

Women have brains, brawn— obvious right to play football

■ CALLEY LATHROP

Staff Reporter

The women's rights movement began in 1960 and has never ended. Females are still fighting discrimination and injustice in the workplace, in the media, in the home and, unfortunately, on the sports field. It is often said that women are not physically able to handle the stress put on the body during football, however, science, and plenty of women, have proven that wrong.

Football is definitely a very physical sport. When the objective is to tackle a person at any cost if they have the ball, and when maintaining possession of the football is of the utmost importance, people are going to get hurt. Women do tend to have less upper body strength than men and are generally smaller, so the notion that women should not play on men's teams is, in some cases, valid. However, women have shown for decades through playing sports like rugby and hockey that there is nothing naturally dainty about us.

So why has women's football not become a mainstream sport, with only about 50 high school teams nationally? It is rarely supported or endorsed by schools, parents, the

media and our conservative society in general. With sports like wrestling, weight lifting, rugby and hockey breaking the "feminine" stereotype, playing such sports is often discouraged by religious figures and any who are still stuck in the 1950s mind set of women being on earth to make babies, run the

savior.com.)

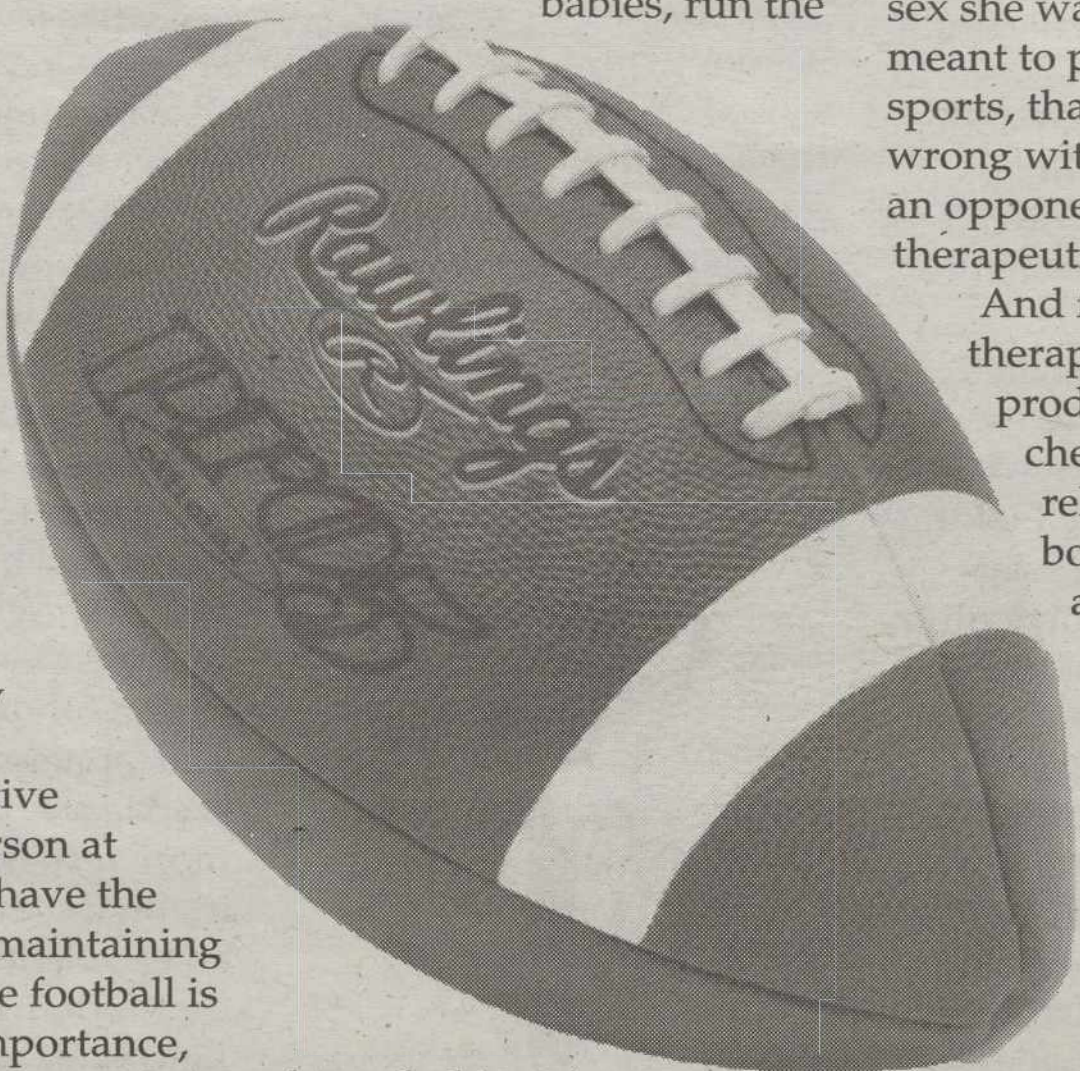
This is exactly the mentality that has, often subconsciously, discouraged women and girls from participating in contact sports for years. I would like to say to any woman reading this who thinks that tackling is too rough, or thinks that, because of her sex she was not genetically meant to play contact sports, that there is nothing wrong with taking down an opponent in the most therapeutic way possible.

And football truly is therapeutic. Exercising produces endorphins, chemicals that are released into the body from the brain and spine that evoke a sense of pleasure in the athlete. Contact sports are a great way to release aggression, there is no doubt about it.

It's like having a punching bag...except you're beating someone with a common goal, a purpose; to win.

"Contact sports reduce violence. I mean, I've found being able to play something so demanding to be a great challenge, and tackling people is the best stress relief ever," Betsy Leuhrs, senior, said.

Of course, if no one takes initiative, then the fact that something is not done is only the dreamer's fault. I aim to bring women's football to WLHS. Who's with me?



household and please men.

"I propose that sports greatly hinder the development of godly, Biblical, feminine character. Parents today expend extraordinary amounts of time and energy taking their daughters from one sports event to another, week after week, even to the point where it exhausts the family and family resources. The fruits we see are that today's Christian women are often ill-prepared to be Biblically obedient wives and mothers," Scott Jonas, preacher, said (jesus-is-

CIM: pointless waste of time, or key to getting into college?

■ SARAH LUND

Staff Reporter

The Certificate of Initial Mastery test is a state test developed ten years ago. The test covers reading, math, science and writing. All of the tests are taken on the computer with the exception of the writing test which is taken in English 10 classes the first week of second semester. Students take the test in the winter of their sophomore year. Those who don't pass take it again in junior or senior year. There is some debate as to whether or not the test is important enough to take even once. The federal government requires every sophomore student in the nation to take some type of test, the law is "No Child

Left Behind."

The test is not specifically required for college, but colleges will look at the results to better understand a student's high school career. Doing well on the test will provide more evidence to a college that the student is a worthy applicant. Kim Carlson, assistant principal thinks that the test is important for students to take because it helps a student to measure their knowledge. "It can feel pointless, but on the other side, it's required so, hey, let's do our best," Carlson said.

WLHS ranks fourth in the state for high test scores, so the majority of WLHS students who take it pass. Unlike other standardized

tests, students can see their results immediately.

Seeing as the test isn't completely necessary for college, some students feel that the test is pointless and a waste of time. I can see how it could be pointless for a student who has no plans to go to college to take the test, but for those who do have plans to go to college, though, it seems to me that it wouldn't hurt to take it. Most students who take it pass, and those who don't can retake it. If it comes down to it, a college comparing two students with the same GPA's and extracurricular activities, one with their CIM and one without, the college is most likely to take the student with the CIM.

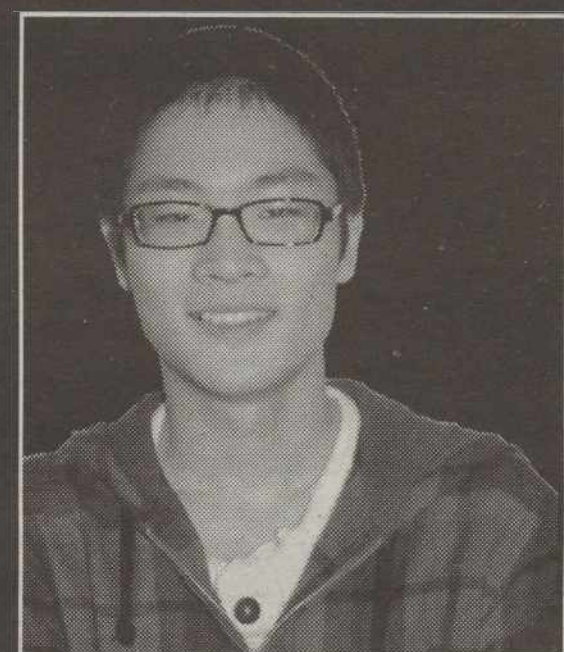


"Probably the economy. It affects not only people in the U.S. but also on a global scale. I think the Obama administration has the potential to fix the problems that we have been plagued with the past few years."

—Mimi d'Autremont, senior

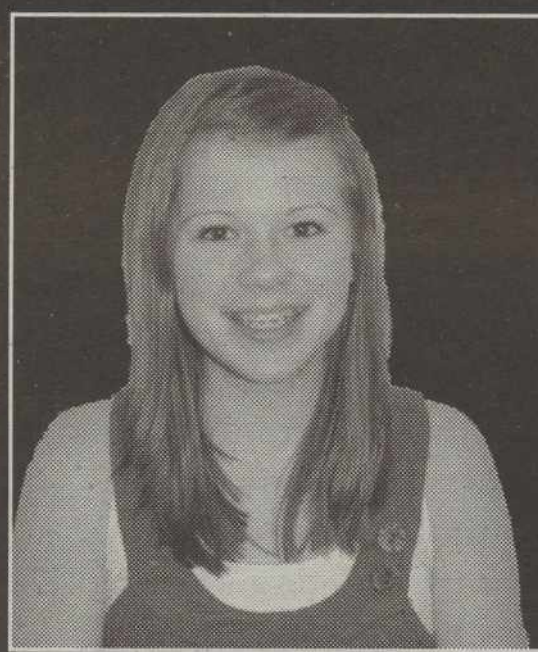
"They should come up with alternative renewable energy sources."

—Daniel Lee, junior



STUDENTS SPEAK OUT

What do you think is the most pressing issue in our world today that the Obama-Biden administration should immediately address?

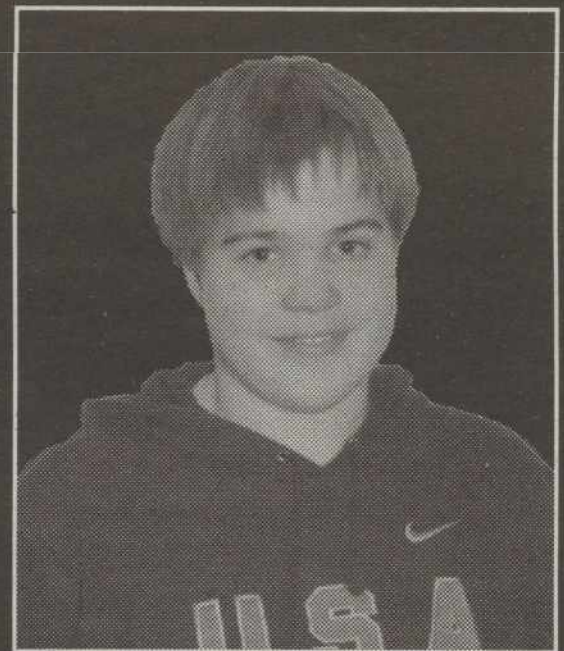


"They should put money into medical research like finding a cure for cancer."

—Ashley Leland, sophomore

"It's probably the economy and the environment because nothing really matters if we're all dead."

—Ty Clarke, freshman



Photos by
Avery Breyne-Cartwright