

THE MUSTARD SEED

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Faith Mennonite High School

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Invitational Tournament Dual Enrollment

If you were to ask a student at FMH what one of their favorite parts of the school year is, chances are many of them would say the Invitational Tournament. The Invitational Tournament is an annual basketball tournament between 9 different Christian high schools and hosted by FMH. A few changes were made to the tournament this year, such as: improved and expanded seating due to the renovations that were made last summer, the whole tournament was live streamed so people could watch the games without braving the crowds, and FMH charged a small admission fee to all spectators. The tournament is always highly anticipated by fans and players alike. It is a time when fans can show their school spirit and players can show their mad basketball skills. By Friday, January 19, there were



many busy students setting up the food stand for the big event, as well as many excited fans and players milling about. Faith JV had a busy night, playing 3 games and sadly losing 2 of those. Faith Varsity had their first game against Mountain View at 9:00 Friday night and many FMH students were present to cheer for their team. This year the FMH students had bright green rally towels with the words, "In loving memory of Mr. Ressler" on them. Fans put them to good use and waved them in support of the varsity team. The gym was filled with sounds of cheering and every once in a while a loud disappointed groan. Varsity had an intense first half and ended up falling behind but after half time the team came back with renewed energy and ended up beating Mountain View by 8

points. Since Varsity came through and won their game Friday night they were not scheduled to play again until Saturday at 1:00 pm. JV played one last game on Saturday at 12:00 pm, and even though they won they were sadly out of the tournament. When 1:00 rolled around many FMH students once again gathered on the stage to watch Varsity play against Fairview. Adrenaline was high leading up to this particular game because Faith had lost to Fairview earlier in the season. The game was an intense one and Varsity battled long and hard but they were unable to pull out the win. There were many disappointed fans, but there was still hope for the beloved varsity team. Varsity still had one more chance to get to the finals, and to do this they had to beat Mountain View again. Varsity played at 3:40 pm, and this time a

very nervous group of fans gathered on the stage. Since this was possibly the last game that Varsity would play in the tournament, the fans put their all into cheering, some even cheering so loud they lost their voice. Despite the loud encouragement from the FMH fans, Varsity still suffered another loss. This loss put them out of the tournament and ended their chances of making this year a three peat. Fans and players walked away with their pride a bit hurt, but everyone realized that all good things must come to an end. At the end of the day, whether FMH won or lost, students and players were all still proud to be a part of Faith Nation. Congratulations to Fairview Street for winning this year's FMH Invitational Tournament.

Kerri Kauffman

One of the most popular questions for a high school student is, "What do you want to do after graduation?" We are being given the blank page of our future, and this can be simultaneously frustrating, exhilarating, and overwhelming.

For me, the answer to that question has been the same for almost as long as I can remember: medical missions. I want to serve in practical, physical servanthood, bringing hope and healing both to hurting hearts and to hurting bodies.

Some new strokes have been made in the painting of my life this year that I never could've imagined when I started my freshman year here at FMH. I am currently a senior in high school dually enrolled in both FMH and Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences. This has been an incredible opportunity for me to grow in so many aspects, and to begin jump-starting my career, and pursuing some of my life-long dreams. Taking 11 credits at PACHS is enabling me to knock out several gen-ed's that I will need to take for the degree I'm pursuing, and because I am still in high school, I am receiving my credits at a 50% discount. The benefits of this are obvious, and it has been an excellent way for me to ease into the culture of being in college while still receiving daily Christian education at FMH. I am grateful for the opportunity I've had to do this, and I am excited to see what God has for me in this journey.

This thing of the future being a blank page is actually a beautiful thing. The fact is, each life created by our God is a piece of artwork, with each stroke from the Artist creating each piece beautiful, unique, and perfect. We cannot see the end result now, but I can assure you, His finished product will be a masterpiece.

Mindy Beiler

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correctly while thousands of fans watched breathlessly. All the young Hooplanders dreamed of one day making it to the national spelling bee. The annual Hoopland spelling bee became the highlight of the year.

However, the inevitable passage into adulthood always took its toll, even on the children of Hoopland. Marriage and mortgages dampened many spelling bee dreams and always turned attention back to basketball, the steady source of income. As many Hooplanders began their basketball careers they found themselves wishing that they had practiced harder and learned more at basketball camp, but alas, it was too late.

Mr. Stauffer



Lititz Quiz-a-thon

It was the morning of January 27, 2018. Most of the FMH students were going about their usual Saturday activities; some were back at work at their Saturday jobs after taking off the weekend before for the Invitational Basketball tournament. However, twenty-five FMH students were somewhere completely different...

We walked into the gym at Lititz Area Mennonite School for the first quiz-a-thon of the 2018 quiz season, nervously looking around at who else would be quizzing this year. The eight teams from Faith gathered for prayer, and then waited for the usual announcements to start. We noticed the new quizzers, and remembered how we had felt the first time we quizzed in middle school. We saw many familiar faces and met up with old friends—friends with whom we shared a common connection because we were all involved in quizzing. Many of us had the verses we memorized weeks and months in advance running through our heads, hoping we could remember them in the middle of a quiz. The announcements started, and tension mounted as we waited to hear which

quizmaster we would quiz with, and how soon our first quiz would be.

Each team quizzed 5 quizzes over the course of 4 hours. These quizzes affected our standing before the play-offs. The play-offs included only the top 20 of the 50 senior high teams. During the regular rounds of quizzing, the Faith teams achieved a combined total of 8 position wins. Six of the 8 teams from Faith made it to the play-offs, with the Strangers of Rome coming in first of the day and the Cretes coming in second.

Parents, siblings, and fellow students showed their support throughout the day by coming to the event and cheering for their teams. The team members of Faith Strangers of Rome—Tyler Lapp, CJ Lapp, and Matt King, along with their coach, Jason King—worked together as a team to bring back the second place high trophy. We all came home with a renewed motivation to study, and we are excited for the rest of the quiz season.

Kristal Bange

Editorial

The village of Hoopland was known far and wide for only one thing—basketball. In fact, 90% of the working Hooplancers were employed by a basketball team. Basketball was woven into the fabric of society and while there were many different ways to earn money in Hoopland, all of them required basic basketball knowledge and skills.

Because of this, every child was enrolled into mandatory basketball camp when they turned 6 years old and spent the next 12 years of their life in general basketball training. While some chose to take extra years of training to specialize in defense or shooting, most got drafted into one of the many basketball leagues at age 18 and began their careers.

Basketball skills were vital to life in Hoopland, but believe it or not, many of the Hooplander children did not like basketball. No indeed, for spelling was king amongst the youth. They spent nearly all their free hours practicing their spelling and memorizing the stats of the NSA (National Spelling Association). Young people who were good at spelling were “cool” by default, and “goodie-goodies” who practiced basketball instead of joining the spelling challenges were shunned. Some of the more daring children would even sneak out of basketball camp some days to go to the library and practice their spelling!

All the basketball coaches of Hoopland did their best, but it was a losing battle. Basketball drills were just not as exciting as spelling “hippopotomonstrosesquippedalophobia”

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Students Speak Out

What is your goal for the new year?



Freshman - Daniel Lapp

My goal is to get a better GPA this year compared to last year.

Sophomore - Kelsey Garman



To be intentional and to be 100% focused in everything I do in 2018.



Junior- Breanne King

One of my new year’s resolutions is to invest more time into people and to be more intentional with them.

Senior - Alexander Martin



My main goal for the next year is of course GRADUATION!! But following that I am excited to do my best to adjust to college life at Penn State Harrisburg.

Calendar

Feb	8	Regional Quiz-a-thon at Buffalo Valley
	9-10	Gospel Haven Tournament
	12	Open House (6-9 pm)
	22	Calvary Quiz-a-thon
Mar	2-3	Teen Tournament
	7-9	Quiz Retreat at Black Rock
	13	ACSI Fine Arts Festival

Alumni Feature

It’s startling to realize that this spring it will be 35 years since the class of 1983 graduated from Faith High School. I look back fondly on the years that I spent at FMH (beginning in the old school building in Christiana and then moving into the brand new facility on Woodland Drive), and I am grateful for the direction and the mentoring that I received in those critical years. My experience at Faith was invaluable as I began a career in teaching at Weavertown School where I served as the principal and 8th grade teacher for 18 years. It was a very fulfilling time in my life and it was fun to be a recruiter for FMH, bringing my 8th grade



classes to visit, and to watch them get excited about attending high school. After my time at Weavertown, I had the unique experience of being the administrator at Faith High School for 2 years. I also enjoyed being a colleague of one of my teachers, Mr. Harrison, who has taught 4 of our 5 children. More recently our life and calling has taken us to a small church in Westmoreland County, PA, where I am a part-time farmer and remodeling contractor. Our family strives to build our local church here, and to show our friends and neighbors the love of Jesus.

Nate Kauffman

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