

9-26-05

Asheville City Schools  
85 Mountain Street  
Asheville, NC 28802

**BUSINESS**

SEP 27 2005

**OFFICE**

**Asheville High School**

**Tim Amos -Associate Superintendent  
Danny Wilkins -Head football Coach  
Rex Wells -Athletic Director**

**Gentlemen:**

**I am writing a letter of appreciation to you and all responsible at Asheville High School. Last Friday (September 23<sup>rd</sup>) I traveled to Asheville along with the WMNC sports crew to film the game between the Asheville Cougars and the Freedom Patriots. We learned a few days prior to the game that Asheville High had its' own TV production facility and we were allowed to "plug up" and receive a feed directly from your broadcast. As a result, we did not have to set up our equipment and "duplicate" your production. As I believe you do, we also rebroadcast the games later in the next week. Our game is broadcast on Compas Cable- City of Morganton Public Antenna System. In this day and age of constant changing technology, the folks at Asheville High are thinking ahead by offering a TV production program. I am told this is taught as part of your curriculum at Asheville High School.**

**As someone who has been out of high school for more than 25 years, this speaks volumes to the dedication and hard work of the Associate Superintendent, Tim Amos, and Danny Wilkins, head coach, and Rex Wells the Athletic Director at AHS. I have worked for most of the 25 years since high school in radio broadcasting and briefly as a master control engineer at a local TV station. I have gained much knowledge and experience since high school by learning on the job unlike the AHS students who will have a better foundation than I did by learning in high school and upon graduation they will be better prepared than I was when they begin work after graduating high school or later after college. I did not have this opportunity (TV Production) but I am pleased to see that others will; due to the efforts of high schools such as Asheville High School. I know how important developing and creating a foundation of learning is by offering a career program at the high school level.**

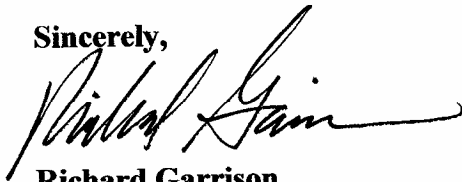
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**As I work toward completing a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, I am reminded daily how easier it was to learn at a young age as when I attended high school.**

**From the time we arrived Friday, we were treated as if we were the home team not mere visitors. And believe me, we have had bad experiences at other high schools with filming games but after we arrived at AHS with our VCR and cables, we determined we needed additional cables to match the Cougar Sports Network TV equipment, your thoughtful coaching staff provided extra cables and assisted with our hook-up in order to receive a tape of the game. They took the time and made sure everything worked.**

**Throughout our visit we had the feeling of being "at home" not of being a visitor and opponent. And even though the well-coached and trained Cougars beat us 23-6 we were very pleased and happy with our experience at Asheville High School. If you are this hospitable to visitors such as us, I can only imagine how well you function as a school. I normally would not write about visits, but after Friday I had to put this positive experience into words. We were welcomed into your home and for that we are indeed grateful. Without leaving anyone in particular out, I wish to say a BIG thank to everyone for your assistance, help, and your hospitality during our recent visit. I would hope all schools would take a lesson from Asheville High School; you are in a class by yourself ! Although I have visited Asheville many times over the years to shop, eat out, and see the sites, this was my first visit to Asheville High School. I am looking forward to many visits in the future. Again many thanks, keep up the good work.**

**Sincerely,**



**Richard Garrison**

**Announcer-Video Specialist and location videographer**

**WMNC / COMPAS CABLE**

**Morganton, NC**