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Saegertown Jr. Sr. High School

18079 Mook Road, Saegertown, PA

The Panther



Press

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Technology: Full-size iPads on the horizon

By Hannah Myers and Rachel Barner

STAFF WRITER AND NEWS EDITOR

Major changes are in store for the iPad initiative in the district next year. Under the currently proposed plan, about 1,100 new full-size iPads with keyboards are being purchased for students in grades 7-9 across the district.

The cost per unit is roughly \$398, with the total purchase price of nearly \$445,000. These will be purchased with budgeted general fund dollars.

Next year, the seventh grade, eighth grade and graduating seniors' iPad minis will be placed with the kindergarten through second grade students.

At the elementary, the iPads will be stored in carts. Students will not be permitted to take home iPads until middle school.

While these iPads go down to the youngest of the elementary school, grades 3-9 will be getting the Logitech Rugged Keyboard/Case Combo full size iPads that have to ability to split the screen and will have 32 gigabytes as opposed to the 16 gigabytes the minis have.

Grades 10 through 12 will continue to use their same iPad minis. If an iPad mini dies, the student will get another iPad mini as a replacement because they have about a hundred on reserve from fewer students each year.

The teachers will also be receiving new iPads for the 2018-2019 school year so they will have the same model of iPads as the students.

With the new capabilities, students should look for iPad usage to increase. Grades K-5 will be using Go Math, which is accessible at home as well as school, and grade 6 and anyone in the high school who is in Algebra 1 will have access to Big Ideas Math.

Everyone will have access to other open education resources such as Khan Academy, Engage New York, and CK-12.

The goal for these iPads is to still to have the textbooks on them, which will be available through an online service. By doing this, students can access materials through a cell phone, computer, or any online connection.

The current laptops aren't leaving the school anytime soon. "There is no plan to replace the carts," said Jason Williams, PENNCREST supervisor of technology.

"The current Apple laptops that have served us for about 11 years will continue to be used until they no longer work."

Mr. Houck's lab with the "Daktech" computers will be replaced after the 2017-2018 school year and so will the CADD/STEM labs in the proposed plan.



Logitech Rugged Keyboard/Case Combo with iPad.

As for a return of the BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) policy that was in place prior to the iPads, it is possible that it could return in some form according to Williams.

Students in grades 10-12 who will not be receiving the new iPads have expressed some interest in being able to bring their own computers to school.

"Looking back, we started the iPad program in 2013. There are a lot of things we learned over that time and the technology has increased. The management of the iPad has become easier and less time consuming," Williams said.

"How I feel about technology in general is that it should be a tool used in the classroom, but not the main tool in the classroom, so the iPad enhances your learning. The teacher is the most important part of the classroom, but the iPad can enhance that and give you opportunity outside of the classroom. Technology is more of a tool than an answer."

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

Senior Sound-Offs

“We need more superfans at sporting events. Especially at football games and stuff.”

“Bring back tutorials. It’s a nice opportunity to get homework done and teachers need them as much as students.”

“If there’s gonna be a dress code, stick to it.”

“Lunches. The cost and portions of food served are outrageous.”

“There obviously is an academic incentive already, but through the years besides class rank, there was no drive to do well academically, so some sort of fun incentive would be nice for the kids who deserve it.”

“I think that they should bring back study halls. Trying to manage work and school work is difficult and it would help to have time to do some of it in school.”

“This year we got more into school spirit, I hope they keep that up.”

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Dress code distress is the ‘real’ distraction

A new term has developed over the years: dress-coded. As students walking through the halls, it seems we constantly worry about our shorts being too short or our tank-top straps not being wide enough.

Many people see the dress code as unfair or inconsistent. The administrators say they enforce the dress code, but not everyone who breaks it gets caught. This unpredictability leaves students anxious as they feel like they could be breaking it at any given time, depending on the day and the teachers they encounter.

“I’ve been dress coded millions of times. I think dress code is ridiculous because most of the time, it is just certain teachers who pick us out,” junior Courtney DeLizio said.

Most students are not fully aware of the dress code that is stated in the student handbook. The dress code is the same for both boys and girls, but most rules such as the length of shorts, dresses or skirts, and the “no leggings rule” are mainly pointed towards girls.

The dress code limits what everyone can wear, leaving slim options for girls. Numerous students claim the dress code is sexist and more distracting than the clothes they are



Cami Reynolds & Elizabeth Hasko

wearing.

Some boys recently experimented with the dress code by wearing leggings. “I wore them as a dare and I wanted to see people’s reactions. I was sent down to the office but Mr. Baker sent out an email saying that what I was wearing was okay,” junior Cody Mulligan said.

Is the length of our dresses and the placement of holes in our jeans really the distracting subject?

“The goal of coming to school is education. When it comes to the dress code, I just want something consistent, enforceable, and understood by everyone,” said English

teacher Mrs. Stacey Hetrick of the dress code issues.

Throughout the PENNCREST district, the rules are not entirely the same. At Saegertown, our student handbook states that our shorts are supposed to be 2” above the knee, but the fingertip rule applies at Cambridge, and that is the rule enforced here. Maplewood students are not allowed to wear sweatpants, but both Saegertown and Cambridge are. It seems like administration should try to keep uniformity between the three schools.

“I think we should all have to wear uniforms, teachers included, so everyone will look the same and there is nothing labeled as distracting,” said Family Consumer Science teacher Mrs. Heather Patton.

It seems that there is no set in stone dress code. And if the faculty is going to enforce a dress code, then the rules should be enforced consistently, not once in awhile. While some teachers are referred to as being super strict, others choose not to pay attention to how ‘distracting’ someone’s clothes are. It is not the clothes that are distracting in the first place. It’s only distracting because people keep telling us it is.

Gone but not forgotten: the memories of our past six years

Imagine you’re stuck inside the same walls for 1,080 days, learning what seems like the same things over and over again.

You’d think most people would go insane with the deja vu that occurs almost every day, but this is just a normal year in the life of Saegertown seniors.

The thought of leaving this building is something that never occurred to me as a seventh or eighth grader.

We figured we would be here forever and that’s just the way it worked. But now that the time has come to figure out where we’re going to go after we leave, it’s a cold hard kick in the stomach.

It’s exciting to finally leave, but the fact that most of us don’t know what waits for us beyond these doors

is kind of terrifying.

Coming to seventh grade was something out of a story book. We were finally in the ‘big kid school’. We would be treated like adults and life would go super smooth.

Little did we know that we would still be kids to everybody else there. That’s just how being a seventh grader is. But it’s nowhere near what the senior experience is like.

For us, the beginning of senior year was like any other year. Teachers would always remind us that it’s our last year and that we should cherish every moment. We didn’t really listen to them.

180 days is a lot of days to reflect on everything we’ve done and make as many memories as we possibly can, but to be honest, it’s really not

much. Now that we’re in the last days of our last year, everything hits like a ton of bricks.

Soon you’ll never see most of the people you went to school with again, and you’ll probably be moving out of your parents’ house sometime this summer and living on your own.

Looking back, our class has seen and experienced things that no one else in SHS ever will. We were the only class to have Mr. Simmons and Mr. Wetsell.

We were the last class to have Mrs. Fink and the last students to have Mrs. Keeling. We were the reason the “norms” were created for the junior high.

Tenth grade was when we got to show off our intelligence on the Lit-



Kaitlyn Walsh & Emily Ford

erature and Biology Keystone exams. Every student showed growth in some way on both tests. Our grade was the first to earn a trip to Lost

Lanes Bowling Alley in Cambridge Springs because of this achievement.

We also welcomed Mr. Bradshaw into the Saegertown teaching community.

Junior year was the end of an era. Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Kantz vacated the building, leaving a spot for Mr. Baker to fill.

Mr. Young was also placed into a leadership position for Assistant Principal.

Senior year was full of ups and downs, but they are memories we will not forget.

From going to our last homecoming dance to our senior banquet, every memory will be cherished in our hearts and minds through our post-graduation years.

Advice to the Class of 2017

What do you think Seniors need to know before they graduate?

Kindergartners

“How to sing.”
-Tommy McNamara

“How to dance.”
-Lincoln Drakes

6th Graders

“Use protection and have a plan for the future.”
-Kylie Beck

“Be prepared for pranks like mouse traps under your feet, water buckets above doors, making sure your roommate doesn’t open mini ketchup packets and put them under your toilet seat, and watching for Kool Aid in the shower heads.”
-Joseph Grundy

How much do you think students need to study in college?

Kindergartners

“10 minutes.” -Noah Young

“11 hours.” -Landon Hippo

6th Graders

“A lot! About an hour a day.” -Connor Smith

“3 hours a day.” -Emma Shenk



Class of 2023



Class of 2029

What do you think the Seniors will miss most about school/SHS?

Kindergartners

“School.” -Harper Malone

“Their teachers.” -Corry Bucklee-

6th Graders

“Girls because they can tutor you!” -Sam Hetrick

“Seeing everyone in their class, teachers, and Mr. Baker.” -Savannah Manross

“Friends that you know and their teachers.” -Zach Yoder

What advice do you have for the Seniors before they enter the real world?

Kindergartners

“Happy Christmas.” -Colton Hunter

“Work hard, be smart, and do what you’re told.”
-Gabriel Paul Runkle

6th Graders

“Get a good job, study hard in college, and make sure you marry a good wife... not a bratty one!”
-Brady Greco

“Go to college, don’t eat out every day, and eat lots of ramen noodles.”
-Camryn Trzediak

Created by Emily Ford and Kaity Gage

Prez Sayz: Arrivederci

This is it. In a few days I will officially be a Saegertown Alumnus. With that being said, I would like to share with you the most important thing that I have learned during high school.

Ultimately, people don’t remember what you say, they remember how you made them feel. Though you may be able to recollect pieces and parts of a conversation; you will remember the way you felt more vividly.

Especially in this digital age, you never really know who is watching

you.

This means it’s always important to leave a good impression. Cody Jinks has emphasized these sentiments in his song “Somewhere in the Middle.”

“Treatin’ saints and sinners right it’s a good thing to do all the time. You never know who you’re talkin’ to, but always know who’s watching you. Keep your feet movin’ straight down the line.”

I believe that this is the most important skill to master. If you have the ability to leave a good first im-

pression on someone, a stronger bond will develop. This can result in endless opportunities and friendships that will help you along the way.

Though you may be worried about your future and grades, I can tell you that my priority in high school was to make as many friends and connections as I could and then just let the rest fall into place.

Though I have always wanted to do the best I possibly can, the fact of the matter is that I’m not going to get A’s in all my classes.

Yet, what I know I can make happen is to ensure that everyone I meet remembers the name Austin Brown.

If you don’t want to believe me, then listen to my spirit animal Cody Jinks: “It couldn’t ever dawned on me. All the things that I would be I, I never really looked out quite that far. It’s never been a simple thing, to see the world with a young man’s brain. With an old man’s heart and restless soul.”

Finally, I would just like to thank you for allowing me to be your Huckleberry. I truly do appreciate all

of your support and respect during these last few years.

It is my hope that I may have reciprocated your respect, and that I may have positively impacted you somewhere along the line.

Through the efforts of my teachers and peers, you have helped me become a leader and have propelled me to great heights.

Now I am headed to Penn State. Though my future may be as a Nittany Lion, I am proud to say that I will always be a panther. Farewell my friends. That’s all she wrote.

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Student Council set for 2017-18

By **Kassie Boyd**
STAFF WRITER

Continuing the proud tradition of a student-led government at Saegertown, a new Student Council was elected on May 11.

Guided by adviser Mrs. Nicole Keller, Payton Brooks will step into the position of president, with Julia Sada as vice president, Taylor Schultz as treasurer, and Bailey Kozalla as secretary.

President Payton Brooks plans to continue finding ways to improve school spirit, which was a priority for this year's officers.

"I want to focus on continuing the previous Student Council's efforts and improving the overall spirit of the school," Brooks said. "Specifically, I would like to do whatever's possible to make events like sports game more accessible to students."

Brooks also expresses great passion for Saegertown and its students. "I have always wanted to be president, ever since I was a kid, because I really like this school and I know that I can lead it in a better direction."

Brooks was one of three contenders, and ran with the Presidential party. "I feel very blessed that the students thought that I was the best out of three good options," she said.

Vice President Julia Sada was a member of the Presidential party with Brooks. She also wants to improve school attitude. "Winning felt fan-freaking-tastic," Sada said. "It's senior year, and you just have to put yourself out there."

Bailey Kozalla was the only nom-

inee for secretary, but she is excited nonetheless. "I feel very honored to have my classmates' support, and I hope to do my job well," Kozalla said. She ran with the Kool K.A.T.S. party and is planning on introducing some new ideas to Saegertown.

"I was talking to Mr. Horne, and at a school he knew, they had a superfan club," said Kozalla. "I think it'd be fun to have a club during activity period where people who were interested in super fanning could meet and talk."

She, along with the rest of the elected members, plan to emphasize community in our school. "Basically, I want to establish a sense of pride between the students and school."

Treasurer Taylor Schultz said, "I'm the right choice for the job." She ran with the Kool K.A.T.S. party, and plans to continue efforts for a more positive Saegertown.

"The main reason for a Student Council is that it provides an opportunity for leadership with peers," said Student Council advisor Mrs. Nicole Keller. Student Council most noticeably organizes major events such as Homecoming, winter and spring activities, and the morning announcements.

"Persistence and commitment are important," Mrs. Keller said, "You need to be a good role model, friendly and value everybody."

A total of seven people ran this year, a noticeable decrease from previous years. "It is unusual. This is the least amount of people we've had, but I'm glad it's people who genuinely want to run."

New AP classes coming to Saegertown

By **Kassie Boyd, Hillary Twiford, and Braeden Kantz**

STAFF WRITERS

Big changes for high achievers are coming to Saegertown for the 2017-18 school year. For years, the only Advanced Placement classes offered were AP U.S. History and AP Literature, taught by Mr. Richard Rutkowski and Mr. William Hetrick respectively. Now the push is on to add more AP classes next year.

Over the last few weeks, Saegertown students have been buzzing with the prospect of new opportunities.

This year, 24 students took AP exams in two subjects, but next year, the school district plans to offer the same AP classes across the district which will increase the offerings at Saegertown.

New additions that have been confirmed as of press time are Biology, Calculus, and English Language and Composition.

AP World History will also return after being previously taught by Mrs. Kara Betchel during the 2015-2016 school year. Several additional classes may be added in the future, including AP Physics.

To prepare for these classes, several teachers will attend training sessions in the Pittsburgh area this summer.

In general, AP classes can count as college credits to colleges that accept them, and they can exempt students from general education classes, but

only if the student takes the exam and passes with a score of three or better on a five point scale. Each AP exam was \$84 for students in PEN-NCREST this year.

Mr. Hetrick has been teaching the AP Literature course since 2002, and

exam. It's worth three college credits for most students although some colleges do not accept AP credits. Yes, the cost can be prohibitive, but we can figure out ways to raise money for economically challenged kids as more AP classes are offered," Mr. Hetrick said.

The new AP Language and Composition course will be taught by Mrs. Stacey Hetrick, a first-time AP teacher, and it will be offered to juniors.

"I am really excited to be offering more rigorous courses for high performing students," Mrs. Hetrick said. "Now qualified students can roll right out of the Keystone literature exam and into two years of AP for English. That's awesome!"

History teacher Mr. Adam Horne will be trained to teach AP World History.

The curriculum is provided by the AP board, and he will learn what he needs to cover in more detail during the summer training.

"I'll be teaching world history as it's written," said Mr. Horne. "Whatever they teach me during training."

This will be a new experience for many teachers and students.

"College Board's online site has everything for students and teachers" said Mr. Hetrick. "It's about a new philosophy. It promotes something for high achievers, and we'll be able to spend a lot of time with kids who are more academically talented."

"Every student should take the



he feels that the course would benefit all students, not just those who plan to be English majors.

"AP Lit is a writing course. Any high schooler headed off to college will write, so furthering one's writing ability would be essential," said Mr. Hetrick.

Unlike many of the other AP classes, the two English courses are skill courses, rather than content courses. "English is a different beast," said Mr. Hetrick. "We teach complex, college-level reading and writing, not content. Any and everything is available as subject matter."

In Mr. Hetrick's current class, twelve of thirteen students took the exam, and he looks forward to seeing the data.

Alumni Association awards scholarships and seeks new members

By **Ellie Lybarger**

STAFF WRITER

This year, six members of the graduating class will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Saegertown High School Alumni Association and an additional \$1,000 award will be given by the SHS Class of '66.

These winners will be announced at the Senior Awards Assembly on Friday, June 9, and they will be honored at the annual SHS Alumni As-

sociation Banquet at Smith's Country Gardens on Saturday, August 5.

Each year the Alumni Association makes several scholarships available to deserving Saegertown seniors who are pursuing their education at a college, trade or technical school.

Applications for these scholarships are available in the guidance office each spring.

All graduating classes are encouraged to provide the Association with their class directories which should include all contact information of

their classmates.

Contact information for many classes that graduated in the 70s, 80s and 90s is still needed. These may be sent electronically to jepayne777@gmail.com or mailed to SHS Alumni Association, Inc., P.O. Box 293, Saegertown, Pa. 16433.

Any Saegertown graduates who have not received invitations to the 2017 banquet should contact the Alumni Association as soon as possible.

Saegertown under construction: Route 198 closed, South Project almost complete

By **Grant Phelan**
STAFF WRITER

Progress is the name of the game with the roundabouts and other projects throughout Saegertown.

Route 19 has been moved approximately thirty feet east into town to accommodate more construction on the north side of that roundabout project. Also, a considerable amount of the approved sidewalks have been installed.

The stop lights are still due for replacement at the Erie Street and Route 19 intersections as well. On May 5, Route 198, which passes LORD Corp. and American Legion Post 205, was closed at its entrance in Saegertown.

The closing is for the progression of the South roundabout, which is considerably more complete than

the North project. So far, almost 70 percent of the roundabout is paved, along with a landscaped brick structure with an American flag at its center.

Concerning the North project situation, at a cost of \$7 million, it is not as complete. This is partially due to the focus on the bridge replacement.

Students are facing growing commutes and rising gas bills. "Because of this, I have to leave for school ten minutes earlier," said senior driver Sam Michaels.

"With more traveling around the detour, I am spending more money on gas as well."

One of the major impacts that the detours from these projects have created is financial suffering for local businesses. This includes Saegertown Beer Distributor (SBD),

Pizza Villa, and the Saegertown Dairy Inn.

The Dairy Inn predicts that about 40 percent of their business has been lost. According to an article written by the Meadville Tribune, it is estimated SBD has lost about 25-35 percent of business.

The section of 198 eastbound is a large part of why traffic and patronage patterns have changed so much. And of course the fact that many consider travel through town difficult.

"If they opened Grant Street so people could cut through town and go behind the construction under the bridge on 198, the time to get into Woodcock and Meadville would be greatly re-



GRANT PHELAN/SHS

Route 19 has been moved approximately thirty feet east into town to accommodate more construction on the north side of that roundabout project.

duced," Michaels said. By mid-July, the South project is due to be finished. Meanwhile, the North project is projected to be finished by October.

Arts and Academics Night celebrates artists and musicians

By **Francis Jageacks**
STAFF WRITER

The biggest cultural event at Saegertown High School, Arts and Academics Night, took place Thursday, May 25 with student art exhibits, industrial arts and academic projects, and a chorus and band concert. Doors opened at 5:30 p.m.

This year there was not an eighth grade art class; however, some of the commercial art students from the Crawford County Career and Technical Center put their artwork in the show to be judged along with seventh graders and senior high art classes.

Saegertown art teacher Mrs. Heather Papinchak asked the elementary art teacher Mrs. Dani Sharple, Mrs. Annette Bradshaw (Mr. Bradshaw's mother), and Mr. Jim Proctor, the son of the former art teacher Linda Proctor, to judge the art exhibits (see listing of winners below). Senior Samantha Ravenscroft was awarded best in show for senior high art projects, and seventh grader Alli Phelan was best in show for junior high.

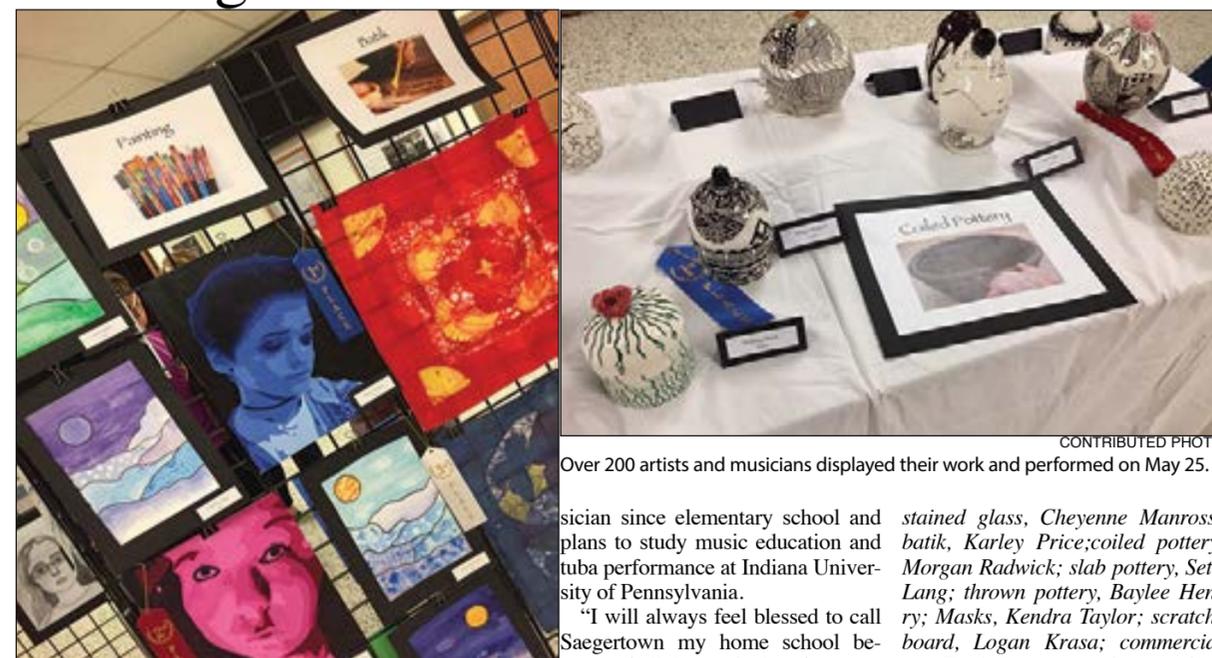
The chorus and band concert started at 7 p.m. Over the course of two hours, 126 musicians from both junior and senior high took to the stage

to deliver memorable performances.

The chorus sang "Never Tell Thy Love," "Never My Love," and "Happy Together," as well as many others.

Concert band songs followed a movie theme and included "The Theme from Ant Man," "Avengers," "Blazing Bones of the West," and "Mission Impossible," while the junior and senior high bands combined on "The Pit and Pendulum" and "The Great Escape."

Music teacher Mrs. Susan James honored 18 seniors from the stage, and they, in turn, presented her with



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Over 200 artists and musicians displayed their work and performed on May 25.

musician since elementary school and plans to study music education and tuba performance at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

"I will always feel blessed to call Saegertown my home school because of all the musical performances and opportunities I have had."

Senior high blue ribbon project winners: graphite, Alexis Tomcho; charcoal, Kirsten Mowris; ink, Lexie Burdick; painting, Morgan Murphy; jewelry, Baylee Henry; metal embossing Madison Mondri;

stained glass, Cheyenne Manross; batik, Karley Price; coiled pottery, Morgan Radwick; slab pottery, Seth Lang; thrown pottery, Baylee Henry; masks, Kendra Taylor; scratchboard, Logan Krasa; commercial art, Emily Loccisano; best in show Sam Ravenscroft.

Junior high blue ribbon project winners: grid drawing, Kamryn Fuller; illuminated letters, Kyarra Reist; shaded still life, Kat Diesing; ceramic mugs, Ally Phelan; best in show Ally Phelan.

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435 Main St. Saegertown, PA (Rear of Professional Building)

Congratulations graduating class of 2017

Senior Sports Memories

Sam Michaels, football: “Dane Rhoades slipped and fell coming out of the shower and slid all the way to coach Horne’s feet. He got up and told him the floor was slippery.”

Kirsten Mowris, volleyball: “My favorite memory was in volleyball Brittany (Sample) pulled the bus alarm and we couldn’t get it to turn off.”

Brittany Sample, volleyball: “During practice when Karleigh Ashbaugh got mad at me for taking her phone, so she threw my feminine hygiene products all over the gym floor and stuck them onto the bleachers. Then coach walked in and it was very awkward.”

Anna Swartout, softball: “When the bus was pulling up to the school and Hayley Hess flatulate and nobody would get off the bus, and I almost threw up on Hayley’s softball bag. I am terrified every time she breaks wind.”

For more Sports Memories, visit www.thepantherpress.com.

Seniors share memories at Nick’s Place

By **Hannah Nicholson**
STAFF WRITER

The senior banquet was held on May 21 at Nick’s Place in Edinboro, giving the seniors a chance to share a meal and reminisce about their past thirteen years of schooling.

“We ate and socialized, and watched our sixth grade poetry recitations. Then we had an open mic and told stories,” said senior class officer Kendra Taylor.

The poetry video caused great amusement as the seniors came face to face with their younger selves. Everyone laughed when it appeared that Tanna Walters had broken the camera during her poem. “Brenna Digiacomo went before me and accidentally knocked the camera over. After that it wouldn’t stay up,” Walters said.

Many seniors enjoyed listening to Ben Haylett tell stories, and one of Haylett’s favorite is the story of when a teacher mistook a male student for a girl in seventh grade due to his long hair. “I had a lot of fun entertaining my classmates while I was talking,” Haylett said.

Senior advisors Mr. William Hetrick and Mr. Chris Greco, who organize the event each year, understand the significance of taking time to share memories. “We have a pretty good connection, so to see them [the seniors] is bittersweet. It’s sad to see another group go through yet happy to see them on their way,” Mr. Greco said.

When did Senioritis kick in?

Alaina Budzanowski: As soon as I walked through the door in seventh grade.

Alainia Erdos: When I was in the womb.

Joseph Gajdowski: 12 years ago.

Caristian DeJohn: The day football ended.

What motivates you?

Emily Burger: My aspirations of having a fancy bath tub.

Morgan Kightlinger: Music and beautiful weather.

Dane Rhoades: The haters.

Zachary Nishnick: Seeing my friends do great things.

Rachel Barner: My mother is a big motivator in my life, but another motivator is that I want to be better than the person I was yesterday.

Jarrott Ruhl: Farming because they rely on me.

What was your favorite cartoon?

Paige Coon: Zoey 101.

Michael Sutliff: It would be a toss up between “Avatar” and “Adventure Time.”

How did your first date go?

Austin Brown: What date? I’m just a poor lonely shepherd.

Jordyn Gaut: Horrible. Bo had his eyes covered the whole time because we went to see “Insidious.”

Adam Mosier: In short-fourth grade me did not want to partake in a satanic ritual in her basement ... She broke up with me.

Alan McGill: Well I took her to a demo derby... and now I don’t even know where she’s at.

What is your favorite song from when you were in elementary school?

Zach Posego: “I’m Blue” (Eiffel 65).

Breanna Ferguson: “Burnin’ Up” (The Jonas Brothers).

Zach Nageotte: Hmmm, I never had good music taste

What is your ultimate life goal?

Tanna Walters: Go to space.

Brittany Sample: Happily married to Lukey Pookey and maybe have children... maybe.

Kaitlyn Walsh: I want to see Snoop Dogg become president.

Luke Dangel: To not do anything extremely stupid and have a good life.

Kirsten Mowris: To be happy.

Sydney Kightlinger: “I’ve been waiting for a long time for you to say that. But if I’m going to be a partner in a law firm by the time I’m 30, I need a boyfriend who’s not such a complete bonehead.” (Elle Woods)

Chase Leech: I guess not well. We are not together anymore.

JT Sloan: Well, if you wear crocs on the first date, she’ll get up and never come back.

Zach Posego: “I’m Blue” in elementary school. Honestly it’s probably something by the Black Eyed Peas.

Emily Ford: “Fergalicious” (Fergie).

Daytona English: To do my best for me and my family.

Adam Kralj: Have my own gun store and have a family.

Nakia Rivera-Dalton: To treat my kids better than I was treated.

Daynna English: A little stress, not a job without some stress, right? Has to be a job to help others, through good and bad.

Kayla Justus: Have a stable income, be a registered nurse, married, kids, house. Be happy and be the best I can be.

How have you changed since seventh grade?

Brittany Stallings: Ohh gosh I never wanted to go to school. I thought would be a 9th grade drop out but I made it!

Jade Allen: I went from kinda emo to very emo.

Megan Urquhart: More confident.

Luke Triola: I got hairier and scarier.

Hannah Crum: I lost my baby fat.

Ben Berger: Got gains with no cardio.

John Jackson: I have become a lot more open to trying new things and have had a lot more drive to become successful.

Cutter’b Pritchard: I’ve cut my hair.

Sam Michaels: Got taller and wider.

Nick Bradley: Lost the acne, got taller, and got more organized.

Ryan Garris: I got a little taller and grew some facial hair.

We asked, they answered 2017 Senior Survey

How would you describe your ideal job?

Jillian Rosipko: Makin’ lots of money in a hospital.

Andrew Hasko: Something that pays well and makes me happy while at the same time doing as little work as possible.

Daniel Smith: A desk job where I am not under any stress and I can feel comfortable.

Daynna English: A little stress, not a job without some stress, right? Has to be a job to help others, through good and bad.

Ben Haylett: Sitting at home, owning a magazine empire, getting to lounge around the pool surrounded by babes.

Jude Mattocks: Putting gas in air planes.

TJ Hasychak: A machinist running a machine.

Sydney Kightlinger: Many tasks, rolling deadlines, making people better.

Cody Damico: Working 50 hours a week making \$50,000-60,000.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Cody Smith: Working and having a place of my own.

Kalib Kiser: Next to my best friend, Pedro, in our prison cell in Mexico City.

Marc Kightlinger: Not here.

Logan Krasa: Playing saxophone for an audience of only my dearest friends.

Bradley Heimbrook: Older.

Dustin Bierman: In a box

on a street corner in Pittsburgh.

Samantha Ravenscroft: Hopefully in ten years I will have a good job, my own house, be married, and have kids. Realistically I’ll probably have a good job, house payments, no husband, and many, many cats.

Brenna Digiacomo: Married to a sugar daddy with 20 dogs.

Dalton Gartner: At this exact moment? Hopefully still in bed.

If you had to be any animal, what would you be and why?

Austin Armagost: A cicada because I would get to sleep for ten years.

Tyler Brooks: I’d wanna be a clam because then I could shut my shell and do nothing but eat, sleep, and reproduce for a couple decades.

Kaytlynn Steiner: A GOAT because I’m the Greatest Of All Time.

What class do you think you’ve learned the most from and why?

Jade Allen: Band because I always had heart to hearts with Mr. Baldwin and he taught us so many life lessons through band.

Darren Henry: History... because I learned history.

Anna Swartout: English because it has challenged me to think about

Richard Kanline III: A dog because the whole world is my bathroom.

Anthony Offi: A dog. They live a carefree life with no real responsibilities.

Tatin Bailey: A pigeon so when I go to the bathroom I can aim for people.

Melanie McClearn: A dolphin, I like to swim and

my future and to discover my purpose in life.

Aiden Byham: Anatomy, T Grecks drops knowledge.

Jackie Galford: Advanced Biology because of the amazing teacher, Mr. Greco.

Jesse Stewart: Band be-

Skylar Leszek: Being a guardian of freedom.

Grant Phelan: Hopefully settled down somewhere making good money with a wonderful wife and kids.

Mackenzie Genaway: Well, I hope to be somewhere beautiful, with a family, preferably girls, and maybe a dog.

Brent Elizon: Living in my mother’s basement.

barely ever sleep.

Kole Schlosser: Scrat from Ice Age. He is my spirit animal.

Alexis Oldakowski: Cheetah because they are pretty, fast, and for the most part dominant.

Lloyd Ruhl: Gorillas, because they are muscular and smart.

Kevin Field: Vo-tech because I learned a skilled trade that will get me good job.

Teacher-isms

“Don’t complain about how rough the seas are, just get the ship home.”

Mr. Molnar

“Here at the academy...”

Mr. Greco

Mr. Rutkowski: “Slippery when wet.”

“GET AFTER IT!”

Mr. Simcheck

“Take yourself to the vet and fix yourself.”

Mrs. Hetrick

“I can’t function until I’ve had my morning cookie.”

Mrs. Shaffner

“No hugging. You’ll spontaneously combust.”

Mr. Horne

“I would take that out to dinner.”

Mrs. James

“Ahh, you just broke my toe you!”

Mr. Bidwell

Changes coming to cafeteria next year: Bistro line to return

By **Jalisa Norr**
STAFF WRITER

School lunches have changed increasingly over the past five years, mostly due to regulations supported by former First Lady Michelle Obama.

Some of the changes to lunches included low sodium content, non-fat milk, reduced calorie intake, and increased use of whole wheat grains and vegetables.

Many students across the country rebelled against these changes with some even throwing their lunches in the trash.

Some also posted pictures of the school lunches on Twitter using the hashtag #thanksmichelleobama.

Now it seems that many of those regulations are being rolled back by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny

Perdue who announced on May 1 that the U. S. Department of Agriculture will provide more flexibility in nutrition choices to make school lunches both healthful and appealing to students.

Starting next school year, 2017-2018, schools will be able to request exemptions from the whole grain requirements and also will be delaying the sodium intake restrictions.

These changes will be evident in the Saegertown cafeteria according to Suzanne Zelker, the Food Service Director for Nutrition, Inc., which provides the meals for PENNCREST schools.

"We will be able to serve 1 percent milk instead of the current fat free milk. We also won't be restricted on the students' sodium intake," Zelker said.

In addition to these changes, the Bistro Line, which many students loved, will be coming back to Saegertown. "It was all I ate in seventh grade," sophomore Ryan Sherry said. "The curly fries and calzones were the best. I hope they bring those back."

There will also be sweets in the ala carte line such as apple dumpings and various cake pops that will still meet the requirements.

Zelker added that more information will be forthcoming as Nutrition, Inc. learns more about the changes, including what will be offered for snacks and on the ala carte line.

"We will wait and see what corporate decides," Zelker said. "But many changes are in line for next school year."

PENNCREST budget situation may be improving

By **Austin Brown**
NEWS EDITOR

On May 17 at 6 p.m. a public budget meeting was held in Saegertown High School's auditorium.

During the meeting, the district's business manager Bryan Hobson discussed the proposed changes between the second and third drafts of the 2017-2018 general fund budget.

It was announced that the district is facing a \$710,945 deficit even with a tax increase of 1.79 mills in Crawford County and .57 mills in Venango County.

Currently, PENNCREST's median property assessment value lies at \$25,000. This means that on average, an increase of 1.79 mills would equate to an increase of \$44 per citizen. The tax increase would net the district around \$460,000.

At this point, it seems as though a tax increase is one of the few tools left in the district's tool box.

"No help is coming from the state. Yes, it would help, but instead of just pointing at the problems, we need to be proactive. If all we have is a tax increase, we use the tax increase. If all you have is a hammer, you use the hammer," said PENNCREST school board candidate Mr. Jeff Brooks.

The capital reserve funds, money for any unexpected variables that may occur during the year, will have approximately \$1.4 million in it after a capital reserve transfer of \$400,000 was made.

In the 2012-13 budget, PENNCREST's capital reserve was at \$4.6 million. Yet, over the last few years the board has been forced to take from the capital reserves to balance the budgets.

This has ultimately resulted in the \$1.4 million that the district currently has in reserve.

Adding to the already strained financial situation, the federal budget proposes reductions of Title 1A revenue. The district has budgeted a \$150,000 decrease in 1A revenue.

Title 1A revenue is mainly used for elementary teachers who help struggling students with reading.

Ultimately, one of the biggest expenses for the district is cyber schooling. Currently \$1.6 million is budgeted for cyber schooling.

This projection is just below a 4 percent increase from last year's budget and indicates a decrease in attendance at PENNCREST schools.

Hobson has made a five year budget projection which suggests that in the school year 2019-2020 PENNCREST will have a balanced budget.

Yet, this is not set in stone. "Many variables go into budget projection there are a lot of it is estimates and hoping for many things to work out," Hobson said during a follow-up interview.

An additional budget meeting for the board was held on June 1 at the PENNCREST Central Office. Superintendent Michael Healey shared that the deficit has been reduced to approximately a half-million dollars.

According to The Meadville Tribune, Mr. Healey noted that the situation is looking better. "We're not out of the woods," Mr. Healey said. "But we're walking out of the woods instead of walking into the woods."

If you have any additional suggestions for the budget, you can e-mail Mr. Healey at budget@penncrest.org

Saegertown says farewell to Mrs. Lori Perry

By **Hillary Twiford**
STAFF WRITER

Mrs. Lori Perry has been a hard-working member of the Saegertown staff since 2006.

For ten years, she has worked tirelessly in the MDS room, influencing and changing many students' lives. She has worked for several schools in the past thirty-two years, but she shared that Saegertown High School has been the best experience for her.

"I have taken away good experiences working with many types of people. The job has changed quite a bit in recent years. I work now with more staff members and agencies. I have taken a new perspective on working with them," Mrs. Perry said.

Mrs. Perry is most grateful for the supportive SHS staff. "I have felt welcomed here since I walked

through the door. The faculty is very passionate and accepting of my students," she said.

She also noted that Mrs. Heather Papinchak and Mrs. Susan James always have projects for her students, and the adaptive gym classes have added a lot to her curriculum. "I have had lots of wonderful student volunteers throughout the years as well," she said.

Mrs. Perry believes her biggest accomplishment is the many students who have graduated under her teaching. "It's rewarding to see them settled in their lives after high school. Sometimes that's not an easy journey for them," she said.

With her newfound free time, Mrs. Perry plans on smiling a lot as well as volunteering her time at the Erie Zoo as a docent.

She also wants to share advice with her fellow staff members. "Be-

lieve in yourself and all the good work you do. Don't let the paper work get in the way. You have a great influence on the lives of your students whether you can see it or not," she said.

"And of course, I have to acknowledge my staff. They are unbelievable. Words cannot express my gratitude towards them. My job is the easy job. They have the hard work. No one understands what they do all day long. They deserve all the credit I can give them for improving the lives of students and making my job and life better. My room cannot exist without them."



Mrs. Lori Perry

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Sports

Volleyball season ends with loss to Cards in D10 semifinal

Lady Panthers head home after D10 Loss

By **Braeden Kantz**
STAFF WRITER

On May 27, the Lady Panthers softball team ended their season with a loss against Lakeview at the D10 championships. The semi finals were held at Penn State Behrend and lasted for nine innings, as opposed to the usual seven. They fell to the Sailors 4-3 in a game that went into extra innings.

The ladies went into the tournament with a regular season record of 10-3 and sparked their playoff run with a win against Iroquois.

Three seniors will be leaving the team this year: captain Anna Swartout, catcher Brittany Sample and outfielder Brenna Digiacomo.

"I'm disappointed that we did not advance because I knew my team was capable of doing so much further in the tournament. It's bitter-sweet leaving the girls that I've come to know and love," said Swartout.

However, prospects look bright for next year with impressive underclassmen such as lead hitter, short-stop Charlie Schlosser.

Schlosser plans to lead the team to another playoff bracket in the 2018 season. "We had a few bumps in the road, but now we're playing to our potential," Schlosser said.

By **Cami Reynolds**
STAFF WRITER

The Panthers competed in the 2016-2017 D10 Championship at Meadville Area Senior High School.

Playoffs began Tuesday, May 23 with Cochranton, Fort LeBoeuf, Cambridge, Saegertown, Meadville, Maplewood, CASH, and Farrell in the mix.

The Saegertown Panthers defeated the Meadville Bulldogs in the quarterfinals on Tuesday, May 23 and advanced to the semifinals where they lost to Cochranton after a tough match on Thursday, May 25, ending their season.

The Panthers have competed in the district finals every year except 2014, winning District 10 six times in the last 10 years.

"It was a good season and a competitive year. Their hard work gave them a chance to win D10," said assistant coach Tim Houck.

Saegertown finished fourth in the



EMILY FORD/SHS

The volleyball team ended their season with a loss to Cochranton on May 25.

region with a total record of 10-3 for the season.

"The season was good. We played as a team and brought our best every game. The team improved every night at practice and it showed on the court," senior Kalib Kiser said.

Saegertown finished fourth in the

Huntin' n' Fishin' n' lovin' every day

By **Bailey Kozalla**
SPORTS EDITOR

The turkey season has ended, fishing is in full-swing, and summer is quickly approaching. During the off season, there are plenty of activities to do and ways to prepare for the upcoming seasons.

Perhaps a favorite during the summer months, woodchuck hunting is the perfect opportunity to sharpen your hunting habits.

Instead of using your .22 rifle, try using the rifle you use for deer hunting; it allows you to hone in on your gun's accuracy so you will be prepared when your crosshairs are on a deer when the season opens.

Woodchuck hunting is not only fun, but it is a good management practice as well. These whistle-pigs are destructive to foundations of buildings and can also harm farming

practices. Coyote hunting is another important management practice all year round. They are hunted by using dogs or using calls at night to lure them in.

Your hunting land could benefit largely by harvesting these predators by saving hundreds of turkey, deer, and other small game you plan to hunt.

Locally, summer fishing brings a lot of success to anglers fishing Woodcock. Walleye season opened May 6, and bass, which opens June 17, are always a good option for tight lines.

At dusk, the Woodcock spillway as well as the lake is a good place to cast with a shad rap, husky jerk, or plow jockey to catch these game fish.

At the Pymatuning spillway, anglers love to reel in carp. This type of

fishing is very easy; just a couple of corn kernels on a number four hook, with some weight added to the line, and cast away.

Make sure your line is strong enough; twelve to fifteen pound test should be the minimum, and some anglers tend to add a braided leader near the hook to add strength.

Many die-hard deer hunters like to get their scouting time in during the summer as the bucks are forming their groups.

It is a great time to go spotting near your hunting area to understand what type of bucks are in your area, which ones are dominant, and which ones will stay during October and November, and through gun season.

There are endless ways to participate in the great outdoors during the summer, despite the lack of big game opportunities.

Baseball swinging for the fences in playoffs

By **Grant Phelan and Cutter'b Pritchard**

STAFF WRITER AND SPORTS EDITOR

The school year is winding down. But don't tell that to the baseball team who is heating up with a run in the state playoffs.

After clinching the Region 3 title over Cochranton earlier in the year, the Panthers earned a first round bye into the District 10 quarterfinals.

They faced a strong West Middlesex squad but quickly fell to a 5-1 deficit.

But, they held on to win a thrilling comeback in eight innings with a score of 6-5, sparked by a triple from pitcher Dane Rhoades in the sixth.

"It was a once in a lifetime game, and we knew that we were in a win or go home situation. That wasn't going to happen," senior left fielder Tony Offi said.

With a 4-2 win against Lakeview in the semifinals, the boys faced the defending District 10 champs, the Rocky Grove Orioles.

After a fast start, the Panthers suffered a 12-0 loss in five innings. Offi, who had an ankle injury halfway through the season, was able to take the mound in the final innings of the championship game.

However, since two seeds are taken out of District 10 to the state tournament, the team earned at least one more game in their playoff berth.



EMILY FORD/SHS

Senior Dane Rhoades stares down the pitcher at a recent game.

"It's crazy, after losing a few games early in the season, no one expected us to be here," senior catcher Nick Palmer said.

To prepare for their state playoff game, the Panthers scrimmaged Fairview on June 1.

The boys play California at Greater Latrobe High School in Latrobe, Pa starting at 3:30 p.m. today.

Senior Dane Rhoades is on deck to start at the mound for the game.

"Heart is what got us to where we are now. We can count on each other to give a full effort all of the time," senior first baseman Alan McGill said.

The Panther Press Staff Volume 11: 2016-2017

Sydney Kightlinger, Editor in Chief; Austin Brown, News Editor; Rachel Barner, News Editor; Kaitlyn Walsh, Features Editor; Scout Van Cise, Opinion Editor; Cutter'b Pritchard, Sports Editor; Bailey Kozalla, Sports Editor; Nick Bradley, Web Site Editor; Stefanie Arblaster, Web Site Editor; Payton Brooks, Social Media Editor; Elizabeth Hasko, Marketing Director; Ben Haylett, Director of Broadcasting; Emily Ford, Photo Editor; Hunter Trzeciak, Arts and Entertainment Editor; Kaity Gage, Special Media Projects Editor.
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Adviser: Stacey Hetrick

Senior Panther Press staff members' final tweets

<p>Rachel Barner @RachelBarner21</p> <p>Don't be afraid to come out of your shell— great things will happen when you step outside your comfort zone, and it's going to be amazing.</p>	<p>Sydney Kightlinger @Sydney_LeighK</p> <p>If you are lucky enough to fall down the rabbit hole, throw your arms up and enjoy the adventure. 🐰</p>	<p>JT Sloan @silk_intentions</p> <p>No one has probably helped me more with my narcissism than my dog.</p>	<p>Nick Bradley @nick_rbradley</p> <p>Trust the process, don't give up on the dreams and goals you set achieve them. 🙌🙌🙌</p>
<p>Tyler BROOKS @BirdmanBrooks</p> <p>Learn from the lizards my children</p> <p>6/1/17, 12:12 PM</p>	<p>Cutter'b Pritchard @CutterbPritchar</p> <p>"Go confident in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined." - Thoreau 🌲</p>	<p>grantstoph @grant_phelan</p> <p>Don't compare yourself to other people. Compare yourself to who you were yesterday. #SeniorTweet</p>	<p>Gogurt tube @kawalsh66</p> <p>@elonmusk is the science master, and please take a shower, everyone will be appreciative 😊</p>
<p>Ben Haylett @ben_bhaylett</p> <p>Friendship isn't about being inseperable, but being seperated and knowing nothing will change.</p>	<p>Jeed @untrustwOrthy</p> <p>What feels like the end is often the beginning.</p>	<p>Emily Maranne @EmilyFord20</p> <p>"Don't go chasing waterfalls" -TLC</p>	<p>Austin Brown @someshepherd</p> <p>Work until your idols are your equals, and prove them all they were wrong.</p>

Senior Prophecies: Oh, the places you'll go!

By Cutter'b Pritchard
SPORTS EDITOR

Sam Micheals

Sam Michaels will be attending Edinboro for his prerequisites to become an Occupational Therapist Assistant. But afterwards, his adventures will consist of wearing underwear on the outside of his pants.

Thus, Tater Tot Baby will be born. With his crispy outside and soft center, the golden brown lusciousness will imprison any vegetable in his path.

Their presence alone makes him swell up more than his fake muscle

suit does. Similar to when Spongebob blows air into his muscle arms. Every night after he comes home from a night out on the town, he skips home and makes sure to get a goodnight hug from his mother.

Breanna Ferguson

Fergie will be attending Westminster College to study neuroscience. She will be remembered at Saegertown High School for her skinny jeans, edgy haircuts, and athleticism. But she can crosswire her patient's brains to remember her as anything she pleases.

Walking into the hospital, they are innocent to her mischief. But once the anesthesia sets in, an everlasting dream land full of screaming birds, four-legged babies, and two-eyed cyclops' will appears before their eyes.

Freddy Krueger has nothing on Breanna Ferguson's evil dream land.



Micheals

Sydney Kightlinger

Sydney Kightlinger, the smooth criminal herself, will be graduating from Washington Jefferson College with an English degree after she packs her 532-book library.

Post-graduation, she plans on running a propaganda machine out of



Ferguson

the Pink Peace, a mini school bus she found on the water's edge near Presque Isle.

Sydney's face will soon be plastered all over the world and we will bow down to "Her Holiness," not because of her divinity, but because of the true and utter knowledge she will force into our ear holes.

All hail Syd the Super Mom.



Kightlinger

Top five songs from 1998-1999

By Stefanie Arblaster
WEBSITE EDITOR

Music connects us all. It helps us communicate our feelings and thoughts in ways that words alone could not describe.

This year's seniors may have different musical tastes, but they all have one thing in common; the top five songs from the years they were born.

As the year winds down and the seniors get ready to graduate, we reminisce on the music at the top of the charts from the years 1998-1999.

1998

1. "Candle in the Wind"
-Elton John
2. "Been Around the World"
-Puff Daddy & The Family
3. "How Do I Live?"
-LeAnn Rimes
4. "Together Again"
-Janet Jackson
5. "My Body"
-LSG

1999

1. "I'm Your Angel"
-R. Kelly
2. "Nobody's Supposed To Be Here"
-Deborah Cox
3. "Lately"
-Divine
4. "Baby Hit Me One More"
-Britney Spears
5. "Because Of You"
-98 Degrees

Hold the applause: Movies to watch before graduation

By Ben Haylett
BROADCAST DIRECTOR

Most people that I know would rather watch a movie than read a book. Why is that? Why is it that scenes from books are more emotionally impactful on the screen than on the page?

It's because film is a universal language that speaks to everyone, no matter who you are. Movies touch our hearts in a way that is matched by nothing.

With this in mind, the Class of 2017's time here at Saegertown is coming to a close, and with this tectonic shift coming faster than most of us realize, there are a couple movies that connect with this audience of seniors that I'd like to highlight.

I'm going to start off with one of my favorite movies of all time, "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

This one's a must watch for anyone suffering from senioritis. While I'm certainly not suggesting that everyone skip school, it's important to take a step away from all that we "need" to get done in this stressful time and just take some time to be together with the people with whom we've spent the past 12 years or more.

Continuing with different John Hughes movies is "The Breakfast Club." Even though we may not connect with everyone at first, or even after a while, there are some-

things that make us all the same.

This lesson of kindness and understanding is a powerful message for us seniors to take with us wherever we're going next.

Adam Sandler's "Billy Madison" is a great movie to just turn on and have a good time if you are feeling nostalgic about any point in your school career.

It's good to look back on where we've come from. Between kindergarten and senior year, everyone has had ups and downs, and it's these triumphs and struggles that have made us the people we are today.

Another look back on the high school that paints a different light on the entire situation definitely has to be "Mean Girls."

This Lorne Michaels produced comedy almost perfectly showcases and satirizes the intense social politics that occur in the halls everyday. Whether or not you take part in the

drama of high school, it's there and unavoidable, and "Mean Girls" exemplifies the pitfalls of becoming too obsessed with it.

If at any point a you've made a connection with a teacher and want to recapture what it feels like to be taught by someone who you think truly understands your situation, "Dead Poets Society" with Robin Williams fits the bill perfectly.

Williams's Mr. Keating turns around an entire group of boys' thoughts on not only poetry, but life as a whole. Carpe diem.

At the urging of our current Student Council president, Austin Brown, I have been encouraged to add the Val Kilmer classic "Tombstone" to this list.

While I'm not exactly sure what it has to do with graduating, there is one great lesson to take away from "Tombstone," and that is we all need a huckleberry.

Austin was our huckleberry for an entire year and he loved doing it. In college, we all can only hope to find a huckleberry as awesome as he has been. Thank you, Clutch!

And finally, this list comes to a close with "Toy Story 3." Andy going off to college isn't the only reason this has a lasting impact with me.

The main impact this has had is the simple fact that even though we grow up and must move away and start our new lives, home is still right where we left it and it's okay to reminisce and relive our childhoods if we want to do so.

With these movies under our belts, it is my honest belief that as a class, this year's seniors will be better prepared for the next phase of our lives that we're entering.

I wish the best luck to all my fellow classmates! Have a great summer and an even better future!



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Letter from the Editor: Good night, and Good luck

By Sydney Kightlinger
EDITOR IN CHIEF

So, I have spent the last four years interviewing, writing, thinking, editing, coming in early, staying late, skipping classes to make sure twelve pages of people's stories will make it to the presses and into your hands. I was going to write a large, arduous article about how I've grown as a writer, as a thinker, as a leader, and as a doer, but that doesn't seem right.

Yes, I have done all of those things, but banter is not what journalism is about. It is about telling the stories in as few words as possible—clearly, concisely, and objectively. It only makes sense to say goodbye that way.

On Friday, June 9, 2017 at 7 p.m. Sydney Kightlinger will walk across the Saegertown Jr. Sr. High School

Auditorium to receive her diploma. She will attend Washington and Jefferson College in the fall. Throughout her high school career, she served on the staff of "The Panther Press" as the assistant opinion editor, design editor, and editor in chief.

She started working on the paper unofficially the spring of her freshman year. "I am a wanderer. My curiosity takes me into random places," said Kightlinger. "I knew I wanted to work on the paper the first time I was handed a red pen and told to find errors in the prints."

Since then Sydney has reported

on many stories including an incident involving a deer breaking into the school through the cafeteria windows during her junior year. "It was such an odd story. I walked into the newsroom the Monday after it happened, and the next day my story was on the front page of 'The Meadville Tribune,'" Kightlinger said.

This past awards season, The Panther Press took home four Pennsylvania Newspaper Association Student Keystone Awards. "I couldn't have been more proud of our staff. We are a team. We clocked in the

first day of school and never clocked out," said Kightlinger. "I might be the editor, but they are researchers and storytellers. I hope they know how proud and honored I am to be their editor this year."

While Kightlinger pursues an English degree, she plans to work on Washington and Jefferson's student newspaper "Red & Black."

"I've learned a lot through his opportunity. But, most importantly, I learned 'deeds not words' (Emmeline Pankhurst)."

Adviser's note: No-one has been more tirelessly devoted to The Panther Press and the Saegertown Community than Sydney Kightlinger. We wish her all the best and want to make sure she knows how much her hard, hard work and sunny disposition have meant. We see you, Sydney. You will not be forgotten. You have left things better than you found them. Adviser out.

“Deeds
not
words.”



Friday, June 9 at
Common Grounds
starts at 7:30 p.m.

Bring Your Own Nerf Blaster Gun
and Darts

