

Second Quarter
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Word of Mouth

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The Honor Court

By Lauren Oberman

Mr. Bunn and the Oak Hill Academy faculty select strong student leaders for the Honor Court. The Honor Court was established in 2006. Its purpose remains to help students “police” themselves. The Honor Court helps to enforce the student-developed Honor Code. The Honor Court is a student-run system. Mr. Bunn has been the faculty advisor for the Honor Court since it was established.

The court members serve in rotation with a quorum (at least three judges) who serve as a jury for the case presented. The Sergeant at Arms is a person who oversees those waiting to go before the court. All members of the Honor Court rotate through each of these positions. The Honor Court members function just like a real court. After evidence is presented, the Honor Court asks the students a series of questions based on the case. Once they have heard the student’s answers and reviewed the evidence, they decide upon a verdict and recommend consequences.

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The Wrestling Team

By Ian Robinson

On Monday, November 5, 2018, the Oak Hill wrestling season officially began. The first match was on December 1 at the Hargrave Invitational in Chatham, Virginia. The team goal is to amass enough wins to compete in the National Prep Championships in February in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Coach Wymer believes his team has “a really good chance at making it to the Nationals this year.” The number of wrestlers on the OHA team this year has tripled in size since last year. The team practices for two hours every evening, Monday through Friday at Bridle Creek. Practices include running, drills and scrimmages. One of the most common drills is the zombie drill. In this drill, a single player will try to lift up another player onto his shoulder by using his hips. The most practiced shot is the penetration shot, in which a player will lunge forward while walking, and then take a fast leap forward. At the end of each practice, the team will mostly do conditioning and pushups.

About the Coach

Coach Wymer has been wrestling for around 15 years. He is very proud of coaching the OHA team and hopes all the players will develop great skills for the sport.



Wrestling Team cont.

Player Profiles

Will Heard '20 is in his first year at Oak Hill Academy, and has been wrestling for five years. He wrestles in the 138 pound weight class. Will has previously placed in the top five at wrestling tournaments. Will enjoys fishing and riding motorcycles. His favorite class is history, and his favorite food is steak.

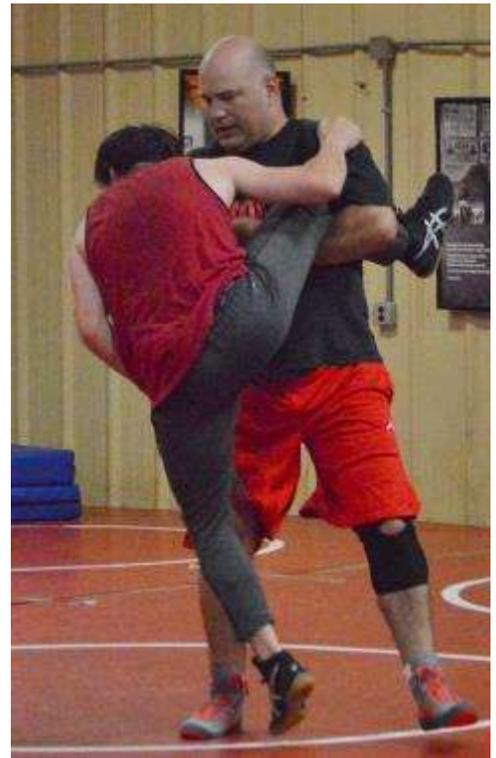
Kevin Kennedy '19 has been wrestling at OHA for two years. He wrestles in the 120 pound weight class. Kevin's favorite food is steak, and he enjoys playing video games. An interesting fact about him is that he lives on a farm. Kevin has previously won two matches as a wrestler. His favorite class is string band.

Connor Sewitsky '19 has been wrestling for five years. He enjoys running, and has competed in NCAA wrestling. Connor wrestles in the 160 pound weight class. His favorite class is history, and his favorite food is tacos.

Bridget Hoffman '21 is in her first year of wrestling. She enjoys doing athletics and playing music. Bridget also really enjoys cooking. She wrestles in the 138 pound weight class, and her favorite class is Music Lab. Bridget's favorite foods are chicken tenders and strawberries.

Dillon Phillips '20 has been wrestling for one year. He wrestles in the heavyweight class. Dillon's favorite class is string band, and his favorite foods include steak, turkey, and ice cream. He enjoys sleeping and working out.

Corey Shupe '19 has wrestled for two years. He is currently wrestling in the 170 pound class. During his free time, Corey works on computer programming and cyber security focusing ethical hacking, assisting companies in securing their data from malicious attacks. His favorite class is Physics. During down time, Corey prefers sleeping over anything else.



Word of Mouth

Boy Scouts

By Zoey Doan

The Boy Scouts of America, based on the English Scouting program, was founded in 1910 by Lord Robert Baden-Powell. Scouting was designed to teach outdoor skills, leadership and ethics to young men as well as providing training and role models for young boys as they grow into young men.

Mr. Bunn, the Boys Scouts sponsor, started the club at Oak Hill Academy because he and his brothers were scout members and he wanted the boys here to experience some of the things he did. The Oak Hill Academy troop is active and do a variety of activities including camping, kayaking, mountain climbing, shooting sports, rafting, fishing, bouldering, and more. In addition to the boys from the local community, Goubin Huang '19, Chuanyang Sun '20, Yunong Zhou '20, and Yuejun Deng '23 attend meetings.



Honor Court cont.

After the court's ruling, the administrators review the court's suggestions and determine the consequences to administer.

Mr. Bunn has been working at Oak Hill Academy for 27 years. The thought of stepping down from the position of the Honor Court Advisor has never occurred to him. "I enjoy working with the court and am proud to say that quite a few members have gone on into positions in the field of law after serving on the court. I have seen many students find their confidence and personal voice while serving. At this time, I have no intention of stepping away from it," stated Mr. Bunn. The members of the Honor Court are Lotanna Anene '19, A.J. Burrows '20, Danielle Higgs '19, Evan Johnson '20, Candace Zhang '19, Wendy Hu '20, Lioul Woldemariam '19 and Goubin Huang '19. Evan said, "I was super honored to know they thought of me as a good example for the student body. I said 'yes' to being part of the Honor Court because I wanted to challenge myself as a student athlete."



Campus Ambassadors

By Cole Anthony

Fifteen-year Oak Hill Academy veteran, Mike Rodgers, always tells prospective families, “‘Who’ we are is even more impressive than ‘what’ we are as a school.” Mr. Rodgers has a passion for Oak Hill Academy that dates back to when he attended Oak Hill for his senior year of high school. His belief in the mission of Oak Hill Academy is so strong that he started the Student Ambassadors Club. “I started the club to give prospective families a personal touch from our students,” Mr. Rodgers enthusiastically explained. “I don’t want to be the only voice they hear as they learn about Oak Hill Academy.”

The Student Ambassadors assist the Admission Department with tours and general communication with prospective students and families. Membership in the Ambassadors Club ranges from veteran students like Tobi Salami ’20 (two years) to new students like Ryan Dunn ’21, who joined the Oak Hill Academy community only two months ago. Mr. Rodgers believes the Ambassadors are important to the school for several reasons. “They are able to share their reasons for choosing Oak Hill Academy and why they have been successful here. They are also great at helping a prospective student feel more

comfortable and less anxious as he or she gets to know that our students are relatable and friendly.” Mr. Rodgers says the Ambassadors are also helpful with parents who are trying to learn more about the school. Fortunately for Mr. Rodgers, the students who sign up to become Ambassadors are just as enthusiastic about Oak Hill Academy as he is and interest in the club continues to grow. A training session was held prior to the start of the school year. Those very active Ambassadors include Aaron Teal ’19, Lydia Haimanot ’20, Landon Fisher ’22, Zoey Doan ’20, Jay Young ’20, Kalab Haimanot ’19, A.J. Burrows ’20, Lauren Oberman ’20, Will Brannon, ’21, Kyra Souliere ’19, Kevin Kennedy ’19, Christen Reeves ’20 and Wendy Hu ’20.

Mr. Rodgers said the tremendous interest and participation from so many students has helped him logistically as well since he cannot be in several places at one time particularly on busy days. “I’ve never had a student do less than a great job in welcoming and engaging with a family. It’s tremendous training in people skills for our students.” Mr. Rodgers proudly shared. “I’ve enjoyed watching our students involved in giving tours grow their confidence. It’s really a win-win-win situation. All parties benefit!

Word of Mouth

Youth Group

By Ian Robinson

The OHA Youth Group meets from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. every Monday. Earlier in the school year, the group met outside the girl's dorm at the track. Now that the weather is cooler, they meet inside the basement of the girl's dorm. The OHA Youth Group averages between 20-30 people per meeting and anyone is welcome. Students always get to participate in one fun activity or game per meeting. The primary focus of the OHA Youth Group is learning about God and his plans for us as his servants. At the beginning of the year, the students wrote down questions about God, the Bible, and Christianity in general. The group is usually led by Rev. Turnmire, who often teaches lessons, answers questions and offers prayers. Corey Shupe '19 thinks Youth is "a very fun series of different events." Matt Webb '19 says, "It is a sweet place to hang out." The OHA Youth Group also participates in several community service projects. One example would be the Care Bag Ministry, which works to provide shelter for victims of domestic violence.

About the Pastor

Reverend Turnmire has been pastoring for 26 years. It is his passion to teach the life of Jesus to other people. Every year, the Youth Group at Oak Hill Academy has a new set of kids; it is his priority for them to understand who is Jesus Christ.



A-Team

By Tobi Salami

Mrs. Joy Groves and some student leaders formed the Oak Hill Academy A-Team in the 2015-2016 school year as a way to get student leaders to have a positive impact on the school's culture. It is comprised of students who exhibit good character, want to positively impact their community and develop their leadership skills. In the past, A-Team developed projects on adult decision-making, bullying, respect and most recently, mental health.

They pass on messages through Residence Life curriculums, homeroom skits and videos. These subjects are chosen by the students. This year's topic, mental health, goes further to cover issues like depression, anxiety, eating disorders and substance abuse. It was chosen last year because of the nation's increase in mental health issues. A-Team helps all students and its members. Lauren Oberman, a member of the A-Team for three years, stated, "It gives members an upper hand in dealing with major problems that teenagers face, and it helps us to help ourselves." Mrs. Groves expressed that, "The A-Team hopes to become a really established part of the Oak Hill Academy culture and make a difference in our community every year." This year's A-Team includes Tyler Levine '20, Lauren Oberman '20, Tobi Salami '20, Lydia Haimanot '20, Erin Bunn '21, Andie Schultz '21, Bridget Hoffman '21, Betele Ambaye '19, Kyra Souliere '19, Lotanna Anene '19, Kevin Kennedy '19, Matthew Webb '19 and Christen Reeves '20.





Broadcast Club

By Tyler Levine

Broadcasting Club is a group of students who along with Mr. Josh Doan, Mr. Griffin Fisher, and Mr. Shawn Haas work to show the happenings at Oak Hill Academy. The Broadcasting Club is new this year and looks to live stream and broadcast events at OHA, especially basketball games. Mr. Doan created the Broadcasting Club because it was a good opportunity for Oak Hill to add a tech program that allows students to work hands on. Mr. Doan was a play-by-play broadcaster for his college basketball team. He has also done freelance broadcasting in sports radio. According to Mr. Doan, "The main goal of Broadcasting Club is to give new skills to our student body and to present what is happening at OHA to the outer world." According to Mr. Fisher, "Students are a major part of the broadcasting process." Students can actively participate in the different broadcast roles like the switcher, camera operators, in game reporters, and clock operator. The switcher controls the computer system, graphics, switching cameras, credits, and nameplates. The in-game reporters interview players or coaches during halftime and after the game. The clock operator changes the scoreboard and clock on the live stream. Mr. Haas, OHA Class of 2014, joined the club because he is finishing his communications major at UNC Chapel Hill. He stated, "It's always nice to give back." Mr. Fisher, who holds a BS in Entertainment, has previous broadcasting experience making him a valuable asset to the club. He exclaimed, "I am excited about the opportunity to work with students!"



Ski Club

By Tobi Salami

The Oak Hill Academy Ski Club is made up of a group of students who enjoy skiing and snowboarding at Appalachian Ski Mountain in Boone, North Carolina with Mr. Timothy Henry, the Director of Development. The club kicks off after Christmas break and travels once a week from January until spring break. Students who can

already ski or snowboard can try their hand at a variety of slopes. Students with no previous experience may take lessons. Students are allowed to ski the slopes freely. The slopes at Appalachian Ski Mountain range from beginner to advanced. Rentals are available for skiers, but it is required for snowboarders to come prepared with their own equipment. Necessary items such as hats, gloves, goggles and helmets can be purchased at the gift shop. Prior parent permission is required to be eligible for Ski Club.

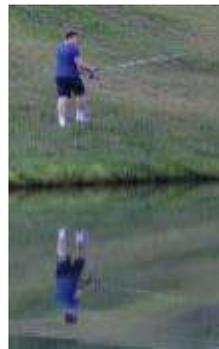


Fishing Club

By Zoey Doan

The Fishing Club is hosted by Mr. Butt. Fishing Club happens every Wednesday at Lake Samuella in Noonkester Park, unless there is bad weather. The most common fish in the lake are catfish, sunfish, and largemouth bass. Mr. Butt enjoys fishing and being outdoors. He stated "Oak Hill is in a beautiful area of the country where you can appreciate nature, and find the thrill of hooking a fish!"

According to Mr. Butt, the goal of Fishing Club is to have a fun activity for the students that involves being outside and appreciating nature. Josh Ziegler said, "I think Fishing Club is a good time to spend thinking about where the fish are, and it gives me space and time to think to myself."





Debate Team

By Tyler Levine

The Debate Team is preparing for the National High School Ethics Bowl. The Ethics Bowl is a debate competition in which teams explore the ethical responses to certain situations that are controversial. For example, one of these situations is titled “Shhhh!,” and it is about a nurse who is overseeing a comatose woman on life support. Since this woman is in a coma, a request to be taken off life support cannot be made. The decision is up to her two children. An argument between the children ensues. The nurse is left with a difficult decision, whether or not to kick them out of the hospital. If the nurse kicks them out, this might be the last time they see their mother. If the nurse lets them stay, they will continue to disturb the other people in the hospital. What would you do? What to do is the response being prepared by the Debate Team. Ms. Tobin has been the leader of the Debate Team for three years. Ms. Tobin’s favorite food is Pad Thai, and this is her sixth year at Oak Hill Academy. Ms. Tobin likes leading debate because she likes working with students out of class. She stated, “Our main goal is to lay out ethical questions in logical ways, to support arguments with sound

reasoning, and to explore interesting topics.”

The Debate Team wouldn’t exist without the student participants. To gain a better understanding of the Debate Team, you must learn about the participants themselves.

Will Heard is in 11th grade at Oak Hill Academy. His favorite class is P.E., and this is his first year at OHA. Will finds debate to be an intellectual stimulant. Will’s favorite food is pizza.

This is Tyler Levine’s first year on the Debate Team; he likes debate because he finds it cool to hear about the different debate topics. He is in his first year at OHA and is in 11th grade. His favorite class is Chemistry. Tyler’s favorite food is pizza.

Christen Reeves ’20 is in his fourth year at OHA. Christen’s favorite food is french fries. This is Christen’s second year on Debate Team, and he likes debate because he likes to hear other people’s perspectives.

This is Andie Schultz’s first year at Oak Hill Academy as well as on a Debate Team. She likes debate because of the people, and she

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likes trying new things. Her favorite class is Biology. Andie says her favorite drink is eggnog because it's snazzy!

Corey Shupe '19 is in his third year at OHA and as a member of the Debate Team. He likes debate because he likes to argue. His favorite class is 21st Century Speech and Communications. Corey's favorite drink is milk.

Molly Williams is the President of the Debate Team. This is her second year on the team and her fourth year at OHA. Molly's favorite food is french fries. She likes debate because she finds it interesting to see the perspectives of other people. Molly is in 12th Grade at Oak Hill Academy. Her favorite class is College Credit English.



Astronomy Club

By Tyler Levine and Lauren Oberman

The Astronomy Club explores the wonders of outer space through the lens of a telescope. Mr. Duranko, the head of the Astronomy Club, has been overseeing the construction of an observatory on campus. Mr. Duranko created the Astronomy Club because he has an obsession with the stars and planets. The Astronomy Club often does sky watches to try and point out constellations. Mr. Duranko hopes that many students show up to learn about our universe. The Astronomy Club consists of a small group of very curious students who want to learn as much about the world around them as possible. The members of the club are Tyler Levine '20, Delaney Heard '20, Evan Johnson '20 and Lauren Oberman

'20. Mr. Duranko has appointed Lauren and Tyler as his astronomy assistants. Their job is to recruit students and help Mr. Duranko with sky watches. Tyler Levine said, "I think learning about stars and the sky above is extremely interesting. I'm super excited about the observatory so that we get to spend more time looking through the telescope."





Theater Group

By Cole Anthony

After years of students participating in the theater program, Mr. Pease's Theater Group was officially formed this year. The goal of this group is to assemble a team of students who want to work on improving their acting abilities and improve the quality of the spring play. This newly formed group will work to build a more successful theater program. Several group members have been involved with plays during their tenure at Oak Hill Academy: Kevin Kennedy '19, Maria Lovett '20 and Bridget Hoffman '21. A seven year veteran at Oak Hill Academy, Mr. Pease enjoys theater and looks to organize plays that students will enjoy presenting. One of Mr. Pease's Theater Group goals is to expand the number of shows presented as well as perform skits during homeroom. Mr. Pease also wants to give students the opportunity to perform. Kevin Kennedy said, "I enjoy the group, it's fun. You get to fully immerse yourself in your character." Mr. Pease has been thoroughly pleased with the group's participation and looks forward to many performances.

There are currently ten students in Theater Group. The members are Kevin Kennedy '19, Delaine Duquette '19, Andrew Cafiero '19, Ian Adami '19, Corey Shupe '19, Maria Lovett '20, Kami Lewis '20, Andie Schultz '21, Erin Bunn '21 and Bridget Hoffman '21.

