



# The Contownian News Magazine

Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School September 2021 Volume 84 Number 1

## ***Reach Program***

*By Taylor Shaffer*

The Reach Program is a way for students in schools to get help they need with mental health issues. Julia Dello started this program years ago after an incident that happened in the Windber Area School District. Many students were suffering with mental health issues and she wanted to help.

Julia commented on the affect of the COVID-19 virus, to which she responded, "Not much has changed other than location. Just like everyone else, we were sent home, but we used online ways of communication to still provide help to thos in need." The challenges that came from this situation included problems and difficulty with communication over the internet. Julia's favorite part of her job is to build a personal connection with the students that she is helping. That hardest part of her job is getting students to trust the Reach Program and use it. In other schools, once she saw a couple of students start using the program, others were more likely to follow suit.

Julia will not be the full-time Reach Program employee working at Conemaugh Township. Kelly, another counselor, will be stationed either in the guidance office, or above the cafeteria. To get in contact with the Reach Program, contact Mrs. Birkhimer. She will provide students with necessary information. There are many people who seem to wonder what the differnece is between a guidance counselor and the Reach Program. Guidance counselors deal with a range of issues such as academic and career guidance. The purpose of the Reach Program is to focus specifically on mental health. The great part of the Reach Program is that there is a counselor working at Conmaugh Township all day. Students have easy access to gain mental health support.

## ***New Football Scholarships***

*By BriElla Harnett*

This year, two new football scholarships will be awarded to two seniors from the Conemaugh Township High School football team. The football scholarships are funded through the Community Foundation of Alleghenies and the CT 12th Man Club. Each scholarship is worth \$500.

These football scholarships are named after two retired head coaches from Conemaugh Township. One of the head coaches being honored is Joe Badaczewski. He was a head coach from the late 1960s to the 1980s. However, he was also the head coach in 1989 for roughly two years. In total, Mr. Badaczewski was a head coach for 25 seasons. While coaching for those 25 seasons, his teams won 110 times, setting a school record. He went to Michigan State University and played in two Rose Bowls and also played on the 1951 CT Championship Team that was 10-0. The second head coach being honored is Sam Zambanini, Jr. Mr. Zambanini has been a football coach for 35 seasons, 22 of those seasons he was the head coach. During the 22 seasons he was a head coach, his teams won 119 games, breaking the school record. He went to the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. At Conemaugh Township, he currently is also the head baseball coach, and so far he has 400 wins. When asked how he felt about the scholarship being named after him, Mr. Zambanini said, "It is really a great honor to be named after this scholarship. It's even a greater honor to be named after a football scholarship along with Joe Badaczewski. I always looked up to him."

The CT 12th Man Club and the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies will decide which two seniors will receive the scholarships. When asked how he felt about the football scholarships, Jackson Byer, one of the varsity wide receivers, said, "The scholarships are a great way of rewarding the most involved players that are active in the community."

# **CT PRIDE**



## Staff Editorials

### *Two Decades After September 11th, 2001*

*By Chloe Bidelman*

On what seemed like a typical Tuesday, American citizens followed their everyday routine. With brilliant, clear skies, the day appeared to start pleasantly. The constant bustling of America began just like every other day. However, at 8:46 AM America strikingly froze. The tragic incidents and attacks on September 11th would leave a permanent scar and enduring legacy that America still baggages today.

On September 11, 2001, two hijacked airlines destroyed the World Trade Center towers, another plane smashed a hole out of the Pentagon, and a passenger jet crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, after passengers regained control from hijackers. An unbeatable war sparked with not only Afghanistan and Iraq, but a war against terrorism. Consequently, the U.S. established a new system of rules on security and surveillance. From that day forward, after 9/11, life would never be the same. As a result of the attacks on September 11th, 2,977 people were killed and more than 6,000 people were injured. As well, the American soldiers and innocent Middle Eastern citizens affected by the gruesome war.

As a result, the nation was negatively shaken. Everyone who lived during September 11th, 2001, has a vivid memory of the day. Despite overwhelming sadness, America came together in the spirit of patriotism. Although the foundations of America were destroyed, the heart and courage of the citizens could not be broken. The United States grew stronger together as a nation. Since 2001, regardless of political views, race, gender, etc., every September 11th is spent publicly united. Even twenty years later, America still recognizes the victims of 9/11. The importance of remembering 9/11 will be honored forever in American history.

### *Should Masks Be Mandated in Schools?*

*By Ben Cotchen*

On August 31st, 2021, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf announced a new mandate, which requires schools to enforce masks being worn inside K-12 school buildings. This mandate has caused quite a stir around our state, and many people have their own opinions on the mandate. In my opinion, masks should be mandated in schools.

I believe that masks need to be worn because they will help slow the spread of the virus. Obviously, wearing a mask does not mean you will not get COVID. But wearing a mask increases the chances that you will not contract the virus. A mask protects you from someone transmitting the virus to you. If students want to have a “normal” school year, they need to wear masks in order to stay safe. According to the CDC, mask mandates also were associated with significant decreases in COVID cases. This means that mask-wearing in indoor places works, contrary to popular belief. Wearing a mask, along with proper social distancing, is also a safe way to allow partner or group work on school projects, something that many students appreciate. Group work can be very beneficial because it allows students to develop skills, such as collaborative effort and delegating roles.

In conclusion, the PA mask mandate is an issue that needs to be enforced because it allows students to attend school in a safe environment. I strongly believe that people should still be wearing masks because the pandemic is still going on. Even if you are vaccinated, a mask should still be worn in school because of the larger groups of people together in smaller spaces, which gives a higher risk for COVID. Masks are one of the ways that we can keep everyone safe.





*Natalie Kimmel and Ethan Hoffman are crowned Homecoming Royalty!*



*Brielle Ciarimboli and parents enjoying Soccer Senior Night with a win against Rockwood.*

# Contownian

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**HIGH SCHOOL**

***Halloween Costume Ideas***

*By Sasha Tarabrin*

The days are getting darker sooner, the temperature is cooling down and as fall quickly approaches, so does Halloween. Along with carving pumpkins and trick-or-treating, procrastination in regards to costume ideas seems to be a holiday tradition - but that does not have to be the case. Here are some unique and iconic film & television inspired costumes for Halloween 2021.

Individuals

- Beth Harmon, *The Queen’s Gambit* (2020)
- Cruella De Vil, *Cruella* (2021)
- Tyler Durden, *Fight Club* (1999)
- The Bride, *Kill Bill* (2003)
- Maverick, *Top Gun* (1986)
- Tony Manero, *Saturday Night Fever* (1977)
- Carmela Soprano, *The Sopranos* (1999 - 2007)
- Lady Bird, *Lady Bird* (2017)
- Jesse Pinkman, *Breaking Bad* (2008 - 2013)
- Joe, *You* (2019 - )
- Bender, *The Breakfast Club* (1985)

Dynamic Duos

- Steve & Dustin, *Stranger Things* (2016 - )
- Gomez & Morticia, *The Addams Family* (1991)
- Wayne & Garth, *Wayne’s World* (1992)
- Han & Leia, *Star Wars* (1977)
- Lola & Bugs Bunny, *Space Jam* (1996)
- Jim & Pam, *The Office* (2005 - 2013)



***Homecoming Week***

*By Hunter Hartnett*

Homecoming week occurred during the week of September 20. For Conemaugh Township, this means a fun-filled week for those in the area. For years, CT has been keeping the Homecoming traditions alive. Students took part in spirit week, which the Student Council organizes the week leading up to the Homecoming football game. This year, students participated in Western Day, Jersey Day, Dress up Day, and Throw-back Day.

On Friday, the Middle and High School Student Council spent the day decorating the whole school and stadium for the game. Windows were painted in the school and in the community.

Before the Friday night football game, the Homecoming parade started at St. David’s Church in Davidsville. The Homecoming court led the parade in their convertibles through the town. Junior High students, clubs, and other groups participated in the parade. The football game then followed the parade. At halftime the Homecoming King and Queen were announced: Ethan Hoffman and Natalie Kimmel. Homecoming was a success!



***2021 Homecoming Court: (Pictured left to right) Aaron Kaufman, Ben Cotchen, Jackson Byer, Owen Tomb, Ethan Price, Ethan Hoffman, Riley Maldet, Natalie Kimmel, Olivia Boring, Brielle Ciarimboli, Laikyn Hillegas, Ruby Korenoski***

## POP CULTURE

### *The 73rd Annual Emmy Awards*

By Sasha Tarabrin

The 73rd Emmy Awards were held on Sunday, September 19th, 2021, outside at the Los Angeles Live Entertainment Complex. The show was hosted by Cedric the Entertainer and included performances from R&B artist Leon Bridges.

It was a night full of hard decisions as the past year has birthed some exceptional television programs. As per usual, "The Crown" proved to be a big winner with 11 nominations and 7 wins including that of Outstanding Drama Series. Apple TV's fan-favorite, Ted Lasso took home the wins for Outstanding Comedy Series, Best Lead Actor in a Comedy Series, and Best Supporting Actor and Actress in a Comedy Series. Another global phenomenon, The Queen's Gambit, won the Emmy for Outstanding Limited or Anthology Series. The show also paid tribute to the late Norm MacDonald, a beloved Saturday Night Live alum who passed away earlier this month. During SNL writer Lorne Michael's acceptance speech, he looked fondly on the star saying he was, "the best that Weekend Update has ever had."

## *Upcoming Albums*

*October 2021:*

*\* Music Of The Spheres - Coldplay*

*\* FUTURE PAST - Duran Duran*

*\* The Lockdown Sessions - Elton John*

*\* Blue Bannisters - Lana Del Rey*

*\* Punk - Young Thug*

*\* Friends That Break Your Heart - James Blake*

September 2021

## *Upcoming Sneaker Drops*

*October 2021:*

1) Air Jordan 5 Retro WMNS "Blue Bird"



2) adidas Yeezy Boost 350 V2 "MX Oat"

3) Nike Dunk Low PRM "Halloween"

4) adidas ZX 8000 "Halloween"

5) adidas Trae Young 1 "Ice Trae"

6) adidas Trae Young 1 "ICEE"

7) Shai Gilgeous-Alexander x Converse Pro Leather Ox



8) Saquon Barkley x Nike Air Trainer 3

9) Gundam x Nike SB Dunk High "Project RX-0 Unicorn"

10) Air Jordan 5 "Shattered Backboard"



6)



## SOCIETY

### HIGH SCHOOL

#### *Welcome Mr. Bradley*

*By Oliva Boring*



Our Township tribe has a new member. Let us give a friendly welcome to Boston Bradley. He is in Mr. Berzonski's room as a student teacher. Mr. Bradley is a senior at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. Before UPJ, he attended Bishop McCort where he played baseball and hockey. His dad has been a teacher at McCort for over 10 years; this is where he got his inspiration to become a teacher. He loves history and hopes to continue this passion onto his students.

Mr. Bradley says, "I love CT, it has a great environment filled with great people. Coming in I did not know many people in the school but the staff and students are very friendly. Getting to learn from and work with Mr. Berzonzki has been great. I also love the school's commitment to being active members of the community."

Conemaugh Township is very lucky to have Mr. Bradley. His favorite quote is "The most important thing is to try and inspire people so they can be great in whatever they want to do."

- Kobe Bryant

### *Alumni Of The Month...*

Jake Grosik is a 2017 graduate of Conemaugh Township High School. After school, he attended Saint Francis University in Loretto, PA and recently obtained his degree in History Secondary Education, with a minor in Political Science. After graduating college, Jake accepted a position within the Pennsylvania Mountain Service Corps and is currently serving through AmeriCorps here at his alma mater, Conemaugh Township High School. He hopes to soon pursue a career in history education.

When asked about his favorite memories at Conemaugh Township, Jake recounts his experiences winning the District 5 Championships for both football and baseball. It had been seven years since Township had won a D-5 title for football and six for baseball. He says that accomplishing these feats during his senior year made them that much more special to him.

Throughout his years in high school, Jake mentions that one teacher in particular stood out from the rest and really influenced him in regards to his career - Mr. Mainhart. Jake speaks fondly of him, recalling how his classroom was always full of "constant laughs." He states that his classes were the perfect balance between work and comedy.

Currently, Jake lives in Jerome, Pennsylvania, with his family.



*Jake Grosik*



## ***Fall Sports Preview***

*By Ben Cotchen*

As the school year begins, the 2021-22 fall athletic season has also begun and is now in full swing. All of our CT sports teams are looking for success and have been working hard all summer to obtain it .

The varsity football team is looking to continue the success they had last year. Last season, they finished with a record of 5-3, which qualified them for the District V playoffs, where they were defeated by Northern Bedford in the semifinals. This year's team has many familiar faces, as well as some brand-new faces, as CT is now co-op with the Shade Panthers. The Indians have some key returning starters, including seniors Jackson Byer, Brady Kist, Owen Tomb, Billy Rouser, Emilio Ruiz; as well as juniors, Tanner Shirley, Ethan Black, and Nathaniel Snoeberger. During the co-op with Shade, expect to see some Shade kids making a difference on the field, including senior Braden Adams, junior Thor O'Ship, and sophomore David Leipchack.

The boys' varsity soccer team did not have the 2020-21 campaign they had hoped for, but the team is looking to get back to the success they have been used to. The team has 9 returning starters, including seniors Herman Zilch, Ben Cotchen, Ethan Price, Dakota Patton; juniors Trenton Brenneman, Austin Elliott, Ryan Brown; sophomores Dylan Giffin, Max Malicki, and Drake Rouser. The team looks to use last year's shortcomings as motivation for this year.

The girls' varsity soccer team also did not have the season that was anticipated in 2020-21. The girls qualified for the District V playoffs, but lost to Windber in the quarter finals. The team brings back some key contributors to last year, including senior captains Brielle Ciarimboli, Taylor Shaffer, Taylor Miller, Laci Fetterman; and juniors Emilee Roman, Mya Poznanski, Katie Troxell, and Kaylee Frederick.

The girls' varsity volleyball team won their first District V championship in school history last season. They look to "keep the crown" as senior Riley Maldet would say, "Defending our title as District Champions is our goal, and we have been working hard all summer to attain it." The team returns seniors Riley Maldet and Chloe Bidelman and juniors Hannah Swank and Hannah Sodano. Swank will be unfortunately benched this year, due to injury, but will use her experience and leadership to help out the team while watching.

Lastly, the varsity golf team also had a stellar season in 2020-21, winning District V as a team. The team wants to defend their title and has a great opportunity to do just that. Seniors Austin Ricotta and Ethan Hoffman, junior Jack Ankeny, and sophomore Sam Sharbaugh are all returning starters on the team last year. This year's team has a lot of potential, and it will be exciting to see them on the course.



## **Fall Sports Update**



***Ethan Hoffman strikes a putt on hole #10 at Oakbrook Golf Course***

## *Athletes...*

Ethan Hoffman is the son of Penny and Chris Hoffman, who live in Davidsville. Ethan is an avid golfer for four years and has earned three letters. Ethan is involved in many things that include: The Grill Team, a soup kitchen, the Youth Team, and community service events. Academically, Ethan is on the honor roll and takes honors classes. In his spare time, Ethan enjoys watching tv, playing golf, and hanging out with his friends. He also likes swimming, and playing basketball. Ethan plans on going to Shippensburg University and majoring in finance with a minor in political science.



*Ethan Hoffman*



*Taylor Shaffer dribbles the ball up the field to look to score.*

## *...of the Month*

Taylor Shaffer, daughter of Holly and Josh Shaffer, has been playing soccer for 13 years. Taylor lives in Davidsville and loves to spend time with her friends. She has received four total varsity letters on the varsity girls' soccer team. Not only does she succeed in soccer, but she is also extremely talented in school, being on the honor roll for four years. Taylor is involved in many clubs at Conemaugh Township including the Rotary Interact Club, the SON Club, and the SADD Club. After school, she plans to attend a four-year university with an undecided major.



*Taylor Shaffer*



*Quarterback Tanner Shirley looks over to the sidelines for the play call.*