

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL

LEHIGH VALLEY PRESS LVP



2025

FALL SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL FIELD HOCKEY



Josie Shultz is back for the Zephyrs field hockey team this season.

Seniors look to lead field hockey team

BY SCOTT PAGEL
spagel@tnonline.com

For the Whitehall field hockey team, this year they will look to their seniors to lead the way.

Not only that, they will be expected to help out the new players for the Zephyrs this season.

Josie Shultz (Gr. 12, #2) is expected to be a key playmaker, helping circulate the ball and create opportunities for the Whitehall offense, according to head coach Gabrielle Smith.

Audra Sommer (Gr. 12, #5) will be expected to bring the offensive pressure along with teammate Molly McFetridge (Gr. 12, #25), said Smith. McFetridge will be looking for tips and touches in the circle to get the Zephyrs on the scoreboard.

Sarah Mullin (Gr. 12, #5) will be counted on as a versatile utility player whose skills translate across multiple positions, Smith said. Meanwhile, Emily Kern (Gr. 12, #12) will anchor the Whitehall defense.

Seniors Celina Aboud (#29), Alettonia Kassarte (#9), and Valeria Restrepo (#21) are also poised to make important contributions as well for the team, according to Smith.

There are also several key juniors, including Kerigan Dreisbach (Gr. 11, #11), who was the team's top scorer last season, and she's poised to help in the scoring department again this year. Another junior, Ava Kneller (Gr. 11, #20), is also expected to add scoring pressure.

"This season, our seniors will lead the way,

using their experience and knowledge to guide our newer players," Smith said. "Our sophomores and freshmen will continue to grow into their roles as the season progresses."

During the offseason, the girls have been working on finding and creating open space as well as execution.

"Our strength this year lies in keeping our play fundamental and precise," Smith said. "All summer and preseason, we've focused on creating space, making strong and accurate passes, and executing clean receptions. The team is determined to bring maximum effort to every practice and game, entering each match with strong foundational skills and a readiness to compete at our best."

LEHIGH VALLEY PRESS IVP
A Division of TIMES NEWS Media Group

EAST PENN PRESS • PARKLAND PRESS
WHITEHALL-COPLAY PRESS • NORTHWESTERN PRESS
NORTHAMPTON PRESS • CATASAUQUA PRESS
SALISBURY PRESS • BETHLEHEM PRESS

1633 N. 26th Street, Allentown, PA 18104 610-740-0944

Scott Masenheimer - *Publisher*

Scott Pagel - *Whitehall-Coplay Press Sports Editor*

Ad Composition

Lucinda Anthony, Nicole Albert,
Alison Thakrar, Tanya Pecha

Advertising Sales

Terry Plinke - *Advertising Director*
Sharon Policelli

HAVE A GREAT SEASON!
from
Rob's Auto Center

Specializing in the parts, technology and service to make the most of your ride

702 Chestnut St. Coplay • 610 266-5392

**Cover design by
Tanya Pecha**

**ATTENTION
YOUTH COACHES!**

Would you like your game results to appear in

THE PRESS

Email: spagel@tnonline.com



WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Tanner Dogmanits is back for the Whitehall football team this season.



Justin Hussett should see plenty of carries at running back this fall.

Zephs aiming to get back to title game

BY JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

Threepeat.

It certainly was on the minds of the Whitehall football team and its followers at the start of the 2024 season.

Whitehall had won two consecutive District 11 Class 5A championships, and the Zephyrs appeared to have enough talent to capture a third crown.

Then their season started at 0-3, and any plans were suddenly put on hold. With a new quarterback settling into place, the Zephyrs likely would settle for a .500 season.

Yet, the Zephyrs showed their endurance. They won four of their final six regular-season games and gained a district playoff berth with their overall 5-7 record.

Whitehall blasted Pocono Mountain East, 49-7 in the district semifinals and fell just short in the championship game, dropping a 22-17 decision to East Stroudsburg South.

With an apparent high-powered offense in place, Whitehall will look to get back to the class 5A championship game this season.

Second-year head coach Andy Marino is confident that his team's recent scrimmage against perennial District 1 Class 6A power Central Bucks West was a good primer for his

team's opener against Wilkes-Barre Area, Aug. 22. The Zephyrs lost six starters from last year's team.

"We checked a lot of boxes against Central Bucks West," stressed Marino. "We were able to play a lot of guys and get some good evaluations. Any time you play a program like that, it can make you better."

Junior Tanner Dogmanits is back under center after taking over early last season. Dogmanits threw for 1,562 yards with eight touchdowns and 10 interceptions. Marino has seen plenty of progress in his signal caller.

"Tanner has had a productive summer," beamed Marino. "We look forward to the progression translate to the games."

His prime target will be senior brother Talon, who caught 52 passes for 948 yards with six touchdowns last season. Seniors Bryce Medina, Nolan Hudak, and Doanto Brigidi along with freshman Henry Shultz will figure in the receiver plans.

Complementing their receiving core, the Zephyrs will look to Bethlehem Catholic transfer Jeziah Gregory, who ran for 955 yards and 10 touchdowns last season. He'll be joined by seniors Justin Hussett and Jacob Hannis paired with junior Iskander Blanco.

Seniors Alex Cardona and Messiah Lugo along with junior James Hopkins are the Zephyrs' key returnees up front. Junior Brett Steiner and Bayne Bryan should also be in the mix.

Marino likes the status of his current line and knows it can get better.

"We have a talented group of linemen," said Marino. "We need to develop depth as the season progresses."

After their nonleague season opener against Wilkes-Barre Area - they lost to the Wolfpack 27-10 last year - the Zephyrs will have a stern test at Nazareth.

The following week, Whitehall will host East Stroudsburg South for their home opener, which will also mark Saquon Barkley's number retirement and the former Zephyr and current Eagle will be in attendance.

The Zephyrs will then tangle with Pocono Mountain West, Northampton, and Dieruff, all of them should be very competitive games.

Whitehall will look to avoid another slow start and get back on the path to another district crown.

"We have a good mix of players," added Marino. "We like where we are to start the season, and we just have to get better every day. We will keep working."

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER

Seniors look to lead boys soccer team

BY SCOTT PAGEL
spagel@tnonline.com

This season, the Whitehall boys soccer team is looking to get stronger and faster.

While that may be the goal of every team, the Zephs are hoping it will especially help their squad, and, keep everyone healthy at the same time.

"This offseason we focused more on lifting and working hard having competitive training sessions after the weight room in the same evenings," said head coach Christian Malone. "We are hoping that additional focus and attention to the weight room cannot only help guys from a speed and strength perspective but also and equally important injury prevention as

"We as always are very excited for the season. At this time there's always such optimism. But as we know it's a difficult conference and you've got to come out to play every game in the grueling high school soccer schedule."

Christian Malone

well. We are looking to make lifting in conjunction with our training even more of a staple of the program."

Malone is hoping this year's Zephs have the right mix to compete in the always-tough EPC, and then beyond in the district.

"We - as always - are very excited for the season. At this time there's always such optimism," Malone said. "But as we know it's a difficult conference and you've got to come out to play every game in the grueling high school soccer schedule."

"We have multiple seniors who have been with varsity since at least their sophomore seasons that we are looking for a strong year from. Additionally we have a supporting cast of underclassmen that we expect to give us a lot as well."

The Zephs return senior keeper Cole Richards, who is a three-year starter. Senior Marques Reed is back as well and Malone calls him a talented keeper that "gives us a 1-2 tandem and flexibility in net."

Jaydon Bushell is a senior defender, who is also a three-year starter who is "very quick and can attack when need be," according to Malone.

Senior midfielder Said Alkhmos is a key player in the middle for the Zephs, who has tremendous field awareness. Benji Campbell is another senior who is a very athletic forward, according to Malone, who has been a three-year varsity player and two-year starter.



Benji Campbell is back for the Whitehall boys soccer team this season.

Another forward is senior Justin Hussett and Malone is hoping he and Campbell is can a lethal combo up top.

"[Hussett is a] tremendous athlete who has the ability to beat just about anyone on the ball," Malone said. "He played from childhood with every other senior

on this list and has great chemistry with them. Him and Benji on the forward line working together can no doubt, give other teams issues."

Malone said there are multiple underclassmen that show great promise and have had excellent offseasons. And as a re-

sult, the goals for this team are familiar.

"Our goals are always the same - to make EPCs and of course districts and have strong showings there," Malone said. "We want to continuously elevate our program in the Valley year in year out. This year is no exception to

that.

"Lastly, a positive trend we saw this year seemed to be a higher number of young men who signed up and tried out for the team. We had 58 this year who signed up and this only helps us in our quest to move the program onward and upward."

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS

Young team looks for more wins

BY SCOTT PAGEL
spagel@tnonline.com

The Whitehall tennis team took its lumps last season as a group of young players. They finished the 2024 fall with a record of 1-14.

So far into the fall of 2025, the girls have already won a game, knocking off Pocono Mountain West 5-1 to open the season. The Zephs will have a varsity and a JV team this season.

The tennis team remains young this season, with many of their players not yet reaching their senior season.

“Whitehall’s girls’ tennis program has been growing consistently over the past three years,” said head coach Susan DiGiacomo. “We believe the combination of experienced players, joined by our newcomers, will produce a great season.”

Key returners are: Elena Attieh, Alyssa-Lynn Collazo, Elina Dabourra, Trinity Goeh, Lamitta Layous, Marilyn Ogunsemore, Angie Ramirez, Grace Ruta, Maya Sankari and Hope Warren. Key newcomers are Madison Berg and Starlynn Carey.

Others to watch who are new to the team are: Fikir Alemayehu, Charlize Cuellar, Alettonia Kassarte, Pamela Malouhi, Victoria Mendez, Ceyda Ozdemir, Olga Stergianopoulos and Yelena Urquiza. Others to watch who are returning players are: Nicole Bachour, Reina Haddad, Jana Hanna and Fatima Salem.

In the win over Pocono, Ramirez made the jump to number one single this year and is just a sophomore. She picked up a 5-7, 6-1, 6-1 victory in the team’s first game. Attieh, a junior, was the

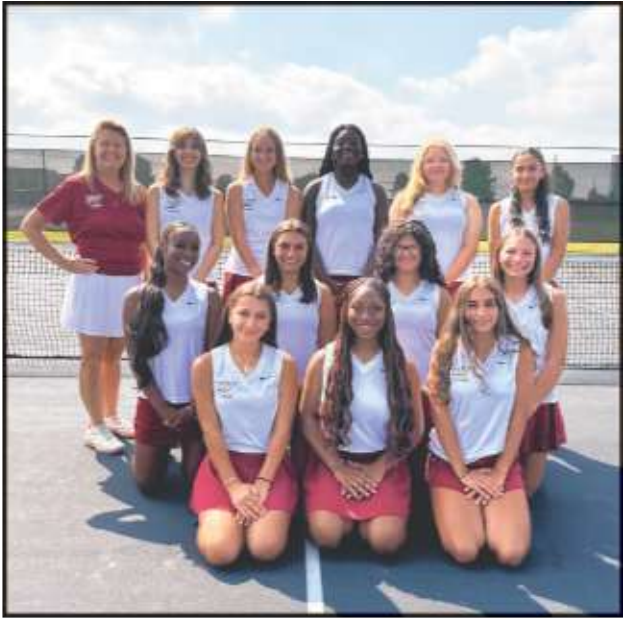
team’s number-two singles player and she was a 7-5, 6-3 winner.

Ogunsemore was the team’s number-three singles player and was a 6-3, 6-1 winner, and is also a junior.

Collazo is a sophomore as is Sankari and the two teamed up to win at two doubles 6-4, 7-6 (7-5).

Ruta is one of a couple of seniors on this year’s squad and she teamed with junior Berg to win 7-5, 6-2.

Goeh is another senior who played four-doubles with junior Carey.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 2025 varsity tennis team.

COMEBACKS BEGIN HERE

Setbacks happen. When they do, all you want is to get your life back. Trust the region’s only nationally ranked orthopedic team to help get you there. We turn setbacks into comebacks, one movement at a time. Comebacks begin here.

Scan to read about Kristi’s comeback from ankle surgery.

Top 25 in the nation for orthopedics.

LVHN.org/ortho | 833-LV-ORTHO

Lehigh Valley Orthopedic Institute

part of Jefferson Health

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL GOLF

WHS aiming to make league tourney

BY SCOTT PAGEL
spagel@tnonline.com

By the time this article is published, Whitehall golf head coach George Cowitch will likely know the fate of his 2025 team.

As of early last week, the team had played three quad matches and compiled a 5-4 record.

Given the struggles of the team in recent years, the staff has a lot to be proud of so far this season, but they also want more.

"We have played three quad matches so far, and have compiled a record of 5-4," Cowitch said last week. "In all reality, I think that we could easily be 7-2, just had some guys not per-

form to their expected level.

"Overall, we as a coaching staff are very proud of where we are as a team and how competitive we have been on matches."

So far this season, Cowitch said the team is averaging around an 85 score for their best five golfers. That puts their team score around the 425 mark in total. Cowitch said his goal for the remainder of the season is to get his team shooting at a 415 total. He feels getting to that mark could help the Zephs beat some better opponents as they wind down the season.

At the time of this article, Jack Lloyd and

Brett Cohen have been leading the way for the Zephs with the best averages. Both have been shooting in the high 70s to low 80s. A new addition, Chase Miller, has been a welcoming addition to the team, shooting in the mid 80s, according to Cowitch. Sophomore Logan Shean has been impressive, shooting his career best 83 at Riverview, recently.

As far as the rest of the season, the goals are pretty simple for Whitehall.

"We look to get hopefully 2-3 more wins and qualify for leagues as a team for the first time in over 15+ years," Cowitch said.



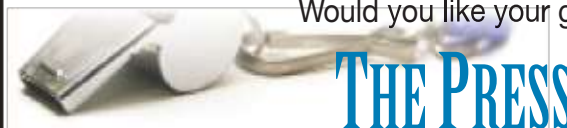
Jack Lloyd has been helping to lead the Zephyr golf team this season.

"Overall, we as a coaching staff are very proud of where we are as a team and how competitive we have been on matches."

George Cowitch

ATTENTION: YOUTH COACHES!

Would you like your game results to appear in



THE PRESS

Email: spagel@tnonline.com



Stay Connected

with **LEHIGH VALLEY PRESS LVP** Sports



@LVPpressNews



@LehighValleyPressSports



We take you behind the scenes for exclusive player, coach and fan reactions.

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER

Girls aim to compete in always-tough EPC

BY SCOTT PAGEL
spagel@tnonline.com

The Whitehall girls soccer team will again be looking to stay competitive in the always-tough EPC.

Head coach Chris Bleam believes he has the kids to do just that, but things will have to break their way a bit.

"Our team is pretty small this year, but we have some talented players," Bleam said. "I believe we will be competitive with most teams and if we are able to stay healthy and manage the heavy load of games, we will hope to build on last year's improvements and compete with the top-tier of the EPC."

Members of the team are: seniors Isabella Brogna (defender), Morgan Laub (midfield), Audrey Muller (defender) and Emma Potocnie (forward).

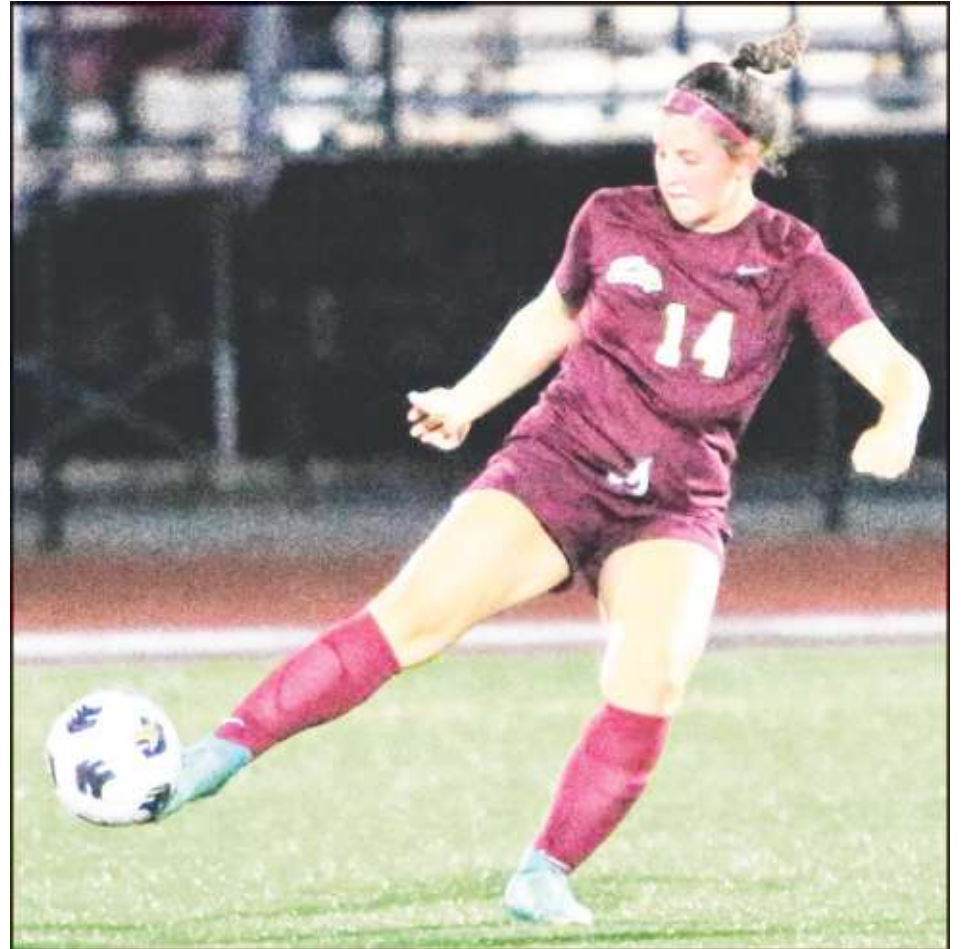
Keeper Cora Musselman leads a group of juniors including: Collene Somers (midfield), Paula Londono (midfield), Kyla Braun (midfield), Olivia Tabarani (defender), Kaila Wexler (defender) and Greta O'Brien (defender).

Sophomores are: Salena Habib, Makayla Katrib, Jade Snyder and Larken Good. Freshmen are Nora Schwenck and Liana Issa.



Kyla Braun is a returning junior (left) while Morgan Laub (right) is a senior.

"The team needs to replace two seniors and has several very talented players returning who gained valuable experience last year," said Bleam. "I was able to learn a lot about our two incoming freshman, Schwenck and Issa, during the offseason as they demonstrated tremendous commitment."



Emma Potocnie is a returning senior to the team.

"I believe we will be competitive with most teams and if we are able to stay healthy and manage the heavy load of games, we will hope to build on last year's improvements and compete with the top tier of the EPC."

Chris Bleam

Would you like something printed in the Press
Email spagel@tnonline.com

ATTENTION WRITERS!

THE PRESS

is looking for writers to cover games in Northampton and Catasauqua.

If interested, email
spagel@tnonline.com





Y O U R L I F E Y O U R W O R L D Y O U R N E W S

WEEKNIGHTS AT 4PM • 5PM • 6PM • 10PM
WFMZ.COM

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL



Jenna Conrad is one of a few seniors back for the volleyball team this season.

Volleyball team looking to improve this fall season

BY SCOTT PAGEL
spagel@tnonline.com

The Whitehall volleyball team will be looking to improve off a 5-11, 6-14 record a year ago. The team is relatively young as they enter the 2025 season under head coach Cristal Fernandez. Jenna Conrad, Allison Keck and Ashley Mendoza look to be the key returning seniors to the team. Conrad is a setter while Keck is an outside hitter and Mendoza is an opposite hitter. Juniors on the team are Yara Atiyeh, Jada

Colon, Julena Coulter, LaSereon James, Lila Pinkey and Chloe Rute. Atiyeh is listed as a setter while Colon is a middle blocker and opposite. Coulter is a defensive specialist and James is an outside hitter. Pinkey is a middle blocker and outside hitter and Rute is a defensive specialist. Sophomores are Ashlyn Felker, who is a defensive specialist and libero while Dalia Hanna is a defensive specialist as well. Anea Pilana is an opposite and outside hitter. Makenna Reichenbach is a setter and opposite hitter with Corynn Troxell an outside hitter and defensive specialist. Others listed on the team are: Giovannalia Almoreef (freshman), Areleny Lochart (sophomore), Maggie Marinkovits (senior), McKenna Marinkovits (freshman), Kayla Mathew (freshman), Alyssa Russo (senior), Hailee Schmitzer (freshman), Leah Wakim (freshman) and Ty'Veih Wilson (freshman). No other information was provided to the Press before last week's deadline.



READ LOCAL
SHOP LOCAL
EAT LOCAL

LEHIGH VALLEY PRESS **LVP**
A DIVISION OF TIMES NEWS MEDIA GROUP – A PENCOR COMPANY

We cover your community!

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Harriers look to continue to grow this season

BY JEFF MOELLER

Special to the Press

As he enters his third season at the helm of the Whitehall cross country program, Brandon Hampton has watched his program evolve and grow.

Hampton has been impressed with the summer showing of his runners, and he is confident they can make an impact this fall.

"We had a good summer," said Hampton. "The kids have been running hard, and we have a veteran group that should do well."

Hampton will look to

a group of eight seniors who will help to set the trail.

On the boys' side, the Zephyrs will rely on our three seniors, some returning juniors and sophomores, as well as some exciting and promising freshman.

Seniors Habib Leyos and Daniel Tran, juniors Sebastian Zaiter and Kihan Resto, and sophomore Deakon Smith are leading the way.

"We're hoping the freshman learn from our upperclassmen and they all continue to work together as they have all summer to push each

other, which will ultimately make us more competitive when we get to our invitational and league meets."

On the girls' side, the Zephyrs have five seniors leading the way, but junior Marli Jacobus will pace the pack. Others expected to excel are senior Ashley Mendoza, and juniors Isabelle Daigle and Emma Druckenmiller.

"We're looking to those girls lead a large returning group of sophomores and juniors, a few new faces, as well as a small group of freshman, to compete and

hopefully improve our team record yet again this season."

Hampton is very optimistic that his harriers will continue to grow and to lower their times throughout the regular season toward leagues, districts, and possibly states.

Overall, we're excited about this season based on the work, enthusiasm, and attitudes we've seen all summer," beamed Hampton. "We hope it continues the positive results and progression we've seen with the program the last two years."



Habib Leyos is one of the key runners back for Whitehall this season.



LEHIGH VALLEY PRESS LVP
A Division of TIMES NEWS Media Group

PHOTO REPRINTS IN COLOR

YOU CAN ORDER A COLOR REPRINT OF ANY PHOTO
TAKEN BY OUR LVP PHOTOGRAPHERS

5" X 7" **\$9⁹⁵*** 8" X 10" **\$10⁹⁵***

Simply fill out and mail this form and check (made payable to TN Printing) to:

LVP REPRINTS P.O. Box 239, Lehighton, PA 18235

Date photo appeared in the paper _____ Page _____

Brief description _____

5" X 7" _____ 8" X 10" _____ Total Amount \$ _____
HOW MANY? HOW MANY?

Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Email Address _____ Check # _____

*Price includes tax and postage. Must be prepaid. Allow 2 - 4 weeks for delivery.

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHOOL

Cheerleaders busy through winter

BY SCOTT PAGEL
spagel@tnonline.com

The Whitehall cheerleading teams will be busy straight through winter.

The high school team is made up of 25 cheerleaders with 26 cheerleaders on the middle school team.

“This season we will be cheering on the sideline at every varsity football game and every home junior varsity and middle school game. As well as basketball,”

said head coach Alexis Freedman. “We’re most excited about growing as a program and cultivating a stronger sense of community.”

The high school roster is made up of: Laney Headman (Senior), Alexis Jaikes (Senior), Gabriella Jaikes (Senior), Noelia Molina (Senior), Britney Okoth (Senior), Maya Williams (Senior), Sadaayah Brown (Junior), Janelly Caban (Junior), Roseline Zulu

(Junior), Rylie Balikian (Sophomore), Vinessa Eggleston (Sophomore), Makenzie Gery (Sophomore), Jianna Hernandez (Sophomore), Isabella Klempke (Sophomore), Jaylene Rodriguez (Sophomore), Hope Warren (Sophomore), Elianna Young (Sophomore), Jaynalli Acevedo (Freshman), Leoniah Morales (Freshman), Zion Damore (Freshman), Madison Dohanish (Freshman), Elisania Garrido

Rodriguez (Freshman), Danielys Marrero (Freshman), Amayah Rosa (Freshman), Daniela Skvasik-Figueroa (Freshman).

The middle school roster is made up of: Haddie Dominguez (8th), Hope-Mouchia Ade (8th), Natasha Masters (8th), Eileen Precious Teyim (8th), Melisa Gomez (8th), Angelique Malave (8th), Shayla Perez De Jesus (8th), Takai Lowery (8th), Alison Delgado Ortiz

(8th), Hansleidy Padilla (8th), Remas Shoeib (8th), Peyton Kessler (8th), Scarlet Lopez (8th), Aliya Cooper (7th), Emmett Francisco (7th), Anayah Khorl (7th), Eimmy Munoz (7th), Chelsea Duong (7th), Jaliyah Perez (7th), Gianna Evans (7th), Jade Ortega (7th), Aniyah Muthard (7th), Mira Alzaghtiti (7th), Katelyn Sorrentino (7th), Myah Cruz (7th).

The squad will have three competition

teams: varsity, junior varsity and middle school. The varsity team has the district championship competition on Jan. 3, with the hope the team qualifies for the state championship the following weekend.

“Throughout the season you can see us volunteering at Fellowship Community, youth camps, elementary open houses, Special Olympics, Fist Bump Friday, and so much more,” Freedman added.

The Press was unable to contact the WHS band for a photo



Family
Community
Connection
Value

We deliver what matters most to you.
LOCAL NEWS IN PRINT & ONLINE

LEHIGH VALLEY PRESS LVP
A Division of TIMES NEWS Media Group

EAST PENN PRESS • PARKLAND PRESS • WHITEHALL-COPLAY PRESS • NORTHWESTERN PRESS
NORTHAMPTON PRESS • SALISBURY PRESS • CATASAUGUS PRESS • BETHLEHEM PRESS

SUBSCRIBE TODAY! 1-800-596-6397
Already a subscriber? Check out lvnews.com

The Undisputed Leader

in High School Sports Coverage

*plus so much
MORE!*

**Now Streaming SEN+**

All of your local content in one place
on the SEN+ App.

Visit senetworkplus.com
for more info.

Three Local Sports Shows:

LV Sports Scene, The Mike Zambelli
Show, and Phantoms Front and
Center Pregame Show

Three Local Sports Channels:

SEN2, SEN50, and SEN902

SERVICE ELECTRIC

610-865-9100



SECTV.COM

INTERNET • TV • PHONE