**And In First Place**

**Lily M.**

My mom always told me to be nice to people who beat me but, today was different. “Now Introducing the Lenape Valley Indians!” I just stood there for a second, blank faced then I realized what was going on. What I’m not ready I thought as my friends and I enter the sweaty gym. The crowd cheered not blaring, like I hoped but, they were quiet but, I knew what they were waiting for. The judges had a high table to see the over view of are routine. We got on the mate. Our music started, we got in are pyramid spots. I am the back spot for the extension. An extension is when two girls hold a girl over there head. My squad and I had finished getting the girls up and was about to get into the pyramid and…….GOLD! I thought to myself. The crowd praised us with excitement. We had finished the pyramid better than we ever had before. I don’t remember the part after that but I know I was smiling to hard. Lexi my coach said excitedly “I have never seen a squad improve so much!”

So after the performance we had the trophy ceremony. “And in third place!” he trailed off to get the excitement going. Oh please don’t be us!!!!! I thought. “The Horsham hawks!!!” said the announcer. I sighed in relief. “In second place!” he said with a shorter pause but still getting the crowd excited. Just please not us I thought again in hope it wasn’t us. “Quaker town!” I heard a scream. Just not us please!!!

Our whole team crossed are legs and arms and held hands. It was dead silent. I just hear a pin drop. I could smell the sweat from the cheerleaders in the gym. “And in first place!” “Please us!” I said hopeful it was us. “The Lenape Valley Indians!” The crowd roared like the king of the jungle. We screeched with joy I was even crying as I got the trophy. It’s such an honor. And that’s why hard work pays off.