

# The HORNET BUZZ



## BPA NATIONALS

By Breanna Bildner '19

Wednesday May 9, juniors Breanna Bildner and Sarah Shreffler headed on their journey to "Dream Bigger" in Dallas, Texas at the BPA National Leadership Conference. Bildner and Shreffler competed against thousands of students from more than 20 different states. Bildner competed in Advanced Word Processing with the MOS certification exam, and Shreffler competed in Fundamental Desktop Publishing. Joining Bildner and Shreffler, 11 middle school students also attended the NLC.

Along with competing and attending the different sessions there were also opportunities to experience what Texas has to offer. On Friday night of the conference the council put on a Texas Hoedown for the competitors which included a mechanical bull, live longhorn, armadillo races, carnival games, and a character artist. Throughout the weekend Bildner and Shreffler were also able to go the mall in Grapevine, TX and also go to downtown Grapevine and visit the local shops.

The weekend ended with the Grand Awards Ceremony, where Bildner and Shreffler waited patiently to hear if they would be called on stage. Even though their names were not called they still had the honor of competing at the national level and getting the experience of a lifetime. Sarah Shreffler placed 21st out of 67 and Breanna Bildner placed 40th out of 58. Through the tough competition Breanna and Sarah still did their best and had a great time seeing what Texas has to offer.

## SENIOR AWARD NIGHT- THE ANTICIPATION

By: MaCayla Bisher '18

This time of year is always full of anticipation and high nerves. The Senior Award night is coming up on May 31st. This night is a time to recognize the senior class and all of their accomplishments. Scholarships, Class officers and Academic along with Athletic Records will be shared. The 2018 class is a smart one to pass through Hillsdale halls and has accomplished much more out on the fields, courts and classrooms.

Earlier in the year these students went through multiple steps to help guide them and get them to where they are now. These steps include filling out FAFSA, applying to college and applying for scholarships. Just a few weeks ago all the seniors declared what path they are taking after gradua-

tion. Some of these seniors already know how they will pay for their college and others do not. At senior night the students that applied for scholarships at the Hillsdale County Community Foundation and other sources, will receive the information if they have been awarded money or not.

This night is not just about money, although it does seem to be the primary focus. Many people are recognized for their hard work and accomplishments. The students who have worked hard to keep a high GPA throughout high school and are top of the class are recognized. Student athletes who have broken records or have exceeded the requirements of the LCCA standards are also identified. Many students from the 2018 class were involved in clubs and extracurricular activities and many of those graduates who have made a difference get recognition as well. Senior award night is a prime time to see the extraordinary young adults that Hillsdale High produces.

## GRADUATION PREVIEW

By Chloe Page '18

Graduation for the Class of 2018 will be held on June 3rd, 2018, at 2 p.m. At this commencement ceremony, beginning at 1 p.m. until graduation, there will be a Power-Point presentation of all of the graduating seniors and what they will be

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doing following high school. During the ceremony there will be eight different valedictorians speaking, which is an unusual occurrence. This is the last major event the Class of 2018 will be doing together.

I interviewed Shannon Petersen, a graduating senior of the Class of 2018. Are you excited about graduating?

“Yes I am excited about graduating and being with all of the people in my class.”

How do you feel about this being one of the last major events with your class?

“It’s a little sad but it’s also interesting as we move on to the next chapters in our lives.”

This event will be great to attend to celebrate with the Class of 2018 as they finish off high school. All the seniors are extremely excited to finish off their high school career and go on to the next chapter in their lives.

## WHERE ARE SENIORS GOING TO COLLEGE?

By Ethan York ‘20

The students at Hillsdale High School have had a long four years of hard work and stress but now they have to continue onto bigger better things whether it’s going to college or going into the workforce. Students have committed to many different colleges all the way to the west coast and back to the east. The students have decided on what career they want to pursue and make a bright future for themselves.

When interviewing the mass of the students on how they think they will adjust to the new schedule, location, and people. The majority of the students responded with they think it’s going to be very stressful at the beginning but once adjusted to the atmosphere it should be a breeze from there on out. Seniors this year are all spread out, the majority of students are starting their first year of studies at Jackson College. Others will be attending Eastern Michigan University, Western Michigan, Spring Arbor, Michigan State, Michigan, University of Toledo, Trine, Olivet, Alma, Hillsdale College, Indianapolis University, and Grand Valley State. Seniors plan on finishing the rest of their high school career strong and confident as they make their way to college.

## LAST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL - INTERVIEWING SENIORS

By Briana Bradley ‘19

As the 2017-2018 school year is coming to a close there is another class graduating and moving on to bigger and better things. For the graduating class it has been a year full of lasts. For some it has been a year full of maturing and getting ready for their next four years at college. Others have been preparing for the workforce and building skills to help them achieve. Now that the school year is just a few weeks away from ending, it all starts to become real.

One of the college ready students has some things he would like to share. I asked Brent Rocheleau, “How has your last year of high school been?” He responded with, “My last year at Hillsdale High School has done nothing but prepare me for the future. It has been a struggle trying to figure out everything about scholarships and college but I will no doubt remember and cherish my last nine months here in this facility.”

The last year of high school for some is a learning experience about the next two to four years of college will be like. There are a lot of things that have to be planned out like housing, tuition, classes, a college visit, etc. Others learn about and plan for jumping into the workforce. It could be stressful at times because of the weird transition that the Class of 2018 will be making. But could also be really fun to experience the lasts of high school.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

By Collin Brown ‘18

Scholarships are a great thing to get when you’re in school because it is free money so you don’t have to pay them back like loans. The best thing about them is that there are so many scholarships available out there. You can get a scholarship for being left handed, all you have to do is write essays. The main factor that plays a role in students not doing scholarships are the essays of course, no one likes to write nowadays which is completely understandable. Most of the essays don’t have to be that long and at the same time some don’t even require one. There are many places you can go and look for scholarships, you can go look for them online and also your school may have scholarships that you can apply for. It is more than likely a lot of kids are going to apply for those though so you will want to find others to apply for. The most known scholarships that people apply for are the Hillsdale Community Foundation Scholarships. These scholarships are great to apply for because they are based around your community. They are well known by people all over the community therefore they are going to be harder to get.

If you win a scholarship, you can give yourself a pat on the back. For

some scholarships there are thousands of applicants. When you are recognized for your accomplishments it gives you the confidence to pursue other goals. It is very important for students to recognize their own potential early in their academic career so that they foster its growth.

## AFTER PROM PARTY

By Cassie Bowditch '19

On April 21st the juniors had hosted their one and only class prom that led into April 22nd. It led into the 22nd because there was an after prom party, that lasted until about 6 a.m. The students had prom until 11 p.m. and then came back to the school to change and whatnot and got onto the bus to depart to the amazing destination. The party place was in Portage about two hours away from here. Students all had a wonderful time, made great memories, and had lots of time the next day to come home and rest!

Interviewed student Breanna Bildner '19 said the after prom party was a lot of fun! I asked what all she did while there and she had said she and her group went mini golfing, go-karting, and played arcade games. She also said that yes! She cannot wait until next year's party, to see what they get to do! Interviewed student Grace Olinger '19 said the after party was great! She also said that she played a lot of games and went go-karting with her friends! She said that she is definitely looking forward to next year's party, it was a lot of fun this year!

With all of the interviews it does sound like the after party was memorable! Students had an amazing time and had lots of fun! They all enjoyed playing the games, and seemed to have fun going go-karting. Also with the interviews they did not seem to complain about the timing and what time they got home, so it seems it didn't really matter what time it was. They were all just having fun!

## PREPARING FOR YOUR SENIOR YEAR

By Vivian Pickard '19

Senior year is one of the worst and best years of a high school career. It's the year where everything happens for the last time. There's the last homecoming, last football game, and last test. Even though the year is full of last things, there are also a lot of new beginnings up ahead. Here are some tips to help you through those last and first things.

One of the best tips so far is to plan ahead. Not only does planning ahead help overcome senioritis, it also creates a good habit to take with you to college. Plan ahead by getting things done as quickly and as thoroughly as you can when you get it. Another good thing to do is to use your calendar app or invest in a planner to keep track of dates. This way things get done and not forgotten.

Another good tip is to not worry and just have fun. It is your last year so make it count. Along with this still care about the things you have to do and the grades you get in classes, but it never hurts anyone to have fun while doing it. Don't just stay home and sleep in every day because one day you will regret not making memories. Through your last year, doors may close signifying the end of high school but another will open that will lead you to the big thing called life ahead of you. So make the most of those last nine months.

## HORNET POWER LIFE

By Travis Fowler '18

Hornet power students are nearing the end the year with excitement. In hornet power most people think of it as a super hard gym class. Even though the lifts are rough and the training feels like it never ends, after you adapt to it, it starts to become natural. The one thing everyone loves is a good ole game day. There is not a single person who can not say they don't love handball tournaments, or the game fest.

Terron Grant is one of the seniors in the class. He says "Great environment when everyone comes together and gets after it. There is a fair amount of tension in there because everyone is trying to be the top guy. Everyone uses the class in their own way whether it be for to get physically strong, or mentally or even both, some even use it as a get away to forget all the difficult times they go through."

Gavin Lafflexit is a sophomore in hornet power and describes it as "Hornet power is commitment because you have to hold yourself to a standard whether it be for coming in every day and putting in the work, or staying mentally competitive through your sport seasons. The lifts coaches think of put us not only through physically challenges, as well mentally challenges also. Being mentally strong is important because when it gets down to the 4th quarter and your muscles are burning and physically exhausted, you have to keep your focus for yourself and your team."

## INVOLVED IN TOO MANY CLUBS

By Brylee Boyd '21

Many students in Hillsdale High School are involved in many clubs such as BPA, Interact Club, Student

Council, Key Club, Freshman Mentor Program, NHS, Future Corps, Book Club, Girls Group, Stingers Volleyball, Polar Bear and Chess Club. I have surveyed two students Grace Shreffler '21 and Rachel Rufenacht '22. Both of these girls are very involved students around our school. Both Grace and Rachel are involved in Interact, BPA, Student Council, Stingers Volleyball, and Polar Bear. Both of them don't find it too hard to balance these clubs with their school and sports activities. If two club activities happen on the same day the girls just pick between which is more important to them. "What is the hardest thing about being so involved in so many clubs." Rachel Responded with "The hardest thing for me is balancing having to retake test at lunch rather than going to my clubs meetings, basically balancing grades over clubs." Being involved in many clubs around school can sometimes be a great thing and sometimes be a struggle but both these girls enjoy being involved and helping our community.

## SUMMER PLANS

By Virginia Brown '18

Summer is just around the corner at Hillsdale High School. The flowers are in full bloom, the air is fresh and sweet and the weather is warm. As the year progresses to the last weeks of school, people are excited for Summer break to begin. There are many different plans for Summer among the student body. A few students shared their plans for Summer break.

Travis Fowler says, "Summer break? I'm working, I don't have a Summer break!" Brylee Boyd plans on doing a lot of swimming, visiting friends and playing volleyball. MaCayla Bisher gets to vacation in Orlando, Florida for her summer break so she can "get a tan." When asked what Gavin LaFollette is doing for Summer break, he replied with, "Sports, sports, sports, lifting, sports, sports." Ethan York is going to Canada and Florida to play soccer.

There are only a few weeks of school left and everybody is dreaming of their summer plans. Whether someone's plans are travelling around the world, staying home or hanging out with friends the whole time, everybody is ready for Summer to begin. Academics are in full swing and students and teachers alike are busier than ever. This school year has been full of fun memories and we can't wait to make more this Summer.

## WHAT CHILDHOOD FOODS DO YOU STILL EAT?

By Katy Kempa '18

Think about some childhood foods that you still eat today. There is nothing to shameful about eating them. We all have them. Could these foods include Lunchables, Poptarts, Twinkies, even macaroni and cheese? Everyone channels their inner child sometimes and splurges on their once beloved food.

I interviewed Shannon Petersen '18 on childhood foods that he still eats. When asked, "What childhood food do you still eat today?" He replied, "I still really like to eat SpaghettiOs because they are honestly so good!" Also when asked, "What is one food you have not had in a long time but wish you did?" He responded, "I really want to have Kool-Aid because we would always have it as kids and my siblings and I would consume so many cups of it everyday."

Growing up in the early 2000's, we surely had memorable foods. Some

more foods that you might also remember eating could include Gushers, Uncrustables, Pop Rocks, Nesquik chocolate milk, and Gogurts. We all remember getting the blue ring pops and licking them until our tongue turned blue. As we reminisce on all our old favorite foods, you can definitely tell we had some high metabolisms. All of these foods will forever connect us in our favorite childhood memories.

## LUNCH STAFF, WHAT'S YOUR JOB

By Brent Rocheleau '18

Our lunch staff has a rather large task even before even getting here in the morning. they say that having to get up at 5:30 every morning to get here and prepare for breakfast is one of the most challenging and hardest aspects of their job. But they continue to say that getting up that early is worth it because they are able to see every kid be fed. One of the reasons they do what they do is because they love talking to the children. After breakfast, they are far from a break. They now have to prepare to serve us lunch which is anything but easy. They also said that it can be difficult to get everyone through the line but love how patient we can all be. The whole kitchen staff works hand and hand to prepare lunch and even with all of the problems they might face, they still push through for the good of the kids. Right after lunch, work is far from over. Lori, a dedicated and hardworking person, started off in the elementary school, then off to Bailey, then to the middle school, and now is working here at the high school and has seen us all grow up, some even since kindergarten. Lori has huge amounts of paperwork to get done for inventory and money balances. When she fin-

ishes all of the work that has to be done, she gets to go home to do it all over again but she wouldn't have it any other way. Laura, one of our other amazing staff here at Hillsdale High school, is in charge of feeding us after school for all of our activities. She takes about two hours putting together all of those meals that many of us take advantage of every day. Everyday, the staff in the kitchen puts students before themselves, running on little sleep, and continuously caring for each and every student that walks in the doors. To them we say, THANK YOU.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA - IS IT CONSUMING OUR LIVES?**

By Emily Kimball '19

Social Media is a huge part of teenagers lives today. Teens use social media to make friends, share memories, and talk to people. In most cases, they have access to social media 24/7 because of having it available on their mobile devices. Usually teens spend their free time on types of apps/websites like Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, tumblr, LinkedIn, and Pinterest. Some parents are more tuned into to their teens social media usage and I asked Katy Kempa a couple of questions about her life and how social media is involved in it. I asked Katy Kempa, Why do you get on social media? She responded, "I usually get on social media because I'm bored. I'm bored a lot of the time, so therefore I'm on social media a lot of the time." The main forms of social media she uses include Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. I then asked Sarah Shrefler some questions. I asked her if she believes social media consumes lives? She replied, "To an extent, I

believe that it does consume parts of our lives, however, it is a good way to connect with others."

Overall, I would say that social media is on its way to consuming people's lives, however, people get the choice of whether their lives are impacted positively or negatively by social media. They can choose to let it consume their lives negatively or choose to use it as a positive thing and connect with people or encourage people. For some, this choice is easy as they are hard working and focused teens. For others, social media is a distraction and affects their school work and other aspects of their life. In the end, the individual is the ultimate judge of their social media usage and can determine what is a positive and what is a negative.

## **BASEBALL IS IN A SWING**

By Gavin LaFollette '20

This is Mitchell Gabriel's 3rd year for the Hillsdale Hornets as the varsity head coach. Last season the hornets finished the year with 6 wins. Half way through the season the young team already has reached the goal of at least 6 wins, with the latest win against the Blissfield Royals! This is the first time in Coach Gabriel's coaching career where the team has had more underclassmen than upperclassmen.

While interviewing Coach Gabriel about his thoughts on the young team he responded, "Even though our youth shows at times, we know how to play some good fundamentally sound baseball and I am excited to see what the future hold for our team."

Aidan Petersen tells his thoughts on the season, "I love our young team. We have great guys that know how to play baseball. Our baseball

IQ is high for being a young team and I can't wait to spend the next few years with these guys." Aidan also tells his thoughts on Coach Gabriel, "It's a lot of fun playing for him, knowing that he has been in our spot before. But it's also a lot to live up to knowing he went to college to play two sports. I feel like he's the best to coach us because he knows what he's talking about and he always finds new ways to make us better."

The Hillsdale Hornets just split the night against the Blissfield Royals, winning the first game 3-0 and losing the second game. In the first game Logan Wagler, a freshmen, pitched his first full game, throwing 100 pitches! In his interview he responded with, "My main goal was trying to keep Blissfield from scoring but towards the 6th and 7th inning I was starting to struggle because I was losing my velocity (pitch speed) and location. I knew I was going to be ok though because my defense had been making plays the entire night and I could trust them. It's challenging to be a freshman pitcher on varsity though. I know that there is a lot of pressure and that it's a lot more competitive but also it's very fun."

## **TRACK TEAM SUCCESS**

By Trevathian McLavey '17

Over the years, the Hillsdale High School track team has had much success. Especially with coach Clay Schiman as head coach. The track team won MITCA state three years in a row. He also has won track coach of the year three times! That's a great accomplishment for a coach of any level.

There have been many great athletes that were crucial to those titles. These athletes include Spencer Eves, who holds the high jump

record jumping 6'7, Rees Nemeth (Graduated}, who holds the pole vault record, and two other graduates that ran long distance Brock Eves and Charles Holbrook. The girl's 4x100 meter relay team of Katie Dietz, Shelby Stuchell, Mercedes Manville, and Abi Arnold broke the school record! With the absence of these graduates Spencer Eves, Sam Nash, Coby Nash, Brock Woodard, and Ryan Reiniche have played big roles.

Sam Nash (senior) is one of the team's fastest sprinters, running a 52 second 400 meter dash. Spencer Eves (junior) continues his success as the area's best high jumper and one of the best in the state. Coby Nash (junior), ranks 3rd in the region in the 110 meter and 300 meter hurdles. Brock Woodard (freshmen) is dual sporting for Varsity Baseball and Track and is a huge contribution to both, playing Outfield for Baseball, and long jump for Track. This year may be another year for both the Men's and Women's team to have a lot of success.

## TENNIS TEAM 2018

Grace Olinger '19

The tennis team has had an amazing year. They are 8-3 so far in the season. Coach Phillips and Coach Haslem have worked hard to teach the players the things they need to know to win their matches. All the players have improved a lot from the beginning of the season to result in a really strong team. The team is very happy with how they played.

First year Varsity players Emma Hammel and Ella Lewis have had a great season so far. They are the teams second doubles and have a 9-2 record. Emma's favorite part about tennis is that you are able to play individually, but are still part of a team. She is also excited for

the league meet, and plans to come home with a win.

After being canceled, delayed, and rescheduled multiple times, the SMITL Conference Meet was on Monday, May 21 at Columbia Central. The team had prepared all week and plans to do well. They competed against teams in their league. Overall the team placed second, only losing by two points to Battle Creek St. Phillip. Most of the girls made it to finals but were unable to complete their last match due to rain. However, fourth doubles team of Katelyn Throop and Lindsay Sheffer got first place and Abby Pitts placed second. Good job to all the players and good luck next season!

## GIRLS TENNIS SEASON- FROM A CAPTAIN

By Emma Hammel '18

Following last years season, head coach Scott Robare retired from coaching girls tennis. Previously the assistant coach, Scott Phillips stepped up to take head coach position going into Spring 2018. Along with Coach Phillips, later in the season, the girls tennis team also received a new junior varsity coach: James Haslam. The team only had two league losses; one to Leslie and one to St. Phil.

The hornet tennis girls had three captains this year: Marie Hecklinger, Payton Baker, and Abby Pitts. When I spoke to senior captain Abby Pitts about challenges this year she said, "We may have a new head coach, but thankfully nearly everyone already knows him and what to expect since he has been with us for so long." As with anything there are adjustment challenges, but the largest issue this season came from the weather. "The season went really fast but the

weather was our biggest opponent, cancelling and rescheduling all the time from the rain," Abby stated. The league match has been rescheduled and cancelled twice, and will have to be played after the teams regional match.

With only regionals and league left, looking back on the season is bittersweet. Abby says it best, "I think we did really well as a team with a lot of new players that really came out and helped us win most of our league matches. I'm really looking forward to our league tournament and I believe we can win as a team if we bring our A game." Regionals are in Battle Creek on Friday, May 18th and the league tournament is currently scheduled for Monday, May 21st. The girls may have had to accommodate weather all season, but that didn't stop them from making progress, creating friendships, and having success.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 28 - No School

May 31 - Class Night

Jun 3 - Graduation 2 p.m.

### Newspaper Staff

*Breanna Bildner*

*Cassie Bowditch*

*Brylee Boyd*

*Briana Bradley*

*Collin Brown*

*Virginia Brown*

*Austin Estel*

*Travis Fowler*

*Terrontino Grant*

*Emma Hammel*

*Katherine Kempa*

*Emily Kimball*

*Gavin LaFollette*

*TJ McLavey*

*Grace Olinger*

*Chloe Page*

*Vivian Pickard*

*Brent Rocheleau*

*Ethan York*

*Mindy Eggleston, Teacher*