



The Bison

The Buffalo Senior High School Newspaper

Buffalo Senior High • 1300 Highway 25 North • Buffalo, Minnesota 55313 • 682-6800
Volume XXXV Issue 8 May 29, 1992

Teacher retires, leaves impact on school

By Jeff Mauk

Layout News Editor

At the end of this school year, BHS will be losing one of its most experienced and influential teachers, Clark Swenson.

As an English major and history minor, Clark Swenson taught English during the 1958-'59 school year at Melrose High School. Swenson moved to Buffalo because he felt it was supportive of cultural events.

The same year that Swenson started teaching at Buffalo, in the fall of 1959, he accepted the challenge of directing the season's

Multi-act play, a melodrama named Lily, the Felon's Daughter. In 1968, Swenson directed his first One-Act, entitled Ralph Roister Doister.

Swenson has directed approximately 50 plays at BHS, not including the summer performances. Of those, the One-Acts: Black Comedy (1973), Waiting for Godot (1982), and Seascape (1986) have all attended State competition.

Another of Swenson's accomplishments was being Track and Field coach from 1960 to 1980, making him the 'winningest' coach in Bison history.

Performing musicals during the school year has not been a tradition at BHS until recent years.

"He pushed the arts. The progress the Drama program has made is good. He made that happen," said junior Laurie Miller.

Many view working with Swenson as more than just a positive experience.

"He makes himself available for not only good plays, but he's interested in the actors as well," said Miller.

In addition to directing plays, Swenson has had many foreign exchange students in his plays. Among them was Roma-

nian exchange student, Gad Johannes Schuster Gross, who was in the state champion, Waiting for Godot.

Despite the positive experiences involved with the drama program, Swenson feels relieved to have some time to relax.

"The stress that comes in putting together a play that will meet the time limits and still remain coherent is a bit more than I care for," said Swenson. "I've lost sleep over some of those little details, and some that weren't so little."

One of the challenges facing the school district is that of

filling the gap left by Swenson.

"I don't think [the new director] will be a success if they try to live up to Clark. They should try to take off where Clark is leaving," said Miller.

Swenson has already made plans for the future regarding how he will spend his extra time.

"Something like a dinner theatre might be nice, but I would hate to get back into a daily routine. Besides, I'll have more time for hunting," said Swenson.

There are many past and present BHS students who wish Swenson well, and send him best wishes in his retirement.

Pegasus prepares for late distribution

By Kim Weivoda

Guest Writer

The editors of *Pegasus*, the BHS literary magazine, are close to completing this year's issue. They should have it available to students before the end of the school year.

Pegasus provides a chance for student writers to share their work with a larger audience.

"Writing should be read... it doesn't do any good to have it sit [unread]," said senior Justin DeFoe, who contributed several poems.

Although this will be the eleventh issue of *Pegasus*, many students have no idea what it is.

Students who have read previous issues have high opinions of it.

"It's good to have something for people to put their creative energies into," said sophomore Dustin Backlund.

Pegasus is known for coming out in the last few days of school, and this year's issue is no exception.

"It was hard to find a time with no schedule conflicts when everyone could work," said the Editor-in-Chief, senior Emily Gervasio, explaining the delay.

The Typing Editor, sophomore Emily McPheeters, agreed.

"We got a late start, and a lot of people dropped out," said McPheeters.



Melanie Wozniak / Photography Editor

RED LIGHT, GREEN LIGHT. Construction crews recently set up traffic lights at the intersection of Highway 55 and 3rd Avenue NE, bringing much relief to a controversy plaguing the community for years. Over the years, accidents have been abundant at the intersection, making the stoplights a welcome sight for many.

New students make friends, overcome obstacles

By Rebecca Ebnet

News Copy Editor

Recently, two new students arrived from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the former Soviet Union.

Junior Vevgeni Komarov, who BHS has nicknamed "Gene," used to live in Odessa (a city in the Ukraine), with his parents, three sisters ages 13, 15, and 18, and one brother, age 10. The oldest sister is staying back in the CIS

with her grandparents and is planning to come over when she saves up enough money.

The Ukraine is the bread basket of the CIS, like the prairies of Kansas and Nebraska in the U.S. Thus, Komarov feels he was lucky and had enough to eat, unlike the majority of the country.

"Food was really hard to come by and the lines [to get food] were really long," said Komarov.

The school Komarov attended before coming to Buffalo

is a government run school that has a similar schedule to BHS. He learned science and Russian grammar, along with physical education. After school was out for the day, Komarov would go home and study for another three to four hours a day.

Komarov has many different hobbies, including chess, checkers, soccer, and swimming. He looks forward to joining the soccer team for the fall season.

Alexander Rokovets, age

18, is now living with the Drakes, his sponsor family in Buffalo. His parents, Nadya and Daniel Rokovets, his sister, Svetlana, her husband Peter, and their daughter Marina, are also living with them.

Rokovets and his family lived in Byelaya Tserkov or "The White Church," a city of about 200,000 people, 80 kilometers from Kiev. While in the CIS, Rokovets went to school and studied Russian history, Russian literature, and physical education.

After an eight hour day of school, he studied for three to four hours, and worked at a clothing factory after school and on weekends.

He enjoys playing soccer, American music, and is studying for his driver's license. Rokovets is a Russian Orthodox and knows almost no English. He is learning it fast, with a lot of help from Komarov. For him, food was not very hard to get because he also lived in the bread basket, where the food was grown.

Editorials



New columnist gives personal "insights" on special needs students.

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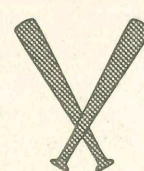
Features



Mega Mall opening welcome by shoppers, feared by competition.

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Sports



Softball team breaks school record for most victories in one season.

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End of year brings open book final tests

As the end of the year comes around, the dreaded words start popping out. "Final Test."

Each teacher decides if they want to give a final test. Some teachers take the option not to. Among those that do, the test is generally open note, or in more extreme cases, open book.

First things first. What is the purpose of an open book test? Last we heard, finals were for teachers to make sure we had learned what we were supposed to in their class.

What does it prove, if we

can look up the answers in a book because it's an open book test? That we can look up answers? We don't prove we learned anything, except we know how to copy from a book. Well, Mr. or Ms. teacher, we aren't going to carry our high school text book with us when we go out to face the world. Even if you'd let us take our books with us when we leave, most of us would toss them in the garbage when we got home on the last day.

What about open note tests? All a student has to do is copy

everything they don't know. They probably won't learn it by copying it down in a notebook. All that they were supposed to learn will probably "go in one ear and out the other." Again, even though they can take their notebooks home, they will most likely end up in the garbage can. It won't help them at all.

Well, dear teachers, we're unsure of how you're able to make sure all your students should be passed if you don't give a final grade. Is it any wonder why students can graduate unable to read

and write? Teachers have no idea if a student can read. All a student has to do is copy a friend's homework, and, provided they get A's on all their homework, they can pass the class.

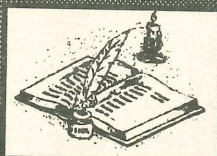
Now, we're not saying teachers should give the normal final tests, no notes. For some classes where there is a lot of little details (for example, math formulas, chemical formulas, history dates) give students a "cheat sheet," one piece of paper to write all the details they need on. Otherwise make the tests easier, by

they basically cover all the major topics that the class covered throughout the semester.

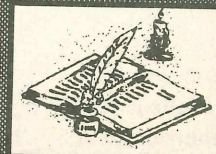
If final tests are given, we, as students taking these tests, would appreciate it if not all of you gave a final test on the last day of school. It is a little stressful to have six finals on one day. Divided up to three per day (Wednesday and Thursday) would be less stressful.

Thanks for the great year. We hope you have a really nice summer!

Good-bye!



Letters to the Editor



Crowded halls cause tardies, need new school

DEAR EDITOR:

Sometimes in the course of human events it is necessary to engage in an act that is downright degrading. Acts such as war, or around these parts, being tardy.

The administration spends a lot of its time tracking down folks who are delinquent in their arrival times. If this time was directed at different issues, such as how to solve their problem of crowded halls without immediately resorting to the "bigger is better" response of building a new school, we might begin to see a bureaucratic system achieve something they rarely have in the past.

It would seem to me that the arguments for a bigger school,

the crowded halls, and tardies, are somehow mysteriously linked. The standard response to a tardy by the office is a warning, or for the less fortunate, detention. Both are accompanied by a simple explanation of how five minutes is enough time to traverse these very same corridors from one end of the school and back, even allowing a little time to fight with your locker.

If five minutes is ample passing time, why do we need a new school? I mean, if the halls aren't crowded, why do we need a new building? At any one time in this building there are ten or more idle rooms. Assuming that there are 20 kids in the average class, that's another 200 kids this build-

ing could hold.

However, back to tardies. Why is the student late? I think we've covered that one. Talking to another teacher? Some teachers take it as a personal affront when a student is late because another teacher "decided that their class was more important." I'll let them duke it out for themselves. The student has a social life? Heaven forbid. This is a place to learn, not to interact. Passing time is too short?

Have school start at 8 a.m. and lengthen the passing periods by about two minutes? No, that might save the school money!

On the serious side, the student may be late for any or all of these reasons, but however the

administration decides to "discipline" violators of the tardy laws, they will never see an end to it. There is always going to be someone who has decided that algebra is not worth the ulcer running to class would create. A person may, purely by chance, stumble upon a blade of grass, and in pondering its beauty, lose track of time on their way to small engines.

When will the madness end?

A few of our guiding lights (i.e. principals) have been overheard saying they also share a distaste for the need for tardies,

but the administration requires it of them. Well, this I say to any and all concerned parties: do something about it, then. Don't cry me a river.

It's the same as a parent saying "this hurts me more than it will hurt you." Mr. Principals, don't do it! Don't follow your Godawful tardy policy and people everywhere will sleep better with the knowledge that there is one less unnecessary evil in the world.

Edward T. Akin
Senior

Unprofessional actions by faculty

DEAR EDITOR:

I would like to clear up the stories as to the events that occurred last Friday.

I have not completed enough credits to graduate this year and lately I have not been attending class regularly. At 8:10 am I was chased down by Mr. Minkler, who informed that I was to receive a five day suspension. At this point in time, what's the difference between suspension

and expulsion? After receiving this notification I went to retrieve my artwork and leave the building. I was stopped by faculty members who insisted I couldn't leave in my present emotional state. I was not allowed to get my artwork.

Because I refused to sit down in Minkler's office, an officer was called in to "help." I was detained in the office until 10 am when I was handcuffed and

brought in for an evaluation to make sure I wasn't going to kill myself. . . which is something I would never consider. Nothing illegal took place but it was tacky and maybe unprofessional. Somehow, somewhere down the line somebody wasn't understanding and everything got blown grossly out of proportion.

Lisa Pramann
Senior

Apathy towards school activities among students not sign of apathy

DEAR EDITOR:

Concerning your editorial about student apathy in the last issue of *The Bison*: WHAT? We are insulted, to say the least. We do not know who put the idea in your head that everyone in this school is an "indifferent slob." Sure, we agree, there is a lack of interest on the part of some members of this great student body, but please don't stereotype the

rest of us.

We don't belong to fifty different groups and organize activities for mods, but does that mean we don't care? No. We're not followers, and we're not conformist idiots who can't make logical decisions on our own.

We know what's going on in the world, probably better than a lot of adults. We don't like being grouped with the actual

drunk drivers and ignorant fools who have no idea what's going on out there.

We feel that you need to re-examine the people at BHS and look past the thin veil of stupidity that the ignorant people have tried to cover the rest of us with.

Jill Scott
Becky Mackey
Sophomores



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The Bison is printed
by the Wright County
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Differences normal, needed for thinking

By Beth A. Miller

Editor-in-Chief

Good Morning!

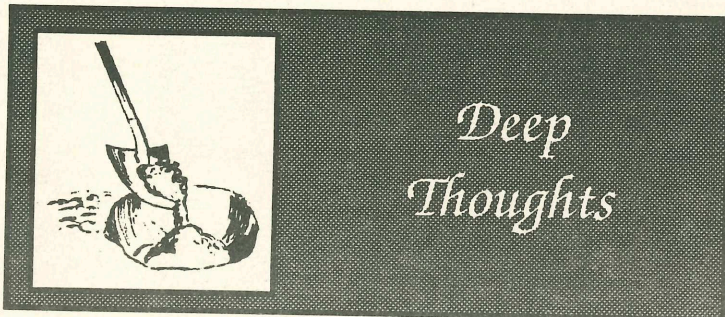
The school year is coming to an end. You'll never get to read "From the Bottom of the Pit," again in a current issue of *The Bison*. Okay, quit mourning this morning over the loss and pay attention to the final complaint.

Just to keep things simple while you're grieving, I'll tell you my topic of complaint right now. (This, however does not give you the right to stop reading right now.) I'm complaining about prejudices.

There have been and are prejudices against: Catholics, Jews, blacks, the handicapped, etc.

Why are there prejudices? Aren't we all made of the same materials? What difference does it make what we look like, what religion we are, or how we think? We're all humans.

There are prejudices all



around the world. There is more opportunity for them to exist in the United States because of the many different nationalities that are here and the freedom of religion. But there are prejudices everywhere.

In Korea, the physically handicapped were "social outcasts." They also have prejudices against looks.

I have an aunt who came from Korea. She told how she used to get teased because her hair wasn't as black as the others in her class. Another obstacle she

lived with is that she is slightly physically handicapped.

These prejudices affect people all their lives. I don't know if my aunt still worries about her hair not being black enough. I do know that she still tries to hide the fact that she's physically handicapped the best that she can.

I'm sure she knows that in this time and country, the handicapped are not the "social outcasts" they were in Korea. She hides it because of the psychological effect it had on her.

Having someone prejudiced

against is something that will never leave you.

Think about it. Did anyone ever tease you about some physical characteristic that still bothers you today? Maybe someone told you that your feet were big, and you still buy shoes that make your feet look small. Teasing doesn't just last one day, it lasts a lifetime.

There are groups formed against different types of people. The one we hear of the most is the Ku Klux Klan (KKK.)

When I hear news of the KKK growing, it's somewhat scary. It tells me people are too hung up on social and physical differences to care about people for who they actually are. They only care about who they think a person is.

The world would be extremely boring if we all looked and thought alike. Walter Lippman said (No, I don't know who he is, I just read the quote

somewhere) "Where all think alike no one thinks very much." We should be happy that there are so many different thoughts and ideas. That way we all think. And if we all looked alike, could you imagine trying to find your mother in a shopping mall? It's enough trouble finding her when we all look different!

There is no part of human nature that can't be changed. What we are depends on what we make of ourselves. We can change our personalities and prejudices. What we can't change is our physical characteristics.

That's all I have left to say. So, all you seniors, good luck in your future, whatever it might be. Come back and visit those of us that are still here. And if you become famous, say you owe it all to me. And vote for me when I run for president!

So, the rest of you, until next year -- Good-bye!

Lessons on life learned from unexpected people

By Amber Veches

Columnist

In our lives, there are two types of people we learn from.

The first is the type that tells you something. At that time you might not be able to understand, but then later you realize the wisdom of it all.

There are also times when my parents are discussing (otherwise known as yelling at) things with my older sister. I will think to myself "remember this, it will save you much trouble in the future." Though, to this date I haven't been able to use any of those little bits of information.

I also learn a lot from my sister, besides when she gets yelled at.

She always tells me things that seem a little above my head at the time, but then it makes perfect

sense, and I use it, and it saves me from much trouble, heartaches, or disappointments later.

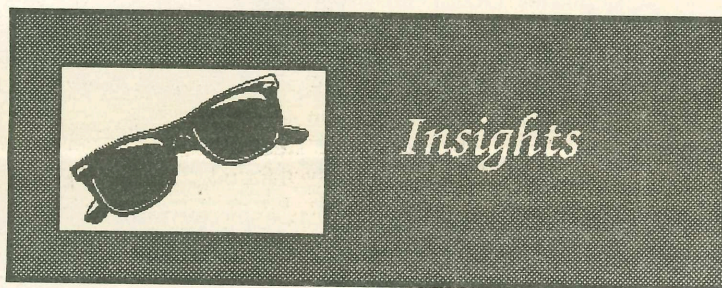
Believe me, she's saved me a lot of trouble in my life.

The second type of people we learn from are those whom we admire, watch, and then learn from their actions. It is in this group of people that often surprise me at whom I am learning from.

This type of people might be those people who you admire, and then try to imitate them. An example would be my sister. She, I thought, was the coolest person in the world, and I wanted to be just like her. But, I learned, that one ought to be careful who they idolize.

The people I learn from often surprise me in who the people the traits show up in.

This year I was in Y.A.R.C., and got to be involved with quite



a few of the handicapped students at school. It was from these people that I learned what type of person I want to be, and how I want to treat others. I may sound crazy for saying that right now, but there are some of those students that I just admire so much.

They always seem so happy, so alive, just excited for everything. The students are very selfless it seems, meaning that they aren't as absorbed in themselves as others seem to be. They always stop to talk and ask how your day

is, and they always seem to care. It sometimes reminds me of a little family, because they always seem so close. They always care so much about what someone else does, or how they do at something.

When the district swim meet was here, some of my friends went to help.

They said that when one of the students would do good, that the rest of the people there would come over and congratulate them and were excited for them.

When my friends talked about when the awards were given out, they just seemed overwhelmed. They talked about how when the announcer would call out a name, and that person would just get so excited and run up to get their award, even if it was just because they participated.

I really try not to put the emphasis on winning, but on just trying hard, although I admit that winning is nice.

There are many other things that I have learned from the handicapped students, and from people in my life that I could tell you about, but you might not understand half of them.

We all have to learn our own things from the different people in our own lives, and use that to better our own.

Thanks to the Special Ed. students, who are so special.

Apology given, setting higher goals for next year

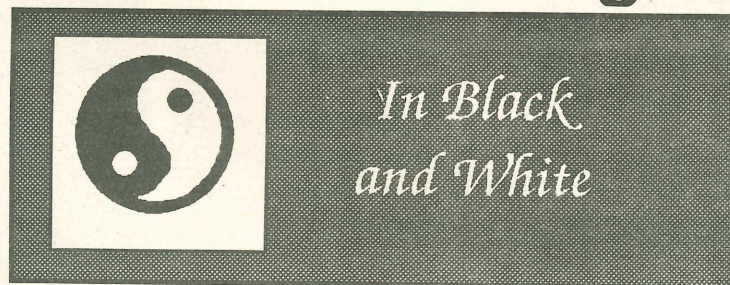
By Rachael Weller

Columnist

I have one last chance to write to my fellow friends and say good-bye. Also, this is a chance for me to match (or at least come close to) my February column. (And in case you can't remember that far back, it was about the suggestion box.)

Please allow the following space for my crabbing and confession, OK?

I feel I owe you, *Bison* readers, an apology. I know the majority of my columns have not been of tasteful quality. I apologize to you for that. My excuse you ask? Well, I am nowhere near perfect- I do make mistakes, of course, I'm only human. But I



thought having my own column would be the easiest thing in the world-- but is anything ever easy? To tell you the honest to God truth, it's a lot harder than it appears!

I thought it would be the easiest thing in the world to write about whatever my little heart desired-- what I didn't know was that with that writing I had to have a point, and some topic I felt

strongly about. Do you know how hard it is to write something that has a point and is meaningful to the school?

I have put my time and effort into doing my job, but it just doesn't seem like it shows in the end product. This is very frustrating and disappointing to work hard and not have it look that way in the final product.

I do however have to say

one thing in regards to writing a column for this newspaper. I must say, it has been the hardest goal ever tackled by me. The headache that comes with constructing a column every other issue isn't always easy to overcome. I thought I'd never see the day when I would run out of good things to write about- well it came faster than I thought! So that sort of means I didn't really think hard, right?

I have, however, learned something out of this whole experience. Next year, I'll have to have broaden my topics and use a little more creativity while keeping a point to it.

I don't doubt what intelligence I have, but I know with what I got, I can achieve more--

just give me time. I promise I'll try harder in the future, no matter what it takes.

But my dear people, even though this year has been one NOT to remember (except for February), don't forget that I'll be back next year with one goal in mind. I promise you I'll improve my writing and give you better quality.

So bear with me, get outside, have some ice cream, and take a nap or whatever you want to do, but be sure you have a great summer, so you're ready for another school year at BHS when September rolls around. Unless your a senior, in which case, good luck and good-bye.

Until next year rolls around...

About the Anchor Stores...

When Mall of America opens it will mark the first time Bloomingdale's, Macy's, Nordstrom and Sears have been under the same roof. This will give visitors the opportunity to shop world-renowned department stores in one trip.

BLOOMINGDALE'S

Bloomingdale's, a 220,000-square foot store anchoring South Avenue and East Broadway, will have an architectural look featuring sophisticated, urban design, with the exterior finished in white marble. Merchandise departments will include women's, men's and children's ready-to wear and accessories, cosmetics, fragrance, food, housewares, bedding, rugs and home furnishings.

MACY'S

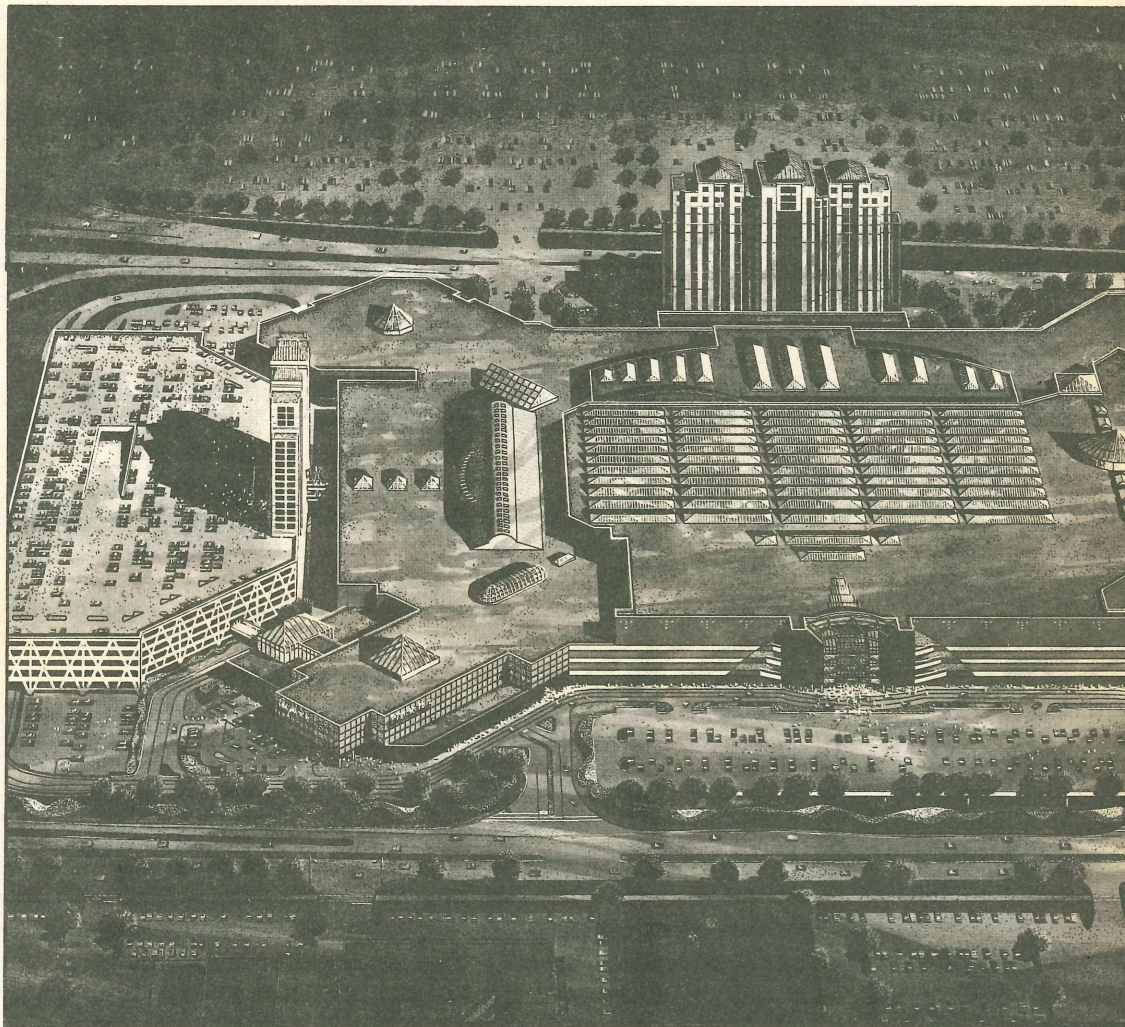
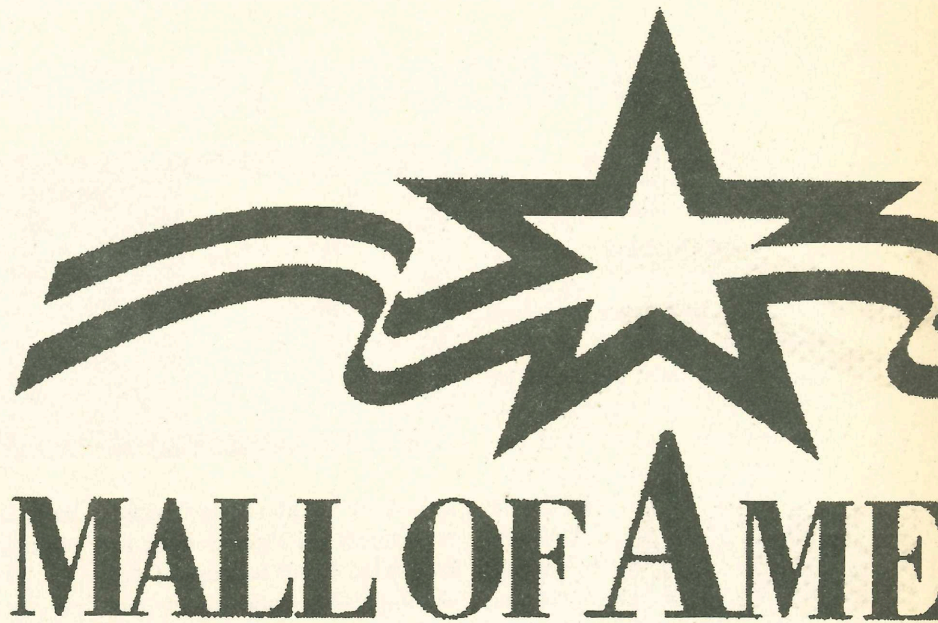
Founded 130 years ago, Macy's, a 275,000-square foot store anchoring South Avenue and West Market, will make its Upper Midwest debut at Mall of America. Macy's will feature a number of dining options, including: Wolfgang Puck's Pizzeria, Deli Marketplace, The Pub, California Fresh and a dessert/espresso bar. Specialty services will include eight cosmetics treatment rooms, a hospitality room, bridal registry, coat check service, personalized fashion consultants for men and women, and much more.

NORDSTROM

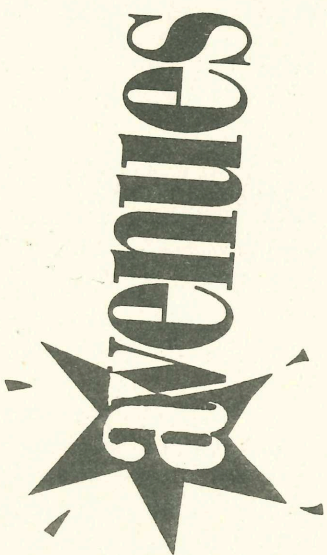
Nordstrom, a 225,000-square foot store anchoring North Garden and West Market, offers a wide variety of fine line quality apparel, shoes and accessories for men, women and children. Renowned for its legendary customer service and unsurpassed merchandise selection, Nordstrom remains committed to its founding principles of quality, value, selection and service.

SEAR'S

Sear's, a 188,000-square foot store anchoring East Broadway and North Garden, will be the largest of the 14 Sears stores in Minnesota and the ninth store to open in the Twin Cities. The new store will feature six in-store superstores of men's, women's and children's apparel, furniture and home fashions, home appliances and electronics, and hardware and home improvement services.

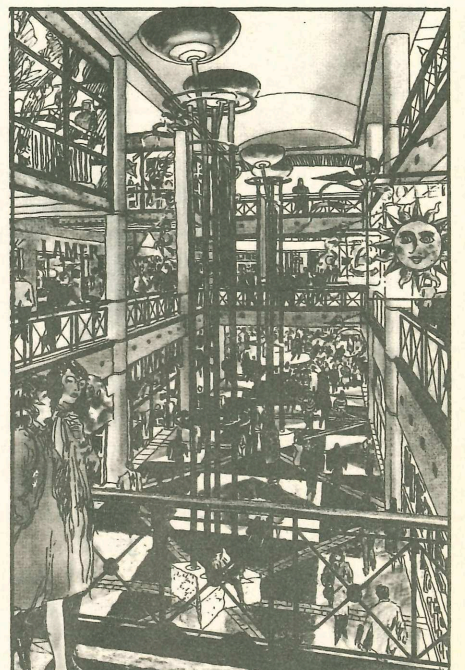


"THE BIGGEST OF THEM (M)ALL." Mall of America, located in Bloomington, will open August 1. Mall of America will be the largest, fully-enclosed combination retail and family entertainment complex in the world, second only to the West Edmonton Mall, located in Alberta, Canada, which is one million square feet larger. The mall will feature four million square feet of retail space, including anchor tenants, Bloomingdale's, Macy's, Nordstrom, and Sears which are each located at the four corners of the mall. The mall also features Camp Snoop, a seven-acre amusement park with 23 rides and attractions. Located on both the east and west sides of the mall are four surface parking lots with over 13,000 spaces. These parking decks will provide visitors with a short walk to the closest mall entrance.



NORTH GARDEN

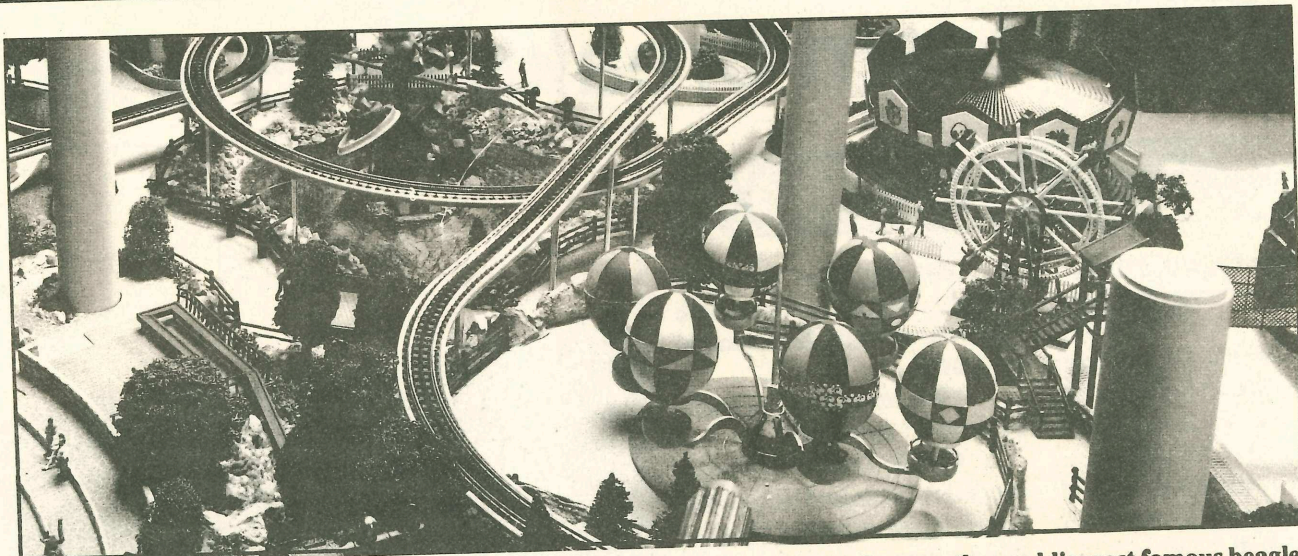
The North Garden, located between Nordstrom and Sears, makes shopping a "summer's day" experience all year-round. It will be reminiscent of a Midwestern county fair. Guests will be invited to sample local fruits and cheeses, while storytellers spin tales of Minnesota folklore.



SOUTH AVENUE

South Avenue, located between Bloomingdale's and Macy's, will feature a look of a cosmopolitan style. The exciting new Olean's Taste of the South as the scene of a Cajon food festival, shrimp and through Avenue in Bloomington, Macy's.

ERICA



WELCOME HOME, SNOOPY! Knott's Camp Snoopy, will be the home to Snoopy, the world's most famous beagle, and the Peanuts Gang. Located in the center of the Mall of America complex, it will be a seven-acre, indoor, family entertainment park with all the elements of a traditional theme park -- rides, live entertainment, food and merchandise -- encapsulated within a naturally-landscaped area themed to Minnesota and the Midwest.

Mall of America opening scheduled

By Jason A. Chalupnik
& Beth A. Miller

Editors

On your marks, get ready, shop till you drop!

Opening on Tuesday, August 11, 1992 in Bloomington, Minnesota, Mall of America, covering over 4.2 million square feet, will be the largest indoor retail/entertainment facility in the United States.

Located on the former 78-acre site of the Metropolitan Stadium, Mall of America is easily accessible from Interstate 494.

Retail space will equal 2.6 million square feet. Of the retail space, 908,000-square feet will be four "anchor" stores, Bloomingdale's, Macy's, Nordstrom, and Sears. This will give visitors the opportunity to shop world-renowned department stores in one trip and also give shoppers the ability to make purchases at all price ranges.

Along with the four anchors, shoppers will also be able to shop at hundreds of specialty stores located on each of the four avenues.

The other 1.6 million square feet of space will be taken up by Knott's Camp Snoopy, the LEGO Imagination Center, Golf Mountain, and Underwater World. (Opening in 1993.)

Knott's Camp Snoopy will be a seven acre family amusement park in

the Center of Mall of America. It will consist of merchandising locations, educational elements, entertainment venues, food service locations and 23 rides and attractions, including Paul Bunyan's Log chute, a flume ride that ends in a forty foot drop; and Ripsaw, a 2,500 foot long roller coaster that goes up to 45 miles per hour.

Four stories and five thousand square feet, the LEGO Imagination Center will be the first of its kind. It's built like a factory seen through a child's eyes with giant LEGO models of gears, lights, buzzers, and cranes. It also houses play areas where children can make their own creations, and a special merchandising shop featuring the new LEGO and DUPLO sets.

Golf Mountain is a two-level miniature golf course with a tough trick course.

Although not yet built, Underwater World will include a ride on a moving sidewalk through a 300 foot tunnel will guide you through a 1.2 million gallon aquarium. Three separate tanks will feature freshwater fish from lakes, Mississippi River waterlife, and exotic native fish of the Caribbean.

13,000 spaces located no more than 300 feet from the closest mall entrance, will provide shoppers ample free parking which will make getting in and out of the Mall easy and convenient.

It is expected to take nearly 3,000

construction workers to completely build Mall of America. Once open, more than 10,000 permanent jobs will be created for retail sales, management, operations, support services and hospitality professionals.

In addition to the thousands of jobs created directly and indirectly by Mall of America, the project will generate annual revenues of \$40 million in state taxes and \$16.5 million in local estate taxes.

According to Mall of America officials, the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area is a large, well-educated market that serves as the center of a broad regional area. Studies show that the Twin Cities area is "under-retailed" -- meaning that, for an area this size, there is less total retail square footage than the national average. In addition, to the 2.5 million people who call the Twin Cities home, Mall of America will also draw on the 7.5 million people who live within a 150-400-mile radius, up to a day's drive.

By opening day this privately developed project is expected to cost \$625 million. Upon completion, when all retailers have moved in, the cost are expected to reach over one billion dollars.

Tourism is expected to be an important economic factor. Approximately 50 tours have been reserved from Chicago to Japan to come and visit the Mall.

SOUTH AVENUE

venue, with the grand hall, has a ton flair and It will offer ment of New Bourbon Street. will be tempted ts and flavors of ds, such as spiced nd catfish, waft the air. South located between gdale's and



WEST MARKET

The charming, European ambience of West Market, located between Macy's and Nordstroms, welcomes shoppers to this international marketplace. West Market will bring a little bit of Hollywood to Minnesota. California's fine fresh produce and steam-fed salmon will provide a fine meal while listening to the sophisticated sounds of classical piano.

EAST BROADWAY

East Broadway, located between Bloomingdale's and Sears, features the sights, sounds and food of a New York City street party. Here, party goers will be able to sink their teeth into a big slice of New York-style cheesecake and tap their feet to the ethnic sounds of a steel drum band. Filled with colorful neon and bright lights, it will have a high energy, contemporary appeal.



Softball team breaks BHS winning record

Softball '92



By Jackie Gustafson

Staff Writer

As the softball season comes to an end, the Bison softball team have their bats aimed toward regions in Mankato.

"We realistically should win a few games [at regions]," said junior Vicki Valli.

The Bison ended their season at 16 and 3, breaking an old school record. With this record, the Bison finished second in the conference and received the first seat in the region.

Two highlights of the season for the team were winning the Dassel-Cokato tournament and, for the second straight year, winning the Mounds View tournament.

Both the team unity and batting abilities of the players have improved since the beginning of the season.

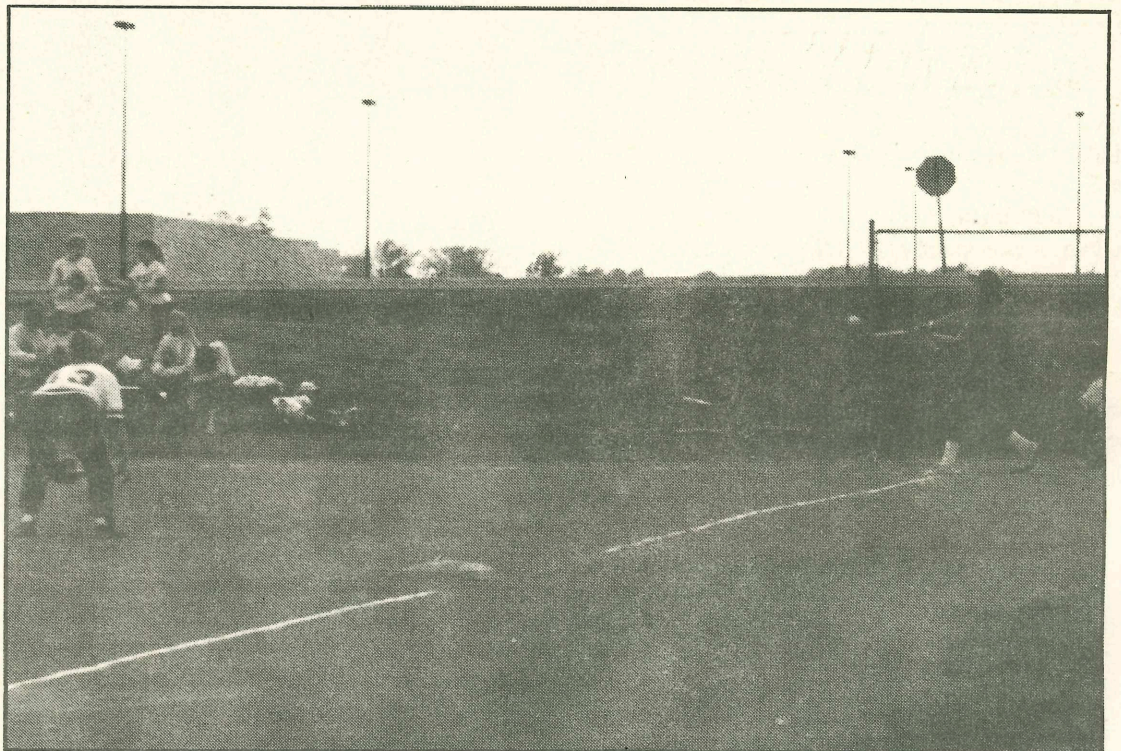
"We really pull for each other now," said Valli.

Coach Dave Alto also stressed the increased enthusiasm and improved attitude of the girls as they prepare for post-season competition.

"We're more focused now on the task at hand," said coach Dave Alto.

Pitching selection and offensive playing are two things that Alto hopes to improve upon before going to Mankato for regions.

"The girls have been really great," said Alto. "It's been a joy to work with and coach them both on and off the field."



Melanie Wosniak / Photography Editor

GETTING SOME WOOD ON THE BALL, freshman Carrie Alberg followed through her swing in the freshman softball game on Tuesday, May 12, against Columbia Heights.

Boys' tennis team looks past season to playoffs

Despite disappointing record, team looks to go to state tourney

Boys' Tennis '92

By Krissy Benkowski

Features Copy Editor

The Bison boys' tennis team has had a disappointing season, but their focus has now shifted to preparing for regions.

The team finished in the middle of the North Suburban Conference. Many team members expressed unhappiness with the performance.

"We had big goals for this season, but we got in the middle of the conference. It's not as good as we wanted," said senior Tom Jancik.

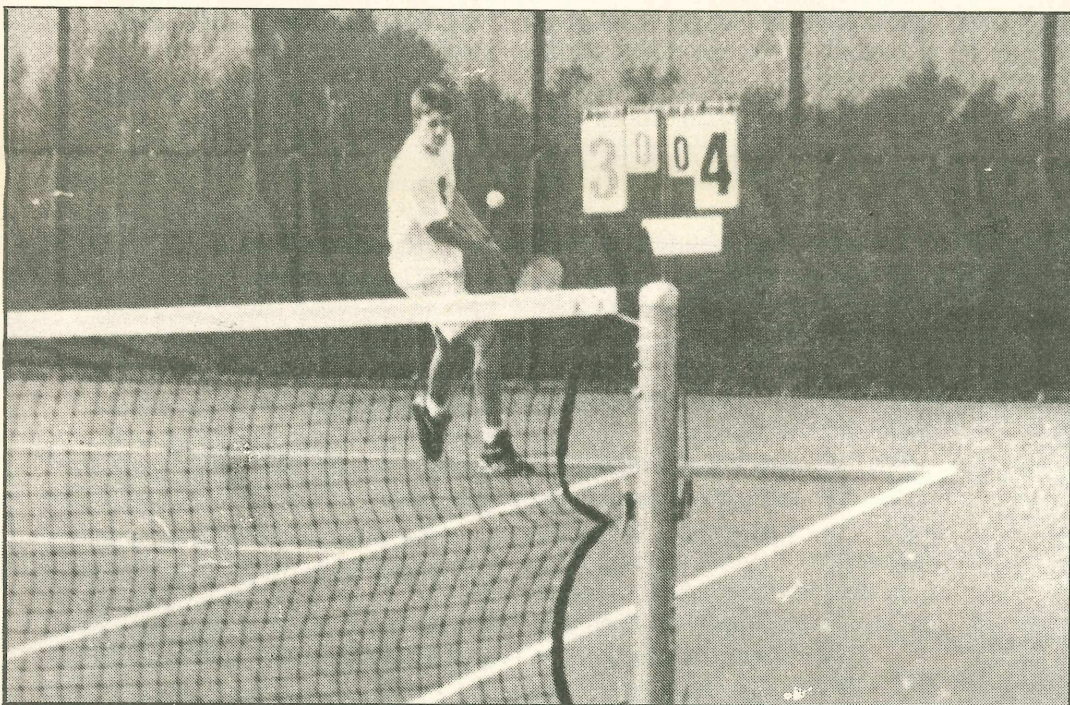
The tennis team's main goal

is to make it past regions after such a disappointing placing in the NSC. However, along the way, the team has made several smaller goals in order to accomplish their main goal.

"We have to take it one step at a time," said senior Jason Beckfeld.

Many of the members feel they have a good chance of going to state, but first they have to focus on regions.

"We had a disappointing standing, and we expected to go farther. We have to concentrate on regions now," said senior Nice Rice.



Melanie Wosniak / Photography Editor

SWITCHING TO HIS BACKHAND, sophomore Jon Berg took a swing at the ball in his doubles match when the Bison hosted the team regions on Tuesday, May 19.

Changes in activities made apparent

By David Malerich

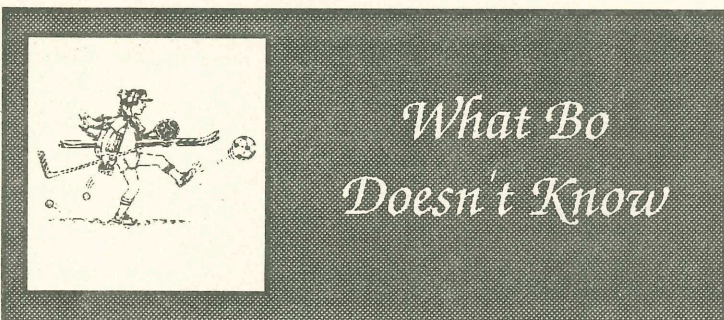
Sports Editor

Changes are apparent in our own little corner of the sporting world that we call the BHS activity department.

We have seen the amazing, the disappointing, and the stupid in this school combining high school students of Buffalo, Hanover, Montrose, Corcoran, and other local neighboring communities.

Our football team rose to face the challenge of every opposing team that came their way, and then wound up winless at the end of the season.

We have seen new coaches join the soccer, swimming, vol-



leyball, hockey, and track squads.

Our cross country, Mock Trial, and Odyssey of the Mind teams all went to the state tournament.

Many of you may be saying, "this is all well and good, but what does the future hold?" I cannot tell you everything, as I am not a fortune teller, but I can

give you a sneak preview.

Starting next fall, the Bison football team will be putting on gear and strapping up their pads for a new coach.

We will see the girls' cross country team and junior Becky Loberg try to repeat their bid to state (hopefully without the snow this time).

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Girls' golfers finish third; head to regions

By Amber Veches

Columnist

The girls' golf team has held a steady average, placing in the middle of the competition this year.

The team finished above the median in two matches, placing 10th in Elk River and 11th in Willmar out of the 22 to 23 teams that participated in each. However, the team did not do as well at the Alexandria meet, placing near the bottom of the five teams, three

of whom are rated in the state.

"[The girls] played well, but it was a tough course," said coach Riti Sanderson, commenting on the Alexandria match.

Before Alexandria, the team was ranked as second in the conference, but then fell to third behind Centennial and leader, Elk River.

"We have Thursday and Monday to redeem ourselves to second place," said Sanderson before the two remaining meets for the team.

Girls' Golf '92

Monday, May 18, was the first conference tournament against Elk River, Centennial, Mounds View, Fridley, and Irondale at the Monticello Country Club.

The region meet was Friday, May 22, at the Mankato Country Club. The top three girls go on to state.

"It's a beautiful but diffi-

cult and long course," said Sanderson about the region match.

The players on the girls' team have good driving skills and score consistently close at competitions. There is never more than a ten stroke difference between the first place and the sixth place scores on the team.

The area that was said to need the most improvement is

their short game, which is chipping and putting. It was also stressed that the team is lacking another player who would score consistently in the 40s to put them over the edge in competition.

Prospects and goals for the team as they come to a close in their season are to be among the top five at regional, and possibly have someone go to state.

Overall, Sanderson stressed the main goal, which is "to be fair, and honest, and to have a good time."

Track team prepares for division meet; spirits raised

By Rachael Weller

Columnist

The Bison track team is looking to end the year with positive spirit and hoped for a good outcome. This was second year that track team has been on the all-weather track. The team had 123 members this year.

"Our first goal is to advance as many [team members] to the regional meet as possible," said head coach Ed Saxton.

On Thursday, May 21, the divisional meet was held at Willmar. Every school involved gets to enter four teams or members in each event. The top nine individuals or teams can be entered into the regional meet.

Six other schools participated in the division meet:



Track & Field '92

Monticello, La Qui Parle, Willmar, Hutchinson, Shakopee, and Chaska. Despite the other schools, the Bison had high hopes before the meet of doing well. Sophomore Amy Spoors said that everyone's will power and heart contribute to their success.

Attitudes of team members were positive and enthusiastic as they entered the post-season. Most of this enthusiasm came from the team's performance during the season.

"Everyone is psyched and ready to run as hard as they can," said sophomore Sharalee Strand before the meet. "We're nervous, but excited, too."

With high hopes come high expectations. Coach Saxton said that both teams did well in accom-

plishing their goals for the season.

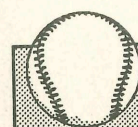
"This season the boys did better than what was anticipated. The girls had high expectations and definitely lived up to them," said Saxton.

Friendship of team members and caring about each other is proving to be the extra link for the team. Members have expressed that this has also helped to raise team spirit.

"We have really gotten to be a close team. We all work together to do the best we can," said sophomore Jessica Lilja.

The Region 2AA meet will take place tomorrow in Willmar, starting at noon.

Baseball team looks for high seeding in regions



Baseball '92

By David Malerich

Sports Editor

The Bison baseball team looked towards the playoffs as the regular season began to wind up.

As of Friday, May 15, the team was in the middle of the seeding process, the process to determine who played who at which ball park. Head coach LeRoy Erickson said his pitching rotation for playoffs, known by the team as "the second season", was set.

"I think we've got a really good chance in the playoffs," said senior Travis Wille. "We'll hopefully have a home game."

Meanwhile, the team still has some areas to iron out. Base-running is the area Erickson said needed the most work before region play.

"It's a situational thing. Our runners need to know when to advance," said Erickson.

The players also said that getting ready for the game mentally needed some work. They said that they weren't keeping on task during the game.

"[We need work in] mind preparation, playing real solid, and the little details like catching the signs," said junior Mike Haag.

As for the other areas of the game, the team, which was second in the North Suburban Conference on May 15, was starting to put it all together. The first post-season game was on Thursday, May 21.

"The defense is solid, our pitchers are throwing strikes, and our hitting is coming around," said Erickson. "We need to play our best baseball now."

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Congratulations
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THANK YOU!

The Bison would like to thank Pamida and Bergstrom's for donating the CD or cassette and the video rocker for the Bison raffle.

Proceeds from the raffle will go toward sending the editorial board to the National Student Press Association National Conference in Columbus, Ohio, next fall.

Raffle winners will be picked on Monday, June 1.

"The Herd" prepares for summer season

By Lisa Burling

Staff Writer

The BHS marching band, otherwise known as "The Herd," is getting set for this summer's season.

"I want us to walk away from parades as one of the top bands," said freshman Ryan Bresnahan.

There are several parades and activities on the schedule. Included are: nine parades, an overnight stay in Alexandria, where they will compete in a parade, of only bands, and possibly

the Aquatennial parade.

The age span of this year's members is wide. Of the approximately 150 members, the largest percentage of the band are newcomers. Four graduates have decided to continue with the program for one last season. They are drum major Jason Chalupnik, drum majorette Nikki Paripovich, drumline major Josh Zimmerman, and trumpet player, Traci Lay.

"It was a difficult choice. It was either work full time or be in marching band. But marching band is only about 20 days out of the summer and it is so much fun.

It is a wonderful feeling to teach people things and work with individuals and to see such good results," said Paripovich.

It can be a challenging experience for new members.

"It will help me meet new people. It's also kind of scary. You don't know if you will be accepted. I'm looking forward to it, though," said eighth grade newcomer Shannon Hayes.

It is the feeling of many members that this will be a very successful season.

"[Some of the band's strength are] the drum majors, the

upper-classmen, and how we all get along and work together as a group," said Bresnahan.

The band will be learning and performing new music, which can add to the challenge. They are playing "Fanfare of the Common Man," written by Aaron Copland, "The Phantom of the Opera Medley," written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and a new drum cadence written by Zimmerman.

The expectations are high for this season.

"My goals for this year are to be musical, to have fun, to improve our performance, to com-

pete at a higher level, and to have no hassles," said director Lee Kjesbo.

This feeling is echoed throughout the group.

"[My expectations are] to have a good time and to perform the best we can. This group has grown so much in the past five years and I have been in it from the start," said Paripovich.

This year is promising to be even more successful for the herd than previous years.

"I just want to have fun. If it ain't fun, I don't want to be there," said Kjesbo.



Melanie Wozniak / Photography Editor

THE BEST OF THE BEST, Janelle Karvenon received an award from Principal Nick Miller at the Academic Excellence Ceremony. The ceremony took place in the mall on Monday, May 18, 1992.

Graduation bash awaited

By Shivaun Robinson

Staff Writer

Graduation is the commencement from high school to the rest of your life.

Many seniors have mixed feelings about leaving BHS.

"Someday, I too, will be a senior. Every day I see the confusion mounting along with a sense of wonderment at the world to come," said junior Cortney Collins.

To ease the seniors' grief and confusion, a tradition has been the All-Night Graduation Party.

"I think that the All-Night Graduation Party is a really swell idea for everybody to get together for one last bash," said senior Bob Holm.

On the other hand, many teachers feel that graduation is more than just a party.

"Graduation is an important social rite of passage. It is a time for them to really reflect on themselves," said English teacher, Joel Squadroni.

Many people feel positively about the coming absence of the seniors.

"It will be really weird to see the seniors go but then we will be the head honchos around here," said junior Nicki Landeck.

Several different options await the seniors as they are unleashed upon the unsuspecting world. Included are: joining the military, getting married, college, and other scholastic opportunities.

"High school is just where you play," said senior Annika Olsen. "Life starts after graduation."

To sum up the subject, Akin said: "So remember everybody, as Sir Francis Bacon said, you can only light candles against the darkness. But he never said what the heck to do about all those smoke alarms and sprinkler systems.

"Choices abound in every conceivable place and area, it's up to you, the individual, to seize that bull by the horns, and hope you don't get gored."

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