

School Board Meeting/Workshop:

May 9, 2011

Subject:

2010-11 BHS Winter Report

Presenter:

Tom Bauman

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

None

DESCRIPTION: 2010-11 BHS WINTER ACTIVITIES SUMMARIES:

BOYS HOCKEY: Coaches Cory Laylin (1st Year) and Mike MacMillan – (16 years)

The Bison Boys hockey team finished the 2010-11 season with a 3-19-3. Again, the Bison faced-off with some of the top teams in the State playing twelve games against the top 15 AA. The Bison continue to play a one round series against the Classic Lake (Edina, Wayzata, Eden Prairie, Hopkins and Minnetonka). Our other non-conference games included: Roseau, Moorhead, Duluth Denfield and Cloquet. We participated in the Duluth Heritage Tournament in Duluth. Overall on the win/loss column not the best season but were in hunt for the Conference title until the last game few games. We finished with two players being selected to the M8 All-Conference Team, two players selected to the Section 8AA all-star team and a number to the USA Hockey 15, 16 and 17 Program. Our JV team this finished with 16 wins the most in the past 8 years, and a number of those players were able to spend a fair amount of time on the Varsity. We lost our first playoff game to Moorhead on the road to end the season 5-1. We graduate 5 players from this years team. All players completed the whole season for both the JV and Varsity.

GIRLS HOCKEY: Coach Ray Dahlof—(5 years)

The Bison Girls' Hockey team had a banner year in 2010-2011. Their overall record of 19 wins and 8 losses is the best record in their 6 year history. The Bison also captured their first Mississippi 8 conference championship by going 8-0. It is the first undefeated conference championship in M8 girls' hockey history. Led by captains Haley Morningstar and Bekah Wright the Bison also won 3 more trophies during the season. They won the Bison Turkey Shoot Tournament over Thanksgiving break winning both games. During the winter break the Bison traveled to the Plymouth Ice Center and won all 3 games to take home the championship trophy in the All Star Sports Holiday Classic. The Bison also brought home the traveling Wright County Cup by sweeping the North Wright County River Hawks in 2 games. The River Hawks also had a great season going to the state tournament put of section 8AA. The Bison advanced to the Section 6AA semi-finals where they lost to eventual state class AA champion Minnetonka.

The Bison had 5 all-conference players; Haley Morningstar, Lindsay Roethke, Katie Rooney, Emily Varner and Bekah Wright. They also had 4 players receive all-conference honorable mention awards; Emily Ackmann, Lexie Magaard, Jordan Meyer and Katie Vatnsdal.

Senior Haley Morningstar was also selected as a top ten semi-finalist for Top Ten goalies in the state!! The three seniors on the team, Haley Morningstar, Bekah Wright and Jordan Meyer will be missed next season but they led the Bison Girls' Hockey Team to its best season in the history of the program.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Coach Nick Guida— (8 years head coach, 14 in program)

Assistant: Ross Mjelde (8th Overall)

B Squad: Dan Dehmer (4th Overall)

C Squad: Ben Starns (3rd Overall)

The 2010-11 season marked another record breaking year for the Buffalo Bison. This year's squad finished with a 21-8 mark overall and 14-2 in Mississippi 8 league play. The overall record was good enough to earn a 2nd seed in the sectional playoffs. The conference record won the M8 championship for the 5th straight season. It was also the program's 5th straight 20+ win season.

Due to a difficult early season schedule along with inexperience, the Bison started the season 0-3. Once our system was taught and roles were defined, we won our 18 of our next 19 games. Down the last stretch of the season we had some difficult injuries and lost 3 of our last 4 games. All 3 losses were closely contested games against good teams and kids really stepped up. Going into sectional play we felt as if we had a chance to make a run at the state tournament. We played very well against Elk River and won 78-54 on our home floor. Our semi final game was at SCSU and we beat a very solid Moorhead team 61-51. That win sent us to our 3rd consecutive section final game and our 4th in 5 years. We played a very solid Maple Grove team that ended our season 58-40.

The 2010-11 team broke school records in 3pt FG attempts (588), 3pt FG made (256), and overall 3pt % (44%). As a team we shot the ball very well! This is a true testament to the hard work our kids put into making themselves the best players they can be. As coaches, we are very proud of how we performed on the offensive end this season. Our true pride comes on the defensive end where our kids performed once again at a high level. We finished 3rd in AAAA basketball in scoring defense holding teams to 51ppg behind Tartan and Eastview.

Records aside, one of the most important things we strive for is an overall TEAM ATTITUDE. When people watch our teams play we want them to answer yes to four questions:

1. Are the players TOUGH?
2. Do they always PLAY HARD?
3. Do they always PLAY TOGETHER?
4. Are they always DISCIPLINED?

We can look back on our 2010-11 season and answer yes to the above questions! This TEAM ATTITUDE had a great deal to do with our 8 outstanding seniors. Josh High, Keenan Brown, Ryan Mascher, Andy Ortmann, Chuck Jacobs, Jerome Begin, Blair Ehmke and Jake Rabusch all will leave a legacy of excellence on and off the floor at BHS! In regards to our future as a program we return 11 letter winners so the future continues to be bright!

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Coach Scot Sorenson—(Head Coach 7 years, 12 in program)

Assistants: Stacy Eggers, Jeff Kylonen, and Amanda Adams

The 2010 - 2011 Bison girls basketball team was looking to continue the strong play of the past few years. Returning all but 1 player from last year's conference championship team the girls started the year with great expectations. They backed it up by winning their first seven games by double digits, culminating 2010 with a pair of 26 point victories to win the St. Cloud Tech Tourney. The Bison had their sights set on another M – 8 title and began the new year with several good conference wins which brought two undefeated teams face to face at STMA. The Knights came away with that one. A disappointed, but very motivated Buffalo team walked off the floor that night determined to finish the season strong. Both teams ran through the rest of the conference season and the late season meeting in Buffalo went to the Bison. The girls played with extra emotion that evening struggling to cope with the car accident the put two of their key seniors in the hospital just the night before. Buffalo finished the conference at 15-1 winning the M – 8 title for the second year in a row. They headed into section 8aaaa play as a #1 seed, receiving first round bye. The goal of returning to the state tournament lead this determined bunch as the handled St. Cloud Tech in the semis and again defeated STMA in the section finals to make their dreams a reality. The Bison drew #1 seeded Hopkins in the first round of the state tourney. Hopkins lived up to the billing with a convincing win, but the Bison take pride in giving them there closest game of the 2011 state tourney.

We had ten terrific seniors that rotated through the role of team captain each month of the season. Several of them were also recognized with great postseason awards. Four players made all conference: Molly Muntifering, Rachel Mussell, Malorie Schmidt, and Kendra Wycoff. Three made the all conference honorable mention: Courtney Daniels, Ashley Patri, and Alexa Theilman. Munterfering also made the honorable mention ALL STATE team and Wycoff the MNSPORTSNET 3rd team ALL STATE. The girls plastered new ink all over the Bison record books. Most notably a team record for assists in a season which lead to a team record in field goal shooting percentage where they stand at # 6 on MN all time list for girls basketball.

The JV team had another great year going 22-4 and also winning the M – 8 title in the return of coach Stacy Eggers. It was a fantastic year and the 10 seniors that will graduate have paved a tremendous road for us to follow.

WRESTLING: Coach Paul Arens—(6 years)

The 2010-2011 saw the Bison wrestling program making more strides toward once again becoming a competitive program. The Varsity squad still dealt with forfeits at some open weights, but as a team, the boys had many quality matches earning enough points to start winning matches again. One of the most memorable wins came at Buffalo High School this past February during “Gerry Bakke” recognition night. The night of celebration was set aside for Bison fans and alumni to share memories about Gerry's long time coaching career here at Buffalo High School. The stage was set and the Bison did not disappoint. The wrestlers knocked off Big Lake in very close match under the new spotlight in the gym. The crowd and atmosphere were awesome. Trailing, the Bison needed to win the last three matches of the night and they did..... highlighted by 7th grader Adam Treptau's pin in the Heavyweight class which took place in the third period final match. Wow! The stage is now set for what we hope will be many more exciting home wrestling matches in Buffalo, 2011-2012. Another highlight was Sophomore Cedric Jimenez's second place finish at sections and his advancement to the state meet at the Excel

Center in St. Paul. Coach Paul Arens recently resigned from the program and we will be looking for his predecessor this spring to keep the momentum going in Bison wrestling.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS: Coaches Martha Driscoll-Nelson (27 years), Jon Holtz (16)

"Hard to believe after such a great year last year but the coaches all report that this year was the most fun they have ever had. Great kids, great attitudes, and many new skills were attained this season. The Bison Gymnasts were led by senior captains Alicia Malewicki and Megan Durst. We will miss their leadership.

The team won Academic Gold Honors.

Winning Academic All-Section honors: Amber Doebler, Hayley Downing, Michaela Perz, and Brooke Simonson

Winning Academic Honorable Mention: Taylor Haider, Leeza Kennedy, Annika Nelson

Winning Mississippi 8 Honorable Mention: Michaela Perz and Paige Habisch

And winning All State Honorable Mention on Floor- Taylor Haider

Taylor Haider was also All conference on Floor Exercise

We look forward to next year!

ONE-ACT PLAY: Director Tracy Hagstrom—(19 years)

Pageant Play

By: Matthew Wilkas and Mark Setlock

Based on the 2001 Television Documentary, *Living Dolls*

20 students participated in the One-Act Play program during the 2010-2011 season. This year, director Tracy Hagstrom Durant, selected another interesting, educational and very current production. *Pageant Play*, based on the 2001 Television Documentary, *Living Dolls* takes a painful yet funny look at world of childhood beauty pageants. There were stomeiking connections to the Jonbenet Ramsey situation and also the current and wildly popular TV show, *Toddlers and Tiaras*. Once again our theatre students worked diligently and produced another winning show. Education beyond the blackboard took place.

Pageant Play Synopsis:

Welcome to the hilarious, terrifying, painful and surreal world of child beauty pageants. Pinky Corningfield will do anything to make sure her little angel wins the ultimate title, Supreme Queen. When Marge, a newcomer to the pageant circuit, shows up and starts grabbing all the glory, Pinky and her minions, Bob and Bobby, use some unorthodox methods in order to ensure her darling, Chevrolet, is victorious. Abuse (both child and otherwise) cuts through when we watch people lose control of themselves as they attempt to achieve a ridiculous goal.

2010-2011 Season Performance Record

Mississippi 8 Conference Starred Performance

Mallory Nelson and Julia Bothun - Mississippi 8 All-Conference Cast
D.J. McMoil, Michael Patchen – Mississippi 8 All-Conference Cast Honorable Mention
Bekah Herdklotz – All-Conference Crew
Sub-Section 2AA – 2nd place
Section 2AA Finals - 1st place
State One-Act Play Festival Competitors

BOYS SWIMMING: Coach Pam Brophy (2nd year head coach 5th year in program)

The 2010-2011 Boys' Swim & Dive season was the most successful in the team's 7-year history both in terms of performance and number of participants. Our dual meet record was 6-3, which resulted in a 3rd place in the Mississippi 8 conference. At JV Championships, 11 individuals had personal best performances, and our athletes dominated all three relay events. During Sections, five athletes advanced to state as a result of their second place finishes, with two boys qualifying in multiple events for the first time. Blake Solberg qualified in diving and on a relay, and David Zaske qualified in IM, Breaststroke, and a relay. Jack Elliott qualified in the 500 and JD O'Donnell and Max Ransom were both on the relay team with Blake and David. Over 85% of our athletes dropped time and/or improved scores in post-season competition. 51 swimmers and divers made the "Top 15" list for the season. The boys set 8 new school records and 5 new pool records. Our program had a record 6 All Conference Selections, 5 Honorable Mention All-Conference Selections, and 6 All Academic Conference recipients. In addition to these team accomplishments, the Boys Program hosted our second annual Alumni Meet over Winter Break and had 18 former athletes join us for relay events and a poolside pizza party. We also hosted our first ever Boys Invitational Swim & Dive Meet, and had a mid-winter "Hawaiian" dual meet with Watertown. All three of these events were great fun for the athletes, fans, and visiting teams.

Most importantly, our athletes continued to learn the value of perseverance, commitment, and teamwork. As a self-funded program again this year, our swim family bagged groceries, worked a horse show, served pancakes, hosted the Buffalo Fly In breakfast, served fish, bussed tables, washed dishes, served spaghetti, sold adds, sold pizza cards, sold chuck-a-ducks, volunteered at the Triathlon, and put up fencing on a local farm to raise the money to have a program for 2010-2011. The life-lessons gained from these opportunities go far beyond their successes in the pool and on the boards.

It was a pleasure to work with this exceptional group of young people who do such an excellent job of representing their school community!

KNOWLEDGE BOWL: Coach Peggy Pasche-- (21st year)
Assistant Coach Doug Voerding

The Knowledge Bowl team consisted of 29 students in grades 9-12. The majority of our team this year is seniors, with 12. There is only one freshman on the team. These students were divided up into teams of 4 or 5 in practice and competition. Competitions in our region are all invitationals, consisting of anywhere from 15-75 teams. We hosted a meet in January, with 72 teams from 22 schools competing. Buffalo team #1 placed **first** in **every single meet** this year except one of them, setting a record for

number of first place finishes in the regular season with **10 first place finishes in 11 meets**, beating a total of 522 teams. Competing in the Moorhead Invitational, Buffalo team #1 ended up tied for second.

The Buffalo team also won the Mississippi 8 Knowledge Bowl tournament (for the 6th year in a row). The team beat 2nd place Rogers by 50 points in the 2-meet event. Because of their first place finish, 5 students from Buffalo were named as All-Conference members: Seniors Joe DuBois, Michael Erickson, Jonathon Hank, TF Nelson and Nate Spanier.

At sub-regions, team #1 again took **first**, advancing to Regions the very next day. At Regions, Team #1 repeated their **first place finish**, and advanced to State for the ninth time in the last eleven years. The State Meet was April 7 and 8 at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd, where the five students mentioned above competed against the top 24 teams in Class AA. There are approximately 4000 students in the state of Minnesota that participate in Knowledge Bowl, making up about 800 teams. With very tight competition, the team started in 15th place after the written round and finished in 8th place. This is the 4th year in a row that a Buffalo team finished 8th out of the 24 teams. Special recognition was given during the banquet to Jonathon Hank, who was one of only a handful of students who was competing in their third State Knowledge Bowl Meet.

GIRLS NORDIC SKI: Coach: Tim Heisel
(1st year back, 10 years previously, 9 as head coach)

Our numbers weren't real big, but not being able to guarantee this wouldn't be the last year affected some parents decisions on spending several hundred dollars on equipment. That being said, we had a core of tough, dedicated athletes who believed what the 'new' coach was trying to do, and found out they could work harder and ski faster than they had thought. We had great, early snow, and conditions stayed good for virtually the whole season. Our top group of girls placed high in several meets, and we were cautiously optimistic for a good showing at sections, only to be hit by 2 injuries that hurt our depth and placing as a team, and really frustrated the girls affected. We skied in our first night race, at Elm Creek, and the kids really loved it, and definitely want to hit a few of them next year. Even the fact that it was below zero didn't curb their enthusiasm! We have a good group coming back again, as we only graduate one varsity skier, and look forward to picking up more young kids and help them begin the process of learning and training.

MOCK TRIAL: Coach Evan Ronken (1st year taking over for 16 year coach Laurie Raymond)

The 2010-11 season began with a record number of members in the program at BHS! The MSBA wrote an especially exciting case to commemorate the 25th year of Minnesota Mock Trial. This year's case was based upon the Glensheen Mansion murders that took place in Duluth in 1977. Teacher coaches were Evan Ronken and Jason Swanson and attorney coach was Karen Wolff. The season went from October to March.

Tournaments

The varsity team competed in three tournaments this year; the Lakeville South Scrimmage, the University of Minnesota Invitational, and the Lakeville North Invitational (formerly the "Minneapolis" tournament). Buffalo went 1-1 at Lakeville South (losing their first round to Breck in a rematch of last

year's state finals). Sam Kemp received a "Best Witness" award at the tournament. At the U of M, the team went 2-0 and placed second overall. Kian Stack went home with a "Best Lawyer" award. The team went 2-1 at Lakeville North and earned a "Runner-Up" trophy.



Lakeville North Tournament

Mississippi 8 Conference Meet

Buffalo hosted the Mississippi 8 Conference meet this year. Competing were Princeton, Monticello, STMA, Cambridge-Isanti, Elk River, and Buffalo. **Buffalo steam-rolled through Rounds 1 and 2 of the competition, beating Princeton and Monticello.** For the first time, STMA advanced to the Mississippi 8 Championship Round to face Buffalo. Though much improved, STMA was unable to beat Buffalo and lost 242-234. **Buffalo High School won the Mississippi 8 Conference meet for the seventh straight year.**



Mississippi 8 Champions...again!

Regional Competition

The team's hard work, preparation, and experience really showed as they competed in regions. In Rounds 1-3, **Buffalo beat their opponents** (Annandale, Cambridge-Isanti, and Sartell) by a **combined total of 128 points!** Buffalo again had to face Sartell in Round 4, winning 230-204. The team then faced Elk River in the Regional Championship. **In the championship, Buffalo beat Elk River 239-213 to advance to their fourth straight state tournament.**

State Tournament

The state tournament was held at the St. Louis County Courthouse in Duluth, MN on March 8th-9th. Before beginning the competition, **the team toured the Glensheen Mansion** and ate lunch at Grandma's in Canal Park.



St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth



Waiting for results at state

Buffalo performed as the prosecution in Round 1, **easily beating an outmatched team from Bemidji High School**. In Round 2, the **team squared off against Woodbury High School and was again victorious**. Though results were not yet posted, the team felt they had done well in the first day of competition. Their suspicions were confirmed when Round 3 matchups were posted. Buffalo, as prosecution, was matched up against the defending national champion, Breck High School. **Buffalo put forth their best performance**, matching Breck objection-for-objection, and witness-for witness. Unfortunately, Breck came out on top in the close match, winning two ballots to one. Breck went on to win their second straight state title.

Following Round 3, all teams had the treat of listening to John DeSanto, the prosecutor of the original case and keynote speaker for the state banquet. Detective Gary Waller was also on hand for participants to meet. At the banquet, we learned that **Buffalo placed 3rd overall** in the tournament. **Laura Boyle received a state witness award** and **Beth Macnab received a state lawyer award**. A great end to a great season that ended with Buffalo having a **17-3 record!**

WINTER CHEERLEADING: Coach Barb Christensen-- (6th year):

WINTER SIEDELINE CHEERLEADING:

We kicked off the winter season with the return of the mini-clinic for kids ages 6-12. The fundraiser event was held on Saturday, Dec. 18th after being rescheduled due to inclement weather on the 11th. The participants learned material and a routine which they performed during half-time at that evening's Varsity Basketball game. The feedback was, once again, all positive with requests for additional events. We will continue to offer the mini-clinic with the possibility of summer classes.

Other notable highlights from the season included volunteering with set up, raffle tickets, and admission for the Pat Sonju Memorial basketball game and hosting boys' basketball section playoff events. The cheerleaders also volunteered at several community events such as the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce Christmas in the Park, Bakke honor night with Buffalo Youth Wrestling, and Hanover Elementary Family Fun Night.

WINTER COMPETITION CHEERLEADING:

Safety continues to be the primary focus when working with competition cheerleaders. This year's team was comprised of 7-12 grade students with exceptional athletic abilities and we have partnered with Gym-nation to provide a tumbling program specifically designed for the competitive cheerleader. Due to the additional costs, participation in the Gym-nation program is completely optional. Since its inception in 2006, the program has continually gained momentum and has elevated to a highly respected squad known throughout the competition circuit. The team earned two First Place trophies, two Second Place honors, and a third place finish at the end of the season. We participated in the State Finals, but failed to place in the small varsity division. With only one graduating senior on the squad, we will be returning to the circuit next year with a highly skilled and talented squad. Costs associated with competition cheer remain to be a challenge, but the community support has been outstanding.

The BHS Cheer program continues to nurture honesty, integrity, and service as principle ingredients in building effective relationships. We were able to recognize the 24 participants with

these qualities and celebrate when were joined by family at the year-end banquet on Sunday, March 13th.

SPEECH: Coach Mike Worcester—(7th Year-2nd year in Co-op with STMA)

The BHM speech team entered its second year in a cooperative agreement with St. Michael Albertville H.S. We learned much from our first season as a co-op last year, and endeavored to see that any questions about team operations were answered well before the season began. While our numbers were not large, we had a very enthusiastic and dedicated group of kids who worked very hard from beginning to end. They placed at invitationals on a regular basis, and two earned all conference runner up awards. While none of them advanced to state this year, we are confident they will continue to grow in the activity and will continue to represent the school and our community with grace and class.

BOYS AND GIRLS ALPINE SKI: (2nd year C-op with St. Cloud)

2 Buffalo students participated in Co-op with St. Cloud for the second year in a row. 9th grader Kelly Zelko was a letter winner and part of the section squad. Junior Zach Pitcock of Buffalo also participated and lettered. The activity cost again was \$150 dollars to participate and students and families once again provided transportation to practices and events.

ATTACHMENTS: Participation Chart