

# Hawk Happenings

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## Spring sports are coming to a close

Elizabeth Carroll - 10

Spring sports are approaching the end, leaving only a few weeks for athletes to make memories this school year. There have been plenty of wins and losses among all sports, but all students made it very memorable for everyone that was involved. There are many mixed feelings about this spring season ending so soon, all a mix of different thoughts.

Track and field athlete, Eliana Benson, is excited for the season to be over. "It was enjoyable with the people, but track itself isn't always super fun," she states. Eliana is one of the many throwers on the track team and even though it may seem easy, it still is not the most enjoyable for everyone that does it, but she does say that she would much rather throw events than do running events. One memorable thing that she did not really like about track were the two laps that had to be run during warmup.

Another track and field athlete, Lydia Fultz, is a little sad that track is ending but still excited as well. "I'm happy the stress for the meets is going to be over, but leaving the team is sad," Lydia states. It will also free up her schedule for the last couple weeks of school, which gives her more time for school and work. She says she will miss being busy and is excited for the upcoming cross country season in the fall. One of many memories Lydia has is after all of her races, she always ends up falling on the ground.

Sports are a great place for students to get involved and make amazing memories with their peers. Although it is not mandatory, it is a great opportunity and if anyone is thinking about participating, they should just go for it. Nothing should hold a person back for what may be a successful year schooling with making new friends and possibly discovering a new hobby.

## Sophomores prepare to become juniors

Lilly Gibson - 10

Summer time is full of being outside, hanging out with friends, and preparing for the next school year or college if the student is a senior. This summer, the current sophomores who will become juniors are preparing to officially become upperclassmen.

Jordan, a sophomore, has a lot of summer plans. She plans on going to the beach a lot with her friend, Lilly. During the summer, she stays with her grandparents with her horses and other farm animals. She goes horseback riding and explores the woods near her house. "I'm really excited to get a break from school," said Jordan.

Lilly, also a sophomore is excited for summer. Currently, she has a job at Walmart and going to school as well takes up all her time. She can not wait to relax and breathe. During the summer, she plans on going to the beach with her friend Jordan, as well as reading her books for her AP Language class next year.

All in all, the students can not wait to take a break from school. This year was stressful but so worth it in the end because they got say they made it through sophomore year.

## Seniors reflect on their high school career

Joshua Castro - 11

The school year will soon come to a close, and students are looking ahead as they advance their grade level. The change is not new for many, but seniors have completed their studies and instead are advancing in their futures. Since this is their last year, seniors can reflect on what went well, what was difficult, and their progressive growth.

High school senior Hannah Kristiniak looks back on her growth and struggles in high school. When she first came to the high school during her freshman year, she was new and initially had difficulty adjusting to the district. Challenges like learning the school's layout and making friends made her 9th grade experience less memorable. However, joining the school's Publications class that year was an impactful decision that led her to participate every subsequent year and advance in her role and responsibilities.

Hannah's love of writing advanced when she attended Mrs. Texter's English classes in 10th and 11th grade. Mrs. Texter helped Hannah improve her writing skills and gave support, bringing out the best in her. Junior year was the most influential for her because of the constant challenge. Despite the difficulty, however, she considers it her favorite because she overcame the obstacles and grew as a person.

Senior year has been exciting for Hannah due to her Professional Field Experience, which has given her more perspective about what it takes to become an English teacher. It has involved working with Mrs. Trubilla by creating lesson plans, leading discussions, and doing some of the teacher's usual tasks. Overall, Hannah Kristiniak's senior year at the high school has highlighted her progressive growth since freshman year.

Kaeli Cox is another senior who looks back on her advancement despite difficulties in her high school career. Sophomore year was her least favorite because she felt school was tedious and over-stayed its welcome. Moreover, she did not enjoy her classes and could not drive like she can now.

In Junior year, the difficulty of Kaeli's classes increased when she took her first Advanced Placement class. She took AP Language and Composition, and the increased workload helped improve her time management skills and taught her to "work harder and apply herself more." The year's challenge was further intensified by her Precalculus class. She did not excel at math beforehand, and the increased difficulty meant she had to relearn some concepts to fully understand the course. Nevertheless, Junior year had its highlights as she enjoyed her American Cultures class with Mr. Kline. She particularly liked his fun and enthusiastic teaching style that made learning about the history of American diplomacy interesting.

Senior year has helped her grow the most because she feels the urgency and responsibility of preparing for her postsecondary education. Throughout the process, Mrs. Keck has had the most impact on Kaeli by supporting her while she plans her future and encouraging her to work harder. In essence, Kaeli Cox continues to grow even during her last year at the high school and has come to be a responsible, hardworking student.



## Students reflect on another school year

Lydia Fultz - 10

Every year another school year comes to an end, and every student takes that differently. Some individuals get really emotional and begin to reminisce while others are just ready to get out and enjoy their summer. People move from elementary to middle school, middle school to high school, and there are also seniors, some of which go off to college, and some have other plans. Whatever the case may be, many people often reflect in one way or another how the past year has gone.

Sophomore Elizabeth Carroll says that this school year was pretty similar compared to last year. She said there was an increase in homework so that took some more time to get done, and she also believes she paid more attention overall in classes. Although it was not a bad school year, she does not think she will miss it and that she is very ready for summer.

Sophomore Elizabeth Grim says she believes that her school year went very well this year. She says, "last year, I wasn't involved in many extracurriculars so the school year felt longer and was not as fun." Although she said that this year, she was involved in many activities, including musical, choir, orchestra, and many more, "being in these activities made my school year much more fun, and honestly, I am a bit sad they are ending soon."

Overall most people are excited for a school year to come to an end, yet some people get sad because they are leaving behind friends, teachers, and simply just the experience. Whatever it may be, it is important not to regret the time that has already been lived, so instead of regretting, make the future even better.

## Juniors start exploring colleges

Tia Adam - 11

Since the 2024-2025 school year is soon ending, juniors are starting to look at their next step in future by college searching. Most juniors have an idea of what they want to go for or know of some colleges that they are interested in.

Junior Bethany Stufflett wants to go to the Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences to become a nurse and work in labor and delivery. She found out about the college through family friends and her parents. She was able to gain more information on it from the Alvernia college fair and the college tour she took at the school. She plans on introducing herself to some medical work experience by job shadowing next year and by getting a job this summer at a doctors office.

Another Junior Morgan Riegel also wants to go into the medical field after high school. She plans on getting her undergraduate degree in biology and then continuing to medical school in order to become an emergency medicine physician. Her two big colleges that she is looking into going to are Rutgers or Cornell, both schools that she found out about through research. She currently meets the criteria for Rutgers and soon will meet them for Cornell. Although she has not gone on any college tours, she does have a good grasp on how she attends to get to college. She will be going to college recruiters, guidance counselors, and her parents for help in figuring out college.

One other junior, Allie Houck, also intends to go to college for something medical-related. She wants to be a registered nurse so that she can explore the nursing field before she picks one specific type of job. Her dream school would be the University of Michigan, but she would rather go to Penn State Schuylkill due to being able to obtain a good degree for a less expensive price. She was able to find out about this local college due to her brother who goes to another local Penn State school. Overall, she will figure out what college fits her best when she starts her college tours.

With these students plans, it shows how everybody has their own ways of figuring out what they want to do after high school.

## HAHS starts preparations for May Day

Bethany Stufflett - 11

Hamburg Area High School is buzzing with activity as students, teachers, and clubs continue preparing for May Day, which will take place on May 22 during the half-day. The preparations have been in full swing to ensure that everything runs smoothly and the annual event is a success. So far, talk of the 2v2 basketball tournament and the annual History tournament has been flooding students' minds as they prepare for the big day. Additionally, clubs such as Students Helping Students and Mu Alpha Theta have been deciding how they would like to participate in May Day.

Leo Club president, Tia Adam, explains how the club has been preparing for this big event. She states that not much preparation must be done for their club specifically because all they have to do is get the cotton candy machine out and plug it in for the event. However, she said that they have some new flavors to try out and that she is looking forward to offering them on May Day.

At the beginning of the year, students wondered what the main events for May Day would be this year. Now that the fun-filled day is finally almost here, the events have been revealed. The half-day will begin with the History tournament in the auditorium, followed by the Battle of the Bands. Once that is over, students will then be able to roam the halls freely and visit their favorite clubs at their stands. Then at 9:30, the 2v2 basketball tournament will begin, and students can come and go to spectate the game. The day will then commence at 11:30 as the school day ends and students go on break for Memorial Day.



MAY DAY!!!

Thursday, May 22



# HAHS plays with furry friends over the summer

Riley Mohn - 11

Many students at Hamburg Area High School own at least a pet, and they do not have much time during the day to play with them over the school year. However, when the school year ends, many students get a chance to spend more time with their pets. Some pets may have entirely different needs that the outdoors can fulfill, and others just need more time out of their small enclosed environments.

Sheila Kern, a Sophomore at Hamburg, has a couple dogs. She typically takes her Chihuahua named Kyle to the lake and to dog parks over her summers, letting her be outside in the sun while having fun with her pets. She says "I remember taking Kyle to the lake one year, and he was so interested in the bobber that we took the hook off and let him play fetch with the bobber"

Zach Spatz, a Junior, has five geckos, and he plans on taking his geckos out to the hot sand in his backyard sand pit over the summer, since they are used to hot, sandy days.

Joshua Castro has 15 parakeets. Over the summer, Josh plans to let them fly around inside.

Riley Mohn, a Junior, has a dog named Sherlock. In the past, she was able to take him on hiking trips with them, like the time she went to the Salt Springs State Park.

Ellie Houptley, a Junior, has a German Shepherd named Leo, and they say "I give Leo a long bath over the summer, and we usually go to the cabin and play fetch."

Summer is all about spending as much time outside in the warmth instead of being cooped up inside. Having a pet truly allows some people to get out of their houses much more than they normally would.



# Show review - The Orange Is The New Black

Brooklyn Scheffler - 9

Orange Is the New Black is a TV show about a woman named Piper Chapman and she's played by Taylor Schilling who goes to prison because of a crime she helped with several years ago. She used to live a normal life, but everything changes when she has to go to a women's prison. In prison, she meets many different women from all kinds of backgrounds. Some are kind, some are mean, and some become her friends. Each woman has her own story about why she is there. The show is sometimes funny, but also very serious. It shows the problems people face in prison, like unfair rules, bad treatment, and how hard it is to stay hopeful. It also talks about love, friendship, and how people can change. Piper learns a lot about herself and others while she is in prison. The show helps us understand that everyone makes mistakes and deserves a second chance.

I like this show because it shows the true meanings and connections. I also like how it shows how reality is after messing up her successful life that was going good. This show is a comfort show for me because it makes me wanna do good things instead of ending up like her.

# Spirit Week at Hamburg High School

Kaitlyn Gallagher - 10

Spirit weeks are an integral part of a school year and a student's community. They boost upcoming school events, upcoming holiday breaks, and get the students involved within the school by being committed to participating in the fun celebration with their peers who also participate and take part. They help highlight students and their school spirit, showing how much they care about their school by dressing up and participating in dressing in silly outfits with their best friends and seeing what teachers decide to dress up as when they come into the school building.

Sophomore Kaylum Riegel, who is going to be vice president of student council in the upcoming school year, loves to participate in the school's spirit days and as a representative of student council, believes others should participate too. "Spirit week builds up student pride. It's a fun way to bond with your peers and classmates, and it helps bring unity within the school community." He believes that dressing up and participating helps create a positive atmosphere, and they strengthen the sense of community. "Spirit weeks bring in a creative spirit within everyone to have the coolest outfit and be original, which is something that should be promoted more in school. In a world full of everyone being the same there should be creativity and inclusivity to be who you want to be." Kaylum's favorite part of spirit week is how different each outfit is, and how it strengthens the connections between students, teachers and staff and their relationships to support each other and complement their fun outfits and school spirit. "Without spirit week, I wouldn't see this creativity elsewhere. It brings out a creative spark within the school and my friends, and it's fun to see."

Sophomore Molly Fox, who is going to be the president of the student council, shares the same beliefs. Molly Fox thinks students should participate in spirit weeks because they are a fun activity for students and it shows how dedicated they are to their school and the student body. "I like seeing everyone's outfits in the halls, and the spirit weeks always make the week move faster because there's always something new to do every day." Molly believes spirit weeks are important not only for the community, but to promote events the school creates for the community. "Most of them lead up to fun events that help get the students and teachers involved along with the community, like Charity Basketball or Homecoming. It's important to be involved with your community and school, and part of that is having school spirit."

Spirit weeks are always an opportunity to get out there and show school spirit with other classmates. It is a nice event that helps just make the week fun, and it is always a fun part of the week when each school day, the halls of Hamburg Area High school are filled with colorful outfits that highlight the spirit people have for their community and their school and the events they are promoting. Make sure to always participate in a spirit week, it helps elevate the positive attitude and inclusivity of the school body!

# Student Spotlight: Emma Moylan

Chase Brodhead - 10

Emma Moylan starts her mornings at 6:30 a.m. She does not plan outfits ahead of time, she just picks whatever feels right, gets ready, grabs a drink like a Celsius, and heads out the door. On the way to school, she listens to an audiobook, setting the tone for her day.

When she gets to school, she usually sits in her parking spot for a little too long before finally walking in. She always gets excited for her favorite class, AP Lang, not just because of the subject, but because she loves being with her friends. Emma stays involved in school through things like German Club and Unified Leadership. She is someone who is always trying to help and make the school a better place.

After school, Emma goes home, gets her homework started, and takes a well-deserved nap before dance class. She spends her evenings dancing and finishing homework. Emma also volunteers her time to teach younger dancers and always looks forward to seeing her close friends, Maile Bentz and Lily Parr.

Emma adds that when it comes to school, be friendly towards your teachers, "They are people too."

# Movie Review: Waterloo (1970)

Kaitlyn Gallagher - 10

Waterloo, directed by Sergei Bondarchuk, is a historical drama film about the final battle of the Napoleonic Wars, the Battle of Waterloo. It is widely regarded as one of the greatest movies about the Napoleonic Wars due to its accuracy on both the historical event itself and the historical figures involved.

The Battle of Waterloo is one of the most famous battles of the Napoleonic Wars because it is most known for being Napoleon's final defeat. Escaping from Elba and going back onto French soil after 100 days on March 1, 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte had the full intent of conquering back what he believed was rightfully his. It was not as easy, since the Congress of Vienna would not abide by his negotiations once so ever. They then for the first time in European history declared war specifically on Napoleon himself instead of a country.

Napoleon had about 120,000 men, The Duke of Wellington had 100,000 men from Britain, Germany and the Netherlands, while Marshal Blucher, assisting the Duke in the war, had 120,000 Prussians. Napoleon's plan was to make sure Blucher never encountered Wellington, therefore using his tactic of attacking one army at a time, and succeeding a victory. To his dismay, Wellington knew Blucher's army was defeated at Ligny already and was already promising the Duke to meet him on June 18, the same day Napoleon decided to be bold and launch a multitude of attacks towards Wellington's army. Napoleon, defeated, went back to Paris to try and rally them to gain a sense of nationalism, but they were not impressed and no one stood behind him. They actually considered him a total embarrassment. Due to this devastation, he attempted to flee to America, but it was unsuccessful and the British Royal Navy made sure he was not to go any further with his plan. He was then banished to St. Helena, an island in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. He later died on May 5, 1821 to stomach cancer.

There are a few inaccuracies, such as a fictional romantic subplot, the inaccuracies of the battlefield itself, and others. But the movie captures the Hundred Days War splendidly which is extremely satisfying. When I first watched the film, I really enjoyed the actors chosen for both the Duke and Napoleon. I always prefer when actors look like the person they are playing rather than being a known actor, because everyone in the industry deserves a chance. I also liked the graphics and the effects, and I enjoyed learning the fact that soldiers of the real Red Army were used as extras to portray the British Army. I recommend this movie to those who really enjoy history, specifically the Napoleonic Wars. It is a really perfect movie and it almost feels like watching the actual battle happen.

For more information, check out: Glover, Gareth. "Coach from Waterloo." Napoleon in 100 Objects, Frontline books, 2020, p. 263-267.

# Students attend the Grand National Tour

Chase Brodhead - 10

This past weekend, I got to see the Grand National Tour at Lincoln Financial Field in Philly, and it was honestly one of the best nights ever. I went with my friends Kaylea Detweiler, Cen Pinter, and Cassandra Mull (who graduated from Hamburg in 2021), and we were all super excited, especially for SZA.

Even though Kendrick Lamar was also there, my favorite part was definitely when SZA came out. I have seen her before on her SOS Tour in 2023, so I already had heard a lot of her older songs live, but this time, since she released her new album LANA, she performed some newer stuff like Scorsese Baby Daddy and Kitchen which made it even more exciting. I do not know Kendrick's music as well as I know SZA's, so her set just hit harder for me.

I asked Kaylea what her favorite moment was, and she said without a doubt, it was when SZA walked on stage. "I literally screamed when she came out," she told me. "And when she sang Broken Clocks? That was everything. I have always loved that song, and hearing it live was literally out of this world." She was grinning the whole time we talked about it, and honestly, I was too.

From the energy of the crowd to seeing one of our favorite artists live again, the night was unforgettable. Philly definitely showed up, and we are already talking about saving money for the next one. I definitely recommend seeing SZA live even if someone is not a fan, she puts on a great show with the amazing choreography, visuals, outfits, and vocals.



# HAHS students share favorite vacation spots

Ana Smith - 9

The last day of school is quickly approaching and students are looking forward to summer break. Many people that I have talked to have interesting places that they want to go to and cross off places on their bucket lists.

This summer I am going to Costa Rica for vacation and I am extremely excited. This will probably be my favorite destination so far because I have never been out of the country so it will be a first. From pictures I have seen the oceans and forests look so beautiful and the food looks colorful, flavorful, and very tasty. Traveling out of the country has been something I have wanted to do for a long time so it will definitely make great memories.

Ninth grade student, Rylee Strunk has traveled to many places in her lifetime but her favorite location was Arizona. She enjoyed going to Arizona because she got to see family that she does not see often. Rylee said, "Seeing the Grand Canyon and exploring Sedona were cool experiences because the views were incredible." Around five million people visit the Grand Canyon every year, Rylee is so grateful for the opportunity to go and she would not trade it for the world.

Another student, Graylea Knight goes on a skiing trip every year to Colorado or Utah. This year, instead of going skiing she went to Belgium. Her parents had friends there, and they traveled around Belgium for ten long days. Graylea said, "My favorite part of the trip was seeing all of the neat architecture, eating a lot of food, and spending time with people I love."

Lastly, if students are looking for interesting places to go this summer there are many popular destinations. Some of the most popular places to visit are France, Spain, and our own country, the United States.



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