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# THE LYNN JOURNAL



Thursday, November 17, 2022

### **Five Grand Blockers**

Spartans' O-Line takes pride in having two 1,000-yard rushers

By Cary Shuman

Tommy Falasca has been a part of the St. Mary's High School football program for five years. Falasca was on the sidelines as an eighth grader the last time the Spartans played in the Super Bowl at Gillette Stadium.

The quintet of Tommy Falasca, Chris Marks, Adrian Lule, Carlos De La Rosa, and Graham Richman has certainly figured prominently in the success of head coach Sean Driscoll's program this season. The group has made the blocks and opened the paths for the North Shore's most productive backfield of David Brown Jr. and Derick Coulanges, two 1,000 yard-rushers and certain All-Scholastic honorees. Sophomore quarterback Tyler Guy has also played very well behind the steady offensive line play.

Falasca talked about his friends up front.

"Chris [Marks] is one of my best friends on my right side," said Falasca. "I've known Graham for two years and he helps our line a lot. Adrian and Carlos are first-year players and they're really stepping it up on the other

Asked about the two 1,000-yard performers – a rare accomplishment at any level of football – Falasca said, "I've known David and Derick for a long time, five years. David is one of the best athletes I've ever teamed up with. I like the way Derick runs the ball downhill. Right after



St. Mary's High School offensive line coach Tim Phelps (right) and the members of the Spartans' offensive line, Chris Marks, Adrian Lule, Carlos De La Rosa, and Tommy Falasca. Missing from photo: Graham Richman.

that, we go outside with David."

Falasca also praised the Spartans' offensive line coach, Tim Phelps.

"I've been with Coach Phelps for five years and he's one of favorite coaches of all time," said Falasca.

Looking at the immediate road ahead, Falsaca offered, "When I was in the eighth grade, we went to the Super Bowl, but I didn't get to play. I would love to get back there and be on the field and help our team win a state championship."

Phelps said the Spartans' line is undersized for the most part, "but they're hard workers, they've been relatively consistent up front, they get off the ball – we've basically had the same five guys up front all season."

Phelps said Falasca is the team's most experienced lineman, with four varsity seasons. Richman, the center, has two years of varsity experience. Marks played some varsity last year, while Lule and De La Rosa are in their first season with the varsity. Roman Daniel and Jake

Peterson have also contributed to the Spartans' stellar line play. The honorary members of the offensive line are tight ends/receivers Jack Marks and Nick Sacco and fullback Joel Maggs, who has also excelled at middle linebacker.

"They come to practice every day and work hard," said Phelps. "They give you everything they h arra ''

The Journal spoke with three other members of the Spartans' offensive line, which is endearingly called The Hoggies – a branch of the nickname "Hogs" which first came into popularity for the Washington Redskins

Please see SPARTANS Page 11



Due to the Thanksgiving Day holiday, advertising deadlines for the next issue will be moved up to Friday,

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## 'An Amazing Man'

### Lenny Atkinson is honored at 100th birthday party

By Cary Shuman

Dan Atkinson did a superb job as the opening speaker at the 100th birthday celebration for his father, Joseph Leonard "Lenny" Atkinson.

"I want to thank you for all coming to celebrate my father's 100th birthday," said Dan. "He is an amazing man. He continues to live an amazing life."

Dan said his father "drives to Costco by himself. He goes to Shaw's, Market Basket. He goes to the Senior Center to dance. He also has a treadmill in his basement that he uses every day. He mows his own lawn and he's on

Lenny Atkinson and his compan-

ion, Gertrude Viera.

Facebook."

A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, Lenny Atkinson served his country from 1942 to 1946 and received several medals. Following his service, he returned to his job at GE as a technical engineer. He retired as a senior manufacturing engineer in 1985 after working at GE for 42 years.

Some of Lenny's former colleagues from General Electric enjoyed the celebration.

"Lenny was one of our mentors at General Electric," said Don McClory, a GE employee for 26 years.

"Lenny helped all of us. He was just a great guy," said

Lenny Atkinson and party caterer extraordinaire, Kristen Colella, of Rolly's Tavern on the Square.

George Trudeau, who worked at GE for 50 years. "If you needed anything, he'd show you how to do it. He's a mechanical genius."

Lenny said he grew up in East Saugus and attended Saugus High. "I left for the war in 1942. I served in the Pacific."

Upon his return, Lenny bought a two-family home on Boston

Street. "I paid \$4,500 for it. I still live in Lynn. I'm still driving and dancing, and I feel great. Every Thursday, I go dancing at the senior center and I enjoy the companionship of my friends. Yesterday, I raked my whole front lawn, and this morning the lawn was full of leaves again. Where the heck are those leaving com-

ing from?"

In closing his remarks, Dan Atkinson offered a toast to his wonderful father. "Let's raise a glass and toast to Lenny Atkinson," he said.

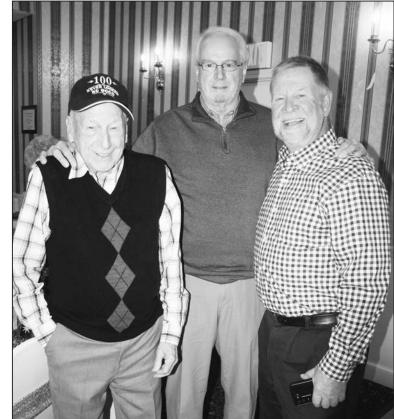
The guests then enjoyed a buffet dinner and musical entertainment provided by DJ Alan LaBella.



Dan Atkinson tells some witty stories about his father, Lenny Atkinson, at the 100th birthday celebration Saturday at the Knights of Columbus.



Lenny Atkinson, with his sisters, Jean Blakely, Irene Lee, and Pat Sullivan.



Lenny Atkinson, with former colleague at General Electric, George Trudeau, and McClory, former Item outdoors columnist.



St. Mary's High School Mass. Hall of Fame hockey coach Mark Lee and his uncle, Lenny Atkinson, who celebrated his 100th birthday.



DJ Alan LaBella and guest of honor Lenny Atkinson at the 100th birthday celebration Saturday at the Knights of Columbus



Lenny Atkinson, with family members, Yvonne Dady and Charles Dady.



Lenny Atkinson, with grandsons, Paul Atkinson Jr. and Bradley Atkinson, an owner of many well-known restaurants in the region.



Guest of honor Lenny Atkinson, with his sons, Joe Atkinson, Paul Atkinson, and Dan Atkinson.

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### EDITORIAL

#### **GET YOUR FLU VACCINE NOW!**

We'll be the first to admit that "vaccine fatigue" is affecting all of us these days.

But the reality is that the viruses never take a break -- virus fatigue is not in their DNA.

Although hopefully the worst of COVID-19 is behind us, experts are predicting the high likelihood of a flu season with the potential for dire impacts upon our senior citizen population, who are particularly susceptible to a bad outcome from a case of the flu.

The flu in an average year kills about 50,000 Americans, a rate that plummeted during the past two years when we were isolating and wearing masks. But with pretty much all of the COVID-19 restrictions no longer in effect, the flu is primed to return with a vengeance.

In addition, we also would note that contrary to common perception, COVID-19 is far from done with us. COVID-19 still is killing more than 300 Americans every day -- that's a rate of more than 100,000 Americans per year. (Let that sink in for a moment.)

Some experts are predicting that we may be facing a perfect storm of upper respiratory illnesses this winter from the flu, COVID-19, and RSV (which typically afflicts very young children and already is filling our hospital beds at the present time.)

It is up to each of us to protect ourselves and our family from these deadly diseases. With highly-effective vaccines readily available for both the flu and the latest COVID-19 variant (and yes, you can get both shots at the same time), there is no excuse for failing to be fully-vaccinated as the winter season approaches.

#### WE'RE DRINKING OURSELVES TO DEATH

A report issued last week by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has confirmed what we really already knew: The rate of deaths that can be directly attributed to alcohol rose nearly 30% in the U.S. during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With public attention focused on the opioid epidemic, excessive alcohol consumption has been overlooked as a public health problem.

But here are the grim statistics: The rate of such deaths had been increasing in the two decades before the pandemic, by 7% or less each year, but In 2020, they rose 26%, to about 13 deaths per 100,000 Americans, the highest rate recorded in at least 40 years.

Such deaths are twice as common in men than in women, but rose for both in 2020, the study found. The rate continued to be highest for people ages 55 to 64, but rose dramatically for certain other groups, including jumping 42% among women ages 35 to 44.

In addition, a second report, published in the Journal of the American Medical Assocaiton, looked at a wider range of deaths that could be linked to drinking, such as motor vehicle accidents, suicides, falls, and cancers. More than 140,000 of that broader category of alcohol-related deaths occur annually, based on data from 2015 to 2019, the researchers said. CDC researchers say about 82,000 of those deaths are from drinking too much over a long period of time and 58,000 from causes tied to acute intoxication.

The study found that as many as 1 in 8 deaths among U.S. adults ages 20 to 64 were alcohol-related, including chronic illnesses such as liver cancer, high blood pressure, stroke, and heart disease. Drinking by pregnant women can lead to miscarriage, stillbirth, and birth defects. Health officials say alcohol is a factor in as many as one-third of serious falls among the elderly.

And that's not to mention the harm to others because of drunk driving accidents or alcohol-fueled violence, which causes death and injury to tens of thousands of Americans every year.

As we have noted many times in this space, the U.S. needs to launch a public health campaign, especially for young people, against alcohol similar to what we did with regard to cigarettes and tobacco use in the 1990s that finally brought that epidemic under control.

The statistics speak for themselves -- and it's time to take action.

#### GUEST OP-ED

#### Billions spent on the election while Americans struggle

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Total cost of 2022 state and federal midterm elections may have exceeded \$16 billion according to a OpenSecrets analysis. Federal candidates and political committees spent over \$8 billion while state candidates, party committees, and ballot measure committees spent close to \$8 billion.

Here are the five most expensive Senate races this year according to OpenSecrets. This includes both general election and primary candidates together with the outside groups supporting them, such as the national parties and Super PACs:

- · Pennsylvania: \$373.6 million
- · Georgia: \$271.4 million (Georgia's is growing)

· Arizona: \$234.6 million

· Wisconsin: \$205.8 million

· Ohio: \$202.1 million

Pennsylvania's crucial U.S. Senate race has been the most expensive in the country this year — and it wasn't even close. Georgia may end up close to \$300 million. Who in Georgia is happy about this? The television stations. If you own a television station during a highly contested election season, in a lucrative market, you'll never have to work again when the election is over.

Democrat John Fetterman, Republican Mehmet Oz and their political allies have spent a combined \$312 million on a race that ended up not even close. According to OpenSecrets, a nonpartisan group that tracks money in politics, money poured into Pennsylvania for Fetterman as he had over \$15 million dollars more to work with than Oz.

Many are wondering how Fetterman, a recuperating sick man with the worst debate performance ever on national television, beat Oz? The answer is not a simple sentence. The bottom line was they didn't want Oz. Oz was seen as an outsider. Someone who moved to the state to further his career in politics. He is well known. That should have helped but it didn't help him that much. He was well known for being rich, famous and still relatively good looking for an old guy. Fetterman on the other hand is the local state guy. He doesn't

Please see OP-ED Page 5

#### Letter to the Editor

#### THE 1960S COME BACK TO BITE US

To the Editor,

It seems that we're in a time warp regarding the environment. In 1934, owners of Breakheart Hill Forest sold their land to the state with the understanding that it would be preserved as a state park for all to enjoy.

Thirty-one years later, in 1965, the state transferred 60 acres of this land to the Metro Tech school district to build a school. [Note that, contrary to what you may have heard, school districts are public property. Private property can only be held by individuals or corporations.] Metro Tech developed about half of this land, choosing to build on the flatter, northern portion. They preserved the forested southern half, which extends up onto a hill all the way to Farm Street. Since then, this rugged, elevated forest has been the domain of wildflowers and wildlife, and of hikers, runners, and dog walkers.

It's clear that the state gave the Metro Tech twice the land it needed. As a result, part of the forest that should have remained a state park was put at risk for development. Since 1965, we have had the environmental movement, including the founding of US EPA under President Nixon, 52 Earth Days, and innumerable reports on human impacts on the environment. During this almost 60-year period, we have come to understand the essential role of nature in every aspect of our lives.

Where does our forest fit into this picture? Forests purify air, filter water, prevent erosion, provide habitat for thousands of species, and serve as a buffer against climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide. Forests are some of the most beautiful, magical places on Earth and we are losing them at an alarming rate.

Recently our state government developed a Massachusetts Forest Action Plan (www.mass.gov/service-details/massachusetts-forest-action-plan). This 2020 plan is a 10-year update to the "Assessment of the Forest Resources of Massachusetts" and "Forest Resource Strategies of Massachusetts" published in 2010. Among other goals, the plan includes these: Goal

Please see LETTER Page 10

#### THE LYNN JOURNAL

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#### Op-Ed continued from Page 4

look so good. They know who he is whether that is good or bad. He has been very sick and trying to rehabilitate. A lot of people feel sorry for him and didn't see him as a rich, affluent personality but rather a down to earth guy they can relate to. People often cheer for the underdog. If you post something on social media saying you are sick, bad off, down and out you'll get many more "likes" or responses than if you post you have just received a career advance and a \$50,000 bo-

Rand Paul of Kentucky raised \$26,410,677 and reportedly spent \$20 million. I hope he will use the remaining \$6 million to rebuild homes in East, Kentucky recently devastated by flooding. Or, even West, Kentucky that is still trying to rebuild from tornadoes that flattened that part of the state.

The money spent on this election and all national elections is insane. People all over America can't afford to go the grocery store, fill up the gas tank or take care of their children's school needs. Yet politicians, interest groups, political parties, and Political Action Committees are raising and spending mega millions trying to keep or gain a political seat. You can't do anything about it either. We have so very little to say about anything in our country.

We have to depend on the people spending millions to get their seat. If the seat is worth millions to them and the special interest groups then do you really think they care about we think?

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist — American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week In over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

## PAUL TUCKER ELECTED ESSEX COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



Rep. Paul Tucker (left), who was elected Essex County District Attorney on Tuesday, Nov. 8, is pictured at a "Get Out The Vote" breakfast held Nov. 6 at DeMaino's. Also pictured (from left) are former Speaker of the House Robert A. DeLeo, former Rep. RoseLee Vincent, Rep. Jessica Giannino, who hosted the event, Rep. Dan Ryan, and Sen. Sal DiDomenico, and William Berardino of the Boston Carmen's Union.



### Homeowners: Help Is Here

# Are you behind on your mortgage payments because of the COVID-19 pandemic?

The Massachusetts Homeowner Assistance Fund (Mass HAF) is a state program that provides financial assistance to homeowners who are at least 3 months behind on their mortgage.

Mass HAF has helped hundreds of homeowners - find out if it can help you! Visit massmortgagehelp.org

This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number HAF0174 awarded to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.







#### NORTH SHORE LATINO BUSINESS ASSOCIATION 11TH ANNIVERSARY GALA NIGHT

North Shore Latino Business Association 11th Anniversary Gala Dinner was held at Danversport with over 300 people attending. The association recognized local North Shore Latino businesses from Lynn by presenting Official Membership Plaques.

Keynote speaker Massachusetts Secretary Mike Kenneally of House and Economic Development expressed the importance of developing "economic support toward job creation and business growth through local investments across the Commonwealth. The North Shore

Business Association represents various Latino and Non-Latino businesses on the North Shore."

Special appearance of Violinist Aisha Syed Castro who is described as a virtuoso on the world stage performed delightfully to the Gala audience.

North Shore Latino Business Association Executive Director Frances Martinez was very thankful for Lynn officials with their continuous support to the association and to everyone who attended the NSLBA 11th Anniversary Gala making it a successful evening.



Simple Solutions LLC in Lynn proudly show NSLBA Membership Plaque - Greysi Rodriguez, Hector Gomez, and Yovanny Fana.



Peter and Chenda Toeung of Golden Monkey Café in Lynn proudly show their NSLBA Membership Plaque.



State Rep. Daniel Cahill and Brendan Ward of Cherry Tree Legal Firm in Lynn accepts the NSLBA Membership Plaque



Jaasiel Family Daycare of Lynn - Santa Acuna, Carlos Acuna, and Juana Sanchez receives NSLBA Membership Plaque from Frances Martinez and Rosa Feliz



Jonathan Castro with Violinist Aisha Syed Castro who performed solo at the NSLBA 11th Anniversary Gala

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NSLBA Board Member David Zeller presents the official Membership Plaque to Bertolon School of Business Salem State University.

#### NORTH SHORE LATINO BUSINESS ASSOCIATION 11TH ANNIVERSARY GALA NIGHT



Keynote Speaker MA Secretary Mike Kennealy from Housing and Economic Development with his wife, Trisha Perez-Kennealy, and with Ex. Director Frances Martinez and Chair Lady Rosa Feliz.



Marianela Encarnacion of Oasis Beauty Supply of Lynn receives Membership Plaque from Ex. Dir. Frances Martineze and Chair Lady Rosa Feliz.



Lynn accepts a NSLBA Membership Plaque.



Isabella Med Spa Lynn accepts the NSLBA Membership Plaque and was named 2022 Business of the Year – Dr. Jose Baez, Ivette Fernandez, Liliana Paula, July Fernandez, Sergo Fernandez, Ludovino Fernandez, Ana De Los Santos, and Centia Estepan.



Nancy Norman and Mark Horrigan of Horrigan & Norman Law Office in The Real Program in Lynn - NSLBA Frances Martines, Director Jan Plourde, Gerda Pasquarello, Raisa Ferreras, Nick Gardner, and NSLBA Chair Lady Rosa Feliz.

#### CITY OF LYNN OBSERVES VETERANS DAY

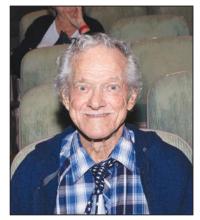
Observance of Veterans Day is a special time to recognize the Armed Forces for their sacrifice to keep America safe. Many ceremonies took place throughout the country joining a common purpose to remember, to reflect, and to respect service personnel for the importance of their military service to the United States.

Opening prayer was conducted by Father Alphonses Ferriera, OFM, as he stated, "Veterans paid a price, and we need to be responsible, so we will never experience what happened in past wars. May the good Lord bless all of us."

Mayor Jared Nicholson gave the Greetings of the City by saying, "Thank you for your service and giving us today the opportunity on Veterans Day to thank you in person. Specifically, Memorial City Hall and Auditorium is in your honor - the honor of Veterans." Mayor Nicholson continued to say, "One of the privileges to work in city hall every day, we get to participate in democracy. People come into the building and are able to exercise their rights as free citizens in a free republic. The possibility of living in a functioning democracy is because of the sacrifices Veterans had made over the generations and you have made. We have a republic that have lasted for centuries."



Father Alphonse Ferreira, OFM, honorably salutes Veterans.



Korean War Army Veteran James Smith.

Concluding the ceremony was Wayne Johnson, Vice-President of the Lynn Veterans Council as he expressed, "The Armed Forces feel truly honored by the



Lynn Officials attending Veterans Day – Ward 7 Jay Walsh, Councilor-at-Large Brian Field, Sheriff Kevin Coppinger, Councilor at Large Buzzy Barton, Mayor Jared Nicholson, State Senator Brendan Crighton, Ward 4 Richard Colucci, Nate, Lynn Vets Charles Dineen, School Committee Lorraine Gately and Eric Dugas, and State Rep. Daniel Cahill.

intentions and appreciation from our fellow citizens. Let no one feel forgotten or neglected that every man or woman, young or old, feels the deep and enduring gratitude of our nation and its inhabitants."



David Solimine (Air National Guard), Charles Griffin (Marine), Vincent Gunning (Navy), Roger Comeau (Army), and Milton Laub (Navy).

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Army Veteran Michael Share.



Veterans Service Director Mike Sweeney welcomed everyone to City of Lynn Veterans Day Ceremony.

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#### CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



Activists from Essex County Community Organization (ECCO), Lynn United for Change, and Neighbor to Neighbor celebrate that leaders directly affected by the housing crisis played a key role in shaping the city's final ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) allocation to prioritize affordable housing and displacement prevention. The groups gathered for a photo on November 9 after attending a presentation by the office of Mayor Jared Nicholson at Lynn City Hall on the proposed spending package for the city's remaining ARPA funds.

(Courtesy photo)

#### SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Lynn Journal encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to Cary@lynnjournal.com



#### Veteran boxing publicist Bob Trieger's first book, "New England's Greatest Boxers," is now on sale

Veteran boxing publicist Bob Trieger, a lifelong New Englander, has announced that his first book, New England's Greatest Boxers, is now on sale.

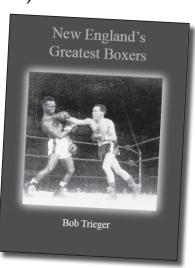
The book ranges from the pivotal crossover from bare knuckles to gloves, when John L. Sullivan was the No. 1 sports celebrity in the United States, uncrowned champions due to blacks such as Sam Langford being prohibited from fighting white world titlists, through the forties with mega-rivals Willie Pep and Sandy Saddler, to Rocky Marciano ruling the fifties, Marvelous Marvin Hagler prominence as one of the Four Kings during the eighties, up to contemporary times with the lone active fighter, Demetrius Andrade.

Discover who the 20-member selection committee picked 1 to 25, in order, as well as 10 honorable mentions.

"This was a true labor of love," Trieger said. "I had 20 New England boxing experts - promoters, managers, fighters, lawyers, trainers, strength-and-conditioning coaches, lawyers, officials, fans, journalists, and photographers - assist me in the selections. We did it all during the pandemic and it was a lot of fun putting it together. I realize that no two people would ever pick the same 25 fighters in order, but that was the premise for writing it. Let the debates begin!'

Also mentioned in the book is a list of elite boxers who fought in New England, major world title fights in the six-state area, N.E. boxers selected as Fighter of the Year or for their participation in the Fight of the Year, International Boxing Hall of Fame inductees from N.E., and much more about the history of New England boxing.

Go to www.FullCourtPress-Boxing.com for additional information as well as to order a copy of New England's Great-



#### Letter / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

4: Maintain and increase urban tree canopy; Goal 5: Enhance the connection between forests and people; and Goal 6: Increase land base of conserved forests (keep forests as forests).

Despite this environmental awareness, what did the Metro Tech building committee decide to do when given the task of siting a school? They decided to ignore everything we have learned since 1965 and everything in our forest action plan.

The building committee chose

site C3, a site rejected by the pre-feasibility study as "environmentally and financially infeasible," smack in the middle of the forest! And they did this knowing that an excellent site exists on the currently developed campus (site C2).

Why did they choose C3? It appears that they wanted to avoid losing playing fields while the new school is being built ("least disruption to school operations"). However, if the school were built on C2, the high school

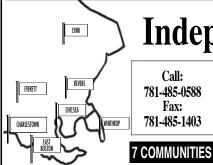
and the Metro Tech would still have four fields between them, which could be shared during construction. When the new school is complete, the Metro Tech would gain an additional field when the old school is razed. Towns such as Arlington, Melrose, Natick, Saugus, Stoneham, Swampscott, as well as our own town of Wakefield, are finding ways to build new high schools on their existing footprints. If they can do this, why can't the Metro Tech?

Looking at the environmental and fiscal costs of destroying the forest, the playing-field reason does not justify the committee's decision. The real reason appears to be that they do not value the forest. It is simply a piece of land that they can develop, even though it is by far the costliest option, especially for site prepa-

Why are we throwing away part of our precious remaining forest and contributing to further destruction of our planet? What kind of example does this set for our children? Have we learned nothing since 1965? Is there no way to stop this costly, heartbreaking loss before it's too late? ... and still build an excellent Metro Tech for our children? Sincerely,

> **Alison Simcox Douglas Heath** Wakefield

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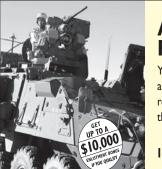
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#### **Spartans/** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ty for the Washington Redskins (now Commanders) during the 1980s and early 1990s. Following are their comments:

#### **CHRIS MARKS**

Junior tackle Chris Marks said the dynamic duo of David Brown and Derick Coulanges "makes it easier for us.'

"Once they get going, they're hard to bring down," said Marks.

Marks said the offensive line and the team are focused only on Rockland, the defending state Rockland."

Marks' twin brother, Nick, and older brother, Jack, a senior, have also been a part of the Spartans' success.

#### **ADRIAN LULE**

Sophomore left guard Adrian Lule is in his first season as a starting varsity lineman.

"It's been going great," said Lule. "I love competing with the older guys."

Lule said he respects how hard the two running backs play in games and practices.

"Derick and David are amazing backs. They're fast off the football and they play with great

#### CARLOS DE LA ROSA

Senior left tackle Carlos De La Rosa is proud to be contributing to the Spartans' high-powered offense.

"I'm super proud to be helping the team," said De La Rosa. "But we're not done. We have a big game coming up. As a senior, the goal is to make it to the promised land, which is Gillette.'

De La Rosa said he's enjoying every aspect of his final season as a high school football player.

"The year's going by su-

per-fast. We're just trying to live every moment, because after this year, we're going to be away from school, so we just want to end off on a great note," said De La Rosa. "And there's no better way to end it off than with a Super Bowl championship. But our main priority is Rockland right now.'





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#### **GOLD MEDAL CHAMPIONS**



The LYH Bantam (14U) team were the Gold Medal Champions in the CAN/AM Challenge Cup Tournament this weekend in Shelton, CT. Pictured (front left to right) Shea Pawl, Brian Boisson Jr, Joseph Plourde, Nicholas Denino, Riley Driscoll, AJ Lopez, and Trey Riley. Back (left to right) Assistant Coach Dom Serino, Assistant Coach Chris Pawl, Jacoby Comeau, John Briggs, Julius Serino, Aaron Cook, Pedro Lopez, William Bochnak, Assistant Coach Bill Bochnak, and Head Coach Brian Boisson.

