

THE HOOFPRINT

BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL BUFFALO, MN ISSUE 2 MARCH 2016



ONE ACT GOES TO STATE FESTIVAL
PERFORMANCE IS ONE OF MANY
HIGHLIGHTS FOR BHS ACTIVITIES

FROM THE EDITORS

Emily Vogt
Editor In Chief

2016 looks like it's shaping out to be a year of change. Changes are being made in three areas: building, student body, and community. There are going to be additions to our school building, a new time structure for students, and new facilities in our community. These changes have come in the form of opportunity. Opportunities to participate in the Bounce Back Project, getting a new stadium at the high school, new additions to the parking lot for next year, extensions of the building happening next fall.

As a student body we are striving for the best results in our activities we participate in. BPA members are going to state in California this May. Student council putting together RAVE Week, NHS putting together our school Blood Drives. One Act went to State, Music Listening went to State, FFA ranked highly this year, and Student Care Committee is working closely with the Bounce Back Project. We are getting two new additions in town: Einstein Bagels and Caribou Coffee. New jobs and possible study places are now available to us.

These changes are going to affect people differently and not everyone may agree with these new changes, but if we aren't getting stretched by the change that is happening in our school and community then how are we growing? When we stretch as a student body and a community we can either complain about it or we can remind ourselves that change can be a good thing. It can be a good thing when it can benefit our lives and better our school for students, and the community.

Our Picks



Where are the Super Fans?

Sports have been suffering in the fan department. As the winter season winds down, the fan season is also coming to an end, but it never really began.



Academic Integrity

Are we cheating our way out of having to do hard work or is it just a high-stakes survival strategy? Who really loses when Sparknotes replace novels?

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BRINGING RELIGION BACK INTO THE CLASSROOM

How can we balance religion in our schools so that we all feel equal?

It's time to talk about religion.
Really.

Not the way we typically do.
Not with two kids screaming at each other across a classroom.
Not with the awkward silence that accompanies a room full of freshmen that are too afraid to speak.


Emily
Linderholm
COLUMNIST

Let's talk about religion in a mature manner — getting down to the real stuff.

We all know that religion is a hot topic. It seems that every time that the conversation turns to Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, or another religion, people get fired up. Rather than listening to other people's beliefs or points, we tune each other out, making things worse.

Separation of Church and State was introduced to the United States during its formation. In the First Amendment it stated, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof" (in other words, the government can't make laws enforcing religion in public institutions). Although the law is enforced, we still have religion in public schools. In the Pledge of Allegiance it says "One Nation Under God." In December, we have a "holiday tree" in the office, however, it strikingly resembles a Christmas tree.

School's main goal is to help grow a person so they can be the best they can be. Religion also shares that goal. **The most popular religions urge good morals and promote inner personal growth. If schools and religions share the goal of helping us improve as people, shouldn't we be able to discuss religions in the classroom?** Can openly discussing religion in school improve not just one person, but everybody?

Learning to discuss religion in a respectable manner can help us. Try talking to someone about their beliefs in a manner that respects them, so you can better relate to that person. Discuss something that you believe deeply in, and may not even have to be religion. Learning and respecting other religions can help us grow in a way that enables us to learn and respect other people.



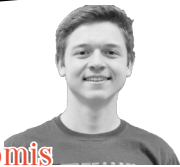
From Another Perspective...

"We [the class] try very hard to realize we're gonna be talking about religion. We do that effectively and never approach [each religion] as right or wrong. We're trying to look at the aspects of what does everybody believe and how we are different and how we are similar. [The class] works on the ability to agree to disagree and be able to have important conversations and discussions that applies to political discussions or things that are not just related to religion as well."

-World Religion Teacher Birgitta Bergquist



THE SEARCH FOR THE FAN SECTION



Mac Loomis
COLUMNIST

Super Fans have gone missing. As the season winds down, the once-mighty student season is also coming to an end, although it never really started

I walk into the gym with my team, look to my left and see bleachers full of parents and siblings clapping and applauding our entrance. At first it's exciting to see the amount of people waiting to cheer you on, but then you look a little further down towards the other end of the gym and see an open space where a student section would usually be.

This year has shown a large decline in the amount of students who attend our sporting events. I admit that the performance of some of our teams has lacked effort and hasn't really generated any success. However, even the sports that have had success, such as gymnastics and tennis, have had little to no support from our students at their events. It's pretty embarrassing running on to the court or the field and seeing an almost empty student section with only a few fans, which are typically other athletes looking to socialize.

Teams build a lot of confidence when the crowd is loud. It creates a boost of energy for the players that can't be made any other way. It's almost impossible to perform well when there's no help outside of your teammates to give you support. The

games that teams win are the games where fans fill the stands, and cheers fill the air. This year has seen silent, empty crowds which, I believe, correlates with the success of our teams.

People may argue that our teams have not generated enough success and therefore shouldn't expect a great number of fans, yet the only time people seem to care about our sports is after they hear that one of our teams is going to state. The only motivation for students to attend these events is the possibility of getting out of school, which is sad. People don't seem to care about our activities or our school spirit. They only care if they know we've had success and if we can get them out of class.

Our student sections here at BHS used to be filled with excited fans who just wanted to support our teams. Now, they are empty spaces haunted by thoughts of BHS' past enthusiasm. The support of our teams is fading along with some of their success. Hopefully something can be done to turn this trend around and bring a spark back to our teams.



Junior Noah Evans

Photo by Tommy Gaughan



Senior Allison Roethke

Photo by Sam Quiring



Junior Josh Skarin

Photo by Calista Susa

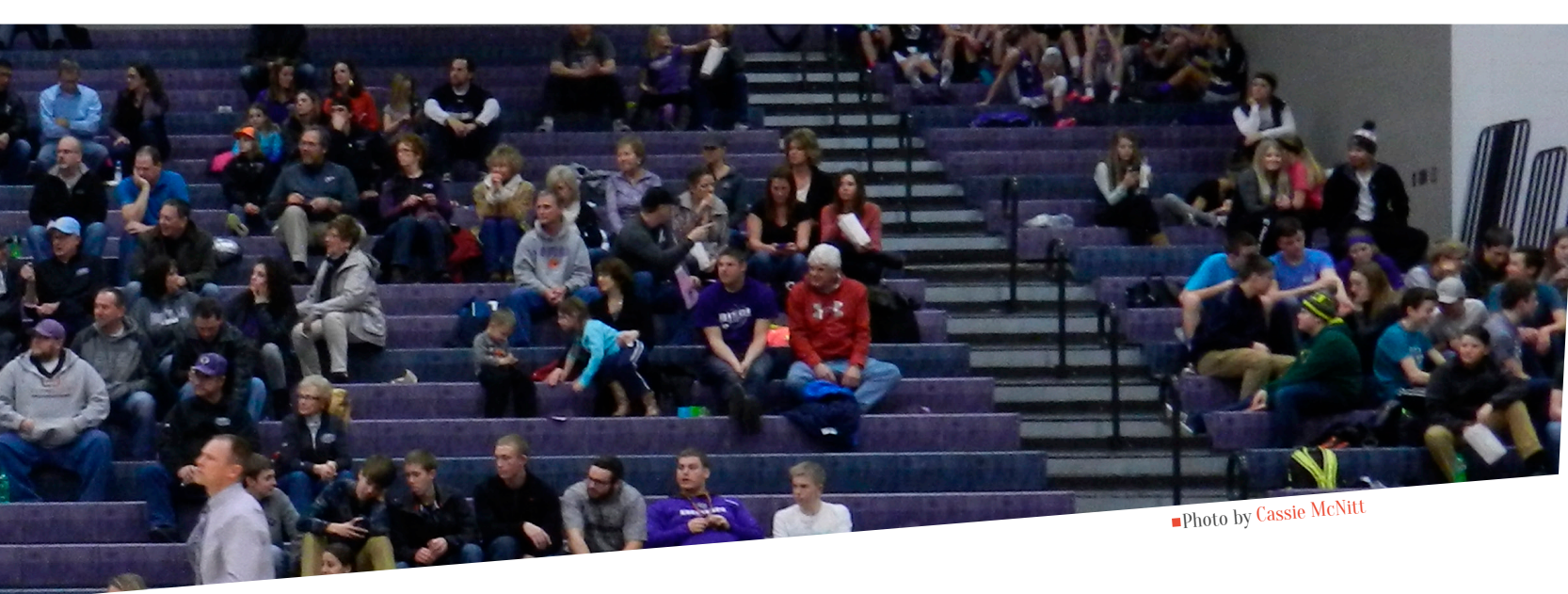


Photo by Cassie McNitt

Do **You** Go To Sporting Events?



JUNIOR RAMON VEGA JR.

“Yeah. They’re fun to watch, and you get to see your friends compete.”



SOPHOMORE SAM TWARDY

“I go to sporting events mostly for Pep Band. If my friends wanted to go, I’d go with them.”



JUNIOR SOLOMON LUSK

“No, I don’t. I don’t really like watching them. I’m not a very sporty person.”

Photos by Samantha Westrum

THE SUNSHINE OF YOUR LUNCH LINE

The story behind the lunch ladies' big Powerball win

Jack Oistad
Staff Writer

Winning the lottery seems like something foreign that could never happen close to home, especially from the recent Mega Powerball winnings. However, the odds were in the favor of the BHS lunch ladies, who won a fifty-thousand dollar prize. This once in a lifetime experience was well earned for all of the hard work and dedication the kitchen staff have brought to our school.

Winning the money was a complete shock when the numbers were announced that fateful Saturday night. When Head of the Kitchen Staff **Lynnette Neumann** found out that she and the lunch ladies had won, she decided to keep it a secret until they were all together to share the big news.

“So we put up the [lottery check] and I taped a bunch of fake money on it, and I taped fake money on everybody’s locker in our locker room.” said Neumann. “And nobody said anything when they came in. A lot of the girls come at 6:30 and no one said a word. I’m sitting there like ‘hmm’ ... so it must have been 8:30 or 9 o’clock and I couldn’t stand it. I’m like ‘Really? you guys aren’t going to say anything about this?’ Most of them thought it was a joke, they thought that it was a joke because nobody won the powerball and I said ‘You really think I’d spend \$30 bucks to make these signs because we won a dollar powerball?’”

The initial reaction when the kitchen staff were told that they had won was sheer joy

“Then they went ‘Well what did we win?’ and I said ‘I’m

not going to tell you now! You’re going to have to wait ‘til everybody gets here.’ So then everybody got here at ten, and at home I had printed a picture of a fifty dollar bill. Then I got them all together and held them up and said ‘This is what we won.’ And they were just laughing and hugging. It was just so cool,” said Neumann

It’s hard for anyone to imagine what it feels like to win the lottery; the nature of a lottery is that most people don’t win anything.

“Nobody can understand that excitement when you win. It wasn’t the big one but it was still fifty thousand dollars and unless you’ve done it you can’t understand it, it’s the feeling that someone can only really describe to you. It [winning the lottery] does make you closer [to the other kitchen staff] because they know exactly what you feel like and you know what they feel like.” said Neumann.

Not only do the winnings benefit the lunch ladies’ personal finance, this once-in-a-lifetime event has created positive vibrations in the school.

“Everybody’s always in a good mood now. Like we always got along and had a lot of fun before and now it’s even moreso. It drew us closer, even though we didn’t win a lot of money. When you divide it down between sixteen people and take out the taxes, it wasn’t life changing for any of us. But, just the whole excitement of it, the whole process just put everyone in a good mood. We’ve just had a ball with it, we’ve just had the most fun time.” said Neumann.

Winning the lottery has not had a massive impact on the kitchen staff’s finances, but it has also brought them closer to the school, the student body, and their co-workers.

SCAFFOLDING
Getting to know the real
BHS through random
conversations



Brady Bauman (11)
Photo by Emily Linderholm

Who gets you up in the morning?

“My mom.”

How does she wake you up?

“She turns my light on, and walks away.”

Does she yell at you in the morning or anything?

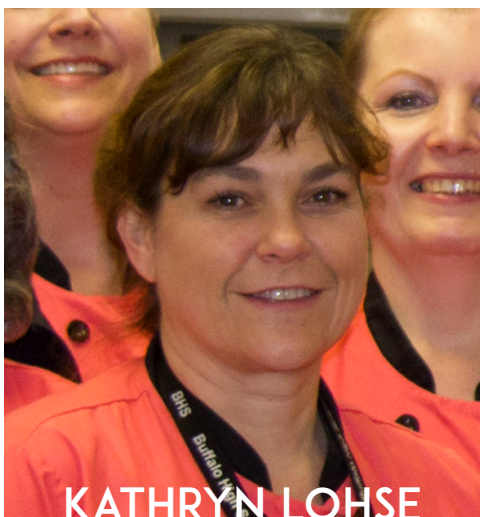
“Uh, I usually get up before that happens.”

What does she say to you if she yells at you?

“Brady, get out of bed! ‘You’re being lazy, get out of bed.’”

Does that work, do you get up?

“Sometimes, more of the time it just makes me angry. Then I want to go punch her so I get up and then I’m like, oh, crap, I’m already up.”



KATHRYN LOHSE

"I just cashed my check today."



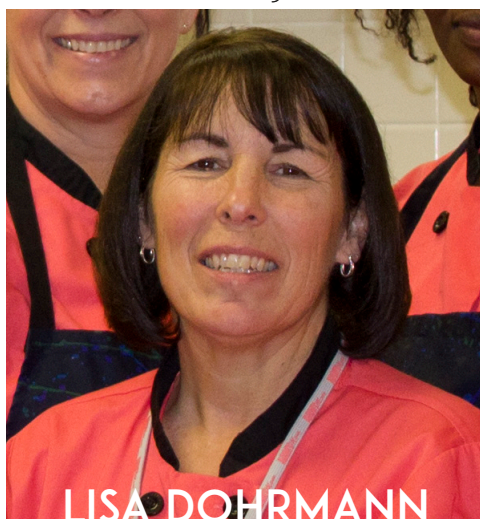
SANDRA MEYER

"I haven't even cashed my check"



KIMBERLY WILLMERT

"I want a momento, probably jewelry"



LISA DOHRMANN

"Repaired my wedding ring."



LISA JOHNSON

"I paid bills"

WHAT DID YOU YOUR FAVORITE LUNCH LADIES SPEND THEIR EARNINGS ON?



Photos by Ben Kiernan

Most Talked ABOUT

CARIBOU COFFEE

The new Buffalo coffee shop opened on March 2.

MINNESOTA WILD

Mike Yeo was fired as Head Coach of the Wild. In the 14 games leading up to his termination, the Wild's record was 1-11-2.

ZIKA VIRUS

As of February 2016, almost 100 cases of the virus have been reported in the United States.



ONE TO ONE TECH

With more and more classwork turning digital, should BHS provide students with devices?

Teagan Woods

Writer

Hybrid classes and online homework are on the rise, teachers are using Google Classroom more, and projects requiring access to digital tools are more prevalent. Some schools have responded to these conditions by providing every one of their students with a device — free of charge — often a MacBook Air, Chromebook, or iPad.

BHS has maintained a “Bring Your Own Device” policy, relying on supplementing the school’s technology with student-owned devices. The district has invested infrastructure that can provide fast internet access to hundreds of devices simultaneously. Is it time for the district to go one step further and provide students with devices?

Is it actually helpful for schools to provide personal

“I wonder, do kids who don’t have devices feel second-class here?”

devices for students? A four-year study of 5,000 middle school students in Texas found that kids participating in laptop immersion programs had lowered disciplinary problems and participated more in classes than students without laptops. However, they were also more likely to be absent from school.

Laptops are one thing, but handheld electronics are another. Most students have a phone or tablet that they bring to school regularly. Typically, they’re only allowed out during work time, but teachers are slowly becoming more integrative, embracing platforms ranging from Google Classroom and Kahoot as interactive ways to include technology in lesson plans.

“You can turn in a lot of your assignments online now, so it would be a lot easier to turn them in without having the problem of not having a device at home,” said Sophomore **Emma Adams**.

Not only can students type up and turn in assignments online, but also look up and use text books. It’s tiring to carry a four pound book around with you, especially compared to

a two-pound tablet that can access multiple textbooks at the same time. Textbooks, on the other hand, are considerably harder to break, compared to glass screens and flimsy plastic casings. Some of the textbooks at school have been in use for nearly a decade, maybe more. Batteries in tablets last three or four years when taken care of properly. The district would have to replace electronics at a higher rate than textbooks, and for higher costs. Be that as it may, it might not actually be necessary for the school to provide everyone with a device anyways. A poll done by Harrison Interactive showed that 99% of students ages 8 to 18 have access to a technological device. It’s not uncommon to see kids on their phones at school. Tablets and phones could easily become distractions to students during class.

“The games have gotten better. I’m competing; they can play Playstation level games on their devices,” said Social Studies Teacher **Todd Manninen**.

Even without school-issued tablets, personal devices could be causing a problem. Since 2003, there has been a 43% climb in reported cases of ADHD, according to a study published in the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Not only that, but anxiety rates have been going up. Quickly checking your messages provides a momentary distraction, a small relief that helps students to pay more attention until the bell rings or a comfort in a difficult situation. Having a device has become a social staple. It’s become a taboo not to have a phone, and odd not to like social media.

“I wonder, do kids who don’t have devices feel second class here?” asked Manninen.

Manninen’s daughter doesn’t own a phone, and he says she feels left out.

“She kind of felt like she wasn’t part of the club.”

There’s always the question of equity, whether or not everyone has a device. Although most families in Buffalo provide devices for their kids, it could be a good thing if the district were to help out with those who can’t.

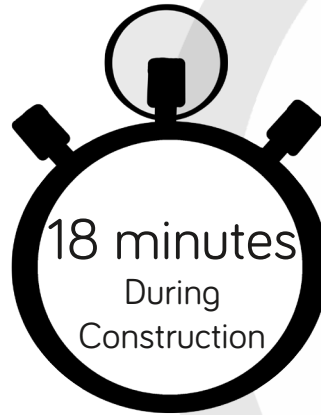
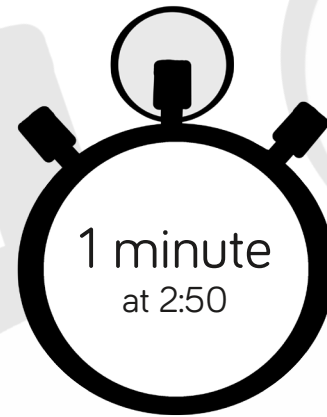
“I could see merit in making sure every kid has a device, but I question whether or not my kids need taxpayers to pay for it,” said Manninen.



READY. SET. STOP.

The busy parking lot
leads to long lines and
impatient students

■ Photo by Ashley LaRoque



How long does it take to leave the parking lot from the time you enter your car?

■ Graphic by Kathleen Tierney

Karin Beck & Kylee Nyholm
Issues Editors

As soon as the bell rings there is a long line of cars forming just outside of school. Students wait impatiently as they slowly inch closer to the exit. With a continuous flow of drivers attempting to leave the parking lot, it gets overcrowded.

Some students have found ways to get ahead of the crowd.

"I always walk as fast as I can to get to my car to beat traffic," said Senior **Danielle Norton**. "I usually get in my car at 2:23 and zoom right out of there. They always hold the traffic back for the buses so I like to beat the buses too."

Leaving school right after the bell rings has its benefits, but there is another strategy that students use too.

"I actually usually wait ten minutes for everyone to clear out and then I leave," said Junior **Jake Van Den Einde**. "[Then it takes] no time. There's maybe one or two cars, I can get home in about the same time too."

When students are rushing out the doors and cars are racing to beat the traffic, it can sometimes create a hectic environment.

"I'd say the main thing to note is that you just have to be aware of your surroundings in a busy parking lot," said Junior **McKenzie Berg**. "A lot of people aren't paying attention as they likely should be."

The student parking lot can be full of distractions after school. This may be an annoyance for those rushing off to their jobs, but others are not as bothered by the chaos.

"It's not a huge problem," said Norton. "It may be on some circumstances, for example, students having to get to work right after school but other than that, not a big problem."

Not everyone may see this situation as a concern, however, with all the changes happening next year, there has been talk of expanding the parking lot. Students are uncertain if it is an answer to the problem.

"I don't think it will make it any easier leaving school because even with a bigger parking lot most of the people exit the same way and time," said Junior **Cody Somvong**. "And people will still try to get out as fast as they can either because they have a job to get to or they just want to get home."

Due to increasing class sizes at the middle school, eighth graders are let out sooner. It's possible that the same method could also be a solution for the High School's dilemma.

"It would be a lot easier to get out. It makes it less congested," said Van Den Einde. "I think it would make it a lot safer. It makes it so there isn't as many cars and not as many people to hit."



Stakes have never been higher and cheating is easier than ever. It's time to talk honestly about

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Kylee Kaminski
Issues Editor

Is meeting a friend in the morning to complete a homework packet dishonest, or is it just a survival strategy?

Is turning to Sparknotes when you don't have time to read okay?

If you find out your teacher copies questions from a website, is looking up a quiz in advance cheating? Is the teacher cheating?

While Buffalo High School has an official stance on Academic Integrity, concept means different things to different students.

Part of academic integrity is the way students choose to present themselves. While few students intentionally plan to cheat, academic integrity often comes down to choices students make when they are under pressure.

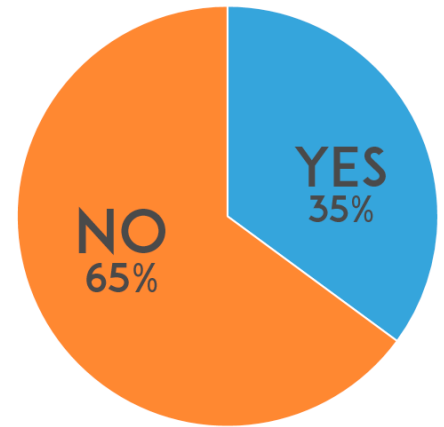
"Integrity is a wholeness of an idea," said English Teach **Joel Squadroni**. "Academic integrity means that you are living up to the ethical responsibilities of the academic standards. Included in that would be things like respect for academics, but also living up to the expectations of responsibility."

Though certain ways to cheat in school are straightforward, the definition of cheating is never black and white. What is cheating, really? Is it sharing how to get an

Photo by Ashley LaRoque



HAVE YOU CHEATED ON A TEST OR QUIZ?

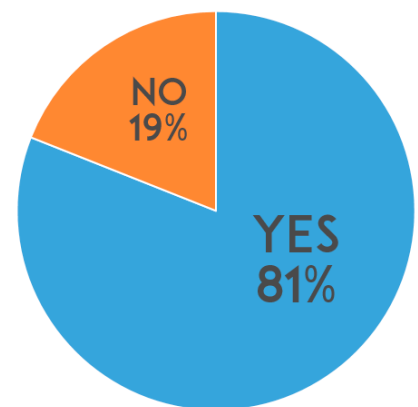


answer from the PFRD you waited last minute for? Can it be talking to your friend during lunch about a question on the test you took first block? A common way students admitted to cheating was glancing over at their table partner's test. Cheating can go to the extreme of stealing a copy of an exam in advance. Everyone thinks of cheating differently. Though a shortcut may score a few extra points on that quiz a student didn't bother to study for, students rarely consider that compromises they make to their academic integrity.

In college, even unintentional plagiarism can cause a student to fail an assignment, and sometimes an entire course, instantly. Intentional or egregious academic dishonesty can result in expulsion from most colleges. Students have been cheating since the dawn of education, but the ease of access to information and the elevated stakes of College in the Schools credits has made this an even bigger issue in recent years. Can anything be done to solve this problem in a Copy and Paste culture, or is it too late?

Students today have an abundance of responsibilities including balancing jobs, social lives, and schoolwork. This creates high levels of stress. When stress levels get over the

HAVE YOU WITNESSED SOMEONE CHEATING ON A TEST OR QUIZ?



The combination of easy access to information and the higher stakes of high school can tempt even the most principled student.

top or too much to handle, some students choose make sacrifices to their academic world. The Internet and instant communication through images has made cheating easier and more discreet than ever. This combination of easy access to information and the higher stakes of high school can tempt even the most principled student.

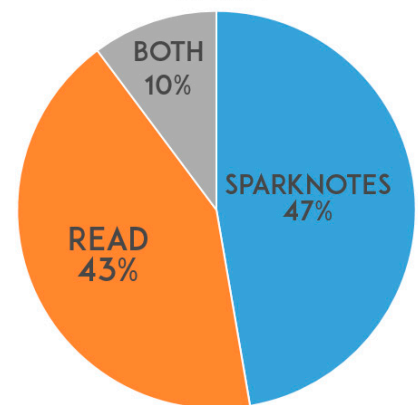
"When kids think that there's too much being asked of them, then they will compromise the academic standards some," Squadroni said, **"but I've always felt that you've hurt nobody but yourself. In the long run, you just learn less and you produce less.**" It's just a bad habit to get into. If you can make yourself live up to those standards, you'll accomplish more in the future. All of us compromise these standards to some extent. It's just a matter of living up to expectations that are higher than your own."

One compromise to academic standards students make in their education is cheating. In a recent poll taken by 305 BHS students, 35.1% of students claimed to have cheated on a test or a quiz at one point or another. Nearly a quarter of the student body, 24%, admitted to using their cell phone or other electronic device to cheat.

In just one conversation about cheating, several students were quick to comment on their own actions. In the background of the conversation, other students worked together to complete a packet due later in the day.

■ Integrity continued on Page 19

ASSIGNED BOOK: SPARKNOTES OR READ?



Poll results from a survey of 305 BHS students

SUCCESS

Five Stellar Buffalo High School Activities

Taylor McNitt and Emma Janzen
Activities Editor and Writer

The year of 2016 has already seen success in many of the activities at BHS, one of them being Business Professionals of America (BPA).

“I think that this year, success had a lot to do with getting a few new members involved,” says Junior and BPA president **Karin Beck**. “The members we have are all upperclassmen this year and they are all experienced. They see what their strengths are, and this year they are able to do it a little bit better.”

BPA will be headed to Boston, Massachusetts in May for national competition.

BPA



■Photo by Brenda Diekman

FFA



■Photo by Gary Wirkus

The Future Farmers Association (FFA) program here at BHS has also seen many successes this school year. In sending nine teams to state and hoping for three more to make it, the program is clearly flourishing.

“We’ve had thirty-two new members join FFA this year out of our sixty-seven total - so almost half of our members are new,” said Junior and FFA vice president **Maggie Socha**. “I think that having an Ag teacher who’s been here for more than a year and who knows what he’s doing helps.”

Regional competitions take place about once a month, and the state competition will be April 24-26.

The Music Listening team is a small group of students, but they’re successes have impacted our school.

“[Senior **Jonathan Miller** was] brought on with very short notice and the three of us had never practiced together,” said Senior **Abbie Kunze**. “We were pleasantly surprised [when] we ended up taking second [at regionals]. Once we hit State, it was at a run.”

The team took ninth at state in February to conclude their season.

MUSIC LISTENING



■Photo by Mike Walsh

MOCK TRIAL



■Photo by Cameron Potter

Mock Trial also saw success this year, participating in their last round of competition to achieve state in mid-February. While they didn’t reach their goal, they still had a great season.

“[The last competition] was super close; scoring is hard because you never know what kind of judge you’re going to get, and it’s very opinion-based,” said Junior **Kylee Kaminski**. “We all did really well. And there was a lot of people on the team that got tens, which is a perfect score. It was our best performance, definitely.”

The One Act Play continued its reputation as one of the most successful programs in the state by taking first place in Conference, Sub Sections, and Sections and making an appearance at the State Festival.

One Act Junior **Brandon Bednarek** explained why he thinks the year has been such a success. “We all take it very seriously because that is our varsity-level activity. When you go into auditions for it, you immediately know what you’re getting into. HD has been doing it for so long and she knows exactly what she wants, so she’s basically made a system of how to bring us to the top.”

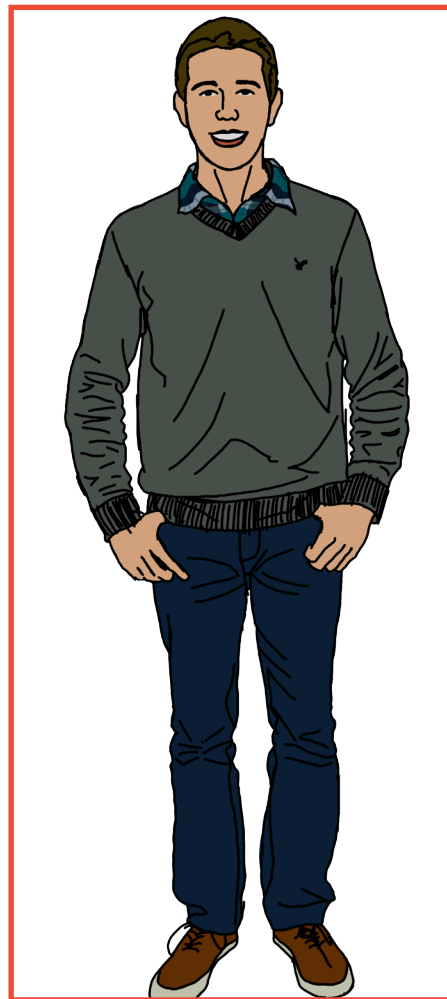
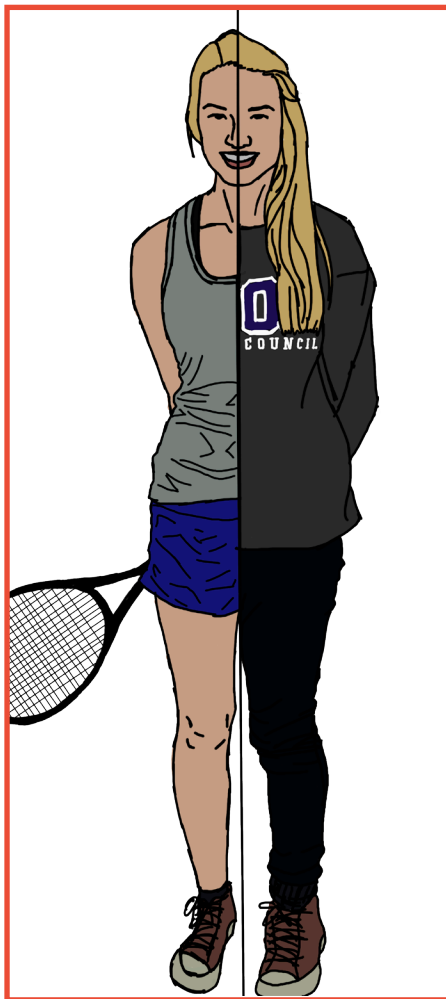
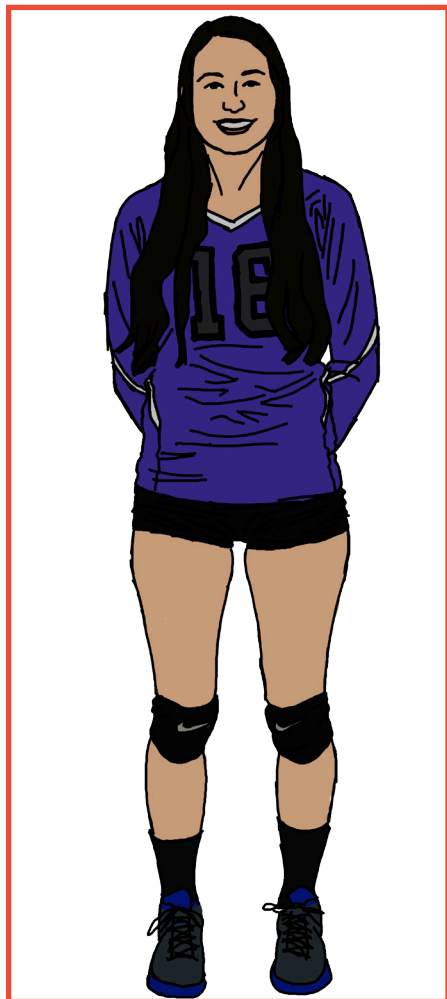
ONE ACT PLAY



■Photo by Josh Polzin

LEADERS IN THE LIMELIGHT

From athletics to activities to academics, what does it mean to be a leader?



■Photos by Cassie McNitt

■Graphics by Kathleen Tierney

Sam Westrum

Staff Writer

Senior **Paige Dalbec** has been playing volleyball since she was in 6th grade. She always looked up to the captains; this year, she became one of them. To become a BHS volleyball team captain she had to apply for it by writing an essay about her strengths as a leader, how she would handle problems on and off the court, and also answer any questions the coaches threw at her. At the end, every application was screened by random teachers in the school and they chose who they thought would make the best leader.

“You still have to be a leader inside the school, so a lot of those roles carry over to certain situations,” said Dalbec. “I think you are appointed the respect, but you need to gain it also. You need to gain their trust so they can come to you with problems within the team.”

For the past four years, Senior **Mattie Lubben** has been extremely involved in all that BHS has to offer.

Between being co-secretary on student council, vice president of the Tri-M Music Honor Society, being the french horn section leader in Concert Band, singing in Concert Choir and Solstice, performing at State with the One Act Play, attending NHS meetings, winning homecoming queen, being named tennis captain, and representing BHS as the AAA Award Winner, she has a lot to say on the topic of leadership.

“I feel like people are leaders without titles. We have a lot of great students in our school who are leaders that aren’t necessarily captains but are still being amazing leaders through who they are and what they do. So I don’t really think you need a label to be a leader, I think you just gotta be you.”

Senior **Josh Polzin** has found his leadership voice through academics and activities. He is the secretary on student council, first tenor saxophone player in Jazz 1, was a member of the All State Symphonic Band, BHS singers, theater, NHS, and earned a 36 on his ACT.

Not only is he involved with a lot of groups, he was the ExCEL male nominee for Buffalo High School. On February 13, Polzin was recognized as a National Merit Scholar Finalist.

“I came into freshman year thinking ‘What do I want to do? Who do I want to have fun with? What do I want to get involved in?’, and eventually that kind of evolved as I grew to love more and more things — excel in school work — I just had this drive to get better and help everyone else get better, and it just kind of happened naturally. I didn’t have this big goal of any sort of ‘leadership position’.”

WAKE UP CALL

Intensity defines Drumline

Jonah Forsyth
Writer

If you were to look at the BHS website's activities list you would find three tiers of activities: Activity Offerings, which include almost all sports and popular activities, Other Activities, which include International Club and BPA and then there are the Recognised Activities. Drumline is on the bottom of the totem pole compared to other activities so it's natural that many people haven't heard about Drumline before.

Michael Latana, the director of the current Buffalo Winter Drumline program, is working hard to create a show that helps to build relationships within the drumline as well as allowing the students to compete in an activity they love. "[Drumline] is a mixture of marching percussion, concert/classical/orchestral percussion, theatre, and dance." What most people don't realize is that Drumline is very competitive. "What we

are trying to accomplish is achieving an objective sense of perfection. Each of our performances is part of a competition that will be critiqued and judged. We're trying to achieve high marks by executing things perfectly and building a consistency of perfection."

"Being able to be in an activity where I was able to express myself through my playing, surrounded by close friends, was incredible."

Their pursuit of perfection is helped in part by their rigorous rehearsal schedule. Senior **Maile Teixeira** said, "The schedule Latana wanted to implement was ludicrous. With rehearsal late into the night twice a week on weekdays and almost the entire day on both Saturday and Sunday, it would be tough to keep

up with." Teixeira also mentioned, "Not being able to be in Drumline this year has been almost as difficult as it would have been joining. Being able to be in an activity where I was able to express myself through my playing, surrounded by close friends, was incredible."





■ Photos by Ashley Laroque

Experience Buffalo

- March 19, attend the BHS music Department's Night Out for Music. A night of jazz and fun starting at 7 p.m.

COFFEE IN BUFFALO

An overview of the small coffee shops that Buffalo has to offer. From large franchises that are popular across the country, to smaller franchises based out of Minnesota.



■ Photos by Maddy Personius



Senior Ben Walker makes a drink for Senior Mariah Hovland while working at Buffalo Books and Coffee. Buffalo Books and Coffee has been familiar to the Wright County area for 21 years. Hovland goes to the small coffee shop at least four days a week with her friends. "I like going to Buffalo books so often because it's a cute, intimate atmosphere, so everyone gets to know each other well," said Hovland. One of her favorite drinks is a salted vanilla latte and she also enjoys the specialty drinks that employees make for customers.

Ashley Budig

Writer

From big name franchises to hometown classics Buffalo has it all when it comes to coffee. Caffeine consumption is a must during the long school year which explains all of the different coffee shops spread throughout the town. Whether you're grabbing a quick cup on the go or staying in to study for that math final, Buffalo's coffee shops always provide a welcoming area to get the job done.

"I come to Dunn Bros. before church every Wednesday with Hailee Carr. I always get an iced coffee to help get me through all my homework." said Sophomore **Rachel Birkholz**.

Other locations provide great areas for studying as well such as, Buffalo Books and Coffee or Starbucks. Some students are anticipating the opening of Caribou, which will open March 2nd, so that they can go there to get a cup of coffee.

"I'm, really excited for the opening of Caribou, it's going to be my go to place for some coffee and a bagel." said Senior **Ezmae Stevens**.

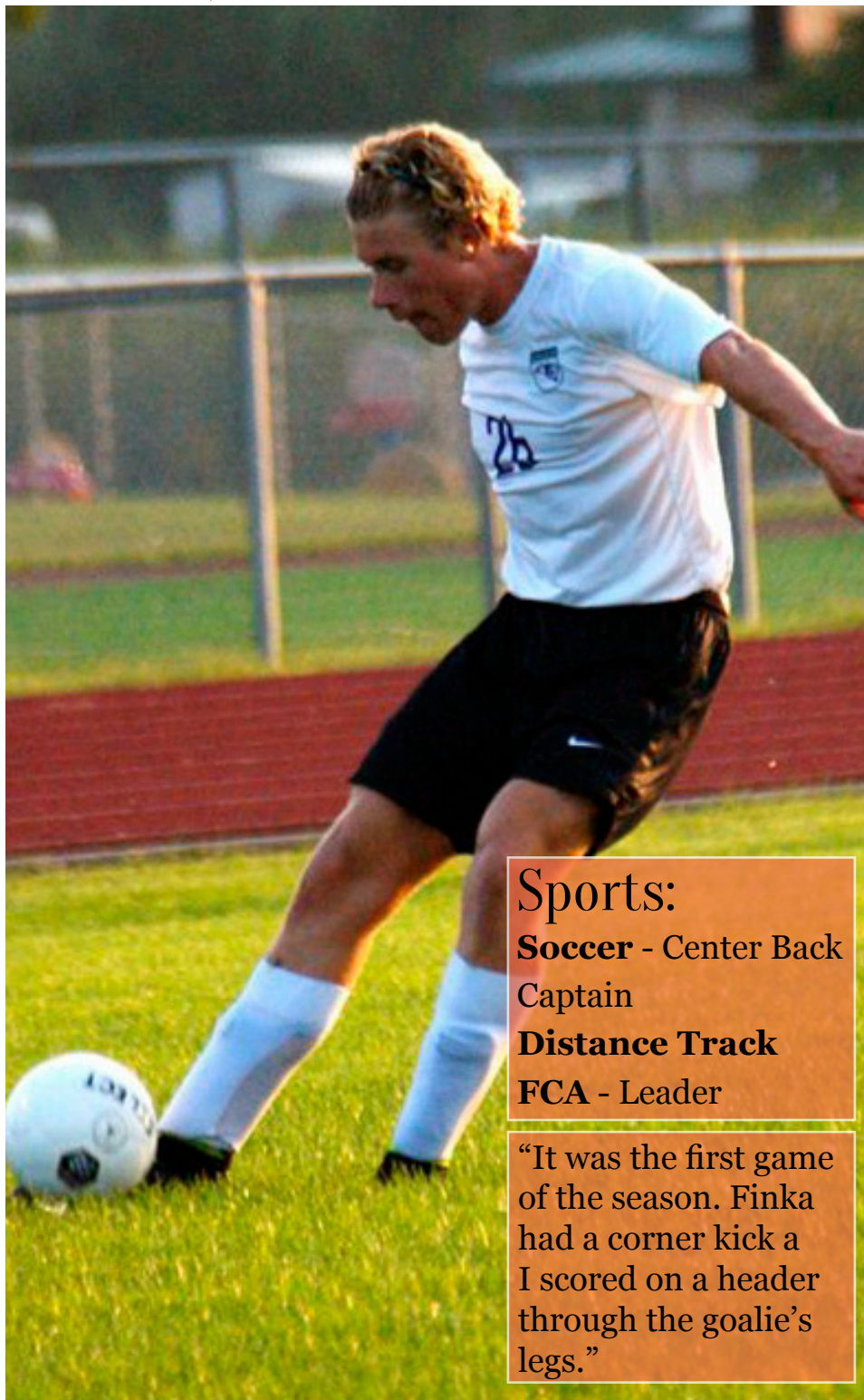
If you're going to a big brand name coffee store or a locally owned location, you'll find it all here in Buffalo.

Left: Located in Target, the popular coffee shop, Starbucks recently closed down for renovations. The changes began on February 10th and were finished by February 13th with drastic improvements. The small hangout spot now has a modern feel with dark woods and light metals accenting the area.



Everyday beans that imported from all over the world are freshly roasted at Dunn Brothers. coffee shop. Junior Katherine Lund has been working here since July. Working at a place like this you get all sorts of crowds. "You get all your basic people everyday. My favorite customers are the cute old couples who come in." said Lund. Working with coffee also means working with people. "We get some people who come in and are rude to me, you just have to put a smile on your face and deal with it." said Lund.

Feature Athlete **HENRY LEMP**



Sports:
Soccer - Center Back
Captain
Distance Track
FCA - Leader

“It was the first game of the season. Finka had a corner kick and I scored on a header through the goalie’s legs.”

■ Photo courtesy of Henry Lemp

■ Integrity continued from Page 13

“I programmed the quadratic formula into my calculator,” said one anonymous student. “I could just plug the numbers in and it gave me the answer.”

Another student was quick to share about a friend of theirs who had “figured out how to use the calculator on the MCAs on questions that you’re not supposed to use a calculator on.”

“It isn’t cheating to use Sparknotes instead of reading a novel,” another student said, “because you’ve still learned the important concepts from the book.”

Students often boast about cheating with a sense of pride for beating a system; however, do those behaviors have lasting repercussions on learning?

“Cheating will go on if students want to do it, but if you don’t make it easy a lot of students won’t take the step to go there,” Squadroni said. “There’s probably compromising going on, and with technology I think it’s even harder to catch. Cheating is its own worst enemy. It hurts the person a lot, and I think you just don’t learn as much, which is unfortunate.”

CIS Chemistry Teacher **Sarah Rodenwald** discussed the values on learning through assignments.

“Part of integrity is the value that students put on the work they’re doing,” Rodenwald said. “If I’m assigning things that students don’t see valuable to their learning, then it’s easier from a student’s mind to justify ‘I just need to get it done because I want a grade.’ If a student sees the direct correlation between what they’re assigned and what they’re going to get out of it, then there’s an easier justification there. It’s important that students feel as though they’re not just doing busy work. **It can be a slippery slope, and all of a sudden it’s more about getting the grade rather than learning, and that’s unfortunate.**”

One variable causing students to swindle the system is the outcome of how they’re documented on paper.

“As a society, we put kids in a tough spot because so much is riding on what their academic record looks like. Not what they know, who they are, or what knowledge they’re carrying with them,” said Rodenwald. “It’s, ‘What’s your GPA?’ and, ‘How are your grades?’. Of course there should be emphasis on those, but your transcript should be yours. If it’s a false record of what you did because you just needed to qualify for that scholarship or achieve that 4.0, you’re setting up yourself for tough stuff down the road.”

AIR BALL!

Wisconsin schools have banned all chanting at sporting events. Is chanting just part of the game, or is this a trend coming sidelines at BHS?



Graphic by Kathleen Tierney

YOU CAN'T DO THAT!

According to the StarTribune, chants banned at Wisconsin schools include:

"FUNDAMENTALS"

"SIEVE"

"WE CAN'T HEAR YOU"

"AIR BALL"

"YOU CAN'T DO THAT"

"THERE'S A NET THERE"

"SEASON'S OVER"

Jack Oistad

Staff Writer

Recently, the state of Wisconsin has issued a ban on all chants at high school activities and sporting events. Students feel intimidated and harassed by the opposing team's chants meant to embarrass the opponent to defeat, even with simple chants like "sieve," a common chant in hockey. States around the country talk about creating similar bans which would have an affect BHS students in the future.

However these bans do have critics. Some may think that these bans are not necessary because they take away harmless high school traditions and experiences.

"From my experience, the chants that I had heard have been common ones that have been in high school athletics for a long time" said Varsity Hockey Coach, **Aaron Johnson**. "If there are chants that are not being negative towards a team in a drastic way, I don't think there is really an issue to get rid of them."

Interestingly some argue that these

no chants policy, intended to protect student athletes, would actually harm the sport. This is because the atmosphere of sporting events are tuned down and attendance decreases as boredom increases.

"I think the fans enjoy being able to be a part of the game," said Johnson. "I feel like they are making a difference being a part of the cheering, and taking that away from them it can hurt attendance. A ban cannot create the environment that students want to be at to cheer on their friends because it might not be as much fun for them."

Regardless of your opinions of a anti-chant ban, no student body can just say whatever they want and not deal with the consequences. Already there are ways to control chants from being too harmful to other athletes of different schools.

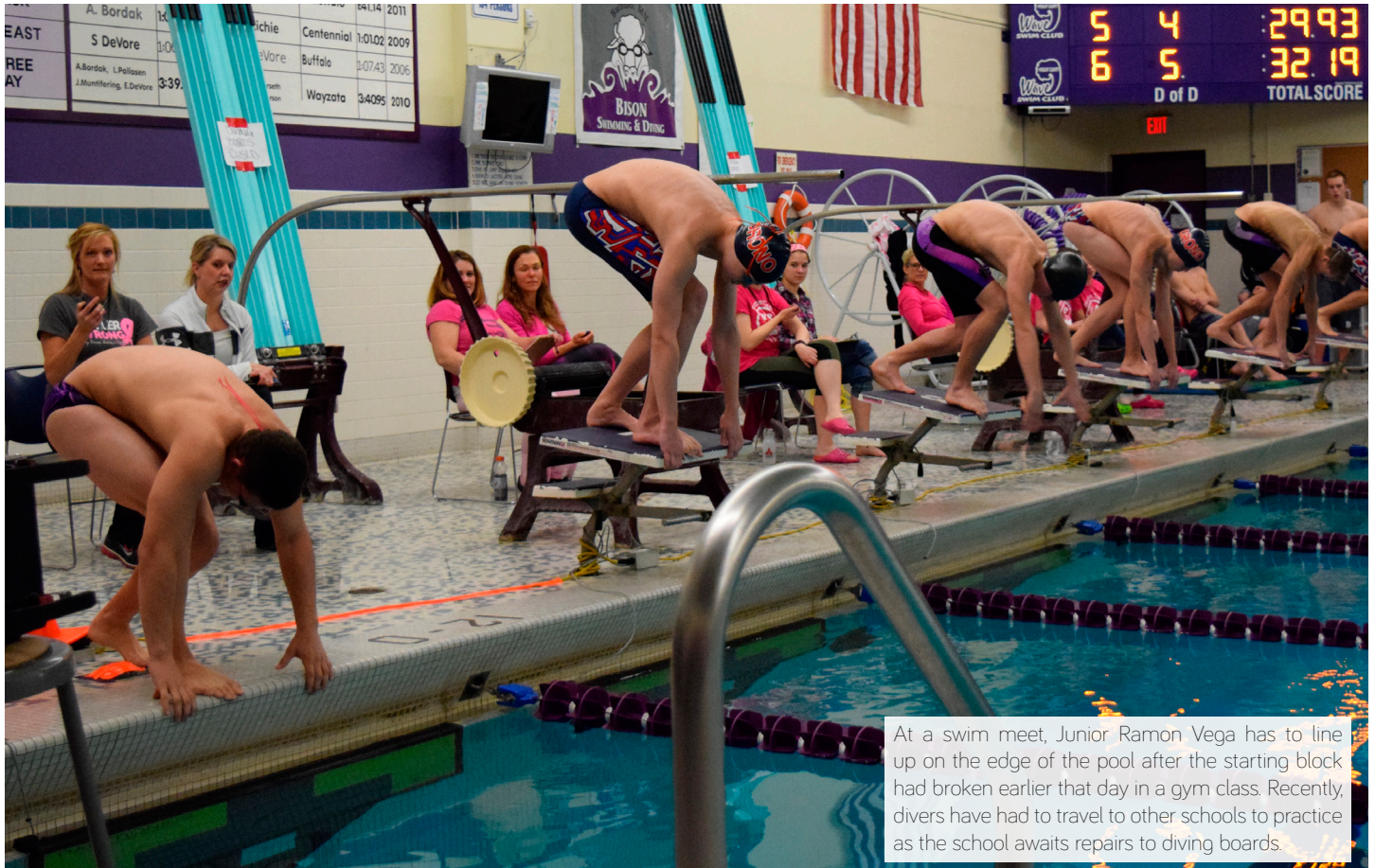
"At Buffalo we have on sight staff members or administration who are game managing around the student section to monitor those kinds of things," said Johnson. "I think if it had gotten

to a certain point where a chant our student section might be doing was very derogatory and negative towards another team or individual, our team managers would step in and make that a learning experience. If we are doing it in a way not fitting that criteria than I think it is perfectly fine for a high school event."

The state of Wisconsin did this to protect students from getting harmed at sporting events. Some will stand by this decision to create a more welcoming environment for athletes, and some will argue that these bans create hostility to the spectator's right to show their support. Whether these are harmless ways of showing school pride or offensive language a change is coming to sports.

DEFECTIVE DIVING

BCMS pool problems have caused major challenges for competitive swimmers



At a swim meet, Junior Ramon Vega has to line up on the edge of the pool after the starting block had broken earlier that day in a gym class. Recently, divers have had to travel to other schools to practice as the school awaits repairs to diving boards.

■ Photo by Calista Susa

Lily Hershley

Writer

Recently, the BCMS pool has faced many malfunctions, ranging from simple pool engineering issues to sixth graders falling off broken starting blocks. In fact, in the past year alone, swimmers have encountered the repercussions of broken diving boards, starting blocks, condensation and ventilation issues and issues with the pool's pump.

The current starting blocks were built in 1979. Other than some rusting, they seemed sturdy, but recently a starting block took a fall and a young boy went with it. During a middle school gym class, Starting Block #1 tipped over. No one was harmed, but the other blocks remain a potential safety hazard. Since the blocks broke, swimmers have had to dive from the pool deck, which slows down their time and gives the other swimmers an advantage.

"Sometimes when I get up on the blocks, I feel that I would love for the block to break," said Sophomore **Charlie Bean**. "It's sort of a compliment to yourself that you are so strong and you are thrown back cause it breaks like that."

Soon after the pump broke, an official noticed some

red flags with the diving boards. The solution: replace the diving board. For a whole month the divers had to commute to Becker to practice, shortening valuable practice times. February 17 was the first day that practice could be held in Buffalo after having practice at their rival's pool.

"Having the board broken really sucked," said Junior **Hunter Brings**. "It cut into our practice time and our day. I felt as though we didn't accomplish as much as we could have, because our practices were really condensed and rushed."

While setting up for the boy's swim team's annual "Border Battle" invitational meet, a custodian noticed that there was a problem with the motor of the pool's pump. The pool was immediately evacuated and the meet was cancelled. The team had to delay their meet and move it to Monticello. For the next four practices the team had to practice elsewhere while the pump was being fixed.

"The whole swim team had to relocate practice to the health club for one day and all the way to Becker for the next three," explained Head Swim Coach **Pam Brophy**. "Luckily, we were able to come back, but sadly the divers had to stay in Becker for the next month."

THE SCHOOL THAT NEVER SLEEPS

After school custodian crew takes on the third shift

|Noah Raisanen

|Writer

Beginning in elementary school, when the dismissal bell rings, students have practiced putting their chairs on top of their desks with knowledge that the custodians are going to be come later to clean up the classroom

We know there are custodians here during the day because you see them in the halls, but most of the work happens when we are not here. At our school, the custodians who are here right after school ends, are known as the “Second shift”. But when do they clean our gym, Performing Arts Center, and locker rooms, which are used well into most evenings? Most days students are here for activities after school until 8 or 9 p.m. The late night activities held at our school leads us to need a shift to clean up after. The shift begins at 10:00 p.m. and continues until 6:30 a.m. This shift is known as the “Third Shift.”

“If you’re a custodian [the night shift] is where most of the work is, because you can’t go around cleaning bathrooms and all the rooms during the day when students are at school,” said Third Shift Custodian **Brian Warzetha**. “We have people working after school from 2:30 p.m - 11:00 p.m. known as ‘Second Shift’ and we have two people who work overnight from 10:00 p.m.- 6:30 a.m. On the night shift, we have someone clean the locker rooms, wrestling room and one of the Phy-Ed classrooms. The other janitor who works here sweeps the halls and then runs scrubbers over the main gym”

Buffalo High School is large enough to welcome over 2,000 staff and students each day. When people clear out for the day, it tranquility fills the hallways.

“I am primarily the floors, so I clean the gym all the stairs, the upstairs, the downstairs and all of the entries.” Third Shift Custodian **Nicole Jude** said. **“It’s quiet, I turn on the radio and work by myself. That’s what I like about it.** There’s one other person who cleans the locker rooms, it’s the space that’s hard to get to during the day because it’s just so busy all of the time.”

For someone who enjoys peace and quiet, the night shift is an ideal position.

“I chose to take the night shift. It’s good because I like the quiet, and I have kids at home so It works well with my family schedule,” said Jude.

The things that the Night shift workers at BHS do are the things that most students do not realise. Cleaning the locker rooms for example; the locker rooms would be unbearable without cleaning. Also the small things like vacuuming the entry ways are easy to overlook, but after time the school would begin to look unkempt. The reason our school looks nice when students walk in the doors each morning is because of the custodians who are here all night, cleaning and peacefully listening to the radio in the school that never sleeps.



■Photos by Eric Braun

QUESTIONNAIRE

Scratching the surface behind the mindset of Charlotte De Clercq

Jilli Hovland & Kenna Kunesch
Spotlight Editors

Q Had you been to America before you became an exchange student?

A Yes, I went on vacation with my family to Florida four years ago.

Q What made you want to become an exchange student?

A I wanted to become an exchange student to learn the American culture, meet new people, and just live an American lifestyle.

Q If your entire life was a movie what title would best fit?

A "Step Up"

Q Would you give a homeless person CPR if they were dying? Why or why not?

A Of course I would give them CPR because I love humanity, and I'm really into helping others.

Q If you had a friend that spoke to you the same way you speak to yourself, how long do you think that person would be allowed to be your friend?

A This friend would be my best friend, so forever.

Q What one piece of advice would you offer a newborn infant?

A You have your whole life ahead of you, so enjoy as much as possible every day, and make each new day better than your last.

Q Is it better to love and lose or never to love?

A I prefer to find love one time in my life, and never know what the feeling of loss is.

Q What's one of your favorite habits you have?

A Shopping



Photo submitted by Charlotte de Clercq
(Left) Charlotte de Clercq and (right) Junior Hannah Michurski pose together after a dance competition.

Q Is it more important to be liked or respected?

A I prefer to be respected because then people are more honest with you, if you are more liked, it doesn't mean they are going to treat you with respect.

Q What do you think about the United States' education system compared to Belgium's?

A The education system back home is a lot cheaper than here, in Belgium and most of Europe, college is a lot cheaper. In Europe we only pay 300-400 dollars a year, and even to us that's expensive.

Q What things do you value the most about a friendship?

A Trust, because without trust you can't have any really good friend. You need to be sure that they are never going to leave you in hard times, and support you without any judgement.

EVERYTHING IN ITS RIGHT PLACE

Intentional classroom design creates a home away from home

Ashley Budig & Josie Peterson

Writers

Spanish teacher **Jessica Nickelsen** is making an impact not only by her fun teaching style, but her application of feng shui in her classroom. Many students describe her room as a ‘cozy and fun’ place to spend 80 minutes of their day.

“I used to be one of those teachers that would keep everything and put every poster ever up until I felt dizzy” said Nickelsen, “I try to have at least four of the five senses working when students walk into my room.”

Without the knowledge of her students, Nickelsen has aromatherapy scent spots located all around her room, with citrus scents to give her students a boost of energy. She hopes for a classroom that students enjoy learning in and are happy.

Students’ second sense is put to use with the flower curtains on the windows.

“I have fabrics in my room for the touch part of it.”

The small waterfall decoration behind her desk is where the hearing part of the senses come. Along with the cultural music being played, you can hear the small waterfall trickling in the background.

Students can see the waterfall too and that is a part of the fourth sense, sight. Nickelsen has multiple kinds of lighting.

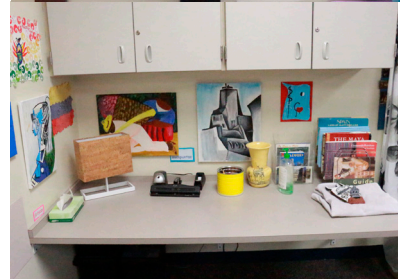
“I think students enjoy my room because it’s nonthreatening and inviting, I believe it is purposeful and not just a bunch of busy decorations, it is calming.”

Nickelsen decided on designing her classroom like this for many reasons, but her inspiration was derived elsewhere.

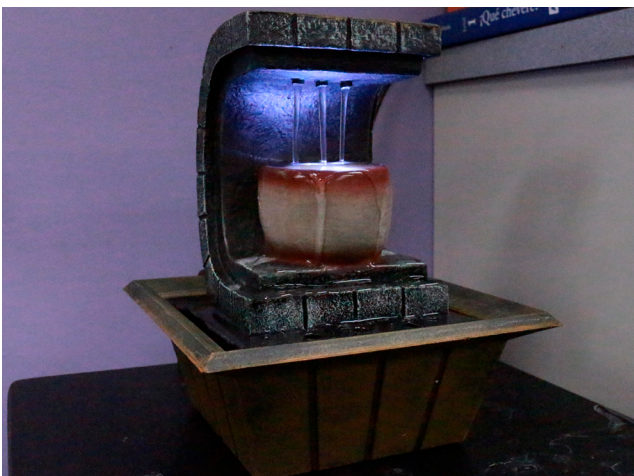
“It was during a class that I took about organization in the room, that I realized that feng shui was a way to keep things organized and orderly, so I could be productive and so could my students.”



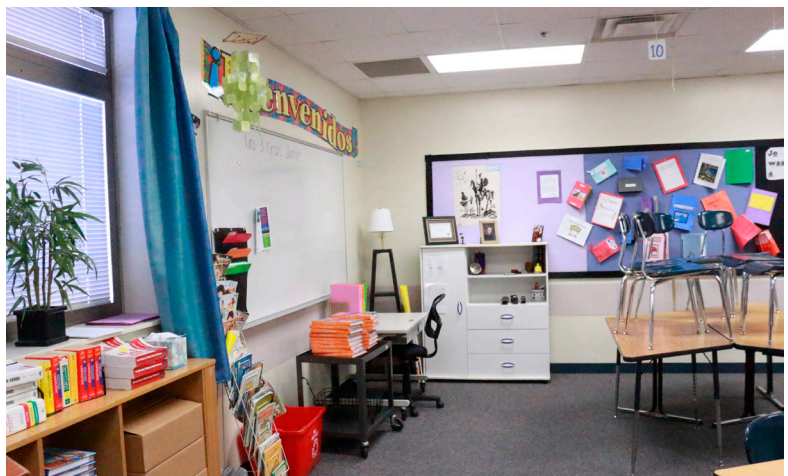
These floral curtains are put up in the classroom to qualify as the ‘touch’.



Organization strategies arranged by Spanish Teacher Jessica Nickelsen.



This waterfall is located in Nickelsen’s classroom, by her desk. It’s designed to put hearing senses to use.



Nickelsen focuses on keeping her classroom clean.