

# The Student Times

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Holiday Issue 2021

## Clubs kick off holiday season with community service

**CARLY HILL**  
Junior Editor

Involvement in the community has continuously resided as a necessity to the Berwick Area School District. This year, students look forward to reconnecting with their community.

Different clubs took the initiative by arranging activities for the oncoming holidays.

For Thanksgiving, Interact and Student Council worked with groups in the community to hand out gift cards to senior citizens.

The event, sponsored by the school district, was a joint effort between administration, staff, student clubs, and groups outside of the school district.

The groups had to alter the annual event for this

year and last due to Covid restrictions. In a typical year, students assist in setting up and serving a Thanksgiving dinner buffet to up to 400+ seniors in attendance. However, this year, ten-dollar gift cards were donated by

event annually “to keep a solid connection with our students, staff, and community.”

Caroline Curry, student council co-advisor, assists the group in setting up such events with the community. Curry said, “Student Council and Interact members and advisors are happy to be able to give back to the seniors in our community, who in turn, are so grateful for what we are able to do for them.”

SADD, Students Against Destructive Decisions, will be taking part in Treefest. The group will decorate a tree which will be given to a family in need. The Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble at the Caldwell Consistory sponsors the event.

The tie-dye theme was voted on back in September; however, the ornaments were created by SADD students just recently, on November 11th.

The club wants to start

the holiday season with some creativity and community service. Carson Witner, Sophomore Student Secretary of SADD, said, “Being an officer of SADD inspired me to step forward and do more volunteer work for my community.”

SADD will also participate in the Battle of the Cold, a collection drive consisting of new winter hats, gloves, scarves, mittens, socks, etcetera. The accessories will be gathered in the library for two weeks after Thanksgiving. All items must be new.

St. James Lutheran Church in Hobbie sponsors the event,

and SADD has taken part in the drive for approximately the past six years.

“We want to make sure that children in our area are able

to stay warm during the upcoming cold months,” said Heather Henry, SADD’s advisor.

Students Helping Out Willingly, SHOW, will volunteer at a local business with bell-ringing for donations. Mostly everyone has seen the kind sa-

maritans in their holiday attire ringing red bells outside of stores. This group wants to join in the holiday spirit while benefiting a neighborhood market.

The club has participated for at least 15 years collecting **contd. on pg 7**  
**HOLIDAY**



(Photos by Carly Hill)

Carson Witner, Kendall Matash, Heather Henry

Right: (Photos by Sandra Kile)

Hanna Zehner, freshman, distributes food

The Forge Pub & Eatery, Fratello’s, May’s Drive-In, Scicchitano’s Pizzeria, Aldi’s, Boyer’s, Giant, and Weis to be given out to senior citizens who participate.

Debra Kern, advisor to Interact, said they host the

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# Tensions increase as China aggresses upon Taiwan

DYLAN SMITH

Senior Editor

China's recent belligerence and aggression towards Taiwan has caught the attention of many world leaders and citizens alike. China claims dominion over all land in the South China Sea, which Taiwan resides within. However, Taiwan claims to be independent from the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), which sparked the talks of possible war.

Before delving in, though, a brief history of Taiwan is necessary to understand this topic. The two territories have always had a complicated history. So many rebellions occurred during Taiwan's relationship with China that the phrase "every five years a rebellion" became commonplace. The uprisings still occurred even after 1885, when the Qing Dynasty officially recognized Taiwan as a Chinese province for the first time. Following the First Sino-Japanese War, China ceded the small island to Japan merely ten years after its recognition. Taiwan remained rebellious under Japanese rule. It remained governed until Japan's unconditional surrender in World War 2 in

1945.

Chinese and Allied troops occupied Taiwan after Emperor Hirohito's surrender. Following a treaty, Japan ceded the island. The CCP firmly states that Taiwan reverted to Chinese rule, though the treaty made no such statement. The treaty identified no formal party to claim Taiwan, and thus the United States never recognized the island as Chinese territory. However, China assumed dominion over the region and administered a government regardless. A civil war shortly began between a communist and nationalist party in China. Eventually, the nationalist party retreated to Taiwan and, after China adopted communism, became the nation it is today. Several more fights and claims for the land continued, with the CCP never recognizing Taiwan's independence. Though, the island nation instituted its own constitution, culture, military, and identity.

Fast forward to today, China set a record number of in-

cursions in Taiwan's airspace and waters, with hundreds of planes and ships sent since September. This is in hopes of Taiwan's military striking against them, giving China a *casus belli*, or justification for war. This hostility has been met with ardent opposition by Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen and other world



(Photo by MCT Campus/Kurt Strazdins)

leaders. Ing-wen stated that Taiwan would "do whatever it takes to defend itself" in response to this aggression. Going even further, she ensured China of "catastrophic consequences" if Taiwan was to fall.

Despite the evident shift in policy from Trump to Biden, America's stance on Taiwan has not significantly shifted.

The Taiwan Relations Act and Reagan's Six Assurances to Taiwan ensures defensive arms sales and aid. President Biden said in a CNN Town-hall event, "Yes, we have a commitment to [come to Taiwan's defense if China attacks]."

The President seems to be staying true to his word, as

Ing-wen confirmed the presence of US military on the island. Naturally, as China sees the island as its territory, the CCP vehemently opposed this move. Via state media, the CCP stated they would "cause unbearable results to US troops if they dare 'defend' the island, and even wipe them

out."

Further, China blamed other nations for "leading the situation in Taiwan Strait into a dangerous direction", according to Beijing UN Ambassador Zhang Jun. Chinese President Xi Jinping once more pressured the reunification of Taiwan and China, saying it "must happen." Jinping emphasized his desire

for peaceful reunification, though it is doubtful Taiwan would oblige such a deal.

In the event of a war, China's military far overpowers Taiwan. According to Statista and the Dept. of Defense, China's military includes well over a million soldiers compared to Taiwan's 88,000 active-duty soldiers. Whether it be tanks, destroyers, artillery, bombers, or any other militaristic device, China outnumbers the island by an almost insurmountable margin. However, it is crucial to note that the US would continue to sell defensive arms to Taiwan per the Six Assurances. While neither the Six Assurances nor the Taiwan Relations Act ensures US military intervention in the case of a war, it seems the Biden administration is leaning towards it.

Tensions in the South China Sea seem to be rising by the day as both countries prepare for war. However, this region's issues do not exist in a vacuum. Several ambassadors are actively attempting to diffuse the situation and avoid any bloodshed. Either way, the situation with Taiwan and China will be an important event to observe.

## United States of America suffers from supply chain crisis

TRACE MANEVAL

Junior Editor

Heading straight into the holiday season, the Biden Administration is facing yet another crisis. The supply chain shortage, along with rising prices due to inflation, may have the potential to cause a holiday disaster. The problem is spanning across all major news networks. The supply chain and inflation are being called "kitchen-ta-

ble issues." Many experts are predicting real issues for all Americans, including those who live in cities and rural areas. If a family cannot get food items they need because of the supply chain, they will go hungry. Then, when the food does finally come into their local area, the price of meat may be too expensive due to all of the demand, which makes the family go hungry even longer. Families

not getting to eat the appropriate amount of food and children going hungry is why this problem is getting so much attention.

According to Fox, ports are where a lot of the shipping delays originate. Currently in California, there are a record number of 73 ships stuck on the coast. One potential reason for this crisis is the concern over who leads different states. The California Gover-

nor's position is currently occupied by Gavin Newsom, a Democrat. Florida, however, is run by Ron DeSantis, a Republican. Governor DeSantis told Fox News journalist Maria Bartiromo on her program "Sunday Morning Futures" that his ports are open and ready for business. He is being cited by many as the man who will save Christmas.

However, Democrats argue a different story. Transpor-

tation Secretary Buttigieg stated the reason shortages are occurring is because Biden helped the economy escape "a terrifying recession." However, FactCheck.org reported that this was a false claim by the Transportation Secretary. They found that the last recession actually ended in April of 2020, a time when President Trump was still the Commander-in-  
(CHAIN cont. on pg. 3)

## Students attend Diversity Conference at BloomU



BHS students attended the Diversity Conference at Bloomsburg University, where they participated in events such as “Leading with Diversity” and “The Relax Class.” Students were put into groups from different schools in order to learn about new perspectives and views. Students pictured (from left to right): **Max Firth, Karrington Reader, Tyler Robinson, Cristofer Baez, Tayah Heller, Jasper Martínez,** and **Francis Alexander.** (Photo by Rebecca Alexander)

(CHAIN cont. from pg. 2) Chief. Press Secretary Jennifer Psaki, also a Democrat, stated a controversial comment during a Press Briefing, saying, “The tragedy of the treadmill being delayed,” (The Washington Times). Psaki came under fire for these comments. She is accused of mocking a real situation where children are going hungry. Her alleged mistreatment of the situation received backlash from Trump Administration officials, such as Kellyanne Conway tweeting, “Grocery shelves are empty. Obnoxious and out of touch.”

Experts on the situation are predicting that the problem of the supply chain will not subside anytime soon. The Chair of the Federal Reserve Jerome Powell indicated during a YouTube session that the “global supply chain will remain in crisis through 2022,” (Vox).

The supply chain is not the only problem this Administration faces. According to

Fortune Magazine, inflation reached a 30-year high, while prices of goods dramatically rose 6.2 percent in October. On CNN’s Sunday morning show, State of the Union, Treasury Secretary Yellen said that inflation will not improve until the “second half” of 2022. She also warned that America has not seen the current level of inflation in a “long time” (CNN, Fox Business). Most Republicans argue that passing the recent \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill along with the proposed \$1.75 trillion social spending bill will lead to even more inflation. Democrats are attempting to make the point that items in those bills will help with the supply chain, and then eventually inflation rates will decrease.

It will be up to the President, Vice President, and Legislature to figure out the problems with the supply chain and inflation, before America continues to drown with no sight of shore.

## Marching band makes history

MAKAYLA MASLINSKI  
*Junior*

On Sunday, October 31st, Berwick Band made history during the Atlantic Coast Championships (ACC’s), when their score improved from Chapters to ACC’s for the second time in the school’s background. This event sparked excitement among the band and helped renew the culture that had been lost due to the past year’s circumstances. ACC’s is the final competition that the band participates in their marching season. It’s “The Final Hurrah”, as the director says. This competition is also the most difficult because it is the only competition where the judges do not look at the band’s previous scores. Typically, the judges look at past scores from the season and judge based on the band’s improvement. However, at ACC’s, they judge the show for what it is, which almost always causes the score to decrease.

Haylee Steinbacher, one of the two drum majors, described her feelings of awe when she heard the announcers call the improved score, “85.66”. She exclaims that she became so electrified that, “I almost forgot we had to salute. It was an indescribable feeling.”

This ACC’s was the first Atlantic Coast Championships for both the sophomores and the freshman since the band did not get to compete last year. Kylie Smith, a current sophomore, declared that her favorite memory from this season was going to her first big competition (ACC’s), and enjoying the excitement with her friends.

Throughout the season, the band has worked through a very demanding schedule

that they would later find to pay off. The marching band’s director, Anthony McDonnell, described the last week leading up to ACC’s as “stressful”. However, through these hardships, he knew that their hours of work would be rewarding for the band.

Alexis Pursel, one of two alto saxophone section leaders, agreed that the show McDonnell chose an exceptionally challenging show for his students to learn and that the band had to “step it up” more than they have in a long time.

But through these testing times, Pursel said that she learned many essential skills this season that she will carry with her for the rest of her life, such as leadership and helping others navigate through challenges in education.

Jared Smith, who has experienced competitions in his past, said that this season helped him learn “how gratifying it is to work extremely hard and see the results,” especially when difficulties showed up, whether it was weather, instrument malfunctions, or issues that arose with the band truck.

Kylie Smith believes that the band shares a common goal: “Having fun and getting good scores,” which the band achieved this season.

Similarly, McDonnell said this season, “People are finally working together to create something incredible,” and compliments the passion of his students as they return to competitions. He noted that this season proved special to him and that this season has renewed the culture of band that every member has come to embrace.

Jared Smith and Pursel both

agree that Chapters was their favorite part of this season due to the emotion that many members felt during that night. Pursel describes an “emotional circle” the band created before marching onto the field and giving their all: “We were hyping each other up a lot, and it was emotional and comforting. It made me realize how hard we worked this season.”

Now, at the end of the season, the staff, the band, and the director will always remember this year of Berwick’s marching band and the unique number of individuals that put in the work to create an astounding show.

“I’ll always remember this band as my first band. I’ve worked with bands before, but I’ve never had this type of home. I love the music, the kids, and the staff,” says McDonnell. The students likewise agree with McDonnell’s summary of the season.

Steinbacher, as a senior and drum major, said, “I loved seeing the spark of music get put back into everyone after last year, and see everyone’s love for music come back,” and that this past season has helped her realize that she wants to teach music to kids for the rest of her life. Once thought to be lost, the band’s culture seems to have returned, and band members are all the better for it. On top of this, they had a great time making history for the second time.

McDonnell believes that the season ended on a fantastic note, and he is very proud of all the band’s progress within the past four months. He expressed joy and happiness of the passion in his students and common goals that the band shares as a community.

# Top five movies to watch this holiday season

**CARSON WITNER**  
*Sophomore*

The holiday season has begun! With Christmas right around the corner, it's time to get into the holiday spirit. A great and fun way to do so is to watch some Christmas movies. There are a few classics I highly recommend watching if you want to just sit back and relax after a long, tiring school day.

Starting with an all time classic is, *A Christmas Story*. This movie is an excellent way to feel the holiday spirit with your entire family! It is a funny and relatable story of Ralphie trying to convince his parents to get him the present of his dreams by any means possible. He faces many challenges, but these obstacles are what make the movie so funny and memorable! This may be a movie you've seen thousands of times, but I guarantee that it will always be as good

as the first time you watch it! I also highly recommend watching this movie with your family because it brings even more joy when you have other family members laughing and reminiscing along with you. So if you're looking to get into the Christmas spirit, then watch this movie- I triple dog dare you!

If you don't want to watch *A Christmas Story*, don't worry, because you may like my next recommendation, *Miracle on 34th Street*. This less known classic may be the movie for you! It is an older black and white movie with such a beautiful story about the true meaning of Christmas. If you like movies where the magic of Kris Kringle is tested against the harsh conditions of our reality, then you will appreciate this movie. So enjoy this elegant Christmas masterpiece that will get you in the holiday spirit.

Not in the mood for a new movie, no problem! How about we go back and revisit a childhood classic, *The Polar Express*. This is a movie almost everyone has seen in their elementary school days, but not watched since. Just like in the movie itself, it will take you on a trip to bring back the magic of believing in the impossible. This all time classic not only is one of my all time favorites because of its story, but its soundtrack as well! So if you are in the mood to just believe for one evening, then relax in your favorite old robe, and enjoy this movie with a cup of "hot, hot chocolate!" If you truly enjoy reminiscing about the good old days, then you won't be disappointed with this movie.

If you are looking for a movie more your age, but still has that Christmas magic in it, then I suggest watching a Hallmark Christmas movie!

These are cheesy, romantic comedies that will give you butterflies while watching. These are definitely the holiday movies for you if you enjoy a sweet love story entangled with the Christmas spirit. There are also many of these to choose from, even if they all have the same plot! If you enjoy the plot, then you will enjoy all of the movies in their different scenarios! Hopefully, these heartwarming romantic Christmas movies get you into the season of giving and love!

My final suggestion, is my personal favorite Christmas movie, *Christmas Vacation*. This movie you can watch with anyone. It is the hysterical story of the relatable family Christmas, where nothing goes as planned. Clark Griswold tries to make his fantasy of a big, happy family Christmas come true, but he faces

many challenges along the way. The funny family drama is so relatable, and is great in itself, but the extra classic humor puts the icing on the cake! I suggest watching this with your family, because you may be shocked with how much your parents may relate to some of Clark's situations! After all, there is no better way of getting into the holiday spirit than by laughing.

These are my five main suggestions that bring out the Christmas spirit. I hope you all enjoy your Christmas season this year, and hopefully you decide to watch some, or all, of these amazing movies!

## Shipping delays impact Christmas

**EDEN SAVOY**  
*Features Editor*

Christmas is right around the corner, and with that comes purchasing Christmas gifts. With the current Covid-19 pandemic still causing labor shortages and higher demand in online shopping, Santa might come a little late this year.

Major retailers are seeing a higher demand for products than they ever have before, which will only be heightened as the holiday shopping season reaches its peak. The increased demand, along with a shortage of labor workers, causes a frenzy for large companies, and just about any customer can be affected.

In September, China to US ocean shipments took 73 days

on average to arrive at their final destination, which is 83% longer than it took two years prior according to the International Trade Administration. This problem is not exclusive to global trading centers, though. These shipping delays have impacted the people of Berwick, as well.

Mrs. Christine Readler said, "I had issues with items ordered over the summer for family birthdays. One of those

items was supposed to be received in August and actually just arrived at the end of October. Based on those delays, it definitely made me consider ordering items I couldn't buy locally a bit earlier."

Readler has already begun her Christmas shopping for this year and said that she has already had an item canceled; she does not remember a time where shipping delays and stock shortages were ever this unfavorable.

A way to avoid these ob-

stacles is to start making purchases as early as possible. Students around BHS are beginning to worry about this year's holidays being poorly affected.. Freshman Bryn Byrne said, "I think I probably should start shopping sooner than I usually do because usually I wait until the last minute. If my gifts don't arrive, Christmas just won't be the same."

Major retailers expect this holiday shopping season to be a strong one, but with demands higher than ever before, if you haven't started buying yet, it may already be too late.



## Students share h Whats your favorit



**Jack Kendron, Freshman**  
"My mom hides a glass pickle ornament, me and my sister look for it and whoever finds it gets the first present on Christmas and bragging rights."



**Teirra Mcmillan**  
"My entire family and I all get together to watch the Christmas Eve."



**Brendan Hinkle, Senior**  
"Watching football on Thanksgiving day with all of my family members and eating my step-mom's pumpkin pie cheesecake."



**Mrs. Cerasola**  
"At Thanksgiving early, head down Street Run for the Race, visit with family, have a late Than"

# Students, faculty prepare for this year's Christmas season

**MASON EDDINGER**

*Sophomore*

With Halloween and the October month in the rear view mirror, some turn their focus on Thanksgiving. But the vast majority will now fixate their focus on the Grandfather of them all: Christmas. After all, Christmas is by far the most celebrated holiday, so the opinions and takes on the holiday season around BHS run wild.

One holiday fan in the building is English teacher, Mrs. Theresa Christian. With Christmas being her favorite holiday, this is a magical, but stressful time for her. Christian said, "I think Christmas morning is magical, watching my daughter open presents

is wonderful. We take a lot of pictures. My favorite gift every year, I give her a photo album compiled of the past year's memories." Christian said that her daughter still has the same reaction even opening her presents, even though she is in her 20s now.

Luke Peters, sophomore student at BHS, believes the appropriate time to start getting into the Christmas spirit is Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving. Peters has a very busy Christmas day schedule, saying, "Similar to most families, We start by opening our presents, attending church, then try to see as many family members as possible" This tends to be a common theme among the

attendees at BHS, trying to fit in all the families that need to be seen around the holiday season.

In a poll done in 2019 by the Gallup, it was estimated that over 93% of Americans celebrate Christmas, which is over 305.9 million people. With almost everyone celebrating Christmas, it becomes difficult to visit everyone. This has turned Christmas into a very stressful time.

One of the people that fall in this exact boat is Principal Gregory Michael. Michael says, "We attend church, open presents, see family, it's really a hectic day. [It] feels like it's going 100 miles an hour" Michael starts the Christmas festivities directly

after Thanksgiving, during Black Friday. Michael is not alone in this stance. After all, the vast majority of people do indeed put their tree and decorations up right during Black Friday. Michael's favorite part by far is watching his own kids open up their presents, saying, "It's truly magical. The best feeling in the world."

One of the most festive people in the building is math teacher, Mark Thatcher. He enjoys spending his Christmas time in Disney World. He enjoys every Christmas song, which is expected. He also said that he will not disclose what he is wearing for the holiday season, keeping it secret. When he was grow-

ing up, he recalls every kid wanting the new Atari 2600. Thatcher, though, was often focused on something of a different variant- Star Wars toys..

While Christmas is often regarded as the "most wonderful time of the year", stressful time of the year. Even with all the stress, many are in unison that Christmas is the superior holiday. The tension in the months leading up, buying the gifts, trying to fit into packed stores, or hoping to get your gift from Amazon before it sells out in a matter of minutes can be overwhelming. We can all agree, however, that feeling of giving or receiving your gift on Christmas morning makes it all worth the while.

## holiday traditions

### What's Your Favorite Holiday Tradition?



**Sean, Sophomore**  
I help decorate the tree and then we have dinner on



**Morgan Lisnock, Junior**  
"Thanksgiving dinner is my favorite holiday tradition because I get to see everyone from both sides of my family."



**Ms. Soli, Teacher**  
Every time we get up to the Market for the Diamonds for our friends. Then we have Thanksgiving dinner."



**Sean Murphy, Junior**  
"My mom's side of the family has a big gift exchange on Christmas and then we all have dinner together."

## Review: Which holiday flavors are most spirited?

**MADELYN BROWN**

*Features Editor*

**Starbucks and Dunkin', respectively, released their holiday menus. The menus are filled with various foods and drinks that exude holiday spirit.**

**Starbucks:** A holiday classic, the Peppermint Mocha has held a place on Starbucks' holiday menu for the last nineteen years. This drink showcases the peppermint flavor without it becoming overwhelming. It's a perfect drink to warm you up on a cold winter night.

The Carmel Brulée Latte captures the taste of a crème brulée perfectly. Initially, I expected that the unique burnt sugar flavor would not translate well into liquid form. However, consuming this drink was a truly enjoyable experience. The culmination of the coffee and crème brulée flavors creates a comforting and enjoyable hand-crafted drink.

The Irish Crème Cold Brew contrasts with all the other drinks on Starbucks' holiday menu. While the rest of the menu is filled with sweet flavors, this layered drink is not for the type of person who takes a little coffee with their cream and sugar. The cold brew is definitely the prominent flavor in this drink. Even though the cold brew flavor is strong, it is softened by the Irish crème cold foam so that together they form a festive energy booster.

The Toasted White Chocolate Mocha Frappuccino is delicious, but the flavors mentioned in the drink's name are not detectable. I could have ordered a caramel frappuccino and not differentiated between the two. While this drink is sweet and creamy, it is nothing special.

Drinking the Iced Sugar Cookie Almond Milk Latte is like downing a batch of Christmas cookies in the best possible way. It has a nostalgic smell that reminds me of sitting at the kitchen counter while my mom pulls out a sheet of cookies from the oven.

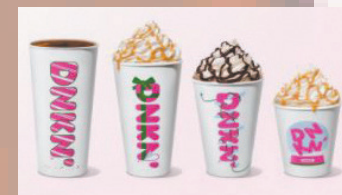
The Cranberry Bliss Bar is a rich cheesecake-like dessert bar. This decadent confection is moist and creamy and topped with dried cranberries. It is the perfect option if you are craving a Christmas treat.

**Dunkin':** The Iced Peppermint Mocha Signature Latte leaves much to be desired. The peppermint flavor overpowered any essence of mocha or sweetness. This drink also left a bitter aftertaste in my mouth. The only pleasant part of this drink is the whipped cream.

The Iced White Chocolate Signature Latte is an improvement from the Peppermint Mocha Latte, but it still is not a stellar drink. It was overly sweet, but if you are a person that enjoys very sweet coffee, you might like this drink.

Eating the Cranberry Orange Muffin is a delightful experience. The zesty flavor of the orange and the sweetness of the cranberry create a refreshing baked good that just tastes like the holidays.

With the holiday flavors filling the air, patrons will be transcended into the holiday season.



# Fall activities end their 2021 season Rifle team aims for success

SEAN MURPHY

*Assistant Sports Editor*

As fall sports at Berwick High School come to an end, the teams reflect on their season and begin to plan for next year.

## Golf

While their record did not end up where they wanted it, the golf team accomplished a major goal. Coach Eric May said, "Our main goal this year was to compete and get better every day. We decreased our overall score in each of the first 8 matches; we showed a lot of improvement throughout the entire year." May said that they will have many team practices in the upcoming summer in order to improve for next year, especially since the team has talented returning golfers. Although the golf team did not come out on top in a match, they will work to get better and compete next season.

## Field Hockey

After a disappointing season, the only direction left is up for the girls' field hockey team. They worked hard this

season, despite finishing with a single win. Similar to other teams, the field hockey squad has underclassmen ready to take on bigger roles to compete. Small changes are all this team needs to succeed looking into the future.

## Girls' Soccer

Although the girls' soccer team may not be satisfied with the outcome of their season, it was a great one nonetheless. They finished with a record of 11-5-1 and made it into the district playoffs to compete for a district title. Along with the team success, senior Kayla Fernandez scored her 100th career goal in the second half of the season. The team is losing several talented seniors this year, but the team has players prepared to take the team back to the district playoffs in the upcoming years.

## Cross Country

After a very productive season, the cross country team looks to improve even more. The girls' and boys' teams have become very competitive in their leagues, both

finishing with a record above .500. Head Coach Karen May said that "summer running will be very important for us next year." May also expects the team to improve going into next season, with a few promising returning runners. Sophomore Mattocks Shultz, was named to the Wyoming Valley Conference All-Star team, a huge feat for an underclassmen runner. After a promising fall of running, the cross country team will only look to get even more competitive in their league next season.

## Boys' Soccer

The boys' soccer team had a rough season, finishing with a record of 0-14-1, but there is a positive aspect to be found. The team gained a plethora of new players this season and showed much improvement throughout the season. But with this season year ending, all the team can do is work hard and look forward to having a great season next fall.

The teams plan to work for successful years in the future.

TRACE MANEVAL

*Sports Editor*

The Berwick Area Rifle Team is gearing up for another season, with senior captains Dustin Rhodes and Kelsey Green returning to hopefully lead the team to success. After placing third in the league last season, Coach Cathy Curtin is optimistic about their performance, "Our team's biggest strength is a solid group of returners."

Coach Curtin did cite a weakness of the team. She said the team cannot practice as much as their competition. The Berwick Rifle Team can only practice two days a week, whereas rival schools such as Emmaus can practice five days. This setback presents a problem for the team.

Despite this immense challenge, the team has made it into playoffs for the last twenty years, and Coach Curtin expects this year's team to do it again. She does hope that the team can qualify for the state team match, since that has not been done for years.

Although there are a group of students graduating this year, Coach Curtin cited Junior Captains Trace Maneval and Ben Gizenski, junior Colton Rinehimer, and sophomores Helen Sanchez, Carson Witner, and Dylan Francis as next year's potential top shooters to take the place of current seniors.

Unfortunately, the pandemic has already affected the season. Coach Curtin said that some students were out sick when tryouts were supposed to occur. On a more positive note, she is planning to return to pre-pandemic schedules where the team travels to all of the away matches. Last year, the team was forced to shoot all of their matches "postal", meaning all of the teams shot their targets and mailed them to a central location where they were scored. But, that plan should be no longer for the Rifle Team. They can now look forward to pre-pandemic times and aim for as much success as possible heading into this season.

# Girls' volleyball wins another district title

SEAN MURPHY

*Assistant Sports Editor*

With a 2021 District 3A championship now under their belt, the girl's volleyball team reflects on this season and looks ahead to next fall.

The girl's took home a district title this year. They beat Nanticoke Area this year three sets to none, destroying the competition on their way to the state playoffs. Although they took a tough loss in the first round, they are returning most of their star players next season.

Head Coach Sarah War-

ner said "We have built an incredible service rotation. Building jump servers at a much younger age than we have previously been able to accomplish," which is the probable cause for their success with a young team the past few years.

Warner also said "The team chemistry is strong because the common goals are clear and shared among all members of the team." Having a team with a winning attitude has been a key for this team and will be going forward.

Along with the team's atti-

tude, junior Camille Pinterich said "playing smart on the court" was their main key for coming out on top in the district championship. Pinterich also said "we placed the ball in smart spots to get the other team in trouble, and played really scrappy defense." As a young team, playing smarter than the competition is extremely important.

With such a successful team, there are bound to be moments that players and coaches just can not forget. Warner said her favorite moment of the season was "Beating Nan-

ticoke in the Wyoming Valley West tournament to become tournament champs."

In addition to this win, Junior Cecilia Isenberg was named tournament MVP, which Warner said was the first time a player of hers had received this award. New accomplishments certainly played a major part in bringing this team together to achieve their overall goals.

Even after a season like the girls had, players and coaches still believe that there is room for improvement. Pinterich said that the team's

"lack of communication and trust on the court needs to change for next year...but with confidence and more hard work that will be an easy fix." Working hard in the off-season on the weaknesses that the team has will certainly help this team get over the hump and make a run in the state playoffs.

As the Lady Dawgs continue to strive for future successful seasons, Coach Warner said that the team's offense "will need to become more versatile and less predictable."

# Football team advances to playoffs



**MASON EDDINGER**  
*Sophomore*

After a 1-3 start to the season, many people felt 2021 was on a similar path as last year. The group on the inside, though, kept their heads down and kept working.

After a 42-14 loss in Harold L. Boling Memorial Stadium against the Selinsgrove Seals, the Dawgs clicked. Berwick rattled off 6 of 7 in the win column, including a 4 game win streak from September 24th to October 15th. During which, they had a positive point differential of 62.

Berwick would enter the PIAA Class 4A playoffs as the 4 seed. On the opening night of the playoffs, Berwick absolutely dominated the Wallenpaupack Area Buckhorns en route to a 37-17 win. The confidence of this group would continue, for good reason too. After all, they would head into the Valley View playoff game with losing just one game in nearly 2 months.

Entering the game, Valley View outscored opponents 436-110 through 10 games. Their high powered offense averaged 43.6 points a game,

with defense holding out by, only allowing 11 points a ball game. This would, by far, be the toughest test of the 2021 season for the dawgs.

Berwick played well through one quarter, tied at 0-0. Valley View was able to put up 14 in the 2nd quarter, making it 14-0 at half. Valley View added a touchdown to make it 21-0. Then with 3:03 left in the game, after grabbing a check down, Senior Runningback Benjamin Knorr went down with a Back Injury. He laid on the turf for upwards of 15 minutes, later being escorted by an ambulance.

With the season's end, 2022 football seniors played their last game in bulldog uniform.

After a rough 1-3 start, the Bulldogs rallied back to finish 7-5, a very respectable mark. The dawgs have a lot of momentum moving forward into the 2022 season. But for now, it's back to the winter months spent in the weight room, the spring months where practice opens back up, and the dreaded heat of the hot summer days.

contd from pg1  
**HOLIDAY**

money in the kettles; the event is sponsored by the local Salvation Army.

Members of SHOW enjoy greeting people and simply being out in the community. Sandra Kile, SHOW's advisor, said the event will promote holiday joy in the community by "seeing young people help in the community."

In addition, SHOW decorates an "angel tree" every year. Members decorate a tree and arrange gifts for families in need.

"Angels," paper pamphlets with information on a child, including gender and age, have lists of items they would like that students and teachers buy for local families. The

In a usual year, people would grab food they need on their own; however, this year they needed volunteers to help out with the newly formed drive through where boxed

foods are put into cars' trunks. The group also volunteered at the food kitchen on October 30th. The event was held at Salvation Army, but it was run by the Berwick United Way.

Photo by Carly Hill



A Tyler Robinson, Jamison Patton, Harlee Mowery

event, sponsored by SHOW, transpires from November 5th to December 15th.

On top of these events, SHOW gave boxes of food to local families at the Nescopeck Community Cupboard.

Every Saturday, the United Way has such service events and SHOW makes sure to volunteer twice a year.

Students look forward to starting the holidays by getting involved with their community.

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**Policy:** *The Student Times* staff of the Berwick Area High School is an equal opportunity, non-profit organization that has an open forum striving to publish current events and student concerns. All help is appreciated, and editorials are welcome as long as they are signed and have the grade level included. They can be dropped off in room 60. *The Student Times* staff reserves the right to edit any submissions due to lack of space, to avoid libelous statements, or to fit the journalistic standards of the publication. All editorials are strictly opinion and often do not reflect the views of the staff. This printed newspaper is published by *The Press Enterprise*.

### Contribute to the Student Times

Suggestions are welcome!

Submit articles, editorials or ideas in room 60.

### *The First Amendment*

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.



## *BHS celebrates 2021 Homecoming*



Photos by Carly Hill

Top Left: Kayla Vencloski, Tawney Culver, Daniel Seigfried, Grace Seigfried, Jared Smith, Brenna Fester, Cadence Zeigler; Top Right: students dance and socialize; Bottom Left: Homecoming King Miles Doll and Queen Emma Colone; Bottom Right: Sprite Areche, Emily Schultz; Bottom Middle: students purchase snacks and beverages at the school's snack station

## Cinderella's closet works to provide students outfits

**ALLIE SHULTZ**  
Junior

This year, Juniors Anna Rinehimer and Allie Shultz ran Cinderella's Closet with help from many others; even if they only gave an hour it made a difference. On October 29th, donations to Cinderella's closet were due. The

racks were filled with gorgeous dresses, just waiting for someone to come along and find a dream dress. Suits were also donated, leaving everyone with options.

There was a lot of preparation that went into getting ready for November 4th and 5th- the try on dates. After

school gatherings were held in order to successfully have all the dresses ready and organized to go for the big days. Students of all grades and social circles came to lend a helping hand. On the first day, from 4pm to 7pm, very few people attended, and even fewer walked out

with a dream dress. This event was extremely discouraging.

However, the next night brought hope for the closet as many came and discovered a dress to make Homecoming a special night. Students assisting felt ecstatic to be able to hand out beautiful dresses to

deserving people. Members of the group want to make more nights memorable for all dances to come.

Interested students should look out for more posters and announcements for the closet as more school dances near. For more information, email Rinehimer or Shultz.