

the hoofprint

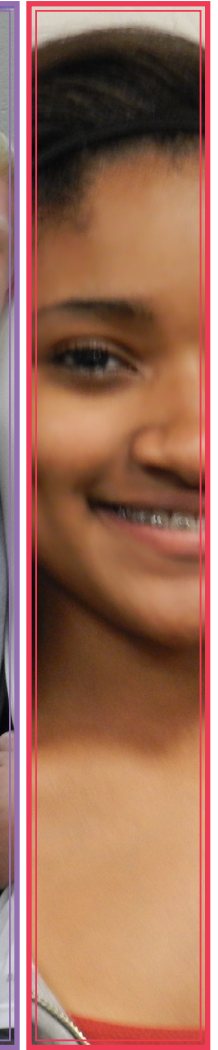
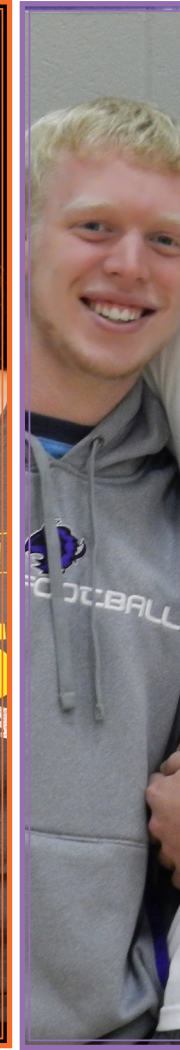
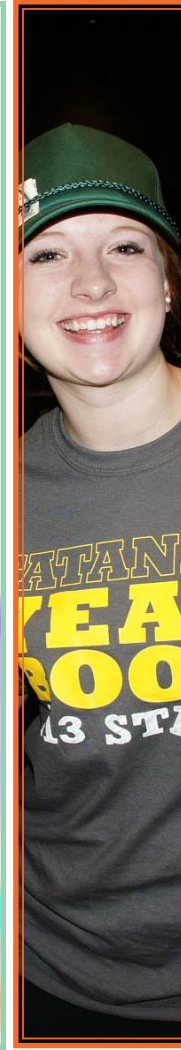
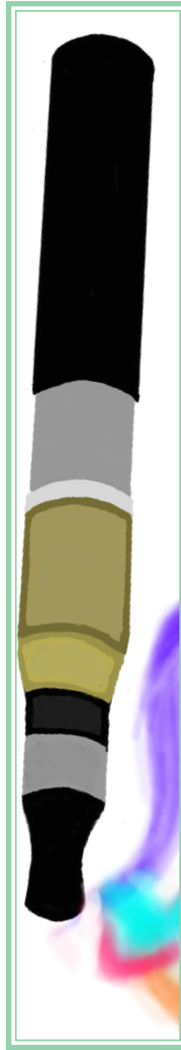
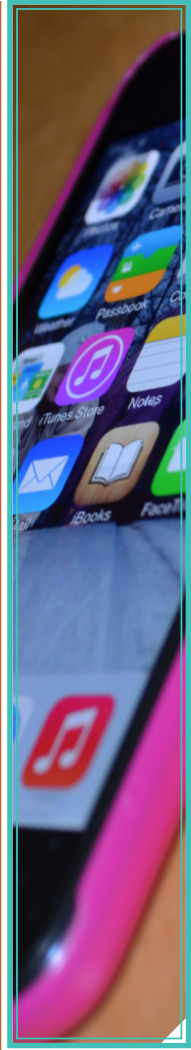
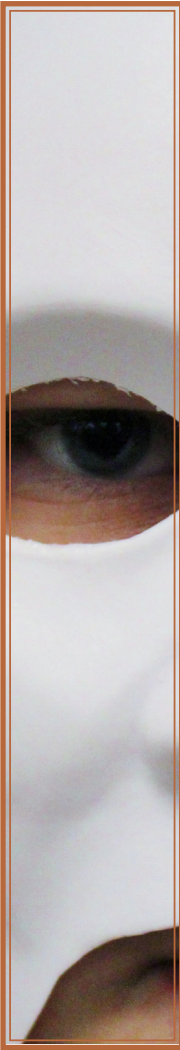
Buffalo
High
School
Buffalo MN

ISSUE 2
November
2013



Who is the **PHANTOM?**

The theater department takes
on a high risk musical



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The Hoofprint

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Editors-in-Chief Taylor Holt,
Whitney Nyholm

Managing Editor Taylor Susa

Business Editor Spencer Wilson

Photography Editors MacKenzie
Malwicki, Aric Haluska, Molly
McMullen

News Jay Mason

Activities Hannah Budde, Hannah
Calder

Arts & Entertainment Emma
Hage, Tiffany Kramer

Features Cassie Bunkers, Molly
Kwakenat, Kayla Lehtola

Sports Kylee Zumach, Anna
Demgen

Opinions Erica Hoops, Jessi
McMullen

Spotlight Nicholas Swearingen,
Emily Vogt

Graphics Gordy Gerhardson

Artist Kathleen Tierney

Copy Editors Katie Clem,
Elizabeth LaCasse

Photographers Lizzy Stanforth,
Sarah Lehtola, Bryce Bishop,
Jessica Faust, Patrick McNab,
Maddy Personius, Natalie Brady,
Taylor McNitt, Kyle Seppala,
Adrianna Erickson

Staff Writers Blaze Solberg, Allie
Swearingen, Calista Susa, Kylee
Nyholm, Tyler Upham, Megan
Shiple, Carson Reichardt, Leighton
McAlpin, Sydney Hermanson,
Lauren Holt, Meghan Cahill,
Erin McIndoo, Jillianne Hovland,
Madeline Schwappach

Hoofprint.net Staff Jon Thielen,
Michael LaCasse, Andrew Scherber

Adviser Ryan McCallum

from the hoofprint

Breaking Barriers

There are many social barriers that have been built and torn down throughout the history of America. The breaking of these barriers helped our country grow to be a better place and more accepting of being different. These barriers weren't easy to break down though. They had been built and followed for many years before anyone even began to question their worthiness. It took a certain person to come along and stand up for their beliefs.

In this issue of The Hoofprint we feature many people who aren't afraid to take risks. They laugh in the face of social barriers. Senior **Aaliyah Spande** for example has her own definition of what's "normal". She's a wrestler and extremely proud of it. It's her passion and motivation that helped her tear a social barrier apart.

Our theater department also knows what it takes to be a step ahead of normal. They're tackling a huge feat this fall by taking on the famous musical, "The Phantom of the Opera". It's one of the most difficult musicals Buffalo has ever taken on. It has great depth and toys with the audience's emotions. Throughout the play they will have the audience asking themselves, "Who is the phantom really?"

Well readers, we hope that as you read this issue of The Hoofprint you ask yourselves a similar question; "Who am I?" Do you follow the crowd or are you going to be the next person to leave their mark on our school forever? By standing up for what you believe in, you can allow other people to have easier roads ahead of themselves. It's okay to take risks. In fact, it will make our school a better place for everyone. It only takes one person to break down a barrier BHS. Are you that person?

Photo By Mackenzie Malewicki



With Principal Miller retired 8 years ago, BHS is now in

THE MISCHKE ERA

Madeline Schwappach
Staff Writer

He stands in the atrium, a clipboard under one arm, greeting students with a smile and a nod as they come in. His good natured small talk is interrupted by a beeping walkie-talkie with another reminder on an endless to-do list. Principal **Mark Mischke** is a familiar face at Buffalo High School, but it hasn't been that way for long. This school year is one of the first where all the students in the building have had Mischke as their principal since freshman year.

Eight years ago, long-time principal **Nick Miller** retired. **Rick Toso** was named interim principal for one year. In the Fall of 2008, Mischke became principal.

"[Five years ago] the school had a very strong staff and student climate," said Mischke. "There was a little sense of nervousness about the unknown."

When he started his job, Mischke had big shoes to fill. Miller left behind a 25 year legacy and Mischke was new to Buffalo.

"At first, my goal was to really look, listen and find out what makes BHS what it is," said Mischke.

According to data that the administration has collected over the past five years, Buffalo has certainly changed for the better. Results from the student survey given every spring show significant progress in student safety and student-staff connections. Since 2009, the number of students that identify themselves as not being a victim of

bullying has increased from 65% to 87%. The survey also showed the amount of students who claim they have at least one adult in the building they can talk to has jumped from 83% to 89%.

Even though positive changes have taken place at BHS, Mischke still sees more work to be done.

"When you have a really good school, the challenge is to continue to push and not become complacent," said Mischke. "One of our goals for 2013-2014 is having our teachers connect [with each other.]"

Another change Mischke has implemented this year is the student survey at the end of the semester.

"It's an opportunity for our staff members to receive individualized feedback," he said.

Mischke is different from Buffalo's previous principal.

"[Miller] had a 25 year legacy," Mischke said. "He devoted half of his career to this school and I'm just getting started. I hope that I'll be able to leave behind a legacy like he did."

In recognition for that type of thinking, Mischke received a Gold Star of Innovation Award from the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals on June 24, 2013. Mischke was one of only two principals who receive the award in the state. Assistant Principal Kris Thompson said that it's evident that Mischke is good at his job and it's equally clear that he enjoys doing it.

"I love school," said Mischke. "My favorite part about my job is the day to day interactions with all the students and staff."

Who Is The Phantom?

The many faces of the phantom come to life on the PAC stage.

Madeline Schwappach
Staff Writer

“**Andrew Lloyd Webber’s** 1988 hit “The Phantom of the Opera” survives into a ripe age that makes it deservedly Broadway’s longest-running musical as well as an international favorite,” said Bloomberg News’ **John Simon** in his 2009 review of the play.

The complexity of the Phantom makes it too intimidating a venture for most high schools to handle. One of the most famous moments of the musical is when a huge chandelier falls from the ceiling and crashes to the floor. Another stunt is when fire is used on stage at the end of a dance number. In addition, there are many costume changes for each actor, which makes it a pretty spendy show to produce. Through all of these difficulties, Director **Tracy Hagstrom-Durrant**, better known as HD, is confident that Buffalo can accomplish this feat.

“One of the things we always do is consider what actors we have and try to feature them. We have 5 kids in all state choir this year,” said HD. “We always try to be a step ahead of other high school theaters and this is a big challenge.”

The show is set in a 19th century Parisian Opera house. The owners of the theatre are being terrorized by a man who calls himself the Opera Ghost. Others call him the Phantom. This man, a physically disfigured musical genius, takes a young ballerina under his wing in order to mold her into a star. He develops a hostile obsession with the girl, and there’s no limit to things he’ll do for her. He is an exceedingly complicated character. His complex personality raises the question: Who is the phantom?

A man who is a murderer, a blackmailer, and a kidnapper would, on the surface, seem to be simply evil. However, according to Senior **Bryce Bishop**, the actor portraying the Phantom, he’s much more than that.

“He’s upset and lonely. He has good inside of him but it’s very deep and his appearance is keeping it from coming through,” said Bishop.

“He’s upset and lonely. He has good inside of him but it’s very deep and his appearance is keeping it from coming through,” said Bishop.

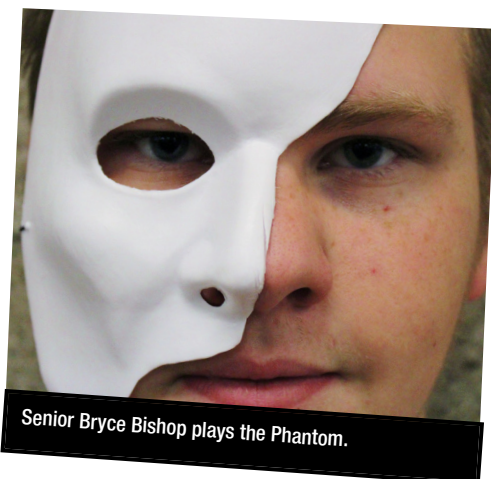
The director of the production shares a similar view. “[The Phantom] is a tortured soul who has been rejected by society because of the way he looks,” said HD. “I have a particular warmth in my heart for people like that because there’s so much social pressure to have a perfect appearance.”

“This show is about taking off the mask. It’s an incredible story about overcoming appearances,” said Bishop.

The show opens next Thursday, Nov 14, and runs through next Sunday.



Senior Erica Hoops made her own mask for the play.

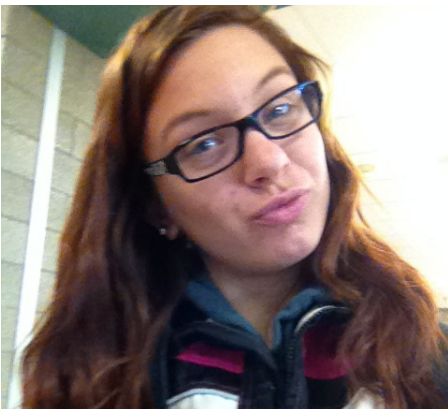


Senior Bryce Bishop plays the Phantom.



Senior Katelyn Miller plays Christine Daae.

Photos by Molly McMullen



Taking the Perfect Selfie

Does taking selfies make you full of yourself?

Taylor McNitt
Staff Writer

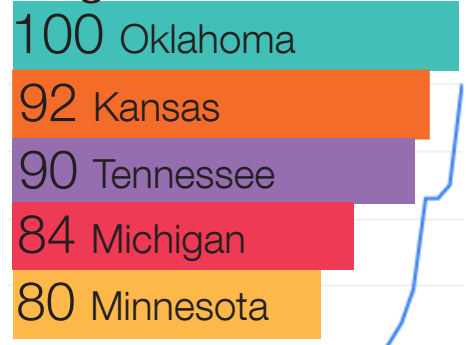
You scroll through Facebook and see photo after photo; specifically selfies. The Oxford English Dictionary added the term 'selfie' in August. The official definition is "a photograph that one has taken of oneself, typically one taken with a smartphone or webcam and uploaded to a social media website." Most people know what a selfie is, but it is an entirely different matter to know how to take a good one. But never fear, here is a step by step guide of how to do it right:

1. Obviously, you need a device to do it on with the right software
2. Make eye contact with the lens
3. Or don't - looking away wistfully works too
4. Strike a pose, but look natural
5. Show off your best assets: make sure you get your good side
6. The angle is the key: not too high, not too low, and feature what you want to and work with the pose
7. When in doubt...grab a cute animal

After you have achieved the perfect selfie, don't forget to hashtag it when you share it.

Upper left to lower right: Mark Jones takes his very first selfie, Nick Guida, Maddie McLaughlin-Sebey, Aidan Cassidy, Cole Princivalli, Emily Greeley, Mikayla Kroke, Jason Maurer, and Samantha Johnson.

Regional Interest:



"Selfies" searches since 2005

2007

2009

Note

2011

Google Trends

2013

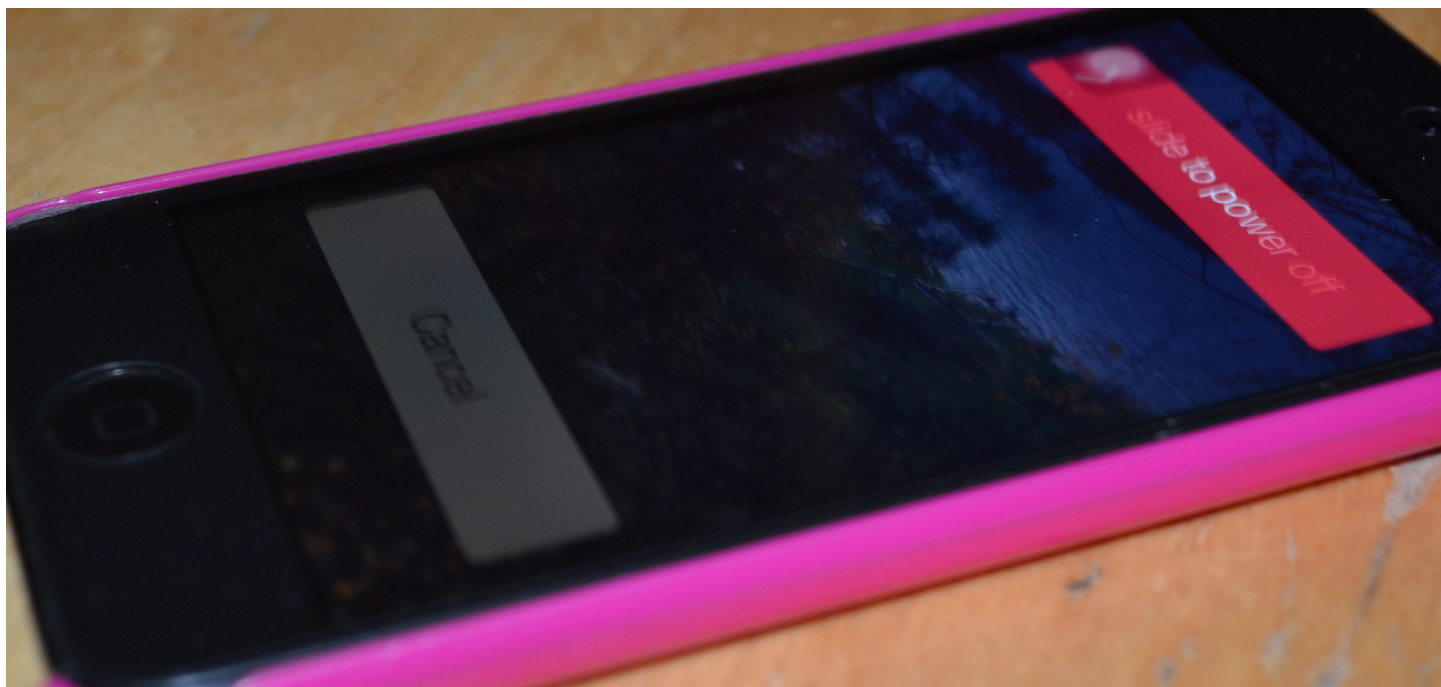


Photo by Sarah Lehtola

POWER-OFF

Having no cell phone for 36 hours leads to trouble and confusion

Staff Writers Meghan Cahill and Leighton McAlpin

We all know people who are almost inseparable from their phones, some may even be addicted. Four students were put to the test and completely gave up their phones for 36+ hours.

"My phone is always in my pocket," said Senior **Auston Alvarez**. "It's always with me, and I feel like I'm always checking it when there's no need to."

Both the oldest and youngest of the school agree, phones make life easier.

"It's just so much easier to talk to people and easier to get connected with everybody," said Freshman **Hunter Brings**. "You can just pull your phone out and use it".

When a study from Harris Interactive asked teens about why they text, the top 5 answers were that it gave them more options, multitasking, speed, avoiding verbal communication, and that it's fun. The study also stated that every day there are over a billion texts sent, and when asked, 42% of teens said they can text blindfolded.

After the experiment each of the four students came back with mixed thoughts. Some had a great experience and others struggled without their phones. They all come to the same conclusion, phones may not be as important as we think they are.

"I felt weird without having my phone in my pocket," said Senior **Breanna Heuton**.

Heuton's family had limited her phone usage in the past, so she had a glimpse of what it would feel like to be without a phone.

"My mom makes me plug in my phone upstairs so that I am not on it all night," said Heuton.

Heuton uses her phone to connect to social networking and other people.

"I find it interesting what people are writing on social media," said Heuton. "Especially their inputs and outlooks on things."

“I didn't miss calling people or texting, mostly [I missed] my fantasy football team.”

-Freshman **Hunter Brings**

Similar to most teenagers, Heuton connects with other people by snapchatting, texting, and calling.

"I probably shouldn't check Twitter and Facebook as much as I do," said Heuton. "You're not going to miss anything that big."

For Alvarez, not having his phone gave him the opportunity to rethink his usage of his phone. He was able to get more done in

a shorter period of time.

"I rely on it too much, I'm a little too attached to it," said Alvarez. "It sped up my homework a lot because I wasn't checking my phone every 5 seconds. I wasn't distracted by all the conversations I would have been having otherwise with people."

Alvarez says he wouldn't be ready to give up his phone forever. He still thinks they're important. However, he knows now that they shouldn't overcome our entire life.

"As long as I have my keys, my wallet, and my phone I know I'm good. So not having my phone was a component I was missing, it really threw me off," said Alvarez. "My advice is to just take a break from it sometimes. I'm always seeing kids check twitter or facebook all the time and it's like just learn to have a real conversation."

Not being on time posed a problem for Freshman **Emma Henne** when she didn't have her phone.

Continued on page 9



Photo by Sarah Lehtola

Continued from page 8

"This is my access to the people that I talk to," said Henne. "I didn't know what was going on."

Emma's ride home from school ended up waiting twenty minutes for her because she didn't have contact with her ride.

"You use your phone a lot more than you think you do," said Henne. "My advice is to give up your phone voluntarily and see how much you don't actually need it even though you may think that you do."

Brings only had a few times where he

felt like using his phone.

"I had a bunch of stuff going on, so I didn't have a lot of down time to just sit there and play on my phone," said Brings. "I wanted to call a friend and tell him the costumes we wanted for homecoming were at Walmart but instead I just told him at school," said Brings.

Hunter enjoyed this experience a lot and he felt as though he really didn't need his phone afterward.

"I didn't miss calling people or texting, mostly [I missed] my fantasy football team," said Brings. "I'll try to just get

“You never realize how much you can connect with the device in your hand. There is so much you can access.”

-Freshman Emma Henne

away from it all and be with my family, not separated from them, and everybody else, and everything that's going on. I went 45 hours without my phone and I think I could have even gone a little longer, I realized I'm just fine without it. I think that everyone should try to give up their phone because then people will start to realize how much they don't really need their phone."



DISCONNECTED

■ Art teacher Jon Holtz didn't own a cell phone until two years ago

Q- Why had you never gotten a cell phone?

Holtz - "My wife was a stay at home mom. We could easily reach one another, I saved money by not having one and I treasure the time when no one can reach me."

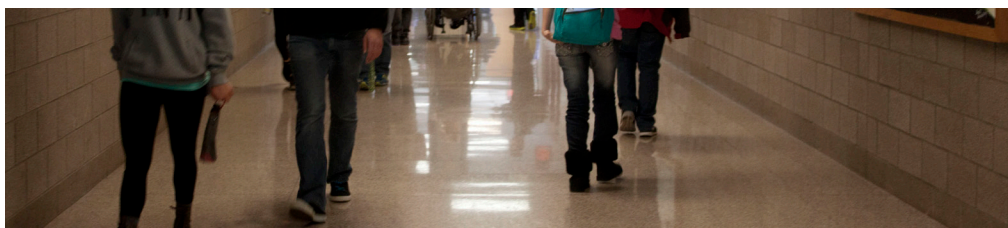
Q- What made you decide to finally get a cell phone?

Holtz- "When I went on my trip to Cuba, my flight would land around 12 and I would get home close to 2. When I got home, I basically showered and went to school. There was not much wiggle room. I need to be able to get a sub if anything went wrong."



Q- What is your view on cell phones?

Holtz- "They're wonderful. They're great means of communication, they've saved lives."



School Sucks, Man

But only because you make it suck

Sam Hamann
Staff Writer

Walking through the hallways at Buffalo High School, I hear conversations between students about how a class, teacher, or just school in general, sucks. There is an American teenage stereotype that people our age hate going to school and, while there are some outliers, it's mostly true. Not nearly as many students talk about how they're lucky to have an education, or that they really love a teacher, or even that they get to learn something new every day.

Most students see school as something they *have* to do, rather than something they *get* to do. Since it's a requirement for all American students to attend school for 13 years of their lives, education isn't significant to them. In many other parts of the world, however, going to school is a privilege. To be an educated member of society gives someone preference over uneducated workers, because school prepares

them for life by teaching them how to manage their time, work as a team, communicate ideas, interpret statistics, and many other useful skills. School is almost like off-the-job experience for on-the-job projects.

Without education, no one would even be able to understand this article, let alone read reports, interpret a set of data, determine profits, or fill out an application to a job. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Americans who received a high school diploma in 2012 increased their median annual earnings by \$9,412, and decreased their unemployment rate by 4.1%. Just by graduating! Employers have reflected their preference for educated employees with both higher wages and lower unemployment.

And people say that school isn't relevant to life.

Photo Poll:

What's an issue in our school that the staff doesn't seem to notice?

Photos by Molly McMullen



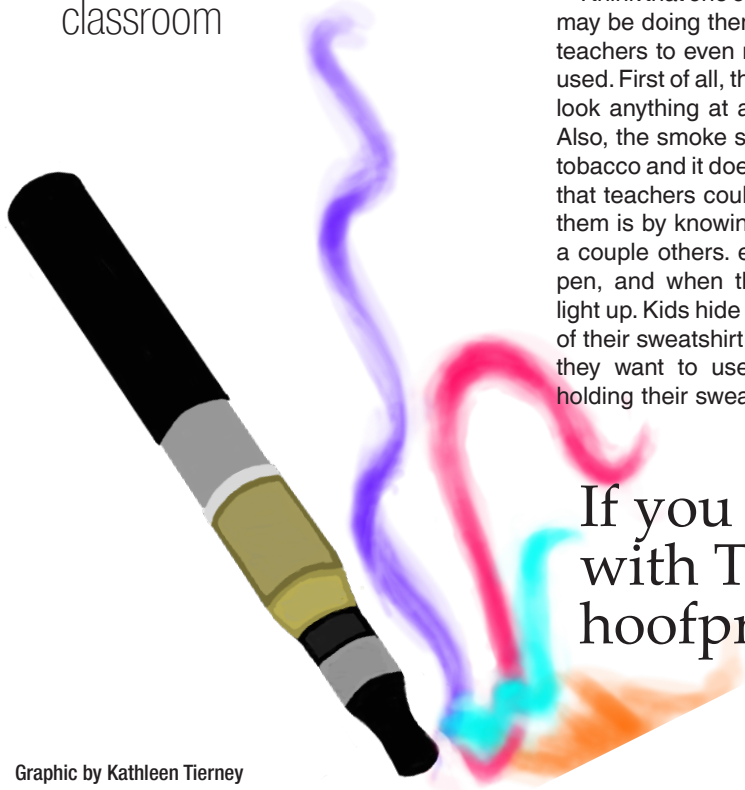
"All the swearing in the halls."
-Sophomore Brennen Raymond



"We have cliques and that some people have different learning strategies."
-Junior Anna Bluhm

LETTERS TO THE HOOFPRIINT

Teachers are missing tobacco use in the classroom



Graphic by Kathleen Tierney

Dear Hoofprint,

I have been noticing a couple of very bad and concerning things going on in our school lately. There have been a large amount of students in our school hallways and classrooms smoking e-cigarettes and using chewing tobacco. Personally, this bothers me a lot. It is a bad influence on other students. It makes them think that this is an acceptable thing to do. Those kids are also being pressured into doing e-cigarettes.

I think that one of the reasons so many kids may be doing them is because it is hard for teachers to even notice that they are being used. First of all, the e-cigs themselves don't look anything at all like a normal cigarette. Also, the smoke smells like fruit rather than tobacco and it does not last very long. A way that teachers could get better at identifying them is by knowing those things along with a couple others. e-cigs tend to resemble a pen, and when they are being used they light up. Kids hide them on the inside pocket of their sweatshirt or jacket. That way, when they want to use it, they can hide it by holding their sweatshirt or jacket up next to

their head.

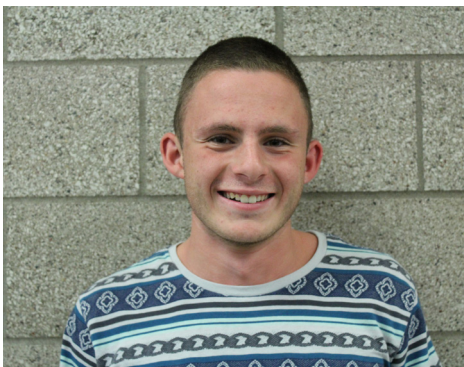
I see lots of students using chewing tobacco. They like to keep packages of the tobacco in their backpacks, and sometimes they are so desperate that they even spit the chewed tobacco into pockets of their backpacks. Most commonly they use the excuse that they need to go to the restroom. They bring their backpacks with them, or put the can of chew in their pockets, and of course, they don't actually use the bathroom. They go just to chew and spit into the toilets so that no one knows they did it.

You would think that teachers and staff members would easily notice them, but obviously not. I know that these products can be tough to crack down on, but they can definitely do more to try to stop the use of both e-cigs and chewing tobacco. These things need to be taken out of our school's everyday life. Something needs to change.

With worry,
Anonymous Student

The identity of this student was confirmed by the editorial staff of The Hoofprint

If you want to share your opinion with The Hoofprint, e-mail us at hoofprint@bhs.cc



"As we get older, they stop caring what we do."

-Senior Wyatt Wentland



"The classes aren't very exciting for some students and they're dozing off in class."

-Freshman Georgia Gorr



"How people get away without doing their work."

-Senior Joey McGinty

A Captain's Perspective

Photos By Taylor McNitt

Girls' Swim and Dive

Captains Paige Yager and Cassandra Bunkers
 "Keeping a positive attitude is hard but being a team leader and having everybody look up to me is a huge honor."

- Cassie Bunkers



Not Pictured: Brianna Porter

Girls' Tennis

Captains Ellie Botzet and Whitney Nyholm
 "Even though tennis is a mostly singles sport, it can't be about ourselves. We need to bring it all together."

- Ellie Botzet



Boys' Soccer

Captain Ryan Bunting
 "The hardest thing for me to do as captain was to draw the line between having fun and getting into the serious game mode in practice and before games."

-Ryan Bunting



Not Pictured: Colton Lee, John Halverson,
 Aaron Dahl

Boys' Cross Country

Captains Donavon Catton, James Remer, and Eli Larson

"It's kind of awesome honestly. I'm now in the position that I remember looking up to since day one. Like actually day one. First day of practice ninth grade, I remember Blake Solberg and Dan Pettit went for an "easy" six miles. Now, I get to be that guy that everyone looks up to"

-Michael Wegter



Not Pictured: Michael Wegter



Girls' Cross Country

Captains Alicia Berkenes, Maria Hanson, Hailey Downing

"I definitely feel like I do have a different mindset, knowing that people are going to be looking up to you, makes you really wanna be all that you can as an athlete and for your teammates especially."

-Alicia Berkenes

Not pictured: Kristen Walters



Girls' Soccer

Captain Kailee Steen

"Being a captain means to put the team in front of myself."

-Kaylee Lingen

Not Pictured: Kaylee Lingen



Volleyball

Captains Natalia Velenchenko, Kylee Zumach, and Hannah Daniel

"There are underclassman looking up to us. We need to lead by example."

-Natalia Velenchenko



Football

Captains Samuel Ortman, Levi Bean, and Andrew Iverson

"It's an honor that the players look up to us like role models, but it is also hard at times. We have to sometimes look like the bad guys in their eyes and that is never fun."

-Andrew Iverson

Not Pictured: Jesse Sullivan

Overcoming pain



Photos Submitted by the yearbook staff

“We have chosen to be better because of it.”
- Yearbook Adviser Ryan McCallum



through perseverance

After the loss of an editor-in-chief, the yearbook staff faces a new kind of challenge



Hannah Calder
Activities Editor

To many students, the yearbook is a book full of familiar faces and memories from throughout the school year. To the yearbook staff, it is a beautiful reminder of the hard work their co Editor-in-Chief **Emma Rodelius** did before she passed away at the end of July.

In the spring of the 2012-2013 school year, the yearbook team named Rodelius as the Editor-in-Chief, along side Senior **Alyssa Baldwin**.

"We look for someone who will devote their time to yearbook. Emma took interest and worked before and after school a ton," said Yearbook Advisor **Ryan McCallum**. "She wanted it since her sophomore year."

Although day-to-day work for the crew is manageable, some days can be harder than others.

"The first day the publisher came to ask us how the yearbook was coming along was hard. Our feelings really came to surface that day," said McCallum. "She would ask questions about the yearbook that we could answer but not necessarily explain the reasons behind our answers."

"Emma would have known the answers or why we wanted something a certain way," said Yearbook Photographer **Danielle Odeen**. "Another day that was really hard for me was the senior meeting. We all went up on the stage to take a picture as a class and I couldn't help but think Emma would have loved this."

Even though there will not be a dedicated page in the yearbook, Emma's life will be celebrated and honored in a different way through her works and leadership.

"We are using the pages she created and the work she did leading up to the school year throughout the yearbook," McCallum said. "She will still be our Editor-in-Chief on our staff page. Her work is everywhere in the book."

Through the tragedy and heartbreak, the yearbook staff has grown closer and found the courage to go on.

"Although many of us considered it, quitting is the easy way out," McCallum said. "We have chosen to be better because of it. That's the best possible way we can honor Emma."



Photo By Taylor McNitt

The Outlier

Aaliyah Spande plans on joining the wrestling team

Jillianne Hovland
Staff Writer

Wrestling is looked at as mostly a male sport due to the contact and interaction with the opponent. You aren't going to find many females competing. Although, there are exceptions.

"I've always wanted to wrestle, I just never had the opportunity," said Senior **Aaliyah Spande**.

This is Spande's first year at Buffalo High School and she decided that this is her opportunity to join.

When she told her family and friends that she wanted to wrestle they all gave her their support. Just as long as the coach said it was okay, due to it being such a contact sport, they didn't have a problem with it.

There are many counter effects to being the only female.

"Guys are scared to wrestle me," Spande said, "And they think I can't wrestle as well."

Spande believes that at her first meet, everyone will be surprised to see that she's wrestling, and that the guys won't want to wrestle her.

"Most people think it's pretty cool, but they doubted me at first," said Spande.

Even though there are a few drawbacks for being female, there are also some benefits.

"I stand out a lot, no one expects me to be a wrestler," said Spande. "People notice me, and I like the attention."

When Spande imagines her future wrestling meets she feels that they will be, "nerve wracking, but exciting at the same time."

"I joined because it's fun, aggressive, and such a contact sport," said Spande. "I also enjoy the fighting."

Spande looks at being the only female in wrestling as both a challenge and a motivation.

"It's a challenge because of the obvious reason that girls don't have as much muscle as guys, but it's a motivation for other girls to do what they want to do," said Spande. "Just as long as you're having fun."