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Date:

June 23, 2017

To.

Dr. Augustine Romero

Principal

Puebio Magnet High Schrait

Tucson, Arizona,

From:

Dora Leal Vidal, Class of 1973.

"Coach Roland LaVetter Gyrn" Committee

First, we would like to thank-you for taking the time to meet with us in addressing our interest in naming the south gym at Pueblo Magnet High School (aka PHS) after Roland LaVetter. We are: asking for your support and guidance in reaching this goal.

While at PHS, Mr. I aVetter served as head coach for both the grist and boys' baskethall teams, He frained, coached, rectivated, and led those teams during home games in the south gyrs. It was his home away from home. During the basketball season, he would spend many hours in that gym helping the players learn the game to obtain many wins for PHS. He also led line boys' varsity basketball teams in back to back state championships during the 1976-77 and 1977-78 years proving to be the best Boysi Varsity Basketball Head Coach in Pueblo High's. history. Those of us who attended PHS baskethall games during Mr. LaVetter's tenure as cleach remember how exciting the hasketball seasons were, win or lose.

As a coach and a teacher, Mr. Lavetter was a great mentor for many of his buskettud players. as well as for his non-player students. He and fils wife, Beverly, always kept an open door at their home for any PHS student who peeded the comfort of understanding, encouragement, and an occasional stern talk to keep us on the straight path. Due to Mr. Lavetter's influence and endouragement, many of his students and players went on to become exceptional men and women in their personal and protessional lives. One of them being Lafavetto "Fet" Lever who graduated fitch PHS, graduated from college, and went on to become a successful professional basketball player here in the United States. In fact, as you know, the west gyrn at PHS is named aftör Mr. Lever.

Mr. LaVetter's goal as a teacher, coach, and mentor, was to help in his students' development. into successful, well rounded adults that would give back to their communities. One example of his strategy for this goal, was the yearly Canned Food Drive held at PHS. Year after year, under Mr. LaVetter's supervision, the sonior class would read all other classes in obtaining resources. to help those less fortunate in the community. Seniors would gather hundreds and hundreds of canned food as well of hundreds of dollars in cash for this well needed price. It didn't end with the gathering of resources. Mr. LaVetler then would have the seniors deliver the food. This way he ensured the students undersload the needs of the community and how giving back is so

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important and appreciated. Many of his students, now as adults, continue in this giving back reflecting the lesson well learned from Mr. LaVetter. Something which then reflects a great image for PHS and one PHS can be very proud of. In fact, attached is one, of many 1ucson newspaper stories regarding Mr. LaVetter, which shows the live he has for PHS and the community

We strongly believe Roland LaVelter has earned and deserves the south gym to be named in his honor. It would be an acknowledgement on behalf of Pueblo Magnet High School and the community, of a great teacher, a great coach, a great mentor, and a great person reflecting "Si Se Puede" for the students of PHS. Also, be assured there would be no costs to the school or the Tosson Unified School District in naming the gym after Mr. LaVelter as any and all expenses will be covered by duriations.

Thank-you for your time and consideration regarding this proposal. We look forward to working with you in this effort. Attached you will also find two of our petrions of those who support the naming of the gym after Mr. LaVetter. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (520) 419-5934 of Mr. Dan Eckström at (520) 247-9250.

Sincerely,

Qora Leal Vidal

Co. Tubson Undied School District Board Michael Hicks, President

Lora Leal Fidal

Michael Hicks, Presidem Dr. Mark Stegeman, Clerk

Adelita S. Grijatva

Kristel Ann Foster

Rachael Sedgwick

Dr. Ahef Morado.

Assistant Superintendent Secondary Schools

WILL THE UNDERSIGNED, SUPPORT THE NAMING OF THE SQUITH GYMNASIOM AT PURRICI MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL (PHS) AFTER ROLAND LAVETTER, AT DRIVER PHS BOYS' AND GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL HEAD COACH. WE SUPPORT THIS PROJECT BECAUSE MR. LAVETTER WAS A LONG TIME HEAD COACH AT PHS AND THE MOST SUCCESSFUL BASKETSALL COACH FEADING TEAMS TO THE MOST WINS, AWARDS, AND TWO COASECUTIVE YEARS OF STATE CHAMPIONS TIPS.

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Tuesda, Tuesday, December 15, 1992 High Schools Pueblo girls are LaVetter's latest study

By Leighton Ginn The Aileona Jaky Star

Alter last season, some people were probably felling Pueble girls baskribest coach Buland LaVetter, "I tald you so "

School officials at Pueblo had convinced LaVeller, the boya coach during the 70's, to come out of relinement and take over the girls leum last year.

But the prospects for a woulder record weren't good. The Warriors and only won two games the previous year, and liteir engerlenced players were ineligible.

"Roing in, people of the scales, huld. We'd luve to have you come huck, but you don't want in do this," La Vetice said. 'But I ngreed because I love the school and (Se community. It's like they say, You can take the kids out of Pueblo, but you can'l take Pueblo out of the kids. To a degree, I'm leithneboat."

Additionally, the bleak predintions reminded La Vellez of a stiplla r firme when he was coughing the boys teams.

In 1974, a jonior Algh basketball couch gove LaVetter a pesalmistic forecast of all incoming trestamon, white were all under 5.500).

"He said, "They're #lo¢ ¥lds, 5ot they're not going anywhere," Veiler suld

 That class went on to while becario-Sincial state of these in 1974-77, and 1977-28, prologing a 28-0 season in 1927-78. One of those kids even insend out In bein two lime NBA AAStar - 120 foyette "Fat" Levor — Who Pubblo's gym is nomed after.

But coaching Puebla's glob hasta't becomes fruitful Lovetrer had his wurst season recurd-wise, gotog 0-30 last year. This year's learn has been competitive, but has cledeged only a 1-5 record thus fair, entering last reight's game agains! Amphithealer.

Rowever, LaVetler, 52, Iblinks if you just judge specess by wiss and lusses, you're not see up the whole picture.

teacher of the game," CaVetter said. "Ninely-little percent of the work is done on the practice flour. The important liking is learning to prepare to win, if you just gu through life Inoking Sasi for thet wie, then your life is over at 15 when you re out of Little League.

"(Last year) the kids really related, and they fell they were lanenany skills about the game and could appreciate working together. That was bood it itself . We may have tast games, but they didn't feel like they were losing anylaing. They felt like or noers:

Placing leaching uver winning has always been a CaVelter crailemnra. If you ask his former assistants, they will fell you the same Lbing.

I don't inlink en likes playing ize gumes where there's a winner and 8 Joseph " satist Rink Offer, a former assistant couch who look ever the RINone/Delversoly boys psaketoath (egin in 1989 after LoVetler refired.

"He likes to like players and teach them tilligs they don't know and lake laem to a level they haven't been. Whelher Its hoys or girls, il duesn'i miåke a dilference.

FaVoltor 389 been a hoad basketball couch since 1974, when he took the Pueblo job. In 1981, LaVelter reloved to Alincon so he could coach has son, Lance. In 1988, he retired From conching.

Litter to one of four former assistants of La Vetler's who have gone to lse successivi hays head coaches. The others are Barry O'Rourko.c1 Pueblo, Barry Wilson of Lucson and Thin Demonstral of Saturnal

sine of LaVelrer's former players, Randell Moore, was light couch at Pirmo and has worked as an assisisti-

Taking over the Pueble girls program last year asn't the limit time LaVetler has coached a garls feam Prom 1984-87, LaVelter coached Rundon, when the glots scenor was in the sprang.

The Rangers went from one win



Pueblo girls backethall coach Roland LaVetter says he is more concerned with 1

beith to the slote playoffs in LoVetten's Journt and final year.

But those were his most difficult years coasting because of eventy in his personal life.

In 1984, Als 23-year-old daughter Tobie Lynn LaVetter dieg in Preseach from laws-shock syndrome. Soon after her death, the girls haskefbali seasot, began.

When lite Rangers qualified for

years Jaier, LaVetier chose noi lo go with higheren herasse of the paraful meinagies of his caughter.

One of LaVoltor's changes in quacturing the girls is the use of a frequent substitution pattern, rather then a seven or eight-player ruration, so all his kids are engaged of playing time. Additionally, he won't cul mayone who rries out for the

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"Ite's like tising tive as with him." D you the cech good persec

"Oxe time Iner like yen

<u> High Schools</u>



re LaVetter's latest students of game

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Jim Davis, The Arbone Dayly Sta

Puroble girls baskethall coach Roland LeVetter says he is more concerned with itosphing the game of baskethall than wine and losses

borth to the state playoffs in f4Vet-Leafs fourth and finallyear

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this La Voicer's coreng that has left an impression that leafs throughout ença individual's lite.

"He's like my godfalher. Everything I've ecomplished has to do with him," Lever said. "It's inputs to you the avaication you need to help good person.

"Graerime I inic Xim, 🖫 want to be Just lake you," Ro said, "Don"; set your. gual to be like me. Set it to be better rhan me." "

And Lever tee's in time, LaVe ler will have the same impact on tile t guris learn.

"He geta litte must important gigssage oul to the girls," Lever sold They might be looking and fittinggling. Yal of they lusten to him, and apply it in their lives, then they !! still be wronwes."