

# HAWK HAPPENINGS

Volume XXVI  
October 15, 2020  
Issue 2

A PUBLICATION OF HAMBURG AREA HIGH SCHOOL

## Coach Spotlight Mr. Bucheit

Alison Gassert - 12

This year, there is a new coach for the girl's tennis team, and his name is... Mr. Bucheit! Bucheit applied for the position and got it after Bill Tritt, the previous girls tennis coach, resigned due to Covid-19 on June 24. Bucheit actually coached the girls tennis team alongside Tritt from 1995-2001. He also coached the boys tennis team at the same time and did not continue doing this until 2016 and he has been coaching them ever since.

Mr. Bucheit played tennis at Edinboro College for three semesters which fueled his passion for tennis and interest in coaching. Mr. Bucheit states that his philosophy for coaching is, "I want to be able to teach something that I love to do myself, so I really want to help people to excel in the sport that they're playing. I want them to have fun and see that tennis is enjoyable, win or lose. I want to teach my players how to keep things under control and relay to them what needs to be done, but also be helpful." Bucheit also stated, "I'm enthusiastic, I work with everyone because I want my team to improve individually so that we may get better as a whole. I believe in good cardio and physical fitness, such as jump rope and running because I want people to be healthy and have good endurance to prevent injuries." Lastly, Bucheit stated, "I hope they learn how to work together (doubles) effectively. I always hope that I get someone who plans on playing tennis in college, but my goal is that these girls will want to play for the rest of their lives. As far as winning and losing, it would be nice to win everything, but that's just not realistic and it's the way that life goes. And by gaining experience of losing, they will learn to keep trying and not to give up which is an important life lesson." Overall, the girls tennis team's finishing record for the regular season is 13-1 which is an amazing accomplishment and a direct result of Bucheit's coaching, so it is definitely safe to say that the girls are happy to have him as their coach.



## Make wearing a mask as easy as possible

Emily Smith - 10

The Coronavirus Pandemic has led to lots of changes to everyday, normal life. These changes include washing hands more frequently, using hand sanitizer after touching objects, and the greatest change of all, wearing masks. On April 15, 2020, Governor Tom Wolf issued a mandate for any person over the age of 2 to wear a face covering when going out in public, the exception being people who have medical conditions (i.e. asthma, respiratory issues, etc.).

The CDC (Center for Disease Control) has made several recommendations to make mask wearing as simple and efficient as possible. According to the CDC website, people should choose masks that are made of a breathable and washable fabric, excluding materials that are excessively heavy. Additionally, the mask should have enough material to span the nose and mouth, ensuring that particles cannot be transferred between people.



Washing masks is extremely important, as bacteria can live inside. The CDC recommends that masks be washed with other laundry items with regular detergent, and that the washer be set at the warmest water setting. When drying, the mask should be put in a dryer with the highest heat setting and be left in the dryer until it is completely dry.

Hamburg chose to have the option of either in person or online, which means that every student who chose to come to school must wear a mask throughout the entirety of the school day. While masks may not make for the most comfortable item, they are keeping students

and staff from catching COVID-19. Stephany Perez, 10, says that "Masks are bothersome, but they keep everyone safe." Addison Smith, 9, does not enjoy wearing a mask for long periods of time, but knows that they help ensure that Hamburg students can remain in school for in person instruction, "Wearing a mask is okay for a short amount of time, but after a while they do get uncomfortable. They definitely are important though because they keep people from getting COVID-19, so that's good."

In order to keep Hamburg Area High School students in person and as safe as possible, everyone has to do their part, this being wearing a mask at school and anywhere one may find themselves in close contact with a person outside of their household. While masks may seem like a burden to wear everyday, they are keeping every Hawk safe.

For more information on wearing masks, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

## Online School Affects Students' Mental Health

Gigi Doklan - 12

For the 2020-2021 school year, many schools across the nation have chosen to hold classes online. This is particularly affecting high school students, who thrive on the social interaction that school provides each day. In person, staff and students are more likely to check in on each other's emotions, so online classes often make students feel secluded and lonely. For many, their mental and emotional health took a nosedive during quarantine.

Many other problems can arise out of poor mental health, such as erratic sleep patterns. Others have experienced a negative change in diet and exercise as well. According to a national survey from Gallup, nearly 3 in 10 parents are reporting their children experiencing a negative change in mental and emotional health. Mental health professionals are also seeing an influx of young patients with symptoms of anxiety and depression, resulting from their seclusion.

Brody Wagner is a student who is choosing to participate in Hamburg's online school program, HAVA. Unlike the trends seen nationwide, Brody actually feels safer doing school from home. He says, "The whole virus situation gives me anxiety, so it makes me feel better to know I have a lesser chance of contracting it." He also enjoys the more lax nature of online classes, as he is a senior this year. For many, online classes can bring about a myriad of issues, but for others they find comfort in abiding by social distancing regulations.

<p><b>Take breaks from the news</b></p>	<p><b>Take care of your body</b></p>
<p><b>Make time to unwind</b></p>	<p><b>Connect with others</b></p>
<p><b>Set goals and priorities</b></p>	<p><b>Focus on the facts</b></p>

### How to Wear

Wear a mask correctly and consistently for the best protection.

- Be sure to wash your hands before putting on a mask
- Do NOT touch the mask when wearing it

Do wear a mask that:

- Covers your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Fits snugly against the sides of your face

# Movie Review: 12 Years a Slave

Wyatt Holl - 11

Forged in 2012, this pain staking historical film hits the viewer harder than any other before it.

Taking place in mid 19th century deep South, a story of a man kidnapped and sold into slavery is told with bitter truth. 12 Years A Slave is an astounding movie based on a written memoir about a free, wealthy, African American named Solomon Northup who lived in New York. Solomon Northup is the author of the book, 12 Years A Slave, and told the story as though he was still there. He describes the atrocious acts of violence used against him while bound as a slave. Playing Solomon is actor Chiwetel Ejiofor, who expresses the emotion and feelings of Solomon with furious motive. The movie director, Steve McQueen, made sure to recreate the book's tellings with great detail, not shying away from shocking the audience. The movie budgeted at a modest \$21 million, to put in perspective, the average budget for movies is \$90 million. This movie did not receive the attention it deserved on release, yielding only \$900,000 on its opening weekend in theatres.



From start to finish, this feature has the viewers standing up from their seats wondering what will happen to Solomon next. At the beginning of the film, the main protagonist, Solomon, is on a plantation cutting sugar cane for harvest. The film cuts from this right to Solomon living in a nice house in New York with his family. This cut is to resemble the difference in joy Solomon felt back at home compared to his unjust occupation as a slave. Solomon had two children and a wife that were living a rather polished life for the time. In New York, he was a talented musician, and so he was offered a job in a circus to play violin. However, the people who proposed the opportunity were connen that tricked Solomon. One night, the connen got Solomon overly tipsy from alcohol and sold him into slavery in his sleep. Solomon awoke in a dark cell with chains barring his limbs to the floor. It was here that Solomon was deemed a slave, beaten, and sent South to a plantation. Solomon's new slave name was Plat, of which he would resent for the remainder of his life. The plantation he belonged to was owned by an oddly compassionate man called William Prince Ford. Solomon appreciated the man's kindness, but due to a financial crisis, William was forced to sell Solomon to the brutish slaver, referred to as John M. Tibbeats in the movie. John made life for Solomon a nightmare, with many beatings, overwork, and little food. Eventually, Solomon meets an indentured servant named Mr. Bass (played by Brad Pitt) who promises to deliver a letter to Solomon's family and lawyer for help. For 12 years, Solomon was an illegal slave forced to endure the exploit made to keep him in chains. This terrible experience changed his life forever and motivated him to sware allegiance against discrimination in America.

This film needs more people to view it, and be shown praise for its attempt to create something that is real. However, as a result, 12 Years a Slave should only be viewed by mature audiences. The images and gestures shown may be quite disturbing for younger audiences. Even being rated R, the movie is a ten out of ten and a must watch for anyone willing to face the aggrieved background that the United States of America holds.

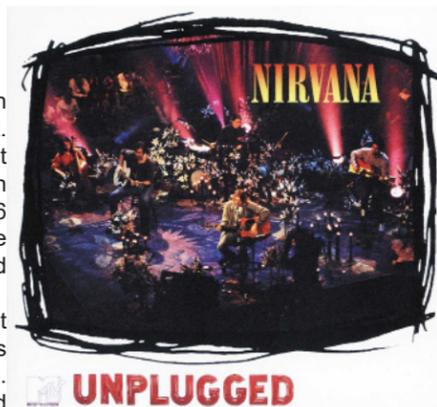
# CD Review: Nirvana: MTV Unplugged in New York

Orion Holl - 9

In the 90s the band called Nirvana made an album called MTV Unplugged in New York. As this was their first album made in front of a live audience, lead singer Kurt Cobain died before it was released in 1994. After 26 years, the songs created still live on. People more and more keep finding his songs and fall in love with them.

After listening to this album for the first time, I could not stop hearing it, as the words from the songs reach out to the audience. They are great songs to have a dance to and have a lot of fun. They really connect to the listeners ideals of a great song. This music is classic, as listeners hear these songs on the radio periodically. Most people have heard at least one of their songs. A personal favorite of mine is All Apologies. This is a story about mother earth, as it says Married and Buried throughout the song. The tone of voice Cobain uses is unlike any other singer. He has a most unique voice as the music rings throughout the ears. At the beginning and end of each song, everyone in the audience claps, and I believe this brings more character to the song. This song is older, and a lot of people today listen to new pop music. Even though this is old it is such a great album, I believe everyone should listen to this song.

I have listened to all of their albums, and out of all of them this is the best one I have come across. I used to hear these songs when my oldest sister would blare the music, and I actually enjoyed hearing it. After a while I ended up asking her what the song was called and the band, so then she told me. Ever since then I have been listening to Nirvana a lot. It would be a pleasure however if everyone would give this album a shot, I think others would enjoy it.



Adviser: Mrs. Terri McCarthy-Wright; Editor in Chief: Emily Smith; Issue Layout Editor: Orion Holl; Writers: Gi Doklan, Alison Gassert, Wyatt Holl, Orion Holl, Justin Hoy, Emily Smith; *Hawk Happenings* is a weekly publication created by the students in the Publications class at Hamburg Area High School. It is distributed free of charge throughout the Hamburg Area High School community. A PDF is available at <https://www.hasdhawks.org/domain/181> and an online version at [www.hawkhappenings.org](http://www.hawkhappenings.org). The opinions in this newspaper represent those of the student writers and do not represent the opinions of the faculty, staff, administration, or school board of the Hamburg Area School District. HH is a member of the Pennsylvania School Press Association (PSPA), the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA), and Quill and Scroll. If you have any questions or comments regarding anything that appears in its pages, or if you would like to sponsor our paper with a donation, please contact Terri McCarthy, *Hawk Happenings*, Hamburg Area High School, Windsor Street, Hamburg, PA, 19526. Our email address is [termcc@hasdhawks.org](mailto:termcc@hasdhawks.org) and our phone number is 610-562-3861, x2327.

# opinion: Columbus Day raises questions

Justin Hoy - 11

Columbus Day, in the United States and most of North America, is a day of federal workers having off, schools are closed, and other people do not even notice the national day when it occurs.

Columbus Day, in the United States, was first celebrated by Catholic and Italian people in New York City, 1792 by the Columbian Order, a Catholic political organization. After the initial, mainly regional celebration, the day of October 12 was not celebrated to honor Columbus by other, mainly influential groups. The day was celebrated nationally on October 12, 1892, mandated and encouraged by President Benjamin Harrison to honor Columbus' exploration and discovery of the "New World" ("North and South America).



Benjamin Harrsion stated about Columbus' "discovery", "On that day let the people, so far as possible, cease from toil and devote themselves to such exercises as may best express honor to the discoverer and their appreciation of the great achievements of the four completed centuries of American life."

Only select Catholic or Italian communities would have any celebration or commending of Columbus' actions until President Franklin Delino Roosevelt, in 1937, established Columbus day as an official U.S. holiday or day of celebration, occurring every October 12 each year. This official government mandate did not permit any businesses to have people take off or people not go into work except government officials or employees, including teachers, senators/ representatives, certain lawyers, bank employees. The President was persuaded to make this an official national holiday by the Knights of Columbus organization, funding and influencing his political campaigns and voters. In 1971, Columbus Day was altered to be celebrated on the second Monday of every October each year by the U.S. government.

During our era, Columbus is associated with negative events and actions, having people view his exploration and "discovery" of the Americas, as well as the treatment of the native Americans by his crew and the indirect effect of the spread of disease by his arrival to the Native American tribes, highly controversial. Different opinions and claims can be supported through different evidence of his morals and actions, affecting how people view this holiday. Today, certain states and regions/ areas have changed the name of the holiday, modifying it to Indiginous People's Day or Native American Day. The states that have changed the name from Columbus Day to Indiginous People's Day from 1990 have been South Dakota, parts of Minnesota, Iowa, parts of California, New Mexico, Louisiana, North Carolina, Vermont, Maine, Alaska, and parts of Washington.

Other countries in the Americas have also changed the name from a Eurocentric view to an Indiginous People's celebration day. The name varies from each country in North and South America, as well as including each island nation/ semi autonomous region or nation in the Caribbean region. Spain and Italy celebrate the achievements of Columbus as a national holiday.

Question: Should Columbus Day, in certain regions and states that have not changed the name, be changed to Indiginous People's Day, mandated by the U.S. government because of the negative effects and actions of Columbus through European's moral beliefs?

Opinion: I believe, although biased, that Columbus Day should not be celebrated throughout the United States since he had direct and indirect effects of his actions, causing millions of Native Americans to die due to his own immoral self interest. There should be a name change, preferably Indiginous People's Day, to replace the original name of Columbus Day. Although controversial to certain cultures and religions, mainly certain Italian communities and certain Catholic religious members, it would make the argument that people are not attacking Columbus on his important "discoveries" and influential expeditions, having European nations gain/ increase in their influence and affect world history through trade and increased wealth/ influence. I am arguing that his actions were immoral and the effects of his discoveries should not be celebrated. His actions were immoral through his crew and himself, when discovering islands including Hispaniola in the Carribean and enslaving the Taino Native American Tribe, and through his indirect effects of the spreading of disease, including smallpox, measles, malaria, etc. These diseases, although not intentional, killed over 90% of Native Americans, begging when Columbus landed in the Carribean in 1492.

Although, initially, starting with better intentions, since the people in the early 1930's and before did not have the information or political belief to believe the high death toll of disease started by Columbus and other European explorers and colonists, of celebrating and honoring a man of importance and influence (although wanting personal gain) in European and World history, his actions of his crew members harsh treatment and enslavement of Native Americans and his spreading of disease throughout the "New World", even if not fully understood with disease at that time, indirectly affected the culture, traditions, political views, and lives of Native Americans through Columbus immoral actions of self gain and wealth/ influence.

**Underclass Picture Re-Takes**  
**October 20th period 1**

**Senior picture Re-Takes**  
**October 23rd 9 am - 2 pm**