

the State



March 2018 Issue 3

Hurricane Malware

By Nick Lehman

About a month ago, Northern Lehigh School District was hacked by the Emotet and Qakbot malware.

In general, malware is a type of software that is intended to damage and disable computers and computer systems.

Emotet is the type of malware known as a "Banker Trojan." This malware obtains financial information by ejecting the computer code into the networking stack of an infected computer, which allows sensitive data to be stolen via transmission.

Qakbot is a malware that is able to move through a network and steal information, but it can hide itself to avoid detection.

According to Mr. Bachman, who is the technology coordinator for Northern Lehigh, these viruses were most likely brought in through an infected email, and it affected all of the servers and desktops in Northern Lehigh.

These viruses tried to hack everyone's account, which caused all of the accounts to become locked out, and affected school for about four days.

At first, the virus scanners and Malwarebytes the school had in place didn't catch it. Then, the IT department, who also consists of Mr. Hrizuk (the director of technology) and Mr. Hass (the computer technician), added Spy-

hunter, which was able to catch it, but the virus still found a way back into the system.

Then, they installed Webroot on every Microsoft Windows desktops, laptops, and servers that "cleaned it, caught it, found it, and has been keeping it clean since."

For the future, they will keep the Webroot in place, will install a new management program to keep the computers up to date and clear of security holes in the system, and will install firewall over the summer to ensure more protection.

Besides the amazing members of the IT department, our high school librarian, Mrs. Tiedeman, contributed to the cause as well.

When this situation first began, Mr. Bachman showed her how to install the protective programs on the devices and explained that the entire district would need this installed to fight the virus. They all immediately got to work, and they worked until midnight.

The next day, no one could access their accounts, and her new priority was helping to get the district back up and running.

She, along with Mr. Hrizuk, Mr. Bachman, and Mr. Haas, ran to all of the buildings to install the

protective programs. The next day, they finished the installations in all of the buildings in the district, but the newly installed program was not working properly because the virus still found a way into the system.

The next day, they all had to go back and install the new program on all of the devices in all of the buildings. That Friday, Mrs. T thought they got the situation under control, but the running computers still showed the infection.

That day, they got in touch with a larger company to help fix the problem with a better program.

"The IT Department worked extremely late every single night that week."

Even though we had a three day weekend, they did not. "They worked everyday that weekend, extremely late."

During their "weekend," Mr. Haas's wife came in and helped them too.

Mrs. T. thinks that the greatest effect this of attack was the inconvenience it was to the students and staff and the impact it made on the education process.

Even though no critical

information was lost, our network was cut off from the IU, and the students were unable to log in because every account was cut off from the network to prevent it from spreading.

Overall, Mrs. T. noticed that this experience was very interesting because we were able to see how reliant we are on technology.

She could not use her computer and online catalog to check out books, and the staff could not access their Canvas and PowerSchool accounts.

"The panic that it caused, simply because we couldn't use computers, was very interesting to me. It was eye opening to see how much we depend on technology now."

After everything was said and done, there was a great cost to the school.

It cost \$3 per desktop and laptop per month and \$12 per server per month.

Throughout the district, we have 1,306 desktops and laptops that cost \$3,918 and 21 servers that cost \$252.

This will cost the school a monthly fee of...

What's Happening?

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- Is AP Right For You?
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- Winter track
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Is AP Right for You?

By **Tori Csanadi**

Starting in the 2018-2019 school year, Northern Lehigh was fortunate enough to gain a variety of new AP classes. In addition to the previous AP English class and AP Biology class, AP United States History, AP European History, and AP Calculus AB were added to the list of courses a student could take.

AP classes are unlike other classes. They are far more rigorous than an honors class, but have the benefit of smaller class sizes.

These classes are designed to prepare the student to take the Advanced Placement exam in May, where a high score (on a scale of 1-5)

can exempt the student from taking an introductory level college course.

If you believe you are up to challenging yourself with one of these high-level courses, I do recommend you take them. They can give you great insight into what is expected of you in college classes.

To provide you with a little insight as to what each course is like, I can give an honest representation of the AP classes I have taken.

Advanced Placement United States History required about three or four hours of work a week. Homework assignments included reading numerous chapters (you

had about two weeks to read three or four). Tests in this class were incredibly difficult and required an in-depth understanding of the material.

Advanced Placement English required out-of-class reading quite often. A thorough understanding of grammar, literary analysis, and writing is a necessity. Numerous essays were timed and an 8-10 page research paper was due at the end of the semester.

Advanced Placement Calculus is very hands-on and requires out-of-class learning. If you are unwilling to sit down and watch videos on how to solve problems, this class is not for you.

Tests are more in-depth than the tests from LCCC Calculus, by far.

I asked Mr. Sander about his experiences teaching AP European History. "A student needs to have the ability to read and write at the collegiate level. Be diligent and willing to work independently for the majority of the material." He also stressed the importance of essay-writing.

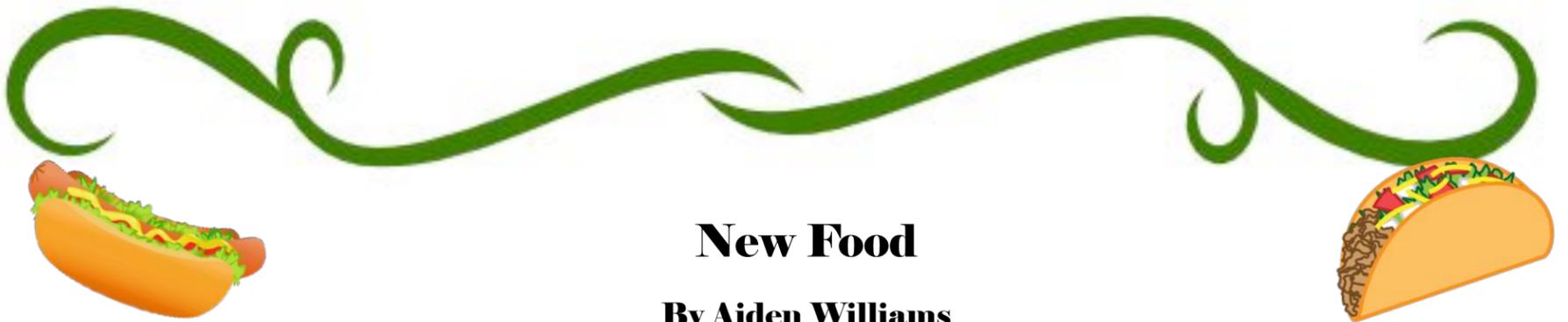
AP student Kyle Detweiler, on AP Biology, gave the advice of being able to memorize lots of information in a short period of time.

These classes seem to require similar skill sets.

Next year, when Northern Lehigh offers AP Spanish, it seems likely independent work will also be highly required.

Advanced Placement classes all require out-of-class work to guarantee success. Hours of studying, working, and homework are just the bare minimum requirements.

However, if you work diligently and put in the effort, I can assure you that you can find success.

New Food

By **Aiden Williams**

It's a good time for food lovers here in Northern Lehigh. Throughout the past few months we have been treated to two new restaurants to go to.

Late last year we were treated with Doggy Style. As the name implies, Doggy Style makes hot dogs, and they can be topped with all sorts of delicious condiments like cheese, chili, and even coleslaw.

The hotdogs are absolutely huge too, making them even more filling. They also have cheeseburgers, cheese-steaks, fish sandwiches, and more!

Doggy style also offers deli-

cious side dishes such as homemade chili and mac and cheese, french fries, nachos, pierogies, and onion rings.

Check out Doggy style on 27 Main Street, by the bridge from Walnutport to Slatington, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Earlier this year, the long awaited Taco Bell finally opened as well! In addition to classic tacos, Taco Bell also serves burritos, quesadillas, the famous Doritos tacos, and the newly introduced nacho fries.

You can get the five dollar box for a mix of tacos and fries and a drink. They also

have a breakfast menu including the crunchwrap, breakfast burritos, and the breakfast stacker from 6-11 a.m.

Side dishes offered include the amazing cinnamon delight bites and cinnamon twists for dessert. Taco Bell is located on 506 Old Main Street, Walnutport from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

From my own experience, I love both of these newly introduced restaurants. I went to Doggy Style the day that it opened.

I got a chili cheese dog and french fries, and I loved both.

The hot dog was extremely filling, and their fries were very crispy. Last time I was there, I ordered a burger and coleslaw, and was, again, impressed. The burger was cooked to perfection and the coleslaw tasted great.

Doggy Style is my favorite place to go locally to get hot dogs or burgers. I also gave Taco Bell a try during its inaugural weekend, eager to finally try it after such a long wait.

I ordered my favorite thing to get at Taco Bell, their five dollar box. Included is a regular taco, a doritos locos taco, and whatever their current special is,

right now it is the nacho fries.

Also included is a medium drink. I feel this is the best value and is what I almost always get.

My favorite sides to get are the cinnamon delight balls. They taste delicious and you can get four for under two dollars. I love going to Taco Bell for a quick meal whenever I'm in a hurry.

Be sure to check out both Doggy Style and Taco Bell for a delicious meal!

SWEENEY TODD

By Trent Herman

This year's spring musical is "Sweeney Todd: the Demon Barber of Fleet Street"-steam punk style. One of the darkest musicals ever written is the unsettling tale of a Victorian-era barber who returns home to London after fifteen years of exile to take revenge on the corrupt judge who ruined his life.

When revenge eludes him, Sweeney swears vengeance on the entire human race, murdering as many people as he can, while his business associate, Mrs. Lovett bakes the bodies into meat pies and sells them to the unsuspecting public.

There will be five performances of the show. It will open Thursday, March 22nd at 7pm and will close Sunday, March 25th at 2pm.

I had asked our director, Colette Boudreaux a few questions about why she chose this show.

"I went through a number of shows before landing on Sweeney, but I was committed to doing something that would make the cast I had shine. Many shows were immediately ruled out due to their need for a large cast. But Sweeney suits our cast size, the types of voices we have, and the strengths of our actors in terms of characterization. Additionally, I wanted to do something completely different from Beauty and the Beast so those who were in the pro-

gram were still challenged, and since Sweeney is something I know the students have been asking to do for years, I was excited we finally had the opportunity to do it!" said Boudreaux.

I had also asked why people should come see the show and what can the audience look forward to.

She said "They should come see the show because they will be entertained, titillated, and they will be supporting a bunch of really hard working students whose work deserves to be seen. As we always try to do here, you can look forward to Sweeney with a slightly different take. Let me just say, if you have seen Sweeney Todd before, you haven't seen it like this!"

She also said, "Because of the bond this cast has developed by working together all year, they have a very special energy that I don't think you will see at most of the other schools. The support between them and the love they have for each other makes each scene feel far more organic, despite the fact they are intricately choreographed. The students in our Troupe are total package people. They don't take what they have for granted and work for every note, every move, every intention on that stage.

"They are smart and talented, brave and brilliant. And they are will-

ing to try new things because they want more, and they want to be better-which is a true sign of artistry! They don't just want to put on a show, they want to create something together, and it takes truly special people to have that spark inside. Each and every one of them brings something awesome to this group, and I cannot wait for people to see what they have to offer."

I agree with this one-hundred percent. From my experience and journey with the Northern Lehigh Theatre Troupe I can say that we have an amazing cast, crew, director and art director.

The amount of time and effort everyone puts into this show is unreal. Creating art and doing theatre is very important to many people in our school district and in our society.

Northern Lehigh has always done an excellent job creating art on and off-stage and will always continue being great at what they do.

Moreover, the amount of excellence the Troupe has exceeds the expectations of many people and proves that we a superior group that has so much talent and creativity to offer.

"When there has been any uprising in a country, or government takeover, one of the first things the new order al-

ways wants to control or shut down is the Arts. Why?

Because nothing provokes such emotion and communicates so strongly as Art- be it in performance or otherwise. Theatre in particular is important for students for a myriad of reasons. It is a safe outlet for expression of intense emotions, it increases confidence by encouraging risk-taking in creative thought, and it engages types of thinking that are not always used in other activities (lateral thinking, mindfulness, imaginative visualization, heightened body awareness and acceptance).

Most importantly, in recognizing the distinction between oneself and his/her character, the student really increases his/her capability for empathy as he/she has to truly immerse him/herself in another person's life." Said Boudreaux.

I had also asked why she loves working here At Northern Lehigh.

Her response was "The students I get to work with, having such a brilliant Art Director Mr.Shuey, and the support of the administration."

Finally, she added "If you don't see this show, you're going to regret it, because I guarantee you people will be talking about it...! Overall, This show is going to be amazing so mark your calendars



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HOROSCOPES

BY NICK LEHMAN AND CARMEN ALVARO

WHAT ST. PATRICK'S DAY SYMBOL ARE YOU?

SHAMROCK:
AQUARIUS, VIRGO



SHAMROCK SHAKE:
PISCES, CAPRICORN

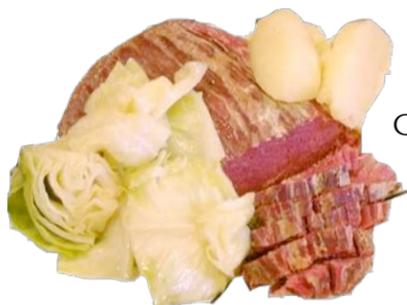


POT O' GOLD:
TAURUS, SAGITTARIUS



RAINBOW:
ARIES, LEO

LEPRECHAUN:
SCORPIO, CANCER



CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE:
LIBRA, GEMINI

WHAT IRISH DOG ARE YOU?



IRISH WATER SPANIEL:
GEMINI, LEO



IRISH SETTER:
TAURUS, PISCES



KERRY BEAGLE:
SCORPIO, VIRGO



IRISH WOLFHOUND:
CAPRICORN, AQUARIUS



WHEATEN TERRIER:
CANCER, ARIES



IRISH TERRIER:
LIBRA, SAGITTARIUS



Hurricane Malware Continued..

\$4,170 and an annual fee of about \$50,000. On top of that, the firewall will cost about \$19,000.

Outside of Northern Lehigh, this malware attack also affected Allentown.

According to an article

written by Daniel Patrick Sheehan of The Morning Call, the repairs are estimated to cost \$1 million, and this incident is under a criminal investigation.

For the future, the students and staff have a part in preventing this from happen-



ing again at school and at home: do not click on any mysterious emails that include invoices and unexpected attachments. Instead, you should just delete them.

We, The Slate, would like to give a huge thank

you to Mr. Bachman, Mr. Hrizuk, Mr. Hass, Mrs. Haas, Mrs. T, and everyone else who gave up their three day weekend to get Northern Lehigh back on the grid.

Winter Track

By Kristen Guelcher

What is the first thing that comes to mind when someone says "winter sports"? The first thing you probably thought of is either basketball or wrestling. But for a few students at NL, winter track comes first. Being only a freshman, this was my first year of partici-

pating in winter track and I will definitely be signing up again next year. We had a total of two meets this season. One meet was at East Stroudsburg University and the other was at Susquehanna University. Some of the best memories

from this season happened at the meets. Personally, it was my first time running in any high school track meet so it was intimidating at first, but I got accustomed to it pretty quickly. Running in the events is fun, of course, but my fa-

vorite part of the meets is sitting around with the team in between events. It's great to just hang around with the team and have lots of laughter. Practices were only two days a week, but frankly, I wish they were more often. Sure, running laps

around the school and doing ab workouts might not sound fun, but it all depends on who you're doing it with.

Overall, I see this past winter track season as a success and I absolutely cannot wait for this upcoming spring season.

Debate

By Carmen Alvaro

The end of winter brings the conclusion of another regular debate season. Although the team ended with a 9-23 record, they have worked hard throughout the season to know the ins and outs of their topics and defend their position against opposing teams' attacks.

This past fall, the debate team focused on the positives and negatives of the Federal Communications Commission reenacting the Fairness Doctrine. For those unfamiliar with the FCC, it regulates radio and television communications. Most recently, the FCC has been in the news for repealing net neutrality. The Fairness Doctrine was originally introduced in 1949 and required television and radio broadcasters to present opposing viewpoints on controversial issues. However, the policy was eliminated in 1987.

The affirmative teams argued that the Fairness Doctrine would lead to a better-educated public and reduce the well-known bias in broadcast news. However, the negative teams argued that stations should retain the right to broadcast what they choose and that an increasing amount of people are getting news online, which would not be included in the Fairness Doctrine.

During the winter, the debate team turned their focus to the privatization of federal prisons. In 2015,

approximately 18% of federal prisoners were held in private prisons. The number of inmates in private prisons has been declining

the contract ends. The affirmative team argued that private prisons are cheaper for the United States government. On the other hand, the negative team argued that prisoners' safety is compromised in private prisons.

The debates on both topics will continue throughout the semifinals. In the semifinals, each school will send one team of

four students to argue for or against one of the two topics; however, each team does not know whether they will be affirmative or negative un-

til they arrive. Therefore, everyone must prepare to defend both sides. The semifinals will continue throughout March into April.

At the end of April, Northern Lehigh will host the finals. Here, the top two teams will again debate one of the two topics. One team will ultimately take home the trophy.

A significant amount of the debate team will be graduating this year, leaving several open spots for next year. The debate team hopes to have 16 members again next year to fill four teams, two affirmative and two negative. Those with questions about the team can contact any member of the debate team or the advisor, Mrs. Leslie. The team is always open to new people and hopes to see more new faces next year.



The 2018 Winter Olympics

By Brianna Schuck

The 2018 Winter Olympics were definitely one for the books. This year was marked as the "biggest" Winter Olympics in history. For the world, it was a pretty great turn out. But for the U.S., it was not one to remember.

Overall, the U.S. finished with just nine gold medals, eight silver medals, and six bronze medals. According to some, the U.S. had its worst performance at the Winter Olympics since 1998. They ranked fourth in gold and silver medals, and they respectively had 23 medals total.

Aside from the negatives, there were a few highlights to look forward to. Two U.S. female Olympians had won the first Olympic gold medals in cross-country skiing for the U.S.

The men's curling team conquered Sweden and took home the first olympic gold medal for the U.S, and the U.S. women's ice hockey team took home a

gold medal as well. Individually, Redmond Gerard and Shaun White took home gold medals in snowboarding for the men.

Jamie Anderson and Chloe Kim also took home gold medals in snowboarding but for the females. Mikaela Shiffrin took home a gold medal in women's alpine skiing, and David Wise took home gold in men's freestyle skiing.

Chris Mazdzer took home silver in men's luge, John-Henry Krueger placed second in men's short track speed skating, Nick Goepper brought home second in men's slope-style, Lauren Gibbs and Elana Meyers Taylor brought home silver in bobsleigh.

Mikaela Shiffrin also ended up placing second in women's alpine skiing, Alex Ferreira placed second in men's freestyle skiing, Jamie Anderson also placed second in wom-

en's snowboarding, and Kyle Mack placed second in men's snowboarding.

The U.S. figure skating team took home a bronze medal, Arielle Gold brought home a bronze medal in women's snowboarding.

Alex and Maia Shibutani both



PyeongChang 2018



came home with a bronze medal in figure skating aside from the team win, Brita Sigourney ventured home with a bronze in women's freestyle skiing, and Lindsey Vonn placed third in women's alpine skiing.

Heather Bergsma, Brittany Bowe, Mia Manganello, and Carlijn Schoutens all placed third in speed skating. Overall, the U.S. Olympic team consisted of:

12 men and 10 women compete in alpine skiing.

5 men and 5 women compete in biathlon.

12 men and 4 women compete in bobsleigh.

9 men and 11 women compete in cross-country skiing.

5 men and 5 women compete in curling.

7 men and 7 women compete in figure skating.

15 men and 14 women compete in freestyle skiing.

251 men and 23 women compete in ice hockey

7 men and 3 women compete in luge.

5 men and 0 women compete in nordic combined.

5 men and 3 women compete in short track speed skating.

2 men and 2 women compete in skeleton.

4 men and 3 women compete in ski jumping.

14 men and 11 women compete in snowboarding.

7 men and 6 women compete in speed skating.

Overall, we had 134 men and 107 women compete in the 2018 Winter Olympics, which totals out to 241 athletes all together.

Winter Sports Review

By Brianna Schuck

This past winter sports season was a solid effort and great overall outing by every athlete.

With wrestling at a little bit of a rebuilding year, basketball shining through, and the cheerleaders supporting all season long, the season definitely ended on a high note.

Starting with boy's basketball, they returned roughly all their roster except one graduated senior.

From their, they played in a few tournaments and summer practices and really toned in on their goal. With a few key starting players and a few rotations throughout every game, they got the job done.

The boys will be missing three seniors next year, but are sure to return as strong and as positive. The boys went 8-10 in the league and 11-11 overall.

They placed 9th overall in the league and qualified as the number six seed in DXI playoffs. They played the

number three seed, Cata-sauqua, and lost in the DXI quarter-finals.

Brandon Hess was selected to Second Team Colonial League and Gio Colon was selected to play in the Via All-Star game for seniors.

At awards night, Brandon Hess, junior, received Offensive MVP, and Gio Colon, senior, received Defensive MVP.

The girls basketball also had a promising season, as they had more numbers this year and ultimately had fun while showing the league they weren't out of all contentions.

They went 7-11 in the league and 7-15 overall. Altogether, they placed 9th in the league.

Jada Saeger and Jillian Olewine shared the honors of Player of the Year at awards night.

Jada was selected to First Team All-League, and Jill

was selected to play in the Via All-Star game as well.

Coach Shankweiler wishes the best of luck to his three graduating seniors who will be missed both on and off the court, Katie Ziegler, Dani Hoffman, and Jill Olewine.

Wrestling lost two heavily-impacted graduated seniors this past year, both who made it out to states and ended their runs as Bulldogs the best way they could.

That being said, they left a drive and motivation to the young team, and they got the job done this year.

However, they went 1-7 in the league and 1-17 overall. They finished 11th in the league.

At awards night, Seth Fronheiser received the Most Outstanding Wrestler award. He finished his senior season with a record of 20-8 and a career record of 93-46.

The middle school team

was fulfilled by a few freshmen, and they too had outstanding seasons. Josh Schaffer, freshman, pinned his way through a few tournaments and districts to place first.

J.D. also placed at districts. The freshmen seem to be spotting a bright future for our varsity wrestling team. Keep grinding.

For swimming, Ben Lehman placed 4th in the 200 yard IM and 5th in the 100 yard Breaststroke at Districts. He is still competing in other meets. Best of luck!

As for the cheering squad, they all worked incredibly hard this season and were extremely dedicated. Working from June until February, their work ethic never changed or led up.

Coach Filchner would like to let you all know how proud she is of each and everyone of you this season.

At awards night, all but one award were voted on by the girls themselves as to who

they believed deserved the award.

Alicia Quattrocchi received the MVP award, Alexis Hollinger received the Most Improved award, Katherine Clouse received the Olivia Rodriguez award, and Katherine Clouse also received the Senior Award.

The one award the coaches voted on, called the Coaches Award, went to Brittney Wertman. Great job girls.

Congratulations to every coach and athlete on phenomenal seasons and best of luck next year.

To the seniors, best of luck down the road and never forget how you got where you are today!





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The Criticized Dandelion

By Blake Schuck



The criticized dandelion basks in the sun's daily rays,
 Because he is a people pleaser in various ways.
 But he is not merely one to make the ladybug feel better;
 He cannot be criticized if the ladybug is happy for days.

Oh, but the troubled dandelion continues to say:
 "You're beautiful, ladybug, in all wonderful ways!"
 Although he does not mean this, he must continue,
 For he cannot be ridiculed if he gives the ladybug praise.

Then, all of the ladybug, in her desirable talks,
 Says lies to the dandelion to make him believe mocks.
 Yet, the dandelion continues with this oppression,
 Because he cannot be condemned along these walks.

But alas, the dandelion is tired and about to die,
 And that is satisfactory, for the ladybug did little to try.
 Oh, the dandelion cannot continue the lies he feeds,
 For he only gives praise to make the ladybug comply.



Postponed because of snow, then malware, then snow again, but its finally here!

Officers:

- President Carmen Alvaro**
- Vice President Nicholas Lehman**
- Treasurer Tori Csanadi**
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- Mrs. Hannon**
- Mr. Geist**
- Mrs. Farber**
- Mrs. Kunkel**
- Mr. Lehtonen**
- Coach Ruch**
- Mr. Vlasaty**