

Mia Gahrman  
Journalism  
Mr. Cammarano  
13 October 2016

### Spirit Week and SHS Students

Spotswood High School Students are particularly rambunctious this week, as spirit begins this Friday. The school tradition happens at the beginning of every school year, followed by the homecoming football game and dance. Each year the topic of each spirit ritual seems to find itself under much debate.

With blue and gold day kicking off the start to the week on Friday, I sat down with Marybeth Barnosky to discuss this year's themes. "This year's themes are going to be great", she replied when asked what she thought about a few old favorites and a new day to dress up for. "Tacky tourist day again should be great, kakis are always in season." The new day featured this year is Jersey day, encouraging students to wear anything New Jersey related or sports jersey themed. "I think it will be fun, I'm excited to show my Jets pride" she said with a smile.

After discussing the themes, I met up with senior Ryan Donovan to discuss this year's homecoming football game and dance. Ryan a senior football player will of course be attending the game, however he won't be attending the dance. "After a big game I can't think about going to a school dance". The homecoming dance attendance this year will factor into spirit week points, something seniors like Ryan will have to consider.

Before the big game and glitz of the dance, grades will go to battle during the Wacky Olympics at the school pep rally. Participants take part in exciting events ranging from an old school tug of war to a human pyramid stack. When asking Annemarie Paprota what her favorite part of the pep rally is, she replied "Definitely the crowd roller coaster at the end, it's always exciting to see what grade can be the loudest". The roller coaster a tradition at the pep rally is amongst the favorites of many students, and it holds the place for the final event and chance for each grade to score points.

Another tradition of spirit week is hallway decorating. Each grade is presented with a theme to enacting tying in their class color. The hallways are unveiled on the final morning of spirit week, and each theme is kept a secret. When asking Amanda Pavlis how she felt the senior hall way would turn out, she replied "No doubt a success". The senior hall way is notoriously the best as the students have the most experience in creating a great scene.

The hallway isn't the only thing the senior class is notorious for, but for the simple fact that the grade always wins spirit week. Each year a grade gives the upperclassmen a run for their money, but the seniors always prevail. Taylor Griswold said she expects nothing but victory from the senior class and will be happy to see that outcome at the end of the week. Overall, spirit week is an exciting start to the school year with the senior class leading the way.

