



The Bison

The Buffalo Senior High School Newspaper

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Freshmen educated on sexual harassment

State requires lectures

By Rae Shinabarger

Staff Writer

For the past few weeks the freshman class was required to attend lectures on sexual harassment.

These lectures were given by the principals, counselors, and fellow student peer helpers.

"We used the peers, because we thought that the students would listen to other students better (than they would to adults). We also thought it would make the presentations more interesting and more realistic," said counselor Mary Lynn Leff.

Starting with this year, the lectures for the freshmen will be a required part of the curriculum. These are designed to inform students of their rights and responsibilities as students and to bring attention to the state mandate for schools in Minnesota to educate

their students about sexual harassment.

"The sexual harassment lectures have already been given to the seniors," said Leff.

There are other sessions planned for the sophomore and senior classes in the future. The only group of students that will not be attending the lectures this year is the junior class. During their freshman year, a representative from Mercy hospital came and gave the program.

"I don't think that people are taking it [the lectures] very seriously," said freshman Melanie Kieffer.

An informal survey of the freshman class conducted by *The Bison* resulted in four popular answers. Sixty percent of those that participated said that the sessions were "dumb." 20 percent stated that they didn't pay attention, 15 percent thought that the

staff made too much out of the circumstances, and five percent said that it helped.

One freshman, who wished to remain anonymous, stated that he 'immediately thought of a peer' when attending the sessions.

The lectures lasted approximately two hours and the attending freshmen participated in many different activities throughout the program.

First they were separated into small groups. Then the students read short stories, and tried to determine if any incident of sexual harassment took place in the story.

The Peer Helpers did some role playing, which gave a more visual description of what sexual harassment is.

The principals and counselors explained to the students what is considered to be sexual harassment in our society today.



Hearher Oberdeck/photographer

SANTA CAME TO TOWN, NHS takes pictures to fundraise.

Bathroom fire affects student safety at BHS

By Rebecca Ebnet

News Copy Editor

On December 7, 1992, a fire was set in a garbage can in boy's bathroom by the mall.

"It was found to be a definitely deliberate act, and was probably started quickly with an accelerator, an element that makes the fire light faster," said Assistant Principal Mark Minkler.

There was minimal damage done, because biology teacher Dave Fiedler and Assistant Principal Tom Hoffman caught the fire and put it out before it could spread. The main problem was the smoke that filled the halls by the bathrooms.

"They doused the fire with water and then used a fire extinguisher. The can was melted, but that was the main extent of the damage," said Minkler.

At the time of the fire, there were a minimum of 35 students reported to be out of class by their teachers.

"They, [the principals], handled the situation well, and I guess maybe we should have been scared, but it turned out to be funnier than it was serious," said sophomore Sira Anderson.

As it is a serious offense to set a fire in a school building, expulsion is a possible punishment for starting the fire, but not very likely. Suspension and conferences with parents and the fire marshal will definitely be consequences.

"At the time I was upset because it jeopardized the safety of the students, and could have been more serious than it was if it was not discovered," said Fiedler.

The majority of the student body thought that it was pointless to start the fire.

"I thought it was stupid -- they should find another way to express themselves," said sophomore Josh Benzer.

Classes evaluated, some changes made

By Jackie Gustafson

Staff Writer

According to the District 877 Curriculum and Instruction Improvement Plan "District 877's responsibility to the communities of Buffalo, Hanover, and Montrose is to effectively identify and provide for the instructional needs of the students living therein..."

In district 877 classes are evaluated once every seven years, unless something drastic brings up the need for an early evaluation.

"There may be times when we don't want to wait seven years because something happens, for example a rash of suicides may bring up the need for a class on peer pressure," said District 877 curriculum director Paul Ford.

Class names are sometimes changed to give students a more comprehensive view of what their class will be like. An example of this type of change is the English Literature course, which will be changed to British Literature in the up coming registration books.

"I think they feel that it would explain more what the class really is," said Councilors Secretary Ann Bullert.

Classes are dropped from curriculum when not enough students show an interest in them.

"I call them [people interested] down and I tell them that there was not enough people interested so they have to pick a new class," said Bullert.

Creating accommodating schedules for 1200 students can be a difficult task, but most students seem to be satisfied.

"I guess that they are [responsive to student needs] to some, but I can see why they can't let everyone in if there aren't enough people interested because it costs money for teachers and materials," said sophomore Royce Johanson.

If someone is interested in suggesting a class to administration the best time would be at a school board meeting when that department comes up for review.

"You should talk to councilors and staff or someone who can help you get the class. Also talk to other people who are interested in the class" said Johanson.

Editorials



Guest columnist tells of her woes as an elementary student.

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Tardy problems? You are not alone, read about it!

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Sports



Many sports teams are hopeful for their next season, wish them luck.

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Open campus could make lunch easier

The present lunch schedule is a confusing and sometimes disrupting system.

While you are sitting at your desk, trying to work your way through a math test you forgot to study for, the last thing you need is for 400 laughing, shouting students to pour through the halls.

This, in effect, is what happens with B lunch. *The Bison* thinks that open campus lunch might solve the problem.

Everyone who has ever eaten during B lunch will agree that it is difficult to pick up in class where you left off before you left to go eat lunch.

Having the lunch period in the middle of class means that the teacher must start the lesson twice, which is probably frustrating. It can also be aggravating for students. When you are writing a paper

you lose your train of thought if you stop to go eat lunch; it simply is not a natural break in the class period.

With open campus, enough students would be out of school during the lunch hour, eliminate one of the three lunches. This would make fourth hour a whole hour rather than two halves.

Maybe open campus should only be available to juniors and seniors, or maybe there should be a sign out sheet in the office to make sure students are back to school on time.

With the opportunity to leave school in the middle of the day students could return home and retrieve forgotten assignments. Everyone has forgotten an assignment sometime in their life, and regretted the points that they lost because of it.

Parent's childhood fears of teacher in English school



The Generation Gap

By Maureen Ebnet

Guest Columnist

I'm sure you've all heard stories from parents and grandparents about the "good 'ol days." The favorite tearjerker, is the story about walking to school uphill both ways, barefoot in the snow up to the waist.

In the small village in England where I grew up, we didn't have snow up to the waist. Instead, we had Mrs. Brunt.

Mrs. Brunt was the first teacher I ever had, and the first person in my life I ever hated. In the village there were two schools. One of these was the Infants School with about 15 students, aged five to seven years old in one room, and where Mrs. Brunt reigned supreme. Her authority was rarely questioned.

Mrs. Brunt was a large lady -- stout, I believe is the polite term -- white haired with creaking corsets. Something straight out of a Dickens novel in my young eyes. She lived in the next village and travelled those few miles everyday on a very upright, old, bicycle with a large basket on the front. I remember wishing she would fall off it and hurt herself. I don't ever remember seeing her smile.

Against one wall, about half-way down the room was a large, black, coal burning stove. This provided all the heat for the school. Every morning the milkman delivered a crate with half pint glass bottles of milk for us to drink midmorning. Since this was de-

livered early and left outside, the milk was very cold, and sometimes frozen. Mrs. Brunt, in her infinite wisdom, placed the milk bottles around the stove to thaw. Unfortunately, by 10 am the milk was usually too hot to drink and often sour. Since Mrs. Brunt forced each of us to drink the milk anyway, I can safely say that I regarded this as a form of torture. It took me at least 30 years to be able to drink a glass of milk and enjoy it.

Discipline was swift and sure. Standing, facing the wall for what seemed like forever, was a daily occurrence for someone. A ruler, smacked across the knuckles, or a bare leg was also common.

Kicking was strictly forbidden. Any child who was found guilty of this

crime was forced to remove their shoes and kick the wall for punishment. Woe betide you if another child took a dislike to you. All they had to do was tell Mrs. Brunt that you kicked them.

Perhaps I was a problem child, but I can never remember doing anything right in those days. Monday mornings were a time of dread for me, when the weeks lunch money was collected and counted.

Mrs. Brunt would use this opportunity to teach us how to count money. Needless to say, I could never remember how many florins or sixpences made a pound. My knuckles would be living

proof of that fact after being on the receiving end of that dreadful ruler.

About once a week, we all gathered around Mrs. Brunt at the piano to learn various songs and listen to her play. On one occasion, I showed my lack of interest by chatting to my friend and was sent into the storeroom as punishment. I was told to stay there until further notice.

I remember being terrified at what was about to happen to me. My fear increased when I heard the other children leave for the day and silence fell. And still I waited, and waited, and waited.

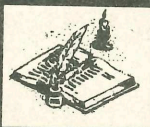
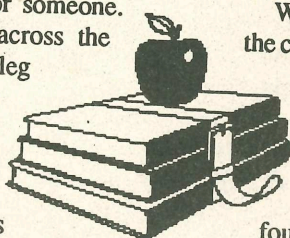
When I saw that it was getting dark outside, I began to panic. To be late home from school was not the best way to impress my mother, and having to confess to misbehaving in school was even worse.

When I finally found the courage to walk out of the storeroom to face Mrs. Brunt and my punishment, imagine my horror when I found that she, too, had gone home and left me there, in the store room, forgotten.

Roger Banister was the first person in the world to run the mile in less than four minutes. That day I know that I beat him home.

Memories are strange. Quite possibly, Mrs. Brunt was a nice person. Perhaps she was a good teacher. Maybe she loved each and everyone of us. I think not. Fortunately the rest of my school life was much better than these first few years. But that's another story.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The guest column is a new edition to *The Bison*. We will feature a different writer every issue.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I want to respond to the editorial in last month's paper, "Too much focus on Winning." These are my thoughts and there may be staff members who agree and disagree with me. May these comments stir discussion.

I consider winning a by-product of hard work, concentration, ownership, teamwork, practiced strategies and skills, goal setting, and a little bit of luck. As teams/groups work together, they strive to work on all the elements mentioned, except luck. Luck is the illusive part of striving towards any goal that can't be controlled.

"Intimidation," says the article, "is a natural reaction." I somewhat disagree. Intimidation is the result of a lack of confidence in being prepared and focussed on the goals set by the team/group.

The goals can't always be to win because the opponent(s) in the competition may be better. Then, the reality is to do the best the team/group can do according to the goals set at that time. Focusing on winning is too simple, the process is very complex.

That's why we honor all the teams/groups during mod activities, most of these activities are even prior to competition. Yes, we do honor the teams who have achieved excellence prior to their big state event. It is a celebration of achievement, not winning. I've seen many excellent teams/groups who have not won, but have given an excellent performance.

Nancy Bergert
Activities Director



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Reflections from a trip to Columbus

By Beth A. Miller

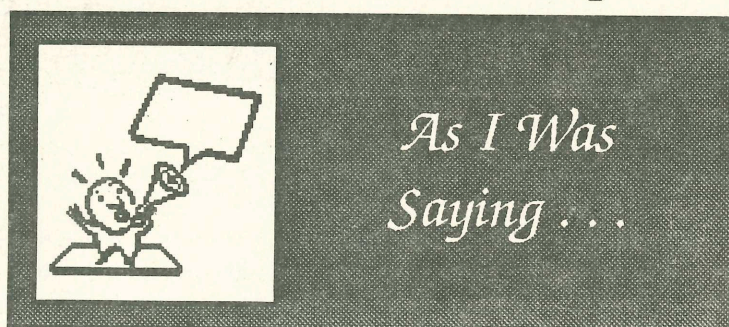
Editor-in-Chief

Six editors on *The Bison* staff survived for four days, averaging four hours of sleep per night. That doesn't sound too bad to most students, but during those same four days, we were trying to cram as much new knowledge about journalism into our brains as we could.

Let me explain.

Last month we attended Journalism Education Association (JEA)/National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Fall Journalism Convention in Columbus, Ohio. There we learned about new and old journalism techniques, and also how journalism can apply to life in general.

The convention officially started Thursday with the registration. Because we got there on Wednesday, and most people came on Thursday, we got through registration quickly and went out



to tour Columbus.

We went to Ohio's Center of Science & Industry (COSI), where we got to learn about history, science, explore their featured exhibit "Games and Toys - Exploring Science in Toyland," and we had a "hair raising" experience with the electrostatic generator. (The hairstyle it gave me looked... well, I won't go into that.)

Friday at 8:00 am was when the classes actually started. They went until 1:00 pm. Then the keynote speaker, Bob Greene, spoke on his book "Hang Time."

(about Michael Jordan) As soon as he was done we were back to classes until 3:30. Before you start picturing a lazy evening schedule, we didn't stop there. At four we headed to the Write-Off contest, where each of us competed for an award in different journalism categories.

When we got out at six, we were mentally exhausted and physically starving. Not only was it a late time to have supper, but half of us were so eager to learn, we had skipped lunch to learn even more.

That night (and Saturday

night) there were student dances. Some of us went and some of us sat around in the hotel room relaxing after our long day.

Saturday was pretty much the same, except there was no Write-Off Contest, but the sessions lasted until 4:30.

What did we learn that you guys can relate to?

Well, it isn't likely that a day in your life goes by without you being affected by some form of journalism, whether it's television, newspaper, radio, or magazines, it all applies to you. I'm sure you really don't care about the technicalities of laying out a newspaper page, so I won't get into that.

Several different schools had similar problems. Does this sound familiar: hallways that are so crowded you can't get to class on time? Many schools complained about that one. And if you thought the hallways at BHS were bad, can you imagine four eleva-

tors to cart two thousand students to their hotel rooms? Our rooms were on the sixteenth floor, so only one of us took the steps up (name withheld to protect the insane.)

Many of the session speakers gave us quotes that not only applied to journalism, but life in general. Just to end this on a deep note, I'll quote them here.

"You come in alone, you go out alone, you stand alone," said Mike Masterson.

"We waste so much time by not planning ahead," said Jan Hensel.

"No matter how bad things are in life, there are some parts that are worth it," said Greene.

"You don't have to be a journalist to change the world a little bit," said Maria Hensen, Saturday keynote speaker.

So, what are you waiting for? Go out and make the world a little better!

See you in '93!

Realities of high school dating considered

Amber Veches

Columnist

Has anyone ever thought of how strange high school dating actually is, besides me?

I've thought about it quite a bit. You know, those of us who can't get dates tend to do that often.

So as I ponder the meaning and importance of high school dating, I come up with one answer. That being, it's kind of pathetic.

When you think about it realistically, it does have its good points, but there are the bad ones, too.

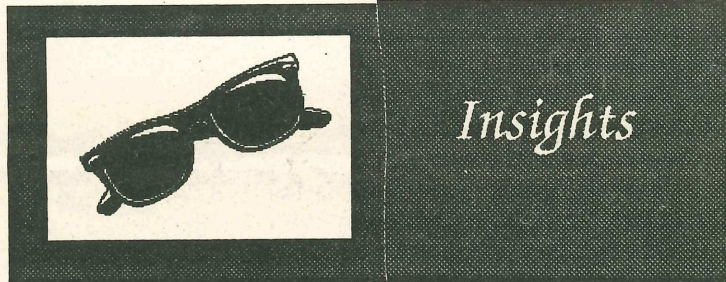
It's cool to have someone to cuddle with after a hard day of school, someone to go out with on

weekends that's of the opposite sex, and well, basically some people think that it's important to be able to say, "Ya, Tom and I are officially going out now. He's my man."

So, maybe most people aren't that obvious.

After the good side there is the bad side, and it all starts after you officially say that you're "going out."

What does this little phrase mean? To me, it means that you are leaving, going to someplace away from where you are, leaving the house. When I tell my parents that I'm leaving, I usually just say "I'm going out now, be back later." Then I have to sit down and tell them the specifics, with who, where will I be, how am I getting



there and back, well, you know the drill.

To many others, "going out" means going steady, dating each other exclusively, seeing only one person.

I guess that's alright, but I like my version a bit better.

So, back to the bad side. One drawback might be feeling suffocated, and being angry at the other person because of not being

able to see your personal friends enough, another could be trying to constantly analyze things to make sure that they are going all right, and having to pretend to be someone that you're not just to get along. There are many others, I'm sure, I'm just not familiar with them.

Wouldn't it be cool, if there was a way to date someone with out the seriousness that comes

with dating.

Couldn't people just be friends and go out as friends, and not have to worry about being serious or not? In high school, people shouldn't have to worry about dating seriously, because they have the rest of their lives to find that perfect one, and chances are they won't find them in high school.

Now, honestly, I'm not trying to bash high school dating, I just wish that people would start looking at the big picture. The person that broke your heart, you know, the one you cried for weeks over? Will you even remember their name ten years from now?

Just try to look at the whole dating scene realistically, that's all I ask.

Opportunity to teach gives new impressions

Rachael Weller

Columnist

We all sit through classes everyday listening to teachers, but have you ever thought about what it's like to actually have control of a class -- like being a teacher?

We, as students, don't often look at things from a teacher's point of view. Students get rowdy and don't understand that when you are trying to teach something, little things easily annoy the teacher.

Recently I and several others had the opportunity to go to the junior high and teach eighth graders in their sexuality unit. We spent two days in one room experiencing little annoyances, giving out information, and answering questions.

The first day was spent just



basically getting an idea of what the classes were like. We observed the class, found some of the problem spots, and pinpointed which students were distracting to the others.

We then went back for round (day) two. This time we were actually given the chance to teach. The classes were handed over to us; we had full and absolute control.

Although our sole purpose was to teach them, we learned

what it's like to stand in front of 30 students and have one or two become occupied with other things.

As students, we think as soon as the teacher turns their back, they cannot see what we are doing, and we can get away with anything. This is not so true. As I sat on the floor in the junior high life studies living room, I saw all spit balls, pencils, wads of paper, staples, paper clips, etc. that were about to make like an airplane and

fly.

As the day wore on we learned to be very observant, even when our backs were turned.

We didn't just learn how to control a room full of children, we learned what we were like in eighth grade.

Loads of memories from our younger years came rushing back. The empty halls -- remember how no one ever got out of class for anything? The narrow, crowded stairs when everyone was switching classes. The loudness of everyone chatting in between classes.

Do you remember what you were like? Probably not. I didn't remember until I sat in front of a class full of students.

Even now some people still act as though they are in eighth grade. I could name a few classes

in which I didn't really learn anything on that given day because of the rowdiness. I'm sure everyone can.

But anyway, that is just a little off the subject. Back to my main point.

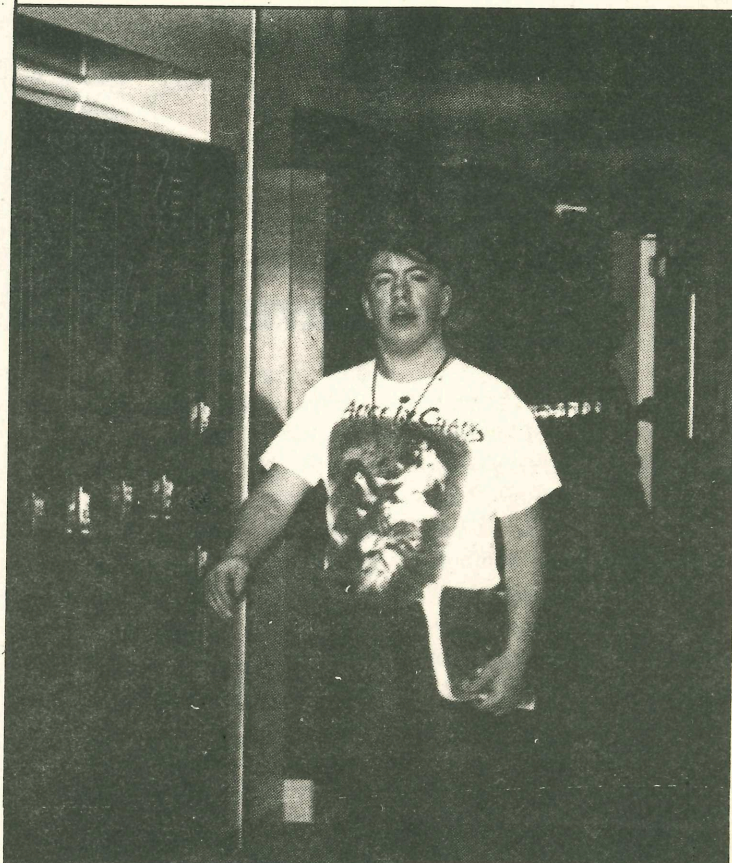
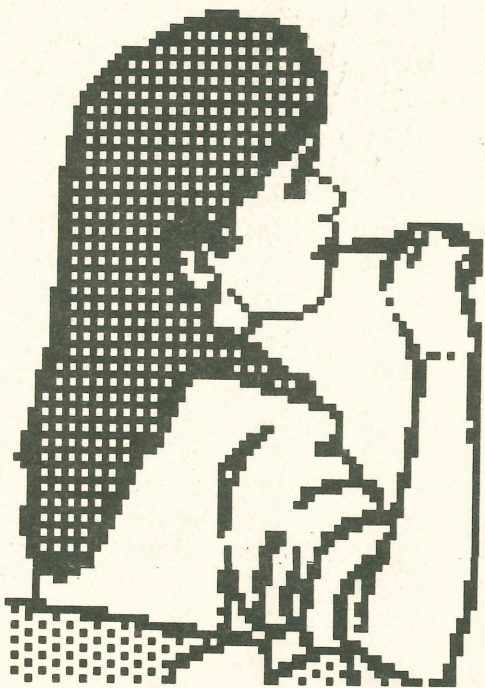
Everyday, we as students learn only what's in the text book. But to get out and actually learn something by teaching something, you get a grip on what goes on in the classroom from a teachers point of view.

We want to thank everyone who made this possible for us. All the time, money, and effort that went into this was incredible.

This opportunity to learn and teach is something that doesn't happen everyday and we are looking forward to going over there again in January.

So once again. Thank you.

**"You're Late!
What's your
excuse?"**



Tony Eastlack/Photographer
"OH, NO! THE BELL!" As the bell is about to ring, students rush of to class, sometimes showing up a little late.

Students use creativity in excuses for lateness

By Katie O'Connell &
Krissy Benkowski

Feature Editors

Imagine being abducted by aliens. They beam you up to their ship, steal your homework, and stare at you. Then they beam you back, without your homework, and on top of it all, you're late for your next class.

This may seem a little far-fetched, but some students resort to these creative excuses for being tardy.

You've got the usual, "My locker got stuck," and the ever famous, "I was kept after class." Other than that, none compare to the original, off-the-wall, excuses some students use.

"I was abducted by aliens! They were examining my homework, so I left it there," said senior Christi Micka.

A popular excuse, such as alien abduction, usually doesn't go over that well with some teachers. Though some excuses, however far-fetched, do pass teachers as a likely excuse.

"You mean school doesn't start at 8:30?" said senior Kerstin Kealy.

Students also use excuses that teachers think of as, "The Truth Excuses," even though in reality, they aren't always the truth.

"I had to go back outside to turn my headlights off," said senior Noelle Ferch.

"I got stopped in the hall so many times by teachers asking if I had a pass, I just couldn't possibly have gotten here on time."

Senior Kevin Stifle

Sometimes people can't help being late due to the unavoidable fault of another student or teacher.

"I got stopped in the hall so many times by teachers asking if I had a pass, I just couldn't possibly have gotten here on time," said senior Kevin Stifle.

The excuses that some people use, do draw attention from teachers. Some do with smoking, some do with sleeping around. What can a teacher say, it's an excuse, isn't it?

"My car door got stuck when I was out having a smoke," said one senior student.

The most surprising and seemingly creative excuses are not the always the made-up ones, but the true stories, proving that "fact is stranger than fiction."

"The most creative excuse I heard was when a kid brought a note from home excusing him from being gone Monday because he was married over the weekend and was on his honeymoon. This was an actual case," said English teacher Joel Squadroni.

Some teachers find that a creative excuse can break the mo-

notony of the usual excuses that come in all the time.

"Well, creative excuses beat an excuse like, 'I just didn't get to class on time,' and it shows a little creativity," said English teacher Jack Harlan.

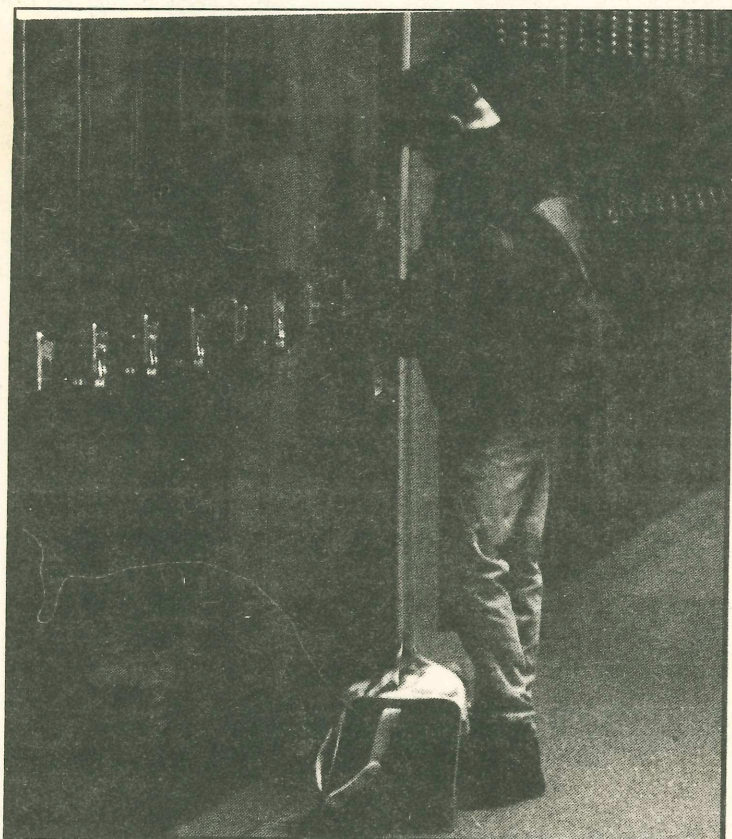
Whether or not teachers like the creative excuses is a matter of personal opinion, while some like the creativity, others find it a little annoying.

"When I'm given a creative excuse that is far-fetched, I feel like 'don't waste my time'," said science teacher Al Heine.

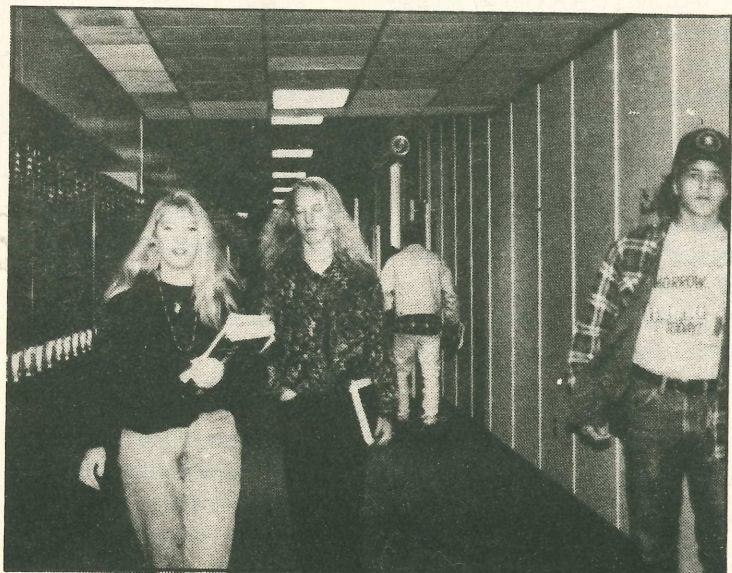
Some teachers, whoever, favor no excuses at all, because it disrupts class.

"I think there is no excuse, however, if a student makes the choice to be late, then they must suffer the consequences. Just as I would if I was late for work or if I chose to pay my income taxes to the IRS after the deadline," said English teacher Tracey Hagstrom-Dahl.

Whether they're late for class or just don't have an assignment done, most students will use excuses in hopes that they don't get in trouble.



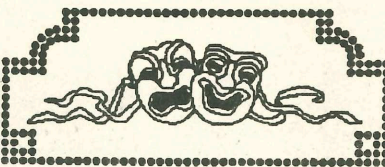
Tony Eastlack/Photographer
"MY LOCKER STUCK!" Common excuses teachers hear are sticking lockers and crowded halls.



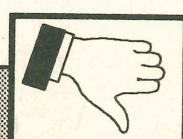
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MOVIE



REVIEWS



HOME ALONE 2

By Royce Johanson

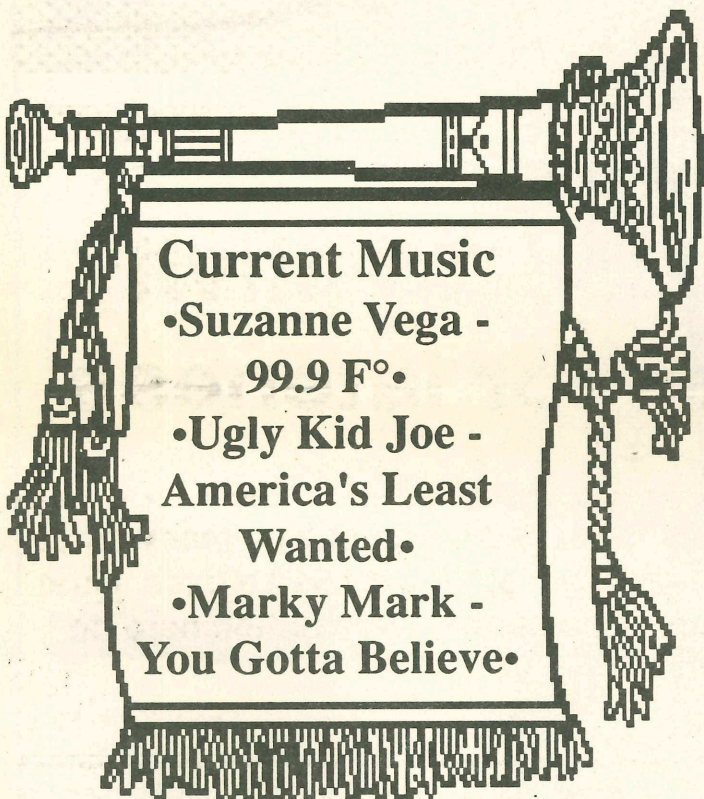
Staff Writer



I was slightly disappointed by the sequel of *Home Alone*. Everyone I had talked to before I saw *Home Alone 2* said it was much better. I don't know, maybe I was expecting too much. I mean, what happened to Marv and Harry in *Home Alone*, happened to them again only in a more severe way. If a normal person, such as you or I were hit with these objects in the way they were, would have died. Poor Marv was hit, while looking up, with a hundred pound sack of

dry cement. I was surprised that he didn't break his neck. Harry and Marv keep getting hit in the head with heavy objects like tools and bricks.

There were some good parts. The cameo appearance by Eddie Bracken, one of the few remaining great actors from the golden age of Hollywood. Bracken plays Duncan - the owner of Duncan's Toy Chest. Kevin saves the store from being robbed by Marv and Harry. There are other appearances by famous people, such as Donald Trump and Roy Schneider, the Copy Man from "Saturday Night Live". Even with the unrealistic events it was still pretty good, I would give it a two.



SNEAKERS

By Royce Johanson

Staff Writer

You wouldn't know this movie was out unless you look at the Variety section a lot, or unless someone you know talked about it, I felt that it was not adequately advertized. I thought this movie was interesting and exciting. Sneakers always kept you on the edge of your seat. It was a great movie. I never lost the plot or got confused by complicating incidents. The terrific cast included Robert Redford, Dan Akroyd, Sidney Poitier, River Phoenix, and Mary McDonnell (from "Dances with Wolves").

Robert Redford is the head of what you might call an agency. His agency breaks into computer systems for a living. Companies hired them to make sure their security was tight and to insure that no computer whiz could break in and steal money. What's ironic about this agency is that most of them have criminal records of some sort. Robert Redford gets

PASSENGER 57

By Royce Johanson

Staff Writer

I thought that Passenger 57 was a terrific movie. It moved right along and I never got lost. Passenger 57 was action-packed and explosive. I feel it was one of the better movies I've seen recently. Most critics bombed this movie but I give it two thumbs up.

Wesley Snipes plays an airplane security guy who knows how to handle people and hijackers in a hijacking situation.

Bruce Payne, a British actor, is a man who has just been caught by the F.B.I. and is being transported by plane to a prison in another state. Payne eventually gets free and hijacks the plane.

In the confusing events of all this Payne gets off of the plane and Snipes ended up in a town carnival.

Then...do you think I would tell you the end of the movie and ruin it for you? Of course not. Then it would be pointless for you to watch.

SINGLES

By Mark Ludwig

Entertainment Editor



Have fun and always stay single" is the main theme of the movie *Singles*. In my personal opinion, this is the greatest movie in the whole, wide world. The movie rarely grew complicated in plot. It is separated into about six parts. Each of these parts deal with a different stages in relationships between the characters. No matter what the characters always remain friends. This is fascinating, but slightly unrealistic. I thought the actors did a good job, the characters seemed real.

I especially enjoyed the

soundtrack. It includes songs by famous artists, Pearl Jam, Alice in Chains, Sound Garden, and Mudhoney. The music was so good I asked for the soundtrack for Christmas.

If you are into the "alternative" scene I think this movie is for you. The music selection says it all. The way relationships develop makes this movie great.

In his grunge wear Matt Dillon stars as Cliff the lead singer in a Seattle band. Although he ignores his girlfriend Janet (Bridget Fonda) he still loves her and she loves him. Steve (Cambell Scott) and Linda (Kyra Sedgwick) two of the main characters, meet in a moshing pit (dance), what a great way to start a relationship.

I love Janet's earrings, and that's all I have to say.

Headline is really needed to separate the two reviews!!

ALADDIN

By Sheri Tamte

Advisor



Those of us with mortal minds can't begin to imagine how to improve on movies like *Beauty and the Beast* or *The Little Mermaid*. But the superheros of animation at Disney have done it again. *Aladdin* is a movie not to be missed. The story is loosely based on the classic - and best known - tale from "Ali Baba's tales of 1001 nights of a poor boy who wins the equivalent of the lottery when he discovers a magic lamp with its resident Genie.

The Genie is hilarious as only Robin Williams can be. In the more than 50 impersonations

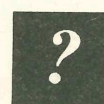
he does during the movie he never repeats a trick. My favorite part happens early on as Genie tries to persuade Aladdin to make his first wish by performing a stage show that puts Las Vegas to shame. It will be the second or third showing before I'm able to catch all the one-liners in this act. And yes, I'd recommend seeing it that many times! A beautiful princess, evil sorcerer, and mischeivous monkey round out the cast.

In the end the movie reminds us (as all good fairy tales should) of childhood lessons - the ultimate victory of good over evil, the rewards of being true to one's self, and the power of true love - lessons tempered by the realities of an adult world but perhaps not forgotten.

DRACULA

By Royce Johanson

Staff Writer



Let's not beat around the bush, the movie *Dracula* was a major flop. The plot was difficult to find, even Sherlock Holmes couldn't have discovered it. Think that Francis Ford Coppola was trying too hard to make the movie into something that it wasn't or couldn't be. I'm not saying that Coppola is a bad director, he's great, but the script was very poorly written. There was definitely too much blood. I lost the plot from the beginning. If you stopped to figure it out, you missed part and were even more lost.

The characterizations were bad. Some of the parts and actors weren't fully used to their potential. Like Academy Award Winning Anthony Hopkins, who played Dr. Van Helsing, could have put so much more into the role and maybe some better acting. Other people in the movie were: Gary Oldman from *JFK*, Winona Ryder, Keanu Reeves, and Cary Elwes from *Days of Thunder*.

The 1931 film version of "Dracula" on videotape, with Bela Lugosi, was much better and it didn't have blood in every other shot. The plot was not lost by trying to make it really gory. Bela Lugosi's accent was also the real deal, whereas Oldman's wasn't.

Reviews Written By:
Royce Johanson, Mark Ludwig,
and Advisor Sheri Tamte.



Crystal Pepsi®, What's That?

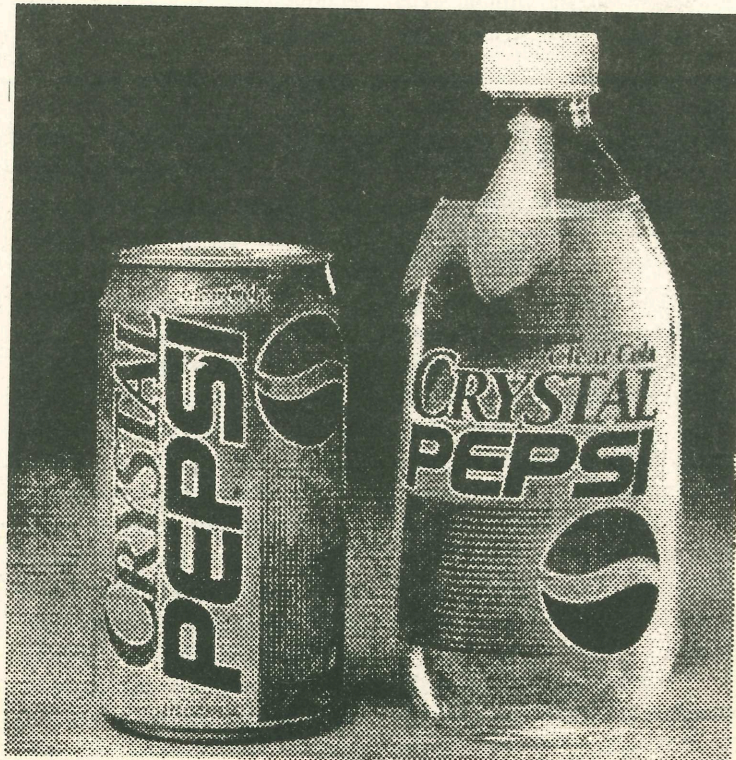
By Mark Ludwig

Features Layout Editor

Voted #1 out of 10 new food products reviewed is "Crystal Pepsi". Crystal Pepsi is a natural cola that has no-color and no-caffeine. The cola will arrive in Buffalo in the next two weeks, and be nationally released in the next six weeks. Although virtually unknown now, everyone I talked to said they would be interested in trying it.

There has been a positive response to the cola in the areas where it has been tested. Pepsi is worried however, because two other clear colas have bombed. Our next issue will include the results of our staff taste test.

If you want more information call Pepsi at 1-800-433-COLA or watch for it in issues of the Star and Tribune.



Original picture in Star and Tribune

Karate encourages self-defense without weapons

By Aaron Eby

Staff Writer

Karate. What do you think when you hear that word? Most people think of grade "B" movies on late-night television, where some kid does quadruple flips and twelve-foot high spin kicks, stands on one foot, and makes strange sounds like "waaaaa..." or "hi-yah!" to defeat his opponent.

This is not exactly realistic.

Karate, or more particularly Ryu Kyu Kempo, is a class in which students learn self-defense techniques, build self-confidence, raise self-esteem, and instill self-discipline. It is also meant to train students to seek the perfection of

their character with the benefits of enhanced fitness, a wealth of knowledge, and lowered reaction time.

Karate has its origins on the island of Okinawa, the largest island in a chain south of Japan. In 1609, Okinawa was invaded by Japan, and citizens were prohibited from possessing weapons. Without weapons, Okinawans began to develop a form of fighting with their hands and feet. These skills were developed primarily for survival and were structured on the Okinawan culture, instincts, and ideas. They were also influenced by the Chinese, Koreans, and Siamese. The technique became known as "te,"



Buffalo Karate

meaning "hands," and then "karate," meaning "empty hands."

Dave Poirier, a Ryu Kyu Kempo instructor in the Buffalo Karate Association, has been in full contact karate, Shotokan, Chi Ki Do, and Judo. He started teaching Ryu Kyu Kempo in Buffalo about ten years ago.

"The instructor in Shotokan and the instructor in St. Cloud [at the Dillman Karate Institute] encouraged me to teach," said Poirier.

The main difference be-

tween Ryu Kyu Kempo and other forms of karate is that Ryu Kyu Kempo uses pressure points. Pressure points are nerve ending that, when hit, rubbed, or sometimes just pressed, make a person vulnerable. The pressure has also been known to knock people out occasionally.

Students in the Buffalo Karate Association said that they like the style for different reasons.

"[What I like best is] the self defense," said black-belt Warren Williams. "In this style

there are no rules."

People can join the Buffalo Karate Association through Community Education. The fee is \$25 for one person, or \$40 for a family. Poirier says that joining with your family helps karate students remember moves and help their family members practice. There is also an additional \$20 fee per year for the Dillman Karate Institute.

Poirier pointed out that karate should not be used to start fights. An important part of karate is learning how to avoid violence.

"The best self-defense is to avoid the situation before it gets started," said Poirier.

Gymnastics teams tumble into new season with high hopes



Gymnastics '92

By Beth Miller

Editor-in-Chief

The Bison gymnastics team is tumbling into a new year with hopes for a successful season.

This year the varsity team has two major goals: to have a better winning record, and for the varsity team to score over 130. The J.V. team's goal is to score over 120. Along with team goals, gymnasts have their own personal goals.

"My goal is to be a positive influence on the team and to be a use to the varsity and J.V. teams," said junior Katie Kettenecker.

Many of the gymnasts began in elementary school, and cannot remember a time of not being involved in gymnastics.

"The reason I joined gymnastics is that it's so much a part of my life, because I've been in it so long. I can't imagine being without gymnastics in high school," said

senior captain Tara Zahler.

The main strength of this year's team is that they have all but one of last year's varsity members back for another season. Another strength is their attitude towards one another.

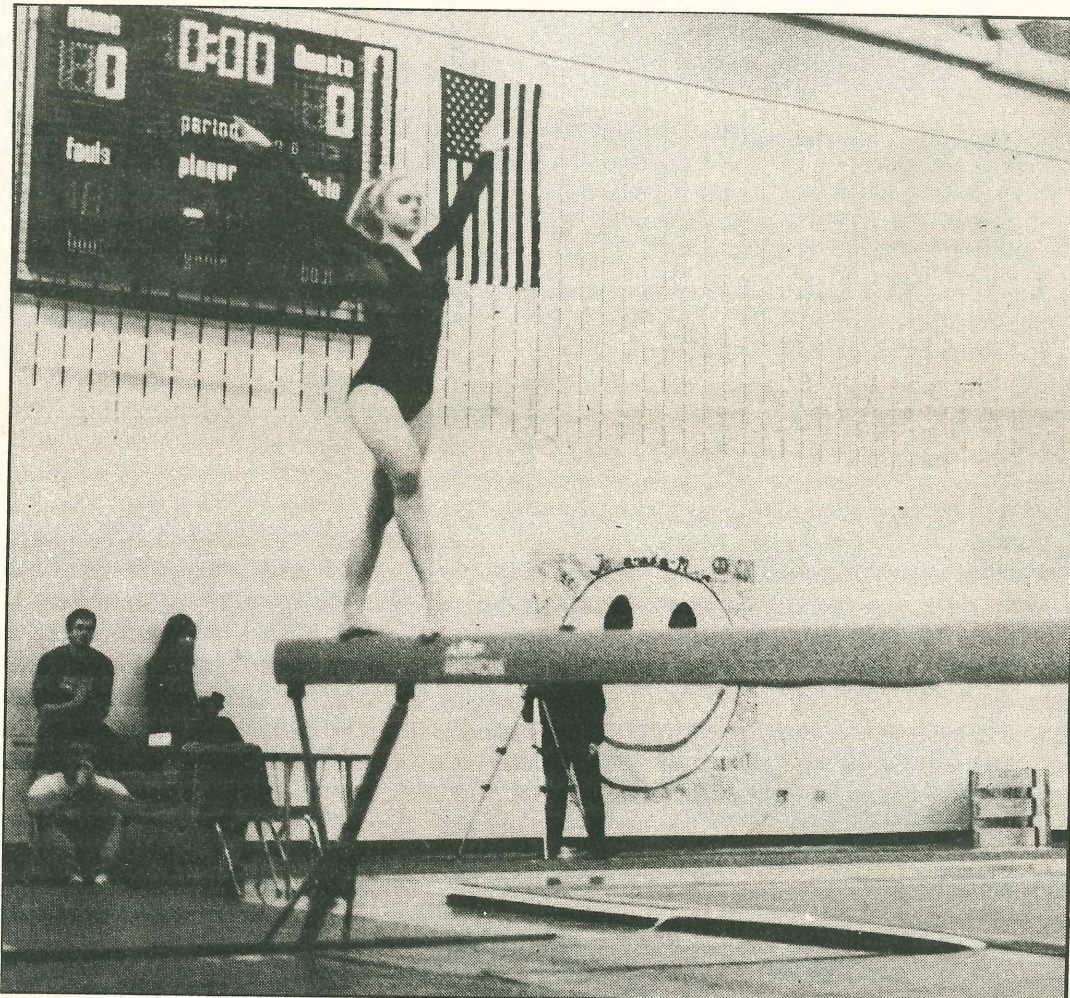
"A strong area of our team is that we're getting along as a whole," said Kettenecker.

The team practices every night after school from 3:30 to 6:30. This is one of the longest practice times of the winter sports, but many gymnasts feel the long practices are necessary.

"We need the long practices. After practice, I don't feel I've had enough," said Zahler.

However, one of the teams weaknesses cannot be practiced after school. The gymnasts need to learn how to deal with the stress of performing during competitions.

"We need to work on getting used to a competitive atmosphere. During practice it's easy to do stuff, but when you do it at competitions, it's harder," said Kettenecker.



Heather Oberdeck/Staff Writer

FOCUSING ON THE BALANCE BEAM, sophomore Monica Hill prepared for her dismount from the beam during the meet against St. Francis, on Friday, December 11. The gymnastics team won the meet, 126.85 to 123.1, and was 3-0 as of Friday, December 18.

Fans at games: Coaches and athletes agree that having fans encourages team to do well, but adds stress

By Amanda F.-Scott

Staff Writer

The score is running high and so are the fans' expectations. It isn't practice anymore. What changes practice into a meet or game? The answer is fans. Players agree that a crowd of cheering fans can boost a team to a win.

"It's challenging to have fans at a game," said freshman basketball player Lisa Drebenstedt. "You need to work harder."

Varsity games draw a decent crowd, but non-varsity games are often poorly attended. Fans at

non-varsity events are usually there to cheer on their child or friend. However, many of the fans at varsity events are students, who go to socialize.

"If there were more of their fellow classmates watching the games, athletes would perform better," said freshman Cassie LePage, who attends home games.

When an athletic event doesn't draw a huge screaming crowd, it can affect athletes' performance in good and bad ways.

"I try to block out the audience. The audience applies pressure. Large audiences tend to give the team more spirit," said

diver Nicole DeMott.

Cheerleaders can usually excite an unenthusiastic audience and raise the morale of a gloomy team.

"Cheerleaders have a lot of effect on the players," said freshman Kelli Markuson. "We get the crowd going."

BHS athletes, fans, cheerleaders, and coaches agree that having support from fans is important.

"It enhances player performance because the athletes are motivated to perform in front of a crowd," said hockey coach Carl Davis.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Ken & Kathy
Route 3, Box 199-S
Buffalo, MN 55313
(612) 477-5388

WE'VE RELOCATED

Effective January 4, *The Bison* office will be moved to Room C-5 (Art Room). All "Letters to the Editor", comments, inquiries, etc., should be sent to Mrs. Tamte in Room C-5 from now on. Thank you.

Letters favor adding of girls' soccer team

By David Malerich

Sports Editor

Last issue, I opened up the girls' soccer topic to readers. Although I have only received two letters by the requested date, I would like to share those two letters with you.

I asked you, the readers, to express your opinions on starting a girls' soccer team at BHS. The first letter was written by sophomore Heather Pool.

I'm so happy that somebody is working toward girls' soccer. I would love to help. I would drop any sport to play soccer.

I've been in soccer for 8 years now. Six of those years were in-house and two of them on the all-girls' traveling team that is also new in Wright County.

Although the opportunity to play on the high school soccer team was there and mainly made up of boys, I chose not to

because there is very little opportunity to play constantly, because I am a girl. Also, boys play differently from girls.

I personally called about 6 or 8 girls on the soccer team this summer, friends of mine in the sport, to get a team started, but school started too soon to carry through. Many of the girls were interested, but the idea involved so much work to get it going. [The others wanted to join fall sports, so they enrolled in other sports.]

I believe there is enough interest and enough girls to make an all-girls' team if we start now. It is not fair that there is no place to play after you started young and you reach high school, except with the boys' team. There is no question that we should have a girls' team.

I want to play the sport and not to

play only a little and not to have fun. I'd enjoy the sport and learn not to win all the time, not that it's not good to win. So let's get started and have one of the best, most awesome girls' team. I think it's a great idea.



What Bo
Doesn't Know

Playing with the boys is different than girls' soccer. With boys, you don't get to play as much and the game is rougher. A girls' team would be awesome. It would be fair at least.

There should be a girls' team. We're just as good as boys. If there's a girls' team, more girls will want to play.

I also think it would be worth the school's money, because it's a new sport and also because there are more boys' sports than girls'.

I will give equal print space to opposing views or the views of the faculty that I receive by December 23. If I don't receive any, I will open a new issue. Elk River, Mounds View and Irondale are leaving the North Suburban after this year, and Monticello is joining. How do you feel about the change, and how do you see it affecting Buffalo teams in the coming year? I'll see you next time.

S P O R T S

UPDATE

BOYS' BASKETBALL - The Bison boys' basketball team lost to Centennial, 57-44, on Friday, December 18, to send their record to 2-2 overall and 0-1 in the conference. The team is at the Little Falls Tournament on December 29 and 30.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL - The girls' basketball team fell to Irondale, 66-52, on Tuesday, December 15. The loss dropped the team's record to 1-4 going into the game at Fridley on December 19. The team plays at the Austin Tournament on December 28-30.

GYMNASTICS - The gymnastics team defeated St. Michael-Albertville, 132.7 to 113.95, on Tuesday, December 15. The win kept the team undefeated, with a 3-0 record going into the meet at Willmar on December 22. The team hosts Spring Lake Park on Friday, January 8, at 6 p.m.

HOCKEY - The Buffalo hockey team lost to Mounds View on Thursday, December 17, by a score of 3-1. The team had a 2-3 record going into the game against Centennial on December 19. The varsity team is at the Blake Tournament and the junior varsity is at the Elk River Tournament on December 28-30.

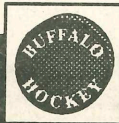
WRESTLING - The Bison wrestling team placed second at the Osseo Tournament, tied with Osseo at 161 points, trailing Simley, who had 180. The team had a 2-1 record going into the match on December 22, against Fridley. The team is at Mounds View on Thursday, January 7, starting at 6 p.m. for the junior varsity and 7:30 for the varsity.

SLALOM SKIING - The slalom skiing teams faced Bloomington Jefferson and Orono at Buck Hill on Thursday, December 17. The boys lost both, falling to Jefferson, 33-22, and to Orono, 30-25. The girls defeated Orono, 30-25, but lost to Jefferson, 32-23. The next meet is Tuesday, January 5, against Richfield and Robbinsdale Armstrong at Buck Hill at 4 p.m.

Hockey team heads into new season with defensive squad

By David Malerich

Sports Editor



Hockey '92

The Bison hockey team began its third season in the North Suburban Conference this year with hopes of continued improvement.

The team lost a number of strong seniors from last year's squad, but are planning on a good season. Buffalo defeated a tough Mound team, 3-2, to open the season.

"It all depends on how hard we work," said junior Chris Reid. "Right now, it looks pretty good."

The team has struggled some in the last two years against strong competition in the North

Suburban, but team members are hoping to go to the newly-formed lower section of the state tournament after placing high in the conference and the section.

"We want to be in the top three in the conference and top eight in the section," said senior Tim Wille.

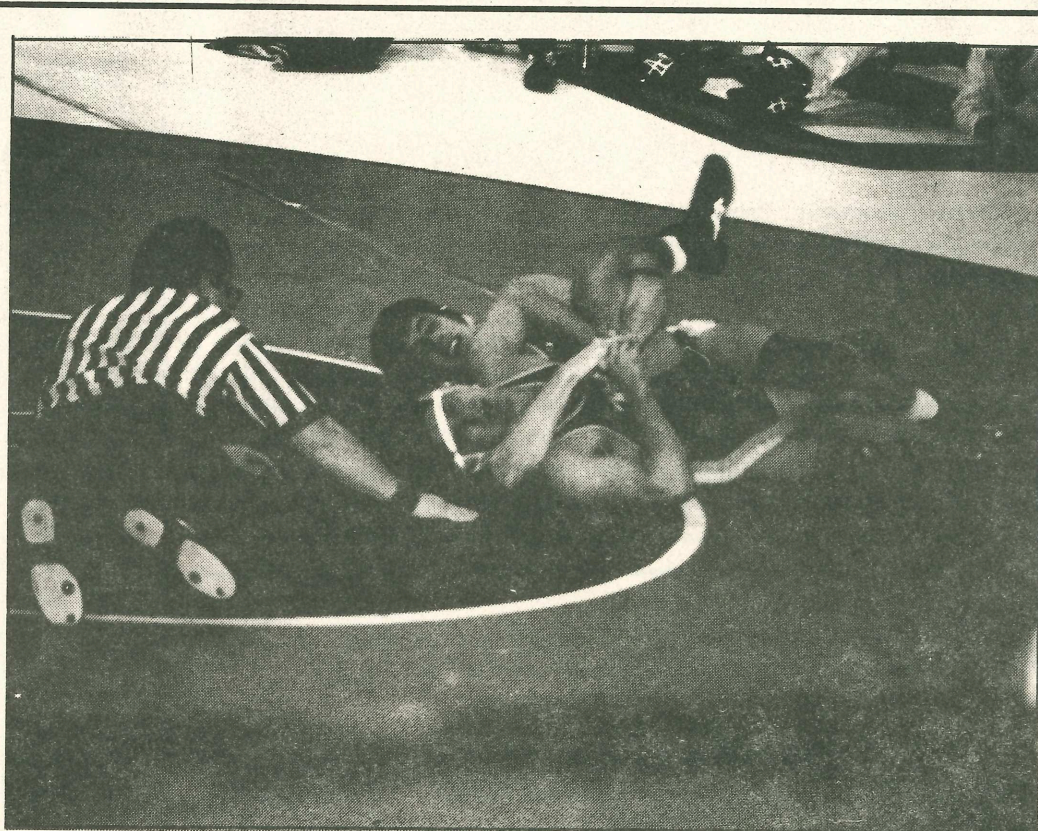
Currently, the team is trying to improve its defense. Passing and better puck control were also areas that need improvement.

Three teams lead the North Suburban in hockey this year: Elk

River, Centennial, and Mounds View. Reid said that these were the teams that Buffalo had to watch out for. He also said that they were keeping a close eye on Centennial because the Bison haven't beaten them since joining the conference two years ago.

Despite having only a few upperclassmen to lead the team, members say that the team's spirit has been great.

"Team unity is the best it's been in that last couple of years," said Wille.



Heather Oberdeck/Staff Writer

CHECKING TO SEE IF THE SHOULDER WAS DOWN, the referee watched intently as junior Jeremy Dixon tried to pin his opponent at the Osseo Tournament on Saturday, December 12. Buffalo tied Osseo for second. The score was 161 points.

SCC helps with student trouble

By Heather Oberdeck

Photographer

Altruism or goodness is the main basis for the group Student Care Committee, better known as SCC.

This group is here to provide "care" for students at BHS who have had a situation in their life that has caused trauma or frustration.

"It (SCC) involves doing good things for other people, which in turn makes them feel good. I want them to get into a habit of giving, rather than a selfish 'What do I get out of it?' attitude. Life is just too good to waste time with that kind of think-

ing," said English teacher and SCC adviser Karen Swenson.

Some members believe that joining really has brought about a feeling of concern for their fellow students and the faculty at BHS.

"I care about the student body, and what happens within our school," said junior SCC member Heather Striegel.

This year SCC held a holiday dance last Friday to raise funds for the committee's activities.

Some things that SCC does for the student body include: the birthday list that is posted in the classrooms and outside of the counselling office, and sending candy and cards to students who have been sick, or injured.

Brains at work on Knowledge Bowl team Practice begins for KB

By Jessica Lilja

News Copy Editor

The winter activities season at BHS has officially begun. Many students are involved currently involved in sports such as basketball, hockey, wrestling, gymnastics, and cheerleading.

Several students are also involved in academic competitions this winter. One example of this type of activity is Knowledge Bowl.

"Knowledge Bowl is an academic competition. We compete against other teams, much like an athletic team

would. The score is based on how quickly and correctly you can answer questions," said coach Peggy Pasche.

This year the team consists of approximately twenty members, and is divided into three teams of five people that compete at meets.

"My favorite part of Knowledge Bowl is going to other schools to compete in meets," said junior Ryan Foss.

This season, the Knowledge Bowl team will be competing at five schools before the subregion meet at Becker on April first.

"We hope to advance from subregions to regions this year,"

said Pasche.

Members have many reasons for becoming a part of the scholastic team for this year.

"It sounded like a challenge and I think it will expand my mind and my horizons," said sophomore Heather Oberdeck.

Many returning members have placed emphasis upon the mental competition, as well as having fun during the season.

"I joined to learn some more useless trivia, and to have fun," said junior Emily McPheeters.

Students' opinions asked by survey considered, reported

By Stephanie Carlson

Photographer

A survey was recently distributed to the student body of BHS, asking them five questions concerning how they felt about their high school.

The most common complaint among the students was the school lunch. Many students don't care for the school lunch, and consider the solution to be an open campus lunch. With this option, students could leave the school and go home or to a restaurant to

eat.

"I don't eat school lunch, because I think the food is over priced for the little bit of food we get," said sophomore Hillary Thornley.

There were others that said they didn't mind eating the school lunch, the overwhelming favorites were pizza and hamburgers.

"[My favorite lunch is] turkey strips with pears, french fries, and chocolate milk. This fills me up so I can go lift weights after school," said senior Luke McLain.

The majority of students felt

that the teachers are the best aspect of BHS, mainly because they are understanding, helpful and have a good sense of humor.

"The teachers always ask how you are doing, and take time out of their day for the students," said senior Darci Klarstrom.

Another topic often mentioned on the survey was mods. Many students said that this period of time gave them a chance to do homework and be with friends. They also stated that they would like mods to be longer, and said that this could be made

possible by shortening the lunches or cutting a few minutes of class time.

The hallways were the most popular complaint. A large majority of the student body thought that this was a major problem that needed to be changed. Students agreed that the halls are too crowded and need to be widened to make more room, as "traffic jams" are daily occurrences.

"The hallways are too crowded; you always get pushed around," said freshmen Laura Fehn.

Students have their own likes and dislikes about BHS, but in general, students like BHS more than most other schools.

"I think BHS is better than other schools, because the teachers and staff really care about you and they are always willing to help," said freshman Jessica Harris.

The students have expressed their opinion, whether it be on the teachers, lunches, or hallways.



News Briefs

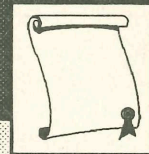
BHS to become tobacco free

On January 4, 1993, BHS will become tobacco free, because of a new law passed by the Minnesota state legislature that is requiring that all public buildings become tobacco free.

One act play practices begin

The cast for this year's One-act play, *The Inner Circle*, has been chosen and has begun practicing. The play will be directed by English teacher Tracey Hagstrom-Dahl, with Student Directors/Stage Managers Senior Beth Husom and Junior Jeff Mauk.

The cast consists of four featured characters and their non-speaking "shadows." For the female roles Senior Courtney Collins will be playing Sarah with Junior Kari Nyberg as her shadow, and playing Kat will be Senior Laurie Miller with Sophomore Holly Persian as her shadow. The males roles go to Sophomore Jason Poirer as Danny with Sophomore Luke Zimmerman as his shadow, and Senior Scott Burlingame will play Mark with Senior Brad Elo as his shadow.



Student Council Commentary

Student Council members participate in activities

By Ami Miller

Student Council Member

Student Council is again busy with various activities this month.

The executive portion of our student council went to an EMASC (Eastern Minnesota Association of Student Council) workshop on Thursday, December 3. Students who attended were EMASC President Deb Theis, Delegate-at-Large Matt Gorill, Amy B. Miller, Angie Toso, Luke McLain, Erin Cady, Sarah Harper, and Kathy Larson. They met with other student council leaders to discuss new ideas and ways to improve upon our high school experience.

Members helped out with the NCA self-study, an in-depth study of our school, in mid November. They took a series of surveys along with BHS faculty and adult community volunteers. They will use this informa-

tion as well as input from the school and the community to help us to improve upon the school.

Along with that and many other meetings and committee groups we are working hard. There are a couple of events that take a lot of time, work, and dedication.

One of them was the Senior Citizens Holiday Buffet was held in the BHS library on Wednesday, December 16. We all helped out in some way. Some of us are helped by making desserts and hors d'oeuvres, setting up, cleaning up, and the seniors talked to the senior citizens during the meal. This is something that student council has done in the past and hopefully will continue to do in the future.

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to talk to anyone of the Student Council members. Thanks for your interest in what we are trying to do to help BHS be a better place to be at.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

from

SPRING CREST
DRAPERY CENTERS

682-6693

