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Jacks split goalposts for win



The Oakwood Lumberjacks won big at home over Bellbrook 17-14 last Friday night. Oakwood led much of the game until Bellbrook tied the game at 14 apiece with approximately five minutes left in fourth quarter. On Oakwood's fourth down on the Bellbrook two yard line, the Lumberjack field goal unit was called upon with 28 seconds left in the game. Field goal kicker senior Scott Harman split the goal's uprights to allow the Jacks to go ahead 17-14 with 20 seconds remaining. When time expired, the student body stormed the field to celebrate.

Photos by Leon Chuck, www.PressboxPhoto.com

Hollingsworth appointed to school board vacancy

The Oakwood Board of Education has appointed Katherine B. Hollingsworth to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Board Member Debra Hershey. Hollingsworth will hold the appointment through December 2011.

Hollingsworth received a BA from Wittenberg University and a MBA from Case Western Reserve University. She is the co-creator of Innovative InterChange, a consulting, training, and publishing company. Prior to this venture, Hollingsworth had a successful 29-year career in banking which culminated in her service as President of National City Bank, Southwest. Her board experience includes the Sinclair Community College Board of Trustees, the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce, the Dayton-Montgomery County Port Authority, and the Miami Valley Hospital Board. "The Board was delighted

to receive applications from fourteen qualified candidates. The dedication demonstrated by these outstanding candidates continues a rich history of Oakwood citizens stepping forward to provide leadership for our schools," Board President Dr. Paul Vanderburgh said.

"Kathy Hollingsworth will be an excellent addition to the Board. We think Kathy's long and diverse experience as an industry leader and board member as well as her expertise in organizational communications will help fill the void created by the departure of Mrs. Hershey," Vanderburgh said.

"Our world, our state, and our community are rapidly globalizing and always changing. I believe my experience and skills may be helpful as the Board of Education continues to guide the district in providing quality education," Hollingsworth said on accepting the responsibility.

School board to have 4 new members

By Lance Winkler

The Oakwood Board of Education will be having a change of chairs come Nov. 2. Not only has the vacated seat of Debra Hershey been filled by Kathy Hollingsworth, but Board President Dr. Paul Vanderburgh and board member Beth Merritt are giving up their seats as well.

Two Oakwood citizens have applied for the two open seats and board member Elizabeth Reger is running unopposed, making the school board ballot an uncontested election.

Elizabeth Reger has been a board member for the past four years. Originally from Kettering, she is married to husband, Bruce, and has two children, Madison, a junior at OHS, and Sam, an eighth grader at OJHS. She is a stay-at-home Mom and volunteers on a number of community projects.

"Keeping our educational curriculum top-notch" is her goal on the school board and she sees three challenges ahead for the next four-year term. 1) Ohio House Bill I mandates a cut of one percent in educational funding for fiscal year 2009-10 (July 1 - June 30) and a two percent cut for 2010-11. 2) A school levy will

be placed on the Fall 2010 ballot and she is anticipating how much millage will be needed to keep the schools operating at their high levels performance. 3) Teacher contract negotiations will also be coming into play in 2011.

Chris Epley has been a lifelong member of the Oakwood community and school system, having attended Harman Elementary School and having graduated from OHS in 1987. He is an attorney in private practice and is married to wife, Eileen. They have two children: Jack, 6, who is attending Kindergarten at Lange School and Lily, 4.

"Preserving the Oakwood education experience" is his planned objective when on the school board. "I plan on doing a cost-benefit analysis on any decision the board plans on making - what's the cost and what's the benefit." He also said he will do his best "to be a steward of our taxpayer dollars. The only upcoming issue that gives him cause to pause is the anticipated state-mandated all-day Kindergarten bill that may go before the Ohio House in the near future.

Mike Miller is another lifelong member of Oakwood and the school

system, having attended Edwin D. Smith School and graduating from OHS in 1981. He is married to OHS '77 alumna Linda Ordeman and has two sons, Sam, who is in sixth grade at Smith and Ben, who is in fifth at Smith School as well.

He is a partner in an incentive company, working with corporations on rewarding personnel and goal setting. He believes his experience with the company will help him in his agenda to institute continual improvement and setting developmental goals in the school system.

"School funding is going to be impacted by the state's allocation of school funding. What can you do about it and what can't you do? He asked. His main points of focus will be on school safety, nutrition, and substance abuse. He also believes that safety issues and school drug programs such as D.A.R.E. should be up for reappraisal.

In conclusion, the three candidates who will be joining board member Kathy Hollingsworth on the school board are dedicated, knowledgeable and competent. They will serve our community well and the schools will be well-served by the decisions they make.