

# The HORNET BUZZ



## PREPARING FOR BPA STATE FINALS

Grace Olinger '19

With the success at Regionals, top competitors of the BPA team are now preparing for state. This year's State competition is in Grand Rapids Michigan on March 16-18. Participants are reciting speeches, taking practice tests, perfecting presentations, and meeting with their teams to refresh their projects.

There are 26 State competitors this year. The BPA members include: Gabe Alley, Lauren Baker, Breanna Bildner, MaCayla Bisher, Rebecca Galloway, Hailey Granada, Annie Hamaty, Taegan Hoffman, Kara Horn, Emily Kimball, Sarah Korn, John Maier, Maddie Moore, Anders Moore, Grace Olinger, Chloe Page, Jayson Radabaugh, Victoria Robinson, Rachel Rufenacht, Sarah Shreffler, Grace Shreffler, Ella Springer, Grace Vondra, Ryan Wood, Brylee Boyd, and Kylee Hassenzahl. In team events, first and second place qualified as state finalists. In individual events, the top six participants qualified for state.

Breanna Bildner received two regional champion awards; one in advanced word processing and the other for the web design team. She said that she was hoping to get first in at least 1 event, but she was surprised to get first in both. The advice she gives to other BPA members is "The more you practice the more you will be ready to compete, go into your event with the attitude 'you can do it', and don't be intimidated by the amount of other competitors." Breanna is doing practice tests for her advanced word competition and going over the web site team's presentation to prepare for states.

The BPA State competition now, and it is very important that all com-

petitors have practiced. We want all members to be successful this year. Good luck to everyone who is going!

## WHAT WILL AR-TRAGEOUS LOOK LIKE THIS YEAR?

By Virginia Brown '18

We have had many Artrageous productions at HHS. Artrageous consists of a school play and students' artwork displayed in the gymnasium for everybody to observe. The entire night is full of creativity and well-deserved recognition to the students' hard work. Last year was a new experience because Mr. Gifford was the art teacher and this year will also be a new experience because Mrs. Walsworth is the current art teacher. Mrs. Walsworth was happy to give us a glimpse of what we should expect.

Upon asking what Artrageous will look like this year, Mrs. Walsworth replied with, "it will be very colorful and creative. There will be lots of 2D and 3D works of art from students." Disclosing little information to keep the production a surprise, Mrs. Walsworth facilitates the art portion of the night in the gymnasium. There will be clay pieces, folder covers, watercolor paintings, and

### Hillsdale High School

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much more. The gymnasium will be available to view art the entire night as the play goes on and during intermission.

Not only will there be the play and the art, but there will be even more. The band and choir will perform and there will be a poetry reading in The Study Cup. The night will be full of creativity and fun events. This year's Artrageous is jam-packed with students' hard work and effort. You won't want to miss this.

## STUDY TIPS FOR MIDTERMS

By Breanna Bildner '19

As the third quarter is coming to a close that means exam season is right around the corner. Lots of late nights and stressful days. Why does everyone wait until last minute to start their studying? What good does procrastinating do? You don't have to cram all your studying into one night when you can start now!

One of the biggest problems with exam season coming up is the fact that most students wait until last minute to start studying. We keep saying that we will just study tomorrow, then tomorrow comes and the cycle just keeps going until it is the day before the exam. You can start your studying now. You don't have to have a formal study guide to study, just looking over a couple pages of notes a night is all you have to do. Then when it does get to a day or two before your exam you look over everything as a whole. By just studying for 30 minutes a night can help you prepare and be ready so the night before all you have to do is review what you already studied.

Just changing the little things can make a big impact on your grade. By having an organized studying space can make you more relaxed while you are studying and not having a messy environment will make you less distracted. Also, don't sit down and study for hours upon hours. Take regular breaks so that you don't get burned out. By taking breaks your mind can rest and process all the information you just studied so you can retain more. Finally, get up and move! Don't just sit the entire time, read vocab terms while walking around the kitchen or do a math problem while you are making a snack. By getting up and moving you will associate the material you are studying with the surroundings you study it in. If you study division in the kitchen while making a sandwich, then when you get to that part of the exam you will remember what you were doing and be able to recall that information.

Studying for exams is something all students dread to do, but it is a part of high school life. By doing these little things you can take off most of the stress that comes with the season. Start now preparing, implement the little things into your studying routine and don't worry, you can do this! Good luck!

## STRESSED FOR SUCCESS

By Vivian Pickard '19

As the time to take the SAT is drawing near, many juniors are starting to feel the stress. While most are not preparing or going to college, there are some who are diving headfirst into the SAT prep books to get the best score they can. The most important thing that the high scoring students say to do is to study as early as possible. Many study with

methods such as, taking practice tests, reading difficult material, practicing essays, and going over strategies. Doing these a month or so ahead of the test is a sure-fire way to get a decent score on the SAT.

At HHS we are fortunate enough to have a class just for that. Test prep is a great way to prep for the SAT if you take it seriously. In test prep, there are three teachers who each teach strategies and helpful things for a category on the SAT. For preparing in the math and reading portion of the SAT in test prep, you will take timed practice tests and go over strategies to help improve your score in those sections. For the class on writing and grammar, you go over common SAT grammatical errors and write essays that will be grade similarly to how the essay you take on the testing day is.

The moment test prep is over many students forget that it is crucial to continue to study. If you are behind on studying don't stress too much though. There are lots of places you can go online and things you can still do to catch back up and be prepared for that testing day. Khan Academy's SAT prep online is a great resource to study and get back on top of the game. Using the tests you took in test prep and re-taking them on another piece of paper is another good method of study. Don't forget juniors, the SAT testing day is on April 10th and start studying!

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

By Chloe Page '18

National Honor Society is an organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. NHS students have demonstrated

excellence in areas of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. This year, the Hillsdale High School NHS Chapter has 42 students, which is the largest the chapter has ever been. With being in NHS each student has to volunteer for 70 hours of community service. Many volunteer at the schools by taking tickets for sporting events, working the concession stands, or helping work the event. As well as that, you can find students volunteering at their churches and other organizations within the community.

I interviewed Virginia Brown, a current member of the Hillsdale High School NHS Chapter.

Where have you volunteered?

Hiaweekend, I volunteered as a staff member for a weekend and taking pictures for the "I Won't Be Silent Campaign."

What do you enjoy most about NHS?

I enjoy the group of kids in NHS and what it provides to the community all together.

At the end of the third quarter the current students in NHS will relieve their duties and will be recognized for their hard work at the induction for the new NHS students held on March 20th. Next year, there will be 25 students in the NHS Chapter for Hillsdale High School. Each and every one of the students show scholarship, service, leadership, and character. They will have to take on the responsibility of achieving 70 hours of community service, like the students before. National Honor Society is a great organization to be apart of and I have been honored to be involved with it.

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT - ABI ARNOLD

By. Brylee Boyd '21

In six short short months Abi Arnold will be on a college campus studying Fashion Merchandising. Abi has been attending Hillsdale Community Schools for 13 years. Abi's involved in Track, Volleyball, Polar Bear, NHS, and FMP. Abi fell in love with track the minute she stepped foot on the track. Abi's favorite memory of track was her junior year when she qualified for State.

Abi's favorite thing about Hillsdale High School is Horent Power. Hornet Power has helped her

since her freshman year to become a stronger and better athlete. Abi is a huge part/leader of her sports teams including Volleyball, Track and Polar Bear. The days Clay could not make it to Polar Bear Abi would lead the underclassmen in the workout during Polar Bear. Abi also mentors freshman in the Freshmen Mentor Program and helps them adapt to high school life.

Abi's most influential person in her life is her mom who pushes her to



be the best she can be and teaches her to follow any dream that she has. Abi is an extremely hard worker in her studies and this year she decided to conquer an A.P. History course that pushes her and will look great on college applications. Abi has enjoyed her last four years of high school but is so excited to start a new chapter of her life when she attends college.



## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT - VIRGINIA BROWN

By Emily Kimball '19

Order up! Virginia Brown '18 is ready to go to college! Virginia is a senior at Hillsdale High School and is involved in many different activities. She is a member of the National Honors Society and is a student council representative. Virginia also is a working student and has a job at McDonalds.

As a member of the National Honor Society, she has spent a good amount of her senior year doing different community service activities. I asked Virginia if it was difficult to juggle NHS, a job, and being a senior in high school and the responsibilities that come with that. She responded, "It can be difficult, but if you manage your time wisely then it's

not a problem.”

Virginia is an exceptional student and takes pride in her work. She is an incredible artist and plans to major in Art Education in her college career. Virginia is also an amazing writer and plans to continue her English/Literature career with an English Education minor. To do so, she will be attending Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, IL in the fall. I asked her what she's most excited for at college, and she replied, "I'm excited to be able to make my own decisions." Virginia will always be a Hillsdale Hornet, but she's ready to also become an Olivet Nazarene Tiger!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN KEY CLUB?

By Katy Kempa '18

Most recently, the Key Club has placed boxes in every classroom. Care pack items will be donated to help the homeless. Students can bring care pack items such as granola bars, beef jerky, crackers, socks, hats and gloves, deodorant, and much more. There is a contest in place and the third hour with the most items will be awarded a pizza party. The contest will end March 20th.

I interviewed Hope Huff on her thoughts about Key Club. I asked, "What is your favorite thing about Key Club?" She responded, "My favorite thing about Key Club is the difference we make in our community and even in other communities with our community service." I also asked, "What has been your favorite project to work on and why?" She responded, "My favorite project that we have done has been Project Africa because we got packets that showed us how badly some small places in Africa are and how their shoes were made out of clay. Their feet were bleeding and they were in pain. So we sent them a bunch of shoes to help them walk around without a pain in their feet." Key Club is always looking for more members. Meetings are hosted every Tuesday in the room across the bathrooms in the senior square. To join, all you have to do is show up and give your time. However, a small fee will be asked of you. If you aren't in any school clubs, Key Club is a great way to get out in the community and make a difference.

## MORNING ROUTINES BEFORE SCHOOL..

By Cassie Bowditch '19

Morning routines are something that everyone has to do or something that everyone has to go through. Although some people may not enjoy mornings, or in other terms may not be a morning person, they may enjoy going through their every morning routine though. According to the Fast Company Newspaper ([www.fastcompany.com](http://www.fastcompany.com)) there's probably not an ideal morning routine that fits everyone, we can learn a lot from the morning routines of successful people as well as from the research and inspiration behind starting a morning on the right foot. You've maybe heard the advice that your first work of the day should be something meaningful and significant, a task that might take a lot of focus, will, and determination to accomplish. The reason: We're limited with our self-control.

I myself, do not enjoy mornings, but it is what it is. I normally get woke up, I am not good on waking up by myself. I get my outfit

picked out for the day, but then do my hair. If I decide to wear any makeup that day, I do my makeup after my hair is completely done. Finally, after all of that is finished I get dressed, and get everything (my school supplies, homework, bag, etc.) around for the day. As I leave my room I grab my coat or jacket, depending on the weather, and my shoes I decide to wear. Get around fully the rest of the day, and walk out to wait for the bus, which normally my siblings and I stand outside for about five minutes or so.

Interviewed high school student Michaela Bowditch '19 explained her morning routine to me in detail. As different from me, she wakes up on her own, or to her alarm at 5:45 a.m. She had stated, she does her hair, and then make-up. She normally takes her time doing this because she has some slacking time, so why rush everything? After all of that, if it is 6 o'clock she wakes up her siblings and then continues her routine. She goes to get dressed, and finish anything she did not do earlier. If her siblings do not wake up the first time, she will go back to get up up fully this time.

## HILLSDALE HIERARCHY

By Emma Hammel '18

What is hierarchy? According to Dictionary.com, it is defined as "any system of persons or things ranked one above another." Do you believe that there are some people "above" others at Hillsdale High School? If you do, I'm here to tell you why you shouldn't.

After speaking with a handful of students about whether they believe there's hierarchy here in

Hillsdale High, I noticed a pattern in what made them believe there's social ranking: sports. Athletics are in such a large part of our lives at Hillsdale that it ultimately defines how someone is perceived. People in sports are held to a higher standard due to constantly going out in public and representing Hillsdale High school and we care about how our school is shown.

So maybe you think the jocks run the school. Or maybe, you may even think it's the nerds or people who are always surrounded by a big crowd. I'm here to tell you that everyone in this school matters just as much as the next. Especially you! Regardless of what you're involved in, the most important thing here in Hillsdale High is that you're doing what you love. You may not like coming to school, or going to class, but if you look you'll find something that makes it all worth it.

## COMPUTER LAB FRIENDLINESS

By Brent Rocheleau '18

The computer lab is a place where we all feel like we can get things accomplished. Our computer tech educators are always there, willing to help in any way they can. They come in early for students to get things done and printed before school. They are available during lunch, and they usually do not leave right away after school for any student who needs to finish something up.

In computer lab A, Mindy Eggleston, who has a Master's Degree in Business Administration, uses her knowledge to teach other students how to work better with each other and themselves. She also cares about her students

in ways others teachers usually don't. Not too long ago there were two students, Terron Grant and Emily Kimball, with birthdays close to each other. So what does Mrs. Eggleston do? She bakes them both cake to have during class. One of the students in that class even went the extreme and proclaimed, "This is probably some of the best cake I've had in a VERY long time" Shannon Petersen.

Just next door in computer lab B, Jennifer Duff, business education major, pushes her students to make the best of themselves. Mrs. Duff actually worked in the business industry before she became a teacher. She said, "My favorite part of my job is being able to teach something that kids will take and use as a resource in their further education, jobs, and overall life." She also states that the most cherished aspect of her career is, "When kids finally get it. When it finally clicks." If one of her students are struggling, she works with them until they understand because she loves her job and hates to see students fail. It does not matter which computer lab you are in, there are loving, caring, and amazing instructors willing and eager to help in any way they can.

## SPRING PLANS? BREAK

By Briana Bradley '19

Spring Break is a time to relax and take a break from school. Also to leave the previous stressful exam week behind us. Some go on vacation to the east coast beaches or the Caribbean Islands. Others stay local and do activities around the county. Spring Break is just a little break before everyone goes

back to school and finishes the school year strong.

I asked a few HHS students what they look forward to doing during their time off. One of those people is Cassie Bowditch '19. Cassie said, "My family and I plan on going to Tennessee, but if those plans change I am going to spend time with family and my newborn baby cousin."

The next interview I did was with the dynamic duo Breanna Bildner '19 and Grace Olinger '19. They said, "We are spending the whole week together house sitting for friends and playing with their dogs and cats that they have. Also we are going to help set up a rummage sale for the church that we attend."

For these girls it is not all about taking a exotic vacation, even though it is nice to, but they are going to spend time with their family or helping out friends. Spending quality time with family is always better than going to the beach. Spring Break is always fun because everyone gets a week to themselves and have a stress free week. Sleeping in after a stressful exam week is good for your brain.

## POLL #3

By Austin Estel '17

As you transition between junior and senior year there are many changes that take place. Many students don't see the small changes that take place, such as staff changes, classes, and even the food options. So I decided to do a poll. I asked three questions with two different choices. The first question was what were the biggest differences between this year and last? The first choice was the classes and the second was sports. Many people said they saw more

of a difference in classes because of new electives and required classes to take this year.

The Second question that I asked seniors was when did senioritis set in? The first option was at the beginning of the year or in the middle of the year. The majority of the people said the middle of the year. I think this is because most of the required classes are completed, and because most seniors are ready to be just done with school. For me senioritis set in around 3rd quarter, because I was ready to be finished with school. Also, I wanted to be in the real world.

The third question I asked was how should the school go about picking new electives? The first option that was given was to do a poll of the students that attend that school. The second option was to find many different interests in the community, and implement them into our classes? Many said the poll because it would better fit the personality of the students, and the classes they take. I think the school should implement classes that follow along the lines of the job profession that the students want to enter.

## **BIG FAMILY, BIG LIFE**

By Gavin LaFollette '20

How many siblings do you have? Do you have 2, 4, even 7 or are you a single child? Is your life full of fun and adventure with so many siblings or do they get on

your nerves? More siblings means more of a mess but it also could mean more hands to help clean it up. Here's the thoughts from a few different kids in our high school that have big families and a big life.

Take it from Shannon Peterson on what it's like to have a big family. "There's never a dull moment with having seven other siblings and you're never actually alone at the house. There's always someone to hang out with. I like how we can have one type of a relationship with one of my brother or sisters and have a totally different one with another."

"Having a big family is fun and entertaining. If I get mad at one of my siblings I can just go hang out with someone else. Playing games are always exciting because we can have our own tournaments and I can also play catch or wrestle with one of my brothers whenever," Aidan Peterson added.

Brandon Torres explains what it's like to have a big family. "Sometimes having a big family is a struggle. We have to share the car and when four of us can drive, we have to talk and see who needs the car when and where. Having three other twins is a bonus during our birthdays. The two guys get a cake and the two girls get a cake so its more cake for all of us!"

"Having 6 other siblings can have its up and downs. We have to learn to say 'no' which is no problem for me. It's nice that Julissa and I aren't the same size so she doesn't steal my clothes but we do steal the boy's clothes and that always funny," added Melissa Torres. Take it from your fellow students that its not bad having a lot of siblings because you're never lonely and they always have a good time.

## **WRESTLING TEAM, GOOD TEAM OR GOOD WEIGHT CLASSES?**

By Terrontino Grant '18

Hillsdale's 2018 wrestling team was diverse, we had a lot of young and old some more experienced and some less experienced. We started the season with some little mistakes and learned as a team and grew. Individually we had some stars but our team was much better as a whole.

We had a great dual record so our individual wrestlers had good records but not great, there was just something about wrestling for something bigger than ourselves that made us show out more. Our seniors showed grit and determination as individual leaders and roughed injuries from the football season before hand. In the end it didn't turn out how they would have liked but it's not about the results, it's about what you learned in the journey.

Our team was knocked out in the district finals but our team has a

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bright future. Silly mistakes put our team in difficult positions that we couldn't pull out of, it's sad but true. Our skilled and experienced could only do so much while battling themselves at some points. In the end our team was much stronger as a whole rather than by themselves. We battled for each other.

## BASEBALL PREVIEW

By Collin Brown '18

Baseball season has finally arrived! The Hornets will be losing a huge amount of talent they had as seniors in the previous season. Now they will look to the new seniors for more production. They have a talented group of freshman coming in and they will get some good production out of them. They also have a good amount of seniors coming back with a lot of experience. After a rough season last year but a better season before last, the Hornets are looking to make a name for themselves and it is well on its way up there. Having lots of talent coming into the program these next couple of years the future is looking very bright for the Hornet baseball program. There has been a little bit of a let down with seniors Shannon Petersen and Collin Brown both not being able to play due to injuries. Senior Collin Brown who was the team's starting center fielder last year was sadly hurt at the end of the football season. He tore his acl and messed up his knee pretty bad. As for senior Shannon Petersen he tore his labrum in his shoulder so unfortunately he won't be able to play his senior season either. Those are two tough blows to the team this year and they will be greatly missed, However the hornets are wasting no time with a lot of new talent returning and coming in.

## AAU SPORTS

By Ethan York '20

AAU, for those of you who aren't aware of what AAU is it's a complex league that only the top athletes play in. Depending on the sport the league is all year round and only stops when your high school sport starts. Athletes at Hillsdale High School have a lot on their plate, they're stressed out with having to juggle time for homework, practice and after school activities.

Asking Ethan York on how he manages time for all of this his response was, "Yes it is extremely hard and very stressful but at the end of the day there are no excuses and work has to be done no matter what the circumstances are." Ethan isn't the only top athlete at Hillsdale High School that struggles with school, sports, and extracurricular activities. Ryan Kast is also one of the top athletes at the school and has the same problems, when interviewing him he had to say this, "I love my sport and league but at times I feel like it can be overwhelming and almost isn't worth it but of course getting good grades and getting college offers is worth it."

Athletes will always be putting in that extra hard work to finish with good grades and get that starting spot on their teams. Therefore making it harder to get a better GPA and getting into a better college whether they want to go for sports GPA or something different. AAU sports

are not as easy as some might make it sound, if you really want to know what it is like to be apart of such a great team you must put in the work and take steps in the athletes shoe.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mar 23 - Half Day  
 Mar 23 - End of Marking Period  
 Mar 29 - Half Day  
 Mar 30 - No School  
 Apr 2-6 - Spring Break  
 Apr 21 - Prom  
 May 1 - Decision Day  
 May 28 - No School  
 May 31 - Class Night  
 Jun 3 - Graduation 2 p.m.

## HHS Newspaper Staff

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