

**School Board Meeting/Workshop:**

**September 13, 2010**

**Subject:**

Spring Activities Report

**Presenter:**

**Tom Bauman**

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**SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:**

None

**DESCRIPTION:**

Buffalo High School has completed its spring activities season for 2009-2010. This report includes a narrative summary for each spring activity. Coaches and advisors have submitted the summaries of their seasons for your review. The report also includes by a detailed statistical summary of participation including coaching/advisor ratios.

**Spring Play: The Diviners**, by Jim Leonard, Jr.

Director: Tracy Hagstrom Durant (18 Years)

Tech Director: Tim Kiernan

Lighting Design: Griffin Trevino (Former Student)

Student Director/Stage Manager: Michael Deisting (Junior)

Costumer: Christine Cammarn (Parent Volunteer)

**Synopsis:** In a small farm community during the depression, money, water and faith are in short supply. A charismatic but back-sliding Kentucky preacher drifts into town and takes work on a farm. He meets a gentle but misunderstood mentally handicapped teenage boy. The youth has been abnormally terrified of water since age four when his mother drowned while saving him. The two outcasts find a common bond and help each other divine for truth, faith and hope. Jim Leonard Jr.'s *The Diviners* is a splendidly complex, deeply moving powerful Depression-era play. It is, in turn, humorous, beautiful, and tragic; and surprisingly speaks of many present day concerns with gentle wisdom. The characters are simple but good people searching for hope and something to believe in.

The spring play was performed on April 15, 16 and 17, 2010. A cast of 15 actors performed supported by a costumed shift crew (set moving crew). The somewhat fluid/abstract set was designed by Hagstrom Durant and Brian Zimmer (a former student from her days of teaching at Foley High School). It was built by a dedicated group of 11 technical theatre students. 20 students were involved in the various aspects of technical theatre including costumes, props, set building and painting, publicity, makeup, etc. Several supportive parents assisted in a myriad of ways, making possible a production of the highest quality. Very nice sized crowds fill with PAC for three performances. Another rousing success!

**The Diviners** was a "thinker," designed to make you laugh, cry, ponder and wonder. The themes of the play include many that are applicable today...changes in the community because

money is tight, business is down and the bank took back the tractor. It also focused on important lessons for today...family, friends and faith are more important than possessions.

**Girls Softball:** Coach Brad Zrust (6 years)

2010 Season: As a staff we went into the season with a little “honest” apprehension as we knew we had lost 7 starters from the previous year. There were a lot of holes to fill, mainly at the pitcher’s mound where to graduates stood most of the 2009 season. A pleasant surprise quickly emerged for us as 9<sup>th</sup> grader Bailey Braatz stepped up and pitched in 21 decisions for us going 14-7. Bailey was named pitcher of the year in the conference; the first time an award was given of this magnitude to a Buffalo Softball player in the M8. I am sure Bailey would also credit a solid defense that played behind her. We averaged only one error in every two games which really limited opponent opportunities to score against us. Our team as a whole was led by two outstanding seniors, Krisin Jeske and Courtney Jude. It wasn’t their field accomplishments so much but their leadership by example on how to conduct yourself on and off the field. They showed the younger girls that you can have a lot of fun and be successful by doing things the right way. We finished the season 15-7. 4 of the 7 losses were to top ten state ranked teams. Our toughest loss of the year came to Prior Lake in sections. We lost 1-0 and the Lakers eventually advanced to state from our section. Overall, the most amazing thing our girls did was recognize what happened at Cambridge involving a car accidents which took 5 lives from their student body. We were the next team on the Cambridge schedule after the tragedy. The girls came up with the idea to present each team member on the Bluejacket squad a flower before the game started. To see how much they appreciated the act of compassion and sportsmanship made me feel very proud to coaching such a fine group of girls. I am sure this is a life lesson that will stay with the girls the rest of their lives. GO BISON!

**Baseball:** Coach Mike Beilke (7 years)

The Bison finished the year with an overall record of 7-14, season record of 7-13, and a conference record of 5-11. The team had a record of 0-1 in the section tournament. One of the highlights of the year was a four game winning streak to end the regular season. We had 4 players receive conference awards. Buzz Tryggeseth was named to the All-Conference Team. Aaron Duske, Josh Gaughan, and Tucker Vogt 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 (11 years)

The Bison Boys Golf Team finished another successful season on June 3rd when the team qualified and returned for day 2 of the section 8AAA tournament but did not shoot well enough to qualify for state. We began the season in March with about 20 golfers showing up to try out. We eventually settled into the season with 15 golfers because some did not shoot well during qualifying and decided not to continue. We enjoyed the nice spring weather of April and had some terrific outings with the team scoring back to back school records of 305 and then 304 in the same week! Unfortunately we were pitted against Rogers all year long and they were ranked #1 in the state. Alex Holtan was featured on the KARE 11 Metro Athlete of the Week program for being medalist in a golf meet on Tuesday and Pitching for the baseball team in a winning effort on Thursday. Sophomore Dan Bollant scored two rounds of 73 in one week! Seniors Lee Bystrom and Ben Aslesen contributed to the strong team efforts. all in all it was a very enjoyable season.

**Girls Golf:** Coach Riti Sanderson (20 years)

The girls golf team once again dominated most of the Mississippi 8 Conference matches losing only the last match. Participation was up this spring consisting of 16 girls which included 4 middle school golfers. Once again Chad Mead was our assistant as well as Joe Bollant who was a volunteer assistant. The Bison girls won the conference title again for the 5<sup>th</sup> time. We competed in six invitationals winning the Lady Bulldog Invite at Becker and 3<sup>rd</sup> place at Monticello as well as finishing very respectfully in the other 4 events. The Section 8AAA tournament was held at Long Prairie. Buffalo had an excellent tournament losing out to Alexandria and St. Cloud Apollo. The excitement was with the top 3 golfers in, the scores were all tied up. Megan Davis, senior, advanced to the State Meet as an individual finishing in third place overall. This was Megan's 3<sup>rd</sup> time to state, twice as an individual, and once as a team member. Four girls received all conference honors- Megan Davis (12), Lexi Bollant (8), Abby Bollum (11) and Emma Theis (11). We are losing one of our steadiest golfers (Megan), but look forward to another exciting year with several returning experienced players.

**Adapted Softball:** Coaches Ruth Clarke (6 years) and Dave Kaufman (3 years)

We had a good Adapted Softball season. Our record at the end of the regular season was 4-10. Not quite as good as last year but we played well. We ended up 6<sup>th</sup> in the North Conference. We lost our playoff game to South Suburban. This year we had several new players with very little experience. We saw a lot of improvement from the beginning of the season. The seniors showed a lot of leadership skills and worked hard at encouraging and supporting one another. We have five graduating seniors this year, who will be greatly missed! Keaton Bowden received all-conference and Joseph Kemna and Isaac Penner received all-conference honorable mention.

**Boys Tennis:** Jeff Linstrom (7 years)

The boys' tennis team rallied to finish 7-10 this season. After an injury and absence riddled 0-7 start the squad went 7-3 to finish the season. This year's schedule was rigorous and featured several highly regarded opponents. They finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place in the Mississippi 8 Conference with a record of 4-3. Tony Thein received all-conference honors. Erik Starr, Joe Swanson, Reid Trousdale, Zach Danielson, Andy Hartung, and Adam Hartung received honorable mention all-conference honors. Erik Starr was named the team's most valuable player

**Girls Track and Field** (Scott Palmer 15 years)

One hundred and six girls showed up for day one of Track and Field practice. The increase in numbers provided depth which resulted in another successful campaign. The girls traveled to NDSU in Fargo and finished 5<sup>th</sup> in a highly competitive true team section 8AAA. A week later Bison participated in the Mississippi 8 conference meet held in Rogers and finished in third behind Monticello and two time conference champion Cambridge Isanti. The Bison were able to gain 9 all conference awards and set a new conference record in the 4x800 meter relay, relay members include, Jacque Thaemert, Jordan Skelly, Kailey Johnson and Katie Oden. In the Section 2AA meet the Bison girls finished in 8<sup>th</sup> place with several close races, The girls had several close races but just missed qualifying for the state meet. At the section 2AA meet the 4x100 meter relay team of Amanda Letsinger, Olivia Haggerty, Jordan Skarin and Rebekah Bjork broke an eleven year old school record with a time of 50.51 and finished in second place. The Bison did have three girls named to the Academic all state team they are Becca Haggerty, Jacque Thaemert, and Brooke Gagnon.

**Boys Track and Field** (Scott Palmer 15 years)

After a State Championship in 2009 the Buffalo Boys turned out in record number for the 2010 campaign, 116 strong. What looked like another possible strong showing at the state meet in June was derailed by a couple of key injuries. The boys finished in third place in the true team section 8AAA up at NDSU. The Bison Boys were able to extend their conference title streak to seven conference titles in a row as well as eighteen different individuals winning all conference awards, some winning the award in multiple events. In the section 2AA meet the Bison boys finished in second place qualifying athletes for the state meet in the following events, 4x800, 110 high hurdles, 300 hurdles, 400 dash and the long jump. In the 300 hurdles Jerome Begin broke a 33 year old section record and a 4 year old school record with a blistering 38.07. At the state meet the Bison boys finished in 20th place scoring 19 points by placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 110 hurdles, 5<sup>th</sup> in the 300 hurdles, seventh in the 4x800 and 9<sup>th</sup> in the long jump. The Bison boys had eight all state individuals, Beau Gagnon in the long jump, Jerome Begin in the 110 hurdles and 300 hurdles, and Josh Wedemeier, Jon Wedemeier, Dan Pettit and Matt Dietrich in the 4x800. Also winning awards were Beau Gagnon and Eric Selchow who were named to the Academic all state team.

#### **ATTACHMENT(S):**

BHS Spring Activities Chart  
Student Transportation Forms