

The Tyrian

Your Husky Link Through Screen and Ink

Drama Club presents *The Addams Family*

BY: ANTONIA KUNDE AND QUINLEY RANCK

After months of rehearsals, memorizing lines and sound checks, *The Addams Family Musical* at Mifflin County High School came to life on stage. The performance was the result of a lot of dedication from students and teachers both on and behind the stage.

Official practices began in September, "I started listening to the songs when they announced the show. We rehearsed for about six months. Outside of school, I practice my music and some of the dances," explained sophomore Anna Miller who played the role of Morticia Addams.

"Going to see the school mu-

sical supports the students who put so much effort into the production each year. For me, the musical is my main extra curricular and main way of connecting with my friends and peers," said junior Sierra Scyoc.

Cast members had a difficult time choosing a favorite song. "Just Around the Corner" was the most popular pick throughout the cast. "'Just Around the Corner' is my favorite song in the musical due to my lovely friend Anna Miller singing it so beautifully," said senior Luke Kintzel who played Uncle Fester.

Sierra Scyoc cast in the role of Alice Beinecke explained, "My favorite scene is 'Full Disclosure' because everyone gets to shine in their own way as



Main characters of *The Addams Family Musical* in costume

well as my solo is in this scene. With my song 'Waiting,' I am able to really get into character as Alice and express how exhausted she is waiting for her marriage to go back to the good times."

Arranging a big event like the musical comes with a few challenges. The participants developed ways to overcome those. Many students

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Annual Sadie Hawkins dance returns to MCHS

BY: MAYA BURKE

Mifflin County High School hosted its annual Sadie Hawkins dance organized by the sophomore class on February 7. This year's theme was "Sweetheart Soiree," which highlights the Valentine's Day color scheme of the dance with pinks and reds. This theme highlights the history of Sadie Hawkins, where girls would break tradition by asking boys to the dance.

"Our biggest success of the dance was definitely our high attendance and our number of tickets sold. We were all very pleased with it," said sophomore Marquise Siennick.

"We had meetings where we se-

lected and ordered certain supplies we thought would look nice at the dance," said sophomore class vice president Camden Kauffman.

Although there were a few challenges while organizing the music, the dance was a great success, featuring plenty of snacks, festive decorations, and an evening full of fun.

"From what I've heard, the dance was better than ever before. I'm really proud of what we accomplished this year," said Siennick.

"I really enjoyed Sadie's this year because I got to dance with my friends and have fun, and it gives everyone something fun to do in the winter sea-



son," said senior Aniston Byler.

Overall, the Sadie Hawkins dance was a huge success! Thank you to our sophomore class officers who took charge in making the dance a memorable event for everyone.

Students explore engineering through Underwater Robotics

BY: VAYLA SHAWVER

At Mifflin County High School, students have the opportunity to take a hands-on class called underwater robotics, giving students the chance to learn about engineering and teamwork while building robots designed to work underwater. The class is based on the SeaPerch program, which introduces students to underwater robotics in a competitive setting.

Throughout the semester, students build a ROV (remote operated vehicle) designed to move through water and complete specific tasks that would normally be difficult or dangerous for a human to do underwater. "The goal is to build a robot that can compete in different scenarios linked to the real world, such as a hazard in the water, and the robot has to do a recovery mission that a human couldn't do," said underwater robotics teacher, Mrs. ConnerMiller.

The class focuses on problem-solving and teamwork. Some-

times the robots do not work the way students expect, but errors are an important part of the learning experience. Many students say that figuring out how to fix problems is one of the most rewarding parts of the class. Sophomore Maddex Goss stated, "A struggle I had was soldering wires and driving the robot underwater."

At the end of the course, students have the chance to compete in a competition that mimics the SeaPerch competition. Teams of two complete underwater tasks using their robots while being timed and judged on accuracy and time. This gives students the opportunity to see how their designs compare and experience the excitement of competition.

"My highlight was my depth test; it was fast and successful," said junior Paxton Shawver.

Many students enjoy the hands-on building process and the chance to work with friends while learning something new.

"My least favorite part of the class was it being too short. It was fun, and it is sad that it ended so quickly," said senior



Junior Paxton Shawver during Underwater Robotics class

Jayden Silks.

This class is different as it allows students to actively create and test their work instead of only learning from textbooks. "My favorite part of underwater robotics would be the creative freedom we had, and the amount of time we got to work on the robots," said sophomore Dayvian Wilson.

Underwater robotics can be a great class for students interested in engineering, technology, or simply looking to try something new.

Mifflin County TSA finds success at regional competition

BY: JAILYN DIXON

Mifflin County TSA sent twelve students to compete at the regional competition at Cambria Heights High School on January 24, 2026. The team delivered an impressive performance, with ten students qualifying for the state competition.

The Fashion Design and Technology group consisting of seniors Emily Banks, Anna Krohn, and Oak Yeater earned first place at the event. Given the theme Villain, the team created a striking black dress with red accents and a corset top, paired with black boots. "It makes you feel really proud of yourself and your team," said Yeater.

Senior Caleb Noerr and sophomore Marquise Siennick earned third place for their Music Production submission honoring America's 250th anniversary. The duo composed and recorded a march for full concert band conducted by former band director Arthur Belfiore.

"Caleb and I put a lot of work into this project. Having a team makes the work smoother and leads to a better outcome," Siennick said.

Students also found success in several other events. Maya Morgan, Luke Foltz and Oak Yeater earned third place in Board Game Design. "It felt really good because we worked so hard on it," added Morgan.

In PA Pin design, Yeater received fourth place. Morgan earned seventh place in Photographic Technology while Foltz earned eighth place in Promotional Design.

In the Written Technology Bowl, Noerr earned thirteenth place individually and the team placed seventh overall. Alesya Norris, Hannah Jones, and Tatum Miller received eighth place in Children's stories.

"The cool thing that happened this year is we had students qualify in multiple events, and it wasn't just one or two. Sometimes you go to states, and you



Seniors Anna Krohn, Emily Banks, and Oak Yeater at TSA Regionals

can only compete in one competition. But this really opens the doors for them to have a lot more possibility for success at states," explained TSA Advisor Mrs. ConnerMiller

Congratulations to all members of TSA and good luck at the state competition in April!

Boys basketball ends with winning season

BY: JENNA KNEPP

The Mifflin County boys' basketball team had an impressive season ending with a record of 13-11.

In the preseason, the team worked hard to prepare, "We had offseason games, workouts, camps and opportunities that all had an impact on our work for the season," stated junior Evan Breon.

Looking back to last year, the team is in agreement that they have had successful improvements, "I think we improved on playing as a team," said junior Lucas Hartung. "Our ability to play as a team compared to last year, we look and feel more like a team," added junior Jack Curry.

This season, many players feel Curry has been an important part of the team leading

them to push their hardest in games and also at practices.

The boys were most looking forward to the district game against State College, "The district championship game is always a fun environment," stated Curry.

The Mifflin County boys' basketball team had a strong season overall, winning some very hard-fought games away and in their own sea of camo, the boys won their District 6 semifinal game against Altoona Area High School 70-55.

The boys had a seven-game win streak that come to an end at the District 6 game where the Huskies strongly battled State College High School at Mount Aloysius College.

The team bids farewell to seniors, Josh Hartzler and Evan Strohecker, Addison Fultz and Bailey Neff. Good luck in your future endeavors!



MCHS Boys Basketball at Mount Aloysius College for District Championship



Junior, number 4 Zach Keller



Junior, number 23 Lucas Hartung

Bowling team returns to Lewistown Lanes for competition

BY: RYLYNN PATKALITSKY

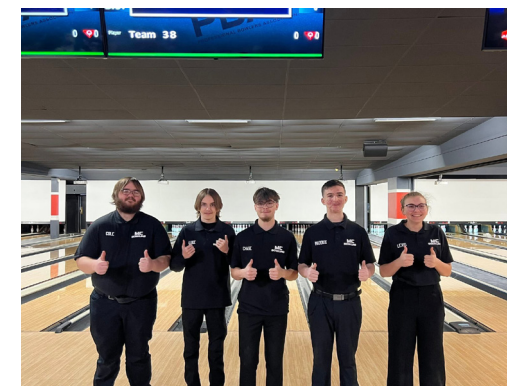
The Mifflin County High School bowling team came into this season with dedication and drive. The team grew immensely this season starting with only shooting 700-750 a game to averaging 837 a game.

Head Coach Hunter Wagner emphasized that the team's success wasn't just about the scores, but about the atmosphere they created. "The biggest strength we had this year was all of our bowlers keeping it fun and continuing to challenge each other," said Wagner. The positive mindset and environment helped the team stay motivated during the season.

The team faced some tough opponents this year. "Hazelton was the toughest team to beat due to how close most of the games were. Almost every game was 10 to 40 pins difference," said senior Chase Bowen.



Mifflin County Bowling team poses for pictures during in season competitions



The team finished with a record of 1 win and 3 losses with their one win against Milton Hershey at Lewistown Lanes.

Freshman bowler, Lexis Wray advanced onto Regionals on February 27. Wray finished at 81st place averaging 155 a game.

The team kept it serious while continuing to make the sport fun. "The

advice I would give to new and returning bowlers is keep it fun and never stop learning the sport," said Coach Wagner.

With the end of the season, the team reflects on growth, improvements, and the foundation for next year. The team said goodbye to four seniors this season. Good luck to Chase Bowen, Luke Pudlo, Cole Linn, and Drakco Smith in your future endeavors!

Girls basketball looks ahead after successful season

BY: LUKE BENDER

The Mifflin County girls basketball team ended an impressive season under new head coach Crystal Weaver with a strong record of 11-9.

During their off-season, the team worked really hard to prepare for the upcoming year. "We had plenty of open gyms and tournaments. Our team had the opportunity to attend Messiah University for a basketball camp," said sophomore Regan Kenepp.

The girls agree that this year their team chemistry has really improved and the transition with coach Weaver has pushed them to work their hardest.

This season, senior Mackenzie Peachey was acknowledged as an integral part of the team, "Mackenzie is a great role model and leads with great attitude and effort," stated junior Malaina Maxwell.



Junior, number 13 Jayda Kanagy

Junior Payton Weaver added, "Since she was our only senior, we worked really hard to play for her."

Reflecting on last year, the girl's defense improved greatly and they feel confident in their ability to play as a team.

On February 12 the girls celebrated their senior night in the Dawg Pound with a successful victory over Southern Huntingdon in front of a loud Mifflin County crowd.

The girls season came to an end



Senior, number 23 Mackenzie Peachey

with a hard-fought loss to State College Area High School on February 16.

Next season the girls are looking to continue to work together and communicate to positively impact them on the court. The program is looking forward to next season to keep the winning momentum going.

The Mifflin County girls basketball team is bidding farewell to one senior, Mackenzie Peachey, and wishing her good luck as she continues her academic and athletic career at Penn State Altoona.

Unified Bocce team builds friendship and teamwork

BY: MARCELLA MCKEE

The Mifflin County Coed Unified Bocce team ended their season with a record of 1-3-5. The team is classified as Coed Unified, as it is inclusive for female and male students in both special and regular education. The team provides a welcoming environment to any student interested in participating.

Gina Moore and Denise Lane have coached this team since its second season. "After seeing a bocce match and hearing that the coach was leaving for a new job, I knew I wanted to keep this unified team alive," stated Lane. Moore's favorite part of coaching this team is, "watching students grow in the sport of bocce and develop as teammates. Seeing their skills improve and their confidence build is incredibly rewarding." Both coaches noted how proud they were of their team when they gave Halifax their only loss of the season.

Students work together to do what's



MCHS Coed Unified Bocce team at an in-season match

best for the team, but when determining what is most important, winning or having fun, students agree that it is having fun. Lucas Garner emphasized, "Being happy."

"I love Bocce so much. I have had the best three years ever," said senior Harry Beers.

Our bocce team is looking forward to next season and encourages

anyone interested to come and try out. "Do it, it is fun, and you will make lots of friends," advised senior Emmah Miller.

The team is saying goodbye to seniors Harry Beers, Harleigh DeArment, Barry Grosser and Emmah Miller and thanks them for their dedication to the Mifflin County Coed Unified bocce team!

Competition Cheer wins District Title: Advances to States

BY: LOLA HEIMBAUGH

Every year, the Mifflin County High School cheer team heads to their district competition, displaying their hard work throughout the season on the floor. This past December, the team secured the District VI win and placed 2nd overall in the PIAA cheerleading district competition in Altoona. Their success reflects months of practice, determination and teamwork.

Being part of the MCHS cheer team takes support, confidence and trust. Both the athletes and their coaches trained intensely this season. "For districts, we had been doing our stunts and practicing non-stop," said senior Kayla McTavish. Practices often included running routines repeatedly, sharpening stunts, and focusing on technique to ensure everything is performed safely and cleanly.

However, physical skills were not



MC Varsity Cheer at PIAA State Championships

the only challenge the team faced this season. Junior Hannah Johnson explained, "Our biggest obstacle was accountability, but as a team we came together and learned to hold each other responsible for our mistakes." By encouraging each other and focusing on improvement, the team was able to grow stronger together.

Support doesn't just exist within the team. Many girls explained how their family pushes and supports them. Junior Abigail Baumgardner said, "My



MC Varsity Cheer after winning District VI title

little sisters are my biggest supporters. They've made signs and have been at every game." This strong support from family and loved ones helps motivate the team to keep pushing toward their goals.

The team is looking toward the future and keeping their district title as they say goodbye to five seniors: Alaina Chilson, Kaidense Conner, Jalyiah Henry, Kayla McTavish, and Kiersten Parks. We thank the seniors for their dedication to the Mifflin County Cheer program!

Indoor Track breaks records in strong winter season

BY: WINSTON YETTER

The Mifflin County indoor track team opened their regular season on the first Saturday of December where the team's performance surpassed expectations.

Seniors Carter Smith, Reese Cubbison, and Connor Lynch, along with junior Wyatt Kauffman set a national record in the distance medley relay race (DMR) at the State College Invitational on February 18.

The State College Invitational was also successful for the girl's team, as sophomore sprinter Taylor Kenepp set the school record for the indoor girls 400 meters with a time of 1:01.06.

Cubbison, Kauffman, and Smith all qualified individually for states along with Knepp.

"I've learned how to set goals and to push myself to reach those goals," described senior Amilia Coffey. Discipline and perseverance are important.

"Some things you don't want to do, but you just have to do them," stated



Seniors Connor Lynch, Carter Smith, Reese Cubbison, and junior Wyatt Kauffman after achieving the #1 DMR time in the United States

senior Cubbison.

Distance coach Alex Monroe explained, "The graduating seniors are going to leave a big absence with big shoes to fill."

"Whenever seniors leave, it's a different dynamic that you can't replicate," added Coach Specht.

The indoor track team has be-

come like an extended family. After every meet, they debrief. Distance athletes share one positive and one negative after every meet bringing the team closer together.

Although it is tempting to see track only as an individual sport, every athlete can contribute to the team's overall score. Track and field head coach Tamara Sechler explained, "We warm-up as a team and we try to cool down as a team."

As we close the indoor season and head into outdoor, we say goodbye to 13 seniors and prepare for the next seasons. Our seniors will be dearly missed as some of them look to compete at the next level. Congratulations again, to all state qualifiers and those who competed at nationals. Farewell to our seniors: Alleigh Caruso, Amilia Coffey, Reese Cubbison, Zaiden Dashem, Trevan Diven, Logan Glass, Ava Krazter, Connor Lynch, Maya Morgan, Hart Oden, Caroline Palopoli, Carter Smith, and Linsey Wagner!

MC wrestling return for strong season on the mat

BY: AADEN STEVENS

The Mifflin County wrestling season came to an end in March, and our Mifflin County wrestling team did not disappoint. Head coach Kirby Martin led the team to a 9-6 record and sent juniors Andrew Alexander and Jake Knable, along with sophomore Brayan Aurand, to the regional competition. Alexander advanced to states.

“Hard work is essential, and only you really know if you’re giving it everything you’ve got. People who always try to cut corners will never come close to realizing their full potential,” Coach Martin quoted John Wooden, the collegiate basketball coach, to describe the Huskies 25-26 Season. Hard work was key for the Huskies this season, and it paid off.

Martin teaches his wrestlers skills that benefit them on and off the mat.



Senior Dekker Pietzsch during in-season match at home

“Wrestling has done so much for me and my high school career. It’s changed my mindset and has given me motivation on and off the mat,” said Alexander.

“Wrestling is and will make me a hard worker and stay determined,” said junior Jake Knable.

“It made me realize that if you want something, you have to work

hard for it,” stated sophomore Brayan Aurand.

“The wrestlers are growing in the area of competitive mental toughness,” Martin said.

Coach Martin added, “They are learning how to focus on how they wrestle, not who they are wrestling. They are learning that every opportunity to compete is a valuable and important experience towards making themselves better, and learning hard work increases their chances at success.”

The Mifflin County wrestling season might have ended, but the wrestling team’s hard work produced high-quality results across the whole 2025-2026 season.

After an impressive season, the boys are looking to next year as they say goodbye to five seniors: Reese Christine, Tyrell Fortson, Landon Helm, Layne Linn, and Dekker Pietzsch.

MC athletes commit to play next level Division 1

BY: KENDALL CAVANAUGH

The countless years of hard work paid off for three student athletes who officially signed to Division I schools. For seniors Carter Smith, Reese Cubbison, and Madden Weaver, this has been their dream, however the process was not easy.

Smith’s recruitment process started a little earlier than the others. Coach Alex Monroe was involved with the whole journey and helped guide Smith in the right direction. “I was able to meet Coach Smith from Oklahoma State, and hear his vision for Carter’s running career,” said Monroe.

Smith’s high school career was very accomplished, and he will continue his success at Oklahoma State University next year.

Reese Cubbison will continue his academic and athletic career at Duquesne University. For Cubbison, the search for the right college started the summer before senior year. “I was looking at col-



Madden Weaver, Carter Smith, and Reese Cubbison at D1 signing day

leges in the summer and talking with the coaches. I started taking visits during the fall and then narrowed it down from there,” explained Cubbison.

Looking back on his career at Mifflin County, Cubbison stated, “My proudest moment was getting 13th in cross-country and finally starting to see the changes I made a year ago paying off.”

Coach Monroe played a crucial

role in both Smith and Cubbison’s careers. Both athletes have made a lasting impact on the cross-country team by reaching this level. “I believe this is now the standard for distance running in Mifflin County, and so we will continue to use both of their high school campaigns as inspiration for the future,” added Monroe.

Madden Weaver has spent countless hours of hard work to achieve this goal.

“Madden has worked as hard as anyone, and this signing is a product of the work and effort he has put into baseball since he was 8 years old,” stated Coach Hoppel.

“I feel like I’ve gotten better every year since my freshman year, and I continue to put work in everyday and perfect the little things,” said Weaver. He will further improve his skills at Mercyhurst University next year.

We wish these three students luck as they continue to make Mifflin County proud as they further their academic and athletic careers collegiately!

Addams family continued

described “Crunch Season” as especially stressful.

Junior Carter Bratton explained the challenges of preparing for the role of Mal Beineke. “Being able to keep my mental health good while having a job, choir practice, Cantare, rehearsals, homework and on top of that memorizing lines, dance and music is one of the biggest obstacles to overcome,” said Bratton. He also explained that having an understanding employer and flexible teachers helped him to overcome these obstacles.

Many performers also said that memorizing lines, performances and songs can be hard. Junior Ethan McMonigal, playing the role of Gomez Addams, stated that the thing that helped him was “Practice, Practice, Practice!”

Behind the scenes of the Addams family, the students and advisors enjoyed creating props, costumes, lighting and sets to bring the musical to life.

Director Chris Ruble recognizes that the musical brings happiness to the audience as well as the cast and crew. “I love seeing the satisfaction of the cast and audience realizing the cast did it,” that they did an outstanding production.

Ms. Allison Echard, the dramatic arts teacher and volunteer for the musical, said, “I helped them understand their characters and make choices that demonstrated that understanding and resonated with audiences.”

“Watching each student gain confidence, make new friends and develop better self-esteem” is Ms. Lane’s favorite part of working behind the scenes of the play as a club co-advisor.

Mrs. Moore, a co-advisor, added that



MCHS Drama Club poses on the stage in costume for the production of the play

she enjoys, “Helping to create what always becomes an awesome final product.”

“My favorite part was watching all of my friends pour out their talent and skills on stage,” said junior Sarah Bennett, a crew member. “It filled me with joy watching and listening to them do their parts.”

Mifflin County students had many different roles in this year’s production, such as building the set, working on sound production, organizing costumes, designing makeup and providing the cast with what they needed for the play.

“I enjoyed being able to watch the play from the backstage perspective and how I am learning new things,” said crew member Dakota Ruth.

Not only do the cast and crew create a memorable performance, but they form lasting friendships through

their work on the production. Senior Oak Yeater said, “I enjoyed meeting new people and being able to work alongside my friend.”

Donovan Purvis stated, “I enjoy seeing the cast backstage and being invested with people.”

The musical creates close bonds between the cast and the crew.

The Addams Family Musical at MCHS was far more than just a performance. It was months of teamwork, stress and laughter wrapped into one unforgettable weekend. As the curtain closed, it was clear to everyone that the experience left a lasting impact on the entire school community.

For anyone who missed the play, a recording of the performance is available on the MCHS YouTube account.

Upcoming Events

APRIL	MAY
<p>April 2 Field Trip: Drama Club to New York City</p> <p>April 3 Good Friday - No School for Students</p> <p>April 6 Easter Break - School in Session for Makeup Day</p> <p>April 15-17 Field Trip: TSA to Seven Springs</p> <p>April 25 MCHS Prom 7:00 p.m. - Vehicle Promenade at 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>May 3 Spring Band Concert - 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>May 8 Eco Day</p> <p>May 9 MiniTHON “Beat Cancer Block Party” 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.</p> <p>May 10 MCHS/MCJH Spring Choral Concert - 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>May 15 MCSD Jazz Concert - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>May 21 Spring Art Show / Senior Showcase - 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>May 25 Memorial Day - No School for Students</p> <p>May 29 Last Day of School for Students (Weather pending)</p> <p>May 29 Commencement - 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>May 30 Commencement Back Up Date - 6:00 p.m.</p>

ConnerMiller named Technology Innovator of the Year

BY: ELLA LUTZ

Mrs. Rebecca ConnerMiller was awarded the Dr. Laura Hummell Technology Innovator of the Year Award at the Annual PETE&C Educational Technology Conference in Hershey, PA on February 2, 2026.

Mrs. ConnerMiller plays a significant role in the technology program at MCHS, teaching 2D and 3D Engineering Design, Architectural Design, Engineering and Innovations, Underwater Robotics and Robotics and Engineering, as well as the STEM Internship.

In addition to teaching tech ed classes, ConnerMiller is a TSA advisor, PBIS core team member, MakerSpace facilitator, and Chief Science Officer Advisor.

Mrs. ConnerMiller was selected for this award due to her efforts in District-wide robotics integration, MakerSpace integrations, the STEM Internship Program, PSU Collaborative

Experiences for High School Students, Student Forum Implementation and the work put into assisting in developing STEM learning experiences for students of all ages.

Her colleagues nominated her for this award. Mrs. ConnerMiller was humbled that her coworkers took the time to secretly nominate her for this awesome honor.

Not only is this a wonderful personal accomplishment but it also symbolizes the excellence of the Mifflin County School District. Mrs. ConnerMiller said, "We have a great group of STEM minded people here in MCS D who have worked diligently over the last 10 years to enhance and provide STEM opportunities for students."

Seeing ConnerMiller receive this decoration meant a lot to Anna Krohn, a senior inspired by her. "Without taking her classes, I would have had no interest in going into mechanical



ConnerMiller posing with award

engineering, so the impact she made on me and many other students makes me extremely happy," said senior Anna Krohn. Mrs. ConnerMiller's effort that she puts into her students and their future has not gone unnoticed.

Mrs. ConnerMiller said she is "looking forward to the doors that an award like this could bring to our district and its students. I pray that it will open doors, and help us be selected for more opportunities in the upcoming years."

Upward Bound opens doors for future college students

BY: SHAY DUFFY

College isn't just a dream- it's a doorway to the future, and for many students, Upward Bound is the key. Upward Bound is a federally funded college preparation program created to help students with their plans to pursue higher education after graduation.

"Our students deserve to have the future they want and dream of, and Upward Bound provides access to opportunities and support during high school that can allow students to pursue their dreams," said Dr. Aimee Seitz.

Upward Bound assists students facing financial and generational barriers to college by empowering them through tutoring, college counseling, AP/SAT preparation, and exposure to campus life, preparing them for the transition to college.

Mifflin County senior Vaeda Kaufman said, "The program gives students enough time to request personal time

if needed, giving them the chance to learn how to stay organized, planned, and responsible." She also stated that the summer program helped her get a structural idea because she got a feel for college.

Upward Bound's summer residential experience is a five-to-six-week intensive preview of college life. Students are able to live in dorms, attend daily classes, and take part in cultural events, team-building activities, and educational field trips. Along with assistance with college applications and small stipends, this program motivates inexperienced or lower-income students to attend college.

Teacher and Upward Bound advisor, Mr. Barnhart, encourages students to join the program early. He stated, "It's eye-opening to see the struggles and lack of knowledge the students experience."

Senior Annalisa Kline said, "The program provided resources that supported my after-school decisions."

Kline added, "Educate yourself. Use the resources given. The counselors put in effort to motivate you; you just have to make the decision."

Kline and Kaufman both agree that the parts that helped them the most were the "1-on-1's with Upward Bound counselor Alissa and the straightforward information given to guide students."

Kline also stated, "My goal is to graduate from high school and college, and Upward Bound helped us students find what's for us and not for the school."

Studies show that Upward Bound students have higher college degree completion rates and high school graduation rates.

As college competition increases and college costs continue to rise, the Upward Bound program provides students with the resources, motivation, and confidence they need to succeed. For many, it's more than just a program; it's a door to opportunity.

Student musicians represent MCHS at regionals

BY: HALLIE MARCELLO

Each year talented singers and musicians compete in the district, regional, and state festivals hosted by the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association for band, choir and jazz ensembles.

From Mifflin County High School, students Aaron Zylstra, Bailey Horner, Alia Diehl, Hannah Jones, Kyler Baker and Caleb Noerr qualified for regionals after the district festival. Griffin Damicanantonio, Reese Bennett, Kaden Baker, Alessa Norris and Abigail Riden also performed at districts.

Cora Hartzler, Annie Hartzler, Ava Kelly, Lia Barahona, Breanna Carmany, Emmah Miller, Sierra Fultz, Max Persing, Jacob Traxler, Teagan Pisko, and Kayden Rodriguez performed at regional choir following districts. Sierra Scyoc, Luke Foltz, Michael Baumgardner, Carter Bratton and Wyatt Simonetti also represented MCHS at districts.

"You have to be well-prepared for your auditions, which can be stressful, but it's worth it in the end," said sophomore, Aaron Zylstra.

"Preparing students for festivals is about teaching them how to practice efficiently. It is also about making sure students know what to expect during the audition process," said choir director



MCHS Choir at the PMEA music competition

Mr. Fensterbush. Band director, Mr. Kahley and Fensterbush both expressed dedication to helping their students prepare for the competition as much as they can. These auditions take place in the fall and winter. It is very competitive with only the top students going on to regionals.

For people participating in the festivals, these are great opportunities for not just building musical skills but also to be with students with similar interests as well as being able to meet new people.

"It's really cool to get to meet a bunch of other singers from your school and it's a great experience to

sing in a choir with a bunch of experienced singers," said sophomore Annie Hartzler.

This is a great opportunity for people to become more talented while gaining more experience. Kahley said, "It doesn't matter to me if they make it to regionals or state, as long as they were able to participate I'm proud of them." This experience doesn't just reflect the talent but also the community of music across the state.

Congratulations to Alia Diehl, Caleb Noerr, Cora Hartzler, Ava Kelly and Max Persing on advancing to the All-State festivals!

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Mini-THON Block Party

May 9
11 am to 3 pm
Student Parking Lot

VARSITY SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

Softball

3/25 @ State College
 3/27 @ Williamsport
 3/31 vs Altoona
 4/2 vs Chambersburg
 4/6 @ Cedar Cliff
 4/8 vs Mechanicsburg
 4/10 @ Central Mountain
 4/14 vs Cumberland Valley
 4/16 @ Central Dauphin
 4/20 vs State College
 4/22 @ Altoona
 4/23 vs West Perry
 4/28 @ Chambersburg
 4/30 vs Cedar Cliff
 5/4 @ Mechanicsburg
 5/6 @ Cumberland Valley
 5/7 vs Central Mountain
 5/11 @ Dubois

Baseball

3/25 vs State College
 3/31 @ Altoona
 4/2 @ Chambersburg
 4/6 vs Cedar Cliff 2:00 PM
 4/6 vs Cedar Cliff 4:30 PM
 4/8 @ Mechanicsburg
 4/10 vs Mount Union
 4/14 @ Cumberland Valley
 4/16 vs Central Dauphin
 4/20 @ State College
 4/22 vs Altoona
 4/23 @ Southern Huntingdon
 4/24 @ TBA
 4/28 vs Chambersburg
 5/4 vs Mechanicsburg
 5/6 vs Cumberland Valley
 5/13 vs Central Mountain

Boys Tennis

3/26 @ Red Land
 3/30 @ Northern
 4/1 vs Lower Dauphin
 4/2 @ Cedar Cliff
 4/6 vs Hershey
 4/7 @ Altoona
 4/8 @ Carlisle
 4/10 @ Cumberland Valley
 4/13 vs Central Dauphin
 4/15 vs Palmyra
 4/16 @ TBA
 4/20 vs Mechanicsburg
 4/21 @ TBA
 4/28 @ TBA

Spring sports schedules are dependent upon the weather.

Be sure to listen to MCTV for the most up-to-date

information for each team.

Girls Lacrosse

3/25 vs Chambersburg
 3/26 @ Cedar Cliff
 3/28 @ State College
 4/2 vs Mechanicsburg
 4/7 @ Cumberland Valley
 4/9 vs Central Dauphin
 4/11 @ Lewisburg
 4/13 @ Central Dauphin East
 4/15 vs Carlisle
 4/21 vs State College
 4/23 @ Chambersburg
 5/5 @ Mechanicsburg
 5/7 vs Cumberland Valley
 5/12 @ Central Dauphin

Track & Field

3/28 @ Chambersburg
 3/31 vs Altoona
 4/2 @ Harrisburg
 4/7 vs State College
 4/9 @ Central Dauphin
 4/14 vs Carlisle
 4/21 @ Cumberland Valley
 4/24 @ TBA
 5/1 @ TBA
 5/9 @ TBA
 5/13 @ TBA
 5/14 @ TBA
 5/23 @ TBA
 5/24 @ TBA

Boys Lacrosse

3/26 vs Cedar Cliff
 3/28 @ Central Dauphin East
 4/2 @ Mechanicsburg
 4/7 vs Cumberland Valley
 4/9 @ Central Dauphin
 4/13 vs Central Dauphin
 4/15 @ Carlisle
 4/20 vs York Suburban
 4/21 @ State College
 4/23 vs Chambersburg
 4/28 @ Cedar Cliff
 5/1 vs State College
 5/5 vs Mechanicsburg
 5/7 @ Cumberland Valley
 5/11 vs Central Dauphin

Morgan's Message comes to Mifflin County High School

BY: JAILYN DIXON

Morgan's Message is a new informal student group at MCHS that promotes and advocates for student athlete mental health. Morgan's Message is a national nonprofit that was created in 2020 in memory of Morgan Rodgers, a Duke lacrosse player who lost her battle with mental health. The group aims to normalize conversations about mental health and give equal attention given to mental and emotion-

al needs as to physical well being. The group meets monthly in A203.

"The goal of Morgan's Message is to destigmatize mental health for student-athletes, and to be a positive place for student-athletes to meet and discuss their experiences," explained Mr. Vorberger. "We have been very happy with the engagement and interest we've seen so far, and we're excited about how this group can benefit our school."

The group is open to all students



including non-athletes, and the next meeting will be April 8th at 7:45 AM in Mr. King's Room.

Midnight Masquerade to be held; After Prom to follow

BY: MARCELLA MCKEE

The Mifflin County High School Junior Class will host Midnight Masquerade, this year's prom on April 25, 2026. Tickets are \$30 per single and \$60 for couples. On average, 500 students attend the prom each year, and the community hosts a free After Prom at the local YMCA.

The After Prom at the Juniata

Valley YMCA lasts from 10:30 p.m. - 5:00 a.m. Activities include swimming, volleyball, bumperball, board games, a photo booth, a mechanical bull, a magician, and much more. A variety of food and drinks is provided throughout the night. There are prizes with great value, such as TVs, headphones, PlayStations, Xbox, AirPods, iPads, Airtags, cash drawings every

hour and a grand prize at the end. This event is open to all MCHS juniors and seniors, even if they do not plan to attend the prom. If students bring a guest from another school, they must attend prom to come to this event. Permission slips will be given out during ticket sales and signed slips can be turned into Mrs. Clancy-Burns in B214.

National Honor Society inducts twenty new members

BY: ELLA LUTZ

Mifflin County Chapter of the National Honor Society held its annual induction ceremony on Thursday, March 19, at 7 p.m. in the MCHS auditorium. Twenty new members pledged their honor, lit candles of knowledge, received pins presented by a role model in their life, and accepted a certificate from Principal Mr. Campagna.

"It is super exciting to be a part of something so prestigious to Mifflin County and schools all around the United States. It feels like all of my hard work has finally paid off," said sophomore Kate Hartzler about her recent induction into NHS.

Qualifications for this prestigious society include a cumulative GPA of 93% or above, ten hours of volunteer community service, two minor leadership posi-

tions or one major leadership position and recommendations of character.

"I help a lot with my church and in the Belleville community," said sophomore Camden Kauffman about his community service.

The induction ceremony celebrates those students who have demonstrated the four pillars of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character.

During the 2026 ceremony, Ms. Taylor Verela, a 2013 graduate of MCHS and a member of the National Honor Society, spoke about how the NHS has shaped her career and helped guide her accomplishments.

Congratulations to all new members of National Honor Society!



2026 Sadie Hawkins Dance

