



THE STUDENT VOICE

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Athlete of the Issue: Tyler Penney By: Steve Sullivan '11



Bishop Brady's own all-star basketball player, Tyler Penney, is back for his senior season. He is working hard on and off the court to play at his fullest potential. Last year he totaled 431 points and was a dominant force on the boards. This year, the 6'7" giant has been hitting the weights to make himself stronger. He has also been working on his speed in order to be an even bigger

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A Year of Service

By: Meghan Sargent '11

Bishop Brady has many things to be proud of: its talented athletes, its dedicated faculty, and its intelligent students. However, one of the greatest things that Brady has to be proud of is its commitment to service. This year, many of the clubs are doing service projects, not only for the local community, but for the national and international community as well.

Both the Spanish and French clubs have decided to help underprivileged people in foreign countries. The French club recently sent money to the Haitian Health Foundation. The money that was sent will build a house for a family. The French club will continue to raise money for Haiti throughout the year.

The Spanish club has decided to sponsor a child. The child's name

is Raúl Gómez and he is nine years old. Raúl lives in Cartagena, Columbia with his aunt Maria and his uncle Jorge. The family lives in a small brick house with a metal roof. Raúl's aunt is a seamstress and his uncle is a mechanic. Raúl walks to elementary school everyday. He enjoys playing soccer.

The Spanish club is planning to send a group of students to El Salvador in the spring as well.

The other club that has been working on a service project is Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is one of the newer clubs at Brady. It was started at the end of last year, and it has become very active this year. The club has been doing a great deal of fundraising to help pay for their trip to New Orleans this spring. The trip should be a great experience for the students and

faculty that are going.

Brady also completed its traditional holiday service projects. For Thanksgiving, the Brady community donated many baskets filled with food to less fortunate families in the area. The families that received the baskets would not have been able to have a Thanksgiving meal without Brady's donations.

Bishop Brady also collected presents for needy children. The gifts were recently delivered by the Operation Santa Claus chairperson and Mrs. Fairbanks. The toys, clothing, and other wished for gifts are sure to make the children's Christmas especially happy.

Bishop Brady is doing a great job supporting the community at large. Through its dedication to service, Brady is teaching its students the importance of helping others and making the world a better place.

NHS Spreading Holiday Cheer

By: Meghan Sargent '11

Recently, a group of students from Bishop Brady's National Honor Society traveled to the North Pole in North Conway. There, they dressed up as elves in order to recreate the North Pole scene from the classic Christmas story *The Polar Express*.

At North Conway's North Pole, groups of children arrived on trains wearing their pajamas, eating chocolate, and

drinking hot chocolate. They then left the train and had the chance to drop off their letters to Santa before entering his workshop. Once inside, *The Polar Express* was read to the kids and they had the chance to meet with Santa Claus.

The night and the experience was truly magical, and all proceeds from the event support the Believe in Books Literacy Foundation.

Another way that NHS has brought the Christmas spirit to the Brady community is by decorating the courtyard. The courtyard was completed this fall and it is a great addition to the Brady campus. The courtyard is now decorated with ornaments that represent each NHS member. The ornaments will be used every year, so the NHS members that graduate will continue to be a part of the

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Girls Basketball

By: Connor Houghton '11

The Bishop Brady Girls' Basketball team is starting this season with the hope of improving on last year's record. The team started off the 2008-2009 season very well, winning the Capitol Area Holiday Tournament. However, the girls were unable to continue their success throughout the regular season and finished with a record of 3-13. The team did not make the play-offs last year, but they hope to clinch a playoff spot at the end of this season.

The Girls Basketball team is led by Junior captains Meghan Sargent and Kaley Marston. The two guards are the only returning starters that the team has, but Senior captain Kelsea Marchand and re-

turning Senior Abbie Stehno will also be key contributors to the team's success this year. Another player who is showing



Photo taken by Brie Ruth.

potential is Freshman Tori Leblanc. She is a guard with a great deal of speed and energy and is sure to be a help to the team.

Coach Joe Drinon hopes to have more success this year by limiting the number of turnovers per game and by playing an aggres-

sive defense.

With a tough Class I schedule, each game will be a battle for the Giants. However, the

girls have been working hard in practice in order to prepare for the season ahead. With the heart and determination to win that the team is showing so far, the girls should be able to have some success against their stronger opponents. The team is excited for the upcoming season and is ready to work hard to win games and make it back to the playoffs.



Equestrian Team is Back for Another Year

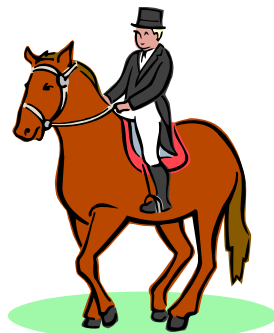
By: Taylor Dickinson '11

The Bishop Brady Equestrian Team is very excited to begin its second season. Having been formed just last year, the Equestrian Team is one of the newest teams at Bishop Brady. The size of the team has more than doubled since last year. There is a very diverse group of riders which will make the team even better.

New Hampshire is one of only a handful of states in the country that has equestrian teams and competitions available for high school students. Many people do not realize how new a program it is for schools to have equestrian teams. Schools such as Bishop Brady are playing an important role in the development of equestrian teams throughout the State and country. This year, the Bishop Brady

team will be fundraising periodically in order to raise money for fees and competitions.

The Bishop Brady team will be joining up with a group of students from John Stark Regional High School who are not able to have a team within their own school. With these added students, Brady will have one of the largest teams in the state. Practices will begin next month in preparation for the spring time competitions. It is going to be an exciting second year for the Equestrian Team.



NHS Spreading Holiday Cheer

Continued...

community even after graduation. There are also lights, bows, and garlands on the trees and bushes. NHS has definitely been able to spread Christmas cheer, and all this is greatly appreciated by the Brady community.



Bishop Brady is a Roman Catholic, college preparatory, co-educational high school, founded upon the values

faith, learning and service.

In partnership with families and the greater community, Bishop Brady ***instills a desire*** in students to engage in service to others and ***challenges*** them to rise above the expected in the

pursuit of excellence.

His War Now

By: Matt Weinmann '11

President Obama has not caught a break from criticism since he took office. He has aggressively attacked a wide range of issues from Health Care reform, to reform in the strategy of the United States military in Afghanistan. It is the latter topic that currently fills the 24-hour news cycles with experts, analysts, and reporters all discussing and analyzing the President's decision. I do not want to claim to know everything about the military or about strategy. I have never been to Afghanistan and I watch many of these analysts and wonder how many have been on the ground in Afghanistan. I am going to attempt to present, in the most bal-

anced way possible, the strategy laid out by President Obama from West Point.

Obama essentially outlined a surge tactic similar to the one successfully used in Iraq. The fi-



From google.com

nal count is approximately 30,000 additional troops to be deployed as rapidly as possible to Afghanistan. In

recent articles, notably Jon Klein's 'Obama's War' it is now clear that much of the discussion surrounding the troop deployment was how rapidly these troops would be able to be deployed. As quickly as these troops are deployed, Obama has promised to begin bringing troops home after 18 months.

The breathing room this influx of forces is designed to create will help in two key areas of the Afghanistan war. The military surge will be accompanied by a civilian surge with the focus of improving Afghanistan's infrastructure and economy. However, Obama cautioned that there would be no more blank checks, and our support in

that sector would be increasingly based on performance. The other area is in training the Afghanistan military. Some figures I have seen on CNN.com put the "fighting" element of the 30,000 at 20,000 and the remaining 10,000 as trainers for the Afghan security forces. The more forces Afghanistan has, the faster it can assume responsibility for its security.

Along with increased troop levels and resources, Obama also gave his commanders a more clearly defined objective for the American military. The three goals are to deny Al Qaeda safe haven within Afghanistan, reverse the Taliban's momentum and deny them the

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Our New English Teacher

By: Meghan Sargent '11

At the end of the second quarter, Bishop Brady welcomed a new teacher to its English department. Mrs. Hickey was hired as a teacher for both sophomore and junior students. She is really enjoying her time so far at Bishop Brady and she is excited about the future.

Before coming to Brady, Mrs. Hickey was a teacher for twenty five years. She then entered into the corporate world for a number of years with her husband and they had their own business together. She recently decided that she wanted to return to teaching because she missed being in a classroom and interacting with students. She felt that Brady was the perfect place for her to return to teaching because she liked the idea of being part of a Catholic school and a true community.

So far, Mrs. Hickey's favorite part about teaching at Brady is interacting with her students. She said that her students are great, and she really likes teaching them. Mrs. Hickey also said that the faculty has made her transition to Brady very easy. The faculty has been welcoming to Mrs. Hickey and they have quickly accepted her into the Brady community.

The most exciting part about returning to teaching for Mrs. Hickey is having her own class, which she is able to direct and control. After doing some substitute teaching in which she did not have her own classroom, Mrs. Hickey really likes having her own place to teach. As the year continues, Mrs. Hickey is looking forward to watching her students grow. She also hopes to become involved with the religious community that Brady offers.

Outside of Brady, Mrs. Hickey spends her time relaxing with her family. She has a granddaughter who is four years old, and is the central focus in Mrs. Hickey's life. She also enjoys traveling and is very involved with her church. Mrs. Hickey is a great addition to the Bishop Brady community. Her experience as a teacher is sure to bring a great deal of knowledge to her students and col-



Photo taken by Brie Ruth.

*Have a safe and happy
vacation.
Don't forget to spread
JOY!*

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Athlete of The Issue *Continued...*

threat to his opponents. Tyler is starting the season with a total of 800 career points. He is hoping to score his 1000th point this year. .

While Tyler continues to work on improving his personal game, his "expectations are more oriented towards the team as a whole." He said, "I'd love for us to make play-offs in my senior year." With the goal of making Brady basketball a success, Tyler knows that it will take a great deal of work to make the play-offs. Confident that he can lead the team there, he executes every play with a sheer-threat attitude. We hope Tyler will have the senior season for which he has been working so hard.

His War Now

Continued...

ability to overthrow the government, and strengthen the capacity of the security forces within Afghanistan. The hope is that this more clearly defined objective will provide us qualifications for 'victory'.

Obama has promised many things, some he can achieve, and some perhaps he cannot. The promise he made to the United States is to not commit the United States to anything beyond our responsibility, our means, or our interests. That is a promise he, as commander in chief, has very serious control over.

The review process was long

and lengthy, with spirited debate inside the situation room. President Obama had to choose a card from a very poor hand and worked very hard to make sure that it was the right one, or perhaps the BEST one. We, as a nation, can only hope that it truly was the best choice and will rapidly bring this war to a close. Benjamin Franklin, on one of the final days of the Constitutional Convention said, "I consent, Sir, to this Constitution because I expect no better, and because I am not sure, that it is not the best." I will follow Franklin's advice and hope that it is the best.

Puzzling Puzzles

By: Eric Samuel '11

1. Sam turned off his bedroom light and went to bed. The light switch is 10 feet away, yet he got into bed before the room got dark. How is it possible?
2. A Mother has seven children. Half of them are boys. How is this possible?
3. How can you throw a ball a short distance and have it stop and come right back to you?

Puzzle Answers from the Last Issue

1. The man is buying house numbers.
2. You first light the match.
3. I will die by being hanged.



*Praying the
 simple blessings
 of the season
 will bring
 God's peace
 to your heart
 and
 joy to your
 celebration.*