Night in an Enchanted Garden

By Carlene Murray

The Mercer High School students are closing in on one of the most anticipated nights of the year, Homecoming. This year, the dance will be taking place Saturday, October 21 from 7 pm to 10 pm.

After having previous themes such as Neon Night, Hollywood, and Under the Sea, it might have been hard for this year to beat. However, Mrs. Santom and the sophomore class officers were still able to come up with new, creative ideas and made a decision on Enchanted Garden. The cafeteria will be decorated with flowers and will depict a beautiful nature scene.

On the second day of school the seniors voted on the 2017 homecoming court. Ladies on the court include Morgan Addicott, Anna Brunson, Carlene Murray, Maddie Rowe, Hannah Schmid, and Sarah Turton. The gentlemen are Jimmy Amon, Andrew Boggs, Andrew Brinker, Max Hamilton, Liam McQuiston, and Josh Wamboldt.

All students in grades 9th-12th vote for a girl and a boy to be the King and Queen on Friday, October 20 after the court assembly. The Queen will be crowned at half time of the football game that Friday night by last year’s queen, Kaylynn Foore. The King will be announced during the dance, and Isaiah Bartolone will award the crown.

Tickets cost $10 for singles and $20 for couples. This night in an Enchanted Garden should be one to remember for all students attending homecoming.
Meet the Homecoming Court

**Name:** Josh Wamboldt  
**Parents:** Bruce and Jen Wamboldt  
**After school activities:** Soccer, Robotics, and Marching Band  
**Best friends:** Miss Giles  
**Favorite teacher:** Mr. Chess  
**Plans after school:** Attend Penn State Main or Behrend and major in computer engineering  
**Favorite movie:** Guardians of the Galaxy 2

**Name:** Anna Brunson  
**Parents:** Scott and Jodi Brunson  
**After school activities:** Football and Competition Cheer, Dance, Show Choir, and Cross Country.  
**Best friends:** Carlene, Gabe, and Jackson  
**Favorite teacher:** Mrs. Walzer  
**Plans after school:** Study biology at college.  
**Favorite movie:** There Will Be Blood

**Name:** Morgan Addicott  
**Parents:** Dan and Lori Addicott  
**After school activities:** Volleyball and Basketball Cheerleading  
**Best friends:** Dylan Hetrick, Julianne Slagle, and Cassidy Pears  
**Favorite teacher:** Senora Oates  
**Plans after school:** Planning to attend SRU and major in Exercise Science in hopes of becoming a Physical Therapist

**Name:** Liam McQuiston  
**Parents:** Lori and Steve McQuiston  
**After school activities:** Marching Band, Show Choir, Musical, and Basketball Cheer  
**Best friends:** I have too many close friends to pick.  
**Favorite teacher:** Mrs. Christy  
**Plans after school:** Go with the flow  
**Favorite movie:** Harry Potter series

**Name:** Anna Brunson & Liam McQuiston

**Name:** Morgan Addicott & Josh Wamboldt
Meet the Homecoming Court

Name: Max Hamilton
Parents: Kerri and James Hamilton
After school activities: Soccer and Hockey
Best friends: Only Logan Conner
Favorite teacher: Madame Rowe
Plans after school: Attend a 4 year college for communications
Favorite movie: Threat Level Midnight

Name: Carlene Murray
Parents: Amy and Harry Murray
After school activities: Cheerleading and Ski club
Best friends: Hannah!!!
Favorite teacher: Mr. Gadsby
Plans after school: Go to college and major in psychology
Favorite movie: Titanic

Name: Madeline Rowe
Parents: Ron and Shelly Rowe
After school activities: Soccer, Speech, Interact club, Art club, French and Spanish club, and Equus
Best friends: Mary Hogue and Ryan Hamilton
Favorite teacher: Madame Rowe
Plans after school: Go to college for international business
Favorite movie: Footloose

Name: Jimmy Amon
Parents: Lauri and Jim Amon
After school activities: Football and Basketball
Best friends: Ty Portefield
Favorite teacher: Mr. Myers
Plans after school: Be a state cop
Favorite movie: Furious 7
Meet the Homecoming Court

**Name:** Andrew Boggs  
**Parents:** Wendy and Paul Boggs  
**After school activities:** Show Choir and Musical  
**Best friends:** The boys  
**Favorite teacher:** Mrs. Christy & Mrs. McCracken  
**Plans after school:** Go to college and start a business  
**Favorite movie:** *Pulp Fiction*

![Andrew Boggs & Hannah Schmid](image)

**Name:** Hannah Schmid  
**Parents:** Doug and Carrie Schmid  
**After school activities:** Soccer and Ski club  
**Best friends:** Carlene Murray!!!  
**Favorite teacher:** Mr. Schmid  
**Plans after school:** Attend Kent State University and major in advertisement/marketing  
**Favorite movie:** *Pride and Prejudice*

**Name:** Sarah Turton  
**Parents:** Kathy and Mike Turton  
**After school activities:** Speech, Musical, and Show Choir  
**Best friends:** Andrew Brinker, Emily Bright, Iana Ellis, Liam McQuiston  
**Favorite teacher:** Mrs. Ross  
**Plans after school:** Go to college for Pre-Med  
**Favorite movie:** *Heathers*

![Sarah Turton & Andrew Brinker](image)
How much does people talking over you bother you: It bothers me quite a bit! I’ll just end up repeating myself. Who enjoys repeating themselves?!

What instruments can you play: I can play any woodwind, brass, string, or percussion instrument to a certain extent, but my major instruments that I have studied since I was very young are saxophone and guitar.

How did you get involved in music: I was always very interested in listening to music when I was young. I started playing saxophone and guitar in fourth grade and was lucky to have excellent music teachers all the way through school. I enjoyed all of the music electives and decided that I’d love to become a music educator.

Where did you go to college: I earned my Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Slippery Rock University. I’m currently earning my Masters of Music in Conducting from Messiah College.

What college did you go to: I went to Grove City College. I graduated with a B.A. in English and Communications with certification to teach in grades 7-12.

Have you taught in previous locations: I student taught in grades 8 and 11 at Laurel High School.

What is your favorite grade to teach: I love teaching both middle school and high school!

Where did you grow up: I grew up in Beaver, Pennsylvania. I graduated from Beaver Area High School.

Do you have any siblings: I have one sibling, a twin sister.

How tall are you: I am very short. I am only 4'10”.

What are your hobbies: My hobbies include cooking recipes I found on Pinterest, watching The Bachelor, and traveling.

What is your favorite fall activity: My favorite fall activity is going to the pumpkin patch with my family.

What is your favorite book: I love Gone with the Wind by Margaret Mitchell, The Help by Kathryn Stockett, Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn, and any books written by Sarah Dessen and Sarah Ockler.

Do you have any animals: I have one dog named Bolt. He is named after the Disney movie.

What is your biggest fear: I am most afraid of bugs.

Did you play any sports in high school: I was a varsity cheerleader in high school.

What is your biggest pet peeve: My biggest pet peeve is talking during a movie or when people talk with their mouth full of food.
Mercer Cross Country
By Casey Covert

The Mercer Cross Country team kicked off their season during the summer, meeting Mondays and Thursdays to start running before the daily practices started in August. Coaching them this year is Tom Meling.

The girls’ team consists of seniors Claudia Brown, Anna Brunson, Evegenia Christopher, Kate Shaffer, and Ashley Shoemaker. Collette Brown is the lone underclassman. The members of the boys’ team include seniors Bradley Metts, James Ohler, Justin Reno, and Marcus Ryder. Hunter Rupert, Lucas Erwin, and Anthony McCrea round out the varsity team.

Their first meet of the year was September 5. Though Mercer did not measure up with Grove City, a strong competitor, they honored seniors Claudia, Anna, Evey, Kate, Ashley, Brad, Justin, James, and Marcus on their senior night.

At the Commodore Perry invitational on September 16, Justin Reno got 11th, and Collette Brown got 26th. Both Reno and Brown medaled at the meet. Reno also medaled at the Sharpsville invitational, coming in 31st place. The boys’ team also won their dual meet against Sharon on September 12.

Anna Brunson, who is a senior and a first time cross-country runner this year says, “Everyone is really supportive. Even when I get last place they tell me I did well,” about how supportive her fellow team members are.

The Cross Country team stops to pose at Senior Recognition

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Alex Borowicz, P.T., M.P.T.  
Physical Therapist
MHS Volleyball
By Hannah Ridgway

Another season of Mustang Volleyball has finally arrived. The Lady Ms have spent countless hours training and working to better themselves. The head coach continues to be Dan Davis. This year the Lady Ms are down in numbers, but that doesn’t stop them from being competitors on the court.

The girls participate in many activities together and are one of the closer teams at Mercer. The underclassmen look up to the two seniors, Morgan Addicott and Cassidy Pears, for advice and any volleyball needs. So far this season the Lady Ms have won numerous sets out of their five set sequences, but they have only won 2 full games against Sharon.

The ladies play highly skilled teams such as West Middesex and Grove City, and the team of fourteen have been able to give them a run for their money. The Lady Ms acknowledged the achievements of their only two seniors, Morgan Addicott and Cassidy Pears, on Senior Recognition Night, October 19, against Wilmington.

Mercer Boys Soccer
By Jackson Hazelet

The Mighty Mercer Mustangs soccer team have come encouraged and ready to wreak havoc. The boys’ team is currently 5-5 losing, 4 games away and one at home. The boys are led by newbie captain Gabe Dembroski and veteran captains Brayden Ellis, Spencer Ference, and Josh Wamboldt. The boys worked very hard over the summer gearing up with two-a-days. They ran up to 6 miles every day to be ready for the tough season.

The Mustangs are prepared for the District 10 playoffs and are excited to take their revenge on Iroquois. The boys are led by head coach Chris Ellis and assistant coaches Caleb Ritenour, Brecken Ellis, and Ethan Brownlee. The coaches have pushed the boys to their limits in order to be prepared for playoffs.

The boys’ senior night was October 10 against the New Wilmington Greyhounds. Many of the seniors that were dedicated to the sport are upset to leave their love of soccer behind them. Congratulations and good luck to all of the seniors on the team The boys encourage everyone to come out and to enjoy the matches!
The Mercer Mustang Football team is looking to improve their record in their 2017-2018 season. The boys took on the West Middlesex Reds in a pre-season scrimmage and won 7-0. The Mustangs started off their season by facing the Lakeview Sailors. Their 18 game losing streak was finally broken as they took a 35-33 victory!

Unfortunately, the Stangs lost to Hickory with a final score of 7-62. Although we took another loss against Sharpsville 42-21, it was a big game for Sophomore PJ Boggs, who scored his first Varsity touchdown.

Slippery Rock next defeated the Mustangs 43-7 the following week. Even with their recent defeats, they're hoping to successfully continue the season. Senior Jimmy Amon has the leading amount of touchdowns with 30 points. Juniors Andrew Weinlel and Brian Shevitz both have 6 points each, and junior Zack Previty has totaled 12.

Pictured here is R.J. Carson, the newest kicker of the football team. He recently took his outstanding soccer skills on to the football field to kick for the Mustangs on Friday nights. Interestingly, he hasn’t missed a single extra point kick.

Seniors with their families from left to right: Garrett Shiemke, Adam Walker, Jimmy Amon, and Austin Hesselgesser. Not pictured is Bob Gregory.

The pictures above capture the football team coming through the tunnel and in a huddle. Also pictured are the Captains of the team preparing for the coin toss.
The Mercer Varsity cheerleading squad is looking forward to another great year full of Friday night lights. The girls have been practicing since the end of June learning sideline cheers, reviewing dances, and creating new, complicated stunts for the games.

After losing four seniors from last year, the squad was happy to recruit five new members. These cheerleaders include sophomore Brooke Jones, and freshmen Kaila Peters, Saylor Murray, Madison Lontz, and Maighdlin Hazelet. All of them have been working hard to learn and perfect the many cheers used at the games.

Seniors on the team are Anna Brunson, Brittany Marano, Carlene Murray, Tera Porterfield, Demi Skoofalos, and Julianne Slagle. These girls were recognized at Senior Night on September 2nd at the game against Hickory. They were walked down the track by their family as the rest of the underclassmen cheerleaders cheered them on. The advisor for this squad is Elizabeth Burk who is on her 13th year of coaching.

Not only has the football squad been hard at work this season, the competitive team has also been practicing since summer to learn the routine for competitions. The first competition this year was on October 22nd for Rally in the Valley.

Junior Casey Covert says, “This has been such a fun football season so far, and I can’t wait to see what we can accomplish at competitions.” The competitive spirit squad has high hopes in receiving first place and eventually becoming D10 champs this year, and the football cheerleaders continue to be excited to cheer on the boys every Friday night.
Girls’ Soccer
By Sarah Coryea

As the 2017 soccer season started off, the girls were ready to play hard and win games. The girls have been sharpening their skills and getting into shape for the season. The Lady Ms’ goal, as always, is to make it to the playoffs.

The team has said that practices have been gruesome, but it is all worth it because they have learned new skills and techniques that will benefit their season.

So far, this season is going very well for the Lady Ms. Senior Caitlyn Mattocks told Hoofbeats, “The season is crazy busy so far. I am excited to see what we can do with all of the talent we have this year!” The captains this season are Hannah Schmid, Maddie Rowe, Caitlyn Mattocks and Iana Ellis. The team is hoping that the captains will lead them to their biggest goal, the District 10 Title!

There are six seniors on the team this year: Iana Ellis, Mary Hogue, Caitlyn Mattocks, Erin Martin, Maddie Rowe, and Hannah Schmid. Almost all of the seniors have been playing soccer since they were very young. Even though they’re upset about it being their last year, they know that they will be leaving the team in the good hands of the many talented underclassmen.

Senior night was on Wednesday, October 11 against Greenville where the seniors were honored.

Mercer Golf
By Brad Filer and Max Hamilton

The Mustang Golf squad came out swinging this year looking to do some damage on the course. They are led by seniors Mason Borowicz, Andrew Brinker, and Michael Morneweck. Also on the team are juniors Cameron Kohnen and Daniel Scheidhauer, sophomore Logan McCandless, and freshman Lily Roman.

The season has not quite panned out the way they hoped, as they sit at 0-8 in matches thus far. They have, however, finished 3rd in two mega matches. When asking Andrew Brinker about his favorite part of golf, he said he enjoyed “just getting out there and swinging the club and competing.” They hope to finish strong and maybe get a “W” before the playoffs start, where the individual competitions pick up.

Freshman Lily Roman represented Mercer at the district tournament at Meadville Country Club. Congratulations and best wishes to the seniors.
Straight From the Horse’s Mouth:

What was your most memorable Halloween Costume?

**Middle School:**

- **Jesse Watkins:** Vampire
- **Aiden Dadich:** Chewbacca
- **Macie McCracken:** Dragon
- **Harry Leftheris:** Mexican American
- **Braden Vernille:** Pickle
- **Chastin Adsit:** Star Wars
- **Kayla Mathias:** Native American
- **Jersey Eaton:** Kitty
- **Ashton Link:** Donald Trump
- **Alex Hamilton:** Gladiator
- **J.P. Burk:** Cow
- **Matthew Jewel:** Bacon
- **Alex Dupuis:** Dinosaur
- **Triston Barr:** Dracula
- **Ethan Downing:** Ninja
- **Abby Duttry:** Care Bear
- **Kendal Hartman:** Dorothy
- **Alyssa Warholic:** Zombie

**Freshmen:**

- **Jacob Smith:** Grim Reaper
- **Alex Hammons:** Zombie Army Soldier
- **Aidan Bright:** President Trump
- **Adam Bachman:** Minion
- **Chris Boots:** Pink Morph Suit
- **Connor Ealy:** Orange Banana
- **Emily Basco:** Katy Perry
- **Sam Ellison:** A girl
- **Bradley Dehaven:** Jason from *Friday the 13th*
- **Kaleb Nissen:** Marine
- **Maddy Vestorsky:** Claw Machine
- **Allie Laughlin:** An elf
- **Harrison Murray:** Blow up Sumo Wrestler
- **Dakota Petrey:** Belly Dancer
- **Swade Shipton:** Ninja

**Sophomores:**

- **Nicole Diaz:** Spongebob
- **Rachel Snow:** Cow
- **Makayla Turner:** Cookie Monster
- **Miles Frank:** Batman
- **Mike Ayers:** Kim Jong Un
- **Zack Bobby:** Fork
- **P.J. Boggs:** My dad
- **Alex Duttry:** Woman
- **Logan McCandless:** Ketchup bottle
- **Rachel Mills:** Velma
- **Jared Johns:** Mummy
- **Trumell Miller:** The Joker
- **Kiersten Young:** Ghost
- **Kyle Kaster:** Alice Cooper
- **Jonathan Michaels:** Pizza
- **Emalee Hostetler:** Native American
- **Lizzy Fedorchak:** Candy corn
- **Austin Vernille:** Spoon
What was your most memorable Halloween Costume?

**Juniors:**

- **Keely Heffern:** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle
- **Sierra Atkinson:** Blue from *Blue’s Clues*
- **Clifford Hughes:** The Hulk
- **Asher Myers:** Steve Irwin
- **Justin Rose:** Minecraft Creeper
- **Zack Stanton:** Woody
- **Dove Reeher:** Harry Potter
- **Kaitlyn Roseski:** Bathtub
- **Marcus Ryan:** Pumpkin
- **Kaylie Robertson:** Clown
- **Chayse Fussell:** Tigger
- **Zack Baker:** Washing machine
- **Kendra Lingenfelter:** Cinderella
- **Kara Peters:** Gangster
- **Seth Koser:** A two-legged pug
- **Brayden Ellis:** Mr. Potato Head
- **Alex Long:** Buzz Lightyear
- **Zack Previty:** Casper the Friendly Ghost
- **Alec Gault:** Mario
- **Dylan Hetrick:** Gene Simmons

**Seniors:**

- **Max Hamilton:** The Incredible Hulk
- **Gray Covert:** Silly clown
- **Chris Zacherl:** Spiderman
- **Austin Hesselgesser:** Vampire
- **Gabe Dembroski:** MattyB
- **Jackson Hazelet:** Pirate
- **Autumn Coryea:** Trashbag
- **Carlene Murray:** Banana
- **Adam Walker:** President
- **Mason Borowicz:** Gorilla
- **Marcus Ryder:** Captain America
- **Andrew Brinker:** Garbage can
- **Logan Mills:** Power Ranger
- **R.J. Carson:** “The Thing” from *Fantastic 4*
- **Ethan Godfrey:** Mad Hatter
- **Andrew Boggs:** Red Ghost from PacMan
- **Spencer Ference:** Gingerbread man
- **Anna Brunson:** Bunch of grapes
Hayden Mills
Favorite T.V. show: Shameless
If you could be anyone else, who would you be: Adam Sandler
Favorite celebrity: Donald Trump
Where do you see yourself in 10 years: Being poor
Favorite Halloween candy: Tootsie Rolls
Dream job: Baker
Favorite movie: Batman: The Dark Knight Returns
Extracurricular activities: None
Best season: Spring
Favorite thing about Fall: Jumping in the leaves
Would you rather travel to the past or the future: Past
If you could meet anyone, who would it be: Jason Anderson
Ideal vacation: Australia

Jocelyn Brown
Pumpkin spice or apple cider: Apple cider definitely
Halloween or Thanksgiving: Halloween
Favorite fall activity: Looking at the trees
Favorite food: Mac & cheese
If you could be anyone for a day who would it be: Obama
What is an interesting fact about you: I hate answering questions.
What is your longest Snapchat streak: It was 220 days, but I lost it two days ago.
What is your favorite movie? Ex-Machina
What is the first thing you would do if you won $1 million: Travel the world
Coke or Pepsi: Pepsi
What is your favorite TV show: Archer
Favorite fall memory: Pumpkin carving contest
Favorite Star Wars character: Darth Maul

Jacob Smith
Favorite rodent: Mouse
Worst superhero: Iron Man, because he’s just a rich guy in a metal suit.
Greatest supervillain: Zod
Favorite mythical creature: Griffin
Worst superpower: Super speed
Where do you see yourself in 7 years: College, probably.
What animal would you be: Snow Tiger
What would your last meal be: KFC
Favorite candy: Right Twix
Best actor: I’d say Nicholas Cage, but I don’t want to lie so Leonardo DiCaprio.
Favorite cartoon: Rick and Morty.
Biggest fear: Spiders
Favorite childhood memory: Hanging out with my grandpa.

Mason Borowicz
If you could kiss anyone who would it be: Hillary Clinton
If you could dye your hair any color what would it be: Magenta
What’s your favorite season: Winter
Halloween or Thanksgiving: Halloween
Favorite movie: Interstellar
Favorite food: Chicken Wings
Legos or Roblox: Roblox
Spirit animal: Shark
Best memory: Andrew slamming my head into a locker
Favorite place: Mercer
If you were stuck on an island what 3 things would you bring: House, boat, and helicopter
Favorite Star Wars character: Darth Maul

Jocelyn Brown
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Heap of the Month By Max Hamilton

At first glance, one may say this beauty of a truck has some rough edges, and they very well may be right. However, not knowing the story behind Grant Erwin’s lovely 1996 Ram 1500 is a mistake for anyone trying to make assumptions. This so-called “Rust Bucket” can be found in the senior lot. When asked if there were any problems with the vehicle, Grant first responded with “Oh, there are a lot.” He then went on to list the many challenges including shaking at 85 miles per hour, both passenger and bedside fenders being rusted, transmission sticking going into second gear, and occasionally leaking gas.

The only positive response was that the front and back bumpers are pretty good. In addition to the many problems with the truck, the abundance of pranks and “close calls” really adds to the character of Grant’s prime ride. When asked if there were any pranks pulled on the truck, Grant responded by explaining the time where some friends, who will remain anonymous, let air out of all four tires while he was on vacation. This was followed by a prank where multiple eggs were thrown at “Rust Bucket,” as well as a potato stuffed in the tailpipe by these same anonymous people.

Lastly, Grant went on to tell the story about a friend of his setting off a small firework inside of the truck. Grant actually jumped out of his seat when he realized a firework was exploding around him. As one can see, the first hand experiences inside of this wonderful truck have been pretty exhilarating. Even though Grant has walked away from the “Rust Bucket” once before, hopefully the truck doesn’t kick the bucket anytime soon.
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