

Mr. Eskridge is full of praise when asked about the ways Smithsburg High differs from other schools. He said he noticed right away that kids at Smithsburg are polite. The compliments didn't end there. "There's an overwhelming sense of dedication to reach goals," he explained.

That's high praise coming from the guy whose favorite book is *Wooden on Praise* by John Wooden, a book which he describes as a work that gives practical examples of how to coach people through tough times.

It even includes a pyramid of success which can be used to help people reach their goals and be successful.

Many of the qualities outlined in Wooden's pyramid, such as poise, confidence and specifically, team spirit, can be observed firsthand in Mr. Eskridge himself.

"I'm from [right outside] Philadelphia," he says. "I'm a big fan of Philadelphia sports."

There's little question that Mr. Eskridge's dedication to his Philly teams will overlap into team

spirit for Smithsburg sports.

Besides appreciating sports, Mr. Eskridge also appreciates his neighbors. He says his neighbors graciously shoveled eighteen inches of snow from his driveway without being asked. He considers this thoughtful act to be the kindest thing someone outside of his family has ever done for him.

A final important question is what is Mr. Eskridge's favorite ice cream flavor of all time. Mr. Eskridge responded confidently. "Chocolate." Great answer!