O&E Thursday, November 14, 19 Survey: Girls sports still behind times

By Larry O'Connor staff writer

The word on girls high school sthlet-les in Oakland County schools is: "You've come along way, baby, but you still have a few blocks to go? At least that appears to be the con-clusion of a study done by Oakland County's Project on Equal Education Rights (PEEB) recently on sex equity in the county's high schools athletic programs.

PEER is a project of the National "PEER is a project of the National Organization for Women Legal Defense and Education Fund. The 30-page re-port, which used data from the 1493-84 school year, based part of 11s summary on the percentage of girls to boys in-volved in high school sports. In Oak-land County during the time of the sur-vey, 40 percent of the student popula-tion was female.

tion was female. THE PURPOSE of the study was to gauge the progress of girls' participa-tion in sports since the enactment of Title IX in 1972, which bars sex dis-crimination in federally funded duca-tional programs. The there is a start of the start of the two categories: excellent, above awer-oge, below average on por. The state average (37 percent) separated the above and below average schools. The crecellent and poor categories were di-vided arbitrarily from the rest, using the largest percentage difference be-tween schools as a cutoff point. Troy (45.3 percent), Birmingham (47.7 percent), Hazel Park (44 percent) and Bioomfield Hills (43.2 percent) were four districts in the county noted as making excellent progress in the area of sex equity.

area of sex equity. Seven others, such as Rochester (33.3 percent), were singled out by the study

One of the thingswe noticed since the budget crunch isgirls sports have not arown at all.'

> Elizabeth Guice PEER spokesperson

as making poor progress. (For a cn-picte list of Oakland County rankits, see accompanying chart.) Overail, Oakland County, withio percent participation by girls, us above the state average of 37 perct. While the report was positive for Ok-land County, some ideas for impre-ment included: Stronger funior variativ properts budget allocations. According to the report, budget allo-cations for girls and boys sports in the districts were inequitable. While most other sports are near parity, football consumes a large chunk of the budget ale.

Containers a mage timins of the bodget, 80.8 percent went to boys' athletics while 33 percent to girls sports and 1.2 percent to coed sports. Problail, ac-cording to the report, grabbed 20 per-cent of the overall bodget; football playters comprised only 11 percent of all salited participants. "One of the hings we noticed since the budget crunch (is that) girls sports have not grown at all," PEER spok-esperson Elizabeth Guiss aid. "Football has grown a lot." Stronger junior varsity programs Stronger junior variety programs for girls.
More opportunities for girlsto participate in athletics during the vr-ter.

icr. • More women coaches. • More equitable budgeting b-tween sports. Volunteers conducted the survey t 12-page questionnaire was sent out ; school athletic directors or Title I coordinators.

ALL BUT two of the 28 districts throunty compiled with the survey Clarace wills and Waterford did not-"It's the only objective measure "It's the only objective measure have, said PEER spokeswoman at filosomfield Hills resident Betty Pri-of the survey. "The report says the participate (in athleito)." Along with participation, other quu-formation, support services (cheerier-ers, pep bands), facility usage at BUT ELIMINATION of football is

the winter is raised by the report. The poor girl (18 percent) to boy (29 per-cent) participation ratio is believed to bo caused by girls basketball being played in the fall, which creates "a sep-arate but equal" situation, according to the creat

ba caused by girls baketball being played in the fall, which creates "a sep-arate but equal" situation, according to the report. One of the suggestions made includ-ed switching girls baketball from fall to winter and possibly adding another girls sport in the fall such as field hockey). Michigan is one of four states in which girls baketball is played in the distribution of the states in which girls baketball is played in the winter would increase the partici-bation from 18 percent to 30 percent. But one drawback of the proposal would be the possibility of less expo-uure for girls baketball. "We need to look at the total picture: Wata's going to be the strongest girls aports program?" Guise acked. MOTHER SUGGESTION would in-clude more formale cacheds and more propersonal to the coaches and more representation in administration. Only 13 percent of the coaches in the county or formale according to the report. Ferndale has the only fermale athletic director in the county. On the state level, the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MISSA) has 25 committees with 25 positions, but only 19 percent of those positions dealing with girls' four most popular sports (bakketball, softball, volleyball, track). The reason given for a lack of formale coaches is that there's a low supply and a high demand. The report suggests women should be viewed as an integral part of all a sport in the com-munity and encouraged by school dis-tires to coache both male and fermale teams.

But the bottom line is the active en-couragement for girls to participate in interscholastic sports. Part of that in-dude stronger lusion high and juntor varsify programs and more coed sports program, you (Only West Biomidel differs coed shi ing). "(It'a) the schools' and the communi-ty's job," Price said. "Concerned par-

rank	class	district	femalos on JV, vareity
1	А	Troy	45.3%
2	Ä	Birmingham	44.7%
	Ä	Hozel Park	44%
3 4 5 6 7 8	Ä	Bloomfield Hills	43.2%
5	Ä	Berkley	40.8%
8	в	Brandon	40.7%
7	Ā	West Bloomfield	38.9%
8	Ä	Walled Lake	38.5%
9	A	Holly Area	38.4%
10	в	Oxford	38.2%
11	Ā	Ferndale	38.1%
12	A	Farmington	36.9%
13	A	Royal Oak	36.7%
14	A	Southfield	36.7%
15	B	Avondale	35.5%
16	8	Madison	34.5%
17	Ā	Novi	34.4%
18	A	South Lyon	34.1%
19	A	Huron Valley	33.5%
20	A	Rochester	33.3%
21	A	Lamphore	33.3%
22	A	Clarkston	31.6%
22 23	Å.	Clawson	31.2%
24	в	Oak Park	31.3%
25	Ā	Pontlac	27.3%

The state average is 37 percent. Lake Orion data was not available Waterford and Clarencoville did not return surveys. West Bloomfield figures do not include 136 students in co-od sports.

ADs don't see eye to eyeon issue

By Jim Hughes staff writer

staft wittor Athletic directors from Oakland County don't ex-acity see cyclo-cyc with a report examining sex quity in high school athletic programs for the 1983 4 school year. The report (see related story) addresses many is-successful to the current situation. Perndate High School athletis asgestions for changes to the current situation. Perndate High School athletic director Donna Griter of the current situation. Perndate High School athletic director Donna directory, the only fermite AD in the county, conclusion countywide is too larges to have a construction of the state We abuild start at the local level. Not everybody has the same kinds of profutions. I can't see making im doing it different. We're pleased at Ferndale because Ferndale is very supportive of girls athelics. We don't feel they as head are directors may be a some the start state is the state of the state of the state. We're pleased at Ferndale because Ferndale because Ferndale is head start at head the the state of the state on the state of the st

NOCHESTERI SCHOOLS athletic director Dick Uhtch, whose area was graded as aboving poor progress in female athletic participation, said bis district offers plenty of oppertunities for female athletes, and the problem with the lower turnout may be a result of the growth of women's sports. "A lot of girls are not coming out for sports be-cause the girls are getting so much better," Uirch said. "Siz years ago, that girl may have played and made a valuable contribution, but now the girls are

Quints a tanking. Look at soccer bailt Ulrich suggested, "There's a difference between to number being replaced because girls don't became up as much as the guys do. We may need to spid more for the guys, but that's not to say we're prichanging the girls."

In 1983-84, Oakland (unty schools used 60.8 per-ent of the budget for hys sports, and 38.1 for girls sorts. Of that 60.8 pennt, 35.3 was used for foot-all.

Planse ture to Page 5

e're Somerset Medical Center, and we'd like to invite you to do something good for your health...

We're declaring this Sunday

API0 to 5 p.m. We're offering you health serv-

Informative films dealing with significant, health-related topics

Lab tests available to all adults ... cholesterol, random glucose and urinalysis. (You must fast 12-14 hours prior to any of these tests.) The American Red Cross Blood Donor Drive

Refreshments ... for everyone!

At Somerset Medical Center, we think Family Health Day makes good sense ... because we believe in total family health care Our speciallies include Internal Medi-

Our specialities include Internal Medi-cine Pediatrics. Dermatology, Allergy, OB/GYN, Optometry, Ophthalmology and Optician services. We also have X-ray and lab services (with test results often available the same day as your office visit). There's even a pharmacy and dental office on the premises for your convenience. For more information about our special-ties and services, stop in during our Open House. Or call us at 382-8800. Somerset Medical is affidiated with

è

House Or call us at 362-3600. Somerset Medical is a fillialised with Independence Health Plan. If you're an Independence member, you can receive your exams, injections and virtually all require medical care with no out-of-pocket cests for you. Of course, we're glad to accept other major medical instructe plana sa well.



Stop in and begin a healthy relationship with Somerset Medical.



• 3

ŗ

÷.

getting so much bette they may be intimidated. Now, only the girls wh the strongest interest in athletics want to pursi it."

What bothered athic directors Joe Francis (Troy) and Norm Quin(Bloomfield Hills) was that the report, in examing girls vs. boys athletics, was like the old applesnd oranges adage.

"You have to compare apples with apples," said Francis, whose districtwas listed under the "excel-lent progress" categor "I don't think you can ca-pare the rest of athlets with football (because of the enormous budget it football)."

"THE CRITICAL ise the report does not ad-dress is each sport is a relative in regard to quali-ty quantly and replanent of equipment. Quina aid. Thy the very naive of some sports, there's a need for more prictive equipment, more uni-forms and more types; uniforms. By nature, some (sports) roots will be him:

Ulrich brings up a jint along the same lines of Quinn's thinking.

sports. Of that 60.8 pennt, 35.3 was used for foot-ball. "When you look at foball, the costs are so much higher, but it also bringin a lot (of revenue)," Gil-trow said.

S



and have a little fun while you're at it! Join us Sunday, November 17, as we celebrate Family Health Day with an Open House from noon

ices (and some fun) ... all at "no charge."

Vision, hearing and blood pressure tests for everyone five years old and up

Child ID cards for parents to keep ... and the opportunity to have your child's fingerprints placed on the card.