

My Opinion: The State of the Flashes Football Nation – 3/28

Coach Chuck Stephens

The following written thoughts are my strongly felt opinions and beliefs. They are not taken from the FFF by-laws. I want to state a significant reason why the FFF exists. In my opinion, we are there to provide the things that the school administration is unable to provide. We should be there to serve. We are not there to "call plays" or to determine how the football program should be run. We need to provide the things that **COACH WEST THINKS ARE NECESSARY** to build a competitive program where our entire community can be proud. We have provided many things that have helped the coaches make our program more competitive. We need another successful fundraising year to continue providing the resources it takes to succeed **at every level of our program**. It might be difficult for many involved in athletics, especially the football program in the 70s through the 90s, to wrap their arms around the type of money it takes to finance a 6A football program that plays in the highest-ranked football conference in Indiana. **START WITH THIS**. A varsity football helmet is in the \$400 - \$450 range. We used to preach that becoming a championship program takes work. In the 2020s, it still is challenging, and it doesn't come CHEAP either.

I wish I could more adequately express my admiration for what our coaches and players are doing to "CARRY ON THE TRADITION ." If you could watch our coaches work with athletes in the Spark Academy, youth camps, the practice field, and the conditioning program, you would be as excited as many "old coaches and players" are. In these challenging times, our coaches don't shy away from demanding proper "attitude and effort ." They are also great teachers of proper technique, fundamentals, and, more importantly, the "game of life." These are exciting and thrilling times for Flashes football. We have great kids who are also great athletes in our program. They not only deserve your support, but they also have earned it. We have been blessed with a football coaching staff that is not only developing great players but also, great people. These young people deserve the help it takes for our excellent coaching staff to develop them to their full potential.

PLEASE READ COACH WEST'S REVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROGRAM. It can be found at www.flashesfootballfoundation.org under "Message from Coach West". **I URGE YOU TO DO YOURSELF A FAVOR AND READ IT.** It breaks down the steps they are taking to give Franklin Township a championship program. It also shows where and how your generous donations have been and will be used. If there are things out there that coach West thinks will get us closer to accomplishing his vision. *I'M ALL IN.* If there are things on the "cutting edge" regarding new products or technology that he thinks might make the difference in our journey toward relevance in the 6A football world, **I'M ALL IN.** I hope you will join the Flashes Football Foundation's efforts to make Coach West's vision for *FLASHES FOOTBALL* a reality.

Coach West's Comments: The Flashes coaching staff and I appreciate all the hard work and effort the Flashes Football Foundation and its donors give our kids the best high school experience we can provide. Please keep doing whatever you can because it truly makes a huge difference in these young men's lives.

YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE AND ARE HELPING THIS GREAT PROGRAM PROGRESS MORE QUICKLY THAN ANYONE, INCLUDING MYSELF, THOUGHT POSSIBLE.

It's a great day to be a Flash!!!

Get Charged Up!!!