

Garter Bowl dominated by roaring seniors

by Cain Azar

Garter Bowl has been a longtime Parkland High School tradition. Bringing large audiences to the stadium at Orefield Middle School, high spirits and friendly competition make the event very popular. Comprised of four teams, split by grade level, three matches are planned out in order to determine the champion.

In the first game of the night, the freshmen were pitted against the juniors. Clothed in white, the freshmen grabbed a lead early on in the game. The juniors, wearing gray, were forced

to put forth their best efforts in attempt to defeat the freshmen.

Coming out strong, the freshmen made this task very difficult. Surprising the crowds with their abilities, everyone was expecting an easy victory for the juniors. The freshman continued to hold a steady-point lead until the juniors turned things around after half-time.

The game was close, with the juniors ahead by merely one point. However, freshman Jess Wetherhold led her team to victory by scoring a touchdown and turning the trailing team into the winners. The freshman would move on to play the seniors in the third game with a winning score of 25 to 19.

"It would have been great to play the seniors, but the game was intense," said

junior Desiree Yeager. Agreeing with her friend, junior Jennie Rizzolo added, "The juniors tried their hardest, but we disagreed with the referee's last call. Hopefully next year we will win."

Gogal added, "We eat sophomores for dinner!"

As the pack of sophomores headed off the field, Taylor Yandle and Shelby Morgan said, "We think our hands will

fall off (because of the brutally weather that night)."

Regardless of the disputes over calls, the highly-anticipated third game began with no clear-cut winner prior to kick-off. Within the first minute and a half the seniors took it to the freshmen and scored a quick touchdown. Scoring once more, the seniors grabbed a hold of an early lead.

Just before half, the freshmen, led by high-scoring Wetherhold, managed to grab hold of a touchdown, giving the freshmen seven points going into halftime. Still behind by six, the freshmen were able to make it

onto the scoreboard.

After half, the seniors increased their lead to 19 to 7. As possession went back to the freshman, they re-gained the loss to lose it once more as the seniors managed to score 25 points compared to the 13 of the freshman. With a final score of 25 to 19, the seniors claimed victory.

As the flock of red began to celebrate, no glum faces were present in the group of white. Wetherhold and a group of friends said, "This proves that we are freshmen. Not fresh-meat."

After the stream of seniors roared in applause, a commemorative picture was taken. Senior, Heather Frantz ended the night with a comment stating, "This was our house from the start. We killed it. Seniors 2010!"



Photo by Don Herb

Senior Tara Huber points to her senior Trojan Pak to assure victory over the freshmen.

The Juniors losing their first round game was not only an upset, but it was also a breaking of tradition. This game certainly proved the Freshmen to be solid in the future

As the second game began, the seniors quickly took control of the game by scoring a touchdown within the first few minutes. The big red machine continued to dominate the sophomores as they continued to increase the lead. With the final score of 33 to 13, the seniors were heading into the final game against the freshman.

"This is our house," said senior Shelley Mason in the pack of red alongside the field. The seniors were not shy to make their victory known to the Trumpet staff. Continuing to fuel the seniors, Becca

Athletics open new opportunities for students

by Riddhi Doshi

When looking through college admission stories a person is destined to find at least one story of an athlete who got into college on a full scholarship even if he or she did not have an outstanding SAT score or GPA in high school. Many people are under the impression that athletes have a huge advantage when applying to colleges. The Trumpet went to the guidance counselors and Parkland High School's transitional coordinator, Mr. Roberts, to see if this was true.

The fact of the matter is that all colleges are looking for well-rounded students that will contribute to their college. Whether it be through arts or purely clubs on the campus. Most colleges have sports teams which they want to succeed and win. They make sure to pick excelling athletes in their freshman class through the admissions offices.

"Sports open doors. They help a student stick out," said guidance counselor Mr. Hulmes.

The miracle stories many people hear about athletes getting into schools on full scholarships are not as miraculous as they sound. In reality, there are strict requirements about grades and SAT scores that must be met by athletes. As the skill level of an athlete advances him or her into a higher division, the harder they must work in school to meet the raised minimum bar.

"Field hockey helped expose me to different colleges, such as Syracuse, which invited me to meet the coach and current players on the team. I also got to see the campus," said sophomore Lauren Gardner.

There are surely cases where an exceptional athlete may get into a college while a student who had incredible grades but was not able to participate in many activities may not. This could be largely because of the demands of the college's sports teams. When the college needs a specific player for its team, it will look for an athlete who plays that position well. Colleges are always looking for good athletes who will make their sports teams much better. This point cannot be stressed enough.

To be able to get into a school on a full scholarship is a huge achievement. However, for example, a full football scholarship from a school like Penn State means "They own you. It is like a business," said Mr. Roberts.

By this he means the athlete receiving the scholarship is obligated to spend a certain amount of time training and practicing. That athlete must also work very hard to keep his grades above average. He or she must contribute to the college more than the average student who was accepted simply because of their good grades and extracurricular activities.

Many students must be thinking, "I

participate in clubs. How does that look when compared with being on a sports team?" Clubs are a big part of being a well-rounded student. They teach students organization and speaking skills and many other clubs also give students the opportunity to do work for the community or work to make the school a better place.

"Being on a sports team makes a student look better because there is a lot more time put into playing a sport than being in a club," said Roberts. That does not mean every student in the school should stop going to club meetings, because colleges have clubs too. By participating in high school clubs, it shows admission officers that a student is more likely to join clubs in colleges as well. The reason colleges want well-rounded students is so they themselves can be better-rounded.

Parkland has great athletics, with teams for every sport a person can imagine. Whether it be golf, tennis, field hockey, volleyball, swimming, football, soccer, baseball or softball Parkland has something for everyone. If any student is athletically inclined, then it is definitely a good idea to at least try out for sports teams because this is truly a great way to stand on a college application. The moral of the story is that sports are significant if students are looking to higher education, but being well-rounded is equally important.



The Scoreboard

by Sam Wolf

In the world of sports, it seems as though there is always controversy amongst the judgment of the referees and officials. Fans usually have a call to argue about by the game's end. However, professional sports have been able to reduce this problem: instant replay. It is rare to see a football game without a play under review, a tennis match without a challenge or buzzer beater in basketball without a review.

It seems as though every sport has come into the 21st century except for baseball. Last season, a slight form of instant replay was instituted into baseball, but it is only to be used in order to review homerun calls. This system was introduced last season after a stretch of three incorrect homerun calls in four days, two of which involving the New York Yankees on national television.

This season, more specifically during the playoffs, there have been several calls that could have easily been cured by instant replay. I know this because after the play occurred and the broadcasters reviewed the play, it was obvious that the call should have been reversed. Had the umpires been able to use an instant replay system, they would have saved themselves a couple of "boo's."

However, this postseason is not the first time the concept of incorporating an instant replay system into baseball has arisen. Ever since challenges in football and tennis became the norm, baseball fans have felt that Bud Selig, the major league baseball commissioner, is leaving them out to dry.

Personally, I have always been for using the best technology possible in order to be as exact as possible and make the correct call. Players work too hard and fans pay too much money for tickets and televisions to not be able to receive the proper call.

If I were Bud Selig I would have implemented a democratic system of review five years ago. By that I mean if a call is questionable, every umpire on the field at the time needs to agree that the call made by the umpire was most likely incorrect and should be placed under review. That does not mean that every close call should be placed under reviews. An instant replay system should only be used when the umpire is most likely wrong. Otherwise, there will be too many breaks in the games, and nobody wants to see anymore commercials with cave men and geckos advertising car insurance.

Major League Baseball has clearly used a laissez-faire policy for any sort of controversial issue that has come their way. This was perfectly displayed by its reactions during the "steroid era." If they could create some sort of in depth review system, they would most certainly gain more respect from the world of sports.

Baseball can no longer be the old guy sitting behind a fence with a cigar. The world is transforming into the thirty-year old guy in the Calvin Klein suit, and the MLB has been stuck at the bar trying to justify himself to the bartender who could care less. Not only would a review system earn them more respect, but they would receive less criticism by the "Baseball Tonight Crew" and have an appreciative fan base.