

The Leonid

Bishop Canevin High School

March 2022

Vol. 61, No. 3

Celebrating Black History

Carolyn Bigley | Co-Editor-in-Chief



Captivating poet, Amanda Gorman, reading her poem “The Hill We Climb” at Joe Biden’s inauguration. (Photo via Getty Images)



The beautiful, determined Mary Jackson—who was the first Black female engineer to work at NASA. (Photo via NASA)



The entire BC school community participated in a Door Decorating Competition in honor of Black History Month. Mrs. Beck’s homeroom won with its information on boxer Muhammad Ali.

In honor of Black History Month, the *Leonid* would like to celebrate by honoring some influential black figures of our time. With bravery and resilience, these individuals continue to make history while also simultaneously navigating through oppressive systems and battling racism in modern society.

Twenty-three year old Amanda Gorman is an award-winning author, activist and the youngest inaugural poet in all of America’s history. Gorman’s love for writing began when she was a young child, as it gave her a way to express herself, her own struggles and her passions. Gorman’s works deal with various themes of social injustice—racial inequality, misogyny and climate issues. She read her iconic poem, “The Hill We Climb,” at President Joe Biden’s inauguration. Urging for change and understanding, the breathtaking poem perfectly encapsulates the country’s state of divisive hate. After this, Gorman went on to perform at the Super Bowl, co-host the annual Met Gala and continue to inspire society by publishing more of her captivating works of literature. (Britannica.com)

Madam C. J. Walker, born in 1867, was the first

black woman to become a millionaire in America. As a child, Walker experienced immense hair loss. Because of this, she was driven to create hair care products made specifically for black women. Her products quickly became very popular amongst the black community. With her new fortune, Walker poured her earnings into scholarships and charities to benefit women and the African American community. (History.com)

Mary Jackson was the first black female engineer to work at NASA. After graduating from her high school at the top of her class, Jackson went on to earn her mathematics and physics degrees. After a series of work experiences, she became inspired to become an engineer. Due to Virginia’s segregation laws at the time, Jackson was required to acquire special permission to be able to attend school with white students. Upon finishing her classes, she started her work in aerospace engineering. After twenty years of this, Mary became manager of NASA’s women’s programs. Her work at NASA paved the way for the next generations of African American women. (Britannica.com)

Malcom X was a human rights activist and min-

ister who revolutionized the Civil Rights Movement with his speeches. Malcom X captivated audiences with his moving speeches regarding racism and social injustice, urging for the complete liberation of Black people from the hands of racism by any means necessary. His efforts changed the Civil Rights Movement and would impact the racial justice movement for years to come. (Biography.com)

Dr. Kizzmekia S. Corbett forges new frontiers in medicine in times of crisis while being the Head of the Coronavirus Vaccines and Immunopathogenesis Team at the National Institutes of Health. Corbett has a total of fifteen years of experience in research regarding dengue virus, respiratory syncytial virus, influenza and coronavirus. Corbett spent years developing coronavirus vaccines which would very quickly become crucial to combatting the recent COVID-19 outbreak. Corbett’s coronavirus vaccine developments, dealing with mRNA-1273, were used for Moderna’s COVID-19 vaccine. (ASM)

While February is Black History Month, let us not forget that all year is the time to celebrate Black lives, history and culture!

Travel Without Ever Leaving BC

Molly Frick | Staff Reporter

No passport is needed for a full week of international activities, food, sports and more. The International Club was started in 2017 by Spanish teacher Claire Barber. Barber wanted the International Club to throw a week-long celebration right here on Bishop Canevin's campus.

"I especially found this idea intriguing because I have a very large passion for traveling and learning of new cultures/traditions. We are now on our 5th straight year having the week!" Barber said.

This year, International Week had to be postponed due to the overlap with Catholic Schools Week.

This fun-filled week will now be held in April. The International Week lineup is similar to past years with activities like the International Fair, a soccer World Cup and the International Mass. During the week, Bishop Canevin students will also have "the opportunity to find multiple passports hidden around the school each day."

"If all goes according to plan we plan to continue celebrating more holidays, such as Cinco De Mayo and St. Patrick's Day," President Mac Johnson said.

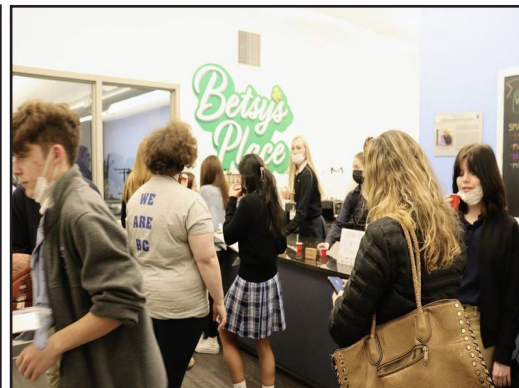
Overall, International Week has many entertaining events planned and you do not want to miss it!



Keep an eye out for the above photograph representing Bishop Canevin on billboards around town!

Bishop Canevin Students Shine at the BC Showcase

Ava Gaitens | Staff Reporter



"The Bishop Canevin community is at its best at being just that...THE BEST," Showcase creator and Chairperson Sharon Gaitens said.

With over 80 students, 40 parents, coaches, faculty, staff, alumni and even grandparents volunteering for the Showcase, we knew that we had something special to offer.

Passersbys could not help but take in the magnificent glow of the BC Campus as 200 luminaria illuminated Morange Road to welcome prospective families to an evening of educational excitement with the possibilities of an even brighter future as a member of the Crusader family.

The fourth (*COVID prevented the 2021 Showcase) winter marketing event proved to be an incredible success. "Experience Our Excellence" was not just a phrase, but rather an invitation to prospective students in grades 5-11 to truly see what being a student at Bishop Canevin High School had to offer.

"The evening was meant to be different than an Open House. It was our goal that from beginning to end, parents and students were warmly greeted with true BC fanfare, engaged by Parent and Student Docents, educated on the value of a Bishop Canevin education, verbally invited by Coaches, Moderators and Students to join organizations, and to have a hands-on experience which parallels the classroom curriculum or subject content," Gaitens said. "Attendees witnessed demos from BC Students in various Labs, classrooms and Media Studios, as well as participated in brief hands-on

activities and Athletics Stations as a part of the evening."

Missy DeMark served as Co-Chairperson taking over for Holly Skelley who served in the capacity since the inaugural 2018 Showcase. Jarie Konkle, Director of Admissions, did an excellent job as BC Co-Chairperson.

Behind the scenes, Food Chairpersons Lisa Varley, Lynn Frosell and Sara Barbisch took over for the late Linda Battista and prepared the generous family donations of food for the guests, staff, student volunteers and coaches.

The evening began with a cocktail style Welcome Reception where student servers flowed through the crowds offering various cheeses, crackers, baked goods and plated vegetable appetizers to the guests. Other students warmly greeted every prospective family and engaged in friendly conversations about student interests and opportunities.

Promptly at 6:20, the Crusettes and Cheerleaders took their positions, and the Marching Crusaders filled the Gym with Pep Rally and Touchdown tunes, which set the high-energy tone for the evening as the guests took their seats.

As always, Bishop Canevin began its events with a prayer and Principal Welcome. This year's Student Welcome began with the Co-Anchors from BCTV being broadcasted on the large screen which also served as a "real time" photo presentation of the evening's festivities.

The enthusiastic cheers of the BC students filled the gym as the Crusettes performed and the Cheerleaders engaged the crowd.

As prospective families embarked on the tours, the BC student and parent docents proudly shared their personal experiences about Bishop Canevin High School and provided informative details about the academic, athletic, social and spiritual opportunities available to students.

Student volunteers from numerous clubs and organizations filled the hallways with displays of their accomplishments and materials as they conversed with interested families and impressively promoted their specific activities.

Visiting groups were led by the docents to the Innovation Lab, BCTV Studio, model classrooms, state of the art Chemistry and Biology Labs and participated in hands-on activities throughout the evening.

In addition to the classrooms, the families toured the new Michael Maloney Fitness Center, enjoyed delicious smoothies from Betsy's Place and designed personalized wooden keepsakes, which were produced on the laser engraver.

The evening concluded as families exited through a Student Volunteer Clap Out Formation, applauding their participation in the Showcase festivities. Prospective students were given a parting gift in addition to the BC Welcome Merch they received at the Registration.

The Bishop Canevin Showcase captured the very essence and spirit of our school. The fun-filled evening allowed all students to showcase what it means to be a part of the Bishop Canevin family.

The Leonid

The Leonid is a member of Quill and Scroll and the Pennsylvania School Press Association. It is published four times a year by the journalism students at Bishop Canevin High School.
2700 Morange Road, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15205
Phone: (412) 922-7400
The policy of the *Leonid* is to provide a forum for student expression.

Co-Editors-in-Chief

Carolyn Bigley, Mac Johnson

Copy and Design Editors

Grace Ravenstahl, CeCi Sciuillo, Patrick Connell

Managing Editors

Erin LaQuatra, Halle Bergman, Ava Gaitens, Megan McCartney

News Editors

Theresa Skindzier, Patrick Connell, Grace Ravenstahl

Feature Editors

Ava Gaitens, Erin LaQuatra, Halle Bergman

Sports Editors

Geno DeFrank, Luke Andruscik, Molly Frick

Arts & Entertainment Editors

Keyshawn McCaskill, CeCi Sciuillo, Jillian Frosell, Megan McCartney

Opinion Editors

Luke Andruscik, Jillian Frosell, Carolyn Bigley

Review Editors

Renee LaGrosse, Molly Frick, Ella Holzapfel

Copy Editors

Mrs. Charlotte Smith, Carolyn Bigley, Renee LaGrosse, Molly Frick,
Mac Johnson,
Theresa Skindzier

Graphic Artist

Carolyn Bigley

Photographers

Alysha Cutri, Nataley Brock, Violet Chabala, Eli Wilson, Lauren Kirsch

Adviser and Production Director

Mrs. Marguerite Miller

Days Away: A Special Tradition at BC

CeCi Sciuillo | Staff Reporter

A Day Away is a day at school where, instead of classes, students participate in a multitude of activities. There are many fun things students are able to do on a Day Away, such as listening to guest speakers, competing in house competitions, learning life skills and much more.

In September of 2021, there was a Day Away with a Career Fair. A Day Away is a good break from the classroom for the day and an opportunity to learn something different.

“[Days Away are an] opportunity to learn from different people both from Bishop Canevin and outside of Bishop Canevin, who have a variety of different talents. We also try to balance topics that cover things that have an impact here at Bishop Canevin and high school,” Activities and Athletic Director Dale Checketts said.

Days Away are an opportunity for

students to bond with other grade levels and houses. It is a great way to practice social skills and teamwork.

“I think that Days Away should continue, especially because it gives students the opportunity to interact with others they normally don’t,” senior Renee LaGrosse said.

Since Bishop Canevin is small, students get to know students across all grade levels. Days Away help bring students together.

The Day Away tradition is something that only Bishop Canevin has to offer. Days Away are a good change from the tedious school day.

“Over the years I have learned quite a bit, whether it be learning different constellations or essential cooking skills, I really have enjoyed these activities,” LaGrosse said.

Days Away can be both fun and educational. The Canevin community is so excited for the upcoming Days Away.

Anon’s Answers

Send in questions and receive advice from an anonymous staff member!

Sometimes I feel like I’m alone, even though I’m surrounded by friends. What should I do?

Thank you for sharing. The first step to realizing how you are feeling is to admit it to yourself. I highly recommend speaking to our school counselor. The specifics of your situation can assist you in finding specific advice. Because I do not know what is going on in your life, I can only share some helpful tips that I have learned in moments of need. First, it is important to understand that, as human beings, we all feel lonely, myself included. This is only a problem when it becomes a recurring theme in your life. Second, do not deny how you are feeling. Your feelings are valid and denying them will only hurt you. Lastly, it is important to find something that you are interested in. This could be a club, sport or even an activity. I find it helpful to be around like-minded individuals when I am feeling down. I hope all is well!

I don’t like my job. I work long hours and barely have enough time to do my homework. What can I do?

It is perfectly okay not to like a job. Many people work and are miserable. I have worked a few jobs that just have not worked out. In my experience, the best thing to do is communicate with your boss. Tell them that you are not comfortable with the hours you are working and try to change your hours. If they cannot make accommodations, then you tell them that you will unfortunately have to quit. If you are not willing to communicate and change your hours, there is no way your boss will understand that you have a problem. If the hours are not a problem but the job is, I suggest putting in your two weeks’ notice. This is not necessary, but it is considered a courtesy. The easiest way to do this is to send your manager a text message or put in an official notice. Every job is different, so you will have to do research specific to your situation.

Get to Know the Class of 2022

Theresa Skindzier | Staff Reporter



Sophie Maida-Sophie's favorite class is Human Structure with Mrs. Streeter. She has played volleyball all four years of high school and is in the Science Club. Her leadership roles include being a House Captain and the Vice President of International Club. In her free time she likes to bake, shop and hang out with her friends. Her favorite Canevin memory is cheering in the student section at football games. She plans to go to Duquesne University for nursing.

Ian Lecker-Ian's favorite class is AP Physics and he is an alternate captain for the hockey team. He is also in Robotics Club and the captain of the Academic Team. In his free time he enjoys watching movies and playing guitar. His favorite memory at Canevin is every 9th period Stats class. This Spring, he is planning to go to Mexico. He plans to attend college to study physics.



Megan McCartney-Megan's favorite class is Art with Mrs. Kennedy. She has also been a cheerleader since freshman year. She is involved in the Art Club, Circle of Friends and the Spring Musical. In her free time she likes to read and play with her dog. Her favorite Canevin memory was going to Heinz Field for the WPIAL football finals this year. In the future she plans to be a teacher's assistant.

Anessa Preteroti-Anessa's favorite subject is history, but her favorite class is AP Spanish 4 with Senorita Barber. She played tennis and did Crusettes in the fall. She is involved in Book Club, International Club, is a Faber House Captain, and is the Student Director of the Spring Musical this year. In her free time she likes to watch *One Tree Hill* with "Jandawg," go to Canes with her friends and drive around and listen to music. Her favorite Canevin memory was the first day of senior year and all the football games. She plans on attending the University of Pittsburgh for Theatre Arts.



Alex Reick: Eagle Scout

Mac Johnson | Co-Editor-in-Chief



Senior Alex Reick and his scoutmaster the night of Reick's Eagle Scout Board of Review.

Becoming an Eagle Scout, the highest rank of the Scouts BSA program, is not an easy task. To earn this very prestigious achievement, a scout must obtain 21 merit badges, hold a leadership position in his or her troop and complete a large public works project.

One of the students in Bishop Canevin's senior class, Alex Reick, recently attained this high honor of becoming an Eagle Scout. This is something that he has been working to achieve since he was very young.

"My folks signed me up for cub scouts when I was seven, and I just stuck with it," Reick said.

Once he had all 21 merit badges and gained a leadership position in his troop, Reick began to work on his public works project. He wanted to do something at Raccoon Creek State Park, but he did not know what he should specifically build or repair. He discussed with his beneficiary about what he could do that would best help

the park.

After this discourse, Reick decided to repair two benches and build two new ones in the park. He also constructed a new firepit in the same area.

"Most of the supplies used were donated by my beneficiary or others who wanted to help. Wood, stones, screws, saws, drills, etc.," Reick said.

After many days of challenging manual labor, Reick, along with friends, family and members of his troop, completed the project on Dec. 5, 2021. He then met all the requirements and could officially become an Eagle Scout.

The benches and firepit that Reick built will sit in Raccoon Creek State Park for many years to come. They serve as a symbol of the hard work and dedication that he put into becoming an Eagle Scout.

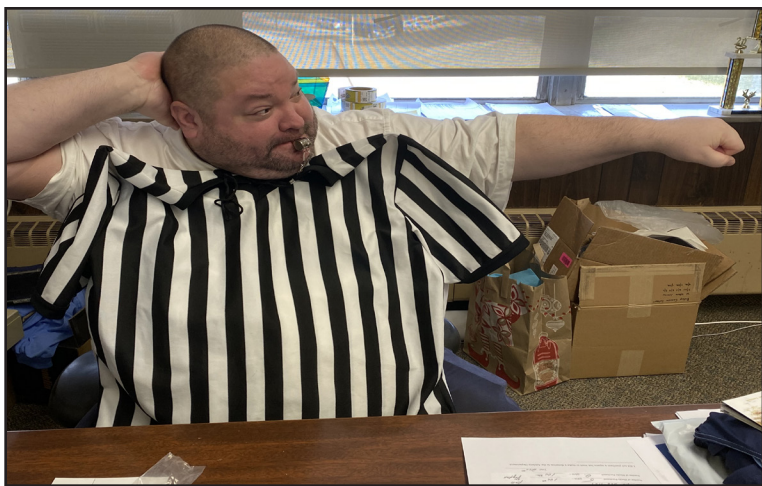
The Bishop Canevin community is proud of Reick's accomplishments and his dedication to his scouting career.



Bishop Canevin is pleased to announce Senior John Ridilla as the latest recipient of its prestigious AMDG Award.

Inside Glimpse of Canevin's Sweetheart

Halle Bergman | Staff Reporter



Bishop Canevin's sweetheart, Dale Checketts, somehow makes it all work. He can do it all from behind the desk or out on the court and field.

"The key to holding the various jobs I have is to have time management, and to have good people working alongside you," Checketts said. "Here at BC, we have so many people who work hard to provide our students with numerous activities and athletic teams. It also takes hard work to stay on top of all the various things that go into making our games and competitions happen on a regular basis, and that is just on the athletic and activities side."

Before Checketts became the official Athletic Director, he was a full time teacher for seniors and freshmen. Currently, he is only teaching freshmen.

"The part of my current role that helps me stay more connected to the students is still teaching the freshman courses and having a homeroom. While it is different not having a full teaching schedule it does help to balance the amount of work that I have to do on a regular basis," Checketts

said.

He has gotten 2 WPIAL medals already in this 2021-2022 school year.

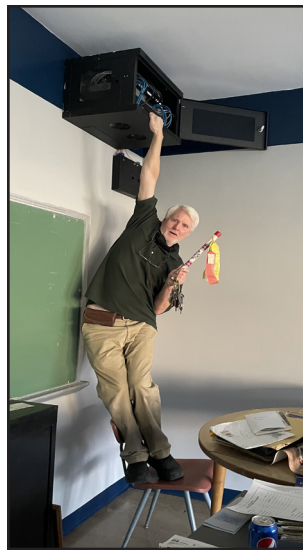
"This year to this point has been very different in terms of how Covid has and has not had an effect on things. We have achieved so much already with Football and Volleyball winning championships," said Checketts. "I am looking forward to seeing how our winter teams finish out their seasons as well. I just want to be able to get through the seasons and see everyone compete and stay healthy."

Everyone loves him, and he is like a friend to many of the students.

"I got into teaching to hopefully make a difference in the lives of those I teach. Many times students may forget the facts that you taught them, but they really do remember the relationships you form together," Checketts said. "My goal is not to be a favorite, but to be someone who cares about my students, teaches them lessons about history and life and be someone who works to help them achieve their goals."

A Day in the Life of Dave Ellis

Erin LaQuatra | Staff Reporter



BC's Softball Coach and Maintenance Director, Dave Ellis, has been working at BC since June 2015. He can be found anywhere around the school, and he always seems to be working on something.

"My days here at BC are never the same," Ellis said. "Each day has a different challenge or task, a staff or faculty member usually has a request for a repair in their room or office that needs to be resolved sooner rather than later. I am in charge of taking care of the issue."

These tasks can include electrical, heating or technical problems.

"After we are done with all of those issues, we have the daily upkeep of a 60-year-old building," Ellis said.

When softball season starts, his schedule gets a little busier.

"I have to arrange my time at school, so I can be at the practices and ready on game

day," Ellis said. "I have to manage projects so I can travel on the bus with the team."

He usually drives the bus to the team's away games.

"I think they need me," Ellis said.

In Ellis' free time, he likes to stay busy and productive.

"In my free time, I like to ride my fat tire bike on the local bike trails. I also play softball in a South Hills 50 and over league."

Along with his other activities, he streams BC's sporting events to TribLive, so they can be watched online and helps a great deal with BCTV.

"It has been such a rewarding seven years! My favorite part of working here at BC is two reasons," Ellis said. "First, is the great faculty that supports the Maintenance Department. Second, is the respectful students. You know who you are!"

Is Everyone in Love with Valentine's Day?

Grace Ravenstahl | Staff Reporter

Valentine's Day is a holiday where many people celebrate the love they have for their significant other, but not everyone thinks it is everything it is cracked up to be. Some people, especially those who are single or had a bad relationship, think that Valentine's Day puts salt in their wounds.

Bishop Canevin students are no strangers to the holiday as they celebrate by buying each other flowers from the cheer team or doing things together outside of school. The student body is also split over the great Valentine's Day debate and had a lot of input on the heated topic when asked about it.

On one hand, you have those people who love Valentine's Day. Junior Ava Gaitens enjoys Valentine's Day. She values being able to let the people around her know that she cares about them. Gaitens also likes to hear that people care about her too. Junior Lily Barbisch feels the same way about the holiday. She feels that it is a good opportunity to truly express how much her friends and family mean to her.

The two girls are not alone on this side of the debate. Many other students agree that Valentine's Day

is a great way to really get through to their loved ones and those closest to them that they are truly a special part of their lives.

On the contrary, some people think that Valentine's Day is not everything that it is cracked up to be. The holiday makes some people who are not in a relationship feel as though they are not good enough. It can also put pressure on people who do have a significant other. This can really hurt the relationships between people.

It does not help that the media and big corporations push the idea of Valentine's Day so heavily onto society that it can make celebrating hard if you do not fit into the perfect mold that is expected.

After all is said and done, Valentine's Day is always going to be one of those holidays that is either loved or hated. A great many people want to make the day extra special and go out of their way to celebrate those that they care deeply about.

Others do not want anything to do with the holiday and avoid it at all costs. No matter what side of the debate they are on, everyone should share with the people closest to them that they value them all year around.

The Bishop Canevin Crusaders for Justice Club hosted "Canevin After Dark," an overnight event on Feb. 18 to raise money for charity. Approximately 60 students enjoyed a night of music, food and games while doing their best to stay awake from the hours of 9PM to 5AM. Proceeds totaling over \$1,300 were donated to the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, a local charity whose mission is to help combat the effects of racism and social injustice by providing housing, education, medical support, hunger prevention services and other programs in the Pittsburgh area.



Canevin's Catholic Schools Week

Jillian Frosell | Staff Reporter



Canevin celebrated Catholic education through the annual, activity-filled Catholic Schools Week! Each day had a special dress down theme, such as Jersey Day, Color Wars and more!

One of the most unique themes was to bring anything but a backpack to school. These are just a few examples of how the student government brought the community together.

"I think Catholic Schools Week was an opportunity to celebrate all of the aspects that make the experience of a Catholic education unique," Principal Michael Joyce said.

The student vs. teacher Family Feud game was a huge hit, as well as the house dodgeball tournament. At mass, the 2nd recipient of the AMDG Award, John Ridilla was named.

"We feel it is important to announce a recipient during Catholic Schools Week because the award is given to students who actively live their faith and do all things for the Greater Glory of God," Joyce said.

And finally, in recognition of all winter sports, the 2022 Winter Pep rally was held. The event featured a special performance by the Cruettes. All of these amazing events offered the student body the opportunity to have fun.

"I really enjoy that we are able to take time out of the school year

to not only celebrate the Canevin community with the different events across the week, but that we also celebrate our unique Catholic identity," student government coordinator, David Casavale said.

"I think about Catholic Schools Week two years ago and how our community rallied to raise funds to purchase a motorized wheelchair for an alum in need," Joyce said. "In my mind that embodied what Catholic Schools Week should be about."

Coming together as a community, despite the struggles and uncertainties of recent years, and celebrating the student body, staff and the unique catholic education experience is the meaning of Catholic Schools Week.

"Catholic Schools Week is a time to celebrate our Catholic identity," Casavale said.

Planning for the week typically begins in November. One of the biggest challenges the faculty, staff and student government had to deal with was the uncertainty of the pandemic. However, the week was a huge success while dealing with Covid-19.

"I think as a school we are emerging from this recent post Holiday COVID surge in a strong and healthy position," Joyce said.

This fun filled week was made possible by Casavale, the student government and other faculty and staff.

Anything Goes Coming to Canevin

Megan McCartney | Staff Reporter

Bishop Canevin will perform this year's musical, *Anything Goes*, on April 28, April 29 and April 30, 2022. At the center of the musical is senior Theresa Skindzier.

"My role in the show is Reno Sweeney, an evangelist turned nightclub singer," Skindzier said. "She has a big personality and is really fun to play. I can't wait to see how everyone's characters develop as we get closer to the show."

The songs by Cole Porter are world renowned and beloved by audiences. The Director of the show this year is Andy Folmer.

"This year's production of *Anything Goes* will be the 14th musical I've directed at Bishop Canevin," Folmer said. "I started directing in 2005 with *Once Upon A Mattress*, stepped away for personal reasons after 2015's *Godspell* and was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to return for 2020's *Xanadu*, but it was unfortunately canceled due to the pandemic. Prior to directing, I also spent nine years as the Set Designer and Technical Director working with the stage crew from 1996

to 2004."

Art teacher Karen Kennedy also plays a major role in the BC musical productions.

"Since the time I started at Canevin I have been a part of the musical in one way or another. Even though I did not do stage crew last year because the Covid vaccine was not available yet, I was able to help with ads, the budget, etc. That did not require me to be around other people as much," stage crew member and Art teacher, Kennedy said.

Being a part of the musical is a very enjoyable experience for students as well.

"As a cast member, my favorite part of the musical experience is probably the final product of the show," Skindzier said. "Tech week specifically is both stressful and exhilarating. We get to see all of our work over the past months pay off. The set, costumes and makeup really make the production come to life."

The *Leonid* staff would like to wish the cast and crew good luck with the show this year!

Book Review: *Dead Poets Society*

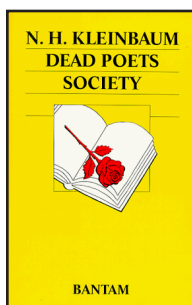
Renee LaGrosse | Staff Reporter

Dead Poets Society by Nancy H. Kleinbaum is a classic teenage coming-of-age novel. It is set in the year 1959 at a boarding school for boys. The rigor of classes is not much different than that of today, but what students gain from learning, they lose in freedom.

A new English Professor, John Keating, introduces the theme of *carpe diem*. He has an outlandish teaching style—from jumping on desks to reciting poetry while playing football. With his help, the boys are able to find a sense of themselves. This book tackles a few of the world's complex ideas—like how society tries to put us in boxes, suppressing individuality. So many are trained to believe that if they do not fit in, they must change. Keating's teachings

emphasize that these boxes are invalid and that free individualistic thinking is necessary for society.

This novel was very well written and I found it quite interesting. One particular fact about it that was very surprising: the novel was based on a movie! In most situations, this is reversed. After realizing that fact I decided that in order to get a full understanding of the novel, I must watch the movie too. Kleinbaum did a fantastic job. I would recommend watching this movie and reading the novel to fully comprehend *Dead Poets Society*. This book was easy to follow along and did a fantastic job at keeping the readers interested. If you are interested in a thrilling story this is for you! I would rate this novel a 4.5/5 simply because the movie preceded it.



What Were the Best Movies and Songs of 2021?

Luke Andruscik | Staff Reporter

Even though the making of music and movies was halted due to COVID-19, a lot of great pieces of art were made in 2021. Now, let's take a look at the best movies and music of 2021.

Coming out in Late December of 2021, *Spider-Man: No Way Home* was the highest grossing film of 2021 making over 700 million dollars at the box office. *Shang-Chi*, a Marvel movie, was the second highest grossing film of the year by making over 225 million dollars at the box office.

A drama movie called *The Father* was the highest rated movie accord-

ing to Rotten Tomatoes.

Two of the most popular and highest rated songs according to The Rolling Stone were the songs "Driver's License" and "Good 4U" by Olivia Rodrigo. "Essence" by WizKid and "All Too Well" by Taylor Swift are some of the other highly rated songs according to Time.

Some artists who have risen to fame in 2021 consist of names like Olivia Rodrigo, Lil Nas X and Doja Cat.

As you can see, music and movies had a great year in 2021 despite a setback from a worldwide pandemic.

Betsy's Place Review

Mac Johnson | Co-Editor-in-Chief



As I stepped into the crowded interior of Betsy's Place, I could smell the sweet ingredients as fresh smoothies were being prepared.

Betsy's Place, Canevin's student-run cafe, is a must for any Canevin student. As of now, the cafe serves students fruit smoothies, iced coffee and hot coffee. It is open every day of the school week from 7:30-7:55 A.M. It is occasionally open after school for a little while.

I believe that every student at Canevin should visit Betsy's Place. The smoothies

taste amazing and are quickly made! The smoothies are reasonably priced at \$3. Whether you have a test or an after school activity, a beverage from Betsy's Place is the perfect way to re-energize during the school week.

Students at Canevin are truly lucky to have Betsy's Place on their campus. It is one of the many things that makes Canevin so great and unique! If you have not already, make sure to stop by and try a smoothie or coffee. You will not be disappointed!

Junior Justin Lashley Spotlight

Lashley has found a way to give back to the sport of hockey

Geno DeFrank | Staff Reporter



Junior Justin Lashley has found a way to give back to his sport through helping those with disabilities play hockey. Lashley volunteers for the Pittsburgh Rhinos Hockey Organization, a team where all players are legally blind. He helps the players by communicating with them, and giving them 1 on 1 instruction. The team is located near Oakland and plays its games in Belle Vernon.

Lashley was informed about the Pittsburgh Rhinos, when his mother saw a post on Facebook asking for volunteers.

“My mom saw a Facebook article about them and how they needed volunteers. I went for the first time back in the summer and I’ve been helping out every practice since,” Lashley said.

Not every person can say they know how to teach kids who are legally blind. When asked how he got comfortable with teaching Lashley said,

“I did have trouble at first because I wasn’t sure what I was getting myself into and what I would be doing. However after doing it for a while, I realized that I shouldn’t

have been nervous because all of the kids and coaches are really nice, accepting and appreciative of all the volunteers. I’ve also become friends with a few of the players and their families.”

Finding teams for the kids to play against is not easy due to travel reasons and other complications. The USA only has 20 teams of kids who are legally blind. With the limited number of hockey players who are vision impaired/blind, there is no team in the US that has a full team. Each team has red (advanced), white (intermediate) and blue (beginner) players.

When a game is played, all the teams in the US come together and divide players between the three levels into a team. Then, a gold team and a black team will play each other. Each team is made up of players both male and female and of various ages from all over the country.

All athletes should find a way to give back to their sport because the sport gives the player countless days and memories he or she will never forget.

Xavier Nelson Strikes Again

Keyshawn McCaskill | Staff Reporter



Not only is junior Xavier Nelson a WPIAL Champion, but he is also a First Team All Conference Player on both sides of the ball. Now, he is the first player in Bishop Canevin history to win WPIAL Player of the Year in 1A.

Nelson has provided the spark for the Crusaders on and off the field. He makes everyone around him better. Last year Nelson broke the BC single game receiving yards record with six catches and 180 yards as he made Second Team All Conference in the 2020 football season.

Nelson and junior Lesae Lacks made a dynamic duo this year as they both did well and led the Crusader offense to the State Semifinals and the best season in Bishop Canevin history. Here are a few testimonials about Nelson from his teammates.

“He has it all every time. He gets

the ball; he is dangerous. It would be hard for the opposing team to tackle him in a phone booth,” junior Keyshawn McCaskill said.

“He works hard every time we hit the field and makes things happen,” Lacks said. “There are times when three defenders try to tackle him and he makes one move and he’s gone.”

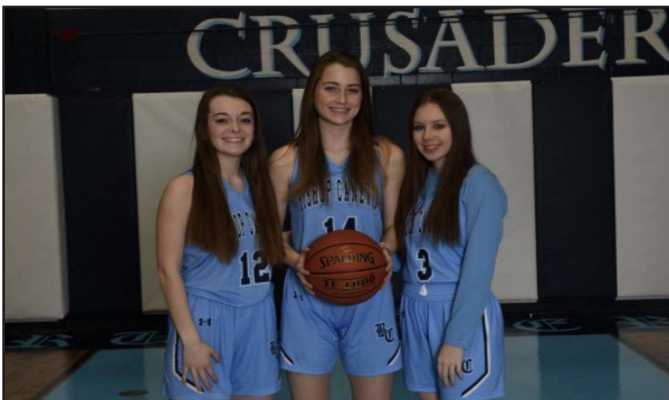
“He helps the team in every way possible. He’s a selfless player. He just goes out there and plays hard and helps his teammates so ultimately we can get the victory,” Coach Brandon said.

“He’s a great person, and he helps make everyone around him better,” McCaskill said.

“He flat out makes plays. This kid can turn nothing into something. He breaks runs like I’ve never seen,” Coach Rich Johnson said. “He competes with the best of the best. Day in and day out he works hard, and it makes everyone around him better.”

2022 Girls Basketball Season

Halle Bergman | Staff Reporter



The Lady Crusaders fought hard this season under their new head coach, Maddie Bazalak. The girls pushed and finished their regular season with a 13-8 record. The team was led by seniors Erin Jameson, Lauren Kirsch and Maura Pechin.

"I hoped we would secure a good seed and go far in the playoffs, maybe even making it to the Pete and state playoffs," Jameson said.

The Lady Crusaders pushed to make it to the seventh seed in the playoffs. They pushed through a winning playoff run to the WPIAL Class A Championship at the Peterson Event Center. The team played Aquinas Academy and won 49-43. It was the sixth time in Bishop Canevin history that the girls won a title. As they moved on to States the Lady Crusaders finished their season in the second round of the State Playoff losing to Otto-Eldred.

Coach Bazalak helped the team finish with such a successful season.

"I have a passion to teach and have always loved basketball. I went to a Catholic high school and played basketball there, and I had such a positive experience that I learned so many lessons from that I will always remember," Coach Bazalak said. "I wanted to teach the girls about basketball, faith and life and help them find their passion.

Coaching this team has been such an honor and while I hoped to teach them a few things, they also helped me to grow every day,"

Bazalak and the coaching staff had many goals in mind but the dynamic of the sport was the most important.

"My goals for this season were for the girls to develop their individual and team skills. We wanted to progress and get better every day," Bazalak said. "Change doesn't happen overnight but if you come into the gym and get better every day, those days begin to stack up and you begin to really see the change as the season goes on. I liked to ask the girls at the end of practice 'did you get better today?' and if they could answer 'yes' then I knew we were progressing."

"We were very lucky to have the coaches we had throughout the season. They helped us grow so much as players and every practice we continued to improve," junior Ashley Lippold said.

"Getting along outside of basketball definitely helped our connection. Actually being friends with your teammates builds that bond and that trust that you need to play well together on the court," Jameson said.

Congratulations Lady Crusaders on another successful season!

The Bishop Canevin Boys Basketball Team Named PIAA State Champions

Luke Andruscik | Staff Reporter



The Bishop Canevin boys basketball team secured another WPIAL Class A title defeating No. 3 Union 58-45 at the Petersen Events Center. The team then went on to win the PIAA State Championship against St. John Newman in Hershey, PA for the first time in BC history.

Last year in the WPIAL finals, the team traveled to North Allegheny to take on the Rochester Rams. They had a rough first half but ended up winning 42-27 to win their first WPIAL Championship in school history. They took on Rochester in the second round this year and won by 32.

The team moved on to play Geibel Catholic in the semifinals and beat them as well. The boys then traveled downtown to Petersen Events Center for their second straight WPIAL Championship to play Union. The boys beat Union at the Pete to return to their glory for

the second straight year.

"It is crazy going from losing to Leechburg my freshman year in the first round to winning back to back championships my junior and senior year," senior and captain Kevaughn Price said. "When I hit 1k it was just an amazing feeling. Having 34 points and hitting 1k in the same game was great. It was nice to know that I was able to keep the family legacy going. I was the sixth person in my family to reach 1k."

Head Coach Gino Palmosina admires his seniors and how they have developed as players and people in their four years of playing. The team was at an all time high heading into the state playoffs.

The boys made light work of every team they faced in the state playoffs, including a game against Imani Christian, who was predicted to beat BC earlier this season.

It was a season that will go down in the history books!

Hockey Team Falls Just Short of Penguin Cup

Geno DeFrank | Staff Reporter



Bishop Canevin hockey has had a lot happen in the last 10 years. The team was one of the best in the area in AA hockey, which is the second highest division. The team was always the top dog in the division, along with Erie Cathedral Prep. The Crusaders even won the State Championship in 2011.

They also won PIHL Championships in 2011, 2014 and 2016. Then, the program took a turn in the 2017-2018 season. Now, they compete in Class B, which consists of schools who are all co-op. The team had a good season last year and reached the semifinals in the playoffs. With only losing one senior on last year's team, the team returned this season with plenty of experience.

This year was nothing but success with the team being the number one seed for the Class B playoffs. With a bunch of big wins and only one loss during the season, the team felt ready for the postseason.

"One of our big reasons for success this year definitely has to be goaltending. Our Goalie Adam has kept us in games and shut down teams that needed to be shut down," junior defenseman Michael Parzynski said. "The goal is to just keep up being active and just working on whatever needs to be fixed so we can come out even stronger next year."

The hockey team continued its success into the postseason. The boys had great success with sophomore Ryan Saginaw coming back from an injury and providing a post-season spark.

The team won two first round games in the playoffs against Morgantown and Wilmington. The team secured a 5-1 victory over Wilmington. Led by a Hat Trick from Saginaw and a pair of goals from sophomore Cole Evans, the boys advanced to the PIHL Championship where they took on Neshannock at the UPMC Lemieux Sports Complex in Cranberry.

After going down 1-0 senior Ian Lecker scored the equalizer off an assist from Evans. The teams then battled and ended the second with a tied score of 1-1. Then Neshannock's Gio Valentine went coast to coast and hit a wrist shot right past the blue line. The Crusaders did not have many chances towards the end of the game as Neshannock's Riley Mastowski made 34 saves.

The team qualified for Nationals and attended the tournament at the end of March in Dallas for the first time in school history.

Defenseman Parzynski and sophomore Mason Glover were named to the PIHL All Star Team.

**Have a
Blessed and
Happy Easter!**

**Love,
The
*Leonid Staff***





Calling all
photographers, artists,
writers, and poets! We
would love to feature
your work in the Spring
issue of the Oracle
Literary Magazine!



All items should be emailed or
given to Mrs. Smith in G105. All
photographs will be used in the
Photography Club's Spring Exhibit at
the Carnegie Municipal Building.