest in NASCAR, the football program will no longer be able to attend MIS events as a fundraising alternative. Over the years the Program's Annual Scrap Drive event has also seen less revenue generated as the program has cleaned up the community and other groups have taken their lead and hold their own scrap drives creating competition for the limited amount of available material. The Community Discount card remains as a strong fundraiser for the program each year, but more is needed to ensure that the Football Program can outfit our Student Athletes as safely as possible and give them the tools to experience the greatest successes possible both on and off the football field.

And that brings us back to the challenge. Jill and I, along with Coach Killinger and the Football Program, would like to challenge everyone to support Stockbridge Athletics. This fundraising drive will last for two weeks, ending on September 5th. Any monies received during that period of time will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$10,000. We would really like to encourage everyone who has benefited from their experiences through Stockbridge Community Schools to contribute to this fundraising event. You can visit www.stockbridgefootball.com for donation options. Keep in mind that donations are also tax deductible.

Thank you and GO PANTHERS!

Ryan Garrett
Class of 1979
Member of 1978 "GONZO" Team



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Helmets now cost **\$300/each**, shoulder pads **\$200+/each**, jerseys **\$80/each per home/away**, game pants **\$80/each per home/away**, practice pants **\$25/each**, and the list goes on. Much of this equipment has a limited period of use and must be replaced on a sliding scale of 1 to 10 years creating an annualized equipment cost per athlete of about **\$170.00/year**. When adding in other costs such as tackling sleds, dummies, footballs, technology, and awards the costs per athlete runs nearly **\$300/year** depending on the number of athletes in the program.

A couple of examples of large program expenditures in recent years include the following:

There was a change a few years ago where the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) issued a rule change that said all helmets that are 10 years old or older could no longer be worn by athletes. It didn't matter if they had been reconditioned/recertified each year or not. If the helmet was 10 years or older it had to be thrown out. **THEY WERE NO LONGER COMPLIANT**. The football program was forced to purchase all new helmets to replace their inventory. Due to cuts to educational athletic budgets there were no funds available to make this purchase. The Football Program now boasts **70 new 5-star helmets purchased through their own fundraising initiatives**. Another example is when the NFHS issued new rules regarding what HS Football team's uniforms could look like. The uniforms in inventory at SHS were **NO LONGER COMPLIANT** and had to be replaced. Once again, the football program, through its own fundraising activities replaced a complete set of uniforms/pants at a cost of over **\$10,000**.

ITEM	ORIGINAL COST	USEFUL LIFE	ANNUALIZED	TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSE
<u>PLAYER EQUIPMENT</u>				
HELMET	\$ 300.00	8	\$ 37.50	
SHOULDER PADS	\$ 200.00	8	\$ 25.00	
GIRDLE	\$ 40.00	4	\$ 10.00	
KNEE PADS	\$ 15.00	8	\$ 1.88	
PRACTICE PANTS	\$ 25.00	3	\$ 8.33	
PRACTICE JERSEY	\$ 25.00	3	\$ 8.33	
GAME PANTS (2x\$80)	\$ 160.00	6	\$ 26.67	
GAME JERSEY (2x\$80)	\$ 160.00	6	\$ 26.67	
TEAM SOCKS/SHIRT	\$ 20.00	1	\$ 20.00	
MISC. HARDWARE			\$ 5.00	
Equipment Cost/ HS Athlete/Year:			\$ 169.38	54.88 \$ 9,294.45
<u>TEAM EQUIPMENT</u>				
FOOTBALLS	\$ 960.00	1	\$ 960.00	\$ 960.00
DUMMIES	\$ 4,000.00	10	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
BLOCKING SLED	\$ 5,800.00	10	\$ 580.00	\$ 580.00
MISC. EQUIPMENT	\$ 250.00	1	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
<u>PROGRAM TECHNOLOGY</u>				
HEADSETS	\$ 5,000.00	10	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
CAMERAS	\$ 1,500.00	3	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
LAPTOP	\$ 750.00	3	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
MISC OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 150.00	1	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
<u>AWARDS</u>				
Weekly Awards	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Year End Awards	\$ 250.00	1	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
<u>FOOD COSTS</u>				
Camp Costs	\$ 2,200.00	1	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Weekly Film Mtg.	\$ 450.00	1	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
Year End Awards	\$ 500.00	1	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
				\$ 16,384.45
* 54.88 Is the average # of participants over the last 16 season # OF Athletes				54.88
Cost/Athlete/Year				\$ 298.58

*Camp not held in 2017 due to construction.