## BricksCenter

## DaDaDa DaDaDa

May 30, 2021


## 21 Sports ... 1 Team ... WE ARE HOBART!

When this past week began, the Brickies were traveling full speed ahead into postseason play .. softball \& baseball heading into the Sectional, girls tennis along with girls \& boys track \& field were entering the Regional round ... you knew it was going to be EXCITING! I'd rather not give too much away here in the intro ... let's just say that the week lived up to the HYPE as Hobart MADE SOME

A major purpose of high school sports ... education-based athletics ... is to learn life lessons. Probably one of the most critical ones is to sacrifice individual needs in order to do what's best for the team. We all do this in one way or the other on a daily basis - with our families, with our careers, etc. With it being Memorial Day Weekend, let us not forget the sacrifices made by so many for the greater good of this wonderful country we get to call home. Please be thankful for the freedoms we have ... they didn't come free.

Now let's close down the barbeque ... it's time for BricksCenter!


## Track \& Field

The IHSAA Regional for track \& field is one of the most exciting events of the spring ... individuals who place in the top 3 automatically advance to the STATE FINALS next weekend. Individuals (or relays) placing outside the top 3 in an event may receive a "call back" to STATE if they surpass the "state standard" or have one of the top 3 marks to not receive an automatic bid. Make sense??? Well, it does to track people :)

## Girls

Competing in 4 of the 16 events at the Regional, the Lady Brickies tied for 19th place out of the 24 teams represented on Tuesday night at Portage High School. Almost EVERY Hobart athlete performed near or above their season/lifetime best on a beautiful night in Porter County. Freshman Cailey Weber was FANTASTIC competing in the 300 m hurdles ... finishing 7th overall and running over a second faster than her previous lifetime best! Junior Dominique Clemons also ran a PR, but hers was in the 200 m dash preliminaries. The $4 \times 800 \mathrm{~m}$ relay team consisting of senior Lilly Butler, junior Mikayla Fuentes, and freshmen Ella Hornak \& Kylee King ... as well as the $4 \times 400 \mathrm{~m}$ relay team of senior Anisha Lewis, sophomores Sarah Romeo \& Asia Donald, and Hornak ... ran EXTREMELY WELL against the stacked competition on the doorstep of the state meet! The HIGHLIGHT of the night came from Lewis as she FLEW around the turn in the 200m dash finals and SPRINTED down the home stretch for a SCHOOL RECORD time of 25.78 seconds!!! The previous record was set WAAAYYYYY back in 1990 by Tracy Matuga. Anisha placed 5th overall in the event, but her time was fast enough to earn a CALL BACK and advance to the STATE FINALS!! AMAZING!!

Here are the results from our girls regional qualifiers:
3200m Relay - senior Lilly Butler, junior Mikayla Fuentes and freshmen Ella Hornak \& Kylee King - 15th 300m Hurdles - freshman Cailey Weber - 7th
200m Dash - senior Anisha Lewis - 5th place STATE QUALIFIER, junior Dominique Clemons - 11th


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## Boys

Competing in 5 of 16 events at the Regional, Hobart placed 12th out of the 27 schools represented on Thursday night at Crown Point High School. Against the best of the best in the "219", OUR BOYS SHINED! Season best performances were on display for this Band 'O Brickies as the 3200m Relay team made up of senior Bruce Leipart, junior Joe Meagher, and freshmen Jacob Ramirez \& Ryan Mattel dropped considerable time from their sectional showing last week ... narrowly missing a state finals berth with a 4th place finish! Leipart closed out his Hobart career in style by running STELLAR legs on both the $4 \times 800 \mathrm{~m} \& 4 \times 400 \mathrm{~m}$ relays ... and leaving everything he had on the track in the open 800 m run and placing 12th in a RIDICULOUSLY fast group. Bruce was joined on the $4 \times 400 \mathrm{~m}$ relay team by Ramirez, Mattel, and junior Dakota Vanderberg. Sophomore Gavin Miller-Lane gained some GREAT experience with a 9th place finish in the high jump. The boys HIGHLIGHT of the night came from the pole vault competition where the Johnston brothers were at it again! Sophomore Cody cleared $15^{\prime} 0$ " to take 2nd PLACE and senior Riley vaulted $15^{\prime} 8$ " to place 1 st and become a REGIONAL CHAMPION for the 2nd time! This will be Riley's 3rd consecutive trip to STATE after finishing 13th as a freshman and 3rd as a sophomore! Cody will be making his 1st appearance at STATE since winning the middle school championship 2 years ago!! Based on results turned in from around the state, the Johnston boys are ranked \#1 \& \#2 heading into next weekend ... which means next Friday should be EXCITING!

Here are the results from our boys regional qualifiers:
3200m Relay - senior Bruce Leipart, junior Joe Meagher and freshman Jacob Ramirez \& Ryan Mattel 4th
800m Run - Leipart - 12th, Mattel - 16th
1600m Relay - Leipert, Ramirez, Mattel and junior Dakota Vanderberg - 13th
High Jump - sophomore Gavin Miller-Lane - 9th
Pole Vault - senior Riley Johnston - 1st place - REGIONAL CHAMPION/STATE QUALIFIER, sophomore Cody Johnston - 2nd place - STATE QUALIFIER

The IHSAA STATE FINALS will be take place next Friday (Boys) \& Saturday (Girls) ... June 4th \& 5th ... at Ben Davis High School. LET'S G000000000!!!
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## Softball

It was SECTIONAL WEEK, which meant "GO TIME" for the Lady Brickies over at Crown Point. Our girls were looking to make some noise in the BIG dance and hopefully put another picture up on the wall y'all!

On Tuesday night, the Lady Brickies faced Portage in 1st round action. This was the first meeting of the two teams this year ... the winner would face either Lowell or Michigan City on Thursday. The Lady Brickies were PUTTIN' ON THE HITS early as freshman Keirys Click BELTED a homer towards South America to help stake Hobart out to an early 2-0 lead after an inning of play! Portage responded with 1 of their own in the top half of the 3rd to cut the Lady Brickie advantage in half. Hobart tacked on two more runs over the 5th \& 6th innings to extend the lead to 4-1 going into the last at bat for Portage! With 1 on and 1 out, senior Hannah Camarena made the PLAY OF THE NIGHT! On a ground ball hit up the middle, Camarena made a DIVING STOP and then ... while still fully extended in the dirt ... flipped the ball to 2 nd base to get the lead-runner out! UNBELIEVABLE!! Not sure if it was Camarena or Derek Jeter out there, but the OUTSTANDING play squashed any hope that Portage had of making things interesting and Hobart went on the WIN 4-1!!

Thursday, Hobart faced NCC rival Lowell in the semifinals. These two teams split the regular season series so you know this would go down to the wire. The Red Devils HIT the ball in the 1st inning and put 4 runs across the plate before the Lady Brickies could retire the side. Lowell would add another in the 4th to take a commanding 5-0 lead. Hobart just could never get much going on offense until the


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bottom half of the inning and even though the Lady Brickies threatened in their final at bat, it just was not meant to be on this night. Final score: Lowell 6, Hobart 2.

Our girls finished 16-13 this spring ... which is an 8 -win improvement from 2 years ago - FANTASTIC! EVERY SINGLE GIRL that played made a positive impact in one way or another this year and they all represented HHS extremely well! WE ARE SO PROUD of these girls ... they were a GREAT GROUP that was FUN TO WATCH!! Obviously, next year is a long way away and we have a lot of seniors moving on, but with 5 underclassmen starting and a JV team that went a BLISTERING 13-3 this spring ... the future looks so bright for these young ladies that they need some SHADES!!
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CONGRATULATIONS to Hannah Camarena \& Sarah Joswiak for earning ICGSA 1st Team Academic All-State and to Alyssa Peterson for earning Academic All-State Honorable Mention!!


## Girls Tennis

The 2021 SECTIONAL CHAMPIONS traveled to Munster High School this past week to compete in the IHSAA REGIONAL!

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advanced to the FINALS with a HARD FOUGHT 3-2 victory! The Lady Brickies earned wins from junior Emma Novak (\#2 singles), seniors Lauren Cicillian \& Katrina Hansen (\#1 doubles) and seniors Emma Lewis \& Hayley Borman (\#2 doubles)!

On Wednesday night, the girls made the trek back to Munster for the REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP against Crown Point. Earlier this spring, the Lady Bulldogs shut-out Hobart 5-0 on April 12th. Our girls BATTLED with EVERYTHING they had and this time the score was much closer between the lines! Unfortunately, the end result was the same ... a victory for CP by a 4-1 score. The Regional Title was the first for the Lady Bulldogs since 2014.

This unfortunately closes the book on another great season of girls tennis in H-town ... one of the best in school history! A 15-6 record, the 9th sectional title in school history and a 2nd consecutive regional final ... WOW, AMAZING!!

CONGRATULATIONS to Coach Walsh, Coach Brumley and all of the Lady Brickies who WORKED WORKED WORKED so hard all year ... we are SOOOOOO PROUD of you and all you accomplished!
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## Baseball

With the IHSAA Class 4A Baseball sectional not starting until Thursday for Hobart, the boys in purple \& gold picked up one more regular season game before the post season. An early April game vs. Griffith was cancelled due to a COVID issue within the Panther program ... seemed like the perfect "tune-up" for tournament play!

Did I say "tune-up"? What I meant to say was BRICKIE-UP!! WHAT A GAME!!
Monday night, Griffith visited The Friendly City and scored 5 runs in the top of the 2nd inning to take a commanding 6-3 lead. Hobart got 2 back in the bottom of the 3rd and still trailed $6-5$ heading into the 6th inning. The bases were loaded when freshman Jevan Andrews stepped up to the plate. He BATTLED and BLASTED a bases-clearing double to left to give the Brickies an 8-6 lead!! Junior relief pitcher Ivan Balboa closed the door on any chances of a Panther comeback by retiring the side in the top of the 7th to earn the save and Hobart WON the regular season finale!! Junior Ryan Flores picked up his first varsity win on the mound ... Andrews was 3 -for- 4 with a double, triple, run and 3 RBI in the win!

On Thursday, Hobart entered one of the TOUGHEST sectionals in northern Indiana with Chesterton playing the role of host and area top 10 teams Valparaiso, Crown Point and Andrean also participating. The Thursday night quarterfinal featured Hobart and Andrean. The 59ers beat the Brickies twice this year by a combined score of 25-5. Andrean picked up where they left off in the previous two games by connecting early and plating 4 runs in the opening inning. After adding another in the 2nd, they would not score again as the Brickie D-D-D-DEFENSE settled in and shut them down for the rest of the game. Hobart threatened multiple times with runners on base, but just could not get a key hit at the right time until junior Marc Enslen CRUSHED one over the fence in left-center field to give the Brickies some life in the bottom of the 6th! Alas, that's as close as our boys would get as Andrean closed it out and ended Hobart's season with a 5-1 loss. Freshman Jevan Andrews and Thomas Martin each had two hits for the Brickies and senior Gavin Gallagher came on in the 2nd and pitched BRILLIANTLY for $5+$ innings.

The Brickies had one heckuva spring. After graduating almost everyone a year ago and not playing since 2019, there were a lot of unknowns for Hobart this year. Our boys ANSWERED the call every time and wound up 18-11! AMAZING!! This group of seniors ... Gavin Gallagher, Jaden Deel, Bryce Niksich, Tyler Kunkle and Ryan Ellis ... provided great leadership for a young team and will no doubt


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Thank you Coach Glover, your staff, and all these boys for being such fantastic ambassadors of Hobart! We are very proud of you!
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CONGRATULATIONS to Jaden Deel on his selection to the 2021 Indiana North All Star Team by the Indiana High School Baseball Coaches Association! Jaden was selected to the 25man North roster as a catcher. The 46th annual North-South Series will be June 25-27 in Evansville!


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## Boys Golf

You would think that finally getting some nice weather in the "219" would help our scores drop ... and you'd be right! It was CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK for the Brickies as our boys took part in the Northwest Crossroads Conference championship meet.

Tuesday morning, Hobart traveled to White Hawk Country Club in Crown Point for the Northwest Crossroads Conference Championship meet. It was a beautiful morning for swinging the wrenches and the Brickies took full advantage of it! ALL 5 PLAYERS posted SEASON LOW SCORES for 18 holes on quite possibly the toughest course we've been on this spring! Coach Gary Roach said that pin placement was very difficult, but the Brickies still shot a team best for 18! INCREDIBLE!! "Be at your best when your best is needed"... well, our boys SHINED and were their best on their biggest stage of the season! Munster won the NCC championship and Hobart tied Lowell for 5th overall.


Here are the scores from Tuesday:
Junior Ethan Cover - 103
Freshman Parker Glass - 104
Senior Chad Tomaga - 104
Freshman Ben Eberle - 117
Freshman Tommy Snemis - 118
*Ethan nearly hit a hole in one on \#7 ... ended up with a birdie - his first of the season!

Hobart now has a week of practice to WORK WORK WORK on their short game before IHSAA Sectional play begins next Friday, June 4th, at Forest Park in Valparaiso.
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## Athlete of the Month

May is officially "GO-TIME" for spring sports ... and we saw some FANTASTIC performances! Based on our coaches nominations, here are our May ATHLETES OF THE MONTH!

Sarah Joswiak - softball
Anisha Lewis - track \& field
Marc Enslen - baseball
Bruce Leipart - track \& field


## Shout Outs

SHOUT OUT to HHS junior Ethan Ferba for competing in his first USA Diving Regional meet against divers from Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee (including the world silver medalist!). He made the cut and qualified for the USA diving Zones!

SHOUT OUT to the HMS boys soccer club team for posting a record of 5 and 1 this spring! GREAT JOB GUYS!

SHOUT OUT to 5th grader Emma Meier from Veteran's Elementary School for STRIKING DOWN the competition this winter! Emma finished the 5th Grade season with the High Series and High Average


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## \#GOALS

\#STRIKEAPOSE


## Sports Schedule This Week

Monday
Happy Memorial Day!

Tuesday
No Events Scheduled

Wednesday
No Events Scheduled

Thursday
No Events Scheduled

## Friday

Boys Track \& Field @ IHSAA STATE FINALS (Hosted by Ben Davis High School)
Riley \& Cody Johnston compete in the Pole Vault
Boys Golf @ IHSAA Sectional (Hosted by Valparaiso High School - Forest Park Golf Course)

Saturday
Girls Track \& Field @ IHSAA STATE FINALS (Hosted by Ben Davis High School)
Anisha Lewis competes in the 200m Dash

After an ever-changing year, student-athletes are looking for something they can always rely on. And the return of spring tournaments is just the ticket!

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