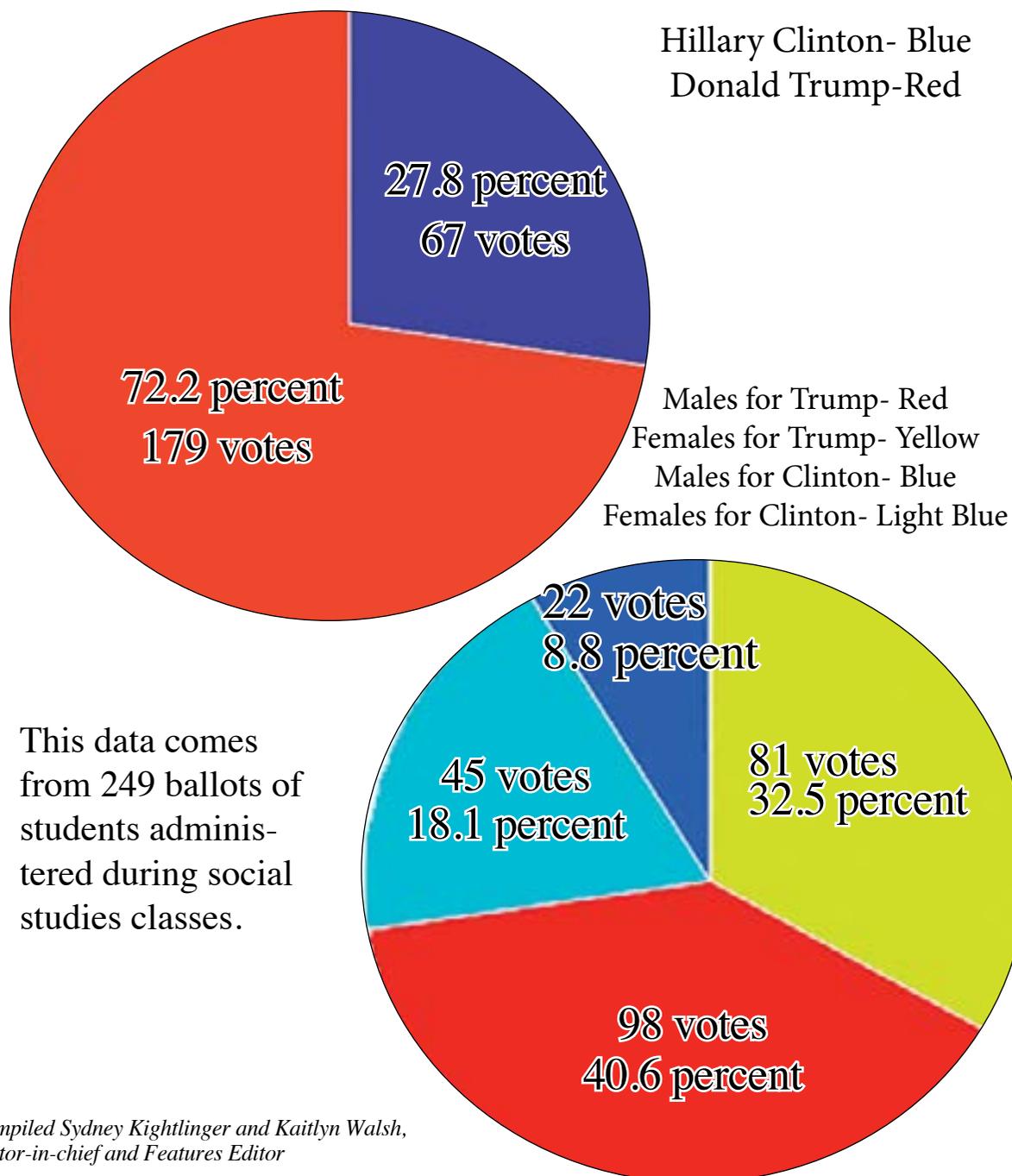




The 2016 Saegertown mock election results



This data comes from 249 ballots of students administered during social studies classes.

Hillary Clinton- Blue
Donald Trump-Red

Males for Trump- Red
Females for Trump- Yellow
Males for Clinton- Blue
Females for Clinton- Light Blue

Seniors to assist in general election

By Jade Allen

STAFF WRITER

The presidential general election on Nov. 8 is rapidly approaching and this year's Saegertown seniors will play an active role on election day.

The Crawford County Election Board gathered applications from qualified high school juniors and seniors to participate in their Student Poll Worker Program.

To participate, you must be a Crawford County resident who is 17 years of age or older with a GPA of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale).

This program is an opportunity for students to learn responsibility, teamwork, and leadership skills.

A handful of Saegertown's qualifying juniors and seniors applied for

this community service opportunity, for which they will receive NHS service hours.

They will also have the opportunity to learn about the election process while serving as poll workers.

Jade Allen, Zack Posego, Andrew Hasko, and Emily Burger have been selected as this year's representatives from Saegertown.

They will attend a two hour training session on Tuesday, Oct. 18 at 9:30 p.m. and work the polls from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Nov. 8.

NHS adviser Kathy Woods said, "I think it's a great opportunity for students to experience the election process and to be able to talk to the people who come in to vote."

First-time voters sound off

By Jalisa Norr and JT Sloan

STAFF WRITERS

On Nov. 8, several of Saegertown's seniors will have the opportunity to go and cast their votes for President of the United States for the first time.

So far this year, seniors have watched the first presidential debate and have discussed and analyzed their political views in Mr. Brian Lipps's government class.

Thirty-seven seniors are eligible to vote in this election.

Senior Daniel Smith is uncertain about the election. "I'm not pleased by the candidates, but I do want to take advantage of my right to vote," said Smith.

Hannah Crum has decided that she is not going to vote this year. "They both have a lot to prove and neither are completely ready to be in office. I also feel like I'm not ready to vote yet," Crum said.

With much controversy over the views of the priority candidates, third party candidates have caught the eye of several seniors. "I'm voting for Vermin Supreme. I like the fact that he wants a pony in every home," said senior Logan Krasa.

Either way, seniors are learning how and where you register to vote in Mr. Lipps's class.

The deadline to register in Pennsylvania is Tuesday, Oct. 11. Requirements to register include your Pennsylvania driver's license number and your social security number.

Mr. Lipps is hopeful that all eligible seniors will educate themselves take advantage of their right to vote.

"Vote! Perhaps you vote for the lesser of two evils, but it is important that the better of the two candidates is elected. I would also like to stress the importance of being educated on who to vote for and to know where they stand on certain issues," said Lipps.

“Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.” - From the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution

Sound-Off

“I am excited because I can look at social media during lunch. Social media is funny.”

“I think seniors should get to paint our parking spots to bring more color to our school.”

“Every other senior group has been able to bring chairs to the football game. Our class doesn’t get along very well, this is a chance to bring us together.”

“I’m not too happy that they cut marching band because it really pumps up the football team.”

“I like that we start later and get out earlier because I have a lot more time to take a break before my after school stuff.”

“I’m a senior who gets out at 2:55. That’s a nice privilege. Thanks. But I still have to sit in the parking lot and wait for my brother. So it’s not really helping me at all. Can we fix this? If you get out at 2:55 and you drive, your passengers should be excused too.”

“I don’t like that we don’t have tutorial because we have to do all of our homework at home.”

“At first I didn’t like having no tutorial, but it’s kind of nice to only have eight periods.”

Write Us

Letters must be typed and 300 words or less. Sign your letter and drop it off in room 215

The Panther Press

Founded 2006

Published Monthly

18079 Mook Road, Saegertown PA 16433

Sydney Kightlinger
Editor-in-chief

Scout Van Cise
Opinion Editor

Stacey Hetrick
Advisor

Do you wish you were a Saegertown Panther?

As upperclassmen looking back on our time at SHS, we have come to the conclusion that there has been a dramatic shift in the morale from the start of our high school careers till now. And we aren’t the only ones who have noticed. The faculty has seen it too.

Recently, teachers gave us time to decorate signs for the halls to generate some enthusiasm for homecoming, but how did it come to this? Why are the adults more concerned about our spirit than the student body?

We used to be a school that had a student section consisting of more than twenty people. We used to have people who would ‘Superfan’ by painting their bodies blue and gold. The question “Are you participating in Spirit Week?” wasn’t asked, because of course you were. You and your best friend already had your twinning outfit coordinated. We used to be a school of pride and spirit.

What happened?

We could try to blame it on previous administrators or the difficulties faced by our football team, but if we really want to see change, we need to be the change. It is time for us to quit being apathetic and downright pessimistic, and start getting involved.

How can we unite our student body? Saegertown students may have grown distant from one another, but this could easily be reversed.

Here are three suggestions to rekindle Panther spirit:

For starters, what happened to supporting our sports teams? It seems as though we could count on one hand the number of pep assemblies we’ve had in the past few years. We lack pride in our sports teams, and they go unappreciated. Why can’t we bring back Superfanning?

At the Homecoming pep assembly, when we were chanting “**You wish you were a Saegertown Panther**” that was the most united we have been in five years. Thank you, Mr. Molnar for prompting that experience because it proves that we can be united as one voice in support of our community.

It didn’t used to matter if we won or lost the game; we didn’t remem-

ber the next week. What we remembered was the person dressed in biblical garb, the student section chanting, and the sea of blue and gold in the crowd. That was Panther Pride as we knew it. Recovering the honor of being a part of Saegertown High School is a necessary step in becoming a prideful panther.

Number two, maybe our spirit is suffering due to the drab halls we slog through every day. Let’s change that. Why don’t we take initiative to spruce up the place we spend the majority of our waking hours. It isn’t hard to hang posters in the halls or to decorate our lockers. Wouldn’t it be swell if we could walk through the halls and see the creativity of our fellow students? And what if we did door decorating contests again, or even raised funds to paint walls and give some parts of our school a mini-makeover?

In addition, allowing the seniors to paint their parking spots would add some flare to our status quo. It isn’t an unreasonable request. Students could submit a rough draft of their plan to the office for approval, and we could make this an annual event for seniors and their families, complete with a tailgate party and music. This year it could be in April, but next year, it could be part of Homecoming Week. These aren’t difficult projects; they just take motivation and a little time.

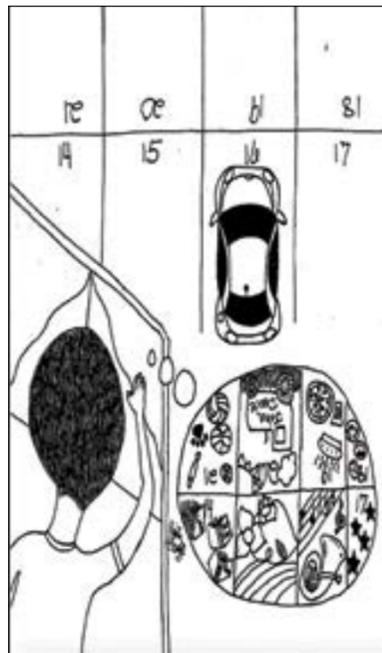
Finally, as students, we find ourselves spending an average of 32 hours a week with the same 500 kids. If this is the case, then why don’t we know each other better? We have few activities outside of sporting events to better our relationships and unify our school. After school recreations such as friendly competitions, dances, open-mic nights, bonfires, and trivia nights could bring us closer as a school and keep students in a healthy and welcoming environment. These aren’t difficult ideas to execute. They just need an individual or group to step up.



Sydney Kightlinger and Scout Van Cise

And speaking of groups to organize them: join clubs. Having more active participation in the clubs would make these activities and school beautification projects possible. We are at an age where we are responsible for our own entertainment. We have teachers who will chaperone our events, we just need to plan them. Organizations like Key Club and Aevidium hold dances and outdoor activities, but they could hold more if they had the members to organize them.

All in all, we spend more time in school than anywhere else. And we have the power to change it, to make it better. For all of us. We stood in our gym and chanted, “**You wish you were a Saegertown Panther!**” Now what are WE (you, me, all of us) going to do about it?



New teaching talent joins Saegertown staff

By Hillary Twiford
STAFF WRITER

Last year, Saegertown said goodbye to many teachers, but this year, four new ones have joined us.

This includes Mr. George Nayhay as the junior high science teacher, Mr. Mike Brenneman as the reading/communications teacher, Miss Kristen Russell as the French teacher, and Ms. Nova Dinsmore as the Spanish teacher.

“I love meeting new students every year and learning about what they enjoy doing,” Ms. Dinsmore said.

This is her fourth year back in the classroom after having her three daughters and one son. She taught at Corry before she joined the Saegertown staff. When she’s not teaching, she loves to camp, golf, and watch her kids play sports.

Ms. Dinsmore has also explored the world by traveling to Canada,

England, Mexico, France, Africa, and Spain. Of those places, Africa was her favorite. She ate sheep brains while she was there and an octopus in Spain.

Her unusual name has a story too. “I was named after Nova, a character in the original Planet of the Apes movie from 1968,” she said.

Like Ms. Dinsmore, Miss Russell has a love for teaching because of the students. “I always liked school and learning, and I wanted to share that with future students. It’s also a job that never gets boring because students make me laugh everyday,” she said.

This school year marks Miss Russell’s seventh year of teaching. Her other six years were spent at Cam-



Russell

bridge Springs High School.

This October, Miss Russell is getting married, which will soon make her Mrs. Upton.

She likes to cook, play tennis, travel, read, go camping, and spend time with her two cats, Miss Kitty and Sir Elton John.

Her inspiration for learning French was how beautiful, yet also useful it is. “I can travel to any continent on the Earth and find French speakers.”

After twelve years of teaching at Cambridge Springs High School, Mr. Brenneman has become a Saegertown Panther.

“I find true joy in that moment when someone learns a concept, when it ‘clicks’ and they ‘get it’. There is no better better feeling



Dinsmore

than watching someone accomplish a goal and knowing that you played a part in it,” he said of his love for teaching.

He has been married for twenty years to his wife Becky, and they have two sons, Jim and Josh. They have numerous cats, Molly the Wonder-Beagle and Casper the albino hamster protecting their home. Mr. Brenneman likes to camp, kayak, geocache, read, act, and work backstage in productions.

Over the summer, his whole family was a part of the Academy Theatre Production of “The Music Man.”

For three years, Mr. Nayhay taught in North Carolina and then spent one year at Cambridge Springs. He became a teacher “to influence or



Brenneman

motivate students to see the importance in knowledge.” He enjoys cycling, hunting, mechanical work, and motocross racing.

Over the summer, he got a commercial driver’s license to drive semis. “I wasn’t sure I was going to have a teaching job, and my wife owns Kennedy Landscape Supply, so I wanted to be able to drive for her. I plan to be a part time driver in the summers.

His favorite thing about his science is that it relates to everything. If he wasn’t teaching science, he would like to be a race team or performance engineer.

In five years, Mr. Nahay sees himself still teaching at Saegertown and maybe having children.



Nayhay

Where did they go? What are they doing now? Retired teachers tell all

By Kassie Boyd and Elizabeth Hasko

STAFF WRITER AND MARKETING DIRECTOR

“Hang in there, this too shall pass, be like a duck and let stress roll like water off your back, and you can do it! Or as I’d tell my Spanish students: “Tú no debes ser una babosa. Tú puedes hacerlo!” Ask them to translate.”

Spanish teacher Senora Janyce Brawn, who retired at the end of last year, had this advice for the Saegertown community. Joining her in retirement were two members of the science department: Mrs. Brenda Dillaman and Mrs. Gwen DeVoge.

“Right now, retirement feels like a great summer vacation. I get to stay up late and sleep in and not grade papers or quizzes or tests. I’m not a morning person so this is heavenly!” said Mrs. Brawn, who has taught art, English as a second language, and

Spanish off and on since 1978.

So far, she has taken several RV trips to Ohio with her granddaughter and husband and enjoyed time with family and friends, but she has many other plans in the works, including travel to warmer places in the fall and winter.

She also plans to devote more time to her art: “I’ve been writing and illustrating for magazines for years, and I want to focus on doing more of that. I want to paint more too...splash color on canvas,” she said.

Mrs. Dillaman hopes her students will remember some of the wisdom she shared with them: “Do onto others as you would have others do unto you, you get more with sugar than vinegar, and always do your best, then you don’t have to worry about the rest.”

She shared that the summer felt like a regular summer vacation, but now that school is back in session,

it’s like a different world.

One of the major benefits of retirement for her right now is spending time with family.

“When I was teaching during the school year, my husband and I only had four days a month off together due to his work schedule.

Now we have much more time together that we can work on projects,” she said.

Those projects include finishing an addition to their house, gardening, reading, sewing, and refinishing furniture and old trunks.

Passionate about teaching, Mrs. Dillaman had plenty to say on the current economic situation in the district. “My father always used to



Brawn

say that life is about priorities and economics,” she said. “I can’t help but wonder why the big picture of our school district was not being watched over as carefully as maybe it should have been.”

“I am enjoying retirement at the moment,” said Mrs. DeVoge, who taught science at Saegertown for 26 years. Now she is ready to explore her prospects, and new opportunities.

Enjoying her “extended summer break,” Mrs. DeVoge has plans to go skiing and sailing with her husband.

She has also been reading a lot and will spend more time with her two grandchildren.



Dillaman

“I am taking a short trip to Colorado to go on a hunting trip with my sister and her husband, then will be visiting a friend for a few days while I am out there,” she said.

Reflecting on her time in the classroom, Mrs. DeVoge said, “I will miss those students who are eager to learn, and appreciate the effort that teachers put into their classroom lessons.”

She also left this bit of wisdom for the Saegertown community: “To the students and teachers of Saegertown, I just want to say thank you for letting me be a part of something bigger for just a little while. God bless you all!”



DeVoge

Looking for something to do tonight? Come out to Common Grounds for Fun Friday. We will be showing the film “Woodlawn,” a true story set in 1973 of a high school in Birmingham, Alabama whose football team was a vital part in overcoming hatred in the community. The movie will begin at 8 p.m. You can also play pool, ping pong, board games, cards, etc. And the snack and specialty drink bar will be open. Next Fun Friday will be Nov. 11.

Roundabout construction underway

By Grant Phelan
STAFF WRITER

At the end of last year, part of the school buzz was about the two supposed roundabouts being built by the Bertram intersection and H&H. Plans are set and work is now underway. The cost of both projects is an estimated \$13 million. The North project, by the Bertram intersection, is scheduled to be finished in 2018 and is to be constructed by Clearwater Construction, Inc. The South project, near H&H, is scheduled to be completed in 2017 by J.C. Lee Construction & Supply.

According to Borough Manager Chuck Lawrence Jr., over 10,000 cars use Saegertown's two main intersections each day. "The roundabouts will make traffic flow better," Lawrence said. "People will have to be patient with construction, and there will be delays sometimes, but when it is done people will love it." At this point, Saegertown drivers seem to have positive feelings about the change. "It is a good idea," senior driver Tanna Walters said. "But I hope that it doesn't take too long." Along with the roundabouts, some other expected town renovations include a new traffic light, handicap accessible sidewalks, north and south bridges, and storm drains in the next few years.

Students and staff take part in 'See You at the Pole'

By Francis Jageacks
STAFF WRITER

Saegertown students and teachers come together in a circle around the flagpole to pray for the school, community, and world issues. Every year on the fourth Wednesday in September, Saegertown's Campus Club teams up with Saegertown United Methodist Church and Campus Life, the student-led bible study, to organize this event with the help of Daryll Greenawalt, pastor of the Saegertown United Methodist Church, and art teacher Mrs. Heather Papinchak, adviser of Campus Club. Everyone that participated met at the headquarters of Campus Life which is located at Common Grounds. The event is called "See You at the Pole."

See You At The Pole is a worldwide event led by students and is also a



Students and staff gather to pray for the school and community on Sept. 28 as part of the annual 'See You at the Pole' event.

part of the Global Week of Prayer. It started in 1990 as a grassroots movement with ten students praying before school at the flagpole. This year's event for Saegertown was

organized by Jacob Steiger, Dustin Steiger, Eli Draa, Dakota Price, and Noah Greenawalt. On Wednesday, Sept. 28, thirty-three people attended, including teachers, staff mem-

bers, students, and a home-school student. Mrs. Papinchak said, "The turnout this year was healthy, but I would love to see more participants in the future."

Commissioner Amato creates assistance fund for students

By Cami Reynolds
STAFF WRITER

Crawford County Commissioner John Amato has donated half his salary to start the The John Amato Student Assistance Fund, which will help students of the PENNCREST and other school districts in Crawford County pay for school-related costs like field trip expenses and school supplies.

At PENNCREST, the funds will

be distributed through the PENNCREST Foundation, an organization devoted to raising scholarship money for students of the district. Gerry Deane, who is also a school board member, is the president of the foundation. "I am very excited about this account for the kids who really need something to have somewhere to go ask," Mrs. Deane said.

To receive assistance, students must fill out a form stating their name, school, the amount of money

needed, when the money is needed, and the reason for the request. Forms are located in the office and in the envelope outside room 215. In addition, all teachers and staff members have



Deane

access to the form. The limit for the amount a student can request is not set, and as long as the amount is reasonable, students will get the money as quickly as possible.

Mrs. Deane also shared that the PENNCREST Foundation is accepting donations for both this program and future scholarships. In order to donate, all you have to do is contact Krista Rhoades at 814-337-1624 or krhoades@penncrest.org.

Edustar gradebook replaces Edline

By Hannah Myers
STAFF WRITER

This year, PENNCREST School District made the decision to switch online gradebooks from Edline to EduStar. "We switched our gradebook this year because the previous gradebook was not performing to our expectations," said Jason Williams, Supervisor of Instructional Technology. The new grade book is part of ProSoft, PENNCREST's student information system provider. One advantage of the new system is that EduStar, unlike Edline, updates in real time, so as soon as a teacher

enters a grade, it can be viewed immediately by the student or parent/guardian. There is no waiting for grades to "roll over" like they did with Edline.

Reviews on the new system are mixed at this point. "So far, I'm finding it a little but harder than Edline, from a teacher's point of view, but from a parent's point of view, I like that I can see my daughter's grades and attendance," said Mrs. Debbie Houck. "It's easy once you figure out how to actually use it," said sophomore Mykenzie Conally.

According to Mr. Williams, stu-

dents who have trouble accessing EduStar should email their name and grade to ipad@penncrest.org, and they will receive information on how to access their account. For parents or guardians to have access, they need to have an email address on file with the school.



School Board facing potential legal action from elected board member

By Sydney Kightlinger and Nick Bradley
EDITOR IN CHIEF AND WEBSITE EDITOR

At the beginning of the Sept. 8 school board meeting, there was a very foggy discussion between the members of the PENNCREST School Board. There was no information presented to the public, but the board members appeared on guard due to some pressing legal matter.

The reason was revealed on Sept. 16 when The Meadville Tribune broke the story that PENNCREST Board Member Mr. Luigi DeFrancesco is asking the Crawford County Court of Common Pleas to issue an injunction against PENNCREST school district and Superintendent Michael Healey to turn over invoices from Mr. Ted Watts, the Board

Solicitor.

Mr. DeFrancesco wants to see unredacted (meaning with names of staff and students not blacked out) invoices for legal services rendered to the school district by Mr. Watts.

"All board members have the responsibility to check what they are voting for. I want the board members to be shown what they are paying for," said Mr. DeFrancesco.

Superintendent Healey's statement on the situation is as follows: "The district has retained special counsel to represent the Board of Education on this matter. As the Board is involved with this ongoing litigation, I was advised by counsel to have no public comment on the matter. The Board as a whole and as individual members have been advised to have no public comment as well."

ISS moves to Central Office

By Austin Brown and Scout Van Cise
NEWS EDITOR AND OPINION EDITOR

One of the many changes at the PENNCREST high schools this year is that ISS (in school suspension) has been moved to the PENNCREST Administration Central Office. In the past, internal suspension has been held in a designated room in each school with different teachers supervising the students during each period. The rooms were initially designated to serve as a disciplinary location for students, but for the last few years, at least at Saegertown, the ISS/Refocus room has also been a quiet place where students can complete their work (including make-up work for absences) without distractions.

Now, there is no more Refocus Room at Saegertown, and students who would have been sent to ISS for discipline are now sent to its new location at Central Office. Science teacher Mrs. Kelli Peters sees the loss of the Refocus Room as a disadvantage to the teachers and students involved. "It is an inconvenience to have to interrupt other teachers' classes to make up work," said Mrs.

Peters.

According to Superintendent Michael Healey, the intention behind the move was to provide a foreign environment with more consistent and intensive academic support to create a more productive atmosphere for the students. There have been eleven students assigned to the location this year, with an approximation of 160 students district wide in ISS in the 2015-16 school year.

"Before ISS was a self-fulfilling prophecy... getting in trouble for being in trouble. So they [the students] are now removed from the building so they can see a difference, and understand that they are here for a purpose," Mr. Healey said.

Two full-time teachers oversee ISS and the new alternative education program (also housed at Central Office). They are Mr. Ben Frable from Cambridge and Mr. Bryan Borkovich from Maplewood. Mr. Healey sees positive results thus far. "During this limited amount of time, students have been compliant. They've finished a behavioral consequence while accomplishing their workload." At this time, there is no plan to return ISS to the high schools.

ASVAB and PSAT on tap for juniors

By Rachel Barner
NEWS EDITOR

October is not just for pumpkin spice lattes, comfortable boots, pretty sweaters, and corn mazes. This is also the month to kick start the big tests that prepare the juniors for their future, such as the ASVAB and the PSAT.

The ASVAB, or the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, is scheduled for Oct. 13 periods 1-4 in the cafeteria for all juniors. It measures developed abilities and helps

predict future academic and occupational success in the military. It is given annually at the school, and is a big deal to students who are interested in joining any branch of the military.

The PSAT, or the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test, is scheduled for October 19, and is taken by juniors (and high performing sophomores) who sign up. It gives an indication of how students will perform on the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test). For juniors, it also acts as a qualifier for the National

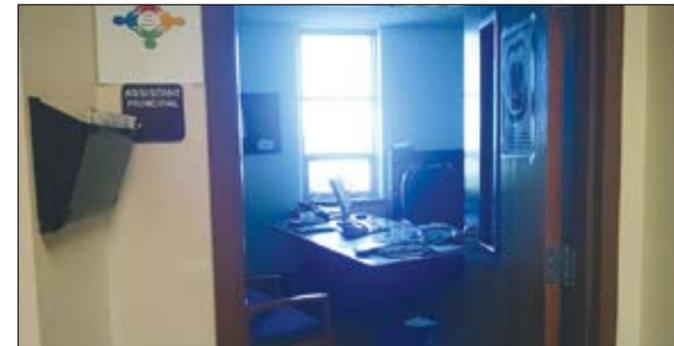
Merit Scholar Competition, which was founded in 1955 to identify and honor scholastically talented American youth and to encourage them to develop their abilities to the fullest. High scores on the PSAT could result in a student being named a National Merit Scholar. Saegertown's last finalist was 2006 graduate Bill Powell, who is currently attending Yale Law School. Sophomores and juniors can sign up for the PSAT by taking \$15 to the guidance office.

Saegertown administrative position still vacant

By Rachel Barner
NEWS EDITOR

In case you haven't noticed, the office in the office that was occupied by Mr. Phil Young last year is now empty. As of today, Oct. 7, the twenty-seventh day of the school year, Saegertown Jr. Sr. High School has no Assistant Principal or Dean of Students. At the beginning of the year, Principal Tom Baker announced that the position would be filled shortly, and students and staff would be seeing a new face in the office next to his. That has not been the case. The position opened when Mr. Young decided to return to the classroom after stepping into the Assistant Principal position when Principal Doug Wilson left in October, so we started the year with no-one in place.

According to Mr. Baker, several people from across the district have been interviewed so far for a position at Saegertown that is being called Dean of Students. The person who fills this position does not need to have a principal's certificate. In



The assistant principal's office remains vacant. As of press time, there are no details available on when the position will be filled.

fact, Mr. Baker noted that any teacher could apply, and the major difference between a dean of students and an assistant principal is that a dean of students does not observe teachers or make any decisions regarding teachers.

It remains unclear why the position has not been filled, but many in the building hope the announcement is made soon. "It would make my job easier," said Mr. Baker. For now, PENNCREST Athletic Direc-

tor Dana Mason is coming to the high school to help out as his schedule permits.

English teacher William Hetrick said, "I think the fact that we do not have two administrators is unfair to our students and staff, and it needs to be remedied for the students. It is too much for one man to run a building." Mr. Horne agreed: "I think Mr. Baker deserves and needs help in the office with the responsibilities."

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Lead levels in water not a threat to students

By Ellie Lybarger
STAFF WRITER

After receiving a newsletter on Sept. 14 about traces of lead found in the school's water, some students were left with unanswered questions.

During routine water monitoring for lead and copper, the water tested positive for elevated levels of lead. The traces of lead were only found in the stage restroom sink and the boiler room restroom sink. Under the regulations of the PA Department of Environmental Protection Safe Drinking Water Program, lead levels cannot exceed 15 parts per

billion. Twenty-two parts per billion were found in the stage sink, and 18 parts were found in the boiler room sink. The DEP is not issuing a "do not drink" order for the high school and PENNCREST Plant and Transportation Supervisor Patrick Connelly assures that the lead content will have "no effect on students' normal school day," but students are asked not to drink from either locations where elevated levels were found. Connelly said, "The cause is likely from plumbing materials at the two locations tested."

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Mike Pence

Quick Facts:

- *His astrological sign is Gemini.
- *Born June 7, 1959 in Columbus Indiana.
- *Grew up idolizing JFK.
- *Elected Governor of Indiana in 2012.
- *Voted Jimmy Carter in 1980 but Ronald Reagan inspired him.
- *Moved to Indianapolis in 1983 and attended Indiana University McKinney School of Law.
- *Referred to himself as "Rush Limbaugh on decaf" on his radio show The Mike Pence show.
- *Opposed Bush's no child left behind
- *Favorite Movie: Wizard of Oz



Saegertown Speaks: As a young man, do you feel you can vote for Hillary Clinton and still keep your man-card?

"I feel that the candidate with the best problems and the best ideas will get my vote regardless of sex."

"Yes, you can. It's not really an issue about if you support the opposite gender it's really about the political views that the candidates have."

"I think it's possible, but I wouldn't because Hillary's views on feminism cause me to cringe, I guess. She really brings it up a lot. It gets old."

"I could support Hillary Clinton, and personally that wouldn't affect my feelings of masculinity. However, I do believe that others would come down on me and criticize my masculinity. Why? I have no clue. But I do know I don't care if the president is female, as long as she gets the job done."

"I think it is quite easy for me to vote for a woman as president. By no means do I feel that it would take

away a so-called 'man-card.'"

"It is completely possible to support her. I do not, but that has everything to do with her ideas ... Don't vote for her because she is a woman, don't avoid voting for her for that reason either."

"I believe that we can support Hillary without losing our masculinity. There might be some issues such as, would we WANT a girl to be president? But it's something people might have to deal with."

"... Gender hardly affects political stances. If they switched genders and nothing else support from me would still flow in the same direction, but from others with superiority complexes or sexist ideas, they would feel unable to support the other."



Donald Trump

Quick Facts:

- *His astrological sign is Gemini.
- *Born June 14, 1946 in Queens New York.
- *Sent to New York Military Academy at age 13.
- *Graduated in 1968 from Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania.
- *Opened Trump Tower in 1982.
- *Became involved in the building projects in Manhattan in 1971.
- *Opened the Grand Hyatt in 1980, made him the city's best-known developer.
- *Starred in the series The Apprentice, which started in 2004.
- *He has five children: Ivanka, Donald Jr., Eric, Barron, and Tiffany.



Hillary Clinton

Quick Facts:

- *Her astrological sign is Scorpio.
- *Born October 26, 1947 in Chicago Illinois.
- *Earned Law Degree from Yale University.
- *Served as a U.S. Senator from 2001-2009.
- *Appointed Secretary of State by Barack Obama - Served 2009-2013.
- *Ran for presidency once in 2008.
- *First woman to ever win a presidential nomination in a major political party.
- *As a teenager, Hillary organized a baby-sitting group to look after the children of migrant Mexican workers in rural Illinois.
- *Eats a hot pepper every day.



Saegertown Speaks: As a young woman, do you feel you can vote for Donald Trump and still consider yourself a feminist?

"... To me genders do not matter. It is their ideas, their respect towards America's people as a whole, and how they want to get done and how they want to help America that matter."

"Yes, you can support Trump without feeling like you're not labeling yourself a feminist. You can still have your label even if you're voting for another gender."

"I can't support Trump. It's not that he's been rude about women. It's just him in general. He is disrespectful and inconsiderate."

"I can support Donald J. Trump even when he has said some misogynistic comments because I can look past his personality flaws. Our country is desperate for change, which Trump can do, despite his lack of empathy towards women."

"Not a chance! If you can't support me as a female, then I will not sup-

port you as a candidate."

"Nope. It is not that I am a 'strong, powerful woman' that I can't vote for him. It is what his 'plan' consists of. Do I like what he says? No, but we have had other misogynists in office."

"No, I can't vote for Donald Trump because he has made multiple comments degrading women, but that isn't the main reason I am against voting for Trump, it is just another factor."

"Yes, I could still vote for Trump because I think the welfare of the country is more important than my individual feelings. I am more concerned with the way Trump wants to help the country than I am about just my emotions."

"You can support him and keep your views on feminism because you're allowed to disagree and agree."



Tim Kaine

Quick Facts:

- *His astrological sign is Pisces.
- *Born February 26, 1958 in St. Paul Minnesota.
- *Graduated Harvard Law in 1983.
- *Took a year off law school to volunteer with Jesuit Missionaries in Honduras.
- *Kaine specialized in representing people who had been denied housing opportunities because of their race or disability.
- *Entered politics in 1994 and was elected to the Richmond City Council.
- *Served as Virginia's Governor in 2006-2010.
- *Fluent in Spanish.
- *Plays the harmonica.



Who would have your vote? Junior High Edition



Second presidential debate
Sunday, Oct. 9 at 9 p.m.
at Washington University
in St.Louis, Missouri

Third presidential debate
Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 9 p.m.
at University of Nevada,
Las Vegas, Nevada

"Honestly gonna vote for Trump because Hillary Clinton is giving away her secrets. Trump is truthful"
-Eighth grade girl

"Donald Trump because he's saying to make America Great again, and Hillary isn't implying that she'd do anything."
-Eighth grade girl

"Neither, they are both dumb and will make the world terrible."
-Eighth grade boy

"Trump because I don't like Hillary because she's a fraud. I do like the idea of building a wall, seems like a better pick"
-Seventh grade boy

"Hillary, I hate Trump with a passion"
-Seventh grade boy

"Hillary. Yes she might start another war but stands up for the right cause. She has lied, but overall I think Trump will make it so immigrants will come in, which means less money and trading."
-Seventh grade girl

"I vote for Hillary because it would be cool for her to be the first lady president, and she cares about children. Not a big fan of Trump and how he wants to build a wall. It would take a while. If he did, it would probably be hard."
-Seventh grade girl

To vote on or submit questions for the debates go to www.presidentialopenquestions.com/

Soccer team looks to kick things into gear

By Cutter'b Pritchard
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite the loss of top performing players including Peter Mattocks (the Haitian Sensation, who is now tearing up the field at Westminster college), the Saegertown boys varsity soccer team, which includes players from Cambridge Springs and Maplewood, is clawing its way to a winning season.

With new leadership from senior captains Kalib Kiser, Aidan Byham, and Ian Scott, the Panthers have had a slow kickoff with a 5-1, as of press time, start to their season. Kiser said, "We're not doing as good as we had been hoping against the other competition, but each game we get a little bit better. We're growing as a team

and that's allowing us to control the field with more confidence."

Last year, Mattocks smashed the records for goals in a single season and career goals, but as of this year, there have been no records broken. The boys best performance in the season was against Oil City on September 17. With a 3-0 win, goals scored by senior Jude Mattocks (2) and senior Griffin Hohn (1), really lifted the team's spirits. Kiser said, "They [the Oilers] definitely had less talent on their team, so that gave us an opportunity to test what worked best for us, and we made the most of it. Hopefully we'll be able to recreate (that) mindset and atmosphere during more important matches."

Moving forward, the crew has a

lot to prove. Mattocks said, "Some of the kids just don't listen. I understand they're younger but this is a team sport. We have to play as a team." But with up and coming talent from sophomore Ansley Kissel, freshman Derek Stellato, and freshman Max Ravenscroft, the feisty felines are capable of kicking things into gear.

Kiser summed up the season best by saying, "If we played our best, I don't think we failed. As long as we find our stride, this season will be a success."

The team will be in action again at Fort LeBoeuf against the Bisons on Monday, Oct. 10 at 4 p.m.

Small game season is almost upon us

By Bailey Kozalla
SPORTS EDITOR

Temperatures are cooling down, hunting plans are being made, and shotguns are being patterned. Small game season is right around the corner and for many Pennsylvanians, that means the most wonderful time of year.

Even the beagles are excited for getting on those ever-so-fresh rabbit trails. Squirrels, rabbits, grouse, and pheasants are just some of the small game in Penn's Woods that hunters can pursue this fall.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission updated the rabbit seasons so that it is now aligned with the squirrel seasons and the regular grouse season. It is now earlier than the normal rabbit seasons in previous years. The regular squirrel, rabbit, and grouse seasons are Oct. 15 to Nov. 26., and the regular season for pheasants in Oct. 22 to Nov. 26.

The extended seasons for squirrel, rabbits, and pheasants are Dec. 12 to 24, and Dec. 26 to Feb. 28., and the extended season for grouse is Dec. 12-24. And Dec. 26- Jan. 21.

Hunters can harvest six squirrels, four rabbits, two pheasants, and two grouse a day. Likewise, twelve squirrels and rabbits, and six pheasants and grouse can be possessed.

This means that a hunter can keep their specified possession limit of game in their freezer until limit is consumed.

This year, the Western Game Farm located in Cambridge Springs has raised 75,000 male and female pheasants. 38,430 of those birds will be released in the junior, regular, and extended seasons in Northwestern PA on state game lands, State Parks, and federal lands.

The first pheasant releases will be right before the junior pheasant hunt which begins Oct. 8.

Eighth grader, Grace Diley spends most of her small game hunting time hunting pheasants. "I like it because I get to talk, walk around, and hunt my favorite small game." Diley said.

She has yet to bag a pheasant in her hunting career, but is excited to get the chance with her father's gun that has been passed down to her.

Junior Stevie Siple and senior Alan McGill hunt cottontail rabbits



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Alan McGill, Stevie Siple, and Grant Phelan with their two beagles Samuel and Poppy and three cottontail rabbits.

together. McGill usually tries to hit the woods once a week. Siple's hunting schedule relies on, "Whenever I get the call from Alan."

They prefer to use a 20-gauge shotgun when in the field. Regarding his small game hunting skills, McGill said, "My dad has passed down his ways to me."

Boy's Golf locked and loaded for playoffs

By Grant Phelan
STAFF WRITER

With all of their starters returning this fall, the Saegertown boys varsity golf team is well equipped for the season. The Panthers ended their mega match series with their fifth straight win, finishing match play undefeated.

Junior star Ryan Peters said it best: "We have been very successful this year and plan on just playing our game and not counting our chickens before they hatch." At the most recent mega match, the boys scored a combined 317 even though their fourth best score was disqualified.

Peters carded a medalist round of 72 that day, followed by seniors Jake

Sada at 74 and Richard Kanline at 76. Junior Michael Costello's score was disqualified due to a scoring discrepancy, so freshman Nick Archacki's score of 95 was taken.

With all of this success, one wonders what is their winning formula. "You're playing yourself," Kanline said. "There is not a coach out on the course picking your clubs on each shot, you decide that."

The District 10 tournament starts today, and the Panthers have high hopes. "We want to win states," said Peters, "and I believe we can do it." But they have to make it there first. The road to states begins for the team if they perform well at Districts, followed by Regionals Oct. 17 and the State Championship on Oct. 26.

Waterfowl Hunting

By Braeden Kantz
STAFF WRITER

In Pennsylvania, waterfowl hunting is an up and coming season that only grows as the leaves fall. With the early start to nuisance goose season in Pennsylvania, waterfowl hunters got the early kickstart. Along with the debut of duck season this Saturday, a majority of the hunters will set down their bows and head for the wetlands.

Experienced hunter, sophomore Charles Johnson will assist Rockwell through the first day showing him the ropes. Even though ducks are hard to hunt, Johnson believes that he can bring success to the team by constantly moving position.

Turkey season shortened this year

By Grant Phelan
STAFF WRITER

Due to the lower numbers of wild turkeys recorded in our Wildlife Management Area (1B), the Game Commission decided to shorten the length of the season this fall. Last year, the season ran for a week from Oct. 31 to Nov. 7. An extended season also ran for three days, from November 26-28. The original week is still in place from Oct. 29 to Nov. 5 this year. However, those three additional days around Thanksgiving have been removed after extensive research and monitoring of the population by PGC biologists.

"I'm disappointed to hear about the season length shortening. I was looking forward to harvesting a turkey on Turkey Day," said junior Dakota Price. "It doesn't really affect my whole season but it takes away more opportunities we have to hunt them." After a few hard winters, it seems as though the population is suffering. Also, a few wet springs have recently accounted for a low nestling hatch. The PGC believes this could be part of the population decline. It is not uncommon for seasons to change each year based on changes in population. "I believe turkey numbers are declining," Price said, "at least in the areas I hunt, I see fewer birds."

Cross country: Ladies and junior high boys making a mark

By Hannah Nicholson
STAFF WRITER

The 2016-2017 cross country season started out rough when the varsity boys' win streak of 66 straight region wins ended with a loss to Maplewood on Sept. 13 at a Region 3 tri-meet.

It was the first loss for the program under head coach Bill Hetrick since 2007.

And last year saw the graduation of three talented senior runners: Wyatt Fleischer, Garrett Johnston and three-time state medalist Brad Amy.

Despite the end of the historic streak, all members of this year's team, from junior high to varsity, have been running hard to find success.

The lone senior runner and team

leader is: Ben Haylett. "It has been an uphill battle from the start, but the team is really pulling together," Haylett said.

In addition to Haylett, the varsity boys team includes juniors Jacob Steiger, Devin Nearhoof and Dakota Price, sophomore Gabe DeYoung, and freshman Liam Sood. DeYoung, the number one runner on the team, is currently out with an injury.

Coach Hetrick has a promising girls varsity team this year with juniors Beka McClymonds, Erica Caldwell, Emily Stoyer and Lexi Vath, and freshmen Karley Price and Maddie Mondie.

They finished third at the Cochranon Invitational with McClymonds leading the way for the ladies, finishing fourth with a time of 21:12.

"We're still getting faster," she said.

At the Franklin Meet on Oct. 4, McClymonds, Price, Mondie, and Stoyer finished in the top five. The varsity girls current region record is 5-1.

This year's junior high boys team is definitely improving with every race, and they are currently 4-0 in the Region. They are led by seventh grader Ryland Lutz. Other members include Landon Caldwell, Shea Dixon, Max Fuller, Nathan DeYoung, Anthony Hernandez, Conrad Williams and Dustin Nearhoof.

There are also three junior high lady runners who are seeing their times improve: Paige Fuller, Kyla Swavey and Cassidy Boylan.

On Tuesday, Oct. 11, the Panther runners will compete in their only



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left: Karley Price, Emily Stoyer, Becca McClymonds, Erika Caldwell, and Lexie Vath display their third place plaque after the Cochranon Invitational on Oct. 1.

home meet of the season against Cambridge and Titusville.

Coach Hetrick said, "I expect the season to end on a high note for the region meet."

He believes the team has a good

group of leaders and they are actively working toward a new streak. "We are motivated to get it back. I have 24 kids that I am committed to coaching."

Football: Panthers don't let setbacks define them

By Payton Brooks
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

As the Panther football team blitzes through the season, they collect wins not by touchdowns scored or passes intercepted, but by the progress made by everyone on the team.

Senior captain Zack Posego said, "Every week we improve and work better as a team." Posego is a running back and one of the many upperclassmen who has been playing varsity since freshman year.

He shared that the team does not let setbacks define them, like tackling the hurdles of switching from PIAA Class A to AA and the transition to different coaches.

"You just need to go out, have fun playing with the team, and not get caught up in the score to enjoy it," said senior captain Tyler Brooks. Although they are currently 0-6 after a recent 22-54 loss to North East on Sept 30, the team always puts forth the utmost effort.

Sophomore Seth Lang, a new running back for the Panthers, believes

in his teammates and all they are capable of accomplishing. "Not everyone knows how proud we are [of our effort]. Even though we lose, they don't know how hard we work," said Lang. The team can be seen after school every day practicing until 5 p.m.

Head Coach Adam Horne said, "Adversity challenges everyone. You don't come through the challenges unchanged. You persevere through everything." Tonight's game is Senior Night for the players and cheerleaders.

Lady Panthers grinding through a tough season

By Madison Wheeler
STAFF WRITER

The Lady Panthers' volleyball season started off like a missed serve, having the right intentions, but just missing the goal of getting an ace.

With a slow 2-6 start, as of press time, the girls are going into games with their heads up and practicing harder than ever.

Sophomore Carlie Schlosser said, "We need to work on our passing, (and) all the basics. Right now, our biggest obstacles seem to be getting good sets and the chemistry between

players."

They claimed their first win on Sept 27 against Eisenhower, and they won again on Sept 29 against Youngsville.

Assistant Coach Tim Houck said, "Winning is always great, and I was very excited to see the girls succeed against Eisenhower and Youngsville. I also enjoy watching the girls continue to improve as a team. There are times when we don't win and I am still proud of how hard we have worked or played as a team."

With a two game winning streak for the team, they're striving to be better and end the season on a positive note.

Senior Emily Burger said, "Individually we are capable of being good, but as a team we're struggling. We'd like to end the season with a better record than what we have right now."

Sophomore Cami Reynolds said, "After every time we lose, we don't give up. We come back and practice harder the next day."

Their next match is against Cochranon on October 11 at home. The action begins at 7 p.m.

"I believe all of the girls have been working hard to get better this year. Every time we step on the volleyball court, we are making improvements," said Coach Houck.

Lady Blue Devils soccer team stepping up

By Cutter'b Pritchard and JT Sloan
SPORTS EDITOR AND STAFF WRITER

The Lady Blue Devils soccer team goal is to strike the competition. And with a Region 3 record of 1-4-2, as of press time, they are actively working to make improvements. Senior Breanna Ferguson said, "We want a good seed for the playoffs. We are practicing a lot with our ball skills, agility, and defensive strategies. We have already seen results thus far."

The team may have lost some talented individuals from the likes of Taylor Babb, Ashley Scott, Sarah Watson, Amber Zinno, and Gina Peters, but this year they have gained some promising young players such as junior Mollie Yanc from Cambridge, sophomores Brenna Repko and Sheena Byham, and junior Hannah Nicholson.

Ferguson said, "Mollie has really stepped up for us playing center back in the last couple games. She was thrown into the position and has done really well for not playing there half the season."

Under new leadership from senior captains Alaina Budzbanowski and Rachel Barner, the girls have been making progress.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO/ JEFF FERGUSON

The team lost to CASH early in the season, but they came back with a tie with the Eagles on Monday.

Barner said, "A tie normally wouldn't be satisfying but they're really tough. They normally give a lot of trouble to other teams, but we contained her." The game ended 1-1 in double OT with a lone goal from Sam Ravenscroft.

With playoffs just around the bend, Ferguson said, "We want to win the region title and get a good seed for playoffs." Their next game is at Eisenhower against the Knights on Oct 11 with a time to be announced.

Junior high girls find unprecedented success

By Hunter Trzeciak and Braeden Kantz

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR AND STAFF WRITER

Recently the junior high Lady Panthers basketball players have been tearing up the court with an impressive winning streak that has brought them to a 7-4 record. Since losing to the Blue Devils at the start of the season, the girls came back with a vengeance that displayed their newfound dominance, and defeated the Cambridge team 26-8 on Oct. 3.

Leading the team this year is eighth grade veteran Ella Nicholson. "We're in better shape and we play more aggressive. We're beating teams that we haven't been able to beat in previous years," Nicholson said. In hopes of keeping this win streak alive Coach Steve Scott plans to continue to make the girls work hard to keep improving as much as we can.

The girls look to continue their win streak tonight against Commodore Perry at home. Game begins at 4 p.m.

Junior high football team looking for a win

By Tyler Brooks and Jeff Baldwin

STAFF WRITERS

The junior high football team had a fire lit under them going into their rematch against the Maplewood Tigers. After suffering a 32-44 defeat on Sept 22, the Panthers were ready to face off yet again with their district rival. Saegertown kept the game fairly close, with one touchdown for each team. They were hoping to be tied heading into overtime so they could try to score against their competitors, but unfortunately, the Tigers scored a touchdown in the final second of the game to win 8-14.

"Coach was not happy," said seventh grade wide receiver Melissa Hayes. "He yelled a lot." On Sept. 8, their first game with Cochranon

was called in the third quarter with the score tied at 6-6, but the Panthers hope to come back in their rematch and beat the Cardinals on Oct. 27. "The team is looking forward to that game [Cochranon] the most," Hayes said. "We need to work on our defense, though. Our offense is fine. We just need to keep pushing ourselves." Their record as of press time is 0-1-3. They are coached by Mike Gregor and Ron Kightlinger, and captains are eighth graders Jaden Reagle and Jacob Reisinger. The score of last night's game against Union City was unavailable, but they face off against the CASH Eagles in an away game on Oct. 13.

Cellphones and headphones now permitted at lunches

By Bailey Kozalla and Kaity Gage

SPORTS EDITOR AND SPECIAL MEDIA PROJECTS EDITOR

Students are now permitted to use their cell phones and headphones during lunches. This policy is a test drive implemented by Principal Tom Baker to reduce the amount of noise during the larger lunches and to minimize issues of students using phones in the hallways.

Maplewood debuted the change last year, and it has come to Saegertown as a result of discussions between Mr. Baker and the faculty.

"I like that we can get on [cell-phones] without having to hide it," said freshman Kaylee Mulligan. Many students are finding that they enjoy the thirty minute opportunity to use their cell phones everyday.

Congratulations to Jr. High reporters Matt Nale and Max Fuller on your sports coverage

"It's pretty lit! I use it like everyday for most of lunch," said eighth grader Megan Davis.

From the Saegertown staff's perspective, Spanish teacher Mrs. Nova Dinsmore said, "I don't see any problems with students abusing it. It keeps them from getting on them in class." She has duty during A-lunch. "I think it's better than nothing. I think we've come to depend on technology," said Mrs. Dinsmore.

A complaint expressed by a few students was that there is no wifi to be used during lunch. If students want to use their phone for social media, they must use data. "It would be better with wifi, but it's something we haven't had yet, so it's still a great thing," said senior Brenna Digiacomo.

The only issue reported so far is that students are abusing the ability to use their phones at lunch to com-



SYDNEY KIGHTLINGER/SHS

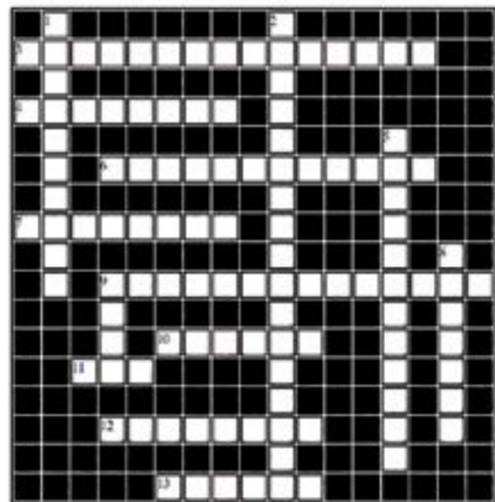
municate with their parents about going home due to illness. Students are to go to the nurse if they are not feeling well. This is where they will be deemed healthy enough to go back to class or sick enough to go home. "The nurse is the healthcare expert, students must see her first," said Mr. Baker.

Mr. Baker plans on continuing

the program because it is reducing the number of students reporting to the office for being caught on their phones in the hallways or in the classrooms. He said, "So far so good." There have been minimal problems brought to the office this year which is a sign that the new program is working.

How well do you know this election?

Created by Kaitlyn Walsh, Features Editor



Across

- 3. Democratic nominee
- 4. Animal that represents the Republican Party
- 6. Libertarian Party nominee
- 7. Republican candidate in the primaries
- 9. Democratic candidate in the primaries
- 10. A singular vote for cast for a candidate
- 11. Republican Party Color
- 12. The month when the Presidential Election takes place
- 13. Animal that represents the Democratic Party

Down

- 1. Green Party nominee
- 2. A body of electors chosen or appointed by a larger group
- 5. Republican nominee
- 8. The election where party nominees are chosen
- 9. Democratic Party Color

Saegertown horse champions trot through the competition

By Stefanie Arblaster

WEBSITE EDITOR

If you reside in Northwestern Pennsylvania, chances are you probably know someone who shows horses. Recently, some Saegertown ladies have been especially successful in the show ring.

Junior Michaila DeVore, who shows through Odds-n-Ends 4H club and the AQHA (American Quarter Horse Association) shared that she owes all of her to success to her horses BZ, Buster, Vinnie, and Quigley.

"If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be as successful as I am. It's a relationship. They push you to do better," she said. She holds the title of the district champion for showmanship, which she took at the district horse show for 4H.

On Oct. 1, DeVore also participated in Sundance Rodeo in Fredonia, Pa. She scored a 15.8 and was in the top 8 out of 60 horses in barrel racing.

Last year, junior Hannah Myers, who rides for Hobbs Hollow Stables, won two first place traveling trophies in showmanship and equitation.

"Every year, the person that gets



STEFANIE ARBLASTER/SHS

Hannah Myers, Michaila DeVore, and Hunter Trzeciak are seeing success in the arena with their horses.

first in certain classes gets their name engraved on a plaque and gets to keep it for a year, along with with honor of making it to districts," Myers said.

Myers' most recent success was at a horse show in Cochranon this past month. She and her pony Candy got one first place and three second places. "She did very well," she said.

Other Saegertown students compete at a national level, including junior Hunter Trzeciak who, like DeVore, shows through the AQHA. Trzeciak is third in the nation in level one showmanship and twenty-seventh in the nation in level one

equitation. She is currently ranked eleventh in the nation overall. She recently attended a horse show in Syracuse, New York at the New York State Fairgrounds on September 21-25.

"I did pretty good. I was circuit champion in novice youth showmanship, which means I got the best placings overall of everyone who showed in those classes," she said.

Trzeciak will attend the Quarter Horse Congress Oct. 22-26 at the Ohio State Fairgrounds. "It's the biggest breed show in the world, there's different classes each day because the show is so big," she said.

The Magnificent Seven strikes balance between comedy and action

By Braeden Kantz

STAFF WRITER

The Magnificent Seven has so far pulled in an impressive 100 million dollars in the box office since Sept. 23. It seems that this remake of the 1960's western has come back with a force in the box office.

This action-packed western thriller combined comedy with an action based story that kept me on the edge of my seat. The movie brought in well known actors (Denzel Washington and Chris Pratt) that helped keep the movie rolling.

The movie begins in a saloon in a small town that included the first two additions Josh Faraday (Chris Pratt) and Sam Chisolm (Denzel Washington). Sam Chisolm is in town collecting a bounty and clears

out the saloon allowing Faraday to make off with everyone's money.

A woman in the town offers Chisolm all she has to take down Bartholomew Bogue, a businessman who has taken over a town. Chisolm recognizes the name and decides to take on the challenge. When Chisolm uses Faraday's horse as a bargaining chip, they set off to create a group of western legends to face Bogue. After recruiting seven of the best gun fighters in the west the seven take on the biggest challenge of transforming the town into a battleground and the people into warriors.

The special effects in this movie were stunning and made you feel as if you were in the middle of Rosecreek watching the battle unfold.

This film has tackled the western



theme and found the perfect mix between comedy and action to make a "Magnificent" film entertaining for viewers.

Birds with Brooks

By Tyler Brooks

STAFF WRITER

Within the borders of 253 countries, spanning six continents, and found in everyone's backyard is an invasive creature evicting the inhabitants of the land from their homes and eating their food. The creature responsible for this havoc? A tiny songbird.

The House Sparrow, known in Australia as the "hoodlum," are the most widespread bird species, hence their status as a pest. In fact, Mao Zedong, an infamous Chinese dictator, declared them one of the greatest threats to the Chinese people. Zedong encouraged the people to eat the birds, a practice that the Europeans also participated in, but have not since the 1800s.

Charles Linnaeus gave the bird the Latin name Passer domesticus, which literally translates to "domestic songbird."

The species has been around humans for at least 10,000 years. As time went on and the sparrows became more dependent on people, they lost the will to migrate because humans left behind enough food to feed the birds through the winter.

The birds are so closely associated with humans that they have become the generic 'bird' most people think of at the mention of the word: a little,

brown, chirping sparrow.

In America it is legal to hunt the birds anytime of day all year, so the species is declining in the Western World. From America to France and especially in England, thanks to the rise of the Eurasian Sparrowhawk in that part of the world, the population is decreasing. In Pennsylvania, the birds can be found year-round, populating our McDonalds and food courts and even inside malls and airports. Saegertown has a smaller population of House Sparrows due to our smaller population in comparison to more heavily populated areas such as Meadville, Pittsburgh, or Erie. Still, the little guys can be found feasting on birdseed at almost anyone's feeders if you pay any attention to them. The sparrows are universally known, a common feature among Saegertown's rural farmers as well as Pittsburgh's steelworkers.

While most humans see the sparrows as pests, others can see the beauty and necessity of the chirping little brown birds, much like our ancestors did thousands of years ago. So next time you see a dapper little brown bird begging for a French fry, see the thousands of years of companionship between your kind and his and throw him a scrap.

Tyler Brooks is Saegertown's resident ornithologist.

Yellowcard Album Review

By Hunter Trzeciak

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

"Farewells are always difficult/ But it's time for Yellowcard to come to an end/We will be forever grateful to/Yellowcard fans around the globe/Please join us for this final go around..." These are the words plastered at the beginning of the music video for Yellowcard's first single from their self-titled album, "Yellowcard." The single ironically called, "Rest In Peace" sets off a sappy vibe for the band's final record.

Although the band has occasionally strayed away from the so called "pop punk" sound, this album is your "typical" Yellowcard. Lyrically, the band has never been strong, and this album is no different from ones in

the past. Yellowcard's songs are full of lines you might expect to find in a high school girl's diary, like "Maybe time is telling us to heal / Maybe you just needed me to feel / The way you do." It's supposed to be heartfelt and yearning, but instead, comes off like something your crazy ex would write to you, asking for you back.

The album really does not make much sense. The somber "this is our farewell album" lyrics do not jive with the upbeat guitar riffs in the majority of the songs. Whether this was done on purpose is left for the listener to decide.

Diehard Yellowcard fans probably appreciated this album in it's entirety, however, it was a weak effort for a final album.

The Prez Sayz: A sitdown with Superintendent Healey

Over the last few months PENNCREST has made many adjustments to practically every aspect of the district.

Last spring it was announced that the district had a \$4.4 million dollar deficit to close, creating much fear and anticipation.

The community looked to come together with the goal of saving endangered programs as well as valuable teaching positions.

During a recent sit-down with Superintendent Michael Healey, we discussed the changes that have been implemented in the 2016-17 school year in an effort to put the district on sound financial footing.

Ultimately, fifteen and a half teachers were cut from the district through retirements and furloughs, and thirty-six others were moved through the checkerboarding process (which takes into consideration seniority and the classes teachers can be assigned).

In addition, utilities were reevaluated, the district eliminated three bus runs, and there were changes to how fuel is purchased.

The resulting savings put a dent in the deficit, but it is unclear how much remains. The number stood at \$2.5 million when the budget was passed.

“We’re still looking and waiting to close out last year [financially]. We have to wait until all those bills come in so we can attribute those

back. Bills are still being processed,” Mr. Healey said.

With regard to future budgets, Mr. Healey said, “I think initially what needs to be done is to make a comprehensive five year plan within each area in the school, and create that plan so at the end of the day you have an overview of the needs of the district within the next five to seven years.”

He separated these areas into the following categories: curriculum, maintenance, athletics, staffing, administrative staffing, and capital improvements.

Throughout the interview Mr. Healey stressed that PENNCREST is a great place to go to school, and he maintained that although there have been cuts, the district has maintained the integrity of its programs.

“Our strengths are the caring concern and passion of everyone who I come into contact with everyday. It’s undeniable.”

He also noted that the generous yet academically challenging environment rooted within the district is what makes us so special. “We do a lot of things well, we just need to make them better.”



Austin Brown

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Local Volunteer Opportunities

October

Key Club: Make a Difference Day in the greater Meadville area – Oct. 15.

Key Club: Graveyard Gala setup after school and/or making cookies– on Oct. 28

Key Club: Trick or Treat for Unicef– Oct. 27

November

Second Harvest Food Drive help sort food – all month.

NHS: Salvation Bell Ringing– Over Thanksgiving break

Year–Round

Erie National Wildlife Refuge – Open from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday year round.

the ENWR on Facebook for more information.

Created by Bailey Kozalla and Sydney Kightlinger, Sports Editor and Editor-in-chief

