

# The Tyrian

Fall 2023

Your Husky Link Through Screen and Ink

## SCHOOL BOARD VOTES YES

Student athletics to be greatly improved by facility upgrades

BY: KADEN REAM & STAFF REPORTS

After two years of exploration and debate, last Thursday, October 26, the Mifflin County School board voted 6-3 in favor of a long-awaited athletic complex renovation project.

The facilities upgrades, spearheaded by community members John Panizzo and Joel Diamond, along with a committee of invested parents and residents, will address the numerous concerns related to the conditions and safety of Mifflin County's athletic fields.

Prior to the vote, the Board provided their remarks on the proposal and heard



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An architectural rendering shows the planned two-field athletic complex to be built between now and fall of 2024.

## MCHS welcomes student teachers

BY: MINA PHILLIPS

Mifflin County High School has been graced with some new faces this school year.

In 2011, when the high school first opened its doors, some teachers were given the responsibility of being a mentor to a student teacher. Since then, there have been no student teachers in the core classes. This year, however, Mifflin County High School has been assigned to ten new Penn State student teachers.

Student teaching is a chance for college students in the education major to be in a classroom with a mentor teacher while they learn curriculum,



The fall cohort of student teachers pose for a group photo. For the first time since 2012, MCHS has opened its doors to PSU student teachers in all core subjects.

plan lessons, and find their own teaching style.

All ten student teachers have been placed with ten

outstanding teachers who will be a mentor during their time at the high school, ranging through all core subjects and

grades. Student teachers are introduced to a brand new environment when coming to the high school.

English student teacher Mr. Bruner explained, "I think it's a wonderful school with great friendly staff, and a lot bigger than my own high school."

Mr. Minnier, who is paired with Mrs. Sechler, added, "Everyone I met has been supportive and helpful."

This year is an opportunity for Mifflin County High School to show off and be proud of its staff and students while student teachers practice their craft in the classroom.

cont'd on page 4



# Life Skills class treats teachers, helps school

BY: JENNA KNEPP

This year, students in the Life Skills classes are participating in Soup's On every month and assisting in the MakerSpace each week. to build their skills for life after high school this year.

## Soup's On at MCHS

At MCHS, with the help of Ms. Davis, our Life Skills students take part in Soup's On, Each month they make a lunch meal for the building staff. ?Teacher Ms. Davis helps the students participate in this task each month.?

"Our students are learning and practicing skills that will make a huge difference with whatever they do after school," Davis explained.

The students assist in many different ways and use teamwork and interaction to work together to complete the task.

Junior Sebastian Oliver and fellow classmate Cherokee Gerringer both explained that their favorite part of helping with Soup's On is cooking the different

soups.

The students' cooking helps to expand their cooking, hygiene, and communication skills, which are helpful for the rest of their lives.

Their most recent Soup's On event was this past Friday, members treated the faculty to sausage tortellini soup with garlic bread!

## Becoming MakerSpace Techs

The Life Skills students also use their skills in the MakerSpace.

Every Friday the students report to the Makerspace to help with inventory and maintenance. Students keep the MakerSpace or-

ganized and ready to be used by other students and staff in the upcoming week.

"We treat our involvement in the MakerSpace as an employment opportunity for the students in the field of janitorial skills," stated Davis.

The Life Skills students help to make sure all materials are in the correct location. Students also help keep inventory and report when materials are low. "Expectations for students are to be professional, understand their janitori-

al duties, and execute them in the manner they were trained," Davis explained.

The students can experience and better their expertise in certain subjects.

"It helps me learn job skills," explained student Jewlia Herb.

Be sure to thank our MCHS Life Skills students for their involvement in our MakerSpace and for keeping it spotless and ready to use!



Above: Ms. Sandy Roles (staff), Logan Snyder, Makenna Crane, and Jocelynn Clark, Makenna Crane cook up some hamburger for Soup's On! Right: Makenna Crane and Sebastian Olive work on inventory and re-stocking in the MakerSpace.

# MCHS welcomes nine new teachers

Here is a quick introduction to the new staff members at MCHS. Check out our Instagram @mchs\_tyrian for their upcoming teacher features.

BY: CAMERON MARSH

## Mrs. Roe



Position: Alpha Science

Inspiration: "I wanted to offer students the knowledge I have gained for them to be the most powerful and successful person they can be."

Interests: Running, taking care of a small business, time with family

## Mr. Leister



Position: Phys ed

Inspiration: "Teaching always interested me as something to pursue later in life. But, I realized that having a career that I could say is truly meaningful was important to me."

Interests: Traveling, mountain biking, and playing video games

## Ms. Machorro



Position: Spanish

Inspiration: "I became a teacher because I saw the need for passionate and caring teachers."

Interests: Spending time with family, working out, playing bingo, watching sports

## Mr. Daubert



Position: Phys ed

Inspiration: "To be a positive influence on students like my teachers were to me."

Interests: Fly fishing, hunting, wrestling, football, and strength training

## Mr. Riden

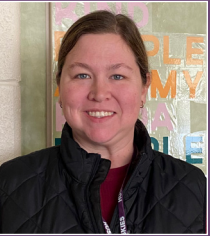


Position: Math

Inspiration: "I became a teacher to give back to the community."

Interests: Spending time with family and playing board games

## Mrs. Hostetler



Position: Math

Inspiration: "I have always loved working with kids, and I began to fall in love with mathematics at a young age. It just made sense!"

Interests: Spending time outdoors, playing tennis, taking care of chickens

## Mrs. Magill

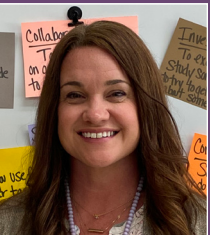


Position: English

Inspiration: "I enjoyed English and believe it strongly benefits students regardless of future aspirations."

Interests: Watching movies, plays, and long walks on the beach

## Mrs. Unger

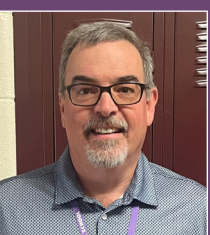


Position: English as a Second Language teacher

Inspiration: "I wanted to help educate our youth and prepare them for the future."

Interests: Reading, swimming, and helping her daughter with sports activities

## Mr. Torquato



Position: Science

Inspiration: "I enjoy sharing my knowledge of science to those that are interested."

Interests: Rock n roll music, trail running, fishing, mountain biking, foraging for mushrooms

# Trunk-or-Treat returns

BY: JENNA KNEPP



Last Thursday, October 26th, Trunk-or-Treat made a comeback to MCHS. The event was sponsored by Spirit Club and included them as well as students from TSA, Drama Club, Art Club, MCJH Student Council, Minithon, Yearbook, Academy Collision Repair, Pawsitive Vibes, MCHS Basketball, and the MCHS Student Council. Each group created stations for trick-or-treaters to visit. Some themes included Hawaiian, 101 Dalmations, Candyland, and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. The night had a good turnout and was able to provide Mifflin County youth with a fun and safe evening!

# THE TYRIAN

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# Annual powderpuff tournament days away

BY: MILES METZGER

An annual Student Council tradition is around the corner. Powderpuff football is having their annual tournament next week. This year, as has been past practice, there are going to be two games in the tournament. First, the juniors will face the sophomores, then the winners of that game will square off with the seniors.

The juniors vs the sophomores game will be on Monday, November 6 during 7th period at the MCHS track field. Students are encouraged to attend with the permission of their 7th period teacher.

Junior participant Makenna Spickler is excited for both the action and the camaraderie of the tournament. “I enjoy the competition and having a good time with the girls on the team,” she said.

Spickler also added who she thinks her team’s best player is going to be.

“Danielle Warfel has speed, agility and the general athleticism to help lead our team to victory,” she remarked.

On the other hand, sophomore Addison Fultz talked about her team’s biggest hurdles. “Our team doesn’t have any really big challenger,” she said, “but I’m sure we will have to work on blocking for each other.”

As a first-year powderpuff participant, Fultz is excited to participate in this MCHS tradition. “I’m looking forward to all the laughs and having a good time with the sophomore class,” she said.

Last year’s seniors won the final game, and this year’s girls are aiming to keep the trophy away from the underclassmen teams. The Class of 2024 team will play against the winner of game one at Mitchell Field on Tuesday, November 7 at 4:30 pm.

Senior Arika Henry said, “I am looking

forward to playing as a team and having fun because it’s my senior year.”

All of the powderpuff teams seem to be ready to play, and the tournament is going to be fun and competitive. All the girls hope to see their classmates at the match-ups, cheering on the teams.



## STEM designs for Goose Day

BY: GAVIN MICKEY



Mifflin and Juniata’s September 29th celebration, Goose Day, has been unofficially celebrated since 1786, and in recent years students have been involved with the behind the scenes of Goose Day. activities. Those in the Stem Internship program assembled Goose Day-themed eggs containing coins that they laser engraved along with a note. Becoming a community staple, many locals participated in their own way. Senior Dallas Ivie expressed, “My favorite part of Goose Day was seeing how creative people get when celebrating. There were goose cakes, new vendors, a drone show, hidden art, and a lot more.” A new highlight this year was the drone light show. Containing an impressive array of colors and Goose Day imagery, the light show illuminated the night after a fun day of celebration. Every year the holiday becomes more unique. With nothing but support from the community, Goose Day has room to grow in the future. The STEM Internship students look forward to more engaging activities for Mifflin and Juniata counties.

## Student teachers

cont’d from page 1

Taking on a student teacher is a tremendous responsibility for each person’s coordinating teacher.

Mrs. Sechler explained, “I feel that I have enough experience to be willing to give back to the next generation of teachers by opening my classroom to their student teaching experience.”

Sechler is one of the many teachers who stepped up to the plate when needed to ready these student teachers to one day be educators of their own. Mentor teachers have added responsibilities for the time they have with their student teacher. Social Studies mentor, Mr. Barnhart, said these duties include “daily supervision, observations of student teacher, letters of recommendation for them, and weekly contact with their supervisor.”

As for the student teachers, their days are filled with implementing lessons, building rapport with students, learning new instructional approaches, and gaining as much insight as they can from observing veteran teachers.

“I have observed multiple classrooms in the past, but I have never had any curriculum instruction and professional experiences teaching classes. I am hoping

to learn more about different teaching strategies and how to challenge students academically,” noted Ms. Grohe, who is partnered with Mr. Fuller.

Supporting the student teacher program at Penn State doesn’t just benefit the soon-to-be-certified educators.

“With the decline of new teachers entering the profession, I felt that this was an obligation to open the doors to student teachers for the purpose of giving them a great experience at Mifflin County,” MCHS principal, Mr. Campagna said.

This decision could have long term positive impacts on the high school and the district as a whole.

“Hosting student teachers can be a method of recruiting new teachers in our staffing process. Additionally, student teachers can now become employees through the Substitute Teacher Service. Once employed through STS, they can fill in for their mentor teacher and be paid for their service,” Campagna noted.

Some student teachers will be present in the building until the beginning of December, while others will be here until the middle of May to continue their full-time student teaching responsibilities.

If you’re enrolled in a class with a student teacher, be sure to welcome them to the building and help them along as they work toward their future careers in education.

# Senior year full of decisions and deadlines

Guidance office can help students navigate the many hurdles

BY: LIV SUYDAM

With the school year in full-swing, students are completely immersed in their daily routines, and the Class of 2024 has begun the countdown to graduation.

Graduation is bittersweet; while there is a desire to be an official adult, there is also the constant question, “What am I going to do?”

For the graduates going to college, this autumn will be filled with the stress of applying to schools and planning for this massive transition. Despite the stressors, it is possible to reduce the uncertainties that come with applying for college.

### Finding What Fits

The first thing to do is tailor the search. There are nearly 300 institutions of higher learning in Pennsylvania alone. Fortunately, there are strong online resources to get the ball rolling. Big-Future, created by College Board, provides options to search for colleges, take college quizzes, connect with colleges, and find the perfect fit. Students can create their account and begin personalizing their investigation.

Keep in mind that what schools look like online and what they really are do not

always align. “For seniors, I think it’s important to explore your options sooner rather than later and have a general idea of what you want to do,” explained 2023 MCHS graduate, Aliyah Varner.

Many universities host open houses as an opportunity to visit and learn more about that campus. These can easily be found by visiting universities “admissions” pages. Students can schedule personalized tours to sit in on classes and speak with professors and coaches. These visits are excused absences from school, but paperwork must be completed prior to the visit.

### Acing the Applications

In order to avoid the pile-up of applications, it is important for students to begin early. Many schools use the Common App, which allows students to complete one application for a multitude of schools, but others require personalized submissions. Additionally, graduates will want to know whether or not to apply for early decision, early action, or standard application.

The key differences are: early decision is legally binding. If a student applies for early decision and is ac-



Senior Andrew Cherry speaks with the PA Field and Game Commission at the College and Career Fair held earlier this month at the high school.

cepted, all other applications must be withdrawn, but early action is not legally binding. If a student applies for early action they will only find out if they are accepted sooner. Standard application is simply applying on a standard timeline with no agreements.

### Preparing for the Price Tag

Then comes the next hurdle: paying for it. The cost of college can be a deterrent even for financially-stable families; it is a tremendous commitment of money and responsibilities.

On Monday, November 2, at 7 pm, the MCHS Guidance Office will host “financial aid night.” At the event, a PSU representative will explain what financial aid is and how one can apply for it. The differences between loans, grants, and scholarships will also be reviewed. This event is open to parents and students and is highly encouraged for prospective students.

“Take it one step at a time; it is a very daunting process from start to finish and there are a lot of moving parts that make it very overwhelming,” said MCHS counselor, Mrs.

Girls

Throughout the year, local scholarships will be posted on the guidance office bulletin board; they have varying deadlines and requirements, so students should check back frequently for new postings. Students can also move their search online to look for state and national-level scholarships through online databases.

Although this can be an intimidating time, there are many resources available to make this process as successful as possible for everyone.

Current seniors, if you have any questions regarding your college search, the guidance office is the best place to begin; they can answer questions, help you navigate websites, and help find solutions to specific situations.



Senior Lily Bratton, Junior Adoree Swigart, and senior Jess Shafranich talk with a representative from Messiah College at the College and Career Fair.



# Five MCHS students have eyes on the skies

BY: GAVIN MICKEY

Some students spend their free time playing sports, participating in clubs, or relaxing with friends. However, five Mifflin County students are choosing instead to occupy their after school hours with learning to fly.

Seniors Noah Buffington, Chris Moon, Owen Am-spacker, and Tucker Gill as well as junior Jackson Flood all have taken to the skies. The boys have been enrolled in ground school (the bookwork portion of earning a pilot's license) for over a month, at the Mifflin County airport, and all for the sake of their future.

Although an unorthodox preparation for graduation, earning their pilot's license will greatly benefit each student.

"I want a career in aerospace engineering," Noah Buffington explained, "learning background knowledge from the pilot's perspective



Left to right: Tucker Gill and Chris Moon pose for a quick photo before taking off on their first flight lesson at Mifflin County Airport

is invaluable."

The other participants hope to become airline pilots or life flight pilots. Achieving these goals takes time, so a head start will boost them ahead in their careers.

Senior Chris Moon explained, "The minimum is 40 hours in the sky and you also have to pass a written test." Acknowledging the additional time it takes to learn, study for, and complete the exams, these students will commit months to their ultimate goal.

For many, the fear of flying

itself would deter one from dreaming to obtain a license to fly, but the MCHS members of flight school are committed to their goal, and focused exclusively on execution.

In addition to completing their book work, some of the students have also already had their first lessons in the sky.

Despite the exhilarating situation of active flight, Buffington maintains level headedness and humor in the air. Discussing his thought process while flying, Buffington



jokes, "Only hit the ground with the wheels, preferably. In the air, only hit the air, preferably."

Pioneering the Mifflin County skies, these students participating in flight school are launching their careers early on.

Earning a pilot's license is impressive at any age, but these high achieving students are working toward earning their wings before the ink on their high school diplomas even dries.

# MCHS student spending senior year abroad

BY: ELAINA SEELEY

Most students look forward to senior year staples like homecoming, prom, and graduation. But for one MCHS senior, his final year of school has been more about international flights, foreign cuisines, and language barriers. Class of 2024 member, Tristan Leonard is spending his senior year studying abroad as an exchange student in Germany.

Leonard arrived in Göttingen, Germany this past August and will be staying there through next summer.

"When I arrived in Germany, I experienced a ton of culture shocks, but I found lots of similarities," Leonard started. He found that the landscape in some parts of Germany is similar to that of Pennsylvania, including farm fields and mountains.

On the other hand, Leonard noted that high school in Germany is very different from high school in the states. "Classes are two hours long," he said, "it's similar to college in the U.S. where you only have certain classes a day."

The high school Leonard is attending is only five minutes from the city, which was part of his first challenge. He had to figure out how to navigate around the city in a whole different country in only five days, since he had arrived less than a week before the first day of school.

Leonard, a varsity soccer player at MCHS, has brought his love for "futbol" with him.

"The best part of living in Germany has been playing soccer," Leonard shared. There is a turf field that is only a five minute walk from where he is living that he goes to every other day to play. Leonard is playing on a club team since there is no school team in Germany. His

club team is extremely competitive which is allowing him to improve his skills on the pitch.

There are plenty of other lifestyle differences Leonard has had to adjust to as well. He noted that food, music, sports, style, and social norms have all been a part of his cultural transition. In contrast, Leonard stated, "The culture from the U.S. hugely impacts culture here." For example, he said the movies that are watched in Germany are often from Hollywood.

Some would think a year abroad would bring on tremendous feelings of homesickness, but Leonard said being away from home isn't too hard for him to handle. Although the difference in the two countries has made Leonard miss some of the things he used to complain about when he was home,

like going on random car rides. "Now living in a city, I feel like everything is moving really fast and everything is really close, so I don't get the chance to go on those long car rides which gave me time to clear my head," Leonard said.

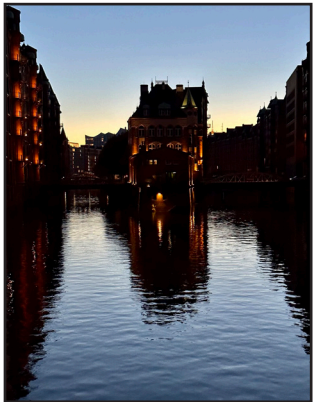
While being overseas, Leonard has had the opportunity to travel to different parts of Germany. He is living in Göttingen, but has traveled to Hamburg, Berlin, Cologne, Magdeburg, Hannover, and Frankfurt. In April, he will be going on a EuroTour with other kids that are doing an exchange year. They will be visiting Hannover, Brüssel, Paris, Avignon, Monaco, Nizza, Sienna, Rome, Florence, Venice, Vienna, Budapest, Prague, and Hildesheim. At the end of Leonard's exchange year, his two sisters will be in Germany to visit

him. They plan to travel to different parts of Germany and some of Europe, which he is looking forward to.

While this experience is the opportunity of a lifetime, it does come with some sacrifices. Leonard has realized that he's missing out on a lot of things at home and won't be able to graduate with all of his friends.

Even though he doesn't get to spend his senior year with the people he has gone to school with throughout childhood, he is still spending his last year of high school the way he had hoped to. "I chose to do an exchange year because I felt the sudden change would challenge me," he shared, "I've always wanted to travel and I thought that studying abroad would be a great way to finish high school."

TOP (L to R): A timbered house, which is very common in Germany, The famous Speicherstadt in Hamburg, Germany, Cologne Cathedral in Cologne, Germany  
Bottom: Tristan and other exchange students traveled to Berlin, Germany for two days. The flags represent which country everyone is from.



# Marching band aces another season

BY: CAMERON MARSH



Another year, another state title! The MCHS marching band brought home another state championship on Saturday at the Tournament of Bands PA State Championship. "Our show this year is: 'Human Nature: Angels and Demons-Divided Within'." The show depicts the eternal battle between Darkness and Light," explained band director Arthur Belfiore. The band has been performing its show at Husky home games each week while accompanying the football team to away matches as well.

The Friday evenings are frequently warm ups for their Saturday competitions. "The band has far exceeded our expectations and goals for them so far this year. I expect them to continue to do so during the last days of their season," remarked Belfiore. The performance this year requires the band to be at the top of their game when performing. Color guard member Emma Weikel said, "The marching band has improved so much since Band Camp. We have worked so hard and we are seeing

the results on the field." Up next for the band is the annual competition finally: Atlantic Coast Championships, held this Saturday at Hershey Park Stadium. They will compete against eight other bands from New Jersey, Delaware, West Virginia, and Maryland. For the past several years, the Huskies have consistently contended for the top spot; last year they earned runner-up. "Even if we don't get first place, we will feel like we won in our hearts. We have worked so hard and we are seeing





Jersey  
Monday



Twin  
Tuesday



Crazy Crocs,  
socks, and  
Birkenstocks



Dream Job  
Thursday



White Out



# SPIRIT WEEK AND HOMECOMING



Isaac Parks-Gill and Ava Harris



Homecoming Court: Owen Gipe, Tai Ematat, Tucker Gill, Arika Henry, Landen Eichhorn, Bree Lanciano, Giovanni Zannino, Summer Shuey, Isaac Parks-Gill, Ava Harris, former king and queen Charles Fought and Kaitlyn Lefevere, Dallas Ivie, Evan Krohn, Hunter Bailey, Montana Plank, Caden Bell, Alexis Corson





# Volleyball has its most successful season yet

BY: ALYSSA JABS

The girls volleyball team stood out this year with an impressive record of 12-5. Because of the girls' great teamwork, defense, and competitive attitudes, they have been on a roll this season. Their efforts have earned them the program's first district playoff bid.

Volleyball is a very competitive sport, so the girls needed to have a good attitude and a growth mindset and to keep their heads in the game.

"Players need to be mentally tough and learn from their errors and be excellent teammates who know how to lift up their fellow teammates," Coach Jenna Slepicka advised.

As well as having a winning record, the girls also faced personal challenges like changes on their team and playing against talented opponents. "The team has overcome these challenges and has grown togeth-



Junior Gaby Powell



Senior Dakota Hershberger

er throughout the season," added Slepicka proudly.

On offense, senior and captain Dakota Hershberger, dominated the court. On October 9, she recorded her 800th career kill in the girls' match against Carlisle, and on the team's senior night against Red Land, she topped 850.

On the defensive side, the volleyball team has also improved their coverage, blocking, and serve receive.

Together the girls made many memorable moments and victories. "Our most memorable victory of this season was making Districts after defeating Red Land on their senior night," recalled captain Riley Hine.

Defensive specialist Emily Porch agreed. "Being told we were going to Districts was a huge moment for the team," she said.

Next season students should consider joining the

team not only to get out there and play a sport, but because the team knows how to have fun and how to encourage and uplift one another.

"We are very competitive and know how to win," Porch said, "the coaching is great."

During the off-season, The Lady Huskies are hoping to continue working on their individual skills as well as team skills. And for next season, the team is yearning to qualify for Districts again.

The girls return to the court this evening for their first-ever post-season game. They'll be facing State College in the Dawg Pound for the district semi-final. The game starts at 7 p.m.

At the conclusion of their post-season, the Lady Huskies say goodbye to three seniors: Hershberger is joined by libero, Liv Suydam, and middle blocker Grace Paez-Davoli.

# Girls tennis sees whole-team improvement

BY: JENNA KNEPP

The Mifflin County girl's tennis team put in their full effort this season. Despite struggling to best their opponents, the girls fought persistently, and the program has shown huge growth. The girls finished the season with a record of 0-15.

"All of our girls won individual games and sets," sophomore Ava Kelly rejoiced, "Even playing tough teams, we adjusted and played the best we could."

Kelly and sophomore Lily Breon are the team's number one and number two for this season. Coach Meredith Schwenk said, "Both really stepped up into their roles and were able to stand out as awesome members of the team."

Another talented player this fall was junior Morgan Grimm. In the regular season, she won two of her games, and at districts, she advanced to the

second round.

The Lady Huskies agree that one of the best parts of playing for the tennis team is the group's camaraderie.

"Our team is very welcoming. I especially love to see new girls trying it out," stated Kelly.

"This team is like a family, we look out for each other and have a lot of fun," Grimm added.

During the off-season, Schwenk is looking to keep the girls active so that they are excited and prepared for next year.

With many underclassmen returning, there is a lot of potential for success.

"Our strongest players currently are all still young and have at least one more year to play," Schwenk explained.

The team says farewell to two seniors, Addie Parson and Rosalyn Lansberry. There is plenty of opportunity for new

girls planning to try tennis in the 2024-2025 school year.



Junior Morgan Grimm

# Cross Country persists through fall season

BY: GAVIN MICKEY

"Cross Country requires a lot of 'grit'. There are no timeouts. Athletes have to be ready to put in tremendously hard work and be willing to endure pain during a race in order to succeed," said coach Neil Breneman, explaining the key to being a Cross Country athlete.

The boys finished 3-5 with wins against State College, Juniata, and CD East; the girls also beat Juniata and CD East. These victories have brought well-deserved credit and confidence to the young cross country teams.

"We have a lot of new runners and young runners, lots of sophomores. That makes it hard to face some of the tough competition we see in the Mid-Penn Conference," Breneman said.

The team began showing their growth after both girls and boys pulled out a 3rd win over Juniata breaking a brief losing streak. The boys revealed their grit with a narrow win.

In the end, the most important thing for the Cross Country teams is camaraderie. Junior Ava Wagner highlighted "having good sportsmanship towards each other and other teams" as the team's greatest strength.

Breneman finds joy in helping his athletes grow in all aspects of life. "Running is a great way to destress and a great way to not only be physically in shape, but it is great for emotional health too," he said. "Everyone gets to participate in cross country. There is no bench. Every athlete, no matter what their



Sophomore Amelia Coffey



Junior Styers Oden

level, is able to participate in every competition."

The cross country team ended their regular season on Saturday at the District 6 Cross Country Championships, hosted at Indian Valley Elementary Center. Sophomore Reese Cubbison earned 11th in the race, punching his personal ticket

to the state championship meet which will be held next weekend in Hershey.

Looking to work in the off season, the maturing Cross Country teams are ready to reach new personal records with respect, camaraderie and grit.

# Boys soccer celebrates long-awaited victory

BY: MILES METZGER

The boy's soccer team had great improvement this year, they had strong communication and teamwork even throughout their season struggles, and best of all they had their first win in two years! The team ended their season 1-16-1 record.

"The team's greatest strengths this season were the ability to work together and not get angry when a person makes a mistake," said freshman goalie Jack Suydam. Many of his teammates agreed with this description, and the boy's coach, Mr. Yoder added more.

"While there is competition for playing time, there is also an understanding of individual roles. The benefit of this goes beyond the sport because it teaches our players



Junior Hudson Sellers

to work hard and the value of developing relationships."

While they all enjoy being a united team they also have good teamwork and communication skills. They showed off these skills when they had their first win in two years. "One of the season's

most memorable moments is when we beat Waynesboro at home 2-1," said junior Grady Hoppel, whose two goals in the game led to the team's victory.

The boys continue to battle impressive adversaries in their season match-ups.

Coach Yoder said, "Our greatest challenge is always our schedule. We play quality teams night in and night out. A goal of our team is to be competitive regardless of the opponent, but that remains a challenge we face."

The team has a lot they need to work on but also a lot to be proud of and Coach Yoder had one offseason ambition for them. "Goals for the offseason are to encourage the players to stay involved with some sport, doesn't have to be soccer," he said. "I know many athletes who develop confidence through trying new things. Also it is great for them to develop new friendships as well."

The team says goodbye to six seniors and hopes to continue their growth for a productive season next year.



# Boys bring camaraderie to the golf course

BY: CAMERON MARSH



Junior Colby Seiler

While many team members this year were new, the MCHS Golf team was able to bond together in the way a good group of athletes should. Along with a renewed sense of camaraderie, new members left the season with excitement and dedication for the next year. “Our team bonding was excellent this season,” said junior Jackson Flood. “We were obedient to coaches and officials. Many put in work outside of practice, too.”

The team did a good job keeping their heads high and score low, with lots of new members gaining experience throughout the season.

“We only had two players on this year’s roster that had previous match experience,” coach Aaron Bubbs recalled. “We were very inexperienced this season.”

Regardless of this inexperience, the team still pulled out notable accomplishments.

“We finished 4th in 4 of our 7 Mid-Penn matches,” Bubbs said.

“My most memorable moments were winning the match at Colonial by shooting 75 and medaling at Mid Penn Championships with a 78,” junior Colby Seiler proudly reminisced.

This year’s matches were a whole-group effort, and the boys’ dedication was noteworthy.

“The team gave their all on every hole of the season,” Seiler noted.

Golf is a co-ed sport with opportunities for students of varied levels of experience and ability.

“Students who have interest in enjoying time outside and playing on top-notch golf courses would enjoy high school golf a lot,” Flood said.

He added, “Golf is an extremely competitive sport because most of it is individual, and tends to highlight your skill throughout the season. I could not recommend golf more.”

# Girls soccer tackles challenges of rebuilding

BY: HAILIE ALEXANDER

The Mifflin County girl’s soccer team worked relentlessly this season to improve their skills on the field. After having won the District title in their previous season, the girls set out to be back-to-back champions. However, throughout the season, the girls battled injuries and had to adjust to losing ten seniors last year, leaving them with a 2-16 final record.

“We graduated seven or eight starters last season, so we were starting the season with limited experience,” explained head coach Barrett Knepp. “Probably our second biggest challenge came a game and a half into the season when we lost one of our most experienced players and a key player in the midfield for the rest of the season due to injury.”

Senior Brynn Knepp’s unfortunate injury required other members of the team to shift into new positions and increase their playing time. While this was challenging for this season, it does mean the returning players gained valuable experience in new roles.

Despite the setbacks, the girls on the team had enjoyable moments, including a dominant win.

“Our most memorable moment was getting our first win of the season against Central Dauphin East,” stated sophomore Mackenzie Peachey. The girls posted an 8-0 victory over the visiting team.

Even in the midst of a discouraging season, there were strengths to be found.

“Being this was a bit of a rebuilding year, I feel our biggest accomplishments this season was improving each time we took the field,” stated Coach Knepp. After falling in the qualifying game to visiting State College in a close 3-4 loss, the girls immediately focused their attention on their next qualifying game against Altoona.

Freshman goalkeeper Liberty Cook added, “Our greatest strength was growing as a group and adapting to everyone’s playing style.”

While this season did not go as well as the team had hoped, Knepp and the girls have goals for next year.

“Next year, we are looking to score



Sophomore Mackenzie Peachey

more goals as a team,” said Peachey. Cook concurred, “I hope to score and win more next year.”

As the team bids farewell to six seniors this year, they begin preparing during the off-season and welcome incoming freshmen in hopes of returning to dominance next fall.

# Football team battles it out on the gridiron

BY: KADEN REAM

It’s been a rollercoaster season for the Husky football team. The boys started off strong with dominant victories over Central Mountain and Shikellamy and later in the season also had a memorable comeback win over Milton Hershey with the final score being 42 to 35.

Following tough losses to Hershey and Bishop McDevitt, the Huskies had one more chance to qualify for the post-season last Friday.

The boys took the field for the final regular season game against Red Land. While the dawgs led throughout the game, a late touchdown from the Patriots tied it up with under two minutes left in regulation. An offensive drive brought the boys within scoring distance, and with less than one second left on the clock, kicker Isaac Parks-Gill scored the game

winning field goal, qualifying the team for post-season play. Also in the game, Senior Deacon Sheaffer became Mifflin County’s all-time leading rusher.

Assistant Coach Daubert has been pleased with the group’s teamwork. “Competing in a very competitive conference and playing as a team, we are only as good as our weakest player on the field.”

It is safe to say that the team has made great memories that will stick with them for a lifetime. Senior quarterback Landen Eichhorn said he enjoyed “how everyone came together.” He believes the team’s greatest strength has been their defense. Junior Avery Aurand added, “Our greatest strengths were playing as a team and never giving up.”

Coach Daubert believes that an individual who is



Senior Deacon Sheaffer

dedicated to becoming the absolute best they can be and is doing something everyday to get better is an exceptional athlete.

Daubert said, “Team sports teach student athletes great life long lessons such as dedication, commitment and responsibility.”

The Huskies end the regular season with a 5-5 record. They will host Altoona at home this Friday for the first

round of post-season play.

In addition to Schaeffer and Eichhorn, the boys bid farewell to 18 other seniors. Off season and next season goals are to get more student participation and have players work on strength training, plays and technique during the off season.

Schaeffer remarked, “The program is growing and the coaches are awesome.”

# Field hockey focuses on team development

BY: JADA KANAGY



Senior Lyza Underhill

After losing several starting seniors last year, the Mifflin County girls field hockey team worked hard to improve throughout this season and rebuild their roster. Early in the fall, they pulled out a close win against Chambersburg beating them 2-1. Later in the season, they dominated the same team 4-0. They also posted a

shut-out against Susquehanna, 5-0.

Despite struggling on the field this fall, the players never let the competition ruin their teamwork.

“I enjoyed the girls’ effort to include everyone and the team bonding outside of games and practices,” said sophomore Addie Fultz.

The Lady Huskies finished the season 3-15. Even though the girls struggled, they know where they need to focus their work. “We have to play with more consistency and score more goals,” said senior Lyza Underhill.

Teamwork has been crucial to the teams’ success and improvements. “Many different players scoring goals contribute to wins,” said assistant coach Gates.

The girls’ greatest challenges to overcome this season were scoring goals consistently, even when they seemed to dominate the play during a game, and playing with consistent intensity no mat-

ter the circumstances.

The Lady Huskies plan to continue playing together in the off-season so that they can grow stronger and qualify for districts next year.

With six seniors graduating at the end of this year, the team is eager to welcome new players and will look to their underclassmen to step into leadership roles next fall.





# THE POST-SEASON

BY: MILES METZGER



Above: The girls volleyball team poses for a team photo during senior night in October. The team qualified for post-season play for the first time in program history. Right: Sophomore Reese Cubbison will compete at cross country states this weekend

**Volleyball:** The girls volleyball has made MCHS history! Finishing the season with a 12-5 record, the girls qualified for their first post season action mid way the fall. The girls will look to senior Dakota Hershberger to serve up her trademark spikes on offense, while their libero, senior Liv Suydam will be anchoring the defense. The team has been scrimmaging locally to prepare. The girls take the court this evening at 7 pm. You can cheer them on in the Dawg Pound as they face off against State College.

**Cross Country:** The MC Cross Country teams participated in the AAA District 6 Cross Country Championships on Saturday, October 28. The team finished fifth overall, and sophomore Reese Cubbison posted a personal qualifying time. Finishing in at 17:02, he placed 11th in the field. He will run at the state competition in Hershey this upcoming weekend. The top runner for the girls sophomore Amelia Coffey.



**Football:** The Huskie's post season fate came down to the final matchup of the season: an away game against Red Land this past Friday. It was a drag out match with the Patriots consistently nipping at the heels of the Huskies. A blocked extra point and a safety helped MC keep the lead, but a Red Land touch down tied it up 19-19 with 1:40 left on the clock. With .1 seconds remaining in regulation, senior Isaac Parks Gill kicked the game winning field goal to send the Dawgs to the playoffs. The Huskies will host Altoona this Friday at 7 p.m.

**Golf:** Juniors Colby Seiler and Jackson Flood qualified for the Mid Penn championships earlier this season. Seiler medaled at 12th place and was named a Mid Penn Keystone All star.

## Two on to the NCAA

BY: JADA KANAGY

Xavier Smith has signed his letter of intent to play baseball at Millersville University; he will be majoring in sports business.

Smith has been playing baseball for 14 years and says it has made him grow as an athlete and as a young adult. "Overall, baseball has just made me a better person. Baseball has lots of ups and downs, and it teaches you how to make adjustments and bounce back from failure," Smith said.

To prepare for Smith's opportunity to play at a higher level, he had to work hard. "Playing all year around definitely helps, but working out everyday and hitting baseballs helps too," said Smith.

Smith chose to go to Millersville University because of the coaching and history of the Millersville baseball program.

Smith always had a feeling that baseball was going to be a significant part of his life. "Since I was a little kid, I knew that baseball was going to be my sport. Getting offers by two Division I schools and three Division II schools also motivated me," said Smith.

Smith's main goal is to set a lot of records and eventually get drafted. Smith said that he would like to thank his mom, pap, and nana for getting him this far. Best of luck to Xavier Smith on his baseball career.

Brynn Knepp has signed her letter of intent to play soccer at Mansfield University; she will be majoring in a Medical Laboratory Sciences Concentration.

Knepp has played soccer for 14 years. It has made her bond with her family and friends more and recently has motivated her through a season-ending injury.

"It has given me the opportunity to travel with my family and friends, given me my first job as a referee, and continues to motivate me through my ACL recovery," said Knepp.

To prepare for the opportunity, Knepp played at a competitive level year-round and has never let herself get comfortable. When considering where she would like to go, Mansfield checked off the right boxes.

"I made a list of everything I wanted in a school and soccer team, and Mansfield happened to fit my expectations perfectly," said Knepp.

Knepp has many goals for the future, but her injury this year has changed her priorities. Her main goal now is to make a full recovery and be ready to play in her freshman year. She would like to thank her family, coaches, and teammates for helping her to get this far. Best luck to Brynn Knepp at Mansfield.



## Athletic complex

cont'd from page 1

comments from residents, students, and sporting officials in attendance; all except for one were in favor of the project.

Senior marching band member Alex Garner noted that the band does not have adequate fields for their performances. "Our practice field... contains holes that sometimes need to be filled with sand," he explained. "At Mitchell Field, students have fallen while performing because of the divots that litter the field."

Junior Mara Gallo recounted a game last year, saying, "The opposing players asked if we had another field to play on, and when we told them we did not, they couldn't believe it. As a team, we felt embarrassed and inadequate."

MCHS English teacher Miss Ashlie Crosson advocated for student athletes. "Every spring and every fall they host competitions on fields that are an insult to their talent, their tenacity, and their teamwork," she said. "I am tired of watching my students feel like the ugly stepchildren of the Mid-Penn."

Junior cheerleader Myah Bunch noted that the current field set up does not support school spirit. She said, "There is an absence of unity within the student body. The cheer squad and band are relatively far from the student section, creating difficulty of being one as a school community."

Senior soccer and lacrosse player Evan Krohn seconded Bunch's remarks. He said, "I know that it would mean the world to our team to be able to play a big game under the lights for our community. Nothing is more important than being able to bring our families, friends, and spectators together to support the

Husky cause."

Senior soccer player Brynn Knepp also advocated for a renovation project that includes stadium lights on the secondary field. She said, "Our games start at 4 o'clock, and our peers and even some of our parents are unable to watch us play. I've had teammates score their first high school goals and their parents didn't get to see it. We, as do all outdoor sports, deserve to have a crowd at our games."

Cross County coach Neil Breneman encouraged the board to consider the implications of their vote. He said, "The decision you will make tonight will impact the future of tens of thousands of students. Please choose to make the investment now which has many ramifications not only for our students but also the vitality of our community. Please vote 'yes' on the entire proposal to update and upgrade our athletic facilities."

The board was provided six project options to vote upon, with Option 1 being the most expensive and comprehensive considered. As per board procedure, the group was set to vote on each option, starting with #1, until they reached a majority decision.

At the start of the meeting, Superintendent Mr. Vance Varner provided his endorsement of Option 1. As discussion opened on Option 1, board member Mark Baker motioned to postpone the vote until after this year's general election when new members would possibly be elected.

Board member Diane Stewart condemned the motion saying, "We have literally been doing this for two years. There is no reason... after two years that the nine adults at this table cannot be as respectful, responsible, ready, and safe as the students who stood at that microphone."

Baker's motion to postpone



An architectural rendering gives a sneak peak at the entrance to a new Husky stadium

the vote failed, 5-4, and deliberations resumed.

District chief financial officer Melinda Knepp endorsed the proposal. She said, "There's no better time than now... With the fundraising effort, the \$3 million we have in the bank from the grant, the fantastic interest rate that we got, it just seems like if we don't do it now, we're just never going to get this opportunity again."

At the conclusion of the vote, the Mifflin County Board of Directors approved Option 1 of the renovation project, 6-3, with members Don Wright, Mark Baker, and Board President, Fred Nickel dissenting.

Project leader John Pannizzo said, "To Mr. Nickel, I thank you for your leadership... You gave us every opportunity to come in front of this board... You did not dissuade us. I thank you for that... I ask you as president of the school board... to wrap your hands around this community as one and to take this project home."

Nickel responded, "Us three that voted 'no' are in full support of this board, so even though we voted no, we are going to support this board 100 percent... we will support the decision."

The athletic complex will improve playing surfaces throughout the district. Athletic Director Ms. Tish Maclay, stated, "Mifflin County is one of the few school districts in the entire state not to have turf fields. This [will] level the

playing field while also providing greater opportunities for MCSD to host events that will benefit the whole community."

The plans, projected to cost \$18.4 million, will be paid for through a mix of district support, fundraising efforts, grants, and savings. It is not anticipated that the project will increase taxes.

The proposal includes two field houses, two turf fields, an 8-lane track, a plaza area for spectators, infield turf for baseball/softball, and special seating sections for students, band, and cheerleaders.

The athletics teams involved include field hockey, boys and girls soccer, football, boys and girls lacrosse, baseball, softball and track and field. It will also provide a new venue for the MCHS marching band to perform and host during their annual competition season, and community organizations including youth sports will be able to request use of the facilities as well.

Varner said, "The multi-sports facilities project will benefit our athletic, band and extracurricular programs, as well as the community at large. With these upgrades and our current successful educational programs within the Mifflin County School District, prospective families will know that our district has a lot to offer."

Breaking ground on the new facilities could happen as soon as January 2024.



# Get Involved

The Tyrian



MiniThon



Student Council



Key Club



Yearbook Club



Upward Bound



Prom Committee



PAWsitive Vibes



Medical Careers Club



TSA



Spirit Club



Science Club



Unified Bocce



History Club



FBLA



Art Club

