



Cycling Shorts



St. Patrick's Day Edition

- Did you know that **St. Patrick was NOT Irish?!** Yep, nobody really knows where he was born, but his parents, Conchessa & Calphurnius (mom & dad respectively), were definitely Roman.
- So, how did he get to Ireland? **“Seriously, kidnapped by pirates?!”** Yep. Not the Johnny Depp kind, but *Irish* pirates. At 16 he was sold into slavery in Dalriada (an early Gaelic kingdom), where he was forced to tend sheep.
- After 6 years the idea to escape came to him in a dream. **“He escaped slavery?”** Sure did! Partly because his slave-master was the high Druid priest (unbecoming of a priest – in any religion), he thought the Christian God had sent him the idea - that and, also because his parents had been real churchy when he was young.
- Next stop, France. **“France!?”** Yeah, he'd slipped onto a sailing vessel headed to la France – After landing & wandering lost for 28 days & 200 miles, he did eventually find his parents & went right into the priesthood – `Guess he found God out there in his travels, huh?
- **“So, if he's not Irish...?”** ...Then, why is he the patron saint of Ireland? Because after Maewyn graduated, he went back & introduced everyone to Christianity!
- **“Wait, his name wasn't even Patrick!?”** Naw, just like how the pope gets a different name when he becomes pope, Maewyn Succat (his real name), chose “Patrick” upon his priesthood.
- **“And, the ‘wearin-O-the-green’?”** Sorry, Maewyn was known for wearing light blue. The green comes waaay later in 1641 when the Confederation of Kilkenny (not related to South Park) used a green flag at the start of the Catholic/Protestant conflict.
- **“Shamrocks too?”** No, that, history has right! Saint Pat used shamrocks to help explain the holy trinity to folks – so, shamrocks we keep.

Happy Saint Patrick's Day everyone!

