

The Tyrian

Your Husky Link Through Screen and Ink

Powder Puff ends with senior class victory

BY: REECE BELL

High schoolers hit the field on November 5 for an epic Powder Puff showdown.

The first matchup was a nail-biter between the sophomores and the juniors. "The team I was most worried about was the juniors because we needed to beat them before advancing to the game against the seniors," said Bree Fultz, a sophomore.

In the first half, sophomore Lilly Tower ran into the end-zone for a touchdown to give the sophomores an early lead. The juniors made an appearance on the scoreboard with a touchdown by Leah Reed, and later sealed the game with an overtime score by Aubrey Kensinger. The juniors earned the victory with a final score of

12-6.

The 11th grade squad returned to play the seniors for the championship title. This matchup was not so easy for the juniors. The seniors didn't hold back and came out to make a statement. They played with confidence and were determined to get the win.

"We wanted to participate in powder puff this year to become champions," said senior head coach Chase Hartung.

This is exactly what they accomplished, achieving the victory with a final score of 30-0 over the juniors. The team was led by Mackenzie Peachey and Ciara Williams, who combined for three touchdowns and four interceptions. Addison Fultz and Bailey Neff



also scored a touchdown, and Alleigh Caruso snagged an interception on the defensive end.

Ms. Mills, the Student Council advisor, said, "The importance of holding the game every year is the tradition and teambuilding for the

students. I was unaware of how important it was to the kids until I attended graduation last year, and two of four speeches mentioned winning back-to-back Powder Puff championships."

Congratulations on your win, seniors!

PBIS hosts Pointsgiving celebration bringing school together

BY: EMILY RUNKLE

Although the overall fan favorite of the entire Pointsgiving was Family Feud, the PBIS celebration began with a three-station rotation of activities.

During the first three periods, students traveled by grade level through tournaments in the gym, bingo in the auditorium and trivia in the cafeteria.

This year students competed in volleyball in place of basketball, bocce, or cornhole while their classmates cheered them on.

Bingo offered students and faculty a chance to win prizes including free

yearbooks and parking passes while small prizes were awarded for the holiday and faculty trivia contest.

After lunches, the student body converged in the auditorium for the main attraction: Family Feud.

In the end, the winners of Family Feud were Ms. Bubb's team (Addison Fultz, Aniston Byler, Maya Burke, Anna Krohn) called the Dream Team. The runner-up was Mr. Barnhart's team (Abigail Baumgardner, Aubrey Kensinger, Ella Kaufman, Savannah Bonson), and third place was Mr. Nulton's team (Adelaide Rohan, Sayuri Clark, Chris

Ritter, and Ally Kahley).

The day overall was a success, but what happened with the Mini-THON's No Shave November? The result was postponed until Monday December 8, 2025. Mr. Hartman earned the right to shave Mr. King, but the big winner was the Food Drive and Mini-Thon.

The purpose of this day is to give the students and staff a relaxing and refreshing day, but it is also a way to "bring the whole school together, it brings unity to our school," said Mrs. Eckenroth, a member of PBIS.

Husky soccer and football show heart in playoffs

BY: COOPER PHILLIPS

After months of hard work, late practices, and unforgettable moments, the soccer and football teams closed out their seasons with playoff runs that showed true heart and determination. This year's district playoffs proved how far our athletes have come and how hungry they are for more.

The boys soccer team ended the year with 7 wins, 10 losses, and 1 tie against Gettysburg. Despite the tough season-ending loss, the team's effort and chemistry stood out all season. "The team overall connected better this year," said junior forward Zach Keller. "We had really good chemistry on the field, and it showed," he added.

Senior midfielder Bruce Baker agreed, "We grew closer not just as teammates but as friends. Our coaches have gotten a lot better, too." Baker added that scoring early in the playoff game gave the team hope, which in turn gave the team more energy to

keep trying.

Junior RJ Miller, a central attacking midfielder, said that the chemistry between junior and senior classes changed the way the team played and credited trust and teamwork to their success.

Head Coach, Keith Yoder said that he felt a sense of pride after the overtime loss, noting that the team's unity afterward defined their character. He believes the experience will fuel them next season, "This was just the start of good things to come," said Yoder.

The football team also made major improvements, reaching the playoffs and proving doubters wrong.

Junior lineman and long snapper Jacob Traxler said that the new sports facilities and packed stands boosted the team's confidence, explaining that the community's support made the team more confident because the community was behind us. He was proud of how the players bonded and

supported each other through injuries and adversity.

Fellow lineman Nate Riden agreed with Traxler, saying that the team was a lot more focused this year and driven to earn a winning season. Riden described the playoff loss as disappointing. "It was like we lost our opportunity," Riden stated. However, he acknowledged that the team rebounded after the first quarter and fought back.

Both players believe the future remains bright. "We have tons of talent," Traxler said, while Riden encouraged future Huskies to use this loss as motivation to "go all out next year despite what people may think or say."

Both programs walk away proud, motivated, and ready for bigger things ahead. With strong chemistry, rising talent, and new leadership emerging in both soccer and football, the path toward deeper playoff runs is already being built for next season.

Cross Country finishes strong after successful season

BY: ELLA LUTZ

Mifflin County's Cross Country team had an impressive season, sending multiple runners to states and competing in districts.

"This season allowed us to see our ability and realize what we can accomplish and gave us the motivation to be the best we can be in the future," stated Hoyt Rodenbaugh, a junior.

Cross Country is both a team and a personal sport, which is what makes it so unique.

"I accomplished my personal goals. I was able to PR, gain distance base, place top 5 for my team, and learn the sport of XC," said Reagan Sheetz when reflecting on not only team goals but also personal achievements.

The 2025 season taught Mifflin County runners lessons that they would not have learned without the experience of cross-country. Aidan Scavitti, Wyatt Kauffman and Hoyt Rodenbaugh's main focus throughout the season was to win

districts and to go to states as a team. Although this wasn't achieved, there were still many positives throughout the season.

"To not let the bad outweigh the good" was the main takeaway Liberty Cook gained from her experience this season.

Wyatt Kauffman, a junior, recognized that "consistency is the most important thing for improvement."

Two words to summarize Cross Country Districts this year were cold and fun. "We huddled together in the tent to stay warm, and when it came time to run, we were ready to rip," described Hoyt Rodenbaugh.

The runners were all able to push through the cold weather and run the best they could with the help of their teammates. Those who were injured and unable to run were still able to "cheer them on every mile, giving team encouragement," said Reagan Sheetz.

Amilia Coffey, Abigail Anderson, Liberty Cook, Madison Baumgardner, Ava

Kratzer, Caroline Polapoli, and Maya Morgan are the seven MCHS girls who ran at districts, with Reese Cubbison, Carter Smith, and Hoyt Rodenbaugh competing for the boys.

The MCHS Cross Country team ended their successful season with two runners, Carter Smith and Reese Cubbison, getting top 15 times at States. The team is hopeful and excited for their future.



R. Cubbison, H. Rodenbaugh, and C. Smith at the PIAA State Championship

Marching Band wins ACC tournament

BY: MADISON IMES

At every football game, fans hear people talking, the crowd cheering and the band playing. However, the Mifflin County marching band doesn't just play at football games, they also compete in the Tournament of Bands, ending with the Atlantic Coast Championships on November 2nd. They won!

The band's awards are on display in the bandroom, including "A banner saying we won, and plaques for each section we won in," said Mr. Kahley.

"I was really nervous at the beginning of the tournament, but really excited when I heard we won," said Aden McCarl, a junior who has been in the band for four years; he plays the snare drum.

Reese Bennett, a senior, has been in 30 band tournaments over the past 5 years, including this past ACC tournament where he performed a solo. "Practicing during the rehearsals and making sure I was warmed up the day of the tournament," Bennett said were the keys to his success.

Senior Emmah Miller has been in band for four years. She plays the marimba. Miller along with Bennett participated in the last ACC tournament. Miller says it was really special that they won this year. "We went into ACC's thinking that we won't win because we had the 2nd place spot, and with the new band director we weren't sure how everything would pan out."

The tournament started at 9 a.m. and the students did not find out they won until 2 p.m. When it came time for the awards ceremony, all of the seniors went on the field and waited while the underclassmen were in the stands.

The huskies won against Dubois Area, Cherry Hill East, and Hedgeville.

"The tournament of Bands is unique because it includes various locations such as New Jersey and Delaware," said Kahley.

"Tournament of Bands is so special because there are so many different classes you can be in that prioritize different things so many bands can thrive

in the tournament," said Miller.

"The Tournament of Bands is unique because they offer multiple divisions, allowing for better competition between bands as well as helping new bands learn more about the program before being placed in higher competitions," said Bennett.

Based upon the band's success, TOB has moved them to the open class for 2026.

Congratulations and good luck to the Marching Band seniors on their future endeavors.



Class of 2026 brings creativity to the stage with Senior Show

BY: CIARA WILLIAMS

Every year, the senior class presents the Senior Show for the community. This year, it took place on November 12 and 13. The class of 2026 worked for weeks to perfect their skits and performances. The show that included fun costumes, funny skits, and even live music, was an annual fundraiser for the senior class.

Every year the students work together to develop the senior show, and this year we had a total of eight groups put on skits. The theme of the show this year was "Help," which tied together funny skits and throwbacks for the audience.

Senior show advisor and teacher, Amanda Baker stated, "I love doing the senior show, this year is either my 6th or 7th year. This year's group was really good, and they were really going for it and being silly. We write the skits each year based upon what the kids want to do. It can be a talent show as well as we had Caleb Noerr playing the trumpet and even a live band for the last skit."

Adriyanna Hutchinson was a part of the "Help Me Rhonda" group in the senior show. "My favorite part of my skit this year was being able to come up with our own dance for our skit as well as being able to do the skit with my best friends. If I had the chance to do it all over again, I most definitely would," said Hutchinson.

Lia Barahona was in two skits for the senior show. "My favorite part of my skit was using my money gun. During the first show my money gun didn't work how I wanted it to, but during the second show I pulled off the perfect money spread. Another one of my favorite moments from my skit was Emmah Miller being a werewolf running around on stage and yelling," said Barahona.

Ava Kelly, another student involved in the senior show said, "My favorite part of my skit was how creative our dance was and how easy it was to learn. I really enjoyed that we were able to come up with our own choreography for the



dance. I enjoyed the fact that our skit was a business-like skit so we could wear suits and have pamphlets."

"I would definitely do the senior show again if I had the chance to. The Twilight skit was one of my favorites so I would have loved to be a part of that skit," said Kelly.

Thank you to everyone involved in the senior show and everyone who helped out behind the scenes to make this year's senior show one of a kind!

Holiday Spirit Week



MCHS students participate in downtown Ice Festival

BY: MAYA BURKE

The Ice Festival is an annual event that takes place in the square in Downtown Lewistown. Businesses and vendors from all around Central Pennsylvania come to the Ice Festival to celebrate the holiday season while selling goods and advertising their businesses.

Mifflin County High School has a multitude of students who participated in the Ice Festival this year. Students had a wide range of engagement from running activities stands to dance and live musical performances.

Each year, the National Honors Society hosts an activity table at the festival. "We had two games set up that kids could play. One of them was Plinko where kids dropped a disk and then had

an opportunity to win a prize. The other one was pulling a lollipop and seeing if you could win something else," said NHS President Mackenzie Peachey, a senior.

Prior to the festival, NHS coordinated an ornament hunt around MCHS with TSA. "Those who found the ornaments hidden around the high school were invited to bring it to our stand at the Ice Festival to enter a drawing for a large pizza at the Downtown OIP," said NHS advisor Tamara Sechler. This year, a tenth-grade student, Jaden Herto, was the lucky winner.

Senior Alaina Chilson, alongside other MCHS students, participated in the Miss Stephanie's School of Dance performance at The Ice Festival. The dancers had rehearsals multiple days a week to perfect their performance.



Miss Stephanie's School of Dance dancers from MCHS before the Ice Festival

Ice Festival

"My favorite part of performing at The Ice Festival was dancing with my friends and seeing all the people that came to support us," said Chilson.

There were many live performances all throughout the Ice Festival this year. Seniors, Alia Diehl and Hannah Jones performed alongside other community members playing holiday music in the

square.

"Although it's always very cold, getting to play at the Ice Festival is always a cool experience," said Diehl.

The Ice Festival is a great opportunity for MCHS students to collaborate in a county wide event while also having fun and spreading joy during the holiday season.

Holiday Expo showcases local talent and artisans

BY: VAYLA SHAWVER

This year's Holiday Expo transformed the Mifflin County High School gym into a lively showcase of student talent, local vendors, and festive spirit, all in support of the Mifflin County Marching Band. The event featured musical performances, handcrafted goods, and a bustling concession stand that served as a primary fundraiser for the marching band season.

Student musicians filled the space with holiday classics and upbeat ensemble pieces. Much of the equipment used keyboards, sound systems, and percussion accessories, were generously provided by the school, Mr. Kahley and other supporters of the music program. A sophomore student performer, Marquise Siennick, said, "We're just very lucky to have a staff that is willing to help us and let us use their equipment."

Younger guests were thrilled to find

Santa Claus stationed near the stage, greeting families and posing for photos. Organizers noted that the Holiday Expo has evolved significantly over the years, expanding from a modest vendor fair to a major community event that highlights the district's musical talent.

As the lead organizer, Leah Riden explained, "Some vendors have returned from year to year, but we also keep getting new vendors to sign up, which is great! This year, the decorations were freshened up and looked so nice! We also moved some things around this year. The concession stand moved to the auditorium side, and I believe it worked really well. We also moved Santa to the main area, near the entertainment. It was so nice to see him smiling as children, young and not so young, sat with him."

Volunteers, staff and supporters continue to refine the experience each year while keeping the focus on celebrating students and supporting the marching



band.

Once again, the Holiday Expo proved to be more than just a fundraiser, it was a heartwarming community tradition.

Band and Choir take the stage for Winter Concert

BY: LOLA HEIMBAUGH AND VAYLA

SHAWVER

Choir and band may look different on stage, but behind the scenes, they share the same dedication, discipline, and passion. Choir director Vicki Fensterbush, band director Brandon Kahley and the students work hard to provide the community with worthwhile concerts.

"Choir is my life. Live, eat, breathe music. Choir isn't just 180 school days, but 365 days of working." said Fensterbush. She also says that the 2025-2026 school year is her thirty-third year conducting the MCHS choir.

Choir isn't just about singing; it's about coming together. No matter who you are, anybody can have a spot in the MCHS Choir.

"Choir is one of the few electives that I have actually enjoyed," said tenor Kolstin Diven, who has been in choir since the first grade. He also says, "That's why I've done it for so long; not because it could 'get me a free credit', but because I genuinely enjoy it."

Recently, the choir pursued their first concert this year. They sang songs such as, "Ain't That a Rockin'", "Rio Rio Chile," and a classic "Let it Snow."

Soprano I Joselynn Lawson said, "My favorite song was 'Venni Venni Emmanuel' because it was a higher pitch piece. The song challenged me."

Fensterbush shared a quote from Billy Joel. "Musicians want to be a loud



voice for so many quiet hearts."

Joselynn Lawson said, "Audience members came up to Mrs. Fensterbush at the end of the concert and complimented the entire choir."

From seasoned upperclassmen to first-year singers, every member of the MCHS choir brings something different to the group. Their first concert showed not only skill but a love for music that connects them all. With guidance from Ms. Fensterbush and support from their audience, the choir is ready to keep growing, learning and inspiring.

The Mifflin County High School Concert Band took the stage for its Winter Concert on Sunday, December 14, bringing seasonal music and school spirit to the community. While audiences experienced polished performances under bright lights, the success of the concert reflected weeks of practice, focus and teamwork from every student involved.

Band members dedicated countless hours to rehearsals, learning not only their individual parts but also how to listen, balance and blend as an ensemble. Under the guidance of their band director, Brandon Kahley, students worked year-round to sharpen their musical skills and prepare concerts that represent the pride of MCHS. The winter concert featured songs such as "A Festive Christmas" and "Good King

Wenceslas," which was a favorite of Aaron Zylstra, a sophomore in mallet percussion. Zylstra said, "I liked the chords combined with the accents in the middle of the tune."

For many students, band is more than just another class period in the school day. It is a place where friendships form, discipline is learned and confidence grows. Students often describe band as a welcoming environment where everyone plays an important role, whether they are first-year musicians or experienced upperclassmen.

Sophomore student, Marquise Siennick said, "I love playing music and just being there in general, band is a very fun activity." Each instrument contributes something unique, and together they create a sound that could not exist otherwise.

The December concerts were a reminder of how music can bring people together during the holiday season. Through hard work and shared passion, the MCHS concert band and choir delivered performances that entertained the audience and showcased their dedication. With continued support from the community, the music program looks forward to future concerts and opportunities to keep growing musically.



Caring Closet offers clothes for all occasions

BY: JENNA KNEPP

With cold weather approaching, the Caring Closet located in room B111 is open to students. It provides nonperishable food, hygiene products, and clothing items.

The Caring Closet began in September of 2024 and is run by Mifflin County High School Life Skills students. It began out of need. "We were planning to attend the Night to Shine prom sponsored by Tim Tebow, and we were looking for formal attire. We asked for donations and received an abundance and decided instead of donating these items to Goodwill, we could offer them

to other students," said Caring Closet coordinator, Rachael Davis.

It has expanded beyond clothing. Currently the Caring Closet Food Pantry is providing students with breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snack items. "The current rule of two is, two breakfast items, two lunch items, two dinner items, and two snack items," said Davis. The pantry is open Fridays from 2:30-3:30!

The closet is open for students to take what they need with no questions asked, often with assistance from a teacher or a guidance counselor.

"Our goal is to support student

well-being and reduce obstacles that may be interfering with the students' learning," stated Davis.

Senior Alleigh Caruso acquired her Senior Dinner Dance dress from the Caring Closet. "I saw it in the window and thought it was so beautiful, I got so many nice compliments and explained I got it from the Caring Closet," said Caruso.

Donations are accepted often from the community, MCHS staff, and students. If any student would like to be involved, they are welcome to donate to the closet, spread information to peers, and encourage people to access the closet when needed.

MCHS says goodbye to Officer Ettinger, Welcomes new SRO

BY: RYLYNN PATKALITSKY

After years of serving our school and community, Officer Eric Ettinger is preparing to take on a new role as District Magistrate Judge. While staff and students are sad to see him go, everyone is happy for him to take the next big step in his career.

He has enjoyed most working with the students in the school district. Officer Ettinger said, "I enjoy making a positive impact on the students and helping them however I can to meet their career goals and strive to provide a safe school environment."

Being a school resource officer for our school has helped him to prepare for his new role as a judge. "My time as SRO has given me an inside perspective on how much of a problem truancy is and how much work the school district puts into truancy. I have also learned to look at the whole picture and take each case on a case-by-case basis because they are all so very different," said Officer Ettinger.

Officer Ettinger also noted that in his 21 years as a police officer, this is only the third time the seat has come open and it has always been a long-term goal for himself. "The timing was right and I jumped at the opportunity and my wife, Kathy, ran an awesome campaign for me and we won!" said Officer Ettinger.

As he begins this next chapter of his career, students and staff are excited to see



New Student Resource Officer Bryce Greene and past SRO Eric Ettinger outside of their room located in the Main Office

the impact he will make as a judge.

Life Skills teacher and colleague to Officer Ettinger, Rachael Davis, said, "He has had a meaningful and positive impact on our Life Skills students! He's done hands-on activities like cooking and participating in community events to help them feel safe with law enforcement. He's educated my students on the consequences of their actions as they navigate adulthood, providing guidance that promotes responsibility and good decision-making. He's always

supporting our Life Skills Coffee Shop and monthly soup sales!"

Although we are saying goodbye to him, he isn't going too far. "It has been a pleasure serving as your School Resource Officer but all good things must come to an end. Please do not get in trouble just to see me at 58-3-02 District Court. You may come in at any time and talk to me," said Officer Ettinger.

Our school welcomed new Student Resource Officer Bryce Greene on January 5.

Key Club supports community with annual Food Drive

BY: HALLIE MARCELLO

This fall, Mifflin County High School hosted their annual food drive for Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. Key Club collected donations for the food pantry from November 10 through December 1.

Food uncertainty is an extreme issue within Mifflin County, and this food drive directly supports those in need. This fundraiser also raises awareness of food uncertainty so more people will help.

According to Mrs. Unger, Key Club advisor, "Our biggest obstacle is participation

from students and staff. We try to combat this by creating rewards and games for participation."

To counter this issue, Key Club partnered with the PBIS team to create awards and games to encourage students so they would participate in the drive for our community. They also publicized the event with posters, radio announcements and social media pages, and they had donation bins displayed in the lobby of the high school.

PBIS, Key Club and Mini-Thon combined for "No



"Shave November" where Mr. Hartman and Mr. King competed to collect as many food items as possible. The two teachers did not shave their beard for the entirety of November. Hartman won and was featured shaving King's on the morning announcements.

Mrs. McElwain, Key Club Advisor said, "Key Club is all about helping our community whether that be our school or locally." This food drive directly demonstrates the mission of Key Club by supporting people through assistance and helping people in need. This message seemed to be achieved with the success of the food drive. MCHS donated well over 200 cans of food to Mother Hubbard's Cupboard that will directly benefit people in need.

Blood Drive returns before winter break

BY: ANTONIA KUNDE

The annual blood drive was held on Friday, December 19. Central PA Blood Bank collaborates with our high school on the last day before winter break every year to collect blood donations. All staff are able to donate and students of the age 16 or older can as well.

"MCHS has held a blood drive the day before Christmas break with the Medical Careers Club for many years. It's tradition now!" said Brittney Grabill.

Why do we donate blood? The reason is pretty simple, Brittney Grabill,

the school Nurse explained, "Donating blood literally saves someone's life."

The process of donating isn't complicated but there are some factors you have to go through first. When donating at our school, consent forms are needed before blood is drawn. Every nurse from Central PA Blood Bank have to ensure that their donors are healthy in weight, iron levels and general vitals. Once the nurses are done drawing the donor's blood, donors are given a snack and drink to help them recover from losing blood.

After the blood has been taken, it is

tested for several infectious diseases before it is used.

"Donating blood might seem scary and I mean needles in general are scary sometimes, but knowing that you're actively helping somebody by getting some of your blood taken makes you feel really good," stated student Reiley Houtz.

The MCHS Blood Drive 2025 was a success.

The blood drive will be the last day before winter break again next year. Make sure to sign up and save a life!

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