

Saegertown Jr. Sr. High School

18079 Mook Road, Saegertown, PA

# The Panther Press

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## Changes coming to Saegertown cafeteria

By Kaitlyn Walsh

FEATURES EDITOR

New changes are coming to the cafeteria that include new and improved C.Y.O.B. (create your own bowl), and other possible changes for the greater good of the Saegertown cafeteria. The deli bar is phasing out of the lunch line, and taking its place is a macaroni and cheese bar where students can customize their own mac bowls.

“We want the students more involved,” said Suzanne Zelker, The Nutrition Group’s Food Service Director. “We want to add toppings such as buffalo chicken, bacon, chili, taco meat, broccoli, corn, and breadsticks. It’s kind of a work-in-progress.”

Other changes include bringing back items from the infamous Bistro Line, which included a la carte items

such as calzones, curly fries, and chicken tenders that students could buy at an additional cost.

“We would like to incorporate these items within the lunch lines,” said Zelker.

Positive student feedback is already coming from these changes.

“It was really good,” said seventh grader Ashtin Henry of the macaroni and cheese bar. “It was better than the normal macaroni and cheese that they serve.”



EMILY FORD/SHS

*To have your say about the cafeteria programs and possibly see your ideas make it to a future menu, please complete the survey on the back of the insert in this issue and return it to room 215.*

## Varsity wrestlers hang tough at team state championship

By Payton Brooks

SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

The time it took for the wrestling team to cross the state in pursuit of the Team State Championship tournament could not compare to the hours of hard work and dedicated practice it took to get there. The panthers recently took the path to be one of the best teams in Pennsylvania to the Giant Center in Hershey.

On Feb. 9, the first day of the tournament, Saegertown matched up with Bishop McDevitt. After a tense battle, the panthers came out on the wrong side of a 36-29 match.

With heads still high, they entered the second day with an early match against Freedom Area High School. Victories from most of the team allowed the panthers to forfeit the final

weights and still win 36-33.

That evening, they faced a tough opponent in Huntingdon. The key bouts of that match were in the final four: 106, 113, 120, and 126. Freshmen Alex Kightlinger, Matt Posego, Kenny Kiser and sophomore Dawson Bartholomew could not afford to give up bonus points to Huntingdon.

Kightlinger and Kiser both pinned their opponents, and Matt Posego won by decision. That put the score at 30-25 as Bartholomew stepped onto the mat, and his job was to avoid getting pinned. He lost 9-0 to give the Panthers a 30-29 win against Huntingdon. However, on the morning of



Contributed Photo

The team after their Feb. 6, 37-21 victory at Moshannon Valley to qualify for the state championship.

Feb. 11, Saegertown was eliminated following a 37-31 loss to Brookville.

“Everyone was a little timid, but they were still with the team. It was good to see everyone come out as a

team,” Kiser said.

Now, the team looks to qualify individuals for the state tournament which will be held March 9-11 in Hershey.

## Extension period coming soon

By Austin Brown and Rachel Barner

NEWS EDITORS

PENNCREST sister schools Maplewood and Cambridge High schools have implemented a new tutorial type program based around student needs. This system started at Maplewood, was recently rolled out at Cambridge, and will begin at Saegertown in the next few weeks.

Currently it is being called extension period, but that may change as it evolves.

Saegertown is following a process similar to what has been done at Maplewood. To promote an optimal educational experience, Maplewood teachers hand-picked students they want for their rooms so they can check their attendance, school work, make-up tests, and social/emotional issues the students may be facing.

“By teachers hand-selecting students, a mentorship is created,” said Maplewood’s principal Kenneth Wolfarth. He shared that the concept of mentoring came from a few people. “Mrs. O’Shea’s husband, Miles, did some research, and we took some ideas from that. Then through our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) team, we further discussed the mentorship program.”

The tutorial at Maplewood is currently every Tuesday and Wednesday, and alternates between the morning and afternoon classes. The first and third Tuesday and Wednesday

See EXTENSION, Page 5

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

# What it's like to live with a concussion

“It’s just a concussion right? In two weeks it will be gone and over with and everything will go back to normal.”

This is what I said when I first got a concussion on October 18, 2016. I had no idea what kind of roller coaster ride I was getting on. One day during gym class we were playing basketball, but it wasn’t going to be a regular game for me. I turned around to catch the ball from a teammate when it hit me square in the head. I had an instant headache and became extremely dizzy; however, I’m the class klutz.

It’s not an odd situation for me to have an injury. In the past, I’ve had small injuries from all sorts of activities that don’t normally cause you harm such as the time I jumped for an apple and sprained my ankle, almost tearing two tendons.

It seems more high school stu-



Kaity Gage

dents are experiencing concussions, and we are learning about how serious they can really be.

For many people, the symptoms go away rather quickly, seven to ten days is normal for physical symptoms, but those are not what you need to watch for. As more research

has been done, sports trainers, doctors, and even neurologists are noticing that these “small and easy” concussions have a lot more to them. They can affect how you learn, and they can cause mild to severe memory loss.

These repercussions should be encouraging more people to become aware. While having my concussion, I have been widely misunderstood, but I finally understand why many people with concussions have a hard time. The longer it lasts the more taxing it is on you emotionally.

At first, my concussion was taken comically even by myself; however, as time went on I felt slightly defeated because it wasn’t going away. Luckily I had lots of love and help from everyone around me.

Many students can fall into a depression when they have had a concussion continuing for longer than

a month. People with concussions must be closely monitored and need a very strong support system to avoid feeling lonely.

People with concussions should take time off from school or work for at least a week. If you are trying to continue with your daily work load, it can slow down your healing immensely.

After my concussion, I took no time off. This is when my family and I realized that there was a lot of miscommunication.

Anyone with a concussion must take time to heal and that is the exact opposite of what I did.

After weeks of therapy, with two separate therapists, and absolutely no testing or gym class, I finally heard the words I had been looking for since the beginning, “Your scores are improving and you’re only a little below average in one area,” said

my therapist Corrine.

My first therapist, Lacey told me that this process would not be an easy one, but I am finally able to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

After one more therapy appointment, I will do some physical testing, and then I’m off to take my impact test, which I have to pass to be cleared completely. If I fail the impact test, I will have to go through more testing.

So now it is February, and I am still dealing with the effects of what happened in October. Overall, I’m a firm believer that everyone should learn about concussions and what to do if you know someone who has one. This entire process has been tiring, but I am very glad that I learned so much. And I am more than happy to share my story with anyone who wants to ask.



Hillary Twiford  
STAFF WRITER

This year, SHS graduate Kara Knickerbocker will publish several poems and a chapbook. Her upcoming works include: “If You’re Asking Why I’m Leaving” from Pittsburgh Poetry Review, Issue Five, April 2017, “The Foundation,” “Afterbirth,” “Burning,” “Road Maps,” and an earlier version of “Oceans of Her Own” forthcoming from Avatar Review, 2017, and “Portrait of Your Grandfather, Dying” forthcoming from Uppagus, 2017.

Knickerbocker has recently announced her chapbook (small volume), “Next to Everything that is Breakable,” is set to release June 9.

Most of Knickerbocker’s ideas stem from personal experience.

“I have three major themes in my book: travel, the human body,

## People & Places Saegertown alumna Knickerbocker to release poetry collection

and love. I have poems in each of those categories that are particularly close to me,” Knickerbocker said.

“Mrs. Hetrick said, ‘I hope you always find your way back,’ to our class once, when speaking about our future, and how life can seem to get in the way of the dreams we have for ourselves. I have not forgotten those words, or the roots I stem from,” Knickerbocker said.

It has been almost nine years since Kara Knickerbocker graduated from Saegertown High School. While she attended SHS, she hosted an open mic night as her senior project where she recited her own original poetry. Her love for writing and poetry has

continued to flourish in her adult life, resulting in a BA in English from Westminster College.

She currently works at Carnegie Mellon University and takes M a d - women in the Attic

Workshops at Carlow University.

Despite keeping busy and traveling to twenty five different countries, she has still focused on her own writing. Since 2008, Knickerbocker has published 12 poetry and essay pieces, and she won first place at the Sigma Tau Delta International English Convention for her collection “From This Side of the Sun” in 2016.

On the topic of the future, Knickerbocker said, “My next move is going to focus primarily on writing, as I want to generate new material for another chapbook or full length collection. I feel like this is only the beginning, and I can’t wait for what’s next.”

To read her work or learn more about her story, visit fromthissideofthesun.com.



Catherine Frisina/SHS  
Kara Knickerbocker watches as CSHS student Diehl Edwards performs his juggling act during open mic night.

Throwback to The Panther Press’s coverage of Knickerbocker’s open mic night.

## Prez Sayz: Persevere



AUSTIN BROWN

With another semester gone and another underway, it’s easy to fall into a rut. Your motivation can be bogged down from the constant onslaught of work and gloomy weather. But even though it may be cold outside, the important thing to remember is to keep your desire for success burning. Because as Cody Jinks so brilliantly wrote in his song “We Get By,” “Stayin’ burnt out all the time. Well, that’s a good way for you to lose your mind.”

Time doesn’t stop for anybody, and if you just sit back, your life will pass you by. Take advantage of the opportunities around you and pull yourself out of any potential funk in which weather, work or people might have put you.

What makes life so wonderful is that it has its highs and lows. Just don’t allow those lows to control your life. Tuesday night was the boy’s basketball senior night, and with that came the memories of both the triumphs and tribulations of my time playing. This left me with only one option, to play in the present. And that is what I did. Because even though you may be dissatisfied with your previous attempts at success. Make that your fuel to continually do what makes you great. You may win or you may learn, but you never lose.

# Our nation’s fake news epidemic widens party lines

Our once coveted sources of news are now being infiltrated by a new contention known as “fake news.” This new epidemic has slithered its way into the presidential election, creating biased and corrupt journalism.

The general public is now attempting to sift through the satirical news sources and click-bait to find pure facts they can trust. We are not only living in a post-truth era, but a post-trust era; dismissed from former details of facts and replaced with appeals to emotion.

Let’s face it. As we scroll through our never-ending social media feeds, there is always that intriguing post that makes us wonder, “Is this actually true?”

Social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter are one of the main distributors of news today. Unfortunately, our computers and phones cannot simply decide if news is fake or not. Since there is no cure for fake news, we must combat it on our own.

Fake news is not only wrong, but it is a danger to society as well.

So why is fake news created? One reason is to influence or deliberately trick the right or left into believing the other’s political judgment. Most consumers of illegitimate news regarding their partisan opinions don’t care if it is actually real; they just care if it supports their bureaucratic impressions. This is where we must set aside our differences, unify, and combat the borderline terroristic lies that is fake news.

Nick Bilton, a writer for Vanity Fair explained, “It has become clear, after all, that most news consumers don’t want to know if what they are reading is real or fake, they just want to know that it helps support their worldview.”

As Pew Research has noted, in today’s media-saturated society, “liberals and conservatives inhabit different worlds.”

Throughout the election, the journalistic integrity of the media has shown its true colors. They try to combat fake news, but they don’t realize they are the source of the problem.

Buzzfeed has been called out on this issue. On Jan. 10, they reported allegations of Donald Trump being corrupted and compromised by the Russian government. Known as the dossier, other media outlets such as CNN had access to it, but hesitated in publishing the documents because they could not be verified.

However, BuzzFeed went ahead, saying that some of the information was not credible. Jonah Peretti, CEO and founder of BuzzFeed, commented, “At that point it felt like, why does everyone get to see this except the public?”

Following the publication, a series of condemning remarks were flung towards the website. President Trump himself said, “As far as BuzzFeed, which is a failing pile of garbage... I think they’re going to suffer the consequences. They already are.”

Buzzfeed living this down is highly unlikely. The good coming from all this? A court order will now decide the fate of Peretti and his BuzzFeed organization. Not only were



Bailey Kozalla

false allegations made in the dossier, but it was considered libel; which is a federal crime. Aleksey Gubarev, a Russian tech expert, sued the site for the false accusations regarding his involvement with President Trump in a series of controversial affairs. The court ruling will bring a new light to the corrupt ethics many news sources now possess.

Similar to the controversy surrounding fake news, counselor to the President, Kellyanne Conway

defended the White House press secretary Sean Spicer after allegedly describing the inauguration crowd as, “the largest ever,” during his first appearance a day after the swearing-in.

When asked about the legitimacy of his statements, Conway referred to them as “alternative facts,” to NBC’s Chuck Todd. The original issue of determination of fact evolved into a defamation of character. Todd accused the two of lying to the public over the matter of inauguration crowd statistics.

Conway understood the diminutive nature of the issue and told Todd to not “be so overly dramatic about it,” after he declared the White House press uncredible. “It undermines the credibility of the entire press office on day one,” Todd said.

As you are reading this, fake news is still continuing to grow and spread without repercussion. It is imperative to contain the damage from this intangible virus. It is real, and it’s not leaving anytime soon. The decision is ultimately up to you to decide if news is real or fake.

*“We want to be part of the solution”*

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## Yearbook 2016 spreads and images featured in national publication

By **Stefanie Arblaster**  
WEBSITE EDITOR

In October 2016, the Saegertown yearbook staff was notified that spreads and images from “The Pantherian: Volume 67” would be featured in Walsworth Yearbooks’ showcase book “Possibilities, Vol.7.”

“It was really exciting because we’ve never been awarded something like that before. We put a lot of hard work into last year’s issue. We worked long days and late nights trying to make deadlines. And, all of the hard work paid off,” said senior Emily Ford, editor in chief.

Walsworth Yearbooks is one of the top five yearbook printers and one of the 35 largest printing companies in the United States.

Their showcase book “Possibilities” is designed to give yearbook staffs around the nation inspiration and ideas for future yearbooks.

Spreads and images from year-

books all over the country are included in this book and are handed from editors of the “Possibilities” book.

The pieces that were featured in “Possibilities Vol. 7” include junior Emily Loccisano’s photo of Courtney DeLizio and Autumn Jones studying in class.

“I was definitely surprised. That was my first year doing yearbook, and I had to teach myself a lot,” L-

cisano said. The woodshop and art spread were also included, designed by Saegertown alum Morgan Bly and Loccisano.



Yearbook editors Emily Ford and Morgan Kightlinger presenting the “Possibilities”

## DeFrances family welcomes second baby

By **Scout Van Cise**  
OPINION EDITOR

Former Saegertown seventh grade reading teacher Mrs. Nicole DeFrances and her husband Matthew welcomed the newest member of their family on Jan. 24. Leonard Mark DeFrances was born at 10:55 a.m., weighing 8 pounds, 10 ounces at UPMC Hamot in Erie, Pa.

“Matthew’s grandpa’s name is Leonard, and my grandpa’s name is Mark. We kept the name in the family,” Mrs. DeFrances said.

Leonard is almost exactly two years younger than Mrs. DeFrances’s first son, Michael. According to Mrs. DeFrances, having only Michael gave her more time to relax, but now that she has Leonard,

it keeps her home more entertaining. “There’s no down time,” Mrs. DeFrances said. “I think the biggest thing is when I was at home with Michael it was a lot more relaxing, and now he keeps it fun.”

Mrs. DeFrances will be on maternity leave for the next few weeks



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Two advance to Region Band

By **Jade Allen**  
STAFF WRITER

The 2017 PMEA (Pennsylvania Music Educators Association) District Band was held at St. Marys Area High School on Feb. 9-11. Three Saegertown seniors were selected to participate through the selection process, Jesse Stewart on tuba, Logan Krasa on bass clarinet, Jade Allen on piccolo/flute. They were accompanied to the festival by Mrs. Susan James.

The music selections this year were: “Salute to PMEA,” “The Star-Spangled Banner,” “First Suite in E-flat for Military Band,” “Black Granite,” “With Each Sunset,” “Joy Revisited,” “The Seal Lullaby,” “Iberian Escapades.” The concert was directed by St. Marys Area High School host director Mr. Chris Gankosky for “Salute to PMEA” and “The Star-Spangled Banner” followed by guest conductor Mr. Shawn Pityk, band director at Kiski Area High School.

During the first day of the festival, students practice the music briefly to give them an idea of how it sounds in a group with all the parts. Then, the musicians prepare for blind auditions in the afternoon to determine the chair seating for the festival and who will move onto Region Band. When auditions



Contributed photo  
Jesse Stewart, Logan Krasa, and Jade Allen travel to XXX on XXX for PMEA District Band.

were finished, PMEA president Mr. Jamie Gardner from Maplewood announced the chair seating for each section. Stewart was third chair on tuba, Krasa was third chair on bass clarinet, and Allen placed second chair on piccolo.

Stewart and Krasa will advance to region band at Port Allegheny High School on March 22-24. “It was really exciting to qualify for regions on bass clarinet,” said Krasa, whose main instrument is saxophone. “The bass clarinet is a resonant instrument I play more by feel than sound.”

## Dodgeball tournament on Saturday

By **Grant Phelan and Ben Haylett**  
STAFF WRITERS

The Student Council dodgeball tournament will be Feb. 18 at 1 p.m. in the gym. “We want to provide a fun opportunity for students to interact and have fun,” said Student Council Public Relations Coordinator Tanna Walters.

Teams of six students can sign up in the cafeteria. Entry fee is \$5 per person which can be paid on the day of the tournament. Non-player admission is \$2 and the Spanish club will be selling walking tacos.

Certain students have taken it upon themselves to dress in unique costumes for tournaments in the

past. “I’m most excited for Jesse [Stewarts]’s costume,” said senior Dane Rhodes. Stewart plans to dress as Spider-Man to go along with his team’s theme of superheroes.

Self proclaimed dodgeball guru and senior Andrew Hasko has taken it upon himself to coach the team “Super Terrific Dudes.” “I’m going to channel my inner Patches O’Houlihan,” said Hasko, making a reference to the coach in the 2004 cult classic “Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story.” “It’s one of my favorite movies.”

Come out and support your favorite team and tweet at @PantherPressSHS to predict who you think will win.

## EXTENSION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

day is a.m., and the second and fourth is p.m.

Every month, the schedule is flipped so the Career and Technical Center students can participate. The classes are shortened by eight minutes in either the afternoon or the morning.

“I think [the tutorial] was taken away because people were not using it correctly,” Maplewood sophomore Dalton Fry said. “I found it beneficial because you could get work done or get help in other classes.”

Fry is a Crawford County Career and Technical Center student. Since he is gone during the morning, he is grateful that the alternating schedule permits him to participate in the tutorial. “Tech is helping me to prepare me for the long run and gives me more knowledge on what I am going into. The other schools should do [the tutorial] because it benefits the students.”

Saegertown senior Jillian Rosipko believes that last year’s tutorial was too frequent, and that following a plan like Maplewood’s could be very beneficial.

“The old tutorial was too often. A less frequent tutorial would be more helpful. I think that [the students] were not working, and that it just didn’t make much sense to have a tutorial every single day,” Rosipko said.

With both Maplewood and Cam-

bridge already running the new tutorial or extension period, she added, “I think that they are ahead of the game and that we should be, too.”

“The plan is to start extension time in the next few weeks,” Principal Baker said. As of press time, exact details are still unclear, but the plan for Saegertown is to have the extension period once a week.

“[The schedule] wouldn’t change at all, we would just have an activity period one time a week. We would rotate it: one week p.m. and the next week a.m.,” Principal Baker said.

To prepare for extension, teachers are currently collecting data in their morning PLC meetings that will help group students where they will benefit the most.

“Some of the kids we will put where we think they will fit the best. This will be across the whole grade levels, so a seventh grader and a senior could be together,” Principal Baker said.

Though some adjustments are to be expected, with time the advantages of this extension period will emerge. “I don’t want to rush into it; I want to do it right,” Mr. Baker said.

At the end of this school year, the three principals plan to meet and discuss the progress of the program and present it to PENNCREST Superintendent Michael Healey as a possibility for uniform implementation next year across the district.

## Know before you go: Public comment at school board meetings

By **Austin Brown**  
NEWS EDITOR

With inevitable budget cuts on the horizon again this year, many community members are looking to restore, preserve, or promote their desired programs by speaking at monthly meetings of the PENNCREST School Board.

A prime example of this was a community member expressed concerns for the music program at the last meeting on Feb. 9.

An unexpected twist occurred when the district’s policy on public comment was strictly enforced.

As she was talking, the community member was warned that she only had three minutes to speak even though she signed up for two three-minute slots (one representing her group, and the other as a parent and tax payer).

She was notified by board president Mr. Jason Bakus that signing up for multiple slots defeats the purpose of the policy. Mr. Bakus warned her during her presentation, but ultimately gave her all six minutes. “I was quite discouraged and surprised [over the three minute limitation]. I knew each slot was three minutes, which is why I signed up for two slots,” the community member said.

She added, “I was the spokesperson for my group as well as a parent. We have different people represent the committee and/or our cause each month. Sometimes we have more than one person, sometimes just one.”

Most school districts follow similar public comment procedures in an effort to maintain order within their meetings, including General McLane and Conneaut Area.

Jody Sperry, president of the Conneaut Area School Board said, “We have a policy which allows public comment once at work sessions and twice during regular board meetings. The only limits are they have five minutes to address the board for a total of thirty minutes in the comment period. The first comment period at board meetings is only on agenda items, but the comment period at the end of the meeting can be for any topic.”

General McLane Superintendent Richard Scaletta noted that these protocols are established to provide for an orderly meeting and meet requirements of the law.

“A disruptive member of the public can really derail a meeting. Those who come and appropriately express their options are part of the democratic process and add value to a school district,” Scaletta said.

He added: “There is discussion with the public at board meetings. They are not public meetings, they are meetings held in public. When a board desires greater contribution from the public, it holds a public hearing.”

As the PENNCREST school board moves into budget season again, with more cuts on the table, it is important to know how you are can effectively present your concerns.

According to board policy 903, which deals with public participation at board meetings: “All individuals wishing to participate in a public Board meeting shall contact the Board Secretary two (2) days in advance of the meeting. Name and address of the participant, group affiliation, if appropriate, and topic to

be discussed must be provided. Nonresident will be allowed to speak at a public meeting unless allowed by special approval by the Board. Multiple requests by different persons representing the same group will not be honored. Accordingly, groups wishing to address the Board should select a spokesperson who can express the views of the collective body.”

Bakus noted that it is important to remember that the policy was established for a reason. “If your intention is to talk for ten minutes about what the board is doing wrong but have no suggestion on how we should fix it, you’re going to start to lose people. If you come with a detailed concise plan, you will be able to get your point across more effectively,” Bakus said.

He also noted that speakers must be sure to contact the board secretary and get on the agenda 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Ultimately, the board is aware of the district’s financial situation and is grateful to have any suggestions that might lessen the impact of future cuts.

To receive all possible input, PENNCREST Superintendent Mr. Michael Healey noted during his comment period that the district’s budget e-mail will be reactivated. He added, “Not to beat a dead horse here tonight, but it is important to come with suggestions.”

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## Celebrate your love with something different

By **Ellie Lybarger**  
STAFF WRITER

While most of us commemorate Valentine's Day with dinner and a movie, there are a few other ways to celebrate the holiday.

This year you can try taking your loved one to Mount Pleasant or Peak and Peak to ski, snowboard, or tube. Mount Pleasant is located in Edinboro and their ski slopes are open daily and their tubing park is open Thursday through Sunday. Ski and snowboarding

rentals start at \$15 and tubing is \$10. Peak and Peak, located in Clymer, New York, offers rental equipment and lift tickets starting at just \$26.

If you're not a fan of the cold, you could take a road trip to Pittsburgh and spend the day at the aquarium. During the winter months both the zoo and PPG aquarium are open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and tickets start at just \$12. Another way to stay warm is to head to the bowling

lanes. The Plaza Lanes is having an all you can bowl special this Friday and Saturday night from 7 to 9 p.m. and it's only \$7 a person. You could also spend the night with your love at the Academy Theater. This weekend the theater is playing the production of Oil Region Ballet's classic Sleeping Beauty. Tickets start at \$8.

For a romantic way to end the day, try bundling up, heading out of town, and gazing at the stars.

## Birds with Brooks: A story full of Wisdom

By **Tyler Brooks**  
STAFF WRITER

With all the lovey-dovey nonsense being spread around as it is every February, one needs to be grounded in reality. Eighty-five percent of relationships end in a breakup, and 40-50 percent of marriages end in divorce. It's the simple reality of life, or in more accurate terms, human life.

Of course some animals aren't faithful to their partners, and among those that are, there are divorces. According to one study, swans are 95 percent faithful, boobies are roughly 40 percent, and plovers are at about 67 percent.

However, only one single bird can boast as having the loving hand of Aphrodite guide each relationship. Albatrosses have a zero percent divorce rate.

Albatrosses are known for having the longest wingspan of any

bird, but should be known for their love lives. Every single albatross mating pair remains with their partner from age six, and every few years they lay one single egg with their partner.

Year after year they return to the island where they were themselves hatched to find their mate, who they go months without ever seeing as they wander above the lonely sea. The chicks get occasional packages of food from mom and dad until they decide to leave their nest and won't see their parents for six years until they come back to their island to mate.

One particular albatross, more specifically a Laysan Albatross, is named Wisdom.

Wisdom is the oldest wild bird ever recorded, at 66 years old. Wisdom is also still producing chicks. Discovered in the 1950s during her first mating season,

Wisdom has produced chicks every year she's mated.

Her first mate, unfortunately, passed away, and Wisdom went through a period wherein she refused to mate.

She mourned her lost loved one, a trait that seems oddly human. But she soon found a new mate, a 60 year old male named "Lover of Wisdom" who has produced a handful of chicks with her.

In her 66 years on this Earth, this lovely laysan has raised successfully about forty chicks, a miraculous number for a creature that lays one egg at a time.

Laysans such as Wisdom greet each other with a basic dance that they improve year after year until, like fingerprints, that couple can be differentiated from others by their dance.

Albatrosses serve as the perfect symbol of love among birds, a shining star that we all wish to achieve but few ever will.

Wisdom is herself a shining star among shining stars, a beautiful breeder who is a sign of health, love, conservation, and more than anything else, Wisdom.

But if you feel like birds pairs are better than any you'll ever have, there is another end to the spectrum.

Ninety-nine percent of flamingos break up with their significant other, a killer statistic showing how the color of love is, in the end, most definitely not pink.

**From: Anyone with common sense**

**To: Mrs. Litke**  
*To all librarians, especially, Mrs. Litke- you change the world one book at a time. Thank you!*

**From: Mr. Hetrick**  
**To: Mrs. Hetrick**  
*Every atom, my love, every atom.*

**From: Anonymous**  
**To: Dylan Flinchbaugh**  
*I love you so much it kills me inside. I think your eyes sparkle like stars. You're the light of my life. I look forward to seeing you every day.*

**From: Anonymous**  
**To: Kendra Taylor**  
*If you never break, you'll never know how to put yourself back to-*

*gether. And if I'm lucky, you can stay for awhile.*

**From: Zach Balog**  
**To: Leah Guy**  
*So lucky to have you in my life. You're beautiful and never fail to make me smile. Thanks for the good memories, I'm excited for the future ahead of us.*

**From: Mack Talbert**  
**To: Jeremy Rosipko**  
*Roses are red, violets are blue. You look like a pineapple but I still love you. I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!*

**From: Ben Haylett**  
**To: Cutter Pritchard**  
*Dearest Cutter, will you "B" my valentine?*

**From: Kassie Boyd**  
**To: Cami Reynolds**  
*You're the Joey to my Chandler.*

**From: Cami Reynolds**  
**To: Kassie Boyd**  
*Are you a parking ticket? Because you've got fine written all over you*

**From: Jalisa Norr**  
**To: Elizabeth Hasko**  
*Your eyes are blue, like the ocean. And baby, I'm lost at sea. ;) Thank you for being the only reason I can tolerate school. You never fail to make me laugh. And remember, its a mutation, not a mitosis. ;) love you forever.*

**From: Elizabeth Hasko**  
**To: Jalisa Norr**  
*You shouldn't wear makeup, it's messing with perfection <3 Thanks for listening to me complain on the daily. So you must be the cure for*

*Alzheimer's because you're an unforgettable friend.*

**From: Your Shepherd**  
**To: My sheep**  
*Thank "ewe" for being the only stable thing in my life.*

**From: Anonymous**  
**To: George Strait**  
*You were right. Love did make it. Thanks, King George.*

**From: Anonymous**  
**To: Sam Michaels**  
*Dear Sam, it's gonna take a lot to take me away from you. There's nothin that a hundred men or more could never do. I bless the rains down in Saegertown. It's gonna take some time to do the things we never had. WOO-HOO*

**From: Bailey**  
**To: Ryan**  
*Thank you for being my partner in crime Sher Bear! Happy Valentine's Day.*

**From: Scout VanCise**  
**To: Ryan Peters**  
*Roses are red, violets are blue, I love your brother.*

**From: Sydney Fredericks**  
**To: Lexie Burdick**  
*Thank you for being an amazing best friend. You always have my back and give me hugs when I'm down. I love you! I couldn't ask for a better sister.*

**From: Cutter'b Pritchard**  
**To: Ben Haylett**  
*The little things ya do across the room, I see you sendin' me clues. They're in the way you make me*

*move.*

**From: Mrs. Hetrick**  
**To: Books**  
*Thank for teaching us how to live, love, and die better. Thank you for reminding us to be brave and keep moving forward. My love affair with you will never end.*  
**Also, From: Mrs. Hetrick**  
**To: Mr. Hetrick**  
*I love you, like a lot.*

**From: Isabella Heysham**  
**To: Austin Kimmel**  
*Happy Valentines Day. Austin, I hope you get better. Love you <3*

**From: Jade Allen**  
**To: Netflix & Tumblr**  
*Netflix is red, Tumblr is blue. I have no life because of you.*

**From: English Dept.**  
**To: SHS Guys**  
*Make grand gestures! All girls want to be loved extravagantly*

**From: English Dept.**  
**To: SHS Girls**  
*Love is an action verb! It is what you do, not what you say that matters.*

**From: Anonymous**  
**To: Anonymous**  
*Birds, birds everywhere Not a Brooks in sight. There they are during the day. But what about at night?*

**To: The Panther Press**  
**From: The EIC**  
*I am so proud of you. We have accomplished so much this year. I love your hardwork and dedication. we have four more issues to go!*

## We've got chemistry: the science behind love

By **Scout Van Cise**  
OPINION EDITOR

On this special holiday many people have love on the brain, but little do they know, love is actually in the brain.

A number of hormones and chemical processes contribute to the feeling that one might describe as being "in love."

According to various studies, love is demonstrated in three stages: lust, attraction, and attachment.

Various chemicals are released in the brain during the process of love to make each stage a unique contribution to a romantic relationship.

The first stage that a person experiences in the development of falling in love is lust. Lust is purely a feeling of physical attraction and a desire to be with someone. The major chemicals involved in this stage are testosterone and estrogen, the hormones that control

reproductive organs in both males and females.

During the lust stage, healthy amounts of both hormones are released, leading to a physical attraction in the potential partner. Pheromones, compounds that are released to send signals that affect the behavior of the person on the receiving end of them, have been debated as a chemical involved in lust, but so far there is no scientific evidence supporting a strong behavioral response in humans to pheromones.

The second stage in the process of falling in love is attraction.

Attraction typically lasts two or three months at the most. Adrenaline, dopamine, and serotonin are the major chemicals in this step. Adrenalin acts the same way as it does in activities such as sports, causing physical reactions such as a racing heart, excess energy, and extreme focus.

Dopamine, the chemical involved in the brain's reward and pleasure centers, plays a role in

attention, desire, motivation, and addiction in a relationship. Dopamine is the same chemical released when eating sugar, which is why people crave sweets.

Serotonin is a mood stabilizer that plays a role in appetite, sleep, and memory. Serotonin is responsible for effects such as loss of sleep and hunger during the attraction stage of love.

The third and final stage of love is attachment.

During attachment, adrenalin, dopamine, and serotonin return to their normal levels while oxytocin and vasopressin are increased.

Oxytocin, also known as the "love hormone", is triggered by physical touch such as hugging, kissing, and cuddling. It enhances the bond between partners, causing them to be "in love."

Vasopressin is released as well, which causes emotional attachment and a desire to be with your partner. These chemicals work together to finalize the process of falling in love.

## What do we want?

### OTP's teach us about love

By **Stefanie Arblaster**  
WEBSITE EDITOR

OTP or 'One True Pair' is an acronym used in fandoms to label any favorite pair or couple, usually specific to certain books, movies, and television shows. Whether it be romantically or platonically, almost every fandom has a couple or friendship that causes a frenzy within its followers.

Junior Taylor Schultz is a die hard "One Tree Hill" fan. "One Tree Hill" is a television drama that was aired on The CW from 2003-2012. It follows the lives of a group of teenagers that reside in Tree Hill, NC. Two characters in particular, Nathan Scott and Haley James, are a couple through-

out the series that are most famous for their undying love for eachother. "I love how they're always having fun together and they support each other through everything." Schultz said. Freshman Sydney Fredericks' OTP, Meredith Grey and Derek Shepherd, is from the award-winning medical drama "Grey's Anatomy." It follows Grey's journey through her medical career and falls in love with head of neurosurgery, Derek Shepherd. "It's all about their connection and love for each other. I mean they got married on a sticky note!" Frederick's said.

Freshman Meadow Campbell's OTP, Blair Waldorf and Chuck Bass, are the main love interest in the 2007 teen drama Gossip Girl. The show follows a group of upper class, privileged teenagers residing in Manhattan's Upper-East Side. Waldorf and Bass go through a seemingly uber complicated love story and has caused fangirls (and boys) from all over to freak out. "I just love their struggle to find a way to love each other. They go through a lot, but in the end they are together. I think that's beautiful," Campbell said.

Our OTP's reveal a little about our own hopes and desired, so this Valentine's Day remember, true love is real, even if these characters aren't.

# Valentine's Day Grams

## LOVE IS IN THE AIR 2017



# Bowlers always have time to spare

By Elizabeth Hasko and Cami Reynolds  
STAFF WRITERS

The Saegertown bowling team is continuing to dominate the Venango-Crawford bowling league with a record that currently stands at 9-1. The group of six carried over their stellar performance from last year; they were crowned champions of the Venango-Crawford Bowling League at Seneca Lanes in the Spring of 2016. "We bowler strive to achieve the same goal to keep our streak going" Bedow said.

After losing their season opener agiant CASH, the team is currently in first place. The team includes

seniors Ricky Kanline and Jake Sada, junior Michael Costello, sophomores Austin Bedow and Kylee Higby, and freshman Nick Archacki.

"In practice we work on picking up spares because they're a big part of the game," Bedow said. "We also bowl practice games and bakers games."

Bakers games are where each team member bowls two frames to improve their technique. "There are five frames a game, rotating after bowling," Bedow said. "We continue improving each day."

The hard work of the athletes is paying off as Archacki is placed first

for the boys division with an average of 223, Costello is trailing close behind with an average of 204, and Higby is placed second for the girls division with an average of 179.

"It feels nice, we've been working so hard to get the pressure off our backs," Archacki said. As the season progresses, the team members hope to work harder and achieve their personal goals. Their next match is Saturday Feb. 18 at Lost Lanes where Archacki will be competing against all the teams, while the rest bowl against a few in the Venango-Crawford Bowling League.

# Lady Panthers headed into postseason

By Cami Reynolds  
STAFF WRITER

With the regular season over as of Wednesday, the Saegertown girl's basketball team finished with an overall record of 10-10 in Region 3. Now they are hard at work preparing for the postseason both physically and mentally.

"At practice the day before we play a team, we talk about what type of defense that team plays, and what kind of plays we can run to get through that type of defense," junior Olivia Hoffman said.

"Both coaches always ask if we have questions or if we need help with a play." The team works hard every practice, and they have made progress throughout the season.

"At the beginning of the season I was a little nervous, but I knew all the girls already, so it wasn't bad because they were very welcoming," freshman Kaylee Mulligan said.

The girls spend their time at practice reviewing the plays they'll need



Sophomore Katelyn Young and Freshman Carlie Schlosser running down the floor.

to run in order to beat the competition.

"Our toughest competitor is Cochran because they are really good," junior co-captain Haley Hess said. The Lady Panthers hope to continue improving their relationships on and off the court in the postseason. "We didn't play great as a team at the beginning of the season, but we are playing really well as a team now," Mulligan said.

They will be in action on the home court tomorrow night at 7 p.m. against Iroquois in the first round of the playoffs.

**For all the latest sports news and updates follow us @PantherPressSHS**

# Boys basketball season ends on a high note

By Braeden Kantz  
STAFF WRITER

Recently, the struggling varsity Panthers have taken on the region's best in a series of tough losses. This year's team was dense with injuries to key players such as junior guard Stevie Siple, who was out with a torn ACL, and sophomore Eli Draa who returned late in the season from a concussion that sidelined him for a month. Saegertown finished with 4-17 record and a conference record of 0-14 as of press time.

"Keep plugging away day to day," Coach Greg Molnar said in reference to the path forward for the team, who played their final game of the season last night against Erie East. There will be no postseason play as Coach Molnar stated that the team will decline an eighth seed in the bracket.

"We implemented new styles of play into our regimen in order to be more successful without our injured players, and we put in as much work as possible to finish out our season with a dub," senior captain Cutter'b Pritchard said.

The injuries did allow some players to step up their game. "They finally started to play within their means," senior Grant Phelan said. "After losing Stevie for the season and Eli for half a dozen games, the dynamic changed." Draa made his



The final moments of the senior dance when they players and cheerleaders threw their poms into the air.

reappearance against Eisenhower on Feb. 3.

Senior night was celebrated on Feb. 14 with a contest against the Maplewood Tigers. The following seniors were recognized in a ceremony before the game: Nick Bradley, Austin Brown, Alan McGill, Sam Michaels, Grant Phelan, Cutter'b Pritchard, Dane Rhoades, and Kole Schlosser. Manager Hannah Crum and cheerleaders Jackie Galford, Paige Coon, and Emily Berger were also recognized.

Although the Panthers lost 77-41, the highlight of the evening came during halftime when the senior players joined the cheerleaders on the court for a dance to "We're All in This Together" from "High School Musical." For a recap of that performance, visit @PantherPressSHS.

# Junior high boys struggling with numbers

By Hunter Trzeciak  
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

It's no secret that the junior high boys basketball team has had some issues this season. Unlike years past, there are no freshman on the team because they were needed on the junior varsity squad. This has caused some of the players concern. "I think the reason we are losing these games is because we are playing freshman teams," eighth grader Jake Reisinger

said. The young panther's season has not been a total bust, though, as they have pulled out several wins

Their record for the 2016-2017 regular season is 7-15. This is not bad considering they have overcome adversities such as eighth grader Logan Ingram's ankle injury.

Ingram was their second leading scorer. Tomorrow night, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m., the boys will face Union City in the first round of the Lions Club Tournament.

# Another way to get a buck: Shed Hunting

By Grant Phelan  
STAFF WRITER

Those who go deer hunting believe that the climax of the experience is wrapping their hands around the antlers of a big buck. Even after the season is long over, and the deep snow melts and cold temperatures cease, some of Saegertown's students continue to do just that.

Between winter and spring, a few bone collectors go to the woods and search for sheds. That is another term for the antlers of a buck that have been dropped. Deer drop their antlers from as early as Christmas to as late as April. However, more

often than not, it is between January and March.

After the hunting season, a white-tail buck's testosterone levels decline significantly. This causes the calcium levels on the base of their antlers to drop, and in turn their antlers detach. Although some antlers can fall off at the same time, they usually fall off on separate occasions.

Usually, a physical jolt the deer experiences like jumping or running is the cause. Most of the time the antlers are chewed on by rodents and degrade over a span of years. That is, unless people find them.

"Probably, out of ten times I go, I'll be successful three of those times," said junior Bailey Kozalla.

"The key is to get to the best spots first."

Often shed hunting can be a family affair, "My dad and brother come with me as well when I go," said sophomore Ben Rockwell.

A good place to search for sheds is on the south side of a hill in thick bedding areas. This is because this is where they spend most of their time in the winter. Any trails or areas they are often seen on are just as good. Along with a keen eye and some patience, shed hunting is all about luck...and thinking like a buck.

# Inconsistent temps affecting hard water anglers

By Bailey Kozalla  
SPORTS EDITOR

Frustration looms over Northwest PA as ice fishing anglers wait for a permanent winter cool-down to emerge. A brief January warm-up melted the December ice which many anglers were able to fish before Christmas. Very uncommon in our area, it was presumed that a productive early season was eminent. However, the early season was cut short, and fishermen are now patiently awaiting a cold front to freeze up the lakes in time for the tournaments this year.

The annual Conneaut Lake tournament has not been scheduled yet. It seems as though the weather will prompt a cancellation of many tournaments this year. Social Studies teacher and avid ice fishing angler Mr. Adam Horne reflected on the negative outcome of the season. "It's nuts. I don't think there will be a late season; it might freeze up again, but I think we will

safe ice is a gamble by the end of the season. The Canadohta and Pymatuning ice fishing tournaments were scheduled for Feb. 11, but were cancelled due to a lack of ice. The Canadohta tournament has been rescheduled for Feb. 25 and Pymatuning Feb. 18.

just be teased," Mr. Horne said. Despite the discouraging outlook, he was able to take advantage of the hard water before Christmas in the early season and catch a fair amount of bluegills.

Senior Grant Phelan is becoming frustrated with the weather pattern. "I haven't touched the ice in over a year in a half and probably because in March it will stay in the fifties. It's a big shame that the weather isn't cooperating," Phelan said. A February freeze could kick start the fishing again and hopefully prompt the fish to bite. Optimism is key, and perhaps anglers will enjoy a late season this year, but only time will tell.

# Congratulations on your great season wrestlers!

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**TOOL & MANUFACTURING COMPANY**

# Saegertown alum Randy Shaffer co-founds Vibe Entertainment Group

**Cutter'b Pritchard**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Ten years ago, Saegertown alumni Randy Alan Shaffer had his sights set on being a country music artist. Fast forward to the present, and Shaffer is still pursuing his musical career, but in a more non-traditional way than one might think.

He recently co-founded Vibe Entertainment Group, based in Nashville.

Graduating with the class of 2009, Shaffer played on the volleyball and golf teams, was a member of the JETS team, and was student council president. His post-high school plans were to attend the University of Pittsburgh with a focus in filmmaking, but later in his first semester, Shaffer decided to switch majors to business marketing. "I thought at the time, I'd continue learning about film through experience and use my marketing degree to help my music career, but also help start a business down the line."

It wasn't long into his college career before Shaffer got a real taste of what it was like to be a performer. In late November of 2011, when he was 21, Shaffer was watching "The Singing Bee," a nationally televised game show which aired on the CMT channel (MTV Network).

Shaffer recalled: "Once the show was over, they had an email you could contact about seeing if there were tryouts in an area near you. I sent an email, then a few days later received a reply saying that there weren't any auditions in my area."

Disappointed? Not in the least. A few months later he received an email from the Singing Bee asking him to do a Skype audition that consisted of several components including a mock round of the game and

lasted about twenty minutes.

Another month went by before Shaffer heard anything else about the matter. One night in the recording studio at nearby Carnegie Mellon University, Shaffer got a call with a California zip code and stopped midway through the session. He answered and the first thing they said was, "Would you like to go to California to be on the show?"

It worked out for Shaffer that the taping of the show fell over his spring break that year. "They flew me out to L.A. on a Monday night, we filmed Tuesday evening, then I flew back Wednesday morning."

Even though he placed second, looking back at that experience, he said, "The people were great, and the whole experience was something I'll never forget. That instilled even more confidence that I love to perform in front of people. I attribute a lot of that to my love for public speaking as well. They definitely both go hand in hand, with having similar mentalities on how to engage your audience."

Shaffer then competed in the "Sing Your Heart Out for a Soldier" competition. He recorded a song and made a video for it. Of thirty entries received, he won first place and \$10,000.

The opportunities for Shaffer however were just beginning. After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in business marketing, Shaffer made the daunting move to Nashville, Tennessee, the country music capital of the world.

Shaffer's first job in Nashville was as a guest relations specialist at the Country Music Hall of Fame. "It was one of the best jobs I've ever had. The people were amazing, and

everyday was a history lesson in country music."

He also mentioned how his eyes were opened to legendary artists such as Buck Owens, Merle Haggard, and Hank Williams.

Just three short months after moving to Nashville, Shaffer nabbed an internship at Red Vinyl Music. It was here where he started his career in the business side of music.

"I learned a lot about the music publishing world and songwriting." Not only did he get to brush shoulders with some of the best music writers in Nashville, but he also found some lifelong friends and mentors during his time there.

Shaffer knew in order to continue to get his name out there, he would have to work tirelessly. "It's about working hard, being patient, and having a drive with passion. Be honest and good to people, if you take care of the around you, they will take care of you," said Shaffer.

His next endeavor would be working at Streamsound Records where he would learn about the record label side of the industry.

As a digital marketer, Shaffer helped come up with social media campaigns and ways to connect Streamsound recording artists with their fan bases, and, as he remembers it: "everything from promoting songs on radio, to touring, and marketing operations".

With several credible jobs under his belt, Shaffer decided to break off on his own and pursue what he calls his "modified dream."

In October of 2016, Shaffer along with business partner, Nicole Nehrbas (whom he met back in 2013 while working at The Country Music Hall of Fame) started Vibe Entertainment Group.



Contributed photo

Randy Shaffer is a 2009 graduate of Saegertown High School and currently resides in Nashville pursuing a career in the music industry.

Vibe specializes in helping new artists get out into the competitive Nashville music scene. Capable of doing everything from music videos to setting up live performances, Vibe does it all, and even tailors the process to the artists themselves. Shaffer explained Vibe's main goal: "The core of everything we do is for the love of music, which is what brought us to Nashville in the first place."

At Vibe, Shaffer is the lead videographer, while Nehrbas is the business manager/artist developer. Shaffer appreciates the strengths his partner brings to the table. "It's always nice to have someone to bounce ideas off of and keep you accountable. We are definitely more powerful together."

It can be hard to stick out and be unique, especially when you are trying to gain new talented artists, Shaffer explained. "Each project is unique in the way that we work one-on-one with the artist to map out a video treatment that would be appealing to their fanbase. We also stand out because of our joint record label experience

which allows us to provide an insider perspective when creating content." Shaffer's video for up and coming artist Dylan Schneider's "You Heard Wrong" was recently posted on billboard.com, one of the most prominent music charts and music news sites.

"It's exciting to think that something I made was featured in a huge music publication like this. Definitely lets us know we are headed in the right direction."

The video will be featured on CMT later this month. When asked how this work will translate into success, Shaffer said, "It pushes the envelope of what we've been doing and increases our credibility. We are very thankful for opportunities like this with great people."

Shaffer clearly loves what he's doing now. "There is nothing better than helping someone's dream come to life," he said. And this is exactly what he gets to do every day at Vibe Entertainment.

For more information, check out vibenashville.com and follow them on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @vibenashville.

# And the Oscar goes to? This year's Best Picture

**By Ben Haylett**  
DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING

Award season is in full swing and the culmination of the season is finding its climax with the Academy Awards on Feb. 26.

This past year has been a landmark year for cinema, with outstanding dramas like "Fences" and "Manchester by the Sea," the World War II epic "Hacksaw Ridge," the musical "La La Land," and five other films nominated for Best Picture.

"Fences" tells the story of a man who dreams of becoming a professional baseball player, but instead becomes a sanitation worker, father, and husband.

This intense drama was adapted from the play of the same name, and is therefore very dialogue and character heavy, much like "Glengarry Glen Ross"(1993).

Because of this, certain viewers may have trouble following its complex story making "Fences" an acquired taste that not everyone will enjoy, but if a night at the theater sounds like a good idea to you, this

wonderfully acted and expertly cast movie will be sure to please you.

When Casey Affleck, star of "Manchester by the Sea," appeared on Saturday Night Live to promote his movie. He said, "It's an incredibly depressing picture."

And, he could not be more right. "Manchester by the Sea" tells the story of a man whose brother has just passed away, and he has been named the legal guardian of his sixteen year old nephew.

If that story does not sound sad enough, it goes on to get worse.

In the interest of not releasing spoilers, I would just recommend to go see this movie, but definitely bring the tissue box because you will need it.

Mel Gibson's return to the silver screen after his extended absence, "Hacksaw Ridge," was met with much fanfare, even if he was behind the camera.

This gritty war story has been hailed to be just as violent, if not more violent than Steven Spielberg's masterpiece "Saving Private Ryan," but what sets the two movies apart is

the fact that "Hacksaw Ridge" was based on actual events, and Gibson himself has held it to a high standard of accuracy.

Best Picture frontrunner "La La Land" has also caused a lot of buzz because it is nominated for 14 Oscars, a distinction only shared by "Titanic"(1997) and "All About Eve"(1959).

It is a classic love story with a modern twist, excellent music, and spot on choreography make "La La Land" the musical for people who do not like musicals. This fact alone have a lot to do with why it has been doing so well with the general public and critics alike.

To learn more about "La La Land" read our review of it on [www.thepantherpress.com](http://www.thepantherpress.com).

These movies are just the tip of the iceberg, and if you have the money and free time, I would recommend seeing all of them.

Just be advised, some of the lesser known titles on the list normally do not come around here, but larger theaters will almost always have all the nominees.

# Big Sean gets personal with "I Decided." album

**By Hunter Trzeciak**  
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

On Friday, Feb. 3, 2017 rap artist Big Sean released his fourth studio album, "I Decided."

This album followed up his 2015 release "Dark Sky Paradise" and is definitely the Getting Out Our Dreams (G.O.O.D.) Music signees' most honest work to date.

Since releasing his first album back in 2011, Big Sean has grown lyrically with every album he has put out and this one is no exception.

The album has several intros and interludes ("Intro", "Owe Me") which features and older and wiser sounding voice of Big Sean which is perceived to be him looking back and questioning the life he had lived, and if he was happy with the way he lived it.

The 14-track album might be thought of as all over the place

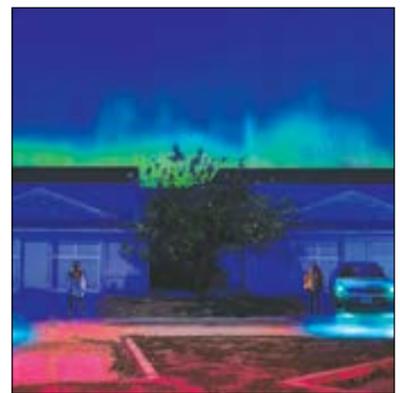
feeling-wise, but when you really listen to the lyrics, it seems "Sean Don" did that on purpose, as he wanted to show how life is full of ups and downs .

"No Favors" which features "rap god" Eminem is a hardcore, in your face kind of song, while "Halfway Off the Balcony" is softer and uses boatloads of imagery.

Then he comes back around with "Sunday Morning Jetpack" which shows that despite some of the "L's" that have been thrown his way, he is doing just fine.

The album feels way more personal than his others have, even including personal messages from his mom being featured in the song "Bigger Than Me" which I am sure fans can greatly appreciate.

"I Decided." showcases the De-



troit natives' growth as both an artist and as a human being in general.

It spotlights the rapper's insane lyrical ability, and if he continues putting albums out like this, he will be well on his way to becoming one of Rap Music's elite.

# Sheeran returns from year long hiatus

**By Hunter Trzeciak**  
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Back in December of 2015, British singer/songwriter Ed Sheeran announced to his fan following through both his Twitter and Instagram accounts that he would be taking some much needed time away from his phone, by posting a screenshot of a message typed in his notes:



Winter, Spring, and Summer of 2016 passed without a word from the artist. The Fall came around and there still was no word of when he was releasing new material or when he was returning to civilization in general.

Finally in December, the singer tweeted a single blue square, exactly one year from going on his social media hiatus. Fans were going crazy, wondering what in the world it could mean.

On Jan. 6, Sheeran released a pair of singles called "Castle on the Hill" and "Shape of You", which he had hinted at since his social media return, but they still came as a great surprise to fans.

The surprises didn't end there. Sheeran released the name of his third album, which of course following in his last two albums footsteps + (Plus) and X (Multiply), calling it ÷ (Divide). He also announced several European tour dates.

A date has not be set for when the album will officially drop, but whenever it does, there is no doubt it will be nothing short of genius.

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Dear *\_(noun)\_*,

*I remember when I first laid eyes on you, with your *\_(adjective)\_* hair and *\_(adjective)\_* eyes. It was at the park, where you were meeting your friends to *\_(verb)\_*, while I was sitting at a bench eating a *\_(noun)\_*. Your *\_(noun)\_* is my favorite thing about you. It always brightens my day. Without you, I'd be *\_(noun/adjective)\_*. Seriously.*

*Yours Truly,*

*\_(noun)\_*

## Fantastic Scholarships and where to find them

**Kaitlyn Walsh**

FEATURES EDITOR

As the second semester begins, you might be thinking “Wow, I’m about to graduate soon.” And of course, after you graduate you’ll be shoved into the real world where money becomes a tangible thing and student loans become real.

You might be mildly intimidated by the cost of college, and are scrambling to find a way to relieve the cost whether it be scholarships or the FAFSA.

But fear not! There are almost endless ways to find scholarships for just about anybody that lives on this planet.

The easiest way to find scholarships is to turn to the Internet. Fastweb, Zinch, Cappex, and scholarships.com are scholarship ‘search engines’ that take your basic information and what kind of major you want and turn it into scholarships that you will qualify for.

All of these are free and always available to use. Some scholarships

don’t even require you to do anything; just give the organization your information and that’s it. Others require a full-blown lab report or research project.

Obviously, these projects will give you more money if you win, but they take way more time than just filling in your name.

Other ways to find scholarships online is to just type in whatever major you are interested in, and type ‘scholarships’ after it. This will give you scholarships that are career-specific, and you might end up having a better shot at winning something specific to you.

If you don’t have internet access at your fingertips, you can always use the old-fashioned way of talking to people.

The English and Guidance departments always have scholarship forms readily available, and they can range from students going into the workforce, all the way to students that plan on getting their Master’s degree.

## Do you need financial assistance for your post-secondary education?

Your S.H.S. Alumni Association can help!

The Association will award six \$1,000 scholarships to deserving seniors at their banquet in August 2017 and will honor all recipients at that time.

S.H.S. Alumni Association Scholarship Application are available in the guidance office. Completed applications must be returned to their counselor no later than April 15, 2017. Questions or concerns may be directed to Mrs. Watt.

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Mon-Fri:  
9:00am-6:00pm  
Sat: 9:00am-3:00pm  
Sun: Closed