



The Contownian

News Magazine

Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School March 2023 Volume 85 Number 7

Heritage Conference

By Alison Matera

In the past year, Conemaugh Township has made the decision to switch conferences. Instead of being in the Westpac conference, Conemaugh Township will now be part of the Heritage Conference.

The school has made the decision to switch because the Westpac is said to be dissolving. An article written by the Tribune Democrat shares, "As the Westpac is bracing to lose six-member schools at the end of the current academic year, athletic directors from schools leaving or remaining in the league are doing all they can to keep rivalries alive while competing in different conferences." Changing conferences means there will be new schools that will compete and there will be more competition. Since most of the schools are bigger, this means that more competition and more athletes will be able to compete against Township. Moving conferences can change different school sports and can impact other programs at this school.

The new Heritage will include a total of 12 teams in the new year of 2023. Those schools include: Cambria Heights, Homer-Center, Marion Center, Northern Cambria, Penns Manor, Purchase Line, River Valley, United, Portage, Conemaugh Township, Conemaugh Valley, and West Shamokin.



Heritage math competition 2nd place winners from the Heritage Academic Competitions

PMEA Region III Band

By Lydia Boring

The PMEA Region III Band held a festival March 23-25 at Marion Center High School. The Pennsylvania Music Educators Association for Region III consists of Clearfield, Clinton, Centre, Mifflin, Juniata, Cambria, Blair, Huntingdon, Fulton, Bedford, and Somerset. Hayden Lingenfelter, Jonathan Fochtman, and Landon Weeks were our participating students at this festival. Hayden and Landon both play the trombone, while Jonathan plays the saxophone.

These three boys had to go through a long process to be chosen for this festival. They had to go through a pre-audition for districts, then once accepted they had to go through another audition while at districts. There was a final audition for a seat placement at the Region III band festival, which would also be taken as their audition for the All-State Ensemble.

On Wednesday, the 23rd, Jonathan, Hayden, and Landon auditioned all evening. Throughout Thursday and Friday, they rehearsed and practiced their music. On Friday, the 25th, they performed in a concert for the Region III community and the parents. When asked about the festival, Hayden Lingenfelter said, "Although it may be competitive, I think it is beneficial, not only for me but for the whole band as well." Congratulations to these boys for making it this far!



The Contownian

News Magazine

How Important is Women's History Month?

By Jack Ankeny

Happy Women's History Month to all you lovely ladies! As a lot of you probably know, the month of March is used to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions women have made in our history.

Did you know that the celebration was just a day and not a month in the past? This was first celebrated as a holiday on March 8, 1909, but by March of 1987, it became a whole month-long celebration. One woman, Gerda Lerner, was the single most influential figure in the development of women's history since the 1960s. She helped with the development of an MA program at Sarah Lawrence College to the presence of women's-history faculty in the great majority of US colleges and universities. This helped celebrate women all over the country. This took a lot of work for women and was a huge milestone for them. These accomplishments were and still are so important for women. I feel that women completely deserve all the recognition they get during this month.

Overall, Women's History is very important for many reasons. Take the time to appreciate the women in your life; whether they are your mother, sister, girlfriend, grandmother, teacher, friend, or even just a stranger, they rock!



Staff Editorials

Why Lent Could Be Key to Christianity

By Madison Thomas

Many people around the world celebrate Lent. The season of Lent is a 40 day period of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday every year and ends on Holy Thursday. Catholics traditionally celebrate the season of Lent, however Christians of all denominations can and do participate as well. So, why is Lent so important?

The three main things people focus on during Lent is prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Prayer is very important because it focuses on the need for God's forgiveness during this time. The act of repentance and turning away from sin is a crucial focus and key factor of Lent. This is not only important during Lent, but on a daily basis for Christians of all dominations of faith. Also, fasting is a common practice during this season. Christians do this as a reminder of Jesus' sacrifice that he made on the cross for us. The idea is that if Jesus could give his life, we can make a small sacrifice to honor him. So, fasting can show that we are grateful for his sacrifice and we too can give up something for it. Giving time or money is also a good way of showing God's grace, love, and generosity. It is important that people donate to others during this time because it can show an act of selflessness. Also, this is another way of showing God and Jesus that we are grateful for them and we appreciate their sacrifices. Instead of committing an act of selfishness, donate some money to your local shelter or your church to give back to the needy.

Overall, Lent is an important season. It helps many Christian people grow in their spiritual relationship. By participating in Lent, it can demonstrate to others the generosity of Jesus. During this Lenten season, celebrate one another and give back to your community to honor this Christian celebration and time of remembrance.

THE LITTLE CONTOWNIAN

JUNIOR HIGH

Fun Facts About St. Patty's Day

By Rylee Briones & Maura McCall

Do not know much about St. Patrick's Day? Well look no further! Here are some St. Patrick's Day facts:

- It was originally celebrated in Ireland
- They celebrated it with religious services and feasts
- The real St. Patrick was originally born in Britain
- At the age 16 he was kidnapped by Irish soldiers and was sold as a slave
- The meal people eat on St. Patrick's day is corned beef and cabbage
- Patrick never wore green, he wore blue
- March 17 is not his real birthday; it is the day that Saint Patrick died
- He is said to have died at the age of 120 years old
- The shamrock was considered a "Sacred Plant" for the Irish

Little Mermaid Release

By Zoey Furman

The new *Little Mermaid* movie is coming out on May 26, 2023. Since the *Little Mermaid* has been overdue for a while, it will be finished on May 20th. Halle Bailey will be starring as Ariel and

Jonah Hauer-King will star as Prince Eric. With this being the first time that the this animated movie has been live action, it sure is



going to be a good one. Also, this hit new movie will be streaming on other services too. It is going to be streaming on Disney+. So make sure to tune in on Disney+ or head to the movie theaters on May 26.

March 2023

Footloose

By Julie Sodano

This year's musical was *Footloose*, which is the musical version of the film. The film was made in the year 2011, which is the newest version of *Footloose*. The film is really about dancing and having fun.

In Bomont High School kids put together a prom for all of the other high school students to finally be able to dance. Our school held the production on March 16th through the 19th. The musical was a very fun experience. Some facts about *Footloose* was that it was based on the town of Elmore City, Oklahoma. *Footloose* was based in this Oklahoma town because this state banned dancing in 1898. Oklahoma was also chosen because this state has country-line dancing origins. This movie is based on a true story, telling the story behind the banning of dancing. The most popular song from this movie is actually *Footloose* by Kenny Loggins. This song is throughout the film.

Overall, our school put on a great performance of the musical, and it was definitely a hit!

Chicken Scratch NY

Happy St. Patrick's Day!





The
Contownian
News Magazine

YEARBOOK ORDERING

Don't forget: ORDER A YEARBOOK!!
Visit: YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM
Use the following codes:
MS CODE: 19683
HS CODE: 13159

Telephone Numbers

Administrative Office

Superintendent.....Nicole Dull.....479-7575
Business Manager.....Regina Rembold.....479-7431
Food Service Director.....Adam Thomas.....479-2328
Director of Curriculum.....Stacy Dabbs.....479-7575

Middle/High School 6-12

Principal.....James Foster.....479-4014
Vice Principal/
Athletic Director.....Jarod Feathers.....479-4014
HS Guidance Counselor.....Kara Duplin.....479-7886
MS Guidance Counselor.....Kelli Hankinson.....479-7886
School Nurse.....Cassey DeBiase.....479-2324

School Calendar

April 5.....One-Hour Early Dismissal

April 6.....Snow Makeup Day #3

April 7-10.....Easter Vacation

April 21.....Act 80 Early Dismissal
Middle/High 12:00
Elem 12:25

Badwater Ultramarathon Continued . . .

To get in, you have to submit an application, a race resume, and then answer essay questions. So far, the youngest person to ever complete it was Nickademus Hollon who did it when he was 19 years old. Therefore, when Kaylee completes this race she will then be the youngest ever to complete this challenge at the age of 18. Kaylee says, "I'm doing it because I want to challenge myself more than I ever have before and I want to make my dad proud. I want to show people you can do anything you set your mind to." If you want to donate to help Kaylee fundraise for Badwater there will be a Cornhole Tournament May 13th at the Alley Sports Bar. First place will receive \$400 and 2nd place will take home \$250.

Overall, this will be a huge accomplishment for Kaylee and is something for her to be extremely proud of. We wish her the best of luck with this race!

March Madness

By Brianna Shetler

March Madness is one of the most watched events in all sports. It is the NCAA's Men's Division 1 basketball tournament and has been played since 1939.

This tournament is a single elimination of 68 teams that compete in seven rounds for the championship. There is something called "Selection Sunday" which is the day the Selection Committee reveals the full NCAA tournament bracket and includes all of the teams and their seeds. This year's tournament schedule is as follows:

- Selection Sunday: Sunday, March 12
- First Four: March 14-15
- First Round: March 16-17
- Second Round: March 18-19
- Sweet 16: March 23-24
- Elite Eight: March 25-26
- Final Four: April 1
- NCAA championship game: April 3

The tournament will be streamed on TBS, TNT, TruTV or CBS and will be live streamed on March Madness Live.

PHOTO JOURNALISM
HIGH SCHOOL



Dodgeball organizers with our local law enforcement



Briar Berkey competing in the dodgeball tournament



Impromptu Speech team at the Heritage Conference



Our Heritage competitors



Nathaniel Denault and Hayden Lingenfelter play their roles as "Willard" and "Ren" in Footloose



Sophia Stango performing as "Ariel" in our musical Footloose



Middle School students and Mrs. Feathers as "Soccer Moms" and "BBQ Dads"



Our boys basketball celebrating their District 5 Championship win

Contownian

News Magazine

Conemaugh Township Middle School/ High School
Volume 85 Number 7

The Contownian is published online monthly by the Conemaugh Township Area High School Journalism Class. For advertising information call (814) 479-4014, Extension 3836 or write to 300 West Campus Avenue, Davidsville, PA 15928.

The Contownian does not necessarily reflect the views, opinions, and policies of the Conemaugh Township Area High School and its administration.

Editors

Editor-in-Chief.....	Hannah Sodano
Junior Editor-in-Chief.....	Gia Bambino
Senior News Editor.....	Jack Ankeny
Junior News Editor.....	Sam Sharbaugh
Senior Features Editors.....	Cameron Berloff
Junior Features Editor.....	David Stanley
Senior Sports Editor.....	Tanner Shirley
Junior Sports Editor.....	Larry Weaver
Senior Society Editor.....	Callie Parker
Junior Society Editor.....	Sophia Stango
Senior Pop Culture Editor.....	Andrew Roles
Junior Pop Culture Editor.....	Zack Petree
Senior Little Contownian Editor.....	Lexi Defibaugh
Junior Little Contownian Editor.....	Hannah Gregorich & Jaylynn Moyer
Senior Photography Editor.....	Emilee Roman
Junior Photography Editor.....	Emily Corella
Senior Facebook Athletics.....	Hannah Swank
Junior Facebook Athletics.....	Asia Zwick
Senior Business Manager.....	Addy Dull
Junior Business Manager.....	Addy Gindlesperger

News Staff

Hannah Swank, Jordyn Snyder,
Alison Matera, Lydia Boring, Asia Zwick

Feature Staff

Madison Thomas, Rachel Davis, Lexi Defibaugh, Kaydence Forish,
Kendra Huber, Brianna Shetler,
Julia Thomas

Society Staff

Abby Persio, Emma Glover, Taylor Jarvis, Kaitlyn Wiley, Mercedes Mull,
Olivia Mauzy, Matalyn Mauzy

Sports Staff

Kyle Wirick, Alex Gregory, Sam Shaffer, Jon Updyke, Izzy Slezak, Ashlyn Fetterman

Photography Staff

Haylee Thomas, Larry Weaver, Mercedes Mull, Carson Harbart, Aubrey Johns, Olivia Mauzy, Matalyn Mauzy, Jordyn Snyder,
Lydia Boring, Taylor Jarvis, Luke Haight, Ashlyn Fetterman

Advisor:

Loni Stankan



The
Contownian
News Magazine

Kovalchik Convention

By Madison Thomas

Kovalchik Convention Complex host many events in Indiana, Pennsylvania. There is an upcoming event from March 29th through April 2nd. There will be various vendors and plenty of unique items to see.

This show is the 44th annual PA State Taxidermy & Wildlife Art Championships, Convention & Trade Show. There will be a sportsman show April 1st, where different vendors will showcase their porting and hunting supplies. There will also be some guest speakers, as well as the Pennsylvania Game Commission for questions and answers. From 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., a taxidermy competition will be going on. It is \$10 for people 16 and older, and is free for anyone 15 and under.

This event will definitely be a fun way to spend your Saturday. There will be many interesting things to see and learn at the Kovalchik Convention Complex.

Women's History Month

By Julia Thomas

Women's History Month started as a national celebration in 1981. Originally, it was celebrated for a week in March, and which week depended on Congress. In 1987, the month of March that year became the first ever Women's History Month. President Jimmy Carter was very important to getting this month's celebration started and continued. One of President Carter's messages was, "Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength, and love of the women who built America were as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well."

This month of celebration can teach us a lot. It allows us to appreciate all of the important women who have come before us. We owe a lot to the influential women who have set the foundation on which we live on today. Also, take this time to thank and appreciate the important and influential women in your life. Think of how many amazing female teachers you have who did or currently help and teach you.

Conemaugh Township Presents Footloose

By Rachel Davis

Conemaugh Township Area School District performed *Footloose* on March 16th-18th at 7:00 and March 19 at 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Lingenfelter, Ms. Kasun, and others worked very hard to make this show happen. A lot of time, effort, and money go into the productions every single year. The cast practiced all winter, everyday, to put on the perfect show. Sydney McMillian, a six year cast member, says, "I truly loved this cast and crew, we are all so close and even with lack of sleep and constant practice we were always able to laugh with each other and we loved spending time together." They worked very hard and started their first practice in November and practiced nearly everyday up until the show.

Everybody cut, everybody cut, everybody cut, Footloose!



Charlotte Worst, Tanner Hunsberger, Hayden Lingenfelter, Jaylynn Moyer, and Sydney McMillian performing

POP CULTURE

Top 10 Irish Tavern Songs

By Carson Harbart

With it being March, St. Patrick's Day is almost a month-long celebration for many Irish people. This celebration calls for good Irish tavern songs where everyone can sing along, dance, and have a good time. Here are some of the most popular Irish tavern songs to play while celebrating St. Patrick's Day:

1. The Wild Rover - The Pogues
2. The Fields of Athenry - Paddy Reilly
3. Jug of Punch - The Clancy Brothers
4. The Black Velvet Band - The Dubliners
5. Molly Malone - The Dubliners
6. Whiskey in a Jar - The Dubliners
7. Finnegan's Wake - The Dubliners
8. Irish Pub Song - The High Kings
9. Dirty Old Town - Luke Kelly
10. Irish Ways and Irish Laws - John Close

For the Irish, these songs are a classic and can be played all year round. Playing these songs will always brighten the mood. For people who aren't Irish, it never hurts to listen to some new music!

The New Little Mermaid Overview

By Aubrey Johns

Disney's live-action remake of their 1989 animated version *The Little Mermaid* is expected to hit theaters on May 26, 2023. The live action movie is directed by Rob Marshall and will star Halle Bailey (Ariel), Johan Hauer - King (Prince Eric), Melissa McCarthy (Ursula), Daveed Diggs (Sebastian), Jacob Tremblay (Flounder), Javier Bardem (King Triton), and many more. The music was composed by Lin - Manuel Miranda and Alan Menken. Fans can expect the plot to stay the same with King Triton's youngest daughter, Ariel, being stuck between two worlds. One, her own, and the other, the human world of the man she fell in love with, Prince Eric. Ariel is an adventurous young mermaid and is described as problematic due to her curiosity. She will seek out the evil Ursula to find a solution to the problem she is in, but she may not get the solution she thought she was getting.

March 2023

Musician of the Month

By Lily Mohrbacker

Sydney McMillan is a senior at Conemaugh Township. She lives with her parents Deb and Dave McMillan in Hollsopple. Sydney has been in choir since sixth grade and has taken part in the musical every year since seventh grade. Some of the musicals she has been in are *Pippin*, *Newsies*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Mamma Mia*, *The Music Man*, and *Footloose*.

Other accomplishments of Sydney's are being in Somerset County Choir and Johnstown Symphony Orchestra All-Star Choir. After she graduates,

Sydney plans on attending the University of Pittsburgh to pursue an education in pharmacy school. She says, "The music department has given me 7 years of support. The directors' ability to create such a familial atmosphere with everyone involved in the music program is something that I will always remember. I am forever grateful for everything all the directors have taught me."



Artist of the Month

By Aubrey Johns

Logan Pitera, a senior at Conemaugh Township-child of Brad and Mandy Pitera, lives in Davidsville. Logan is in 12th grade and is currently taking Art 4. His art style is painting and sculpting. One of Logan's accomplishments is a mosaic art mirror. A mosaic is a pattern or image made of small regular or irregular pieces of colored stone, glass or ceramic, held in place by plaster/mortar, and covering a surface.

Logan's inspiration comes from his imagination. After high school Logan plans to attend Penn Highlands and Full Sail University for film. Logan's quote is, "Live life how you want it."





The Contownian

News Magazine

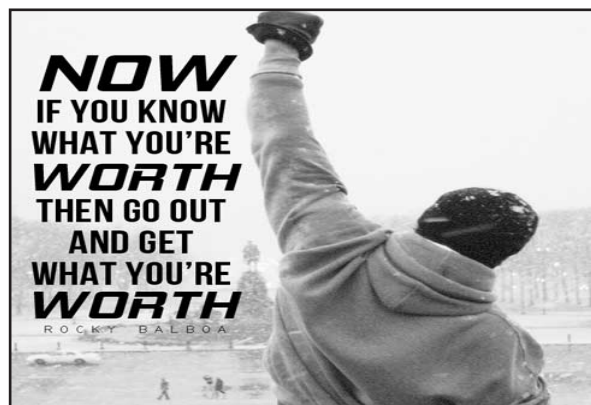
Shamrock Shakes are Back!

By Carson Harbart

With it being March, everyone has their own ways of celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Some of the different ways to celebrate consist of dying rivers green, such as the Chicago River, having green themed parties, or messing with little ones by pretending leprechauns left tiny little trails full of green and gold. However, at the beginning of March, the first thing that comes to mind are the delicious, green and minty McDonald's Shamrock Shakes!

The annual McDonald's Shamrock Shakes never get old as they continue to get talked about every year around late February or early March. With these only being sold for a few weeks out of the year, they are a big hit for McDonald's. More than 60 million Shamrock Shakes have been sold since 1970. With not many other fast food restaurants having well-known drinks to celebrate St. Patty's Day, McDonald's Shamrock Shakes have to be the best holiday special. Even if you may not like mint or vanilla milkshakes, these Shamrock Shakes are worth a try, especially when they are limited edition!

Both St. Patrick's Day and March are coming to an end, so now is the time to get the popular McDonald's Shamrock Shake. You can never go wrong with starting a St. Patty's day party with a Shamrock Shake! Get a group of friends together and hurry to McDonald's to get the Shamrock Shakes while they are still available!



Rocky IV: The Best Rocky Movie

By Luke Haight

With the release of *Creed III*, many fans are excited for the continuation of the *Rocky* franchise. This brings up the question of what the best Rocky movie is. All of the *Rocky* movies are very good, but the fact is on most days, everyone who likes the franchise would rather just watch *Rocky IV*.

Everyone has to admit the fact that *Rocky IV* overall outclasses the other movies. This is only different when you're dipping yourself into the more contemporary movies, such as *Rocky Balboa* and the new *Creed* movies. But most of the time if you're going to sit down and watch a *Rocky* movie, it's going to be *Rocky IV*. The movie gives you an abridged version of all the *Rocky* movies. It's not just a movie, it's a string of montages combined within the movie, which no other *Rocky* film did.

Furthermore, *Rocky IV* delivers a more condensed *Rocky* experience. In the first minutes of the film, it begins with a montage reminding the viewer what happened in *Rocky I - III*. But the rushing to the end of the movie is what makes it so watchable. At an hour and thirty minutes, *Rocky IV* is the shortest film in the series, and that's because the plot is so straight to the point concerning Rocky's best friend, Apollo Creed, facing death by soviet boxer, Ivan Drago. Rocky trains to get revenge in a huge boxing match in the U.S.S.R. Most of this happens in a series of montages. Finally, there's an epic training-montage which contrasts Rocky's training and values against Drago making for the best Rocky film.

SOCIETY

Footloose

By Mercedes Mull

The Conemaugh Township music department put on the show *Footloose* on March 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th. The community flocked to the auditorium March 16th - 19th, filling the house rapidly. The cast and crew put a lot of time and effort in and were thrilled with how it turned out.

Hayden Lingenfelter, Bomont's Ren McCormick, was the lead in this year's musical. When asked how he felt about the preparation for their performance and the relationship amongst the cast and crew, he said, "We were really well prepared. We worked

together really well, and there wasn't too much bickering." When interviewing Sophia Stango, who played Ariel Moore, she too, said the cast and crew were very well



prepared. When asked how she felt about preparations and the relationship amongst the students, she said, "I'm very thankful for the cast we have. We've all become very close, and we help each other."

Adelyn Dull, one of the students in charge of stage crew, was interviewed also. When asked about the process of constructing the set, she said, "The adults in charge create plans that we have to construct. When I'm told the idea for what I'm painting, I have to come up with a way to bring that to life."

The musical was very popular this year, and the seats sold out. The students really enjoyed participating in it, and *Footloose* brought spirit to the music department and Conemaugh Township this March.

Badwater Ultramarathon

By Abby Persio

This summer, senior, Kaylee Fredrick, is going to be the youngest person to run the Badwater Ultramarathon. This race will start on July 4th and will take place in Death Valley, California. It is 135 miles long and said to be the world's toughest foot race.

Badwater is a difficult race to get into and is a very tough race. *article continued on page ...*

March 2023

Alumni Of The Month...

Joe Shelter graduated from Conemaugh Township Area School District in 1997. After High School, Joe attended Marshall University on a four-year division one baseball scholarship. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Physiology. Post-graduation, he started his own online-fitness and nutrition business, called My Fitness Coach, which he managed for ten years before accepting a position as Conemaugh Health System's Employee Wellness and Community Health Coordinator and Manager. Later on, in June of 2015, Joe also became the strength and conditioning coach for all sports at Conemaugh Township.



During Joe's high school years, he had many great teachers but the one that had the most impact on his life and professional career path was Ms. Pepoy. She helped Joe find his love for health and fitness. She was also his strength and conditioning coach, an area where Joe spent countless hours training to improve his athletic abilities. Joe states, "Without Peep's selfless dedication and commitment to helping me improve in both the classroom and on the baseball field, I would not have had the chance to play collegiately and likely would not have chosen the career path I did. I cannot thank her enough for all she has done for me, and I know countless other former CT student athletes feel the same way." Joe's fondest memory at CT was playing baseball for Coach Zambanini.

He played during an era when the team was consistently dominating the county. Joe said, "We were always pushing each other to become better both on the field and in



the weight room year-round. "Coach Z" preached attitude and effort, no matter what, and that is

something I continue to pass along to those I coach today. Playing for a great coach and many talented and dedicated teammates over my four years is something I will never forget."



The Contownian

News Magazine

Basketball Recap

By Jenna Brenneman

Township and Windber faced off three separate times, resulting in a loss for Township after each. However, fourth times a charm did the trick as junior Jon Updyke led the team with a game-high 16 points, followed by senior Tanner Shirley with 15 points, and freshman Colin Dinyar with 13 points. Township managed to prevent Windber from taking a lead in every single quarter, giving the Indians just what they needed to win the game.

Coach Chuck Lesko commented, “After an evenly played first half I thought the boys came out and set the tone for the second half and kept their composure in a hostile environment. Learning from previous mistakes, we were able to close the game and for that I am very proud they could finish the job and not succumb to losing to a team for a fourth time, especially on their home floor. So, we made some plays down the stretch when we had to and ultimately we finished the job.” The team then proceeded to the District 5 championship where they ran through McConnellsburg with a score of 48-42. This marked the third straight district championship for the Indians.

Although the boys lost in the first round of states, the boys had a great season. Congratulations on yet another district championship win.



Baseball Is Back!!!

By Ashlyn Fetterman

Spring is here, so that means it is officially baseball season! The Conemaugh Township Area High School baseball team, coached by Sam Zambanini, Barry Thomas, and Jason Hazlett have their sights set high on the potential of this year's squad. The team has been putting in the work during the off season and have been preparing for this season. Junior, Larry

Weaver, explained, “These past two scrimmages have a great indication on the potential we have this year. Our younger talent and depth looks very promising, and I’m excited for how the season is going to turn out as long as we work hard and have the right mindset.”

The baseball team will start off their season with a game on Thursday against Ferndale. Weaver is hoping for the team to claim a district title and WestPAC trophy and knows it can be accomplished with the right determination. Best of luck to our Indians as they take on the 2023 baseball season!

No Jr High Softball, Why?

By Ashlyn Fetterman

Spring sports at Conemaugh Township look a little different this year without a junior high softball team. Playing at the junior high level allows players to build the basic skills needed to be successful at the varsity level. Junior high also allows for an opportunity to play with the same people who you will play with throughout the rest of your high school career.

Former head junior high softball coach, Matthew Phillippi, stated, “I resigned from the head coaching position after last season as I have other obligations to take care of which would not give me enough time to dedicate myself to coaching the team this spring.” He also added, “When I was in high school, there were no junior high baseball or softball teams and I think having junior high teams has made a great difference in building team camaraderie and polishing players skills. Unfortunately, due to a lack of players, there is no team this school year, but I am hopeful that moving forward in the future, there will be enthusiasm and many girls will choose to try out softball; even if they have never tried the sport before!”

Hopefully, there will be a chance for the junior high girls to have the opportunity to play softball next spring and the circumstances will change for the better.

Athletes...

Trenton Brenneman is the son of Todd and Chelsea Brenneman.

Trenton Brenneman is a member of the varsity soccer team, basketball team, and track and field team. In soccer, Trenton was named team captain his senior year and is a three year letter winner.



In basketball, he's also a three year letter winner, and part of three District 5 wins. One of those wins was brought home his senior year. Trenton is also a two year letter winner for the track and field team, where he ran long distance.

Outside of sports, Trenton participates in the S.O.N. Club (serving our neighbors), S.A.D.D. Club (Students Against Destructive Decisions), Art Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Grill Team, and the National Honors Society. Also, Trenton is an editor for the Contownian Network, where he has his own segment that he

films and edits, The Alpha Male Competition. Brenneman is admired by his fellow classmates and his teachers for his hard work in school.



In his spare time, Trenton

enjoys playing golf, lifting weights, and hanging out with his friends. After graduating, Trenton's future plans are still undecided but his hard work and determination make his potential limitless.

The

Contownian

News Magazine

...of the Month

Mya Poznanski is the daughter of Steve and Gina Poznanski. Mya played soccer her freshman and sophomore year and basketball freshman through senior year. Throughout her high school basketball career, she has scored over 1,000 career points, was fifth all-time leading scorer in Conemaugh Township history, was four-time Somerset County selection, two-time West-Pac selection, 2022 Chestnut Ridge King of the Jungle all-tournament team, and 2023 WestPac runner-up.



In soccer, she was a member of the 2019 District 5 Class 1A championship team.

Mya's basketball coach, Lisa Byer, stated, "Mya has been a dominant shooter since her freshman year. She is respectful and has a hard work ethic. She has dedicated four years to the program and leads her teammates by example. The consistency of her scoring game to game will be hard to replace."

Outside of sports, Mya is a member of the Grill team



and National Honors Society. In her spare time, she enjoys hanging out with friends, shopping, and bowling. After graduating from high school, Mya's future looks bright as she plans to attend the University of Johnstown and pursue a nursing degree.