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Fleetwood XC Attends Districts; Fortna Places Fifth, Runs to States

Sports

On 31 October, when most people were enveloped in the Halloween craze, hundreds of runners from a slew of different schools convened on the fields of Big Springs High School. They were all preparing themselves for the Cross Country District 3 AA race.

Fleetwood Area High School's cross country team was in attendance, readying themselves for the intense competition. The boys that qualified included seniors Carl Fortna, Shawn Delay, Chad Delay, Matt Delozier, Jacob Wetherhold; sophomore Shawn Fortna; and freshman Evan Santos. The girls that qualified included junior Cassandra Harwood and freshmen Madeline Burt and Isabella Ouelette.

All of the runners at districts had the pleasure of running a recently conceived course at Big Springs High School. In previous years, the district race was held at Hershey, where runners faced many rolling hills and challenging inclines. The change was due to construction being done on a road that intersects the course, making the viability of the course questionable. The new course, however, did not cut the runners a break.

The new course at Big Springs featured a good amount of flats, but introduced some rolling hills just after the first half mile. A hill near the end of the course, nicknamed "Kill Hill," provided runners with a short, but steep, incline just before the final dash to the finish. Supporters were yelling encouraging phrases such as "Kill the Hill" at runners who looked like they were struggling to get over the hill.

Most runners on the Fleetwood team expressed their suspicions about the new course. Many, like Harwood, were upset that districts would not be held at the familiar course at Hershey; however, after the race, there were many positive remarks made about the new course. The general consensus of the team was that the course was easier and faster than Hershey's course.

There was a total of 189 runners, 26 competing teams, and an additional 9 incomplete teams competing in the boy's race.

The following are results of the Fleetwood boys cross country team. The place scored is displayed first, then the name of the runner, followed by the time he ran.

5. Carl Fortna- 16:35
65. Shawn Delay- 18:05



84. Matt Delozier- 18:20
102. Evan Santos- 18:39
104. Chad Delay- 18:40
119. Shawn Fortna- 18:53
145. Jacob Wetherhold- 19:21

The Fleetwood Boys' team scored thirteenth out of twenty-six teams.

"The competition was appropriate for districts. All teams ran their best, so it was good," Wetherhold said.

"You could tell everyone deserved to be here," Shawn Fortna, who ran his first district race, said.

Carl Fortna scored fifth overall in the meet, which qualifies him to run in the states race.

"I knew the competition was going to be tough, but I made sure victory did not come easily for those who beat me," Fortna said.

Coach McMullen was very pleased with the boys' performance.

"We had great races today. Our boys started in the back of the pack, but they really moved up later in the race," McMullen said.

For the girls' race, there were 150 runners, 19 teams, and 12 incomplete teams running. The Fleetwood girls' team was not counted as a complete team due to the small amount of girls on the team that were able to run. The following are the results.

74. Cassandra Harwood-22:22
111. Madeline Burt-23:28
113. Isabella Ouelette 23:32

"It was pretty intimidating," Burt said. "I was kind of scared that I'd be racing people so much better than me, but the race went better than I expected."

All in all, everyone preformed to the best of their abilities and thrived on the increased competition. Coach McMullen was especially enthused throughout the entirety of the meet.

"See that balloon up there? That's my enthusiasm; it just keeps going up," McMullen said in reference to an escaped helium balloon, soaring out of sight and into the depths of space.

By Adrian Alicea



German Club Enjoys Reading Liederkrantz

Recreation



Fleetwood Area High School's German Club recently took its annual trip to the Reading Liederkrantz. Twenty-two students, accompanied by German Teacher Frau Christine Moll, attended the Liederkrantz on 3 November.

The Reading Liederkrantz was founded in July of 1885. The Liederkrantz moved to its current location in 1909. It still stands 130 years later as a location where Berks County locals go to celebrate and experience Germany's heritage and culture. Today, it has grown into a large organization with over 2,500 members and even more visitors.

The Reading Liederkrantz is best known for its annual Oktoberfest celebration, which is one of the largest in both Pennsylvania and the entire east coast. Fleetwood students have been taking trips to the Liederkrantz for several years.

Some of the food served at the Liederkrantz on the night that Fleetwood's students attended included goulash, wienerschnitzel, sausage, and other customary German foods.

The overwhelming opinion among students who attended was that the Liederkrantz provided an enjoyable and entertaining night.

"It was cool. We ate traditional German food, and then they demonstrated a traditional German dance," junior Arthur Borodi said.

Borodi was not brave enough to attempt the dance, which is called the Fliegerlied, but some of German Club's other members rose to the challenge and tried it.

Junior Max Ruemmler attended the Liederkrantz and enjoyed himself. His personal favorite part of the event was the Fliegerlied, which he did attempt.

After another dance at the end, in which all students participated, the evening concluded. Frau Moll and several German Club members expressed satisfaction with their experience at the Liederkrantz. Several of those who attended are already eager to attend the event again next year.

By Owen Sandor

Changes for the SATs coming March 2016

Academics

Many have heard of the major changes coming to the SATs and PSATs in March. There are several changes. The scoring has changed as well as the essay.

Reading and math are still included in the test. A huge plot twist is an optional essay. Not only do the test administrators want to see bubbled-in answers, they want to see test takers support their answers as well.

The last change that happened to the test was back in 2005, when the essay was added and the scoring scale changed drastically.

Some admissions offices feel like the information that is needed for these tests is just too much, and that is why a change was needed. Students, teachers, and schools all around are preparing for this change.

Some people are thinking positively,

and some are not panicking yet but would like to run in the other direction.

"I'm jealous because I have heard they don't have to write an essay," senior Danielle Pysher, who has already taken the test, said.

Many students have already lived through the old version.

"It makes me really mad because they have a choice to not do the essay, which is not fair to the rest of us who have taken it," senior Shelby Dragon said.

Opinions are mixed for various reasons. This could mean that, if the test is made less difficult, students will have less difficulty getting into college.

By Erin Maynard

'Designer Cell' Defeats Cancer

Health/Medicine

Layla Richards, a one-year-old, has been undergoing treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia since she was just fourteen weeks old. She was flown all the way across the U.K. for experimental procedures, bone marrow transplants, countless blood tests, and yet cancer took over her body. The test that was suggested was never tested on anything larger than a lab mouse. Layla's parents were losing hope and decided to try this new technique and became the first person in the world to be treated for the cancer using "designer cells."

Acute lymphoblastic leukemia affects the lymphoid and grows very quickly. This disease accounts for more than five thousand new cases of leukemia each year. This disease has the most effect on young children and infants but have occurred, rarely, in adults.

"I'm sure that her parents were scared of what the outcome would be without this new technique. I probably would have done the same thing for my little girl if I had children," senior Hannah Sell said.

This technique was tried on HIV patients before but never cancer. If Layla's body remains cancer-free, like it has been for the past few months, then she will be the remarkable girl who was cured with the designer cell.

The medical team cautioned that the method they used will require more testing before they can start using it for the entire population. The technique requires tiny "scissors to fix her genes and make the immune cells able to destroy the cancer cells."

The designer cells can be sent to other doctors to give to their patients who are suffering with certain severe cancers.

"That's really neat that the doctors were able to come up with something like this to ship out and save lives in more hospitals than just their own," junior Megan Majewski said.

For two weeks, Layla was not affected by the treatment. Doctors contemplated sending the little girl home for her to spend

her last few moments with her family in her own bed. Then it finally appeared. A simple rash appeared telling the doctors that her body recognized the new cells and was responding to the infusion.

Just a few weeks later, the cancer was gone. Layla went into surgeries to fix bone marrow from all the suffering her body had been through and was able to go home. There will be a possibility of the cancer coming back within months, or possibly years, but for now this is a step in the right direction. Layla is strong and healthy enough to be back home and have more time with her loving family and friends.

"This makes me so happy to hear how they saved the little girl. If this method works, she will be able to have a healthy, happy life with her family," Majewski said.

The therapy used to treat Layla was developed by the doctors and researchers at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) and the University College London's (UCL) Institute of Children's Health along with the biotech company Cellectis. A consultant immunologist at GOSH had been working on therapy and suggested the idea that was approved by an ethics panel. Shortly after that, Layla was injected with the designer cells.

At first, Layla's parents questioned how only one milliliter vial could save their daughter when bags upon bags of chemotherapy had not worked for her. The nurse reassured them that the treatment was about quality and not quantity. She was correct.

"I'd be scared for my kid if something this horrible happened to them. I think they made the right choice by trusting their doctors and having faith in their hospital. I would be scared as well," junior Pierre Richard said.

Although the countless surgeries before the designer cell was not a success, Layla has made a magnificent recovery from the acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

By Laura Seidel

Something Rotten Is Anything But

Review

On 28 October, the theater class, ETC students, and seniors in chorus took a trip to New York to see the Broadway production of Something Rotten. Something Rotten was a fantastic show not once lacking in spirit or comedy. I loved the opening song; it was stuck in my head the entire rest of the night.

Though it had quite a lot of adult humor, it was by far a big hit with the audience.

"The show was hilarious and made me want to go see more Broadway shows. I absolutely loved it," senior Olivia Leenhouts said.

The actors were very committed to their performances. The passion for what they do was evident on their faces as they performed. The sets looked amazing; they had backdrops and actual buildings so that everything looked incredible. The costumes had a big part in the adult humor

because of the absurd features they possess.

"The dancing eggs were by far my favorite part. I was laughing so hard; it was fantastic," chorus teacher Catharine Williamson said.

If you love singing and Shakespeare, this is a must see.

By Lauren Boyer



Students Saw "Something Rotten," but Trip Was Far From It

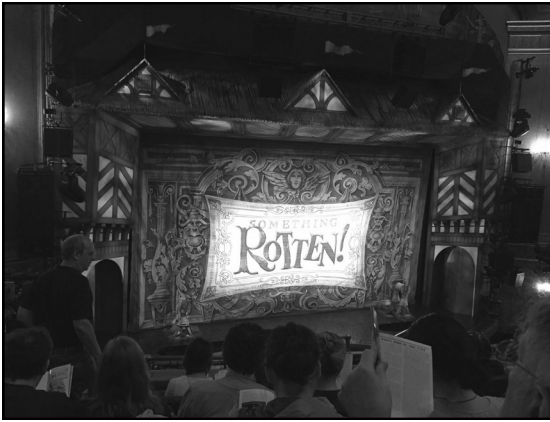
Recreation

Chorus, ETC., and theater students had the opportunity to go on a trip to New York City to see the musical Something Rotten. On the morning of 28 October, everyone boarded a bus to the city. Students were very excited for this adventure, although it was a rainy and gloomy day.

The group was able to meet and talk with one of the actors and the stage manager. The students were able to ask them about their careers on Broadway and how they got their start. It was a very informative hour for all.

Afterwards, students were able to walk the city within the limits that were set by the chaperones. The show started at 2:00 p.m. (See reporter Lauren Boyer's article for a review of the musical.)

After the show, it was time for dinner, and then the students headed back to the bus! Several dining facilities were available, and stu-



dents split up into groups to find somewhere to eat. Participants hope to be able to undertake a similar trip again in the future.

By Erin Maynard

Jake Wapinsky Signs Letter of Intent

Sports

On 11 November 2015, senior Jake Wapinsky signed his National Letter of Intent with Tusculum College in Tennessee.

Wapinsky has been playing baseball for thirteen years. He plays the positions of outfielder and pitcher.

"I prefer outfield because I haven't fully developed as a pitcher yet, and I feel like there's no pressure on me in the outfield," Wapinsky said.

Baseball has really influenced Wapinsky's life, considering his life revolves around it. He has also met so many people that have influenced him.

"All of my decisions off the field are mostly based off of how it could affect my career or my health. I've also met a great deal of people through baseball who have made a positive impact on me," Wapinsky said.

Tusculum went to see him play in New Jersey at Diamond Nation and again in Georgia at the Summer National Championship.

"They liked what they saw and gave me a call. I went and visited them, and they offered me a scholarship," Wapinsky said.

Tusculum is a Division 2 school that plays in a ten million dollar stadium and has won over thirty games for the past fifteen years.

"I had a couple Division 1 offers, so my decision took a bit, but I've never wanted to go to a big school, and Tusculum only has about a thousand students. I wanted to be a part of a

winning program that could help me grow as a person and a player," Wapinsky said.

Recruiting has been such a hassle and a huge burden of stress is on him. After he was accepted, he felt so relieved.

"With the amount of money they were offering me, I couldn't turn it down. I think the past four years, I've probably slept in a car or hotel more than my own bed because I've been trying to get a scholarship. Now my parents and I are finally able to say, 'Wow, this is over--we did it!'" Wapinsky said.

Last baseball season, Jake Wapinsky had a .330 Batting Average. He had 5 doubles, 1 triple, and 2 home runs. Jake also currently holds the school record for most triples in a season, which is seven.

For his last high school baseball season, he feels that he is going to be able to relax a little more because he won't need to impress anyone.

"I'll be able to just be me rather than feel so pressured to impress someone. It's a new path or journey starting for me, and I hope it turns out well," Wapinsky said. "If I could give any advice, it would be, just be yourself and have to get yourself noticed. You can't expect to just play in the state and have a lot of colleges know about you, and obviously don't try and play like someone you aren't because it will only hurt you," Wapinsky said.

By Olivia Fenstermacher

VICE Is the Upcoming News Outlet for Youth

Politics

People all over the world, including Fleetwood Area High School Students, are relying on a new source for all things news related. VICE is an online media source based out of Brooklyn, New York, and Los Angeles, California.

Founded by Shane Smith in 1994, it is a magazine and website that tends to go where other media agencies will not. Through covering a lot of controversial material, such as the Westboro Baptist Church, Syria, and hidden acid factories, it has gained an active and large fanbase.

VICE covers an array of topics such as politics, sports, travel, food, and even technology.

In order to keep up-to-date on all these topics, VICE has specific channels that cover areas of interest specifically. "Motherboard" is one of VICE's channels that covers anything having to do with technology. The material can be anything from the newest iPhone hacks to discoveries of ancient species in abandoned caves.

Another channel of theirs covers anything having to do with food. There are

also recipes on how to correctly grill octopus.

The articles tend to have uncommon subject matter, which is sure to educate and inform readers.

VICE has an HBO show that covers current issues all over the world.

"They don't censor anything, and they provide the whole truth. Unabridged," senior Duncan Cahalan said.

Journalists for VICE tend to go above and beyond to get a story. They are willing to put themselves in harm's way in order to get a good story.

"I like VICE because they're real," senior Dan Shomper said.

Along with the additional channels that VICE has pertaining to certain topics, they often make documentaries and post them on their Youtube Channel, called, "VICE NEWS."

If there is a controversial topic going on in the world, VICE is sure to be doing a piece on it.

By Adam Buonasera

Gettysburg Gets Good Review from FAHS Freshman Class

Travel

Unlike the retreating confederate forces on 4 July 1863, the rain stayed away from the ninth graders on their field trip this year. It was a nice day for the tours to the visitor's center, Cyclorama, Cemetery Ridge, Seminary Boulevard, and Little Round Top. Freshman students and chaperones had an enlightening at Gettysburg on 9 October.

"Physically being a part of the Gettysburg experience provides a deeper meaning of the importance of this history-making event that helped shape the course of our nation for decades to come," history teacher Mr. Todd Weiss said.

Hours of time were spent making this trip successful.

"My favorite part of the Gettysburg trip is being able to share this semi-

social, historic site with my ninth grade students," history teacher Ms Dina Heffner said.

"We didn't get enough time to do a lot of the things we wanted. We spent a lot of time on the bus," freshman Reece Fenstermacher said. "My favorite part of the trip was sitting in the theatre and watching the movie about the causes of the civil war."

"The tour guides got everyone involved in the trip," freshman Abby Ryan said.

"Going to the Devil's Den was a great part of the trip. That was fun!" freshman Lydia Santiago said.

By Laura Seidel

Pops
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Cahalan, Meck Named October Students Of The Month for FAHS

Profile



Duncan Cahalan was awarded Student of the Month for November. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Cahalan.

"Duncan is a good choice for student of the month. He is a very motivated, hard-working, and respectable young man who has a bright future ahead of him. I'm glad to say he is one of my best friends," senior Ethan Miller said.

Cahalan has excelled in many aspects, from sports to school, and even in his community. He plays for the Fleetwood baseball team as first baseman, and he started playing when was five years old. He also runs for the Fleetwood winter track and

field team. Cahalan has participated in track since his sophomore year. He throws shot put and runs hurdles.

Cahalan excels in school. He is a part of the National Honor Society, and he is also in the Future Business Leaders of America. Cahalan does not fail to give back to his community. He participates at the Legion Hall breakfast. Cahalan helps at the Animal Rescue League with volunteer projects. Cahalan helps out at the Berks Encore as a tutor helping kids. He also helps out as a volunteer coach and a volunteer at the food bank, helping people in need.

After graduation, Cahalan wants to join the United States Army and later finish his career at the U.S State Department. In the future, Cahalan plans on attending American University in Washington, D.C, and participating in their Army ROTC program.

"I've always wanted to help people. I feel like the army is the best way to help people in a larger scale. I'll also be able to travel to different countries and experience what other people do in their daily lives. The army offers a unique experience that I couldn't get anywhere else, and that's what really draws me to them," Cahalan said.

Duncan looks up to his friend and former military serviceman Dick Hiller as a mentor. He fought in World War II. Cahalan has known Hiller since he was eight years old, and through those years he taught Duncan about life and being honest. Cahalan feels that Hiller is a true American Hero for his service in the military.

Amanda Meck is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Meck.

Meck has attended school in the

Fleetwood Area School District since Kindergarten. During her high school career, she has been involved in volleyball, FBLA, National Honor Society, and student council.

After high school, Meck plans to go to college and major in Public Relations. She is currently looking to attend the University of Tennessee, Penn State University, or Syracuse.

Her favorite part of high school was getting to know some of the teachers. She really admires Mrs. Ackerman, Mrs. Heffner, and Ms. Nagle.

"They are kind, caring, and wonderful leaders in our educational system," Meck said.

When she graduates, Meck will miss being a part of Fleetwood's FBLA Chapter and playing volleyball with her fellow team members.

In her free time, she likes to go to the beach, hang out with her boyfriend Brandon Stitzel, and play volleyball indoors and outdoors. She also enjoys spending time with her nephew, Mason, and her new baby niece, Briley.

Meck has also dedicated herself to her community by being a lifeguard, participating in FBLA's community service project, helping at food drives, and volunteering at Berks Encore.

After college, Meck hopes to be living somewhere in the south, preferably near the beach, with a job in Public Relations.



She has sound advice to those trying to make their high school experience the most memorable.

"I'd say, get involved. High school is so much more fun once you're involved. If you just go through your four years coming to school at 7:25 and leaving at 2:25, you won't have the opportunity to gain helpful relationships with students who have common interests, and you'll miss out on getting to know your teachers, which is extremely important."

By Olivia Fenstermacher & Emily Moyer

RANDOM CHEESE!

What did you think of Homecoming 2015?



Senior Liz Walrond: "What is homecoming? Wait, who's coming home?"



Senior Zack Wanner: "Best homecoming we had so far!"



Math teacher Mr. Jon Perry: "Overall, from what I experienced, it was fun. I liked the fish hallway."



Senior Malori Heffner: "The events that took place were fun, and I had a good time."



Senior Thayjas Patil: "The coldness in many hearts and the chill of the night could not diminish the warmth of Hopey's glory."

The Tiger Times is a high school news journal that is produced using funds from The Fleetwood Area School District as well as club fundraisers. All subjects and topics appearing within The Tiger Times are self-selected by student reporters themselves; however, article suggestions are accepted from all students, staff, administration, and community members. Opinions and viewpoints stated in The Tiger Times are not necessarily the opinions and viewpoints of The Fleetwood Area School District, its administration, its faculty, the club advisor, or even the entirety of The Tiger Times staff. The Tiger Times is a public forum, the primary goal of which is to provide an outlet for student expression to The Fleetwood Area School District and its constituent communities. Viewpoints and opinions that are contrary to those appearing in The Tiger Times are welcomed, but they are not guaranteed publication except by approval from the student editors. Students who are not matriculated in the journalism course or who are not among the club's roster are still eligible to submit content for the periodical. All articles and letters selected for publication may be subject to editing for length and language consistent with the style established by student editors of The Tiger Times.