

Lions' Digest

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IB Entering State High Curriculum for the 2019-2020 year!

BY: RYLIE GRUBE

As the new year rolls around, State High is quickly approaching the second semester, which means it is almost time to schedule classes for next year. And for the first time, State High is offering a handful of new courses, including IB courses. With the introduction of IB courses to the school, it is important to know what they are. IB stands for International Baccalaureate. Not only do IB courses prepare students academically for college, but they also provide the opportunity for students to get college credit from high school, similar to AP courses. Jennifer Shawley, IB World Religions and history teacher said, "The International Baccalaureate (IB) offers a Learner Profile that not only encourages, but also empowers the individual to think beyond: beyond high school, beyond borders, beyond themselves." IB courses can provide students with a diploma,

however, students don't need to receive the diploma to get college credit for the course. IB courses come in two levels: HL or SL. HL stands for "Higher Level" and SL stands for "Standard Level." Jennifer Schreiber, Latin teacher and IB coordinator said, "IB also offers students opportunities to choose areas of research that are of particular interest to them." Typically, the main difference between the two levels is the depth that the teachers go into. Both IB and AP courses are very challenging course levels that provide students with rigorous learning experiences. Although both types of courses are similar, there are some differences. For example, IB and AP courses have different goals. The goal of AP courses, according to PrepScholar, is "To help high school students prepare for college by taking advanced courses, with no set program of courses." Whereas the goal for IB courses is, "To be an internationally recognized diploma. To earn

the diploma, you have to take a certain number of courses in a range of subjects." AP courses and IB courses both require a payment to take the exam; one thing to consider is that IB courses are more expensive than AP courses for the exam. Erin Gall, sophomore, said, "I'm taking AP Human Geography. I'm anticipating that IB courses will be of similar difficulty, but taught with more immersion and application of skills and knowledge." State High is introducing a wide range of IB classes to add to the many AP classes already offered. The science department is adding Environmental Systems & Soc SL, and Physics HL and SL. The history department is offering History of Americans HL, Economics SL, and World Religions SL. According to Shawley, "We look at festivals, holidays, sacred texts, moral/ethical dilemmas and of course, food! From how we greet each other at the start of class, to the words we choose during



Courtesy of SCASD

IB courses are a great way for high school students to accumulate college credits while still attending high school. According to Jennifer Schreiber, IB coordinator and Latin teacher, "The International Baccalaureate Organization has now authorized State College Area High School as an IB World School."

discussions, we immerse ourselves (as much as we can in 90 minutes) into an academic study of understanding." Math is adding Math Applic & Interp SL and HL, and Math Analysis & Appr SL and HL. Other courses that are being added to the course options include Lang A: Lang & Lit HL, Music SL and HL YR1, Film SL, Visual Arts

HL, and Business Mgt HL and SL Y1. State High is adding a lot of IB courses next year, and as the time rolls around to start planning your classes for next year, it is important to get a good idea now of the classes you will want to take and to consider whether or not IB courses are right for you!

Surprise! State High Celebrates 100th Day of School!



Auden Yurman

Students entering the building through the main entrance were met with a big surprise from Junior Senate. Principal Curtis Johnson was at the event and said, "this was a really cool idea and super fun for the students at State High."

BY: JANE PATT BIDDLE

On Wednesday, February 6, State High celebrated the 100th day of school. In the morning before school began, State High's Junior Student Senate and Student Government members handed out candy, snacks, and 100th day glasses to the school. The 100th lucky student to walk through the different entrances of State High won a \$100.00 Visa gift card. As students walked in, State High's Glee Club performed, "Some Nights" by Fun. They are a new club, and they are practicing to perform at a choir concert this Spring.

On Monday, Elly Haushalter, President, Elliot Sheehan, Vice President, Annie Gustafson, Secretary, and Jane Biddle, Treasurer, all went to Sam's Club with Senate Advisor, Mrs. James. They bought over 3,000 pieces of candy, along with balloons and other decorations in order to set up the tables for the celebration. Junior Ariana Hoy said, "It was such a great way to start to my day- walking in and being greeted with as many treats as I wanted. It was a fun atmosphere and very exciting." Junior Senate member Elly Haushalter, thought that working with her peer junior senate mem-

bers was really special and memorable. "It was so much fun coming up with ideas to surprise the school with. We wanted to make it really fun for everyone, and it was exciting to see the smiles on everyone's face," Haushalter said. Junior Senate wanted to find a way to give back to the students of State High and decided that the 100th day of school would be a great day to do this successfully as well as in a timely manner. Senate officers and student government helped spread the cheer by giving each student a free snack to start their day and with it, a gigantic smile!

For the Kids: THON Has Returned to the BJC

BY: LEXI KRANICH

On Saturday, February 16th, over 700 Pennsylvania State University students participated in the 48 hour no sitting, no sleeping dance marathon. The Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, or THON, is the largest student-run philanthropy in the world. THON is a year-long effort that raises awareness and money for the fight against childhood cancer. The event is held annually in February at the Bryce Jordan Center. Working since 1977, THON has raised over \$157 million dollars benefitting the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital. The Four Diamonds Fund was founded by Charles and Irma Millard after their son, Christopher, died at 11 due to cancer. Thanks to the Millard family, 4,000 families have been helped by over 16,500 student volunteers. This year, students raised \$10,621,683.76 dollars.

Isabella Messina, a senior at State College Area High School and a Four Diamonds child since 2003, is a two-time cancer survivor. Messina said, "THON is an experience unlike anything else. I've gone to THON for 16 years and watched it move from Rec Hall to the Bryce Jordan Center. However, as it has changed the atmosphere has always stayed the same. THON is a huge family where everyone has your back. My experience will stay with me for the rest of my life and Penn State THON will always be a home I can come back to." At the core, THON makes a difference in the lives of children and families battling childhood cancer. State College and surrounding communities are able to come together each year to raise funds for a good cause, a cause that affects so many children nationwide. Each year, THON is able to make sure that at least 95 cents of every dollar donated directly impacts those children and their families.



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Travis Scott's Wish You Were Here Tour Comes to the BJC!

BY: ZACH ORNDORFF

Houston born rapper, Travis Scott, had the Bryce Jordan Center wild for his "ASTROWORLD: WISH YOU WERE HERE" tour. Before the doors opened at 7 o'clock, hundreds of Penn State students and local State College residents waited in the cold to get the best seats. Sophomore Colin Davis, who attended the concert said, "We got there at around 6:15 and waited in the line to get in. The line wasn't that long, but it was cold and after getting in, being close to the stage made it worth waiting."

The modern day rapper, Sheck Wes opened for Scott. In about one day, the Bryce Jordan Center staff put up a roller coaster loop and small rail, a huge projector screen where videos were played, and a stage in the middle and in the front. A little after 9 o'clock, Travis appeared on the middle stage to begin his performance of his critically acclaimed album that was released on August 3, 2018. Riley Mehalick, sophomore, described the moshpit on the floor. "It was really crowded," Mehalick said. "People kept trying to get as close as possible to the stage that

Travis was on, and it just made everything crowded and hot." People who purchased General Admission tickets needed wristbands. People on the floor were closer to the performance, but it did cost over a hundred dollars. "Many people got pictures in front of the Travis head statue, and it just added more to the excitement to be there," Carson Franks, sophomore, said. Travis Scott not only entertain the audience with the thirty songs he performed, but also from the roller coaster installed and the exciting props he brought with him.

State High's Art Department is now "State of the Art"



Abby Reed

Madeline Einfalt, junior, works on a painting during her master studio class in the new art space. Einfalt shares a reason why she likes the new rooms. "I like the space the new rooms have," Einfalt said.

BY: ABBY REED

Over winter break, the art department was busy moving into the new art spaces at State High. The new art rooms that were previously on the first floor in A-pod, are now located by the Cafeteria. The new spaces provide many opportunities for students. One of the art teachers at State High, Mrs. Irwin-Furmanek, describes some of these opportunities. "The new space offers expansive space for students to be able to explore, experiment and create with a variety of mediums." Irwin-Furmanek also mentioned why she enjoys

the new space. "I enjoy that students can work freely and have access to a variety of mediums and equipment in a welcoming environment." There are definitely some differences between the old and new spaces. Master studio student, Madeline Einfalt, junior, shares her thoughts on how the new spaces differ from the old spaces. "Units like oil painting were a lot more difficult in the old space due to size restraints. It's also great to have many working sinks so that we don't have to walk to another room if water is needed. It's mostly different in terms of location and utility."

Overall, the new space is a great opportunity for students to learn and continue their passions for art. The new spaces can inspire even more students to take part in the arts. There are 2D classes such as drawing and painting, 3D classes such as sculpture and ceramics, media classes including commercial design and photography, and various art history courses available. The complete list of art classes can be found on the State High Art and Design website. The arts at State High have a bright future ahead and the new space will only lead to more success.

5 New Restaurants Open in State College



Grace Roeshot

The Mexique and the Farmers Market at Snap Pizza.

BY: GRACE ROESHOT

Auntie Anne's leaves the Nittany Mall. The classic College Diner ceases operation. Stay Sushi closes in September after 21 years of business. Peace Love and Little Donuts closes after just a year in State College. Little Caesars' lease runs out, and they do not renew (StateCollege.com). It seems like all restaurants in State College either retire or become overtaken by student high-rises. Although Happy Valley lacks some beloved local flavors, not all is lost because 2018 brought an astounding number of unique restaurants to town. In the fall of 2018, Snap Pizza, a small Philadelphia-based custom pizza franchise, replaced Herwig's Austrian Bistro next to the State Theatre. Herwig's, known for its authentic central-European menu, shut down early this summer due to personal health issues reported by owner, Bernd Brandstatter. Snap specializes in custom-made-pizzas in addition to a full menu of "Signature Pizzas" like the Margherita, Mexique, and Mac 'N' Cheese. Snap also offers "Grain Bowls" which are grain-based bowls filled with vegetables, chicken, and delicious toppings. In its opening months, State High and PSU students flooded the restaurant, spilling the line out onto the sidewalk. After months of anticipation, students can now get their acai bowl fix at the newly-opened Playa Bowls on East Calder Way. Playa Bowls menu includes acai, pitaya, banana, chia pudding, green, coconut, and oatmeal bowls, as well as juices and smoothies. Similarly, Frutta Bowls is

opening soon on Beaver Avenue. Frutta Bowls specializes in similar foods, but also serves different toasts like the "Go Bananas" with peanut butter, banana slices, honey, and chia seeds. The acai bowl trend has swept Instagram and major U.S. cities in the past few years, so State College residents will be pleased to take part in the trend. Bistrozine also opened its doors in July of 2018. Their 409 East Calder Way location adds to the diverse growing food scene in that area. Bistrozine's distinctively unique menu separates them from the typical college town restaurant. Dishes such as the "Ocean Explosion," composed of a wonton skin-wrapped seafood paste with a side of sweet and spicy aioli drizzled-guacamole, the inventive "Bacon Cheeseburger Dumpling," and the "Hol-ee Mol-ee" toast (a french toast style cinnamon brioche slice filled with nutella, topped with a grilled banana, oreo crumbs, whipped cream, and chocolate ice cream) make Bistrozine stand out. Even though Peace Love and Little Donuts is closing, don't fret—Duck Donuts is around to stay. Opened in the Spring of 2018, Duck Donuts has locations across the United States. They sell classic donuts like the cinnamon sugar, the vanilla iced, and the peanut butter iced donut. What makes Duck Donuts special are their made-to-order donuts. Customers can choose from eleven different coatings, eight different toppings, and four different drizzles. Duck Donuts can be found in the MLK plaza across from Federal Taphouse. Even though many beloved restaurants closed, the future looks bright!

Athletes Commit to Furthering their Careers



Courtesy of SCASD

A group of State High students sign to continue their athletic careers. Kayla Moran said, "It was really great to see everyone I grew up with being acknowledged on their big accomplishments."

BY: LEXI KRANICH

On, February 6th, 29 State College Area High School student-athletes signed to their respective colleges across the country. The girls' volleyball team had the majority of athletes sign with five players being honored. Co-defensive player of the year, Erin Lutz, signed with East Stroudsburg, as well as 4-year varsity starter, Jess Irwin. With 1,700 career assists, Leah Henderson signed with Indiana University of Pennsylvania. 2018 coach award winner, Kayla Moran, signed with Penn State Altoona, and Katie Finlan, co-defensive player of the year, signed with Roanoke College in Virginia. Elaina Ohlson of girls' lacrosse signed with East Stroudsburg University. "It felt most like home," Ohlson said. "The players made me feel welcome

from the start, and my coach made me feel like I was a part of the warrior family even on the first visit there." Ohlson's teammate, Sally Stahl, signed to the University of Massachusetts. Stahl said, "I chose the University of Massachusetts because of the campus atmosphere and lacrosse program. The team is very close and I would feel empty without athletics in my life." From boys' lacrosse, two-time Centre Daily Times inspiring athlete award winner, Ryan Franks, joined Susquehanna University's team. Local university, Penn State, will be adding six different athletes to their athletic programs respectively. Football quarterback and wide receiver, Jaden Seider, signed with Penn State as a preferred walk-on. Midfielder, Kelsey Love, will join the women's field hockey team. 2019 preseason all American, Tyson Cooper,

signed with the men's baseball team and three of the six athletes joined the track and field team. Four-year varsity letter winners, Chase Longenecker and Lance Hamilton, will be joining the men's track and field team. "As soon as I stepped foot on the PSU indoor track on my official visit, I knew I felt comfortable calling Penn State home. I was beyond impressed with the team, Coach Kelly's training style, and the rest of the coaching staff. After realizing what a great opportunity I had right in my backyard, I knew Penn State was the place for me," Hamilton said. Their teammate and top five State College Area High School cross country runner, Kaleigh Kane, plans on running both women's track and cross country at Penn State as well. Ten other athletes will be staying in the state of Pennsylvania. Soccer

player, Jess Lingenfelter will continue her career at Lebanon Valley College and her teammate, Erica Feese will continue hers at LaSalle University. Tanner Kuruzovitch signed with Juniata College to continue his volleyball career while football players, Cohen Russell and Shane Cole will continue their careers at Slippery Rock and California University of Pennsylvania as well. Three year varsity letter winner, Anna Kwasnica, signed with Allegheny College cross country and track team. 2018 boys soccer leading scorer, Ben Vollmer, signed with Messiah College. Back to back district champion, Jared Houser, signed with Mount Aloysius. Two athletes are headed to the University of Pennsylvania. Two time PIAA state tournament placewinner, Cole Urbas, will be joining the men's wrestling team. 2018

pitcher of the year and IMBA national champion, David Shoemaker said, "Although my IMBA days are coming to an end, signing reminded me that I have bigger and better things ahead," as he will join the men's baseball team. Three year varsity starter and senior year captain for the girls' soccer team, Mak Graham, signed with Virginia Tech. Three-time district six champion, Grace Biddle will be heading up North to join the Bates College field hockey team. Adalee Wasikonis signed with Pitzer College's softball team and football quarterback, Tommy Friberg, signed with PSU rival, the University of Michigan as a preferred walk on for the coming school year. All of the student athletes represented themselves and especially State High, displaying the exceptional amount of talent in the 2019 recruiting class.

Super Bowl 53 Review: Patriots vs Rams

BY: MICHAEL CZEKAJ

February 3, 2019
The biggest football game of the year finally kicked off. Here is the whole game in review: The Patriots wore their traditional away uniforms, while the Rams wore their blue and gold throwbacks. The Patriots are now 6-1 in Super Bowls while wearing their away's. Teams who have worn white jerseys in the Super Bowl have now won 13 of the last 15 games. The game was played at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, GA and kick-off was at 6:30 ET. The first quarter was the start of the incredibly defensive battle that this game turned out to be. Rams linebacker Corey Littleton intercepted a Tom Brady pass on the Patriots' first drive and Brady's first pass attempt of the game. The Rams were unable to capitalize and went three-and-out. Later in the first,

Patriots kicker Stephen Gostkowski, who is one of the most consistently accurate kickers of all time, missed a 46-yard attempt that would've been the first score of the game. The Rams were once again unable to do

The third quarter of the game began, and fans were hoping to see some fireworks. Not the kind that came from the halftime show, but rather from the teams. Neither team performed the way fans had hoped for. Rams

eight consecutive time. On the ensuing New England possession, Tom Brady connected with tight end Rob Gronkowski for a 29 yard gain to the Rams' 2-yard line. Rookie running back Sony Michel took it in the

game-tying touchdown. However, the ball came out right before he hit the ground. On the next play, Goff tried going back to Cooks in the endzone, but New England cornerback Stephon Gillmore read the play the entire way and picked off Goff at the Pats' 3-yard line. Brady and co. took care of business from there, getting a field goal on the ensuing drive to go up by 10 points and making LA use all of their remaining timeouts with less than 2 minutes left. The Rams' last chances of coming back vanished when Zuerlein missed a 48-yarder which would've got the Rams back to within one score. The Pats then lined up in victory formation and Brady knelt down to end the game. Julian Edelman, took home Super Bowl 53 MVP honors in recognition of his superb performance with 10 catches on 12 targets for 141 receiving yards.



Photo by Sporting News

anything with the good field position and punted again. This 1st quarter ended up becoming the ninth scoreless first quarter in Super Bowl history. The second quarter started with Gostkowski redeeming himself by nailing a 42-yarder. After that, every single drive for the rest of the half resulted in a punt for both teams. The halftime score was 3-0 New England.

kicker Greg Zuerlein drilled a 53-yard field goal in the final minutes of the 3rd to tie the game at 3. To start the fourth quarter, the Rams forced the Patriots to punt, and Rams fans and players were hoping for their team to take the lead. Their fans once again did not get what they'd hoped for, as punter Johnny Hekker punted for the

endzone on the next play for the first touchdown of the game, and the Patriots took a 10-3 lead about halfway into the 4th. LA and their 2nd-highest scoring offense in the league finally started putting a drive together, taking it close to the red zone. Quarterback Jared Goff tossed it to a former Patriot, receiver Brandin Cooks, who looked like he hauled it in for the

Braving the Cold: IM Ski, Snowboarding, and Tubing



Courtesy of Byron Parizek

Braving the cold, freshman Zoe Parizek skies down one of the harder trails of Tussey Mountain, Tuscarora. "IM skiing really opens up doors and gets everyone on the slopes," Parizek said. "It's a really convenient, well-organized program and I strongly recommend it to anyone!"

BY: JENNY YU

The rush of adrenaline, the bright lights highlighting the possibly artificial snow, and the wind whooshing up as you race down the mountain. It's something one can only experience in State College at Tussey Mountain, where IM Ski, Snowboarding, and Tubing takes place during the winter months.

Open to all the students enrolled in the school districts between the grades 6-12, the program is designed to allow students to have enjoyable activities in the winter with their friends. But it's not just that, and instead something more for the many people that participate in it.

"To me, IM skiing opens up opportunities for students to go and enjoy an outdoor activity in the winter," freshman Zoe Parizek said. "It helps me to pursue more passion for skiing because it gets me out on the slopes. Every run is an improvement over the last, and IM skiing helps me learn and grow as a skier." Parizek started skiing over a decade ago, and simply grew up with it, but IM Skiing isn't purely targeted toward people who already have advanced skills.

"The great thing about the IM skiing/snowboarding program is that anyone can join," freshman Ellie Messick said. "If you are doing the IM lessons, they put you into a group based on your experience. After a couple hours of skiing with your group, you'd go inside to eat, then get to ski on your own. And to ensure everyone is safe, there is always a Ski Patrol on the mountain to watch out if anyone is hurt or in trouble." Messick has been part of the program for over 6 years and has enjoyed it every single year.

"My favorite thing about IM skiing is just being there with friends. It is such a great experience, and I highly recommend

it," Messick said.

"The whole experience is very relaxed. We go to Tussey Mountain after school and everyone is able to ski/snowboard on their own," sophomore Dorothy Tan said. "There's not a specific or set schedule everyone needs to follow, especially if you aren't taking lessons. Everyone can join. I'm just learning to snowboard"

IM Skiing isn't something that just affects your teenage years, it can carry out into your adulthood as well.

"When you ski, it's just you and the mountain and you can choose to ski however you want to," head of the program, Tim Reddington, said. "It's something you can do for the rest of your life, and allowing the students to continue to have that experience while in high school might be something that they may continue to do through their lives, and possibly later on in life when they have their own families so that they would do it as a family event."

Although registration has closed up for this winter of the 2018-19 school year, the program will once again open up next year, and registrations will be welcome for new and old, no matter the skill level.

"IM Skiing gives an opportunity to the students in high school here to actually go out and experience winter from the standpoint of skiing, snowboarding, or tubing, and that's an opportunity I never had until now," Reddington said.

"IM skiing really opens up doors and gets everyone on the slopes," Parizek said. "It allows me to spend time with my friends while doing something we all really enjoy, and the tight-knit Tussey Mountain community is amazing." Next winter, if you ever find yourself with time on your hands and no plans for the day, think about going up with a friend to Tussey to try the slopes out for yourself!

Who's Got Spirit? State Cheer Does!

BY: BRIGHID PERKINS

This January 11th and 12, your very own State College Little Lions Cheerleaders competed in the PIAA states competitive spirit competition. The competition took place in the Giant Center in Hershey PA.

After qualifying through the preliminary event on Friday, January 11th, the team went back on Saturday to compete in the semi-finals.

Ending up 2nd in the semi-finals out of all coed teams, the cheerleaders went home satisfied with their performance.

"Our goal this year was to win districts and at least qualify for states. When we did that, the rest was just extra, an added bonus for us," Emma

Limegrover, sophomore, said.

The team practiced every single week leading up to States, working hard to surpass their goals.

"The weeks leading up to states were very hard. Some weeks we practiced 5 days a week, we added in many skills for our states routine and had a couple injuries so we had lots to practice [prior to competition]," Limegrover said.

This year's State High Cheerleader's performances in the PIAA States competition really made everyone proud. The team members were all enthusiastic about their performance and especially with their success. The coaches were also happy to see their students do so well. "My favorite part of

States was our coaches reaction to us hitting our routine and seeing how proud they were of us," Skylar Kutruff, senior, said.

The team had made it through their routines with only minor mistakes, and their hard work paid off in their performance. "We were all pretty drained but we pushed through it and it clearly paid off," Kutruff said.

Being the first team in State High history to move on through the preliminaries and into semifinals of the states cheer competition, the 2018-2019 State High Little Lion's Cheerleading team made school history that past weekend and solidified their season as one to remember long into the future.



Photo Courtesy of Roxanne Williams

State High's 2018-2019 cheerleaders pose for a team picture at PIAA states this year! The team qualified for semifinals for the first time in State High history. "I was so proud of my team and the way we were able to represent our school and our community at the state level," Emma Wenrick, junior, said.

Seniors Ball Out One Last Time

BY: KAYLEE RICHARDS

One of the most bitter-sweet moments of the year is when the boys' basketball seniors must say goodbye to their beloved home court. With tears from parents and smiles from teammates, Tommy Friberg, Jarron Standridge, Cam Villarouel, Brenden Franks, and Oliver Kile played their last game in the North Gym.

The team won the game versus Central Dauphin with a score of 74-54.

Previously in the season, the team had lost to CD with a score of 61-54.

As the five seniors left the court for the final time, Brenden Franks got down all all fours and kissed the sacred court as he walked off. "As an athlete, I've grown in my ability to persevere through tough times, learn to work with my teammates, and never take a single moment for granted," Franks said.

"I'm most looking forward to college and going

off to study finance and travel the world while doing it."

For some, there are memories with teammates that will last forever. "My favorite memory with my teammates would have to be preseason tournament we would travel to, especially ones we stayed in a hotel in together," senior Oliver Kile said.

Times shared on and off the court are precious to each athlete. Senior Cam Villarouel's favorite memory with his teammates is simply a bus ride home from Altoona.

With many key players departing the team last season, these seniors had some big shoes to fill.

"I've grown a lot because I had to step into a bigger role this year and was able to really show my talents," Villarouel said. "My favorite memory is beating both Chambersburg and Cumberland Valley on buzzer beaters," Franks said. Shots made within the very last seconds of the game occurred frequently

this season. Oliver Kile caused anguish within the Chambersburg gymnasium, and junior Johnny Friberg tormented the competition in Cumberland Valley – both with buzzer beaters.

Senior Tommy Friberg recently committed to play football at Michigan next year. "I am really looking forward to joining the Wolverines next year. They have a really awesome tradition there and I'm excited to be a part of that," Friberg said. When all is said and done, all five seniors have big futures to look forward to athletically and academically.

Rising seniors Johnny Friberg, Nick Pollack, Jay Villarouel, Brennan Dorifice, Cole Friberg, and Nate Lusk have a lot to look forward to for their senior season.

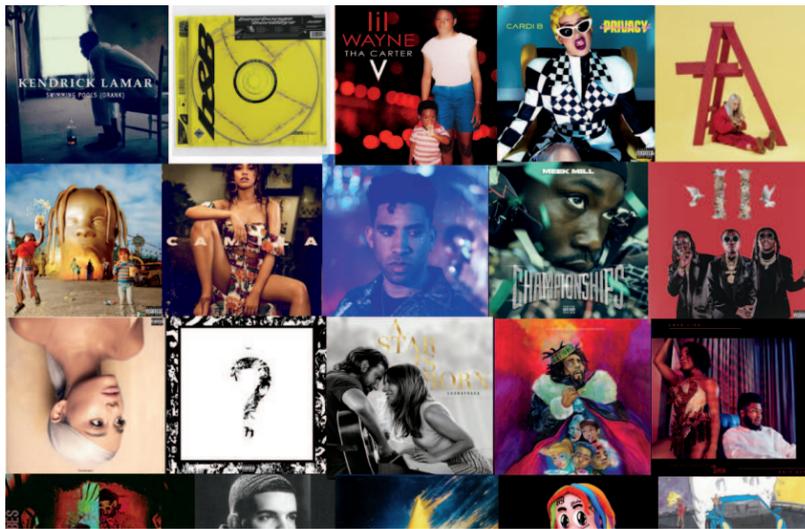
The team still has their upcoming District 6 championship match and if all goes well, we will see some more games after that.

“Alexa, Play the Top Hits of 2018”

BY: KAYLEE RICHARDS

Each year, artists strive for dominance upon the top charts. Therefore it comes as no surprise that 2018 was nothing short of a marathon for artists to reach their goals in the music industry.

All genres, from pop to rock, from rap to reggae, were well represented in the music industry this year. Movie soundtracks were also extremely successful and included Black Panther and A Star Is Born. Pop music flourished with contributions from Ariana Grande and



Pictured above, some of the most relevant musical records of 2018. While the year brought many highs and lows, one thing was for certain; through the mayhem, music got everyone through the year in one way or another.

Camila Cabello. And it comes as no surprise that rap was blaring in everyone's earphones, with music from Drake and Lil Wayne leading the pack. Here are the albums from 2018 that listeners just couldn't seem to get enough of.

Before listening to these albums on your own however, please be aware that many of the album's in this review contain explicit content that is directed towards a more mature audience. Any words deemed inappropriate in the lyrics have been cut out.

ASTROWORLD by Travis Scott

Famous for his intense and rave-inspired music, the album produced many hits, including the Drake-assisted "Sicko Mode," which is nominated for the Grammy award for "Best Rap Song." Although many of the lyrics are a storm of feelings and insanity, he also includes many allusions to his real life.

**"Pass this to my daughter, I'ma show her what it took
Baby mama cover Forbes, got these other *****
shook"** -Travis Scott, Sicko Mode

Invasion of Privacy by Cardi B

On a more turbulent note, Cardi B released her highly anticipated album in 2018. After the success of her song "Bodak Yellow" in 2017, fans were more than excited to hear what else Cardi had in store, and they were not disappointed. The 13 song album includes high profile feature artists like Migos and 21 Savage.

**"Knock me down nine times but I get up ten
Look myself in the mirror, I say we gon' win
Knock me down nine times but I get up ten"**
-Cardi B, Get Up 10

Scorpion

Drake's nonstop release of singles and features this year did nothing but get in the feelings of his fans. Hit after hit, the Canadian rapper worked his way up to the top of the charts. Scorpion, the 25 song album was even nominated for Album of the Year at the 61st Grammy Awards.

**"Palace look like Buckingham
Bills so big I call 'em Williams, for real
Reasons to go crazy, got a trillion for real
They been tryin' me but I'm resilient for real"**
-Drake, Nonstop

A Star is Born

The accompanying soundtrack for the movie that sent us all off the deep end this year brought back so many emotions to those who watched. The album speaks for itself in terms of emotion, leaving listeners in puddles of tears with its impressive sentiments.

**"Tell me something, boy
Aren't you tired tryin' to fill that void?
Or do you need more?
Ain't it hard keeping it so hardcore?"**
- Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper, Shallow

Sweetener by Ariana Grande

As mentioned in the first issue of Lions' Digest, Ariana Grande released her fourth studio album this year. Grande's return to the industry came with many ups and downs in the aftermath of Mac Miller's death and after the end of Grande's engagement to Pete Davidson which occurred shortly after. Even after the artist's turbulent year, the album is hopeful.

**"You can work your way to the top,
Just know that there's up and downs,
And just drops"**
-Ariana Grande, Get Well Soon

EVERYTHING IS LOVE by The Carters

After a hectic few years full of trauma and infidelity, Jay Z and Beyonce united under one title to produce their first album together that fans can't seem to get enough of.

**"Haters in danger,
Whole lot of gangin'
35 chains,
I don't give a **** about the fame"**
- The Carters, Ape ****

Swimming by Mac Miller

Before Mac Miller's tragic death in September due to a drug overdose, he left the world with an album that will continue to satisfy fans for years. The melancholy lyrics and downbeat rhythms are hurtful, now more than ever, to his listeners.

**"My regrets look just like text I shouldn't send,
And I got neighbors, they're more like strangers,
We could be friends,
I just need a way out of my head"**
-Mac Miller, Come Back To Earth

beerbongs & bentleys by Post Malone

Post Malone is definitely feeling like a rockstar after his successful, whirlwind of a year. Post could not have produced a better album, with features with the likes of Nicki Minaj, Ty Dolla Sign. Although the album centers around Post's consistent womanizing and party-boy attitude, he manages to display the feelings of heartbreak, love, and many other personal issues.

**"My money thick, won't ever fold
She said, 'Can I have some to hold?'
And I can't ever tell you no"**
- Post Malone, Psycho

Camila by Camila Cabello

The music industry will never be the same after the release of Camila Cabello's debut album earlier this year. The ex-Fifth Harmony member showed off her impressive range and power on the album, while also offering up her beautiful lyrics to her listeners. "Havana," perhaps the most notable song of the album, topped the Billboard charts at number one.

**"Both, you know she lives for the thrill,
You know she lists for the kill,
So they won't come back"**
-Camila Cabello, She Loves Control

Tha Carter V

Seven years after the release of his album, Tha Carter IV, the icon Lil Wayne released his long-awaited album, Tha Carter V. Not only are fans entertained by the immersive tones on the album, but Lil Wayne managed to tell incredibly personal stories on the album. While his lyrics are rather explicit and not for everyone, the universal ideas of love, pain, and humanity are consistent through the lives of many.

**"I got a story to tell you now that I cherish thee,
Hope it ain't too many feelings involved"**
- Lil Wayne, Mona Lisa

Youngblood

5Seconds Of Summer has released their third studio album, containing one of the most played songs of the year, "Youngblood." Perhaps the four Australia friends tapped into their own experiences or emotions on this record because this album is the most personal so far. The intense rock sounds that the band is known for took a backseat on this album as well.

**"We're not alright but I'll pretend
Press my cheek against the glass
Just be good 'til I get back"**
- 5 Seconds of Summer, Why Won't You Love Me

Golden Hour by Kacey Musgraves

In the spring of last year, American singer-songwriter Kacey Musgraves released her third album. Most of the songs on the album create a sort of euphoric feeling, assuring her listeners that everything's gonna be alright.

**Slow Burn
"Taking my time, let the world turn
I'm gonna do it my way, it'll be alright
If we burn it down and it takes all night
It's a slow burn"**

Why Young Voters Matter Now: Democracy in Our Generation



Caroline Simon

On November 6, the United States voted to elect many new politicians into power. Mr. Lyke, a science teacher, encouraged everyone who can to “get out and vote.”

By: Caroline Simon

Midterm elections give us the opportunity to elect 1/3 of the Senate and all 435 members of the House.

Yet young voters are still highly underestimated in terms of their power and their attention towards politics. In most elections, young voters are the most important because they are the ones deciding their future. Mr. Merritt, a State High social studies teacher, shared his views on young voters. “You guys [young voters] have more to lose than anybody, my generation, we’re set, we want everything we don’t want to pay for anything, so you guys need to go out and vote and get what’s good for you because we’re taking it all.” Voting is important be-

cause as a citizen we are given this right. There are many countries that don’t have this freedom and as an American citizen, we are given the ability to decide. As Mr. Lyke said, “Voting is important because it is our civic duty in a democracy.” When voters don’t show up to the polls we are giving away our one way to make a change in our government.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the 32nd President of the United States, said “Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves.” Without voting, you cannot be represented and your opinions will never be known.

Mr. Merritt said “Voting is important because without it we have noth-

ing. It is your chance to finally have something to say about the direction of our country. Whether it be local government, state government or national government. If you don’t vote you can’t complain”

As a young voter, your voice, opinions, and ideas do matter. The younger generation has sparked growing movement of recent after growing up in the midst of the aftermath of 9/11, countless school shootings across the country, and the protests by many fighting for equality. But you can’t make a difference if you don’t try.

Vote because your voice needs to be heard, vote because you have a say whether you like it or not, and vote for a better future for all.

The Solution to Seasonal Depression is Right Outside Your Window

By: Isabelle Snyder

It’s that time of year again. Days are shorter, nights are colder, and the general funk of seasonal depression is in the air. Despite the holiday cheer, these long winter months can be difficult to bear.

The stress of travel, family, and homework gets to us, and all we want to do is curl up under a pile of blankets and hibernate until Spring. Much to the chagrin of us all, completely missing the season is impossible. So what do we do? Eat our weight in sugar cookies? Build an igloo far away where no one will ever find us? The solution is not nearly so complicated. In fact, all it takes is a quick peek outside. And no, it’s not your neighbors slipping on ice. If you haven’t guessed it by now, the solution to our winter wallowing is holiday lights!

Now I know what you’re thinking, “How can these, dim, finicky outdoor lights be the answer to all my problems?” And I hear you, but take a moment to look outside. In almost every neighborhood, there’s at least one house that goes all out for the holiday season. And no matter how Grinchy you are, in your heart of hearts, it is impossible not to appreciate the time and energy that goes into some truly killer decorations. If you still aren’t convinced that the glowing works of art around your neighborhood deserve appreciation, think of the person-

al value of outdoor lights. No matter what you celebrate this time of year, outdoor lights provide an opportunity to share your personal style, and provide a glimpse of what brings you joy to the outside world. From rainbow lights on the window sill to a fake moose wearing a scarf in the driveway, your options are endless. On a more logistical note, outdoor lights are surprisingly safety-conscious. In well-lit neighborhoods, crime rates are lower. Plus, with earlier winter nightfall, bright lights make after-school play and evening runs possible.

And a bonus for those of you looking for some guilt-free festivity: electric lights with plastic or glass bulbs are reusable year to year, and bulbs can be recycled! With our Decembers crammed with concerts and shopping and travels galore, it can be difficult to take time for a little mindfulness. But establishing traditions like putting up lights can help you live in the moment and set aside time for relaxing, ritualistic activities. And even if you don’t have time to put up lights yourself, taking time to drive, or walk if you’re really committed, around your neighborhood and admire the lights can be beneficial. So in short, the next time you feel like moving to the beach and never coming back, take a deep breath, grab some cocoa, and take a look outside and view the lights!

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How to Get Away with Murder: Hunting Edition

By: Sierra Hockenbury

Days after giving thanks and stuffing faces, many Central Pennsylvanians throw on their camouflage equipment, grab their guns, and head out in hopes to get their first kill of the firearms hunting season.

There are varying seasons put in place depending on the different weapons used or animals hunted. On Monday, November 26th, the deer hunting season began; this day brought out hundreds of thousands of hunters in Pennsylvania alone. With such a high number of hunters, it is easy to assume that the number of deer killed would be high as well.

According to Penn Live, “hunters have harvested more than a million

deer in Pennsylvania” throughout the past three years. One million deer killed. Only in Pennsylvania.

I personally have a soft spot in my heart for all animals, big and small. I am the kind of person who slams on the breaks in order to avoid hitting bunnies and squirrels. I consider the rare sightings of deer to be lucky. So, the idea of slaughtering innocent animals for fun just doesn’t make that much sense to me.

Do people actually enjoy murdering animals for sport? Junior Jason Dry believes that hunting is perfectly fine because “[The Pennsylvania Game Commission] limits things. There are some people who don’t follow the rules, but they do have limits in place.” The limits are things such

as needing to have a hunting license and only being able to kill one antlered deer per hunting license.

One of the biggest arguments in favor of hunting is the overpopulation of deer. I understand that deer are overpopulated, but so are humans. We do not get licenses to go out and kill other humans in order to keep the population down!

I think it all boils down to what environment you were raised in. Junior Saoirse Hopp said, “I don’t really see the appeal towards hunting as a sport, but maybe that’s because I wasn’t raised in a hunting family.” Many of those who are hunters were born and raised into it. Junior Matt Kunes has been hunting for the past 6 years. He considers it to

be his “favorite activity to do by far.”

Kunes views hunting as both a challenge and a journey. “It’s not about what you end up with or what you kill, it is about the experiences and lessons that you learn along the way,” Kunes said. This perspective of hunting challenged my previous point of view. I understand the positive aspects of hunting: deer population control, personal growth, and bonding with others. That being said, my main argument still stands. I don’t know if it’s because I do not know enough about hunting, or maybe it is a culture that you have to be raised in to truly understand, but killing animals for sport is not something that will ever be of interest to me.