

May 7, 2009

Dear Parents and Friends of Sea Kings:

As a parent of two Sea King tennis players, I am constantly filled with pride over the remarkable achievements of students at Palos Verdes High School, especially the athletes. Whether it is on the court, out in the field or in the water, our children are learning the skills and qualities needed to become winners inside and outside the school environment. Sports programs help to build the "whole person" and present practical challenges teaching leadership, dedication, and camaraderie. Both personal and collective achievements are gained through high school sports participation. Invaluable lessons about bouncing-back after a loss or showing tenacity during a tough match are gained upon these various turfs of play.

Year after year, new groups of students take to the courts, run onto the field or jump into the pool in order to prepare to face fierce league competition. Over time the practice areas have become worn; however, this year, due to generous donors, Palos Verdes High School has been endowed with a much-needed all-weather track, a newly-renovated pool, and a brand-new set of sand-volleyball courts. Yet, even with these helpful improvements, there are still other facilities still in desperate need of repair.

Due to recent storms in our area, the fencing for the tennis courts, installed in 1961, has been compromised. The potential danger from an enclosure, soon destined to collapse, is imminent. Due to current economic cutbacks, there is no funding to address this time-sensitive issue, so we are calling upon parents, grandparents, and friends of the Palos Verdes High School community to raise the monies necessary to replace the dilapidated enclosure prior to the upcoming fall season. In order to alleviate the threat of injury to students, we would like to start the project this summer; so, we need your help.

The *Mend the Fences* Campaign hopes to raise the vital funds necessary to provide the equipment, supplies, and expertise in order to successfully bring the project to completion. Our fundraising goal would cover the labor and materials to replace the nearly half-century-old fencing. The cost of the project is \$35,000. If we are fortunate enough to raise funds beyond this we will use the funds to resurface our courts in the near future. All donations will be greatly appreciated. We will be giving special recognition to major donors with gifts of \$1,000.00 - \$1,500.00, \$1,500.00 - \$2,500.00, and \$2,500.00 and up. These contributors will be named on a plaque to be located on the tennis courts where it can be admired for years to come.

Your generosity and participation will make its success possible. All contributions will directly affect both current and future Sea King athletes providing them with a safe environment for practice and competition. This season our boys' tennis team has become Bay League Champions after beating Peninsula, and the girls' team still holds the title of Bay League Champions. These young men and women are giving their best for the Palos Verdes Sea Kings tennis program. Donors, like you, inspire our youth to continue to strive for excellence, knowing they are fully supported by their parents, grandparents, and the greater community.

Playing on a high school sports team positively influences students by teaching them to believe in their own abilities and in the capabilities of their teammates. We invite you to join our team and we encourage you to make the decision to donate to the *Mend the Fences* campaign today. Please make your check out to PVHS Tennis and mail in care of Palos Verdes Tennis to Byron Newell at 1320 Paseo Del Mar, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274. If you have any questions please contact Byron Newell at 310-245-4320. Thank you for your continued commitment to our school, our students and to our Palos Verdes community.

Sincerely,

Byron Newell, Parent of Charli and Jordan Newell