Spirit on the sidelines

Seniors bring spirit and excitement to the mascot position

By Lynn Bishop
co-sports editor

For years, individuals brimming with school spirit have brought enthusiasm and excitement to sporting events. As the school mascot, students have stepped into a costume, uniquely giving a new life to the pride that lingers among students and other supporters present at games. As athletes train and prepare for their competitions, seniors Ethan Link and Ian Rosa have been selected to encourage FHS teams to victory.

“I think Ethan and I make a great team,” Rosa said. “This year we are going to share in the work. It is our main goal to attend the majority of varsity sporting events, not just baseball and football. We would really like to include junior varsity and freshman teams, as well.”

In attempt to earn the mascot position, Link and Rosa were asked to create and perform a unique skit, without trying to portray a person with an unusual amount of body hair, while Rosa experimented with ways to pump up the crowd when the team was losing.

“The audition wasn’t embarrassing at all,” Link said. “I stepped up because it was important,” Gregory said. “We had a great costume that wasn’t being used, and I felt it should be showcased at games. The whole thing just kept being pushed to the bottom of the priority list, so I took on the responsibility. Some one needed to do it.”

Gregory creates the mascot schedule, judged all acts on the audition days, and read through applications. After time and consideration, he selected Link and Rosa. Gregory is confident in his choice, and respects the co-mascots in different, yet equal, ways.

“Ethan’s greatest strength is his originality. He really has fun and knows how to make people laugh,” Gregory said. “Ian, on the other hand, shows serious interest and commitment, and sees the mascot as an opportunity to contribute to his school.”

As the fall season reaches its climax, the mascot program is hoped to do the same. With a dedicated leader and two seniors with talent and pride, the sidelines will be packed with excitement.

“The mascot is a symbol of our school,” Rosa said. “All I want to do is be that symbol, and portray Fenton in a positive way.”

Originally, there was no definite plan of continuing the mascot tradition. The graduation of last year’s mascot, Jeremiah Bouchard, left the position empty. Teacher and coach Nicholas Gregory volunteered to organize and lead the effort to keep Triumph the Tiger as a part of athletic events.

The X’s and O’s of football, girl style

Adorably Clueless

By Christine Walsh
assistant editor

Football. I don’t get it. I just don’t. Every Saturday morning, my dad and brothers turn on the TV, settle in, and do not move again until after Monday Night Football. My boyfriend is oblivious to all channels besides ESPN. My sister is only 13, and I am pretty sure that she is counting down the years until she gets to play Powder Puff football.

As far as my mom and me, well…we’re pretty much clueless. Recently, she bought a magazine with an article that promised to teach its women readers the basics of football. Needless to say, we couldn’t even get past the first paragraphs of its “basic terminology” had us more confused than ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics.

Just because I don’t get it doesn’t mean that I don’t have any respect for the football players. I mean, if someone told me that I would have to spend my last month of summer running around in 90 degree weather with a bunch of smelly boys until I puked, I would probably a) ask how much it pays and then b) say, “no thank you” as politely as possible, regardless of the answer to a)

There are two things about football that I will never understand. First of all, the professional players, no matter how bad they are, will still make millions more in one year than I can ever hope to achieve. Secondly: fantasy football…for the football lover who can’t get their fill from football video games, computer games, and watching hours of it on TV. Here’s a thought – why don’t you go out and play it once in a while?

I’m not saying I’m totally oblivious to the rules of football – I understand the basics… I know what a touchdown is, and I know what a tackle is… but that’s about it. (So, the purpose of this column is to learn something about sports, and hopefully, if there are any other clueless readers, they will learn something, too.) It is amazing that I got through Powder Puff without understanding the game. I played guard, so all I had to do was run into people. However, I’m told there’s more to the game than that – we’ll start with offense and defense.

With some help from NFL.com (the kids section), I was able to obtain a basic understanding of defense. Defense is the side that does not have the ball. There is a front line of men, called defensive linemen, that are