

# The Patriot

Issue #1

October 2004

## Student council calls for change

Darby DeCicco '05

Big things are happening in student council.

"We're trying to make student council a bigger part of the school," says student council president Christine McGuire '05.

This, among the dozens of activities the organization has planned, is student council's most important goal for the year, according to McGuire.

Vice President Emily Long '05, agrees, saying that the twenty-five members of student council's executive board hope not only to get the organization more involved in student life here at Township, but to get Township students more involved with student council.

Both girls agree that they'd like to see changes in student council, starting with the average student. Their hope is that new advisor Miss April Ferry will be able to aide them in getting homeroom representatives and other students more involved in general meetings, as well as in helping the student council's

executive board establish a closer relationship with the school administrators.

"We're here for you," Long says. "We'd be happy to hear new ideas."

Along with new ideas, student council is also looking for new members. With fifteen seniors on an executive board of twenty-five, it's important that underclassmen step up and fill the roles that will be left vacant next year.

"It can change your life," McGuire says, encouraging freshmen, sophomores, and juniors to come to meetings and take an interest. McGuire, who has been involved in student council during her entire high school career, is currently vice president of the New Jersey State Student Council, and even attended a national meeting in Las Vegas over the summer.

"I bring back my experiences," she says, hoping underclassmen will understand the value student council can have.

But it's not too late for seniors to get involved, either. Student council is currently planning Mr. Washington

Township, senior service day, the senior kickoff dance, homecoming, and the annual spirit parade.

"We have fun," Long says, hoping seniors will decide to attend general meetings, the dates of which are soon to be announced, and help plan the activities that are so important to senior year. Student Council

knows that the best way to make activities great for students is to get students involved in planning them.

Most importantly, both girls say that student council needs encouragement from the students it serves. Tired of hearing their peers say that student council never does anything,



Darby DeCicco/The Patriot

Student Council Vice President Emily Long (l), and President Christine McGuire

they invite students with any ideas to stop by the student council homeroom in G229 or to come to the general meetings.

"We're the voice of the student body," McGuire says, hoping that this year, the student body will help them find something to say.

## Inside...



Freshmen Adjust p. 2



Patriot sports p. 7

Entertainment p. 5

## Cyclists ride to aid MS research

Mallory Heimlich '05

Saturday, September 18 and Sunday, September 19, 2004, WTHS teachers Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Wolozyn and Mr. Richard Ambacher along with WTHS student Brian Keifer '05 participated in the 24th MS 150 of the Delaware Valley. The annual charitable bicycle tour that raises money and awareness about multiple sclerosis (MS) drew 6,000 participants from all over the tri-state area.

"I did the event last year with a former teacher from WTHS. It was a lot of fun, and I enjoyed it so much I decided to do it again. It's a nice way to spend the weekend," says Wolozyn, a second year rider.

In order to raise money, Ambacher and Wolozyn put letters in faculty member's mailboxes here at the school informing them about the event, and Wolozyn also got some businesses to donate as well as some of his neighbors. Wolozyn and Ambacher's goal was to raise \$2,500. However, they were astonished when they ended up

raising \$5,300.

"The reason why we raised so much money was the response of the people in our school community. They were very generous and contributed greatly," says Ambacher.

MS is a chronic, unpredictable disease of the central nervous system that affects about 2 million people worldwide according to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's website ([www.nationalmssociety.org](http://www.nationalmssociety.org)).

The event began at Woodcrest Station in Cherry Hill and ended in Ocean City, New Jersey, a total of about 150 miles up and back. It took them about seven hours to make the ride up and about six to make it back.

"I thought it would be a real test,

but it wasn't as bad as I had envisioned," says Ambacher, a first year rider. "I thought I'd end up 20 miles from Ocean City passed out on the ground with buzzards circling above my head, and when we arrived at the finish line, I was amazed I did it. I didn't think I would feel too well, but I wasn't whipped, so I must have

see **Cyclists** page 2



photo courtesy of Col. Wolozyn

Col. Joseph Wolozyn (l) and Mr. Richard Ambacher take a break from their 150 mile journey.

## New Teacher Profile

# Dessaigne enjoys opportunity

*Note: In every issue of The Patriot, we will run a profile of one of the new teachers at WTHS. This way everyone can get to know them a little bit better.*

Cheryl Supernavage '06

Mr. Shawn Dessaigne (de-SEN-ya), a TCNJ graduate, works in our Performing Arts Department teaching the Music Tech class and AP Music Theory class. He was excited about this job because, aside from this being his first job, there is only one other person he knows of in New Jersey teaching Music Tech. After seeing the job he was offered, he knew it was a unique job and decided to take it.

Ever since he was little, he always knew he'd enjoy teaching, and when Dessaigne came to Washington Township with the idea of becoming a band director, he had a set view of what teaching would be like.

So far, teaching is not what he expected. Working in a classroom atmosphere and imagining yourself directing a band are two completely different ways of teaching. He describes it as being "very difficult."

He student-taught in Cherry Hill. He finds it was very different being a

student teacher than it is teaching your own class.

"You don't have anyone looking over your shoulder telling you what to do, when to do it, and how well you did it. You're in charge," he said.

The most important thing he learned from student-teaching is to keep the students interested. Dessaigne hopes that by teaching these courses he can help students involved in music realize that it could be a possible choice for their own future.

Aside from teaching, Dessaigne enjoys music, especially classical, and his family. He often goes to Europe to visit his relatives in his father's home country, France.

Dessaigne grew up in Williamstown, so he has always been familiar with Township. He finds the one main difference between the two high schools, other than size, is the music department. Washington Township has a huge music department, and he definitely thinks that Township does not overlook their music programs.



Cheryl Supernavage '06/The Patriot

## Mr. Shawn Dessaigne teaches Music Tech. and AP Music Theory.

"There are so many opportunities offered for students in music," he said.

A couple of people extremely influential to Dessaigne are the boss at his college job and the cooperating teacher for student teaching he was assigned to, who was like his mentor.

One point of advice he'd like to share with all aspiring teachers is to learn everything you can because you never know what you will end up doing.

# Freshmen make smooth transition

Jaimie Recchino '05

Think back to middle school. It may have been four years ago, or maybe two. For the freshman, it's only a few months in their past. Everyone knows what it's like to adjust to something new. It takes time and patience.

"There are so many people," says Freshman Cristina Virgilio, "I don't have many classes with my close friends." Most freshmen, Virgilio included, are taking this factor as a great opportunity to meet new people. They've found that the best way to do so is to get involved.

Joining activities such as color guard and band or playing sports has assisted the ninth grade students in meeting new friends such as other freshmen and upperclassmen.

Some have found it difficult to once again be the youngest in the school. Still, they've discovered the upperclassmen to be nothing less than supportive on the fields and in the classroom.

"They aren't as mean as everyone says they are," says freshman Amber Roscholi.

The size of the school was also a prospect for intimidation. To these new

students, the school is a maze. The halls are so crowded, and it's definitely an adjustment. Some have said that they've figured out quick routes to

---

"[Upper Classmen] aren't as mean as everyone says they are." - Amber Roscholi

---

their classes, and ways to get there without being stuck in the hallway traffic.

"Our middle school was only a quarter of this school!" said current freshman Chelsea Oliver.

Many freshmen are worried about the amount of work they've been receiving, especially in the advanced classes. However, they appreciate their new teachers' more "laid back" attitudes. Some feel as if they have much more freedom. Except for lunch.

Freshman Waleed Albarqawi hates having to wait for the teachers to let his table go up to buy food. "Other than that," he says, "We can do what we want."

"We can walk outside to get to our classes!" said a lunch table of boys, who all met one another through soccer. Who knew how exciting that could be?

With friends around, they feel like they are adjusting just fine.



Jaimie Recchino '05/The Patriot

Lunch is an opportunity for many freshmen to catch up with old friends and to make some new ones.

# Cyclists ride to stop MS

Cyclists from page 1

trained okay."

"The event was very well organized," says Wolozyn. There are about four or five rest stops every 15 to 20 miles.

"There were tons of things to drink and eat, like energy bars yogurt, water, Gatorade, and peanut butter, and jelly sandwiches; there was a whole variety of things," says Ambacher. "We took full advantage of all the rest stops; we stopped at every one. We made sure to drink lots of fluids and stretch but didn't stay too long at the stops so we wouldn't cramp up."

At every rest stop there were bike mechanics from the area, and if anything broke they would fix it for the riders for free. There were cars also patrolling the routes, checking to see if anyone had broken down.

"There were motorcyclists with trailers full of young kids, and if they saw you were pooped out, they would stop and put you in the back of the trailer," says Ambacher. "Then they would take you to one of the rest stops and then to a bus to take you back."

"I'm going to try and expand team WTHS next year," says Wolozyn. For next year's bike tour they're trying to gather a bigger team, and so far they have about a half a dozen people on the team including about four other teachers from the high school.

"We're going to try and break our record next year and raise even more money," says Ambacher. "We want to get team shirts made for next year, and we're going to leave as a team. Come ride with us!"

Anyone can do it, even if you are under 18; you just need to get a waiver signed by a parent. You should register early for \$15, and then you have to raise \$250 as your entry fee.

"If you train reasonably and fight the mental battle and just keep peddling, you can do it," says Ambacher.

**Show your school spirit.**

**Enter a car in the Spirit Parade.**

**Deadline Oct. 27.**

# Commentary

Confessions by Darby DeCicco '05

## ...About starting senior year

Senior year.  
The very words give some people chills.

All through high school, we're promised the best year of our lives, if only we can make it to graduation. Making it there, of course, is the problem. The years spent as an underclassman can be seemingly endless, and stories of what the seniors are doing while you're studying for your algebra final can seem agonizing.

As a freshman, senior year seemed almost like a myth to me. Twelfth grade seemed far away and it was hard to imagine ever getting there. While navigating confusing hallways and working through the hardest classes I'd ever taken, it seemed almost impossible that on just the other side of the building there were homecoming queens and legal adults taking naps in their third period study halls.

As a sophomore, stories of senior year became less unbelievable and more annoying. While I sat through Driver's Ed. and dealt with double math classes, the seniors were driving themselves to school in the morning and filling their days with electives. I felt like everything in the school revolved around the

seniors, and I wasn't exactly happy about it.

But it was during junior year that watching the seniors became torture.

HSPAs, research papers, and SATs consumed my year while the seniors didn't seem too concerned with anything. Walking the nearly empty hallways while they were on senior trip was painful, and taking finals while my senior friends practiced for graduation felt simply... unjust.

Now, of course, it's my turn. I've finally made it to my senior year, and while the excitement of dances, trips, and activities has already begun, I have to admit it's a strange feeling, too. The familiar faces of the upperclassmen I'm used to seeing in the hallways have disappeared. Suddenly, I'm picking out colleges, keeping my car keys in my locker, and passing out my senior pictures. I don't feel old enough to be a senior, and I don't really know how I could have ever thought this year seemed far away.

Still, the senior thrill persists. I can't wait to go to all the dances, join in all the activities, and hop on that plane to Florida in March. After three long years of waiting, I intend to enjoy senior year as much as possible.

## I'm a Junior?

Mike Jones '06

I'm a Junior?

Time doesn't fly when you're having fun, it moves at a high speed constantly. We just never seem to realize it until we're having fun. They (parents, teachers, friends, etc.) told us these next few years were or would be the best of our lives and that they would pass too quickly. In some ways, they were right. The past two years did in fact fly by. However, I still don't think these will be the best years of my life (I'm personally looking forward to college).

My high school years are indeed passing quickly. They're not over yet, but it feels like they only just started. As teenagers we've become so

### Maybe some time half-way through senior year I'll get used to the idea.

accustomed to hearing "when you're older...." Now that we are "older", we almost miss the phrase.

We think back to middle school years or even freshman year,

wondering what happened to the good old days. The days of being entirely too dramatic about everything, feeling tiny compared to everyone else, and having to get a ride everywhere. Yes, we all wanted to speed up time back then, but now that time has finally gotten its act together and sped up, we only want it to slow back down.

I was reminded recently, during a conversation with a friend that last year wasn't freshman year. I kept the conversation going as usual, but the tiny fact that sophomore year seemed to have disappeared really bothered me. The day after I received this little shock, school started and I couldn't escape this being a junior business. Maybe some time half-way through senior year I'll get used to the idea.

Responsibility, what's that? I find it hard to believe that I have become one of the older kids who, as a freshman, I was too scared to talk to. I feel no older, and I doubt if I look any different. It's hard to picture the people around me (most I've known since elementary school) in college. Actually, I have trouble picturing myself there. I'm expected to be a leader? Wait, who?

## No Life to Reality TV

Ashley Horan '05

The era of reality television began over ten years ago with the launch of a new series on MTV called *The Real World*. During the past five years it seems as though our country has gone overboard with the number of "camera-in-your-face" shows they produce.

Frankly I became sick of reality television after about the third season of *Survivor*. How many times can one watch a group of strangers love, hate and stab each other in the back over an amount of money? I find it hard to sit

### Let's be honest; does this ever happen in real life?

there and watch adults act like children, especially when it seems as though much of what happens is staged.

Over the past few years we've been swamped with shows like *The Apprentice*, *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette*, *Extreme Makeover* and *American Idol*. I must admit that many people would attest that they love some of these shows, which is why reality television has become the hottest new television trend. I, however, am not one of those people.

Is there anywhere a television show won't go these days? The latest reality show I've heard of is *Wife Swap*. The gist of the show is that two households swap wives/mothers for a period of time, during which each woman is first to adapt to the schedule of her new family, and then change it up by doing things the way she would like them done in her own home. Basically, it's the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard of. This should be under the category of "unreality television shows". Let's be honest; does this ever happen in real life?

The evening news broadcasts are the only programs that can be called actual reality shows. Real people with real lives that have really horrible things happen to them. The reporters are on the scene because of something that has already happened or is in progress.

By comparison, people who are on reality television shows are playing up or exaggerating their emotions because it sells. Their motivation for being on the show in the first place is either money or fame. Often those who throw the biggest tantrums or have the most outrageous personalities are rewarded by a continuing career in the spotlight, such as commercial bits or movie cameos. Do these people really deserve our attention?

Next time you're watching one of these so-called "reality TV shows", ask yourself how real what you're watching really is. Don't be fooled by the overplayed emotions and dramatic performances. The networks are running out of ideas and each month brings a more ridiculous topic for reality TV. If you're interested in real people, stick to watching the news, or, even better, try going out and living your own life. It'll give you the best taste of reality there is.

## The Patriot

Editor-in-Chief - Mallory Heimlich '05

Sports Editors - Scott Grandrino '05, Joe Comerford '06

Managing Editor- Cheryl Supernavage '06

News Editor- Darby DeCicco '05

Entertainment Editors - Christian Heim '05, Jamie Valentine '05

Op/Ed Editors - Ashley Horan '05, Mike Jones '06

Features Editors - Tiffany Narducci '05, Julia Verniero '05

Photography Editor- Jamie Recchino '05

Layout and Design - Journalism II

Printing - Mr. Steve Whalen & Advanced Graphics

Advisor - Mr. Jim Evangelisti

*The Patriot* is published by the students of Washington Township High School.  
529 Hurffville-Cross Keys Road, Sewell, NJ 08080

Send letters to the editors, opinions, and ideas to:  
[WTHSpatriot@gmail.com](mailto:WTHSpatriot@gmail.com)

# Features

## The Forgotten Flight

Tiffany Narducci '05

Although there were four planes hijacked on that Tuesday three years ago, many people only remember the first three. The fourth, United Airlines Flight 93, crashed in rural Pennsylvania, and was the only flight that had a chance of surviving.

There were forty people present on the plane that day. No one had known that the four hi-jackers had, four days earlier, been studying a cardboard replica of the plane's cockpit.

September 11, 2001 started out normally for all of us, then attending WTHS. Between third and fourth periods there was a buzz going in the halls.

I remember entering my freshman English class and seeing the TV image of smoke and rubbish flying everywhere. Because of these men, the symbol of our nation's economy and pride crashed before there had even been time for the initial shock hit the people of this country.

By 10:00 AM most of us had heard what had happened. When the final crash came into play, the shock was gone. But that doesn't mean that it was over. It wasn't until later that everyone got the real story of Flight

93. It was believed the plane had been headed towards the White House. It would have reached that destination if the passengers had not fought.

Many students agree that they would have fought, too. Jeremy Wickersham '05, said that he would have fought to save lives.

Tony Carlino '05, agreed, "You're going to die anyway, might as well try to save someone else."

Carlino believes that in many ways flight 93 is a bigger part of that tragic day because "[the passengers] saved another building."

But some people, like Billy Marlow '06, agree that it was just another part of one important day.

Marlow and Wickersham agree that the events of 9/11 should be remembered differently.

Although, it is three years later, it is still something that is on people's minds in different ways. Each of us has our own way of remembering and its significance in our history.

Don't stop remembering because it 'doesn't have anything to do with you' or because 'it was too long ago'. We are the September 11<sup>th</sup> generation. We are the ones who can change the course of the future.

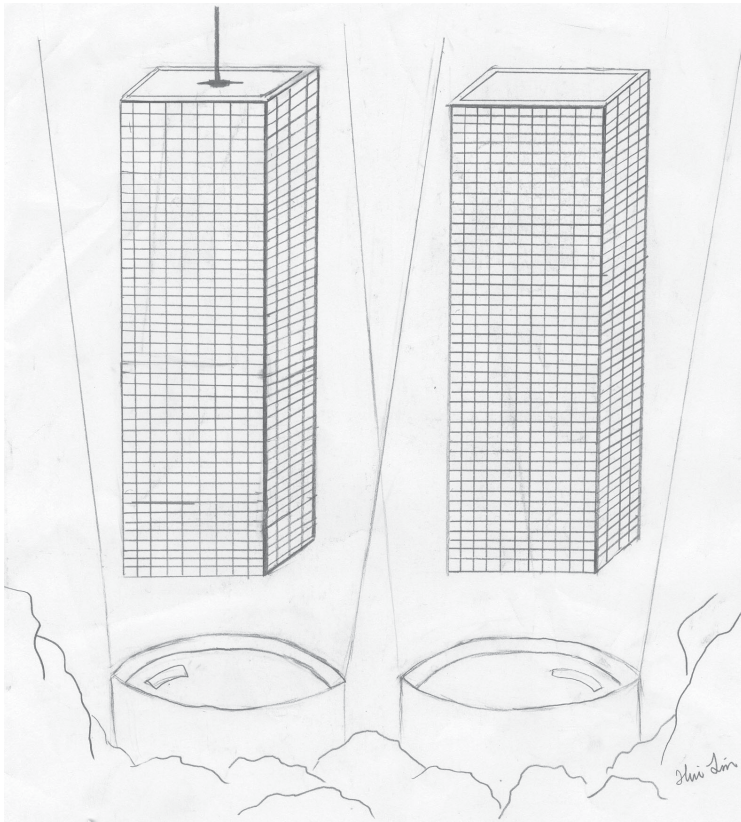


illustration by Hui Lin '05

## Remember 9/11?

Julia A. Verniero '05

It seems that with each passing year the emotions attached to September 11, 2001 dull more and more. The government has already decided not to make September 11 a national holiday, but what can our country do to remember? At this time, three years after the tragedy, it seemed appropriate to ask students for their views on this matter.

Several students reacted mainly with indifference, but others were quite compassionate.

Jeremy Wickersham said that he sympathizes for the families, as many others do. And others, like Tony Carlino, feel bad for those who lost their lives in the tragedy.

Although none of them were directly affected by the events, they all believe that our country should continue to hold memorial services on this date for years to come. Students like Wickersham and Carlino agree that the mention of September 11, 2001 still brings on the memory of sadness and tragedy.

Unfortunately these feelings are not necessarily felt year round.

Directly following the events a feeling of pride in our country and fellow Americans came over our nation. Billy Marlow agrees that his pride in this nation has grown in the past three years. Since the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the memory has diminished, but the feeling still burns bright.

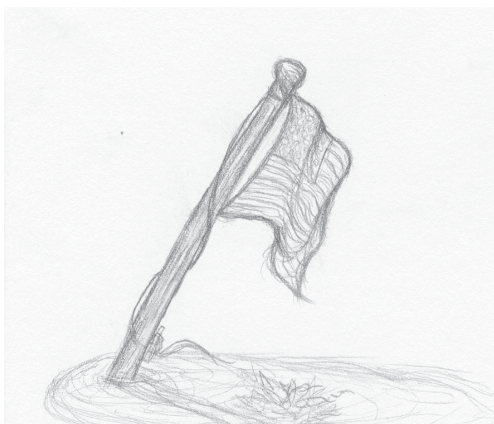


illustration by Helen Zeng '05

### The lighter side of WTHS The ties that bind.



photo courtesy of Mr. Janicki

Students may have experienced *deja vu* on Sept. 24 when (l-r) English Dept. Chairman Mr. Robert Petrillo, and teachers, Mr. Greg Janicki, and Mr. Robert Blistan unintentionally wore the same guitar print ties to school.

# Entertainment

## Latest *Real World* packed with energy, drama Philadelphia setting provides local flavor

Ashley Horan '05

Season fifteen of MTV's *The Real World*, which takes place in Philadelphia, kicked off its first episode on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

The taping began in April so that the season could air in the beginning of fall. From the very first episode, it was evident that this was a unique group of seven strangers.

Willie, 23, is a personal shopper from New York. He also happens to be openly gay, which at first seems to throw small town southern boy, MJ, also 23, for a loop.

Once MJ has a chance to get to know Willie he realizes that he isn't as uncomfortable with the gay lifestyle as he thought he would be.

Landon, 24, is from Wisconsin and he and MJ bonded right from the start

because they reminded each other of their friends back home.

Sarah, 23, is a fiery red-head from Florida who isn't afraid to stake her claim on which of the boys in the house she wants.

Karamo, 23, is from Texas. He also instantly forms a bond with Landon and MJ because he feels they have a lot in common. These are the three you'll probably see spending the most time together.

Melanie and Shavonda, each 21, are the youngest of this *Real World* house.

Melanie is from California and claims to be a spontaneous, wild, party-loving girl. She and Sarah have already butted heads a few times, which isn't surprising knowing that Melanie is non-materialistic while Sarah is all about her one hundred fifty dollar designer jeans.

But, no worries, because the girls worked out their problems in a very mature fashion. They deserve some credit for not causing a scene, which is usually the norm on *Real World*.

The other youngster, Shavonda, is also from California. Shavonda is the

only cast member in a serious relationship, however she's already been heard making comments about her attraction towards Landon.

In typical MTV style, there is no shortage of subplots. The season is only a few episodes underway and so far MJ has broken up with his girlfriend of two months, making him fair game for Sarah. Sarah has all but thrown herself at MJ, making it obvious she's extremely interested. Karamo came out to the housemates, revealing that he is homosexual.

As for the rest of the housemates, you'll just have to watch and find out. If you love the seasons that are packed with a lot of energy and drama, start watching *The Real World Philadelphia*. This season is especially exciting because of the location.

Besides the fact that the amazingly hooked-up *Real World* pad is right next to the Betsy Ross house, you'll also see the housemates spending time at many of our favorite places to visit in Philly.

Tune in to MTV every Tuesday night at ten o'clock if you want to learn more about these seven strangers.



The cast of *The Real World Philadelphia*

## Joey could use some help from his *Friends*

Jamie Valentine '05

The hotly anticipated *Friends* spin-off, *Joey*, is nowhere near as good as *Friends*. This is one of those shows that makes you realize that the art of the sitcom is a dead one.

As a character in one of six intertwining stories, Joey (Matt LeBlanc) is pretty hilarious. But by himself, without good old Phoebe, Ross, Rachael, Monica and Chandler, Joey's antics aren't really worth watching.

The concept is the same as most spin-offs. After *Friends*, Joey pursuing his acting career, moves to Los Angeles where his sister, Gina (Drea de Matteo), lives with her son, Michael (Paulo Costanzo).

The writing is where the bottom drops out, with old situations and reused *Friends* jokes. He develops a school-boy

crush on his married neighbor (Andrea Anders), and consistently gets confused by big words or gets lost in the new city.

*Joey* relies heavily on Joey-is-a-moron jokes. As part of *Friends*, these jokes were funny, but within the first five minutes, you realize that a whole show full of them is not that amusing.

The acting is well done, but the characters are weak stereotypes. Joey's sister is the clichéd tough Italian chick who works at a hair salon and wears clothes she's too old for. Michael, her son, born when Gina was, of course, only sixteen, is the formulaic too smart for his own good, lovable nerd.

However, both de Matteo (*The Sopranos*) and Costanzo (*Josie and the Pussycats*) have played similar roles before and know how to do them well. These well-done stereotypes are enjoyable and can almost make you forget that the situations are reheated and the writing is mediocre.

The situations tend to feel too goofy to be realistic. In the second episode, Joey and Gina take Michael out to learn how to pick up girls, and Michael, expectedly, does better on his own. The jokes are not much better. Gina catches a glimpse of herself in the mirror

and remarks how "that girl looks like a tramp." Joey consistently makes inane remarks and follows up with the patented "Ohhh I get it now" face. This scene, and most others, just highlight the stereotypes and come off as silly.

*Joey* is really only good if you're going through *Friends* withdrawal. If you sit and reminisce about the good

old days when Joey said pretty much the same dumb lines to Rachael, Ross, Phoebe, Monica, or especially Chandler, then you'll probably truly enjoy this show. If you either just liked *Friends* and weren't obsessed with it, or if you never liked it anyway, you will hate *Joey* and hope for a quick cancellation.



Joey, Gina, and Michael share a moment.

Send your  
ideas, opinions  
and letters to...

WTHSPatriot@Gmail.com

## Spazz recasts metal's image

Oh the simple joys of Spazz. Currently one of my favorite bands, Spazz creates some of the most ridiculous music I've ever heard. They're a swirling maelstrom of furious sounds arranged into shotgun blasts of music.

Spazz songs are short, really short. "Dwarf Goober Militia" is only 17 seconds long. This is a good thing, trust me.

Yet, they have the unique ability to get you completely pumped up in a matter of seconds. It doesn't take them long to get their point across, and it's always short and sweet.

My absolute favorite aspect of this band is the way they view themselves. I shy away from most metal simply because of their attitude. Middle aged men with long hair screaming about ghouls grinding up

bones and dragons eating maidens... I'm simply not buying it. Wipe off all that corpse paint and remove the silly leather bracelets and chains, and you've got your average mailman screaming until his voice box explodes.

While Spazz does have incoherent vocals and ridiculous tracks of just screaming, you are constantly aware that it is all out of fun. Spazz is completely aware that they are comical and not too be taken too seriously. You will find yourself laughing at even the most brutal lyrics about the destruction of the human race and ultra violence.

One of the most important things to me when I'm deciding the quality of a band is originality. Why should you listen to Spazz?



They've got talent. Fast paced guitar, pulse pounding bass, and drums played at a breakneck pace. By using random movie quotes as intros and people to play the slide whistle, banjo, oboe, saxophone, harmonica and various other strange instruments that you

would never associate with metal, they create a style that is constantly shifting, so you never lose interest.

That's what makes Spazz so much fun. They're not afraid to try new things, whether its a banjo riff amongst the absolute chaos or an oboe solo.

In short, Spazz rules. They've got talent, originality and an excellent attitude about their music. Never selling out or taking themselves too seriously, they've gained a small but loyal following.

I would definitely check them out, even if you're not into metal or punk, at the very least you'll have gotten a laugh and broadened your horizons a bit.

If you like Spazz and want more, similar bands to look into are Romantic Gorilla, Capitalist Casualties, Charles Bronson, and Inhumanity.

## Rilo Kiley takes chances with surprising new album

Darby DeCicco '05

Rilo Kiley wasn't kidding when they decided to give their new album the apt title *more adventurous*. The self-described indie rock band uses lyrics, vocals, instrumental arrangements, and studio technology to give their latest project a sound that is adventurous to say the least.

The band, comprised of singer Jenny Lewis, drummer Jason Boesel, guitar player Blake Sennett, and bassist Pierre de Reeder, became something of an indie rock staple when their first two projects, *Takeoffs & Landings* and *the execution of all things* were well-received by critics and fans alike. Now, the band uses all

the tools and connections of the Saddle Creek label, as well as their own talents, to create an album that is both surprising and delightful.

Beginning with the album's first song and continuing on all eleven tracks, the listener is exposed to bolder versions of Rilo Kiley's formerly frank lyrics. "Any chimp can play human...and run for office on election day...and deploy more troops than a salt shaker," Lewis sings on the album's first track, "It's a Hit," sending out a decisive political message. On "The Absence of God," meanwhile, she promises that "the absence of God will bring you comfort," making a controversial religious statement. Brutally honest lyrics like

[Some songs]provide the good old fashioned indie rock Rilo Kiley fans know and love, while the album's title track, ... "Ripchord" and "I Never" have a decidedly country twang

these touch on everything from war to suicide to failing marriage.

With such bold lyrics, it's only fitting that the music should be equally brave. In this department Rilo Kiley certainly delivers, providing an eclectic style that will get you dancing, crying, singing, and thinking. Songs

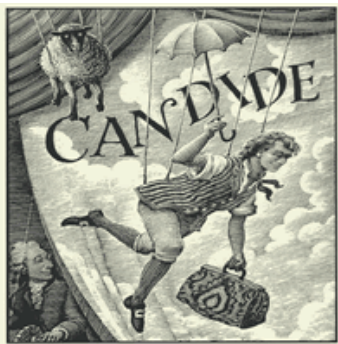
like "Portions of Foxes" and "Accidental Deth" provide the good old fashioned indie rock Rilo Kiley fans know and love, while the album's title track and the songs "Ripchord" and "I Never" have a decidedly country twang with a Rilo Kiley twist. "Love and War," meanwhile, errs on the side of new wave, and "Does He Love You?" and "It Just Is" incorporate strategic string arrangements and heartfelt piano chords, respectively.

The music appears to be flawless. Intricate guitar, compelling drumbeats, and original bass lines combine with Lewis' vocals, which range from sugar-sweet to roaring and desperate, and the little touches added by a band's newfound awareness of how to take advantage of recording technology mean that even the simplest songs are never dull.

Dull, in fact, is a word not likely to be applied to Rilo Kiley's latest effort. With a range of musical styles, a barrage of insightful lyrics, and vocals to touch even the most stoic of listeners, the new Rilo Kiley album is adventurous to the core.

## Antiquities a look at classic literature

### Wit, war, wisdom in "the best of all worlds"



Chris Heim '05

This is indeed the best of all possible worlds. Voltaire's "Candide" is a literary masterpiece written in the 1750's. One of my favorite books, it is a sarcastic, caustic and dry novel about the unlucky Candide and his search for his lost love.

Brought up in a castle, he was taught by the great philosopher Pangloss about the wonders of life and the overwhelming sense of good in the world. He is told to keep his head up in even the most dismal times.

It seems that fate tries to prove these theories wrong as Candide is thrown into the most catastrophic of situations, beating him mercilessly with shipwrecks, earthquakes, the death of countless loved ones, and utter misfortune when it comes to money and love. He is taken advantage of, abused, and held captive on numerous occasions.

Sounds pretty depressing right...wrong! Voltaire has a beautiful style of satire which makes even the most terrible circumstances comical. His protagonist's plights are so bizarre and so frequent that Voltaire's sick sense of humor is evident after only a few chapters.

Voltaire truly brings out the lighter side of hideous calamities, and you will find yourself laughing at the death, destruction, and simply unlucky situations. "Candide" is short and sweet. At only about 120 pages, you could read it in a day or two.

**Calling all cartoonists!**

*The Patriot* is currently seeking cartoonists to draw editorial cartoons, comic strips or single panel cartoons for an upcoming comics page.

If you are interested in finding out more, contact us at [WTHSPatriot@gmail.com](mailto:WTHSPatriot@gmail.com).

# Patriot Sports

## Awesome is an Understatement Girls Soccer Team off to Fast Start

Brent Bartosiewicz '06

Awesome is not the right word; it's more like phenomenal. The Girls Varsity Soccer team is close, determined, and committed.

They have already kicked off to a great start backed by confidence and experience. A majority of the experience comes from the three senior captains who have all played soccer since they were five, including all four years of their high school career.

The captains are, midfielder, Lauren Petruczelli '05, goal keeper, Lyndsey Reeve '05 and halfback and sweeper, Mandy Silvesti '05.

This trio is rich in experience, both Silvesti and Petruczelli have played varsity since their freshman year and Reeve has played since her sophomore year.

Looking back on last year's 9-8-1 season, these captains are determined to improve. As of Oct. 16 the team was - with wins over Lenape and Clearview.

"More wins than losses", says Head Coach Mr. Shane Snyder, "...were just looking to get better."

Snyder coached the boys varsity for four years and is in his second year as head coach of girls varsity.

Petruczelli shares that outlook, "[The seniors] are planning on going out strong, making it a memorable year".

Practice for the girls began on September 10th and the season concludes in late November. The starting lineup consist of four seniors and seven juniors.



Scott Grandrino '05/The Patriot

**The girls celebrate after a goal against Cherokee.**

After the first week of the season, this team ranked No. 3 in the *Courier Post* Top 20.

They hope to accomplish many more goals throughout their season, such as winning the Olympic Conference, the coach's tournament, and the state championship.

As improvements have been made since last year, the team is, "Playing harder and taking it more seriously," says Reeve.

"All of the girls work hard to play the game the right way and become a team by the end of the year," says Head Coach Snyder.

For this team that's no big deal.

"Our team is all best friends," says Silvesti. That is definitely one of their

strengths, another is their speed. They are amazingly light on their feet. Even a few members of the track team are blazing down the soccer field.

As with any sport getting off to a strong start is essential, but in this case it needs to be worked on. They have been known to come out flat footed which sometimes can turn ugly, but it is something the team recognizes and is willing to improve upon. "We need to come out stronger in the first half," says Silvesti.

Starting the game with a bang is a must when playing your biggest competition. Tough matches include Cherokee, Eastern, and Lenape. This is when their speed and determination kicks in.

According to Snyder, the game plan is to "outwork" their opponents by winning fifty-fifty balls, retaining ball possession, and working the ball up in enemy territory looking for a scoring chance to capitalize.

Playing any match there must be someone to take command on the field, especially during those crucial division matches. This would be where the captains step it up and keep the team together.

"I want to keep the girls motivated, working hard, and having fun," said Silvesti.

Motivation is the key to success because it leads to working hard, playing the game full throttle and ultimately not giving up.

The midfielder Petruczelli in her role as captain, adds to this effort by trying "to take charge on the field, support the team, and play my hardest."

Petruczelli also mentioned support, as a great asset for a captain to have to keep the team moving.

Reeve agrees, "Basically, I have to make sure everything is getting done on and off the field and be a leader."

Underclassmen can without a doubt learn a lot from these brilliant captains.

Future varsity stars to look out for include Erin Kelley '07, Colleen Tobinsky, and Katie Courtney. This year the team has a lot of juniors on varsity, and next year there will be a team loaded with seniors and even to fill the shoes of the four leaving seniors.

For all of the aspiring underclassmen, "Keep playing, never give up, keep trying your hardest no matter what obstacle gets into your way.", says Reeve.

All in all, these girls just want to have fun.

"We do it because we have fun, we have fun because we win," says Andrea March '06.

### Spotlight: Lyndsey Reeve

Scott Grandrino '05

Lyndsey Reeve is the starting goaltender for this year's girl soccer team. Reeve is having an outstanding year and hopes to continue this trend for the remainder of the season.

Reeve has been playing soccer since she was five years old, and it is her favorite sport. She has always played as a goaltender.

After high school, Reeves plans on attending a four year college where she will play soccer.

"I definitely want to play soccer in college. I want to play all four years in a division-III school," says Reeve.

She has received a few offers of soccer scholarships. Reeve may also continue her soccer career after college.

"If the offer comes across, I definitely will," she said.

Other than playing soccer, Reeve plays lacrosse and used to be involved with track. When she's not playing sports competitively, she enjoys hanging out with her friends.



Brent Bartosiewicz '06/ The Patriot

**The girls soccer team is lead by a trio of Senior captains, (l-r) Mandy Silvesti, Lyndsey Reeve, and Lauren Petruczelli.**

# TWP Football sets high expectations

**Editors Note:**

*This story was written Prior to the start of the 2005 season. As of Oct.20, The Washington Twp. Minutemen are 5 and 1.*

Scott Grandrino '05

The 2004 Washington Township football team has huge expectations for this season. Before the season started, the Courier-Post had TWP ranked second. Coach Tom Brown believes that this team can do a lot this year.

"We have a very talented team this year, just some inexperience we need to iron out this season. We will be a contender."

The Coach said that their only problem is just inexperience. The team showed some inexperience in their first

game against Winslow. Brown knows the team will work hard to "iron" this problem out.

During preseason practices early this year, Brown said there were some questions in the offensive and defensive lines. Both lines though, stepped it up during scrimmages and answered those questions. Players like Ray Johnson '05, Pat Hern '05, and Brandon McGee '05 are a few who raised the level of their games. Brown considers them leaders and players that will play some great football.

Other than having a solid offensive and defensive lines, the team this year has one of the deepest backfields in South Jersey. Brown is very excited about this year's backfield.

"Everyone plays with a lot of speed," says Brown.

All-conference fullback Ryan D'Imperio '06 and running back Jesse Cooper '05 lead the way as the starters in the backfield. D'Imperio is playing in the footsteps of his older brother, Hugh '04, as one of the team leaders. Nick Baccare '06 is also another solid back the team can rely on.

"Nick has good hands and good speed and plays tough," says Brown.

Nick Bowen '05 is another speedster running back.

"Bowen is as good as the other guys," Brown says. "If someone goes down or we need somebody to be replaced, [Bowen] is the guy for the job."

Not only does Brown have depth in the backfield, but he also has two solid quarterbacks who are fighting for the number one spot. Kyle Terry '05 and Tracy Brown '06 bring a lot of talent to

the table and are very competitive.

Brown says, "They both throw and run with the ball very well. They are willing to compete every game."

The two are still fighting for the starting job. Coach Brown has them rotating between games until he can decide who his starter will be.

There are many players that Brown relies on to have a great season. This off season everyone worked extra hard in the weight room. According to Brown, layers that needed to mature and step up from last year have, and more are showing themselves worthy in practice.

Dean Hammel '06 is a solid linebacker, Matt O'Conner '05 is the leader of the defensive line. He is a starting defensive tackle who Brown cites as the "best defensive linemen."

Carson Brooks '05 is a two-way player who Brown knows will have an awesome year. Brooks plays at receiver and free safety. Free safety is one of the hardest positions in football and Brown says that Brooks does a great job at it. Senior defensive end Jim Mullholland is expected to do a lot this year.

"[Mullholland's] really stepped up this off season and has done a really good job. I expect a lot out of him," says Brown.

In addition to strong performances from the upperclassmen, there have been numerous underclassmen that have caught Brown's attention in scrimmages, practices, and games.

"We have good underclassmen who will build well for the future."

Andrew Peurifoy '06 is a backup wide receiver that has been getting a lot of playing time. Nick Duerr '07 is another youngster who has the potential of being a starter very soon.

This year's TWP football team is loaded with talented players, but there are a few who the team is going to miss this year. Alex Dipietro '05 injured his arm and is going to undergo surgery. Tim Tresh '05, a starting outside linebacker, was lost during the off-season. Injuries are a big factor for TWP if they want to be a contender.

"We can't afford injuries," says Brown, "We have to fight the injury bone. We must stay healthy if we want to compete for championship."

This year's schedule is much different than last years. The team plays much harder opponents earlier in the season. It's going to be a challenge for TWP, but Coach Brown believes that it's better for his team. It will better prepare his team because they will have to play their toughest opponents early. Brown believes Cherokee, Eastern, and especially Shawnee will be a few of the major challenges for TWP.

"[Shawnee] are always a very good team," says Brown. "They will be our toughest opponent this season."

## Boy's Cross Country: Not just a hobby

Joe Comerford '06

Heart and determination are two key qualities needed to be a successful cross-country runner, and this year's boy's team seems to have plenty of both.

"In the summer, there would be days we would wake up at 7, drive to Philadelphia, just so we could run 12 miles of hills. The last Sunday of summer, while everyone else was trying to enjoy it, we got up at 8 and ran 18 miles. We have a bunch of guys just dedicated and willing to do what it takes," says team captain Mark Natale '06.

With so many dedicated runners, many of whom run up to 65 miles a week, the WTHS boy's high school cross-country team is poised for a big year.

"We think not qualifying for states would be a disappointment. No team has done that in our school since the late 90s. We are really trying to get to the meet of champions, which is one level above the State Championship," says Natale.

A cross-country meet consists of a 5K or 3.1-mile race through a wooded course. The top seven runners run for varsity and each runner is given a number for the place they receive. At the end of the meet, you take your first five finishers and add their places together. Whatever team has the lowest score, wins.

"Since all of our runners are in similar shape, we try to score through pack running or finishing our guys consecutively or within a few seconds of each other," says Steve Dunn '06.

These races can get very competitive very quickly.

"You will have over a hundred runners squeezing into a trail no more than two meters wide with trees growing

in the middle. It gets pretty intense and very dirty in these packs. Kids trip and nearly get trampled and elbows are coming from every direction," says Dunn.

In order to get ready for these meets the team does a grueling workout every other day.

"A typical workout is four separate miles, the first mile run in 5:30, then each mile after that getting faster until the last mile is sub 5:10, with only a three minute break in between each one," says Natale.

Even with all the work the team does, they still feel that they do not get much respect.

"Most people don't respect runners, whether you're in track or cross country. Everyone thinks that we are just the kids who aren't good enough to play other sports, so we find running as a substitute. I have to admit I didn't have much respect for runners either until I ran track last year. Then I experienced the pain and my opinion quickly changed. I've played basketball most of my life and running is used as a punishment. Our sport is every other sport's punishment," says Bill Matthias '06.

So far this year the boy's cross-country team is doing very well with a record of six wins and one loss (6-1). So far this year the team has beaten Pennsauken, Lenape, Timber Creek,



Joe Comerford '06/The Patriot

**Team Captain Mark Natale (foreground) stretches out with (l-r) Andrew Morris '06 and Nick Martino '06.**

Eastern, Seneca and then they overwhelmingly defeated the ninth ranked team in South Jersey, Cherry Hill East. The team's only loss came at the hands of Cherokee, the number 1 ranked team in South Jersey and number 3 ranked team in the state.

"That was a big victory for us, we felt like we showed everyone how good we really are, by easily defeating Cherry Hill East, who was ranked number nine in South Jersey," says Dunn.

In the Cherry Hill East meet, which Dunn won individually, his teammates placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

After that overwhelming win, things are looking up for the team.

"In cross country, there are no miracles and no luck, what you get out of it is what you put into it. Our guys have worked hard for months and we are confident that all of our training and hard work will translate into success for each of us individually and for the team as well," says Dunn.

That is why this year the team's motto is: "Meet of Champions or Bust."