Holliston football player, 16, dies

By John Hilliard

HOLLISTON – A 16-year-old Holliston High football player is being remembered for his “outstanding spirit” and willingness to help others, after he died Friday night during a scrimmage.

Joseph Larracey died after being hit in the chest during a scrimmage at Lakeville’s Appleton Regional High School, his uncle, Tom Larracey.

“He’ll be remembered for his youthful spirit, his constant cheerfulness,” said the older Larracey. “He’s a loss to society.”

Holliston schools Superintendent Brad Jackson said the cause of death is still under investigation.

A state police spokesman said the Plymouth County District Attorney’s office is investigating Larracey’s death. An autopsy is planned. "Any tragedy of this magnitude will have a profound effect on the school community," Jackson said.

At Holliston High yesterday, grief counselors from the school and Holliston Youth and Family Services were available to students.

“Trying to go on and deal with the difficulties for all of us,” said Jackson.

At Larracey’s home on Andrew Lane, more than a dozen cars lined the road while friends and neighbors of the family filed through the front door shortly before noon yesterday.

Tom Larracey, along with Joseph’s grandfather, Vin Cerrati, LARRAGE, Page 47

Mental issues strain family relationships

By David Riley

Mental illness and Melissa almost everything she had, including custody of her 11-year-old daughter, according to Melissa, which is often out of homeless shelters in Massachusetts, she was ready to give up a year ago. It was her ambition to help her find another chance at rebuilding her life in Massachusetts.

But Melissa’s family has been able to maintain ties with her. She met with a sister, Melissa, her relative who has no longer speak to her.

Family, she said, also is where some of her struggles come from. For Melissa, she said, also is where some of her struggles come from.

“Her family doesn’t have any,” said Melisa, “But not all of Melissa’s family has been able or willing to maintain ties with her. A side from a sister, Melissa, her relative no longer speak to her.

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The Committee to Protect Dogs has compiled greyhound injuries, including deaths, and has compiled greyhound injuries, including deaths, during a meeting with the Daily News last Wednesday. At left, Paula Blanchard of Lexington, co-chair of the Committee to Protect Dogs, hugs a greyhound Hope, a rescued greyhound at the Wonderland Greyhound Park in 2006 taken of a greyhound during a meeting with the Daily News last week. At left, Paula Blanchard of Lexington, co-chair of the Committee to Protect Dogs, hugs a greyhound Hope, a rescued greyhound at the Wonderland Greyhound Park in 2006.

Greyhound racing is already illegal in 34 states, and Question 3 on this year’s ballot could eliminate racing at the Wonderland Greyhound Park in Revere and Raynham-Taunton Greyhound Park in Raynham. The committee, along with the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the MetroVet Humane Society and the Milford Humane Society, are proponents of the question. The Committee to Protect Dogs has compiled greyhound injuries, including deaths, and has compiled greyhound injuries, including deaths, during a meeting with the Daily News last Wednesday. At left, Paula Blanchard of Lexington, co-chair of the Committee to Protect Dogs, hugs a greyhound Hope, a rescued greyhound at the Wonderland Greyhound Park in 2006 taken of a greyhound during a meeting with the Daily News last week.

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Experts: Families can hurt and heal the mentally ill

MENTAL ILLNESS. From A1
Melrose and three other clients at
Programs for People spoke
with the Daily News recently
about their illnesses and
recovery. They also discussed
their familial experiences with understanding, fear
and neglect of mental illness that
they and othersface in many
aspects of their lives.

"I think the public, they don't understand mental illness, and they don't want to," Melissa said.

"Melrose's story illustrates the
cross-cultural role of family in mental illness. She
began in Melrose, then moved
toward contributing to her disease.
And family relationships have strained or broken
during her battle. Yet it was also a time
when people who helped point her toward
recovery and a daughter who
motivates her today.

"I want to get back in my
world. I want to get back into
a vacation." She calls that
"the post-illness mentality.
"I said I had three options," Cindy said with a smile.

"Bromide, Halamus and a
state hospital." Now making major progress,
Cindy said she is rebuilding ties
through her responsibilities and going
on a "vacation." She calls that
"the post-illness mentality."

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