



# Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PISCATAWAY FEATURED IN *SPORTS ILLUSTRATED* SEPTEMBER 27  
*Township to receive \$5000 cash award*

On a steamy night in August 2003, Piscataway, which was selected as *Sports Illustrated* 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sportstown for the state of New Jersey by *Sports Illustrated* (SI) magazine and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), was honored and presented with the sign PISCATAWAY SELECTED NO. 1 IN NEW JERSEY before an enthusiastic crowd at the Piscataway High School gymnasium by SI and NRPA officials. Recognition of the township's award was carried in the August 18, 2003 issue of *Sports Illustrated* and online at SI.com and nrpa.org and at the end of the year long SI Anniversary, which ended in August 2004, each selected community was promised a cash award.

*Sports Illustrated* recently announced that the September 27, 2004 issue, which hits the newsstands on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, features a listing of all 50 U.S. Sportstown winners and that each of the communities will receive a \$5000 check in October along with a CD commemorating the Sportstown Project by NRPA. Mayor Brian C. Wahler said, "Our entire community is responsible for the township having received this award. We are very grateful for the help and support our residents give to all of our programs and in particular, our recreation programs."

In announcing Piscataway as the only community in New Jersey to win this honor, the five-person Sportstown judging panel said, "Still a place where youth play sports for free, Piscataway has gone out of its way to guarantee quality facilities, well-trained volunteer coaches and inclusion strategies that make sports accessible to everyone."

Two-hundred and fifty applications from all fifty states were submitted and were judged on seven different categories including policies and procedures, philosophy, volunteer education, youth development, public facilities, community involvement, and program diversity. Piscataway was the fifth state winner to be unveiled by SI and NRPA.

TOWNSHIP OF PISCATAWAY, 455 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854