

JROTC takes first at State Drill and Rifle meet

By James Adams

The JROTC of Battle Ground High School is known around the school for participating in many events. On February 28, the team went to the conference finals for Drill and Rifle, where they placed first. The meet was between the six schools in the Columbia River division; each school had about forty cadets involved who competed in one of several events. The meet, according to Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Woodrow, was a “head-to-head competition between the schools” with the goal to “demonstrate the skills related to each event the cadet competes in.”

The meets usually last about nine hours, starting at 7 a.m. and going until about 4

p.m. The league schedules four meets, and the final competition brings about thirty schools representing all services of the military. Each event is choreographed differently to show different skills such as drill and marksmanship. Each student who participates in the event must qualify for one of the limited spots on the team as it is a varsity sport. Sophomore Aidan Shoote, who participated in the Armed Inspection and Regulation portion of the event, said he loved it, but it was “very scary.” He added, “You can’t talk, and I messed up a bunch.” This shows

even though it can be difficult for the students, they still love the events. Some highlights from the event were the team winning first place overall. Cadet Shoote’s highlight of the event was “Lord King and Nathaniel Young’s duo event.”

These events are a great

way to not only show the skills of the students, but also a great event to practice community and a sense of togetherness inside the JROTC community



Tanah Boomhower (11th)

The unsung heroes of BGHS

By Jackota Salmi

Classified Staff Appreciation Week at Battle Ground High School began on Mar. 9 and ends today. This week was a time to recognize the many staff members who support students every day. While teachers are often the most seen adults in the building, there are many other staff members who help keep the school running. This week is meant to show gratitude to those classified staff members and to thank them for everything they do.

Assistant Principal Ms. Wilson explained that the week is “to honor our classified staff members.” She described classified staff as the people who support teachers and

students both in classrooms and around the school. These staff members may help students who need extra support, assist with scheduling, make copies, or handle other important tasks around the school. Even though they are not teachers, they play a big role in student success. Ms. Wilson also pointed out that some students may not even realize who is a classified staff member. “Some people may not even realize that they're not a teacher because they are working right alongside with teachers, but supporting teachers is really what their role is,” she said. “Their work may not always be noticed, but

it makes a big difference,” Ms. Wilson added.

To help students show their appreciation, a Google Form was sent out two weeks before Classified Staff Appreciation Week. The form allowed students to write notes of appreciation to any classified staff member. In addition, students could also show gratitude in simple ways such as being respectful, saying hello, and recognizing that everyone in the building is here to help them succeed. Classified staff are an important part of the BGHS community and deserve to be celebrated.

Cheer For Cheer!

By Howard Finley

On Feb. 19-24, the Battle Ground Cheerleading Team went to Anaheim, California, for the national cheer

competition. Before the competition, however, the cheer team took a much-earned trip to

Disneyland to relax and unwind before the crushing pressure of the national stage.

During the competition the cheer team performed at the highest level, but they fell just short of reaching the finals by just 1.4 points. On the bright side, they still placed as the ninth best cheer team in the entire United States. The cheer competition took place at the Anaheim Convention Center where the cheerleaders and their teams performed at the highest level in front of a packed spectator

section. "In every section of the competition it was packed, like no room left unfilled in the whole area," senior Marlie Sanchez said. Sanchez is one of our cheerleaders on the team who plays a pivotal role in stunting by being a main base, which catches flyers as they come down or holds them up during stunts.

While performing and even during downtime

between performances, cheerleaders were watched by a large panel of judges who deliberated on the performance and actions of the cheerleaders. During the competition, Battle Ground cheerleaders performed such stunts as Liberties, Corkscrews, and various other intricate moves. Congratulations to the BGHS Cheer team!

BGHS students take on HOSA State Conference

By Jaylen French

On March 2-4, 2100 students from across Washington State joined together for the annual HOSA State Leadership Conference in Spokane, Washington. Battle Ground High School has around 40 students who are a part of HOSA, seven of which attended the conference.

HOSA is a global student-led organization that provides students with the proper education, experience, and leadership skills for medical professions. The State Conference was optional, and it gave students the

opportunity to participate in different workshops and competitive events.

According to freshman HOSA student Etta Engstrom, the event highlights included, "hands-on workshops, competition, career exploration, volunteer opportunities, and networking and connections."

Students were eligible to participate in a maximum of four competitive events, and were able to explore the variety of workshops offered. According to HOSA President senior

Karoline Loose, some of these workshops included, "a suturing lab where you get to do stitches. There was one where we got to do sonography where we looked at the veins in people's hands or their heart. There was a cast lab. There was one about diabetes. There were just a bunch of different events that they got to show and inspire people into different fields." Loose encourages students to join HOSA next year. "It's a super cool opportunity, and it's really easy to join the club. There's competitions

for everyone, from math to writing; they can go from veterinary to dental. It's not just about people. It's anything related to healthcare.”

HOSA is an overall great and inclusive opportunity for students to explore the branches of healthcare and to have extracurricular

involvement. Congratulations to the students who attended the conference, and we hope to see more students join the program next year!

Minga growing pains

By Owen Clark

This school year BGHS implemented a new digital tracking system for students called Minga, and this past February Battle Ground High School started using the new Minga system for Tiger Time. Students are getting used to the new Tiger Time system, and many students do not enjoy it so far.

106 students responded to a survey recently conducted by “The Tiger Times.” Students mostly said that Minga only

positively affects teachers by giving them less to do, but makes it harder on students because they now need to check in and out of Tiger Time. Some students complained that in PE they are required to sign in and out every day, not just for Tiger Time. As more and more students sign up for different classes, spots are being taken up, so students are not able to get the help or work that they need from that specific teacher.

There is a very small number of students who are on board with the new system saying that it's “easier to use” or “doesn’t change much.” Some students are concerned that this app is being used as a “surveillance system” and that it's invading student privacy. Many students hope that changes will be made to the Minga system to make it easier to operate.

Below is a short summary of the responses to the survey about Minga.

- Annoying and Disruptive: The system is described as “annoying,” “a pain,” “more work,” and a “disruption,” with some expressing strong negative feelings toward it.
- Bathroom Pass Issues: A significant complaint is the added, unnecessary, and complicated step required for using the bathroom, leading some to stop using the bathroom during class or feeling watched and untrusted.
- Mixed or Indifferent Views: A small number of responses indicated they are “enjoying” the system, find it “fine,” or are indifferent, sometimes noting it's useful for Tiger Time options, easier to track, or doesn't change much.

- Tracking and Security Concerns: Some respondents expressed discomfort with the system's tracking capabilities, viewing it as a "surveillance system" and feeling a lack of trust from the administration.

Speech and Debate, going well as of late

By Evan Ottman

On February 21, the Speech and Debate Team competed in the Rob Bingham Invitational at Willamette High School located in Eugene, Oregon.

Most people have no idea what one of these competitions looks like. Competitions are normally a very long drawn out process. “We had to leave from here at about 5 in the morning, and we got back here at about 1 a.m. So these tournaments are kind of a whole day thing,” said Speech and Debate Coach Mr Hamilton. Tournaments generally have many different categories that

students are able to choose to participate in. “Some of the speech events are sort of like giving a Ted talk, and then some are more like acting focused, and there's one that's pretty popular where kids get up and they have six minutes on the timer. They are given a slip of paper with three possible topics and they turn that over and decide which one they want to talk about,” Mr. Hamilton said.

Because the events can range anywhere from rehearsed well-researched arguments to sudden topics, they need to think on the spot. The practices after

school have to reflect the specific event that the student participates in; as a result, the practices are very student directed. During practice, the feedback provided by the judges at previous tournaments are taken into consideration and used as a learning opportunity. Students also focus on improving practice to help prepare for the situations that they find themselves in during competitions. This is Mr Hamilton's first year as the Speech and Debate Coach, and he says that it's a lot more fun than he anticipated it would be.

Heart in every step

By Nova Keeland

On February 13, BGHS did a fun thing for students for Valentine's Day. Hearts were taped up in the halls for students to find, and each heart had a different name, one for each BGHS student.

It was almost like a scavenger hunt.

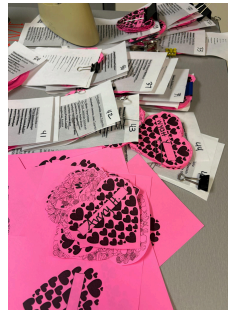
This idea was thought of by Assistant Principal Ms. Main, junior Morrison Nixon, and freshman Harley Henderson. “We were

brainstorming something like an act of kindness,” said Ms. Main. It took a couple weeks to make the hearts and four hours to hang them up. The hearts were all hand cut and written by any of the TA's

that could help, as well as any ASB students.

The paper hearts were set up on the walls on Feb. 12 after school by Ms. Main, Nixon, and Henderson as well as a few other students who offered to help. It took about four hours for the hearts to all be taped to the wall. There were a total of over nineteen hundred hearts, so every student at BGHS had their own. This appeared

to be a hit with the student body because students would run around looking for theirs with excitement, and some would wear their hearts on their chest; boyfriends and girlfriends would wear each other's hearts, and overall students really enjoyed it.



Ms. Main suggests that the school might do it again for next year's Valentines Day. "But if we did it again, we're gonna [sic] mix them all up and it's gonna [sic] be really hard to find them," she said. Some hearts are still up in the halls for the people who have yet to find them or want to leave them there.

LIFE

All things food, BGHS cafeteria and kitchen

By Avery Hill and Elijah Hagelstein

School lunches: I know them. You know them. We all know them. But what people don't tend to know is how much actually goes into the process of the food service. School provided meals are an essential component to the routines for a majority of students almost every day. Typically, students eat two out of their three meals at school, with a large handful eating food

provided by the school cafeteria.

Compared to how the meal service looks from a student's perspective, the lunch service is a lot more complex than it may seem on the outside. Every day at 6 a.m. two main groups arrive at the kitchen: the supply trucks carrying important items for cooking and cleaning and the cooking crew who actually make the food.

Working in the kitchen is a busy job; from the morning all the way until after the bell rings, the kitchen staff work to get ready for the next meal. The staff serve breakfast in the mornings and are willing to serve seconds to any student who is still hungry. Kitchen staff member Krystal Bocaman said, "One of the biggest things with the kitchen and with this company is that for a lot of

the students this is their main meal. This is their only breakfast. This is their only lunch. That's really, really important to all of us. So we always kind of have a say yes attitude. Like, if that's why we wanted to give a second breakfast for those kids that are coming in late that have to get checked in or walking into class and didn't get a chance because the bus showed up late.”

Not only does the BGHS kitchen make food for the high school, they also make food for all the other elementary and middle schools around the area. This means that after they make breakfast, they end up making more for every other school too, and BGHS kitchen staff’s service doesn't stop there. Every single lunch tray that's used in the district is brought straight to BGHS after lunch to get cleaned. This is because, due to the size of the BGHS kitchen compared to the other schools, BGHS is the only school equipped with a full dish washing system. The local primary and middle schools are very restricted on space, only having

room for a small sink and one or two miniature ovens. The kitchens are too small and don't have enough room to support the amount of students they need to feed. “And it's small. They fit maybe two people,” Ms. Bocaman said. So every day, like clockwork, containers of red trays are brought in, cleaned, and sent back out to their respective schools.

For lunch, the kitchen cooks food right after breakfast; that way it's as fresh as possible. Even with everything on their plate, the staff still try to make the service as best as possible. The staff came up with a new way to get more food out to more students last year, creating a food cart near the end of the hall headed toward the gym. This cart makes it easier for students to get food more efficiently, creating two lines for lunch instead of just one. “That line was created for students that don't necessarily feel comfortable coming into the cafeteria, or they're leaving for the day and they want to grab lunch on the way out to their car,”

Ms. Bocaman said. Because of this new addition to the lunch routine, fewer students have to wait in longer lines, letting the students who want extras get to them easily.

The staff always makes sure to listen to feedback about what they could improve on or how they messed something up in a recipe. Not long ago, they replaced the original calzones with new versions containing ricotta instead of mozzarella. Students were not a fan of the change, and the kitchen staff quickly worked to fix the problem. “So we talked to upper management, and we are going back to the original calzones,” Ms. Bocaman said. They want students to know that they do listen to suggestions and are willing to try new things. Furthermore, most of the kitchen staff are moms. This job means a lot to them because they understand and know what it's like to take care of a kid. “We want to treat you all like our children,” Ms. Bocaman said.

Food review: BGHS nachos

By Koen Holm

This is the very first food review this year for “The Tiger Times,” and we’ll be covering the school lunch nachos. This classic of cafeteria cuisine is a favorite of many BGHS students. It is one of the most well-known lunch room foods that seems to have been around forever, and it has made its way into lunchrooms across the globe and into our hearts.

Nachos are a Tex-Mex dish that commonly consists of a base of tortilla chips covered with various different kinds of cheese, commonly shredded American cheese or chile con queso. Finally, it is garnished with a variety of toppings like different meats, vegetables, and condiments.

Battle Ground High School’s cafeteria offers quite a few toppings:

shredded lettuce, pico de gallo, diced tomatoes, diced onions, salsa, sliced jalapenos and various meats and rices that change depending on the day. For this review, I decided to select nachos with a nacho cheese and beef, topped with shredded lettuce, pico de gallo, diced tomatoes, onions, and sour cream to finish it off.

I found these nachos to be quite good compared to other cafeteria food, with a very pleasant crunch and well seasoned beef. Overall, I believe that the nachos are the best food option that the lunchroom offers. To get other insight on the nachos, I interviewed seniors Mason Vonk and Elliot Rollison; Rollison is a well-known nacho connoisseur. Vonk said, “I think the school



nachos are pretty good. I like pork; it’s pretty delectable. They actually season it, you know.” To go along with that, the nacho connoisseur himself, Rolison said, “ Even though I’m a retired nacho connoisseur, I still think these nachos are pretty good. I like the cheese, and I like the olives. My only issue is sometimes I find my chips getting soggy by the end of the meal.”

For this food review, I give the humble school nachos 7.5 out of 10. They are an all-around good lunch time bite even taking into consideration a soggy chip or two. Stay tuned for the next issue of “The Tiger Times” for the one and only BGHS chicken sandwich!

Think before you litter

By Eva Smith

My name is Eva Smith, and I'm a sophomore student at Battle Ground High School. I volunteer to pick up trash around the campus every day during fifth period in my CBC Jobs class. I want people to throw their trash away, so that it doesn't go to the rivers or oceans.

Littering around the school has become a serious problem. With students being too lazy to simply throw their trash away, it has the capability to harm wildlife such as birds, racoons, squirrels

and others. The litter also makes our school look bad and makes more unnecessary work for our custodians, which brings their focus away from other things that need regular maintenance such as the bathrooms and floors.

With the abundance of trashcans around the school, it shouldn't be difficult for students to throw their trash away. Even when students are near the trashcans, trash often still ends up on the ground around the cans.

With trash building up around the school, it just makes our school look bad.

Trash all over the ground makes our school look gross, and we need to take care of our school. One custodian said, "It's not that hard to throw away trash, and it makes more work for janitors like me." If we all do our part and throw garbage away where it belongs, we can keep our school looking nice, and the custodians can focus their time and energy on more important tasks that our school needs.



SPORTS

By Brock Heib

Now that the winter season is all wrapped up, which students from our school made it to the first team and second team all-league? All-league is awarded to the best players in each of the winter sports; the players are selected by the league coaches and submitted for publication.

In the 4A Greater St. Helens League, Brayden Andrews (so) was selected for the second team boys basketball all-league. Charlotte Clark (jr) and

Marissa Loveall (sr) were selected for the second team girls basketball all-league.

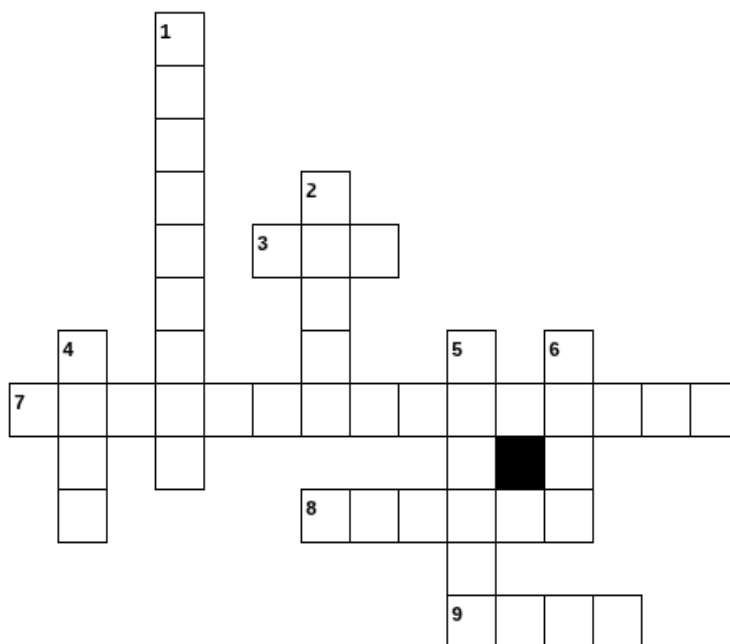
The boys wrestling players that made it to first team all-league are Gunnar Kittelson (so), Andrew Gray (jr), and Emet Ordway (sr). The second team all-league wrestlers are Jack Bowdish (so), Clyde Cass (jr), and Carter Stewart (so). There is no first team all-league for the girls wrestling, but McKenna McComb (jr) and Violet Sappington (so) made it to the second team.

Boys swimming coach Casey Dean won coach of the year. Elizabeth Lynch (sr) is on the first team all-league girls bowling team, and Madisyn Chandler (sr), Elleana Hagelstein (so), Riley Webb (so), and Finnley Lightfoot (jr) made it to the second team. Overall, these are the BGHS athletes who made it to all-league for the winter sports. Who will make all-league for the spring sport season?



ENTERTAINMENT

By Chris Leu



Across

- 3. the fifth month of the year
- 7. a time change made for farmers
- 8. small pool of water
- 9. home for birds

Down

- 1. colorful winged insect that feeds on flowers
- 2. first month of spring
- 4. water falling from the sky
- 5. place to plant vegetables
- 6. toy that flies in the wind

	3		7			2	
6						5	
5				4	9		7
1				5	8		4
					2		6
			1			2	
3			5		1		
		7		3			2
	4			6		5	

H	M	K	V	H	E	N	Q	F	K	R	I	O	G	U	W	K	O
N	N	D	I	A	N	N	V	I	J	I	U	I	S	M	B	A	J
A	P	E	T	T	J	G	N	E	S	T	T	T	R	P	U	J	A
Q	H	B	F	N	Z	N	A	P	R	P	F	E	X	R	T	R	K
U	Q	H	I	K	I	T	G	R	S	R	L	A	H	D	T	O	M
P	R	W	E	H	B	G	Q	F	D	V	I	N	M	V	E	A	A
F	A	V	K	G	R	H	N	C	R	E	Q	C	L	B	R	W	Y
H	E	X	M	A	R	C	H	M	F	A	N	X	D	F	F	D	B
M	G	D	N	R	P	B	Z	R	V	P	I	Z	V	S	L	E	D
A	P	T	H	Q	E	X	O	L	G	C	S	N	G	Q	Y	A	V
U	A	D	A	Y	L	I	G	H	T	S	A	V	I	N	G	S	A
L	C	B	P	U	D	D	L	E	M	M	U	T	X	Z	L	R	W

DAYLIGHTSAVINGS
BUTTERFLY
PUDDLE
GARDEN

MARCH
NEST
RAIN
KITE

MAY

|

Managing Editor: Mr. Karraker

Editor-in-chief: Ms. Main