



Senior Drew Etienne protects the ball vs. Dexter.

Photo by Connor Zebley

Boys varsity basketball shoots for another great season

Connor Konas
Managing Editor

The boys' basketball team at Brighton High School this year is looking to have a solid season. The team is comprised of five seniors and eight juniors. The junior-heavy team this year should result in a senior-heavy team in 2015, which should make this strong team even stronger.

The team is getting along well this year.

"We have extremely good team chemistry. Everyone works their butts off at all times," junior Eric Hackett said.

At this point in the year, the team has played three regular season games and two games in the Peto-

skay Invitational. At the invitational, the team, led by captains Jake Steslicki and Andrew Chevalier, won both games, besting the hometown Petoskey team and then TC West. In the regular season, the team is 5-3, winning their games against Fowlerville (69-43), Pinckney (61-53), Milford (51-41), Hartland (63-40), and Mott (69-53) but falling short to Pinckney, Grand Blanc (72-41), and Howell (46-42).

The team still has nine regular season games left this year, including a rematch of the Grand Blanc game, which will be followed just a few days later by the Winterfest game against the rival Howell team in which they hope to even out their season record after being defeated on January 14.

The team is coached by Tony Sweet

(head coach) and Brian Bihlmeyer (assistant).

"This season's unique because of all the different players who came up from the JV team. They all work together well. The team has great chemistry out on the court and I like how competitive the boys are. It's hard to quantify in wins and losses what to expect in a season, but I can expect them to be working hard throughout each and every game," Sweet said.

This season is a new experience for Bihlmeyer, as it's his first season as a coach on the varsity team.

"The jump from freshman basketball to varsity basketball is very big. The varsity game is much quicker, not only for the players but for the coaches too. I'm having fun getting accustomed to that," Bihlmeyer said.

Varsity hockey team tries for a State win hat trick

Ashleigh Beauchamp
Copy Editor

Brighton's varsity hockey team was really brought together this year during their trip to the UP; they won both the scheduled games against Hancock and Calumet. They have also won games against Olivonia Stevenson, Novi, South Lyon, Canton, and Livonia Franklin.

The most exciting win of the year so far was at Comerica Park, where they played against Howell and ended the game 9-1.

"Getting to play at Comerica Park was an unbelievable experience for me," junior Colin Bilek said.

Bilek, who has been playing hockey since the age of four, joined Brighton's varsity hockey team this year. Getting to skate in Comerica Park was almost like a dream to all of the players. And they have certainly been working diligently and practicing tirelessly as a team.

Though the team is better described as one huge family, each player brings their own skills and talents to the table. Those skills and talents have entwined together per-

fectly this year, and it is undoubtedly showing at every game.

"This team moves the puck as well as any team I've seen play," Athletic Director John Thompson said.

They have been playing better and better as the season goes on, Thompson added. They are not completely playing to their full potential and often find themselves not playing the periods to the original plans, but they have been working hard on making sure they improve as the season continues.

The players do play together well, they all progress as a team through the season.

The varsity hockey team is looking good this year already, despite their little hiccups in the beginning. Everyone supporting the team has high expectations for the rest of the season. Those expectations have also rolled over from the previous two years; considering the team has won the last two state championships.

Although they have been improving at a steady pace, let's hope those improvements don't stop for any reason and perhaps the over-the-top expectations push the boys to a third state championship this year.

Upcoming hockey games:

- February 1, at 4:00PM against Livonia Churchill
- February 6 & 8, MIHL Showcase
- February 20, at 7:00PM against Hartland
- February 22, at 4:00PM against Midland

BHS boardercross team ready's for inaugural season

Anderson Day
Patch Editor

Dumping snow, the snowboard team is riding deep. This winter has been the best winter Brighton has had in many years. With the recent snow storm that put students and teachers out of school for three days, students have had a tight schedule. These snow days pushed back the first meet to Tuesday, January 14th.

Being the first race of the year, with the new riders and returning riders will get to use to the new course that Vail Resorts, and Snow Park Technologies has designed. Being the terrain park and boardercross course builder for the X games, they are more than capable of building a suitable course for the boardercross league. The course they built isn't anywhere near as challenging as an X Games course, but more challenging than last year's course.

"With the new course this year, it will help our riders who tend to be smaller than the other schools compete against the heavier riders who have the advantage in the downhill race. Instead of just turns, having rollers and jumps involved in the course makes knowing when to

dump your speed, just as important as gaining speed," head coach Tom Henderson said.

This year the team is a lot larger than past years. With a larger team, now being able to fill all the race slots the team has a greater chance at making it to team states.

The first race of the year was a bit on the wild side. As the team was waiting at the top of the hill to race, Mother Nature unleashed her wrath and let the snow fly. With the fresh snow on the course, it turned the fast course slow.

"When it started snowing, it felt more real. It felt like winter was here and it was a great start to the season," freshman Kennedy Day said.

During practices this year coaches Tom Henderson and Spencer Hasbrouck have been really stressing the importance of the start. With extra practice on the starting gates it puts the Brighton riders at an advantage.

"It's just like motocross, it's all about the start. Once you get the less out of the start you have the advantage. Starts are everything, but you got to blow the berms up too," Hasbrouck said.

Come support the Brighton boardercross team at their meets at Mount Brighton on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



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