

School Board Meeting/Workshop:

September 12, 2011

Subject:

2011 BHS Spring Report

Presenter:

Tom Bauman

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

Report only

DESCRIPTION: 2011 BHS Spring Report

Buffalo High School has completed its spring activities season for 2010-2011. This report includes a narrative summary for each spring activity. Coaches and advisors have shared the summaries of their seasons for your review. The report also includes a detailed statistical summary of participation including coaching/advisor ratios.

Activity Updates

After an “80 for 800” study of coaches thoughts in 2010-2011, we are now moving into Phase II of creating a meaningful, evaluative set of principles for BHS coaches and advisors in ’11-12. The “Top 10” list, which is what it has become, is a working document that captures who we want to be as a collective group of coaches and advisors. I look forward to sharing a bit more about this document at the board workshop on 9/12/11.

The 2011-2012 version of the Mississippi 8 Conference is seven schools, down from nine schools in ’10-11. Princeton and Zimmerman have departed for the new Granite Ridge Conference. Becker also plans to depart and join the Granite Ridge in 2012-2013. Efforts continue to try to grow our conference membership in the future.

Spring Musical: Director Tracy Hagstrom Durant (19 years)

Godspell - Conceived and Originally Directed by John-Michael Tebelak. Music and New Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

Music Director: Michael Walsh

Choreographer: Debb Bestland

Tech Director: Tim Kiernan

Student Tech Director/Set Design: Bekah Herdklotz (Senior)

Student Director/Stage Manager: Michael Deisting (Senior)

Costumer: Christine Cammarn (Parent Volunteer)

Musical Synopsis:

- Two Acts
- Pop / Rock Musical

- Rated G
- Original Off-Broadway version

Conceived and originally directed by John-Michael Tebelak, with music and new lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, "Godspell" is one of the biggest off-Broadway and Broadway successes of all time.

Based on the Gospel According to St. Matthew, and featuring a sparkling score by Stephen Schwartz, "Godspell" boasts a string of well-loved songs, led by the international hit, "Day By Day." As the cast performs "Prepare Ye The Way Of The Lord," "Learn Your Lessons Well," "All For The Best," "All Good Gifts," "Turn Back, O Man" and "By My Side," the parables of Jesus Christ come humanly and hearteningly to life.

Drawing from various theatrical traditions, such as clowning, pantomime, charades, acrobatics and vaudeville, "Godspell" is a groundbreaking and unique reflection on the life of Jesus, with a message of kindness, tolerance and love.

BHS Performances

Performances were April 28, 29 and 30 at 7:30 PM and May 1 at 2:00 PM. Tickets were available in the high school office and at Gartner's Hallmark downtown at a cost of \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00; they were also available at the door.

This year we featured 16 high school actors. As a special addition to the production (and a way to get more kids involved) we included 12 additional students (including three BCMS students - Mattie Lubben, Jack Soden and Jonathan Miller) who created a circus atmosphere in the lobby during intermission. What an enormous success! There were over 50 additional students involved in the technical aspects of the show and four fine young men featured on stage in "rock" combo.

The show was a huge hit, both heartfelt and entertaining. Crowd size was excellent; enjoying both the musical and the intermission circus which included fun food like cotton candy, circus acts such as clowns, a strong man, a bearded lady and acrobats.

Girls Softball: Coach Brad Zrust (7 years)

The 2011 Bison Girls Fastpitch Softball season was a successful one for us in many ways. First of all our staff was able to coach another group of wonderful girls. It was a group that had everybody pulling for each other. This included my starters who always gave encouragement to the reserves during practice and games. They realize where their support comes from. But more importantly, my reserves made the completeness of our team. They were cheering just like they had made the big play or got the big hit. As a coach, when you see this, you know you have a TEAM. Secondly, we reached a goal of winning another conference championship. The girls deserve a tremendous amount of credit for this. In the last 5 games, they knew they couldn't lose a game and they didn't. This showed not only physical ability, but a high degree of mental toughness. These two traits on our team led us to a 14-2 conference record and an overall record of 19-4. Our playoff run was cut short as we went 1-2. We beat a good Chanhassen team 1-0 who was riding an 8 game winning streak (which included a victory over Section Champion Shakopee 2-1). We lost our next game 1-0 to Prior Lake. Our pitcher Bailey Braatz threw a 1 hitter. Unfortunately the hit followed a two out walk and that runner eventually scored for their

only run. Our whole team rallied around Bailey knowing she had done her part doing a great job for us in that game. It was a tough loss and shortly after, we were eliminated by Mankato West by a score of 7-4. To show what type of team District 877 had is to relate to you what an umpire said to Assistant Coach Michelle Macalena in Mankato. "I umpired your team in two playoff games. One you won, and one you lost. Your team showed during both games the most class of any team I have umpired this year." Besides having a team with a winning record, we had a team with a winning attitude. I couldn't be prouder of our 2011 season.

Baseball: Coach Mike Beilke (8 years)

The Bison finished the year with an overall record of 13-7, season record of 13-6, and a conference record of 12-4. The Bison had a record of 0-1 in the section tournament. One of the highlights of the year was winning the Mississippi 8 Conference. It was the first time in many years. Senior OF Brett Renshaw was Star Tribune Player of the Week, All Conference, and Mississippi 8 Conference Offensive Player of the Year. Sophomore 1B/P Jason Senger was All Conference and runner-up for Mississippi 8 Pitcher of the Year. We had 6 other players receive conference awards. Junior 3B/P JD O'Donnell, Senior OF Jake Rabusch, Senior C Cody Elletson, and sophomore 3B/1B/P Brennan Gilyard were named to the All-Conference Team. Senior 2B Brian Holthaus and Junior LF Nick Mattson received Honorable Mention All-Conference. We are very excited about the players we have returning for next season. We will have five starting position players and four starting pitchers returning. Go Bison!!!

Boys Golf: Coach Charley Keifenheim (12 years)

With a large number of boys trying out for the team this year, we unfortunately had to make a few cuts. The late spring delayed our start, and the weather continued to be unpredictable as we moved into our competitive season. The boys played well in conference matches and held the second place position for almost the entire season. The boys finished 2nd in conference to 3rd ranked Rogers. The team set a new school record at Pebble Creek in Becker by shooting a 302 (72, 75, 77, and 78). At the section tournament, the boys came out strong on the first day and fired a 304 and were trailing the leading team, Moorhead, by only one stroke. The team cooled off a bit the second day but still took second in the section. Individually, 3 boys qualified for the state tournament, Dan Bollant, Alex Holtan, and Morgan Lubben. They will compete at Bunker Hills next week. Thank you to all the school board members and to the community of Buffalo for your continued support of life sports such as golf.

Girls Golf: Coach Riti Sanderson (21 years)

The girls golf team had another successful season despite poor weather and lower numbers than usual. We competed in six invitationals finishing first in Monticello, and tied for second at the Bunker Hills invite and the St. Cloud Country Club invite. Once again, we were the champions of the Mississippi 8 Conference dominating all the matches except the first where we lost by only one stroke. This is the 6th year in a row as Mississippi 8 Conference Champions and 7th year in a row counting our last year in the North Suburban Conference. The Bison were ranked 10th in the state as a team by the Minnesota State Golf Coaches Association. Individually, Lexi Bollant was ranked 5th. Lexi, a freshman, led the team setting many records for individual scoring and helped the team set records for team scoring also. Lexi finished under par in three matches this year, twice in a 9-hole match and one in an 18-hole match. She was medalist in 7 matches in a row beginning May 5 at Wild Marsh in Buffalo and finishing at Long Prairie in the Section 2AA meet on June 3. Lexi advanced to the state tournament on June 14 back at Bunker Hills in Coon Rapids. Other leading scorers for the Bison this spring were 8th grader Madi Jewell, and seniors Abby Bollum and Emma Theis. Several younger players participated in Varsity matches in preparation for next year. All conference honors went to Lexi Bollant (38.1

average for 9 holes), Madi Jewell (43.8), Abby Bollum (45.8, but not enough conference matches to qualify), and Emma Theis (46). Honorable Mention honors went to Lauren Schultz (51.2). All conference academic recognitions were presented for conference for this same group as well as All State Academics to seniors Abby and Emma. The top four teams advance to section play at Long Prairie and were again fortunate to be in this group with front running schools. Unfortunately we did finish 4th in a very close race. Only nine strokes separated the 2nd team from the 4th team, but all were well behind the #1 team, Alexandria who advanced to state in team competition. Lexi becomes yet another state individual entrant from Buffalo. We have had at least one or more entrants since 2004. Another great year is in the books for the Bison Girls Golf Team.

Adapted Softball: Coaches Ruth Clarke (7 years) and Dave Kaufman (4 years)

We had a surprisingly good season this year. Last year we graduated 5 of our core players, leaving big holes in our offense and defense. We were scrambling to get new athletes interested in participating. We picked up four new players and boy have they done well. We started the season with 2 wins. Our record at the end was 4 wins and 6 losses. We were 5th in the North Conference and lost our play-off game to Burnsville/Farmington/Lakeville. This was an exciting season! It was very encouraging to see these new players gel together. The new players stepped right in and became part of the team. There were two seniors, Brandon Anderson and Missy Haupers. Our team captain, Missy Haupers, showed great leadership. She was the main pitcher and kept the team focused and on task. Missy Haupers and Conner Trombley received All-Conference awards. Brandon Anderson and Tessia Silbernagel received All-Conference Honorable Mention. We will greatly miss our seniors but we are looking forward to next year. Our goal is to keep improving not only in the number of wins but also in our skills and playing together as a team.

Boys Tennis: Jeff Lindstrom (8 years)

The boys' tennis team had a rough start to the 2011 campaign with a record of 1-7 through the first 8 matches. The team rallied to finish the season 9-9 highlighted by a 7 match winning streak. With a conference record of 5-2 the Bison finished in 3rd place continuing its streak of finishing in the top half of the conference standings to 7 years. The season ended with a loss to highly regarded St. Cloud Tech in Section 8AA play. Taylor Skinner, Jack Becker, Reid Trousdale, Adam Hartung, and Andy Hartung received All-Conference honors. Tony Thein and Adam Sandberg received honorable mention All-Conference honors. Andy Hartung was named the team's MVP. Coach Jeff Lindstrom has decided to step down as the head coach for the 2012 Spring season, but Jeff will remain on staff as the JV coach replacing Joel Peterson. We are very excited to be having Ben Watkins joining the Buffalo High School activities staff as our new head boys tennis coach. Ben has a tremendous tennis background and outstanding teaching skills. He is currently a teacher at the Buffalo Community Middle School. We are anticipating great things in the future.

Boys/Girls Track and Field (Scott Palmer 16 years)

The 2011 Buffalo Bison Boys and Girls Track and Field teams were again fortunate to have outstanding numbers, both boys and girls teams had one hundred student athletes out for track and field. The season started slow because of the poor weather causing the Bison to have three meets cancelled with no opportunity to make them up. Once the calendar hit May, our fortune with the weather seemed to turn. With the warmer weather also came some very good performances by both the boys and girls teams. At the 8AAA True Team Section meet the Boys finished a close second to section champion Brainerd and during the 110 High Hurdles Jerome Begin ran the fastest time in four years in the state of Minnesota and also set a School record in

that event running a blistering time of 14.27 breaking the old school record of 14.54 held by Eric Thompson since 2003. Jerome's time of 14.27 in the 110 high Hurdles qualified him for the USATF Junior Nationals held in Eugene Oregon, where Jerome finished in eleventh place in the twenty and under division. The Buffalo Girls finished in Fifth place at the section 8AAA True Team Meet. The Following week Buffalo competed in the Mississippi 8 Outdoor Championships and the Buffalo Boys once again came away with the Conference Championship! The Boys won their eighth conference championship in a row! The Buffalo boys garnered thirteen all conference athletes and nine honorable mention all conference athletes. The girls team finished in fourth place and garnered six all conference athletes and eight all conference honorable mention athletes. At the Mississippi Eight Conference meet both the boys and girls 4x100 meter relay teams set conference records in their events. For the girls the 4x100 meter relay members were Amber Doeblor, Olivia Haggerty, Rebekah Bjork, and Amanda Letsinger running a time of 51.92. The boys team consisted of Joey Merz, Blake Schmidt, Jake Rohlin and Rollie Miller their time was 44.50. Both the boys and girls teams turned in many good performances at the section 2AA Track and Field meet held at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter. The Boys finished a close second to Mankato East and the girls finished in the middle of the pack. At the Minnesota State meet The Buffalo Boys once again had an impressive showing finishing in eighth place overall. The Buffalo Boys have finished in the top eight at the Minnesota state meet in five of the past six years! Taking home All State honors were Jerome Begin in the 110 High Hurdles(third), 300 Intermediate Hurdles (2nd) and the 4x400(3rd), Tyler Olson 4x400, Dillon Miller 4x400 and Josh Wedemeier 4x400 and 4x800 (5th), John Wedemeier 4x800, Dan Pettit 4x800, Micheal Swearingen 4x800.

Boys Lacrosse (Joey Hartfiel 1st year)

The inaugural season of Bison Boy's Lacrosse had its share of ups and downs. Moving into the MSHSL was a difficult transition with the level of competition so much higher than that of the MBSLA. The Bison finished the season 1-10, playing a mixture of both MSHSL and MBSLA teams. We played in a few very close games against Holy Family, Saint Cloud Tech, Spring Lake Park, and Saint Louis Park, as well as Elk River, a game in which the Bison won and recorded the first win competing as a school sport. The most noticeable positives did not come on the playing field, but in the classroom. With lacrosse being only a club sport for the past several years, academics and attendance were able to take a back seat to games and practice. That was not the case this year. Heading into the season, several players had issues with grades and punctuality, but by season's end, it was no longer a large issue. The players showed they can be accountable, responsible, and respectful. Along those same lines, the on field discipline improved greatly between last year and this year. Most notably, through a 5 game span this year, our penalty total was less than one game a season ago. This program is a work in progress, but it shows great potential. The team will be graduating 13 seniors, with 8 freshmen coming in next year, so numbers will continue to be good. A few team leaders will be moving on, Matt Lingo, Louis Clifton, Nic Weeks, and Garrison Elsenpeter, provided great leadership as captains. Matt Lingo was elected hardest worker, Nic Weeks was most improved, Louis Clifton was most valuable player and Ryan Bartl, another senior, was defensive player of the year. Of the returning players, Sam Mayhew, a junior and offensive player of the year, Adam Latzig, Lucas Lefabvre, both juniors, and players like Casey Anderson and Ryan O'Neil, both freshmen, will be depended on moving into next season and seasons after. Overall, wins and losses aside, it was a fun and exciting season of Bison Lacrosse!

Girls Lacrosse (Andrea Lund 1st year)\

The Girl's lacrosse team had their first year as a High School Sport for the 2011 Spring Season. It was very exciting and emotional for me because this has been my dream for 6 years. The girls

had been a fierce team to beat as a Club team. It was a real challenge this year to play so many experienced teams. It was an eye opener for all of us. We see what we need to work on and will be much stronger in the years to come. We had about 15 new players for a total of 34 players. Our biggest challenges were against Roseville and the first game against Becker. We finished with a record of 5 and 6. Assistant Coach Tessa MacDonald and I were very proud of our girls, especially the JV team which was mostly new players who had several wins. Center Rachel Stenson was our biggest scorer followed by Amanda Krcma and Logan Blum. We had a great defense established later in the season and I am excited to see them work on making it even stronger next year. Abbie Larson did a great job as Defensive Wing. Our Goalies Anna Jacobs and Taylor Walters were awesome. We lost the sections to Wayzata but not until the 2nd half did things start to go against us. It was a great season and I look forward to new and old players next year. Go Bison!