



THE GROVE GAZETTE

Selinsgrove Area High School Student Newspaper

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Selinsgrove Welcomes Exchange Students

Savanna Foor

Selinsgrove High School recently welcomed three exchange students to school. Fanny from Belgium, Yuri from Italy, and Enrico from Germany will be living the "American Life" until the end of May.

Imagine leaving your everyday life for almost a year; the normality you know basically gone as you live a year abroad at a young age. Fanny, Yuri, and Enrico all chose this new lifestyle for similar reasons, they wanted to experience the typical American life. They were asked questions about their experiences so far:



Fanny Mayeur
(Belgium):

What is your favorite part of Selinsgrove so far? "I would say the students. When I arrived they were all very welcoming and accept-

ed me. We had an exchange student at my school in Belgium last year and the students weren't as kind to him, so I'm glad that I'm being welcomed."

Did you go through culture shock when you arrived? "Too many burgers and chicken fingers! I'm just kidding, but maybe the fact that everyone has a car here. In Belgium we are very aware of the environment and what we do, so when I saw that some families have more cars than people, I was shocked."

How similar is Selinsgrove to your home life? "Nothing is similar, it is completely different. The food is different, the school is different, every way of life is different. And that's perfect for me because it is exactly why I'm here. I want to discover new things and here it's possible."



Photo by Lindsey Trusal

Yuri Bertacchi
(Italy):

What is your favorite part of Selinsgrove so far? "The school is my favorite. I enjoy all of the students here!"

Did you go through culture shock when you arrived? "I was very shocked. It is nothing like my life in Italy. Everything is different here, both the food and houses."

How similar is Selinsgrove to your home life? "It is very different, but that is why I came here. I enjoy how everything is different. It gave me a new appreciation."

Enrico Kowarschik (Germany):



Photo by Lindsey Trusal

What is your favorite part of Selinsgrove so far?

"School spirit at the football games. I loved crowd surfing and seeing how excited everyone gets."

Did you go through culture shock when you arrived? "I wasn't too shocked because I knew what to expect. It's definitely different, but I wasn't that shocked."

How similar is Selinsgrove to your home life? "It is very different. I came here to improve my English and to see the cultured American high school, but overall nothing is similar to life in Germany."

Grove Gazette Editorial Staff

News Editors: Savanna Foor & Dan Napsha

Sports Editor: Angelo Martin

Opinion/Editorial Editor: Isabel Bailey

Graphics Editor: Lindsey Trusal

The Grove Gazette is a student organized newspaper. If you are interested in working for the Grove Gazette as a writer, editor, or photographer, please join us during the first half of lunch on **Thursday, October 1, 2015** in Room 222 for our next meeting. You can also email Mr. Switala at wswitala@seal-pa.org if you cannot make the meeting.

Market Street Gathering in the Grove

Liz Whitmer

On Saturday, September 26th, join the festivities on Market Street to support our town's small businesses and school clubs.

The 37th annual Market Street Festival is anticipated to be just as successful as it has been in past years. Starting at 8:30 in the morning, you can expect to be surrounded by great food, fun activities, and the amiable people of Selinsgrove until the festival wraps up at 4:00 that afternoon.



Photo by Lindsey Trusal

The headquarters of the Market Street Festival

The High School Key Club will be there three hours before the celebration begins, even though they won't be running a booth this year. The members of this club, led by their advisor, Mrs. Hepner, will be aiding vendors set up their booths and directing people from out-of-town.

Another helpful group, the Student Council, will be there to both assist vendors set up their booths and run one of their own. Their golf putting game, which was there last year, will be just one of the many fun activities.

To kick off the morning with some entertainment, the High School Marching

Band will be performing as people arrive. The Selinsgrove Dance studio, The Jonah Roth Band, Burns Tae Kwan Do, and many other live performances will also make appearances throughout the day.

Although goldfish and large stuffed animals are popular souvenirs from the Street Fair, you can also make pieces of pottery thanks to the National Art Honors Society. Lessons will be held in front of the Brew Pub, and you'll have the choice of getting your pottery fired and glazed for a slight charge.

The Future Business Leaders of America will have a booth designated to sell their cake wheel, bracelets, miniature schools, and a few other activities that are to be a surprise.

You can get a taste, literally, of other cultures when you stop at the booths run by the French Club and German Club/Honor Society. Take advantage of the opportunity to try new foods, get your face painted, and talk to your peers who are the most knowledgeable on these different cultures. Senior Lilly Dawson, President of the French Club, explained that they will have "crepes, croissants, pain au chocolat, oh my! The French booth has the best desserts by far... We hope to see you there!"

There will also be the chance to see some of SAHS's very own in the dunk tank. Ms. Robbins and Mr. Switala will be in there from 10:30 to 11:30am and 11:30 to 12:30pm.

Be sure to make your way down to the Market Street Festival this Saturday, September 26th from 8:30 in the morning to 4:00 p.m. to celebrate all our town has to offer – you won't want to miss it!

How to Survive Freshman Year...

Sydney Reibschied

To future and current freshman: Welcome to high school! Don't worry, there are no "Freshman Fridays" where you will be stuck in a locker for two periods or thrown into a trashcan.

High school is an environment that is completely different from how movies portray it. As a junior in high school, I have experienced freshman year and can give you some advice to make your life a bit easier.

1. Don't seclude yourself to the same five people you spent middle school with, or only the people on your sports team. Some of the best relationships I have made in high school were the ones that happened naturally.
2. Get involved. Clubs can be a great resource to get involved in the community, find your passion, or connect with other people.
3. Do not stop in the middle of the hallway. As trivial as this sounds, this is an important way to keep traffic to a minimum and upperclassman happy.
4. Respect everyone. You are not better than your peers and there is no popularity contest going on. Do not disrespect the teacher to be funny, as this just disturbs class and wastes your time to get work done in class.

5. Grades do matter. Learn how to study and be prepared to do a lot of work.

6. Use your lunchtime efficiently. You were blessed with this one-hour lunch to finish homework early, work on projects, meet with teachers, or get tutored. Do not just socialize or sit with your significant other. Time management is key.
7. Stay out of drama. Drama changes a bit in context from middle school to high school and gets a lot more complicated. The best way to handle it is to stay out of it.
8. Choose your courses wisely. Take classes that interest you and make sure your schedule is manageable but rigorous.
9. Reduce your stress as much as you can. Freshman year can be overwhelming but it's always helpful to take a breath and realize you can handle it.
10. Most importantly, remember to have fun. Go to dances, football games, and social events. Selinsgrove does know how to have fun!



Presidential Hopefuls Ready to Debate

Daniel Napsha

The 2016 race for the White House is ramping up as candidates approach the six-month mark until Super Tuesday, when a great majority of states hold their primary election.

The Republican Party finally appears level-grounded after their second primary debate on September 16, which elevated former Hewlett-Packard head Carly Fiorina to second place in national polls, right behind businessman Donald Trump. Trump formally announced his bid for candidacy over the summer in June, shaking up the already crowded field.

Since then, the other candidates have fought an uphill battle to shift attention away from the loquacious Trump, who has managed to rouse the American people through his controversial comments on women and religion, as well as minority groups like Hispanics and immigrants. The top Republican contenders will debate again next month, on October 28, in Colorado, on topics relating to the economy.

On the Democratic Party side, the game has changed dramatically since the spring. Hillary Rodham Clinton is struggling to maintain her slim lead in key early states such as Iowa and New Hampshire. Furthermore, Clinton's likeability and trustworthiness among voters has fallen to a historic low amid questions about her private email server.

Though Clinton recently lamented her decision to keep her own servers, her apology has not resonated with voters.

On the other hand, Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders is gaining momentum particularly among liberal, millennial voters who appeal to his democratic-socialist rhetoric. Sanders has notably drawn crowds into the tens of thousands in strong liberal havens across the country, like Brooklyn and Portland. Though Sanders is actively building a strong voter base, Clinton still dominates the media coverage overall, even trumping "the Donald" himself.

The Democratic candidates, including Sanders and Clinton, will debate for the first time next month, on October 13.

Though still in the early days, talk of the election is overheard at Selinsgrove, too, in American history courses and at lunch. One student, Junior Maggie Frymoyer, offers her opinion: "This is a much different election than in 2012, at least for me. As I get older and learn more about issues, it's harder to blindly support a candidate."

Asked whom she would vote for if she had the chance, she proudly says Sanders, apparently disregarding her water bottle, clad with a rainbow Clinton campaign logo.

Current Presidential Hopefuls

2016 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL RACE

THE DEMOCRATS



HILLARY CLINTON



BERNIE SANDERS



MARTIN O'MALLEY



LINCOLN CHAFEE



THE REPUBLICANS



TED CRUZ



RAND PAUL



MARCO RUBIO



BEN CARSON



CARLY FIORINA



MIKE HUCKABEE



RICK SANTORUM



GEORGE PATAKI



LINDSEY GRAHAM



RICK PERRY



JEB BUSH



DONALD TRUMP



BOBBY JINDAL



CHRIS CHRISTIE

VOA

Image courtesy of Voice of America

To learn more about each candidate, click on this link:

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/your-guide-to-the-2016-presidential-candidates/article/2564959>

Swimming with the Fishes

Lexi Hoffman

With the beginning of September, fishing season commenced in Taiji, Japan; however, unlike in Snyder County, this Japanese tradition leads to the slaughter and capture by fisherman, for both dolphinariums (aquariums for dolphins that specialize in public displays) and meat.

In the early morning, fishermen and dolphin trainers leave the Taiji cove to hunt the dolphins. Using sound barriers to herd the pods into hidden lagoons the trainers evaluate the catch, deciding which dolphins are the most appealing. Typically they choose the ones that look like Flipper, a bottle nosed dolphin, to sell to aquariums around the world for as high as \$200,000.

Once finished with the selection, the remaining dolphins are killed, butchered, and sold for food even though the consumption of the meat is very dangerous to ingest due to the high levels of mercury found in it.

The season begins in September and ends in May. During this time, up to 20,000 dolphins are captured and killed. The small group of fisherman, about one sixth of the fishing industry in the small town of Taiji, is responsible for making the town the dolphin slaughtering capital of the world.

Traditionally, the townspeople were whalers, traveling out on small

boats to catch one whale at a time to use as a source of food. The slaying of the dolphins for commercial purposes began after the creation of the motorboat engine, allowing for one generation of people to participate.



Slaughtering dolphins is a tradition for some in Japan

The concept of people committing massacres in the name of tradition is nothing new to history, but still some Selinsgrove students are not happy. Junior Lauren Rowe spoke to the *Grove Gazette* on this issue: "I understand that the culture and tradition of people should be respected, but the dolphin massacres in Taiji far surpass the limitations of ethical cultural behavior. The use of culture as an excuse for these killings does not nearly justify the inhumanity and brutality involved," Rowe said.

Today, the captive dolphin industry is driving the economic force of the massacres.

Plight of the Fleeing Syrians

Nia Thomas

The flood of refugees coming from Syria, a country torn apart by civil war, poverty, and religious extremism is being called one of the worst refugee floods in history.

An estimated 4.1 million Syrian refugees have immigrated to escape escalating violence caused by the civil war in the country in this year alone. In the past four years an estimated 16 million Syrian refugees have been displaced. Syrians now make up the largest refugee population currently in the world. Half of the refugees fleeing are children under the age of 18.

The country receiving the most refugees is Turkey. The estimated 1.9 million refugees that are displaced in the country came from the border that is shared between Syria and Turkey. Lebanon, another country that shares a border with Syria, has taken in 1.1 million refugees, about 25% of their own population.

The top European countries to take in refugees is Germany, Sweden, and Hungary. Both Germany and Sweden have pledged to take in more refugees. Hungary has erected a wire fence

and a permanent police presence on the border that is connected to Serbia, a controversial decision that has horrified and created backlash from human rights activists. America itself has only taken in about 1,500 refugees over the past four years. President Obama has set a quota to receive up to 75,000 refugees.



Family members react after finding dead brother on shore

To get to a place of safety, many refugees will take a harrowing journey across both sea and land, with many not surviving the journey. One of the most recent cases included a three-year-old boy who drowned off the coast of Turkey along with his five-year-old brother

and mother when the boat they were using to leave the country capsized.

In August, a truck full of 71 dead, believed to be suffocated, refugees was found on the side of the road in Austria. These stories account for only a few of the deaths and terrors that have been faced by Syrian refugees.

The Syrian nation, and people, have an ancient and long legacy that is now threatened to be totally destroyed and abandoned due to inner turmoil that is decimating itself.

SPORTS

Coach Hicks Era Begins with Hot Start

Angelo Martin

Getting the job in February, new Seals football coach Derek Hicks certainly knew that he was acquiring a very talented roster when he signed the contract.

Bringing in a new coaching staff looking to implement new ideas, Coach Hicks has gotten off to a 3-0 start. This makes him only one of two coaches in Selinsgrove's rich history to win his first three games as head coach. One would have to look all the way back to 1943 when Tom Valunas won his first three games as head coach.

The Selinsgrove Seals opened their season on a hot September 4th night against the Central Columbia Blue Jays. Debuting a new offense looking to spread the ball around, the Seals were able to easily handle the Blue Jays. Selinsgrove was led by senior running back Angelo Martin, who finished the game with a career high 179 yards on 29 carries.

The Seals receiving corps were also heavily used for the first time in several years. Senior receiver Nick Swineford led the team with 5 receptions for 85 yards and a touchdown. Senior captain Colin Hoke was also involved by keeping drives alive with a couple key third down receptions. Perhaps the biggest star of the night was senior leader Jack Gaugler, who led the team with 11 tackles, several for loss, and opened huge holes in the running game for the Seals.

The following week, the Seals would take on a physical Mount Carmel team. Unable to move the ball against an aggressive Mount Carmel defense, Selinsgrove was saved by their defense and would enter the 4th quarter tied 0-0. Mount Carmel was able to score to put them ahead 7-0 with six minutes to go.

Despite that, the Selinsgrove coaching staff didn't panic. This calmed the Seals down and allowed sophomore phenom quarterback Logan Leiby to get to work. After a couple quick throws over the middle to move the ball into Mount Carmel territory, Leiby was able to find Colin Hoke deep to make the score 7-7. After the Seals defense held the Red Tornadoes to a quick three-and-out, the Seals got the ball back with good field position.

After several completions to receivers Nick Swineford and Colin Hoke, the Seals went back to the running game, where running back Angelo Martin

ripped off a 20 yard run to put Selinsgrove at the 8-yard line. The next play, Leiby found tight end Tony Dressler on an out-route that would put the Seals ahead 14-7 and would prove to be the winning score.

"After having success with the run the play before, Mount Carmel walked their linebackers up to the line of scrimmage. Our offensive coordinator Coach (Derek) Pope recognized this, so he called a play-action pass that was wide open. It could not have been better scripted," noted quarterback Logan Leiby.

In their third game of the season, the Seals faced their archrival Shikellamy for the "Rally in the Valley" trophy. Senior sensation Juvon Batts started the game by running the opening kickoff back 88 yards for a touchdown. From there, the Seals would never look back. Utilizing a new spread offense, the Seals were able to gash the Brave defense with big play after big play.



Senior Juvon Batts turns the corner against Shik

Selinsgrove finished the game with six different people getting involved in the scoring effort, an unseen event from last year. Defensive lineman Jacob Strickler was the biggest force for the Seals, finishing the game with 12 tackles, four of which were for loss and one that included a sack on a key third down. Senior linebackers Ethan Trautman and Jack Gaugler finished the game with seven tackles each, and were instrumental in holding the Braves to just nine points. In the end, the 45-9 victory over Shikellamy boosted the morale of an already flying high Selinsgrove team.

With key games against Berwick and Montoursville coming up, the Seals will look to build on their new found confidence that is higher than it has been in years.



Field Hockey Continues Dominance

Sam Rodkey

Another season is underway in the Coach Cathy Keiser era for the Selinsgrove field hockey team, and with a strong core group of players back for this year's squad, the Seals will surely be in the hunt for their 11th straight District IV title

The Seals will miss the presence of their strong senior class from last season, as five of the seven went on to continue their careers at the collegiate level. Selinsgrove returns many key players from last year's state qualifying team including the senior Captains Lexi Horst, Lindsey Trusal, and Tesa Hoffman. Horst and Hoffman both were all-state honorable mentions from last season, and will look to be the driving force of this year's success.



Senior Captains: Lindsey Trusal, Lexi Horst, Tesa Hoffman

"Megan (Kahn) has really been huge for us this season. She has anchored our midfield attack and has really helped fill a huge void left by the strong senior class from last year," said senior Tesa Hoffman.

Underclassmen have also played a big role in the success that Selinsgrove has had thus far. Freshman Megan Hoffman has worked her way into the starting lineup creating plays and opportunities. Others that have stepped up to make an impact on the team this season including junior midfielder Savannah Bucher, freshman goalie Camryn Ritter, and freshman midfielder Elise Keeney, who has logged many minutes next to her sister junior Megan Keeney.

The Seals began the season with a hot start (5-1), their only loss coming at the hands of perennial state power, Crestwood High School. Junior midfielder Megan Kahn, a 1st Team Heartland Conference selection a year ago, has been praised by her captains for her tremendous start to the season.

The future is bright for Selinsgrove field hockey as they will be looking to win the District IV title for the 11th year in a row. The Lady Seals will be back in action on their home turf on Monday, September 28th at 7pm under the stadium lights.

Lady Seals Tennis Looks to Rebound

Angelo Martin

Led by legendary tennis coach Duke Fravel, Selinsgrove has opened the season to a bit of a rocky start. With a current team record of 4-5, the Lady Seals will look to build some momentum in their next couple matches as they approach postseason play.

Selinsgrove would start the season fast, defeating Jersey Shore in the first match of the season. A loss to Danville later in the week would be made up by two key victories over league opponents Shikellamy and Central Mountain.

From there, the Lady Seals would drop three straight, with losses at the hands of Milton, Williamsport, and Hughesville. Avenging their first loss of the season, Selinsgrove would defeat Danville decisively in their second match with the Ironmen, but two losses followed against Central Mountain and Bloomsburg respectively.

Starting for the Lady Seals in singles competition have been juniors Olivia Fravel and Savanna Foor, along with sophomore Marlo Ptacin. Fravel and Foor are both 3-6 on the season while Ptacin is 1-8. In doubles competition, juniors Sydney Reibschied and Isabel Bailey have provided a bright spot for Selinsgrove.

Reibschied and Bailey have paired a record of 8-1 thus far. Behind them has been sophomore Meredith Lemons and exchange student Fanny Meyeur, who have contributed with a record of 2-6 so far this season.

"While we haven't gotten off to the best start, I think we have a young group of core players that are gaining valuable varsity experience that will be helpful in the future. We just haven't been able to build any momentum yet. Hopefully, we can start to gain some chemistry and turn the season around before its too late," said Reibschied.

Under the guidance of head coach Duke Fravel, the Lady Seals will hope to steer the ship in the right direction while also improving from match to match.



Junior Sydney Reibschied uses a powerful stroke to stun her opponents

Seals Golf Hungry for Three-Peat Gold

By: David Klinger

While some students and people in the area tend to neglect sports that aren't in the spotlight, the Selinsgrove golf team year-in and year-out has been incredibly competitive.

Believe it or not, but the Selinsgrove golf team has been one of the winningest programs in Selinsgrove sports history. With another season underway, the Selinsgrove golf team enters again with very high expectations.

The team looks very promising this year with senior returners Logan Sears and Aaron Zechman leading the group and is currently sitting at a record of 20-0.

The Selinsgrove golf team, whose varsity roster is packed with elite golfers, consists of seniors Logan Sears, Aaron Zechman, Garrett Benner, and Brandon Deans, along with junior Kyle Mertz and sophomore Roman Reeder.

This team has brought home two district gold medals the past two years and is in the hunt for a third this season. Team captain Sears, praised by teammate Zechman, "is one of the top contenders in the district," and thus has a shot at placing at regionals.

For those that might not understand golf, a round of golf consists of 18 holes, each of which has a certain amount of shots that each player must meet or be under to attain a good score for the match. For a general understanding of a good score in golf, the number one PGA golfer currently has an average score of 69.

As for our high school golfers, Logan Sears has shot a 73 and 75 in his past two matches, with Zechman, Mertz, and Reeder not far behind with scores in the 80s.

A key new addition to the team this year has been senior Garrett Benner. A first year golfer, Benner has been



Senior Logan "Tiger" Sears prowls the links in search of another birdie

successful all season long by giving the Seals much needed depth and scoring in the mid- to high-80s.

"I just like to contribute to the team in every way I possibly can and help bring repeat gold medals to Selins-

grove. Guys like Logan (Sears) and Aaron (Zechman) have really been helpful in making my conversion to golf easy," said first year varsity player Garrett Benner.

The nature of the high school golf season is short and sweet, and as such, the team has already completed four of a total of six regular season matches. Each match in the regular season has a total of six teams participating in it, so the winning team of the match finishes with a record of 5-0, thus making the Seals golf team an undefeated 20-0.

Their remaining two matches are on September 21st at home at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club and in Clinton County on September 28th. Sears is hopeful for the end of the season, hoping to "finish 30-0 and win districts. Then we will move onto regionals where we will look to make a run there."

The golf team is indeed very hungry for gold and hopes to win the regional competition after a three-peat District championship so they can make their first appearance at the PIAA state competition.

Seals Cross Country on the Right Track

Grace O'Malley

The 2015 Selinsgrove Cross-Country season is underway and both the girl's and boy's teams will be in competition for Heartland Conference and District IV titles again this year.

On the boy's side, Selinsgrove returns senior standout Brody Beiler, who is looking stronger than ever this season. Last year, he finished 13th in the District 4 meet and 11th at the Heartland Conference Invitational. Hoping to make a strong start to the season, Beiler hopes to get back to the PIAA State Championships where he competed as a sophomore. The Seals will also look to juniors Brice Harro and Garrett Campbell as well as sophomore Ethan Jenkins to round out the rest of the team.

"I feel as though our preseason training this season has really helped pre-

pare us for the upcoming weeks. We seem to have a good mix of runners, and I think there should be a lot of personal records out on the track," said Beiler.

On the girl's side, Selinsgrove returns three of their top four runners from last year. Senior Jackie Waple and sophomores Skylar Maurer and Brittany Carnathan will all look to be major contributors this season in Selinsgrove's chase of District and League titles. Unfortunately, junior Ashley Blair, who finished 19th in the state last season, will have to sit out the entire season due to injury. Head coach Ryan McGuire will also look to freshman Rachel Domaracki to round out his top five.

With a good core group of runners on both the girl's and boy's side, the Selinsgrove Cross-Country team will look to impress many throughout the area.

Sisters Headline Talented Roster

Dawson Klinger



The 2015-2016 Lady Seals soccer season is underway, and while there are plenty of interesting stories throughout the Heartland Conference, none is more unique than the five different sets of sisters that help make up this year's Selinsgrove team.

Senior striker Lexie Williard is accompanied this year by her freshman sister Maddie Williard. Freshman Leah Hepner joins the ranks and will play alongside her junior sister Paige Hepner. Senior Lilly Dawson and junior Teagan Dawson also make up a third duo, while Senior Paetyn Klinger and sophomore Piper Klinger also hope to be a wrecking force on the field. Sophomore Irene Guo and her freshman sister, Jami make up the fifth and final set of sisters on the team this year.

"Honestly it has been so much fun to be able to play alongside my sister. I've never been so proud of her, and it's even better because now I can share her achievements with her on and off the field. It's a great feeling knowing my sister is my teammate. She truly is an inspiration to me and makes me want to play better," said senior standout Lexi Williard.

The Lady Seals opened their season on Labor Day weekend by winning the Bellefonte Tournament. They beat Juniata 4-3 behind two goals from Lexie Williard. They would then cruise in the second

game on their way to getting the their fifth consecutive tournament win at Bellefonte by beating Dubois 8-2.

Three freshman got off to a hot start to their season and careers. Marley Sprenkel and Lexy Hunselman notched three goals and Maddie Williard totaled four assists on the day.

On Monday September 14th, the Lady Seals lost their first game of the season to Williamsport by a score of 2-0. They would then bounce back on the 16th by defeating Milton 6-0. This game featured a variety of goal scorers, as junior Sam Rodkey picked up her third goal of the season and sophomore Caitlyn Findlay and freshman Hannah Grove scored their first goals of the season. Lexie and Maddie Williard each scored and Lexy Hunselman notched her fourth goal of the season, a team high.

On Thursday the 17th, their third game of the week, the Lady Seals defeated Shikellamy 2-1 in a double overtime thriller to bring their record to 4-1. Hannah Grove scored the first goal, and Caitlyn Findlay scored the golden goal to seal the victory.

Although they have lost a solid senior class that included HAC-1 First Team All-Star Midfielder Nicki Krebs and All-State Defender Alicia Torruella, there is enough returning talent and upcoming freshman for the Lady Seals to make a run at District gold. In addition, with the return of 1st Team HAC-1 All-Star Sam Rodkey, captains Emma Humphrey, Lexie Williard, Tayla Derr, and Erin Beaver, and Sophomores Caitlyn Findlay and Courtnei Hamm, the Lady Seals enter the heart of their schedule with one of their most talented rosters in years.

The Lady Seals will be back in action at home on Monday, September 28th at 4:30pm in front of the High School.



Photo by Ben Kinble

Top Row: Maddie Williard, Leah Hepner, Teagan Dawson, Piper Klinger, Jami Guo

Bottom Row: Lexi Williard, Paige Hepner, Lilli Dawson, Paetyn Klinger, Irene Guo

Boys Soccer Hopes and Dreams

Marley Sprenkel



“Never give up on your dreams,” has been a common motto that the Selinsgrove Boys soccer team has been saying often this season.

With one of their most talented rosters in years, the Seals have set the bar high. Hoping to bring home District gold for the first time since 2008, the Seals will be expected to be a major force in District IV all season long.

While the Seals come into the season having graduated key players Manny Little and Zach Hendricks, not all is lost. Selinsgrove returns its senior captain and preseason PHAC all-star Jonah Markle along with its star-studded front made up of juniors Gavin Keller and Dawson Klinger.

This year’s freshman class has also been a great addition to the team. Freshman starter Kolton Elsayed has been solid thus far, while first year goalie Connor Vanviji has filled the shoes of Zach Hendricks very well.

Junior newcomer Leo Times has also been key this season and has given the Seals much needed depth in the back on defense. With this strong group of core players, the Seals have all the makings to be a terrorizing force in the Central Susquehanna Valley.

The season started off with the Clinton County Cup tournament where Selinsgrove was able to bring home the gold for the first time in three years. Markle, Klinger, and Vanzijl, all came up big throughout the tournament.

In the first game, junior striker Steven Pomykalski and senior standout Jonah Markle added a goal each to get the win over Bloomsburg 2-1. In the second game, freshman Kolton Elsayed notched his first varsity goal while tenacious striker Dawson Klinger was able to score twice in the game against Huntington to seal the 3-0 win and capture the tournament championship.

The Seals played their first league game on Tuesday, September 15th, against Central Mountain where they suffered their first loss 2-0. In the game, Connor Vanziji was touted for his six-save performance.

On Thursday September 17th, Selinsgrove took on their cross-river rival Shikellamy. Dawson Klinger added a goal, but the Seals would suffer a heartbreaking 2-1 loss.

“Last year’s season was solid as it was good to get back to Districts after not making it the previous season. It was very upsetting to not win the league, but the 10-8 record is one that I think we can build on this year,” said Klinger.

All in all, the Selinsgrove Boys soccer team is shooting for the stars and hoping to be a major contender in District IV. The team will be back in action at home on Tuesday, September 29th at 4pm in front of the High School.



Photo by Carrie Pardoe

The Boys Soccer Team celebrates their hard-fought Clinton County Cup Championship

ENTERTAINMENT

Student Profiles

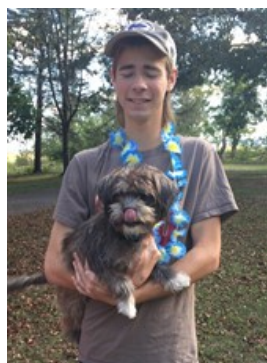
Aidan Finnerty: Senior, Male

List one word to describe how your first month of this school year is going. *A breeze.*

What do you and your friends usually talk about during lunch? *The group usually picks a topic controversial enough to get Johnny opinionated and subsequently removed from the library.*

What class so far gives you the most anxiety? *French I without a doubt.*

What is your viewpoint on "Football Fridays"? *I think Friday night football is something that is cultural, and creates an exhilarating atmosphere to be in regardless of whether or not you even enjoy watching football. To clarify, I do enjoy watching football as stop and go as it may be.*



Emily Johnson: Junior, Female

List one word to describe how your first month of this school year is going. *Apprehensively.*

What do you and your friends usually talk about during lunch? *Politics, college, our classes, and upcoming events.*

What class so far gives you the most anxiety? *AP Biology.*

What is your viewpoint on "Football Fridays"? *I feel some people over romanticize the idea of high school football but I still like to get into the game and just have some fun with it.*

If you could invent a school club, what would it be? *I would want to create a club for rowing to increase the knowledge about it and add more active team members for our local rowing team.*



Gus Troppe: Sophomore, Male

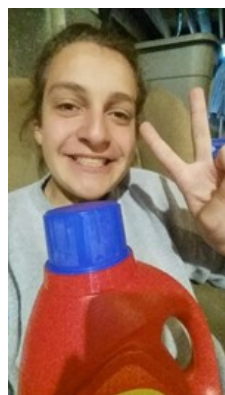
List one word to describe how your first month of this school year is going. *Sadly.*

What do you and your friends usually talk about during lunch? *Politics and T.V shows.*

What class so far gives you the most anxiety? *Algebra II Level 2.*

What is your viewpoint on "Football Fridays"? *It's a bit much.*

If you could invent a school club, what would it be? *Mac De-marco and Guacamole club.*



Elise Keeney: Freshmen, Female

List one word to describe how your first month of this school year is going. *Awesome.*

What do you and your friends usually talk about during lunch? *My friends and I talk about whatever is on our minds, we have a lot in common.*

What class so far gives you the most anxiety? *WHAGLISH I*

What is your viewpoint on "Football Fridays"? *They are really good to attend, and a fun time when all grade levels can come together and bond over the course of a game, and do that while supporting our very own school.*

If you could invent a school club, what would it be? *A club where we could all hang out and come together as a school.*





My Turn by Isabel Bailey

On Fridays the whole town gathers (whether nine months or ninety years old) at the Selinsgrove High School football stadium dressed in red and blue.

Our students have a whole section at the bleachers solely for us to cheer from, surrounded by caution tape before the game even starts -- our fifty-yard line section -- a territorial boundary. The student section dresses in a theme, a black-out, neon-out, beach-out, or, like two weeks ago, an American-out.

The student section is spirited and fun. But the student section isn't the only group embracing these football games; the band works endless hours practicing their songs and routines, adding an element of celebratory excitement to the crowd.

Parents, grand-parents, babies, kids, and high school graduates all come to these games, enthused and elated from the high of a touchdown.

The answer as to why football is so glorified is more than just that our country loves it, if one takes a deeper look, it is part of our DNA, this sense of winning.

The Prehistoric men would go out of their caves with the intention of killing an animal to bring it back for the family. Male animals fight one another for a female mate. The Romans watched as slaves battled for the kill in the coliseums. The Spaniards raged on and on about bullfights, gathering to watch the matador pierce the bull. Cave women would watch as their male partners fought others to resolve disputes.

These events, these brutal fights, are the heritage of our human nature as they instilled in us, men especially, to go and kill an animal and bring the victory back to their village.

It is evident then, why we, the village, the hometown, honor our running back, wide receiver, and quarterback for scoring a touchdown. He has, in effect, killed an animal and brought back for the people to eat, and therefore they can live.

In prehistoric times, this was survival. Is it then safe to say that football, for many, is a continuation of this sense of survival? Our DNA says maybe so, that this sport is a prolongation of the ways of the coliseum or the

adrenaline of the bull fights. It is evident, then, why football is so much more esteemed than basketball, baseball, or tennis. These sports are all smart and interesting, but not exactly the criteria for cultural evolution.

Football is the closest our culture can get to the cultures we evolved from. For many fans, it doesn't occur to them that football is derived from an onslaught of our DNA, because it is so engrained in them -- this hitting, running, scoring, and winning is reflective of the demands of society.

Tennis does not exert the same type of glory; it is not killing an animal, tackling, and being rewarded

with a touchdown or praise from the village for bringing home food. Thirty-Love in tennis does not extract the same excitement as twenty-eight to zero does in football. This is all because football is the closest aspect of hunting and bringing back to the village that our culture can get.



Photo by Kyle Mertz

Friday night savages show their pride vs Shikellamy

So the question must be asked:

"Is this morally right?" Take away morals, and it's perfectly understandable. We are partly derived from a culture in which "the ends justify the means," as Machiavelli would say. An evolution of culture is natural, and therefore cannot be put in terms of good or bad, but it is understandable. Morally, it could be a bit of a stretch to look at football as a passing grade in ethics.

Hitting others, all dressing in the same uniform, and the conformity that the helmet produces isn't exactly morals at its finest. But if one looks at football in the sense of a great quarterback throwing an amazing pass completion, the student section bursting like confetti at a Beach-themed party, the band pulsating music to rile up the crowd, and the older crowd raising their fists in the air to salute the success, then it is a wonderful, fun, and spiritual event.

Football, it is safe to say, in one term or another, will always be an aspect of our society. If we are going to celebrate it as much as we do, though, it should be understood as to why. Whether in sports, politics, religion, or intellectual advancement, a touchdown for a community is always rewarding, and for a slow motion second, it is all that matters, a victory, but more than that, a mutual sense of accomplishment.