

KATHY GUSTAD, ENGLISH

"In the most trying of circumstances, we reaffirmed that teaching the students at Brighton continues to bring us joy in what we do and hope for the future."

GABRIELLA POLLIARD '24

"Freshman year was not what I expected. It was definitely a bit hectic because being a social butterfly, it was hard not interacting with people. I did what I could to make the best of it."

BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL  
BRIGHTON, COLORADO

IF YOU'RE  
WONDERING



IF YOU'RE  
WONDERING

KASEY DEAN '23

"It was one of those years where you never knew if your last game could be three games in or a week before State. Luckily for us, we got to play our full softball season."



WHAT  
IT'D BE  
LIKE

# IF YOU'RE WONDERING

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**MAKING THE NEWS.** Being interviewed by 9News reporter Arielle Orsuto, Mallory O'Keefe '22 answers questions about how the Covid-19 restrictions have impacted her experience on the girls swim team after a virtual meet against Northglenn on Feb. 23. "It's like super personalized now and you're really just racing yourself and your teammates instead of other people that you don't really know," O'Keefe said. "You really have to dig deep to go your best times and go as fast as you can." **THAT'S HOW WE ROLL.** Briana Weichel, assistant coach, throws her hands in the air to cheer on Tyrone Obey '23 after he knocks down all 10 pins to score a strike for the team in a virtual meet that they won against Cherry Creek High School on April 12. **WHAT DID YOU SAY?** Eating a meal at the Simpson's restaurant, Winnie's brother Stevie (portrayed by Trevor Moore '24) has a conversation with his sister Winnie (played by Savannah Thomas '21) and undercover detective Ted Spencer (played by Silas Vazquez '22) in the radio play, "Sabotage." The students were broken up into cohorts to practice once a week standing six-feet apart on stage and talking into microphones covered with mini-shower caps. "Doing this play during the pandemic has had its difficulties with trying to act when you can't see the other person that well, but how we are adapting keeps it fun," Moore said. **GOING SOLAR.** Working on his group's solar oven, Jacob Halverson '22 applies black tape to the side of his box to absorb and retain heat, so he can bake cookies in it using the sun in AP Environmental Science on Jan. 13. The group created the oven with a cardboard box, tape, construction paper and a cooking pan. "The box wasn't successful because we weren't lucky with the weather when we made them," Halverson said. "I took this class because I was super curious about how I am impacting the world around me." *photos by j. bishop*

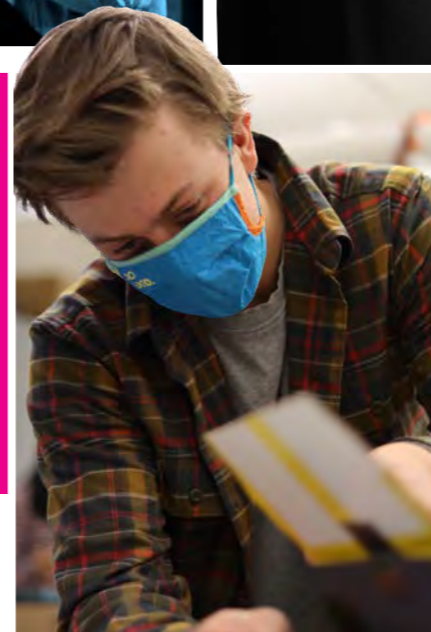


BRIANA WEICHEL, COACH

"Being a high school alumni, I am honored to be assistant coaching for the first time. I love having the opportunity to encourage, support and celebrate my [unified bowler] athletes. It has been an honor to walk alongside them in their unified journey."



# WHAT IT'D BE LIKE



IF YOU'RE  
WONDERING



GAVIN SCHMEH '21

"When Brok hit that home run the energy went from 'we gotta stay in this thing' to 'we're gonna win this game no matter what.' The win over Mountain Range was huge and it jump started our season in a big way and built our team confidence."

# WHAT IT'D BE LIKE



**IT'S A DESIGN CONTEST.** Standing in front of the mirror, Cole Ashford '23 wraps toilet paper around his team partner, Mariah Duran-Romero '22, in Mrs. Jane Archuleta's Technical Theatre class to design a period costume in under 30 minutes during Quarter 4. **FIRE UP.** After Brok Eddy '23 hits a grand slam, Brandon Forte '21, Gavin Schmech '21, Jarret Lanzen '21 and Bryce Peterson '22 celebrate in the dugout because the score became tied 5-5 in the sixth inning against Mountain Range on May 6. The Bulldogs came back in the seventh to win the first game of their season 6-5. **PAY RESPECT.** Facing the American flag, Andrew Bernatow '23, Kaleb Whitney '23, Luis Padilla '24 and the rest of the varsity boys soccer team listen as the national anthem is played over the intercom during their first home game of the season against Northglenn on April 2. "I enjoyed playing in the spring rather than the fall because we didn't have to worry about the weather and Covid had begun to take a positive turn as more things opened up so our season wasn't impacted," Bernatow said. *photos, design & captions by j. bishop*

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## BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL

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**PRINCIPAL:** Ms. Shelly Genereux  
**LEAGUE:** East Metro Sports  
**COLORS:** Cherry Red and White

**ENROLLMENT** 1795  
Freshmen 503  
Sophomores 508  
Juniors 408  
Seniors 376  
Faculty 144

# IF YOU'RE WONDERING

## WHAT GOING TO SCHOOL WAS LIKE.

In-person.  
Online.  
Online while in person.

Even though we were willing to wait hours and hours in line at In and Out, it was a new experience going to an assigned door at school, lining up 6-feet apart and having Covid-19 and temperature checks, just to go to class.

Remember the good of days of walking into Mrs. Tiffany's class and she asked how your weekend went? Now during virtual days, we were logging on Google

Meets and taking attendance via chat box while teachers like Mrs. Winick begged us to turn on our screens so they didn't have to stare at black boxes.

Online.  
But after all the health screenings, Zoom calls and hours of binge watching "Outer Banks," it was a relief to put on your Bulldog mask and head to the weightroom to prepare for the Friday Night Lights against Longmont.

"Ever since I was little, I always imagined how my senior year would be, like dressing up to go to all the dances and the adventures I would go on with my friends. This wasn't the senior year I imagined, but I'm just happy that I can still go to school in this weird circumstance and experience high school just one last time."

DALILAH ORTEGA '21

We kept telling ourselves anything was better than last spring because...

## WE JUST WANTED A HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER

story & design by j. bishop



**WAITING TO GO IN.** Charles Fleuter '24 stands at the back of the line outside the high school main door to go through a health screening on the first day of school during Cohort D on Aug. 18. Fleuter began the year in-person but switched to virtual-only quarter three. *photo by j. bishop* **NEED DIRECTIONS.** After finishing his health screening, Gage Chadwick '24 asks Principal Shelly Geneureux how to find his Advisory class during Cohort A's first day on Aug. 17. Students attended their Advisory class for the half day to complete all registration procedures. "We wanted every student to feel safe to come to school, so we put every protocol in place to ensure that," Geneureux said. "Our staff did a great job to make students, particularly our freshman, in those first days feel welcomed and ready to start the year." *photo by j. bishop* **THE PRE-WORKOUT.** Vershon Brooks '21 helps Jack Flancher '21 stretch his shoulders

before lifting at their final summer football practice on Aug. 6. Athletes had to wear masks and clean off the equipment before use. *photo by m. nuser* **MY WORK SPACE.** After Mr. Tyler Clouse finished giving directions, Josiah Yates '24 begins to type in his Google document about "Romeo and Juliet" in Honors English 9 in April. "I preferred the in-person days over the virtual days because they were more interactive and it felt like school," Yates said. "Being virtual, it was easy to lose focus and not engage as much." *photo by m. yates* **OPEN UP YOUR HAND.** Before heading to his Advisory room to mentor freshmen, link leader Gabriel Ferrer '22 gets sanitizer poured into his hand by security guard Phil Aragon on Aug. 17. "As a link leader, I did everything I could to make the freshmen have a great first day by answering their questions and giving them a tour of the school," Ferrer said. *photo by j. bishop*



JACK FLANCHER '21

"It was hard to workout with a mask because it got really hot in the summer. I was worried we wouldn't get a football season and that we'd be online all year. Luckily, we did get to play on that football field one last time even without a normal season."





**PLAY THAT SONG.** Kurtis Smith '22 completes his warm-up routine with his trombone in Mr. Scott Unruh's Jazz 1 class in April. When Covid restrictions changed in March, the band could play their instruments for the first time, socially distanced. *photo by J. Bishop*

**PASS THE TORCH.** Followed by Colton Rice '19, Isalah Maez '23 and the Adams County law enforcement, Aidan Schroeder '19 sprints down Bridge Street holding the torch in the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run on Nov. 13. The campaign raised funds and created awareness for the athletes who participated in Special Olympics Colorado. *photo by J. Bishop*

**THANKS MOM.** Before the first home football game against Longmont on Oct. 9, Porter Gifford '21 hugs his parents, Holly and Layne, after being recognized during Senior Night. This was the only home game the seniors had because Tri-County Health stopped spectators from attending any events, so the team played on the road in counties where limited spectators could attend. "It felt good to have some normalcy, and

get that moment with my parents, and to know that the seniors were still cared about during this crazy time," Gifford said. "To play football that night was a blast as usual, but it felt a little more about us, the players, than winning the game." *photo by J. Bishop*

**LET'S HORSE AROUND.** Circling the green grass, Kori Vogel '22 takes a young girl on a horse ride while talking about how she cares for her horse during the Fall Harvest Fest that the FFA chapter participated in on Oct. 10. According to Vogel, they wore masks and constantly sanitized hands. "I am so glad this event wasn't canceled because we introduced agriculture to so many little kids, which is important to me," Vogel said. *photo by J. Weidenmann*

**A MAN NAMED GATSBY.** AP Language and Composition students like Eloah Smith '22 watch as Mr. Justin Daigle, English teacher, points across the room as a Gatsby party-goer, introducing the novel, "The Great Gatsby" on April 8. Daigle had students predict what they thought the novel would be about based off of clues from his monologue. *photo by J. Bishop*

### JUSTIN DAIGLE, ENGLISH

"In my monologue, I am attending Gatsby's party and pretend to see different characters like Nick Carraway and make comments that no one knows who this Gatsby guy is. This is one of my favorite lessons I do because it really hooks students into wanting to read this novel, and I wasn't going to let Covid stop me from bringing out the Gatsby suit."



## IF YOU'RE WONDERING

### IF WE MADE THE BEST OF IT.

We did. But it wasn't easy.

Wearing a mask couldn't hide the laughs heard down College Avenue as teachers like Mr. Daigle broke out in costume to hook us into the drama of "The Great Gatsby" or how BC [Robert Bishop Cotner] would take the first 10 minutes of class sharing stories about his bees.

When others said no, we said we'll bring the Special Olympics Torch Run to our town as law enforcement and unified athletes ran two miles down Bridge Street while cars drove by honking

horns of support. And don't forget how the drama department recorded their Hitchcock style radio play over Zoom so families could gather around YouTube to figure out each mystery.

"It took a lot of planning to ensure that safety measures were taken, but we knew if we brought the torch run to Brighton instead of Denver, it would feel even more special because our whole community could be involved and show its support to all our athletes. With so much lost this year, we were able to give our athletes their big moment."

**MICHELLE RICE, PARA**

From hugs shared with our parents celebrating milestones to the moment instruments were played for the first time in band class, we realized when we were with our people...

# WE MADE EACH MOMENT SPECIAL.

story & design by J. Bishop

IF YOU'RE WONDERING  
HOW WE MADE IT THIS FAR

# IF YOU'RE WONDERING

## HOW WE MADE IT THIS FAR.

It was a moment that 9News reporter Scotty Gange called a Play-of-the-Week as quarterback Nathaniel Griffith '22 threw a pass to wide receiver Eli Bowman '21 to score a touchdown that set the pace for the team to beat the Windsor Wizards.

It was the adventure that students like Keilani Infante '21 and Avery Day '21 had as they hit the road, so they could be in the stands with their homemade signs and cowbells to cheer on the Bulldogs.

It was the creativity that came together as the AP Environmental

students in Mr. Robert Walter's class designed solar ovens out of cardboards and plexiglass to bake cookies from the heat of the sun.

It was the planning that took place in PowerPoint and safety training videos by Ms. Traci Mescher and Mr. Joel Flancher that allowed students to go outside to play archery in over five years for the first time in Fitness Education.

"It was our goal to make sure that our students could participate in as many different events from sports to activities as we could safely under the guidelines we were given. We aren't the only high school that didn't have the year they were hoping for, but I feel confident in saying that I wouldn't want to go through something like this at any other place or with any other people."

**LINDSEY SOLANO, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

It took a lot, but it was all worth it. Sure, there were still a lot of questions of how much longer we could go on like this.

If things kept going on like this, we'd push through. Because we wondered...



## WE LOVE FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS.

As horn blows to signal the end of the game, Keilani Infante '21, Avery Day '21 and Ryleigh Ward '21 hold up signs and ring the cowbell while celebrating with the crowd the varsity football's victory against Windsor High School on Nov. 13. Spectators were allowed to attend the game at Windsor because their county allowed limited spectators. "It was sad that the big atmosphere that we are used to wasn't there, but I was lucky to be there since my brother was on the team, and we had extra tickets,"

Day said. "We wanted to support the team, so we made signs like last year." **LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION.** After beating Windsor 28-7, quarterback Nathaniel Griffith '22 and wide receiver Eli Bowman '21 are interviewed by 9News reporter Scotty Gange about how the team overcame quarantines and no home games. In the second half, Griffith threw a pass to Bowman who caught it scoring a touchdown. This play was named one of the top five plays-of-the-week by 9News. **GROUP WORK.** Jessica Martinez '22 watches as

Gizelle Lodoza Orozco '23 and Cimarah Marquez '22 place construction paper on a cardboard box while making a solar panel in AP Environmental Science in January. **BULLSEYE.** In their archery unit, Tyler Terry '24 shoots an arrow toward the target while on the baseball field in quarter one of Fitness Education. This was the first unit that the students were able to go outside as a lot of their class was virtual on the P14m program. "What I enjoy about a PE class is when we get to do different sports and be more active in person," Terry said. *photos by j. bishop*



## ELI BOWMAN '21

"It was cool to be interviewed and get recognition for what I did and share my thoughts. There was a while where I wasn't sure if we'd be able to have a season, so to be able to have a senior season meant the world to me. Even though it was only six games, that was six more games I got to play with my best friends."



# WHAT IT'D BE LIKE

story & design by j. bishop

# IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT WE'RE FEELING

## CASSIAH COSTIGAN '22

"I think I have [been] a recent interest in jewelry and designing them with my jewelry and we drive. Some of the crystals I really love right now are Rose Quartz and Citrine. I kind of think of them as my good luck charms because I have put them in my rings, necklaces and bracelets."

## KELLY WHITEHEAD '22

"What she related the best so much anxiety and stress released and lowered. It's wonderful certain pictures that show me already over at a year. I remember the results of Biden winning because I know lots of people who said she had voted for the first time, and voted in the opposite direction of what they have done in the past. The picture when she was that disappointed and she was scared too but ultimately my feelings are just hoping that America really made a good choice."

## MORGAN YOSHIMOTO '24

"It was quite weird to compete during a pandemic in a virtual match with no spectators and no fans. I was so proud I thought he still has a lot of energy and wasn't as nervous. Despite that, my team was able to win the first place. All the confidence, amount of effort, hard work in the season pay off."



**A PEP TALK.** Being down 0-3 against Frederick High School, boys soccer player Moises Aguirre '23 sits on the ground as Assistant Coach Corey Bruse and Head Coach Mark Day discuss strategy for the second half on April 10. The Bulldogs were not able to score and lost 0-5. "The team worked real hard in communication on the field. When we talked strategy, we made

sure to be clear because all I wanted for the team was for them to do their best," Day said. **HUG IT OUT.** After scoring a strike, McKenna Dunn '21 runs to hug her father, JJ Dunn, during a virtual unified bowling competition against Cherry Creek High School on April 12. Dunn was non-verbal and communicated through actions and emotions. photos by j. bishop



**HAND THROWN POTTERY.** On her seventh try, Tylee Abeyta '23 begins to create a bowl on the pottery wheel during Cohort AC in Sculpture and Ceramics II on May 12. Before Cohorts A and C were combined, Abeyta was the only student in class on in-person days. "It was a little strange being the only person in class. Luckily, Mrs. Marjoux and I had great conversations and she helped me with some personal stuff. It was nice having someone who understands and cares about you," Abeyta said. "The art class itself was a great escape, and I felt like I could be myself." photo by e. marjoux **A DOG AND A MOVIE.** Sitting in the back of her truck, Tessa Koehn '22 wraps up in a blanket with her dog Levi waiting for the movie "Shrek" to start on the drive-in movie night hosted by Student Government on April 29. "It was the first time I actually had felt like I was at a real high school event all year because we could all be together. I only wish we would have had more of these moments sooner," Koehn said. photo by j. bishop



## JOSIAH YATES '24

"During a cross country race, I feel pretty tired because it can be draining. Even after the race I am still tired but more relieved that I was able to do it. Joining the team as a freshman, I felt like a big part of the team because everyone was so welcoming."

# IT WAS LIKE THIS

story by editorial staff & design by j. bishop

# IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHY WE GIVE SUPPORT

## ASHLEY CASTILLO '21

"Although this year hasn't been ideal in NHS, Mrs. [Kathy] Gustad and Mrs. [Kristy] Hoel were undoubtedly there for us with every question and concern we had to help us come up with ways we can give back to the community. They were always there with open arms ready to help us and hand us the support we needed."

## KATY TIFFANY '22

"Our cheer team was honestly pretty upset that we weren't able to be at games supporting as much as we usually do because of limited spectators. When we were cheering at games, we tried to be as enthusiastic as possible even though it got pretty discouraging at times with not many people there."

## DONAVEN STINES '21

"I wasn't able to attend the Senior Community Service Day, but I was able to go to the Senior Carnival and Senior Sunset. I thought the set for everything was perfect, and we were able to see our entire class who we hadn't really seen all year unless they were in your cohort. I think all of the seniors felt supported in these final moments we spent together before graduation."



**THIS IS AN ANNOUNCEMENT.** After seniors drove their cars into parking spots, student government sponsor Ms. Chemaine Huss welcomes them to the Senior Sunset on May 14. The sunset included a senior slideshow, a fireworks show and drive-in movie of "The Avengers: Endgame." "We just wanted to give the seniors an amazing last moment," Huss said. **CIRCLE UP.** After losing to the Broomfield Eagles in round

one of the CHSAA Softball State Tournament, Caitlin Fabel '21 listens to Assistant Coach Phil Kesler and Head Coach Paula Seifried share how proud they were of their performance on Oct. 6. "We really tried to focus on the path to get to State and all of those positives rather than the tough loss to Broomfield. Everyone was disappointed, but we knew that we win and lose as a team," Fabel said. *photos by j. bishop*

**SIGN OFF.** Isaac Fitch '23 writes his name under his handprint pledging his support for the Black Lives Matters Movement at the rally hosted by Avery Clark '23 and Alicia Reese '23 on June 14, at Carmichael Park. Participants dipped their hand in paint and placed it on the sign, which hung in the high school main lobby through the month of September. "I attended the Black Lives Matter rally because it's important that we all come together as one and stand up for what we believe in," Fitch said. **SEND ME IN COACH.** After recognizing all the seniors in a ceremony before the game, Carly Pomrenke '21 fist bumps Head Coach Jim French as the starting line up is read by Mr. Tyler Andrzejewski, social studies teacher, at the Arvada West basketball match on March 2. The seniors each received a box with their numbered jersey. "It's a tradition when we go through the starting line up to fist bump Coach French before we shake the referee's hands and shake the hand of our opponent's coach. This year we could only wave because of Covid," Pomrenke said. "Every time it's my turn, Coach French tells me 'shoot the lights out CP-10.'" *photos by j. bishop*



## BRIANNA MILLS '21

"Planting trees at the end of my senior year [at Senior Community Service Day] will always be a fond memory of one of my last days at BHS. I had fun working and spending time with my friends as well as others in my graduating class. It brought me much enjoyment to serve my community while helping the environment."

# IT WAS LIKE THIS

*story by editorial staff & design by j. bishop*



## IF YOU'RE WONDERING

## BRIANNA MONARREZ '22

"Something nobody knows about me unless we're really close friends is how much I love One Direction. I feel like One Direction has always been the teenage idol for my generation, but I am completely obsessed. I just love all of their music. I can always count on them to make me smile."

## NATHANIEL GRIFFETH '22

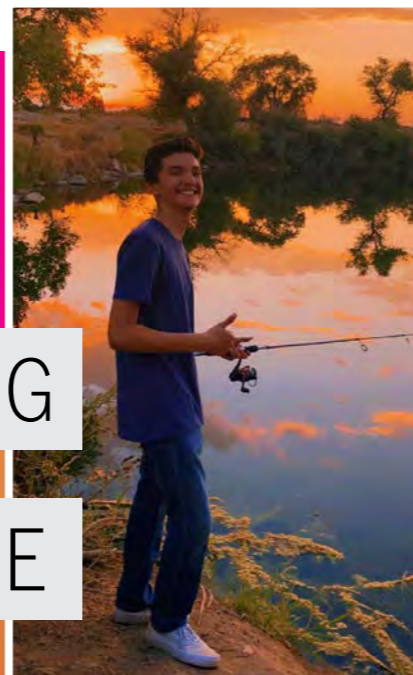
"Something unique about me that nobody knows is that I love to cook breakfast and try out new things to expand what I can cook. My favorite thing that I've cooked so far definitely has to be biscuits and gravy. They were amazing."

## SIMON CESPEDES '21

"At Senior Night for football, I was so glad to be there with my mom. She's my everything. At that moment, I was just really thankful that we had got to that point in my high school career and that she was able to witness it with me. Covid took a toll on us as a family, but we stuck together and made it through it all together."



## ABOUT ME



**OUT ON THE LAKE.** Alijah Anaya '22 poses for his sister, Jayla, while fishing at sunset at the beginning of the school year in August. "I love fishing. I fish once a week and more in the summer. It allows me to clear my mind and get my thoughts in order," Anaya said. *photo by j. anaya*

**LEADING THE HERD.** Rafiki (performed by Devin Vick '21) leads the lioness hunt at the beginning of the spring musical, "The Lion King Jr." "What I really enjoyed about this character was the cultural aspect of it. I wanted to do this character in a respectful way, so I put in a lot of research into the character," Vick said. "I did a lot of choreography with this role, so I did research into how monkeys moved." *photo by s. demers*

**SHREDDING POWDER.** Savannah Thomas '21 takes a break from snowmobiling to go inside to her family's cabin that they have owned on 1,600 acres of land for over 120 years. "We visit the cabin in the summer and winter each year. There is no internet connection so there is no way for me to connect with what's going on in the world. We do a lot of different things like fishing, hiking, pick wild berries, snowmobiling and hunt elk," Thomas said. *photo courtesy of s. thomas*

**THAT'S MY DAUGHTER.** After finishing their virtual meet against Northglenn, Emily Aten '23 is interviewed by a 9News reporter about being a high school swimmer during a pandemic as her father records her interview on his cell phone on Feb. 23. "They were able to come in and capture what it was like for us to swim during this pandemic and now thousands of people now know our story," Aten said. *photo by j. bishop*

**HUDDLE UP.** The FFA Nominating Committee consisting of Tymberlynn "Rose" Weidemann '22 huddle for a hug as they leave to announce the FFA State officers for the next school at the end of June. "I was selected to represent our district at the state level to nominate the next group officers with these amazing group of people. I hope next year I am fortunate to become a state officer," Weidemann said. *photo courtesy of r. weidemann*



## KATELYN BURKE '23

"I started taking dance lessons in the basement of my elementary school and have danced ever since. I have loved learning the different styles and cultures of dance like Polynesian and Hawaiian. I truly can't imagine a day where I am not dancing."



IT WAS LIKE THIS

*story by editorial staff & design by j. bishop*

IT'D BE LIKE GETTING TO KNOW ME 001  
magazine divider

## IF YOU'RE WONDERING

## WHO UNDERSTANDS THE PRESSURE

## RYLIE ATKERSON '22

"We had to face many obstacles in DECA like having all of our competitions online in really unfamiliar formats. This alone put a lot of pressure on me, the other members and our advisers. I personally overcame this pressure by knowing that I got to choose how I wanted to be impacted and provide support to others."

## KATIE BINER '22

"Honestly, I did horribly with online learning. Out of all my years of school this was the first time I had ever failed a class. For once the only person that could pressure me to get my work done was me. There was no teacher to force me to do things I didn't want to do. The major thing I had to learn was accountability. I had to get the work done for myself and not for others."

## RAJEAN TIFFANY, TSA SPONSOR

"Being a newer adviser to TSA I did have a few unforeseen challenges. I turned to the great TSA leaders and members, who really worked out a plan to make things work. Even during competition, they were sharing knowledge and helping each other. I felt the pressure was really on members to manage time constraints, other commitments and this virtual world."

## PUTTING TOGETHER OUR PROJECT.

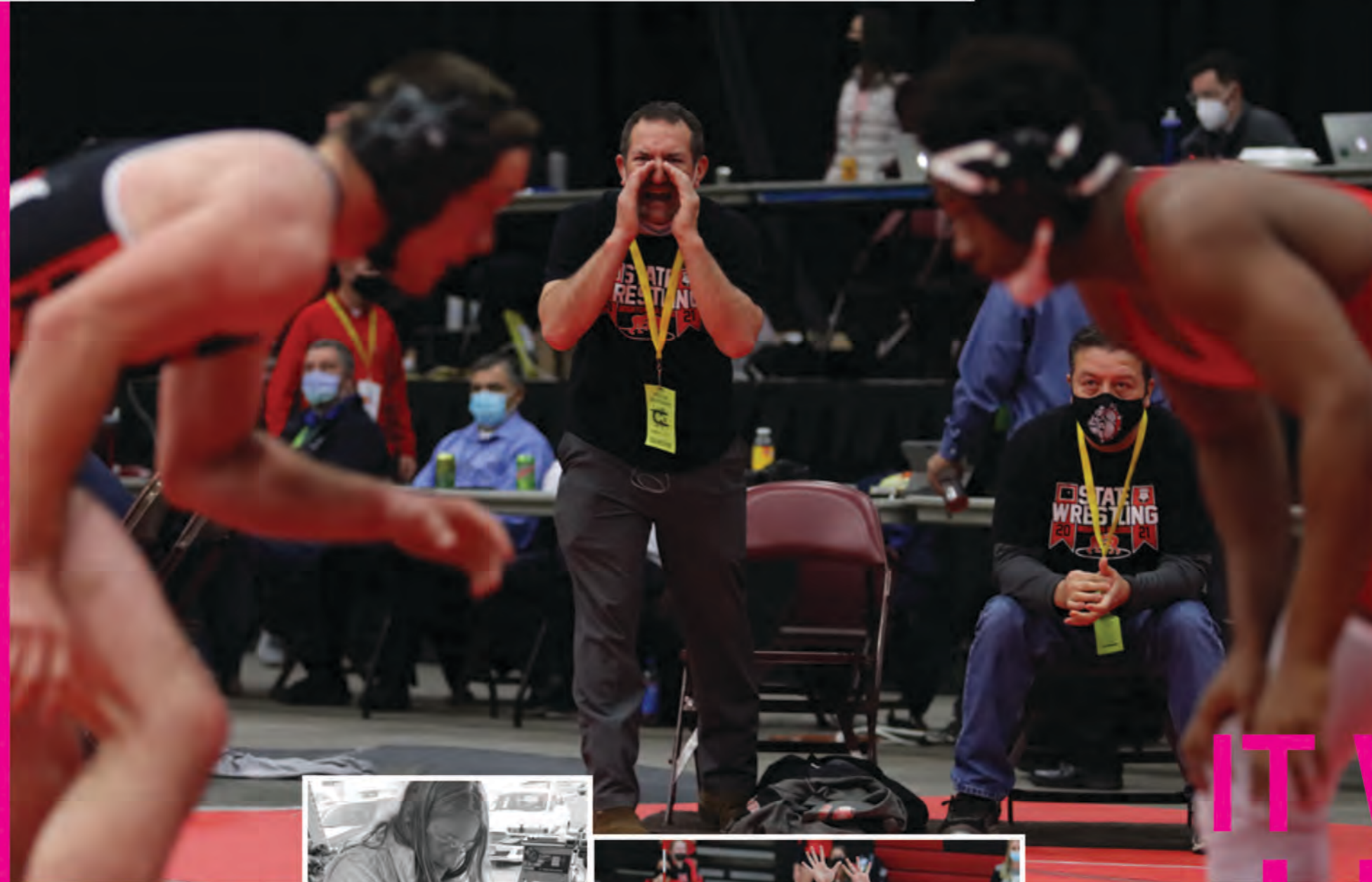
Sanding a piece of wood, Holly Poole '22 tries to create a structure to her game board project she was designing with Celeste Tari '22 for Technology Students of America State competition. *photo by c. tari* **TEAM BLOCK.** Andi Jackson '22 and Bo French '22 jump up to block the ball against Legacy in the second set while Deni Jackson '21 and Evelyn Udezue '23 stand behind them on March 25. Varsity volleyball won 03-01. *photo by j. bishop*



## IT'S DECA SPIRIT WEEK.

Annika Cunningham '22 poses for DECA sponsor Mrs. Melissa White outside the classroom with a poster before the virtual results of the DECA State competition on Feb. 26. White had students meet her to receive a small gift since they couldn't watch the results together due to Covid-19 restrictions. "It was so difficult and challenging this year because we only had class half of the year so we had to do a lot of the work outside of class," Cunningham said. "I loved the spirit week Mrs. White put together because it got all of us in the chapter really excited since we were not at the Broodmore waiting for the results together." **YOU GOT THIS.** As Levi Fry '21 faces his Rangeview opponent Greg Brooks '21 in the 182-pound State consolation match, Assistant Coach Eric Heinz yells to Fry to go low and score more points as Assistant Coach James Garcia also watches him on March 13. Brooks continued on in the competition with a 10-7 consolation win over Fry. "As a coach, you never stop cheering on your wrestlers and giving them advice to win over their opponent," Heinz said. "Our boys had a great showing at State and they each gave their all on the mat."

*photos by j. bishop*



## JACOB PUZIO '24

"There's definitely pressure being the youngest guy on varsity. There's also pressure with every swing. You get this tight feeling in your chest and your heart starts going a million miles a hour. It's not like being alone with airpods in on the range where you can block everything out."



IT WAS  
LIKE  
THIS

*story by editorial staff & design by j. bishop*

# IF YOU'RE WONDERING HOW WE ADAPT TO CHANGE

## BRENDAN NEBEKER '22

"In band throughout virtual learning, we just watched documentaries on how our music came to be. In the in-person days we would play or sight read music when we were allowed to. There was no real practicing."

## ELMIRA KUJUNDZIC, SCIENCE

"I was a fully virtual teacher, who taught biology and chemistry. Teaching labs virtually was a challenge. Our district provided all science teachers with an online platform called Gizmos, which were interactive math and science simulations for students. Students always said that the simulations reminded them of playing video games. The only thing I had to do was adapt instructions as some were too general or shorten some of the activities to fit my class time."

## DYLAN VERBEEK '22

"My injury was a hyperextension of the knee that resulted in two deep bone intrusions on my femur and tibia right in the knee area. I missed battling every minute of every game with my guys. Just sitting on the bench when the team is struggling is one of the worst feelings a player can feel. I can't wait to get back out there next year and battle."

**LET'S HARMONIZE.** Standing a few rows apart in the auditorium, Josue "Kenneth" Guzman '22, Jack Dittiro '21 and Logan Flanagan '22 sing while looking over sheet music as the Mixed Chorale came together for the first time all year at a Monday practice in February. Before combining cohorts, the students sang over Zoom after school and in class. "We had to make so many changes this year, but it really was a blast to finally be in the same room with my friends and to finally hear an entire group of people sing again. We are such a community and there is nothing better than when all of our individual voices were coming together as one," Dittiro said. "When it comes to growing in a virtual choir it's a lot of self practice, making sure you're on track with everyone else even if you can't see the others." *photo by z. stanley*



**WORK TOGETHER.** Flipping through their packet, Jayden Williams-Noland '22 and Austin Hill '22 discuss the results of their experiment in Mrs. Meghan Frenzel's AP Chemistry course quarter four. The students worked on the rotation series experiment to conduct a series of acid base titrations to determine the concentration of two unknown acids. "The labs we worked through really were the funnest part of the class because we were able to do them on the in-person days and they were very hands on," Hill said. *photo by j. ripko*

**STRIKE A POSE.** As the music comes to an end, Olivia Rollins '21 stands alone as the other Poms members falls to the ground in their first performance at the home football game against Longmont High School on Oct. 9. The team spent three months conducting online practices. "The first half of the year, we didn't know the next time we would get to perform so we had to embrace every single performance we had," Rollins said. *photo by j. bishop*

**IS THIS MIC ON.** Performing as the Announcer, Alena Diedtrich '21 welcomes listeners back to listen to the next Alfred Hitchcock radio show, "Sabotage." "This play was something none of us have ever tried. We were very strict on Covid-19 guidelines, did our own sound effects and even performed completely remote as a radio show. Although these were difficult obstacles, we still had just as much fun and dedication to this show," Diedtrich said. *photo by j. bishop*

## JAXSON ASTERINO '21

"We had a lot of changes to deal with from Covid-19, a shortened season and a new head coach. Like everything, it takes some time to adjust to all of those changes. Once we started to get through the season, we began to listen to one another on the court and treated every practice like it was a game."



# IT WAS LIKE THIS

story by editorial staff & design by j. bishop

# IF YOU'RE WONDERING

# HOW IT ALL CAME TOGETHER

ESTELLA MARTINEZ '22

"We were all excited about the season considering we didn't get one last year. We didn't even know if people could come watch or what the restrictions were going to be. Fortunately, many girls came out and were willing to do their best for the team. We ended up with two full teams and I believe that truly having a positive attitude and being able to work under hard circumstances really helped the way we play."

JOLIE GENTILE '21

"I'm so glad and my class got the full opportunity to see it all come together and get the actual graduation ceremony experience at the high school. I learned a lot from my teachers and the friends I've gained. But, I'm glad I'm done, and I think it's time to move on to the next chapter."



**SON, SOME ADVICE.** After he snuck away from the herd, Young Simba (played by Afton Smith '22) listens to his father, King Mufasa, (played by Katsumi Hayashi '21) share how Simba will take over as king in the future in the spring musical, "The Lion King." The play was performed for a small audience in May and recorded to be viewed online. "We had less than two months to put this production together. All of us just wanted the chance to perform again live, and we did, it was incredible," Smith said. *photo by s. demers*

**BOWING DOWN TO YOU.** Alek Martinez '21 and Draï Wagner '23 bow down to hand Zachary Perkins '22 the rally stick after Perkins hit a walk off in the seventh to win the first baseball game of the season against Mountain Range on May 6. "This was a huge moment for us because we had waited two years to play on the field again after losing last year to Covid, and this was our coach's first win as a coach at Brighton," Martinez said. "It was really awesome to see how the community supported us, and even when we were down 5-0 in that game, we never felt like we were out of it and fought until the end." *photo by j. bishop*



RYAN O'CALLAGHAN '22

"I started triple jump halfway through the season. Coach Bandoch broke down the jumping motion, drilled our cycle phase, then the step phase and lastly the jump phase until we nailed each phase. He also took video of us at our meets so we could review footage. By leagues, I jumped a 34' 2" and proud of what I've accomplished."



# IT WAS LIKE THIS

*story by editorial staff & design by j. bishop*

## IF YOU'RE WONDERING

## ABOUT US



**A SHOW FOR US.** Sitting in the back of a truck, Dalilah Ortega '21, Analiz Ramirez '21, Leslie Herrera '21, Prycilla Arteaga '21, Ashley Settegren '21, Alexa Beilman '21 and Kaelie Thompson '21 look at the sky to watch the surprise fireworks show at the Senior Sunset on May 14. After the fireworks show, the seniors got to watch the film, "Avengers: Endgame" drive-in style. "I enjoyed the unexpectedness of the fireworks because all my friends and I were able to share a special connection sitting there taking it all in as we reflected about our journey and senior year," Ramirez said. "We didn't want the typical drive-in food either so we brought a basket of different things. It was my best friend Dalilah's idea, and so we just had our own little picnic while we celebrated our big accomplishment."

photo by j. bishop

**KATIE ZIRKER '23**

"I can open one eye while keeping the other 'one eye,' pretty creative I know. I saw it once on the cover of a world records book and wondered if I could do it. I tried for a bit and eventually mastered the wonderfully ridiculous talent."

**TRISTAN SCHWEIZER '21**

"I know every lyric to the 'Pitch Perfect' soundtrack because my mom and sister play the movies repeatedly. My favorite song is the 'Riff Off' from the second movie."

**KAIDEN COCHRANE '22**

"I'll drop what I'm doing to help any one of my friends out if they ever need it because friendships are super important to me. That's because in the long run, good friendship is something I want over money or anything else because it's a good feeling to have good friends who have your back."

**ELISABETH PATCH, MATH**

"I converted all of my paper notes and activities for my math classes to online formats. I did a lot of research to figure out which were most effective and user-friendly. I recorded videos going over a majority of concepts that I was teaching, so that students would have another resource to use. I focused even more on the process and having students explain the how and why to make sure they understood the answer."



**PINK OR NO PINK.** While waiting for the drive-in movie "Shrek" to start at dusk, Shawn Fleisch '21 grills some hamburgers and hotdogs with the help of Jacen Lucero '21 in the student parking lot on April 29. "We brought the barbecue because we thought it would be a pretty fun way to hang out at the drive-in with the first big whole school event," Fleisch said. **WE JUST HAD TO BE HERE.** At the first home football game on Oct. 9, Maura Von Ah '21, Larae Rivas '21 and Ryleigh Ward '21 watch from outside the stadium. With each player only allowed to bring two guests, students were only able to watch the games online or outside the stadium. "I missed seeing everyone's school spirit and how close those games made us students," Rivas said. "I still went to the game because it gave me a little bit of normalcy to be at a football game even though we weren't allowed in without a ticket and around other students. We had to show our support to the boys and scream and cheer for them even if it was real far away." photos by j. bishop

**JANE ARCHULETA, ENGLISH**

"I really enjoyed surprising the seniors with this little gift in May showing them that we value them and we are proud of them. All of us staff took a Monday professional development and took 10 senior signs to deliver around the city. It's fun to run around the neighborhood planting seeds of support."



# IT WAS LIKE THIS

story by editorial staff & design by j. bishop

# IF YOU'RE WONDERING

**HOW WE MADE IT.**

Well, we made it together.

It was those times of spontaneity jumping on a mechanical bull for eight seconds like Jacen Lucero '21 as his friends cheered him on at the Senior Carnival.

It was the feeling of victory as teams like girls soccer and volleyball defeated Prairie View in their crosstown rivalry games.

It was the moment of appreciation felt by performers like Elissa Opp '23 and Leodan Mendez

Reyes '21 as they took a bow after performing in front of a live audience for the first time in a year in "The Lion King."

Although this year may have made us feel more distant from one another, we all grew together as a BHS community. With the odds stacked against us and new challenges arising left and right, the students and staff rose to the occasion. Literally in the midst of a pandemic our community stayed strong. We learned to appreciate one another more and to stop taking small privileges for granted. As we move forward, I know our Bulldogs will stick together and fight to the end because that is who we are as a school."

**GIANA ROCHA '22**

We realize it was rough. It was tough, but...

IT WAS ONE HECK OF A RIDE.

story & design by j. bishop

**JACEN LUCERO '21**

"I thought the Senior Carnival was really nice. I enjoyed being able to go out with my friends like it was pre-Covid again. I had never rode a mechanical bull before, but always wanted to try so I enjoyed getting an opportunity to do that with my friends cheering me on."



**RIDE LIKE THE WIND.** While at the Senior Carnival on May 14, Jacen Lucero '21 holds up his left arm as he takes a turn on the mechanical bull. Seniors were able to go on different rides, play carnival games and eat hamburgers and hotdogs before heading to Senior Sunset that evening. *photo by j. bishop*

**LET'S GO BULLDOGS.** After the national anthem, the girls soccer team is introduced individually like Akira Olson '23, who jumps up to high-five teammate Faith Rivero '22 at the crosstown rivalry game against Prairie View on June 8. *photo by j. bishop*

**IT'S THE CIRCLE OF LIFE.** After meeting up with Nala, Simba (portrayed by Aidan Glynn '21) sits and talks with his friends, Timon (played

by Elissa Opp '23) and Pumbaa (played by Leodan Mendez '21) about what if he should take his place as king in "The Lion King Jr." "The moment I found out we could actually perform it live with an actual audience, I was over the moon. I missed performing so much as theatre is my life. You begin to appreciate those things you miss a little bit more when you don't have them," Opp said. *photo by s. demers*

**TAKE MY HAND.** As Cody Nelson '21 lays on the athletic trainer's table during the second quarter of the Erie football game on Oct. 30, Parker Hansen '23 stands next to him and holds his hand. "It meant a lot to have Parker come over because it feels good to know that the underclassmen looked up to us seniors," Nelson said. *photo by j. bishop*





ANDREW CRONK '21

"When the fireworks went off, I was very surprised. As they went on, the excitement set in and my emotions took over. I was elated and extremely happy that we could get such a cool send off and though the movie ran short, the fun was still there, and I'm extremely glad I could make it to that day. It will be a moment I will take with me."

**ALMOST THERE.** Chandler Hand '23 runs toward the finish line at the Ken Mitchell Park home meet on Sept. 17. The girls cross country team took first place at the meet with 21 points. "What makes our team special is that we are all close and that we all supported each other in each race," McKenna Yates '21 said. *photo by s. vaughn* **THAT WAS A FIREWORKS SHOW.** After barbecuing hotdogs and hamburgers in the student parking lot, Andrew Cronk '21, Devon Vick '21, Reagan Hindman '21, McKenna Yates '21 and Kirby Federocko come together to watch the surprise fireworks show at the Senior Sunset on May 14. "This was a nostalgic bittersweet moment for me with my friends," Hindman said. *photo by j. bishop* **THAT'S A WRAP.** While marching down

the football field, Isabella Chiovitti-Shifty '21 and Tristan Sorenson '21 walk toward their seats during the beginning of graduation ceremonies on May 27. Graduation was held at the high school because it allowed more spectators to be present. "Graduation was one of those moments in life that seemed to happen in a blink. I think the most vivid thing was all of us walking out together at our high school on the football field, and just realizing what we did," Chiovitti-Shifty said. *photo courtesy of m. philippi* **LET'S DANCE.** While music played at the Senior Carnival, Dominic Zamora '21 danced around the parking lot. Zamora was an all virtual learner all year. "I loved the rides and getting to dance with everyone. It was a great way to end my senior year," Zamora said. *photo by j. bishop*



# IF YOU'RE WONDERING

**WHAT MOMENTS WE WILL TAKE WITH US.**

We will remember when we attended the drive-in movie of "Shrek" and walked around the campus with no masks saying "Hi," to Shawn Fleisch '21 as he barbecued hamburgers. It felt normal.

We will remember when the senior slideshow ended, our class song, "Young,

Dumb and Broke" began to play and the sky filled with fireworks.

"Moments happened for all of us no matter what grade we were in. What we can take away from all of this is BHS took care of us. Fireworks, senior signs, drive-in movies, virtual classes, we made what some could consider a bad year, an unforgettable one."

ROBERT JORSTAD '21

While the world around us was always changing and nothing seemed normal, there was something familiar and special about this time together. We stopped wondering...



# WHAT IT'D BE LIKE

*story & design by j. bishop*

# IF YOU'RE WONDERING

## MALLORY ESTES '21

"I have definitely changed a lot over the four years at Brighton High School, but I would consider my overall experience great.

I made some awesome friends, made some special memories and I accomplished so much. I look forward to what the future has in store."



**HELLO, MOM.** After pinning his opponent in the heavy-weight match at the wrestling Regional competition, Cody Nelson '21 blows a kiss to his mom, Christine, who was watching the competition on Facebook live at home. Spectators were not allowed to attend the event and Nelson won first place in his division. "I blew a kiss to my mom to thank her for always supporting me during all these years of sports, especially since she wasn't allowed to be there to celebrate that moment in person with me," Nelson said.

*photo by j. bishop* **I DID IT.** At the Farmer's Park next to her house, Mallorie Estes '21 throws her cap in the air and poses for graduation photos for her family on May 27. *photo by r. estes*

**LOOK AT THE SKY.** Truman Hodge '21 takes photos of the fireworks display on his cell phone from the Senior Sunset on May 14. "It was such a great surprise to end our year with a fireworks show and watch it with my friends," Hodge said.

*photo by j. bishop*  
*design & captions by j. bishop*

# WHAT IT'D BE LIKE



SHAKIRA CASAS-CISNEROS '21

"After high school, I plan to attend college to get my business administration degree. During that time I will be working with my dad and helping him grow our construction company. I hope to open my own business."

ELIZABETH ROLFS '23

"This year has definitely been hard, but I've really been able to learn from this experience. I've been able to find new ways of learning, especially being a virtual student all year. I will be relieved to be able to go back to school next year in person full time."

IF YOU'RE WONDERING

FROM THE COVER

**LET'S HANG TOGETHER.** Kirby Federocko '21 and Tristan Sorenson '21 sit back on Federocko's hammock in the student parking lot during the Senior Sunrise event organized by the seniors on Sept. 1. Federocko and Sorenson parked their cars next to each other and hung the hammock through each of their sunroofs. "I bought the hammock because we had the idea of stringing it up between the cars while we watched the sunrise. It started as a joke with me and Tristan, and then because we got there first, we moved our cars and strung them together," Federocko said. **HERE'S THE PITCH.** Right-hand pitcher Kasey Dean '23 throws a pitch toward home plate to catcher Caitlin Fabel '21 during the top of the third in the Dave Sanders Tournament at Aurora Sports Complex on Sept 11. The Lady Dawgs lost to the Ponderosa Mustangs 3-5. "As a pitcher, I feel the responsibility to do my job of getting three outs in the inning, so we can get back out on the field offensively to drive in some runs," Dean said. **BEFORE YOU CAN ENTER.** Walking into the Main Lobby doors with her twin sister, Iris Frese '22 behind her, Lillian Frese '22 stops as Assistant Principal Jenelle Weaver checks her temperature with a thermometer before letting her go to her first period during the afternoon of Cohort C on Sept. 3. Students had to complete a Google form specifying they had no Covid-19 symptoms before entering their assigned grade level door to complete the health screening process. "I don't really mind the health screenings each day because we get into school pretty quickly. Honestly, it's a daily thing now," Frese said. "It is just the new normal." photos by j. bishop



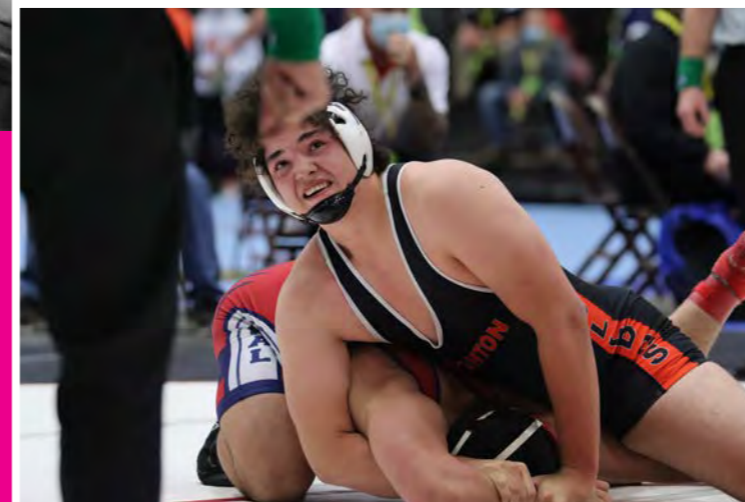
**GIVE US AN ENCORE.** Madilynn Scarpantonio '22 and Ashley Cruz '22 start an applause in the back row next to Jayden Williams Noland '22 in AP Language and Composition after Mr. Justin Daigle, English teacher, falls to the ground after singing a Gatsby parody "A Man Named Gatz" to the music of "All That Jazz" during Cohort B/D in April. "I was already excited to read 'The Great Gatsby,' but the moment he started his performance I was just so excited, and it reminded me of what class was like before Covid," Scarpantonio said. **ONCE A BULLDOG, ALWAYS A BULLDOG.** Former city mayor and retired marketing teacher, Ken Kreutzer waves at the crowd after Athletic Director Lindsey Solano honors him with a plaque for 30 years of service as the high school football announcer during halftime of the Erie High School game on Oct. 30. Kreutzer graduated from the high school in 1978 and began announcing at football games in 1990. photos by j. bishop



KEN KREUTZER '78

"This was a nice honor for something that I have loved doing for over 30 years. There's nothing like watching our Bulldogs play some football under the Friday night lights and get to be the voice that cheers them on."

IT WAS LIKE THIS



**LOOKING TO ADVANCE.** Staring up at the referee, Dylan BravoPacker '23 holds his opponent Geoffrey Freeman '22 of Chaparral High School down on the mat in the second period of the 220-pound semifinals in CHSAA State Wrestling Tournament, March 13. BravoPacker used a five-point move early in the third period to beat Freeman 10-5 to move onto the championship match against Pomona's Franklin Cruz '21, where he lost to Cruz. "It never feels good when you lose. Coming in second is an accomplishment, but I am just going to keep working to get back here and win first," BravoPacker said. "I have been in this sport since I was four years old and my parents have pictures of me wrestling on the mat." photo by j. bishop