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## Sports

### West Powder Puff games seek to eradicate stigma

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If students' first image of Powder Puff football comes from Channel 5 news, with girls throwing garbage cans on each other's heads, sitting in a circle while others push and hit one another, it's time to get real. Powder Puff at Niles West High School is something completely different.

To put students in the spirit for homecoming, the new athletic director Peter Schauer and math teacher Colleen Davis are organizing flag football girls on all grade levels. The Powder Puff game is held during the week of homecoming, otherwise known as spirit week.

The Powder Puff festivities will begin October 8 at 5:30 p.m. on the varsity football field. There will be two games, freshmen vs. sophomores and seniors vs. juniors.

The game is run just like any other football game.

The turnout of girls who signed up for Powder Puff this year is "not half bad," according to Davis. Freshman, sophomore



and junior girls make up the majority, nearly 150 girls. While only 15 seniors have signed up, they will "hold their own," said Davis.

Even though senior Spacey Cabrera has a lot of work to do, she finds time to squeeze Powder Puff in her schedule because she "has such a blast."

"The seniors are a group of tough girls that are ready for the

competition," Davis said.

In the wake of last year's Glenbrook North hazing incident, the wisdom of scheduling girls' flag football has been questioned by some, notes student activities director, Peter Schauer.

Although Powder Puff games have developed a bad reputation on the North Shore, "we are trying to change that," Schauer said.

Unlike the GBN game, the West games are run on school grounds and supervised by school personnel to keep everyone safe.

Many of the girls have strong feelings on Powder Puff being a charity event. The proceeds from ticket sales to shirt orders are donated to breast cancer research.

Senior Vikki Lika said, "Knowing that I am a part of a school activity that donates money to breast cancer pushes me harder to go to practices."