

Sports

25 Years of MHS Soccer

New fields much needed for teams

By **JANELLE WERTZ**
Sports Editor



The Field

In the 25 years that soccer has been part of Mishawaka, the girls and guys teams have been trying to get their own soccer field. Their playing field has been located at Emmons Elementary School. When the Northern Indiana Conference (NIC) was started, 12 years ago, the NIC pushed to get Mishawaka their own field for the soccer teams. One main reason is because games aren't allowed to go into overtime without lights; the old field is not equipped with lights.

The new soccer field, located at Baker Park, includes state of the art lights, with high candlepower. The field is the maximum size field allowed for high schools, 25 yards wide by 120 yards long. The field was laid with sod, (which cost seven times more than seed) in order for the soccer teams to play on it this season. New goals were purchased, the square back goals, which are used by professionals. Along with the field, the scoreboard has its own surprises; it counts the number of shots taken by each team. We have an extra large press box (20 ft. wide by 20 ft. long), with a second floor clubhouse for the teams (during and out of season they can use this.) The press box also includes air conditioning and heating. There is a deck looking out onto the field, for people to videotape, or photograph the game. The bench

areas are paved for both home and visitors sides, and include water and electricity.

The Girls Team

The first game on the new field for the girls was on September 21st, against Penn. Their second game on the field, against Washington, is senior night. Seniors Amanda Young, Alysia Porter, Rosemary Boser, Mary VanDamme, Katie Gnass, Britany Pulk, and Cheryl Nwokah are the seven seniors for the girls team this year. Senior night is being held on September 29th, if you would like to come cheer on Mishawaka and our seniors. The grand opening of the new soccer field is on October 1st, during the La Porte game. There will be a ceremony during the JV and varsity games, and the school board and the alumni (from the past 12 years) are invited. There will be a cookout after the varsity game, which everyone including La Porte is invited to.

The Coach

Girl's Coach Kerry Wilson is excited about the field. "Soccer has had a slow growth over the last decade in the community and the school corporation; with the opening of this new field, has clearly shown that soccer is a major sport and will be fully supported in the future. The proof that soccer is alive and well at MHS is proven by that fact that there were 23 freshmen and sophomores on the team this year," says Coach Wilson.

With A New Season...

MHS Girls Basketball get a new coach

By **JANELLE WERTZ**
Sports Editor

With the 2005-2006 basketball season coming upon us, Mishawaka has a new girls varsity coach. Henry Daniel Pittman Jr. is the new girls basketball coach and here is his story. He is a terrific addition to the MHS family.

Pittman graduated from our very own Mishawaka High School. He not only played basketball (guard and forward), he also participated in football and baseball. Pittman retired three years ago, after teaching for 41 years. Since then, he has been a substitute teacher for the past two years. He raised three daughters and his wife is a minister. He appreciates and loves his family. He strongly believes in God, and he thanks God for the chance to coach again.

Pittman has had numerous coaching experiences; he coached boys basketball during the years he taught school. He is excited for this upcoming basketball season. "It was perfect timing and I thank God that I got the coaching job," Coach Pittman replied when asked about the opportunity.

His goals for the team are that they become a family, to have a strong defense and to have strong fundamentals. "I want to show that we are a family, and nothing can divide us up. A family divided cannot stand. I want to turn heads and show the other teams that there is a game on and we are

ready to play hard. Defense is also a big deal. *Defense wins championships,*" says Coach Pittman.

Welcome to MHS, Coach Pittman!

Scoreboard

Boys Football
5-0

JV Football
3-1

Freshmen Football
2-2

Boys Soccer
2-8-1

JV Soccer
0-8-2

Girls Soccer
2-8-1

JV Soccer
2-4-2

Boys Cross Country
5-3

Boys Tennis
3-11

JV Tennis
2-6-1

Girls Cross Country
1-7

Girls Volleyball
19-2

JV Volleyball
18-3

Freshmen Volleyball
12-4

Records as of 9/23/05

Haley Wise

Athlete of the Month

By **JOHN SUEN**
Sports Writer



Haley Wise has been playing volleyball since she was in the fourth grade, and all the hard work has paid off. She's a setter and plays the right side for the

volleyball team. It's believed by many that she has made the team the best it's been in

her 4 years playing. No wonder this girl got picked. When I asked if she thought she'd win state this year, she replied proudly with a smile, "Yeah, uh I don't know." But even without state, she still got a scholarship to play for Valparaiso next year.

What more could you ask for in a girl? She maintains good grades, she's a great athlete, and she even let me know that she still puts time into playing Grand Theft Auto. That's when I realized how she became such a beast on the floor. On a more serious note, she suffered a back injury this season and it's still hurting her a little. Not to worry, she'll tough it out.

With all the power Haley has, I figured I'd ask if she had the chance who would

she kick off the team. With a laugh, "Definitely Jenna Luke, I slapped her. Can I say that?" This was totally a joke so don't start any drama! I wonder what Haley would do if she ever had to quit volleyball. Oh, I know...with all that talent she'd become a teacher, "I'd want to be like Mr. Womack!"



Homecoming: Stepping Stones to a New Record

By **MATT RUFF**
Sports Writer

Going into the homecoming game the Cavemen were 4-0. This season they have had solid victories over St. Joe, Kokomo, and Three Rivers. The Cavemen hoped to energize the homecoming crowd with a win.

The Cavemen's defense was in control of the field, holding the Eagles to only 7-points. The Cavemen's offense was also on top of their game, scoring 45-points against the Eagles.

Nick Turrell, a senior at MHS, said, "The game is all about putting on a good show for the Mishawaka Cavemen fans." Nick Turrell scored two touchdowns, had 104 yards of rushing, and 31 yards of receiving. Turrell was not the only one to score.

John Carlson scored 2 touchdowns, had 59 yards of rushing, and 13 yards of receiving. Carlson also put the Eagles QB Eric Heckaman into the Cavemen end zone for a 2-point safety. Ryan Warmoth and Mike Szemethy also scored for the MHS Cavemen.

The coaches and players are hoping to win the NIC Championship. When asked what his favorite part of playing football was, Jamie Lukaszewki replied, "I love that it's not one person working for a win, but it's a team pulling together for one goal and no one cares

about who makes the big plays."

The Cavemen are 5-0 and shooting for a new MHS record. If the fans continue supporting the team, we will be the voice and heart of the team. The team is playing great and has a good chance at winning the NIC Championship game. Let the

