

10 FEBRUARY 2011

the **HOOFPRI**NT



A Break From the Norm

Snow Daze offers a respite from the winter monotony

MITCHBUDDÉ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Going out into a frigid Minnesota winter to make it to school can be a very daunting task. Fortunately for the student body BHS provides a novel way to make the school day a little more exciting. From February 22 to the 25 BHS will be experiencing Snow Daze.

“To me, everyone gets the winter boo’s and blahs,” said Economics teacher and NHS advisor Brigitta Bergquist, “We need a pick-me-up this time of the year.”

Snow Daze, which has been a part of BHS for over 20 years, is a week where students can break from the normal. Each day will have a theme for a dress up day, and there are AAA activities, which include staff vs. student competitions.

“At least for the past 6 years [Snow Daze] has focused on the staff verses the students,” said Bergquist, “We get to know each other on a different level.”

Snow Daze is hosted by NHS. Members are responsible for decorations, music during passing time, and selecting the dress up themes. This years Snow Daze will be a day shorter due to Presidents Day, Monday the 21.

Dress-Up Days

Monday: No School

Tuesday: Get up and go day

Wednesday:

Work out day

Thursday: Formal

Friday: Flannel

SSR opportunities on the way

Administration attempts to help students achieve the most out of SSR

PARKERMOREHOUSE
STAFF WRITER

“Change is always a risk, but most of the time, good things happen.” said Administrative Assistant **Vicky Cary**. “I recognized that not all students were getting the most out of SSR, and some teachers were passionate about sharing their interests with kids through reading and discussion.”

Buffalo High School offers different SSR (Silent Sustained Reading) classes for students to choose from. SSR is the last 20 minutes of Tuesdays and Thursdays at BHS. Some of the new SSR classes have separated gender, different grades, and different classes like Arts Magnet Advisory. There are about 15 new SSR classes from students to choose from. Students are able to sign up for them this year during registration.

“I don’t think anything is permanent in education,” said Cary. “We try to see what works and continue to develop and grow. We’ll continue to research and get feedback from staff and students, just as we do with everything.”

Meet your match

Students fill out personality surveys to compare compatibility

LIZADAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Valentine’s Day is getting closer and closer. That fateful February day is looked forward to as a way to break up the doldrums of midwinter with some romance. At Buffalo High School, one way to add a little fun to your life around Valentine’s Day are the infamous “Matchmaker” surveys, sponsored by Student Council.

“The surveys are a good winter fundraiser because they’re a fun and unique thing to do around Valentine’s Day,” Senior **Lindsay Jacobs** said.

Student Council members select a survey to distribute to students, which include questions about your own personality and preferences in a partner. The completed surveys are then shipped to the manufacturer and scored. Matches are made according to the compatibility of the answers.

All of the proceeds from survey sales will go towards the Buffalo Food Shelf. So why not try? It’s fun, it benefits charity, and who knows? You could end up getting matched with somebody you never thought of.

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Letters to the editors and guest columns are welcome. Letters must be typed and signed with the author’s name, year in school, and contact information for verification. *The Hoofprint* reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. All letters become property of *The Hoofprint* and will not be returned.

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More news and information about Buffalo High School can be found online at hoofprint.net.

A farewell to familiarity

Veteran Teacher Laurie Raymond retires, leaving behind a teaching legacy that will have to be filled

WITNEY ANDERSON
STAFF WRITER

Room C203, in which Social Studies Teacher **Laurie Raymond** has spent countless hours, is not only missing her, but what she brought to BHS everyday. Every school day, Raymond has been coming to Buffalo High School to teach numerous social studies classes ranging from Politics, to Anthropology, to World Studies.

"I love the people I work with, and making connections with students and staff. Mr. Rohl and I are like brother and sister," said Raymond.

After 33 years, however, Raymond has decided to move on to the next part of her life. On Thursday, January 27 at 2:20 Raymond finished her final day with students.

"It's time to turn over and let the younger people take over," said Raymond.

Raymond was the Chair of the Social Studies Department, the Student Council adviser for 27 years, as well as a Mock Trial coach for 16 years.

"It'll take three or four people to fill her shoes," said Social Studies Teacher **Gerard Rohl**.

Raymond not only led the Mock Trial team to a State title in 2007, she also guided the team to a ranking of 17th in the Nation.

"She turned Mock Trial into a State Championship program," said Rohl

Raymond isn't completely done with Mock Trial, she still volunteers one day a week to listen to students perform.

"I will miss Mock Trial and the relationships I've developed," said Raymond, "but not all the

hours that I put in."

Last year was her final year of being the head coach, and they finished second in State.

"[Raymond is] structured, organized, has things planned out to the minute which means never just 'winging it', is disciplined, no screwing off, and is a good leader," said Rohl.

Raymond had all the qualities of a good teacher and coach.

"She is straight-forward, she tells it like it is which is a great quality when you need to get stuff done especially in Mock Trial," said Junior **Beth Macnab**, "I'll miss her devotion to the team and how much she cared."

When Raymond is not teaching or coaching she loved to keep score at the girls basketball games.

Now that both Raymond and her husband, **LeRoy Erickson** are retired they plan to continue on with their love of traveling. To start off, they're planning on a six week vacation in Fort Meyers, Florida. They also each have jobs at the Minnesota Twins spring training camp.

Raymond left leaving some words of advice for the students and staff here at BHS. First she mentioned that everyone should get involved both the teachers and kids. Which means go do something outside of the classroom, and put yourself out there.

Social Studies teacher Laurie Raymond announced that this will be her last year of full-time teaching at BHS, during the beginning of the year.



TRI-M Variety Show:

An exercise in personal triumph



1. Seniors Matt O'Leary and Pickle Hjelmberg sing Guy Love 2. Junior Amelia Haggen sings and demonstrates the wonders of cleaning 3. Sophomore Julia Bolthun clowns around during her performance. Photos by Nick Weeks

Rodeo Time for FFA

FFA members step up and prepare for state.

CHEYENNE HICKMAN
STAFF WRITER

40 of Buffalo High School's FFA members, along with new Agriculture Teacher, **Jim Kocherer**, will be attending a rodeo on the fourth of February at the Xcel Energy Center.

"We're going there to have fun," said Kocherer.

There are 60-75 FFA students involved in FFA, and they do a number of different activities involving agriculture, meaning animals. Some examples are; judging, showing, competitions, crops, or fund raising a wide variety of things. These are fun but can be a lot of work.

"I love FFA," said Sophomore **Kiley Miller**. "This trip will give a lot of us a chance to try new things that we haven't experienced and to have loads of fun."

This trip is a time for the students to get a chance to relax and enjoy doing something they like, despite worrying about getting nailed in the gut by a 1,800 pound bull.

3

February is "I Love To Read" Month

The Buffalo Community Read is one way students can join in

KALACZANSTKOWSKI
A&E EDITOR

January 31 through February 5 kicked off the annual "I Love to Read" month with a book drive at Buffalo High School run by National Honor Society. Students may to bring in new or gently used books before or after school in the atrium.

If you're looking for opportunities to participate in this year's "I Love to Read" Month, students and community members can participate in Buffalo's Community Read. This year's book is *Vermilion Drift* by William Kent Krueger. The book is available in our libraries and book stores.

"I Love to Read" Month is celebrated in schools across the world in various amounts of ways. From guest speakers to book drives to book reading competitions.

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NEWS

Invasion of the Bubbles!

Lining the computer screens are rows of colored bubbles. Bubble Shooter has taken over BHS students.

MARISSADIORIO
STAFF WRITER

“The game isn’t very fun, its just shooting bubbles,” said Freshman **Savanna Fonkert**, “But I feel like if I get a bad score I need to redeem myself. Its not the kind of game that you win or lose, just one where you improve.”

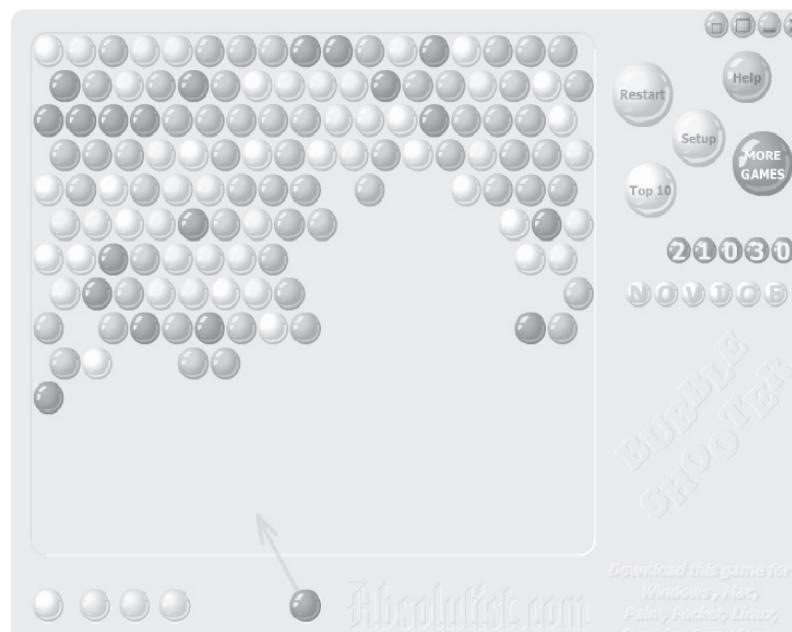
As students walk down the halls of BHS, the computer labs sometimes appear to be covered in, well, bubbles. Bubble shooter was originally published to the world wide web in 2000, since then it has taken over students’ free time during class periods. There are numerous places where students are able to play it, but bubbleshooter.net seems to be the most popular among students.

Out of 120 students surveyed at Buffalo High School, 74% play the game at least once a week. Some teachers don’t allow their students to play it and others don’t mind as long as they have other work done. Sometimes students don’t know when it’s the right time to play, and when it isn’t. Students often get off task by these simple games. 60% of students play when they’re supposed to be on task, and only 46% play in their free time.

“It’s an addicting game,” said Freshman **Lexi Bollant**. “I play it at least three to five times a week, and probably a total of 70 times.”

The game is not all fun, a lot of the time people get frustrated when the game doesn’t go how they want it to.

“Bubble Shooter isn’t even that fun of a game. There are billions of games more fun on the web. It seems to me that Bubble Shooter is becoming accepted because



“I get really frustrated because once I start I feel like I have to keep playing until I win,” said Junior **Kala Czanstkowski**, “It’s fun for a while, but after you lose a few times you just hate it.”

Some students, like Czanstkowski tend to get frustrated easily when playing the game. But others, like Freshman Savanna Fonkert, use their frustration as motivation to keep playing to get their score on the charts.

“The more times I fail at the game, the more I want to play because I’m determined to win,” said Fonkert, “It’s never ending and takes a long time to finish it. Right when you get to the end of the game, you mess up and have to keep going. You just keep playing until it goes how you want it to.”

Music Listening Team takes State

After all of their hard work and dedication, the payoff came last weekend when BHS Team 1 won State.

NATESPANIER
COPY EDITOR

“We tied with another Buffalo team for the top score in at regions, and lost in a tie breaker,” said Senior **Jonathon Hank**. “Later we found out we tied for the top score in the state.”

Buffalo’s Music Listening team 1 took first place at the Region 4 Minnesota Music Listening competition on January 21. Team 1 won by a single point after a tie breaker round with Buffalo’s Team 2. Seniors **Anna Huff**, **Sam Bergstrom**, and **Elizabeth Thompson** make up Team 1, while Hank and Seniors **Joe DuBois**, and **Bergen Nelson** constitute team 2.

“[Teams 1 and 2] tied with 83 points,” said Senior Bergen Nelson, “the next highest score in regions was 69, and 77 in the state.”

Each school is only allowed one team to attend the state competition. This means, despite taking second in regions, and scoring the second highest score in state, team 2 will not be allowed to compete.

“It feels like a ripoff,” says Hank, “but at the same time it clears up some valuable room in my schedule.”

“[Buffalo Music Listening] has been to state 14 times,” said Coach Michael Walsh. “Last year we placed second in state.”

Walsh has coached Music Listening at Buffalo

High School for over 18 years. Music Listening has only been in Minnesota for about the last 20 years. Walsh had been on the Minnesota Music Listening board for 10 years, and spent two years as the chairperson before resigning.

“I had been on the board long enough,” said Walsh, “it was time for new people to take over.”

Last Friday Buffalo Team 1 took third place at the Minnesota State Music Listening competition, which was held at Augsburg College. Buffalo lost by two points, 85-83, to Pine Island, and 84-83 to Montevideo. Buffalo had been in the top two teams at the competition until the last round, when Montevideo pulled into second.

“Going into the contest, I thought Buffalo had the trophy in its hands,” said Hank. “I was honestly surprised when they didn’t make it into the College Bowl round.”

The College Bowl round is the final round between the top two teams to determine a winner.

“[Music Listening] is just an opportunity to get to know more about music in a more interesting and fun way,” said Senior Anna Huff. “It’s more than just learning music theory. It’s about having fun with other people that have the same interests.”



Coach Michael Walsh congratulates the the Music Listening Team with the rest of the audience at the Tri-M Variety Show on Saturday. Team 1 won the State meet.

NICKWEEKS

One Year, One Yearbook

16 editors, 27 writers, and one advisor work year-round to develop a State-worthy Yearbook

BETHLEIPHOLTZ
STAFF WRITER



Stepping into room A-210 is a unique experience. One can be greeted with anything from an enthusiastic “Guys, I made this website where all you do is snap crayons. Just...snap!” to a worrisome “All right, that spread has no eye line and that picture isn’t dominant worthy! We have proofs for one day and that’s it.” To anyone who hasn’t had experience with publications, neither of these statements would make much sense. But to the yearbook staff, it is the language we speak to one another.

Depending on which statement is overheard, judgments will immediately form. As Editor-in-Chief of our yearbook, it irritates me to hear it referred to as a “slacker” class which seems to be the general consensus, even from some faculty members. I feel that that is a huge misconception. Yes, we know how to laugh, shriek, smile and make fools of ourselves together, which I’ll admit can give us the wrong image at points. Typically in high school, there are grins, excitement and laughter when learning isn’t necessarily happening. For us, rather than getting excited about having a substitute teacher or watching a movie in class, we get wound up about receiving our printed spreads, having new camera equipment and approaching deadlines. The normal day-to-day routine is what thrills us, and therefore I feel that fun and enthusiasm for learning does not automatically equate to no work being done.

In fact, the amount of work that goes into the final distributed product is insane. Our book has to be quality - worthy of the ticket price of \$70 - and also live up to the award-winning books of the previous years. This is no easy task because we know we will be critiqued for the small mistakes, even if the majority of the book is incredible. I spend at least ten hours per week working on spreads, and so do about fifteen other editors. Our writers and photographers are at almost every after school event. Imagine being presented with a blank spread that you are expected to fill with a well-researched story, high quality photos, well-written captions, storytelling quotes,

and secondary coverage within a matter of weeks. When you think you have finally finished, you haven’t. People will constantly be pushing you to do more and do it better. Now imagine being



expected to do that four times in a row. For a number of us, we literally eat, sleep, and breathe yearbook when deadlines are near. Yet nothing makes us happier than slaving over our book and knowing that we have given it 100%. And the fact is, we have.

Our first true experience as a staff was in June, at yearbook camp at St. Johns University, which we had been anticipating since being assigned our positions in March. We spent three days and nights together. At one point, there were 17 of us in one college dorm room. Let me tell you, 17 bodies in a sweaty, small 10x15 foot space doesn’t make for desirable conditions, yet we spent three hours straight simply discussing the book. Prior to this, we had spent the day in workshops and going over design aspects. A total of 16 consecutive hours, and after being with the same people for such a long amount of time, the last thing we wanted to do was repeat it the next day. Most schools took breaks. We chose not to. Camp was made bearable by numerous food incidents in the cafeteria, embarrassing dance moves, Nick Weeks befriending every female he came across, and McCallum establishing a point system

which allowed us to make fools of ourselves. This was our first experience as a staff and we realized that we functioned better if we made time to let loose and be stupid together. By doing so, we emerged with first place and, more importantly, an image for the book we had yet to create.

Onlookers tend to remember things like the fact that we decorate the walls with cat pictures and Glee cast members, or that we break out in random song and dance. As a staff, in addition to the aforementioned, we also remember that literally hundreds of hours went into one year’s book - many of them early in the morning or late into the evening. We remember that we have the ability to be bouncing our soccer ball around one minute, yet still and attentive the next. We remember scrambling to get forgotten pictures and quotes on work nights. We have a rule that stories aren’t allowed to focus on how a group is like a family because the stories end up sounding too cliché. I’m going to break our own rule. After all the hours we have spent together, we are a family, even if we are a dysfunctional one.



Internet blocking can filter out learning

NATESPANIER & MICHAELNELSON
STAFF WRITERS

The Buffalo High School internet filtering has gone too far. The filter now interferes with learning and school work.

A login feature is one of several new restrictions added to the school’s Internet filtering policy at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. Another addition included increased restrictions on accessible websites.

Recently even more additions were made to the school’s Internet filtering policy. For two weeks, the most prominent of these changes was blocking secured connections (HTTPS) and blocking Google caches. Some of these changes were recently reverted.

Blocking the Google cache increases the loading time for all websites.

Lightspeed Systems Inc., the provider of our school’s web filter, has said, “[...] Over-blocking limits the potential of the Web

to promote participatory learning and acquisition of 21st-century skills.”

Quest.cns.utexas.edu, a website run by The University of Texas at Austin, uses a secured connection. Several classes use Quest.cns.utexas.edu for online homework problems, and these students couldn’t access the site using existing links during the time that secure connections did not work.

“Because secured connections were blocked, I wasn’t able to finish my online homework on torque,” said Senior **Adam Sandberg**, “Later someone showed me I could submit my answers using [an unsecured] connection.”

An unsecured connection allows anyone to intercept any data sent to the internet by any user. This may not be a problem when submitting homework answers, but it is not just limited to that data: Sensitive data such as passwords and usernames can easily be read by anyone intercepted data on an unsecured connection.

Secured connections are, for the most part, no longer blocked.

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But this incident still shows one of many ways the school’s internet filter has interfered with legitimate school work.

Research projects have become a much more daunting task thanks to the Internet filtering.

“I was working on a paper for Mass Media and it was about music sharing and copyright issues. I was trying to find information on it and every website I went said I couldn’t access it due to the school’s filtering system,” said Senior **Dylan Triplett**, “I had to go to one of my neighbors’ houses [to finish my paper] since we didn’t have internet at the time.”

While the Children’s Internet Protection Act, known as CIPA for short, requires public internet access used by minors be filtered of certain content, the school far exceeds the requirements set forth by CIPA.

A balance between security and accessibility needs to be found. The school’s internet filtering policy needs to be reviewed and redesigned to allow access to all forms of educational websites.

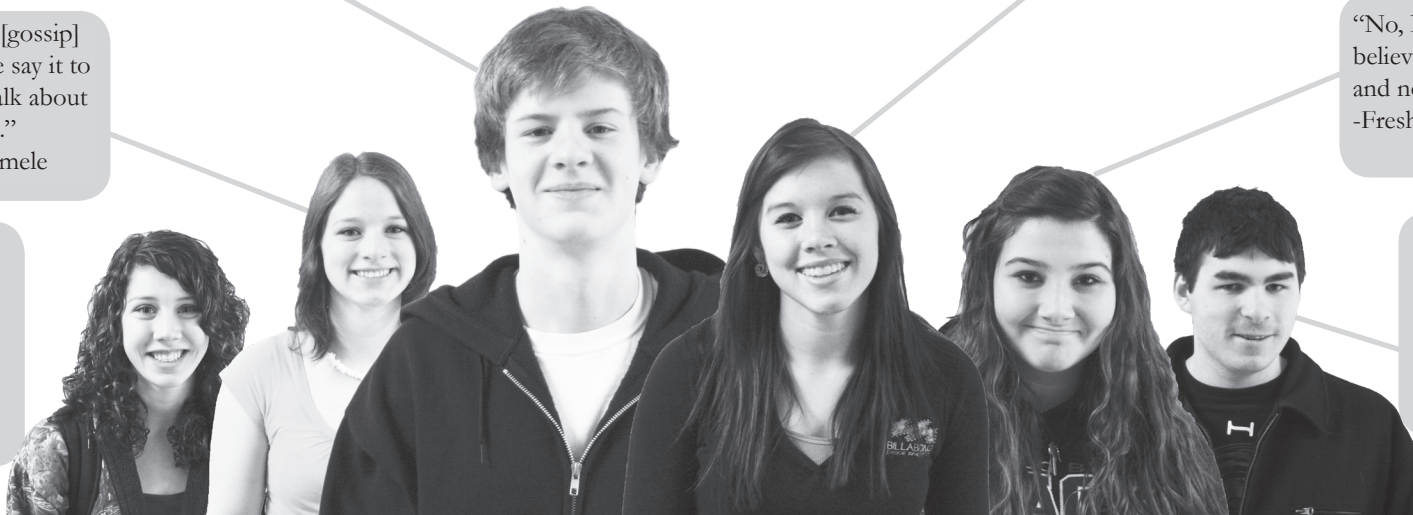
OPINIONS

Do you listen to or believe in gossip?

"I hear gossip on an everyday basis, but I don't really listen to it because you can't believe everything you hear."
-Senior Caleb Stumpfl

"I don't believe in it [gossip] because I feel people say it to have something to talk about or for entertainment."
-Senior Kayla Schimmele

"No, I don't really tend to listen to gossip. I don't think it's worth it."
-Freshman Ellie Botzet



"Some of it I believe, but some of it I don't because I know people talk just to get attention."
-Sophomore Zoe Kunz

"No, I never listen to or believe gossip. I tend to try and not think about it."
-Freshman Marah Walker

"I listen to gossip more than I should. I know I shouldn't. However, my curiosity gets the better of me."
-Senior Kian Stack

Preserving the most vulnerable target: Truth

The Hoofprint explains the need of trustworthy sources when making decisions

When the proverbial tree fell in the forest and no one was around, there would have been no realization that it had even happened. At least that's how it would have been a few years ago. In this age of information there would be texts and tweets about the unfortunate tree, and speculation on whether or not it had been struck down by lightning or brutally cut down by a lumberjack. Heck, it may even have deserved it after swaying and allowing a birds nest to fall from its branch. Trees aside, this is where the world of instant news, gossip, and sensationalized stories has left us. Where as before only those who actively sought the truth were in a position to report it, now those who are miles away can regularly blog about such events.

The Hoofprint prides itself on its accuracy, but even our publication is not perfect. However, we hold it to a high enough standard that we truly appreciate when flaws and mistakes are pointed out, and make an effort to remedy the problems. For example, last issue contained an error in a story about students being cut from sports teams, and we truly regret that error. We appreciate that people took the time to let us know how to serve the school better in that situation. We want to be a source that provides accurate information to the student body.

It is very hard then for us to keep up with instant messages and social networking sites like Facebook, to provide up-to-the-second news. Hoofprint.net features daily updates on news and events at Buffalo High School written by students. However, because social networking content is user-generated and not checked for accuracy and bias, accountability is non-existent. One needs look no further than the Cassidy Kava incident of last year where several students, police officers, and school administration were accused of trying to bust student parties. The consequences rumors are easy enough to see, if we just didn't ignore that it was happening right in front of us.

Our problem is not a new one. Verbal gossip has been apart of human culture since the birth of language. We urge you to keep a skeptical mind when dealing with rumors and gossip. It takes seconds to start something that could permanently damage a person's reputation. *The Hoofprint* feels strongly enough about this that we will not print defamatory or libelous stories, no matter how attention grabbing. Stories with anonymous sources or authors receive even more skepticism and

fact checking.

The Hoofprint encourages all readers to cultivate this same sense of healthy skepticism of sources. Be objective in your thought, and do information gathering of your own. Simply because a well-designed website claims that information is truth, it does not make it so. Some sources exist for the sole purpose of spreading misinformation and these sites can look almost indistinguishable from legitimate sources. We live right in the middle of a river of information, but not all of it is to be trusted.

We want students to be informed about what's happening, and it's a good thing that people have taken an interest in spreading what's happening around the community to others. However some people abuse the power at their finger tips whether because they are misinformed or enjoy creating some mischief. There are many ways to get access to what is happening around us, and many tools to make the process easier. *The Hoofprint* is a tool we'd like the student body to take advantage of to light the way towards information. Truth is after all so poorly lit.

Be objective in your thought, and do information gathering of your own. Simply because a well-designed website claims that information is truth, it does not make it so. Some sources exist for the sole purpose of spreading misinformation.

Creationism vs Evolutionism

BHS Junior believes Creationism should be considered along side evolution

Dear Hoofprint Newspaper;

I am writing to you concerning your last printing (1-13-11). On page seven, you claimed that nothing that students say is censored, and that you always stick with what is true. This was extremely encouraging. That is how it should be and you guys really inspired me. I'm also writing to you guys about something that has sparked a bit of interest in me and frankly, other people I've talked to. I also want to mention that if anything I write in this letter is printed, I would like to be spoken to before anything becomes final.

I am writing to you about the teaching of Evolution in our school. Now, I can probably guess at least a hundred things you're thinking right now. I realize that this topic is highly controversial and also very heated at times. Arguments and debates are very common when this topic comes up. And even if nothing in this letter is printed, I pray that you will at least listen, as I believe you'll stay true to your word when you say "Our motivation stems from a want of the truth."

I want to start with a few things I've witnessed in the teaching of Evolution. Evolution is considered a large part of science and, in my opinion, is the dogma of the field. Primordial slime, ape-men, and the big bang are all similar subject matters. My biology teacher teaches evolution as a theory, which it should be! And he says that, "If you don't want to believe in it, that's fine. It doesn't matter. You're free to believe what you want to believe." But when I asked him if we would be learning anything about Creation, he said no. When I asked why, he said he wasn't allowed to. I thought, "Wait a second, wasn't allowed to?" I don't know, but it sounded a little ridiculous to me. Why are we censoring something just because it has "religious" connections? I'm not angry with my teacher. He was just doing his job. But what happened to freedom of religion? One could say Evolution is even a religion. But I've heard other reasons as to why schools aren't allowed to teach Creation:

-Separation of Church and State- This is a common response I get from many people, stating that, by law, we are not allowed to teach Creation in our schools. This is a bit confusing to me. Last time I checked, Buffalo is offering "World Religions" as a class

elective. Why doesn't the law of Separation of Church and State apply here? If it's because it only teaches people about religion and doesn't promote it, well great! So why can't we teach Creation without promoting it?

-There isn't enough evidence to support Creation- Says who? How the evidence is viewed depends on the person. When an evolutionist looks at the Grand Canyon, they usually think, "Wow. Look what erosion did over millions of years." A Creationist might say, "Wow. Look at what Noah's flood did in a matter of days." Evolution is not a flawless theory. We need to stop treating it like so.

-The majority of scientists believe in Evolution- So what?

The majority of scientists used to believe that the ocean floor was flat, and that when washing your hands, it was healthier to run your hands under still water -Junior Korbin Canny"

The majority of scientists used to believe that the ocean floor was flat, and that when washing your hands, it was healthier to run your hands under still water rather than running water. Just because the majority of people believe something doesn't mean it proves anything.

There are many, many more reasons that Creation is kept out of the classroom. But, I just want to know something. Are we shying away from an idea just because it might offend people? It's like my biology teacher said, "You don't have to believe it." I want to know why people are so offended by something they don't even believe exists! If it's a matter of academics, where classes only have so much time to cram so much material, then I understand. But I'm wondering if it's too much to ask to get both views on things like the fossil record, age of the earth, rock layers, etc. We're students,

not indifferent animals. Teach us the material and let us decide for ourselves what's real and what's not. And I know it's not just me who would like some balance in what's being taught.

Maybe the reason behind the level of bias opinions is due to the fact that all we ever see regarding the origins and the development of the species on our planet is Evolutionary. I've never seen nor heard of any literature coming from our school library offering a scientific explanation on the possibility divine Creation. There are very good books on Creation out there, but none have made it to our library. I've checked the science isle. I've never found anything on Creation. Only Evolution.

I suspect that many other schools operate in the same fashion. But that doesn't mean Buffalo couldn't be better. Instead, we could treat all groups of people equally rather than letting the fires of ignorance spread.

The point I'm trying to make is that often times people come up to me, saying, "You know, if you want to learn about Creation, just go to the public library or go online." Other times they just pass me up as some Bible-thumping fanatic.

But it's true. I could just search outside the borders of our school to know more about Creation. The problem is that I don't have that option when it comes to Evolution. Evolution is required in today's education. If I don't take the course, I fail. I find that highly unfair. Evolution is taught to us in school, but if we want to learn about Creation, we have to search elsewhere. Some people never even find out that there's an alternative to Evolution. And so the ignorance grows.

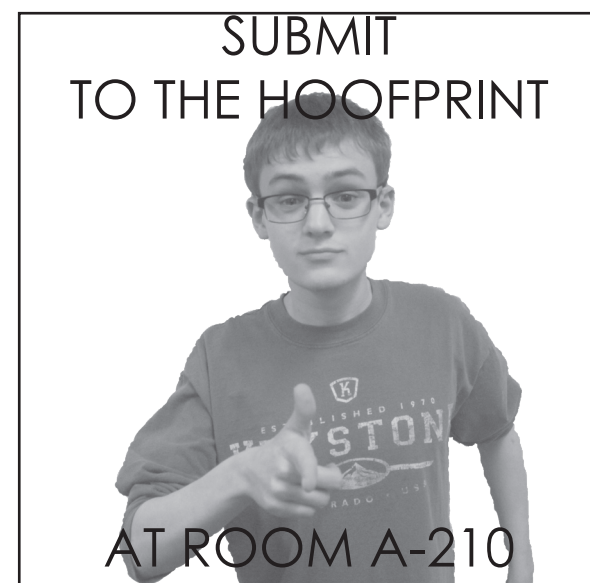
For a large portion of my life, I was an Atheist. It's only because I've listened with an open mind that I've changed. I hope that you guys do the same.

I dearly appreciate what you guys do. I think that as long as the Hoofprint is around, our students have a voice. I thank you guys for your work.

From a fellow BHS student,
Junior Korbin Canny

Submit Your Letter to the Editor

Here at *The Hoofprint*, we want to hear your opinions. If you have a response to a particular article, issue, or subject previously printed, write it up and send it to us. You can also write to us for any reason - to make the school aware of something, to say thank you, or to get your voice heard. We cannot, however, print anonymous or libelous letters. Send your opinion to mail@hoofprint.net or give it to any Hoofprint staff member.



Beyond the Lunch Tray

A behind the scenes look at how your lunch gets to your tray.

ZACKZUMBUSCH & BETHANYBIALLAS
STAFF WRITERS

Ugh, why are we having this again? Why so much chicken? This line takes so long. Ew, look at these fries. Why does D lunch never get the good food? What do you mean I have to get milk? These are questions your lunch ladies dread hearing. They put so much thought and effort into preparing our homemade meals we buy everyday, in addition to abiding by the nutritional guidelines.

Before we get the food we complain about where it's been. When actually it has been thought out, studied, and tested with at least three groups before it arrives in our lines. The Food Service Department starts out by going to trade shows, reading magazines, and setting up meetings to gain ideas before the product is even considered as a possibility. Once a new product is introduced, it's voted on, sampled, and must meet requirements. Some of them are warmth capacity, consistency must hold over time, sodium and fat content must be consistent with the federal law and it has to taste good.

"We've tested products that no kid would want to touch five minutes out of the oven," said Food Service Director Marilyn Splinter. "It's not easy to find products that kids would want to eat, is semi easy to prepare, and meets all the requirements."

Milk, bread, meat, cheese, fruit, and vegetables are all needed in your lunch each day. Five components are offered but you must pick at least three to be considered a school meal. Without three you're left with ala carte which will increase your meal price. This is why they always ask for you in include milk.

"A slice of pizza and a cookie is not a meal. Adding milk will give you the third component for a basic meal price," says Splinter.

Salami is not considered a true meat because of its protein content. In order for our school to fit the guidelines they had to find an ingredient to combine with the salami to keep it. This ingredient is peanut butter.

"We need to find what kids will buy," said Splinter, "Kids like chicken. It sells."

So if there is any question as to why we have so much chicken, any lunch lady will say everything else they offer no kids seem to want. In order to be a lunch lady you have to be dedicated to come to work every day, knowing you love your job. Each year they're required to take at least a level one food certification class which educates them on nutritional guidelines, food preparation, safety precautions, and clean food handling skills. At BHS many lunch ladies continued on to receive the highest level certificate. They start their day at 6:30 AM, "panning the meat" and preparing breakfast, fruits, and vegetables.

"On a popcorn chicken day I will pan about 22 pans of chicken, which will hopefully feed all four lunches," said lunch lady Nancy Allen, "While the pizza line makes about 40 pans of pizza daily."

We are still offered homemade foods. All of the soups are homemade along with the spaghetti, macaroni, chili, and turkey and gravy. They take their job very seriously, knowing each lunch, what food sells and what line is going to



be more popular.

"Compared to other lunches A lunch always eats their vegetables," said Allen.

When it comes time for D lunch sometimes supplies run short, but there's nothing to be done other than to just plan ahead for next time.

"Our worst feeling id when we run out," said Allen.

The planning process for what lunch is assigned to each day is rigorously thought out. The length of the line and the time it takes to serve each student are main factors on deciding which lunches go together. The main goal is to give everyone as much time to eat as possible. If one food isn't as popular, by default the other line will get so long some kids may only have ten minutes to eat. The ladies and lunch authorities then discuss how they can improve on these things.

During the busiest lunches the salad bar line usually moves the slowest.

"Standing in line isn't good for anybody," said Splinter.

She also addressed the idea of re-working how the lines operate. One idea that was proposed, was to adjust the salad bar line so it could be accessed on both sides simultaneously. They are expecting that new equipment needed for this project can cost upwards of \$30,000. This would require much more planning with re-evaluating the space requirements. The plans have already been put into motion and are expected to come quickly within the next couple of years.

Some funding that could go towards this project is acquired from ala carte lunches. However, due to a new federal law, sodium content must decrease by 50 percent gradually over the next ten years. Most trans fats will be banned, which are a part of some of our "extras". Also, white breads will change to whole grain; this also means pasta noodles, hamburger buns, and possibly wraps. The fries people may or may not enjoy will become sweet potato fries, which may not appeal to some students now.

What does this mean for the ala carte? While some kids will want to purchase more of it after the changes in law, the variety that is offered will also decrease. Sugary extras with not much nutritional value have a high chance of not being offered over time. While most of these changes are still under scrutiny they will be enacted at some point in time over the next ten years.



NICK/WEBS

Bottom right: Nancy Allen prepares quesadillas for lunch. She came in at 6:30 AM to prepare food. Top left: Arlene Nelson is making breakfast for students. She also arrived early every day this week.

Berry Blendz

The Berry Blendz store is in Eden Prairie, and they sell to 47 schools in Minnesota.

"I make them finish the drink before class starts. I don't want those smoothies spilling on the carpet and making a big mess."

-Social Studies Teacher Daniel Dehmer

75%
STUDENTS
OF
enjoy the different
flavors



The smoothies are mixed by hand then blended for 45 minutes.

"Your school sells them for three dollars, now that's a reasonable price because at the store we sell ours for four dollars."

-Senior Manager of Berry Blendz Scott Meyer



Our school has 21 flavors, but Berry Blendz offers 82 flavors along with the option to create your own smoothie.



Superintendent Scott Thielman

NINADOWNER

Superintendent's Procedure

A behind-the-scenes look at what goes into cancelling school for a snow day

EVERYSCHOTTLER
STAFF WRITER

It's 4:30 AM and while most students are still sleeping, Superintendent **Scott Thielman** and the district's Director of Finance and Operations are awake and working. That's because the forecast is for a 100% chance of heavy snow today and it's already been snowing for several hours. The decision needs to be made whether or not school is closed.

However, he doesn't have much of an idea how the roads in the 157 square mile district are faring and that's where the district's Director of Finance and Operations, **Gary Kawlewski** comes in. **Kawlewski** must make a series of calls to various sources so he can paint an accurate picture of the safety of the district's roads.

"It's more of an art form than an exact science," said **Kawlewski**. "Every situation is different. That's why it's hard to say when school is to be closed or not. There is no 'we always close on X', it depends on what the storm brings. Everyone just needs to be in agreement that conditions are dangerous."

The "primary source" according to **Kawlewski** is the Wright County Highway Department (WCHD). They have snowplows on the road in the case of a snow emergency and they tell **Kawlewski** about the conditions of the roads within the district and how well they can keep them clear.

The people at the WCHD are not the only ones who have a say in the decision. **Kawlewski** also contacts the bus company and the Buffalo Police Department.

Once the information is gathered from the aficionados on the roads, the forecast, and other superintendents (who give our superintendent an idea of how the storm is affecting their district), the superintendent makes a decision based on the conditions of the district as a whole.

This is no easy task. The conditions can vary with a district of this size

"There's a lot of work involved and we don't take it lightly," **Kawlewski** said.

Everyone is affected by the bad weather, even if they aren't the ones calling the shots.

"It's a hardship for the parents, too," **Thielman** said.

That's because they have to make last minute plans and decisions. Plus, with teachers not coming in, not much is done on a snow day as far as education goes. A "snow day" also represents a loss of instructional time.

Teachers, parents, and students are not the only ones inconvenienced during a storm. The custodial staff and Director of Buildings and Grounds, **Eric Hamilton**, are busy having the district shoveled out. Although the conditions of the grounds have no effect on whether school is cancelled or delayed, they are still an important and large part of the snow day. Sidewalks are cleared by district staff, but the parking lots are not because the district has only three vehicles

with this capability. When greater than two inches are present at the end of a storm, **Hamilton** needs to contract all of the parking lots and roads at the district's many schools.

If it's still snowing when school starts, no plowing will be done because the contractor only plows at the end of a storm.

Although the staff members are limited to sidewalks, they do a great job with the tools they have.

"It's the staff that really put in the extra effort and it's pretty amazing that you can walk out of the high school onto bare concrete," **Hamilton** said. "However be aware: parking lots can be slippery and it's winter so we need to act a little differently."

However, most students appreciate the break from school.

"I can see how they can get inconvenient, but it's nice to have a break without having to make anything up," said Senior **Malia Foster**.

Kawlewski understands, but has other concerns. He sums it all up to one thing:

"I know kids enjoy the break, but the interest is always in the safety of the students."

"We try to run school whenever we can so we don't shortchange anyone on their education." **Thielman**

So... Where is Buffalo Lake-Hector?



As Buffalo students check for potential weather delays on TV and online, Buffalo Lake-Hector schools can become a source of frustration, leading to an initial feeling of joy followed by the realization that Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose schools is actually not mentioned. Buffalo Lake-Hector schools is approximately 50 miles from Buffalo High School. The large district boundaries and different economic conditions lead to more frequent delays and cancellations due to weather.



Students walk outside in the bitter cold to catch their buses after school

MICHAELSWEARINGEN

One Act Heads to State



1

NICKWEEKS



4

SARAH-DURST



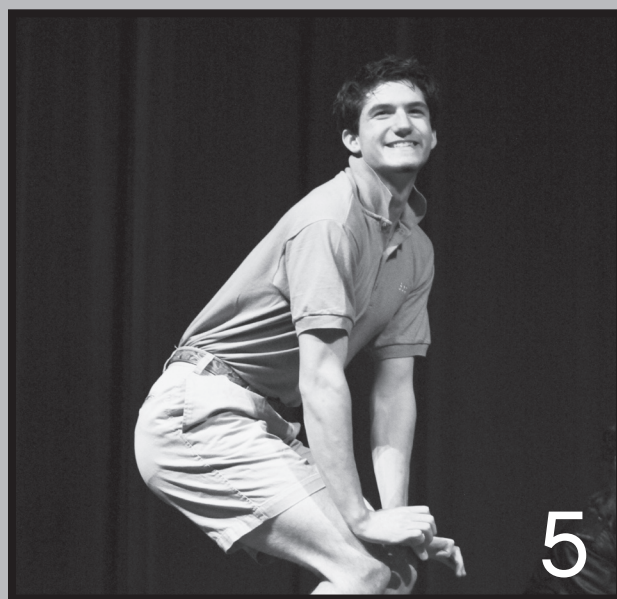
2

NICKWEEKS



3

NICKWEEKS



5

SARAH-DURST



6

1. Seniors Mallory Nelson and Michael Patchen perform during a dress rehearsal before opening night. 2. Seniors Michael Patchen and DJ McMoil hug it out in a scene during rehearsal. 3. Seniors Mallory Nelson and Michael Patchen take the stage during a dress rehearsal. 4. Sophomore Julia Bothun and Senior Pickle Hjelmberg have serious thoughts. 5. Senior DJ McMoil demonstrates a dance during a rehearsal. 6. Freshman Katelyn Miller, Seniors Rachael Cammann and Mallory Nelson act in a dramatic scene in the play.

The Origins of Valentine's Day

History can only portray legends about this love day

KAYLASCHIMMELE&RACHELMUSSELL
A&E EDITOR AND STAFF WRITER

Thinking on the origins of Valentine's Day, history can not tell us exactly how it began. History does tell us though, of the legends of Saint Valentine himself, legends which are considered to be accurate by historians, and of how he created what is now a well-known holiday around the world.

The story begins with Lupercalia, a pagan festival that took place in the middle of February in order to bless women with the chance for fertility in the upcoming year. In the year 496 A.D., Pope Gelasius I outlawed the festival, calling it immoral. He decided to honor the saint of lovers instead and chose Valentine. Pope Gelasius I then named February 14 as St. Valentine's day in Valentine's honor.

As for Saint Valentine's true identity, it will never be known.

There are at least three Saint Valentines that are mentioned in the early martyrologies on the date of February 14.

One legend has it that the Roman priest Saint Valentine lived during the third century A.D. During this time, Emperor Claudius II was reigning. Emperor Claudius II was a very ambitious leader who asked that men completely abandon their families to fight in battles, for which he wanted vast numbers of men. The men fought halfheartedly, however, because they greatly missed their families and homes. Claudius was determined to regain the desire of his men to fight, so he banned marriage altogether, in hope that love would no longer take his men away from him.

Father Valentine thought this ban was quite severe and unjust. To fight for his cause, Valentine began to defy the emperor, marrying couples in secret. Unfortunately, the emperor eventually caught on to the secret marriages and sentenced the priest

to death. While the priest was in jail, awaiting his death row, it is believed that the couples which he married came to visit him, passing him flowers and notes through the bars to show him their gratitude.

Father Valentine began to fall in love with the jailer's daughter, and on February 14th, the day he was to be executed, it is said that he passed the young daughter a note. It was signed "From your Valentine." And from there stemmed the modern day holiday we all know as Valentine's Day.

Today this day of love brings in roughly \$14 billion dollars annually in the United States! Loved ones are cascaded with 180 million red roses, 36 million heart-shaped boxes of candy, cards, dinners and diamonds. But we cannot forget the most important thing about Valentine's day, which does not cost a cent: Love. It's priceless.

Dates By Tens

KALACZANSTKOWSKI
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Ideas of dates by ten dollar increments

Chocolates, flowers, teddy bears, OH MY! Valentine's day is coming up, as if you had a choice not to notice, with all out in stores. The lover's holiday has once again and date planning. So here are a few ideas to get A winter date idea is to go ice skating. At the Buffalo Throw in a camera, some flowers, or a sweet card for him and you've made a five dollar date filled with fun and memories.

"Even though I've been with Aaron for two years, we've never really had a date, we just gave gifts," said Junior Kristina Melrose, "He gave me Teddy bears, flowers and a card and one year he gave me a blanket and I gave him a Teddy bear, candy and a card."

If you're looking to spend some money, but not a lot, Freshman Kurt Potter took his significant other bowling and to a movie last year and they had fun together. Junior Heather Gerhardson also went to a movie with her significant other one year for Valentine's day.

If you're alright with spending a little extra cash this year, you could choose a bouquet of flowers, a stuffed animal of her favorite kind and take her out to a nice restaurant. Some local restaurant recommendations would be Chatters in Monticello, Applebees in Buffalo, Delano or Monticello.

Some more recommendations around the twin cities include the Macaroni Grill and Olive garden for some Italian food in Minnetonka, Cosmos and La Belle Vie in Minneapolis. In any case, prepare yourself to spend your money and be sure to make reservations.

Dreading what to buy him for Valentine's day? Let your worries be gone, here are some gift ideas he's sure to use. How about a soft blanket, everyone likes to stay cozy during the awful Minnesota winters and he's sure to think of you every time his toes get cold. Print him off some pictures of the two of you together. They'll make him smile every day.

Don't worry if you don't have a significant other, grab your girls or your boys and have fun bowling as a group and enjoy yourselves. Even though the main focus of Valentine's day is couples, that doesn't mean you can't spend it with your best friends.

walking into a store or the Valentine's products up and caught us all in the light of gift buying you started. pavilion, you can rent ice skates for free.

Don't worry if you don't have a significant other, grab your girls or boys and have fun...



73% OF ROSES
are **PURCHASED** by
MEN
for WOMEN

\$14 Annually
Billion SPENT by
AMERICANS FOR
VALENTINES
DAY

36 MILLIONS
are **PURCHASED**
EVERY YEAR

Fight to the Finish

Will altercations involving hockey players and fans bring consequences to team?

LIZADAVIS
STAFF WRITER

One of the trademarks of the sport of ice hockey is the fighting. In most professional and amateur leagues, there are several sets of rules specifically to regulate fighting, such as what constitutes as an “instigator” of conflict or what techniques are considered too rough. Fighting often happens in the NHL, where hockey is a profession, but the question has been raised of whether fighting in high school leagues-where hockey is an extracurricular-is necessary.

On January 13th, Buffalo’s varsity hockey team was playing an away game against Rogers. The score was 1 to 2 with Rogers in the lead.

“It was the perfect storm,” activities director **Tom Bauman** said. “It was a very competitive and emotional game, especially as the clock was running out.”

When the buzzer rang to signal the game’s end, one of the Rogers players cross-checked a Buffalo player. A couple of pushes escalated into lots of little fights, and soon there was a full-on brawl. While all of the members of the Rogers team were on the ice during the fight, only seven players from Buffalo were actively involved. A few members from Buffalo had left the bench, not necessarily to join the fight, but to help break it up.

“The team wasn’t playing to fight. We just want to win,” Senior and Team Captain **Nick Jones** said.

After the coaches and activities directors from both schools had a meeting, the punishment was determined - four members from each team would be suspended from the next game. However, another incident during a St. Michael-Albertville game has sparked more controversy. Some Buffalo fans ran to the STMA fan side, carrying a Buffalo flag. The STMA activities director asked them to go back to their own side, but after hearing that, another Buffalo fan shoved

the activities director against the glass.

Active fan involvement is a large part of hockey culture in Buffalo, but it seems that recently, some fans are coming to games just to incite tension and conflict. A large part of the fun for the players is being able to play for their family and friends, but if issues involving fan interference and fighting become too large a problem, one option to stop it is to take the fans away.

“I hope they realize that it’s becoming serious. We’re right on the verge of somebody getting hurt, and if that happens, the quickest way to solve it is to make it go away,” said Bauman.

Closing sporting events to the public is already being done in Minneapolis, where rivalries between basketball teams have had catastrophic results. Games are now held directly after school and only team members can attend. While closing hockey games to the public seems like more of a punishment for the fans, it affects the players as well.

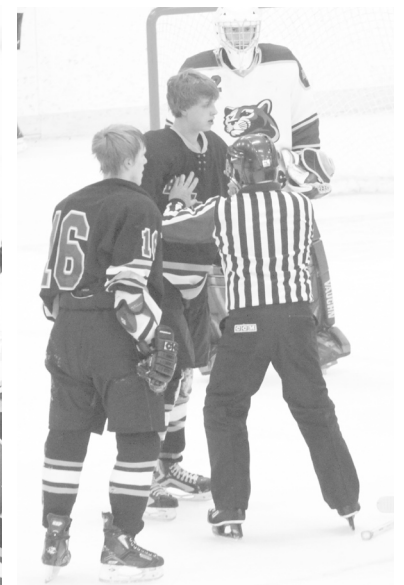
“When the fans are pumped for the game it energizes us; they give us a boost and make us excited to play,” Senior **Reid Trousdale** said.

The vast majority of hockey players don’t go into games intending to fight; fighting just happens as a result of a hectic and intense atmosphere.

“Fighting is just kind of a part of hockey,” Junior **Max Willard** said. “We just want to win so badly that it gets emotional and fast-paced really fast.”

The question remains of whether fighting in high school leagues is appropriate behavior or if it just comes with the territory. Though players don’t necessarily want to fight, brawls can develop no matter what, and administrators are not thrilled about this fact.

“Everyone knows me as the ‘Fire Up’ guy, but I hope people know that I am extremely serious about this,” Bauman said. “Fighting cannot become the emphasis of hockey in high school; it’s about the game.”



Top: Prior to the fight, Bison players attempt to score in the final seconds of the game. The catalyst for the fight was when a Rogers player cross checked Senior Tony Thein. Bottom Left: Referees and coaches attempt to break up the fight that multiple players were involved in. Bottom Right: Seniors Reid Trousdale and Hunter Stenberg look on as an official keeps them back. Photos by Madison Herzfeld

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 15

7:00: Boys Varsity

Hockey vs. Cambridge @
Cambridge

7:30: Girls Varsity

Basketball vs. Princeton @
Buffalo

7:30: Boys Varsity

Basketball vs. Princeton @
Princeton

Thursday, February 17

Nordic Ski Meet at Giant’s
Ridge

2:30: Special Olympics @
BCMS

Friday, February 18

7:30: Boys Varsity Basketball

vs. Zimmerman @ Buffalo

7:30: Girls Varsity Basketball

vs. Zimmerman @

Zimmerman

Tuesday, January 22

7:30: Girls Varsity Basketball
vs. STMA @ Buffalo

7:30: Boys Varsity
Basketball vs. STMA @
STMA

Were the consequences were fair?

“The players did their time. It was appropriate for the way in which the fight started. They knew the consequences beforehand and took them gracefully.”

-Senior Michael LaCroix

“Consequences for this type thing were well known among the players. They knew what they were getting into, and served their time appropriately.”

-Senior Colm Macnab

“I think the players took the consequence they needed. Fights happen in hockey, granted not to the extent of this one, but they happen.”

-Senior Steph Bunting

“ I think that the consequences were enough for the players. After all they didnt start the fight, but I do understand the one game suspension for violating rules.”

-Senior Michael Bonnell

Here's what's happening

1

Boys' Basketball Winning Streak

Boy's basketball wins 12 straight

WHITNEY ANDERSON
STAFF WRITER

The Buffalo Boys' basketball team picked up a huge conference win over St. Michael – Albertville at home on Friday, January 21. The Bison beat the Knights 65-52, in a rough battle to the end.

The Bison led 27-18 at the half and came out firing on all cylinders in the second half to extend the lead and put the game almost out of reach.

Senior **Josh High** led the Bison, scoring a career high 29 points, Sophomore **Ethan Freer** added 15 points, while senior **Andy Ortmann** put up 10 points for the Bison.

The bigger story for the bison, is the defense that Senior **Jerome Begin** played on the Knights star, Senior **Joe Carpenter**. Begin was matched up with the high flying Carpenter, who averages 17 points a game, all night long and held him to a season low 6 points.

They now stand with a record of 8-0 in conference and 12-3 overall.

2

Girls' Hockey Takes Conference

Girls clinch Conference title in overtime

TYLERBURG
STAFF WRITER

The Buffalo Bison girls' hockey team won in thrilling fashion over the North Wright County River Hawks. The win solidified the conference with a record of 6-0 and 14-7 overall.

The first two periods of the game were neck and neck and the Bison took the lead with a shot from Junior **Lexie Maggaard**.

The River Hawks answered back with five minutes left in the third period to send the game into overtime.

Overtime went back and forth, with each team generating chances past the River Hawks goaltender to send the bison to victory.

"From the start we knew it was going to be a tough battle and we were glad we came away with the win and clinched conference champs."



Junior Lexie Maggaard skates with the puck, looking for a pass during a game against North Wright County River Hawks. The girls won with a score of 1-0. Photo by Nick Weeks

Center over the
defeated in the
first goal on the
ie the game and
Rooney slid one
m glad we came

3

Buzzer Beater

Sophomore shoots winning basket

MARISSA MACK
STAFF WRITER

Sophomore **Austin Youngs** made a shot from the opposing free throw line at the halftime buzzer Friday, January 17 at the B-Squad basketball game. The shot was featured on mnbasketballhub.com

Buffalo won the game with a final score of 38 to 27, beating Cambridge Isanti by 11 points. Austin was one of the stars of the game, giving his team a total of ten points.

"When I made the shot, I was amazed because I didn't even think it was going to be close," said Young "But after I made it, the bench went crazy. It felt really awesome."

The game was home against Cambridge Isanti, and the score was 10 to 8 when the tenth grade B Squad player made the shot made that made local news.

4

Successful Meet for Boys' Swimming

Bison take fourth, individuals bring home medals

EMILY DEVORE
STAFF WRITER

The Buffalo Boys' Swim and Dive team took fourth place at their invitational meet in Spring Lake Park on Saturday, January 8. The Bison had a score of 345 points.

Senior **Blake Solberg** won diving with a score of 360.9 points. **David Zaske** also won his event, the 100 yard Breaststroke. t now in the Mississippi

Sophomore **Jack Elliot** was the top finisher of the night. He swam the 200 free for the first time this year and took 3rd place with a time of 1:54.39. He also swam the 500 free and got a time of 5:14.02. He's now placed first in their section.

"I didn't even know I was swimming those events so I did not think I'd do that well. There were these really awesome guys swimming next to me, so that pushed me to go faster," said Elliot. "I was pretty tired after that, but it was a lot of fun since it was my first time swimming distance."



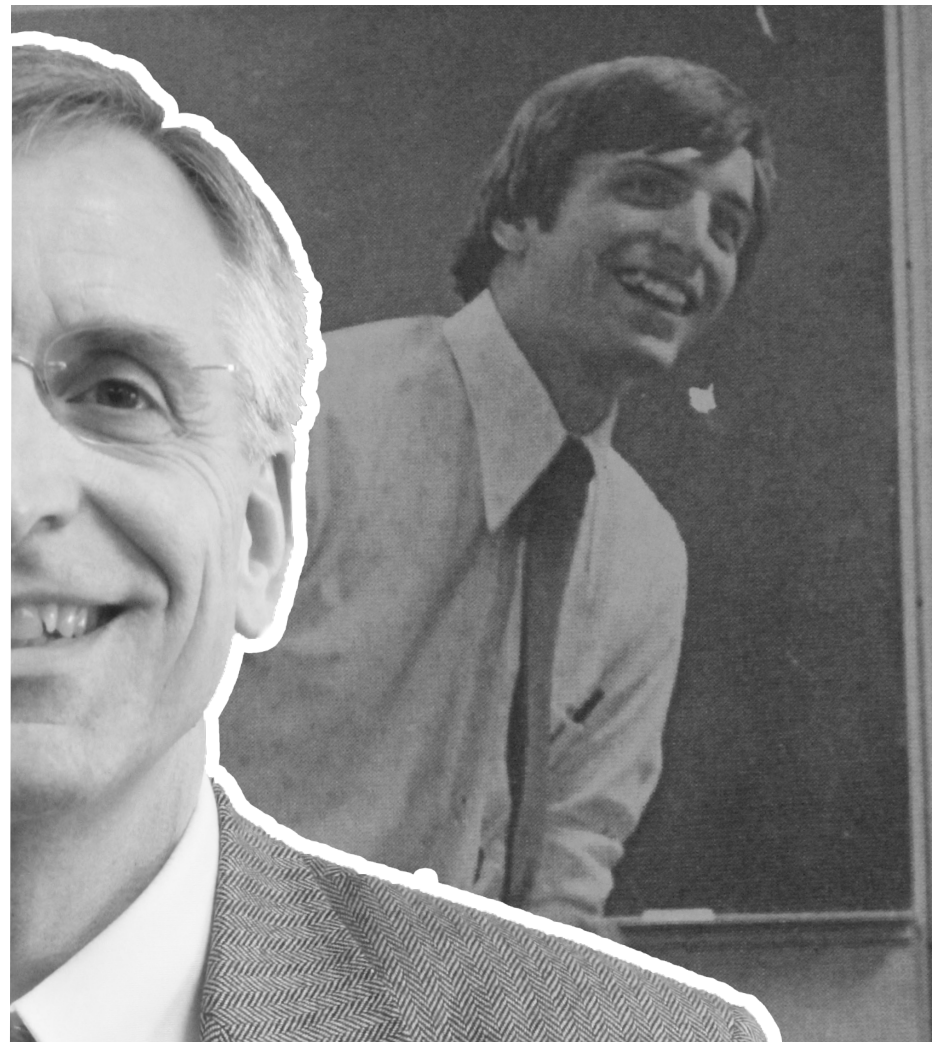
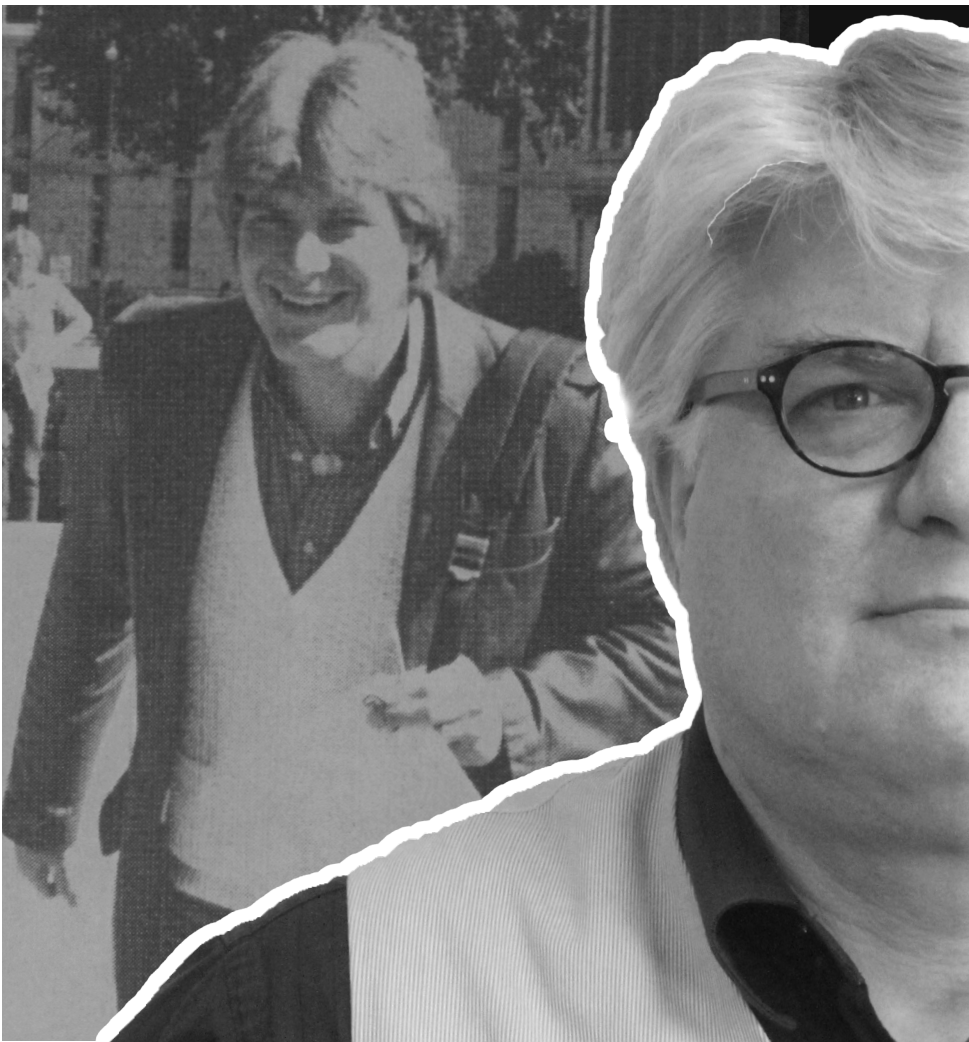
8th Grader Adam Skelly swims the 500 at the invitational at BCMS. Photos by Sarah Durst
Sophomore Ethan Freer looks for a pass during the St. Michael Albertville game. Photo by Nick Weeks



Sophomore Ethan Freer looks for a pass during the St. Michael Albertville game. Photo by Nick Weeks



Sophomore Austin Youngs looks for a pass during the Big Lake game. Photo by Nick Weeks



Left: David Robinson in 1983 and today. Right: Joel Squadroni in 1978 and today.

TWO MEN, ONE GOAL

How Robinson and Squadroni inspire students

NICOLE NYSTROM & CHRIS DANIELSON
STAFF WRITERS

Walking into English teacher **David Robinson's** classroom, you can immediately tell that he is not the average educator. He sits with his back to the door feverishly typing as the chorus of a Who song plays. His disheveled papers lining his desk seem to be the least of his worries, as he embraces his chaos. Just across the hall English teacher **Joel Squadroni** sits quietly in his meticulously neat room grading papers. His evenly spaced paintings lining the walls indicate his refined character.

These seemingly opposite teachers attract admiration from students and staff alike. Is it because of a “male factor” that students look up to them so? Or is it because their teaching styles bring a new and unique way of thinking for all?

Robinson has been working at Buffalo High School since 1982. His resume – consisting of bachelor degrees, masters, and numerous credits from acclaimed colleges including Hamline and Augsburg – makes it hard to believe he has ended up in such a small town for over 25 years.

“This is an amazing building,” Robinson

explained. “I am surrounded, for the most part, by kids who enjoy learning. It is a stable community. But more so, this administration allows me a lot of creativity. They support me and give me the freedom to teach what I want.”

This free thinker claims that “comic books are the gateway drug to becoming an English major.” He worked at a drugstore during his senior year of high school, where he would read comic books on his break. Ever since he has expanded his love of reading. He also has a passion for music and has incorporated that into his teaching style.

“I’m kind of a jazz teacher, meaning I have a Socratic teaching style. I want kids to learn how to hang with their chaos.”

Students have looked up to him for his unique style.

“He was my favorite teacher,” said **Michael Ryan Ulogious O-Tarpy** (‘10). “He wouldn’t push opinions on people. Instead, he’d confuse them into saying their opinions and forming their own thoughts without them even realizing it until after they were don’t talking

about it.”

Squadroni, lovingly called “Squad” by many, is working on his 35th year at Buffalo. Unlike Robinson, Squadroni has always been interested in reading and prose.

“I’ve always read a lot,” said Squadroni. “I became interested in literature in college. I enjoy reading anything! Newspapers, magazines, backs of shampoo bottles.”

He claims the best novel he has read is *Huckleberry Finn* by **Mark Twain**. His admiration for the author was visible when he quoted Twain in saying “schooling is different than education.”

“Learning is both a social experiment and educational. The curriculum offers so much compared to the past. This school gives us many options.”

Apparent to many, Squadroni’s teaching techniques vary greatly from Robinson’s.

“I’d describe my teaching style as friendly and encouraging. I want to encourage people to learn. If I show them that I think

something’s valuable, hopefully they will also think it’s valuable.”

Although these two men differ in numerous ways, they are similar in their goal.

“I think Robinson and I both like to make kids think about things,” said Squadroni. “We believe they are capable to think and make connections. Our objectives are the same, even if he gets into more trouble than me. I’m less controversial.”

Robinson’s feelings are similar.

“We both tend to think literature is a way to teach philosophy,” said Robinson. “I’m chaos. He is organized. We don’t like to give away answers. Plenty of people will give away answers. I’m not going to do that.”

Robinson and Squadroni push students to think and make connections which students wouldn’t have easily found on their own. They bring philosophy into the classroom, introducing new ways of thinking. Though these teachers have different personalities, they both agree in challenging students’ ideals as their target objective.

“To

Win

no matter what

it costs us”

BETHMACNAB
STAFF WRITER

For the first time in the last 6 years BHS One Act has beaten the competition at the Section meet and moved on to State.

The Buffalo Theatre Department has taken a turn with *The Pageant Play*, moving to the good ol' state of Texas. With big hair and bold makeup, this play screams pageant. Based off of the HBO documentary, "Living Dolls", which shows the world of child pageants, this play features Puddle Jackson and Chevrolet Corningfield (both of whom are portrayed by puppets), two young girls put into pageants by their mothers. It follows their lives as they are put into pageant after pageant. After Puddle begins winning, Chevrolet's mother (Mallory Nelson)

starts to do whatever it takes to beat Puddle and her mother (Julia Bothun), even resorting to sabotage. This play makes you ask yourself
o n e

question, "What would you do to win?"

In 2009, the show "Toddlers and Tiaras" premiered on TLC, showing what people would be willing to do to get the crown -- and all the prizes that come along with it. In the Pageant Play, some of the prizes consisted of 2,000 to 5,000 dollars, rifles, and tiaras. To get this, the kids were subjected to laser hair removal, fake eyelashes and plenty of spray tanning. The parents that do this have been thoroughly criticized. They have been accused of living their lives through their children, and harassing their children in order to win.

"We did [pageants] just because it was fun," said Christine Cammarn, mother of Senior Rachael and Freshman Anna Cammarn.

Rachael participated in several pageants as a toddler, including Baby Ms. America. She won all expense paid trips, and landed a spot in a Pampers commercial.

"I saw some mothers that were like characters [from 'Pageant Play']. The mothers said to their daughters, 'If you don't get this routine, you're toast.' I didn't want any part in it," said Christine.

The mother's in this show have a very strong motivation to win.

"[I do it] because it

makes me happy," said Pinky Corningfield who Senior Mallory Nelson portrays in *The Pageant Play*. Pinky is the mother of Chevrolet, and is very devoted to her child becoming the next Supreme Queen.

"Pinky was really pushed to win by her mother, but never could," said Nelson, "She is trying to fill that void by making her daughter win and to stop feeling like a failure. I think she finds her self worth in winning."

With all of the controversy in the show, the actors knew that taking on the roles in this complex script would be challenging, but the theatre department rose to the challenge.

"We knew it was going to be difficult," said Senior Rebekah Herdklotz, tech member, "If we didn't portray it the right way, people wouldn't like it. We knew it was going to be a show where you either love it or hate it. But we have spent a lot of time getting it just right."

And so far, their hard work has paid off. In the sub-section competition, the Buffalo One Act team placed second. This place moved them on to sections, where they took first and advanced to State. The One Act's public performance was on January 31 in the PAC. The State performance is tomorrow.

"Audiences seem to really enjoy this show," said Nelson. "They laugh a lot, yet still get emotionally involved with the characters."

