

THE BLADE

Issue 3, Volume XLII

April 7, 2011

“Once Upon a Matress” Turns Out To Be a Great Success

On March 18-19, the Brussels Drama Club staged the musical comedy “Once Upon a Matress,” by Mary Rodgers, upon which they worked very hard for about four months. Ms. Diana Quinn and Ms. Debra Fremoum, the directors of the play, according to many teachers and students who have seen the play, did a terrific job in preparing the actors, consisting of high school and middle school students.

The hand painted background, lighting, music, and the actors were all in harmony with each other and transformed the play into an unforgettable show.

“The play went very well,” said Ms. Quinn. “Kids were really good, especially on Saturday; they had a lot of fun. The backstage crew got better and better in moving the scenery.”

“Such talent and stage presence was really amazing,” said Ms. Whipple. “The prop people, actors, and lighting all came together and made the play such an enjoyable experience for the audience.”

Although on top of the play practices, the students had to keep up with their studies and sports activities, they were really satisfied with their performance.

“It was great and successful,” said a junior, who played the Queen. “The performance was even better the second night.”

“I thought it was great, and all our hard work paid off in the end,” said a senior, who performed as the Minstrel. “We had a lot of fun!”

The play received positive reviews from the teachers and the community.

“Students did their best and I think Ms. Quinn gave the right roles to the right people,” said Madame Bacque. “It



photo by Mr. Westland

The Ladies sing to the Princess

was very obvious that the amount of work from the part of directors was enormous.”

“The idea of painting the decorations was Ms. Quinn’s,” said Mr. Ferry, who was in charge of designing the background. “I got the concepts from her and built the wall and the door.”

“You could see all the hard work the students put in the play,” said Ms. Aeillo. “Everybody who saw it was just amazed and I think this performance was one of the best ones at BAS.”

Among the lead actors who participated in the musical comedy were seniors, juniors, freshmen, and others. Two of the students were the musical accompanists of the show.

Mr. Westland and his video class streamed the play live at ustream.tv, a website that provides a platform for live video streaming of events online. Therefore, many people who missed the play had an opportunity to watch it on the website.



photo by Mr. Westland

Drama Club actors showing their talent to BAS

BAS Students Perform at Honors Band Festival

Two juniors and one senior from BAS participated in the Honors Band Festival of 2011. Every year, the Honors Band festival takes place in one of the DoDDs schools or communities, and the event gives an opportunity for the best DoDDS musicians across Europe to express their talent.

Auditions are submitted by the high school music teachers, and all students were encouraged to participate.

“I am so proud that three students from our school were able to participate in this life changing festival,” said Mr. Rumery.

The auditions are recorded digitally as an mp3 file. Next, they are submitted to the DoDDS server and a jury, consisting of music teachers, then listen, evaluate, and make their decision.

What is interesting is that the jury will not get any information on the performer and will judge based solely on their musical performance. According to Mr. Rumery, the BAS music teacher who accompanied the Brussels students to the festival, there was a record number of submissions this year, about 371 (203 choral and 168 band). Last year, there were 357 auditions (194 choral and 163 band).

Like the previous year, auditions were received from 25 of the 27 high schools in DoDDs-E.

At the Honors Band Festival, much like the Jazz seminar, the chosen musicians first practiced and trained hard with their conductors, then gave a concert in Wiesbaden to the local American and German communities. The participants had to pay for the food and lodging – transportation and supplies were provided by DoDEA



photo courtesy of Stars & Stripes

DoDEA musicians performing at the festival

Simulation Gives Students Taste of NATO

On March 23, ten BAS students actively participated in the North Atlantic Council (NAC) Simulation that took place in the permanent home of the NAC, at NATO Headquarters here in Brussels.

As a part of Model NATO 2011, the Brussels delegates participated in briefings from NATO personnel on March 3. The purpose of the briefings were to prepare the delegates for the



Student-Ministers listening to General Petersen

March 23 event. Among the BAS delegates were senior, junior, and sophomore representing the USA, two other sophomores representing Denmark, two juniors (Spain), and one more junior, who served as the lead Chairperson. Two other sophomores from

BAS served as administrative staff, and one junior also served as a Co-Chair during the Crisis Scenario.

The goal of the annual event is to inform the students on current NATO issues and policies. Moreover, it is a great opportunity for the students participating to experience the process of debating, passing communiques, and leading political communication with each other.

Before the simulation took place, the delegates wrote their communiqués on topics concerning NATO. There are many topics concerning NATO’s current policies that the delegations could employ for their communiqué and discussions. Among some of them were: combating cyber attacks; a missile defense shield; protecting access to space; countering piracy, and others. There were about 50 participants from area schools, including the 10 students from BAS. General Petersen addressed the group at the beginning of the Simulation, describing to the participants his experiences of working at NATO.

Notably, BAS senior’s communiqué on economic development in North Africa was one of the few to pass with a consensus.

“Everybody got involved in the debate,” said Mr. Vahrenhorst, the Simulation director. “The whole day was lively, partly because of the conflict in Libya.”

“This year, students handled themselves more maturely,” he said. “And this year’s Simulation included a Crisis Scenario, unlike the last few years.”

“It was helpful to write a communiqué, and it provided essential information on how to debate and achieve a consensus,” said the BAS sophomore representing Denmark.

Freshmen Sponsor Sadie Hawkins Dance

On March 4th, the freshmen class organized a Sadie Hawkins Dance for high school students. The Sadie Hawkins dance was introduced in America in 1937; usually, girls ask boys to this dance, and it is more informal than the other dances.

This year, the Freshmen class made this dance more fun since they set up different decorations. For example, they installed a Kissing Booth and a Jail in which students would pay money to get their friends locked up.

"I think it was pretty good," said Paige Brown, president of the dance committee. More people attended this dance than we expected, and it was fun to spend time there. The Kissing booth and Jail turned out to be very successful, since students were interested in them, so we raised a lot of money."

Freshmen students seemed very happy about how the dance turned out. In fact, some of them actually set their FaceBook statuses about this dance. For example, one of the BAS freshmen said on her FaceBook status: "Sadie Hawkins was so amazing; it was one of the best nights ever."

Not only were the students of the Freshmen class very pleased with the Sadie Hawkins dance, but also, seniors liked it as well.

"The Freshmen class made a great effort and worked hard making the dance happen," said BAS senior.

"I think Freshmen showed a lot of initiative and good ways to organize the dance," said one of the sophomores "They did a good job as they organized a high school dance for the first time, and I really liked it. I had a blast that night."



photo by "The Blade"

BAS seniors enjoying the dance

PTSO's "Dance the Night Away" a success

The Parent Teacher Student Organization organized a fundraiser on March 12th called "Dance the Night Away" which was held in MPR. Parents, teachers and community members attended the event, at BAS. There was a tombola basket with different prizes such as a Kindle E-Reader, X-Box 360, Apple iPod Touch, Nikon Camera, etc.

As the chairperson of this event, Mrs. Monnig said: "It was financially very successful; people had a great time. The food was fabulous, and the band was rocking."

"We had Tombola prizes and a Silent Auction," she said. "We are planning to spend this money on scholarships and student activities. It was a lot of hard work, but it paid off big time thanks to everyone who was involved."

BAS teacher, Mrs. Brenda Quinn who attended the fundraiser mentioned how wonderful the event was.

"It was a blast; the food, the friends, the music," she said. "I am glad I attended this event."

"This was my seventh year to attend the wonderful

PTSO Dinners Fund Raiser," said Mrs. Allen. "I have not won anything before. This year, I enjoyed supporting the PTSO silent Auction, and I think I went a little crazy, but it is all for a great cause."

One of the sophomores won the X-Box 360 in Tombola basket.

"I am glad I won it, since I put just one ticket in the box; I was really hoping to win the iPod Touch, but the X-Box360 is just as good," he said.

This fundraiser is not the only one that the PTSO has organized this year. Each year, it organizes fundraisers and then spends the money earned from various things. For example, they help the MUN class, provide scholarships for students and try to respond to other teachers' requests.

Moreover, they are the ones who invite writers and other artists to the school most recently, authors Helen Grant and Adisa the Verbalizer.

Did you know?

Did you know that you, as an individual, “weigh less” when the moon is full due to the gravitational pull the moon has on the Earth? Of course, your weight won’t show a vast difference; in fact, it is hardly noticeable. However, the moon makes you weigh less because the moon pulls on the part of the Earth that it is closest to. It is true that the moon is responsible for tidal waves. But did you know the moon is also responsible for tidal waves in your body? This is why you weigh less when there’s a full moon. But don’t get excited for full moons; it’s not like your going to look in the mirror during a full moon and notice you’re 10 pounds lighter. The difference in the gravitational pull doesn’t affect your mass. It only makes a very small difference in your weight, and because it doesn’t affect

your mass you don’t lose anything. There are times such as during a New Moon when you weigh a little more as well. Due to the phase of the moon, the change in weighing less is greater than it is when you weigh more. Besides, not all phases of the moon cause a change in your body’s weight.

Did you know the moon always waxes towards the left and wanes towards the right? There are eight phases of the moon and it takes about 27.3 days to complete one cycle. The phases are New Moon, Waxing Crescent, First Quarter, Waxing Gibbous, and Full Moon; then after the full moon occurs, the moon’s visibility begins to decrease beginning with a Waning Gibbous, then a Third Quarter, Waning Crescent, and then back to a New Moon to begin the process over again.

Movie Review

The Eagle, Jane Eyre, and Battle: Los Angeles

The Eagle, an historical epic produced by Toledo and Film 4 Productions, came out on February 11, 2011 in the U.S and Canada and March 25 in the UK. The plot of the film is based on real historical events with a few discrepancies, which are often inevitable in creating historical movies. During the year of 140, when the Roman empire was ruled by Antonius Pius, Marcus Flavius Aquilla (Channing Tatum), a brave centurion, is sent to Britain to serve as a garrison commander. By going to Britain, Aquilla has a goal of not only defending the borders of his powerful country, but also finding the Eagle Standard of the Ninth Legion that was once headed by his father and almost totally destroyed by the barbaric tribes of North Britain. The Eagle Standard, a military ensign carried by a legionary and used to regulate the movements of the body of Roman troops, is an important attribute of the Roman legions and its loss was a disgrace for the army and its general; therefore, in order to restore the good reputation of his father, Aquilla goes to Britain to defend the borders from the attacks of the barbaric tribes and risk his life in search of the Standard. Towards the end of the movie, Aquilla-with the help of his devoted servant Esca (Jamie Bell) and the survivors of the Ninth Legion-finds the standard and brings it back to the commander-in-chief of the Roman legions, thus returning the glorious fame of the legion and its leader. In general, the movie is very impressive and captivates the audience with the realistic battle scenes, magnificent landscapes, limited use of computer graphics, and good acting.

Co-produced by BBC Films, Focus Features, and Ruby films, *Jane Eyre* is another beautiful production of Charlotte Bronte’s famous novel. The 25th adaptation of the novel came out on March 11 in the U.S. Directed by Cary Fukunaga. This time the novel is presented to the audience in flashbacks. Basically, the film, following the plotline of the novel, tells a

story of a young orphan girl (Amelia Clarkson, Mia Wasilkowska) who is mistreated by her relatives and goes through harsh life difficulties to finally get what she always wanted: a loving family and independence. According to the IMDb reviewers who have seen the movie, some of the significant scenes are skipped in this version; however, the movie fascinates with the accuracy with which the atmosphere of Victorian England is conveyed, with the gothic scenes that the previous adaptations lacked, and just good acting. Moreover, the main character’s natural persistence and strong will that actually help her to overcome obstacles on her way are well enough played by Wasilkowska.

On March 11, 2011, *Battle: Los Angeles*, an action science-fiction film, was released. Produced by Relativity Media and Original Film and distributed by Columbia Pictures, *Battle:LA* is another alien invasion movie, in which, as usual, “uninvited guests” land on Earth and start crushing everything in their way until the heroic American soldiers come and rescue the humans. This time, one of the main targets of the “guests” is the city of Los Angeles, and the rescuers are the platoons of the US Marines. One of the squads of Marines led by Staff Sergeant Nantz (Aaron Eckhardt) has a mission of rescuing civilians from the Santa Monica police station that is surrounded by the aliens. The aliens harshly counter-attack the marines who finally save the citizens. Thus, the marines have to find a way back to their base and protect the civilians they liberated. Moreover, they have to destruct the communication center of the aliens and stop their total invasion. Obviously, the genre of the movie is not original, and there are dozens of films on alien invasion; nevertheless, this particular film is unique in its own way: it focuses more on the heroism of the marines and actually answers the question “How would the marines react in the time of such disaster and war?” Although the movie amazes with its special effects and great visuals, the only well-developed character in it is Nantz.

Academic Games Team Rolls with ‘the Bigs’

BAS high school students have attended the Academic Games for three of the last four years, but this is the first year they came home with a plaque--taking fourth place among 22 DODEA-Europe schools from all Divisions, at Baumholder, Germany from April 4 to 6.

The four-member team included a senior, junior, sophomore, and freshman. This was the senior’s third time as a team member.

The Academic Games are setup in Jeopardy style, which is quite challenging for the students. The students spend two days on academic games. On the first day they have “pool play,” and on the second day they have “double elimination play.”

The team went undefeated (5-0) on the first day of pool play, taking down perennial power-house Division I Kaiserslautern in their first match.

BAS also defeated Division II schools Bitburg and Naples, as well as D III schools Incirlik and Lajes in pool play on Tuesday.

The next day they got knocked into the Consolation Bracket by losing to SHAPE, but then beat Menwith Hill and won a very close match against D I Patch, which put them in the semifinals.

“The Patch game was a beautiful team effort, and the closest game we played--winning 130-125,” said Mrs. Vahrenhorst.

“All four BAS kids contributed, with senior captain Bigelow scoring 40 points and each of the underclassmen scoring 30 points. It was a real nail-biter, as our win came down to the last question.”

“It seemed like everyone in the room was rooting for the championing of the underdog when we played K-town later,” said Mrs. Vahrenhorst, BAS sponsor of Academic Games.

But in the semifinals, Kaiserslautern took advantage of their second chance against the Division III Brigands, ending our small school’s unlikely run toward the title.

Division I Lakenheath eventually beat DI Ramstein in the final by just five points.

Five students applied to attend the games, four of whom were chosen based on a test and whether or not they offered strength in one of the four areas of expertise needed to form a complete team.

“A commonality among the team members is that they are widely read individuals and they therefore have a broad base of knowledge,” said Mrs. Vahrenhorst. “In addition, they each have individual areas in which they excel.”

“I’m proud of our team effort,” said freshman member of the team. “Especially since we went undefeated on the first day.”

While the venue for the Games was at Baumholder HS, the students all lodged at a swimming pool/resort in nearby Hambachtal.

BAS hosts *Exit-Brass* for Music Month



Exit-Brass performing for the BAS students.

On March 28th, BAS hosted a group of musicians called Exit-Brass. The assembly was held in the MPR and most of the students at BAS attended the concert. They are a Belgian group of four brass instrumentalists. Exit-Brass performed famous songs, often while acting or dancing simultaneously.



photos by “The Blade”

Top Ten Spring Break Destinations From Brussels Community

Living in Brussels gives people a great opportunity to travel to various places all over Europe, as Belgium is surrounded by many different countries that all have amazing places to visit. Though there are many places you can go, according to students at BAS, the top ten vacation spots for people living in Brussels are: England, France, Scotland, Spain, Italy, Greece, Czech Republic, Turkey, Croatia, and Ireland.

Number one on the list is England, for it is a country rich with history. One of the most popular tourist attractions in England is London. If you are planning a trip to London, make sure you go see the London Eye, which is a huge Ferris wheel where you can look out and see the entire city of London. Other spectacular things to see are the numerous amount of plays performed in London. A few commonly seen plays are *Wicked* and *Les Miserables*.

Of course, many people have been to France, the second most popular place to visit. Whether you've been to Paris, Normandy, or down south to the beautiful beaches, France is a major destination get-away. Going to Paris isn't hard, for it is only a two-hour train ride away. In Paris, are the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, the Louvre, the Opera House, the Notre Dame, (or you can go for a walk along the Champs-Élysées.) Normandy has magnificent World War II history. Finally, in southern France you can explore the beautiful scenery of the beaches, and visit Nice, the biggest city in southern France.

The third most visited place is Scotland. Many people from the community of Brussels enjoy the worthwhile visit, as Scotland is a country full of gorgeous countrysides. There you can go to Edinburgh, the capital, and walk around the beautiful parks. But unlike other places, Scotland is more known for its captivating country-side scenery.

"I'm totally stoked and I've always wanted to go to Scotland," said a BAS senior. "I'm going to be in Edinburgh and I think I'm going to have a great time."

Yet another place to go during spring break is Spain with its beautiful scenery, fantastic cities, and an exciting culture. You can travel to the city of Madrid, which is famous for its popular bull fights. Madrid also has a vast amount of monuments and museums to see. Also, you can go to Spain's second largest city, Barcelona. Barcelona has some of Spain's most beautiful beaches and it's right on the Mediterranean. Another fun place to visit in Spain is the Rock of Gibraltar. Gibraltar is the most southern part of Western Europe and is so close to Africa you can see Morocco from the beaches. Spain also has some fantastic islands. The Canary Islands are in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Morocco; it might be a longer distance away but worth the trip.

This spring one senior and sophomore from BAS will be going to Spain on a group tour and will be traveling to Madrid and Barcelona.

Italy, which places fifth according to students as BAS,

is another great place to go for a vacation. There's so much to do there you'll never feel bored. In northern Italy you can visit Venice, Florence, Pisa, Verona, and Milan. In southern Italy you can visit the spectacular cities of Rome, Pompeii, and Naples. If you plan to visit the northern part of Italy make sure you visit the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the museums, and Florence, the birth place of the Renaissance. In Rome you can travel all over the city and see many monuments of history. Rome is very famous for its historic events and buildings such as the Colosseum and the Trevi Fountain.

Greece, which is the sixth most popular place to visit, is a country that has it all. If you are planning to go to Greece you can go to beautiful beaches on the Mediterranean, visit museums full of history or go out and try some delicious Greek food. In Athens, the Parthenon is the most visited place to go, but Greece is full of coastlines and has many islands that are also amazing to see.

Number seven on the list is the Czech Republic. In Prague you can see many different castles all over the city, and cruise along the River Vltava or see Europe's largest medieval castle. Right outside the capital are some smaller cities and villages with much history.

The eighth most popular place to go from Brussels is Turkey. In its capital, Ankara, there are many historical sites that are worth seeing but, if you are going to Ankara, try to go to the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations, because there you can see artifacts from up to 7500 years ago. Turkey also makes and sells beautiful carpets made of silk. Istanbul, Turkey's second largest city has some beautiful mosques as well as many archeological sites to see.

Ninth on the list is the beautiful country of Croatia, which is the perfect place to go if you're looking for a place with warm weather and extravagant beaches. Zagreb, the capital, is full of amazing culture and there are many things to see in Croatia other than the breathtaking scenery. You can go see the Walls of Dubrovnik, where the streets are white marble, and architecture dating back to the Renaissance. You can also see Plitvice Lakes National Park, not far from Zagreb where you can see sixteen lakes all linked by waterfalls; it really is a "watery wonderland".



Last but not least, the tenth most popular country to visit during spring break is Ireland. In Dublin, Ireland's capital, you can go site-seeing to Trinity College, where you can go in the library and see the Book of Kells. You can also go to the Guinness Beer Factory right in the heart of Dublin. Outside of Dublin, especially down south, you can explore the beautiful countryside and beaches.

Would You Rather...

Most people have heard of the game in which you're given two equally thought-provoking options and you must choose between them. The choice, they say, reveals some of your characteristics and true personality. A popular question is "would you rather love and not be loved back, or be loved but never love?" In posing this difficult question to some BAS students, we were able to get interesting answers and reasons for their choice.

Defending the lovers' side, one of the BAS seniors would rather love than be loved. Though it took him some time to decide, the senior truly reasoned with his romantic side.

"I prefer to love because it would provide me with a muse," said the senior.

One of the sophmores also chose to love someone rather than be loved.

"If I were to choose to only be loved by other people instead, I would never be able to experience the joy of love my-

self," said the sophmore. "True love is an experience I wouldn't want to miss out on."

Defending those starved for affection, another senior says she would rather be loved and not be able to love back. Though using a similar reason as the sophmore, she means quite the opposite.

"Because you would never know how love feels, you wouldn't know how important it is," said the senior. "You wouldn't even miss it."

Another senior agrees with her, bringing up a very good question: "What is the point of loving someone if no one will love you back?"

Though seemingly an easy question, the subject of love evokes much thought. Personally, I would rather love and never be loved. It is true that my heart would more than likely be tormented knowing that my feelings will never be reciprocated, but I think life would not be complete without love. Though the other choice would provide me with many material possessions, experiencing love myself would be infinitely more gratifying.

And then there are those wise men like Mr. Westland who, when asked, answered: "I just want to be left alone."

photo by Mr. Westland



BAS junior jumps over the hurdles

photo by Mr. Westland



Another BAS junior launches his discus

photo by Mr. Westland



BAS senior throws a shotput



Track Starts Off on the Right Foot

by "The Blade"

On April 2nd, at the Matt Reimann Memorial Track meet, BAS hosted Lakenheath, Menwith Hill, Alconbury, SHAPE, Bitburg, and AFNORTH on their field. BAS' women athletes won seventh place, while male athletes won sixth place.

This was a very successful meet. One of the BAS seniors placed first in the 1500-meter run in four minutes and 29 seconds. This also qualified him for Europeans. One junior placed second in the 200-meter dash. Another senior placed second in the 800-meter dash and scored eight points for the team, while another junior placed fourth in two minutes and 33 seconds. One freshman got fourth in the 100-meter dash, and one sophomore placed fifth in the 1500-meter run for women athletes..

On March 26th, the BAS Track team went to attend a meet at Lakenheath.

"The first meet was great, cold, and windy, but we had a really good time," said the head coach, Mr. Westland. "Just about everybody scored team points."

At the first meet, a BAS senior managed to get first place in the boys' 800 meter run. Another senior placed first in both the 1500 and 3000 meter races.

"It was a good meet, we dominated in the distance races," said the captain of track team, a senior.

"This year, we have a much smaller team than other years," said Mr. Westland. "The only returners are the three seniors, but we have hard working beginners and we have high expectations for them. Currently we are working on sprints, high and long jumps, and shot-put."



photo by Mr. Westland

BAS freshman holds the baton in the Men's Relay Race



photo by "The Blade"

The three BAS girls start the 1500-meter race



photo by Mr. Westland

the BAS student runs in the Women's Relay

Boys' Soccer Starts Off Strong

This spring, the Brigand Boys' Soccer Team has begun the season with a 2-1 regular season record and looks forward to a strong season.

Coach Marinich is back for his second year coaching the boys' team. Though having lost many strong players, Coach Marinich remains confident that the team can perform equally well. With morning practices on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and after school practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays, he is really cracking down hard on the Brigands, both in endurance and skill.

The captain, a BAS senior, says he's excited for his team to develop their skills and reach their full potential at Europeans.

"I look forward to seeing us put our practice into play, and I have confidence in both the newer players and the returners."

Among the returning players are four seniors; junior captain; and Sophomores.

After an eleven hour bus trip across the English Channel, the Brigands played at Menwith Hill against the Mustangs. Arriving on April 1st, a Friday evening, the

Brigands were invited to attend a school dance. After a night of dancing and making friends, the boys played against their hosts on Saturday morning.

Despite a strong wind blowing throughout the game, the Brigands were able to bring home the "W" with a final score of 1-0. The single goal was made by Junior with an assist of a Senior "Track Star." This was a vital win for the Blue Team, this being the first game BAS played against a fellow Division III team.

Tuesday, March 29th, the blue team rolled down to SHAPE to

play last year's Division I European Champions. Due to a surplus of injuries, the Brigands lacked able-bodied players; the game was begun with the only ten available players. The Spartans, playing with eleven players and many more on the bench, were able to maintain the lead from the beginning, leaving the score at 6-0.

The Brigands' first conference game was at AFNorth against the Division II Lions who, due to their loss against Brussels last season, were yearning for a victorious rematch, which was evident all over Facebook. The outcome, however, was in favor of the Brigands, with a final score of 3-2.

In the first half, the Lions led the way with two goals. After halftime, though, the Brigands came together and not only prevented the opponents from further scoring, but came out on top with three goals, made by a junior, freshman, and a senior. Sophomore goalie had 10 saves that day, including a penalty shot.

On Tuesday, March 22nd, the Brigands had a scrimmage versus the local Sterrebeek soccer team. The boys warmed up by playing a short, friendly game against the Lady Brigands. Afterward, the scrimmage against Sterrebeek began at 18:45 and the Brigands felt the thrill of a close game. In the first half, Sterrebeek scored two goals, the second being a penalty kick right before halftime. Brigand senior, however, managed to score a goal in the second half, leaving the final score at 2-1.



BAS junior fights for the ball against AFNorth opponent

photo by "The Blade"



photo by "The Blade"

Senior takes a goal kick

New Faces Shape New Season for Lady Brigands

With a new season and a new coach, Coach Nick Rasu, this year's BAS girls' soccer team is starting out strong. This year there are seventeen girls on the team, and only seven returning players. Of those seven returning players, one senior, three juniors, and sophomore are the five starters.

On April 2, the Lady Brigands drove eleven hours to play their third game of the season. They played against Menwith Hill and claimed victory with a 1 – 0 win over their Division III opponents. A freshman scored the goal with an assist from a junior.

On March 29, they played their second game of the season at SHAPE with a loss of 4 – 2. However, considering SHAPE is a division I team, they did incredibly well. Although the Lady Brigands came home defeated, they still had high hopes in respect to their efforts. Both goals were made by a sophomore.

The girls played their first game of the season on March 26, at AFNorth. They tried hard and ended the game with a 4 – 2 loss. It was a hard team to beat considering AFNorth is Division II, and they're proud of their efforts. The BAS freshman made a penalty kick, to give them a score of one, and their second goal came from a junior.

"I feel like we have potential to work really well together as a team and to improve our skills as a team," said the sophomore. Coach Nick is new this year to coaching our girls' soccer team. He coaches the girls' soccer team along with Coach Marinich. This is Coach Nick's first year coaching soccer at BAS.

"I am excited about helping and I hope to do well," said Coach Nick.

Coach Nick has coached soccer before at his previous grade schools for fun, but this is his first time coaching for com-

petition. He also played soccer while attending university. He has high hopes in this year's team and says that he enjoyed coaching the girls and showing them new techniques.

"I want them to give 100% and I want them to know that winning isn't everything."

With the absence, due to training, of the girls' head coach, Jacob Myers, the boys' coach, Coach Marinich is stepping in to help the girls' team.

The captains of the girls' soccer team are a senior and a junior.

They have early morning practice every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Then they spend their Tuesday and Thursday afternoons practicing hard out on the field.



photo by Mr. Preciado

The BAS sophomore takes the ball down



The BAS team captain tries to beat an AFNorth defender

photo by Mr. Preciado



