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20 YEARS
Del Aware
Delaware Valley High School - Milford, Pa.

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FBLA, sophomore class officers launch 'Pages for Progress' literacy project

By Veronika Martin
Entertainment Co-Editor

FBLA members and sophomore class officers are introducing a collaborative initiative known as "Pages for Progress," specifically designed to bridge the literacy gap and inspire a new generation of young readers.

By fostering a love for literature early on, both teams hope to instill a lifelong passion for learning that will continue to benefit students. The initiative unfolds in three distinct phases that will take place throughout the year, starting with visiting pre-kindergarten classrooms.

During these visits, students will read aloud to the children and give each one a book to keep. After reading to the children, they will have the opportunity to participate in an activity related to the book that they read.

This meaningful kickoff is made possible by a generous donation from the Class of 1960, who sought to invest their remaining class funds toward a project that would create a lasting, positive impact on the community. By gifting these books, organizers ensure that every child has the resources to build their own book collection, which is a critical step in cultivating a habit of daily reading.

> *"We're excited to give back to the younger generations."*
>
> **- Mrs. Audrey Dennis**

"We're excited to give back to the younger generations," FBLA adviser Mrs. Audrey Dennis said.

The project was chosen because they want to convey the message that committing to improve literacy rates in the next generation is about more than just support– it's about cultivating the potential of those who will shape the future.

By creating opportunities for growth and knowledge sharing, they hope to bridge the generational gap, ensuring that wisdom and resources are passed down to empower the young minds of tomorrow.

Through these sustained efforts, "Pages for Progress" is expected to grow as more organizations get involved to help the cause and execute the other phases of this project as the school year unfolds. This expansion will ensure that the drive for literacy remains a shared, lifelong mission for many generations to come.

Warriors raise funds for breast cancer awareness

By Lily Red
Community News Co-Editor

The seniors came together to play in the first staff vs. students basketball game on Oct. 21 to support the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

In total, the event raised over $300 toward the cause, with 30 participants altogether. The event was organized by Student Council as a way to bring the community together during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

"We were thrilled with the turnout," Student Council vice president Keira LeMay said. "Everyone who participated had lots of fun and we raised awareness for a great cause."

Social studies teacher Mr. Adam Manzoni was a leading scorer in the game with 15 points, consistently leading the teachers. Seniors Alex Calvario, Harrison Bixby and Lucas Petersheim led the students in scoring. Calvario contributed 22 points, Bixby had 12 and Petersheim followed with nine.

"I loved cheering on my teammates, it was so much fun," senior Marin Eversdyke said. Eversdyke also noted that she was surprised at the talent science teacher Ms. Kayla Prestianni brought to the court.

After a back and forth game, in the fourth quarter, the staff pulled ahead by two points, but not for long before the students stormed back. The game-winning shot came off a perfectly-executed layup by Bixby with only seconds left in the game. The students won 58-57.

"I thought it was going to be a tight game, but quickly we [the staff] found a rhythm. The students did a better job executing and taking care of the ball," physical education teacher Ms. Mikaela Smith said. "I'm just glad we could come out here and have a good time for a good cause."



Lily Red/Del.Aware

Senior Harrison Bixby takes a jump shot for the students in the first quarter of the game.

School News

Auto CTE provides car services for staff, students

By Bella Puiu
Staff Writer

After a month of preparation to open the auto shop, including the students completing their safety modules to be permitted to work in the shop, auto CTE students began working on cars in early October.

These students work on vehicles from buses to staff or students' personal vehicles. All automotive services performed are free of labor charges, and customers only have to pay for necessary parts to fix their vehicle.

Automotive CTE partners with Advanced Auto Parts, which delivers parts to the school multiple times a day. Anyone who needs their vehicle repaired can call Advanced Auto Parts, pay over the phone and get their replacement parts delivered to the school.

Scan this QR code for the auto repair form.

Automotive teacher Mr. Justin Ryan reminds others that it is a learning environment and repairs may not be as fast as other shops.

"Sometimes the work takes longer than if you were bringing it to a shop that you're paying for," Mr. Ryan said. "So we just ask for patience."

Students are taught many skills about cars, such as replacing tires, fixing brakes and changing oil. Along with these services, students are taught how to conduct alignments, weld and perform safety inspections.



Bella Puiu/Del.Aware

Junior Billy Leissler changes the tires on a customer's truck.

Besides the services performed, there are also some jobs the students don't perform in the shop. However, students are unable to repair rust, paint cars or do state inspections.

After working on about 1,000 cars last year, these students have been looking for new work, and the only requirement to get a car repaired is filling out the automotive Google Forms.



Compiled by Rhyanne Rettinger



Hailee Walzer/Del.Aware

Students embrace diversity through mural

This mural in the A-wing above the lockers represents the different nationalities of the English Language Development (ELD) students in our school. Each flower in the painting represents a student's heritage. The flowers were specifically chosen to represent the students' home countries' national flower. The mural was a collaboration between AP Studio Art and ELD students.

Compiled by Hailee Walzer

HALLO, HEI AND CIAO!



This year, the high school has welcomed three foreign exchange students who come from Finland, Germany and Italy. Now that they have spent some time in America, we asked them how their experience has been so far.



Pinja Wilhelmiina Hujanen

By Deborah Kim

Science & Technology Co-Editor

Q: Where are you from?

A: Finland

Q: What area in Finland?

A: Really close to the capital city, Helsinki. I live right outside of Helsinki.

Q: Why did you decide to join the exchange program?

A: So I could learn the language [English] better and just experience [America].

Q: What is your favorite part about America, or something you enjoy in America that isn't as prominent in Finland?

A: I like the possibilities you have here. I feel like there's more things to do and a lot of more options for studies and especially in school for courses and classes to take.

Q: What is different about Finland schools vs. American schools?

A: We have a lot more freedom, and our schedule changes like five times in a school year, so that's something really different.

Q: What do you look forward to during your time here in America?

A: Just making a lot of new friends and making my English better

Carlotta Schmitz-Schunken

By Chloe Simonson

Entertainment Editor

Q: What are some differences you noticed in America?

A: The people are a lot nicer, and a lot more physical. People are very open to hugging, whereas in Germany it's not widely done.

Q: How did you get into the exchange program?

A: I saw something about it through videos on social media and thought that it would be something I'd consider doing, and then I went to an organizations table at school.

Q: Would you continue to do the exchange program or would you change anything about it?

A: I'm very thankful for the opportunity and I've had a very good experience. I wouldn't do it again and I wouldn't change anything about it or where I chose to go.

Q: What are you going to miss most and are you bringing anything back with you?

A: I'm going to miss my host family the most. I have school merch and an American flag with all my friends' signatures.

Q: Is there anything else you'd like to add?

A: I really liked how welcoming everyone is here. I continue to meet people everyday, and everyone is nice. I hear from other students in the program about how unwelcoming their schools are, so I'm very thankful for the good experience.





Sara Di Giammatteo

By Mia Pauley

Staff Writer

Q: What are you most looking forward to in the upcoming school year?

A: I'm looking forward to the graduation ceremony. Also to experience the true Christmas, like the real Christmas here.

Q: Is there anything in particular that surprised you about America?

A:Yes, because everyone is so nice to me. And everyone is so outgoing and extroverted. They are so nice. I'm very happy about that.

Q: What's something you miss about Italy?

A: I'm from Rome. I miss everything about Rome. It's such a big city with all the people.

Q: What was your first impression of DV?

A: It's like the school in the movies, and I will say it's so big. I feel like it's so big, and in Italy we have such small schools.

Q: Why did you decide to do an exchange year?

A: I wanted to open myself up to as many opportunities as possible. I was thinking about maybe applying to some American colleges. I wanted to see how life is here, and maybe move here one day.

Opinion

OUR OPINION

Is our goverment making decisions for the right reasons?

Cancelling the execution live stream may have been the right call, but agreeing with the decision should not cause disregard for the reason it was made. The reasoning ultimately comes down to ethical responsibility versus political convenience.

On Oct. 6, the official approval of the military death sentence for Nidal Malik Hasan was announced, making him the first person to be sentenced to one since 1961. In 2013, Hasan, a former U.S. Army Major and psychiatrist, was convicted of 13 counts of premeditated murder and 32 counts of attempted premeditated murder after acting out of Islamic extremism at the Nov. 5, 2009, mass shooting at Fort Hood.

After Hasan's execution date was set for Dec. 3, 2026, Defense Attorney Pete Hegseth proposed and announced that the execution by firing squad would be live-streamed to the public.

After receiving backlash and disapproval from the public, President Donald Trump made the executive decision to cancel the live stream. Trump shared this announcement through a social media post.

"Streaming the execution for all to see might have been a strong deterrent for the world to witness how America deals with terrorists and SCUM like Hasan," Trump said. "But many very good and well meaning people would rather not watch him die, through streaming or through any other visual device."

Although Trump addressed the concerns of citizens by cancelling it, the timing raises another question: Was this decision made out of morality or could politics have played a role?

With the convenient timing of the midterm elections coming up, this announcement might not have had the right intentions.

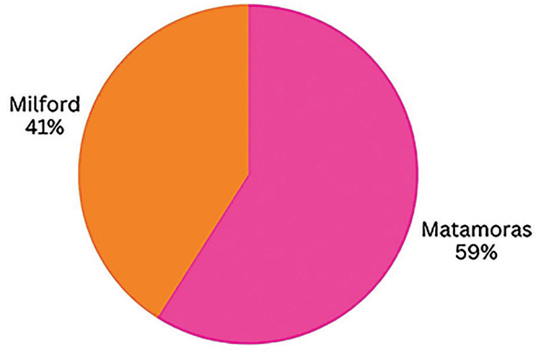
Morally, an execution should not be turned into a public presentation just to make some counteractive point. Even if the end goal is to prevent people from committing crimes, who's to say it wouldn't cause an uproar in violence?

The public is entitled to know why these decisions are made. It isn't unrealistic to question the timing and whether the concentration is truly on protecting the citizens from future violence or not.

When it comes to something as serious as a public execution, we need to know whether our government is seeking justice for everyone or if it is just for political gain.

Poll: Milford or Matamoras Dunkin'

The pie chart below displays results of a survey conducted during all lunches.



Compiled by Veronika Martin

Do we care too much about what others think?

By Tessa Marotta
Staff Writer

Scrolling on social media platforms every day such as Snapchat, Instagram and TikTok, I constantly find myself comparing other people's successes to mine.

These days, the internet is filled with people showing their accomplishments and achievements. Constantly comparing yourself to others can negatively affect your confidence. This can lead to young boys and girls feeling the need to be exactly like them, but really that will never be attainable.

Those standards will always be unrealistic because they aren't yours. When you really think about it, nobody is watching your every move or counting your mistakes, successes and talents. They really don't care about what's happening because they are going through the same thought process. You're not the only one thinking that everyone is watching. Everyone else is scared of their reputation and how they are perceived.

Everybody is insecure in some way and are scared of what others think. The person next to you didn't realize you stuttered when you were reading aloud to the class. Nobody in the hallway noticed that you tripped. They don't care, and you shouldn't either.

If you're always thinking about what others think, you're never going to be able to live in the moment.

Once I stopped caring what others thought of me, it was like a weight lifted off my shoulders.

Be present in your own life, not in someone else's.

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Letter Guidelines

The Del.Aware is an administrative reviewed publication of the journalism class of Delaware Valley High School. The Del.Aware will print acceptable letters written by current students which may be edited or condensed for reasons of libel, good taste, grammar and punctuation.
Mail: Letters to the Opinions Editor, Del. Aware, 252 Route 6 & 209, Milford, PA 18337
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Opinion

Student section faces constant criticism

By Lucas Petersheim
Community News Editor

One of the best parts of high school sports is its atmosphere. The idea of tens or hundreds of students coming together and taking time out of their day to support their peers is something special.

The student section brings unmatched energy that players appreciate and feed off of. A large or loud turnout not only helps show appreciation for the coaches and players, but also creates a harder environment for the away team to play in.

During my tenure as a high school student, the most unified I have ever seen my peers is when they are supporting each other. Whether it is an entire grade going crazy during Spirit Games or a packed-out gym chanting at a home playoff game. That's why it is unfair to push school spirit and then punish the same group that constantly provides it. Just as it is unfair to characterize a whole student section just because of the actions of a few individuals.

Just like any mass gathering of teenagers, it is bound to get out of hand. With that being said, some actions within the section have been inappropriate but not unprovoked.



Keira LeMay/Del.Aware

Students travelled to Hazelton to support the boys basketball Sweet 16 matchup.

A large reason conflicts involving the student section begin is when visiting parents or fans can not deal with the cheering and retaliate with snippy or rude comments towards the students. When away fans sitting next to the student section, arguments are more likely to start, and it is a recipe for disaster. There is a reason when Ohio State plays Michigan in the biggest rivalry in college sports, they don't seat the fans next to each other. Separating those two groups by enforcing the away fans sit in the away section can help create a better and more peaceful experience for everyone.

If it comes to the point when the student section has violated any of the rules or has done something the administration sees unfit, the individual who did such a thing should be the one suffering the consequences, not the student section as a whole.

Without a student section, sporting events are flat and have little to no energy. As an athlete myself, when I see a group of students showing up for their classmates makes more of an impact than most people understand. The goal shouldn't be to ban a student section but to create a reasonable and clear structure for all members to follow without taking away what makes high school sports so special.

Who is the best player in NBA history?

By Anthony Lordi
Sports Co-Editor

One of the most controversial debates in sports: Who is the GOAT of basketball: Michael Jordan or LeBron James?

In my opinion, it's LeBron James and most of the new generation would agree with me. There are many factors that go into this decision including points, assists, championships and winning percentage.

Jordan averaged 30.1 points per game over his entire career with 32,292 total points in 1,072 games. LeBron, on the other hand, averages 26.8 points with 43,454 career points (not including this season) and 1,622 career games played (not including this season).

I have grown up in a household where Jordan was the GOAT because my parents installed this belief in me. However, my opinion has changed to LeBron due to his consistent pure dominance for so many years.

Another argument is that Jordan played in a much harder era than LeBron. The players Jordan was faced with on a nightly basis played much more physically. In LeBron's era, the game is more focused on offense than defense. Now the game is all about scoring and pushing the pace to create transition opportunities.

Additionally, social media has played an instrumental role in determining who is the better player. Social media has given fans easy access to highlights/stats of each player. My generation has grown up with social media so we see LeBron's new highlight or record-breaking stat, Jordan did not have any of this exposure to the media.

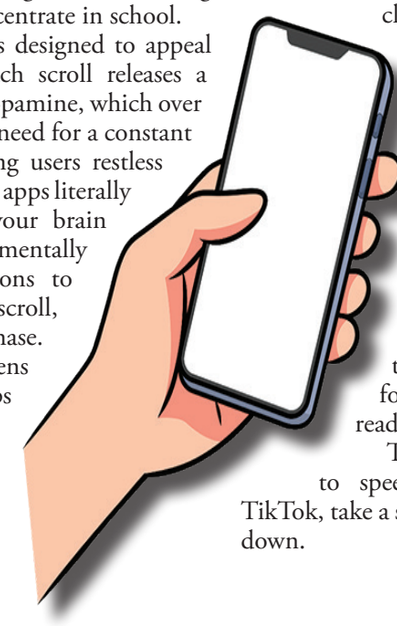
My final point is championships, LeBron has been to the finals 10 times has won four being named finals MVP all 4 times. Jordan, on the other hand, has been to six finals and has won all six while being named Finals MVP for all six.

It *is* that damn phone

By Keira LeMay
Managing Editor

Most students can confidently say that they find themselves struggling to pay attention in class, but have you ever wondered why? It just might be your nightly doomscrolling that is affecting your ability to concentrate in school.

Social media is designed to appeal to your brain. Each scroll releases a small amount of dopamine, which over time, can lead to a need for a constant influx, often leaving users restless when offline. These apps literally change the way your brain works– fundamentally altering its functions to encourage you to scroll, click and purchase. Consuming dozens of 60-second clips warps how the brain understands time, which is why hours spent scrolling can feel like a blur.



Attention spans have dropped significantly in recent decades, with many researchers pointing to short-form content as a possible cause. Adolescents are particularly vulnerable to this because regions of their brains are still developing. This often leads to difficulties paying attention in class.

Whether we like it or not, our phones are an integral part of society, but they do not need to dictate our lives. There are ways to regain control of your brain: practice setting time limits, switch your phone to grayscale, or try activities that require focus, such as exercise or reading.

The next time you go to speed up that 30-second TikTok, take a second to think and slow down.

School News

Trick-or-treating comes early this year

By Josie Lordi
Sports Editor

The annual trunk-or-treat, held on Oct. 27, gave kids an opportunity to celebrate Halloween a bit early this year. The trunk-or-treat is a festive event run by senior class officers. Different organizations within the school district participate such as cheerleaders, Student Council, Mini-THON and many others. Kids came dressed up as princesses, pirates, ninjas, bats and so much more. This is an event where the whole community can come together and enjoy the spooky season.



Josie Lordi/Del.Aware

Senior class officer Brooke Palmeri offers candy to a trick-or-treater.



Josie Lordi/Del.Aware

Junior cheerleaders recreate the classic Candy Land game, challenging children to jump on different colored spaces to earn candy.



Josie Lordi/Del.Aware

Combo 11 students decorate their trunk to reflect their Mini-THON theme as they join the fight against childhood cancer.



Josie Lordi/Del.Aware

The sophomore cheerleaders had a Toy Story-themed trunk.



As Thanksgiving nears, Student Council has started the annual food drive. Scan the QR code to read Lilian Seibert's article on the Del.Aware's online website, dvhsnews.org, to learn more about this year's food drive.

Students visit NYC to watch Spanish play

By Shahed Bankasli Attar
Staff Writer

Forty Spanish students traveled to Repertorio Español in New York City on Oct. 20 to see the historically significant play, "En el Tiempo de las Mariposas."

A motion picture version of the play was shown to the students before seeing the play in person.

Spanish teachers Señor Gary Controneo and Señora Raycharlyn Krasulski accompanied the Spanish Four and AP Spanish students on this trip.

The play tells the true story of the three Mirabel sisters, who were murdered in 1960 for participating in the underground movement to overthrow the Dominican Republic government under Rafael Trujillo's rule.

"En el Tiempo de las Mariposas" is also performed in Spanish, which helped students apply skills they have learned in class throughout the year.

After the production, the live actors welcomed students to meet them and ask questions about what they observed.

Students were also able to compare and contrast the two versions they watched, seeing how one story can be presented in two or more different ways. This immersed the students into Spanish culture, showing them that their classroom learning can and will connect to real-world experiences.

Not only did the trip act as a lesson for teaching Spanish culture and language, but it did so in a hands-on way.



School News

Business and Marketing students sell school spirit

By Atisha Joannou
Arts & Literature Editor

Purchasing school merchandise has never been easier, thanks to the school store, where students can shop for school products while supporting the Business and Marketing CTE program to manage daily operations and design merchandise. Students in the Business and Marketing CTE program manage daily operations and design merchandise.

The store operates through the school's with students handling daily operations such as sales, returns and inventory. The CTE teacher, Mr. Jeffrey Luhrs oversees the store but allows students to take responsibility for its operations.

"For the most part, it's 100% student run," Mr. Luhrs said.

The store operates as a nonprofit organization meaning its revenue goes back into the program rather than being used for personal profit. According to Mr. Luhrs, merchandise is generally sold for the same amount the store pays for it, helping promote school spirit.

The store uses SquareUp, a point-of-sale system that accepts credit cards, debit cards and Apple Pay. The system tracks inventory and alerts students when supplies are running low, helping them determine when to place new orders.



Atisha Joannou/Del.Aware

Students can purchase different clothing items as well as snacks and drinks at the school store.

Students promote the store through morning announcements, social media and word of mouth.

Currently, the store is open during lunch periods B and C. The program hopes to expand its hours to include all three lunch periods once students' schedules open up.

Students also design the clothing and merchandise sold in the store giving them a role in deciding what products are offered. Mr. Luhrs said this focus on student-designed merchandise has been one of the program's biggest additions over the past year.

The store is now preparing for the holiday season. Students are designing new merchandise with orders expected to be placed within the next few weeks so products are ready for Black Friday and holiday sales.

"There's a lot of stuff that happens behind the scenes that I would love for my students to be able to get the credit for because they work hard," Mr. Luhrs said.

'Belong' mural inspires students, staff



Hailee Walzer/Del.Aware

Hailee Walzer/Del.Aware

The "Be You, Be Here, Belong" mural was completed in time for the Battlefield Pro Wrestling Warriormania: Battle for Belonging event on Oct. 24. Students and staff can now see their individuality represented in the finished mural. This project represents the diverse people and interests that make up our school community. A total of 963 squares uniquely created came together to show one message. The mural is displayed near the pool-door entrance.

Compiled by Hailee Walzer

Inquiring Photographer

"What is your favorite Halloween candy?"

Compiled By Beau Tannenbaum



Junior Colton Eckert
"Reese's Take 5"



Freshman Natalie Shannon
"Reese's"



Junior Ethan Capo
"Fruit flavored Tootsie Rolls"



Sophomore Kolton Graber
"Reese's"



Senior Marilyn Marty
"Snickers"



Senior Londyn Hernandez
"Snickers"



Ricky Pryce sets his feet on the top ropes before jumping and performing a move on his opponent.





High school principal Dr. Lou DeLauro celebrates with Rico Gold. The event raised $14,000 in total.

By Brendan Baird
Sports Co-Editor

Battlefield Pro Wrestling showed professional wrestling belonged in Milford when they presented "Warriormania: Battle for Belonging" on Oct. 24. In a card of seven matches, including a battle royal, two championships changed hands and a steel cage match that captivated the audience for a thrilling night of professional wrestling.

The event, created with the intention of raising awareness and money for the district's peer inclusion program, raised $14,000 and gave the special olympics the opportunity to showcase the programs and activities they run.

The night kicked off with a tag team steel cage match between "The Office" (Bloodline Member Afa Jr. & Vinny Mac) and the team of Joey "The Closer" Martinez and JJ Smith. This was the promotion's first time running a steel cage match, with Martinez and Smith edging out a victory over The Office.

The two championship matches included JD Ink taking on the reigning BPW Futures Champion D Savage, with JD Ink winning the championship to the crowd's delight. In another showstopper, Port Jervis native Ricky Pryce battled and won the BPW North American Championship from the reigning champion Malik Del Vonte.

The main event featured some household names with two TNA wrestlers facing off with Elijah (aka Elias) taking on KC Navarro. During the match, the two decided to go out into the crowd, in which kids got involved in the match. They struck Elijah in the chest repeatedly which made for a heartwarming moment. Elijah edged out the victory in a hard fought match, where the two showed respect afterward.

Throughout the event, there were sponsors selling various items, with Crumbl selling their famous cookies to help raise money. Before the event, the wrestlers took part in a meet-and-greet event, with Backroad Brewery Co. hosting the after-party.



RJ Carnage poses with a fan during the meet and greet before the matches.

Q & A With Wrestlers

***Lexi Tsiattalos* - All the proceeds from tonight are going to the peer inclusion fund for Delaware Valley. What does getting to be a part of an event mean to you?**

JD Ink - This means a lot to me because before I was a professional wrestler, I was a high school teacher. ... So, getting to be on the other side as a wrestler and doing an event that's going towards something in my previous life when I was working with students with disabilities, getting to still be involved with that stuff.

***Lexi* - How has your experience in professional wrestling changed you as a person?**

Ricky Pryce - "It has made me understand so many different types of people. ... Let me put it like this: I have been able to understand every different type of person because there's so many different types of people who come into wrestling. Whether it's the fans, whether it's the people in the locker room, whether it's the production, whoever, ... It's made me such a more accepting person."

***Lexi* - What is your most memorable moment wrestling professionally?**

Elijah - "I got to wrestle John Cena at WrestleMania, and so that's pretty big. That's about as big as it gets."



Elijah shows respect to his opponent KC Navarro by helping him after their match.

Compiled by Lexi Tsiattalos, Hallee Walzer and Brendan Baird

Community News

Historic Dimmick Inn continues its tradition of great food

By Veronika Martin
Entertainment Co-Editor

For nearly two centuries, the Dimmick Inn has stood as a local landmark, but it is the lasting quality of their food that keeps the legacy alive.

I heard the bustling crowd before I walked through the door, promising another classic Friday night at this historic restaurant. I started my meal off with the French onion mac and cheese and an order of their classic truffle fries topped with grated parmesan cheese and chives. The mac and cheese combined traditional French onion soup flavors with Swiss and provolone cheese, while the fries were perfectly crisp, well-salted and ideal for sharing.

For the main course, I ordered the fish tacos which were recommended by the server. The dish included three soft taco shells packed with deep fried haddock, fresh pico de gallo, crunchy coleslaw, all brought together by a drizzle of chipotle ranch. The contrast between the flaky fish and the spicy dressing made every bite feel balanced and satisfying. Beyond the excellent food, the staff members were incredibly kind and added to the welcoming atmosphere of the restaurant.

By the time I was finished with my meal, it was clear why this spot remains a staple in Milford but also a personal favorite. It's the perfect blend of rich history and consistent quality that keeps locals and visitors coming back for more.



Veronika Martin/Del.Aware

The Dimmick's French onion mac and cheese is one of the most popular items on the menu.

Pooches fill Milford with Halloween Spirit

By Rhyanne Rettinger
Lifestyle Editor

Milford locals and their pets participated in the annual Halloween Pooch Parade, hosted by Milford Presents, on Oct. 24 at Ann Street Park.

For seven years, this event has brought together the community in the spirit of Halloween while fundraising for the Pike County Humane Society.

Owners were able to participate by dressing up their furry friends and walking in a parade throughout the streets of Milford.

The parade concluded with a costume contest, including spookiest, funniest, cutest / most creative, best group and the best of the best.



Rhyanne Rettinger/Del.Aware

Judges vote Big Bird and Oscar the Grouch as "the best of the best."

The winners received a basket from Precious Paws Pet Care and Milford Pet Supply, respectively.

The contest was announced Milford resident Taylor James dressed as Ariel.

"I love seeing the whole town come together to see everyone sharing something joyful that represents our small town," James said.

Mystery takes center stage at Milford Theater

By Bella Faust
Lifestyle Co-Editor

Mystery and suspense were delivered by the cast of "Murder on the Orient Express" at the Milford Theater, bringing one of Agatha Christie's most recognizable works to life for the local community.

Based on Christie's novel, the production follows detective Hercule Poirot as he investigates a murder aboard the Orient Express.

When a horrible snowstorm leaves the train stranded full of passengers, Poirot must question everyone on board in an attempt to solve the murder. However, each passenger has secrets of their own, leaving each person with their own possible motives.

The production engaged the audience and allowed viewers to experience mystery in a different way. Rather than reading the story, audience members were able to watch the investigation unfold on stage. This kept the suspense of the storyline alive as Poirot worked to uncover the truth behind the murder.

When I saw the performance, I was amazed at how the actors brought their characters to life. The tension and emotion really kept viewers engaged and questioning who the killer could be.



Bella Faust/Del.Aware

Actors at the Milford Theater perform an investigation scene on the Orient Express.

The visual elements also helped bring the story together. The costumes truly reflected each character's personality and helped the audience understand their role. The set was designed to resemble the Orient Express and was well-designed. These details helped establish the setting and immerse the audience in the story.

What truly made this production so advanced was the actors' timing and delivery. As someone who participated in theater for several years, I understand how important these elements are to a performance, especially a mystery story. In my opinion, the actors' excellent diction helped maintain the suspense and keep the murder a mystery. I was also truly impressed by the French accents throughout the entire play.

Another impressive aspect was the sound quality. I myself have seen numerous Broadway and off-Broadway productions, and was fascinated by how well the actors' voices carried throughout the theater. The actors also demonstrated emotion through their voice delivery and body language.

"The Murder on Orient Express" was a well-developed production that gave the local community an opportunity to experience a classical mystery story through live theater. With its strong cast, detailed set and suspense storyline, the Milford Theater brought Christie's well-known mystery to life.

Community News

Local cafe aims to bring community together

Foundry 42 provides unique drinks and experiences to Port Jervis.

By Lilian Seibert
Editor-in-Chief

A cup of coffee is only one feature of the experience at Foundry 42, where a cafe, event space and retail store have become a part of a strong effort to bring the community together.

With its door first opening in 2016, Port Jervis's own Foundry 42 was originally running as an antique store. After becoming the general manager in 2018, Renee Meola helped expand the store into a cafe and retail store, leading to her purchasing the cafe and becoming the current owner.

"We always hoped for it to be more of a community space," Meola said. "A place that people could meet."

Today, Meola carries a plethora of responsibilities, from handling payroll to managing inventory, all while overseeing the overall well-being of the customers.

Behind its daily operations, Foundry 42 has been a key gathering place in the community for events and activities. Whether you are looking for a place to share refreshments, purchase a gift for someone or celebrate something special, Foundry 42 offers the whole package.

"It's a coffee shop in the front. It's a retail shop, and then if you go upstairs, it's an event space," Meola said.

What sets Foundry 42 apart from other local businesses is the strong presence of community and belonging. The familiarity between staff and customers creates a strong connection that brings people together.

"It almost feels like an extension of family," Meola said.

Beyond the heartwarming connections that Foundry 42 provides, they host regular Saturday-morning children's story time and monthly open mic nights. Although there are already plenty of opportunities, Meola hopes to create even more.

"We're opening it [Foundry 42] up a lot more for other local businesses to kind of facilitate the things they're trying to do," Meola said.



Due to the vast amount of events Foundry 42 provides to their customers, business can be chaotic. The special part of the chaos of producing a successful business is what comes out of it.

"No two days are the same," Meola said. "Like every single day, it's a different emergency, but it's also a different opportunity."

According to Meola, people have made assumptions that the shop is expensive or only for wealthy customers. Although the diverse selection of products and drinks may seem overwhelming, Foundry 42 is adamant about being available to anyone who is interested.

"I think I would want anybody to know that they're welcome here," Meola said.

Commissioner's time capsule honors Pike County

By Lily Red
Community News Co-Editor

Memories can offer more joy than any material purchase can. What better way to capture these precious moments than in a time capsule for our nation's 250th anniversary?

Matthew Osterberg of the Pike County Commissioners office wanted to gather as many artifacts as he could from the community and seal them into a time capsule to reopen in the year 2076, which recognizes America's 300th birthday.

Osterberg graduated from Penn State University with a history degree and as a long-time resident of Pike County, he wanted to showcase this monumental year and all the memories made during it as a gift for generations to come.

"I've always had a passion for history, particularly local history," Osterberg said. "I wanted to send a message to the future. I think a time capsule is a great way to do that."

As one of three commissioners, Osterberg oversees many departments in Pike County, including transportation, law enforcement and human services. Working actively with members of the community every day gives him direct connections to people of all different ages who each have unique stories to share.

Mr. Eric Thiele, who is the Technology Education chairperson in the district, also happens to be Osterberg's nephew. Osterberg asked Mr. Thiele if he and his students would be able to create the capsule, and Mr. Thiele was more than willing to help.



Lily Red/Del.Aware

The Pike County seal, carved by our students, will be in the center of the capsule.

This created a great opportunity to not only bring the capsule to life, but also to bring the youth into the project as well.

"I was more than happy to help out my uncle with this [project]," Mr. Thiele said. "I knew that the kids would be able to get it done, and I was excited that they would be able to showcase their talents."

This time capsule is different from a traditional one because it won't be buried. Instead, it is sculpted and carved from wood and looks more like a chest of drawers that opens up at the top, where all the artifacts will be placed inside. It will also include two engraved plaques, one of Pike County and one with a list of names of everyone who worked on the capsule.

The capsule will be on display at the commissioner's office within the next two months and will be sealed on Dec. 31, bringing this historic year to a close.

"I hope this capsule will bring us all together," Osterberg said. "It's a common goal for everyone."

Lifestyle





Trending characters create trending costumes

By Joni Prinzing
School News Co-Editor

Every October, the same question takes over social media feeds: What is everyone dressing up as for Halloween? Whether you're trick-or-treating or going to a party, the possibilities for costumes are endless.

Costume trends are often influenced by what's trending in pop culture, especially famous characters from TV. This year, one trending example comes from the hit movie "Obsession." Inspired by social media, the film features the main character, Nikki, wearing her iconic red tiger-print top with blood dripping down her body.

Rather than planning an outfit alone, many friends coordinate to dress up together and create a group costume. Nostalgic themes such as Monster High ghouls, Disney princesses and superheroes, allow each individual to pick their character and show off their personality. This helps make lasting memories for the whole friend group.



For those looking to coordinate with someone special, couple's costumes offer another way to get creative. Some favorites include the iconic "10 Things I Hate About You" paintball suits and Anakin Skywalker and Padmé Amidala from "Star Wars." These popular duos are a great way to show off shared interests while allowing both partners to have fun.

Of course, not every costume needs to come from a store though. For people who prefer something more creative, DIY costumes are a fun alternative. Using clothes and accessories that they already own can create a unique outfit without breaking the bank.

No matter the type of costume, everyone wants to make their look their own. Halloween brings out the best of everybody's imagination, encouraging people to add their own unique spin through clothing, accessories and makeup.

Rather than copying an outfit exactly, many people execute their vision with pieces such as a corset and skirt, a comfy onesie or even everyday clothes.

Halloween is all about having fun and being yourself, with no single vision for a costume being the same. Exploring social media for different types of costumes is always exciting, introducing people to new trends and helping them find the perfect outfit to reflect their personalities.

SENIOR CIRCUS



BEST TRIO

Dylan Bannon, Jacob Brink, Brayden Slawinski



BEST GROUP

Riley Covart, Marin Eversdyke, Rhyanne Rettinger, Keira LeMay, Camilla Flores, Lilian Seibert

Halloween cheer brought the hallways to life as seniors participated in the annual Senior Halloween and walked in the parade on Oct. 30. The Del.Aware's costume contest took place at this time, allowing a chance for the most eye-catching costumes to be given recognition.

Didn't see yourself or your friends? You're in luck! Check out more photos by scanning the QR code on the right.



BEST DUO

Compiled by Brooke Nielsen, Hailee Walzer. Joni Prinzing, Tessa Marotta and JoeiMarie Cohen

MOST CREATIVE



Vanessa Dispoto & Bella Dillon

TICKETS



FUNNIEST



Devin Estevez

Anthony Boo

Justin Santiago

BEST COUPLE



Rowan Storms & Sammi Baumann

MALE SOLO



James Dabney

FEMALE SOLO



Inessa Martin

SCAN HERE FOR ADDITIONAL PHOTOS!

Lifestyle

Golden age rom-coms provide comfort

By Rhyanne Rettinger
Lifestyle Editor

Whenever you are having a stressful day, I know the perfect cure: put on silk pajamas, hop into bed and turn on your favorite 2000s rom-com movie. Nothing screams comfort more than these timeless films.



If you're indecisive, a handful of the top movies include "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days," "27 Dresses," "The Wedding Planner," "13 Going on 30," "10 Things I Hate About You," "The Proposal" and "50 First Dates."

The early 2000s was known to be the golden age for romantic comedies because of the iconic characteristics that embody the genre and create a sense of nostalgia.

The traditional rom-com plot starts with a meet-cute, includes witty banter throughout and ends with a happy ending. Another quality is the productions are shot with film, rather than digital cameras, filling the screens with warm lighting and vivid colors.

Further key traits are the iconic fashion, cultural influence and classic city lifestyle of the 2000s that are incorporated into the set design.

Then there are the vintage soundtracks and legendary singing scenes, such as Patrick Verona, played by Heath Ledger, in the stadium dancing to "Can't Take My Eyes Off You."

And not forgetting the memorable one-liners that remain famous decades later — like Andie Anderson's quote, in "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days, " "You can't lose something you never had!"

By the final scene, you'll forget about the day's problems and only remember the hope of love.

Fashion aware: Priscilla Pants

By Lexi Tsiattalos
School News Co-Editor

Nowadays, walking into a store and looking for a comfortable, affordable, good-quality pair of pants is like trying to win the lottery. Brandy Melville's signature Priscilla Pants, however, are like winning the jackpot of everyday casual clothing.

Clothing that would normally be reserved for loungewear at home are becoming staples of everyday wardrobes. The Priscilla Pants are a key example of this shift, combining comfort and style all in one simple, effortless design.

As casual fashion becomes increasingly popular, pieces that used to be considered too casual to wear outside of the house are becoming essentials. Fashion that prioritizes comfort without sacrificing appearance are becoming increasingly stylish.

One of the most appealing aspects of the Priscilla Pants seems to be that they are priced at just $24, making them affordable for the average American, unlike many other pants of similar material and style.

Made with 96% cotton and 4% elastane, the high cotton of the pants gives them a soft feel while the elastane provides stretch, allowing them to fit many different body types. Unlike many synthetic fabrics, cotton is naturally breathable. Pants similar to these can be difficult to find in cotton at such a low price, with most priced about $10, if not more, above Brandy's price.

Additionally, their versatility makes them easy to style. The pants feature a fold-over waistband, and wide-legged silhouette, making them multifaceted because they combine comfort with fashion. For a simple, everyday outfit, you can combine them with a fitted-tee or one of Brandy's many tops in a matching color to make a set. They can also be dressed up with a more formal sweater and some accessories, or dressed down and worn with a hoodie. Because of their simple design and wide array of bold and neutral color options, they can often be paired with clothing items most people already have at home.

Finding clothing that combines comfort, style, quality and affordability is becoming increasingly difficult, but Brandy Melville's signature Priscilla Pants make it easy. Their comfortable material and versatile design make them a staple in many people's wardrobes.

Leadership isn't born, it's built

By Bella Faust
Lifestyle Co-Editor



You wake up. You eat breakfast. You go to school. You go to sleep. You repeat. Notice how every sentence starts with you? Leadership works the same way. It starts with you.

Typically, when you envision a leader, you might imagine a sports team captain, a class officer or the person in your group project who always takes initiative. But what if leadership has less to do with someone's assigned role and more to do with the steps they take?

Leadership is often viewed as a natural ability that some people are simply born with. However, this is not always the case. Leadership is developed and built through actions, mistakes and experiences. It requires people to prove to themselves how far they are willing to go to succeed, even after facing challenges and setbacks.

However, leadership is not as easy as it looks. It comes with pressure, burnout and the need to always meet other people's expectations while exceeding your own. I know how this feels, and it can be overwhelming. Although I have qualified for FBLA nationals four times in a row, I still want to place. Similarly, planning events as a class office means trying to please everyone while making sure everything comes together. The responsibilities add up, leading to burnout.

Despite its challenges, leadership teaches valuable lessons. When you fail, what do you do? Do you sit back and complain about how difficult the situation is, or do you ask yourself, "What can I learn from this?" Choosing the second option helps you grow and can inspire those around you. That is what a true leader does.

Believing that leadership is a skill only certain people possess simply is not the case. Leadership can be developed over time through consistent actions, learning from mistakes and gaining experiences.

Now, you wake up with a different perspective. This time, you know you can be a leader.

Arts & Literature

Spotlight Musician: *Kaedon Woolsey-Lishman*

By Sarah Decker
Arts & Literature Co-Editor

From the moment she first picked up the instrument in fourth grade, senior Kaedon Woolsey-Lishman knew music was her passion.

Her journey began early in life when she taught herself the piano and then later discovered the flute.

"I think that just the way that it looked appealed to me," Kaedon said. "Then, I started listening to how it sounded."



Throughout high school, her dedication and love for music shone through band and symphony. Beyond the classroom, she participated in the pit band for middle school productions such as "Beauty and the Beast," "Aladdin" and "Shrek."

For Kaedon, what she loves most about playing music is tackling hard pieces and persevering through them.

" I like how rewarding it is, especially learning something that's difficult," Kaedon said. "I feel like it gives me a good sense of accomplishment."

Furthermore, Kaedon hopes to minor in music beyond high school and encourages aspiring musicians to embrace the learning process and never give up.

"Ask others for help, definitely. Don't be afraid to do that, and just keep practicing," Kaedon said.

Spotlight Writer: *Madison Curchoe*

By Faith Bailey
School News Editor

For senior Madison Curchoe, writing begins long before the first sentence reaches the page. It starts with thought, a plan and a desire to make ideas understandable.

Madison values writing because it gives her time to choose her words deliberately.

"You have to be a lot more careful with what you write versus what you say," she said.

Although poetry is her favorite genre to read, she finds analytical writing more natural to write. Madison is also inspired by other authors when she considers how language has connected people across generations.

"Really what inspires me to write is reading other's work, especially if you think way back, like when writing was first introduced," she said.

Madison organizes her thoughts with a graphic organizer or mind map before drafting, then revisits her work several times to refine it.

She credits AP Language and Composition and AP English Literature with strengthening her skills and helping her write essays more efficiently.

Madison hopes to pursue a career as an English professor. Above all, she wants her writing to reach people.

"If a third grader could read it and understand it, I did my job," she said.

> *"Really what inspires me to write is reading other's work, especially if you think way back, like when writing was first introduced."*
>
> **-Madison Curchoe**

Spotlight Artist: *Colin Cronin*

By JoeiMarie Cohen
Opinion Editor

Senior Colin Cronin has been creating art since he was 5, when he and his friend Zahara began drawing together and challenging each other to improve.

"We started drawing, and we just kept drawing over and over again," Colin said.

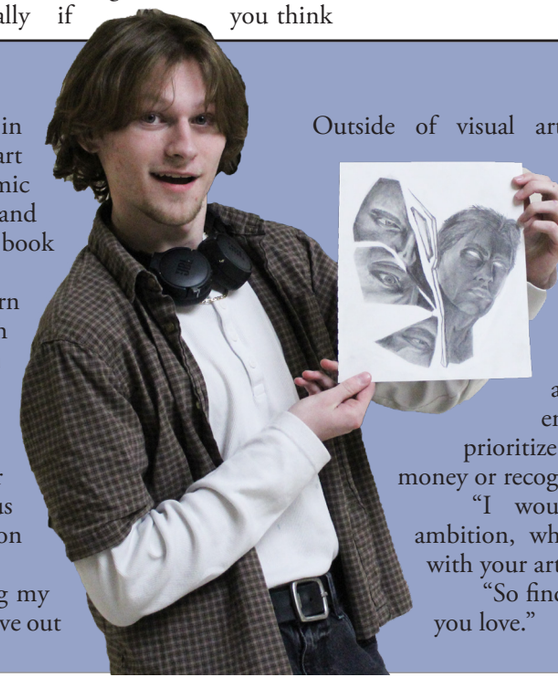
The two artists created drawing challenges using an online spinner wheel, choosing characters from cartoons and video games. Colin says Zahara continues to inspire him.

He primarily works with pen and ink, using hatching and cross-hatching to create comic book-style pieces. However, he has experimented with other mediums, including graphite, watercolor and colored pencils.

He has taken Introduction to Drawing 1, Introduction to Drawing 2, General Art, Painting 1 and AP Studio Art. His interest in comics has helped develop his art style. Colin's introduction to comic books was influenced by his uncle and father, who took him to comic book stores when he was young.

He views the stories as modern versions of traditional myths, with characters such as Superman offering meaningful messages to readers. A recent visit to Comic Con changed how Colin approaches his artwork. Seeing artists share their creations encouraged him to focus less on financial success and more on personal expression.

"It's more so about expressing my personal self and what I want to leave out in the world," Colin said.



Outside of visual art, he has explored acting through Drama Club and playing guitar. He is also interested in photography and plans to purchase a camera.

For younger artists, Colin encourages them to prioritize their ambitions over money or recognition.

"I would focus on your ambition, what you want to say with your art," Colin said.

"So find that idea, find what you love."

Arts & Literature

Drama Club presents 'Heroes vs. Villains: A Cabaret'

By Sarah Decker
Arts & Literature Co-Editor

The DVHS auditorium lit up with talent on Oct. 23 as the Drama club presented "Heroes vs. Villains: A Cabaret."

Packed with dynamic performances spanning from dramatic musical pieces to iconic favorites, this cabaret was entirely student-driven. The theme itself came directly from student leadership, as assistant director Ms. Sarah Fitzkee explained.

"I asked my officers, and they came up with the idea of doing the cabaret in the first place. It was their choice," Ms. Fitzkee said.

To prepare for the show, the students showed their dedication through extensive time working on their performance individually, as well as alongside director and music director Sandy Stalter.

"She worked very intensely with them, just getting their vocals down," Ms. Fitzkee said. "But in terms of the acting and the performing, they all brought that themselves."



Sarah Decker/Del.Aware

Seniors perform an outstanding number with "Easy Street" ("Annie").

Their hard work and commitment was shown through all 19 musical pieces performed throughout the evening. Opening with "Prologue" from "Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812," the students started off with a jaw-dropping and thrilling first number. The audience heard songs that represented darker roles and pieces from the villain's perspective such as "Mother Knows Best" ("Tangled"), "World Burn" ("Mean Girls") and "Be a Dentist" ("Little Shop of Horrors").

This energy was later countered with iconic, heroic and inspiring songs such as "The Impossible Dream" ("Man of La Mancha") and "Out There" ("The Hunchback of Notre Dame").

To conclude the show, the entire cast finished together with an unforgettable finale, performing "Flesh Failures/Let the Sunshine In" from "Hair."

The evening was highlighted by the cast's outstanding effort and the audience's ecstatic reaction, leading Ms. Fitzkee to share her thoughts on the production.

"I just hope they had a fantastic time," Ms. Fitzkee said. "I hope they laughed. I hope they cried. I just hope they had a great night."

Ultimately, the cabaret brought an electrifying energy and lasting emotion that the audience - and themselves - will never forget.

A new chapter begins

By Atisha Joannou
Arts & Literature Editor

Students will have a new opportunity to celebrate literature and writing through the school's newly established National English Honor Society.

Inspired by senior Madison Curchoe, who helped introduce the idea, the society was established with the support of English teacher Mr. Bryan Pol and Mrs. Jackie Weston who oversees the chapter.

The Robbins and Zarzecki Chapter honors late educators Mark Robbins and Diana Zarzecki, who contributed to the school's English programs.

Members must complete 20 hours of literary-based community service. Potential activities include volunteering at Milford Readers and Writers Festivals, participating in the Book Buddies program, hosting open mic nights and creating a lending library and providing peer tutoring.

These initiatives aim to promote literacy throughout the school community 'Open mic nights could feature student poetry and songs, while peer tutoring could strengthen writing skills.

"So we want to really be there to encourage literacy more than anything else," Mr. Pol said.

Students must also meet academic requirements to qualify for membership. Applications include information about GPAs, English coursework, Keystone exam scores and AP exam results. Teachers will complete rating surveys to help determine eligibility. Thirty students have expressed interest in joining the society. Members will elect officers, including a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary.

The chapter plans to meet monthly and hopes to establish at least two major initiatives before the end of the school year.

Curchoe encourages students who are interested to give the society a chance, regardless of whether they feel academically qualified.

"I say do it even if you don't think you're good enough, you don't think your GPA is high enough, all that good stuff," Curchoe said. "Just please please please come out and try because chances are we'll find a place for you."

Book Buddies program connects students

By Faith Bailey
School News Editor

Students across the Combo program are taking part in new opportunities to volunteer and making a difference in their school community.

The ninth-grade team introduced the Book Buddies program, an initiative designed to encourage a love of reading while connecting high school freshmen with younger students.

In partnership with the United Way, the program gave Combo 9 students the opportunity to visit Delaware Valley Elementary School on Nov. 5 and read "The Leaf Thief" with kindergarten students. Participation was open to any interested Combo 9 student.

The program was organized with the help of assistant superintendent for federal programs Dr. Jayson Pope, social studies teacher Mr. Nicholas Quaglia and English teacher Mrs. Jackie Weston.

The initiative was designed to create a meaningful experience for both the freshmen and elementary school students, allowing each group to learn from each other.

Throughout the school year, ninth graders are expected to make several visits to spend time reading and building relationships with their book buddies. To prepare for these interactions, Combo students have been developing their communication skills so they can effectively engage with the younger children.

For Mrs. Weston, the program holds special meaning because it gives students the chance to make a lasting impact at an early age. She appreciates the willingness of the freshmen to dedicate their time to helping others while encouraging younger students to discover the joy of reading.

"It is very special to me," Mrs. Weston said. "It gives the kids a fantastic opportunity to spread a love of literacy to the little ones who look up to them."

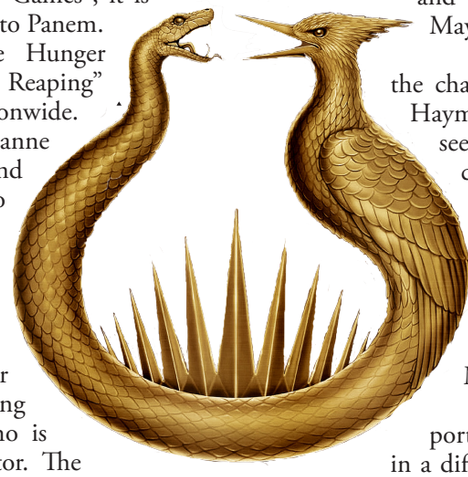
Entertainment

Let the Games begin: again

By Josie Lordi
Sports Editor

Fans of "The Hunger Games", it is time to return once again to Panem.

On Nov. 20, "The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping" is set to hit theaters nationwide. This movie is based on Suzanne Collins' 2025 novel, and it takes viewers back to before Katniss Everdeen ever fired an arrow in the arena.



The plot takes place 24 years prior to the original "The Hunger Games" and follows a young Haymitch Abernathy, who is Katniss and Peeta's mentor. The movie will start on the 50th annual reaping, also known as the Quarter Quell. This unique prequel demands each district to send twice the number of tributes to compete for their lives in front of the capital and all districts.

Joseph Zada will take on the role of young Haymitch. The rest of the cast includes Whitney Peak as Lenore Dove, Elle Fanning as Effie Trinket, Kieran Culkin as Caesar Flickerman and Mckenna Grace as Maysilee Donner.

This movie will give fans the chance to learn more about Haymitch, his background and see what shaped him into the courageous, sarcastic and resilient mentor he was to Katniss and Peeta.

It will also give the fans a look inside of Panem before the rebellion and before the Mockingjay.

With familiar characters portrayed by different actors in a different time, "The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping," is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated additions to the franchise yet.

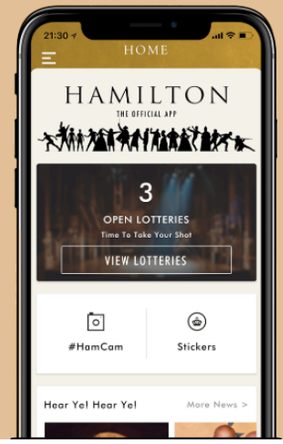


How to see 'Hamilton' for a Hamilton

By Brendan Baird
Sports Co-Editor

The hit musical "Hamilton" has one of the hardest and most expensive tickets to acquire on Broadway, with tickets routinely reaching $200 or more. However, there is a way to see it for only $10.

This is only possible through their mobile app, downloadable on all major platforms. Right on the home screen of the app, there is a tiny ticket icon in the top left corner titled "Lottery."



Once in the lottery section, you can scroll down and enter the lottery for every performance within a week. The lottery opens every Friday at 10 a.m., with it closing on the following Thursday at noon.

You can not enter the lottery if you are under 18, and you can win a maximum of two tickets per show.

If you win, you get notified by the app itself and you get sent an email from "Hamilton." From that moment, you have four hours to claim your tickets and purchase them. If they do not get claimed, you will lose your tickets, and they will go to someone else. Once claimed, there is nothing left for you to do until the day of the show, which takes place the week after you get notified.

The day of, you get on the security line, go to the box office, tell them that you are a lottery winner and show the winner's ID. From there, they will then give you your paper tickets, a rarity in this day and age.

Your seat location is a secret until you get your tickets, but in my experience from winning the lottery and according to the box office themselves, tickets will be located in the front two rows of the orchestra.

I got in the security line at 6:25 p.m, and was at my seat within 10 minutes. The concourse can be very crowded because of the old age of the theater, so I would recommend pre-ordering any drinks and getting any merchandise before the show.

The show itself was phenomenal, of course. I was lucky enough to see the original George Washington, Christopher Jackson, reprise his role, and he sounded even better than in the cast album.



Brendan Baird/Del.Aware

View of the set of "Hamilton" from my seat, which was won in the lottery.

In my opinion, winning the lottery is the best way to see "Hamilton." You are seated right in front of the actors, giving you an extremely rare opportunity to see these actors so close. Do not throw away your shot - enter this lottery today.

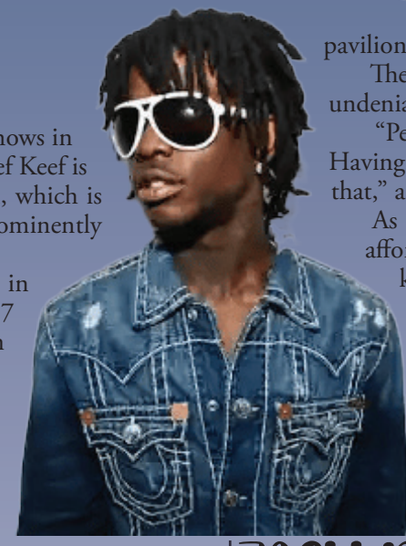
CONCERT WRAP-UPS

CHIEF KEEF

By Lucas Petersheim
Community News Editor

Chief Keef kicked off his A Lil Tour shows in his home city of Chicago on Sept. 12. Chief Keef is often credited with being the king of drill, which is a fast-paced, gritty subgenre of rap that prominently originated in Chicago.

Keef blew up on the rap scene in 2012 with his hit song "Love Sosa," 15.7 million monthly listeners later, he is on his fifth tour visiting eccentric venues all around the country. This tour has been particularly special because of the venues he is performing at. Unlike most concerts being performed in stadiums, the majority of Keef's shows are being held at rooftops, pavilions, clubs and other unique venues.



The overall atmosphere of the concert was undeniably electric.

"People were passing out from overexcitement. Having that passion and energy from fans, I love that," a review stated on KTRU.

As far as logistics go, the shows have been very affordable with general admission tickets, also known as a floor ticket, being around $100. The shows have lasted anywhere from two and a half to three hours.

His New York City show at the Pier 17 rooftop restaurant was recently canceled due to traffic involving the NYC marathon, but he was able to get the show back on the road in Philadelphia on Nov. 3.

HARRY STYLES

By Keira LeMay
Managing Editor

Harry Styles' Together, Together tour was filled with visual effects, dancing and incredible performances. The tour features a 30-day residency at Madison Square Garden in support of his fourth studio album "Kiss All the Time. Disco, Occasionally." I attended the show on night 21 and as expected, was left stunned by his performance.

The show started off with opener DJ Jamie xx, whose performance consisted only of remixed songs and dramatic light effects. Personally, I was not the biggest fan of his show, as I much prefer an opener who sings live, compared to a DJ.

However, Styles' performance left me much happier. He came on stage at 9 p.m., and the show started off with "Dance No More," a single from his recent album. He also performed many of his most popular songs such as "Carolina," "Adore You" and "Kiwi."



The show featured visual effects on screen, along with colorful lights that matched each song. Styles had a full band, along with dancers, on stage with him. His choreography and vocals were incredible.

Styles ended the night with an acoustic piano version of "Sign of the Times," one of my personal favorites. He then returned for an encore, an electronic rendition of "Aperture," remixed live on a DJ set.

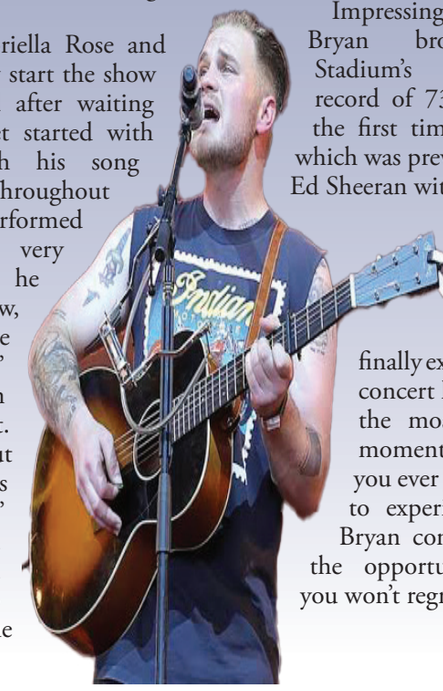
As someone who has seen Styles in concert before, I expected an impressive show, and I was not let down by his never-boring performance.

ZACH BRYAN

By Bella Puiu
Staff Writer

When Zach Bryan announced he would be going on tour, I took the opportunity to purchase tickets to experience his concert on Oct. 3 at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts.

Bryan had Gabriella Rose and Gregory Alan Isakov start the show with their sets and after waiting excitedly, Bryan's set started with him opening with his song "Overtime." Throughout the concert, he performed many songs I'm very familiar with, but he also played one new, never-played-before song, "Dog Days" that was released in his new EP on Oct. 16. He closed out the concert with his iconic "Revival," which he played for 20 minutes and fireworks lit up the sky around the stadium.



Even though he didn't play all of my favorite songs, the overall experience of hearing Bryan live was more magical than listening to him on Spotify, but I was left disappointed after the show because after Rose opened for Bryan, they did not perform their single "Madeline."

Impressingly enough, Bryan broke Gillette Stadium's attendance record of 73,538 fans for the first time since 2023, which was previously held by Ed Sheeran with 71,723.

Since I bought my tickets 10 months in advance, finally experiencing the concert live was one of the most memorable moments of my life. If you ever get the chance to experience a Zach Bryan concert, take up the opportunity because you won't regret it.

Science & Technology

FBI battles with concerning online security breach

By Lily Red
Community News Co-Editor

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was reportedly the target of a mass cyberattack from a mysterious group known as the ShinyHunters on Sept. 22.

Journalists from the company 404 Media claimed to have spoken to the hackers. Members of ShinyHunters told the outlet that the group had stolen confidential information about current FBI agents and new applicants. This information leak reportedly included names, phone numbers, addresses, spouses' identities and, perhaps the most concerning, social security numbers.

ShinyHunters does not have an established place of origin, and its directors seem to be spread out across the world. The known members are from France, the Netherlands, Jordan and Canada, according to CNN.

CBS stated that the FBI, working alongside the Dutch National Police, arrested a hacker from the group, 24-year-old Pepjin van der Stap, in Amsterdam. He was placed into custody on Sept. 15 on suspicion of being involved with ShinyHunters, and later the statements from 404 Media confirmed he is a key leader in the group.

Another important figure in the group, Saif al-din Khader, also known as Rey, is a teenager from Amaan, Jordan. The FBI is using him to identify other cyberterrorists in the organization, the New York Times reported.

One theory for ShinyHunter's attack, ABC reported, was a recent public advisory from the FBI that criticized the group's tactics for extorting its victim organizations. According to CNN, ShinyHunters also targeted large scale health organizations earlier this year, proving a huge threat to the global health sector.

The agents who are supposedly targeted are advised to report any unregistered contacts and suspicious phone calls in addition to monitoring their home security systems.

"As we speak, FBI teams are actively working with partners to obtain and execute more leads in the ongoing investigation," said FBI director Kash Patel, according to a CBS report.

Poll: iPhone or Samsung

The graphic below displays results of a survey conducted during all lunches.



88.2% of students chose iPhone.



11.8% of students chose Samsung.

Compiled by Anthony Lordi

Plague scare in Russia after obscure death

By Chloe Simonson
Entertainment Editor

Darya Shipilova, a 28-year-old laboratory worker in Siberia, died on Oct. 2 after developing severe pneumonia, raising concerns that she may have contracted pneumonic plague while working at Russia's Irkutsk Anti-Plague Research Institute.

Russian officials have not confirmed plague as the cause of death. They described her illness as pneumonia of unknown origin and tests found no dangerous plague like pathogens among the people who had come into contact with her. Despite this statement, they have gone on to quarantine about 200 people, and the hospital where Shipilova was treated has also been faced with restrictions.

Pneumonic plague is a rare but dangerous infection caused by the bacterium Yersinia pestis, the same bacteria responsible for the Black Death. Unlike bubonic plague, which usually spreads through respiratory droplets that attack the lungs and can become deadly without rapid treatment. Though in this day and age, modern antibiotics can successfully treat the disease if given early enough.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has requested more information from Russia, including laboratory results and an explanation for the quarantines. Without this information, health experts cannot confirm what killed Shipilova or fully understand the risks. Public health scientist Devi Sridhar warned that Russia's lack of transparency could make investigating potential outbreaks more difficult. Despite this, WHO's current assessment states that the risk of a broader outbreak is very low.

With Russia's secrecy and the whispers of plague, the situation has fueled a deep sense of public apprehension with the lack of transparency and information available to ease the minds of those concerned.

Science & Technology

Conspiracy theory: *Paul McCartney died in 1966*

By Deborah Kim
Science & Technology Co-Editor

"PAUL IS DEAD" was the headline plastered on newspapers throughout America in 1969, and the theory that Paul McCartney from the Beatles had died and been replaced began to spread across the United States.

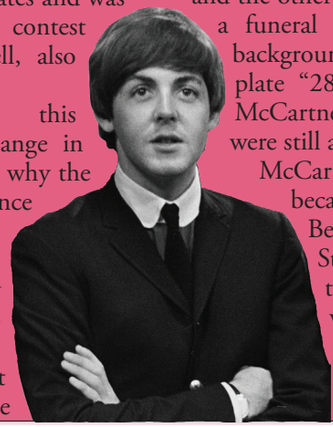
Ranked No. 4 on Time magazine's 2009 list of the most enduring conspiracies, it claims McCartney got into a fatal car crash in November 1966 following an argument with his bandmates and was replaced by a look-alike contest winner William Campbell, also known as Billy Shears.

Listeners claimed this explained the sudden change in the band's appearance and why the group had not toured since their last concert in 1966. Evidence was allegedly hidden in song lyrics by the rest of the Beatles to confess this to their fans.

For example, the most cited piece of evidence lies in the song "Revolution 9" where the opening seconds played in reverse supposedly say, "Turn me on, dead man." And their song "A Day in the Life" released in June 1967, has lyrics that say, "He blew his mind out in a car" and "He didn't notice that the lights had changed."

Not only did clues lie in lyrics, but also they were also concealed in the band's visuals and record sleeves.

On their most infamous album, "Abbey Road," McCartney is the only one who has his eyes closed and barefoot, and the other bandmates' outfits resemble a funeral procession. Details in the background such as the license plate "28 IF" tell devotees the age McCartney would have been if he were still alive.



McCartney denied the rumor, and it became a running joke within the Beatles and their inner circles. Still, some communities insist that the real Paul McCartney was killed. If it's true, Billy Shears deserves his check for "Blackbird," "Yesterday" and more.

Tesla unveils second-generation Roadster

By Shahed Bankasli Attar
Staff Writer

Elon Musk revealed the long-awaited flying Tesla prototype on Oct. 15, during a live demonstration at the SpaceX testing facility located in McGregor, Texas.

The demonstration showed a white sports car driving up a giant half-loop ramp at high speed. It lingered upside down for a second on the ramp before slowly detaching, flipping upright and landing gently on the ground.

Unlike every Tesla produced so far, the second generation uses SpaceX technology rather than only automotive parts.

There are 10 thrusters attached to the car which act as tiny rockets, releasing cold gas that provides the ability to control the car midair.

The fan and diffuser system works as a vacuum suction, which allows the car to grip on to surfaces while upside down.

The car will go into production in 2028. As of now, the flying feature is not confirmed to be safe and allowed on the roads. On top of that, the car is only available to a select few, according to Musk.

The technicalities are still being worked on, but who would have thought flying cars would be possible in the future or even now?



The science behind Christa Pike's failed execution

By Hailee Walzer
Opinion Co-Editor

After being convicted of first-degree murder, Christa Pike was sentenced to death in 1996. On Sept. 30, 2026, the state of Tennessee attempted to execute Pike with two doses of lethal injections at the Riverbend Maximum Security Institution. However, the drug never killed her.

Prison staff who were supervised by Dr. Mark Fowler injected her with two doses of a medication called pentobarbital. This substance affects a person's physiological functions including their respiratory and cardiovascular systems. The expected result of this injection is death.

For Pike, the lethal drug never entered her blood stream. Pike has a blood clotting condition called thrombocytosis. Because of this condition, it made it very difficult to accurately inject the substance into her veins.

Thrombocytosis is a condition in which a person has a high platelet count. Platelets are blood cells that all come together to form clots in order to stop bleeding.

An excess of platelets can cause disruption to the flow of the substance into the blood stream. When a person with thrombocytosis is stuck with an IV, their platelets may stick to the surface of it which can create blocking in the vein and not allow the distribution of the substance.

For Pike, the cause of the failed execution has not been directly confirmed. According to WVLT 8 News, there are other factors that could have been the reason other than her condition.

The person injecting Pike may have missed the vein and the substance could have leaked into the tissue and muscle surrounding the insertion sites in her arm. WVLT 8 News stated that when this happens it can result in swelling, pain and tissue damage. These effects may possibly explain the pain and injuries that she endured due to the procedure.

According to BBC News, her lawyers stated that prison officials tried to start IV lines with at least seven needles. This caused Pike to experience immense pain and it is reported that she was heard crying and whimpering.

As a result of this failed execution, Christa Pike was left with injuries in her arm. Her arm was left discoloured due to blistering, swelling and burns.

According to NBC News, the state of Tennessee has not expressed what the future for Pike looks like. The decision on whether or not she is going to be executed in the future is still up for debate. However, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee has paused all executions in the state for the rest of the year.

Sports

Unified Strength and Conditioning encourages peer inclusion

By Keira LeMay
Managing Editor

This year, a new sport was brought to the highschool: Unified Strength and Conditioning allows students to practice multiple different forms of exercise and strength training.

The group, including eight athletes and partners, was brought together after the program was introduced by Special Olympics Pennsylvania to Mrs. Linnette Saturno, educational consultant and Mrs. Hailey Vogel, special education teacher.

The addition of Unified Strength and Conditioning brings more opportunity for students with and without developmental disabilities to work together. This group is now the third unified sport available.



Keira LeMay/Del.Aware

Senior Gregory Plotkin enjoys building muscle and spending time with friends.

"It allows them [Special Olympics athletes] to participate in a sport with their peers," head coach Ms. Hailee Kolvenbach said.

Because the sport was recently created, the team is not competing this fall. Instead, they are practicing and working on fundamentals with athletes to gauge interest in the team.

The team will be holding a showcase at the end of the season for students and family, in hopes to compete next fall.

The group is currently practicing to compete in the bench press, deadlift, stationary bike, jump rope, broad jump, walk relay and the shuttle run.

"[We hope] to continue with the inclusion of special education students with regular athletes, for them to work together, remain active, socialize and build community," coach Kolvenbach said.

College vs NFL: What's the difference?

By Leif-Erik Orby
Staff Writer

On Saturdays, college football delivers intense rivalries, chaotic student sections and unexpected upsets. On Sundays, the NFL features the best football players in the world, a larger market and passionate fans.

One of the biggest differences between the NFL and college football is the culture and atmosphere. In some college football stadiums, the capacity can reach 100,000+ people, while the biggest NFL stadiums hold approximately 70,000 fans. College football also comes with deeper rivalries with the likes of Michigan vs. Ohio State and Texas vs. Oklahoma. In the NFL, the game is the main focus while in college there are other factors like marching bands, student sections and school traditions.



Penn State's whiteout crowd reached over 100,000 specatators.

Another difference between the two levels is the field. In the NFL, hashes are tight and only 18 feet wide, while college hashes are 40 feet wide. The wider hash marks give offenses an opportunity to play to the wide side of the field, which can be difficult for a defense to cover. The closer hash marks give easier angles for field goals since the hash marks are lined up with the goal post.

With the implementation of name, image and likeness (NIL), opportunities have changed college football. Athletes are able to earn money through endorsements, which can possibly influence where they want to play. Combined with the transfer portal, NIL has made college football unpredictable, with coaches and players constantly moving around.

Ultimately, both levels are able to offer excitement for many different reasons. College football is able to thrive on tradition, rivalries and unpredictability, which tends to attract the average viewer. On the other hand, the NFL showcases elite talent and the highest level of football.

The comeback that nobody talks about

By Joni Prinzing
School News Co-Editor



Everybody sees the physical side of returning to your sport after an injury, but it is the mental side that is often overlooked. This is something that I am passionate about because I have personally struggled with it.

Many people don't understand the feelings of disappointment and uncertainty that comes with recovery. It leads you to not only question ability but also identity and worth. Without your sport taking up so much time, you are forced to figure out who you are without it. If you've spent years defining yourself as an athlete, the process can be very uncomfortable.

There is nothing quite like feeling that all of your hard work has finally paid off, just for it to be taken away in a split second. Injuries leave you wondering about all the potential you had, and you can't help but think about where you would be if things had gone differently.

Feeling disconnected with your sport is an unmatched experience. You hopelessly watch your teammates from the sidelines and wish it were you playing. Instead of practicing, competing and making memories with teammates, your routine becomes physical therapy. Words cannot explain how frustrating it is to be forced to slow down while everyone else moves forward.

Even when you are cleared to play again, nobody notices the fear of reinjury, learning to trust yourself again and hesitating movements that once felt so natural. Having your coach telling you to take it easy or always checking up on how your body is feeling can stir feelings of humiliation because you just want to prove yourself and play without anyone's pity.

What people don't realize is that recovery isn't a race. Progress looks different for everyone, and returning to the game is only part of the battle.

My advice if you have dealt with this or ever find yourself having to: your sport is what you do, not who you are. Take the time to recover, both physically and mentally because your worth isn't measured by your playing time or accomplishments. Sometimes, the biggest comeback isn't actually returning to your sport, but snapping back mentally.

DV ATHLETES Sign OFF

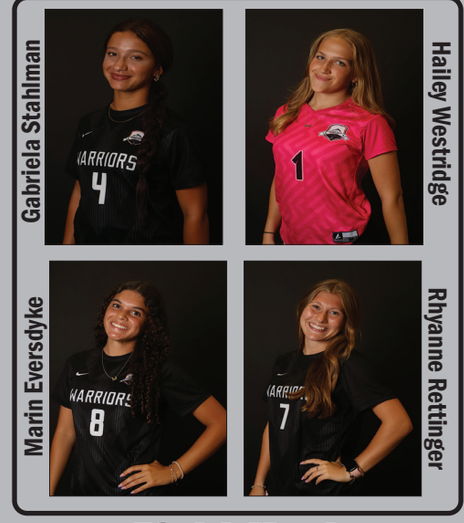
Girls Tennis



Anjali Udeshi | Emma Strickler | Marilyn Marty

Paige Martine | Josie Lordi | Sophia Romeo

Girls Soccer



Gabriela Stahlman | Hailey Westridge

Marin Eversdyke | Rhyanne Rettinger

As the fall sports season comes to an end, seniors were recognized for their hard work and dedication. The sports' booster clubs and coaches organize these senior nights. Seniors' plans for after high school, their involvement and how long they have been playing were announced.

Compiled by Josie Lordi

Boys Soccer



Eric Choi | Cameron Stark

Anthony Paredes Nieves | Jason Nagy

Shane Kirk

Girls Volleyball



Cecelia Dickerson

Paris Machado | Layla Hickok

Field Hockey



Jordyn Ciarelli | Camila Moreira | Savannah Liz

Golf



Maxwell Parker | Zion Colon

Football

Not pictured Cole Decker



Dylan Bannon | Lucas Petersheim | Alex Calvario | Lucas Purdon | Jacob Wolak | Matt Marotta

Sam Wood | Anthony Boo | Devin Estevez | Will McKenzie | Jace Stahli | Kadeen Trent

Phillip Leslie | Michael Seltzer | Mark Reinhardt | Noah Leoncavallo | James Dabney

Photos taken by Mrs. Thompson on Sports Media Days

Sports

Fall Wrap-Ups

Golf

By Beau Tannenbaum
Science & Technology Editor

The golf team finished its regular season play with an overall record of 9-7 and a league record of 9-5.

Head coach Jim Salus was very pleased with the team's performance, stating that they had a great year.

Their regular season record seeded them as the No. 3 team going into playoffs, which set them up against the Honesdale Hornets — a team that beat them both times they faced in the regular season.

The Hornets bested them, eliminating them from the playoffs and ending their season.

"The team gave a good effort, but Honesdale was just better that day," coach Salus said.

With that loss, the team is turning its focus to next season.

With only two seniors on the team, most of their starters will be returning. Coach Salus is excited to see if this core group of experienced players can help secure them a better record and a deeper, elongated playoff run.



Contributed Photo

Senior Max Parker lines up his putt with focus and intent.

Cross Country

By Brooke Nielsen
School News Editor

The cross country teams wrapped up their seasons on Oct. 28 at their district race. Junior Grace Holderith placed first with a time of 18:56. The girls team finished with a 9-13 record and the boy team finished 7-15

The boys were led by freshman Ryan Haggerty who saw a one minute improvement in his 5K time since the beginning of the season. Head coach Keith Fitzpatrick noted that the boys did very well in dropping their times, especially considering the number of younger and newer runners that made up the team.

"Beginning of the season I was hoping we would have maybe two kids go sub-20, but in the end, sophomores Silas Kameen, Evan Jacobs, Alex Rebock, and freshmen Haggerty, Mike Simmons and Patrick Tamplin all went under 20 [minutes]," coach Fitzpatrick said.

The girls team was also young and small with only five runners and no seniors. Fitzpatrick said that he is very happy with their progress this season, noting that several runners made big time improvements and new personal bests.

Following her district win, Holderith will be competing at States at Big Spring High School tomorrow.



Sophomore Silas Kameen

Field Hockey

By Lexi Tsiattalos
School News Co-Editor

The field hockey team wrapped up it's season with a 4-1 loss On Oct. 26, against Hazelton Area Cougars, bringing their overall record to 11-6-2.

Head coach Marielle Cohen said that despite the loss, she was really proud of the team.

"They executed what I asked them to do, but we just on that day weren't a match for them," coach Cohen said.

Sophomore Cece Hazard was the sole scorer in the game.

Coach Cohen explained how she believed that the team's increased commitment during the summer and off-season immensely contributed to their success this season.

The team's biggest improvement from the beginning of the season was playing together, as well as their improved stick skills and touches.

"I thought we did a really awesome job of using all 11 on the field all the time, both offensively and defensively," coach Cohen said.

Their goals for next season are to win the district championship and continue to improve their record.

This year the team had three seniors: Camila Moreira, Savannah Liz and Jordyn Ciarelli.

"My seniors are awesome," coach Cohen said. "They are phenomenal leaders."



Senior Savannah Liz

Tennis

By Lucas Petersheim
Community News Editor

The tennis team lost in the District 2 playoffs on Oct. 2nd to the Abington Heights Comets. The team concluded its season with a 4-8 record, finishing in fourth place in the Lackawanna League.

"Though our record was not a winning one, the girls played more strategically as the season went on," head coach Amy Strickler said.

Senior Emma Stickler and Senior Josie Lordi qualified for singles districts. Emma Strickler received a bye before defeating Wyoming Valley West's 13th seed. She ultimately lost to Valley View in the quarter finals. Josie Lordi won her first match against Honesdale's 25th seed, but lost to Abington Heights second singles player in the round of 16.

In doubles districts junior Caroltta Schmitz and junior Fiona Weimer lost in the second round to Abington Heights 25th seed. Strickler and Lordi also competed. They swept their first two matches before falling short to West Scranton's eighth seed in the district quarterfinals.

The team is graduating six seniors, so coach Strickler is looking for younger players to step up into bigger roles next season.

"Our starters that will be returning next year are strong. We are excited to see what next year brings for them," coach Strickler said.



Junior Avarie Balogh

Sports

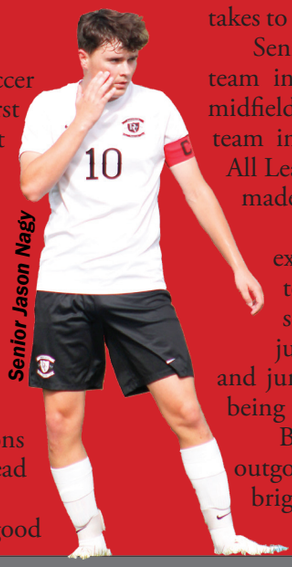
Boys Soccer

By Brendan Baird
Sports Co-Editor

The boys soccer team lost in the first round of the District 2 AAAA Subregional Championships to the Scranton Knights with a final score of 4-3, ending the Warriors season at 5-12-3.

The mark on this year's seniors will be felt for seasons to come, remarked head coach Aaron Stark.

"They set a good foundation of work ethic and what it takes to lead a team," coach Stark said.


Senior Jason Nagy

Senior striker Eric Choi led the team in goals with 11, with senior midfielder Jason Nagy leading the team in assists with 11. First Team All League Senior goalie Shane Kirk made 187 saves on the season.

Coach Stark expressed his excitement for younger players to work their way into more scoring opportunities, with junior winger Rowan Eversdyke and junior midfielder Christian Sell being mentioned in particular.

Built on the pride of the outgoing seniors, the future looks bright for Warrior soccer.

Girls Soccer

By Leif-Erik Orby
Staff Writer

The girls soccer team lost 1-0 to the Greater Nanticoke Area Trojanettes in the district quarterfinals on Oct. 26. The team finished its season with a 7-9-3 record and ended in fifth place in the Lackawanna League.


Senior Marin Eversdyke

The Warriors fought hard all game and throughout the first half they were able to maintain possession. However, in the final minute of the game, the Trojanettes attacked DV's defense and earned a corner, which led to the ball finding its way in the back of the net.

The goal and assist leader for the Warriors was junior Brooke Nielsen, who ended the season with six goals and four assists. Nielsen and senior Rhyanne Rhettinger were both selected for the Lackawanna League second team.

According to Coach Quinn, senior goalkeeper Hailey Westridge helped keep the Warriors in key games and accounted for 300 total saves throughout her career.

"We look forward to continuing to grow and learn from situational soccer to capitalize next year on a returning roster," Head Coach Kevin Quinn said.

Football

By Josie Lordi
Sports Editor

Last Friday night, the Warriors lost to the Abington Heights Comets, losing its 23-year playoff run. The team ended its season with a record 3-7 and will not continue playing in the post season.

"The team needed to live up to the standard of being a Warrior football player," head coach Keith Olsommer said. "As a team and staff, we drifted away from it. We need to return to the standard."

The team had several injuries this season, and key players were out for extended periods of time. Coach Olsommer explains that the team had a hard time trying to finish games and lost four, one score games this year.

"We played hard, just didn't finish," coach Olsommer said.

The team lost 18 seniors this season. Coach Olsommer credits seniors Devin Estevez, Dylan Bannon, Jacob Wolak and Michael Seltzer for the roles they played on the team and said that the underclassmen have big shoes to fill next year.

"We have to find linebackers, inside and out. We also need to find more linemen," coach Olsommer said.

One thing the team couldn't escape this year was injuries, which left them very young and inexperienced. Coach Olsommer acknowledges the JV team and the players who stepped up.


Junior Joey Barone

"I am very proud of the fight and growth our guys showed throughout the season," coach Olsommer said. "They never gave up and fought hard until the last play."

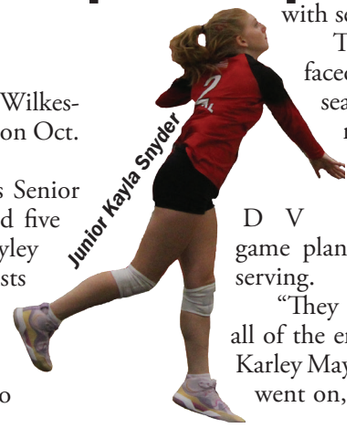
The team is already looking to get back in the weight room and prepare for next season.

Warriors sweep Wolfpack at home

By Anthony Lordi
Sports Co-Editor

The volleyball team swept Wilkes-Barre High School in straight sets on Oct. 28 (25-17, 25-19, 25-16).

Leading the way for DV was Senior Cece Dickerson with 11 kills and five service points. Junior Makayley Hughes led the team with 29 assists and four service points, and rounding off the scoring was junior Peyton Machado with eig] ht kills and senior Paris Machado with seven kills.


Junior Kayla Snyder

These two teams rs faced off earlier in the season which also resulted in a win in straight sets for the Warriors. D V went in with a game plan to improve their serving.

"They started out with all of the energy," head coach Karley May said. "As the game went on, we pretended like that energy was for us, and toward the end of the game, they were silent."

The Wolfpack's energy just could not hang with the energy the Warriors brought to the court. All season, coach May had preached that energy wins games.

Another key to winning this game was to shut down Wilkes-Barre's star player.

"We focused on shutting down their one really good player. By blocking her or keeping the ball away," coach May said.

Last night, the Warriors took on Pittston Area in the District 2 6A subregional finals.

Spotlight Athlete


Paris Machado , SENIOR

"She has a competitive energy that really just adds to our program."
- Head coach Karley May