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1100 Fowler Avenue Berwick, PA 18603

#### "The Choir" brings fame, song to Berwick community

**REBECCA MCGANN**Senior

Some residents and workers in Berwick recently had a once-in-a-lifetime experience. In one week, they put

together a choir to perform a concert for the community. The most exciting part is that the whole process could be broadcast on nationwide

televi-

sion.



(Photo by Student Times Staff) )Students who participated in "The Choir" gathered in the Band Shell after the concert.

Film crews and producers for the British show "The Choir" decided to try their luck in the United States. In their show, a small town is chosen. A vocal conductor named Gareth Malone travels to this town with a film crew and accompanists. Once

there, they put together a choir out of the locals. The whole point of the show is to bring a community together through music.

There was an extensive

selection process for the place that would be the subject of the show. The producers and Malone considered towns and cities all

over the

country. Then they narrowed the list down to finalists. Out of the finalists, Berwick was chosen. That meant that a lot of work was ahead for the small town.

Anyone who wanted to be involved had to go through a strict process filled with forms and releases. Any

business owner, choir member or extra person filmed in segments to be used for the television show had to fill out the paper work. Minors had to be accompanied by a legal guardian at all times.

Two of the high school's own teachers were the most involved. Mrs. Melissa Driscole, the chorus director, and Mr. Ronald Wasser, the band director, helped the crew along the entire process. They ran errands, fixed problems and many other things.

"It was stressful at times, and sometimes inconvenient to help out the film crew and Gareth," Driscole said. "Most of the time though, it was very exciting."

Driscole was not the only one excited about the opportunity for Berwick.

"The whole experience was so positive for Berwick," senior Robert Frankford, who was a member, said. "It brought people together." Bringing people together was one of the main goals of making a community choir in Berwick.

Many people came out to join. The rehearsal room in the band shell was absolutely packed every night with

people eager to learn the music. This was in part to do with Malone.

"I miss having the practices with Gareth.
He was great!"
Frankford Sophor churka, T-shirt.

Malone pushed the members of the choir to learn two songs for the concert. They practiced for two hours for six days out of the eight the crew was in town. They had only one night off. The other day they were bused to a recording studio in Pittsburgh, where they practiced their songs and got to hear themselves. The songs were quite complex for the singers,

especially since most of them could not even read music. He, along with his piano player, shared his love of

music.

"I have been obsessed with music since before I can remember," Malone said during one of the practices. "Music has a way of bringing evervone together. That is what I



Sophomores, Maddison Stewart and Kaylee Kachurka, and Keana Cook give Gareth a Berwick T-shirt.

want Berwick to experience. I know that learning all of this music is hard, and I know that making telly shows is inconvenient to the learning sometimes, but I really believe that we [The Berwick Community Choir] can put on an amazing concert."

"I think that the concert went really well," choir member and high school freshman CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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Joe Paterno
Joe Paterno dies from cancer,
leaving the state shaken.
(Pg. 2)



Cupcakes Cupcake decorating tests students' culinary creativity (Pg. 5)



Sno\*Ball Winter formal showcases "All That Glitters" (Pg. 8-9)



Valentine's Day Dance Students rock out during annual dance

(Pg. 11)

# WORLD NEW

## JoePa remembered by more than Penn State

**ELINOR ASEVEDO** 

Freshman

Joe Paterno's death upset millions when he died of lung cancer on January 22,

2012 at the age of 85. The last couple of months have been tough for both him and his fans, but his



(Nabil K. Mark/Centre Daily Times/MCT)

legacy will live on as they choose to remember the high-vember of 2010 he was fired

lights of his life.

Ioe Paterno was born on December 21, 1926 in Brooklvn, New York. He attended Brown University where he

played football as the quarterback and a cornerback. It was there that he signed on as an assistant football coach at Penn State in

1950. Unfortunately, in No-

do to the Jerry Sandusky child abuse sex charges.

During his 61 years of coaching at Penn State, Paterno became a beloved and iconic figure of the college. He was well known for thick, square glasses. He placed an emphasis on ethics and moral conduct. His philosophy on

football was a signature of his coaching style. He and his Football Bowl Subdivision wife, Sue, donated more than \$4 million to Penn State, and funded the school's library that bears their names. Pa-

terno held the record for the most victories by an NCAA



(Nabil K. Mark/Centre Daily Times/MCT)

Division I (FBS) football coach. Joe Paterno lived for Penn State till the very end when he died of lung cancer on

January 22, 2012 at the age of 85. He reached a total of 409 victories and was the only FBS coach to reach 400 victories. He brought five undefeated teams that won major bowl games. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2007.

Ioe Paterno was an iconic figure of Penn state. He brought the team to many victories, making the college a prestigious one for that reason. He was one of the top donators for Penn State, giving over \$4 million dollars of his own money. Paterno will never be forgotten for all the love and dedication he placed into the team and to the school.

## Berwick student achieves musical accomplishment

**TAYLOR STAIR** 

Reviews Editor

On December 7, 2011, senior trumpet player Allison Gordner was named a U.S. Army All-American Marching Band participant. She is the second musician from Berwick High School to be selected for the Marching Band. The presentation of this accomplishment was held in our auditorium with the presence of her family and students within the music department.

The U.S. Army All-American Marching Band selects one hundred twenty- five of the United States most elite musicians. To become an All-

American, Allison had to go through a challenging and tedious audition process. She had to present her marching and trumpet playing skills by recording three different videos. For the final video, Gordner had to introduce herself and explain who she is as an individual and all of the activities she is involved in. She is President of the band and is very involved in PMEA festivals for chorus as

Gordner received the news back in July that she had

well as band.



been selected for the band, but was not allowed to share her news with anyone. Due to the Army's protocol, each selected participant is to have

their own press conference.

On January 2 2012, Gordner flew to San Antonio, Texas for a week to learn an entire show in a total of twenty-four hours.

This year's show featured the songs Rhapsody in Blue and Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy.

She worked hard through intense practices along with the rest of the band to compose a perfect half

time field show that was performed in front of thousands of spectators during the U.S. Army All-American Bowl.

When asked about her

experience Gordner said, "It was the experience of a lifetime and was definitely worth the time and effort put into the audition. I made a lot of new friends and had the chance to perform in front of a huge crowd doing the thing I love most, music." Gordner was one of five chosen from the state of Pennsylvania. "It was an honor to be a part of it all and represent our school. If I could rewind time I would go back and do it all again in a heartbeat," Gordner added.

Gordner was the second consecutive winner of this accomplishment within the past two years.

#### Student shoots up school in Ohio; leaving three dead in outbreak

reactions to them. Lane's

**ERICA ROBBINS** 

Co-Editor-In-Chief

Three students are dead, and two remain in

critical condition after a student opened up fire in a high school cafeteria in Ohio.

On Monday, February 27, 2011, 17-year-old TJ Lane went into Chardon

High School and openly shot five students leaving them in critical condition and making them fight for their lives. He used a .22-caliber gun with 10 shots ready plus he had a knife which he was going to use as back up. He entered the building just before classes started. Lane shot four of them in the cafeteria and one in the hallway on his way out.

**Demetrius Hewlin** 

Classmates of TJ Lane

said that he was a quiet outcast who was bullied and at the start of his freshman year he entered



Russell King Jr.

family life was filled with violence and divorce. In 2002, his dad was arrest



**Daniel Paramertor** 

his mind-set.

Daniel Parmertor died

the same day not long

after he was shot. On

Joy Rickers

Nickolas Walczak

(Ed Suba Jr./Akron Beacon Journal/MCT) that he "chose

pretty much ignored him and left him mind his own business from that point on. In late December, he posted a poem on his Facebook page that read: "He longed for only one thing, the world to bow at his feet," and ended with: "Die, all of you." Students who he passed on his way into the cafeteria said that he did not act strange and

had completely normal

a goth phase. Every one

and served jail time on assault charges. Some are



(Ed Suba Jr./Akron Beacon Journal/MCT)

saying that these could have played a key role in Tuesday, February 28, 2012, Russell King, was pronounced brain dead, about five hours later police were informed that King had "passed." Demetrius Hewlin also died on Tuesday from a fatal head wound. One still remains in the hospital while the other survivor has been released.

A teacher on lunch duty, Frank Hall, saw what was happening and immediately ran over and forced

him outside the building. The teacher is being called a hero, while he believes it was just his duty

as a teacher

to protect his students. Lane has confessed to taking the pistol and shooting 10 rounds in the cafeteria. His family is saying that he did not know the students and them ran-

domly". He will be prosecuted within the coming weeks, where he is being charged with three counts of aggravated murder. Until he is found guilty, his grandfather and aunts (in-custody of him) asked he will be staying in a juvenile detention center. Classes were cancelled for all of the school located within the Chardon Area School District and resumed on Friday, March 2, 2011.





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## Valentine's Day Brings Special Memories

#### DOMINIC SCICCHITANO

Freshman

This Valentine's Day, Student Council orchestrated yet decoraanother successful dance for BHS' Life Skill's class. As a result of the hard work and dedication put in by Mrs. Melissa Driscole and the Student Council members, the dance turned out to be an extremely fun, enjoyable event for all the students, teachers, and administrators involved.

For the past twelve years at Berwick Area High School, Student Council has organized a Valentine's Day Dance as a creative event for the Life Skill's class. For them, the dance is something that is highly anticipated and enjoyed every year. Prior to this year's dance, Student Council was working hard

to make sure everything was ready for the dance to be a success. From preparing

tions to collecting donations, the dance had kept Student Council very busy over the past few months. As far as they were

con-

cerned,

product of the dance was definitely worth the time.

"It was a lot of fun, and was a great experience. It

was great to see how all the



Above: Students dance and enjoy the Valentine's Day Dance. (Photos by Dakota Milo

students had a great time at the dance," said Student

Council member and Junior Erica Robbins, who DI'ed the dance.

> When it comes to the dance itself, it is something that is anticipated by both the Life Skill's class and Student Council. For the Life Skill's students, the dance is a great opportunity for them to socialize with other students from Berwick and even Life Skill students from out-of-district. To Student Council, the dance is also a very important event.

Student Council coordinator Mrs. Driscole said, "The Life Skills dance is one of the most special events Student

Council hosts. My favorite part is to watch the interac-

tion between the students at the dance. It makes me very proud of all of our students involved."

Mrs. Debra Kern, Life Skill's teacher, had similar things to say about the dance, "The dance is very special to all the students. It's something that they enjoy every year." This year's Valentine's Day Dance was no exception. Every single student at the dance enjoyed the fun, friendly atmosphere that the dance offered.

The Valentine's Day Dance here at Berwick Are High School is one of our school's greatest traditions, because it supports unity among all students. Everyone that participated in the dance enjoyed it, and will definitely be a part of the Valentine's Day Dance next year.

### Remember this Senior Year

XIOMARA SALAZAR

Sophomore

Senior Video is a club where selected juniors and seniors collect footage of the senior class and put it

together in a video as a symbol of their year.

The video features sports, clubs, buddies, and other unique segments that will help highlight the important events of the senior class's year. It was started to summarize the seniors' final year of high school. It will help the seniors remember their senior year and it will be a token for them that will last a life-time since being a high school senior is a once-and-a- life time event.

Senior Video members attend each school event with cameras in hand to capture

the numerous amounts of memories for Seniors to look back and reminisce on.

"It makes the seniors happy and it is a keepsake for their



(Photos by Dakota Milo) events. For more infor-

class reunions," said Erica Robbins, Junior and Senior Video Editor. Robbins helps take footage and creates the video by using special video editing software.

"I feel as though this project is very beneficial to the awesome memory of my senior year," said Taylor Stair, Senior. Stair is in the Band, the

> Bowling Team, Chorus, Modernaires, French Club, SADD, NHS, Student Times, and Jazz Band. She hopes that all of these important clubs get highlighted in the Senior Video and hopes it is a huge success.

> The student body can participate by coming to Mrs. Christian's room and acquiring a camera in order to film sporting

mation, you can stop by room 60 or talk to Dakota Milo. The Senior Video will air the last week of school for student body to view, so remember to watch!

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# Students learn to decorate cupcakes



Above: Students use their cupcake techniques to decorate cupcakes Lower Right: Decorated cupcake

#### XIOMARA SALAZAR

Clubs and Events Editor
On Friday, January 20th
2012, culinary students made
cupcakes and decorated
them.

The cupcakes were part of the culinary cake decorating unit. Before making a cake to decorate, students practiced their cake decorating techniques on their cupcakes. The students were given a chance to explore their creativity by making their own designs on the cupcakes.

All the Culinary students participated in this unit, and to show their appreciation, some of the students gave their cupcakes to friends and teachers.

"It (the cupcake) was sweet like her," said Mr. Robert Kuchta, Math Teacher, who received a cupcake from Kathleen Kile, Senior and Culinary Student. Kile enjoyed the project and thought it was a good way to learn the cake decorating unit.

"It was a fun and memorable experience," said Kile.
"Who wouldn't like to be rewarded for their hard work with a beautiful cupcake," said Mrs. Rebecca Knorr, Culinary teacher. This handson experience was a fun and rewarding way to practice what the students have been learning about cake decorating.

"I cannot wait for the decorating unit. It is going to be interesting and I hope my cupcake turns out good," said Freshman and Culinary Student, Mason Vandermark who is taking the Culinary class for the third and fourth marking period. For additional information about Culinary classes or the cupcakes, please contact Mrs. Knorr in room 25.

#### Club promotes international affairs

#### XIOMARA SALAZAR

Clubs and Events Editor

Model UN is a club where students get together and learn more about other countries and members learn about how the real United Nation works. Model UN is an opportunity for students interested in international affairs, debate and diplomacy.

"I really enjoy the Model UN. I have done it the past four years and I have always found it very interesting," said Brandon Strickland, Senior and President of Model UN.

Every year in April, members attend a Model United Nations Conference at Bloomsburg University. At the conference, students participate in a simulated United Nations Conference



(Photo by Bruce Guenther) Above: Model UN members

which they complete with other area high schools. Club members research a country and learn the country's views on certain topics. Then students participate in role play since they take on the views of the assigned country. Last year, members debated with other "countries" on issues like United Nations Global Plan of Action against trafficking in persons, the human right to water and sanitation, the situation in Somalia, post conflict peace building, the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and many other issues

For information about Model UN, contact Mr. Guether in Room 42.

## Juniors attend Board Meeting



(Photos by Theresa Christian) Above: School Board Members address issues such as extra curricular affairs, academic affairs, retirements and recognitions



Above: Randy Peters gets presented with the PAESSP Principal of the Year presented by Chris McCarthy of VALIC

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#### The Big Bang not just scientific theory

#### **MIKE TORRES**

Sports Editor

The Big Bang Theory is not only the theory on how the universe was made, but is also a witty comedy on CBS. The television series focuses on a group of scientists working at the California Institute of Technology who are extremely intelligent, but have no social

skills.

Their neighbor, a community college dropout named Penny, balances these scientists' social awkwardness out. She helps them through social situations with common sense and reason. The cast is wonderful, although most are inexperienced actors.

Johnny Galecki, who is best known for his role as David Healy on the sitcom Rosanne, plays the main character, Leonard Hofstadter. He has also been in several movies and has starred in numerous shows on Broadway. His role as Leonard is

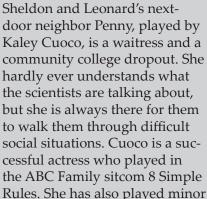


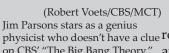
(Robert Voets/CBS/MCT) Jim Parsons (left) and Johnny Galecki star in CBS' "The Big Bang

by far his biggest and most well known role.

Leonard's genius roommate Sheldon Cooper is played by Jim Parsons. Cooper has starred in off Broadway plays and has had minor roles in movies and sitcoms. His role as Sheldon has made him an international super star. Cooper's characterization of a genius is perfect, with outstanding intellect

> but ignorance when it comes to social skills.





physicist who doesn't have a clue roles in many different sitcoms on CBS' "The Big Bang Theory." and movies.

Simon Helberg plays this interesting character named Howard Wolowitz. Wolowitz is their odd, over aggressive, Jewish fellow scientist who is always in pursuit of the opposite sex. Helberg has not been in anything major besides The Big Bang Theory.

Overall I found The Big Bang Theory is very entertaining. The mix of intelligence, social awkwardness, and witty humor makes the show entertaining to all who watch it.

## Biggest Loser enormous success

**BRANDON BERKES** 

Senior

The Biggest Loser is a reality TV show about overweight people trying to accomplish immense weight loss while competing against other contestants. The show airs on NBC on Tuesday nights at 9pm.

The Biggest Loser is now on its 14th season and still receives great ratings. The host of the show, Alison Sweeney is a well known actress starring in the soap opera, The Days of Our Lives.

The show also has three trainers, Anna Kournikova, a professional tennis star, Dolvett Quince, a professional trainer for athletes and stars, and Bob Harper also a professional trainer for stars.

This season they separated the contestants into three

groups of five. The first group was ages 30 years and younger, the second group 30-49 years old, and the last group was 50 and up. There are 12 weeks total in the show; every week features different obstacles the contestants have to face.

One week that stood out for me, is week 11 where the 5 remaining contestants put on weight all over their body to the original weight they started out with when they first came to the ranch. Some of the contestants had to put on more than 100 pounds again. It is very emotional for the contestants to realize how far they have come and how much weight they have lost.

Also during that week the contestants had complete transformations and make overs from head to toe with-

out costing the contestants anything. The make overs are sponsored by Progressive.

The final week, week 12, is the most anticipated week of all. All of the eliminated contestants return to be a participant in a marathon totaling 26.2 miles.

However, there is a special circumstance to the participant that comes in first place, even if they have already been eliminated from the show. That participant is guaranteed a spot in the final round with the final three.

Tune into NBC on Tuesday nights at 9/8c to watch the episodes of the Biggest Loser. It is an emotional and inspirational show that showcases the story and lives of overweight people and how they have turned their life around one pound at a time.

## Zoo unites shattered family

**MARIE SPUCHES** 

Activities Editor

Released on December 23, 2011, We Bought a Zoo made 9.5 million dollars its opening weekend. Based on a true story, it stars many successful actors like Matt Damon, Scarlett Johansson, and Thomas Haden Church.

Benjamin Mee, played by Matt Damon, was a recent widowed father of two and decides his family needs a fresh start. He decided that moving is the best way to accomplish this goal. His son, Dylan does not enjoy the idea of moving as much as his younger sister Rosie and his father. Rosie was excited to move to a new neighborhood and into a new house.

The moved is prompted even more when Dylan gets in trouble and kicked out of school. The family buys a beautiful house in the county, however it also a zoo.

The movie showed how the Mee family and the small unpaid zoo staff, who have stuck around even after the zoo closed, work hard to restore the zoo to its former glory.

A major theme that was carried throughout the movie was about moving on. Benjamin experienced an emotional journey throughout the events of the movie that caused him to be able to rebuild his family and the zoo.

Kelly Foster, played by Scarlett Johansson, was a zoo employee who helped Benjamin move on from his deceased wife Katherine by being his new love interest. She also played a key role in helping Benjamin fix his tattered relationship with his son Dylan.

Dylan also experienced an emotional journey. The movie shows how Dylan changed from being the quiet, angry, anti-social teenager to a kind, lovable and son. Kelly's niece Lily Miska helped Dylan change and helped his anger go away.

Another important role in the movie is played by Thomas Haden Church. He plays the role of Duncan Mee, Benjamin's older brother. Duncan told him to not buy the house and zoo. However, from the purchase of the house to opening day at the zoo, Duncan has a change of heart. He said "I like animals, but I love people."

I believe this was a good movie with emotional points and a comedic feel to it. The journeys each character made were very inspiring and made the film very believable and great for the entire family.

## Wednesday nights become family comedy night

#### **ELINOR ASEVEDO**

Freshman

A new hit show is taking over homes on Wednesday nights. Modern Family follows the lives of three modern-day families as they embark on everyday situations in a humorous comedic style.

The show Modern Family is a mock documentary that explores the many different types of "modern families" through the stories of a gay couple, Mitchell and



(Al Seib/Los Angeles Times/MCT) The cast of "Modern Family" with through Jay Pritchtheir award backstage at the 69th ett and his children, Annual Golden Globe Awards

Cameron and their daughter Lily and a straight couple, Phil and Claire, and their three kids Haley, Alex, and Luke. The show also includes a multicultural couple Jay and Gloria and their son Manny. These three types of families are being taped by a Dutch documentary

> crew who are using them for an upcoming realitybased television series expected to air in The Netherlands.

The three families are interrelated Claire Dunphy and Mitchell Pritchett.

Jay Pritchett is in a relationship with a younger woman, Gloria, who is a passionate mother and with the help of Jay, raises her son Manny. Claire is a homemaker mom married to Phil, a real estate agent and self-professed cool dad. They have three children Haley the stereotypical teenager, Alex the smart middle child, and Luke the offbeat only son. Mitchell, a lawyer and his partner Cameron have adopted a Vietnamese baby named Lily.

The series has won two Emmy's for Outstanding Comedy Series and Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series, as well as Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series. It

has also won a Golden Globe is that Mitchell and Cam-

for Best Television Series- Musical or Comedy.

Here are some fun an interesting facts about Modern Family. All interior shots are filmed at Fox Studios in Culver The cast of ABC's "Modern Fam-City, but the exte- ily" with their awards backstage rior of the homes in the show are

filmed outside actual houses that vary in location near the studio. Modern Family is also the first ABC series to win an Emmy for Outstanding Comedy Series in twenty-two years since the show The Wonder Years. One final fact about the show

eron adopted a child from Vietnam in the show. This is legally impossible because Vietnam's laws forbid a child to be adopted (Kirk McKoy/Los Angeles Times/MCT) by single parent or same sex couple. How-

ever, they could

try to adopt the child but it would be impossible to bring back to the United States.

at the 18th Annual Screen Actors

Guild Awards show.

Furthermore, Modern Family is a great show that is appropriate for the entire family and I would recommend it to anyone looking for a good laugh.

### Psych on season six

**BRENNA GOULSTONE** 

Sophomore

The television series *Psych* is a television show that demonstrates different ways to solve crimes. Psych was created by Steve Franks who also worked on the show Skiptracer and I Dream of Jeannie.

This television series is a combination of comedy and mystery, which makes it very entertaining. First aired on July 7, 2006, the show is now on its sixths season, and is still as funny as ever.

The cast of Psych has good relations on and off the set. Their chemistry makes the show very believable and funny.

The show stars James Roday, who plays a snarky psychic Shawn Spencer, who works for the California S.P.D. with his best friend Burton Guster. His nickname is Gus and he is played by Dule Hill. During his child-

hood, Shawn developed the remarkable talent for noticing the tiniest of details from his father and policeman, Corbin Bernsen.

There are also detectives that help Shawn solve the crimes. Juliet O'Hara, played by Maggie Lawson, is one of the detectives that works with Shawn to solve crimes. Shawn always flirts with Juliet, but fails at every attempt.

There is also Carlton Lassiter, played by Timothy Omundson. Carlton is a detective that can stand Shawn and does not believe Shawn's psychic abilities even though Shawn has successfully solved numerous crimes.

Psych is on every Wednesday at 10pm and runs for an hour. The show is very entertaining and the whole family will enjoy it!

Even after six seasons, the show is still as successful as ever!

#### Dining with Dakota

#### **DAKOTA MILO**

Food Columnist

Tired of not being able to get what you want? Subway located on West Front Street is the place to get what you want.

When walking into Subway the first thing the person over the counter asks is what type of bread would the customer like? The customer can also chose to have a six-inch or footlong

After choosing, the customer can walk past the long counter offering many varieties of toppings and dressings. The customer can choose anything they want to put on their sub.

After the customer chooses their main meal, they can choose to have something extra like chips, yogurt,

cookies, or an apple.

Subway is also kid friendly, because most kids tend to be picky eaters and they have the opportunity as well as



**MILO** 

adults to choose what they want to eat.

Another great deal that Subway offers is their five dollar footlong. One can get any footlong with a lot of

toppings for only five dol-

Subway's location on Front Street makes it convenient to stop in a get a good bite to eat without having to drive out of the way.

The atmosphere in subway is just like a small cafe. The lights and wallpaper give the restaurant the cafe-like feel. There are tables along side of the glass windows so customers can watch the business of Front Street.

The staff at Subway is also very friendly, attempting to please everyone.

The quality of food is also very good with homemade bread made every morning, the subs from subway are known to be the best in town. So when you are dying to eat a sub, just remember Subway eat fresh!

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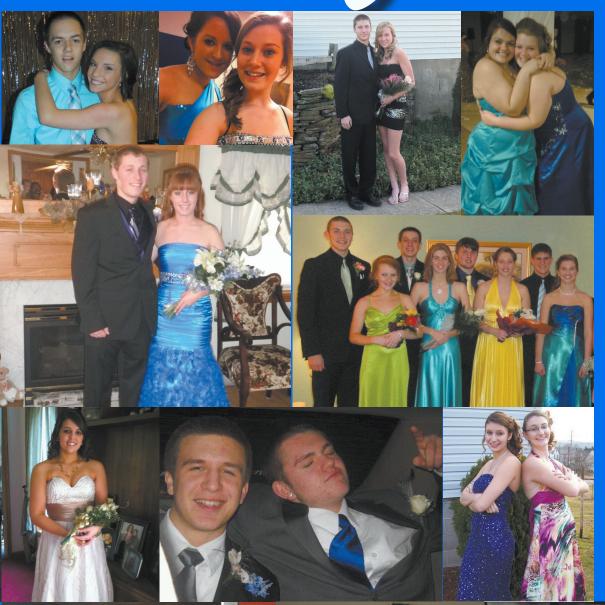
# SHO\* Ball: All



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# that guitters





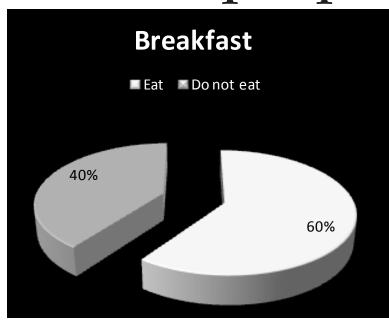


Queen Lena Hart & King Jordan Nevius

The Court



## PSSA preparation and statistics



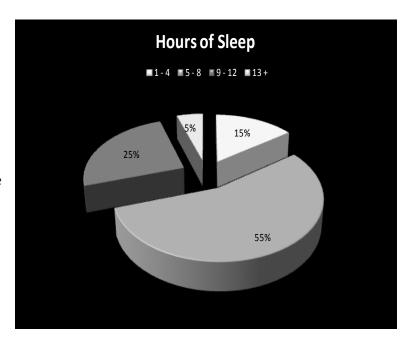
Survey results:

Amount of people who eat breakfast before the PSSA:

60% eat breakfast 40% do not eat breakfast

Hours of sleep before the PSSA:

15% get 1-4 hours of sleep. 55% get 5-8 hours of sleep. 25% get 9-12 hours of sleep. 5% get 13+ hours of sleep.



## Students give opinion on PSSA preparation and tips:



Jennifer Schmidt
Senior
"I read more often and study my math notes. Take great notes, study the night before, don't just guess.
These really count."



Kiana Kingston
Senior
"I pay attention in class all year. Don't just guess, try and answer correctly."



Junior
"I rummage through my locker to find all my old worksheets and study. Remember to bring food."



Senior
"I study, I get a good night's sleep, and have an awesome breakfast in the morning.
Don't slack off, PSSAs are serious."



Kasey Bacher
Junior
"I eat a healthy breakfast, I get a good night's sleep, and I look over/review important concepts. Be relaxed and confident in your abilities."



Mackenzy Meeker
Junior
"I prepared for the writing section in composition class, and we have math resource.
Never leave a question blank."



Yollyce Ayala
Junior
"I pay attention all year, and use my resources on the test. Don't take classes for granted."



## Baseball Season is in full swing

#### **DONNIE SHIELDS**

Co-Sports Editor

The Baseball season is almost about to begin with Open Gym already taking place in the

Berwick Middle School facility.

Coaches and most players reported late last month to get this season in full swing, while some players are late to arrive due to the end of winter sports.

The team has high expectations for this year, considering the fact that they

made play-offs last year, the team has to be looking to take their season to the next level. Though the loss of last year's seniors hurts, the team is excited about the new talent that is coming up and the seniors this year that will hopefully lead this group to that next level.

Senior First Baseman. Brandon Berkes spoke about the team and his goals on the season ahead. "My goals are like everybody's own personal goals, get better. I feel like



(Photo by Student TimesStaff)

T.J. Laschok steps up to the plate during a game last season

I need to improve my hitting and the only way I am going to get better is by getting to the batting cages and working on my fundamentals. As for the team, we need to supply that same energy and great clubhouse like we did last year."

Brandon also spoke on his

point-of-view of his team this year compared to last year and how the team will move on without their former seniors. "Losing seniors happens to every school

and program, but everybody this year knows their role and is excited to fulfill that role. Those losses only means that people need to step up. We are thankful for the seniors last year but at the same time, have to move on and go beyond what we as a team accomplished last season.

The Berwick Baseball team sounds like they are excited to play baseball in the spring, but until that time comes where they can smell the fresh cut grass of the field, they will have to keep practicing indoors. Perfecting their batting, pitching and catching.

#### Soft Ball Preview

ASHTON MENSINGER

Sophomore

As the season approaches, the Berwick Girls' Varsity Softball team is already hard at work. By getting an early start, they hope to have the edge over their competition.

Beginning in January, open gyms were held every Sunday for the entire team. Also, pitchers and catchers met every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to practice. During these preseason practices, the girls worked mainly on their fundamentals with hopes of perfecting them by the start of the season.

At the end of last season, the team finished with a record of 12-7. This year, they hope to improve from the previous season and finish with a better record. Head Varsity Coach, Brain Bridge said, "Our goal every year is to improve from the last season. That is always our measuring stick, until we establish ourselves as a seasonal leader in the Wyoming Valley Conference."

With the loss of last year's graduates, Courtney Shields, Sarah Dalo, and Brianna Winter, the team will remain strong with many young returners to who have varsity experience. Last year's starting lineup included five freshmen and one sophomore. This group of girls has shown teamwork in the past and will bring this once again into this season.

Although a solid team, there is always room for improvement. Bridge said, "We are going to work hard to become a better offensive team. We need to score more runs to take pressure off our defense."

With plenty of hard work and dedication, the team should be able to reach their goals and have a successful season. Keep an eve out for the softball schedule and come support the girls in their upcoming games.

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(Photo by Student Times Staff)

Abby Remley practices her hitting at softball practice.

#### Ups and downs, highs and lows for Berwick winter sports

#### **MIKE TORRES**

Sports Editor

The winter sports at BHS are all wrapping-up and coming to an end. It has been a warm winter and with this warm winter came a wonderful sports season for the Berwick athletic programs. From rifle to wrestling the season was action packed.

Although the boys bowling team did not come out with any victories this season, they did however, bowl their hearts out. Finishing up the season 0-6 the pins did not fall their way this season. There were also many good times for the team. Drew Berube senior said, "Being around teammates and friends was one of the highlights of my season." They bonded as a team through senior leadership this year, and it is safe to say the underclassmen have learned a lot through the tough times suffered this year.

The girls bowling season had a brighter outcome than the boys this year. The girl's record evened out with three wins and three defeats. The girls finished with an exclamation point to the season

with a 4-0 victory over the Rams of Columbia-Montour AVTS.



Senior Corey Reigel bowling

at Berwick might not be the most well known but it is definitely one of the most successful teams this year. Overcoming a 0-2 start the boys and girls of the rifle team has had their fair share of challenges this season. Through the help of seniors and several underclassmen the team has turned the season around with a 6-2 record. It has been one excit-

The co-ed rifle team here



(Photo by Horizons Staff)



(Photo by Dakota Milo)

Senior Swetha Kumar aims and shoots at targets down range.

a win can be decided by mere millimeters. There have rience they will be a force to

been a few one point wins and a few one point losses this year. Anything can happen in co-ed rifle and if this season was any indication of seasons to come, Berwick rifle will be shooting their way to

victory for many more years.

The boy's basketball team has vastly improved this

season over last year's one win season. Although, they have only won three games and suffered seventeen defeats, the team has grown under first year Berwick Head Coach Jason Kingery. Brandon Fenstermacher senior said, "Coaching has been a big strength for our team this vear." Coach

Kingery has changed not only the losing streak but also the losing environment from the inside out. The boys have been in every game this season, fighting for respect in Berwick athletics. Experience was one of the team's biggest

ing season; it is a sport where weaknesses this season. If this season. young team gains more expe-

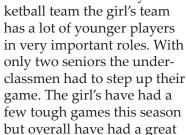


(Photo by Student Times Staff) The boys rally around Coach Kingery at a game.

reckon with in the next few

The girl's basketball team

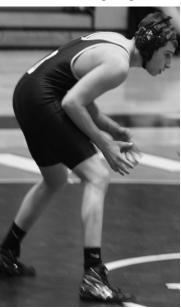
was faced with a huge challenge this year. They had to replace a senior class that lead them to a highly successful season. But these girls had plenty of success of their own this year. They lead the Lady Dawgs to an impressive eight and (Photo by Student Times Staff) fourteen record. Just like the boy's bas-



Senior Geena Palermo practicing her

shot before a game.

Wrestling here at Berwick High School is a program with a tradition called winning and that tradition is still alive today. The wrestling team has had a fairly successful season so far this year. They have won fifteen matches and lost fifteen matches with a lot of highlight victories. This team has worked so hard this year, practicing takedowns, pins, and escapes like no other team does. As a whole the Berwick wrestling team is a strong team when their wrestlers are on top during the matches. They are also strong at escaping from the bottom position. The middleweights of the team are defiantly their best weight class the team has a solid group of guys in this area. Andrew Woznock junior said, "I think we could have four or five kids that will go to Regional's, maybe even more." It is going to be



(Photo by Student Times Staff) Senior Anthony Talanca gets ready to pin his opponent at his match.

an exciting run for the Berwick wrestlers in the playoffs this year.

## College Basketball "March Madness"

**MIKE TORRES** Sports Editor



(Jim McIsaac/Newsday/MCT)

The Men's Division I Basketball tournament is held every march. This is referred to as "March Madness" and it indeed drives people mad. March Madness is the most bet upon sporting event in America. It is a 68 team tournament to decide the Champion.

There are 31 conference champions that get an automatic bid to the tournament and 39 other teams are selected by a special Selection Committee. There are the highest of highs and the lowest of lows, there are the underdogs and the favorites, there are buzzer beaters and

heart breakers. That is what draws people to the tournament, seeing young men pour there heats out for their teammates.

The Bruins of UCLA have the record of the most national championships by any one team, they have won 11. But the tradition of basketball runs deep in every university and college that enters the tournament. The tournament is one of the most involved sporting events in America, it seems like everyone is busy filling out their brackets.

Darren Harer, senior said "I'm planning on filling a bracket out. It's a very exciting time and it is interesting to see the teams go through the tournament." Even the president will be filling out a bracket, it is safe to say everyone will be glued to the television this March.

Every team has dreamed about making it this far and the whole country is waiting and watching to see the evolution of the game through these young men.

## **NCAA** Division I **National Championship**

#### **MIKE TORRES**

Sports Editor

On January 10, 2012 Louisiana State University played the University of Alabama for the division I BCS National Championship. The Saturday night game was one of the most talked about and anticipated collegiate football games in history. The undefeated LSU Tigers came into the game with an unblemished record (11-0) and the #1 ranking in the nation. The Crimson Tide of Alabama entered the championship game with one loss, coming from the familiar SEC opponent LSU.

The Tigers won the last meeting on November 5th with a score of 9-6. It was a game of field goals with neither team scoring a touchdown. The one loss Crimson Tide dropped in the college rankings but week by week (with a little luck) fought their way back to number #2. The Oklahoma

State Cowboys, who were a shoe-in for the BCS bid



(Patrick Green/Zuma Press/MCT)

to play the Tigers, lost to the unranked Iowa State Cyclones in a blowout that opened the door wide open for Alabama.

Alabama was a heavy underdog in the second meeting between the two teams. LSU had a solid defence with nearly double digit NFL prospects and an aggressive offence led by their running back core. The deck was stacked against Bama but the leadership of their defence shutout Baton Rouge's finest 21-0. The Tigers offence could not do anything against Alabama's stout defence.

It was a surprising victory for the Crimson Tide faithful, and an unbelievable loss for the purple and gold. Never the less, it has been a wonderful college football season for both teams. The SEC could not be more proud to have both teams in the national championship game be from the SEC. Both teams were fairly young so needless to say they will be back next season. LSU and Alabama both have top recruiting classes every year. Under the leadership of Les Miles(LSU coach) and Nick Saban(Alabama coach) both teams will be under the spotlight for not only the SEC Championship but also the BCS National Championship.

#### Lin-sanity equals wins for New York Knickerbockers

**MIKE TORRES** 

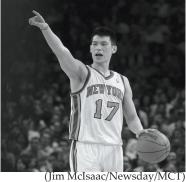
Sports Editor

If I were to ask you about New York and their sports teams what would you say? Most people would speak of the Super Bowl champion Giants, then talk about the Yankees, and then maybe talk three pointers, he has a great about the Knicks.

If I were to ask about the Knicks the average fan would he drives into the paint. In talk about Carmelo Anthony, Amar'e Stoudemire, Spike Lee, and maybe even Patrick Ewing. All that has changed, now the name on everyone's lips is Jeremy Lin.

The city of New York has been taken over by a man named Lin. The Harvard grad and California native led the Knicks to seven straight wins. Lin is being compared to the best. He seems to have it all he hits the jump shot, he plays defence, and will not be denied when a city of stars this undrafted point guard is the brightest.

The thing that has made this such a big story is who Jeremy Lin is. He is an Asian American from the LA, he



played his college basketball at Harvard. He went undrafted and was picked up by the Golden State Warriors for a year. Then the New York Knicks signed him to a contract at the beginning of

this season. The only reason he got a chance to play this season is because the Knicks have been injury ridden. Never the less, he did not squander his chance to break out from the crowd. If there is one thing you need to know about Jeremy Lin it is his determination. He was offered zero basketball scholarships coming out of high school, but that did not stop Lin.

Lin's biggest game so far came against Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers, he shocked the world

when he scored 38 points. Then in a game against the Toronto Raptors he scored the game winning three point shot from behind the arc as time ran out and the buzzer sounded. Game over Knicks win. The next day's highlights were not of LeBron, D-Wade, Kevin Durant, or Kobe Bryant, but of Jeremy Lin. No one can dispute the talent of this rising star. With the addition of J.R. Smith the Knicks have a well rounded team and under the guidance of Jeremy Lin will contend of the Championship this year.

#### **CHOIR CONTINUED**

Theresa Auletta said. "We all tried our hardest."

Driscole agreed. "The concert was fantastic. It was so exciting to see what a million dollars worth of lights can make our auditorium look like. I think it was well received."

The choir received more than three standing ovations. They had to repeat their songs "Let the River Run" and "Crazy" multiple times. "Making television magic; that's what we are doing," Malone said to the audience. "That also means that we have to film everything more than once. But since you love us so much, I do not think that will be a problem. Will it people of Berwick?"

The crowd went into thunderous applause once again. Anna, the piano player, played a few songs for the



audience, Malone sang a folk song from his childhood and the Berwick Community Choir sang. After the concert, the singers, crew and Gareth celebrated with sparkling cider and toasts.

members gave Gareth many presents, including a red, white and blue bow tie and a plaque to remind him of his time in Berwick. After the crew and left, talk circulated about the choir continuing.

The

"I hope that the choir will continue," Auletta said. "I really loved it." Those looking to join are in luck. The choir will be continuing. Driscole will be leading it until a more permanent director can be found.

"The Choir" coming to Berwick was an extremely positive experience for the entire community. Everyone involved made new friends with people of all ages. They worked together and made beautiful music.

"I loved seeing the community come together like it did," Frankford said. "And besides, everyone loved us!"

crew and producers ing edited now. If a television network decides to air it, the circulated whole country could see all of the hard work and amazchoir coning people in Berwick.

Anyone interested in joining the choir should see Driscole in the band shell to get the contact and meeting times information.

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#### PSSA's can drastically change student life

MICHAEL TORRES
Sports Editor
BRANDON BERKES
Senior

The four most dreadful words in high school student's vocabulary without a doubt are: Pennsylvania, State, Standardized, Assessment (PSSA). Every student has taken these tests throughout elementary, middle, and high school. Yet it seems no one has anything good to say about them.

The PSSA's were set up by the government to gauge and improve the education in the nation's schools. The "No Child Left Behind Act" set up by the George W. Bush administration, made standardized testing mandatory for every state. However, many students reluctantly take the test that is placed in front of them not thinking of the consequences of poor performances.

The Berwick Area School District's elementary and middle schools are improving, hitting the state averages this past year. However, the high school test scores are well below the state averages. On a scale from 0% to 100% the state average is 72% and Berwick's average is around 54%. As a school, Berwick scored 65% in reading, 54% in math, and 35% in science. Berwick's scores are well below state averages, which

are 72% for reading, 67% for mathematics, and 40% for science.

So what does this mean for the high school and the students? The administration has been working tirelessly on improving the school's test scores. They have provided more time for students to learn and review testing information. The senior early out has been eliminated because of low scoring. Another change within BHS is resource period, a 25 minute period at the end of the day. This period is to be used for reviewing information that will be tested on the PSSA.

The junior class is now being tutored in math Monday through Wednesday during recourse period.

Every school in the state needs to make the Adequate Yearly Progress or AYP. If the AYP is not made, the school goes into a "warning stage" where the school is not punished but should look over why they did not meet the AYP.

Berwick is in School Improvement II which means Berwick did not meet the state standards for four years.

In School Improvement II, school officials have to develop an improvement plan to turn around the school and will need to offer supplemental education services such as tutoring. The district will be responsible for paying for these additional services.

If Berwick fails to meet state standards again, Berwick will go into Corrective Action I. In Corrective Action I, the high school is eligible for various levels of technical assistance and subject to escalating consequences, including changes in curriculum leadership and professional development. This means the current faculty and administration could face termination.

The administration is not the "bad guy" who is forcing the standardized testing on us. They are trying to help us before it is too late and the government takes over our school and changes everything.

However, if Berwick meets the state standards, Berwick will remain at School Improvement II for a year, and if Berwick meet the state standards the following year, then Berwick will be out of danger.

It is important that every student takes the PSSA seriously. Current and future Berwick high school students will be affected by the performances of the next two PSSA's scores. Students usually gripe about school rules including the agenda and wardrobe policies, but things could get a lot worse for the students of BHS.

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## Valentine's Day Dance



