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# DEL AWARE

Delaware Valley High School - Milford, Pa.

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## Students show off creative costume ideas to participate in Spirit Week

By EMMA SIMMONS  
Sports Co-Editor

Students dressed up to participate in spirit week from May 27-29 to win an extra point in Spirit Games today. The themes decided by the Student Council were Surfers vs. Bikers, Rhyme without Reason, Senior Citizen Day and Class Color War.



Emma Simmons/Del.Aware  
**For Surfers vs. Bikers,** students dressed up either in summery clothes or dark biker-inspired outfits.



**For Rhyme without Reason,** students matched with friends in silly rhymes such as "Traffic Cone and Indiana Jones" or "John Cena and Ballerina."



Emma Simmons/Del.Aware  
**For Senior Citizen Day,** students brought in walkers and temporarily dyed their hair gray to playfully dress up as senior citizens.

## Odyssey of the Mind teams showcase talents at World Finals

By EMMA SIMMONS  
Sports Co-Editor

The Structure and Technical Odyssey of the Mind teams traveled to Michigan State University to compete in the World Finals from May 20 to 25, earning placements of fourth and 12th respectively.

The Structure team's problem involved creating a performance about an animal rescue character who needed to locate homes for animals. One of the homes, created from balsa wood and glue, was safety tested by balancing and supporting the maximum weight possible. DV's structure held 990 pounds, allowing them to place fourth out of 38 teams.

Junior Connor Giblin noted that even though he was proud of his team, it was difficult to rebuild team chemistry and learn new skills after losing graduating members.

"While I wish we could have taken first, walking away with fourth in the World Finals in a rebuilding [of the team] year makes me super excited for next year," Giblin said.

The Technical team's problem involved creating a robotic animal that had the ability to cheer people up by doing tricks. They were also required to include live music and a trainer who explained the tricks. Their performance allowed them to place 12th out of 18 teams.

Junior Jocelyn Alveari was satisfied with her team's performance at such a high level of competition.

"I think we did a solid job performing, and I'm really proud of all my teammates this season," Alveari said.

The technical team, coached by Mrs. Victoria LaTourette, consists of senior Gryphon Fernald, juniors Ella Dong and Alveari and sophomores Nova

Weyant and Decklan Handley. The structure team, coached by Ms. Terry Balton, consists of juniors Angelica Barcia, Grant Nielsen and Giblin, as well as freshmen Beau Tannenbaum, Brooke Nielsen, Clare Barcia and Patrick Fleming.

Odyssey of the Mind district coordinator Mrs. Lauren Lockwood was impressed with the dedication and drive that each student displayed leading up to Worlds.

"I think both teams are very well rounded because they have great teamwork, are very creative, and have excellent problem solving skills," Mrs. Lockwood said. "Both teams have members who shine in their own way and bring specific skills to the mix."

# School News

## Sources of Strength aims to unite school community

By KIM SMYSER  
Opinions Co-Editor

Sources of Strength is a peer-driven awareness group that promotes mental health and positivity within the school.

The club reinforces this idea and the importance of having tools and staff at students' disposal.

They aim to remove the stigma that is associated with mental health issues and raise awareness.

"If you see someone struggling, tell someone," guidance counselor Mrs. Molly Blaut said. "We are here as a school community to help each other get through and rise above adversity."

The benefit of this program is that it acts as an opportunity for students to get to know the high school staff, open up and become more secure in themselves and their mental health.

Sources of Strength had aired another promotional video on May 27, in hopes of recruiting more people and spreading awareness of the club.

They plan to stick post-it notes with inspirational messages on walls and mirrors of bathrooms, and spread their program to middle schoolers, in hopes of making them more successful and involved in the program in their high school years.

For junior Julie Hopper, Sources of Strength is an outlet for her to let people know it is okay to have a bad day.

"You don't have to share everything with everybody," Hopper said. "If you want to share a little bit here and there and not talk about your mental health, that's fine too."

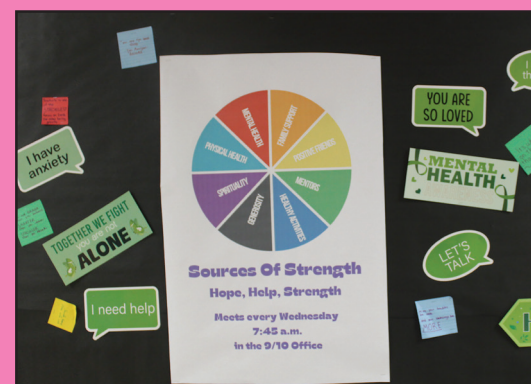
Anyone interested is more than welcome to join

*"If you see someone struggling, tell someone. We are here as a school community to help each other get through and rise above adversity."*

- Mrs. Molly Blaut

and participate in this program.

There is a Schoology code that students can access through the videos promoting Sources of Strength and students can ask Mrs. Blaut, Ms. Amy Letwinsky or Dr. Diana Bixby for additional questions.



Kim Smyser/Del.Aware

**The Sources of Strength program promotes mental health and positivity within the school community.**

## Career Day speakers educate sophomores

By KAITLIN GELARDI  
School News Co-Editor

To help students explore career paths, the school held a Career Day when 29 experts from different fields explained their professions. This event was only for sophomores and took place on May 16.

Guidance counselor Mr. Matt Adelfio, organizer of the event, explained the importance of the day.

"It's an opportunity to learn about careers and what steps sophomores need to take," Mr. Adelfio said.

Through learning from experts, students can grasp the extensive work that careers require.

"Hearing it from professionals means a little bit more," Mr. Adelfio said. "It helps people [sophomores] determine if they want to get into particular fields."

Mr. Adelfio plans to organize future career days and is open to suggestions.



Reilly Newton/Del.Aware

**Ryan Balton points to pictures he has taken while on set.**



Reilly Newton/Del.Aware

**The guest speaker answers a student's question about his career.**

## SAAC holds fifth semiannual powder puff game

By AVA KRASZEWSKI  
Community News Co-Editor

The Student Athlete Advisory Committee organized their fifth powder puff game on May 27. The seniors kept their three game winning streak alive by defeating the juniors 20-14. The seniors led 6-0 at halftime. In the third and fourth quarters, the juniors made a comeback when they scored two touchdowns, but they fell short from tying the seniors by just one touchdown.

Senior Keira Lazzaro, who scored a touchdown and had multiple catches, was named Most Valuable Player.

Mrs. Krystine Thompson, SAAC's adviser, says that seeing the student involvement is her favorite part about the event.

"My favorite part is seeing how intense the boy coaches get into the game, and the girls too," Mrs. Thompson said. "It becomes really

competitive and the kids who play are really invested in the game."

She hopes in the next coming year, more people will watch the games and support the players.

"We need people to come to the game and support it. We need people to volunteer. We want to make it a really big thing every year," Mrs. Thompson said.



Michael Elaro/Del.Aware

**Senior Keira Lazzaro was chased down by junior Frannie Russo.**



# School News

## Owen Carso exhibits excellence, named as Times Tribune Scholastic Superstar

By KAYLA SYKES  
Sports Editor

Owen Carso, author, athlete and musician, was named a Times Tribune Scholastic Superstar and recognized on May 6 at a ceremony at Lackawanna College. The event is held to recognize and celebrate the achievements of outstanding graduating high school seniors in the surrounding area. Carso was one of the 25 students selected in the NEPA area.

When he first found out he was selected, he was "absolutely delighted" and honored especially due to the difference in recognition in and out of high school.

"Once you get out of high school, the awards are less common; this lets me soak up the experience before graduating," Carso said.

He believes his effort to be well-rounded led him to his selection.

"I think I excel on the clarinet, by making it to

All-State band, but also in my writing and creativity which manifests not only in my books, but also our performance of 'A Deal with Death'," Carso said.

Along with his talents, Carso also tries to stay very involved in the school as a whole. He does so as president of National Honor Society, Mock Trial co-president, Scholastic Bowl member, Warrior Empowerment mentor, co-captain of the varsity tennis team and a member of Drama Club.

This recognition has led to personal reflection as Carso finds pride in his desire to be intellectually curious.

"Participating in a wide variety of activities and being open to new experiences is a reflection of that and this award has recognized me for that quality," he said.

He also credits his parents for instilling a love for learning and a strive for success in him.

As this award comes with a message about giving back to your community—Owen discussed a mini

service project where he and two other students visited DVES to talk to fifth graders about the importance of creativity and having a positive influence on others.

"My hope is that I've inspired people along the way," Carso said.

While Carso has been awarded for his achievements, he will admit he has also faced difficulty along the way trying to balance his lifestyle.

"The challenge is having balance in your lives, even as you maintain your grades and all your activities. It can be hard to find the will to take challenging classes and challenge myself generally speaking," he said.

But through all of the ups and downs, Carso is proud of his commitment and driven mindset which led him to find success in his activities. After graduating, Carso will take his talents to Williams College to major in English and possibly double major in history.

## Inquiring Photographer

"WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED TO DO THIS SUMMER?"

COMPILED BY KIM SMYSER



*"Going to church events"*  
**Gabe Peruso**  
Class of 2025



*"Carving some liquid asphalt while jet skiing"*  
**Anthony Paradiso**  
Class of 2026



*"Boogie boarding at the beach"*  
**Riley Hunt**  
Class of 2026



*"Tanning and hanging out with friends"*  
**Gisella Salazar and Alyssa Donatone**  
Class of 2028



*"Mowing Mrs. Marcial's lawn"*  
**Juliet Fitzpatrick**  
Class of 2025



*"Going to the shore with my family"*  
**Senor Gary Cotroneo**  
Staff

Compiled by Emma Ciano

*Mini-Thon*  
**THE WARRIORS  
HAVE RAISED...**

*Seniors: \$710.78*  
*Juniors: \$1,520*  
*Sophomores: \$2,071*  
*Freshmen: \$1,065*  
*Total: \$5,372.78*

INITIAL GOAL: \$2,000

**FOR THE KIDS!**

# Opinion

## OUR OPINION The transfer portal is ruining college sports

The NCAA officially launched the transfer portal for all NCAA athletics on Oct. 15, 2018. Ever since then, it has been abused, and the abuse will continue to grow. In the 2023-2024 year, over 31,000 college athletes entered the transfer portal with only about 11,000 successfully transferring.

It's clear that the NCAA needs to fix the problem with the transfer portal or college sports will be destroyed.

In 2022, the coach of the Jackson State Tigers football team, Deion Sanders, left Jackson State for a coaching job with the Colorado Buffaloes football team. Once he left, 11 players, including Shedeur Sanders and Travis Hunter, followed Deion to Colorado with another 40 players who also entered

the transfer portal but didn't go to Colorado. That is over half of the entire roster that entered the transfer portal. This shows how the ease of transferring can create unstable rosters for a team of any sport. Constant rebuilding will ruin a team.

The transfer portal also negatively impacts the idea of team chemistry. The constant moving of these college athletes destroys the dynamics of a team. This makes it harder to build trust, forge lifelong relationships with your teammates and promote a feeling of connection with your team. Above all, bad team chemistry can lead to decreased performance, and it can stop a player from reaching their full potential. These problems could negatively impact a college athlete's chances to play at a professional level.

The transfer portal, along with the rise of NIL deals, can also take a college athlete's focus off of the game that they love and their academics. These two "benefits" can take a player's mind off of the sport and their education and instead prioritize their financial compensation and their career advancement.

Putting money and fame above loyalty to the sport and education leads to the damage of the spirit in college sports. Besides, above sports, you are there to get an education first. You're not just there to play your sport. You are mainly there to get an education so that you can build a better life for yourself in the future. Education should be the first reason why you would even pick a college.

## What happened to individuality?

By GIA SCIMECA  
Arts & Lit Editor

Imagine yourself scrolling through TikTok or Instagram. How many people appear to be the same? Small nose, trendy clothes, hourglass figure, etc. Probably a lot, right?

With the rise of social media, it seems as if people have forgotten the phrase "be yourself." It does not help that people who do decide to be themselves are made fun of on the Internet for not acting "normal."

Many are rushing to buy the new biggest trend of the week, purchasing clothes to look like their favorite creator that will not even last into next year. It even goes as far as getting work done on their face and body to match the beauty

standard.

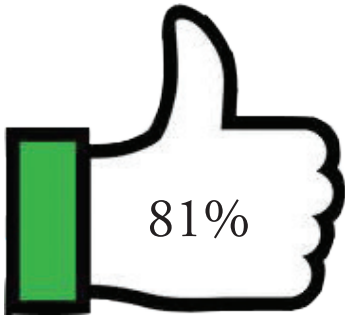
Beauty standards have especially taken a toll on individuality as many content creators post on the type of plastic surgeries or procedures they have been doing, almost as if it is a trend to change the way that you look.

What does not help is that since there are so many young people on social media, they see creators promoting looks and products. It further teaches them that to fit in, they need to be like everyone else.

These beauty standards influence people to conform to a specific "look" and further lose the uniqueness of humanity.

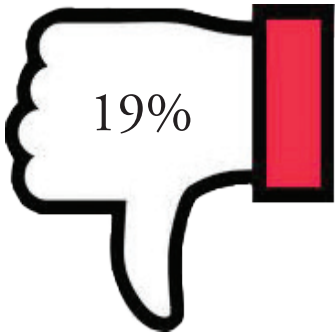
Our individuality should be cherished and not ridiculed.

## Do grades accurately reflect a student's understanding?



"It all depends on the teacher and course, but in most cases grades reflect effort."

"Teachers use a wide variety of assessments, projects and classwork."



"Some students are more successful through certain methods than others, thus creating a discrepancy in knowledge and understanding."

"Most assessments administered are not valid."

\*A questionnaire was given to 100 randomly selected students.

Compiled by Kristen Langelotti

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### Letter Guidelines

The Del.Aware is an administrative reviewed publication of the journalism class of Delaware Valley High School. The Del.Aware will print acceptable letters written by current students which may be edited or condensed for reasons of libel, good taste, grammar and punctuation.

**Mail:** Letters to the Opinions Editor, Del. Aware, 252 Route 6 & 209, Milford, PA 18337

**Email:** del.awarenewspaper21@gmail.com





# HALL OF FAME

**Most Outgoing**



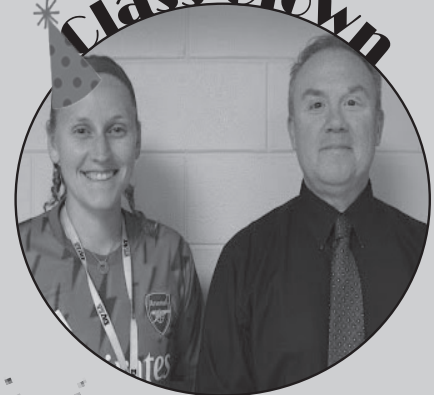
Mr. Tyler Barnett &  
Mrs. Laurie Oszczepinski

**Best Couple**



Mr. Jeff &  
Mrs. Raycharlyn Krasulski

**Class Clown**



Ms. Mikaela Smith &  
Mr. Thomas Bailer

**Best Dressed**



Ms. Alexandra Squatrito &  
Mr. Mike Sotak

**Most in with the Students**



Mr. Andrew Rupp &  
Mrs. Krystine Thompson

**Most Athletic**



Mr. Kris Holtzer &  
Ms. Mikaela Smith

**Most Spirited**



Mr. Daniel Gonzalez &  
Mrs. Jenn Marchetti

**Jack of all Trades**



Mr. Larry Marcial &  
Mrs. Danielle Giordano

**Best Hair**



Mr. Jeff Krasulski &  
Dr. Nicole Cosentino

# School News

## Environmental Club competes in state Envirothon competition

By OWEN CARSO  
Online Editor

The Environmental Club competed in the Pennsylvania Envirothon on May 21, placing 20th out of 64 teams.

To compete at the state level, DV had to first win the local Wayne/Pike Envirothon, which was held on April 15 at the Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center. DV sent two teams to the competition; the first team, consisting of senior Siasia Bean and juniors Jackson Hancock, Ella Dong, Andria Prime and Ruby Bailor, won first place, securing DV’s spot at the state competition. Their team won first place in the aquatics, forestry and wildlife categories, outcompeting 16 other schools.

DV’s second team—consisting of seniors Layden Talmadge, Ryan Cook, Brandon Albaugh, Kieran Smith and Gryphon Fernald—placed first in the current events category.

Between both teams, DV won four out of the five categories at the local level.

The state Envirothon was held May 21 at the Windber Recreation Park in Windber, Pennsylvania, outside Johnstown. DV’s team consisted of Hancock, Dong, Bean, Prime and Talmadge, who subbed in for Bailor because of a conflict with OM Worlds. DV competed against 64 teams and placed 20th overall. They ranked eighth in forestry and tied for 11th in the current events category.

“It was just a really good time. We had good team bonding, and though the questions were tough, we did our best,” Hancock said.

At the local and state competitions, the students take tests in each of the five categories, with an additional category for oral presentations at the state level. Each test consists of paper questions and hands-on elements. The hands-on components include: analyzing topographic maps, identifying wildlife specimens, identifying animal calls and determining

the height of a tree using forestry tools, among other tasks.

In the months leading up to the Envirothon, the Environmental Club runs a pollinator garden, studies the trails on campus and learns to identify flora and fauna.

AP Environmental Science teacher Ms. Bernadine Salak has advised the Environmental Club for three years, and she most enjoys encouraging students to be stewards of their community.

“I like teaching students about what’s going on in their backyard, and I enjoy doing sustainability projects on campus,” she said.



Contributed Photo  
**DV students examine soil layers at the state Envirothon.**

★

★

2025

GRADUATION SCHEDULE

Graduation will be held on Friday, June 6 at 7 p.m. at Warrior Stadium.

In the event that graduation is rained out, the graduation schedule will continue as follows.

10:00 a.m.	Saturday 6/7
7:00 p.m.	Saturday 6/7
3:00 p.m.	Sunday 6/8

All graduates must arrive one hour and 30 minutes before the ceremony time listed. Gates open an hour before time listed. Guests should plan to arrive when the gates open, they must have their tickets. If you have any questions please see Mr. Evan Bates in A17.

Compiled by Olivia Van Tassel

## Seniors travel to elementary schools, ‘pass the torch’ to inspire future Warriors

By LAUREN DONNELLY  
Lifestyle Co-Editor

With a new tradition starting, 125 senior students visited their elementary school alma mater on May 29. The students met with kindergarten classes to pass out bracelets and words of inspiration as they looked to leave a legacy on the future generation of Warriors.

Those who attended Delaware Valley and Shohola elementary schools traveled in a group to both campuses, and those who went to Dingman Delaware visited their primary school campus. The event was organized by the administration to bring together the students who are starting their career at DV and those ending their career.

Assistant to the superintendent Dr. Nicole Cosentino explained that

she saw the idea earlier in the year and thought it would be something special for both the seniors and kindergarten students.

“Since our kindergarteners idolize our seniors, we thought it would be a great opportunity for our seniors to visit with them and pass on the legacy they have,” Dr. Cosentino said.

As time remaining at DV winds down for seniors, this event allowed them to look back on where their journey started and reminisce on the memories they made.

“I think it’s a great time for seniors to reflect on their time at Delaware Valley and what made it so special and give some inspiration to the kiddos who are just starting this journey,” she said. “I think it’s going to be very special and inspiring.”





Seniors, as our high school careers are coming to an end and graduation nears, you might consider decorating your cap to represent your personality and future goals. If you are interested in decorating your graduation cap, use this page as a fun guide!



Check out this Pinterest board for some inspiration!

Compiled by Kayla Sykes

Looking to get creative with designing your grad cap? Here are some essential supplies to add your own personal touch.

- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil / markers
- Background paper
- Pictures (optional)
- Stickers (optional)
- School logo (optional)
- Glitter / rhinestones (optional)



Compiled by Lauren Donnelly

How to make your graduation cap more you  
Ideas to personalize your graduation cap and make it your own:

- Song lyrics
- Album covers
- Bible quotes
- College logos
- Inspirational quotes
- Collage of high school memories
- Baby pictures
- Rhinestones
- Movie/TV show references

Compiled by Etain Starr



# School News

## Memorial ride honors DV alum Damian Baranowski

By OLIVIA VAN TASSELL

School News Editor

The Baranowski family has organized an Inaugural Memorial Ride and a 5K walk/run through Milford to honor Damian Baranowski's memory and to raise awareness for pedestrian and road safety.

"His girlfriend and I started Downshifting Gears in Honor of Damian to bring awareness to cyclists and pedestrian road safety and keep his legacy alive," Damian's sister, Karolina Baranowski said.

This event will be held on June 29, exactly one year from the accident.

Last June, DV alumnus Damian Baranowski tragically lost his life while cycling in a traffic accident.

In high school, Damian was a member of the varsity swim and dive team. After graduating in 2020, he continued his academic and athletic career at the Division III level at New York University.

He graduated from NYU in May of 2024 with a bachelor's degree in economics. Damian lost his life

10 days after celebrating his 22nd birthday. He was cycling along the shoulder of a county road in New Jersey when he was struck from behind by a reckless driver.

The event will begin at Action Bikes and Outdoor, 611 Broad St, Milford. Cyclists will meet at 8 a.m. and will follow a 24-mile route that includes a portion of the route of Damian's last ride. Walkers and runners will meet at 9 a.m. and follow a 5K route through Milford.

Route specifics can be found by scanning the QR code.

Registration for the event is free and donations are welcome.

"We are hoping to start a non-profit in the next few months and continue having a scholarship with DVHS," Karolina said.

The non-profit will focus on making/supporting policy changes, improvements in road structure, educating individuals and holding future events.

"The end goal will be to prevent this from

occurring to someone else," Karolina said.

They are also looking for volunteers to help run the event and volunteer applications can also be submitted through the QR code.

You can also reach out to [downshiftinggearsfordamian@gmail.com](mailto:downshiftinggearsfordamian@gmail.com) with any questions about participating or volunteering.

To stay updated with the events and Damian's story, follow them on Instagram @downshifting\_gears.

"We ask that everyone wears their craziest and most fun socks!" Karolina said.



Scan this QR code to register for the 5K or cycling event.

## AP Spanish students participate in National Exam

By GIA SCIMECA

Arts & Lit Editor

The AP Spanish classes took the National Spanish Exam in April during 6th and 7th period on April 2nd.

From the AP Spanish students who took it, seniors Mike Acevedo and Smit Patel qualified for national honorable mention awards.

In total, there were 25 students who took the exam from DV.

"It was a good way to practice for the AP Spanish exam," senior

Jennifer Pasalau said. "It helped me feel more confident in my Spanish abilities."

They first started with the vocabulary and grammar section, then ended with reading and listening comprehension. The exam showcases students' ability in reading, listening,

grammar and vocabulary.

The exam is broken down into seven levels in total: from Level 1 to Level 6.

The way the National Spanish Exam is scored is on a percentile scale based on national figures. Students who rank above the 75th percentile are eligible to win gold, silver and bronze medals based on their performance. Students who score between the 50th and 74th

percentile win honorable mention awards.

"They should be proud of what they have

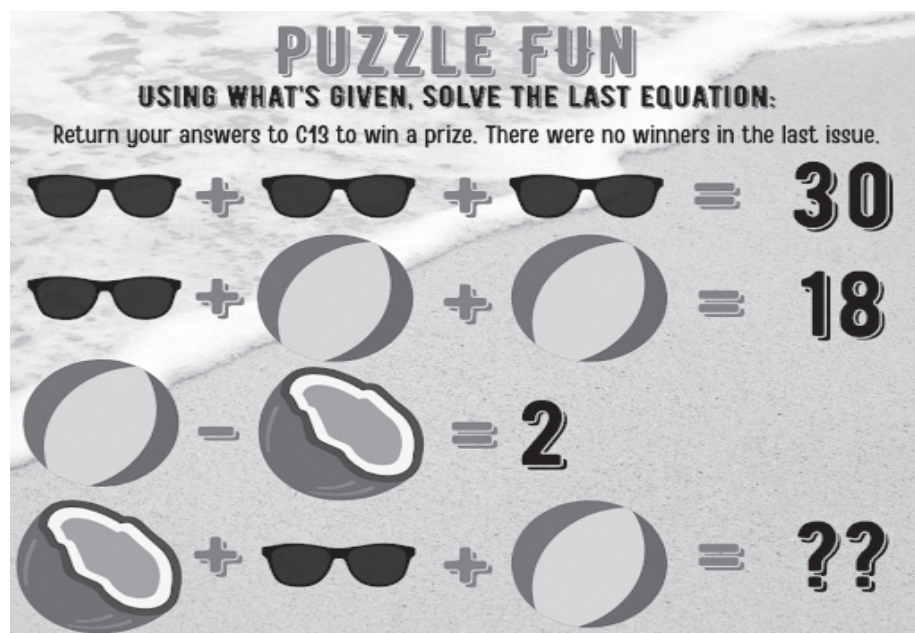
done because there are over 60,000 people taking it," Spanish teacher Señor Gary Cotroneo said. "It is a great accomplishment after taking five years of Spanish."

*"They should be proud of what they have done because there are over 60,000 people taking it."*

- Señor Gary Cotroneo

## PUZZLE FUN

Using what's given, solve the last equation. Return your answers to Mrs. Lordi in C13 to win a prize. There were no winners in the last issue.



Compiled by Kaitlin Gelardi



# Community News

## Restaurant on Lake Wallenpaupack is a must-try

By ELLA BECKER  
School News Co-Editor

The Dock on Wallenpaupack is a worthwhile restaurant to visit for both seafood lovers and picky eaters like myself. The Dock is located about 38 minutes from DV on Lake Wallenpaupack.

The view is absolutely gorgeous. The interior of the restaurant is visually appealing as everything is decorated with a coastal vibe.

Upon arriving with my date, we noticed the parking lot was packed. We were nervous we would have to wait as we did not make reservations, but to our surprise, they sat us in 10 minutes.

I ordered a rootbeer and my date ordered a lemonade. There was nothing special about either, but they were still good.

For appetizers, we ordered six

boneless habanero orange buffalo wings and six boneless sriracha honey. We both absolutely loved the sriracha honey because they weren't super spicy, but they did have a kick. The orange buffalo wings were also fantastic; just more spicy.

For our main courses, I ordered a chicken bacon ranch pizza, and he ordered grilled fish tacos. Let me tell you-- the pizza I ordered did not fall short of what I would expect from a well renowned pizzeria. Seriously, from the amount of bacon to the ranch, it was perfect.

My date however was not entirely satisfied with his tacos. The tacos just consisted of a piece of grilled fish and some chopped tomatoes.

The bill came out to \$61.14. Overall, we were both satisfied with the service and the food, with the exception of his tacos.

## Beauty Bound: where confidence meets comfort

By EMMA CIANCIO  
Editor-in-Chief

Located in Milford, Beauty Bound isn't just a beauty studio, it's a sanctuary where confidence is made and every client is celebrated. Co-founders and lifelong friends, Dani Henrickson and Sabrina Westling, transformed a shared dream into a reality, creating a space that feels like home.

With over 12 years in the beauty industry, Henrickson drew inspiration from working alongside empowering female business owners.

"After years of learning from the best, I thought, 'Why not me?'" she reflected. "Sabrina and I built this together, and we couldn't be prouder."

The Beauty Bound space is designed to feel like a retreat: private treatment rooms, a neutral calm aesthetic and a "come as you are" atmosphere that welcomes everyone.

Located at 10 Buist Road, Suite 303,

Beauty Bound offers a range of services designed to enhance natural beauty and promote positive self-expression. Their offerings include lashes, waxing, skincare, traditional makeup and permanent makeup.

"The new studio is beautiful and has such a warm and inviting energy," client Michelle Haenschen said. "It's so inspiring to see what hustle, hope and determination can create. The owners and staff are deserving of wild success."

The studio's philosophy is rooted in inclusivity and comfort. Each treatment area is designed to provide privacy, ensuring that all clients feel at ease.

Launching Beauty Bound came with challenges. From finding the right space to securing licenses, the vision never wavered.

"This year is all about growth," Henrickson said. "We're excited to plant roots in the community and keep building something beautiful."

## Costa's Family Fun Park offers countless summer activities

By ELLA BECKER  
School News Co-Editor

As the warm summer weather approaches, finding fun activities to do can be difficult. Costa's Family Fun Park provides both indoor and outdoor activities to people of all ages.

Located in Hawley, Costa's has a playground, bumper-boats and a gem-mining activity that are all available for customers who have younger kids with them. However, if you and your friends are looking for something to do, there are many more activities to do all for an affordable price.

Costa's has a waterpark, a mini-golf course, a driving range, go-karts and laser tag available to use all summer long.

The season opens up on June 7, and the park is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday through Friday. The park is open until 9 p.m. on Saturdays. Water slides and bumper boats are open from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. everyday.

Customers can buy certain packages based on what activities they would like to do in the park. The most

popular wristband package is \$58 with unlimited water slides. This includes two go-kart rides, unlimited laser-tag, unlimited mini-golfing, a basket of balls for the driving range, unlimited bumper-boat rides and unlimited access to the playground for children. The playground is available for kids ages 11 and younger.

If you don't care for those activities, other packages and prices can be found on the Costa's website: [costasfamilyfunpark.com/activities](http://costasfamilyfunpark.com/activities).

The park also has a snack bar with a wide variety of fan favorite foods, like ice cream and a special funnel cake sundaes.

Costa's also hosts some events such as pancake breakfasts. Other events can be found online.

If you know a little one with a summer birthday, Costa's offers packages for kids to celebrate their special day at the park. Different packages and registration can also be found online.

Whether you just want to go with one friend, a big group of friends, your family or even just alone to play some golf, Costa's has something for everyone.

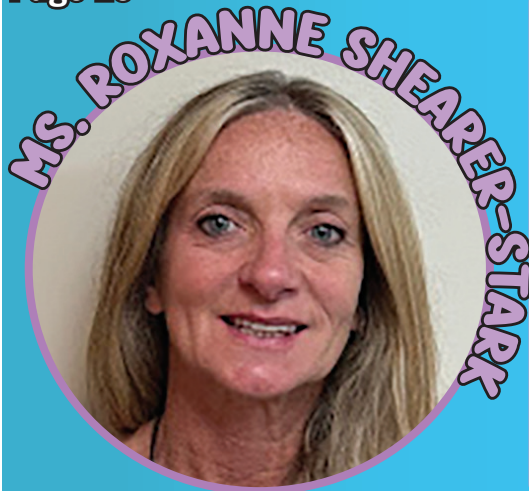


Contributed photo

**Costa's Family Fun Park is ready to open for the summer, offering golf, waterslides, laser tag and much more fun for families.**







Special education teacher Mrs. Roxanne Shearer-Stark is saying goodbye to DV after working in the district for 17 years.

During her time at DV, she worked as an autistic support instructional assistant, working in the special education classrooms teaching life skills.

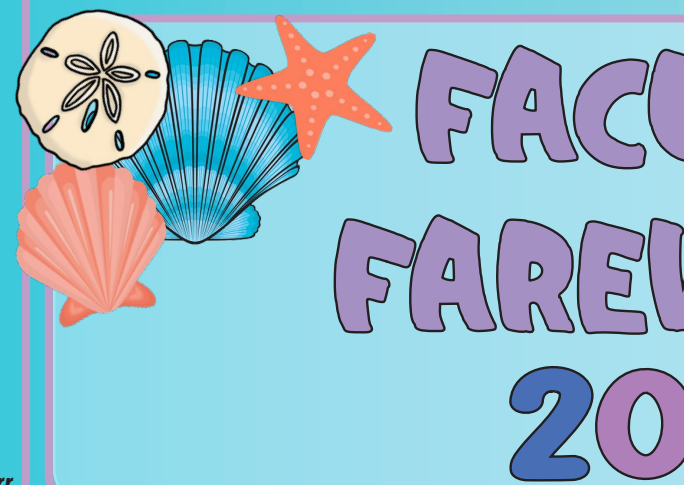
Mrs. Shearer-Stark's plans after leaving DV are to continue working with individuals with disabilities to set them up for their future.

"It is very important to me to know what happens to them after graduation because they are so well taken care of at DV, so I want to make sure they are still taken care of after leaving," she said.

Her favorite thing about teaching was having the kids shape her into a better person.

She would like to thank Delaware Valley for giving her the opportunity to build relationships with her students and being able to watch them grow.

*Compiled by Etain Starr*



## MR. ERNEST SANDONATO

As his 39 years of teaching come to a close, Mr. Ernie Sandonato will miss the relationships he forged the most.

"I have made a lot of connections with students and their families," Mr. Sandonato said.

During his time as an educator, he taught English 11, English 12, AP Literature and Composition and AP Seminar.

Although he has taught a wide range of English classes, teaching AP Literature and AP Seminar has been his favorite since he has taught them the longest throughout his career.

Mr. Sandonato is glad to have no agenda for his retirement since he is tired of plans, bells and rubrics. He is looking forward to controlling his own time.

Mr. Sandonato finds it humorous how different the school environment is now than when he first

started teaching. When he started, he found himself to be younger than most of the staff and now he is older than most of the administrators.

After he retires, he advises the school district to maintain academics as the focal point of high school.

"The district needs to make sure that they focus on academics and that academics are not overshadowed by extracurriculars," Mr. Sandonato said.



*Compiled by Kim Smyser*

## MRS. ALISON NEWMAN

From starting off as an instructional assistant to becoming a reading specialist, 23 years of working at Delaware Valley has come to an end for Mrs. Alison Newman.

During her time at DV, Mrs. Newman taught various reading classes ranging from PSSA Prep and concepts to Literacy One and Two.

Mrs. Newman has built a great rapport with her students.

"I love the moments when the light bulbs go off and they understand," Mrs. Newman said.

Being the adviser for the high school Reading Team has given her many opportunities throughout the past five years.

"I love having students who love to read as much as I do, and I have so much fun going to their competitions," Mrs. Newman said.

## MR. JEFFREY RAINEAR

Throughout his career at the high school, Mr. Jeffrey Raineart participated in both the sport and academic realms, showcasing his commitment to helping students reach their full potential.

After 26 years of working in the district, Mr. Raineart is retiring, and he plans to begin a new chapter of his life by getting married to his fiancée and moving to South Carolina.

Mr. Raineart initially began his career teaching in the English department at the seventh, eighth and ninth grade levels. Eventually, Mr. Raineart taught social studies classes, which ranged from freshman American History to Psychology.

Mr. Raineart's favorite aspects of teaching are engaging with students in the classroom and holding discussions. He will never forget the lasting impact his students have had on him.

"A lot of the teachers here now are kids that I've had as students," Mr. Raineart said. "We went from being teachers and students, to being colleagues, and even really good friends."

After he retires, Mr. Raineart will miss the friendships he formed throughout his career, but he is ultimately excited to embark on a new beginning.

"I truly appreciate the time I've been here," Mr. Raineart said. "It's been a great life experience, especially with the friendships I've made."



*Compiled by Kaitlin Gelardi*

## MRS. CHRISTINE MARCIAL

Mrs. Christine Marcial has taught a variety of math classes at DV for 27 years from the 6th grade level all the way up to 12th grade AP Calculus.

Some of those math classes include Algebra 2 and Trig, Algebra 1, Geometry, Calculus and a variety of other math classes.

When she leaves DV, her main goals are to travel more and continue learning.

"I've always focused on learning math, and I want to learn another foreign language or learn how to ski better, or learn how to garden... I definitely want to travel as well," Mrs. Marcial said.

She recalls that when she arrived, the school community was a smaller, more tightly knit and a more increasingly involved place.

"You felt more of a community involvement," Mrs. Marcial said.



# MULTY WELLS 25



Ms. Susie Prisco worked for DV for 12 years as the assistant to the athletic director. When she retired in January, she planned on fulfilling her childhood dream of living by the beach. She moved to Lewes, Delaware, to fulfill this dream.

"I'm living my dream life. There are trails here for biking, hiking and loads of beaches," she said. "I'm also a nature lover, and my playground is Henlopen State Park. It's amazing!"

Ms. Prisco's favorite part of DV was the connections she made and the opportunity to make a difference. She also loved coaching field hockey.

She will miss watching the kids come into the building as young people and seeing them grow into amazing humans with big dreams.

"Thank you for the precious moments DV! I was a Warrior myself and put my son and daughter through DV as Warriors," Ms. Prisco said.

**Compiled by Shannon Eby**

MS. SUSIE PRISCO



## N NEWMAN

After retiring, Mrs. Newman plans to leave the area and continue working in North Carolina.

"It's hard to imagine not working because I have always been involved with students and kids," Mrs. Newman said.

She would like to thank the district for the many opportunities she had to work with many wonderful students and for the camaraderie with her colleagues.

"I have friends here that I've made that will be my friends for life," Mrs. Newman said. "It's been great."



**Compiled by Kristen Langelotti**

## NE MARCIAL

She always knew she wanted to be a teacher because she had a love for learning and inspiring others since her early childhood. She loves teaching because she gets to share her knowledge and make valuable connections with students and staff.

"Even when I was in elementary school, I knew [in] my heart and soul... I was going to be a teacher," Mrs. Marcial said.

"The part I love about teaching... is teaching!"

Her message to students is to always be a learner.

**Compiled by Siasia Bean**



## MRS. LAURIE OSCZEPINSKI

After her 22-year teaching career filled with passion, commitment and love for her students, Mrs. Laurie Osczepinski is retiring from Delaware Valley High School.

Known for her warm personality, creative teaching methods and unwavering support for every student, Mrs. Osczepinski has made a lasting impact on the school community.

During her time at DV, Mrs. Osczepinski taught several math classes ranging from Concepts of Algebra to Algebra Two and Trigonometry.

Mrs. Osczepinski went above and beyond the classroom, mentoring students, creating exciting teaching methods and always being a friendly face in the D-wing. Her classroom was more than just a place

for learning, it was a space of encouragement, respect and growth.

After retiring, Mrs. Osczepinski plans to become a math tutor, travel and spend time with her parents.

"Thank you for everything you've [DV] given to me," Mrs. Osczepinski said. "I have had the privilege of touching many students' lives and would not have been able to do it without the support of this district."



**Compiled by Emma Ciancio**

## MR. LAURENCE MARCIAL

After teaching at DV for 20 years, and having a 31-year career of teaching, Mr. Laurence Marcial is retiring from the social studies department.

During his career, he taught Sociology, Psychology, Geography, World Studies, Honors World Studies, AP World History, AP European History, AP Seminar and 10th grade regular social studies.

When he first started working at DV, the student population was larger due to it being post 9/11. Mr. Marcial said it was more diverse back then, and there was something for everyone at DV.

After retirement, he plans to maintain the dojo he has in Milford while digging deeper into his training of Eastern martial arts and philosophies. He also hopes to study and relearn several languages to travel around the

globe with.

"First, the Mediterranean, just Tuscany, Malta, southern Spain, Greek Isles; good food, good weather," Mr. Marcial said.

His favorite part about teaching were the students, saying, "If you work with the young, they keep you young."

He will miss the students and his colleagues the most, along with those who made him a better teacher and community member.



**Compiled by Michael Elaro**

**LAST MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENT: GUIDANCE SECRETARY MRS. KAREN VERDE IS ALSO RETIRING! CONGRATULATIONS!**





# Lifestyle

## Fashion Aware: Upper Arm Cuff

By KRISTEN LANGELOTTI

*Opinions Editor*

What was once trending in the 2000s has now made a comeback. Arm cuffs are getting back in style as the warmer months approach.

Arm cuffs are bracelets that are worn on the upper arm, typically around the bicep. They come in various styles, from thin and simple to textured and wide. They add a bold touch to outfits and can give a sense of strength, similar to the aesthetic of early 2000s fashion.

These are not just jewelry -- they are a way to make a fashion statement, drawing attention to the upper arm and highlighting the bicep.

They have been around for ages, but they have been remodeled to be more modern. In ancient culture, royalty, Greeks and Vikings



Kristen Langelotti/Del.Aware

wore arm cuffs to symbolize wealth and status. Now people wear them as an accessory for style.

Numerous celebrities have

been seen wearing arm cuffs, increasing the popularity and influence of them. They are featured in fashion magazines and on runways, which boosts the fashion industry.

These can be purchased in a variety of places like Amazon, Walmart and Shein, which tend to be cheaper, ranging from \$3 to \$20. Kendra Scott sells them as well and they range from \$45 to \$130. No matter where you get them from, they are all still stylish.

You can add them to any outfit, whether it is casual or formal. Most people wear them on bare skin when wearing short sleeves or sleeveless tops, but they can also be worn on long-sleeves.

Modern arm cuffs are lightweight and comfortable, making them an easy addition to an outfit.

## Is comparison the thief of joy?

By AVA KRASZEWSKI

*Community News Co-Editor*

“Comparison is the thief of joy” is a common phrase often recited to remind people that being different from someone doesn’t make them less valuable. The phrase is frequently used when referring to people’s physical appearance, especially since the rise of social media.



Social media outlets have made it so that people can highlight their “best” selves and hide their imperfections. These platforms encourage people to showcase a curated version of a “perfect” life, making it easier to compare your worst moments to someone else’s best moments.

In addition, photos and videos on social media are often enhanced with filters and photoshopped. Photoshop can make bodies slimmer, skin smoother and teeth whiter. Having fat on your body, acne and not perfectly white teeth is normal, but social media makes them seem atypical and unnatural. This creates beauty standards where unrealistic bodies are most desired and natural bodies are abnormal.

Celebrities and influencers tend to get the most followers and likes because they are physically attractive. The truth is that most of these celebrities have had plastic surgery or other work done to make their body more appealing. This makes viewers believe they have to change themselves in order to be popular or attractive.

In my own experience, I have compared myself to other people on social media, which has resulted in insecurities about my own appearance. I believe moving forward that social media should be a place to abolish insecurities, not reinforce them.

Recognizing that social media is a compilation of someone’s best moments, not a documentary also depicting the bad moments, can help to lessen the negative effects of comparison.

So the next time you compare yourself to someone else on social media, ask yourself if what you’re seeing is their true, authentic self and whether comparing yourself is worth sacrificing your joy.

## Dorm decoration ideas

By ANNABELLE DORO

*Entertainment Co-Editor*

As high school comes to a close for seniors who are planning to attend college, college dorm decorating starts. Living in an undecorated dorm for college is unpleasant to come back to from classes. Here are some easy dorm decorating ideas that will brighten your room up.

### Curtains

Picking curtains for a dorm room can really show your personality or what you are into. Curtains do not have to be just black or white. They can have floral print or be a bright orange to peek into who you are as a person.

### Posters

When someone comes to visit you in your dorm what do you want them to notice? A poster of your favorite movie or musician can not only show what you are interested in, but it can also cover up some of the barren wall space in dorm rooms. Aside from posters you can also get some paintings, depending on what restrictions your college campus may have.

### Lighting

Of course every dorm room comes with your standard ceiling light. Adding fairy lights or a lamp in the corner can add a homey feel to your room. It is also convenient for if you really do not want an overhead light on when you are doing homework or relaxing.

### Color

Adding colorful items to your dorm will make it seem more lively. Most dorm rooms are just a “starter” room, with white walls and a dark grey carpeted floor. Adding colorful shelves, designed pillows and bright fake plants will give your dorm some important detail.

### Flags

If you are big on sports, getting a flag to showcase your favorite team to others is a huge part in decorating. Flags do not always have to be for sports; they can also be country flags to represent who you are and where you came from, especially if you are going out of the country for college.

### DORMLUV

If you are looking for more ideas for your dorm room decor, check out DORMLUV for affordable items and inspiration. DORMLUV has options for both boys and girls themed dorms and shows how well items work in certain room designs.



# DV SPRING CONCERTS



## Orchestra

The orchestra performed its spring concert on May 23 at 7:00 p.m.

The first two pieces—Beethoven's fifth symphony and a medley of "Lord of the Rings" music—were performed with a full symphony (which includes band instruments).

The string orchestra went on to perform "Capriol Suite," a six-movement piece by Peter Warlock, "Menuet and Rigaudon" by Maurice Ravel and "The Idylls of Pegasus" by Richard Meyer, which the seniors performed as eighth graders five years ago. The piece was conducted by senior Sophie Allen, who plans to study music education at Penn State next year.

"It took a lot of preparation to get the transitions and tempos correct, but I thought it was really fun," Allen said.

~COMPILED BY OWEN CARSO



## Band

The band had its last concert of the 2024-2025 school year on May 22.

The spring concert exemplified their skills that were learned throughout the whole year, all in a few songs.

"I'm grateful for all of the members in the band and their unmatched work ethic, determination and drive throughout the year," band director Mr. Richard Bullock said.

Mr. Bullock thinks that the concert went well, and the members of the band played with "style and emotion, and most importantly, they worked as a team."

According to Mr. Bullock, a few seniors had an exceptional performance: Brandon Albaugh, Soren Allen, Gianna Ataide and Matt Sicina.

~COMPILED BY KIM SMYSER



## Jazz Band

The jazz bands played in their final concert of the school year on May 19.

The after-school lab band played an arrangement that included "I've Got You Under My Skin," "When I Fall in Love," "Agua De Beber," "The Way You Look Tonight" and "Earth Wind and Fire Dance Mix."

The class jazz band played "I'm Beginning to see the Light," "Sway," "Brass Machine," "My Foolish Heart," "Music from the Incredibles," "As Long as I'm Singing" and "Uptown Funk."

Band teacher Mr. Richard Bullock will miss the 2025 graduating musicians.

"They have been excellent leaders and role models for our underclassmen and are massively talented individuals," Mr. Bullock said.

~COMPILED BY EMMA SIMMONS



## Chorus

The high school concert choir held its spring concert on May 20. The concert consisted of several historical pieces as well as modern musical works.

There were seven unique songs excluding the DV alma mater, which concluded the performance. This included both new and old musical works, such as selections from Lin Manuel Miranda's famous musical "Hamilton" and Randall Thompson's 1949 piece "The Last Words of David." Each piece was accompanied by a short speech about the background of the pieces and their authors which was written and recited by members of the choir.

The concert ran for about an hour and was organized by Mr. Richard Horst and accompanist Mrs. Raycharlyn Krasulski.

~COMPILED BY SIASIA BEAN

# MAKE IT A SUMMER TO REMEMBER



## BUCKET LIST

- Go to the beach
- Take a road trip
- Spend time with friends
- Take a hike
- Go to a concert
- Watch a movie outside
- Have a bonfire
- Go camping
- Watch fireworks
- Go to a sporting event
- Go mini golfing
- Go to an amusement park
- Make a craft
- Read a book



Compiled By Lauren Donnelly

## CHERRY LIMEADE

- 1 cup of sprite
- A half cup of cherries (regular or maraschino)
- 1 tablespoon of maraschino juice
- The juice of 1 whole lime

Add your ingredients to a glass and enjoy!



Compiled By Olivia Van Tassell



## SUNNY DAY CRAFTS



Nature walk: draw a vase on a piece of cardboard and poke holes above, then collect flowers and arrange them

Paint: decorate rocks, CDs, vases and other items with either pictures, quotes or whatever you would like

Bracelets: make fun bracelets out of a variety of materials: thread, elastic bands or beads

Sunglasses: decorate bright-colored sunglasses decorated with beads on the frames

Compiled By Kimberly Smyser



# Entertainment

## Hiccup, Toothless return: what to expect from the live-action film

BY ETAIN STARR

*Community News Editor*

Popular Universal movie "How to Train Your Dragon" is making a comeback with a live-action version, set to release June 13.

The live-action film will follow the same plot as the original movie. The story follows a young Viking, known as Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III. He defies tradition by befriendng a dragon named Toothless rather than slaying him like he was ordered to. As Hiccup's bond with Toothless deepens, he battles the longstanding feud between humans and dragons. This struggle leads him on a journey to self-discovery and on a search for peace.

"How to Train Your Dragon" is going to be 125 minutes long

and is rated PG. This rating makes it appropriate for all friends and families to watch.

Film producer Gerard Butler reprised his role from the animated film and is playing Stoick the Vast again in the new movie. The other main characters in the cast include Mason Thames as Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III, Nico Parker as Astrid Hofeson, Nick Parker as Gobber the Belch and Julian Dennison as Fishlegs Ingerman.

Filming of this movie took place in Belfast, Northern Ireland, to focus on practical sets and realistic visuals.

A live-action sequel to "How to Train Your Dragon" is set to release June 11, 2027.

## Gen Z chooses content creators over movies

BY SIASIA BEAN

*Science & Technology Editor*

In its 19th annual digital media trends survey, auditing and consulting company Deloitte found that a whopping 56% of Gen Zs surveyed find social media content more relevant than traditional TV shows and movies.

The survey also found that members of Gen Z feel a stronger personal connection to social media creators, and may be more likely to watch shows featuring their favorite content creators.

Additionally, consumers across the board are increasingly dissatisfied with streaming service payments. This suggests that the massive appeal of streaming is starting to slowly be drowned out by expensive prices and

getting less for the money that is spent—for example, when streaming services which previously did not have ads for its paid users now have ads even on paid subscriptions.

This also indicates that content made by the average person is seemingly on the rise as cable falls further out of favor and streaming services lose popularity among paying customers. This presents unique trends and challenges for entertainment companies that profit from traditional films and movies. For advertisers, it may provide them ideas as to where to advertise their products. The survey, which included over 3,000 participants, is an annual survey that covers media consumption trends across multiple generations of U.S. consumers.



## 'Final Destination: Bloodlines' exceeds expectations

BY TOPHER DELLA BELLA

*Entertainment Editor*

The sixth installment to one of the greatest movie franchises of all time, the "Final Destination" series, was released in theaters on May 16. The franchise's premise is a group of people who escape a tragedy that ends in death, only to be hunted down by death itself and killed in very odd and gory ways that would be seen as impossible. The last movie of this iconic franchise was "Final Destination 5" which was released in 2011.

Without any spoilers, the movie follows a college student named Stefani who suffers from a recurring nightmare. She goes home from college and looks for her grandmother Iris, as this nightmare relates to her past. Stefani learns that she and her family are cursed due to her grandmother's actions and death is after her whole family.

"Final Destination: Bloodlines" is praised for the gruesome deaths and the balance of horror and dark

humor. This movie is the highest rated movie of the whole franchise, and I believe it's one of the strongest movies of the franchise. The deaths are very creative, and I also love the gore in the movie as well.

In my opinion, "Final Destination 2" is the best movie in this franchise. This movie made "Final Destination" more established as a franchise. It has the most iconic opening accident and the most gruesome deaths.

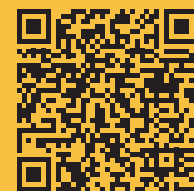
As for "Final Destination: Bloodlines," I believe that the "bloodline" concept was good, but it could have been executed way better. There's also little-to-no tension the entire movie which was disappointing because there is a lot, perhaps too much, tension in all of the other movies of the franchise. However, the death sequences throughout the entire film are done well enough to make those who don't enjoy any other part of the film enjoy it.

I also liked that the character William Bludworth, who was in every "Final Destination" movie, made a surprise appearance in the film. This was a treat for fans

of the series, and it made the movie more enjoyable to watch.

I loved the work of Kaitlyn Santa Juana who played Stefani in the movie. She is a great actor and she played the part of Stefani very well. Her and the rest of the cast did an amazing job.

Afterall, "Final Destination: Bloodline" is a strong and entertaining addition to the "Final Destination" series. It is a movie that I totally recommend seeing and this movie will definitely keep you waiting for the next "Final Destination" movie to release in theaters.



Use the QR code to see the Del.Aware staff's review on the outfits showcased at the Met Gala!

# Science & Technology

## Spacecraft stuck in orbit returns to Earth

BY ANNABELLE DORO

Entertainment Co-Editor

After 53 years in space, a Soviet-era spacecraft that failed to land on Venus finally returned to Earth on May 10.

The spacecraft, Kosmos 482, was launched by the Soviets into space on March 31, 1972, and was made to withstand Venus's surface, one of the hottest planets. Because of malfunctions with the rocket itself, it failed to escape Earth's surface. It was given the name Kosmos after Earth-orbiting satellites with similar names.

Kosmos 482 has slowly come back down to Earth, with most of its pieces falling back to Earth within the first 10 years it was in orbit. The final piece to crash back down this month was the spherical lander, which was encased in titanium and weighed

over 1,000 pounds, according to Scripps News.

Kosmos 482 was watched carefully by the United States government, the Russian government and United States private space trackers because it was more likely to survive reentry compared to over 12,000 other spacecrafts.

To tell how many spacecrafts are in orbit, scientists use different types of science instruments to track all the spacecrafts sent into space, according to NASA.

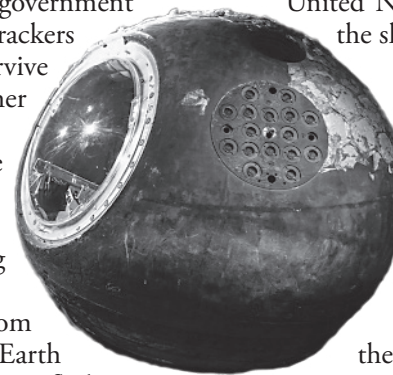
The spacecraft also stood out from others because it came back onto Earth uncontrolled, meaning there were no flight controllers determining where to land it.

There is no official evidence on whether it survived its final fall yet, since it came down fast and

fiery. The Russian Space Agency will get to keep all of the debris and pieces because of a treaty under the United Nations which was established when the ship was first launched.

Because of all of the issues the spacecraft had, the exact location of where it would land could not be tracked, but scientists said the chances of anyone being hit were very low. Its last seen location was above Rome, Italy, by astronomer Gianluca Masi.

The Russian Space Agency say the spacecraft landed in the Indian Ocean, however experts are not sure if that is the right location. Dutch scientist Marco Langbroek stated that if it did land in the Indian Ocean, no human would have seen it, only whales.



## Bridget Mendler launches exciting new ventures

BY SHANNON EBY

Lifestyle Editor

In an unexpected turn, the actress and singer Bridget Mendler and her husband have started up their own space company called Northwood Space. She recently announced the launch of her space startup, Stellaris Ventures.

Mendler is a singer, actor, mom, wife, doctor and now an aerospace engineer making her a very talented woman in the space industry.

Stellaris Ventures plans to tackle some of the biggest challenges in space travel. Their focus includes more efficient rocket propulsion systems and sustainable practices for space exploration.

Mendler believes that by reducing the costs and environmental impact,



**CEO Bridget Mendler talks about her space company Northwood Space on May 13th.**

space can be opened up to more people and industries. Her company is currently working on several innovative projects, including a new type of rocket engine that promises to significantly reduce fuel consumption.

Mendler's interest in space isn't necessarily new. She has a degree from USC and has pursued studies at MIT, showcasing a longstanding interest in science and technology.

In a recent interview with the Today show, Mendler said, "space exploration shouldn't be limited to governments and large corporations. We want to create opportunities for everyone to participate in the future of space."

Her system Stellaris Ventures has already attracted attention from investors and experts in the aerospace industry, marking an exciting new chapter for Mendler and the future of space travel.

## Gene-editing changes medical future

BY REILLY NEWTON

Sports Co-Editor

Our DNA is comparable to a code in that it consists of letters, or base pairs, that form the building blocks of our key traits.

Though there are more than six billion base pairs, one single misspelling, known as a mutation, can lead to serious illnesses.

Gene-editing, or CRISPR-Cas9, is an incredible medical feat that allows for doctors to physically remove a mutation from the DNA sequence and manually replace it with another strand.

The process relies on a short RNA sequence that guides the Cas9 enzyme to the DNA sequence. Cas9 acts as a pair of scissors that cuts the mutated DNA strand, which is later replaced by the cell's natural

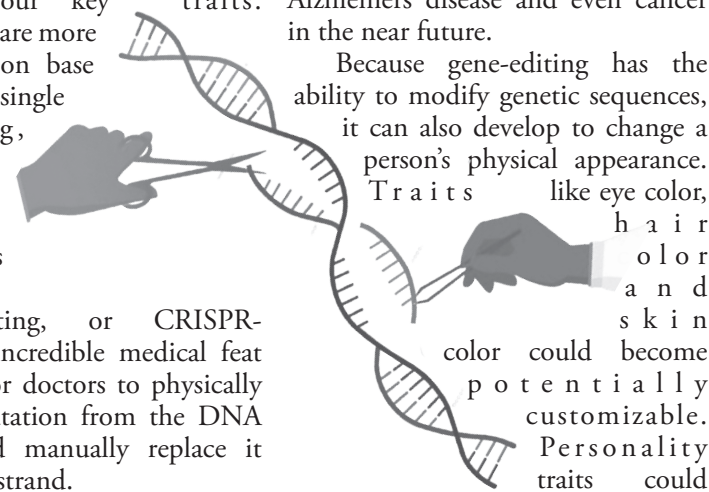
DNA repair mechanism, like Non-Homologous End Joining (NHEJ).

Gene-editing is a medical breakthrough. It lends itself to curing a variety of genetic disorders: sickle cell anemia, Huntington's disease, Alzheimer's disease and even cancer in the near future.

Because gene-editing has the ability to modify genetic sequences, it can also develop to change a person's physical appearance.

Traits like eye color, hair color and skin color could become potentially customizable. Personality traits could also be influenced as well.

While gene-editing is still under development, it serves as a pathway into a more medically-advanced future.





# Sports

## 2028 Olympics will break record books for women

BY SHANNON EBY  
Lifestyle Editor

The upcoming Olympic games is the first time in history that there are more female than male athletes. It will be held in Los Angeles, California in 2028.

This is mostly due to the changes in the way the soccer tournaments are formatted featuring 16 women's teams and only 12 men's teams. There was also an addition of some weight classes for the women's boxing events.

This increase in opportunity for women in the games, reflects the growing emphasis on gender equality and a large number of women's teams are now

being included in the Olympics.

The Games will debut new games including flag football and squash, see the return of baseball, softball, cricket and lacrosse, with some of these sports displaying new formats.

The city of Los Angeles is also using a "new venues in use" strategy, which means relying on existing and temporary venues rather than building new ones.

Flag football will be played in both mens and womens divisions with a non-contact version available for both as well. Squash, a racket sport, has been rejected from the olympics four times, but will now be included as an optional sport, meaning contestants may choose

to participate or not. Over the years dating all the way back to ancient times women have had a rough time being able to participate in the Olympics. The first modern Olympics games in 1896 also excluded women from being able to compete. In the year 1900 women were allowed to compete but only in golf and tennis.

In total there are 800 medal events across 40 different sports; this is the second most in Olympic games history. According to SportsPro, the Olympics will feature 11,198 competitors, 5,333 females and 5,167 males. The first time in Olympic history this has happened.

The Olympic games have a variety of events for athletes to compete in at the highest level and represent their countries well. The Olympic games allow for athletes to compete in multiple different events that they could qualify for, making the Olympics the most prestigious level of competition in the world.



## Henn receives honors as sophomore at Kutztown University

BY LAUREN DONNELLY  
Lifestyle Co-Editor

Delaware Valley class of 2023 graduate Emily Henn has just concluded her sophomore year at Kutztown University, where she competes on their Division II softball team. Repping number 5, Henn has started in the outfield since her freshman year. Being a strong force on offense, she led the team in hits as a freshman and sophomore.

During her freshman season, Henn led her team in hits, gathering 75, and RBIs, compiling 49. She batted a .401 average and led her team in hits collecting a total of 83 this season. Henn was named to the All-PSAC East First Team, D2CCA All-Atlantic Region First Team and NFCA All-Atlantic Region First Team. She was also an All-American Nominee.



Off the field, Henn takes pride in her academics. She has been selected as a PSAC Scholar-Athlete the past two seasons and was named to the Dean's List as a freshman. Moving into the future, her goal is to further improve on her performance in the classroom and on the field.

As a team, the Kutztown Golden Bears compete in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) and are a part of the Atlantic Region. They have maintained a winning record for both the 2024 and 2025 seasons. The team was also regional champions both years. Henn's favorite memory with her team is winning the region.

She credits her success to many people: her coaches, teammates and family. She specifically highlights her dad and brother who have supported her since her career began.

"They all have played a significant role in shaping me into who I am and helping me reach my goals," Henn said.

Throughout her career, she has always followed the motto "control the controllables," meaning focus on the things you can influence—referring to effort and attitude—not things that are out of your hands.

As someone who demonstrates hard work, Henn highlights that to be successful you must be willing to put the work in. She advises aspiring athletes to work hard and stay motivated even when nobody is watching.

"For younger athletes, success comes from hard work beyond practices and scheduled workouts. You have to want to get better and also be coachable."

Scan the QR code to read about upcoming Division I athlete Jaxon Barbalich signing with Siena College!



Scan the QR code to read about upcoming Division I athlete Kayla Sykes signing with Wagner College!





# SENIORS *Sign OFF* - SPRING

## Tennis



Alex Mullen

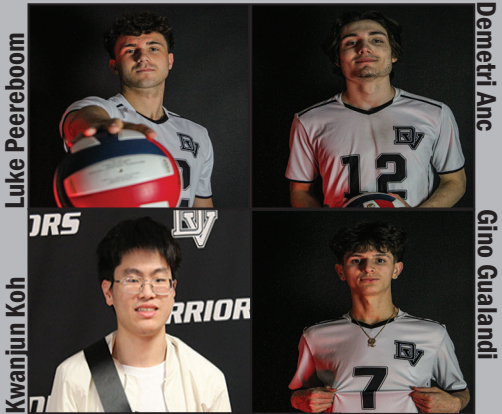


Owen Carso



Brandon Albaugh

## Volleyball



Luke Peereboom

Demetri Anc

Kwanjun Koh

Gino Gualandi



Jack Greening

## Softball



Shannon Eby

Lauren Donnelly

Dakota Jordan

Ashlynn McCordle

Sara Gagnon

Ava Capeci

## Baseball



Trevor Phillips    Isaiah Berrios    Steven Gordon    Michael Brown  
Nicky Jorgenson    Frankie Pedone

## Track & Field

### Girls seniors:

Liliana Coe  
Kayla Sykes  
Caterina Catizone  
Teizu Jones  
Rainna Carr  
Juliet Fitzpatrick  
Anna Vogel  
Joselyn Legato  
Tori Depew  
Danielle Eisloeffel  
Ayesha Sameeuddin  
Kristen Langelotti

### Boys seniors:

Logan Olsommer  
Michael Donlon  
David Choi  
Alex Vaughan  
Sean Winship  
Cole Weston  
Eric Pol  
Jayden Ross  
Maxwell Hancock  
Joey Kessler  
Amir Guillite  
Pasquale Venetucci  
Michael Elaro  
Aidan Leighty

As the spring sports season comes to an end, seniors were recognized for their hard work and dedication. These Senior Nights are organized by the booster clubs and coaches. Seniors' plans for after high school, their involvement and how long they have been playing were announced.

*Compiled by Kayla Sykes*

## Girls Lacrosse



Jenna Zuelch    Sophia Gentile    Ava Kraszewski    Carrigan McCormack    Ciara Ni-Chinneide



Peyton LaRocco

Christopher Freeman

Jaxon Barbalich

Luke Brazanskas

Dean Finelli

Bryson Mackey

Keegan Heath

Noah Rabolli



# Sports Wrap-ups

## Softball

BY GIA SCIMECA  
Arts & Lit Editor

Softball ended its season with a 8-0 loss against Valley West on May 2. They were 5-16 on the year.

Freshman Emily Sullivan and junior Shannon Eby had the only hits in the game. Junior Lauren Donnelly pitched 5 2/3 innings, and Sullivan got the last out.

According to head coach Frank Jordan, the team struggled to make the necessary adjustments at the plate, but they were able to stop Valley West from scoring for the first three innings.

Sullivan led the team in batting average at .333, and she and Eby were the team's leaders in hits. Junior Ava Capeci led the team in RBIs.

Throughout the season, the team figured

out how to stay in difficult games, but coach Jordan believes the team needs to improve upon confidence.

"We became more athletic this year, improved our ability to make plays and limited big innings for the other teams," coach Jordan said.

According to coach Jordan, sophomore Jordan Dickerson was a standout player in all aspects of the game. Eby and junior Dakota Jordan stood out on the offensive and defensive sides respectively.

"It was a pleasure working with this group of girls," coach Jordan said. "They are a hard working, yet fun group to be around. We definitely showed improvement and will keep working in the future."



Senior Lauren Donnelly

## Baseball

BY EMMA CIANCIO  
Editor-in-Chief

The baseball team defeated Scranton on May 21, with junior Frankie Pedone leading the charge for the Warriors going all the way for a no-hitter against the Knights. He pitched seven innings, striking out four in a 3-0 win.

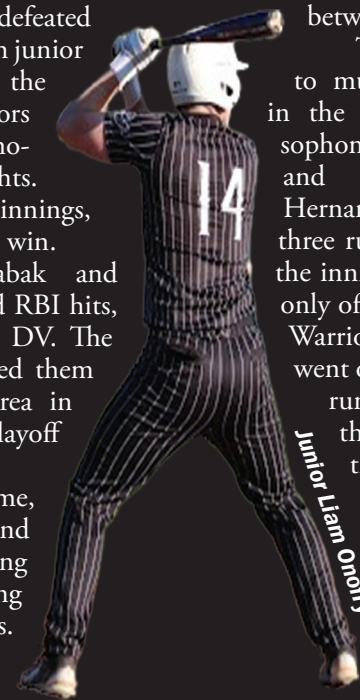
Seniors Kyle Chabak and Keaton Phillips both had RBI hits, which held the lead for DV. The win for Warriors matched them up against Hazleton Area in the semi-final district playoff game.

In the Hazleton game, Phillips took the mound for the Warriors having only pitched one inning giving up five earned runs. The next pitcher was freshman Alex Calvario,

as he had a better outing, pitching three innings giving up three runs, with a strikeout in between.

The offense was able to muster up three runs in the fourth inning with sophomore Liam Onofry and freshman Londyn Hernandez providing the three runs with RBI hits in the inning, but that was the only offense that day for the Warriors. Hazleton Area went on to score nine more runs to 10-run mercy the Warriors and end their season.

The baseball team finished with an 8-14 record to finish the season.



Junior Liam Onofry

## Boys Tennis

BY ELLA BECKER  
School News Co-Editor

The boys tennis team finished off their season in the district semifinals after competing in team and double matches. Sophomore Nat Carso and senior Alex Mullen received bronze medals for their performance in the district semifinals.

The team had to adjust to losing last year's seniors, so the team as a whole is proud of their hard work which helped them rebuild the team and have a successful season.

"We excelled expectations throughout this transition year," head coach Kevin Quinn said.

The seniors graduating

this year are Brandon Albaugh, Owen Carso and Mullen.

Next year, the team will have to adjust to changes because they will be losing two starters, who are Mullen and Carso.

"The underclassmen are going to have to step it up a lot next year," coach Quinn said.

Coach Quinn highlighted sophomore Nat Carso for being the most improved player this season.

"Nat showed the most improvement and is becoming his own athlete," coach Quinn said.

Although the tennis team has to continuously adjust, coach Quinn has high hopes for next year.



Senior Alex Mullen

## Boys Volleyball

BY TOPHER DELLABELLA  
Entertainment Editor

The boys volleyball team played Wyoming Valley West in the District 2 3A semifinal game on May 27 and won 3-0. The set scores were 25-17, 25-13 and 25-18. This win from the boys improves their record to 10-3 and builds their winning streak to six.

Senior Luke Peereboom led the team with 12 kills, 10 service points, and four aces. Junior Chase Peereboom contributed six kills and six service points, sophomore Eric Choi had 31 assists and senior Gino Gualandi had 11 kills, five service points, and two aces for the team.

As the boys' winds down, Luke is happy with how the team performed

this season.

"Our season this year was solid. We played pretty consistent throughout the season considering all of the guys from last year that graduated," Luke said. "I think we have a good shot at winning the district championship this year."

The boys will play Abington Heights, who beat Wilkes-Barre Area 3-1, for the District 2 3A championship. The last time that they played Abington Heights was last year's District 2 3A semifinal game when they won 3-0.



Senior Luke Peereboom

# Sports Wrap-ups

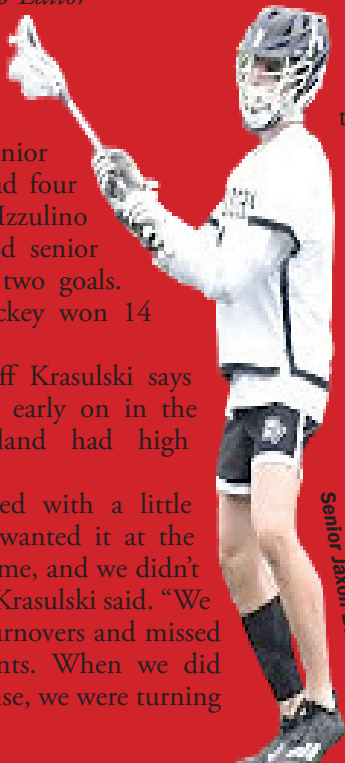
## Boys Lacrosse

BY AVA KRASZEWSKI  
*Community News Co-Editor*

The boys lacrosse team lost to Parkland 17-11 on May 20. Senior Peyton LaRocco had four goals, junior Mike Izzulino had three goals and senior Noah Rabolli had two goals. Senior Bryson Mackey won 14 out of 32 face offs.

Head coach Jeff Krasulski says the team struggled early on in the game when Parkland had high energy.

"Parkland played with a little bit of energy and wanted it at the beginning of the game, and we didn't match that," coach Krasulski said. "We had a lot of early turnovers and missed defensive assignments. When we did get the ball on offense, we were turning the ball over."



Senior Jaxon Barbalich

Despite the loss, coach Krasulski believes this is one of the most accomplished seasons for DV lacrosse.

Coach Krasulski attributes the team's historic season to their team culture.

"This is one of the best teams that we've ever had. These guys attacked every game and played together," coach Krasulski said.

The Warriors finished the season with a program best record of 17-1 and were Wyoming Valley Conference Champions with an undefeated record of 15 wins.

"The guys were close. It was nice and competitive, and we had guys that know how to get things done," coach Krasulski said.

## Boys Track and Field

BY LAUREN DONNELLY  
*Lifestyle Co-Editor*

The boys track and field team closed out its season with a record of 4-2. Their final meet was the district championship where senior David Choi and junior Connor Giblin were the only medal winners. Choi placed sixth in both the 100 meter dash and the pole vault. Giblin came in fifth in the 400 meter dash.

Head coach Nick Quaglia emphasizes the impact the seniors have left on the program. He will miss their attitude and commitment.

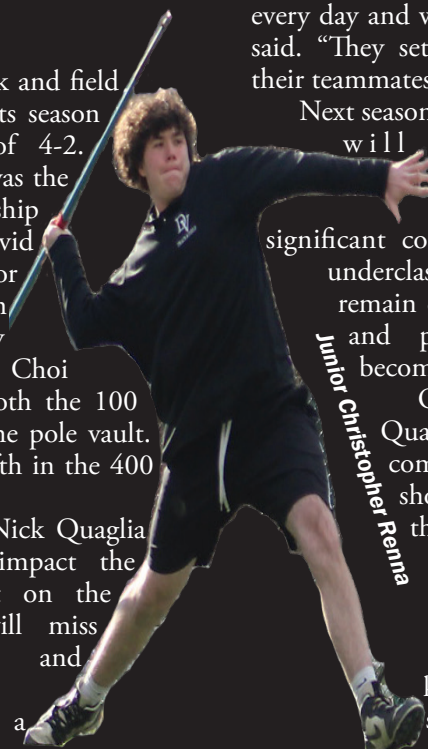
"They were a

great group of kids who showed up every day and wanted to be here," he said. "They set a great example for their teammates."

Next season he notes the program will welcome back a solid group of athletes, and he expects to have significant contributions by the underclassmen. He hopes to remain competitive as a team and push individuals to become successful as well.

Overall, coach Quaglia highlights the competitiveness the team showcased throughout the season.

"I really couldn't ask for anything more in terms of the effort we got from the kids," coach Quaglia said.



Junior Christopher Reina

## Girls Lacrosse

BY KAYLA SYKES  
*Sports Editor*

The lacrosse team ended its season in the District 2 & 11 AAA sub-regional game against Pleasant Valley high school with a score of 22-3. This left their record as 7-12 for the year.

Even with the loss, head coach Bernadine Salak is proud of the team for hanging with an excellent team like Pleasant Valley for the first quarter.

"They just play at a different speed, but we hung with them for the first quarter," she said.

While discussing wrapping up the season, coach Salak enjoyed seeing the underclassmen learn and grow throughout the season.

"They started challenging themselves and really started to

build their lacrosse IQ," she said.

She would like to thank the seniors for the legacy that they have left behind to set the stage for future success. She had the pleasure of getting the opportunity to coach them.

She especially applauds senior Ava Kraszewski for raising the expectations for the program.

"She rewrote our record books with the most career points and most career goals," coach Salak said. "She set a whole new standard for our younger players to strive to achieve."



Sophomore Savannah Liz

## Girls Track and Field

BY ETAIN STARR  
*Community News Editor*

The girls track and field team ended its season with an undefeated record, and placed first as a team in the Lackawanna League.

At the Lackawanna League championship meet, senior Lilliana Coe placed first in the pole vault. The 4x100m relay team consisting of Coe, senior Teizu Jones and juniors Emma Simmons and Frannie Russo placed first.

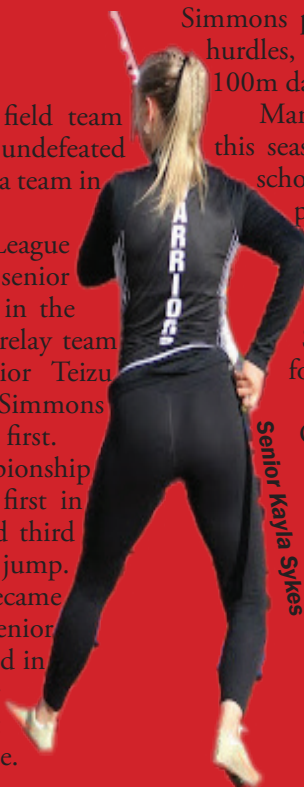
At the district championship meet, Coe also finished first in the pole vault and placed third in triple jump and long jump. The 4x100m relay team became district champions. Senior Rainna Carr placed second in the shot put with senior Caterina Catizone right behind her in fourth place.

Simmons placed fourth in the 100m hurdles, and Russo took fifth in the 100m dash.

Many school records were set this season. Coe finished her high school career with a record in pole vault, triple jump and the 4x100m relay. Carr set a school record for shot put. Coe, Jones, Russo and Simmons also set a record for the 4x100m relay.

Head coach Nick Quaglia is very proud of how this season went and will miss the graduating seniors next year.

"I'm going to miss their overall attitude and commitment," coach Quaglia said.



Senior Kayla Sykes