

# Baseball Season in Full Swing

BY GINA HICKS

The students and staff at Bartow High take a lot of pride in their school, especially the athletic department. There is always something going on around The Hive having to do with sports, like the baseball games, for example. The Yellow Jackets Boys baseball team has started a season that's already been full of ups and downs.

When the Yellow Jackets faced the Lakeland Dreadnaughts at home Friday March 5, they lost 9-6, but that didn't stop the Jackets from having some impressive runs of their own. These highlights included two home runs by Christian Rivas and one by Michael Woods, both of who are seniors on the baseball team. All three hits soared over the fence, bringing in several runs. The starting pitcher that night was Travis



Above: Jose Hernandez rushes to get the ball to first baseman Michael Woods for an out Friday March 5 against Lake Wales.

Brown, he was relieved by Joey Starling. Jose Hernandez was the catcher the whole game.

Since the Lakeland loss, the Jackets have also played Lake Brantly, Auburn-dale, and Lake Gibson, losing to all three, 7-6, 3-2, and 3-1, respectively.

Baseball is about more than winning games, it's about winning seasons. Jose Hernandez claims, "As of March 5th, the Jackets were 5-3 (five wins and three losses). It's a winning record, but we got off to a shaky start. We'll be alright though, just watch."

## Track

BY: BROOKE SPORLEDER

With the perseverance of their season, the Bartow High School track team continues to acquire points in their standings, raising their standing in the county rankings.

The BHS Track team recently competed in their big meet, West Counties. The qualifying rounds took place on Thursday, March 25th at George Jenkins High School. West Counties is a large track meet where the West side of the county competes. These are teams like Bartow, Lakeland and George Jenkins. There is also an East Counties meet for the eastern Polk County High Schools, such as Haines City, Lake Wales, and Frostproof.

After spring break, on April 8th, is the County Championships where the two halves of the county competed against each other in one large meet with the qualifying competitors.

BHS track runner, Brawley Adams, a junior, states, "Overall, as a team, a lot of points are being accumulated at each meet and there's a lot of potential for

# Lacrosse

BY: KAYLA TAYLOR

There's a new addition to the long list of sports that take place at Bartow High/Summerlin Academy. The sport of lacrosse is now present and available to students who attend BHS/IB/SA. With a mostly Summerlin Academy based team, naturally the coaches are from Summerlin also. The Head Coach of the Boy's Lacrosse Team is Captain Derek Keating and the Assistant Head Coach and Defensive Coordinator is Captain Beau Charlet, who are supervised by the administrator of Colonel Mike Butler.

The Boy's Lacrosse Team is part of the West Florida Lacrosse League as a competition team. The Lacrosse Team is in the East District of the League. With a record of 2-3 with one game cancelled due to weather, the Summerlin Academy Boy's Lacrosse Team shows

potential in their first ever season.

Lacrosse play in March helped the new team gain skill and momentum as they trained and played in a variety of League games and tournaments.

Lacrosse is a new sport to Bartow High/Summerlin Academy, and is showing great potential to be a permanent team on the roster.

As Coach Beau Charlet says, "All great things must start somewhere."

For a first season, the Lacrosse players not only showed their athleticism, they also proved that if you don't know much about a sport, that doesn't mean you can't learn and compete in it!

Below: Running the relay race, Senior Michael Castro gets ready to hand off the baton during practice.



Above: New comer to the track team, BHS freshman Lexi Stephens practices her high jump to perfect her skills for the next track meet.

greatness if we keep training hard."

Senior track runner, Juan Davila quotes that "Track is demanding because of all the hard work that we do. We train everyday to progress and win our races!"

Adams and Davila are both in agreement that for track, "The season is ongoing - running doesn't have seasons, because true champions train all year."

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