



Sports

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The Antioch Tom Tom

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A conference proposal

North Suburban conference could create better divisional alignment

By Jake Anderson

When discussing fair play in high school athletics, the first thing that comes to mind is the level of competition. If a school with an enrollment of 4,000 plus plays a school of 1,500, who has the advantage? For example Adlai E. Stevenson High School who competes in the Lake division has an enrollment of 4,495, while a school such as Lakes Community High School has an enrollment of 1,379. These two teams met in a football game this year for the crossover and the results were just ugly resulting in a 42-7, Stevenson trouncing over Lakes. However it goes the other way as Antioch with an enrollment of 1,410 beat Mundelein with an enrollment of 2260 in a crossover in football by a score of 49-8.

From a different perspective enrollment does not play a true advantage in all sports. In football when there can be 60 guys on a team and potentially 30 of them seeing the field, however then there is basketball where there are about 13 on each team. "In most sports, most of the schools provide a good level of play. There are a few sports that can be tough because the NSC Prairie Division schools simply do not have the same number of students to pick from that the Lake schools do, but for the most part, yes we do get a fair level of play," said Lakes Community High School Athletic Director Troy Parola.

When speaking with athletic directors around the conference, most felt the same way as Parola on this issue of fair competition. It also goes the other way as Stevenson Athletic Director John Martin

explains, "I think the competition in the North Suburban Conference is excellent. There are natural and historic rivalries, and the level of sportsmanship is high." An interesting scenario would be to possibly expand the NSC into an eighteen team league. Call me crazy but who says we can have three divisions of six teams in each. By simply allowing

possibly Burton to join a perfect NSC. Not it level the playing field but it would provide the NSC with one more automatic qualifier for football raising it to three from the NSC. All of a sudden it's a perfect world in the NSC right? Wrong: there are two problems with this fantasy league. First we will take it back in history to the old NWSC or North West Suburban Conference that fell to ruin after Grayslake bolted the league for the Fox Valley conference causing the league to fall apart.

This in essence messed up everything for Grant Community High School, Round Lake and Wauconda as they all had no division to play in right away and were forced to play as independents.

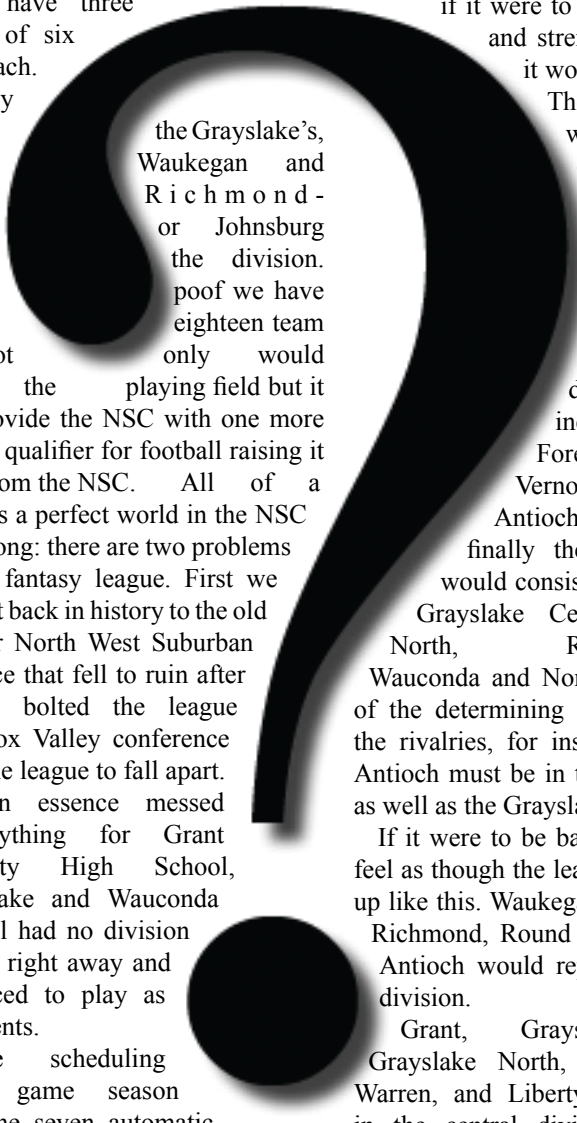
Imagine scheduling a nine game season without the seven automatic conference games. It would be hard to convince these schools to look past the way Grayslake abandoned them years ago. The second problem is how the divisions would be distinguished. Would they be based upon enrollment or location?

"I am not opposed to expansion, but I would like to see divisions based on geography rather than size. It is very difficult to get to Zion-Benton, for example, for a 4:30 baseball game. And getting to Richmond-Burton for us would be next to impossible," said Martin. My personal opinion is that if it were to be based off size and strength of programs it would look like this.

The big division would consist of Stevenson, Warren, Zion-Benton, Waukegan, Libertyville and Lake Zurich. The middle division would include Lake Forest, Mundelein, Vernon Hills, Grant, Antioch and Lakes, and finally the small division would consist of Round Lake, Grayslake Central, Grayslake North, Richmond-Burton, Wauconda and North Chicago. One of the determining factors used was the rivalries, for instance Lakes and Antioch must be in the same division as well as the Grayslake's

If it were to be based on location I feel as though the league would be set up like this. Waukegan, Zion-Benton, Richmond, Round Lake, Lakes and Antioch would represent the north division.

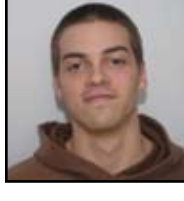
Grant, Grayslake Central, Grayslake North, North Chicago, Warren, and Libertyville would fall in the central division. Wauconda, Stevenson, Lake Zurich, Mundelein, Lake Forest and Vernon Hills would be left for the south division. Either way would work fine in all honesty. I think President Obama said it best when he said we need a change, and for the NSC this could not be any truer.



on track

Tyler Woolard

Last season Tyler Woolard placed second at sectionals with a throw in the shot put of 49'8". He went to state last year for discuss and threw a 159'1".



Woolard has an offer from Iowa State University for track and field.

"I'm really excited about the upcoming season and the challenges it will bring for the team."

the question

Where did Antioch Sequoits boys basketball coach Michael Skinner play college basketball?

See answer below

in the numbers

Girls' Basketball
Varsity 45, Vernon Hills 50
Soph's 33, Vernon Hills 42

Boys' Basketball
Varsity 38, Round Lake 37
Frosh 61, Round Lake 41

Girls' Bowling
Fenton Invitational
Varsity: 8th place

Wrestling
Varsity 21, Wauconda 44

sequoit snippet

Basketball Jamboree

Antioch Community High School and Antioch Chamber of Commerce are planning to jointly host a basketball jamboree and craft fair Jan. 31 at ACHS. The scheduled daily events are from 1-4 p.m. in the multi-purpose gym. ACHS athletes will host an activity fun zone for elementary and middle school aged children, and all levels of boys' and girls' basketball teams will be playing starting at 10:30 a.m. with the varsity teams to follow at 6 and 7:30 p.m. Admission to all games during the day is free thanks to a donation from Deli-Source.



the answer

High Point University
High Point, NC

Now lets talk about the...

Advantages & Disadvantages

- Equally matched talent
- Cheaper/closer travel
- Additional NSC football playoff spot
- Difficult initial organization
- Possible lost rivalries
- Overcoming administrative objections



The preceding article is purely speculation on the part of the Tom Tom and its editors. There currently are no plans to realign the NSC.

Jake Anderson is the layout and design editor for the Tom Tom.