

BY LIDIA NESCI

“I swore to myself I would do whatever it took to become the best rugby player. Being named MVP is a respectable honor I take pride in. I’d like to thank my coaches and teammates for their support. This award means the world to me; because of the time I put into practices and games. I wish everyone here the best in all you do. It was a pleasure being a part of this organization.”

Those were the words of William Warrick, captain of the Carlisle Thunder Rugby team.

Warrick was named captain three out of the five years he played for his high school team. His two main positions included fullback, as well as the scrum half. A fullback is the last line of defense and had to stop the other team from breaking away and scoring. His second position, scrum half, required him to pass the ball to surrounding players and get it across the field.

“Rugby is the most complicated sport to learn, but the easiest to play,” says Warrick. Some rules of rugby include not being able to throw the ball forward, only to the side or back. With the ball in hand, one can only run forward toward the goal.

When Warrick first began playing, he committed himself to learning all there was about rugby. He practiced for about two hours every day, either on his own or with the team. Brad Frederick, a teammate of Warrick’s on Kutztown University’s Rugby Team said, “Rugby is all about hard work. Will is one of the best at what he does. During practices and games, he gives his all; especially when it’s all on the line.”

At the end of May 2011, Warrick attended a semi-formal banquet for his high school rugby team in which he was named Most Valuable Player (MVP). In order to become MVP, Warrick had to show teamwork, responsibility, and persistence; as well as striving to do his best, and playing well on and off the field (i.e. encouragement and support).

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His coaches felt that he exceeded their expectations and truly put 100 percent in everything he did. They awarded him not only with the title, MVP, but also with a certificate, jersey, and trophy. Warrick treasures these items and memories. He plans on continuing playing rugby for Kutztown University.

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