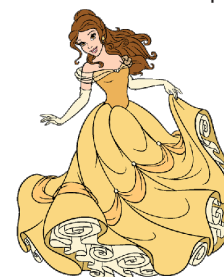


THE BEAR FACTS

VOL. 30 NO. 7

BRENTWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

MAY 2018



Baseball team falls in playoffs to Woodlands

By Jackson Baird

With the Bears trailing 9-8, junior Jack Oberwortmann led off the bottom of the seventh by homering to left field. Then, with two runners in scoring position and one out, sophomore Daniel Hickl hit a ground ball to the shortstop. The shortstop threw the man out at the plate, and then the catcher threw to second, catching Hickl between the bases. That's when sophomore Isaac Copeland broke for home, arriving just as the ball did. Diving, Copeland reached out and touched the plate as the ball bounced away.

"That was probably the most athletic play I have made in my life," Copeland said. "I also broke my helmet in the process."

This scored the winning run for the Bears in their thrilling 10-9 win in the area round of playoffs against their opponent Bay Area Christian on May 3.

Brentwood's season ended in Mumford a week later, as the Bears lost 5-0 to The Woodlands Christian Academy.

In the win over Bay Area, Escobedo took the mound for Brentwood, pitching six strong innings in front of a large homefield crowd. Escobedo also played an important role in the Bears' offense. When errors cost his team the lead in the top of the third, he followed with a two-run home run in the bottom of the inning to give the Bears a 4-3 lead.

Timely hitting by senior Dillon Smith, Escobedo, and Oberwortmann gave BCS an 8-4 lead after four innings, but Bay Area chipped away before taking the lead in the seventh. That set up the last-inning heroics.

"We just had to trust our offense and have them perform up to their capability," head coach Mike Bando said. "They know the game's not over till the fat lady sings, and you saw their determination."

On May 10, the Bears again sent their ace to the mound, and for five innings, neither team had scored. But baserunning mistakes

see **Offensive-minded**, page 6

Seniors conclude BCS careers

By Natalie Barry

"Wait, how many weeks of high school are left?" Alex Sass asked last month, surprised when she realized it was time to make final decisions for the future.

One week from graduation, seniors have reached the end of their high school journey and are making final preparations for beginning life's next chapter.

Approximately half of the 60 students in the Class of 2018 have decided to go into STEM fields. Seven have chosen to study science, eight prefer engineering, at least three are choosing to pursue computer-oriented majors, 13 favor health-related majors, and two are pursuing math.

Texas A&M and Austin Community College are the top two options, with eight heading to A&M and 11 enrolling in ACC. Nine chose to attend schools out of state, and 10 chose Christian schools.

Courtney Min will be moving the farthest away, as she chose to attend Parsons School

of Design in New York City. Min will major in communication design.

Heading to the other coast will be Lydia Shin, who will major in economics at University of California, Irvine.

With a passion for creating and designing new things, Elena Milan chose interior design as her major.

see **Graduates**, page 5

photo: Vaughn Amann

At the top Seniors Hannah Lewis, Emma Leidlein, Elijah Cunningham, Diego Escobedo, JD Bailey, and Carolanne Perimon enjoy last month's Jr./Sr. Formal.

Grandparents' Day entertains, blesses guests

By Kaitlyn Baird

"It's a great day to be a Brentwood Bear!" is the saying often heard around the BCS campus. Last week, however, it was even greater to be a grandparent of a Brentwood Bear.

Brentwood Christian honored and entertained grandparents with breakfast, musical performances, and classroom activities at the annual Grandparents' Day on May 11.

The morning began with the jazz band playing on the promenade as grandparents arrived at BCS. The celebrated guests then had the opportunity to attend a special breakfast of muffins, biscuits, and fruit set up by NHS volunteers in the FLC at 7:45 a.m.

This year, the Fine Arts Benefactors invited students to purchase corsages and boutonnieres as surprise gifts for their grandparents, which were given out at the breakfast. After sitting down, guests could watch a slideshow detailing athletic, academic, and fine art accomplishments of Brentwood students. A strings ensemble also played at the front of the room.



photo: Elizabeth Aldaco

Handwriting K-4 student Collin Fiddler and his grandmother trace their hands on Grandparents' Day, May 11.

After breakfast, grandparents watched a special program in the auditorium. Elementary students played ukuleles and sang several songs, including "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" and "If You're Happy and You Know It." Following their performance, Encore and choir sang a variety of songs.

"My favorite part is being able to bring joyful music to people we highly respect and are highly grateful for," senior Bellini Ha said.

Grandparents joined their grandchildren in three of their classes after the program. Teachers had activities planned for each of the 25-minute sessions, including breaking spaghetti bridges in Geometry, playing bingo in Spanish, and traditional elementary activities like second grade's square dancing and fourth grade's "Historical Hysteria."

"My favorite part (of the day) is having grandparents tell about their favorite movies or share their knowledge of the Bible," teacher Mel Witcher said. "I think it's an encouragement to the kids and certainly a blessing to the grandparents."

Thus Spoke Ben Helyer

Seniors offer mishmash of ‘words’

When you’re reading this, some of the Class of 2018 will be taking their finals, and others will already be done. Yes, you’ll see us at graduation, and yes, we promise we’ll come back to visit. We hope you all have a wonderful rest of your time at Brentwood and will miss you deeply when we leave.

That should settle the graduation clichés for this editorial. If I’ve neglected to include any, I apologize, but please treasure them in your hearts as if I had written them.

Now, instead of rambling on about how excited or anxious or depressed or enthusiastic I am about the future (yes, it’s a combination) and reminiscing over my time at Brentwood, I give to you the words of the Brentwood Christian School Class of 2018 (and one guest):

What is a one-sentence advertisement for your college?

Austin Biegert: Go Riverbats! Hooray for low student loans! - ACC

Preston Glenn: After you see the gorgeous campus and excellent programs, you’ll be wooshing you went to UT Dallas.

Vi Nguyen: #18 of #1383 Best College Food in America. - University of Oregon

Alex Pittner: Not really an ad, but I really hope Louie goes to Texas State.

Louie Heilweil: You can eat pasta at Colorado School of Mines. (Sorry, Pittner.)

Dillon Smith: We have live bears on campus?! - Baylor

Derek Lilya: Best beef in Austin! - UT Austin

Benjamin Helyer: The only place where you can hear cows mooing next to an apartment complex with over 3,000 people. - Texas A&M

Describe your major based on the primary stereotypes surrounding it.

Austin Biegert: Success, power, responsibility, economic growth: Business degree.

Khang Phan: I thought Aerospace Engineering is like the Airbender, so I signed up for it.

Grace Rogge: Learn how to talk better and get a 4.0! - Communications

Elena Milan: All you do is shop for furniture and pick out wall colors. #interiordesign

Dillon Smith: Money, Money, Money, Money, Muuunaayyy - Business

Carolanne Perimon: I’m just there to make the doctor look better. - Nursing

Derek Lilya: It might be shocking, but you can pay me to electrocute you. - Electrical engineering

Grace McDaniel: So are you a crazy horse girl? - Equine science

Benjamin Helyer: Math was too hard and philosophy was too easy. - Physics

What would you like to apologize to Brentwood for?

Austin Biegert: Sorry for throwing away that lunch tray one time. I served my time and my detention. I repent.

Grace Rogge: Sorry for my parking.

Alex Pittner: Not really an apology, but I’m really sad that Louie left.

Diego Escobedo: I’m sorry for breaking a window.

Elena Milan: Sorry for going 30 over “Mount Speed Bump Brentwood.”

Derek Lilya: Sorry for not reading your emails.

What is your advice to younger students?

Vi Nguyen: Don’t take 3 AP classes at a time if your parents have high expectations.

Alex Pittner: If your parents have high expectations for you, make sure to take at least 3 AP classes to impress them.

Louie Heilweil: Well, I took 5 AP classes this year, got a 1400 SAT, and A&M still gave me Blinn, so don’t worry too much.

Alena Bellon: Don’t be afraid to try new things.

Alex Pittner: Be afraid to try new things.

Lulu Clark: Do your college applications EARLY.

Alex Pittner: Wait to do your college applications till the last minute. You don’t want to seem like a needy nerd to the administration.

Elena Milan: Don’t worry, I applied for college the night it was due and still got in! #yolo

Louie Heilweil: It’s a proven fact that if you don’t go to college, you’ll DIE (someday).

Julia Bellon: Don’t give up.

Alex Pittner: Give up.

Dillon Smith: Keep the opposite gender close but keep the same gender closer.

Derek Lilya: “It’s a trap!” - Admiral Ackbar

Benjamin Helyer: Do not get depressed about the trap. Even if it is a trap, you must live without appeal.

Elijah Cunningham: Senioritis will come eventually, so don’t burn yourself out in the beginning of the year to push it as far back as possible.

Lindsey Hitt: Bring a coloring book. It helps pass the time in a boring class or any class.

Bellini Ha: Duct tape or cover that little hole at the top of your locker on the inside, so water from someone’s bag doesn’t spill into the hole and ruin your books.

Shaun Amann: Do your homework and get good grades, but sometimes, kick back with friends and enjoy life before it gets worse.

THE BEAR FACTS

Brentwood Christian School
11908 North Lamar Blvd.
Austin, TX 78753

The Bear Facts is published monthly by the journalism classes of BCHS. The paper is a learning tool which informs the student body while teaching students to become critical observers of their environment and to validate Truth within the context of the Christian world view.

Editor-in-Chief
Kaitlyn Baird

Photo Editor
Jenna Timmerman

Reporters

Jackson Baird
Sky Barker
Natalie Barry
Blake Benton
Austin Biegert
Ashton Crow
Regan Crow
Andrew Geevarghese
Benjamin Helyer
Noah Islas
Riley Keesey

Michael Milicia
Isaac Olewin
Alex Pittner
Ethan Rutt
Conner Shaver
Hayden Shellenberger
Molly Stewart
Wes Tindel
Emily Walker
Seth Ziegler

The Honorary Omelettes

Linh Bui
Elijah Cunningham
Christine Jo
Doeun Kim

Merideth Mallett
Courtney Min
Vi Nguyen

Adviser
Jonathan Weed

The Bear Facts is available online at
www.brentwoodchristian.org.



Choir takes second, band takes third at TAPPS

By Molly Stewart

The BCS high school choir took second place in state in last month’s TAPPS competition in Waco on April 21. A week later the BCS

band took third place in TAPPS, competing in Temple. The choir finished second overall with all “ones,” superior ratings, in their full choir pieces as well. The pieces they performed

were “Praise the Lord,” “Set Me As a Seal,” and “City Called Heaven.” “The judges said we were the largest choir but the quietest, and we represented Brentwood very well,” choir director Whitney Wick said. The band finished with 407 points, and director Travis Pollard pointed out that if BCS were in 5A this year, they would have placed second. They scored all ones on every piece they played in the full band and jazz band competition. The pieces the band performed were “Alamo March,” “By Dawn’s Early Light,” and “Crystalline.” “It’s clear that we have areas to improve on, but I think that we played very well,” Pollard said. On May 5, the entire band participated in the Sound Waves competition in New Braunfels. The middle school band was named “best in class,” and the high school earned two “superior” ratings. After performing, students spent the afternoon enjoying Schlitterbahn. The middle school band concert was on May 10, while a playoff baseball game pushed the high school performance to May 11. The choirs had a concert on May 3, and on May 19 they will be competing at the Director’s Choice Competition in San Antonio.



Right notes Freshman Isaac Stanglin (front) and sophomore Gavin George do their part to propel the BCS band to a third-place finish in state on April 26 in Temple. photo: Doeun Kim

Lady Bellas reveal routines at spring show

By Ashton Crow

The Lady Bellas performed their second annual Spring Show in the theater on April 18. Since last year’s show, the moves have changed, and the skill levels improved. Most of the Lady Bellas performed calypsos, and the team’s leaps have gotten higher. Although this year’s performance was filled with fun, light-hearted performances with the help of the Bitty Bellas, the team’s skill stole the show, and the crowd was wowed, cheering and clapping to encourage the team. The Bitty Bellas – composed of kindergartners through fifth graders – were a bigger part of this year’s show and performed many fun numbers, like “It’s a Hard Knock Life” from Annie and “Respect” by Aretha Franklin. The team also showed a slideshow of all the drill team members and the memories they made as a team from the 2017-18 school year. The team captains this year were seniors Madison Warner and Carolanne Perimon. “I loved working with our team to perfect each dance,” Warner said. “As it is my last year, each moment I get to spend dancing with some of my favorite people is so precious to me.” This was the drill team’s first year to compete. They started working on their routine in

August and performed it in November at the TAPPS competition in Waco. Although the team did not place, sophomores Taylor Warner and Addison Alberda made first-team all state. “Both of our routines were the hardest that drill had learned, and they were a challenge to clean. But through hard work and the dedication that Mrs. Warner instills in us, it was a

huge success!” Alberda said. The number of Lady Bellas has increased from 12 last year to 15 this year. Next year’s team will have 21. “I love the girls and all that they bring to the team: talent, humor, sweetness, a little bit a sass, and whole lot of joy to my heart,” coach Lisa Warner said.



Watch this! Led by leaping sophomore Taylor Warner, the Lady Bellas entertained guests with several routines at the Spring Show on April 18 in the school theater. photo: Kevin McKimmerney

NHS students end year with service, fun

By Blake Benton

Following a long tradition of service and citizenship, 108 members of Brentwood Christian’s National Honor Society traveled to six different charity organizations on Friday, April 20 with hands ready to serve. These students volunteered in a wide variety of service projects. From helping special needs kids at Rosedale to digging in the dirt at Crowe’s Nest Farms, Brentwood NHS members spread the love of Christ by selfless service. Students were accompanied by teachers Jeri Birdwell, Kaleen Graessle, Jimmie Harper, Brooke Hollingsworth, Diann Sloan, and Leah Smith. Other places where students served include Community First!, Trinity Child Development Center, Westover Hills Church of Christ, and the St. Vincent De Paul thrift store and food bank. Rosedale has been a popular location of service for NHS as the society travels to the school multiple times throughout the year. Students ran booths at Rosedale’s Track and Field Day for their students. From picking weeds to building goat pens, the Community First! group helped improve the campus of tiny homes for the low income and homeless of Austin. “I saw God through the work being done to help those going through hard times in their life,” NHS vice president-elect Travis Whitaker said. Students at St. Vincent De Paul made a difference at the facility by organizing the clothes in the store as well as cleaning and organizing pantries and moving heavy materials from a shed to the forge. The Crowe’s Nest Farms crew got their hands dirty painting fences on the campus. Afterwards, the group walked around and saw all the animals on the farm. A group of NHS members that traveled to Trinity Child Development Center impacted the community by working on the playground at the building. “It is wonderful to take BCS students into the community to serve,” said Dr. Hollingsworth, the faculty sponsor of NHS. “Our students always bless others by working hard while smiling.” After a long morning of service, all volunteers took a break to eat lunch at Pflugerville Park, where they enjoyed relaxing by the creek and hanging out with friends.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: *Derek Lilya*

Seniors featured in the Bear Facts were selected by a vote held among the entire BCS Class of 2018.

Excellent student loved for pithy puns, sharp mind

By Alex Pittner

Derek Lilya is considered by his peers to be one of the smartest people they know. From his brilliance in academics to his place in Encore, Derek's achievements in excellence are widely known. Many have wondered, "How does Derek do it? How is he so fantastic at everything?"

"I literally just sit on my couch and play video games," Derek answers.

Derek first came to Brentwood in 2009 when he was in fourth grade. Originally, Derek was from Folsom, Calif., where he attended a school called Victory Christian. The family moved to Texas after Derek's father got a promotion offer which would require him to move to the Lone Star State. Since Derek arrived, he has been beloved by his classmates.

"I remember him and his friend Zane running around the playground playing Pokemon, leaping over various rocks and other obstacles. I feel like because he's so smart people often forget how fun and goofy he was as a kid," says fellow senior Alexandria Sass.

Most will recognize Derek from all-community chapel due to his part in Encore, for which Derek has sung bass for the past two years. Many will also know him from last fall's musical, *The Little Mermaid*. In the classic tale, Derek played the role of Ariel's father, Triton.

"I enjoy (singing) as a pastime. I like creating things that I consider beautiful. Also, I'm too lazy to learn an instrument so I just use my voice," Derek laughs.

Derek ran cross country for several years, during which he got involved in some strange shenanigans. On one occasion, Derek was able to trick his friend David Tiner into joining the cross country team for an entire year.

"I knew that if I tricked Dave into joining the team he would feel too guilty to quit," Derek explains.

So he told coach Jacob Rotich that David was considering joining the team even though David had never expressed this interest to Derek. One day, the two boys started talking during Athletics class.

"While we were talking, I slyly led him to the place where cross country was running and began to slowly increase my pace until we were both jogging. When Coach Rotich saw Dave running with me, he joyfully exclaimed that he would go sign Dave up," says Derek, describing his plan.

"His plan worked," David confirms. "After seeing how happy coach was when he thought I wanted to join, I couldn't quit because he's such a good man. Derek knew I wouldn't be able to (quit)."

Although he was not one of the fastest runners, Derek greatly enjoyed his time on the team and the "weird and funny things" that would happen.

"I'll never forget that one time when I got lost in the woods for an hour and Coach Rotich found me by playing a game of 'Marco Polo,'" he says.

In his free time Derek enjoys playing video games, some of his favorites being "Overwatch," "The Legend of Zelda" series, and "Fortnite." Some of his favorite films are *Black Panther* and *Get Out*, but he is also a big fan of 1990s classics.

"In the '90s they started figuring out how to make movies that were actually good," Derek says. "Really old special effects are laughably bad – funny to watch, but still bad."

He also enjoys using his free-time to sleep, but he feels that he doesn't give this particular "hobby" enough priority.

"I should definitely prioritize

sleep, and I think about that and I'm like "Yeah!" But then I get home and I'm like "Nah." I regret it in the morning, though," Derek chuckles.

Behind Derek is his loving family of six. His two little brothers, Aaron and Jason, are at BCS in ninth and seventh grade, respectively.

His older sister, Elise, graduated from Brentwood two years ago and attends Texas A&M. Both his father and mother work in engineering.

Because all three of his siblings have attended BCS, the strength of his family bonds shows at school.

"Lilyas are very loyal to each other. They are all different, but there are definitely similarities," math teacher Kaleen Graessle says.

In the fall, Derek will be attending UT-Austin, where he plans to

major in electrical engineering. He says his interest in this field was sparked by his parents, and he is excited to learn about electronics in general, but mainly things involving electromagnetism. During the summer Derek has an internship with the Applied Research Labs at UT.

Derek plans on figuring out more specifics of what he will do as a career during college. At the moment, he believes that he will probably go into a field involving software development and circuit design, renewable energy, or nano tech.

"I'm very visual. I like to see a finished product," he says. "Other sciences are cool, but I love seeing the practicality of electrical engineering and things that can be created by applying electric properties."

Graessle says she expects him to continue excelling in his studies at UT and beyond.

"He is intense with studies and will thrive in a university setting," she says. "He is a very independent worker. If he doesn't understand something, he works until he does. I'm not worried about him."

Derek doesn't let his school work stop him from having fun. He is apparently able to perfectly balance his academics with his humor and entertainment. During lunch, he can be found doing anything from practicing for choir with Miss Wick to playing "Super Smash Bro's" with his friends. On one occasion, he and a couple of his friends watched *Power Rangers* on the projector in the CSA.

"He is the ideal person when it comes to school," says friend David Reich. "He's really smart and hardworking, but also really fun and chill afterwards."

When seniors gathered to honor each other at the Super Senior Celebration, Benjamin Helyer spoke a blessing to Derek, which included the following:

"Through your humor, you make dull and esoteric knowledge come alive. If there's a pun to be made, you're one of the first to get it. You're one of the few people I know who has truly lived out the fact that hard work brings immense rewards, and because of that, you are a model of excellence."

Whether developing software, or applying the properties of electromagnetism, or just sitting on the couch playing video games, Derek will continue to apply his intellect and humor to every situation. And he just might trick a few more people into following him.



Offensive-minded baseball club wraps strong season

continued from page 1

ended two BCS rallies, and defensive errors led to four unearned runs for their opponent. Meanwhile, Brentwood only managed one hit.

“Diego pitched a heck of a game,” Bando said. “Offensively, we just didn’t get it done.”

Brentwood finished first in district with a 13-1 record, 15-2 overall. BCS scored 223 runs all season, while only giving up 54.

“We are still a young team, and we have a lot of talent that can help us for seasons to come,” Escobedo said.

Escobedo and Oberwortmann led the team in batting, averaging .605 and .545. Escobedo led the team with four home runs, followed by Oberwortmann with three. Oberwortmann led the team with 25 RBIs, followed by Smith (19) and junior Blake Benton (18).

Escobedo also led the Bears with an ERA of 0.87 and seven wins on the season.

Following are recaps of last month’s games:

4/7: @ John Paul II 9-7 L

The Bears brought seven runs across the plate in the first three innings. John Paul scored two runs making it 7-2 going into sixth inning. After that Brentwood struggled and let the lead slip away down the stretch due to costly errors from the defense.

4/14: Concordia 15-0 W

It was complete domination from the Bears, who got many runs across the plate early. On the mound for Brentwood was freshman Riley Keesey, who pitched a complete game and only allowed one hit. Escobedo hit his second home run of the season.

4/17: @ Boerne Geneva 6-5 W

Escobedo pitched a complete game for the Bears, who took an early lead and fought to hang on despite costly defensive errors.

4/20: San Juan Diego 16-1 W

Pitching for the first time in his life, freshman Sky Barker threw a complete game for Brentwood, only allowing one hit in three innings. Barker said it was nerve-racking but

fun after he settled into the game.

4/23: Boerne Geneva 20-10 W

In a back-and-forth game, Escobedo was relieved by sophomore Travis Whitaker and Keesey. In the fifth inning, Brentwood broke open the game with a home run from Oberwortmann.

4/24: San Marcos 17-2 W

It was an offensive day for the Bears on their senior night. They homered three times off of swings from Smith, freshman Sam Orrick, and Escobedo. Smith also took the mound for Brentwood, only allowing two runs before being relieved Billante.

4/28: San Marcos 12-1 W

As they did four days earlier, Brentwood dominated San Marcos with Escobedo hitting a home run in the third inning. Escobedo also took the mound for the Bears.



photo: Mere Rowlett

Crack! Junior Jack Oberwortmann led the Bears with 25 RBIs this year, and he also hit three home runs.

Three track athletes place high at state meet

By Michael Milicia

Senior Hunter Burcham threw the discus 124-08 to place second; junior Kayla Mayo took third in the 100 (12.83) and third in the shot put (34-2.5); and junior Jaclyn Wishard finished second in high jump (5-0) at the TAPPS state track meet in Waco on May 4-5.

“Kayla did great at the state meet,” girls’

head coach Katie Smith said. “She set the (BCS) shot put record and ran a strong 100.”

The Brentwood boys’ all-sophomore mile relay team of Phillip Mach, Noah Islas, Michael Milicia, and Gavin George ran a 3:39.05, setting a school record but coming in last place.

“They’re only sophomores,” head coach Correy Washington said. “I think we can improve our time a lot next year.”

The boys placed in the top 20 at state, and the girls placed 10th.

Also competing at state were junior Zach Mack in shot put, junior Jane Hughes in pole vault, and senior Trinity Ragsdill in discus.

At the regional meet held in Webster on April 2, athletes who finished fourth or better qualified for state. The mile relay team placed third in the 4x400 with a time of 3:40.73. Mack finished second in shot put (39-01), and Burcham placed second in discus (126-09).

Mayo placed third in the 100 (12.66) and in shot put (33-10.5). Wishard placed third in high jump (5-0), and second in the long jump (16-03.5). Hughes came in second in the pole vault (8-06), and Ragsdill placed fourth in discus (93-01).

On April 19, Brentwood traveled to San Marcos Academy for their district meet. The mile relay team won with a time of 3:41.91. The team of sophomores Bru Hague and Mach, junior Curtis Mack, and Burcham placed fourth in the 4x100 (46.77). Islas finished fourth in the 800 (2:15.48). In discus, Burcham took first place (129-01), Damra threw for third, (114-00), and Curtis Mack came in fourth (110-08). Damra placed second in the shot put (38-05.5).

The girls’ 4x100 team (Hughes, Mayo, Wishard, and Walker) finished fourth (54.24). Mayo won the 100 (13.23) and was third in shot put (32-08). Seniors Hannah Lewis and Ragsdill finished second and third in discus, respectively (87-10, 87-08).



photo: Darnell Mack

Heave! Senior Hunter Burcham throws the discus at the TAPPS state competition in Waco on May 4. Burcham’s throw of 124-08 was good enough for second place.

AIPL Track Results

Athletes in grades 5-8 competed in the AIPL championships at St. Michaels on April 26-28. Here are the team results and top individual performers:

5/6 Boys: First place

Long jump: Elijah Catron - 1st
High jump: E. Catron - 2nd, C. McLain - 3rd
Softball throw: Colton McLain - 1st
4x400 relay: 2nd
1600m: Colton McLain - 2nd
100m: Elijah Catron - 1st
50m: Elijah Catron - 1st

7/8 Boys: First Place

Triple jump: Nathan Joseph - 1st, Jack Leidlein - 2nd, Will Hughes - 3rd
Long jump: Parker Combs - 3rd
High jump: Chris Mayo - 1st, Sam Benton - 2nd, Seth Taylor - 3rd
Discus: Nathaniel Fogle - 2nd
4x400 relay: 1st
4x200 relay: 1st
4x100 relay: 2nd
110m hurdles: Nathan Joseph - 1st
1600m: Brecken Lee - 2nd
800m: Brecken Lee - 1st
200m: Chris Mayo - 1st, N. Joseph - 3rd
100m: Chris Mayo - 1st

5/6 Girls: 3rd Place

Long jump: Audrey Asher - 1st (tied AIPL record)
High jump: Audrey Asher - 1st (AIPL record)
1600m: Lyla Kate Jackson - 2nd
800m: Lyla Kate Jackson - 1st

7/8 Girls: 7th Place

High jump: Joanne Pahng - 3rd

Softball girls end season on high note, gain hope for future

By Riley Keesey

The varsity softball team hung up the cleats after winning four of the last five games to finish the season strong. They finished fourth in district with a 3-5 record.

Although they missed playoffs, the Lady Bears drastically improved since last year with an overall record of 6-11 compared to a winless season last year. The girls will have a tougher schedule next year as they will move into the 5A TAPPS division, competing in a district with teams like St. Michael's and Hyde Park.

Coach Paul Sladek said he is excited about the future of BCS softball and how the team got stronger as the season progressed.

"This group finished the season stronger than any group in several years," he said. "That shows the determination, focus, and competitive spirit we were looking for and now expect moving forward."

When recapping the season, Sladek went over things that went well and also some things the girls need to work on in the offseason.

"We definitely had a lot of highs and lows during the course of this season, but I'm hopeful about what next year will bring," he said.

The only senior, Kira Juranek, led the team as captain this year.

"I will cherish every memory I made with my teammates this season," she said. "While we had a rough start in the beginning, we ended things in a good spot and came out as a stronger team."

Pitcher Molly Stewart, who started all but one game for Brentwood, has enjoyed the season in spite of some difficult losses.

"This season was so much fun, and I can't wait until next year to continue playing and making memories with the team," Stewart said.

Junior Lauren Williams led the team with a batting average of .529, and she also led the team with 18 hits and 22 RBIs. Williams was also the only player on the team with a home run, hitting two of them.

Freshman Caroline Griffith hit .400 and scored 19 runs. Sophomore Annie Schmidt drew 18 walks and had 10 RBIs.

Stewart pitched most of the season with 66.2 innings pitched. She allowed 115 earned runs in the process as well.

Following are results of the last four games:

4/12: Vanguard 13-1 W

Stewart threw a no-hitter, and the only run allowed came on an error. Griffith and Williams led the team with three runs each. Griffith also led the team with three RBIs, and Williams had a double and home run. Brentwood jumped out to a 6-0 lead at the end of the first inning and scored three more in the second. The Bears ended the game scoring four runs in the third inning to run-rule Vanguard.

4/16: Waco Reicher 16-0 L

The Lady Bears did not get a single runner on base, as the Reicher pitcher threw a perfect game. Stewart threw the whole game for the Lady Bears, giving up 11 unearned runs, as the

girls struggled defensively with many errors.

4/19: Concordia 18-9 W

Brentwood overcame a 9-3 deficit after the second inning, pounding out 12 hits to take the comeback win. Junior Corrie Hager had three hits and five RBIs, and Williams added three

hits and three RBIs.

4/20: San Marcos Academy 10-0 W

Howell led the team with two hits and two RBIs in the shutout win over San Marcos. Stewart threw the whole game, allowing two hits and only walking one batter.



Close play Bears' sophomore catcher Annie Schmidt applies the tag just a bit too late as Marble Falls Faith scores another run in an 8-0 victory over BCS on April 3. After that game, Brentwood won four out of five games to end the season strong.

Girls finish third, boys fifth at TAPPS state golf tournament



Sweet swing Senior Connor White smiles as he watches his shot during practice before the state meet in Waco. The boys finished fifth in state.

By Wes Tindel

The Brentwood Christian girls' golf team placed third and the boys placed fifth in the TAPPS state tournament at Cottonwood Creek in Waco on April 30-May 1. The boys improved their score by 21 strokes on the second day, and the girls improved by two strokes.

Senior David Tiner and junior Adam Murphree each averaged 81 to finish in a tie for eighth place in the boys' individual standings, earning all-state honors.

For the girls, senior Avery Miller averaged 95.5 to finish eighth, and junior Kori Howell averaged 97.5 to finish 10th individually, also earning all-state honors.

The golfers had to endure wind gusts up to 30 mph.

"I was very happy with the

mental focus and concentration required by all the players as they faced the wind and rain and temperature swings over the two days," coach John Vandygriff said.

Murphree said it was very hard to control the shape and distance of his shots because of the wind.

"I was glad that I was hitting great approach shots from 150-plus yards to the pin, but it was still a challenge every single shot," he said.

Junior Connor Troutman said he had a strong back nine on day two at state.

"My irons were on," he said. "I put a four iron to five feet and then another four iron to about ten feet."

The girls won regionals by about 20 strokes over the second-place team at Fort Sam Houston's La Loma course in San Antonio on April 23, and the boys finished third. Sophomore Kirsten Morgan placed second in the individual standings with a score of 94.

A little over a week before regionals, on April 12, the girls came out of district at River Crossing with a first-place finish, and the boys'

team placed second.

Howell won the individual district title, posting a score of 95.

Vandygriff suggested that the hard and fast district course was tough on the scores.

"The putt count was much higher than we would have liked to see," Vandygriff said.

Vandygriff said he thinks the future of Brentwood's golf teams is only going to get better.

"The future is very promising with our returning veterans plus freshmen Wes Tindel, David Hou, and John Murphree on the boys' side, and Julia Glenn and Abi Walker on the girls' side. These players are all poised to help take BCS back to the state tourney for years to come," Vandygriff said.

He's hoping the returning players will strive to become better at the sport in off season.

"Like all things, the more we put into golf the more we will get out of it," he said. "I hope that all players will take advantage of summer tournaments, instruction, and practice in order to come back next year prepared to be even more competitive."

Junior/Senior features charismatic entertainer

By Austin Biegert

Juniors and seniors clothed in beauty flocked to the Austin Club on Friday, April 27, to join in a formal feast of beastly proportions.

The annual Junior/Senior Formal was held downtown at the ornately furnished historic opera house on 9th Street, a block from Congress Avenue, where the guests were treated to a three-course meal and entertainment from a nationally acclaimed stunt juggler.

Invitations to the event were hand delivered by the junior class weeks prior to the event. Tied delicately to faux roses were cards emblazoned with the event's theme "Be Our Guest," in the spirit of the Disney story "Beauty and the Beast."

With the elegance of the historic ballroom as the star decor, adding to the whimsically ornate feeling of the event, the patrons were greeted at the door with a warm welcome by the club's staff and BCS teachers alike.

Once professional photographer and senior parent Vaughn Amann snapped their pictures at the entrance steps, they were greeted by a server offering elegantly presented drinks and appetizers.

While guests trickled in, they had the opportunity to mingle among their friends and

take pictures at a photo booth that was hosted by junior parent Darnell Mack. When the clock struck seven, guest took their seats and were served a three-course meal consisting of Caesar salad, Chicken with mushroom risotto and asparagus, and a dessert of chocolate cake and New York-style cheesecake.

As they ate, they laughed and perused the senior prophecies and junior wills that were printed in the crisp programs at each seat. Prophecies ranged from great professional aspirations to grand personal dreams.

Benjamin Helyer was given the prestigious prediction of becoming the president of MIT while simultaneously running NASA, and Alec Shelby was determined to be "Most likely to pass out while trying to power up like Goku."

Halfway through the meal, the guests were greeted by the enthusiastic voice of Matt Tardy, a professional stunt juggler who boasted of his experience performing for celebrities, famed clubs, and even as far up as the White House.

His charismatic performance, set to techno music, enthralled the audience as he sent beanbags, disks, and machetes sailing over his head.

At one point in his performance, Tardy took offerings from the audience to juggle, deciding on a pepper shaker, an iPhone, and a high heel, courtesy of senior Alexandria Sass.

"It was insane," Sass said of the stunt. "I was

scared he was going to poke an eyeball out, or at the very least get some pepper in his eyes!"

At the close of the evening, students enjoyed taking plenty of pictures with their friends as they anticipated the rest of their night at one of the many individual after-parties held by various students.



photo: Darnell Mack

Decked out Juniors Christian Trevino and Curtis Mack enjoy showing off their threads at the Austin Club on April 27, where juniors and seniors had their Formal.

Second BCL rocks, entertains

By Regan Crow

Brentwood City Limits, also known as BCL, is known for extravagant face paintings, free popcorn, and fantastic music, and



photo: Christine Jo

Festive Second-grader Kaitlyn Kahan makes a flower crown at BCL on April 13.

is a great time to just enjoy having fun with your family and friends. Now in its second year, BCL took place on Friday, April 13, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the athletic field.

All ages were welcomed to this family-friendly StuCo-sponsored event filled with fun activities and good vibes. People brought picnic blankets and dinner to enjoy at the festival. Some activities consisted of face paintings by junior Christine Jo and sophomore Doeun Kim, getting pictures made in the BCL customized frame, and getting to eat some free watermelon and popcorn.

Sophomore StuCo member Addison Alberda said that BCL was "a blast" this year.

"It was complicated with all of the rain we received that day, but people came out and had a great time," she said. "I am so happy with all of the fun and fellowship we put together for the BCS community!"

This year's musical events featured middle school talent show winners Lily Trueper and Mia Fluitt, high school talent show winners Adrie Gruis and younger brother Evan Gruis, and popular band Fellow American.

New banquet honors fine arts

By Noah Islas and Isaac Olewin

The fine arts department hosted its first-ever banquet in the FLC on the evening of May 12. The night involved giving nearly 30 awards to students in choir, band, drama, and art. Those in attendance enjoyed a taco bar while watching an acting performance from sophomore TCSIT winner Addie McDaniel as well as one from jazz band and another from Encore.

This event took the place of both Way Off Broadway and Jazz Under the Stars. Band director Travis Pollard pitched the idea during calendar planning last year, talked to his administrators, and had it approved.

"We like to try new things," Pollard said.

Some of the awards given out were the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award that went to freshman Asher Gentry; the Hardest Working Artist Award went to junior Chase Blackman; and the Choir Leadership Award went to sophomore Adrie Gruis.

Sophomore Lorenzo Rivera won Best Actor, and Gruis was Best Actress. The Best Thespian Award went to seniors Lauren Weilemann and Grace Rogge.

Along with fine arts assistant Lisa Treuper, Pollard coordinated the event with help from FAB, or the Fine Arts Benefactors.

Pollard said the banquet was intended to be a fun, social event where people could get with friends, have a good time, and eat dinner. Most importantly, it was about honoring the students.

StuCo Election Results

President: Nyna Vazquez

Vice president: Cade Young

Secretary: Addie McDaniel

Treasurer: Caroline Griffith

Historian: Christine Jo

Senior rep: Adam Murphree

Junior rep: Daniel Kim

Sophomore rep: Mason Hejl

Freshman rep: Sydney Cooper

Upper rep: Addison Alberda

Lower rep: Olivia Osborn

At-large rep: Genevieve Graessle