



The PANEL

Belmont Hill School

Volume 66, Special Issue No. 1

A Student Publication of the Belmont Hill School

April 4, 2018

CONGRATULATIONS

Welcome to Belmont Hill!

WHAT IS THE PANEL?

Since 1953, *The Panel* has been Belmont Hill's student newspaper. For 66 years, our publication has been entirely student-run, and the monthly issues we publish cover student life and school news at Belmont Hill, featuring the work of student authors, editors, photographers, and artists from the Upper School. Each normal issue includes sections on news, sports, arts, and opinion; a center spread feature on an issue of student relevance and a humorous backpage complement our four core sections. In addition to seven standard issues each volume, *The Panel* also releases special issues, like this Admissions Issue or *The Flannel*, a spring satire issue.

Although we remain committed to a print medium for our main issues, *The Panel* has been excited to increase its online presence in recent years. In 2016, *The Panel* launched its website, bhpanel.org, which has garnered over 15,000 views to date. We also maintain feeds on Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube (@bhpanel), and all platforms present opportunities for greater connection with our readership and more immediate news updates.

The Panel shares a unique connection with Winsor, one of Belmont Hill's sister schools. Every other printing, Winsor and Belmont Hill publish a joint issue of *The Panel*, and both communities benefit from the shared exchange of news, opinions, and student life. □



Scenes from around campus – we hope to see you here soon!

Adam Richins

WHAT IS THIS ISSUE?

This Admissions Issue of *The Panel* highlights a variety of stories published throughout the year. 2017-2018 has been a busy year for the

school, and our coverage in the following pages details the diversity of this year's happenings.

As you learn more about Belmont Hill and consider where you might attend school

next fall, we hope this special edition helps illuminate the strength of our active community and the activities, events, and fun in which you can look forward to participating. Enjoy! □

Want more? Check out bhpanel.org

9TH HEAD OF SCHOOL

Mr. Gregory J. Schneider Announced as Belmont Hill's Next Headmaster

BY ISHAAN PRASAD '18 AND
WILLIAM MCCORMACK '18
PANEL STAFF

This past July, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Gregory J. Schneider as Belmont Hill's 9th Head of School. The international search garnered over 200 inquiries and close to 100 formal applications, and Mr. Schneider emerged as its most promising candidate. No longer a mere candidate, he will assume his role as headmaster on July 1, 2018.

The Panel's Editors-In-Chief had a chance to interview Mr. Schneider over the phone last month. Connecting with us from Berwick, Maine, where he is currently serving an eleventh and final year as headmaster of Berwick Academy, *Continued Online*

#1 MOST VIEWED IN 2018
Published in Vol. 66, No. 3, Mr. Schneider's announcement article has since become the most viewed article on The Panel Online

"One of the things I've always loved about independent schools is that you can do lots of different things within them. For someone who's always cared about all of it — writing, academics, music, arts, sports — coming back to an independent school really allowed me to tap into different parts of myself."

— MR. SCHNEIDER



Mr. Schneider with his wife, Mrs. Amy Schneider, and their three daughters: Kenna, Avery, and Colby.

Look Inside *The Panel*

NEWS 2

In Case You Missed It

Enjoy this unique feature of *The Panel*, published every issue to capture the breadth of community activity at Belmont Hill.

NEWS 3

From the Archives

The Panel has documented Belmont Hill life since 1953, and our newspaper archives present exciting stories and spreads for perusal.



OPINIONS 4

"Friends, Romans, Countrymen..."

Should Belmont Hill require public speaking? Should BH teams practice and play over winter break? How should teachers utilize class time?

SPORTS 6-7

Football Beats Seb's; Soccer Earns NEPSAC A Bid; Basketball Wins at TD Garden

Highlights from two busy seasons and three triumphant teams.



ARTS 5

God of Carnage

Read about this year's senior production, directed by Owen Pickette '18.



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@bhpanel
and online at www.bhpanel.org

OCTOBER 2017 (VOL. 66, NO. 3)

In Case You Missed It...

Summer 2017

Alumni Andrew Reed '10 and Alexander Richards '14 represented Belmont Hill and the nation in rowing. The young alums competed in the men's eight and men's four, respectively.



Sep. 12, 2017

Bennett Morris '18 (now known as DJ Bmo) took over as host of Radio Perkins for DJ Ice Berg (Andrew Berg '18). He and DJ Sky Blue, a student at the Perkins School for the Blind, aired their inaugural episode for the year on this date. Lawson Morris '19 serves as a technical assistant.



Sep. 13, 2017

The BH dining hall staff hosted an outdoor picnic to celebrate good weather and the start of the new academic year.



Sep. 14, 2017

Computer Science teacher Mr. Tiberi and the AP Computer Science Principles class hosted a Puzzle Night to test out logic problems designed by Harvard CS50 course staff. Teams were pitted against each other, and Seth Israel '18 and Bennett Morris '18 emerged as the victorious duo.



Sep. 15, 2017

Representatives from the Student Senate formally announced the implementation of an assessment pledge at Forum. All faculty will begin to include the pledge on their written assessments this academic year. See Gavin Colbert's op-ed on the pledge for more information.



Sep. 20, 2017

Following with tradition, School President William McCormack '18 delivered his presidential address to the school community, emphasizing the continuity of Belmont Hill's identity and highlighting the contributions every student makes towards this identity.

Sep. 25, 2017

Dr. Michelle Sanchez, principal of the Epiphany School in Dorchester, spoke before students at the annual academic awards chapel. After Dr. Melvoin honored Cum Laude inductees of the Sixth Form, Dr. Sanchez provided insight into the goals of the Epiphany School and expressed her enamoration with Belmont Hill's standards.

Sep. 25, 2017

Dr. Mykee Fowlin performed an emotionally-wrenching one-man show to Forms V and VI in the Kraft Theater. Last Spring, Dr. Fowlin had appeared before the middle school. A talented actor, psychologist, and poet, Dr. Fowlin switched between different characters in a powerful exploration of bias, insecurity, difference, and pain.

Sep. 26, 2017

Belmont Hill's dining staff treated boarders to a white-tablecloth dinner. Courses included gourmet salad, New York strip steak, and warm apple pie.

Oct. 2, 2017

Grandparents and special friends of Form I and II students, attending a class, learning about the School, and attending a special luncheon with their grandsons.

Looking Ahead

Tomorrow, Oct. 6, 2017

Mr. Gregory J. Schneider will be formally introduced to the student body. On July 1, 2018, he'll become Belmont Hill's 9th Head of School.



Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017

The School will host its Open House for prospective students and families from 8:30am to 12:00pm.

A Closer Look at Counseling at Belmont Hill

By THE EDITORS
PANEL STAFF

Ms. June Schmunk has been at Belmont Hill since 2004 and leads the School's counseling program. As the new school year begins, The Panel hopes to more effectively advertise the wide berth of options available to students and remove the stigma often associated with issues of psychological health and wellness. A trained cognitive behavioral therapist, Ms. Schmunk, coupled with Dr. Michael Thompson, Belmont Hill's consulting psychologist, seek to serve the current needs of Belmont Hill boys and their programs adapt to these changing needs.

Family Group: The seven students

that composed last year's Family Group often discussed their experience with parental divorce and conflict, and the group held this year's inaugural meeting last Thursday at Upper School lunch.

Transition Group: The eight boys in last year's transition group discussed the challenges of adjusting to life at Belmont Hill after a year or semester spent away at programs like SYA, CityTerm, and SEGL.

Questioning Group: Finally, the eight boys that participated in the Questioning Group during the 2016-2017 year appreciated the opportunity to explore their sexual

identity in a safe, confidential forum. The group had begun years before when Ms. Schmunk had independently seen four or five boys talk about their sexuality and noted an eagerness to share their feelings and challenges with others in comparable situations.

Last year, Ms. Schmunk connected with 59 boys independently and reaches a greater variety of students with three focused groups, the Family Group, the Transition Group, and the Questioning Group. Groups provide boys the opportunity to discuss issues with Ms. Schmunk and peers in an informal, accepting setting. □

Photographer Mr. Duarte Enters Belmont Hill's Arts Department

By DONAVAN PAYNE '18
PANEL STAFF

Mr. Duarte, a talented and creative photographer, is joining the Arts program at Belmont Hill. Growing up in West Roxbury and going to school at Catholic Memorial, Mr. Duarte has been familiar with Belmont Hill for most of his life. His first direct connection to the school was through past faculty member, Mr. Morange. Mr. Duarte cites Mr. Morange as one of his mentors in photography. The two worked together professionally allowing for many opportunities to learn from each other. From Mr. Morange, Mr. Duarte learned more about Belmont Hill and the teaching position available. Photography has been an active part of his life and something he values dearly. While he was attending school at Bowdoin College, he delved into the world of photography after switching from his painting class. He says, "With painting, you're the god of the canvas and can create whatever you want, but in photography there are limitations. You're not bound by creativity but by what is in front of you." Attracted to these limitations, Mr. Duarte found his artistic passion.

This year, I have the pleasure of working with Mr. Duarte for my independent study. Throughout our meetings in class and even during our interview, I noticed how incredibly insightful he was. His feedback on my work has always been thoughtful and incredibly beneficial. He encourages his students to think creatively

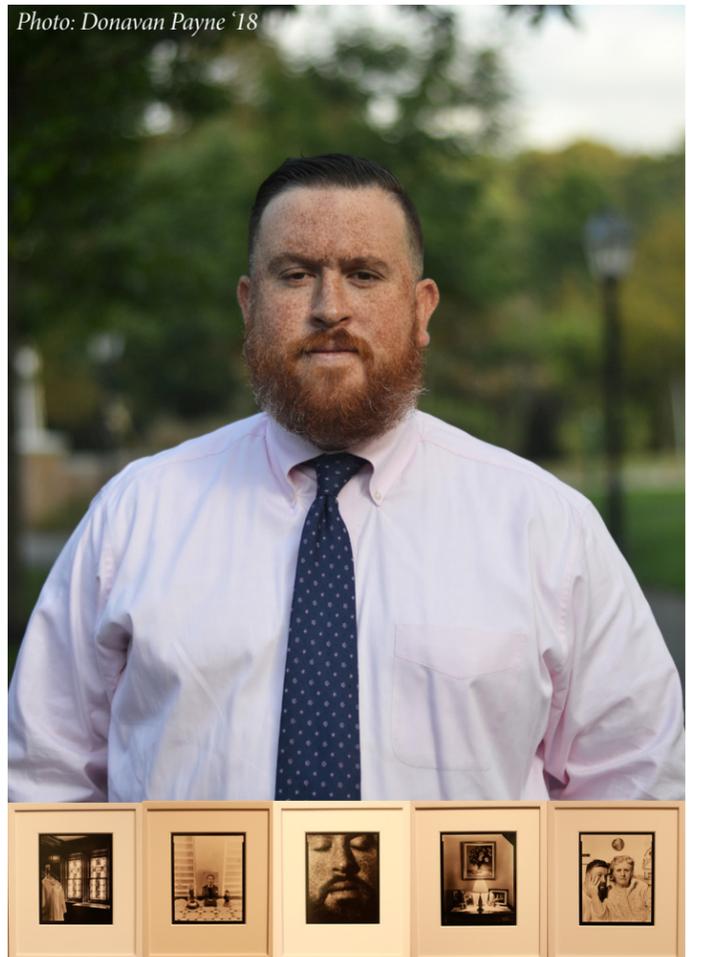
without worrying about making mistakes or abiding by constructed "rules." In Mr. Duarte's class, there are no rules. He teaches Photography, Digital Video, and Form I Art, along with being the Technical Director in the Theater department. He's a traditional photographer, who is experienced in film and working in the darkroom. As many schools are adopting solely digital processes, it was exciting for Mr. Duarte to hear about Belmont Hill's teaching of darkroom processes. "It is a true privilege," he says, "to come here and make and share important work with students while also introducing them to a different way of looking at our world." For the past few weeks, some of Mr. Duarte's work has been displayed in the gallery. Shot in large-format film, the photographs feature self-portraits and pictures of his family; family often being a theme that he uses in his work. His dad immigrated to the United States from Venezuela and attended Northeastern University on a full scholarship. At Northeastern, Mr. Duarte's dad met his mother, an Irish-American woman, before his father unfortunately had to return to Venezuela to apply for a new visa. Both of his parents moved to Venezuela and lived there for the next seven years through an extremely challenging application process. However, there in Venezuela, Mr. Duarte was born. Coming from two parents with very distinct backgrounds, Mr. Duarte says that diversity is extremely important to him and it is reflected in his work. Through photography, he explores these distinct parts of himself and the themes of home and identity that exists in his life.

I first met Mr. Duarte while he was touring Belmont Hill last year. He told me a story of that day when he and Mr. Armstrong walked by the school seal next to Robsham. He noticed that students were avoiding the symbol, careful not to step on it. He admired that to us the sextant wasn't simply brick on the ground, but rather it meant something more. Being a fan of traditions, he enjoys the traditions we have here at Belmont Hill, and is enthusiastically looking forward to being a part of them. Before Belmont Hill, Mr. Duarte worked in higher education but he now enjoys being able to interact with students inside and outside of the classroom. This winter, he will have the opportunity to do this by coaching the ninth-grade hockey team.

Looking forward to his future here at Belmont Hill, Mr. Duarte hopes to continue to develop as an educator and expand the realm of

photography here at Belmont Hill. He hopes to also keep many of the photography processes we practice here alive. His addition to the Art program has already proven to be incredibly valuable and I wish him the best of luck in his transition to Belmont Hill. □

Photo: Donovan Payne '18



MARCH 2018 (VOL. 66, No. 7)

From the Archives: Ted Williams Signs Panel (1956), Noam Chomsky Visits (2002)

TED WILLIAMS SHOWS PRIDE IN "HIS" PANEL



Lerman

Sox slugger Ted Williams displays panel carved by John D. Wilcox '56, (left) as William E. Croke beams approval. Ted's comment, after signing the panel, "I am honored that anyone thinks enough of me to have done all this work."

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

This year, the 66th Editorial Board of THE PANEL chose two core themes for the publication — retrospection and celebration. From exploring the history of the Hamilton Chapel, to considering the announcements of the most recent Heads of School, we at THE PANEL have found great enjoyment in linking Belmont Hill's past to its present. Throughout the year, THE PANEL included excerpts from older editions and articles, providing the student body with an accessible means to investigate the Belmont Hill experience from 1923 to 2018. As we embarked on our school's 95th year, we at THE PANEL hoped to lead the school through the beginning of an important transition period. We hope that this leadership will continue far beyond this volume. The process of both celebrating and re-evaluating the past will be almost as important as pondering the future.



THE PANEL



Volume 51, Issue 1

The Belmont Hill and Winsor Schools

May 3, 2002

Chomsky of MIT to speak at Hill May 6th

By Dan Rabb
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On May 6th, renowned linguist and social dissident Noam Chomsky will discuss the ongoing conflict in the Middle East with Belmont Hill's Upper School. Chomsky, a professor at MIT, is a regular critic of U.S foreign policy, causing some to regard him as "anti-American." Indeed upon learning of his upcoming talk, some students expressed outrage and planned to take action. The professor's appearance is the first in a series of speakers to be brought to the school by language department chair Carl Hobert to discuss foreign policy and stimulate thought.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

A PANEL ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

Want to see more?

Check out [The Panel Online](#) for exclusive content from the Belmont Hill Archives.



NOVEMBER 2017 (VOL. 66, No. 4)

2017 Boo Chapel Revival a Resounding Community Success

By ISHAAN PRASAD '18 AND
MATTHEW SMITH '19
PANEL STAFF

Following a five-year hiatus, this Halloween, Boo Chapel returned to campus for a morning filled with laughter, frights, and excitement.

For years, Boo Chapel joined the Facultones and Senior Talent Show to form a triad of electrifying all-school meetings. Nevertheless, a perfect storm of Thursday morning Late-Starts, "Halloweekends" (Halloweens that fall on weekends), and outright negligence led to the half-decade-long removal of the iconic chapel.

Last Spring, the Senate was made aware of a shocking reality — come fall 2017, the Class of 2018 would be the only remaining form on campus that had experienced a Boo Chapel. Unwilling to let this timeless Belmont Hill tradition fall out of the collective memory of the student body, the class officers set out to re-establish Boo Chapel.

On Tuesday, October 31st, throngs of costumed students descended upon the campus. The return of Boo Chapel kicked off promptly with a video produced by the "Dig Vid" Club Heads, Seth Israel '18 and Quin McGaugh '18. Filmed in the days leading up to Halloween, the video opened with an intro by Ishaan Prasad '18 inspired by the top-trending Netflix original *Stranger Things*. Following a comedic interview of Boo Chapel hosts Danny Hincks '18, Henry Wyett '18, and Max Fields '18, Fields and Wyett led a rousing performance of Migos' "Llama Llama Red Pajama" radio performance to the beat of "Bad and Boujee." The video appeared to be generally well received by the audience, although it was criticized

by some for the length and obscurity of its hilarious rap.

After the video wrapped up, Hincks skated out in his school-renowned hockey costume — complete with rollerblades and a Belmont Hill Frozen Fenway Jersey — followed by Fields and Wyett imitating Migos with gold chains and flashy sunglasses. The rapping duo then proceeded with their first live performance, an abbreviated version of "I Get the Bag," which earned many laughs.

After his co-hosts' unforgettable musical act, Hincks announced the next skit on the Boo Chapel agenda, a fight between three Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (Oisín Treanor '18, Maahin Gulati '18, and Matt Simon '18, and Mr. Leonardis as their non-descript enemy). Easily overpowering his half-shell adversaries, Mr. Leo was shocked when a fourth turtle, Ugo Anuonyemere '18, leapt from the crowd. Towering over his faculty opponent, Anuonyemere scared Mr. Leo into submission, giving his fellow turtles enough time to recover and help him pummel the model teacher-coach.

Boo Chapel continued without a hitch, incorporating a number of amusing costume presentations, including the Senior members of the Student Senate (wearing hoodies under their blazers) as "Belmont Hill students circa 2016" and Lawson Morris '19 and Shane Rockett '19 as Bill and Ted from *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure* (1989). Grant Gibson '18 dancing as Spongebob Squarepants to a trap remix of the yellow sponge's iconic theme song concluded the humorous revival of a classic BH tradition. A true crowd-pleaser, the return of Boo Chapel gave members of the BH community a well-deserved break from the stresses that accompanied the recently passed first marking period. □



Scenes from Boo Chapel 2017

Donavan Payne '18

FEBRUARY 2018 (VOL. 66, NO. 6)

Straying from the Syllabus: Maximizing Real-World Class Time

BY WILLIAM MCCORMACK '18
PANEL STAFF

Mr. Doar allotted five minutes—barely 12% of that Tuesday's D Block Nonfiction Writing class—to introduce the VING Project to his Sixth Form elective students last fall. As John Markis '18 writes in the News section, VING allows high schoolers to nominate someone who they think deserves \$1,000, and if the foundation selects their nomination as a winner, the students enjoy the privilege of presenting their nominee—a friend, a family member, a teacher, or other community member in need—with a \$1,000 check.

After brainstorming potential nominees for homework, we began our Thursday long block by completing online nomination forms for twenty minutes (about 25% of the period), a process that involved recording short videos and filling in trivial information about our nominee.

Two weeks later, the VING project sent congratulatory emails to six of the fourteen boys in our class; Mr. Doar had easily turned twenty-five minutes into 6,000 impactful dollars. Every minute of class time he earmarked for the VING project, a pursuit not directly related to writing or the course curriculum, generated \$240 for

individuals in need.

This year—more so than any other spent at Belmont Hill—I have realized the value class time can provide when not completely concentrated on coursework and “class” itself. Sixth Form history electives—ranging from Mr. Smith's economics course to Dr. Buckley's American Politics and Policy (APP) elective, which I took this past fall—support the example Mr. Doar set in Nonfiction Writing. In APP, Dr. Buckley led a course centered around current events. Readings in our textbook informed

us of theories, themes, and trends, and Dr. Buckley's willingness to sometimes ignore the textbook, instead favoring an article or example in the news, connected our coursework to the real world. We learned with stakes, and tying our curriculum to actual events enhanced our learning experience. Our class discussions roamed widely, achieving an authenticity and memorability absent from artificial ones in which students regurgitate textbook readings from the night before, only to forget the content of their discussion a period later.

I appreciate that Belmont Hill has worked to infuse the Sixth Form experience with issues of real-world significance, but I also think boys in lower forms deserve to benefit from similar real-world applications. Courses like Form III World Issues and my Form V English elective Modern American Literature stand out as examples

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Grant Gibson '18 with his VING Recipient

which Middle and Upper School classes should strive to emulate. Connecting the often abstract nature of textbook readings, handouts, and homework problems to the tangibility of one's surroundings improves the value of any lesson. As Mr. Doar has shown, not being afraid to stray from the syllabus literally pays off. □

“Friends, Romans, Countrymen, Lend Me Your Ears...”

BY GAVIN COLBERT '18
PANEL STAFF

“His palms are sweaty, knees weak, arms are heavy...”

Public speaking is an art not only in rhetoric but in courage and confidence. It is a battle against the butterflies in the stomach and the self-doubt circling the brain. The hands start to shake, the knee bounces up and down as if thumping to the beat of a marching band in the distance. As you take a deep breath and look out on those gathered, the only thing standing between success and failure is your preparation. It comes down to how many minutes you spent reciting the speech sitting at your desk, how many times you stood in front of the mirror and performed to yourself, and how many times you corrected a fumble in a word or sentence that you finally pronounced correctly. Therefore, public speaking is as much a trainable skill as it is an art in expression. And here at school, we should be teaching

this skill much more, for it will undoubtedly help us in every aspect of our future professional and personal lives.

Though we do have the Poetry Fest every year, the school curriculum lacks the dynamism to flirt with the spontaneity associated with public speaking. In the heat of reading textbooks and writing papers, very little time is afforded to composing our own work and reciting it to an audience. While the Poetry Fest is a great vehicle for performance, there must be another outlet for the self-expression of sharing our own writing to a class. There is something exhilarating and refreshing in sharing your life's journey through a speech written with thought as to how an audience would react. Some speeches are humorous by nature, some speeches are humorous by the

tenor of delivery, and this subtle nuance can only be discovered through the trial and error of repetition. Ergo, I urge the school community to institute a ‘Woodbury Fest’ wherein all students compose and deliver a

speech about any topic they choose. By experiencing pre-speech nerves, mid-speech execution, and post-speech ‘speaker's high’, students will step beyond their comfort zones and create a strong foundation of public speaking upon which they can build in the future.

Looking back on my time here at Belmont Hill, my defining moments center around the bouts of public speaking that shook me to my core but helped me prove to myself that I can achieve almost anything with confidence, preparation, and passion. We must train each student so that when they shakily meander to their next podium, they will take a deep breath and give the speech of their life. □



The chapel podium, where many showcase their speaking skills

Should Winter Break Be a Break from School Sports?

BY NICK DALEY '19
PANEL STAFF

Belmont Hill's break for the holidays was a welcome reprieve for all students after a demanding first semester and a punishing exam week, but with it came the annual tradition that every parent dreads: holiday tournaments and faraway games, promising long car rides and ruined trav-

“In truth, joining a high-commitment sports team is an integral part of the Belmont Hill experience, and games and meets over school vacations are a necessary trade-off which many students are willing to endure and parents may just have to accept.”

el plans. The varsity hockey, basketball, and wrestling teams all had significant commitments, including some number-

ing among the most important of the year. But while parents and some students complain, teams counter with a collective shoulder-shrug, citing grueling schedules and a need to maintain a high level of play to keep up with the competition. In 20 to 30 game seasons, it is difficult to impossible to take a two-week hiatus, and in a cutthroat league, the rust that comes with seventeen days off is unacceptable for many teams. Luckily, for sports as competitive as hockey, basketball, and wrestling, the hard work and enthusiasm for the game that is necessary to make the varsity teams often leave students excited to play over break; even if there were no games, it is likely that they would spend much of their break on the court, rink or mat anyway.

Belmont Hill sports

schedules are making the best out of a difficult situation. They have limited the number of games, especially for teams with JV and varsity athletes who compete together, as in nordic and alpine skiing, helping ensure that students who may not be as dedicated to their winter sport do not have to sacrifice their vacation for it. In addition, teams generally avoid official

league games so the fate of ISL championships doesn't depend on vacation games. Finding a balance between a fair break and preventing a post-holiday slump is difficult, but under the current system, the separate needs of families and teams are given close to equal footing. The best solution would be to keep games relegated to the beginning of

break, before most families start their travels, with optional practices in between, but there is no perfect remedy. In truth, joining a high-commitment sports team is an integral part of the Belmont Hill experience, and games and meets over school vacations are a necessary trade-off which many students are willing to endure and parents may just have to accept. □



The Jordan Athletic Center during winter break.

MARCH 2018 (VOL. 66, NO. 7)

God Of Carnage: The Senior-Directed Play Stuns and Delights

BY AUSTIN KWOUN '18
PANEL STAFF

With vomit on the Kokoschka, the smell of rum in the air, and tulips strewn across the room, the final image of Yasmine Reza's *God of Carnage* is a sight to behold. The senior-directed play - directed by Owen Pickette '18 - was the last Belmont Hill show for both Theo Why '18 and Henry Vettel '18, and they went out with a bang, to say the least. Belmont Hill packed the Kraft on March 1st (an open dress rehearsal), March 2nd, and March 3rd to watch Annette and Alan Raleigh and Michael and Veronica Novak devolve from civility into neanderthalism and ac-

cusations of rodent-slaughter. Each of the four characters soliloquized masterfully as they vacillated from teams of husband and wife to teams of man and woman, before each finally arriving at a separate corner of the stage with the jarring conclusion that they were alone. Dana Hall actress Katie Gardner's visceral emotional performance as Veronica Novak held the audience rapt, while Vettel's agitated, wild-eyed performance as her husband stole the show. Loulou Taylor's, also a product of Dana Hall and who portrayed Annette Raleigh, explosive transformation from a demure problem-solver to a furious tulip-hurler and attempted-alcohol-thief shocked the audience; Alan Raleigh (Why) fueled the fire with an ef-

fortless acted complacency and who revelled in the glow of being detestable. The two couples, who met to discuss a fight between their children, turned on one another with incredible enthusiasm and created a fascinatingly tense, toxic set; they couldn't have captured the ambiance of *God of Carnage* any better.

But wait, there's more.

With vomit at three in the morning, the smell of Pepto Bismol in the air, and three of the four co-stars bedridden with two stomach bugs and a dislocated knee mere days or even hours before curtain on Friday night, it's a miracle that *God of Carnage* happened at all, let alone as fantastically as it did. Katie limped around the stage with her apples-pears-ginger-

bread clafouti; Theo looked like a dead man before and after the show, but performed with such fire and enthusiasm that one might think him healthier than ever. Loulou stayed home in the morning as well, but she more than rose to the occasion. Henry, unhandicapped, performed like the only healthy actor in the cast and more, laying waste to the reconciliatory atmosphere with aplomb. The cast put forth a stunning rendition of a finely crafted commentary on the human condition; expectations were high for *God of Carnage*, but wonderful performances on Friday and Saturday surpassed them and more. Congratulations to Owen and the cast on a fantastic show! □



An Inside Look: The Musicians of Belmont Hill School

BY RENNY GONG '20 AND
CHARLIE MULLANEY '20
STAFF WRITERS

Belmont Hill is mainly known for its scholars, athletes, and artists, but there are many musicians on the Hill as well. From percussion to strings to brass, student musicians enjoy playing a wide range of instruments for a number of reasons. Whether it's just to relax, or for the thrill of performing before a live audience, the music they create helps them in a number of ways, in and out of school. Boys across the middle and upper school alike are benefactors of the therapeutic effects of music: 25 boys take lessons at Belmont Hill (most years see anywhere between 20-50 students taking lessons), while several more boys pursue lessons outside of school but are involved in ensembles on the Hill. Practicing an instrument from a young age teaches students to be more productive, creative, and diligent. The instrumentalists on the Hill vary by origin story, but many have similarly learned life lessons and found a haven in music.

Many of the musicians that we spoke to did not begin their musical careers voluntarily. "I started playing the saxophone in 3rd grade because my school required an instrument, not really because I wanted to," says Artemy Ivanov '20. "But now that I've come so far, I'm glad that

I stuck with it." This is the same story for many student musicians, whether it was a school requirement or an adamant parent, not many actually started out of their free will. But with time and practice, they came to love the songs their instruments could play, and just kept playing.

By contrast, second-former Lawrence Tang felt a personal calling to play the Alto saxophone. "I was listening to Jazz Radio when I was young when I heard the saxophone, and I just knew that I wanted to play the sax." This interest persists and he continues to practice and play the sax. Charles Geddes '22, who plays three instruments (piano, guitar, and sax) says, "Playing these instruments has made me further realize my love for music." The love for an instrument can be a strong source of motivation to come back and practice that instrument.

Many students have found that playing an instrument has taught them important life lessons about perseverance. Rhocar Constant '20, a fourth form pianist, observes "I guess I've learned how important practicing is. Nothing really comes naturally and it's important to perfect your art." Rhocar thinks all students should try playing an instrument because "you

never know whether you might like it"

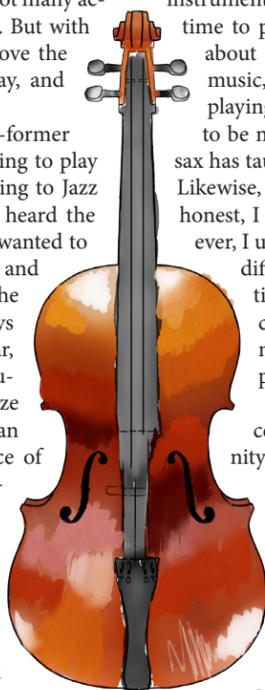
Despite Belmont Hill's pressing workload, instrumentalists are committed to carving out time to play their instrument. When asked about how he juggles academics with music, saxist Lawrence Tang claims that playing his instrument has taught him to be more efficient. He says, "playing the sax has taught me to manage my time better." Likewise, Rhocar Constant explains, "To be honest, I usually put schoolwork first. However, I usually try to get practice in between different subjects." School necessitates time and dedication, but there is a clear capacity for the coexistence of music and academics; if students are passionate, they find time for both.

In spite of that notion, music certainly has a place in the community as an activity of leisure and relaxation. Music is indeed an avenue for many students to let loose and focus on a passion as an alternative to stressing about schoolwork. While some Belmont Hill musicians make their homes on the big stage, others play to relieve stress and perform simply to share that which makes them happy.

A perfect avenue for such instrumentalists is the biannual Belmont Hill Coffee House series, wherein musicians of any variety can share

their passion with the community on a night that relieves stress for all. Whether as a venue where Henry Vettel '18 and the Upper School Rock Band can let loose with '80s alt rock, or as a locale for then-seventh grader Antonio Ubeda '18 to wow his audience with his mastery of the classical guitar (still hoping for an encore!). As a place for established musicians like Austin Kwoun '18 and David Paine '18 to play jazzy duets or for Paine to stun the crowd with a guitar and a loop pedal, the Coffee House gives the boys on the Hill a breather and shares talent, passion, and happiness with the community.

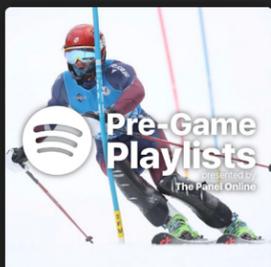
Not only does music help these students relax, but it actually helps them with their schoolwork as well. By sticking with an instrument and putting in the hours practicing, many musicians say it helped them develop a sense of diligence and hard work. "Playing the bass has given me a very good sense of accomplishment and what I can do. It feels great when hours and hours of practicing a song pays off and I can play along with the recording perfectly," says Charlie Stevenson '20 of the fourth form. Moreover, a host of studies have explored the merit of the "Mozart Effect", many concluding that listening to a Mozart sonata can enhance spatial-temporal abilities for a period of time. The common denominator: music, for reasons both scientific and theoretical, can influence the Belmont Hill student significantly, and perhaps in wholly unprecedented ways. □



Bennett Morris '18

Featured Team: Varsity Skiing

Get the full playlist on Spotify - @bhpanel



Blase Ty Dolla \$ign

Rolex Ayo & Teo

Jungle X Ambassadors

Thunderstruck Galantis

Narcos Migos

Stir Fry Migos

Runaway Galantis



NOVEMBER 2017 (VOL. 66, No. 4)

Varsity Football Presses On, Tops St. Seb's in 21-20 Thriller

By CHARLIE MULLANEY '20
STAFF WRITER

As a cold November envelops Belmont Hill, the end of the football season fast approaches. Throughout the fall, the team has battled hard against tough opponents such as Milton and BBN, and boasts a solid 4-3 record so far. However, as the last few games approach, the team's skills will be put to the test. With Governor's Academy coming out to play soon, the rest of the season looks exciting, to say the least.

So far in the season, Varsity Football has performed well. The first game of the year was a great success. Belmont Hill came out of the locker room ready to go, and it was apparent from the first play. Cameron Reirden '20 ran back the kickoff to within 10 yards of RL's goal line, and the game was a breeze from there on out. BH emerged with a 35-0 win and an auspicious start to the season.

Six days later, it was BB&N's turn. The BH Varsity didn't come out on top this time, but they played a solid four quarters against a notoriously good team. A final score of 21-0 for BB&N showed that BH had a lot to aspire to, but the Loop sure didn't. Showing up loud and proud in a classic whiteout, they cheered on our boys from start to finish.

A week later, the BH Varsity headed south to Marion for a contest against Tabor Academy. The game was well fought, and the Varsity came back from trailing 6-0 in the first quarter. After our first touchdown, the momentum of the match shifted heavily, resulting in a final score of 21-6 for BH. The defense shut down Tabor's offensive drives after the first quarter, and they didn't score another point for the rest of the game. One of the best plays was from all-star defensive tackle Myron Duarte '18, who sacked Tabor's quarterback for a significant loss. Many called it "the crack heard around the

world" and some could even feel the blow from the sidelines.

Next up was at Milton Academy. In another tough matchup, BH didn't manage to secure the win in this one. Play after play, the offense drove down the field, but to no avail. Milton led by a small 12-7 margin at half, but BH couldn't close the gap. Both teams scored in the second half, but BH had summoned up a second wind, and it seemed that the momentum had shifted. With a fantastic run in touchdown by quarterback Mike Piazza, it brought the score to within 5 points, but time was not on BH's side, and the game's fate was sealed.

The following Saturday, Nobles came to the Hill for yet another face-off. Following a kick return turned touchdown by team captain Jackson Bobo, within the first two minutes of the first quarter, it was a smooth ride for BH. With a consistent offense and a relentless defense, BH only let up one touchdown in the last quarter and managed 41 points of their own, resulting in a final score of 41-7. Never deterred by Noble's sheer size, the team proved its worth through all four quarters.

In the team's most recent contest, against rival St. Sebastian's, the team produced one of the most exciting games in recent history. The two schools went back and forth, until a last-second interception by Cade Nagahama '19 secured an incredible victory, bringing the group over .500 heading into its final few contests of the year.

Over the past month and a half, BH's Varsity Football team has proved again and again that they are up for the challenge, but the real test comes with the last stretch of the season. The Varsity's skill, determination, and resilience will be put to the test throughout the next couple of weeks. Regardless, it has been made clear that BH's football team leaves everything out on the field. □



Luke Jordan '18 rushes to the end zone after intercepting a Seb's pass in the first half.



Cade Nagahama's ('19) last-second pick saves the game and devastates Seb's supporters.



Coach Anam provides instructions for the defense.

Brian Mullaney

Varsity Soccer, 11-2-2 in ISL, Seeks Class A New England Bid

By CHARLIE RICHARDS '20
STAFF WRITER

The Belmont Hill Soccer team is nearing the final stretch of regular season play, as there are a mere five ISL games remaining. With a league record of 11-2-2, the team sits in second place, behind only Brooks by two points. Saturday, October 28th marked perhaps the most important match of the year, as the team defeated Milton Academy by a score of 2-0, another ISL powerhouse and an A School. The win likely ensured an invitation to play as one of eight schools in the Class A New England Soccer Tournament. After fighting to a draw against Roxbury Latin and dominating Lawrence Academy in a 6-0 rout, the team finishes with matches against St. Mark's and Governor's Academy. Matthew Goncalves '20 and Leighton Dolan '19 both sit in the top ten on the ISL leaderboard in points, with Matthew in third and Leighton tied for eighth. Belmont Hill is the only team to have two players in the top

"Supported by a stout defense, including captains Jack Bell '18 and Brian Antonelli '18, Belmont Hill is one of only three ISL teams to allow five or fewer goals."

ten. The team boasts a 32:10 goals for : goals against ratio, as goaltender James Cahill '20 has been a force in the net, compiling six shutouts over ten league games. Supported by a stout defense, including captains Jack

Bell '18 and Brian Antonelli '18, Belmont Hill is one of only three ISL teams to allow five or fewer goals.

During a physical game against Brooks under the lights, many players on the team suffered injuries, allowing players who usually don't see the field as much to step up. Oisín Treanor '18 was one of those players, as both starting forwards were injured for part of the game. Although the team did not win, it was crucial for other members of the team to step into a larger role.

Looking forward, the team hopes to make a run at the ISL title as well as to qualify for the New England Tournament for a third consecutive year. For the first time in many years, the ISL is open and ready for a new champion. Although Brooks remains in first place, they still have to play five games, some of which are against tough competition, and anything can happen. Belmont Hill's goal is to do all that they can control: win out in the ISL. After early exits in recent years, the goal is to make it to the semi-finals, and hopefully win it all in the finals. Teams such as Worcester Academy, Berkshire, and Northfield Mount Hermon prove to be consistent competition, but Belmont Hill, when healthy and on its game, is seemingly unbeatable.

Belmont Hill's 2017 soccer season, although it has faced some adversity, has been a great ride so far, and the team will strive for excellence in the final few weeks, with the finish line fast approaching. As the coaches and captains have repeatedly mentioned, this is our year; Belmont Hill soccer will not go down without a fight, and looks to finish off the season with as much strength and force as possible. □



Hamza Shemsu '20 dribbles up the field during a game at Middlesex. Scott Matthews



Diego Pereira '19 fights off a defender. Scott Matthews

FEBRUARY 2018 (VOL. 66, No. 6)

Basketball's Big Final Stretch Lies Ahead for ISL Title, NEPSAC Run

By WILLIAM MCCORMACK '18
PANEL STAFF

As with any away game the Varsity Basketball team has played this season, a standard Belmont Hill Bedford Charter bus dropped off fourteen excited players, a coaching staff of four, and a corps of managers outside a gym. Players transported jerseys and shoes in bags, Coach Murphy slung a backpack with two whiteboards over one shoulder, and everyone hustled water bottles, basketballs, medical kits, and towels down the bus's steps and onto the asphalt below. Neon signs spelled out the game's special venue, TD Garden, however, served as indisputable reminders that the evening was unique. "Play like us," Coach Murphy had reminded the team a day earlier, as a game against St. Sebastian's—an ISL game, a NEPSAC Class A competition, and a rivalry matchup—was simply another opportunity to win. The evening was both routine and extraordinary.

Players, coaches, and managers, VIP lanyards draped around their necks, progressed through a maze of elevators, hallways, and special entrances. The team walked among pictures of Boston legends, players like Paul Pierce and Bobby Orr plastered into hallway walls, eventually settling in at a locker room reserved for Belmont Hill use.



Adam Richins

As players changed, stretched, and loosened up, parents, students, and alumni filed into the Garden's Legends Club. Earlier that week, The Panel had partnered with Belmont Hill's Digital Video Club to record footage of the team, and the hype video Quin McGaugh '18, Bennett Morris '18, and Seth Israel '18 produced electrified both players and fans alike.

"Playing at TD Garden was sensational," co-captain David Mitchell '18 recalls. "The entire experience—just walking through the arena and



Adam Richins

especially the video on the huge screens in Legends—made it as fun as I could have imagined."

The 68-second production played on loop while fans migrated to the stands and players took to the court for warm-ups, but as guard Spenser Smith '18 relates, "at the end of the day, we needed to win that game, so when the first whistle blew, we had to play basketball and forget about all the distractions," a long list that included the video, announcers, bright screens, parquet



Jay Smith

flooring, and two electrified fan sections.

After Seb's took an early lead, Jovan Jones '18, cleared to play just hours before tipoff after recovering from a rib injury sustained against Lawrence the weekend before, ignited Belmont Hill's response with an NBA-range three-pointer. Enjoying contributions from essentially everyone on the roster, Belmont Hill still emerged with a 56-42 advantage, winning a game that was more competitive than most expected. Despite



Adam Richins

being restricted by four questionable foul calls, Mitchell shot over 60% from the field; Kevin Michael O'Boy '19 hit a big three from the corner; Smith forced a game-high five turnovers; Mannion '18 led the team with seven rebounds; and Isaiah Collins '18 drilled a late-game three, adding an exclamation point to a successful night.

While a 74-35 thrashing of St. Mark's would officially end the team's January slate, the win over Seb's at TD Garden presented an important checkpoint for a season that has flown by. A legendary performance from Milton Acad-



Adam Richins

emy's Cormac Ryan, committed to Stanford and the gold standard of New England basketball, accounted for Belmont Hill's first loss early in the month. Ryan shot 8 of 13 from beyond the arc, hitting almost any attempt during which Milton had more than three seconds on the shot clock and Ryan stood within three feet beyond the line.

"We didn't have the energy we needed to win against Milton," Smith told The Panel. "It showed in the result."

Milton would end up losing to Rivers the Wednesday after their win at Belmont Hill, placing Rivers, BH, and Milton on an equal playing field with one league loss apiece. Rebounding from their first loss with wins over Groton, BB&N, and Lawrence Academy, the team regained their "play hard, play fast, play defense" brand, according to Mitchell.

"We found our identity as a team," guard Luke Jordan '18 says. Especially at Lawrence,

Belmont Hill exhibited the fast-break opportunities an effective defense can create. Pressuring Lawrence with a full-court press for the entire game, the team accumulated 14 steals, 17 deflections, and ten forced turnovers in the first half, translating to a 40-18 lead at halftime.

A less prolific second half allowed Lawrence to decrease the deficit, and while hustling for a loose ball after the break, Jovan Jones '18 injured a rib, straining his sternum. Though he would continue play at Lawrence, his absence in the team's next game against Phillips Exeter



Adam Richins

would be significant. Jones had played in 82 consecutive games in his four-year BH career before missing the Exeter game. Belmont Hill would eventually lose 49-44, having struggled to capitalize on offensive possessions in the second half.

February's first competition, last Friday's away game against Roxbury Latin, included two other key absences. David Mitchell '18 missed the game because of a family emergency and bed-ridden O'Boy '19 was scratched from the

lineup with the flu. As with games against Milton and Exeter, adversity tested the team's resolve and focus. After a successful start to the game, Belmont Hill lost their lead by halftime. Down by six points with less than six minutes to go, the team relied on strong play from experienced seniors Haase '18, Smith '18, Bobo '18, Harris '18, Mannion '18, Jordan '18, and especially Jovan Jones '18, who finished the game with 27 points, 9 rebounds, four blocks, and a pivotal forced turnover in the final minute.

Luke Jordan explained, "the RL game proved that we don't get fazed easily. With David and Kmo out, we embraced our next-man-up philosophy." Belmont Hill would win 52-48.

"With seniors who have played together for so many years, we were able to pull it out. It's the type of win we wouldn't have captured two years ago," says Jake Haase '18.

Roxbury Latin's close call also reminded everyone that the month ahead will be challenging. Tomorrow's game at Thayer, next Wednesday's game against ISL powerhouse Brooks (who defeated Milton by 14 on Saturday), and the team's final ISL matchup against Governor's will be crucial if the program's hopes for an ISL title and NEPSAC Class A championship are to be realized.

Players emphasize focus, confidence, and self-awareness as the season expires and many of

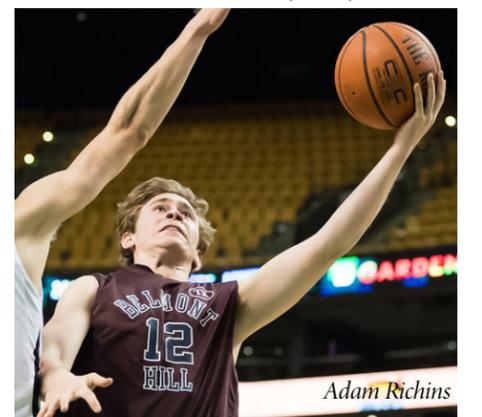


Adam Richins

their Belmont Hill basketball careers conclude. "Since this is our final season together," Mitchell stated, "we want to be successful and that sense of urgency is definitely there. If we stick together and stay true to our defensive game, we will be happy with our results."

"We know what we're capable of doing and have a real shot at the title," Smith believes, "but the greatest obstacle we face is ourselves. If we play our brand of basketball, no one can beat us."

Haase adds that "we only worry about our-



Adam Richins

selves and what we need to do every practice. We never talk about who we are playing, and it starts with our defense." Concentrated on their game's guiding principles, Haase and O'Boy, who "feel confident going into the final stretch," capture an inherent optimism this group shares about the upcoming month. Attaining two championships will not be easy, but this group—experienced, focused, ambitious, and talented—may just make it happen. □

For a full Adam Richins photo gallery, be sure to check out bhpanel.org

Midseason Stat Update

At Least 10 Games (as of Feb. 6)

Player Name	PPG	APG	RPG	SPG	FG%
Jovan Jones '18 (F)	15.2	2.4	7.5	2.2	37.8
David Mitchell '18 (F)	11.5	1.5	5.3	1.9	46.5
Jake Bobo '18 (F)	6.5	2.1	4.9	1.8	39.2
Jake Haase '18 (G)	3.4	3.4	1.7	1.6	26.6
Kevin-Michael O'Boy '19 (G)	11.3	0.8	2.4	1.1	37.9
Spenser Smith '18 (G)	2.0	1.2	1.9	1.2	30.4
Sean Mannion '18 (F)	4.3	0.4	4.0	0.8	48.5
Quentin Harris '18 (G)	2.1	0.9	1.9	0.8	32.4
Luke Jordan '18 (G)	1.1	0.8	1.3	0.8	26.7

82

Number of consecutive games Jovan Jones '18 had played in BH career before a rib injury forced him to miss a game vs. Exeter

Around the ISL

Milton	55	FINAL	66	Rivers	1/10/18
Brooks	57	FINAL	50	Tabor	1/10/18
Rivers	84	FINAL	78	Tabor	1/24/18
Gov's	55	FINAL	49	Rivers	1/31/18
Brooks	57	FINAL	45	Milton	2/2/18

Standings (as of Feb. 6)

Brooks	9-0
BH	8-1
LA	7-2
Rivers	7-2
Milton	6-2
Gov's	6-3
Tabor	5-3
RL	5-4

Congratulations!



We look forward to seeing you on campus soon!

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