A large crowd of people, likely students, is shown from a low angle, looking upwards. Many have their arms raised in excitement. In the upper left corner, a portion of the American flag is visible. The overall atmosphere is one of a high-energy school event.

# Hopewell Hi-Lites

Senior Issue

2017

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## Staff

### Editors

Garret Roberts

Turner Wilson

Erin Kunzmann

Tanner McMakin

Haley Gault

Madelynn Farkas

Alexa Burak

### Sponsor

Mr. Mohrbacher

A photograph of two men in suits standing in front of a building entrance. The man on the left is bald with a beard, wearing a blue blazer over a light blue shirt. The man on the right has grey hair and a mustache, wearing a dark blue suit, white shirt, and purple tie. They are both smiling. The background shows a glass door with a large number '1' and reflections of trees and sky.

# Principals Perspective

BY HALEY GAULT

As the 2016-2017 school year winds down, the students aren't the only ones getting ready for graduation and summertime. Our very own principals are gearing up to send off the seniors of 2017. Mr. Rowe says, "Graduation is bitter-sweet, of course the end of the school year is what most people think of, but it's really the beginning of life for the seniors and the end of an old life."

Of course the principals are ready to see summer just as we are but they do say they will miss the seniors. Mr. Allison says, "This group is very diverse and interesting to say the least, and yes I will miss them." Mr. Rowe agrees, saying, "This group is overall good and they will be missed." Even though the school year is rather long with 180 days of learning and activities, there are a few favorite moments the principals shared. They both agreed seeing Alana Mendoza getting onto the homecoming court and the students' support for her were one of the moments along with the musical. "Each year we love seeing the musical, it may seem like sports would be the most interesting thing about Hopewell, but it's definitely the musical for me." Mr. Allison.

During last school year, Mr. Allison had left the school to go travel for the NASSP. "Even though I loved traveling and seeing new places along with meeting people, I missed this school and the community." Although he did enjoy his travels he does say that he greatly missed the faculty and the students of the high school. While Mr. Allison was away, Mr. Rowe took his

position as head principal. Rowe says, "I loved being principal, it's always the job I've felt that was my calling. Of course I love my job here and working with Mr. Allison, but I will eventually leave Hopewell High School to find the position of principal." Both principals agree that they love working together after eight total calendar years together.

*"We'd rather be cheerleaders for students than disciplinarians"*  
-Mr. Allison

Mr. Rowe and Mr. Allison both say that even though they love being here and supporting the students, they sacrifice a lot of time they would be spending at home, here. Mr. Allison says, "It's hard to spend equal time here and at home. I love supporting our sports and attending as many events as possible but it is difficult because sometimes you just want to go home and spend time with the family."

Mr. Allison says, "We would much rather be cheerleaders for students and supporters than disciplinarians, but it is part of our job to take care of the problems. We sometimes have to take the role of a parent, a counselor and an authority figure." Both of Hopewell High School's principals are very involved in their school and love to support their students, even when some days are harder than others.



# Mr. McConnell Retires

BY: GARRET ROBERTS

**H**arvard graduate and veteran government teacher Ed McConnell has officially announced his retirement. “I love the experience of teaching a government class,” Mr McConnell said, “I’m at the point where I’m sick of it.”

Mr. McConnell has been teaching in Pennsylvania for 27 years. Starting off as a substitute teacher, he worked in schools around the Hopewell Area and Montour. “Montour was a bad experience,” McConnell explained, “I would sit next to the other teachers at lunch, and they would just get up and walk away. It’s much different than the atmosphere here at Hopewell.”

“Teaching government is interesting as you get to engage in the current political world and elections with your students,” Mr McConnell said in regards to his class, “The problem is phones and other devices. It’s a lot more attractive and glitzy to pull out a smartphone than listen to some ‘old fart’ talk about the judicial system.”

Smartphones, according to McConnell, create the apathy that we see in students today. However, he also assures us that it’s nothing new. “You used to be able to go down to the steel mills and get a job that payed more than a teacher’s salary, so people didn’t have a reason to care about school.”

Mr. McConnell has taught many classes in in his 20 years of teaching AP Government, but none could measure up to his first period this year. “I feel this class has really left me with good memories of teaching. I’m not kidding, I genuinely enjoy them.”

Balancing farm work with teaching may sound easy to those who don’t do the work, but Mr. McConnell knows first hand what kind of work it takes. In addition to teaching, he is the CEO of McConnell’s farm here in Hopewell. “Most people think I just walk around an orchard and pick peaches all day, but it takes a lot of work and money. I spend at least \$1,400 on fungicides alone, so it’s not cheap to farm. We don’t have any roadside entry either, so we have to make every customer want to come back and talk about our farm.”

Mr. McConnell hopes to achieve a lot in his retirement by doing less farm work to pursue other activities. “I plan to cut back on my current hours,” said McConnell, “I’m going to go from 12 hours to around 6 or 7.” He hopes to write a book in his spare time, as he has the plot and characters ready, but has always procrastinated about writing. His one wish is to “have a dog that actually listens to me before I die.”



## McConnell’s Farm Market

*The Best Peaches in All of Pennsylvania*

**W**hile it’s a rare sight in the Hopewell area, some people haven’t had the amazing peaches found at McConnell’s farm. Offering some of the largest peaches ever seen, amazing apple pies, and great produce, McConnell’s Farm Market is a true hidden treasure in our own back yards.

McConnell’s Farm is located on 294 New Bethlehem Church Rd., just off of Gringo Clinton Road. While it may take some effort to find the farm, it is definitely worth your time.

*Photos courtesy of McConnell’s Farm.*



# Hopewell High School Helps the Community

BY HALEY GAULT

A few caring students spent their free time to helping the people around them. During this school year, three juniors and a senior spent time coordinating and conducting events.

Alexis Ozimok set up a donation for a foundation called A21. A21 is an organization that is trying to abolish slavery and human sex trafficking. Recently the numbers of girls being taken into this industry has spiked and the founders are trying to make it end. Alexis connected with the organization's mission, "I felt that serving this organization went above and beyond in representing the pillars in Distinguished Young Women." Alexis set up donation boxes in homerooms at school. Students and teachers were encouraged to bring toiletry items for the Living in Liberty, which is a home for rescued trafficking victims. "I felt that the program went incredibly well! We got the donations we needed, and I felt the school did well with participation."

Each year the high school holds a food drive during the holiday season for families that can't afford the classic holiday dinners. Carly Belich, a student in NHS, decided to chair in this event and take it by the reins. "I decided to chair in the food drive because of the work I did with the other one in Junior High with NJHS." The National Honor Society participants do a lot of work with the community and helping out as much as they can. According to Carly, the event went rather well. "I was a nervous wreck at the beginning because it seemed there was a huge lack

of participation, but everyone pulled together in the end!" As for the results of the drive, the goal of the school was met and hopes are high to do even better next year.

Health Careers Club and service learning came together to start a drive that involves socks. Becca Lloyd, senior, heading the donation program and believes that helping the community is part of being a Hopewell student. They are asking for donations of new, unworn, socks for people less fortunate. "When people donate clothes, they never really think about the fact that people needs socks, not just shirts." Brand new socks bought from the store, whether it be one pack or a couple, anything helps the people out there who need clothes and are less fortunate than the rest of us.

This year the high school held a blood drive headed by Tanner McMakin. He says that he was inspired to do this drive because he likes to help out. "I know people who need blood. You know it's just nice to give back once in a while to people who need it most." The drive was held in the gym and ran most of the school day, nurses were present to take the blood and students helped out. "I think everything during the blood drive went well, we got a few people who got turned away due to low or high blood pressure or not weighing enough, but the quota was met and I think that's all that matters." At Hopewell High School, lattes and getting the best selfie isn't the only thing that our students are worried about here.



# 2016-2017 in Ho

**BY: TURNER WILSON**

**Football-** Finishing 5th in the Beaver Valley Conference with a 1-5 record in conference (5-5 overall), the football team improved by three wins from 2015-16. The team's fast start, highlighted by close victories over Burrell and Ellwood City, electrified the student body, and the team played some of the top teams in the state with great toughness. Key contributors were Seniors QB/DB Billy Depaul, QB/S Eli Loncar, OL/DL Anthony Falletta and WR/LB Chris Jones.

**Boys' Cross Country-** At 8-4 overall, the boys placed in the top half of the section. Seniors Cole Janicki and Patrick Dusch were instrumental to the team's success. Sophomore Travis Sivertsen and Junior Mark Kuzminski will look to build on the teams' success for next year.

**Boys' Soccer-** The Boys' Soccer team ended its season 3-12. The team's leaders were Seniors Jacob Mateer, Sean Hartwick, and Ian Skal.

**Girls' Soccer-** At 4-11-1, the girls' soccer team played multiple close matches with difficult opponents, playing much better than their record showed. Lauren Shutak, Emilie Hovanec, and Megan Ramaley were among the senior leaders.

**Girls' Tennis-** The Girls' tennis team had another successful season, posting multiple section wins over tough opponents. Jennah Ellis and Erica Hewitt reached the quarterfinals of the section doubles tournament, while Gianna Morelli did the same in the section singles tournament.

**Girls' Volleyball-** The team earned a fourth place finish in the section in the fall, leading to yet another WPIAL playoff appearance for the storied program. Senior Kallan Parker, Senior Olivia Rovnak and Junior Savannah Gill were essential to the teams' success.

**Girls' Cross Country-** Led by PIAA State Championship qualifiers Lauren McCoy and Carinna Lapson, the girls' team had great success in the fall, ultimately finishing 11th in the WPIAL Championship. McCoy and Lapson finished 119th and 156th respectively in the field of 224 at the PIAA Championship. The team was captained by Senior Rachael Cicone.

**Girls' Golf-** Joei Ritmiller again led the team as the top golfer. Ava Li Baker was another top scorer.

**Girls' Basketball-** Emilie Hovanec and Kivana Hill were a consistent force from the senior class. The Vikings finished 3-17 overall, which Junior Taylor Parrish and Sophomore Madison Mancini will look to improve on next season.

**Boys' Basketball-** Despite a disappointing final record (3-19 overall), the season did have some bright spots for the team. Senior Eli Loncar and Sophomore Josh Miklos led the team in scoring. Miklos, Junior Tyler Sabo, and Freshman Jacob McGovern all gained quality varsity experience, which will hopefully lead to a winning season in 2017-18.

**Boys' Swimming-** Despite having only two swimmers on the team, the team still managed find success. Junior Charles McClaine finished 8th at WPIALs in the 50 yard freestyle and John Kovacic placed 10th in the 100 yard butterfly.

**Girls' Swimming-** Led by sisters Victoria and Rachel Wallace, the girls' swimming team was outstanding. Sophomore Rachel Wallace finished 28th in the state in the 100 yard butterfly. Sophomore Rachel Kennedy and Junior Carinna Lapson were other standout swimmers.

**Competitive Spirit-** Hopewell's cheerleaders earned another trip to Hershey this year, finishing as the runner-up from WPIAL Class AA.



# Hopewell Sports

Lead by experienced seniors Madison McShane, Beckie Wright, Jackie Pipkins, Haley Domitrovich and Cassidy Doyle, the team finished 11th in the state in their division.

**Bocce-** Hopewell's inaugural bocce team finished the season 5-1. Joshua Maxin, Anthony Persuitte, Joseph Bedekovich and AJ Vazquez were the top performers.

**Rifle-** While not an official team at Hopewell, there was one competitor from the school at the WPIAL finals. Junior Rebecca Sabat placed 75th with 200 points.

**Girls' Gymnastics-** Freshman Emily Plesulusky, Sophomore Cristy Senskey, and Junior Robin Lutz were the top performers for the team, with Senskey earning the highest score in the all-around competition with 35.45 of 40. The team placed 3rd in the PA Classic.

**Boys' Bowling-** The bowling team rolled to a 9th place finish in the WPIBL. The team was led by Seniors Collin Whiteman, Christian McKenzie, Alex Pfeifer and Sophomore Chris George. George and Whiteman competed in the WPIBL individual finals, and Whiteman qualified for the National High School Championship in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Girls' Bowling-** Freshman Taylor Gozur had the second highest average in the WPIBL Northwest with a 159.53. Other top bowlers were Junior Sam Hysong and Senior Brea Vazquez.

**Wrestling-** The team put forth a strong showing at the WPIAL Section 7 match. Sophomore Jacob Ealy finished 2nd in the section (for his weight class) and was consistently the team's most successful wrestler. Sophomore Connor Forrest placed 4th in the section, while seniors Devin Pillar and Anthony Rosati placed 5th and 6th respectively.

**Boys' Tennis-** The team reached the quarter-finals of the WPIAL Playoffs for a third consecutive year, losing only two matches during the season. Singles players Eli Loncar, Miles Collins, and Alex Pfeifer were consistent winners.

**Baseball-** At 10-8, Hopewell baseball has overcome the loss of Senior SS Anthony Bonavita to remain among the powers in the WPIAL. Junior Joe Rock has been a consistent force on the mound, while Junior Mitchell Heranic, Senior Sean Curry, and Senior Cody Yanyecic have been key run creators for the playoff bound Vikings.

**Softball-** The 5-5 Vikings have competed well for the entire season, and are in a good position for a stretch run that could land them in the WPIAL playoffs. This success is due in large part to the contributions of the teams' seniors Haley Bedalotta, Kara Ross, Megan Ramaley, Holly Singer, Andie Baughman, and Amber Falletta.

**Girls' Track and Field-** The girls' 4X800 team is currently one of the best in WPIAL AA and one of the best events for the team. Sophomore Abbey Hvizdak has found success in the 300 meter hurdles, while Carinna Lapson has done the same in the 3200 meter run. Kivana Hill is Hopewell's top thrower.

**Boys' Track and Field-** Earning their first section title in the school's history, the boys' team was led by their stars. Junior Dantae Raineri has crushed school and meet records in the long jump, high jump, 100 meter dash, and 200 meter dash. Junior Noah Drudy and Senior Jack Georgetson are top competitors in the throwing events and pole vault.

**Boys' Volleyball-** Led by their three captains Senior Dakota Forrest, Senior Ben Nero and Sophomore Alex Pappas, the boys' volleyball team is currently 1-7. First year senior Zack Hall has stepped up to play a big role.



NAME	COLLEGE/CAREER	FUTURE PLANS
Garrett Bacha	-----	Cosmetology
Joseph Basil	West Virginia University	Marketing
Andie Baughman	Fairmont State University	Prosthetics
Haley Bedalota	Thiel College	Applied Psychology
Jacob Bible	United States Army	Law Enforcement
Anthony Bonavita	John Carroll University	Business
Caitlin Boring	Robert Morris University	Marketing
Nicholas Bozza	The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg	Pre-Pharmacy
Brandon Brahler	University of Pittsburgh	Medical School
Robert Brougher	Point Park University	Machining
Christina Brown	West Liberty University	Zoology
Joseph Brown	-----	Diesel Mechanics
Richard Brunton	-----	Truck Driver/Farmer
Dylan Buchanan	-----	Coal Mining
Carlena Bullock	The University of Akron	Photography
Cassidy Callen	Ballet Dancer	Charlotte Dance Company
Jordan Carpenter	Robert Morris University	Early Childhood Education
Gillian Carr	Clarion University of Pennsylvania	History
Sydney Carson	Community College of Beaver County	Nursing
Jaqueline Carter	University of Mount Union	Veterinary
Antoni Chirgott	Robert Morris University	Nursing
Rachael Cicone	Community College of Beaver County	Phlebotomy
Ryan Colangelo	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	Engineering
Autumn Colvin	Community College of Beaver County	Radiology
Shane Corcoran	United States Navy	Information Systems Tech.
Kasey Cordes	Chatham University	Policy Sciences
Devin Croner	United States Marines	-----
Sean Curry	Penn State Beaver	Project & Supply Chain Mgt.

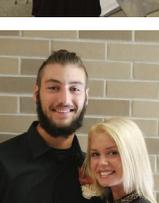


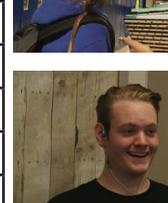


Victoria Danylo	Duquesne University	Nursing
Sydne Davidson	The University of Akron	Undeclared
Devin Davis	-----	United States Military
Brea Davis-Vazquez	Community College of Beaver County	Nursing
James Delp	Community College of Beaver County	Body Shop
William DePaul	Edinboro University of Pennsylvania	FBI
Danielle Depelteau	Vet Tech Institute	Veterinarian
Anthony DeRose	Community College of Beaver County	Geology
Dean Dobbins	Undecided	HVACR
Haley Domitrovich	Westminster College	Nursing
Joshua Donchez	Technical School	Heavy Equipment Operator
Cassidy Doyle	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Nutrition
Patrick Drudy	Pittsburgh Technical College	Welding & Mech. Drafting
Joseph Dupree	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Business and Marketing
Patrick Dusch	The University of South Carolina	Real Estate
Austin Dusold	Rosedale Technical College	Diesel Mechanics
Jennah Ellis	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	Business
Amber Falletta	Franciscan University	Nursing
Anthony Falletta	Robert Morris University	Mechanical Engineering
Deanna Fiejdasz	The Ohio State University	Medical School
Alicia Fike	Community College of Beaver County	Visual Arts/Videography
Alexis Flynn	Slippery Rock University	Environmental Engineering
Brady Foister	Waynesburg University	Undeclared
Dakota Forrest	Thiel College	FBI
Maria Furka	Undecided	Nursing
Anthony Gennaro	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Civil Engineering
John Georgetson	Penn State Behrend	Mechanical Engineering
Leah Good	Bethany College	Managerial Economics
Scott Goulet	Rosedale Technical College	HVAC
Dylan Gray	Community College of Beaver County	Business
Alexandra Greenleaf	Bella Capelli	Cosmetology
Jacob Greenup	Undecided	Veterinary Technician
Christopher Hafner	Community College of Beaver County	Business and Marketing
Jonathan Hall	Robert Morris University	Psychology
Zachary Hall	Robert Morris University	Economics
Hunter Hanson	Rosedale Technical College	Diesel Mechanics
Emily Hapach	Undecided	Computer Support Specialist
Austin Hartman	Undecided	Construction Management
Sean Hartwick	The University of Pittsburgh	Biomedical Engineering
Chad Helms	-----	Oil Field
Kivana Hill	The University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown	Pre-Law
-----	-----	-----
Alana Hough	Rochester Institute of Technology	Engineering
Emilie Hovanec	Penn State Altoona	Engineering





	Alana Hough	Rochester Institute of Technology	Engineering
	Emilie Hovanec	Penn State Altoona	Engineering
	Abigayl Inderlied	Sullivan University	Baking/Pastry Arts
	Cole Janicki	-----	United States Army
	Nina Jodikinos	Community College of Beaver County	Business
	Christopher Jones	Penn State Beaver	Undeclared
	Austin Kelly	Keystone Mountain Lakes Carpenters Inc.	Carpentry/Masonry
	Allison Kindred	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Finance
	Hannah Knauff	Duquesne University	Nursing
	Erin Kunzmann	Robert Morris University	Elementary Special Ed.
	Chase Lasky	Community College of Beaver County	Secondary Education
	Rebecca Lloyd	Kent State University	Nursing
	Elijah Loncar	The University of Alabama	Business
	Asia Martinez	Community College of Beaver County	Nursing
	Jacob Mateer	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	Nursing
	Matthew McClung	-----	Sports Broadcasting
	Alexis McKee	Clarion University of Pennsylvania	Elementary Special Ed.
	Christian McKenzie	Pittsburgh Technical College	Electrical Engineering
	Madison McShane	The University of Pittsburgh	Business
	Alana Mendoza	-----	Day Care
	Dakota Metalik	Rosedale Technical College	Diesel Technician
	Hannah Meuser	Slippery Rock University	Physician's Assistant
	Skylar Miller	Robert Morris University	Business
	Joshua Misiuda	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Psychology
	Aubrey Mollenauer	The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg	Accounting/Business
	Nicole Morrison	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Telecommunications
	Ashton Morse	United States Marines Corps	Communications
	Cassidy Mullins	Community College of Beaver County	Nursing
	Mashyia Nakoa	California University of Pennsylvania	Pre-Medicine
	Edreece Nance	The Art Institute of Pittsburgh	Graphic Design
	Benjamin Nero	The University of Akron	Accounting
	Kylie Nicol	The University of Akron	Education
	Nathaniel Owen	-----	Landscaping
	Tanner Palocsik	Undecided	Undeclared
	Bailey Panzino	La Roche College	Marketing
	Anna Parker	Undecided	Undeclared
	Kallan Parker	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Meteorology
	Virginia Parker	-----	Work Field
	Mason Pettner	Bradford School	Network Managing
	Alex Pfeifer	United States Navy	Nuclear Engineering
	Dalton Pifer	Point Park University	Acting
	Devin Pillar	Penn State Behrend	Mechanical Engineering
	Jaqueline Pipkins	Penn State Altoona	Forensic Science
	Justin Porter	Community College of Beaver County	Welding/Union Work





Megan Ramaley	Lock Haven University	Pre-Physician's Assistant
Allison Redzanic	-----	Cosmetology
Cheyenne Rhinehart	Community College of Beaver County	Nursing
Garret Roberts	Robert Morris University	Mechanical Engineering
Anthony Rosati	Slippery Rock University	Safety Management
Kara Ross	University of Akron	Environmental Engineering
Ethan Roush	Community College of Beaver County	Allied Nursing
Olivia Rovnak	Saint Francis University	Physician's Assistant
Colton Salvati	University of Pittsburgh	Pharmacist
Noah Shultz	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Electrical Engineering
Stasia Selinsky	Community College of Beaver County	Nursing
Brandon Serapiglia	Duquesne University	Nursing
Dakota Shannon	Community College of Beaver County	Aviation
Trevor Short	Pittsburgh Technical College	Cyber Security
Zachary Showalter	Rochester Institute of Technology	Computer Science
Kathryn Shumaker	The University of Pittsburgh at Titusville	Nursing
Lauren Shutak	Robert Morris University	Nurse Practitioner
Holly Singer	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Biomedical Engineering
Ian Skal	Geneva College	Sports Management
Daniel Smith	Marietta College	Petroleum Engineering
Lucas Smith	Miami University of Ohio	Accounting
Nicolette Stroud	Slippery Rock University	Undeclared
Brennea Sullivan	Community College of Beaver County	Nursing
Cassidy Sundy	Community College of Beaver County	Undeclared
Willian Tarleton	The University of Pittsburgh	Physics and Astronomy
Hannah Telesz	Robert Morris University	Actuarial Science
Alyssa Theodore	Edinboro University of Pennsylvania	Secondary English Ed.
Alexis Thompson	La Roche College	Psychology
Giavanna Trello	Cosmetology	Dolce Designs
Chad Vallecorsa	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Business
Sarah Vander Wagen	The University of Pittsburgh	Pre-Pharmacy
Corey Vecciarelli	California University of Pennsylvania	Sports Management
Fawna Vomacha	Community College of Beaver County	Nursing
Victoria Wallace	Undecided	Undeclared
Abby White	Robert Morris University	Nursing
Collin Whiteman	Robert Morris University	Actuarial Science
Shawn Wilfong	Ohio Technical College	Collision Repair
Turner Wilson	Washington and Jefferson College	Economics
Rebecca Wright	California University of Pennsylvania	Biology
Cody Yanyecic	Community College of Beaver County	Aviation
Riana Zimmel	Pennsylvania State- University Park	Pre-Veterinary
Jordan Zipfel	Community College of Beaver County	Aviation

Lock Haven University	-----	Pre-Physician's Assistant
-----	-----	Cosmetology
Community College of Beaver County	-----	Nursing
Robert Morris University	-----	Mechanical Engineering
Slippery Rock University	-----	Safety Management
University of Akron	-----	Environmental Engineering
Community College of Beaver County	-----	Allied Nursing
Saint Francis University	-----	Physician's Assistant
University of Pittsburgh	-----	Pharmacist
Pennsylvania State- University Park	-----	Electrical Engineering
Community College of Beaver County	-----	Nursing
Duquesne University	-----	Nursing
Community College of Beaver County	-----	Aviation
Pittsburgh Technical College	-----	Cyber Security
Rochester Institute of Technology	-----	Computer Science
The University of Pittsburgh at Titusville	-----	Nursing
Robert Morris University	-----	Nurse Practitioner
Pennsylvania State- University Park	-----	Biomedical Engineering
Geneva College	-----	Sports Management
Marietta College	-----	Petroleum Engineering
Miami University of Ohio	-----	Accounting
Slippery Rock University	-----	Undeclared
Community College of Beaver County	-----	Nursing
Community College of Beaver County	-----	Undeclared
The University of Pittsburgh	-----	Physics and Astronomy
Robert Morris University	-----	Actuarial Science
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania	-----	Secondary English Ed.
La Roche College	-----	Psychology
Cosmetology	-----	Dolce Designs
Pennsylvania State- University Park	-----	Business
The University of Pittsburgh	-----	Pre-Pharmacy
California University of Pennsylvania	-----	Sports Management
Community College of Beaver County	-----	Nursing
Undecided	-----	Undeclared
Robert Morris University	-----	Nursing
Robert Morris University	-----	Actuarial Science
Ohio Technical College	-----	Collision Repair
Washington and Jefferson College	-----	Economics
California University of Pennsylvania	-----	Biology
Community College of Beaver County	-----	Aviation
Pennsylvania State- University Park	-----	Pre-Veterinary
Community College of Beaver County	-----	Aviation

Pre-Physician's Assistant	-----	Pre-Physician's Assistant
Cosmetology	-----	Cosmetology
Nursing	-----	Nursing
Mechanical Engineering	-----	Mechanical Engineering
Safety Management	-----	Safety Management
Environmental Engineering	-----	Environmental Engineering
Allied Nursing	-----	Allied Nursing
Physician's Assistant	-----	Physician's Assistant
Pharmacist	-----	Pharmacist
Electrical Engineering	-----	Electrical Engineering
Nursing	-----	Nursing
Nursing	-----	Nursing
Aviation	-----	Aviation
Cyber Security	-----	Cyber Security
Computer Science	-----	Computer Science
Nursing	-----	Nursing
Nurse Practitioner	-----	Nurse Practitioner
Biomedical Engineering	-----	Biomedical Engineering
Sports Management	-----	Sports Management
Petroleum Engineering	-----	Petroleum Engineering
Accounting	-----	Accounting
Undeclared	-----	Undeclared
Nursing	-----	Nursing
Undeclared	-----	Undeclared
Physics and Astronomy	-----	Physics and Astronomy
Actuarial Science	-----	Actuarial Science
Secondary English Ed.	-----	Secondary English Ed.
Psychology	-----	Psychology
Dolce Designs	-----	Dolce Designs
Business	-----	Business
Pre-Pharmacy	-----	Pre-Pharmacy
Sports Management	-----	Sports Management
Nursing	-----	Nursing
Undeclared	-----	Undeclared
Nursing	-----	Nursing
Actuarial Science	-----	Actuarial Science
Collision Repair	-----	Collision Repair
Economics	-----	Economics
Biology	-----	Biology
Aviation	-----	Aviation
Pre-Veterinary	-----	Pre-Veterinary
Aviation	-----	Aviation



# Valiant Vikings

BY: HOPEWELL HI-LITES STAFF

**H**opewell Military 2017 has multiple seniors enlisting this year after graduation. Hopewell Hi-Lites is able to recognize Devin Croner, Alex Pfeifer, Cole Janicki, Mason Pettner, Wes Smith and Ashton Morse. Good luck to you all, and thank you for your willingness to serve.

## Devin Croner



Devin will be enlisting United States Marine Corps. He says, "I chose the Marine Corps because it is the most challenging and hard branch there is, and I was made for the corps. It could be no other branch." He always wanted to serve and protect, "Some are born into it, and some are made, all are proud," says Devin. He says his favorite aspect is "God, Country, Corps. Just the pride of a warrior, to do what I am called to do." His specific

goal for the military is to become a military police officer and to become a captain in rank. He wants to be stationed in Hawaii and his favorite war movies are *Full Metal Jacket* and *Fury*.

## Mason Pettner



Mason will be partaking in the Army Reserves, where he is taking a job as a truck driver. Pettner has already completed basic training last summer, so he will be able to start job training right away. He is following his father's footsteps into the military, as his father spent twelve years in the service. He leaves July 7th to complete six weeks of advanced, specialized training in Missouri. He will participate in the Reserves and attend college

simultaneously and is considering switching to active duty for his last few years of service.

## Alex Pfeifer



Alex will be enlisting in the United States Navy. He was led to the military by recommendation but he also says, "I wanted to do something fun before I get old." His grandfather and two uncles also served. "The adventure is my favorite aspect of the military," says Alex. His goals are to complete nuclear school and work towards a bachelor's degree, but he has no goals for location, saying, "I just want to see

the world."

## Wes Smith



Wes is going into the Marine Corps to become a Diesel Engineer and Mechanic. His plan is to participate in the Marine Corps before going to college, after which he will re-enter the military in special forces. The Marines are a family tradition for Wes, making his decision to enlist an easy one. His passion for working on cars led him towards diesel mechanics.

## Cole Janicki



Cole has enlisted in the United States Army. He says, "The Army has always been my personal preference that's why I chose it." His desire to serve his country is what led him into the Army. "My favorite aspect of the military is everyone has a purpose." He hopes to eventually be stationed out of the U.S. His favorite war movie is *Dr. Strangelove*

## Ashton Morse



Ashton is going into the Marine Corps, where he hopes to gain financial security and see interesting parts of the world. His family played a large factor in his decision to enlist, as his father was in the Navy and both of his grandfathers served in Vietnam. "I am hoping to challenge myself and to prove that I can do anything I put my mind to." said Morse. He leaves for boot camp on August 21st on Paris Island.



# Last Loncar

BY: ERIN KUNZMANN

**E**li Loncar is a well-known student throughout Hopewell High School. He has been part of the soccer, football, basketball and tennis teams, and has excelled in all four sports while managing to balance athletics and academics.

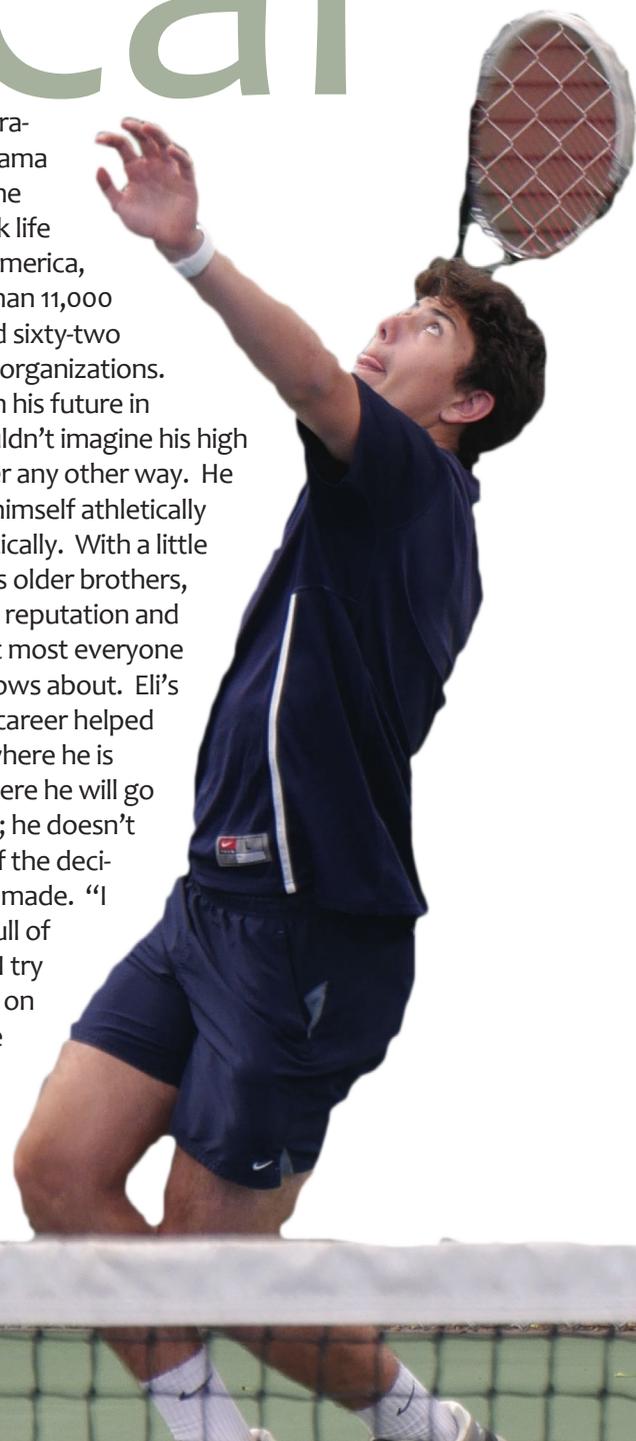
Eli is the youngest of three brothers, all of which were born within twenty-nine months of each other. Eli feels that socially and athletically, it was easier to get a name with two older brothers. "I feel my reputation is seen through many different eyes throughout the school and community. In the school setting, I try to set an example for my peers, and I hope I have succeeded in the past four years. I think the reputation of my brothers and me sticks with us wherever we wander."

Being so close in age, they were all very well known around the school. "Usually when I walk into a classroom on the first day, teachers are not glad to have another Loncar on their roster. My goal is to change that and leave people with a good taste in their mouth about us," Eli said about being the last brother. He is grateful for his brothers, but Eli has big plans for his future. And they include leaving his brothers.

After many visits and narrowing down his many options, Eli plans to attend college at The University of Alabama. He visited Florida State, Auburn, Ole Miss, Arizona State, San Diego State, and Alabama. He plans to work on Wall Street as an investment banker, and eventually moving up to the status of putting together initial public offerings (IPOs) for future Fortune 500 Companies. His deciding factor was a trio of reasons: their programs suit Eli's personal needs for his goals, he felt the facilities at Alabama's campus were great, and Eli plans to

pledge at a fraternity. Alabama has one of the largest Greek life systems in America, with more than 11,000 students and sixty-two Greek letter organizations.

With his future in mind, Eli couldn't imagine his high school career any other way. He has proven himself athletically and scholastically. With a little help from his older brothers, he has had a reputation and attitude that most everyone in school knows about. Eli's high school career helped to get him where he is now and where he will go in the future; he doesn't regret any of the decisions he has made. "I think life is full of regrets, but I try not to linger on them. There isn't much I would care to redo."



# Learning by Listening

## Dr. Miller



BY: ALEXA BURAK

Superintendent. Dr. Miller, has also come to the end of her first year and has loved every minute of it. “It has been extremely rewarding being part of something that has a long standing tradition of excellence but then also to see so many students either

individually or collectively do so many amazing things. I am very proud.”

Dr. Miller’s main focus this year was to get to know our community a little better. “It doesn’t matter where we go, what jobs we have you have to be able to work with people and if we are going to work with people -support people- then we need to get them personally and professionally. She continued to say how her first plan of action was to get to know her administration. She needed to learn their weaknesses and strengths to ever improve. They are her team and she recognized her need to rely on them.

Another focus was to just listen to the community. If she is going to make this school district better, she needs to know what needs to be changed. “As much as a CEO is supposed to take action and move forward and set goals, you can’t do that without knowing where we need to go and to do that you need to listen.” She also needed to listen to teachers and their needs. In the beginning of the year, she even had meetings with people in our community to hear what needs to be changed and what needs to be praised.

Dr. Miller also has been pushing for better technology in the district. “I think we have two challenges ahead of us. One is to remove that outdated technology because it is outdated or it’s not reliable and takes so long. With our iPhones or our Androids, we are so used to an immediate response. When that doesn’t happen, people get frustrated and don’t even want

to use it. One good plan is the replacement but even when we replace, we need to think about the ‘more.’” Besides getting new equipment, she also is working on getting more laptops for students and iPads for elementary students. Dr. Miller and her team have even hired a tech director to show the district the best deals for new technology and what students will need.

Dr. Miller has embraced P3 (Purpose, Passion and Pride) and has really tried to exude these qualities in her work. To exude purpose, she has tried encouraging and working with teachers. She has even made P3 stickers that were sent to teachers when they achieved something great. For passion, she is a teacher. Though she may be the big boss, all her passion is for her students and staff to excel in everything they do. For

pride, she feels pride and takes pride in Hopewell Area School District. She is very proud to be a Viking and enjoys our district and all of the wonderful things we do.

Even though Dr. Miller is very serious about her job, it doesn’t mean she doesn’t like to have fun. Some may not know, but she is actually a huge superhero fan. Her favorite show is *Gotham* and if she could be any superhero, she would want to be Captain America because of his dedication, his pride in his country, and how humble he is even though he truly is

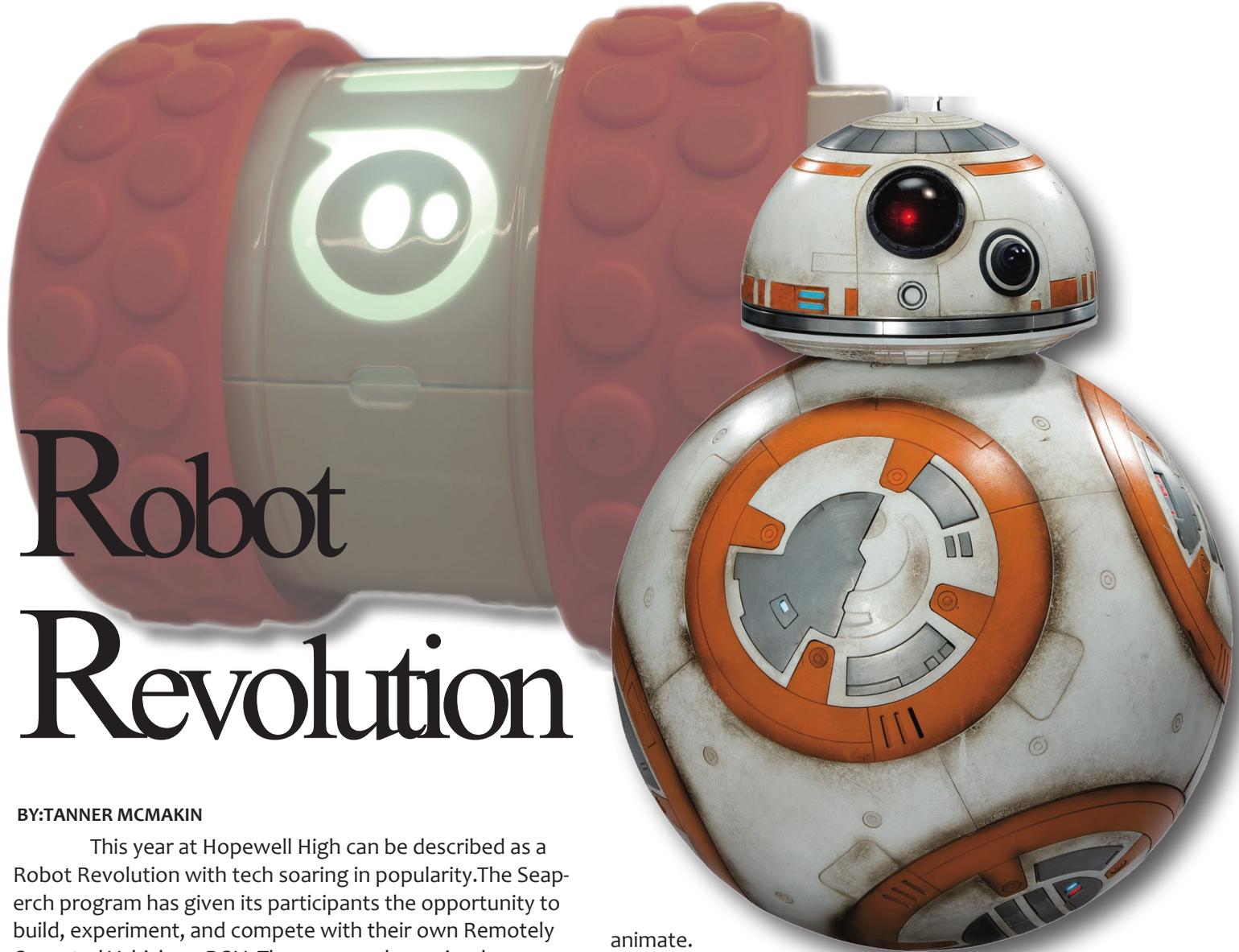
amazing.

She also is a country girl. Her family owns a log cabin up in the Allegheny National Forest, and she loves being outside. She also has a musical theatre background. She has directed eight high school productions, as well as a handful of community theatre productions.

Dr. Miller’s first school year as Hopewell’s superintendent has come to an end but her work is never done. Her next goal is to focus on the future and how we can move forward. To sum up her first 180 days as superintendent, her ears have been her guide. She has been trying to move forward and to be an ideal leader for our district.

“It has been extremely rewarding being part of something that has a longstanding tradition of excellence.”

~Dr. Miller



# Robot Revolution

BY:TANNER MCKAKIN

This year at Hopewell High can be described as a Robot Revolution with tech soaring in popularity. The Seaperch program has given its participants the opportunity to build, experiment, and compete with their own Remotely Operated Vehicle or ROV. The program has gained popularity after their victory at nationals last year. This year so many people wanted to participate that the high school had to have a competition to see who would go to regionals to represent Hopewell.

Three teams competed in the final school competition: Swag Daddy and Crew, Irrelevant Memes, and Midnight. Swag Daddy and Crew won the obstacle course and Irrelevant Meme won the finesse challenge, so these two teams combined to form the Hopewell Vikings team that went to the regional competition. Hopewell did not win the regional competition but the Vikings did come in third place.

Seaperch isn't the only group jumping on the robot wagon. Physics students are getting invested in technology too. Mrs. Story, one of Hopewell's physics teachers, has started her own robotics program in the a new independent study. This extracurricular program has given students the opportunity to learn how to program robots, learn different programming languages, build apps, and

animate.

The independent study gives students skills for the real world. This program has gotten donations from various people and was able to buy educational robots such as The Ollie, Sprk+, Star wars featured character BB-8, and parrot drones. The students have used these robots to perform velocity graphs, time graphs, and the "Drone Olympics." This program has given students skill, and the ability to earn badges. These badges show up on your transcripts, so that colleges can see you have experience in any of the independent study programs.

Thanks to Mrs. Story and Mrs. Korchnak, Hopewell has been able to educate our students on things they want to learn. Robotics is a growing field in today's world so it's crucial for our school to stay relevant with today's job market. You can join the independent study at anytime. Just type in to your browser [iamindependent.weebly.com](http://iamindependent.weebly.com), then you pick your path and learn. Seaperch is a seasonal activity which start in the fall and is available to juniors and seniors. Students at Hopewell High school wil now get enjoy and learn for future generations to come.

*"Take your education in your own hands"  
-Mrs. Story*



# Cassidy Callen, on Pointe

BY: MR. MOHRBACHER

Cassidy Callen dances. Not be-bopping around her house, but painful, demanding hours of ballet. “It’s more intense than people think it is. It’s really exhausting. People have no idea.”

Cassidy dances 6-8 hours a day, once in the morning and once in the evening—six days a week. She has trained with the Pittsburgh Ballet House for five years. Throughout high school she has attended Hopewell part time, while also taking cyber courses, “It’s really difficult. Really hard to find time, but somehow I did it with good grades, all A’s, highest honors.”

Hours of dedication have earned her a full scholarship as a trainee with Charlotte Ballet in Charlotte, North Carolina. As a trainee she receives housing, and she will practice among the professionals of the company.

She attended one of multiple auditions held by Charlotte Ballet. At her audition there were more than 100 dancers from all over the U.S. “They only picked one girl, and it was me. It was incredible.” Cassidy heard the news via an e-mail weeks after the audition, “I’d been looking for that e-mail everyday. It was incredible. So amazing.”

Charlotte was her choice despite multiple other offers from places in South Carolina, Texas, New York, and California. At Charlotte she will train under Patricia McBride from New York City Ballet and several teachers from Boston Ballet. “I want to go to Boston Ballet, that is my dream company.” She defended her choice saying, “Boston is just new and up-and-coming. And I want to be a part of it. Maybe one day I will be.”

Cassidy began dancing when she was four years old. With a smile and a laugh she recalled her inspiration, “I watched, actually, Barbie in *The Nutcracker*, and I really liked that movie.” Since then she has made sacrifices for her love of dance, “I have a few really good friends here, but it’s hard. I’ve had to skip a lot of semis, and dances, and after-school activities.” However, she beamed, “I am going to prom tomorrow!”

Missing practice is a big deal. Cassidy has been the lead dancer at her school for two years even though she was only a junior last year. The teachers have high expectations for her, “They scare me really, really bad. You do not want to miss. They say, don’t come unless you can dance. If you’re throwing up, you have to dance. Like, you are there to dance. You’re not there to sit and watch.”

Ballet is physically demanding. A lead dancer like Cassidy might have to dance for 40 minutes continuously during a production. Like all professional athletes, dancers must avoid injuries. Cassidy tore a ligament in her hip and missed eight months of dance during her freshman year, and this year she suffered a rib injury during a lift. She said, “My teachers were like, ‘Keep going, keep going!’ I was like, ‘I can’t. I can’t. I can’t breathe.’” One injury can derail a dancer’s career. Cassidy is aware of the risks, but her mind is focused on the reward.

Intense practice, pressure-packed performances and once-in-a-lifetime auditions have developed Cassidy’s confidence and mental toughness. She described the concentration that dancing requires, “That’s the point, to make it look so easy. But, oh my gosh. It is not effortless when you’re practicing.”

Cassidy travels to Charlotte in June for a five-week camp. Then she returns home for a short break before beginning her year-long training which includes 6-12 hour days of practice. If her career in ballet stumbles, Cassidy plans to attend UNC and major in physical therapy. “If you’re a ballerina, if you’ve danced, you cannot go to a normal physical therapist. They just do not understand what goes on. So that’s really what I want to do.” If college doesn’t work out, then she jokes, “I used to want to be a hip-hop dancer for Beyoncé. It’s a fall back. Plan B. Back up dancer for Beyoncé.”

Excited about her decision, Cassidy recognizes it is not typical, “It’s really different. I mean, some people think. It’s a different route than people think is the right route.” Undaunted, she is determined to go for it, “I have my dreams. I want to try. It’s my shot.”



# Palocsik to Play Hockey in Texas

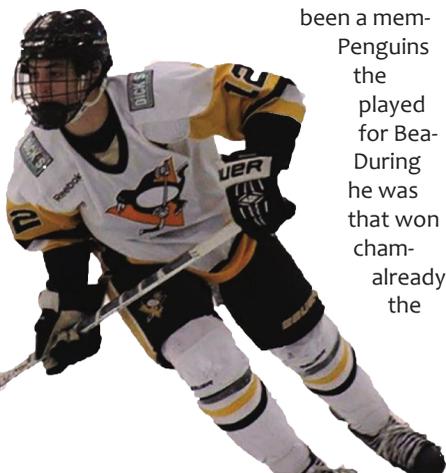
BY: TURNER WILSON

Despite Hopewell not having a hockey team, Hopewell’s Class of 2017 has produced one of the best defenseman in Western Pennsylvania. Senior Tanner Palocsik will play for the NAHL’s Amarillo Bulls next season, postponing his college studies to accept a unique opportunity that will allow him to continue to pursue his goal of playing professional hockey.

“It’s [hockey] different from other sports where you go play straight out of high school,” says Palocsik. “Almost all D1 hockey players play junior hockey before college.” Palocsik will most likely play junior hockey for two or three years, then he will look to play at a college in the northeastern part of the U.S.

The NAHL provides players aged 16-21 with a pro-style environment in a setting where the players don’t lose amateur status. This means Palocsik will not be paid for his time in Amarillo, but it won’t cost him too much to play for the Bulls. He will only incur housing costs from living with a host family in Texas and a few other miscellaneous expenses.

Palocsik has been a member of the Pittsburgh Elite program since the 2012-13 season and one year of hockey at Beaver High School. During the 2015-16 season, he was a part of the team that won the U18 national championship. He has played two games for the Bulls in December and figures to



been a member of the Penguins since the 2012-13 season. During his time with the Penguins, he was a member of the team that won the U18 national championship already in December and figures to

be one of their top offensive defenseman.

Palocsik says that skating and creating offensive opportunities are his best areas. This skill set combined with his experience make many optimistic about his future in Amarillo.

“I’m most excited to travel the country while playing the sport I love and getting to meet new kids along the way,” says Palocsik on what he looks forward to in his career. He will certainly get to travel. The NAHL has teams as far west as Alaska and as far east as Massachusetts. The Hopewell Hi-Lites wishes Tanner the best of luck on his plans in hockey and in life.



# “What Happened This Year?”

## A Great Year, with An Even Brighter Future

BY: GARRET ROBERTS

### Science Revolution

This year was great for scientific research and study. With more and more college students pursuing careers in science and math, plenty of new theories and research have been presented. A fresh set of eyes has really helped areas such as climate change, gender studies, and psychology grow and expand.

Hopewell has also had some giant leaps in our science programs. Offering programming and robotics through Mrs. Story’s extracurricular program “I am Independent,” students are now able to access a current and relevant experience with future technology and robots. Also, Hopewell’s Seaperch program is making waves, showing that our robotics are nothing to scoff at.

The future of science around the world as well as here at Hopewell looks promising. Technology should make all of our lives much easier. Maybe humanity can finally take a break and let science do some work for us.



### Jobs

This year has seen a major dip in unemployment, making the job market more stable in our future. This is great news, as we all love money and holding a stable job, but more importantly, it means getting college loans will be easier in the future, as the market will be more stable. Instead of living your life with your debt over your head, plenty of opportunities are now open to our generation with new jobs and lower fees.

### Cubs Break the Curse

To everybody’s surprise, the Chicago Cubs broke their century long losing streak at the World Series. In an 8-7 game victory, all fans rejoiced that the Cubs had finally broken their “curse.” It’s a true underdog story with a happy ending.

### A Happy, Healthy Planet

While it seems the government wants no involvement with the movement, many strides have been made in preserving nature. Two previously endangered species, the giant panda and tigers, have begun to thrive again and form new habitats. Sea World also announced they would not breed orcas in captivity any more, only saving those injured in the ocean for rehabilitation.

On April 22, there was also a march on Washington DC by scientist over the issue of global warming. The government planned to cut funding for research programs related to the environment, but scientists fought back against the legislation. We have one Earth, so we need to protect it the best we can.



# The 2017 School Year Recap

## Another Year of Bad Times and Depression

BY: GARRET ROBERTS

### Political Turmoil

Political discourse has caused gridlock in legislation, and many politicians are enraged over the lackluster or weaker policies that are being passed.

Riots and violence are arising from both political ideologies. The Berkeley Riots, comprised of “Anti Fascists” as well as the “Alt Right,” are showing the world that politics has degraded into a match of Mortal Kombat.

In addition to the problems in the US, events such as Brexit and the election in Turkey have been adding to the political hurricane.

### Terrifying Terrorism

Unfortunately, this year has seen it's fair share of terrorism, both foreign and domestic. Terrorism will be a serious issue going forward, with ISIS recruitment at an all time high. Incidents such as the laptop bombings have come back into light with the Department of Homeland Security banning laptops on international flights.

The terror attacks on France are continuing from last year. France seems to be a major target for ISIS and other terrorist organizations.

The gas attacks in Syria have raised awareness of chemical terrorism. President Trump has openly disagreed with Assad, expressing that his attacks are inhumane and should be stopped.

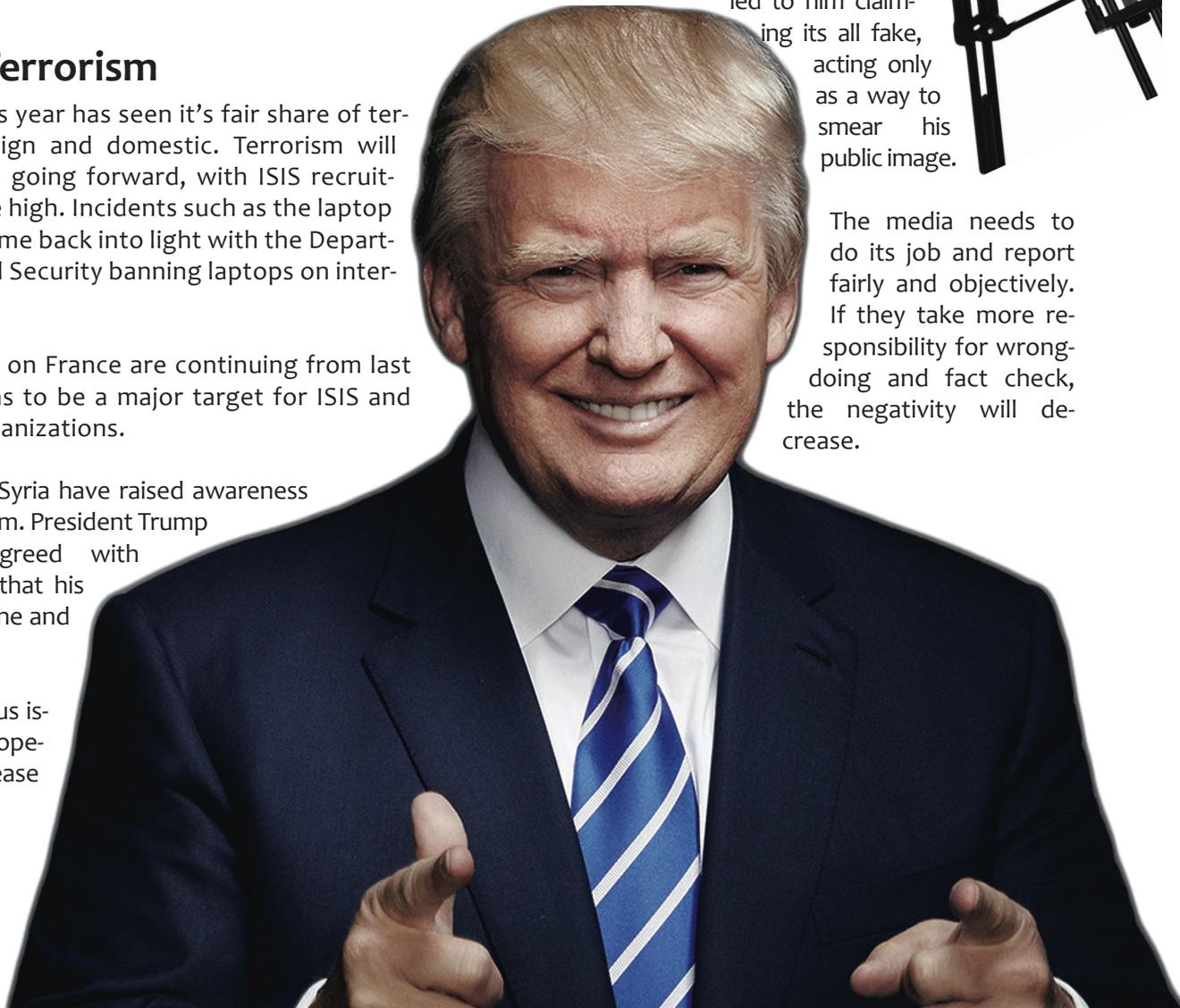
Terrorism is a serious issue, and we will hopefully see a decrease soon.

### Media and The Truth Debate

Can we really trust the media? News stations have the ability to fudge numbers and report false facts, and the populous is starting to grow wary of the news and it's power over us.

Negative coverage of president Trump has led to him claiming its all fake, acting only as a way to smear his public image.

The media needs to do its job and report fairly and objectively. If they take more responsibility for wrongdoing and fact check, the negativity will decrease.



# Presidents Bid Farewell



“Thank you to Hopewell High School for welcoming my classmates and me when we entered our freshman year. I truly appreciate all of the memories, the challenge and the triumph, that we have shared. Thank you for guiding us through the years to get us to our diplomas, and to start us into our young adulthood.”

-A.J. Hartman, Senior Class President



“I don’t know if my advice actually has any value but here I go. I think there are a lot of moments in life when things feel worth it or you will ever get what you truly deserve. Most people feel that a lot. In those moments, you’ll find out who you really are and what you’re capable of. So, embrace them and take every moment as its own, because soon it will all be memories.”

-Lauren McCoy, Junior Class President



“Everything you do now will reflect on your future, but don’t be afraid to make a mistake. If you can’t do it right, try left.”

-Alexa Burak, Sophomore Class President



“Congratulations on your graduation and best wishes for your next adventure!”

-Kara DiNardo, Freshman Class President