

## Boys Bring Cheers, But What Do Girls Hear? Girls Sports Need More CHS Support

### "It Matters to Us"

Maria Blong

News Editor

"We would like to see more than just our parents in the stands," said junior Carlie Schaeffer. "People act like we're not a big deal and that it doesn't matter to anyone. It matters to us."

I have participated in sports throughout all of high school and this dismissive attitude towards female athletics has been prevalent in all four years. I should be used to it by now, but I'm not. Surprisingly, it still bothers me when people talk about how the girls are terrible at almost everything. I feel bitter thinking about all the times the boys have been shown favoritism over the girls, even if it happened two years ago.

Now, I don't want to be spiteful and complain but this perception that girls are not as good as boys because they aren't "as athletic" is unfair. I'm sorry I'm five and a half feet tall and can't dunk a basketball to make the game more entertaining for you. Women don't have the same physique as men but that doesn't mean we aren't



Photo illustration by Kyle Dooley

good at what we do. Women can hit home runs, and dribble the ball behind our back. But we don't get the same amount of attention. How is that fair?

Just like the boys, we work hard at every practice to improve our game and even spend time outside of practice to perfect certain skills. No one

wants their hard work to go unappreciated. So you can imagine how awful it makes girls feel when they look out at the crowd during a girls' basketball game to see over half of the student section sitting down staring at their phones. However when the boys' game starts they miraculously find enough energy to stand up and

cheer throughout the entire game. Or when some football boys tell the cheerleaders they aren't allowed to eat food at a team meal because it's not a 'sport' and they don't work hard enough to deserve some cheesy potatoes. It's also ironic how people are willing to drive two hours to watch a playoff football game in freezing weather, but are not willing to drive two minutes to a home regional volleyball game indoors.

I know it sounds harsh and hostile and maybe even a little bit petty, but this is something that has been going on for too long. People don't realize that the things they say about us hurt. We put in all this effort for it to be cast off to the side like it doesn't matter. We need support just as much as the boys do. I don't care if we are boring to watch or whatever you want to say about us.

We are supposed to be a Charger Family. We win together, we lose together. We should support each other in everything we do, boys and girls. But, it's hard to be a family when you don't feel like an important member.

### The Charger Ink

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