

ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SMART HEART SCAN INFORMATION SHEET

Each year every St. Pius X student athlete is required to undergo a physical. The vast majority of the student/athletes take that physical here at St. Pius X in May. It is a very thorough physical. There are, however, certain heart conditions that cannot be detected in regular sports physicals. Over the past several years, there have been several deaths throughout the United States and here in the state of Georgia in athletics resulting from a heart condition that could only be detected by an **Echocardiogram** (Echo). An Echo is designed to screen for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, a heart condition that reduces the heart's ability to pump blood effectively to the body. The Echo and its interpretation by a cardiologist routinely costs \$800 to \$1500, thus making the procedure cost prohibitive for many.

A non-profit group has come together to make this an affordable option. The cost for this procedure is \$65.00. This group will be offering the Echo at St. Pius X on **Saturday, September 15, 2007**. In recent years, we have received an overwhelming response. If that is the case again this year, we may be forced to schedule some appointments on Sunday, September 16, 2007, but we will make every effort to avoid scheduling appointments on Sunday.

If you wish to register your child, you can down load the registration form on-line at www.spx.org/athletics/SmartHeartScans. If you are not able to down load the form, please contact Gary Schmitt (ext 267) or Dale Stanley (ext 266) at St. Pius X (404-636-7751). Please mail the completed form with your check for \$65.00 made out to Smart Heart Scans to St. Pius X, attention Gary Schmitt by Wednesday, September 5, 2007. You will be called during the week of September 10 to schedule your appointment time for the test on September 15 and/or September 16. The process takes approximately 30 minutes from check-in to conclusion. **Please keep in mind that this test is given by appointment only. We cannot accept walk-ins.**

If your student athlete has already received an Echo there is no need to receive another one unless instructed to do so by your physician.

I ask you to sit down and read the form and make a decision as to whether or not you want to take advantage of this screening. I hope that you are enjoying your summer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call at St. Pius at 404-636-7751, extension 267.