

Sports



volleyball

baseball

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football

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BHS gridgers hit the field running

by Vanessa Goodwyn

Bison fans got their first look at the 2009 BHS football team at the annual Purple and Gold full-contact scrimmage at Brewer Field on Saturday morning, and it was a good one. Folks crowded into the best seats in the stadium -- the ones in the shade -- as the players (in full pads) battled not only their teammates but temperatures in the 90's. Enthusiasm for the



Photo by Ron Goodwyn

Battle-weary-- and hot --the Varsity Bison leave the field after Saturday morning's scrimmage.

season was high, both in the stands and on the field.

Head Coach Mark Read summarized, "We mixed it up pretty good, and we saw some good things. Also saw a lot of things we can concentrate on. For this point in the year we are a little ahead of where I thought we'd be."

BHS puts a good-sized offensive line on the field this year and in the backfield they have quickness and experience. Jordan Canady looked

poised leading the team from the quarterback position, and Ryan Read showed precision when he took the field as the back-up QB. Aaron Bell appears fully recovered from last year's knee injury, running low and hard when he had the ball. The Bison have a lot of depth at running back to challenge their opponents' defensive units. The kicking game is there, too. Rigo Andrade kicked two field goals from about 30 yards out, and

both had plenty of room to spare.

While Saturday's workout was primarily an offensive scrimmage, the defense also showed promise. Kirk Ringland will certainly be missed at the linebacker position. Coach Read admitted, "That is definitely the biggest void we have to fill, but Jacob Rodell is in that slot right now and he definitely has the

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Freshman Travis Cunningham ducks his head and gets another yard. Photo by Ron Goodwyn

Volleyball '09 Underway

After four days of practice, the Lady Bison volleyball teams tried out their skills in back-to-back play days over the weekend. Buffalo hosted Palestine and Crockett on Friday before joining Fairfield and Ferris in Teague on Saturday. While there are many areas for improvement, there is plenty of promise at all levels for the Lady Bison.

Head Coach Lori Shaw will be assisted this year by Daryl Skelton, Blake Porter, and Kyle Gleghorn. Gleghorn will head up the seventh grade program while Porter will perform double duty with eighth and ninth grade teams. Skelton will be in charge of the junior varsity squad once again.

Missing -- and greatly missed -- will be Coach Don Oliver, who passed away this weekend. "Coach Oliver was a big part of every one of these volleyball girls' lives," Lori Shaw shared. "He was one of their biggest fans, and when he was tough on them, it was because he wanted them to be the best they could be." Many of the Lady Bison are

planning to wear arm bands with their uniforms in memory of their former coach.

Six seniors return for their final season of play. Tristan Brewer, Kaila Grissett, Erica Jones, Meredith Shaw, Brooke Trahan and Desiree Worthy are ready to lead the Lady Bison to their best season yet. Juniors Jordyn Briscoe and Heather Sigert reported for duty as

did sophomores Samantha Atkinson, Kelsey Canady, Courtney Drees, Hailey Ellison, Karlee Ferguson, Emily Grissett, Laken McCabe, Lindsey McGill, and Reagan Read. Tionna Adams, Kylan Armstrong, Kylene Ferguson, Katie Guyton, Ana Lopez, Raven Lott, Erin Trahan, Chelsea Varner and Hannah

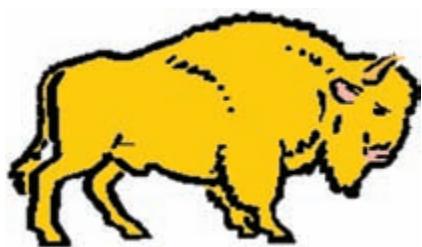
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BHS' 2009 Men's Coaching Staff: (L-R) Mark Read, Clayton Hodges, John Forrest, Vic Wheeler, Warren Ringland, Jack Ard and Jerry Russ pose for the camera during a water break.



Coach Don Oliver (center) and last year's District champs.



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