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The Signal

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Seniors To Have A Last In-Person Hurrah At Picnic

By Noel Pennington
Staff Writer

With classes being online for the 2020-2021 school year, students haven't been able to interact with each other like they did in the past. This is especially tough for those of us who are Seniors, since it's the last year we're all together as high schoolers.

One of the big things Seniors were going to miss out on was all the fun events at the end of the school year, leading up to graduation. Fortunately for us, Burroughs has planned a picnic for the seniors, who get a chance to see each other again at school, for the first time in over a year.

The picnic is on May 21st, from 6 P.M. until 9 P.M.

The picnic will be held on Memorial Field.

All JBHS Seniors are able to attend the event, and there will be a Google form RSVP link sent out on May 10th.

During the picnic there will be games such as ping pong, foosball, giant Connect Four, and other types of carnival games.

There will also be music and a DJ.

Seniors will get an early viewing of the Senior Slideshow.

There will be designated areas to look at photos with friends, as well as the opportunity to sign yearbooks.

There will also be a caricaturist, where you can get pictures drawn of yourself, as well as a table where you and your friends can decorate your graduation caps.

There is no set dress code, but feel free to dress semi formal. Some examples of this being sun dresses, homecoming dresses, skirts, blouses, and button down shirts, to make up for the many school events like Homecoming and Prom that were missed this year.

Make sure to wear a mask for the duration of the entire event.

As there will be no food or drinks at the picnic, it is oddly titled.

Also, social distancing will be enforced, and all the other regular Covid regulations as well.

This will be a fun opportunity for the Senior class to reunite for the first time in over a year, and spend some time together doing fun activities and catching up, right here on the Burroughs football field.

Universal Studios Offers Seniors Grad Nites

By Amare Cooke
Staff Writer

Previously thought to be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic, there are a variety of events taking place this month for Seniors! One of these well anticipated events is the Senior Grad Night, taking place at 3:00PM May 13th, 19th, 20th, 26th, 27th, and June 10th at Universal Studios Hollywood theme park with $75 tickets for admission.

This event is unaffiliated with John Burroughs or the Burbank Unified School District.

In order to purchase tickets for $75, visit www.USHTIX.com/2021GRAD and log in with your BUSD school email and password. Once logged in, select your preferred date to attend the event, and select the number of tickets you would like to purchase. Once this is completed, review the order and press submit.

Not only do these tickets offer one-day general admission to Universal Studios, the tickets also provide a free order at any of the participating restaurants inside of the theme park.

The Senior Grad Night is held on days with favorable spring weather, making it perfect for the exciting and entertaining rides that Universal Studios Hollywood theme park has to offer such as the fan favorite rides Jurassic World, Fast and Furious Supercharged, and Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey.

Additionally, the tickets offer a free studio tour of the four acre land that is their "World-Famous Studio Tour."

Apart from the previously mentioned attractions, your senior year as well as this experience can be preserved through "Universal Grad 2021" themed photo ops that are featured around the theme park.

This is especially crucial due to the fact that over fourteen months have been spent in seclusion, limiting the opportunity to take pictures of memorable events and fun experiences with friends.

Complimenting the themed photo ops, there will be "Special Grad Bash 2021" merchandise available for purchase, increasing the opportunity to create memories through physical memorabilia.

Attending the 2021 Senior Grad Night and experiencing the fun times Universal Studios Hollywood theme park has to offer will feel like a well deserved end to the unexpected, unusual, and challenging senior year the class of 2021 experienced together.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email gradbash@nbcuni.com and visit www.burbankusd.org/domain/1448 for more information.

JBHS Holds Armenian Genocide Commemoration

By Stephanie Hernandez
Staff Writer

Despite not having an in-person assembly, the JBHS Armenian Club had remembrance activities with presentations, art classes, and guest speakers on April 21st and April 24th.

The Armenian Genocide was a massacre of about more than a million Armenian Christian people living in the Ottoman Empire from spring of 1915 to the fall of 1916.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum states, "The victims of the Armenian genocide include people killed in local massacres...others who died during deportations, under conditions of starvation, dehydration, exposure, and disease; and Armenians who died in or en route to the desert regions of the southern Empire. In addition, tens of thousands of Armenian children were forcibly removed from their families and converted to Islam."

On April 21, the JBHS Armenian Club hosted a meeting with Dickran Khodanian, a Government Relations Communications coordinator for the Armenian National Committee of America, as a guest speaker. In this meeting, Khodanian showed a presentation and educated students of Burroughs about the Armenian Genocide including its history, and to commemorate all of the lives lost during this time.

On April 24, the JBHS Armenian Club partnered with the JBHS Eco Club and Burbank Eco Council to host a recycled art class where participants made the forget-me-not flower.

The Republic of Armenia provided the forget-me-not flower illustration as the official symbol of the 100th year of remembrance of the Armenian Genocide. The flower consists of a black center, light purple petals, five dark purple petals, and twelve yellow trapezoids.

According to the St. Leon Armenian Church, "The dark center represents the sufferings of 1915, and the dark aftermath, the light purple petals represent the present and the unity of Armenian communities, the five dark purple petals represents the five continents where survivors of the Armenian Genocide found a new home, and the twelve yellow trapezoids represent the Dzidzernagapert Armenian Genocide memorial in Yerevan, Armenia with the yellow color represents creativity, and hope."

The JBHS Armenian Club's President, Celine Thomassian, also delivered a presentation where she talked about the history behind the genocide, the significance of the forget-me-not flower, and recognizing the genocide, mentioning that President Biden is the first U.S. President to officially recognize the massacre of Armenians.

Celine Thomassian stated, "More than a million Armenian people died and a lot of land was taken from them. Their lives were taken for no reason and massacred in very violent ways. This massacre still hasn't been commemorated in every part of the world, for example Turkey. It's important to recognize all aspects of this genocide as it has affected Armenian people worldwide."

Burroughs To Have In-Person Graduation Ceremony

By Hayk Torosyan
Staff Writer

Senior Graduation is coming up and a lot of people have questions about how it's going to take place and how many people are allowed to come in.

Assistant Principal Steven Hubble answers these questions saying Burroughs had choices, as our field can take all together 7,000 people at the same time.

One option was having one big ceremony where each senior is allowed to bring fewer guests.

A second option would be to have two ceremonies with two hours difference between them (because the California Health Department requires at least a two hour break) and then Seniors could bring more guests This option was more difficult for the school staff to hold as it would require twice the work, and require it to be done in less time.

To make the choice, there was a survey for the students posted on Google Classroom a couple of weeks ago, and as of the date this was written, 61% of students voted to do one big ceremony, 37% voted to do two ceremonies, the another 2% wanted to go virtual.

Before coming to the graduation ceremony students and guests will need to take an online survey and answer questions if they have any symptoms or were next to someone who had Covid-19 recently.

Masks are mandatory and if anyone is without a mask or takes their masks off they will warned once then be asked to leave. There will also be no food allowed in the stadium.

People who don't want to come to the graduation ceremony due to safety concerns are more than welcome to come the next day to get their diploma and take the pictures.

Again as Mr. Hubble said the school is going by the guidelines of the California Health Department and Los Angeles Health Department.

Currently, with the rules set by the LA Health Department, Seniors will be able to invite up to four guests, more than we expected just a few weeks ago!

The four tickets will be passed out using graduates' student emails through S34T.com.

Some specific rules for the graduating Seniors are arriving no later than 5:30 to the Baseball Field, belongings will be checked by security, and noisemakers and balloons will be confiscated.

Unlike most years, one big change, due to Covid restrictions, is that parents and family will not be able to meet their graduates after the ceremony on the field.

With such a difficult Senior year, it is great to be able to end it on a high note by having an in person graduation ceremony.

Upcoming Dates

May 17th-27th	AP Testing
May 21st	Senior Picnic
May 24th	(Virtual) Senior Awards
May 25th	(Virtual) Senior Slideshow
May 26th	Graduation Practice
May 27th	End Of 20 Week Grades
May 27th	GRADUATION!
May 28th	Pupil Free Day
May 24th-28th	Textbook / Chromebook Turn In
June 2nd	Credit Recovery Summer School Registration Closes
June 7th	Summer School Begins



Pop Show 42, A Brand New Day

By Hannah Lepley
Staff Writer

On April 10 at 7PM, the choir program put out it's annual Pop Show on their Twitch channel. Powerhouse, Sound Sensations, Sound Waves, Decibelles and Men@Work were all featured in this show, along with some smaller student groups such as Vocal Ensemble and Muses.

Since this show was virtual, many, if not all of the videos were edited to be as spectacular as they were. The editing for the choirs was done by each choir's choreographer, but the editing for each student's individual act was edited by the students or the students' families.

This year's theme was "Brand New Day" so Powerhouse opened the show singing "Brand New Day." The choir was backed by dancers from a local dance studio, Generation DCD, which is run by one of the program's choreographers, Amanda Richardson.

For this number, the group was able to meet up in person to film all together. They were social distancing and wearing masks unless they had a solo. This number was very high energy and it was nice to see a choir together again.

The Craft is the inspiration behind this year's Decibelles set. The movie, directed by Andrew Fleming, is about teen witches and the battle between good and evil within themselves. Decibelles performed three songs, "Who I Am," "Sister of the Moon," and "Stupid Deep."

Muses was the first a capella group to perform, and these lovely ladies sang a *Mamma Mia* medley. This number featured many solos from the members of the group, one for each song in the medley.

Ferris Bueller's Day Off, The Breakfast Club, and *Pretty in Pink* are all classic movies by John Hughes. In honor of him, Sound Waves' set this year is "Dear John Hughes" and draws much of its inspiration from these movies. "Electric Youth," "In Your Eyes," and "Don't You Forget About Me," were the songs Sound Waves performed for the audience.

Every year Mr. Peebles gets to participate in Pop Show. He has his own act that he does with his past and present students. This year he and his students gave the audience their rendition of "Sunshine Day."

Vocal Ensemble is an a capella group composed of male and female students from Powerhouse. This year, however, this group was split into two: boys and girls.

The boys were the first to perform singing "Ventura Highway."

Later on in the show the Vocal Ensemble Girls sang "Treasure."

Sound Sensations performed the songs "Brand New Day/ Mr. Blue Sky," "Blackbird," and "Hot Medley," for their set this year which was "Met Gala Camp."

Many of the choirs' sets this year were inspired by movies, and Men@Work is no different. Men@Work's set draws inspiration from the movie *Anchorman* so the students in this choir presented us with a medley, "Anchorman Medley."

One of the highlights of the show was Powerhouse members Jillian Flynn and Scarlet Lastrapes singing "Heart of Glass."

Powerhouse had a more abstract set this year, instead of having one overarching theme they went with little stories, or vignettes. This group performed five songs ranging from earthy to punk; these songs were "Tom Thumb," "Bad Moon Rising," "Scarborough Fair," "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head," and "Wild World."

Despite the circumstances that are keeping these students from performing together and with a live audience, the best is being made with what is given. Hopefully next year live shows will start happening again.





Dance: The One Where Everybody's Quarantined

By Luca Rendon
Staff Writer

On Friday, April 23, our very own Burroughs Dance Department premiered their first ever virtual dance show: "The One Where Everyone's Quarantined!"

JBHS Dance has had many annual spring dance shows before, but this is the first time that our dancers have had to deal with social distancing and the other challenges that faced them during this pandemic. In spite of all this, they still put on a fantastic show which is available for anyone to watch for free.

The show is created in part by the students in the dance production class, and partly by dance instructor Ms. Pierce, with Senior Co-Dance Director for the Dance Production class Jaylen Harvey saying, "It's a group effort," and that "by the end result, we all have our dances and so she puts it all together and then helps produce it."

The theme for this year's show, "The One Where Everyone's Quarantined," was inspired by the popular sitcom *Friends*. Ms. Pierce came up with the idea after likening our hectic year to a TV show, which ended up being fitting, since the performance is available as a video on the JBHS Dance Department YouTube channel.

Even though they may not have been able to be on the same stage this time, we still got multiple great group performances from the Dance 1 and Dance 2 classes. Each performer filmed their own dance from their home, but viewers still get to see many of them at once, since each performance has been edited together. Since each video of each dancer is in sync, you still get the experience of watching simultaneous group choreography just like everyone was there on a stage.

Many duos, trios, or smaller groups also got their chance to perform, with some even getting to perform socially distanced in the same spot. There were many fantastic performances from these smaller groups which featured many coordinated outfits and great choreography from students in the program. It's a pleasure to watch the students truly express themselves through these great performances and choreography they have created.

Since the show is a video format this time around, people also got a chance to use their editing skills. While a good portion of the show was edited by Jon King, JBHS' Tech Director, many students also got to assist in putting together this year's digital show by editing certain segments.

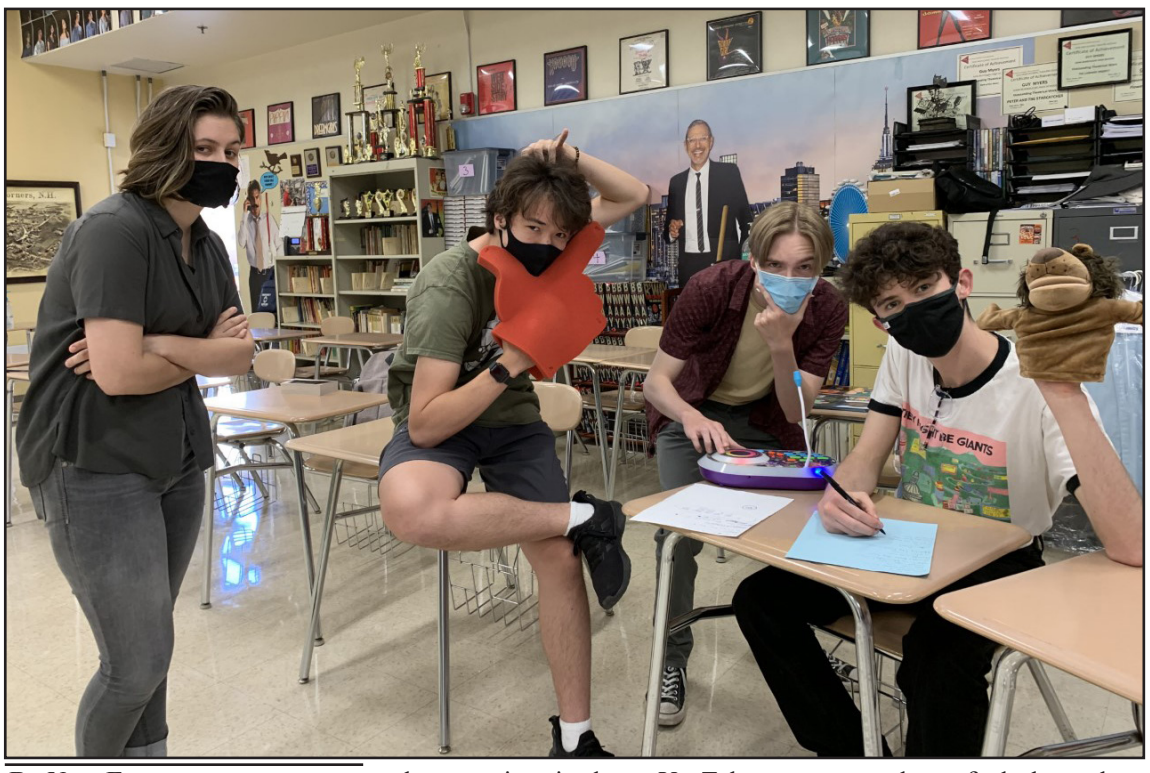
Towards the end of the show, we also get to hear a number of heartfelt speeches from each of the dance captains, reflecting on the ups and downs of the year they've been through. Following up their speeches was a wonderfully performed group dance number from all the captains taking place on the JBHS campus, featuring great cinematography and editing from student Tyler Griffin.

The Dance Department has been practicing for this event all semester, and with teaching choreography over Zoom comes a set of unique advantages and disadvantages. Jaylen said, "There were not a lot of questions asked, because it was being seen on a screen and they could copy what I did, but then the disadvantage is I don't get to be there in person and see exactly what they're doing and clean it and perfect it and have it the way I envision it." The ability to have multiple takes was also appreciated, with Jaylen enjoying that he had multiple chances to videotape his dances in case of mistakes.

Even though we've all gone through tough times this year, it's clear that the Dance Department was able to put their all into a show they can be proud of, with Jaylen saying, "This year in particular, I hoped that the audience got to see that their child is still having fun or finding ways to get out of the shell that they were in throughout this whole quarantine mess, that they got to actually be happy, and not let it drag them down."

If you want to watch the performance for yourself, you can find the show on the JBHS Dance Department YouTube channel.

Comedy Showcase And Flunk'd



By Neil Eiklor and
Noel Pennington
Staff Writers

For the last thirteen years, the John Burroughs Drama team have been working hard to bring laughter to viewers.

If you enjoy Improv, stand-up, comedic sketches, and funny skits and songs, you will love this year's Comedy Showcase.

This year and the Covid-19 pandemic have brought with them many obstacles for many people. The John Burroughs Drama Team has been no exception. In a normal year setting, the Comedy Showcase would be a live show but this year it can be viewed on a live Zoom stream.

The show was also be posted on the JBHS Drama YouTube channel.

Because this year's classes are on Zoom, students have been editing, rehearsing, filming, and producing the show all on Zoom as well.

This also makes it hard to sense the energy of the audience. But all of this has not stopped the twenty-five students from putting together a good laugh.

Transitions are smooth and the format is easy to follow.

The show has a format that follows Saturday Night Live. However, all the skits are unique to the Drama students.

The Drama Department also put on a comedy show, not to be confused with The Comedy Showcase, called, "Flunk'd," and there are six episodes on YouTube as of this date and more planned for the future. The episodes are, on average, about twenty minutes long and each episode features a variety of different skits, students, and themes that are all special in their own way.

The drama team has been working hard this year to bring viewers laughter throughout this pandemic.

If you think you'll enjoy a mix of Improv, stand-up, comedic sketches, and funny skits and songs, you will love this year's Comedy Showcase, and also, give Flunk'd a look as well.

Flunk'd has had several episodes since it's last feature in the paper. A lot has been going on at John Hughes High, from final exams, to date night, auditions for the school musical, all while trying to focus on their graduation!

In Episode 3, the flunkers put another stressful week of school behind them, since most of them ended the week with failing grades. To help deal with the reality of flunking, the students are getting ready for date night! Give episode three a watch to find out which flunkers have a disastrous date night, and which of them seem to be destined for true love.

Episode four kicks off with an awesome training montage from Principal Guyers. Rocking in his all purple jumpsuit, it seems as if he's able to squat any amount of weight! After receiving more failing grades from principal Guyers, many students find themselves studying on Saturday morning at the local library. Saturday night though, is a different story. The teens roam the city streets, hangout and look for a fun time. Tune into episode four to watch the wild slumber party take place, which turns into a night full of fright pretty quickly.

Episode 5 is filled with tryouts from all sorts of different extracurricular activities around campus. From Cheerleading tryouts, to band, and even tryouts for the mainstage show "Crucible: The Musical!" hosted by the one and only, principal Guyers. Tensions are high after lists are put up, and a big fight breaks out. Some flunkers get hurt, and so do their dreams of joining their extracurricular activity.

Episode 6 features a detention with Mr. Glass on a Saturday due to the fight in the quad, as a result many of the flunkers have to miss the first rehearsal for the musical. With nothing better to do, the flunkers start a game of Dungeons and Dragons where they learn the importance of teamwork and friendship.

Episode 7 premiers this Friday, May 14 at 8pm on the JBHS Drama YouTube channel!

Make sure to tune in. Episodes will also be releasing into the month of June, so be on the lookout for more installments of the flunkers at John Hughes High School!

VMA Showcase

By Hannah Lepley
Staff Writer

Last year competition season for the choirs at John Burroughs High School was cut short.

There were still a few events left to participate in, including the Burroughs Music Showcase, the competition our school hosts.

Many of the choir students volunteer to help at this event because it gives them an insight of what happens behind the scenes and allows them to make some new friends.

This year the Burroughs Music Showcase was held on April 16 and 17. On Friday were the Middle School and High School Novice divisions. The following day in order were the High School Intermediate Mixed, High School Intermediate Women/Men/Advanced Women, Solo Competition/A Capella Groups/Small Vocal Ensembles and the High School Advanced Mixed divisions.

In order to keep the social aspect of competitions alive there were Zoom sessions for the kids participating in the competitions. The people who went to the Zoom sessions were put into random break rooms with students from other schools to play games.

Beatrix Park, a member of Sound Waves said, "My favorite activity was a skit we put together in breakout rooms. We were assigned an animal and a job or action and had to act it out in a scene."

One positive aspect of the competitions having gone virtual this year is that more programs across the country get to be connected. Schools from Texas, Ohio, Wisconsin, New Mexico, West Virginia, and Massachusetts got to compete alongside many schools from California.

Members of the Burroughs choirs were the hosts for each division. Jaylen Harvey, Amanda Silver, and Anthony Sanchez hosted the Middle School and High School Novice divisions. VMA president Jillian Flynn, VMA vice president Maddie Flores, and Lauren Duncanson hosted the High School Intermediate Mixed division and the last division to compete, the High School Advanced Mixed choirs. The High School Intermediate Women/Men/Advanced Women division was hosted by Angelee Valdez, Juju Blevins, and Nicole Concepcion. These three also hosted the Solo Competition/A Capella Groups/Small Vocal Ensembles division.

This past year has brought each program its own individual challenges, so Burroughs choir director Brendan Jennings explained on the stream that instead of ranking these groups and pitting them against each other the judges will be handing out different awards to build everyone up. Some of these new awards include "Best Performer," "Best Show Design," "Best Video Editing," and "Best Soloist."

All of the Burroughs choirs were performing during this competition. One person from each choir received a best performer award: Elle Trinidad from Decibelles, Riley Dowers from Sound Waves, Nicole Concepcion from Sound Sensations, Kaylor Toronto from Men@Work, and Ronan Park from Powerhouse.

The Burroughs Music Showcase is usually the last competition of the season, but this year Mr. Jennings wanted to step up and provide an example to the rest of the show choir community. This competition is only one of the many competitions to be held in Southern California.

All of the performances from this competition can be found on the competition Twitch channel: SoCalShowChoir. More competitions hosted by Hart High School and Oceanside High School will be held on this channel.

Valedictorian Briana Contreras

By Maya Merino
Copy Editor

The Valedictorian for the 2021 Senior class of John Burroughs High School is Briana Contreras. She is eighteen years old and was born on February 23 2003.

Briana Contreras is on the Varsity Cross Country and Track and Field Team. Her P.R. for the 800 in Track and Field is 2:36 and 5:53 for the 1600.

She was also in karate since you were four years old and also has taught younger kids at karate for a couple years now. And she is also a red double stripe in karate.

Over the course of her High School career she took many APs because she enjoyed challenging herself. She knew that if she set her heart to something, she could achieve it. School has always been a priority for her.

She got recognition for the Asian Cultural Pacific Festival in 2019 when she and a few other members at her karate studio performed a routine in front of government officials from Asia visiting Burbank. It was an incredible experience because they got to see other performances, which helped open my eyes more to this beautiful culture.

Briana's friends would definitely say she has a strong work ethic. While her friends were partying on the weekends, she would be studying or doing homework, but she would say it definitely paid off.

They would also say she is always willing to help others, no matter how big the problem. She is also known as a person willing to take risks. Her friends have been a huge support system in her life. They always cheer her up when she is having a bad day! They even brought her a cake to celebrate being Valedictorian!

She has always gone to John Burroughs High School.

This year, her favorite class is Drama. She tends to be a shy person, but this class really brought her out of her shell.

Mr. Peebles is her favorite teacher! He has been her Track and Field Coach since she was a Freshman, and her teacher since Junior year. He is always there for her and cheers her on whether it's a race, test, or personal accomplishment. Plus, for her he makes learning math exciting!

In her free time, she enjoys walking her dog, trying new foods, going to the beach, hiking, and cooking. Her favorite food to cook is pasta.

She also loves to watch movies, especially action movies.

She loves driving around with her friends while singing their hearts out; it helps her after a long school week!

Her parents are her role models.

Her mom is the strongest woman she knows. She beat cancer, and has lived her life to the fullest since. She works, but she always has food at home for her.

Her dad inspires her everyday. He works incredibly hard to provide for her and her family, and she aspires to be at least half as hard working as him when she is older.

She would say she has the best family in the world for dealing with her when she is stressed. They have supported her throughout her whole high school journey.

To her parents, she wants to thank them for raising her to be the person she is today.

To her sister, she is her best friend and the coolest person she knows.

Of course, to her dog Max, Briana would like to say he is the best boy in the world!

This year, she wants to relax over the summer and spend time with her friends before we all leave for college. She also wants to meet a lot of friends and have an amazing first semester of college!

In the future, she hopes to join the medical field and become a gynecologist.

She definitely sees herself having three kids.

She also hopes to adopt as many dogs as she can!

At her ten year reunion, she hoped to have traveled, learned another language, and kept up with her workout regimen. She also wants to have kept in touch with her friends from high school!

She is going to be attending Johns Hopkins University in Maryland. After she graduates, she is planning to go to medical school.

In the future, her biggest goal is to be happy!

Valedictorian Patrycja Maciak

By Angela Iniguez
Staff Writer

One of our school's Valedictorian's is Patrycja Maciak, congratulations to her!

Patrycja is eighteen years old and her birthday is on December 12, 2002.

And she's a Senior.

Patrycja is Polish and she can speak Polish.

She's a Varsity Track and Field and Cross Country runner.

One of her best running times would be a 5:48 in the mile and a 12:29 in the two mile.

Patrycja joined Track and Field and Cross Country because she really enjoyed running and because she made some amazing friends on the team.

She joined the Track and Field Team and the Cross Country Team during summer before her Freshman year, and has been on both teams all four years of her high school career here at John Burroughs.

She became Valedictorian by taking a lot of AP classes throughout high school and she studied a lot.

Patrycja hasn't gotten any other awards other than Valedictorian.

Patrycja's class schedule is AP Physics 2 (she took too AP Physics her Junior year as well), AP Calculus BC (she also took the first AP Calculus class her Junior year), AP Government, AP Literature, and she's a mentor for AP Spanish.

Her favorite class are AP Physics and AP Calculus.

Patryca's favorite teacher is Mr. Peebles.

During Patrycja's free time she enjoys hanging out with her friends and reading.

Her favorite food is Sushi.

Two of Patrycja's role models are her parents, she also finds her teachers to be inspiring to her.

Patrycja's family played a big role in always encouraging her to do her best in school, which resulted in her being Valedictorian.

One of Patrycja's goals for the year is that she hope's to get used to living and learning in a new environment in her college and to get good grades in her first year.

Patrycja's goal for the future is that she wants to graduate college with honors and she wants to be successful in her career.

Patrycja sees herself in 10 years happy with her life and career.

Patrycja will be going into UCLA in the fall.

Some of Patrycja's favorite memories are during school when she would participate in the Track and Field and Cross Country meets she attended with her friends and teammates.

Patrycja's feelings about being one of the people to be Valedictorians is she was shocked at first but she's proud of herself that she accomplished to be Valedictorian.

Patrycja is grateful that she was brought up in an environment where she could achieve the honor of being a Valedictorian.

Salutatorian Nicholas Walker

By Georgie Hallback
News Editor

The John Burroughs Salutatorian this year is Nicholas Walker, an athlete, astounding student, and future UCLA student.

Walker moved to Burbank when he was in eighth grade and has been at JBHS for all four years. He went to elementary and middle school in Northern California.

Besides academics, Nicholas is fond of staying fit and playing sports. He has done Cross Country, Track and Field, and Football at Burroughs.

He has also worked at the local YMCA.

He says he participates in sports to, "stay in shape and get the opportunity to compete."

He works at the YMCA to "earn volunteer hours over the summer while getting professional experience."

Walker has participated in the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) at both the local and international levels. He says of HOBY, "I like meeting new people and applying leadership principles in local and community service related contexts." He was recommended to HOBY by a counselor at JBHS and wrote an essay that got him a spot.

At school he says he would be most known for ranking second in his class and playing two different sports.

Walker has a 4.42 weighted GPA and is taking the following courses this year: AP Economics, AP Government, AP Literature, AP Physics 2, AP Statistics, and AP Psychology.

At the moment AP Economics is his favorite.

On how he ended up becoming Salutatorian, Walker, says "College admissions got me started with keeping my grades up then it was just a mentality of 'I've already put in so much work I might as well keep it going' plus a lot of the AP's at Burroughs are cool so I wanted to take them."

His work in the community, academic record, and achievement in sports earned him a spot at UCLA. Walker says, " I hope to start the fall semester [at UCLA] strong after having done school online for a year, and I hope to achieve athletic goals that'll allow me to compete in club sports by the end of the year."

He will be majoring in Math and Economics.

In his free time Nicholas enjoys going to the gym, he works out at 24 Hour Fitness in the Empire Center, hiking, watching Netflix and spending time on social media.

He hopes to get a job at PacSun in the Glendale Galleria soon.

His role model is Vitalik Buterin, a Russian programmer involved in cryptocurrency like BitCoin. He is worth over 16 billion dollars. His favorite teacher at John Burroughs is Mr. Reyes.

Walker acknowledges his family for helping him, "They've been supportive for lots of things over the past four years, which has helped me try to reach my potential in everything I start."

When asked about future plans Walker says he "hasn't thought about it much."

And where does he see himself at the ten year Burroughs reunion? He says he is not quite sure because he has "lots of different ideas about career and lifestyle paths to take in the future."

It is clear Nicholas has an incredible work ethic that has led him to success.

His work in community service at the YMCA and initiative taken at the HOBY youth leadership conferences is admirable.

We at The Signal wish him the best of luck at UCLA in the fall and congratulate him on his success at John Burroughs.

Congratulations To The Senior Class Of 2021

We at The Signal know it's been an odd, and sometimes tough and disappointing year to be a Senior, but you've all made it and that is something to be proud of!

FOOTBALL

By Vivianna Lattanzi
Staff Writer

Every year JBHS Football comes together and has a great season.

Sadly, this year their season was a little bit different.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the boys had to postpone their season from what was usually in fall to the spring.

This year the seniors are John Alajijian, Luke Rogers, Scott Frobose, Austin Sowers, Michael Pentland, Gonzalo Duarte, and John Lozano.

Most of these boys have played for all four years here at Burroughs.

"I grew up with these boys, so playing our last game really made me emotional," Senior running back Luke Rogers said.

"I am happy that we at least got to play, even though this season was different, it was still better than having nothing at all." Senior wide receiver John Alajijian told *The Signal*.

Even though the boys were not allowed to practice or see each other in the fall, once the vaccine started being dispersed and California started to get somewhat normal again, the boys got the okay to start their season, and when they did they showed up everyday with a lot of adrenaline and excitement to start the new season.

"Practice was good, it felt nice to finally be in the field again," Jacob Conahan told *The Signal.*

The boys practiced for only two weeks before they got to start playing again, which was hard for them because that is not what they were used to.

They played two home games and the two away games.

The boys had their first game in San Marino on March 19th.

The boys unfortunately lost that game 30-14. "It was super scary but also really exciting to get on the field again after that long," Conahan said.

The game lasted a couple hours and the boys were surrounded by family and a few friends since the crowd had to have a certain capacity.

The next game was very specil because it took place at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, where Division 1 teams play college football, among other sports, on March 25th.

Sadly, the other team at the Rose Bowl, Pasadena High School, won 48-7.

The next game was a home game. They lost 21-14 on April 2nd against John Muir High School.

The boys last game was the Burroughs vs Burbank game on April 16th.



The yearly tradition where the two rival schools take on each other.

The boys ended up losing to Burbank High School. The score was 7-25.

"We gave it our all at those games, and playing with the boys again felt good," said Luke Rogers, a current Senior on the team told *The Signal.*

This new way of things was a weird and different transition for them. "We did not get much practice time at all, which kinda sucked because usually we have a couple months," Alajijian said.

Also, all the games had a small socially distanced crowd. "It was also weird not having a big crowd or the band going on, so the atmosphere of the games were definitely off," Conahan said.

Since this season started super late, when asking the boys how they prepared to get back on the field after such a long break they told *The Signal* that they worked out a lot during quarantine, ate healthy, and played at parks with a couple friends here and there.

"When I played for the first time again, it felt super weird but also like I never stopped" Alajijian stated.

Hopefully next year COVID will be a bit better for the boys to be able to start in the fall, like old times. "This year has been a wild one, but the fact that we all came together and had a great season despite everything going on was really cool," Alajijian ends.







COOPER!!! We are taking one last opportunity to embarrass you to say that we are so proud of you and all your hard work. We hope the world is ready for someone as awesome as you as you embark on your new adventures. Stay Rebel, Stay Sharp!

WE LOVE LOVE LOVE YOU!!!

xoxo,

Mom, Dad & Natascha, Indio, & Lloyd.



Cheer

By Krystal Le
Staff Writer

John Burroughs High School Cheer team has started off their competition season again this school year. For a while the cheer team stopped competing and only stuck to doing sideline cheers for the basketball and football teams but now they are back in the game. Starting off this season with Coach Tristen Taylan and Mark Nevaro, our beloved cheer team has already won their first competition!

This season is off to a great start so far even with the restrictions that prevent the team from being able to have a normal practice in preparation for competitions but in the end they pulled it off!

Due to quarantine restrictions, practices were mostly held over Zoom calls to prepare the teams for the competition before in person practice was allowed to take place at school again. Even though it was harder to review the cheers and dance over Zoom, both coaches did an amazing job in getting both JV and Varsity teams ready for the competition.

The John Burroughs Highschool JV and Varsity Cheer Team both competed in the World Class Cheer competition and won 1st placed in the Fight Song Division. Both teams competed in two competitions and both won first place in the first competition. For the second competition, JV won first place and Varsity took home 3rd place.

For this whole season, both JV and Varsity have only competed twice and it's most likely that there will be no more competitions for the rest of the season.



JV and Varsity's first competition win was announced on March 31, 2021. Both JV and Varsity placed first in the Fight Song Category. JV went unopposed while Varsity competed against three other schools.

Both JV and Varsity Teams placed 1st in the fight song division in the World Class Cheerleading Virtual Championship Series. Both JV and Varsity teams competed in the traditional High School Cheer Fight Song category and placed 1st!

This is an exciting win for the teams and for our school to start off the season again.

Both teams did a great job being led by Coach Tristen Taylan and Mark Navaro. JV Captains are Madison Williams who is a Sophomore and Kayla Ruvalcaba who is a Junior. Varsity Captains are both Seniors, Hannah Fuentes and Sophianna Zappia.

According to head coach Tristen Taylan it was a great experience to win 1st place for both teams. The season is off to a great start and we are excited to see what comes next for both cheer teams.

In addition to the 1st place victory, both teams have one more virtual competition submission in the High School Cheer Fight Song category and it was announced on April 11th that JV won 1st place again but Varsity placed 3rd.

JV Team Captains Madison Williams and Kayla Ruvalcaba both shared their feelings on how it felt to win their first competition back.

Madison said, "It felt really good to win 1st place in our first competition!"

Kayla said, " I felt really proud because we worked so hard for it and I thought it was a great start for cheer coming back".

Varsity Senior Captains Hannah Fuentes and Sophie Zappia also had some great things to say about coming back this year.

When asked about how it felt for the teams to win 1st place this year, Hannah said, "Winning first place in our first competition back felt really good! It had been a while since we practiced, so it made putting in all the hard work worth it!"

Sophie said, "It felt great to win 1st place in our first virtual competition! We worked hard and it paid off!"

Both girls were also asked about how they felt being Captains this year due to all the challenges caused by the pandemic and their responses toward the situation was great.

Hannah said that, "We've had to make a few adjustments such as Zoom practices in the beginning of the year, which was really new and different! Now that we're back in-person, it's been a lot of fun being able to cheer at games and stunt. Sophianna and I have had a lot of fun helping out the team and our coaches this year!"

Sophie also shared a similar positive response to the situation as well, "Being Captain this year has been everything I hoped for! Hannah and I have a lot of responsibilities to do but with the help of our coaches and great teammates we are able to achieve a lot of success! Hard to think this is our last year cheering, so I am savoring every moment!"

The second competition win was for the JV team who won 1st placed again in another Fight Song Category. For this competition Varsity took home 3rd place. The JV team also went unopposed in this as well. First placed win for the Varsity teams goes to Costa Mesa High School followed by Villa Park High School for second place, John Burroughs High school for 3rd place, and finally Torrance High School for Superior. The wins for the second competition was announced on April 13, 2021.

Senior Captain Sophianna tells us that, "I wasn't nervous to compete again, I was more excited!" when asked if she was nervous about starting to compete again this year. The other Senior Captain, Hannah also responded to the question by saying, "Not really, competing is something I enjoy and was more excited than nervous for."

Varsity Captains Hannah and Sophianna were both asked how they feel towards the upcoming competitions if there will be any and here are their responses. Hannah said, "I'm really excited for the upcoming competitions! We've worked so hard and I know we're going to do great!"

Sophianna also shares Hannah's enthusiasm for the upcoming competitions saying, "I am excited for our upcoming competitions and I'm happy we get to work in person at practice!"

It's sad to know that this is their last year but even through all the hardship we've been through this school year, it's good to know that it has not diminished their enthusiasm and work efforts.

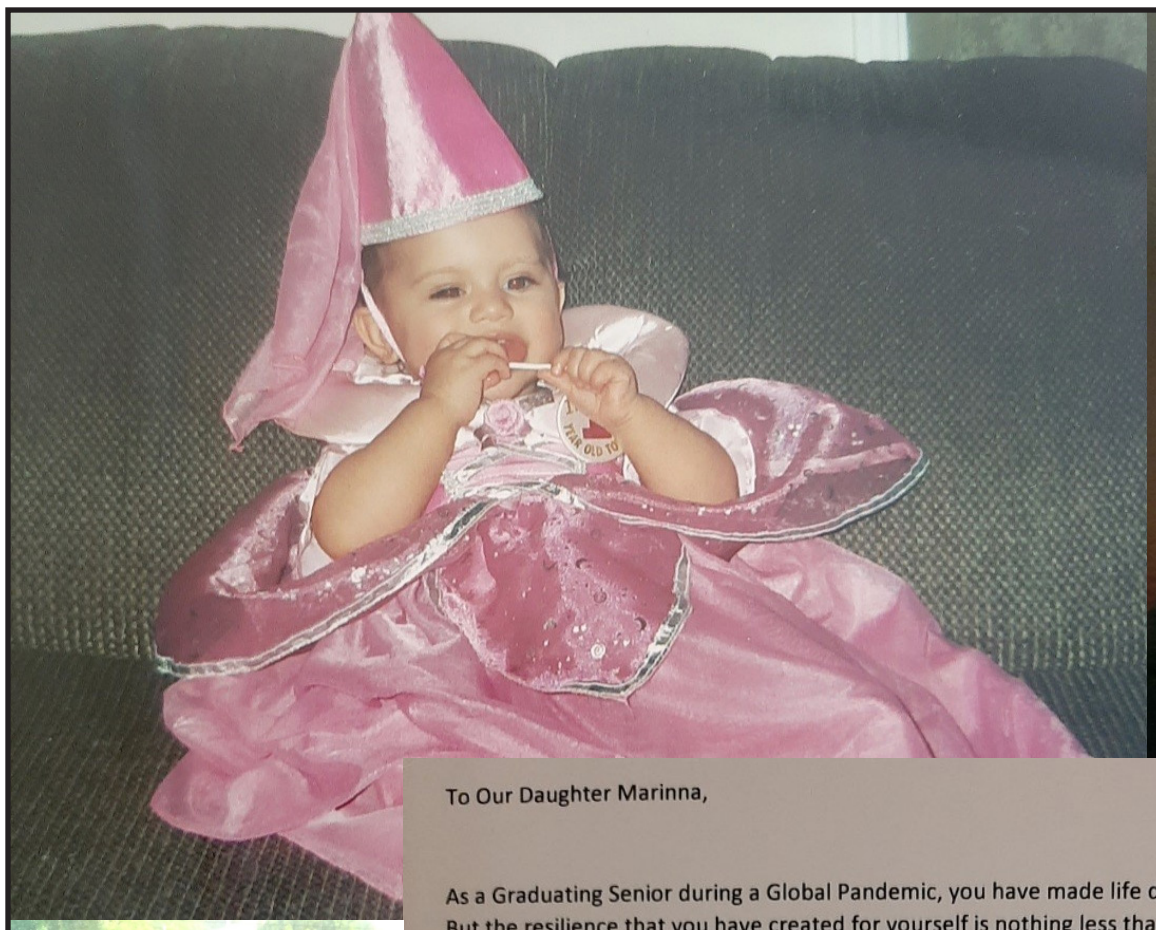
We can expect to see more of both teams in the future because head coach, Tristen Taylan hopes to do more competition next season with new routines such as a complete routine full of stunts, pyramids, tumbling, dance, and jumps.

Both cheer teams have also been going back to cheering for football games recently as well! Alongside with competing, football season has started back up again and both JV and Varsity teams have been attending the games and giving out JBHS football teams their full support.

JV and Varsity have both been cheering at the recent football games, including the big Burbank v. Burroughs game. So far both JV and Varsity have been able to attend and cheer at almost every football game since late March.

Since this is their last year at Burroughs, it's great that they were able to compete in a few competitions before they said their goodbyes.

This competition season has turned out great so far even with all the COVID-19 restrictions. We don't know how likely it'll be for both our JV and Varsity team to compete in one or two last competitions before the school year ends but if they do, we are rooting for them, the same way they rooted on the sidelines for others!





To Our Daughter Marinna,

As a Graduating Senior during a Global Pandemic, you have made life decisions at a time of uncertainty. But the resilience that you have created for yourself is nothing less than remarkable! You established a new routine, remained consistent with your studies, learned how important it is to validate your emotions and focused on your personal endeavors! And life as we know it, continues to be a complete blessing as we celebrate our daughter's new chapter in her life's journey!

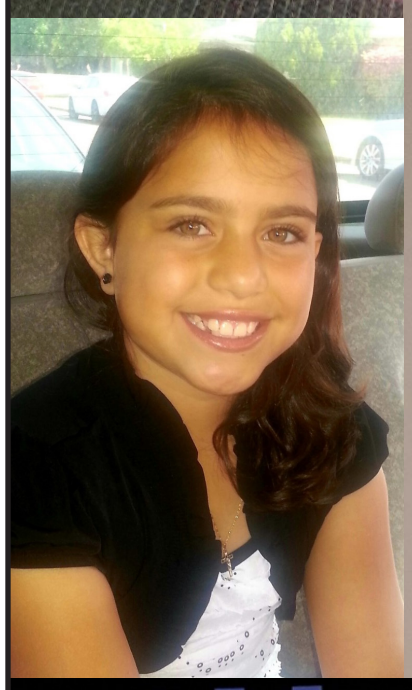
You give me strength in all that you are and everything that you stand for! From the moment we locked eyes, my soul was staring back at me and I knew I would love you forever! It has been an absolute pleasure to watch you grow into the amazing young lady that you are! I can't tell you enough how proud of you we are and how important it is that you follow your dreams, your passion and never second guess your abilities.

As my little girl starts a new phase in her life, always remember that we are here for advice, encouragement, and guidance!

Congratulations Princess on a job well done! It hasn't always been easy, but you maintained your faith, believed in yourself and that alone keeps the momentum alive! Your efforts, hard work and sleepless nights have just paid off! New opportunities are waiting for you! Explore all that you can, learn and enjoy life! We are always right here! God Bless you Baby!

We love you so much!

Mom, Dad, Andy and Angel~













SOFTBALL

By James Reid
Staff Writer

With sports finally returning, John Burroughs High School's softball team is back and ready to play. Although the pandemic forced all sports to shut down last March, new developments in hybrid learning have allowed for games to be played (with precautions and protocols.) They are once again being led by Burroughs Alum and Head Coach Doug Nicol, and Assistant Coaches Gary Okimoto, Jose Valle, and Louie Binda.

On the player side of things, the team captains this year are Seniors Alyssa Valenzuela and Kaitlyn Cisneros. Both have been at Burroughs for all four years of high school, and have played in the softball program throughout its entirety. Valenzuela plays shortstop while Cisneros usually plays an outfield position.

With COVID-19 still a legitimate concern, the Burroughs softball team took many precautions to keep both players and coaches safe from this virus. For instance, the team began it's season exclusively on Zoom. While this would pose as an issue for most, the Burroughs Bears were not daunted, and gave it their all.

Head Coach Doug Nicol said, "We worked hard on mental preparation, because we were limited to Zoom meetings so much in the first of the school year. These girls worked really hard to get better mentally and improve." Apart from this, certain precautions like wearing CDC-approved masks are in effect for all players.

In the first game of the season, the newly-minted Burroughs Bears faced off against the Chaminade High School Eagles at Chaminade High School in West Hills on March 29th, 2021. Although it was a tough fight, the Eagles did beat the Bears 1-0. However, this was a non-league game, and just the beginning for the Burroughs Bears' 2021 season.

In their second game of the season, the Burroughs Bears played a home game against the Sierra Canyon Trailblazers on March 31st 2021, which ultimately ended in a 7-4 defeat for the Bears.

The Bears then played another home game against the Notre Dame Knights on April 5th, 2021, which resulted in a 10-3 loss for the Bears.

Following this, the Bears played an away game against the Bishop Alemany High School Warriors, which concluded in an 8-3 loss for the Bears.

On Thursday, April 8th, 2021, the Burroughs Bears thrashed the Harvard-Westlake Wolverines in a 30-0 game at Harvard-Westlake College Preparatory School. This crushing defeat left the Wolverines with a 0-1 record, and provided the Bears with their first win of the season. Although they had the home field advantage, the Wolverines were no match for the Bears.

Multiple players from the Bears had a 1.000 batting average throughout the entirety of the game, with most players scoring at least once. This victory was a true team effort, and highlighted the skill of all the players for the Bears. The top scorers of the game were Junior Olivia Kam and Senior Sophie Bruno, who brought in five runs each, accounting for one-third of all points scored.

Following their outstanding victory against the Wolverines, the Bears played hard against the Granada Hills Charter Highlanders on April 12th, 2021, at Granada Hills Charter. Unfortunately, they were defeated in a close 3-2 game by the Highlanders. Although the Bears achieved six hits throughout the game, they only brought in two runs, and were beaten by only one run.

In the game following their loss to the Highlanders, the Bears hosted the Herbert Hoover High School Tornados right here at Burroughs on April 13th, 2021. The Bears destroyed the Tornados in a merciless 24-0 game.

Throughout the game, most players scored at least one run, with Junior Gigi Garcia scoring the highest with four points. The Bears also claimed two home runs during the game, without letting the Tornados score once. This was a phenomenal game for the Bears, and a solid comeback following their close defeat to the Highlanders.

Continuing their victory streak, the Bears were prepared to play the Pasadena High School Bulldogs next at Pasadena High School on April 15th, 2021. However, the Bulldogs forfeited and the Bears were credited with seven runs.

The Bears played their next game at Arcadia High School against the Arcadia High School Apaches on April 20th, 2021, ending in a 4-2 victory for the Apaches. The Bears followed this with a home game against the Crescenta Valley High School Falcons on April 22nd, 2021, which ultimately ended with a 7-0 victory for the Falcons. Despite these losses, the Bears were ready for their next game.

On April 27th, 2021, the Bears played against the Glendale High School Nitros at Glendale High School. This was a beautiful 25-0 victory for the Bears, and was an excellent comeback following that hard loss to the Falcons.

This game was another demonstration of the great teamwork frequently shown by the Bears. Almost every individual player scored a run, with Senior Kaitlyn Cisneros scoring the highest with four runs. There were also two home runs, scored by Senior Alyssa Valenzuela and Junior Isabella Scozzola.

Following their victory against the Nitros, the Bears went on to play against the Muir High School Mustangs at Burroughs High School on April 29th, 2021. This was another outstanding victory for the Bears, with a final score of 19-0. This game brought their record to 5-7.

With a team batting average of .643, and nineteen runs brought across the plate, the Bears truly showed once more what a spectacular team they are. Every player scored at least once, with Senior Dyani Del Castillo having the top score of three runs. As previously stated, the Bears pride themselves heavily on their exceptional teamwork, and this victory serves as a true testament to that.

In their next game, the Burroughs Bears played an away game against the Hoover High School Tornados on May 4th, 2021. This was a great game for the Bears, in which they secured a 25-1 victory over the Tornados.

This was yet another game where every player scored at least once, with the top scorer of the game being Junior Isabella Scozzola, with four runs, two of which were home runs. Every player also achieved at least one hit over the course of the game.

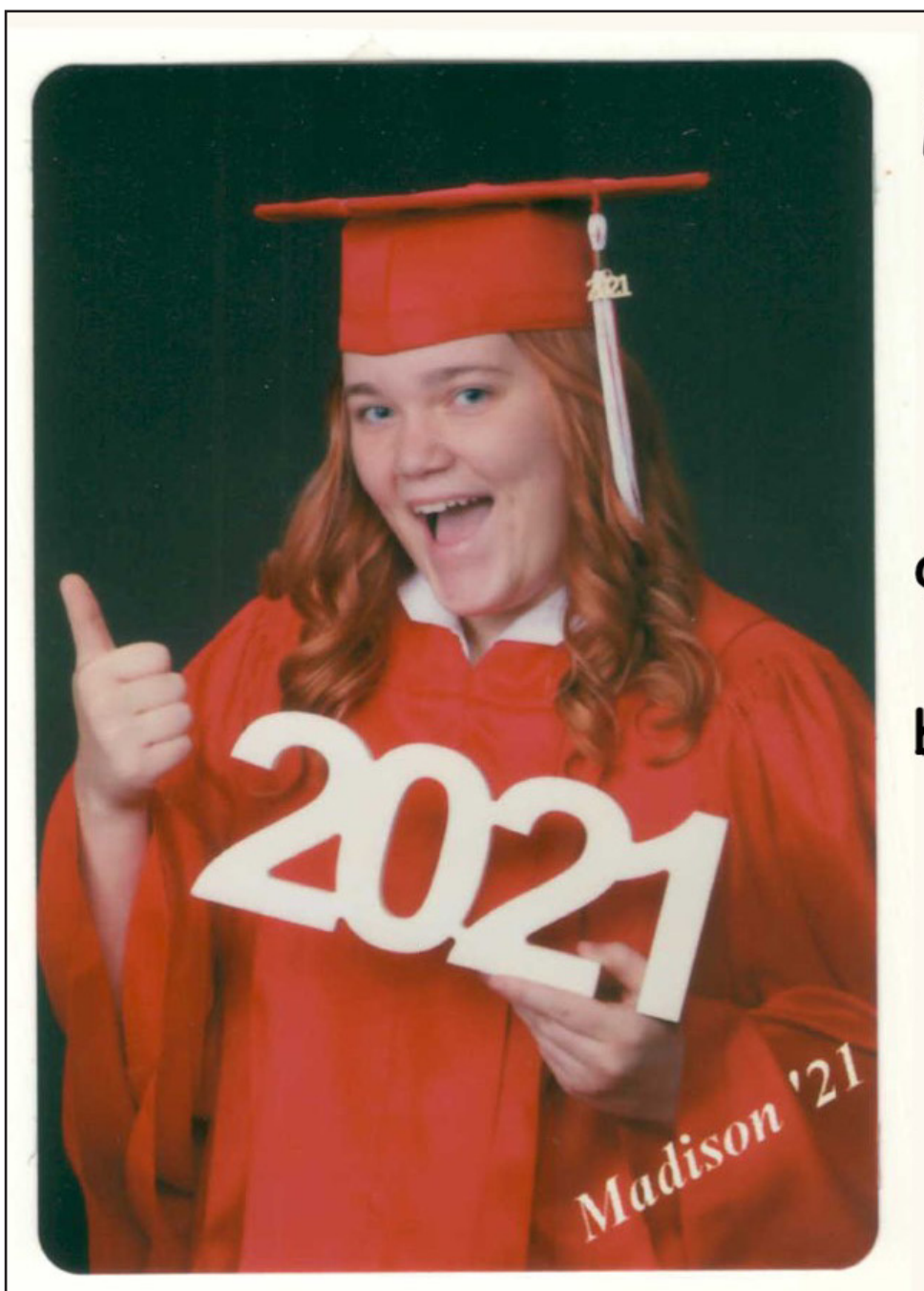
Following this victory, the Bears played an away game against the Burbank High School Bulldogs on May 6th, 2021. This resulted in a 14-2 victory for the Bears, and a crushing defeat for their rival school. This also continued their victory streak into a fourth game.

This victory brought both teams to a 7-7 record for the season so far. Although the Bulldogs scored two runs, the Bears scored seven times to secure a landslide victory. Most players scored at least once, thoroughly devastating the Bulldogs, and showing that they are a force to be reckoned with.

In conclusion, the Bears have a 7-7 record across their first fourteen games. In the words of Coach Doug Nicol, "I am very happy with the way the team looks and we are getting better everyday."

We wish the Bears the best of luck throughout the rest of their season, and know that they will do amazing.

Go Bears!



MADISON JONESON
Class of 2021

We are so proud of you.
You are hard working and dedicated to every task you put your mind to. Dream big, keep smiling and always be you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Tucker, Nana,
Papa, Grandma, Grumpy,
Tom, Juli, Dylan & Luke

Baseball

By Brooke Bashar and Aly Martinez

The John Burroughs High School boys baseball team has been participating in high school competitions since early April. The Frosh/Soph team has played seven games at home and five away games against Arcadia, Calabasis, Granada Hills, CV, Pasadena DH, BHAM and San Marino. These games were played from April 3rd to May 22.

The Boys Baseball Junior Varsity team has played ten home games and nine games away. They have played against Cleveland, San Marino, Calabasis, Arcadia, Pasadena, Glendale, CV, Granada Hills, Muir, Hoover and Burbank.

The Varsity Boys Baseball team has played thirteen games at home and twelve games away. This team has faced Poly, Cleveland, Marshall, Monrovia, So. Pasadena, Los Altos, Los Osos, Simi Valley, El Camino, Etiwanda, Arcadia, Pasadena, Glendale, CV, Salesian, Muir, Hoover and Bubank.

All players must provide their own transportation to games and access the fields themselves. This is due to COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines.

Brandon Mendez is on the baseball team at Burroughs and although the team faced some challenges, here's what he had to say, "Due to the pandemic our baseball season was a mess. We started off not being able to practice for two weeks [...], we didn't know if we were going to have a season. I was eager to be on the field and play my game. Once I was able to get back in the field it felt good like some kind of normality to me. I had to work twice as hard knowing other teams had an advantage over us."



Swim

By Savannah Stotts
Staff Writer

Spending a year at home wasn't easy for most sports, but many still had an opportunity to have a season, even if it was short. In the past, the Swim team has competed with many surrounding schools in the area.

The coaches of the team are Jacob Cook as Head Coach and Martin Ortega-Jennsion as Assistant Coach.

Even after most teams were allowed to start practicing after Covid restrictions lifted, the swim team still wasn't able to practice at school for most of the season due to the boiler being down and needing repairs. Nevertheless the team was still able to have practices and once the school allowed it.

The swim team has been practicing at Verdugo pool in separate time groups to maintain social distance, due to Covid regulations and safety precautions in the pool. They have also recently had the opportunity to start competing in swim meets. Due to safety concerns most of the meets are unable to have spectators to keep social distance, although some meets allow up to one spectator.

Typically, the swim team starts around the beginning of March and continues through April. Although, because Los Angeles County moved to the orange tier, it was safe enough to begin practice and meets again.

The Swim Team started meets around mid-April 2021 when they were approved to start practicing again. They have competed against Crescenta Valley, Hoover, Arcadia, Glendale, and Pasadena.

Due to the small size of our Swim Team many opposing teams were able to score more points, says Coach Cook. Most teams are able to fill more events which makes it easier for them to win.

The goal for the Swim team says Coach Cook is to "Improve our times each meet and have our athletes improve and get better times then the meet before."

There are about three Seniors who are present on the Swim Team at the moment, those being Angelina Lee, Isabella Mucha, and Fox Melo. The star players on the team are Lilliana Noriega, Justin Cloutier, Ryan Lee, and Kyle Daou.

Lilliana Noriega is the top female swimmer on the team. She had made multiple CIF qualification cuts. Ryan Lee is the "stand out freshman" on the team. He has made a CIF qualification time in the 500 freestyle.

Kyle Daou, in addition to being on the Burroughs team, is also a club swimmer. He is very close to making CIF qualification times.

Finally there is Justin Cloutier. He had come a long way according to Coach Cook. He was a League Champion his Freshman year when he was on JV and is a hard worker. He has had multiple CIF cuts in the 100 and 200 freestyle.

The coaches of the team have also both been swimming for quite some time themselves. Jacob Cook swam and played water polo. He played water polo and swam for Valley College. He then attended CSUN.

Martin Ortega-Jennison also played water polo and swam for Valley College. Both Martin and Jake have swam and played water polo their entire lives so it is a nice fit for both of them. Coach Cook says "It's a very rewarding job."

The Swim Team continues to practice at Verdugo Pool until their boiler is repaired but is continuing to work on their speed for next year's season.

The Aquatics Program holds a Summer Program for new and returning players every year, this is mostly for Water Polo although it is for everyone in the Aquatics Program.

The program lasts about 6-8 weeks for a few hours daily.

The team hopes to rebuild its strength with the return of the next school year. They will likely start having practices at Burroughs for the summer program if their boiler is fixed, which it likely will be.

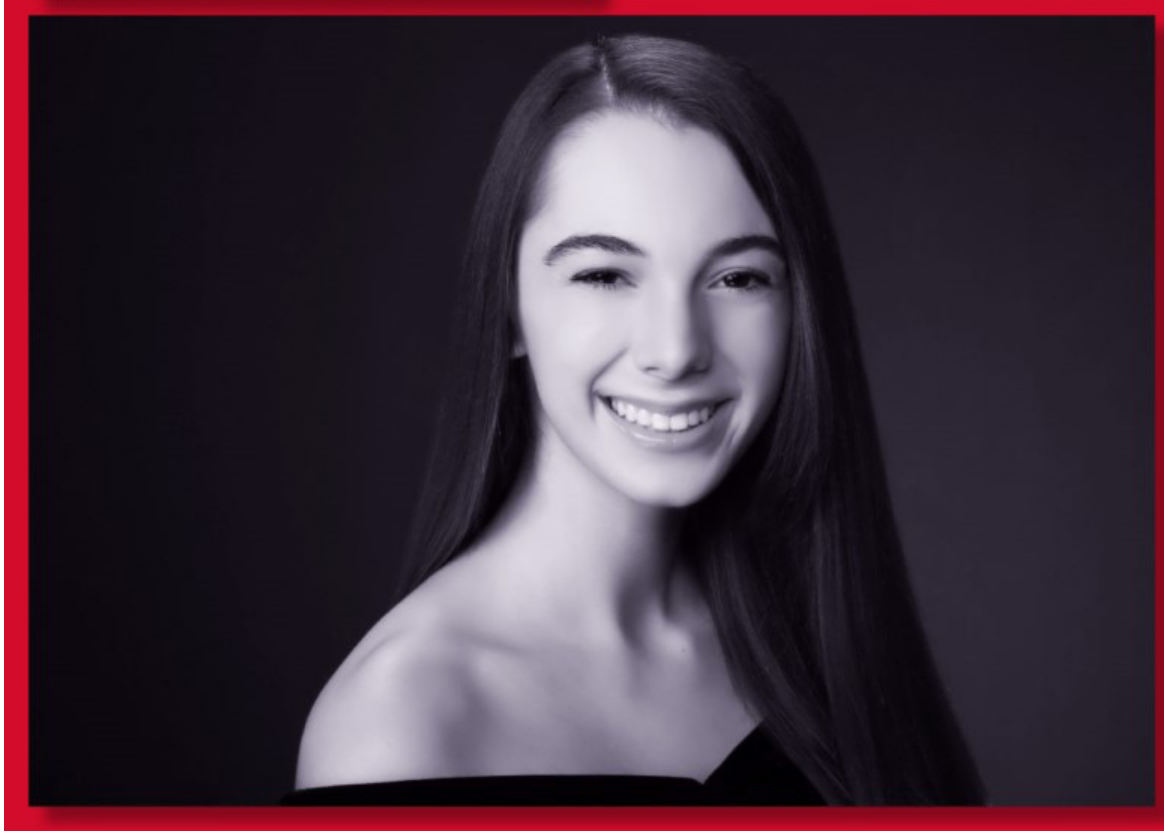
The team's strength should not fail into the coming year as their chemistry has been able to stay together. Coach Cook said "Although we have a small team, they are very supportive of each other and hard working."



Congratulations Hannah!

It has been amazing watching you grow and mature into a thoughtful, hardworking young woman. We are truly proud of the person you have become and can't wait to see what the future holds for you!

Love,
Dad, Mom, Ryan and Pepper





Girls Water Polo

By Aly Martinez
Staff Writer

Girls Water Polo has had a difficult time of it.

On top of the many restrictions due to the Cornavirus Pandemic, the pool was out of order for the better part of the time that the Girls Water Polo Team should have been in season.

For a short time, Girls Water Polo attempted some dry land workout routines, but these had to be canceled because of a spike in Coronavirus cases around December.

Most of the season, therefore, had to be conducted via Zoom.

According to Clarisa Robles, Junior on the Swim Team, "Coach Martin would show us videos and critique them, and telling us what to do in these types of situations."

Coach Cook says "Coaching during the pandemic has been interesting to say the least. The challenges included having to adapt and prepare ideas to have our athletes stay in shape without seeing them in person for a time. Once we were allowed to practice in person again it was tough for a lot of our athletes to make it because of parents or grandparents that were at risk. The athletes that came adapted quickly and it has been a pleasure coaching in person again. There has been very low attendance but we have a great group that is very supportive of each other."

Overall, with the mix of bad luck in timing of their season, a broken pool, limited facilities, and the Pandemic overall, the Girls Water Polo Season was mostly a bust.

While the team originally planned on playing numerous games throughout their season, because of their lack of in-person practice, the decision was made to forfeit their season in the Pacific League.

Although unfortunate for Girls Water Polo, many of the players were able to salvage their year by joining the Swim Team, which has been able to practice at Verdugo Pool (see more on that on Page 9), and compete in a related sport.

Boys Water Polo

By James Reid
Staff Writer

As the school year winds down, sports come back strong for the first time in over a year. Despite everything that has happened, the JBHS Boys Water Polo Team have returned to dominate the aquatics scene, and are preparing for a great season next year. They will once again be led by Head Coach Jacob Cook and Assistant Coach Martin Ortega-Jennison.

Coach Cook played water polo and swam at Los Angeles Valley College before attending California State University, Northridge. Coach Ortega-Jennison also played water polo and swam at Los Angeles Valley College. Both of these coaches have a strong background in aquatics-based sports, and are no doubt the best leaders for the JBHS Boys Water Polo Team.

Even with great leaders, nobody could imagine what the coronavirus pandemic would do to sports.

In a relatively short period of time, sports all over the world went from fully operational to completely shut down. While bringing water polo back will be no easy task, the coaches are prepared to reintroduce and rebuild their team.

Since masks are not applicable in the water, they will not be necessary there, but will be required when on land. Just incorporating minor adjustments like this will help everyone to stay safe, and hopefully allow us to return to a "normal" world soon enough.

Despite all the complications COVID-19 presented, that was not the only setback faced by the Water Polo Team. According to Coach Cook, "Our pool heater was down so we did not get to practice or play any games this season." However, they will return back and better than ever next year.

In addition to once more having the JBHS Aquatics Summer Program to train the next class of water polo players, the water polo team looks forward to practicing hard during this time off. According to Coach Cook, "We look forward to practicing again this Summer after taking more than a year off to rebuild the team and the program."

With both new and returning athletes, the JBHS Boys Water Polo Team will be a force to be reckoned with in the upcoming school year.

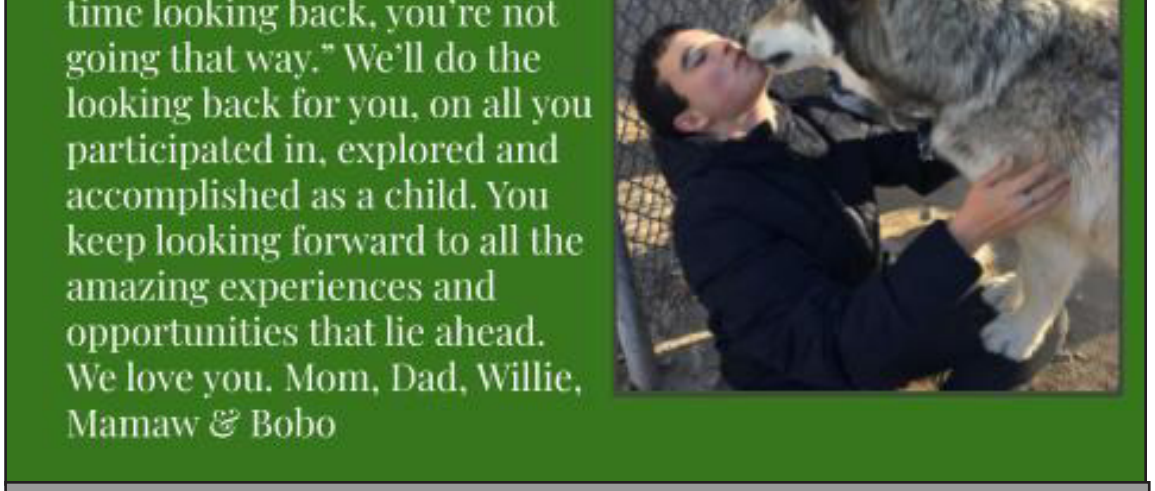
As previously mentioned, there will be a summer program for new athletes. Here, those with interest in water polo will learn everything about the sport and gain experience practicing the game. This program will run June 7th to July 29th, 2021, with tryouts falling one day later on July 30th, 2021. This will give graduates from the course an opportunity to demonstrate their new skills with all of the information still fresh in their minds.

Due to ongoing issues with the Burbank High School pool, the Bulldogs will use the Burroughs pool during summer afternoons. Because of this, incoming and returning athletes must train together. While this may not sound ideal, these circumstances will allow the incoming athletes to work with the returning athletes, and both learn and grow as a team.

However, with one class entering, another is graduating. Before they leave though, the coaches wanted to recognize outstanding seniors for their exceptional contributions to the Boys Water Polo Team.

These players are Miguel Martinez, Fox Melo, and Ryan Jaramillo. Although all of the players work hard for their team, these players truly stood out.

In conclusion, despite the adversity they faced this year, the JBHS Boys Water Polo Team is working hard to be the best they can in the upcoming season. We wish them the best of luck, and know that they will do great. Go, Bears!





You have always been a creature of scientific curiosity, an observer of nature, adventurous and creative. It is a natural progression you would choose to study wildlife biology. We think your senior quote is so fitting for you; "Don't waste time looking back, you're not going that way." We'll do the looking back for you, on all you participated in, explored and accomplished as a child. You keep looking forward to all the amazing experiences and opportunities that lie ahead. We love you. Mom, Dad, Willie, Mamaw & Bobo

Congratulations, Emmitt!

Congratulations, Emmitt!



"Your life is your story, and the adventure ahead of you is the journey to fulfill your own purpose and potential." We are so proud of you and excited for your adventures ahead. Love, Your Arizona Family











Burroughs 2021: The Greatest Graduating Class of All Time
Burroughs Water Polo 2021: The Greatest Team of All Time

"So proud of you, son. So proud. Of you." -- Love, Mom & Dad

The best way out is always through.

- Robert Frost

















Girls Golf

By Molly Boyke
Editor In Chief

The golf season is in full swing, and the JBHS Girls Golf team has had a tee-rific record so far! The girls golf team, with Team Captain Senior Sadie Demmert and players Alexis Gopez, Maleia Gould, Victoria Guess, Justine Hamac, Adelina Hernandez, Nadaly Jones, Annika Lingad, Sophia Olin, Sofia Remelius, Harper Sullens, and Sophia Wang, has been working hard to take JBHS to the top, with a current record of 6-6 in the Pacific League and 8-6 total.

During their first game at Brookside Golf Course on March 30th playing against Burbank, Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, and Glendale, JBHS came in third place out of five with a team score of 282. Social distancing and mask-wearing procedures were followed during the game. JBHS' lowest scorers were Adelina Hernandez with 57, Alexis Gopez with 55, and Annika Lingad with 48.

In their second game at Debell Golf Course on April 13th playing against Burbank High, Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, and Glendale, JBHS came in third place out of five with a team score of 272. JBHS' lowest scorers were Madi Lee with 54, Sadie Demmert with 53, and Annika Lingad with 43.

On their third game at Altadena Golf Course on May 4th playing against Burbank High, Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, and Glendale, JBHS came in third place out of five with a team score of 273. JBHS' lowest scorers were Justine Hammac with 54 , Sadie Demmert with 52, and Annika Lingad with 51.

During their fourth game at Arcadia Golf Course on April 27th playing against Burbank High, Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, and Glendale, JBHS came in third place out of five with a team score of 268. JBHS' lowest scorers were Adelina Hernandez with 54, Annika Lingad with 52, and Justine Hamac with 51.

In their fifth game at Altadena Golf Course on May 4th playing against Burbank High, Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, and Glendale, JBHS came in third place out of five with a team score of 257. JBHS' lowest scorers were Sadie Demmert and Alexis Gopez with 54, Adelina Hernandez with 52, and Annika Lingad with 47.

On their sixth game at Brookside Golf Course on May 11th playing against Burbank High, Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, and Glendale, JBHS came in third place out of five with a team score of 251. JBHS' lowest scorers were Adelina Hernandez with 52, Sophia Olin with 51, and Annika Lingad with 47.

Coach Everhart commented, "The girls have clinched 3rd place in Pacific League and are continuing to improve and stay consistent."

Sadie Demmert, Senior Team Captain and golf player of six years, remarked, "I was really excited that we got the chance to play, and it was really nice to see the girls again and actually see people." She is currently considering her college options but plans to continue playing golf for fun. "I think that the program is great, wonderful, and I met so many new friends."

Her advice for incoming Freshmen interested in the golf program is to "enjoy their four years because it goes by very fast. Be consistent, don't give up, don't be afraid to make good friends on the team because your teammates are the best!"

Sadie also shared her favorite memory from her time on the golf team, "After the tournaments we used to go to team dinners, and hang out, and it was very nice to talk to all the girls after."

"Our top ranked girl is Annika Lingad," Coach Everhart remarked. "She puts in the time and always practices with a purpose. She is consistently our low medalist for the girls team."



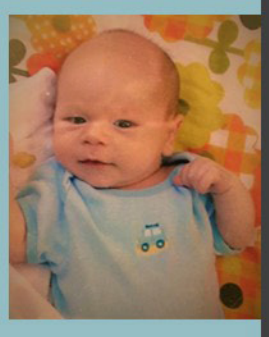
Annika Lingad, Sophomore and golf player of three years, commented, "I'm really glad we had a season, because golf for girls is usually in the fall season. I made a lot of new friends from the other teams as well when we played in groups, so that's fun."

Her favorite memory from playing on the golf team is "making new friends and having fun with the team, and these last six tournaments have been really good, just improving and things like that." Her advice to incoming golfers is to "not stress about tryouts, because it looks scary, but as long as you have fun it's just… don't worry at all. When I first joined, it was my first high school thing, just don't worry and you'll make friends with all the girls because they're all nice."

The girls golf season has truly been a rollercoaster this year! Be sure to cheer them on in the League Finals next week!





Dear Braeden,

We are so incredibly proud of you, always. You are going to have all kind of adventures and do amazing things, and we can't wait to cheer you on! We know your trajectory is straight up!

Love,

Dad, Mom, Avery & Bailey

BRAEDEN MATSUMOTO

CLASS of 2021

Boys Golf

By Molly Boyke
Editor In Chief

The JBHS Boys Golf team has had an un-fore-gettable season so far, winning their first League title since 1970!

The team is the best one a-round, led by senior David Gonzalez with players Adriel Abaoag, Elijah Dowers, Daniel Gonzalez, Kodiak Hernandez, Westley Hilton, Gabe Holloway, Emilio Huerta, Brodie Kemp, Ryan McGowan, Lincoln Melcher, John Peltier, Trey Sanchez, Vincent Santos-Cedro, and Dylan Vallejo. They currently hold a record of 15-2 in league.

On their first match at Brookside golf course against Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, Burbank High, Pasadena, and Glendale, JBHS came in first place out of five with a team score of 370. Low scorers of the team were senior Ryan McGowan with 75, Emilio Huerta with 73, and Lincoln Melcher with 70.

In their second match on April 15 at Whittier Narrows Golf Course against Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, Burbank High, Pasadena, and Glendale, JBHS came in third place out of five with a team score of 433. Low scorers of the team were Dylan Vallejo with 88, Adriel Abaoag with 79, and Emilio Huerta with 76, which was the third lowest score of the entire game.

On their third match on April 22 at DeBell golf course against Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, Burbank High, Pasadena, and Glendale, JBHS came in first place out of five with a team score of 362. JBHS players made up four of the five low medalists of the game, with Lincoln Melcher at 68, Emilio Huerta at 69, Adriel Abaoag at 71, and Ryan McGowan at 71.

During their fourth match at Brookside Golf Course against Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, Burbank High, Pasadena, and Glendale on April 29th, JBHS came in first place out of five with a team score of 380. The top two low medalists of the game were Lincoln Melcher with 71 and Senior Ryan McGowan with 72.

During their fifth match at Santa Anita Golf Course against Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, Burbank High, Pasadena, and Glendale on May 6, JBHS came in first place out of five with a team score of 360. Adriel Abaoag and Lincoln Melcher made up the third and fourth low medalists of the game, with scores of 68 and 69, respectively.

Top players are Junior Lincoln Melcher, who is verbally committed to playing golf at UCLA and is currently the top ranked Junior in all of California, Sophomore Emilio Huerta, #3 in the Pacific League who shot 2 under par at DeBell Golf Course, Freshman Adrial Abaoag, consistently shooting close to or even par, and Senior Ryan McGowan, who has shot even par twice this year and is the best Senior golfer.

Team Captain, Senior Daniel Gonzalez, an avid golf player of seven and a half years and a player at JBHS for all four, is committed to CSUN and is currently considering options in their golf programs: "If I can help with any golf programs, I'll do that. Because I've always played golf, it's always been part of my routine, so if I just stop I feel like I don't have anything to do."

Daniel is also feeling very enthusiastic about this year's golf season, "Going into the season I was really excited, last year before COVID hit we were undefeated and winning league, and then COVID hit so we dropped our season. We only dropped one Senior but we gained a lot of really great Freshmen and I knew we were going to have a great team. We've had a lot of fun so far. Since I've been a Freshman Arcadia has always gone first, so going into this year, I'm feeling really good about it." He offered advice for incoming golfers: "Have fun, I mean, on paper golf is really easy and I've realized that it really isn't, just have fun and you've got four years to shape it up and you've got a ton of guys on the team who will help you along the way. Our coach is always there and he's really great."

Daniel also recounted his favorite memory from his years of playing for JBHS: "It had to be my first Varsity match that was also my first league match. I ended up shooting three over par that



day, and it was super fun because our team captain, one of my best friends, it was between me and him who would play, and Niko put in a good word for me and I ended up playing really well that day." Niko Coccio, the team captain last year, has since graduated from JBHS and currently plays golf at Rogers State University in Oklahoma.

To end their Pacific League season, and to win the Pacific League Title, the boys shot 362 (7 over par) as a team on Thursday at DeBell led by Senior Ryan McGowan and Freshman Adriel Abaoag who both shot a 1 under par score of 70.

On winning Pacific League, Head Coach Greg Everhart states, "We are ecstatic to be part of Burroughs history and to clinch a League Title at our home course DeBell was a cherry on top. Congrats to all the hard work these boys have put in during this unprecedented year."

The Boys Golf Team has played hard and well this season. Let's wish them luck going into CIF playoffs!








CONGRATULATIONS
MADISON MANAHAN
JBHS Class of 2021

We are so proud of you for overcoming all the challenges you faced this pandemic senior year. What you overcome only makes you that much stronger for any future challenges and is a testament to your perseverance, metal fortitude, and desire for success.

We are excited for the young adult you have become and know your future is bright and full of new more exciting adventures. We will always be here for you no matter where you are!

SDSU Bound – Go Aztecs!

With all our Love,
Dad, Mom, Megan, Marcus, and Buster











Congratulations Gabrielle!

Your senior year was not easy, but you tackled it head on with strength and grace. Continue to aim high, never settle for less than you deserve and I know you will accomplish anything you put your mind to.

I love you,
Mom













CLASS OF 2021

Girls Soccer

By Athena Vournas
Staff Writer

After almost over a year with no outdoor activities, sports have finally resumed and the Girls Soccer Team has never been more ready and excited to play.

Coach Brady Riggs, Louis Binda and Robert Sanchez have returned again for another exciting year in hopes of leading these girls to victory.

Although the team lost some key Senior starters last year, the girls still have a solid returning line-up.

What sets Girls Soccer apart from the rest is the team's strong pack of leaders. The Captains are returning Senior players Gabby Morales, Jessie Virtue and Lauryn Bailey. After concluding the season with a 6-2 record, Morales says, "obviously we would have liked to win the league, but given the crazy circumstances of the pandemic I think our main goal would be to work as a team and make it to playoffs."

For this year's unusual season, the Girls Soccer teams' opponents were Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, Pasadena, Muir, Hoover High, Glendale and Burbank.

Last year, the Girls Soccer Team had a great season and so this year's expectations were extremely high as well, of course considering the circumstances.

Because of the Covid pandemic and little amount of time for sports, the girls had all their games crammed together into only four weeks over the span of April 15 to May 6.

Their first League game of the season was a home game against Muir High School on Thursday April 15th. Luckily, the girls were able to start the season off with a win and a score of 9 - 0.

On Saturday, April 17th the girls played their second game against Pasadena resulting in a 1-0 win.

The third Varsity soccer game was an away game against Glendale High School. They lost by a score of 0-1, Tuesday April 27th.

The team also won April 30th at Friday's home game against Hoover and again the following Mondays, May 3rd, games against Arcadia by a score of 2-1.

The girls then played on Tuesday April 4th at an away game against Crescenta Valley. The physical game was tension filled and emotions were at an all time high. Ultimately, Burroughs faced their second loss of the season with a score of 1-2.



The Girl's last League game was played on Thursday April 6th against Burbank High School. They won 5-0. The girls played hard to dominate the field and led themselves to victory. Lily Gonzalez, Lauren Bailey, and Olivia Aguilar worked together as forwards to score multiple goals throughout the game. Gabby Morales, Jessica Virtue , and Maille Romberger also did an outstanding job holding the defensive line together to support the midfield and forwards. Towards the end of the game, all graduating seniors were able to play together on the field; Gabby Morales, JessieVirtue, Bailey, Gonzalez, Romberger, Olivia Aguilar, Ashley Peltier, Kiana Buhlmann, and Kylee Obermeyer. They ended up with a great win and showed amazing team effort.

Girls Soccer's victory will lead them to next week's playoffs and the opportunity to win CIF. Come out and support the team as they play their last few games this year!

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The Smoke Signal
1920 W. Clark Ave
Burbank CA 91506
kyleFitzgerald@burbankusd.org

The Signal is the official newspaper of John Burroughs High School, created by Journalism students. Opinions expressed are those of the bylined writers and do not represent the views of the Burroughs faculty or staff or the Burbank Unified School District.

Everything Subject To Change

Because of the nature of the Pandemic, we at The Signal wanted to mention that everything in this paper that mentions a future event is subject to change if the Health Department, School or School District, or other entity, requires it. This includes but is not limited to Graduation, The Senior Picnic, future sporting events, and the list of Upcoming Events.

Boys Soccer

By Bella Santillo
Staff Writer

Since the pandemic, John Burroughs Bears Varsity Boys Soccer Team has been saving their energy to take on and win their way to the playoffs in the 2020-2021 school year.

While the team may not have been practicing together during the first semester, the team is eager to come back better than ever to show their skills on the field.

The Boys Soccer Team is coached by Michael Solano, Jon Hernandez, and Andres Aguilar. Both Michael and Andres are Alumni of John Burroughs High School. Since last year, the coaches believe that the team has great potential. The two coaches have selected Seniors Elias Galaviz, Josiah Aviles, and Junior Jaden Vasquez as Varsity's three captains.

Elias is a right-wing position on the field and was offered a captain's position for being known as one of the most skilled collected players on the team and naturally warm-hearted.

Josiah is joined with Elias as a center-back position. Josiah is characterized and known as a loud and directive veteran of the Boys Soccer Team. Since his Freshman year, Josiah has been on the team and has improved his performance and positive attitude.

Like Josiah, Jaden has played for the Boys Soccer Team since his Freshman year. He is the only selected Junior captain. While he has been on the team for three years, he's been playing soccer for a total of fifteen years. Unfortunately, he was recently injured in the team's last game against Pasadena. Jaden plans to attend their games to cheer on his teammates, hoping to make it to the playoffs. Jaden is fantastic at communicating with his teammates and keeps the same energy on and off the field.

While Elias, Josiah, and Jaden may be the team captains, other star players make their presence known on the field. Manuel Gonzalez and Jacob Cardenez are both essential players who've helped the team win countless games.

During the pandemic, each individual player has made an effort to practice despite being at home. Now that they've been practicing in person, they spend their time strategizing with their coaches and critiquing minor mistakes so they can win their next upcoming games. Together, the team has been working on their low and high blocking. Coaches also prioritize their players to understand that soccer takes physical training and conditioning but mental preparation.

On Thursday, April 22, the team played against Arcadia High School, winning with a 1-0. Thankfully, Elias Galaviz made the score, breaking a tie. The players agreed that they were "dominant" over their opponents when it came to their offense and defense tactics. Also, Arcadia left many opportunities for Burroughs to make easy passes and goals.

While the team has experienced more wins than losses, the team did take a hit from Glendale High School on April 27th. The players acknowledge that they hadn't brought the same intensity onto the field that day compared to their other games. That afternoon, the team described their plays as, "flat," with countless mistakes and finding it hard to find their rhythm. Compared to Glendale, they came ready to win.

On April 30th, the team battled against Hoover High School ending the game with a tie of 1-1. Even though the two teams tied, Boroughs players felt they had the "upperhand" in which they had better technical skills compared to the other team. The boys left more goal scoring opportunities, however there is more room for improvement. As a team, they agreed that they could not apply their finishing touches to actually win the game. Star players Manuel Gonzalez scored off a free-kick across the field and Elias Galaviz was capable of scoring their goal, tying the game. Aside from Manuel and Elias, Andrew Gonzalez Salvador and Zach Levy solidly defended during the entire game. Aside from the mobile players, Jacob Cardenes fulfilled his duty of defending the goal not allowing any Hoover players to score.

In May, the team expects to face Crescenta Valley then Burrough's primary rival, Burbank High.

According to Elias Galviz, "Our team is well rounded, and we have many who are capable of moving the ball around very well. We may lack in some areas, but the players have the potential to fill in for it. The team as a whole is good and has built chemistry. As a whole, we shoot to perform our best and get the results we want."

The team is faithful they can beat their opponents to make it to the playoffs as long as they utilize and practice their strategies and guidance from coaches.





CLASS OF 21

Sebastian "Dodo" Reinoso

HAPPY GRADUATION DAY TO OUR AWESOME SON, COOL BROTHER, AND LOVING GRANDSON.IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU GROW UP. SINCE YOU WERE A YOUNG CHILD, YOU HAVE BEEN FUNNY, WITTY AND CARING. YOU WERE ALSO VERY MUCH LOVED BY YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY. YOU HAVE A GREAT PERSONALITY AND ARE SO SMART. YOU HAVE BECOME SUCH A WONDERFUL YOUNG MAN, AND WE ARE ALL SO PROUD OF YOU.
YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL, DESPITE BEING A SENIOR IN THE CLASS OF 2021, DURING THIS CRAZY PANDEMIC AND ONLINE LEARNING. YOUR PATIENCE AND HARD WORK ARE PAYING OFF. CONTINUE TO WORK HARD IN ORDER TO REACH ALL YOUR GOALS. DREAM BIG! WE ARE CELEBRATING YOU AND YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TODAY, AND CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS. WE WISH YOU SUCCESS ON YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE. MAY GOD BLESS YOU TODAY AND ALWAYS.
WITH ALL OUR LOVE, DAD, MOM, MICAELA, SOFIE, NICKY, SAL, MIKEY, ANISSA, BABY MIKEY & YOUR GRANDPARENTS.

Jabes Castillo

IN THE MIDST OF THIS PANDEMIC, I CAN SAY THAT YOU'VE MADE IT MY DEAR JABES. IT HAS BEEN A VERY COMPLICATED YEAR, BUT YOU WERE ABLE TO ADAPT AND PUSH THROUGH TO FINISH THIS PHASE OF YOUR LIFE. WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU AND WE THANK GOD BECAUSE WE KNOW HE HAS GREAT PLANS FOR YOUR LIFE, AND HIS PLANS ARE PERFECT. YOU KNOW LIFE IS NOT EASY (SINCE YOU WERE IN THE WOMB), BUT CONTINUE HAVING FAITH AND YOU WILL REACH YOUR GOALS.
WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH OUR BEAUTIFUL JABES.
MAY GOD BLESS YOUR LIFE ALWAYS. PAPI, MAMI, ZOE Y MIKEL.

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF THE FAITH. TAKE HOLD OF THE ETERNAL LIFE TO WHICH YOU WERE CALLED WHEN ZYOU MADE YOUR GOOD CONFESSION IN THE PRESENCE OF MANY WITNESSES. 1 TIMOTHY 6:12

Cross Country

By Elise McMillen
Staff Writer

John Burroughs High School's Cross Country Team has consistently inspired and fueled school spirit every year, even in the midst of a global pandemic.

They have truly been a constant example of resilience and teamwork in this difficult time.

No one can appreciate JBHS's Cross Country team without first looking toward the Coach- Mr. John Peebles, a well-known, perseverant hardworking member of the John Burroughs Athletics department for a long time. In fact, his part on the team began before he was even coaching; Peebles ran in Cross Country during his own high school career here at John Burroughs.

In an interview for RunnerSpace.Com, after being nominated for the Brooks Inspiring Coach Of The Year Finalist 2016, he stated that he "has respect and admiration for people who do the 'simple things,' and that he "just focuses on the kids.''

He is very humble about all of the work he does for his students.

He keeps a positive attitude with his students at competitions, saying that their competitors are "the same as [his students], they just wear a different jersey."

Burroughs Cross Country and Track and Field Coach John Peebles was one of the 13 Finalists, including the only honoree from California, for Brooks Inspiring Coach of the Year. Peebles also impressively led Burroughs to the Southern Section Division I Boys Cross Country Title in 2014.

Unfortunately for the team members on Cross Country this year, no competitions have been scheduled, due to the Pandemic. Since Covid and Quarantine hit, being in competitions simply was not possible or safe for team members.

However, in accordance with the State of California, Los Angeles County, and CIF Southern Section Guidelines, JBHS and BHS implemented Phase 2 of the athletics restart early this semester.

The Phase 2 rollout began Monday, February 22, 2021 with Golf, Tennis, Swimming, Track and Field, and Cross Country. This included a list of guidelines to keep Cross Country athletes safe, such as single entry and exit points, temperature checks, execution of the BUSD liability waiver, daily pre-practice screenings, practice pods, practice physical distancing, masks to be worn at all times (except when involved in strenuous activity), frequent sanitation of high touch areas, and, the use of a single user water bottle.

Luckily for the team, practice hasn't stopped, and even though there weren't any official competitions, the spirit of JBHS is definitely alive and well in Cross Country.

Also, fortunately for most of the Cross Country Team, the athletes who wanted to compete in distance running had the option of joining the Track and Field Team (see the article below) and compete in many events later in the semester.

Track And Field

By Elizabeth Surratt
Sports Editor

It's been an odd year, and Track and Field has been no exception. Luckily, most of the Track and Field Team has been able to compete in their competitions this year, if in a slightly modified way than traditionally.

The majority of the meets from this season were held at Arcadia High School.

Each athlete was allowed two spectators to attend that must be socially distant in the stands. Each person who entered the school was asked to fill out a health screening form that could be accessed by scanning a QR-code.

Athletes and spectators were to show proof of their form completed before being let in. The Mask mandate was still mandatory at all times, even if you were fully vaccinated.

Athletes did have the exception to take off their masks when competing if they chose to do so.

Otherwise, most of the season went fairly normal.

Burroughs kicked off the season on March 27th with their first meet versus Glendale High School. Sophomore Otelia Lighthill kicked off her season by placing number three in John Burroughs High School all-time girls Soph/Frosh discus with a whopping total of 84'5''.

On Thursday April 8th, four athletes attended the Simi Valley Invitational. Senior Kiara Cruz and Sophomore Vivi Cannon both ran the 1600. Freshman Otelia Lighthill and Senior Jag Reivers participated in the discus. Otelia broke her personal record and reached 85'4'' ranking her up to number two in John Burroughs all time girls Soph/Frosh for discus.

The next meet was on Saturday on April 17th at Arcadia High School's Pacific League eight-team meet. The Sophomore on fire Otelia Lighthill broke her personal record for a third time throwing 92'6'' in the discus which furthered her spot as number two in John Burroughs all time girls Soph/Frosh.

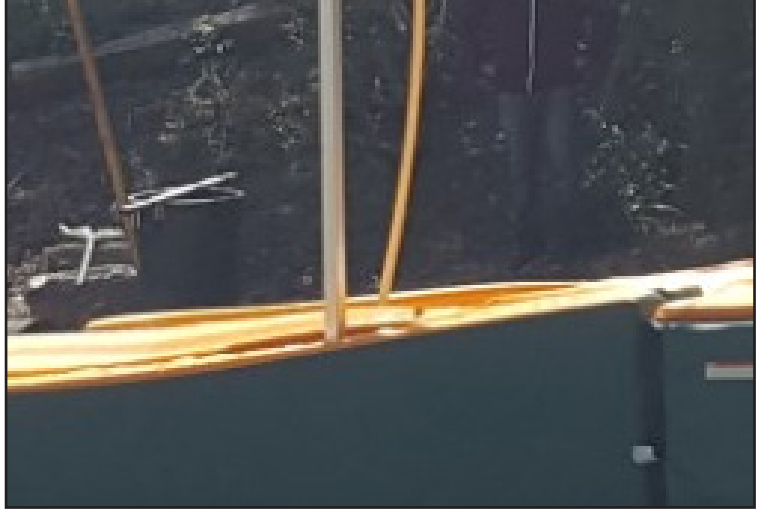
On Saturday April 8th at the Arcadia Invitational Eli Gault-Crabb placed 2nd with a mark of 15'9 making him number one in the Pacific League for pole vault.

Eli has been one of the most outstanding Senior athletes on the team, and had a lot to say about the season.

In regards to the Pandemic, Eli stated that, "although it's been difficult to compete at meets, we've still been able to practice consistently. Recently, since cases have been going down more, meets have been popping up which means more opportunities to jump higher or run faster. It's been tough to get the chance to break the school's record, with so far just two competitions where I could qualify. It's a record I could break if I just get more opportunities to compete. The next month or two looks very very hopeful. Coach Peebles and I are going to every meet together and that's pretty much it. Even with all the chaos from the pandemic cooling down, Track and Field was still able to pick up its season in late March to give the athletes a chance to perform."







Freshman Hendrix Chittick and Darius Howland qualified for the High Jump with Hendrix ranked 5th in the league with a mark of 4'2. Senior Elizabeth Surratt also qualifies with her mark of 4'4 ranking her 7th in the league.

Junior Savannah Hernandez will be running the 1600 as she is ranked 16th in the league with her mile time of 6:03.82.

Sophomore Lindsey Mazarei and Senior Elizabeth Surratt will both run in the 100 meter hurdles and the 300 meter hurdles. Elizabeth is ranked 6th in both events with a 100 hurdle time of 18.72 and a 300 hurdle time of 53.84. Lindsey is ranked 8th in the 100 meter hurdles with her time of 19.92.

Senior Jag Reivers will be throwing in the shot put and the discus. She's ranked 4th in the league for discus with a mark of 90'4. She's also ranked 8th in shot put with her mark of 25'1.5. Otelia Lighthill Is ranked 3rd in the league with her mark of 92'6.

The last two meets of the season will be held on Saturday May 22nd at Arcadia High School for Pacific league prelims and the last meet of the season will be held on Wednesday May 26th at Arcadia High School for Pacific League finals.

Only athletes who qualify will move on to CIF prelims where the dates are to be determined.

This season was undoubtedly different from the rest because meet results are not based on the school that won but on the individual athletes' scores.







Congratulations Mariah!!

May your graduation be just the beginning of a lifetime of fulfillment for you.

We are so proud of you!!





Girls Tennis

By Marty Coha
Opinion Editor



This year has been dull for many sports teams.

However, when push comes to shove the girls on Varsity Tennis are still a sisterhood. With Roy Bernhardt as their coach and Valerie Lentine and Isabella Harris-Bermudez as Varsity team captains these girls were able to make this year a swinging success.

Some background information on the two Varsity captains is that Valerie Lentine is a Senior while Isabella Harris-Bermudez is a Junior. They would like to focus on "trying their best to win as many games as possible and bond as a team."

These captains want nothing but success for their team but they know that it's the friendships they make that really stand out.

As for Coach Bernhardt he attended Santa Ana College then enlisted in the army before going to UCLA.

Coach Bernhardt then found his way to coaching tennis at CSUN and the Valley College Tennis Team.

He coached at Valley College for twenty years. He's been coaching at John Burroughs High School for twenty-one years now.

This year the team has prepared for their season by doing "Challenge matches and practices every week day." This is to make sure that everyone on the team is in top shape to play against their rivals.

When asked about who the star player is Valerie Lentine and Isabella Harris-Bermudez agreed that "every player is important and a star player for our team. All of the members of the team have worked hard throughout the season. Without each of them we wouldn't be where we are. Each and every one of them is a valuable part of this team."

During this season Varsity Tennis has been doing their best. Captain Isabella Harris-Bermudez states, "So far this season we have won one game and lost three games. We hope that we will be able to win one more match, which would be against Burbank, and be able to take our whole team to CIF."

Their scores from the games this year were Pasadena 18-0, Glendale 7-11, C.V. 5-13. and Arcadia 1-17.

Sadly, in the big cross town rivalry game, the Girls Varsity lost to Burbank 5-13. About the match, though, Girls Varsity player Valerie Lentine didn't have any regrets because, as she states, "it went well we definitely played our best and grew as a dream from it."

That positive spirit led the team to victory in later matches against other teams later in the season.

Their tops scores and top player moments were Isabella Harris-Bermudez going 6-1 at Glendale, and 6-2 CV.

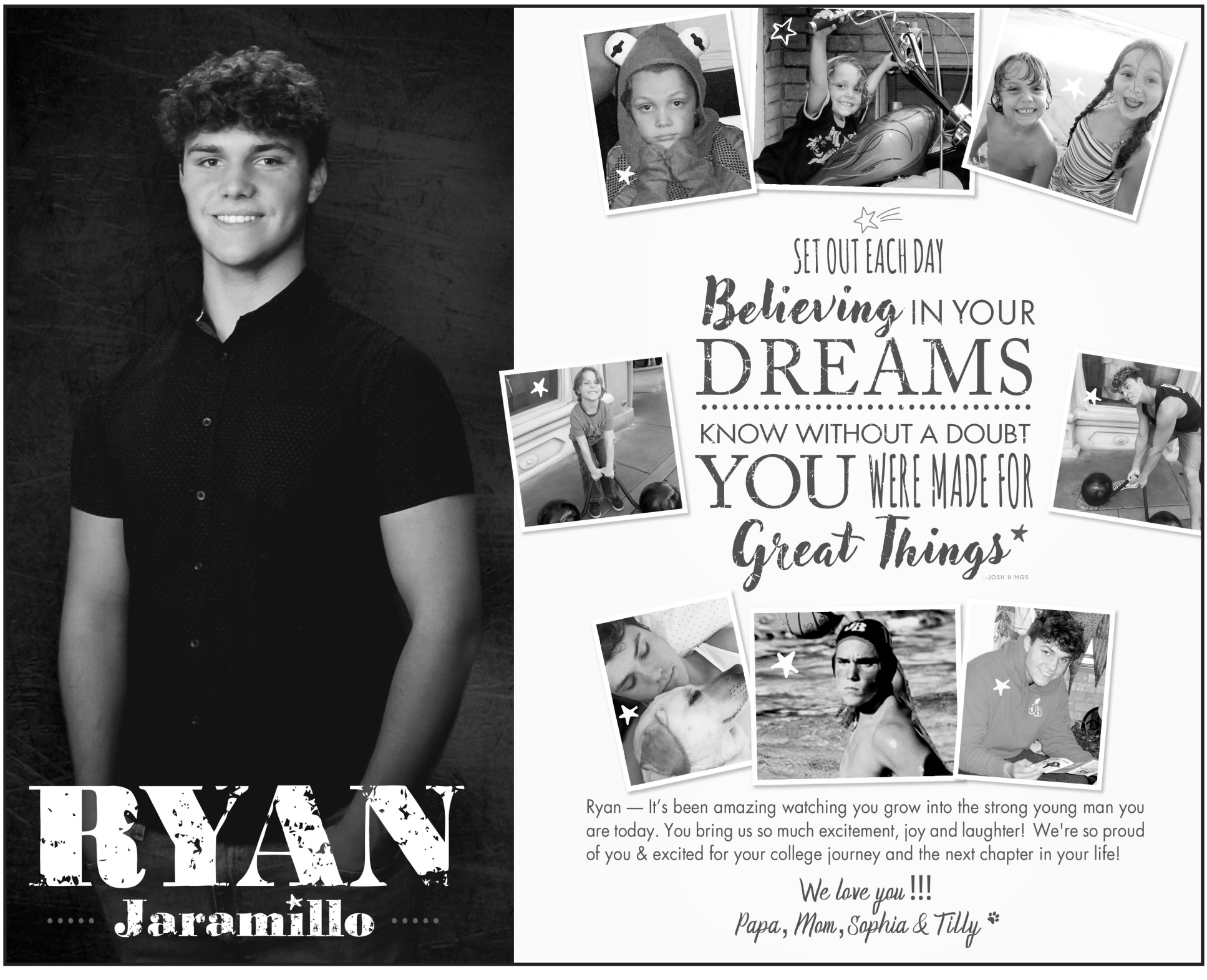
Lauren Pieri went 6-2 at Glendale, and 6-1 at CV.

Keili Brahms and Vanessa Muga went 6-1 and 6-0 in doubles at Glendale, and 6-3 in doubles at CV.

To wrap up her entire JBHS Tennis career Senior Meagan Vo states, "Tennis has been such an amazing experience and I'm so grateful for the friendships I've made."

Congratulations to Girls Tennis for having a great, if not short and quite different, season this odd 2020-2021.

Good luck, and hoping for a more normal season, to the returners next year!



Boys Tennis

By Elise McMillen
Staff Writer

In this year of uncertainty and less than ideal circumstances, Boys Tennis has seen a great year, and each and every player who graced John Burroughs's court made that possible with their hard work and determination in 2021.

The John Burroughs Boys Tennis Team is run by the hardworking Varsity Coach Mr. Bernhardt, and the just as perseverant Junior Varsity Coach, Mr. Fernando.

Mr. Fernando, after graduating from JBHS in 1997, attended UC Riverside. He became a coach because " [He liked] the sport of tennis and [liked] to work and coach athletes playing tennis and competing in tennis; [He] also played tennis for [His] high school tennis team [here at John Burroughs]."

Coach Bernhardt attended Valley College and Northridge College for his post high school education.

The Coaches' goals for the year was "for the tennis team to be successful and make CIF playoffs, which the Boys Varsity Team did."

The Team Captains for the year were Zion DuMonde and Kyle Lester. When asked, Mr. Fernando explained that "They became Captains because they made a very convincing argument why they would be good Captains and team leaders; They also met the qualifications for a Captain."

And he added proudly when asked about the star players, "Zion DuMonde is our #1 singles player and Kyle Lester plays #1 Doubles with his partner, Blake Hildebrandt."

There are no new coaches, but Mr Fernando and Mr. Bernhardt are ready for when their next season will start and bring back wins.

The JBHS League record for Boy's Tennis is 2-3 and 4th place in Pacific League. Impressively, this year Michael Fraser made it to the second round of League Prelims. Kyle Lester and Blake Hildebrandt also made it to the second round of League Prelims.

Next week Boys Tennis starts CIF Playoffs. They play in the wildcard round. If they win the wildcard round, then they will advance to the first round of CIF playoffs.

The team is looking great and ready to take home the win at CIF.

Seniors on Varsity include: Blake Hildebrandt, Trieu Nguyen, Jackie Nguyen, and Zander Zantua.

Blake Hildebrant said "I guess my overall goal was just graduating and just getting through the quarantine and a goal for tennis would be just making sure I had fun during my last year. I really enjoyed being on the team throughout high school because it allowed me to have fun at school which is very rare, as well as allowing me to meet some cool people," he expressed.

Congratulations to the boys who made it to CIF, and good luck on making it to the second round!





Dainava



CONGRATULATIONS ON ALL YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS!

WE KNOW YOU WILL ACCOMPLISH REMARKABLE THINGS AND CONTINUE TO AMAZE US.

YOU TRULY HAVE THE BIGGEST HEART!

MYLIM,
MAMA, TĖTIS, GABIJA IR BREKA



Boys Basketball

By Mavrik Ferris
Staff Writer

Boys Basketball has had a difficult season, due to, like most of us have, dealing with Covid-19.

They are 4-7 overall, but a slightly better 2-2 in the Pacific League.

They started the season on April 17th with a loss to Providence High School 67-51, and had another loss, this time by just a couple of baskets, on April 21st to Shalhevet, 62-58.

Their first win came April 23rd against St. Monica Academy, by an impressive 76-52.

Sadly they lost their fourth game on April 26th to South Pasadena, 66-61.

Their next game, on April 30th, was a victory, 65-55 against Santa Fe.

Their final pre-season game was a loss to Whittier 75-49.

They also began their Pacific League season against Pasadena with a loss, 69-42, and continued with another loss against Arcadia 60-55, both in the first week of May.

But their final back to back (May 11th and 12th) two games in the Pacific League have been victories, a nail biter against Glendale, 60-58, and a blowout against Muir, 56-39.

Lets hope they continue this winning streak their next three games this week and next against Hoover, CV and of course Burbank High!

Their Burbank game will be May 20th at 7PM away.

Girls Basketball

By Brooke Bashar
Staff Writer

Game seasons have been halted this year and last year due to the Coronavirus, however sports teams have found new ways to practice and come together to play games whether those games are for practice or competition.

The Burroughs Girls Basketball team have come together to play basketball and impressively so for the current conditions in the sports world.

Coached by Victoria Oganyan, this team has made it to playing in person and spending time on the court again.

The Girls Basketball mascot has now become the Bears, corresponding to the new Burroughs mascot.

The team played their first game April 16th and have been playing competitively since April 12th. The Girls Basketball team became cleared to use the gym by testing for Covid-19. They are playing a short six week session and have around eighteen games scheduled to play throughout those weeks.

The Girls Basketball team had an opportunity to sign up for a workout program in the fall and winter through the Burbank Parks and Recreation program. The program followed a three-time-a-week outdoor session schedule. There were around fifteen to eighteen girls who participated. The team started meeting in person for outdoor practices March 15th and started indoor practices April 12th.

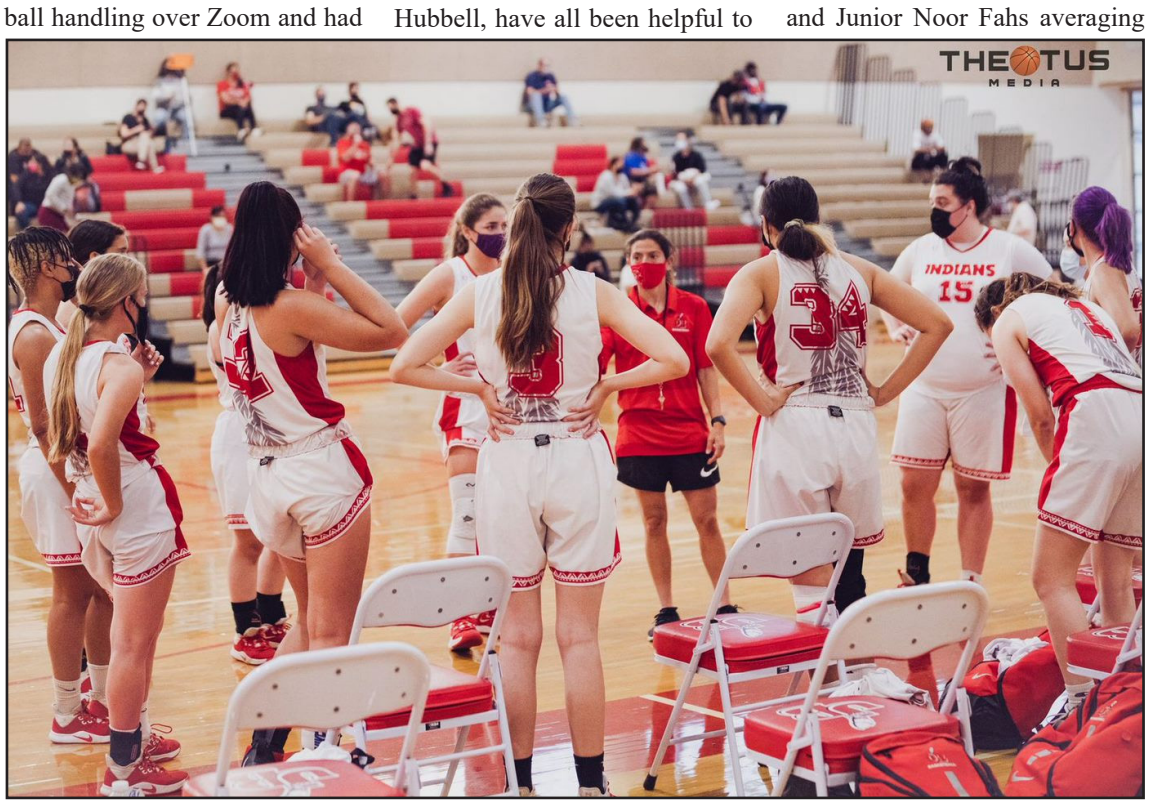
The Burroughs Girls Basketball Coach Victoria Oganyan said, "It took away our opportunity to practice together, play in the summer and fall to get experience, bond as a team and of course a lot of our fun basketball trips we usually take [were cancelled]."

Oganyan says they practiced ball handling over Zoom and had to adjust to the shortened season and are still figuring out how to get players and a team to improve and complete the shortened season.

"Everything From planning phases of workouts, to team plays, to scheduling has been tough" says Oganyan about the adjustments she has had to make as a coach.

Collaborating with other coaches, talking with friends about their experiences, and discussions with AP of Athletics Mr. Hubbell, have all been helpful to the team. Hubbell been very helpful and getting them back on the court and competing and they are very thankful for that.

The team is currently led by the following players: Senior Kayla Wrobel averaging 11 points, 7.6 rebounds, 1.4 steals, Senior Faith Boulanger averaging 9 points, 4.3 rebounds, 2.1 assists, 1.6 steals, 2.1 blocks, Senior Dyani Del Castillo averaging 7.7 points, 3.7 rebounds, 1.3 steals, Sophomore Izzy Roderick averaging 5.4 points, 6.1 rebounds, and Junior Noor Fahs averaging 5.2 points, 2.1 rebounds.



The goals for their season is to make playoffs, according to Coach Oganyan, who says, "We have played some really tough competition in preparation for the playoffs. In a short season like this we needed to play tough competition in order to get ready. Playoffs are set to begin May 27th. We are playing league games and non league games with the goal of qualifying for the playoffs."

So far the team is 3-1 in the Pacific League (7-5 overall), beating Muir 58-17 away, Arcadia 62-34 at home, and Glendale 49-36 at home.

Their only Pacific League loss was to Pasadena, 43-6 at home.

They have three more Pacific League games that will determine their CIF Playoff hopes, against Hoover (last Friday, score unknown at time of publication), Crescenta Valley tomorrow, and their big Burbank v. Burroughs game Thursday, May 20th at Burbank at 5:30.

Even though the pandemic has caused an immense amount of difficulty for sports teams, the girls basketball team Oganyan has definitely figured out how to move forward and come together as a team to play once again.

You can keep up with the team on Twitter @BurroughsGirls

Bella what a year you have had! You have overcome so much during this pandemic and found a way to THRIVE. You have lifted our spirits with your optimism and perseverance. We are filled with hope as we watch you move on to your next chapter. We have every confidence that you will be a leader while seeking social justice for all. Your Dad and I could not be more proud of the woman you have become. We love you very much! Congratulations on a job well done! The future is yours!
Love,
Mom and Dad



Bella Boulais 2021

RILEY SIMON

Congratulations on completing the incredible milestone of HIGH SCHOOL!
We are all so proud of the caring, intelligent, compassionate, and brave young man that you are.

We are impressed with the way that you have handled the trials and tribulations of the pandemic & distance learning, as well as the pain of losing a grandparent. Through it all, you have maintained your dignity, strength, and sense of humor. **You are the perfect son, brother, family member and friend**.

Riley, the world is your oyster. Stay true to who you are, keep your head up, believe in yourself, try your best, continue to find the good in others, and stay forever young.



May God bless and keep you always
May your wishes all come true
May you always do for others
And let others do for you
May you build a ladder to the stars
And climb on every rung
And may you stay
Forever young

May you grow up to be righteous
May you grow up to be true
May you always know the truth
And see the lights surrounding you
May you always be courageous
Stand upright and be strong
And may you stay
Forever young

May your hands always be busy
May your feet always be swift
May you have a strong foundation
When the winds of changes shift
May your heart always be joyful
May your song always be sung
And may you stay
Forever young

Bob Dylan







WE LOVE YOU!

XOXO,
Mom, Dad, and Logan
(and Stella & Sadie)

Boys Volleyball

By Judi Browngardt
Staff Writer

Despite the circumstances of this year, the boys on Varsity Volleyball were able to make order on the court. With coaches Joel Brinton, Daniel Marbach, Nick Calderon, and Bryan Felix, it was certain that the team was going to have an outstanding year.

The team's captains are Carter Cottrell and Kade McGovern. The two captains are four-year Varsity players. Carter has been a Captain since his Sophomore year, and this is Kade's first year as a captain. Carter is a setter and Kade is an outside hitter. Both of the captains have been playing volleyball since middle school.

As for the coaches, they have all been players in the volleyball program. Other than Nick Calderon, the coaches are all JBHS graduates. The coaches all love their time playing and want to pass their passion to new players.

When asked about the coaches' goals for the year, coach Joel Brinton expressed, "All the coaches have the goal of helping players become better people, and we use volleyball as our way to do that."

Cole Kvarda, Chris Johnson, Justin Burras, Carter Cotterell, and Kade McGovern are some star players on the team. They have put in loads of hard work throughout their time playing. Most importantly, they are willing to learn from their mistakes. However, the entire Varsity team shares those key abilities as well.

Since the teams' season last year got interrupted shortly after it started, the Boys' Varsity Volleyball Teams' primary goal for the year was to just enjoy playing the game and aim to be the best they could. The coaches want to give their athletes the chance to play with each other and enjoy everything they can from this season.

In their first two games this year, they are undefeated, and more impressively, swept all their matches. Their scores from games this year were South Pasadena 25-17, 25-14, 25-23, Crescenta Valley 25-12, 25-17, 25-18.

They played well in both games. Against South Pasadena, the team's setter and captain, Carter Cottrell, led their offense and provided great leadership. He had six kills, fourteen assists, and two aces. Vinny Harris had eight kills and Cole Kvarda had nine digs.

After those first two impressive games, the boys got their only loss of the season, against St. Francis, 3-1.

Since that one loss though, Boys Volleyball has come out ahead against all of their opponents in impressive victories, beating La Canada (3-1), and Glendale (3-0) (scores were not known for their later games at the time of publication).

Overall they're undefeated in the Pacific League and look to make Playoffs yet again.

This year has been a learning experience for the team and a chance to focus on bettering themselves as people, teammates, and athletes.

Girls Volleyball

By Kimberly Gomez
Staff Writer

As this year comes to an end the Varsity Girls Volleyball team ends the season with a bang. The Varsity team won undefeated throughout all of their games against teams in the Pacific League.

Thankfully, the team was able to have a small season before Spring Break with the help of Coaches Edwin Real and Glenn Hamanaka. Coach Edwin Real attended Pepperdine University and became a coach to guide kids into improving their individual and team skills. Coach Edwin Real says, "This season has really been challenging. It has been hard not going to school, but even harder for our athletes to be stuck at home with no sports."

However, the team was able to practice and get ready for their season with Covid safety measures in place. Coach Real says, "We were only able to train outdoors and in small groups because of Covid. We trained at Gross Park since we were unable to be on campus. Luckily, we were able to set up the volleyball nets and courts on the grass and that helped us when we were forced to play on grass courts, when we normally play in the gym."

Unfortunately, because of the short season there were no captains selected this year, although all players did an amazing job working together. Top players, Meghan Lynch, Catie Virtue, Charlotte Hobson, Heidi Collins, Janessa Wareebor, and Maddie Manahan stood out for their hard work and skills.

The team successfully achieved their goals this season and faced the challenges their way. Senior Mariah Bowman says, "It has really been a tough season, not being able to play in the gyms. I am just happy that we were able to have a season and still be undefeated. Best of all, we really crushed Burbank."

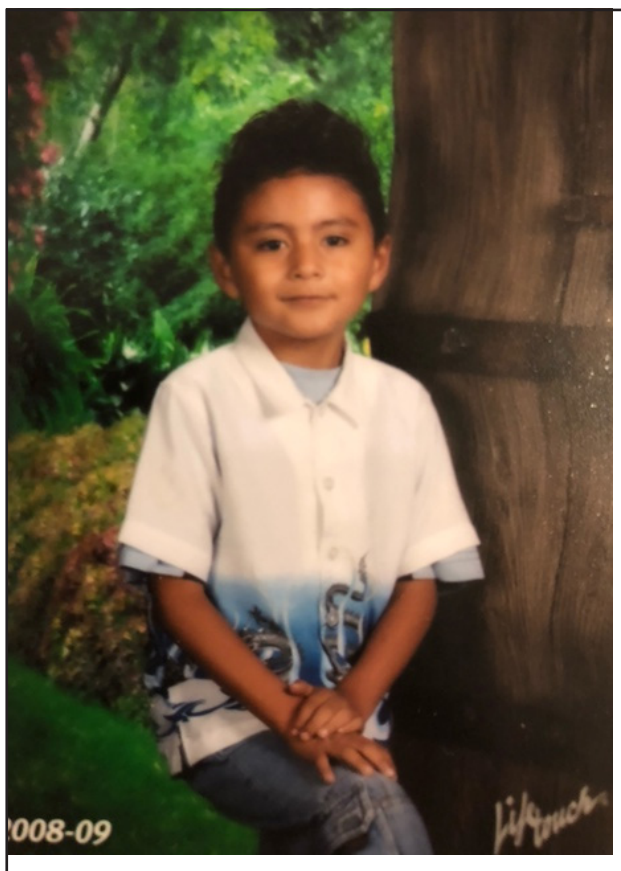
The team played their first game on Thursday, March 4, 2021 at Dolores Huerta Middle School. The Varsity team played against Herbert Hoover High School and won 3-0.

Their next game was on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at Crescenta Valley High School. The team defeated Crescenta with a score of 3-1.

On Thursday, March 11, 2021 they played against Glendale High School at the Burroughs Football Field. The team won 3-0. Then the team played Arcadia High School on Tuesday, March 16, 2021. The team played at home and won 3-1.

The team played their last game of the season on Thursday, March 18, 2021. The team played against Burbank High School on the Burroughs Football Field. The team defeated Burbank with a score of 3-0.

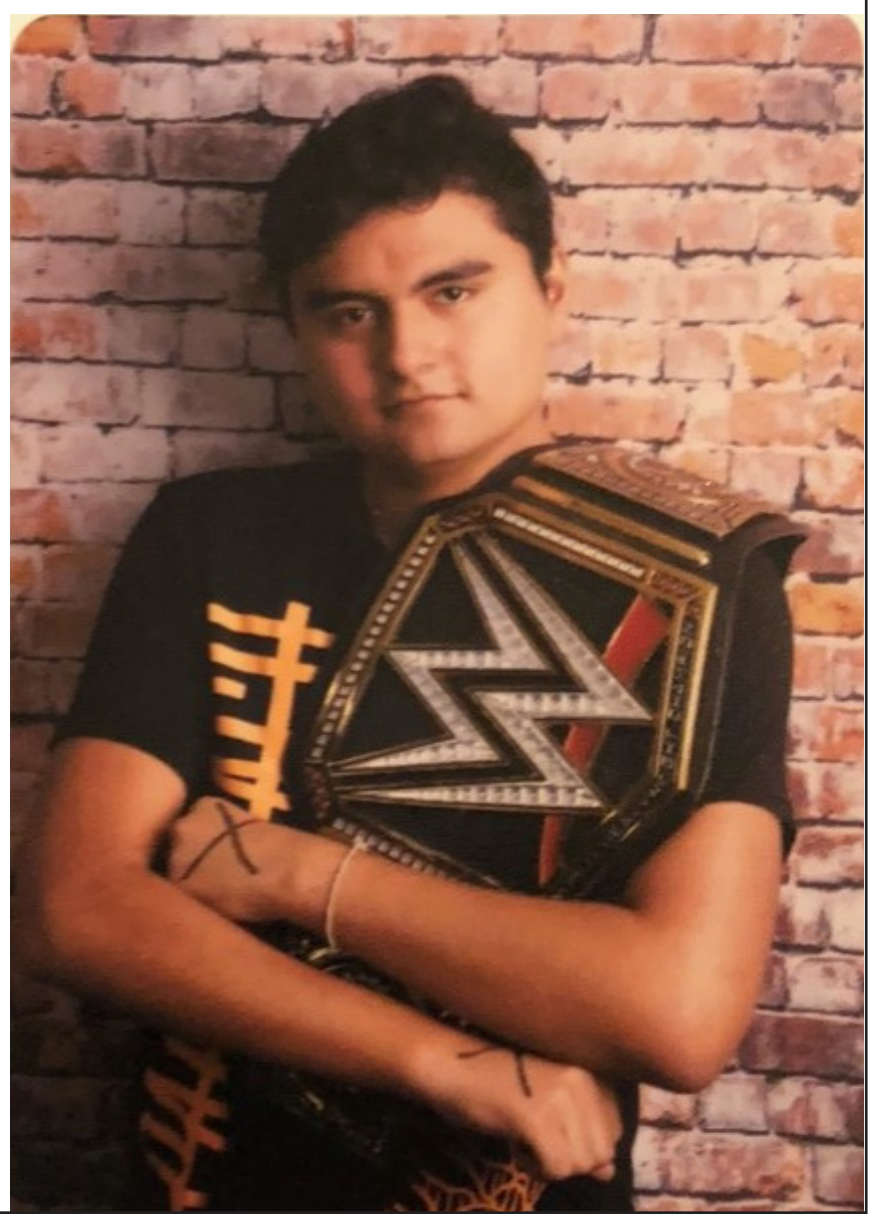
The team did an excellent job winning undefeated this season.



To my amazing son Cesar Ortiz,

Always remember how much we love you
Don't be afraid to conquer your dreams
Be strong, confident and do your best.

Love,
Mom,
Dad,
Gerardo
and
Jasmine



Congratulations!!!