

Husky Connections



January 2023

Alumni Welcome the New Year

Alas, another year has come and gone, and we welcome the year 2023. The Dieruff Alumni Associations wishes you all a happy and healthy New Year.

Our Association remains vigilant to our mission, which is to promote Husky Pride... among our alumni, current students, faculty and staff, and the community. We measure all of our activities against that defined mission.

For the new year, our planned alumni events include the April Fools' Day Bash, the annual Fandangle, and our monthly meetings. Page 11 of this bulletin features information about these upcoming events. Please join us for our monthly meetings scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month. We meet at 6:30 PM in the Meilinger Media Center.

Much of our attention is channeled toward current students. We actively support their athletic contests, pep rallies, theatre performances, and choir and band concerts. We take photos of those activities, and post them on our "Dieruff Husky Photos" Facebook site. Prints of those photos are also placed in special display cases throughout the school. A sampling of those photographs are included on pages 7, 8, and 9 in this bulletin.

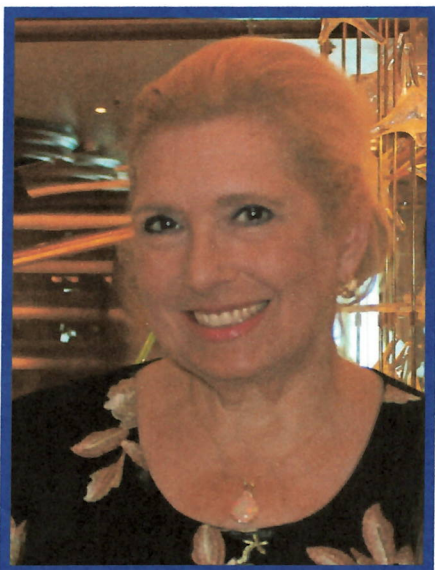
Our Alumni Association is proud of the connections we have made, and we look forward to continuing to promote Husky Pride in the New Year. We encourage all of you to get involved.

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President's Message: The Hall and The Wall

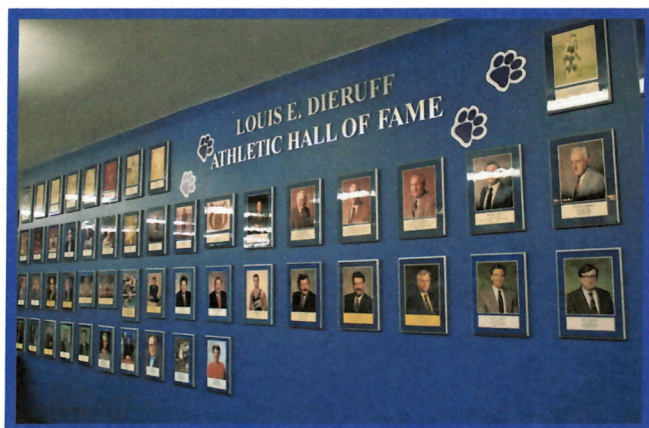


Kay Kurtz
President Alumni Association

It is not surprising that some folks are confused. Dieruff High School features two separate tributes to alumni: the Athletic Hall of Fame and the Alumni Wall of Distinction. This issue of "Husky Connections" includes a pair of articles about those displays; however, it might be helpful for me to briefly outline the significance of each one.

The **Athletic Hall of Fame** was established years ago by the Dieruff Booster Club. Located on a wall in the athletic lobby adjacent to the gymnasium, the display boasts four rows of plaques that recognize highly esteemed Husky athletes. Included on the wall are such notables as Andy Voit, Class of 1984, PA State Wrestling Champion; Rick Hollister, Class of 1962, Dieruff's first State Champion in any sport, Swimmer (whose record for the 50 yard freestyle still remains on the Dieruff record board); and Andre Reed, Class of 1980, inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

Realizing that there are many alumni who have distinguished themselves in fields other than athletics, the Dieruff Alumni Association presented a proposal to the Principal to establish the **Alumni Wall of Distinction**. Gaining immediate approval, the wall adjacent to the Main Office was selected to host the display. Four years of inductees grace the wall, and include the likes of Rick Braun, Class of 1973, internationally known smooth jazz trumpeter; Navy Rear Admiral Thomas Henderschedt, Class of 1988; and Tony Hanna, Class of 1969, who spearheaded the drive to establish the Steel Stacks entertainment venue in Bethlehem, PA.



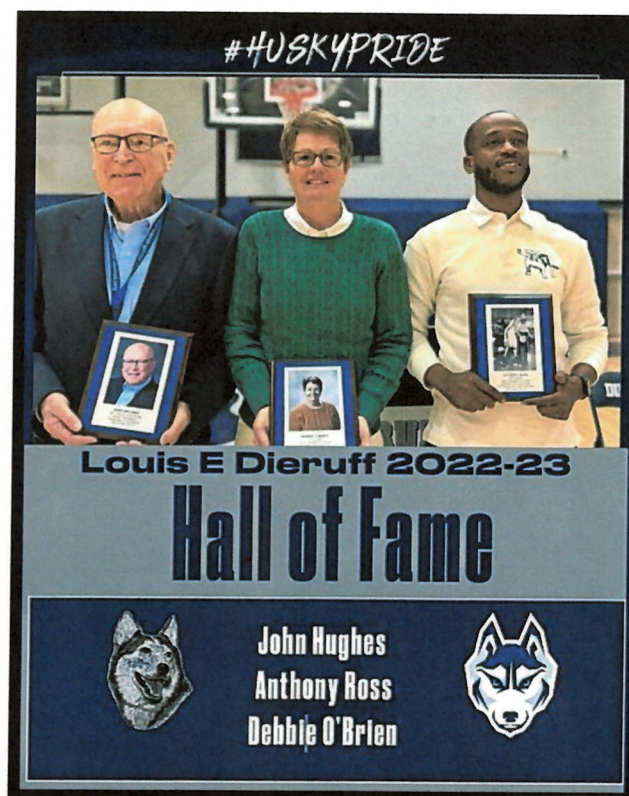
Trio Added to Athletic Wall of Fame

The induction ceremony on December 17th was quite dramatic. The gymnasium bleachers were packed with spectators for the boys and girls basketball double-header between the Huskies and Canaries. Between the two games, Principal Michael Makhoul, the three inductees, and their respective introducers, were positioned center court for the presentations.

Following the opening remarks by Mr. Makhoul, Melvin Riddick introduced **Anthony Ross**, Class of 2000. Anthony is Dieruff's Boy's Basketball all-time leading scorer with 1,419 career points. He was selected as the Morning Call's Player of the Year in 2000. Anthony was also a force on the Dieruff Football Team, where he played Quarterback. He received Dieruff's Male Senior Athlete of the year award in 2000. Anthony continued his playing career at Lackawanna Junior College, and East Stroudsburg.

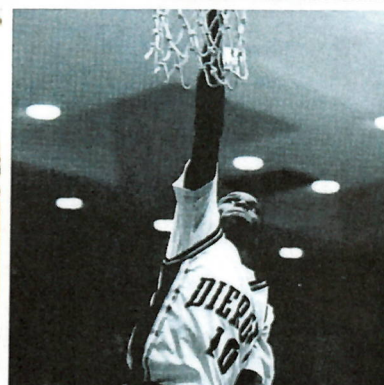
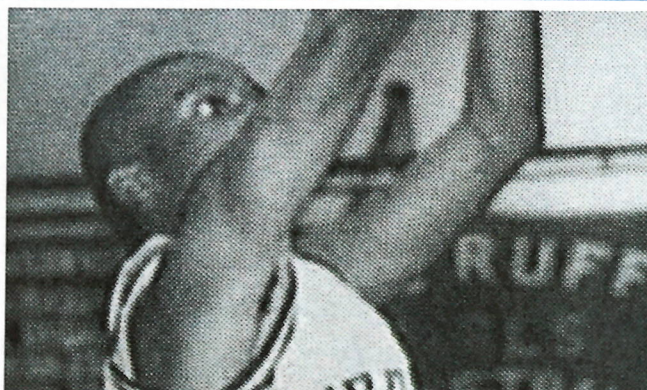
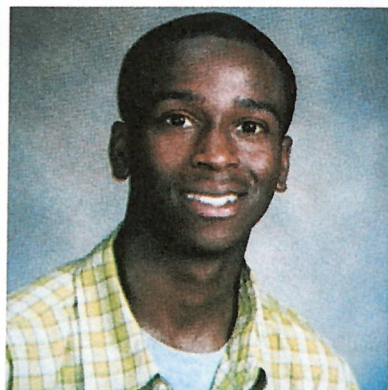
Linda Cruttenden then took the microphone, and introduced **Debbie O'Brien**, Class of 1977. Debbie played on Dieruff's back-to-back PIAA Girls State Championship Basketball Teams in 1975 and '76, She scored 1,195 points as a Husky. Debbie also played on the 1975 and '77 District XI Volleyball Championship Teams. She received Dieruff's Outstanding Female Senior Athlete Award in 1977. Debbie was inducted into the Lehigh Valley Basketball Hall of Fame in 1998.

Retired Dieruff Principal Susan Bocian then introduced **John Hughes**, Class of 1961. John was the second winner of the Male Kiska Award in 1961. He had lettered in wrestling and track, and had served as the President of Student Council, as well as the Key Club. John has become the number one supporter of Dieruff Athletics. He was instrumental in establishing the Dieruff Alumni Association in 2011, and has been a driving force in its continued development. The Association has been a staunch supporter of Dieruff Athletics. Over the past 10 years John has become the "unofficial/ official" photographer of Dieruff High School. His photographs have made countless students and families feel loved and supported.



FLASHBACK: Anthony Ross & Debbie O'Brien

Anthony Ross -
photos
taken from
1999 &
2000
Yearbooks



Debbie O'Brien -
photos
taken from
1976, '77,
& '78
Yearbooks



1975 STATE CHAMPIONS

1976 STATE CHAMPIONS



Nominations for Alumni Wall of Distinction Being Accepted

We are anxious for you to submit your nominations for the Dieruff Alumni Wall of Distinction, Class of 2023.

Now in its fifth year, the Alumni Wall of Distinction has become a highly regarded initiative of the Dieruff Alumni Association. The program is designed to bring lasting recognition to Dieruff graduates (and faculty members) who have made exceptional contributions in their respective fields, and have distinguished themselves through their diverse accomplishments and levels of prominence. In addition, the program is intended to promote Husky Pride among current students, by providing them with positive role models.

The twenty-one Huskies who have already been inducted emphatically demonstrate that the "bar has been set high" for the selection process. We anticipate that trend to continue, with only highly qualified candidates making the final cut. A sampling of those currently on the wall appears below. Five people will be selected each year.

Nominations for 2023 must be received in writing by **May 1, 2023**. A nomination form is provided on the next page of this bulletin.

Print out the form, complete it, and mail to Committee Chair Person:
Joanne Ogrydziak, 223 Long Street, Allentown, PA 18103.



Nomination Form for Alumni Wall of Distinction

Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Wall of Distinction NOMINATION FORM

Purpose: To give lasting recognition to graduates of Dieruff High School who have made exceptional contributions in their field, bringing honor to themselves and to Dieruff High School. Furthermore, it is the purpose of the Alumni Wall of Distinction to promote Husky Pride among current students, inspiring them to strive toward future accomplishments.

Criteria For Nomination: Nominees eligible for selection must have conducted themselves in such manner to reflect honor upon Dieruff High School, and have qualities of character and standards of conduct that are exemplary. Alumni must have graduated at least ten years prior to their nomination. Non-Dieruff graduates may be considered for "honorary" status on the Alumni Wall of Distinction.

Nominees must meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Demonstrated commitment to and involvement with Dieruff High School and the community at an exceptional level.
2. Outstanding, enduring contribution to society by making a difference in the lives of others.
3. Outstanding professional contribution or achievement in his/her chosen field or endeavor. Considered categories are listed: (A) Arts (B) Business (C) Education (D) Entertainment/ TV/ Film (E) Financial (F) Economic Development (G) Government (H) Historian (I) Law/ Criminal Justice (J) Media / Journalism/Writing (K) Medicine/ Health Science (L) Military

I Nominate The Following: (Please Type or Print)

Name _____ Maiden _____ Graduation Year _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

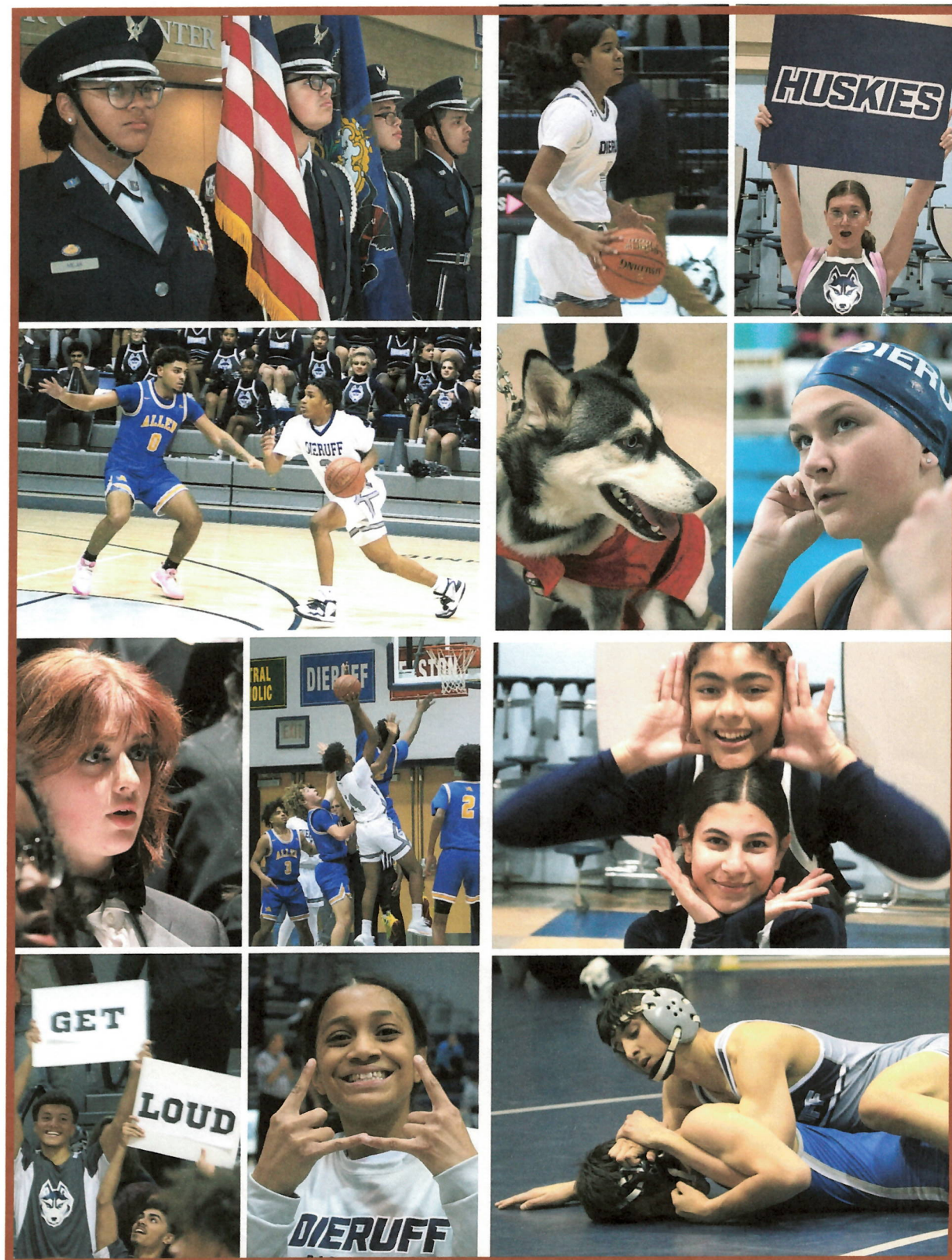
On a separate attached typed sheet, provide specific information pertaining to the nominee's occupation, education, community service, awards, honors, accomplishments, and any pertinent information to aid in their selection.

Nomination Submitted By:

Name _____ Maiden _____ Graduation Year _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Mail completed Nomination Form and Pertinent Information to:
Joanne Ogrydiak, 223 Long Street, Allentown, PA 1103

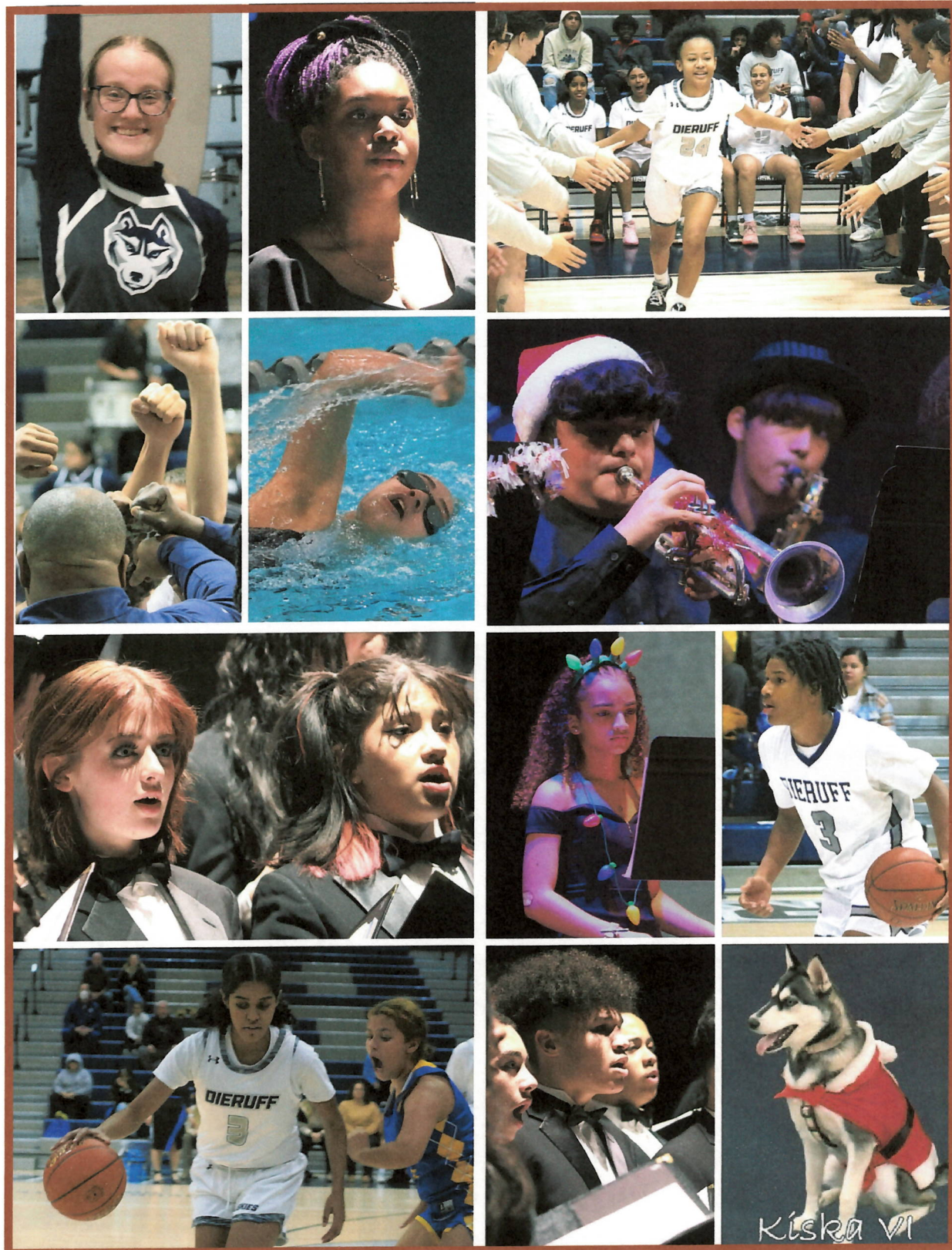
Husky Happenings: Winter Concert and Winter Sports



Husky Happenings: Winter Concert and Winter Sports



Husky Happenings: Winter Concert and Winter Sports



Giant Cash For Causes Gift Card Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of \$25 cards _____

Number of \$50 cards _____

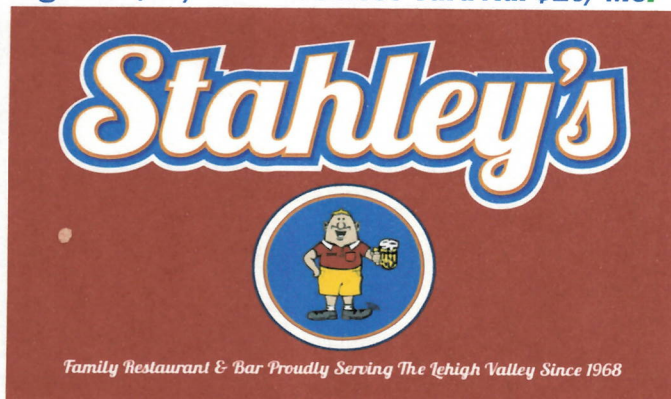
Number of \$100 cards _____

Total Amount Due \$ _____



Clip order form and mail, along with check payable to "Dieruff Alumni Association", to John Hughes, 2038 Majestic Overlook Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18015

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



ADVERTISE IN THE "Husky Connections" Monthly Bulletin

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

Upcoming Events





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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2038 Majestic Overlook Drive

Bethlehem, PA 18015

(610) 868-4490

Email Address:

Jhughes2038@gmail.com

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

Husky Hugs & Howls

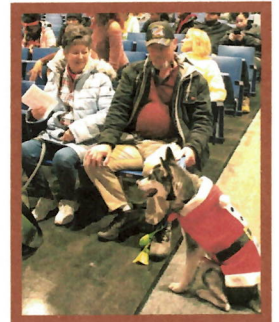
Following in the pawprints of five previous Dieruff mascots (Kiska I, II, III, IV, and V), I consider myself the "new kid on the block". I feel honored to be Kiska VI, the new mascot.

I have been hearing the word "**new**" a lot lately. In fact, during this recent Holiday Season, I personally experienced an abundance of **new** events. Having just earned my diploma from obedience school, perhaps everyone was just testing me. I believe I passed with flying colors.



One **new** event for me was the annual Cheerleader Holiday Party. These kids are just filled with energy, and I enjoyed being with them. I heard someone mention the Christmas tradition of kissing under the mistletoe; candidly, I don't need a plant over my head in order to plant one of my Kiska Kisses on anyone.

Another **new** experience for me was the Dieruff Winter Concert. I sat quietly in the front row of the auditorium with my dad (Curt Swoyer) and my Aunt Joni (Tedesco), and really appreciated the talents of our band and choir. They were fabulous.



Attending the boys basketball game against Whitehall was yet another **new** experience. Someone told me that Kiska V did not like going to those basketball games because of the loud buzzer. Perhaps I have grown up with lots of loud sounds, so the buzzer never bothered me. Also, there was lots of joyful shouting because the Huskies beat Whitehall by two points. I do believe my presence brought them luck.



So now, we are in the **New** Year. I would like to extend my best wishes to the Husky Nation for a happy and healthy 2023.

With love, Kiska VI