

Costumes, Community, and Candy:

Trunk or Treat 2025



Important Dates

November 5 Powder Puff Football @ 6:00 PM

November 8 SAT AM

November 11 Veteran's Day No School

November 12 The Senior Show @ 7:00 PM

November 13 The Senior Show @ 7:00 PM @ 8:00

November 15 Senior Dinner Dance @ 6:00 PM

November 25 Parent Teacher Conferences

November 27 Thanksgiving Break

THE TYRIAN STAFF

Staff Writers: Reece Bell, Lola Heimbaugh, Madison Imes, Antonia Kunde, Ella Lutz, Hallie Marcello, Cooper Phillips, Emily Runkle, Vayla Shawver, Ciara Williams, Jenna Knepp, Rylynn Patkalitsky, Maya Burke, Ellie Hartzler, Elizabeth Massie, Aaden Stevens

Adviser: Amanda Baker

Follow us on social media:




MCHS_TYRIAN

Editors: Maya Burke, Ellie Hartzler, Jenna Knepp, Elizabeth Massie, Rylynn Patkalitsky, Aaden Stevens

Photography: Kooper Walters, Luke Bender, Vance Varner, Alan Kratzer, Mike Goss, MC Athletics Staff



A New Era: Celebrating the opening of multi-sport facility

BY: AADEN STEVENS

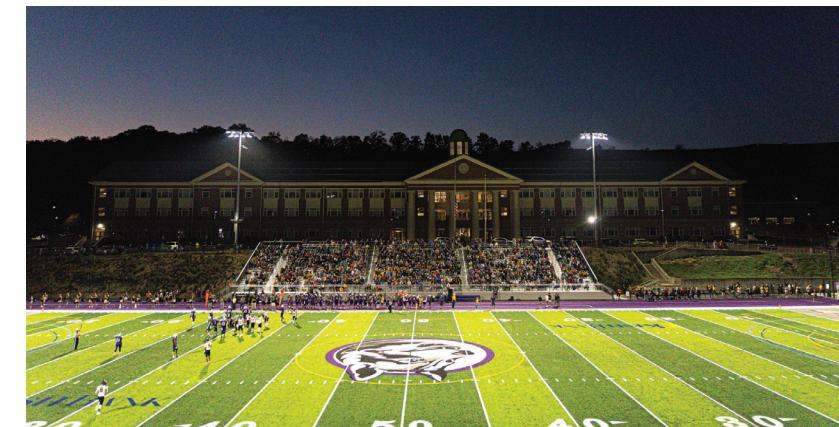
Three years to build four new fields for one new page in Mifflin County history. Donald M. Chapman III Stadium, the new top-notch sports facility in front of the Mifflin County High School completed in August, held its first football game for a sold-out crowd. Huskies' football started with a 42-0 win over Central Mountain, setting a hopeful tone for the season.

Kish Bank Field is home to the Huskies boys' and girls' soccer, field hockey, and football teams. All teams started well with a combined record of 7-0 during an undefeated streak of 11 games from August 22 through September 2.

The Mifflin County School District first discussed the multi-sport facility project in 2021. During the meeting on July 7, the committee identified four possible locations for the state-of-the-art facility before deciding to build in front of the Mifflin County High School.

"We looked at Mifflin County Middle School. We looked at Indian Valley, and then we looked here [MCHS], and we looked at Mitchell Field," Superintendent Vance Varner explained.

The Kish Bank Field, which holds up to 4,270 people, includes a press box, video scoreboard, stadium



Mifflin County Football plays against Hershey High School under the lights on Kish Bank Field at Donald M. Chapman III Stadium

Photo by: L. Bender

lights, hosts most of the fall sporting events. Marcel Paper Field is home to the track and field team and additional games. New infields for baseball's Capouillez Field and softball's First Quality Field were completed in the spring.

Our softball team played their first game on turf on April 17, 2025, against Central Dauphin. Six days later, our baseball team had their home opener against

cont'd on page 2

Future of Senior Dinner Dance uncertain

BY: ELLA LUTZ

The 2025-2026 Mifflin County Senior Dinner Dance came close to being cancelled due to the trend of declining attendance rates in recent years.

According to Senior Class Advisor and physics teacher, Mr. Hopple, in 2019, "As many as 300 kids were coming to the dance, and that number has dwindled to last year where we had to give extra days to even get to 125."

Senior Vice President, Anna Krohn, believes that because of COVID, "Seniors don't want to get involved in things."

Low attendance may result from "dance fatigue" as Mr. Hopple suggests. The Mifflin County High School now offers Homecoming and Sadie Hawkins dances. When the first Senior Dinner Dance was held in 1988, only Prom

cont'd on page 2

Dawn to Diploma: Senior Sunrise 2025

Photos by: Staff



Multi-sports facility opening

cont'd from page 1

District VI rival Altoona Area High School.

Mifflin County's multi-sport facility project wouldn't have been possible without the community. "There are so many individuals contributing to every stage of it, so much dedication. ... I just see so many students and guests actively engaged here," said Varner.

John Pannizzo and Joel Diamond set a goal to raise \$3 million dollars for the project, and they raised \$4.5 million dollars because they believed in the project and the future of Mifflin County sports.

These modern facilities will not only help the student athletes but also the student body as a whole. It prepares athletes and a majority of students for a college-style facility. "It gives our students the closest it can be to a full-scale production which is the main goal of the media department," said media teacher Roger Herto.

"You talk about being generational, but it's changed sports in the Mifflin County School District forever." Mr. Varner said.

This project is the future of Mifflin County. Athletes will compete here during their high school careers, and every student will take their last steps as a Mifflin County High School student at graduation.



Joel Diamond, Vance Varner, and John Pannizzo at the stadium Open House on August 13, 2025



MCHS students in the new press box at Kish Bank Field



Kish Bank Field at Donald M. Chapman III Stadium from the home side bleachers

Senior dinner dance

cont'd from page 1

occurred. The student body also recognizes that the Senior Dinner Dance is more expensive than other dances.

While the dance's popularity has gone down, much of this year's senior class would hate to see it go. Mr. Hopple expressed his concern that if the Senior Dinner Dance did not happen this year then it would never make a comeback.

Hoppel stated that since the senior year goes by quickly, it's necessary to, "Cherish every moment between now and graduation," which seniors can do by attending the Senior Dinner Dance.

There are some possible solutions to ensure the future of dances since many underclassmen are interested in attending their own Senior Dinner Dance during their senior year. Addie Fultz, Senior Class President, and Jaliyah Frazier, a senior who attended the dance last year, thought that if seniors were able to help plan, decorate, and choose the themes and the meal, more interest could be

generated.

Anna Krohn also believes that if the Senior Dinner Dance is not held right after Homecoming and was closer to Christmas instead, then seniors won't have to do much "scrambling" while also making the dance more festive.

The Senior Dinner Dance is a unique Mifflin County tradition that began in 1988, when Chief Logan and Kishacoquillas high schools combined to create Indian Valley.

The senior advisors and the senior cabinet plan the dance traditionally held the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The Senior Dinner dance is limited to seniors and a date. The Senior Dinner Dance is a combination of a formal dinner and dance which make it a unique experience that is more expensive than other dances.

Career fair

On October 2, MCHS students attended a college and career fair inside the main gym during their history classes. Students were given the chance to explore possibilities for their future endeavors.



Senior spotlight: fall athletes take their final bow

BY: ELLIE HARTZLER

With each passing year comes a new senior class that represents our district not only through academics but also through athletics.

The class of 2026 is no different- with athletes who continue to uplift and inspire not only their teammates but their peers as well. We recognize these athletes with senior nights, celebrations typically held on the last home event of their season to commemorate the hard work and dedication student athletes put into their sport.

The boy's cross-country team this year is losing many valuable members to graduation including Reese Cubbison, Zaiden Dashem, Trevan Diven, Connor Lynch, Hart Oden, and Carter Smith.

"Pain is temporary, and the toughest moments lead to the greatest growth," Zaiden Dashem said.

Cross country has taught their athletes great lessons to apply to their lives inside and outside of athletics, Trevan Diven said, "It has taught me discipline and how important it is to apply yourself."

The girls' team is also saying their goodbyes to four of their teammates, Amilia Coffey, Ava Kratzer, Maya Morgan, and Caroline Palopoli.

Mifflin County Field Hockey seniors include

Aniston Byler, Alleigh Caruso, Addison Fultz, Hayleigh Fultz, Holly Guyer, and Bailey Neff. Playing field hockey over the years has improved the traits of players.

"I've definitely gained a ton of patience over my years. I've also gotten good at adapting as we've had lots of changes as a team from new coaches as well as new teammates, to playing on grass to now full-time turf," said Aniston Byler.

Our varsity cheerleading team is saying farewell to five seniors this season. The team recognizes Alaina Chilson, Kaidense Conner, Jaliyah Henry, Kayla McTavish, and Kiersten Parks as their graduates this year.

When asked about what she'll miss the most about cheering for the school, senior Kayla McTavish said, "spending my Friday nights with all of my friends."

Football has a winning season this year, a great memory for their twenty graduating players and three managers! The Mifflin County football team is saying their farewells to Joel Beamer, Reese Christine, Adam Daubert, Nevin Farley, Zoey Foltz, Landon Haigh, Chase Hartung, Jesse Heckendorf, Gavin Herrington, Brandon Kauffman, Layne Linn, Braiden Miller, Sage Miller, Kane Pecht, Bo Reeder, Nathan Riden, Zaira Rowe,

Kyson Russler, Jayden Smith, Trey Smith, Corbin Yoder and Easton Zook.

The boys' soccer team seniors are Bruce Baker, Issac Kanagy, Dylan Liggett, Michael Peters and Bryson Wagner.

"The thing I will miss most is the thrill of walking out onto the field with a stomach full of butterflies," Baker said.

The girls team also bid adieu to two of their team members, Lorynn Knepp and Mackenzie Peachey.

Girls' tennis is losing two players in their rank as well, number four Emmah Miller and number two Ava Kelly.

Girls' golf is also saying goodbye to their lone senior, Lily Breon.

The final fall sport team celebrating their senior players' graduation is the volleyball team. Jamilee Gilbert, Amilia Green, Emmaleigh Harmon, Emily Porch, and Adin Reese are all parting with the team at the end of their season.

"Volleyball has made me realize that it is important to have good connections with everyone around you," Porch said.

We wish our seniors good luck with the rest of their seasons and the last year of their high school career, and to anything they want to accomplish in their futures!



Big change for playoff opportunities in MC

BY: AADEN STEVENS

Over the summer, Mifflin County School District changed their policy for District VI playoff qualifications. Athletic director, Tish Maclay, said, "Last year, there was one of three ways to qualify. You could be .500 [win half or more of your games] overall, you could be .500 in your Mid Penn Conference division, or you could be .500 against District VI opponents to qualify. This year, it's up to the coach's discretion whether they're going to enter their team or not." With this change, every team could potentially participate in the District VI playoff.

It is unclear whether this change will have a positive or negative outcome for our sports. "Some benefits may be playoff experience, you know, for some of the younger student athletes that play. Teams may peak towards the end of the season and not have time to reach that 500 level, and injured players returning could be impact

players," explained Maclay. This gives student athletes opportunities that in previous years they would not have had.

"Some of the negatives would be eliminating striving for a certain standard for qualification purposes. I think that could definitely be a negative. And again, some sports don't have qualifying standards while others do. So that could be unfair for some teams," said Maclay.

Prior to this change, Mifflin County was the only school in District VI to follow the .500 rule. There was a big push to get rid of it from both coaches and community members. "We could not have a .500 record, but depending if the other teams in our districts aren't doing well, we could be the number one seed," Maclay stated.

These changes are not yet permanent. "This year is supposed to be kind of an experimental year where we collect data, which teams entered, what was their record. How did they

do when they entered? What were some costs associated with it? So, at the end of this year, we will analyze all that data and report back to the school board for them to make a decision if this policy will continue," Maclay said.

This change, while experimental, marks a new start for the Mifflin County School District and can provide opportunities that many would not be able to experience without this new change.



PAWSitive Vibes colors our community with kindness: Tie-Dye for Mental Health Awareness week



Photos by: V. Varner

Exploring innovation: TSA inspires creativity and leadership

BY: ELLA LUTZ

Technology Student Association, TSA, is a club at Mifflin County High School. TSA offers opportunities in the STEAM field. It is all encompassing and hits most career paths. Mrs. ConnerMiller is the head advisor for the club led by TSA President Emily Banks and Vice President Oak Yetter. The club meets every Monday at 3:30 in Room C312 and competitions usually begin in February and go through June.

While most would assume that TSA deals mainly with computers and technology, it has many other categories. According to Tatum Miller, a senior, TSA doesn't have a "linear definition" and it is "open to interpretation." For example, Miller chose to write a children's book for one of her events, and students have the choice of free drawing or using a computer.

Emily Banks, a senior, does multiple activities including fashion design and engineering. "A club member may do as many events as they want as long as they talk to the head advisor and make sure there is no conflict between events," said Banks.

There is also the option of doing an individual event or a group event. These options



TSA club members pose at prestigious TSA competition

offer flexibility for those who have different work ethics.

Members Oak Yetter and Luke Foltz spread information about the club through different community and school events such as Goose Day. Foltz and Yetter are always looking for an opportunity to expand the public's knowledge of TSA. Foltz believes that a club night after school could be useful, "for kids to come and see all the different clubs that are available." Foltz contacted the Lumina Center with the hope that TSA may get invited to have a booth at their

STEM fair. This will benefit the club and allow members to gain experience.

Miller said, "We have a really good fashion design team that gets sent to nationals every year."

A team has to compete at regionals and meet certain requirements in order to compete at states. To make it to nationals, a team must first qualify through the state competition.

This is a difficult process and TSA members work hard all year in order to compete at a high level. While MCHS has a very successful fashion design team, there are also 40 other events that club members can compete in. Mrs. ConnerMiller wants the student body to know that TSA isn't just for tech ed students, it is open to anyone.

"It really hits almost every career path that there is so that all students should be able to find a competition they'd like to compete in," said ConnerMiller.

Mini-THON's upcoming events and exciting changes

BY: MAYA BURKE

At Mifflin County High School, our Mini-THON club is a part of the THON organization. Only three months into the school year Mini-THON has already raised \$5,570.69 contributing to Four Diamonds which raises money for research toward battling pediatric cancer.

"This is a really strong start to the year, keeping us on track for our ultimate goal of \$30,000," said copresident Emily Banks.

So far this year, Mini-THON has already had many events like gold out games for all fall sports. Gold out games help to contribute to Mini-THON's total for the year. In addition to gold out games, Mini-THON always has new fundraisers, including their new pumpkin centerpiece fundraiser. Mini-THON events and fundraisers give not only students but also community members a chance to learn and donate to the Four Diamonds cause: For the Kids.

Later in the year Mini-THON is planning many more fun events including a pretzel fundraiser, no shave November, winter gold out games, and of

course the culminating event which will take place on May 2, 2026.

This year's Mini-THON Beat Cancer Block Party will be more community based with activities for kids, music, food, and the big reveal at the end of the night.

"We opted to go this route because participation for the Mini-THON event in the past several years has declined," said club advisor Mrs. Quinn.

Mini-THON members and advisors are looking forward to the change and are anticipating a good turn out!

The ideas are still being ironed out but the club envisions an event that invites the public to celebrate alongside the student body in hope to make a bigger impact and further educate the public on the purpose of the club.

"Mini-THON is a cool and fun way to get community service hours while getting to know new people, and it's for a good cause," explained junior Antonia Kunde.

Mini-THON is always looking for new



Mini-THON club members at the annual Gold Out football game

members who have an interest or passion to help support families being affected by pediatric cancer.

MCHS welcomes five new teachers to the school

Ms. Brannon

BY: LIZZY MASSIE



This year Mifflin County gained a new teacher in the science department, Ms. Jada Brannon. She was born and raised in Mifflin County and enjoys hiking, running, and reading, and she has a cat. She has her masters degree in human genetics and formerly worked in healthcare in a biochem and molecular lab. After working there, she decided to transition to teaching.

"I knew I wanted to help people but I wasn't really happy with my current career," Ms. Brannon said. When the position for a new science teacher opened up at Mifflin County she decided to take a chance and see how she liked teaching. She is very passionate about chemistry and is excited about this opportunity.

In regards to the classroom and students, Brannon said, "Do the best you can- you're not going to fail if you give me your best effort. I want everyone to succeed." Her teaching philosophy is set up to produce the best possible opportunity for her students to learn.

On behalf of Mifflin County, we're excited to welcome a new teacher to the district and we hope her first year of teaching goes well.

Mr. Kahley

BY: HALLIE MARCELLO



At Mifflin County High school, students and staff welcomed Brandon Kahley as the new band director for the 2025-2026 school year. Kahley, who began the new position in July, succeeds former director Artur Belfore.

Kahley previously taught at Bucktail High School for three years before making the decision to transfer schools. The position at Mifflin County intrigued Kahley as the job seemed to offer a perfect schedule for his home life.

"I was also looking forward to working with a very well respected and established program," said Kahley. The reputation of the MCHS band seemed pleasing as well as the accompanied students and higher quality of musical performance.

The change was a significant switch for Kahley, as he shifted from directing a small group of 18 students to leading a program of almost 80 members. While he admits he was nervous at first, Kahley has quickly adjusted to Mifflin County and has embraced the traditions along with it.

Adapting to a larger program has brought challenges, but Mr. Kahley stays optimistic.

"There are going to be rocks and bumps along the way, you just have to look for the road that's the smoothest," he explained. His goal for this school year is to build strong connections with his students and establish a sense of harmony within the band. By the end of this school year, he hopes they will have found their rhythm.

"I'm new. I don't have the same ideas as people here prior. I'm trying to mimic it but I don't intend to keep everything the same way. In some ways I want to change things done in the past," Kahley stated. He is attempting to keep everything mostly as it was, but he offers a new way of thinking for the band program.

Through it all, Kahley's approach will differ from the past but his enthusiasm and persistence promises MCHS a great new band director.

Dr. McGinnis

BY: AADEN STEVENS



Mifflin County High School welcomes Dr. Eric McGinnis as the newest English teacher. Dr. McGinnis has a PHD in education and has taught in all 67 counties of Pennsylvania through Penn State's cooperation extension program, and he ran the American Journal of Education for three years.

Dr. McGinnis pursued the business field in the Big Apple before moving to State College, where he's lived for nearly 30 years. The biggest difference from NYC to MC? He said, "History has been able to maintain its population and its workforce here." Dr. McGinnis respects the history and work force of Mifflin County. Compared to NYC, Mifflin County is "like taking a look at a time capsule."

Dr. McGinnis grew up in Scranton where he learned how to make pizza growing up from the north east Pennsylvania city. His favorite type of pizza to make is Detroit style pizza. "I started making Detroit style pizza, maybe about a year and a half ago ... and that's probably my favorite pizza that I make now." Dr. McGinnis added that he is "one bad decision from opening up a Pop-up-Pizza shop."

"I really like to help people. I'm a good person to stop by and ask a question or if you have a problem that you're wondering how to navigate or not sure who to talk to about something," McGinnis said.

Welcome to Mifflin County High School!

Tennis team serves up success

BY: MADDIE IMES

As the 2025 tennis season kicked off, the goal was to, "continue to improve and become more competitive against the Mid Penn tennis teams," explained coach Noah Fisher. The goal was reached and they did win against the Mid Penn teams with a record of 4-1.

Ava Kelly, a senior, has been playing tennis for five years. She had no prior experience with tennis before joining the team, "You get the hang of it and improve if you're consistent," stated Kelly.

Kelly said her favorite part of playing tennis is, "Being around all my friends and improving my skills, the only thing I would want changed is I wish it was a larger program so that younger kids could get started earlier."

Junior Maddie Clinard started tennis in 2022. From her point of view, one of the most challenging games the team had this season was at Red Land on September 4, where they finished 3-2. Clinard said, "It was the closest matchup and the closest skill level to the majority of our girls."

Senior Emmah Miller has been on the tennis team for three years. "Our best game this

season was Harrisburg. We all went in with good attitudes and came out with a 5-0 win," Miller explained.

Miller added, "Mechanicsburg was the most challenging game of the season. The team was playing really good tennis for multiple hours but in the end came out with a close 3-2 win." Miller said that she would like to see the team improve on stamina.

This season the team had the same number of home games as away games, and they had five practices a week during the season. They had sixteen games plus districts and the Mid Penn tournament.

Although the team did reach their goal of winning against the Mid Penn teams, they still have some things that they would like to improve. This year they had an overall record of 5-11.

Clinard stated that she would like to see the team improve their attitude. "Spirits need to be lifted," said Clinard.

This year the tennis team had thirteen players and one manager. If anyone wants to try tennis next year, it is very much encouraged. The team bids farewell to two graduating seniors; Ava Kelly and Emmah Miller.



Photo by: MC Athletics



Photo by: V. Varner

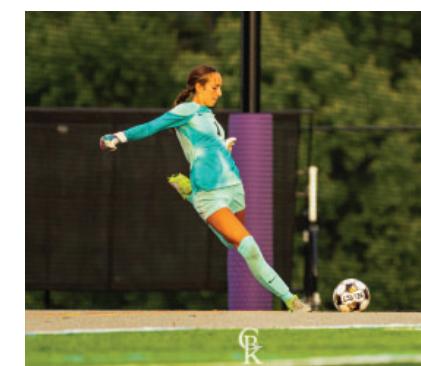
Girls soccer shows grit and growth

BY: CIARA WILLIAMS

conference games this year."

Coach Barrett Knepp said, "I think the season went well. We are a very young team with only two seniors and 12 freshmen so having an improved record over the last year shows the potential this team has. Our goal as coaches this year was to improve as the season progressed. We knew it was going to be a challenging season, but the girls continued to work hard and improve as we got deeper into the season, even upsetting some teams along the way."

We wish our two seniors Mackenzie Peachey and Lorynn Knepp good luck in their future and thank them for their time and hard work.



Photos by: K. Walters

Golf team shows progress and drive on the course

BY: LOLA HEIMBAUGH

With Lily Breon as the lone senior competing in the 2025 season, the golf team is looking to rebuild for the future. Golfers with years of experience provide leadership to those who are new to the sport.

Many golfers developed their skills on the links with family members. Sophomore Emma Norman said, "My dad golfs and it was something new for me to try."

Hours are dedicated to time on the course, and bonds develop between teammates along with friendly competition. Norman said that she's made new friendships throughout her golf career, especially her friendship with Lily Breon. She enjoyed going to matches with Breon, as much as achieving a higher placement than her friend and teammate.

Golf is a long game that takes athletes on an emotional journey. Junior Evan Breon said, "I like playing golf because of how you can experience all types of days."

Each drive offers a chance to start fresh and improve from the last hole. "You can play to the best of your ability, or have a day where you

want to quit," said Evan Breon. He explained that his strategy is to go out and not put added pressure on his performance. At the end of the day, it's just another golf round.

While golf is a team sport, individual goal setting and striving to succeed is at its core. Norman explained that she's improved over the past year, and she broke 100 this season. Evan Breon said that his best moments were shooting 73 and competing in Mid Penn championship.

At the end of their season, the Mifflin County golf team only bid farewell to one graduating senior, Lily Breon. Golf is always open to new members, and a great opportunity for students to get involved.

"If you want to play golf, come and try. Learn it when you're young and enjoy it for the rest of your life," said coach Aaron Bubb.



Photo by: MC Athletics



Photos by: A. Kratzer

Mr. Schenck

BY: JENNA KNEPP



Mathew Schenck is a new edition to the math department where he is teaching sections of consumer math I and II. "Consumer math, for those that are unfamiliar, is a class that teaches financial literacy, setting students up with real-world encounters like investing and loans," Schenck explained. Schenck is from Middleburg, Pennsylvania, and this past spring, he graduated from Bloomsburg University.

"My first few weeks have been great; I've been enjoying getting to know my students and learning everyone's names," Schenck stated.

Moving forward with this school year, Schenck would like to continue building strong teacher-student bonds since that is something he finds rewarding in his teaching career.

"A fun fact about me is I can quote a lot of different movies and shows. I have a great memory with things like that," Schenck said. He described himself as a "cool nerd." He enjoys Star Wars and math, while he also loves hunting and fishing.

As a message to students, Schenck stated, "No matter how stressed out you get, no matter how much you are struggling, just know that you are always loved. Keep your head up and just keep charging forward, be one percent better every day."

We are proud to have Mr. Schenck as a staff member, and we wish him a great first year of teaching at Mifflin County High School!

Mrs. Stahl

BY: ELLIE HARTZLER



A new, friendly face is joining us at Mifflin County High School this year, Jennifer Stahl in room A110. She is an emotional support teacher in our Special Education department.

She started her career here in the school district over at the administration building.

"I learned so much and wanted more of a challenge. That's how I ended up here at Mifflin County High School," Stahl said. Her favorite part of the High School so far has been how welcoming and friendly everyone is. "Just this morning, someone in the hallway said, 'You're so pretty!' It was a student. And I'm like, 'Well so are you!' It was very sweet," she said.

"I would describe myself as caring. I want the best for all of my students. I want them to succeed," she said. Mrs. Stahl wants all her students to dream big and have big goals for themselves, as well as enjoy their high school experiences. Her motto this year is to, "Make good choices!"

One thing that Mrs. Stahl does outside of the classroom is that she plays the violin. "There's no orchestra here at the school, I wish there was," she said. Another thing out of school activity is her spontaneous adventures with her husband.

"My husband and I will just jump in the car and go. We love it," she said.

The addition of Mrs. Stahl into our school is a great one. She hopes to have a great report with her students and enjoy this school year.

Boys soccer fights their way to district playoff game

BY: CIARA WILLIAMS

The Mifflin County High School boys' soccer team had their second-best record since 2011, with an overall record of 7-10-1.

Junior Brody Wolfkill stated, "I think the defense this year was stronger in the case of aggressiveness. I think as the key back four we do a great job at communicating amongst ourselves and with our goalie Jack [Suydam]."

Senior captain Bruce Baker said, "Some weaknesses that happened during our season were the injuries that took a while to heal and sad devastating losses."

Another senior captain Bryson Wagner stated, "I am very pleased with our season this year. We had the best record in the last ten years going 7-10-1. We were able to generate good attacks on offense and take good charges."

The coaches on the soccer team, Keith Yoder and Todd Peters said "This season went very well this year. We pushed the kids to work harder at practices and it all transferred over to the games. We wish the best of luck to our seniors and are excited for the

coming years."

At the end of their season they will be saying goodbye to six graduating seniors; Bruce Baker, Isaac Kanagy, Dylan Liggett, Connor Lynch, Michael Peters, and Bryson Wagner.

The team has advanced to the district playoffs to face Altoona under the lights on Kish Bank Field.



Photos by: K. Walters

Emily Banks represents MCHS at prestigious PA Governor's School

BY: JENNA KNEPP

Over the summer we had a student representing the Mifflin County High School at the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences. Senior Emily Banks was accepted into the prestigious five-week program at Carnegie Mellon University.

The program is open to high school juniors with an interest in sciences. At this STEM program the students engage in daily lectures, a lab, and a research project. Banks personally spent her last week at the program working on her research project.

"I spent it finalizing my simulation of gravitational lensing and gave a presentation of my findings with my awesome team," Banks explained.

Banks decided to apply because she is interested in all types of sciences, "The application was daunting with two essays, description of activities, science awards, and more," said Banks.

On the weekends there were opportu-

nities to go and explore Pittsburgh and in the evenings the program held a plethora of social activities to boost camaraderie among the students.

When Banks was accepted, she was quite worried about not living up to the expectations of the program, but after getting into the groove all her worries washed away.

While there was not a lot of time to herself Banks utilized all the time she could, "My friends and I took each second to bond over our meals or explore in between lectures. On the weekends I attended many different festivals with my friends," stated Banks.

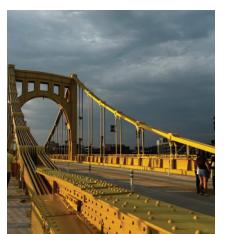
Banks enjoyed her weeks surrounded by social and collaborative peers that made a nice environment for learning.

For those who are interested, "Start building your resumes now, sophomores and juniors, they typically only take one representative from our region, but don't let that stop you from applying," Banks explained.

The application for the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences is currently open

and will close in late January.

Mifflin County High School is proud of Emily Banks and her impressive performance at Carnegie Mellon University.



Photos by: E. Banks

Mifflin County hosts two exchange students for the 25-26 school year

BY: EMILY RUNKLE AND ANTONIA KUNDE

Mifflin County High School welcomes two foreign exchange students: Antonia Kunde from Germany and Seohee Kim from South Korea.

Mr. Campagna believes Mifflin County is a great place for exchange students to experience life in America. With strong academics and many extracurricular activities, the school offers plenty of opportunities. He is eager to see the students make friends, enjoy new experiences, and feel like a part of the community.

Becoming an exchange student is more complex than it appears. Applicants working with *Youth for Understanding* (YFU) must complete paperwork, submit documents on a strict timeline, take an English test, and apply for a visa.

A process exchange student Antonia described as "hoping you filled everything out correctly and going crazy while waiting for the reply." Afterward, students wait to be matched with a host family which determines where they will spend their year abroad. For Antonia and fellow student Tam, that journey ended with boarding a plane bound for Pennsylvania.

Seohee Kim

Seohee came a long way to Pennsylvania. She, like most exchange students, did not choose the place or the family she was staying with.

"Since I came from South Korea, which is on the other side of the world, almost everything here feels new." Having grown up in a large city she isn't used to seeing turkeys, deer, and other animals.

"I never really saw farm animals, but here I see them all the time," said Kim.

She also noticed differences in education. In South Korea, schoolwork was more demanding and less enjoyable. Here, she has the freedom to focus on sports and music, which she enjoys.

Her main reason for becoming an exchange student was to improve her English. Surprisingly, she had never formally studied English in school, instead learning words and phrases from movies and videos online. She also wanted to experience American culture firsthand. Tam is most excited about her stay, she said, "What I really want is to see snow."

Antonia Kunde

Antonia came to Mifflin County from Germany. One of the biggest differences she noticed is "Mifflin County's school spirit".

In Germany, "School is only about education. There aren't any mascots, school teams, and no electives." While in Mifflin County, it also serves as her community. She also noted that in Germany, everything is within walking distance while here things are more spread out. The landscape, however, feels familiar.

Antonia chose to spend a year abroad because in Germany students can graduate after tenth grade. She wanted more time to decide what to do next in life. "I had always dreamed of coming to America," said

Kunde. This was the perfect opportunity. After her exchange year, she plans to pursue higher education, though she is unsure of her exact path. For now, she considers this a "gap year with schoolwork." Her favorite part of Mifflin County so far? "Probably the football games," said Antonia.



Exchange student Antonia Kunde with her host family



Exchange student Seohee Kim

Marching Band finds its rhythm under new leadership

BY: VAYLA SHAWVER

This fall looked very different from previous years for the Mifflin County marching band. With the retirement of Arthur Belfiore, the program welcomed Brandon Kahley, who took over the role of band director.

Although there has been a multitude of adjustments and changes within the program, "There has been strong improvement...we are only going to go up from here," Kahley said.

Overall, the marching band has been doing quite well this season, and their scores have rapidly been increasing.

"We have gotten into a good rhythm," said Kahley

This year's Mifflin County High School band show, *Medusa*, follows the conflict between Perseus and Medusa. This battle between good and evil features trumpet

soloist Reese Bennett, clarinet soloists Alia Diehl, color guard soloists Natalie Haubrick, Emily Banks, and Gabrielle Swanger, with sophomore Anna Miller as Perseus and senior Lia Barahona as Medusa.

Mifflin County marching band is an activity

that has opportunities for students with a range of many different skill sets, and there is always a place in the program that students will enjoy and thrive in.

"Marching band has brought me so many friendships, taught me patience, and I've really just grown up while being a part of the band," expressed Haubrick.

The Tournament of Bands Pennsylvania State Championship will be held in Altoona on October 25, and the Atlantic Coast Championship will be held on November 2 in Hershey.

At the end of the year Mifflin County marching band will be saying goodbye to eleven

seniors; Emily Banks, Lia Barahona, Reese Bennett, Alia Diehl, Natalie Haubrick, Hannah Jones, Madison Litzinger, Emmah Miller, Caleb Noerr, Madison Stitt, and Gabrielle Swanger. Good luck to all eleven seniors in your future endeavors!



Mifflin County Marching Band during their pre-game performance

Photo by: K. Walters

Football works hard to strengthen stamina for the season

BY: COOPER PHILLIPS

For years, Mifflin County High School's football team has fought to prove itself. Now, the Huskies are improving with better play, stronger work ethic, and new sports facilities.

The playoff bound Huskies led by head coach Shane Breon, started the season with two home wins over Central Mountain and Northern York. Players and coaches credit their progress to hard work and new athletic facilities in Mifflin County.

"The new turf field helps the receivers and it also contributes to fewer injuries compared to Mitchell Field in past seasons," senior defensive lineman Corbin Yoder stated.

"It really helps our receivers, it's a better surface for them," Coach Breon added. Senior tight end Nevin Farley also pointed out that the team has been more organized thanks to the addition of new locker rooms.

Work ethic has also helped to improve the teams' performances Seniors Joel Beamer, Dekker Pietzsch, Reese Christine, Nevin Farley,

and Corbin Yoder have been notable players who have lead by example with strong work ethic and commitment to the team.

The team's playbook has also undergone changes. Farley explained, "the system has become a lot more simplified and this has helped many players on the field." Many players agree coaching staff has improved play making concepts and ideas to give the Huskies an edge against opponents.

With better facilities, simplified concepts, and a new work ethic, the Huskies are determined to keep building and improving themselves this season.

At the end of the season the team will be saying goodbye to 20 graduating players and three managers, and we thank them for their work and dedication as part of the Mifflin County High School football organization.



Photos by: K. Walters

Cross country team goes the distance with strong finish

BY: REECE BELL

The Mifflin County boys' and girls' cross-country teams stormed through the 2025 season working towards their goal of making an appearance at states.

This year's cross-country team features 19 boys and 11 girl runners. Head coach Alex Monroe leads the boys' team, while the girl's team is led by Neil Brennenman.

The coaches, as well as assistants, make a large impact on the team's success. Each day, the coaches ensure that the runners are in the best shape both mentally and physically.

Senior Trevan Diven stated, "The whole second half of the race is going to hurt, knowing that you are going to take it out fast in the beginning. Your mental toughness is going to determine if you stick with the runners in front of you. Some days you just need to suck it up to ensure you get the results you want."

Every meet consists of a five-kilometer race (3.1 miles) where each course is the same distance but produce different results due to factors

like weather and terrain. Throughout their practices and races, the boys and girls push themselves to exhaustion, trying to improve their times each race, while attempting to meet individual and team goals.

When it comes to the teams' invitationals this season, they have had a lot of success. The boys won the Gettysburg invitational, and received second place at the Foundation invitational, as well as at the Mid Penn Championships. Our team has had three boys run 16 minutes or faster, and four others under 17 minutes. Monroe stated,

"It's the strongest cross-country team this school has ever had." The girls have also had a memorable season. They have put in countless hours of hard work and dedication this season, which paid off with remarkable results and personal bests.

Districts will be held on Saturday, October 25, where the Huskies go into the meet with a home field advantage. Runners must be placed in the top five outside of the winning team to qualify for the state cham-

pionship meet that will be held on Saturday, November 1.

Cross country will be saying farewell to ten seniors at the end of their season, Amilia Coffey, Reese Cubbison, Zaiden Dashem, Trevan Diven, Ava Kratzer, Connor Lynch, Maya Morgan, Hart Oden, Caroline Palopoli, and Carter Smith.



Photo by: M. Goss

Volleyball looks ahead after a season of hard work and determination

BY: LIZZY MASSIE

This year's volleyball season was a learning experience for the team. They ended the season with a record of 2-14. Varsity player and junior, Adisyn Lyles described the year as a journey of growth.

"We learned how to trust each other more on the court and that really shows in how we communicate and encourage one another," said Lyles.

Coach Danielle Napikoski stated, "Some of my favorite moments from the season are when the team refused to give up and fought hard for each and every point despite whatever was on the scoreboard."

"I am confident we will put in the work over the off season and come back more prepared next season," said junior Kahlen McCracken.

The team had several memorable moments this season, one of them being "our first game of the season, there was a huge rally between us and our opponent. It

was a great feeling while starting the season," said McCracken. In all, the team worked on communication and teamwork this season.

To those thinking about joining the volleyball team, Lyles offered some advice.

"Joining the team is about so much more than just playing volleyball, it's about building a second family. You learn discipline, hard work, and perseverance, but also gain new friendships and a stronger mindset. Those factors make the hard practices and long games worth it," she said.

As advice to future players Napikoski added, "The best athletes are not just the players with the best abilities. Exceptional athletes are the players who have the best attitudes."

Although it was a tough season for the Husky volleyball team, they learned a lot and are ready to come back even better next year.

The Mifflin County High School volleyball team said goodbye to five seniors at the end of their year; Jamilee Gilbert, Amilia Green, Emmaleigh Harmon, Emily Porch, and Adin Reese.



Photos by: K. Walters

Field hockey ends season with heart and hustle

BY: JENNA KNEPP

Husky field hockey started off strong on August 23, when they played their opening game of the season, shutting out Shikellamy High School eight to nothing!

The Lady Huskies looked to improve upon last year's record, which was 3-15, "An obstacle for the team would be our past record," stated senior captain Alleigh Caruso.

"We have had a couple rough seasons, but we have so much talent," Varsity Coach Brittany Wilcox added.

This year's hockey team captains are: Caruso, senior Addie Fultz, and junior Brynn Rowe.

"Aniston has been very supportive and helpful towards all of the girls this season," explained Fultz. The captains agreed that despite her injury, senior Aniston Byler has been an influential member of the team this season.

The team has been practicing working on

their offense, and during pre-season took part in scrimmages to prepare for the upcoming season. Also, in the off season, a multitude of girls play on a club team where they are able to continue to hone their craft.

The most important game to the team this year, many agree, would be their home game against Red Land Senior High School. This was Mifflin County's field hockey senior night, where they played under the lights of the Kish Bank Field at the Donald M. Chapman III stadium.

Ending the season with a record of 6-11-1. The team bids farewell to six seniors: Aniston Byler, Alleigh Caruso, Addie Fultz, Hayleigh Fultz, Holly Guyer, and Bailey Neff. Mifflin County Field Hockey is always welcoming new players and hopes for continued dominance next season.



Photos by: K. Walters

Homecoming Spirit Week

T
U
E
S
D
A
Y



TWIN
DAY



Thursday: BBQ Dad vs Soccer Mom



Monday: Camo Day



Wednesday: Color Wars



Seniors-
Purple
Juniors-
White
Sophomores-
Black



Friday: Husky Gear



Husky pride roars loud at homecoming football and festivities

BY: RYLYNN PATKALITSKY

The MCHS student body and community celebrated a Husky homecoming with a fun-filled Friday before the dance. The football team hunted the Palmyra Cougars under the lights, our band participated in the Alumni Night, and the student council hosted the annual homecoming tailgate.

Prior to the game, our varsity football team felt prepared. "The whole team is gonna work hard and practice our plays," said junior Dodger Weaver. The team studied Palmyra's plays and hustled during practice the week leading up to the game.

This paid off as our football team secured an 8-6 victory over the Palmyra Cougars with a 20 yard touchdown from sophomore Jaxon Strohecker and a 2 point conversion to Dodger Weaver.

"Our defense did their jobs. We didn't let any score up with the exception of one play," junior Cayden Breon said regarding the team's strengths during the game.

The crowd roared with excitement as junior Lucas Hartung had a game-winning interception to seal the win.

The sound of the crowd was extra loud that night as our MC Band was accompanied by alumni. The game featured a major throwback with the band

continuing the same alumni traditions but on a new field. Our Mifflin County Marching Band welcomed alumni from all over to participate in the homecoming game fun. Over 50 alumni came to break out their instruments again.

"We have about an hour of practice before we go to the field. This is the only time we will practice this music as a large band before the game and performance," organizer Stephanie Diehl said.

The band plays during the whole game which features throwback stand tunes and a halftime performance.

Friday morning, our student body attended a tailgate outside of the commons area organized by Student Council. The MC Marching Band played fun tunes for our student body while they enjoyed a variety of snacks and yard games with friends!

"The homecoming tailgate offers an environment to celebrate with your peers," senior Bailey Neff said.

The homecoming game is more important than just football— it allows our community to reunite together in purple and black.



Sophomore Jaxon Strohecker at the homecoming football game
Photo by: K. Walter



Seniors Hannah Cramer, Ava Baker, Addie Thornburgh, and Bailey Neff at the tailgate

2025 Homecoming Court

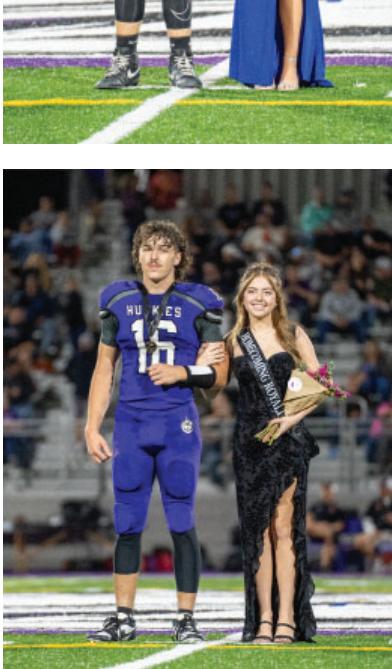
King and Queen

Evan Strohecker and Mackenzie Peachey



Prince and Princess

Bruce Baker and Alleigh Caruso



Girls as pictured from top to bottom: Mackenzie Peachey, Ava Baker, Maya Burke, Aniston Byler, Anna Krohn, Justie Attick, Alleigh Caruso, Addie Fultz
Boys as pictured from top to bottom: Evan Strohecker, Reese Hine, Reece Bell, Chase Hartung, Easton Zook, Reese Christine, Bruce Baker, Bo Reeder

King and queen crowned and court celebrated

BY: JENNA KNEPP

Royalty invaded the Mifflin County High School starting on September 12 when the 16 seniors on this year's homecoming court were announced on the 3:08.

Eight girls and eight boys who properly represent the class of 2026 were selected and voting for king and queen took place the week of September 22. The festivities culminated Friday at our pep rally and the crowning took place on Kish Bank Field at Donald Chapman III Stadium under the lights.

At our pep rally the eight pairings each had their own individual skits but only one could be the winner. Annie Krohn and Easton Zook took home number one with their well thought out skit based on 90's rap. Maya Burke and Reece Bell received second place with their beautifully executed *Sandlot* skit. Finally in third place, Ava Baker and Reese Hine's skit based on the movie *10 Things I Hate About You*.

Before the pep rally Mackenzie Peachey

stated, "I think Annie and Easton will have a good performance."

Aniston Byler agreed, "I know they've been putting a lot of thought into the music and costume."

Other skit themes were, disco, TikTok mashup, Justin Bieber, *Tangled*, and *High School Musical*.

"I enjoy watching the kids enjoy themselves in a once in a lifetime type of situation," stated senior class advisor, Raymond Hoppel.

Under the lights, Friday September 26, our new king and queen were crowned. Reigning royalty Ben Snyder and Amaris Fultz crowned Mackenzie Peachey and Evan Strohecker. Also named were Alleigh Caruso and Bruce Baker who received runners up.

The results were razor close and all the kids had a close amount of votes," Hoppel said.

All 16 seniors on this year's

homecoming court were good representatives of the class of 2026 and involved in a multitude of clubs and sports.

Congratulations are in order for the 16 students who were voted onto court by their peers and to Peachey and Strohecker for continuing the legacy of Mifflin County homecoming royalty!