

COMING HOME

to change

Homecoming festivities changed this year, but students' enjoyment did not

By: Calla Reynolds (9)

Homecoming this school year took a different approach compared to years prior. Traditionally, a school bonfire has been held on the hill between the middle and high school after the Homecoming football game. This year, the bonfire was held on Thursday, Oct. 6, after the parade on Third Avenue, which is the main street of downtown Freedom. With this change of the bonfire, the school hosted fireworks after the football game on Friday, Oct. 7. The firework show was a short display of colorful sparks that lasted around five minutes.

Earlier afternoon on Oct. 7, a pep rally was held inside the high school gymnasium rather than the stadium, differing from years past due to weather conditions. At the pep rally, the cheerleaders and band gave a small performance before and after introductions of the Homecoming Court

members. The Court also performed a dance, which they had been practicing all week.

Saturday, Oct. 8, was the date of the Homecoming dance itself. Students, from freshmen to seniors, gathered in and outside the high school cafeteria to enjoy engaging in activities, such as dancing and playing corn hole. An autumn themed photo station was established in the student center for students who purchased professional photographs by alumni Michael Fricke to get their pictures taken.

"Homecoming was amazing, for my first time; I loved the games. I kind of wished there were more drink options. Overall, it was a 10/10," Colton Blank (9) said.

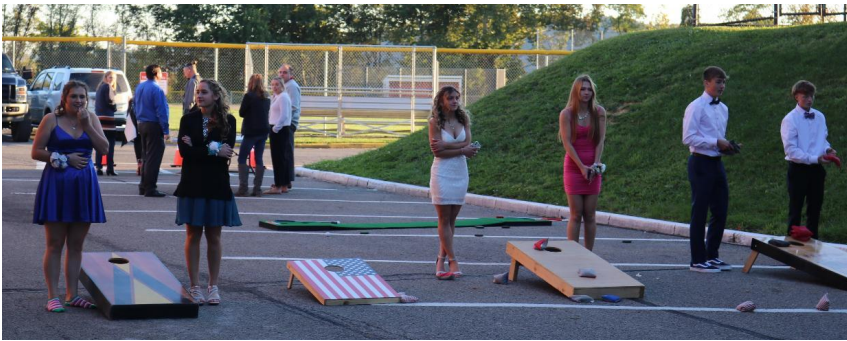
Homecoming festivities have differed from tradition, yet students enjoyed it this year equally as much as years past.



Toss like a boss

Waiting for their turn, **girls** watch as their partners toss bean bags during a game of corn hole. The Homecoming dance was held on a chilly Saturday night, making students warm up through multiple outdoor activities.

Calla Reynolds | Shawnee

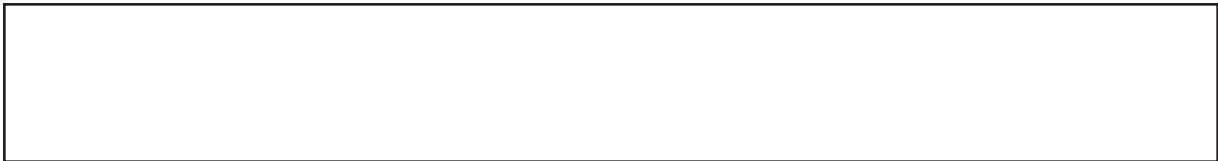


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Above the crowd

Sporting their football jerseys, **the football team** stands up after being announced for recognition. The announcers wished them good luck for an upcoming game against Neshannock during the pep rally on Oct. 7.

Kaylee Ostrowski | Shawnee





Up in the air

Sitting on top of a trailer, the **boys and girls soccer teams** throw candy and wave to spectators during the Homecoming parade on Oct. 6. The Homecoming parade was moved this year to a Thursday, when it usually takes place on a Saturday. "The preparations were mostly just getting everyone together with a good amount of candy for the kids," **Alyssa Bearer (9)** said.

VIRAL style

Students capture their Homecoming experiences through Instagram posts



Hayleigh McCowin (12), Joey Rinere (12) and Jennifer Varner (12).
@joey_rinere_



Leannah Messenger (12) and Edna Arredondo (12)
@leannahmessenger16



Reese Neely (9) and Colton Blank (9)
@yuh_its_colton



Bulldog spirit

Waving her pompoms above her head, **Alyssa Grunnagle (11)** cheers on the Homecoming Court before their performance. Instead of performing at the usual outdoor pep rally, cheerleaders performed an introduction cheer for students inside the gymnasium.

Ana Shipman | Shawnee

SENIOR outfits

Seniors share their Homecoming fits

Connor Tavern (12)
Stylish, 1970s costume



Aubrey Reynolds (12)
Pink pearl necklace and black velvet dress



Jersee Melvin (12)
White flower earrings and a sparkly pink dress



Chant for touchdown

Supporting the Bulldogs, **Shaye Bailey (11)** cups her hands to convey her message to the football team. The Homecoming football game was held on the Friday before the Homecoming dance.

Luke Snavelly | Shawnee



Looking glam

Smiling for the camera, **Brianne Casto (9), Mackenzie Mohrbacher (9), Anthony Rychorcowicz (9) and Zack Hill** pose in their glamorous outfits. Students attending the Homecoming dance dress themselves nicely for the occasion.

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