

Husky Connections



October 2022

Alumni Cheerleaders Show Perpetual Spirit

Typically, high school cheerleaders are a different breed... and that's a good thing. They are filled with school spirit and enthusiasm. Certainly, Dieruff High School cheerleaders satisfy that description. That's the way it is now, and that's the way it has been for decades.

The current coaches of the Dieruff Squad had been high school cheerleaders, and they know their passion is still contagious.



With creative juices flowing, they organized an event, inviting alumni cheerleaders to join them for the Homecoming Game against Pocono Mountain East on October 7, 2022. They even held a rehearsal to familiarize all participants with the current routines. Special shirts were ordered and distributed.

Their numbers were bolstered by the alumni cheerleaders who had returned to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the 1992 Huskies East Penn League Championship.

Husky Pride was in full force. For many, the event rekindled memories of "the good old days". On the gridiron, the Huskies dominated the Cardinals and enjoyed a 40-10 victory. **Congratulations to all!**

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President's Message: Dieruff Husky Logo a Big No-Go



You've all heard the expression that *"imitation is the biggest form of flattery"*. Well, the University of Connecticut has demonstrated that they are not flattered. Not at all!

For several years, the Dieruff Huskies have been using the logo shown at the top left. It appears all over Husky High: on clothing, on the walls and floors, even on sports uniforms.



Kay Kurtz
President Alumni Association

Admittedly, the logo is a direct copy of that used by the University of Connecticut. They are also the Huskies. Many other high schools that boast that nickname have similarly adopted that logo as their own.

Well, the University of Connecticut has contacted all of those schools, including Dieruff High School, and strongly suggested that use of their trademarked logo be discontinued. And so, Dieruff has adopted the new Husky logo shown here. Little by little, you will see the other logo replaced. Our resurfaced gymnasium floor already bears the new logo at center-court.



2022 Wall of Distinction Honoree - Kim A. Koehler

The introduction of our final honoree for 2022 takes us to the sunny region of southern California where we meet a retired naval lieutenant commander from the Class of 1974. The Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association takes great pride in saluting Kim Koehler, LCDR USN, upon his well-deserved induction onto our Wall of Distinction.



Described by his brother, Kirk, as a mentor, friend, scientist, patriot, and a leader with a devotion to duty, Kim's naval career began in 1978 after he graduated from Kutztown State College with a degree in Marine Science.

During his commission in the Navy, he served on Hydrographic Survey ships, Frigates, Destroyers, Amphibious Assault Ships which support Marine Expeditionary Operations, and Aircraft Carrier Strike Groups. He furthered his studies and earned a Master of Science degree in Physical Oceanography and Meteorology from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.



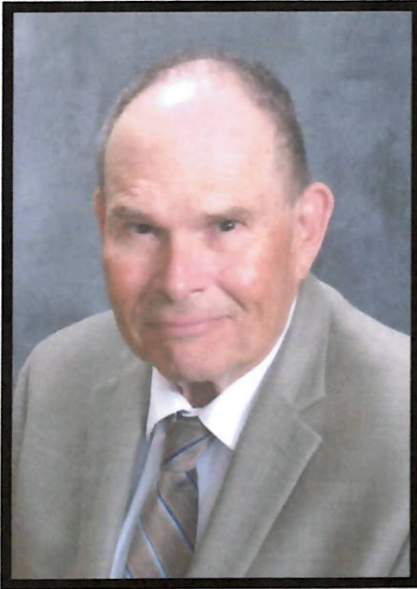
After retiring from military service in 1995, Kim spent the next 25 years supporting the United States Navy while working for the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command in San Diego. He led Test and Evaluation efforts on various prototypes of Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) and in the Navy's Acoustic Research and Development Program where he worked closely with scientists at the University of Washington, the

University of Texas, Johns Hopkins University, and the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Kim then served as the Deputy Program Manager and was responsible for the development, integration, testing, procurement, manufacturing, and fielding of two variants of unmanned autonomous underwater vehicles, the first ever such robots utilized by the United States Navy. These robotic systems are currently employed in support of Safety of Navigation, Mine Warfare, and ASW operations with well over 100 currently in the fleet.

Kim also managed the development, testing, and fielding of the Hazardous Weather Detection and Display Capability (HWDDC) systems which are deployed on aircraft carriers and amphibious assault ships, and which significantly contribute to the safety of flights and navigation. Retired since 2020, Kim continues to serve as a consultant on the HWDDC team.

(Continued on Page 4)

2022 Wall of Distinction Honoree - Kim A. Koehler (Continued)



I had the opportunity to speak with Kim when he learned that he was selected for his alma mater's Alumni Wall of Distinction, and was impressed by his genuine kindness and boundless sense of humor. A California transplant for many years, Kim admitted that he still misses good pizza, cheese steaks, and visits to the Allentown Farmers Market.

When asked to share his thoughts on his days as a Husky, Kim had this to say:

"I have very fond memories of my classmates, teachers, and coaches at DHS. I believe Mr. Wayne Bilder piqued my interest in the sciences (although I was awful at chemistry). Certainly, Major John Dillon provided a favorable picture of military life, and I always enjoyed the thought-provoking discussions led by Ms. Karen Benckert. In fact, I have no unfavorable memories of any of the teachers. I greatly respected and liked Mr. Mike Meilinger (Assistant Principal at the time) who pulled me aside on several occasions and offered some highly recommended directional changes in ways only he could. Needless to say, his "suggestions" were taken to heart. But the folks that had the greatest influence on me were undoubtedly my coaches. Coach Keith Newhard was an incredible man with an abundant sense of humor. He was universally liked by all the football players and could actually make a practice fun. The Class of 1974 was lucky enough to be the first class to have Coach Bruce Trotter as head coach of what was to become a Dieruff High School Football Dynasty. I learned so many things from him that I carried throughout my life: intensity, work ethic, dedication, and perseverance to name but a few."

We are so pleased that Kim and his wife Debra, who is also a Dieruff graduate from the Class of 1974, will be making the trip from San Diego to return to their Husky roots. What a wonderful celebration it will be when this honoree is reunited with his former head football coach who taught him the invaluable life lessons which formed the foundation of Kim's highly regarded and distinguished career.

That beats a cheese steak any day.

Joanne Ogrydziak '76

“Sew What?” Club Looks to Regroup

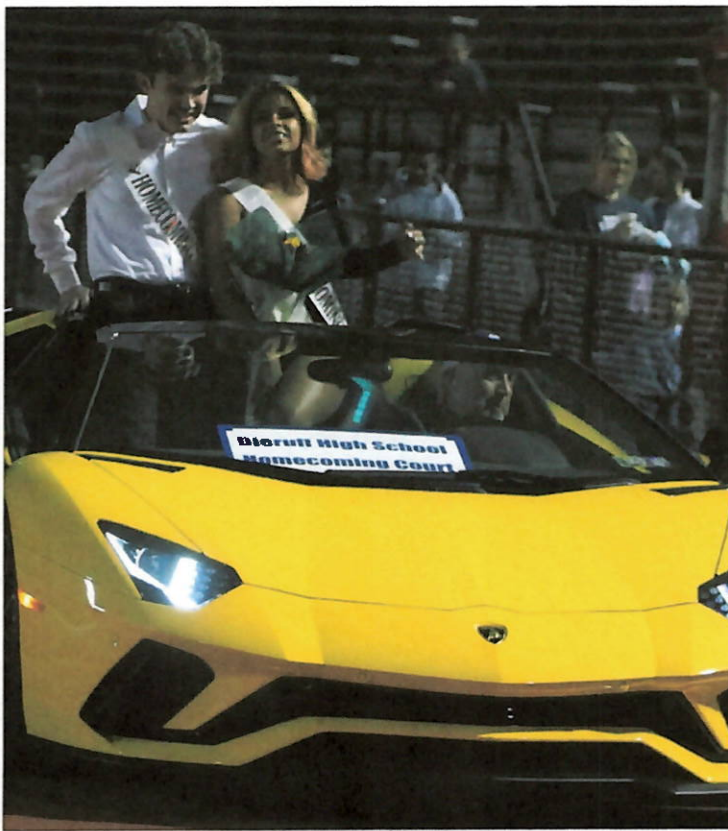
With a three-year hiatus behind them, Ruth O’Connell and Jinny Bankhard Hughes, both alumni of the Class of 1961, look to restart the “Sew What?” Club.

The after-school club meets every Wednesday in Room D6, and offers instruction on the important skill of sewing, as well as an opportunity to “give back”.

Projects are carefully selected based on their community service value. Shown here at a Dieruff Open House in September, Ruth and Jinny display some of the projects produced in past years. We commend these two alumni for their significant contribution to Husky Pride.



Husky Happenings: Homecoming



Husky Happenings: Getting Back to “Normal”

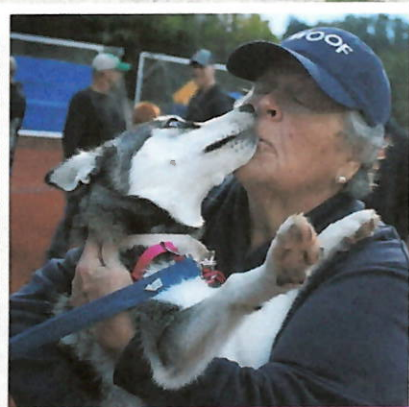
The hiatus imposed by the COVID-19 has had a dramatic affect on the entire student body at Dieruff High School. Although getting back to “normal” has been a serious challenge for most, a core of Husky leaders are demonstrating a positive example.



Husky Happenings - Lady Huskies Volley on New Gym Floor

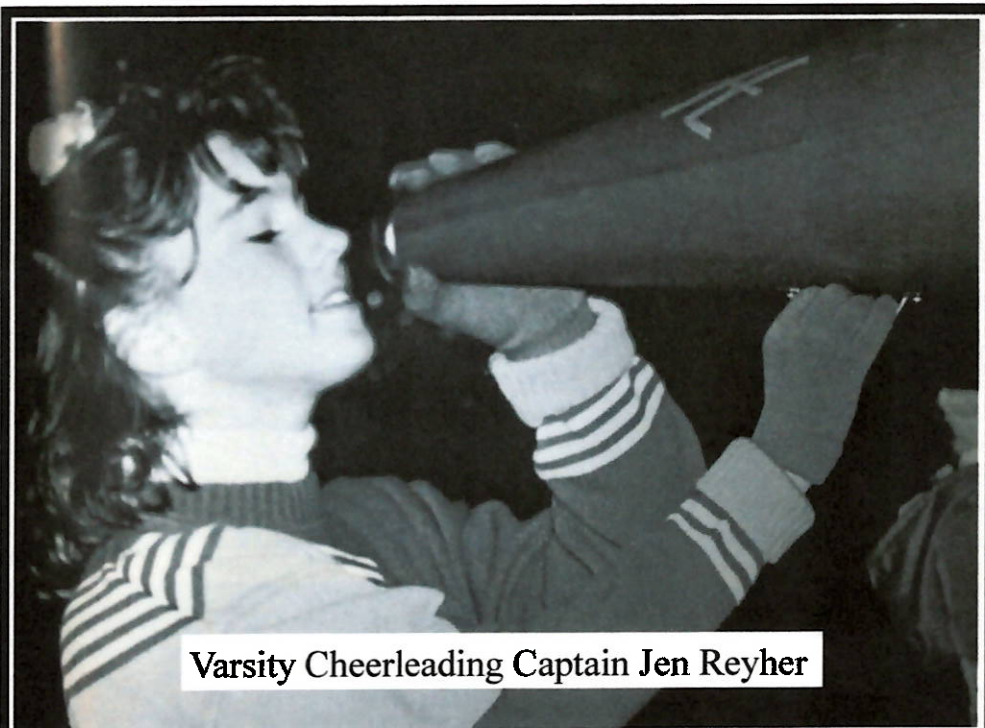


Husky Happenings - Tribute to EPC Champions 1992

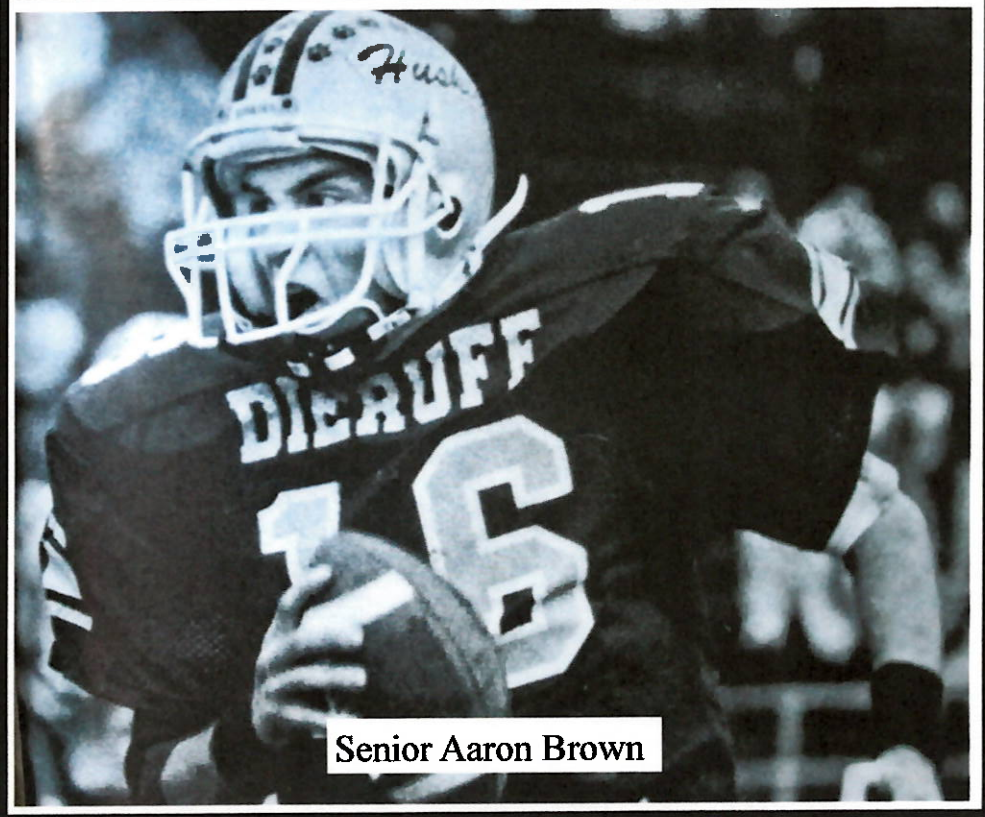


FLASHBACK: EPC Football Champions 1992

With a 32-27 victory over William Allen High School, the Dieruff Huskies were crowned Champions of the East Penn Conference in 1992. We savor the memory!



Varsity Cheerleading Captain Jen Reyher



Senior Aaron Brown

Giant Cash For Causes Gift Card Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of \$25 cards _____

Number of \$50 cards _____

Number of \$100 cards _____

Total Amount Due \$ _____



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ADVERTISE IN OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN 1/4 Page Ad: \$20/ Mo. Business Card Ad: \$10/ Mo.

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Reach over 5,000 Dieruff Alumni each month

Quarter Page Ad - \$20 / Mo.

Business Card Ad - \$10 / Mo.

See contact information in
Masthead on last page of Bulletin

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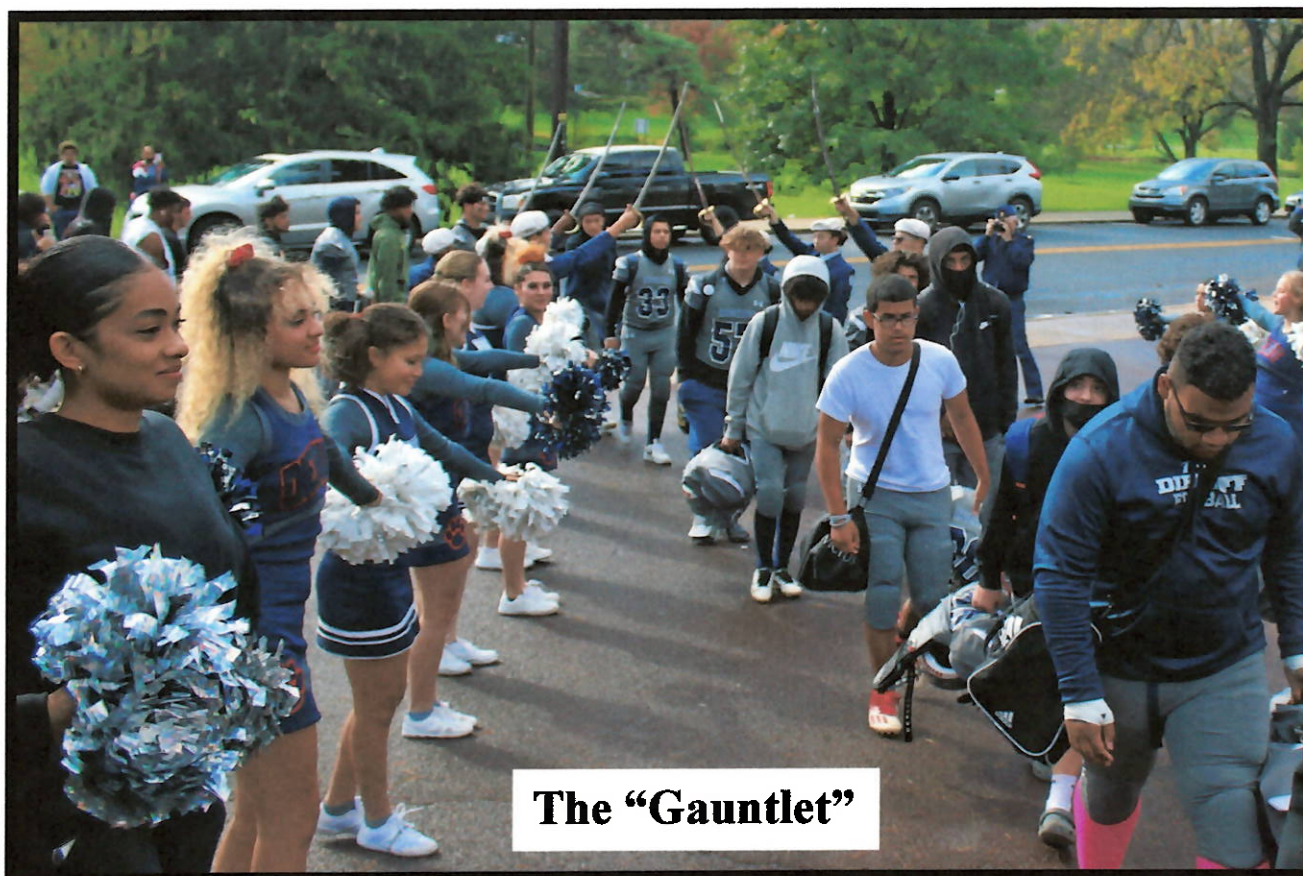
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Upcoming Events

Come and join us for the “Gauntlet”, as we greet the Husky Football Players and Coaches as they arrive for the big game against cross-town rival, William Allen. Alumni, Cheerleaders, the AFJROTC Saber Squad, and the Marching Band form a welcoming gauntlet at Gate 2, J. Birney Crum Stadium. Show your Husky Pride! Noon on Saturday, October 29, 2022.



The “Gauntlet”

Dieruff Huskies Football Schedule

Home	Friday	08/26/22	7:00pm	vs Nazareth Area HS
Away	Friday	09/02/22	7:00pm	vs East Stroudsburg So. HS
Away	Friday	09/09/22	7:00pm	vs Pocono Mountain West HS
Home	Friday	09/16/22	7:00pm	vs Pleasant Valley HS
Away	Friday	09/23/22	7:00pm	vs Stroudsburg HS
Home	Saturday	10/01/22	7:00pm	vs Allentown Cent. Catholic HS
Home	Friday	10/07/22	7:00pm	vs Pocono Mountain East HS
Away	Friday	10/14/22	7:00pm	vs East Stroudsburg North HS
Home	Friday	10/21/22	7:00pm	vs Northampton Area HS
Away	Saturday	10/29/22	2:00pm	vs William Allen HS





Louis E. Dieruff High School
Alumni Association

Louis E. Dieruff High School
815 North Irving Street
Allentown, PA 18109

**"Husky Connections"
Alumni Bulletin**

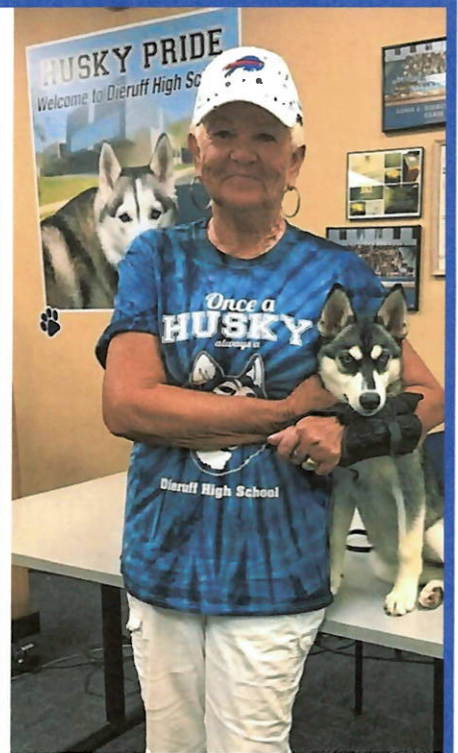
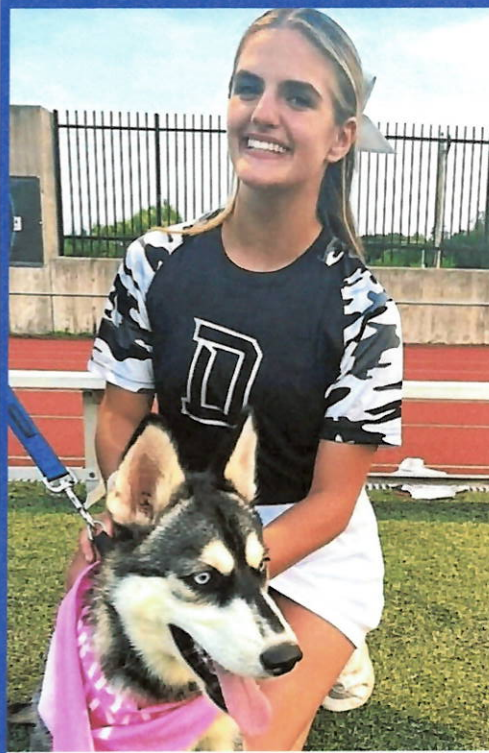
Contact Information:

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Website:
[www.dieruff-
alumni.org](http://www.dieruff-alumni.org)

Kiska VI Hugs & Howls

Hello Fellow Huskies.... I am so very happy to be "on board"
as your new mascot!! I promise to make you all proud!



With love,

Kiska VI

