Dear Teachers,

1. Be accessible. For instance, don’t make one Zoom meeting your only time that you are available to help us with questions before the quiz. Remember, we don’t all have our own computers and some of us are diversified occupations and/or dual enrollment students and can’t make your Zoom meeting.

2. Be flexible. Sometimes the only way we can do an assignment is to handwrite it and then scan it or upload a screenshot. We are still turning it in and that is what should matter. Again, we don’t all have our own computers or devices. When you require an assignment to be turned in online, sometimes it is double the work to type the assignment we did by hand into the computer.

3. Don’t overload Google Classroom. Although some of us like when a teacher posts an abundance of work at the beginning of the week or the month, some find it overwhelming and confusing so they shut down. Then they don’t do the work. Consider scheduling your assignments and organizing your Google Classroom with your students in mind.

4. Take your time. We understand that you only see us in-person twice a week but that doesn’t mean you have to teach a weeks’ worth of lessons in two 55 minute periods. This raises our anxiety levels and we know that we will applaud you they’ve never seen it before. But others may not, simply because we’ve never seen it before but know that we will applaud you every step of the way.

5. Remember learning styles. Whether we be visual, auditory or kinesthetic learners, remember to take that into consideration and try to vary the way you present your lessons so we all have an equal learning experience.

See Editorial pg 3

Biden beats Trump, becomes 46th POTUS

Joe Biden, former Vice President, will be inaugurated in January as the nation’s 46th president. His running mate, Kamala Harris, California senator, will be the nation’s first female vice president and the first woman of color to hold such a high office.

By: Samantha Carey

After a very prolonged and nerve wracking presidential race, on the eighth of November, former Vice President and Senator Joe Biden was elected the 46th President of the United States of America. Biden’s win was a close one, taking hold of Pennsylvania, Nevada, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Georgia not on the third of November, but on the fifth, two days after the polls closed.

The following Saturday, President-elect Biden held his victory speech in his hometown of Wilmington, Delaware. In his speech, Biden encouraged Americans to come together in order to get through these tumultuous times.

“I understand the disappointment tonight. I’ve lost a couple of times myself. But now, let’s give each other a chance,” said Biden. “This is the time to heal in America.”

Hines says goodbye to education

After 42 years in education, Bob Hines, associate principal, has left the building and the profession. Hines leaves behind more than a vacant office in the JCM, he leaves behind a legacy.

By: Julia DeYoung

Everyone knows he’s loud when he’s angry. Everyone also knows he believes in you and he wants only the best for you. And now he’s gone.

Bob Hines, associate principal, has “left the building” after 42 years in education, 21.5 of them as the associate principal in the building.

“I don’t have a fondest memory” so to speak but I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with really great professionals and students,” said Hines.

Higher education rethinking SATs/ACTs

Colleges and universities across the nation are waiving the standardized testing requirement as part of the admissions process. Many are doing this due to the pandemic but the change could be permanent.

By: Josh Garced

The recent academic struggles due to Covid have caused multiple colleges to either waive or make the SATs and ACTs optional. There is no doubt Covid-19 has caused colleges to make many decisions that have made learning harder. When the pandemic began in March and spread throughout the country, schools and colleges had to react. Colleges sent students home, schools closed, and standardized testing stopped. In response to this halt in learning, some colleges decided to waive standardized testing requirements.

“Some went further than that, with leaders of the University of California system voting on May 21 to phase out the SAT and ACT as an admissions requirement over the next four years,” reported The New York Times. In the past, SATs and ACTs have been very resourceful academic achievements for those who scored perfect or near perfect scores. However, some Ivy League schools like Harvard and Cornell have started to look at waiving standardized requirements permanently.

See SAT/ACTs page 2

FIND INSIDE: NEWS: PG 1 & 2; OPINION: PG 3; FEATURE: PG 4.5 & 6; LIFE & STYLE: PG 7; SPORTS: PG 8
Black Lives Matter movement must become more than occasional fad

While its most adamantly supported and its founders disagree or might not wish it so, many see the movement in the spotlight only when something happens. In order to effect change, the BLM movement can never leave the spotlight.

By: Kelly Wiercinski

Racial equality is heavily talked about in American society. As a nation, we have struggled with acceptance all throughout history; one of the biggest ones being race. Today, this is still one of the most discussed issues. Because of this, the Black Lives Matter movement has become a fundamental piece in a step towards equality.

This movement first brought to the attention of the media back in 2013, after the death of Trayvon Martin, who was shot and killed by George Zimmerman while walking to a friend's house. This quickly became a matter of race, since Martin was black and Zimmerman is white, thus bringing more attention to the racial divide and prompting the hashtag "Black Lives Matter" to be used for incidents similar to this. But while social media helped bring awareness to this issue, the movement would not have stuck around for long and was almost used as a trend rather than a consistent goal. Any large social movement is shaped by the way it is spread. The Civil Rights movement in the 1960s, for example, was shaped by its marches and sit-ins. The feminist movement was shaped by the same but also literature, as well, like Betty Friedan's "The Feminine Mystique." The Black Lives Matter movement is largely shaped by technology, more specifically, social media. The downfall to this lies when the news quiets, so do the posts.

"It's aggravating because although this summer was the most vocal people have ever been about the Black Lives Matter movement," said Jordan Daniel, alumna. "It seems like it was just a thing to do since we were in lockdown. Once the quarantine restrictions loosened up and people were getting back to their daily routines, all of the Black Lives Matter talks faded into the background."

After the protests and riots this summer triggered by the death of George Floyd, many people were outraged and speaking out on social media, bringing attention to the movement once again. Police brutality and defunding became a topic almost everyone had an opinion about and it played into the most recent election. However, this quickly quieted as the topic became less popular. People stopped posting, protesting and bringing awareness.

According to the Pew Research Center, support for Black Lives Matter remains strong with African Americans but has decreased since June among Hispanics and Whites. Pew's statistics state, in June, 60 percent of Whites supported the movement but by September, that number had dropped to 45 percent. Hispanic support for the movement dropped 11 percentage points from June to September, from 77 percent to 66 percent.

Among the many ways people participated in the movement, one of the biggest was posting a plain black picture on social media and captioning it with many things like "Black Lives Matter" or "I can't breathe." This was called "Black Out Tuesday" but it quickly faded from the public's eye, along with the rest of the movement, once again. Black Out Tuesday is the perfect affect how a social movement is shaped by the way it is spread, since BLM is largely a social media movement and this event occurred on social media platforms. Nevertheless, it went away when the sun went down and many fear BLM will do the same.

"I believe that to make the movement more consistent and less of a trend, we must stop viewing it as one. As it isn't," said Haley Katona, alumna. "Just like the Civil Rights Movement in the 60's, it is a current socio-political issue that needs to be viewed as one, not simply a "half in, half out" trend. This leads to more polarization between support as people begin to assign roles of those who are genuine and those who are either doing it to remain "normal" amongst their peers or to prove a point on their social media presence."
continued from pg 1

Dear Administration,

Do we really need one-way hallways? With an average class size of four to six students, there are not enough of us in the building to make the one-way hallways necessary. Large schools like Emmaus and East Stroudsburg South do not have one-way hallways and their student population is bigger than ours. One way hallways are actually increasing crowding sizes, especially in stairwells, rather than decreasing them.

Is the dress code necessary? We know the faculty and administration are not enforcing the dress code. We also all know all there are students who don’t have gym but dress like they do and have been doing so since the start of the school year. Furthermore, when life goes back to normal, trying to enforce the dress code is not realistic. Therefore, why would the original intent of the dress code still apply today?

Can you talk to us? We are seniors. We are why school is being closed or why certain events aren’t allowed to happen. Just explain to us why these things are happening and rumors will be less likely to start.

Can we please have some of this back? Last year’s seniors got the rest of their senior year taken away from them. Is this what is going to happen to our entire senior year? We don’t get lockers in the senior hallway and don’t get to have our senior lunch. You took away two of the days of Spirit Week and we aren’t having a Homecoming dance. Let us have some parts of a senior year.

Dear Students,

We understand. Work with your teachers and administrators. They will help us. A simple email is all that needs to be done. They understand what we are going through and are there to help us.

Work with others. Texting a classmate could help with school work. Making a new friend if you don’t know anyone in small classes could make a big difference on how well you are performing in school. We are all here for each other.

Take care of yourself. Self care is so important, especially right now. Take a break every once in a while. You deserve it. After going through all this, everyone is stressed out. So take some time to destress and be with some friends or family.

Wear your mask. Not under your nose. Not under your chin. Wear the mask correctly. We are keeping each other safe and it is not that hard to do. The virus will keep spreading if we don’t wear our masks correctly or at all.

Wear your ID. Dress code may be out the window for this year but let’s at least wear our IDs. Just put them in your bag after the school day so you can grab it in the morning again. ID’s are keeping us safe so wear them.

Sincerely,

2020-2021 Bear Facts Staff

Josh Garced and Julia DeYoung

conTRIBUTED TO THIS ARTICLE.

EDITORIAL

In Our Opinion

Lately politics have turned ugly. Politicians used to argue policy but within the last few years, and especially during this past presidential election, politicians are trading personal insults and slander. This behavior is on both sides of the political arena and is childish and needs to stop.

Politicians need to watch their mouths

Dear Trump, the world of SiO-Cortez yelling at Donald Trump, the world of Pelosi or Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez yelling at Donald Trump is simply a prime example of this. As a society, we need to do more. Without growth, politicians today are acting like children. Diplomatic insults should be more respectful and as a society, we need to do more. The American people affect the American people.

This year’s election has been riddled with hatred for one another. As a society, we need to do more. This was an act of immaturity. Pelosi could have expressed her disdain for the President’s speech through a speech of her own. These are the things that should shape America, not actions that make it to the trending page of Twitter because they draw attention, a form of childishness in itself.

Politicians tend to either blow up or shoot the conversa-
tions right back at the person confronting them or change the subject and maudit everyone who is listening,” said Hannah Moody, senior. “I think they should be more respectful and think about how their redirection actually looks.”

The presidential debates also made a mockery of the country this year. To all politi-
cians: here’s a hint. If comedy shows can pull up real things you’ve said in a debate word for word, please reconsider speak-
ing like you hold a position of power. Most kids as they grow up dream of being president and politicians today are show-
ing them they don’t even need to grow up, they just need a de-

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez becoming hyperbolic term used negatively towards women as a means to make them feel weak exemplifies the pettiness and sexism in today’s political climate.

“Representative Yoho put his finger in my face,” said Cortez in response to Representative Yoho. “He called me disgusting, he called me crazy, he called me out of my mind, and he called me dangerous.”

Representative Ted Yoho calling an educated woman the words too often used to de-
scribe her and many other pow-

erful women should no longer be tolerated in America. Racism, sexism, and hom-

ophobia should have never held a place in the United States and as a society, we need to do and be better. Without growth, we will descend into anarchy and become what dystopian novels such as 1984 and Brave New World warn us about. So, to all the name calling and mud-

slinging politicians: grow up.

Dear Students,

Can you talk to us? We are students who are going through very hard times. You took away two of the days of our senior year? We don’t get lockers in the senior hallway and don’t get to have our senior lunch. You took away two of the days of Spirit Week and we aren’t having a Homecoming dance. Let us have some parts of a senior year.

Take care of yourself. Self care is so important, especially right now. Take a break every once in a while. You deserve it. After going through all this, everyone is stressed out. So take some time to destress and be with some friends or family.

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Josh Garced and Julia DeYoung

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We can hear the divide?

The division between political parties has always existed. Within the last few years, though, party politics has become more divisive, even ugly. The political divide has ruined marriages, friendships, and even professional lives. Both sides have called for healing but a healing on their terms.

By: Sydney Umstead

As a nation, America is deeply divided on most core political issues. In today’s day and age, if you lean towards the left you’re considered a snowflake and are told your opinions are irrelevant. However, if you lean towards the right, you have no morals.

We are the most divided we’ve ever been and this is dangerous. The further the country drifts apart, the more likely a chance for a civil war becomes clear.

The future of the United States is at risk if people can’t find a bridge to cross the gap that is the political divide. We will turn into a society consumed by war within its own walls with people too afraid to form any opinion that does not align with others.

Mail voting played major role in outcome

Mail voting, which was largely Democratic in party alignment, dominated the results of this year’s presidential election, ultimately resulting in the race officially called in favor of Joe Biden, a Democrat. Votes were still being counted long after Nov 3rd ended.

By: Josh Garce

150.8 million Americans cast their vote in this year’s presidential election despite a raging COVID-19 pandemic. Many Americans showed up to cast their vote in person on Nov 3 but many also chose to “mail in” their ballot. The nearly large number of mail in and absentee ballots resulted in a race that was not called by the Associated Press until two days after election day.

“My wife and I watched the news intently on Election night,” said Anthony Chupa, social studies teacher. “I wish the states would have been called earlier.”

In a typical election, the votes are tallied as the polling centers close and those tallies are reported. Usually, before the clock strikes midnight, the vote is tallied. The mail ballot increased the number of votes that were counted.

In 2020, when Republicans took the White House, they called a reaction to division to come together and unite. That same call was repeated in November by presidential-elect Joe Biden and others. This pressure to heal was reported as the winner by Democrats throughout the country. Many speculate the political divide is greater now than it ever was, though.

Candiates use Twitter to spread message, response

Twitter has become a tool for journalists, a sharing spot for the average citizen, and a voice for politicians among many others. Many times does Twitter campaign throughout the year. They shared their platforms and they tweeted their criticisms. Election day, Nov. 3rd, was no different on a day on Twitter. Both Trump and Biden encouraged people to vote. Biden, though, still tweeted his platform while Trump focused on gratitude.

Time Magazine names Biden, Harris 2020 Person of the Year, raising eyebrows, ire

Biden and Harris are celebrating another achievement this year but this one has drawn the ire of both of the political spectrum who are angry with Time Magazine for neglecting to choose first responders in the fight against COVID.

Perhaps one event that did cross the political divide was the November 7th announcement that Kamala Harris called the magazine a decision a slight against the nation’s health care workers and other first responders who put themselves and their loved ones at risk of becoming ill with COVID-19. Time did devote an April is issue to them but many say this was not enough.

Mail in ballots can be sent in by a certain time, said Chupa. “Absentee ballots can be used for someone who is physically not there to cast a vote.”

With the record number of eligible voters casting a ballot this election, it was a common belief across the country that the election would not be decided upon the evening of Nov 3. And it wasn’t.

Ballot screening states Michigan, North Carolina, Georgia, Wisconsin, Nevada and Pennsylvania regularly mandated but the request to count their mail in ballots, ultimately decided the outcome of the election.

It was no secret the number of mail in votes were largely registered Democrats and cast their votes for Joe Biden, the presidential-elect, while Trump supporters felt their ballots and those for Kamala Harris were wrongly rejected. Most lawmakers are saying this call is unfair, though.

This could be the Trump campaign’s weakest challenge.

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Trump challenges election results in key states

Alleging voter fraud in many ways, President Trump and his legal team are challenging the results of the election throughout the year. They are not done fighting in regards to the election as they have filed lawsuits in key states.

Trump filed a lawsuit in Pennsylvania county regarding the counting of ballots received up to Nov 2. A state court ordered those ballots segregated from the rest as did the US Supreme Court. In Florida, a state ballot was called twice on Nov 7th.

On a separate motion, a state court also ruled the election official could not count ballots from those who were regularly mandating but the request to call ballots over counting this was dismissed.

Other Republican lawmakers have since filed suit claiming unfair and unprofessional treatment of Republicans over the election.

The city of Detroit is the focus of key lawsuits. The Trump campaign is claiming a lack of transparency in the election recounting, judges have denied those claims.

Still Trump is not giving up. His lawyers are claiming more evidence is coming to light in court. The Michigan GOP and vice president have filed lawsuits alleging multiple crimes on the part of election officials, accusing them of counting votes of unregistered voters and the ar- "Bear facts December 2020"
The Show Must Go On:
Drama Club adapts stage to COVID restrictions

By: Samantha Carey

The Drama Club was not going to give up. After many of the students saw the cancellation of the spring musical, Dan Mulligan, advisor and director, was determined to get back on the stage and he did so with an early 20th century radio play: “Yes, Virginia! There is a Santa Claus.”

However, due to COVID-19, things were a little different this year but the club adapted and chose a radio play, one where the stage was not a necessary setting. “Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus” takes place around 1897. It is about a young girl named Virginia questioning if Santa Claus is real, so she writes a letter to a newspaper that reaches a reporter, who writes about this girl, causing her article to become a popular reprinted newspaper editorial.

The play was recorded almost like a movie that may be played for students into December and distributed to those who participated for their families to watch at home. There were also two chosen days for live action performances with social distancing precautions, including requiring the cast to wear clear, shield-like masks.

“Because of COVID, there are less students participating in the play to keep it safer, so many of us are playing multiple roles in the play,” said Aubrey Sawyer, senior. “I think I’m playing about three to four parts.”

Some may find this stressful, however, the students and directors were confident in handling the situation. “This makes the play more authentic,” said Dan Mulligan, advisor and director. “In a true radio hour broadcast from the 1940s, one actor would play multiple roles, changing his or her voice for each character and that is what we did.”

Overall, while COVID has affected many parts of this year and safety is a big concern for students, staff and parents; the cast and crew were still capable of presenting a play to the school and community in a safe way.

“COVID definitely presented multiple challenges for how we performed this and for every other performing arts activity in the school that’s happening this year,” said Anthony Long, senior. “But, we pulled through and it was great.”

By: Julia DeYoung

If you are considering a career in the healthcare industry, you should try joining the club HOSA, right here in our school.

HOSA is an international organization and Tyler Mann, junior, created a local chapter in our school in 2019. Madison Fava, sophomore, is the vice president and the co-founder of this club.

HOSA means Future Health Professionals. This club is designed to provide high school students with an interest in the medical field a glimpse of what their future professions could look like.

“Our goal is to provide insight for our members into the vast and ever-changing world of medicine,” says Mann.

HOSA organizes community service events fundraisers and school events. Members can also go to state and leadership conferences. They work directly with the community to provide more about the medical field.

“HOSA, to me, means leadership,” says Feldman. “I want to contribute to being a person who makes everything possible for the club and help others around us.”

Marinnee Pitts, retired science teacher, Carol Patterson, world language, Jenna Wen- nett, math and Mark Rehrig, science, are all co-founders of this club. They all help out tremendously with this club and make everything possible for the students in the club.

HOSA is a great option if the medical field is a possible future career path. You can learn more about the medical field and look at the different types of medicine.

“Students should join HOSA because it provides amazing opportunities for them to see many different aspects of the medical field,” says Mann. “We also provide many opportunities for students to form relationships and gain contacts with people who can help them on their medical field journey.”

By: Kelly Wiercinksi

On a mission to get everyone to enjoy reading, Reilly reads to her dog Zoey but, from the looks of things, Zoey, doesn’t seem willing to learn. Reilly reads to her dog Zoey but, from the looks of things, she has been extremely helpful. Nacy came to the high school this year after years in the elementary library as the assistant.

“She’s helped me so much, I’m really learning a lot working with her,” said Nacy. “We’re also very similar people.”

Both Reilly and Nacy are witty and sarcastic and love to read.

On her free time, Reilly, besides reading, enjoys exercising, playing with her dogs, and watching horror movies.

Lauren Staub, English, is one of Reilly’s close friends. They share a passion for running and a love for their dogs. Staub says she wished she had met her earlier.

“Mrs. Reilly is an amazing friend,” said Staub. “She is always there for me. Whether it be running with or just someone to talk to, she gives great advice. She is one of the most loyal people I know. She’s a great person and friend.”

According to Feldman, it’s hard to pick a favorite memory with Knapp because there are so many. He describes Knapp as fun to be around and a person who makes everything entertaining while Knapp decribes Feldman in the same way.

“Gentry is fun to be around and a good role model,” said Feldman. “I like that he is determined to always better himself and complete his goals.”

Feldman and Knapp do everything together, apparently even being nominated for the Homecoming Court this year as seniors.
Gov’t officials encourage families to alter holiday plans

Holiday traditions are changing for many families across the country as the nation wrestles with the pandemic and the infected numbers continue to rise. While state and federal officials warn families to avoid holiday gatherings and retailers encourage online shopping and curbside pickup, Americans watch as COVID rates rise.

By: Julia Haldimann

As we attempt to plan our usual holidays, many families are torn between hosting dinners and doing their Christmas shopping online.

Even though holidays are meant to be spent with family and friends, many people feel this year is not the year to travel and see people.

Dr. Anthony Fauci himself said he and his family “will send their love via Zoom.”

Fauci is the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

In the same interview, Fauci urges Americans to avoid travel but if they must, consider the infection of where they are traveling to and to take precautions. Some families, though, have opted not to travel.

“My family and I were supposed to go to Boston for Thanksgiving,” said Donald Freeman, Junior. “We usually go every year to see our family there and because of COVID-19 we decided to skip it to not put anyone at risk.”

Travel is not the only thing to consider this season. Holiday shopping will also be affected. In order to avoid massive crowds, stores like Target, Walmart and Home Depot are encouraging customers to use curbside pickup. These stores are also remaining closed on Thanksgiving day.

As of November 2020, The National Retail Federation is encouraging customers to get their holiday shopping done early.

According to CNBC, “The National Retail Federation, recently debuted an ad campaign, ‘Shop safe, shop early,’ to discuss the health benefits of shopping when stores are less crowded.”

Also, many people are starting their gift shopping online, and will complete most of it that way.

NBC states, “as much as $8 billion of retail spending in the U.S. that tends to take place during Cyber Week in November and as much as $26 billion globally is expected to be pulled into October this year.”

HOLIDAY

Gift Buying Guide

Keep it simple or get pricey with tech gifts, candles, socks

Holiday shopping has not changed much because what people are buying is not changing. Technology items like the latest iPhone or gaming system will be popular but if those are too pricey for you, you can never go wrong buying your relatives and friends comfy socks and candles.

With both Sony and PlayStation coming out with new gaming consoles this year, gamers are finding it hard not to upgrade their systems. Reasonably priced and offering two different versions, both PlayStation and Xbox will be under many trees on Christmas morning this year.

Whether it be a roll of LED lights for your room, an LED sign for your wall or a halo light for your mirror, LED lights have taken off this year. LED lights are sure to be a hit with any recipient and are easy on your wallet, too, usually priced under $50 dollars, even the ones that blink and offer a range of colors.

In celebration of its 50th Anniversary, McDonald’s debuted its scented candle line earlier this year. However, if your loved one isn’t interested in their room smelling like a Big Mac or ketchup, just about any scented candle will do.

Projectors have now become handheld so instead of having your friends huddle around your phone to see your prom pictures, you can connect your phone via cable or Bluetooth to a projector and display those pictures on a wall. They are also cost effective, ranging in price from 50-250 dollars.

Ah, yes, the good old hoodie makes a perfect inexpensive gift for anyone on your list. Champion hoodies are all the rage right now but a simple grey hoodie works well with any color scheme.

Need a one credit course next year? Have room in your schedule?
Join our Staff! See Mrs. Brinker in J106 for more info
Land leads with love for sport and squad

After taking her sophomore year off from cheerleading, Jackie Land, senior, returned to lead her squad as captain for her final year in blue and white.

Land has been cheering since she was four years old. “I like cheering more for football,” said Land. “Friday night games are just the best feeling and being able to lead my team makes me feel special.”

Land and her teammates were unable to make states last year, coming up short at the preliminary competitions but she is planning on leading her team to the state competition this year. “Last year was a bad year for us,” said Land. “We didn’t make it to states and it was heart-breaking. Madly, Mahayia, and I are ready to lead our team to win and make it a better year overall. Our team has bonded so much more this year so I have a good feeling.”

Land shares her passion with her teammates. Although she was only able to cheer two football games because of the current pandemic, she is still glad she was able to support the team. “The best part of cheer is supporting the teams.”

Land’s passion for the sport she loves but doesn’t participate in as a competitor when it comes to the sport. Not only does she cheer for the sports teams but she cheers against other cheer teams on the mat. Land has been cheering since she was four years old.

“Cheerleading has been a big part of her life ever since elementary school, it’s her biggest passion right now,” said Jackie Land, senior, who is a new captain of the cheer team and a big competitor when it comes to the sport. Not only does she cheer for the sports teams but she cheers against other cheer teams on the mat. Land has been cheering since she was four years old.

It was not much of a season for fall sports this year but all of that went away on Nov 19th when the football team took on Pocono Mountain East in the game played every year for the Old Oaken Bucket. They came away with a 42-0 victory. Top photo from left: Mason DeMeglio, senior, Logan Bray, senior, John Brennan, junior, Liam Carroll, sophomore, and Ryan Blass, junior.

“We got the Bucket!”

Football team brings the Bucket back to the state

Much more than winning a physical reward, like a trophy, was the overall elation of observing a group of young men finally get a chance to experience and celebrate the months of hard work, overcoming setbacks, and playing four quarters of extremely physical football,” said James Ward, assistant coach.

Curtis Stanley by James Ward

restrictions limit fan attendance on all athletic levels

Limits on large gatherings have invaded the athletic world. From professional sports to college sports to high school sports, the question of how many, if any, fans can come to an athletic event has plagued officials on all levels just as much as COVID has plagued the country.

Due to recent changes to large gathering numbers, Philadelphia Eagles fans can only send cardboard cutouts to the home games this season.

Off the Bubble

By: Chase Garcia

A little later than usual but a little earlier than expected, the NBA is set to start its 2020/2021 season on Decem ber 22nd. And yes, that means there will be the annual Christmas game.

The new season is going to be completely different this year in many ways from what fans usually expect. According to the league’s website the season will last 72 games and be finished before the Olympics.

Many fans expected to have a normal season that will just start a little later but did not expect other changes. The NBA is changing the amount of games held in the season reducing it from 82 to 72 and playing out the season much quicker then normal.

USA Today reports “The free agency period will begin two days after the NBA draft.” The season and draft getting stuffed into each other is going to make the season much more exciting. As soon as the draft ends free agency will start so there will be a lot of interesting moves made very quickly. There will only be one month of free agency.

According to USA Today, “Despite the uncertainty, 30 teams will play in team arenas with fans in the stands.”

Although fans are excited to get back to cheering on their favorite teams at home games, it is still uncertain if they will be able to since COVID regulations are changing almost daily and vary by city and state.

Players and coaching staff will have to endure daily COVID tests and anyone who tests positive will either need two negative tests to return to the court or endure a minimum ten day quarantine.