

The Biking Chronicle

Volume 5 Issue 6

May 21, 2021

Magazine Madness *by Courtney Van Hise*

The new and upcoming BCS Literary Magazine will be a projection of creative minds through literary and visual arts. Mr. Gritter, a high school English teacher and organizer of this magazine, has helped bring together creative minded high schoolers to contribute content towards this and be celebrated. This idea is not exactly new and has been circulating around in previous years – and this year it’s happening. Talented writers and dedicated students are taking the lead and volunteering to put this together to share with students, parents, and staff members alike. This masterpiece will most likely be published and viewable online around the end of May, although the contribution deadline was May 9th.

Folks will be able to view this on the BCS website (bellevuechristian.org) but in future years this will hopefully be available in print. In upcoming years, Mr. Gritter would like to see this become a regular part of Bellevue Christian’s culture, possibly being released every quarter instead of just at the end of the year. This could easily include the Junior High as opposed to just the Senior High and will be considered in future years. Stay tuned for more information and the publish dates for this project, currently under construction and sure to become a masterpiece.



Off to See the Wizard *by Olivia Reynolds*

Are there still school plays and productions going on with COVID? The answer is yes! The Junior High drama class performs the play *Oz* on May 21st and 22nd on the stage in The Commons or available for streaming. Madison Erisman, a 7th grader this year at BCS, is in the play as Glenda the Good Witch. She says, “My favorite part of the play is getting to dress up and having fun.” Madison also says, “The only thing that is different with COVID is that everyone has to wear masks and the audience is smaller.” The junior high drama practices 3 times a week for about an hour each time. Madison also says, “It only takes me about an hour to memorize my lines, but for bigger roles it takes multiple days.” Overall, Madison says drama class is very fun, and the play came together very well! Make sure to come to the play or stream the performance!



May 21 <https://bit.ly/3yuUZ7W>
 May 22 <https://bit.ly/3vbm3qT>

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Easter Art Show

by Emily Wagner

The Easter art gallery, run by Emma Wasson and Hyeri Shim, was held to celebrate students' creativity. "We organized the Easter art gallery to celebrate how gifted BCS students are in being beauty creators and highlight the many wonderful artists there are at BCS. This gave students who may not be in an art class a chance to showcase their talents as well," said Emma Wasson, a high school senator who helped run the Easter art gallery. The art was displayed in the glass cases at the front entrance of the school and were up for a week from March 23 – 30. Two pieces were submitted, one was a digital drawing of songbirds in a nest by Taylor Rowse, and the other was a pencil drawing of a bunny by Samantha Ratterree.



A Powerful Play about Hope and Trust

by Cam Thomas

The Spitfire Grill was a play that was run by Mr. Ramquist, and the tech crew and performed by actors: McKale Granados as Percy Talbott, Hampton Kay as Joe Sutter, Josiah Clark as Caleb Thorpe, Julia Metteer as Shelby Thorpe, Hannah Salzman as Hannah Ferguson and Eli Dell'Osso as F.E. Krayneck among others. The play was performed in The Commons on April 22nd, 23rd, and 24th.

What is *The Spitfire Grill*? It's a play is about a young woman who just got out of jail and went to a small town named Gilead, Wisconsin to start a new life. Percy must learn to trust God and the people around her, and the town must learn to have hope after Hannah's son died in the Vietnam war. Some of the reasons why this play was chosen and not something else, is that it has a strong message that encourages hope and trust. It also had no dancing and a small cast. The play takes place in Gilead, Wisconsin where Percy gets a job as a waitress at The Spitfire Grill. The play was performed with COVID in mind, by social distancing and wearing clear masks so that the audience could see expressions. They also had to cut a few scenes where the characters stood too close for too long. The play was aimed at teenagers and adults, but everyone was welcome to stay and watch the performance. The shows lasted about 2.5 hours and were performed at 7:00PM on April 22 and 23 and 3:00PM on April 24th.



The Spitfire Grill ensemble

“Pacademic” Awards *by Luke Agdeppa*

Many successful people did not complete college. For example, Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, and Mark Zuckerberg are a notable few. However, for the people who really want to attend college and get a degree in something, they will need qualifications from their high schools. They could become founder of the Fortnite Club or graduate from BCS in 2021, but there are some really great things to list on a college application that are called “academic awards,” otherwise known as achievements. Academic awards are something a student earns when they really exceed a teacher’s expectations. A person might not have to receive a notable award if they are going to be great in life, but it certainly helps to have the recognition of accomplishments. The BCS High School Academic Awards program is going to take place on June 7th outside of the school campus, hosted on WebEx. This is because of the annoying Covid-19 virus. Several High School students

(9-12th grades), as well as Ms. Kimbra Baker, Dean of HS academics, and Mr. Hart, Head Principal, are joining in this event. The awards are to show who has done excellent work in academics. Ms. Jessica Anhart, the Technology Coach of BCS, and Mrs. Ramquist have been helping with the event again this year.

The awards are decided by the teachers in each department. There are awards for math, English and the studies the normal high schooler has to take, but there are also awards for sports, arts, and other extracurricular activities. The awards are more important for 11-12th graders because if they receive an award, not only is it a signal of hard work, they can also note it on their college application. Most 11th graders are stressed about getting accepted to a college and they can relieve that stress by “winning” things to put on their application.

COVID has been a tough time for us all, especially the high schoolers and the amount

of work they have to do—like calculus—but they managed to get through it. The pandemic is hopefully ending, with businesses opening up again and schools having more people coming in-person, but we will remember COVID-19, the annoying virus. Online schooling wasn’t bad for all people, but some really struggled with it. As Ms. Baker said, “The awards are for everyone in high school who have demonstrated excellence, perseverance, leadership, and Christ-like and gospel-centered qualities.” Lots of people found time in the pandemic to learn to do new things, reconnect with family and neighbors, or organize their life. All in all, the academic awards are special in this time because of the additional challenges, like mask-wearing and being in new learning environments, that the recipients had to face in order to get the awards.

End of Year BBQ *by Raffi Turner*

It’s been a long tough year for us with COVID-19, but we are slowly but surely returning to a normal school year so guess what? We are ending the school year with a BBQ! The BBQ will be taking place on school grounds and will happen near the last day of school. The event will be a social event so no phones allowed and there

won’t be any special activities such as pin the tail on the donkey, just food.

This event will be talking to your friends or some teachers; that’s right the teachers will be there too!

For those who might be allergic to the BBQ food we have some sad news for you,

you need to bring your own food. The BBQ will surely be the talk of the year and we are very excited for it!

Instrumental Music in 2021 - What's Changed?

By Genevieve Shemwell

Instrumental music is a passion of many students online and in person. BCS has a variety of instrumental classes. These classes are an option for all students starting in 7th grade all the way through high school. Usually concerts take place at multiple venues, schools, and competitions, however this year none of these performances have happened. These performances usually happen all year long. The Instrumental music program is taught by Mr. Kai Hedin.

COVID-19 has affected everything one way or another, so you can imagine this too has suffered. Mr. Hedin said, "We have to be further apart, rehearse for less time, and it prevented any performances this year." There are some students in his class online every class period. This means he has not seen them all year. Mr. Hedin has been a musician for 20 years and has taught for 2. He has 69 students playing a variety of instruments, the most popular is the saxophone. There are 5 different bands and ensembles currently offered to the BCS students. Mr. Hedin was asked what instrument is the hardest to play during this unusual time he responded saying "The hardest instrument to socially distance is probably the flute! Each of the instruments have their own bags or covers they have to use to safely play, but the flute in particular requires a special mask into which the bagged instrument is then inserted, which is just so many steps and looks a little silly." Hopefully, BCS will be able to see these being played soon.

We hope you enjoyed learning about how COVID has affected the instrumental music program in 2021. We are sure the BCS students and staff are all looking forward to seeing these instruments played soon. However, for now this is how the Instrumental Music department is being run. The band hopes to see you at the next performance, whenever that will be.

Junior High Graduation *by Tristan Oslund*

The Jr. High graduation is going to be different this year as Covid-19 has impacted how it will work. Mr. Olson, the Assistant Principal of BCS Jr. High, is very knowledgeable on the subject. Jr. High graduation will take place sometime during the last week of school. The reason there is no exact date is that we have asynchronous school on Monday's. In the past, the graduation has been held on a Monday. Bellevue Presbyterian usually hosts the event but due to COVID-

19 they have cancelled all events. This year the Jr. High graduation will take place in the gym.

The Jr. High graduation will go on for an hour. The number of 8th grade students attending the Jr. High graduation is 82. The celebration will consist of a procession of the students, prayer, reflections on the school year and student and staff speakers. Then the students will be awarded their certificates. The person handing

High School Graduation

by Matthew Boone

The Seniors are graduating High School on Saturday June 12th 7pm at Overlake Christian Church. All High Schoolers and up to three of their guests can attend the ceremony. The amount of guests allowed is subject to change due to current COVID-19 restrictions. There will be speeches, awards, and all of the graduates will receive their diplomas. It will be a celebration of the class of 2021 and their families and the communities around them. This will be a great way to end one of the toughest school years ever.

out the diplomas is the school board president or Mr. Olson. There will not be a party this year after the graduation because of COVID-19. The students must wear semi-formal clothing. The student speakers will be 8th graders.

On Friday May 7 Mr. Hart, the Principal, sent an email to the parents and students of the school. He stated that the 8th grade graduation will be celebrated virtually this year.

Dinner and a Date by Margaret Moore

The Junior Senior Banquet (JSB) is the end of the year banquet for sending off the seniors and welcoming the juniors into their senior year. Ms. Drake explained that at the JSB there will be a dinner with speeches for all the juniors and seniors,

and lots of food. Ms. Drake and other helpers such as Ms. Danielle Mercier, Mrs. Rebecca Ortega, and Ms. Geeslin will be planning everything and setting it all up. The JSB will take place on, Saturday, May 22nd, 2021 at 7pm. The event will be held at the Inglewood Country

Club. Because of the pandemic, Ms. Drake said that there will be mask and distancing, but they still will have a great time! BCS seniors and juniors are welcome to attend and their dates as well. As Ms. Drake said, “It will be a great time and a lot of happiness to the ending of the year for seniors and welcoming the juniors.”

BCS Girls Fastpitch Softball by Simone Loving-Williams

Did you know BCS has a competitive girls fastpitch softball team? They just wrapped up their season on May 7th with a record of 5 wins and 6 losses. The girls practiced at Hidden Valley Park in Bellevue every day that they didn’t have a game. This season there were eleven fastpitch players with two eighth graders joining the squad. Maggie Stepanian, BCS eighth-grader states, “My favorite thing about BCS softball is the team. We made a family that is always there for each other.”

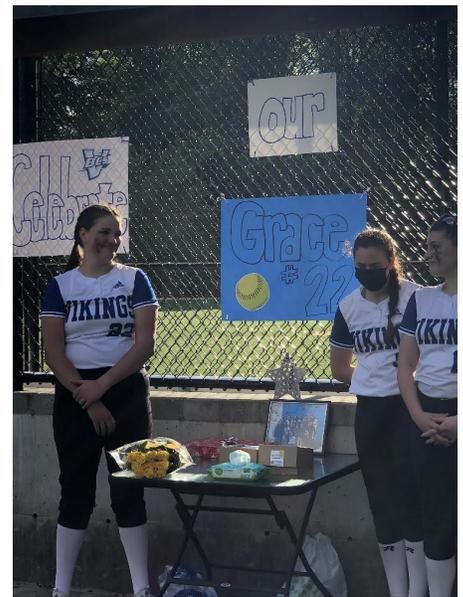
Coaches Kelly, Steffen, and Pridmore helped the girls hone their skills, improving their individual and team performance. Coached drills like jumping up from lying

face-down on the ground, running around a cone, and then catching a fly ball, promote softball agility. Maggie and the coaches encourage girls to ask about and consider trying softball. They explain that no softball experience is required, just need to be willing to try something new. Skills like hand-eye coordination often transfer from other sports or activities and make for natural batters and fielders. Maggie shares, “I play softball because it’s fun, and I love my teammates because we have a blast together.”

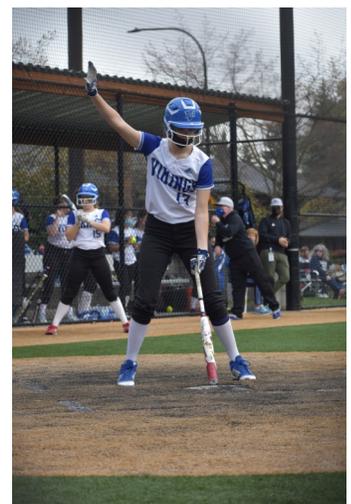
So, whether you are experienced or ready to try something new, you’ll definitely have fun with friends and the



amazing softball coaches. Connect with Ms. Steffen or Mr. Pridmore to learn more!



Senior Grace Fritch honored at senior night



Emma Fritch

Left: Amanda Pippel, Nat Curran, Emma Fritch

Teeing up for boys and girls golf *by Emily Eggers*

Golf season is underway for the BCS golf team. So far the girls team is undefeated with three wins and zero losses and the boys team has two wins and one loss. Sophia Hinz an 11th grader and member of the BCS golf team said that they practice at Overlake Golf Course in Bellevue, Snoqualmie Ridge, and Twin Rivers in Fall City which is also their home course. They typically practice from about 3:00 or 3:30 to about 5:00, about 2 hours. Sophia said, "That while they are at practice they range from putting and chipping, going to the driving range, and then they usually play 3-7 holes." The team consists of ten members, Sophia Hinz, Emily Betts, Olivia Betts, and Meghan Stark for the girls team and Andy Ni, Jason Li, Parker Doud, Owen Feneis, Ben Schnitzius, and Brennen Charlebois for the boys team. The coaches are Mr. Chris Reimer for the boys and girls and Mr. Josh Betts as the girls assistant coach. Matches are normally held once a week at BCS's home course in Fall City or at the other school's course on either a Tuesday or a Thursday. But this year because of COVID-19 and a shortened season matches are normally twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Golf is a very individual sport but there is also a team aspect to it. Sophia said, "Golf is a very individual sport, so winning is more about beating your best score and improving each time. But, from a competition standpoint, the goal is to score as low as possible, so for the nine holes we play you want to use as little number of strokes as you can. Then in the end you tally up the top four players numbers and then compare your team's score to your opponent's team score." Sophia has been playing golf for three years, she started freshmen year and had never played before that point. She enjoys playing golf because it is a great way to enjoy the outdoors and get exercise. She also loves that it is a social sport and has met many amazing people over the years and she said that "it is always encouraging to play a game that you love with great people." COVID-19 has had a big impact on the golf season because instead of a normal two-month season, the season was compressed into six weeks. Sophia said, "this has changed the dynamic because playing more than one match in a week is hard on your body." She said, "Other than the length of the season and having to wear masks at practices, the routine of everything has stayed normal



Golf Teams



Emily Betts

and matches are the same as they could be." She also said, "Incoming freshmen should really consider playing! We would love to have a full six-person team, and it is really fun!"



Heads in the Game by John Rohleder

It was a fantastic season of baseball for our varsity team, unfortunately it was cut short due to COVID-19 protocols. Sports were finally allowed with COVID-19, but a couple things were different this year. It was shorter season of 10-12 games and there wasn't any state championship. High school sports are very important to all high schoolers, they promote great friendships, some friendly competition and exercise. "I've played baseball pretty much my whole life and I wanted to continue playing. I knew the memories I was going to make would last a lifetime," says Jared Whitton, short stop for the baseball team. High school sports are amazing overall, Jared Whitton even says, "Not just teammates but I've strengthened my bonds with our head coach, and our assistant coaches." High school sports are vital to a great morale and everyone is so glad that we can play this year! BCS baseball 2021, by the numbers...

- 10-0 record
- Outscored opponents 143 to 13
- Team batting average: .457
- Team on-base percentage: .529
- Team ERA: 0.72
- 8 complete games
- Average of 11 strikeouts and 1 walk per game



Seniors: Ben Douglass, Mason Greene, Robert Bartell, Justin Parsons, Jared Whitton, Taylor Franklin and Jakson Burke



The Battery of Ben Douglass and Mason Greene Photo: Mrs. Greene

HS Track and Field by Andrew Lemery

High School track and field season started on March 23 and ended on May 8th this year. High School track and field has practices Monday-Friday after school from 3:30-5:30.

Practices take place on Flynn field. It is a great place to meet new people and make friends. Also, it has a lot of competition. You can do activities such as running events, long jump, shotput, javelin, discus,



Seniors: Ray Carlsen, Zach Goo, Nate Evenson, Phil Bengelink, Michael Lee, Joe Sweeney Tara Liu, Quinn Spencer, Aline Sol, Evelyn Nienaber

Continued on page 8

Track continued

and much more. There are competitions every week. During practices you must get better by practicing techniques. Rachel Antonescu, who is a junior on the team says, “The best part of track and field in my opinion is how often you get to meet new people and make new friends.” Rachel also says that the toughest part of track and field is being able to get back up and keep trying when you have a bad day. Rachel said she suggests this sport to other people for it can help you get involved and make new friends. You can even join with little or no experience.

Even though COVID affected this season dramatically by forcing the competitors to wear masks and by shortening the season. The competitors still work hard and will continue to practice hard. Coaches like Mr. Mike Olson will help make the competitors better even with these new restrictions.



Rachel Antonescu



Justus Loving—Williams



Jenny Chen

The Best Athletic Director in Bellevue

by Julian Wray

Mr. Mark DeJonge is the Athletic Director for the Junior and Senior High sports programs at Bellevue Christian. He has been in the athletic department for 23 years and his interest and love of sports has been with him ever since he was at Junior High. When he was younger, he played many sports including baseball, soccer, basketball, and he ran track. His love of teaching came from his Dad, who was a P.E. teacher and a coach. Mr. DeJonge wanted to combine these two things that he loves. “I love sports and I love to coach, they go together very well.”

At Bellevue Christian, the main sport that Mr. DeJonge coaches is basketball, but he also coaches track and field, flag football, and soccer. The hours he puts into helping the teams practice depends on the season and what is going on. The most amount of time he spends coaching in a week is usually 12-16 hours in the peak of basketball season. It is obvious Mr. DeJonge is committed to sports.

There are ups and downs for the teams that he coaches. The downs are when they lose because of errors, like the time

Mr. DeJonge describes the toughest losses of one of his teams when they lost due to penalty kicks. When they win a big game, Mr. DeJonge sometimes takes them out to Dairy Queen to celebrate. Mr. DeJonge says the important thing is, “remembering what we did well that helped us win the game.”

Undefeated, and Strong Together

by Luna Vance

This year High School Boys soccer has been different. With COVID -19 there are less teams. Trey Weedman, a mid-fielder on the high school's soccer team says due to COVID the team hasn't been able to hang out as much, so bus rides are treasured. The team practices for about 2 hours, 5 days a week.

Right now, the team is undefeated, 7- 0. But over time there has been hard times. A difficult time for Trey was when he was in freshman year and lost



2021 Soccer Team



Anthony Ayad

to Vashon Island in the semi-finals. But that was also one of his highest points of soccer, because he played with people he looks up to.

Trey's parting words were, "If you are ever on the fence about joining a sport, do it. It can be life changing."



Sam Jeppson

High School Wrestling Starting *by Matthew Kidd*

Nathan Antonescu is the senior on the wrestling team. We don't know the schedule yet, but we do know that wrestling matches will take place after school but not always at BCS. The matches and tournaments are free to watch with COVID protocol such as, mask wearing, and staying six feet apart unless you are family. The goal of wrestling is to score points by pinning your opponent on his back for 3 seconds in a 3 minute match. Or if a pin doesn't happen after 3 rounds the person with the most points wins. Coach Ion Cazac and the referees make this sport as safe as possible with rules and training.



Nathan Antonescu

Boys Basketball Season is Here *by Nolan Cox*

2021 is a strange year which most people will agree about. But that will not stop people from doing what they love.

Jared Whitton is a point guard that plays for the varsity boys basketball team. Other players on the team will include seven seniors, including Avery Morgan and Lucas Meissner and a lot of juniors. They lost some big men but gained a lot of shooters so there will be some high scoring games and lots of 3s. Practices will be held in the main gym which most students know where it is. COVID will affect this season heavily, masks must be always worn, and the season got pushed back from November to May, the season started on May 10, rather than some time in November. There will only be around 10-12 games this season and no state championship, the season will end June 19.

Although the season will be very short and might be uncomfortable, Jared and most of his teammates have high hopes for this season and are looking forward to it. Spectators will be allowed during games, but the amount is not specified. Coach Brandon Kats is hoping to lead this basketball team through this late season.



Seniors: Luke Henry, Avery Morgan, Michael Lee, Mason Greene, Robert Bartell, Lucas Meissner. Not Pictured: Jared Whitton

One Hard Season *by Katie Schultz*

Is basketball still going on with COVID? YES! As COVID coming it was one hard season last year and this year but that won't stop from the season starting. BCS girls HS basketball started on Monday, May 10th. The BCS basketball does normally start their season in the winter but because of COVID they sadly had to start their season later. They will be practicing in the BCS gym and having around 10 games. They will be having to wear masks during practice and games, but as some of the players say, "it's not too fun wearing masks, but you just get used to it." There's not a huge difference with COVID in basketball but one is that there won't be as many people watching the games as there's a limit to how many people can be in the gym watching. COVID didn't affect the number of players that are on the team and around the same number of teammates of last season. Other than COVID going away the players do wish that the season did start at the normal time, in the winter. Some advice Mia DeJonge, a player from this season, did say was "to always work hard and enjoy every moment." Catch the BCS girls HS basketball winning those games.



Senior Rylee Reese