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Payton Kirkpatrick, left, Brian Luciani and Morris Germansky of the Rampant Lion Pipe Band talk with Prince Edward at a dinner for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award and Young Americans Challenge on June 23 at the Pierre Hotel in New York.

SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

BERNARDS TOWNSHIP Teenage pipers perform for the prince at Pierre

Musicians Payton Kirkpatrick, Brian Luciani and Morris Germansky play an instrument not ordinarily associated with teenagers or high school bands. Kirkpatrick, Luciani and Germansky are members of the Rampant Lion Pipe band, a bagpiper group from Basking Ridge.

Last month, the group performed for Prince Edward and a group of dignitaries at a black tie gala for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award and Young Americans' Challenge, held at the Pierre Hotel in Manhattan.

Kirkpatrick, a student at Ridge High School, and Germansky and Luciani, June graduates of Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights, performed several tunes and spoke with Prince Edward at the gala.

"He told me he had attended the Highland Games in the South, and how surprised he was that there was so much interest in the pipes in the U.S.," said Germansky.

For more information about the Rampant Lions, e-mail david_palladino@yahoo.com.

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