



# Word of Mouth

Volume 14, Issue 3

Quarter 3



## Wrestling at OHA

By Ramsey Riddles

Coach Wymer has coached wrestling for 17 years. But, his love of wrestling is even longer. Coach Wymer wrestled for two years in an NCAA Division I program. While obtaining his BFA in Art Education at Virginia Commonwealth University, he also competed with the club team there and served as the head coach while competing. Not only does Mr. Wymer coach wrestling at OHA and teach a full complement of classes, he also is attending Savannah College of

Art & Design. He is on track to earn an MFA in Painting in May of 2021. Mr. Wymer's wrestling career includes participating in the Olympic Trials process in 2000 and 2004. Last year, Mr. Wymer came out of 'wrestling retirement' to compete in the 2019 US Open (Masters Division) in Las Vegas. This exciting opportunity has Mr. Wymer looking forward to competing again this year. Mr. Wymer loves wrestling because, "The sport has given me so much in terms of learning to be both resilient and independent. Every match and practice was a chance to be something more. The sport appealed to me especially because a wrestler takes ownership of his/her

success or failure. A wrestler cannot credit or blame anyone except himself/herself. It is pure sport ... my best against my opponent's best." Mr. Wymer has a great number of interests and hobbies. He enjoys ice hockey, volleyball, yoga, camping, and kayaking. Future goals include learning to paddleboard and play the violin and guitar. Want to see some of Mr. Wymer's paintings? Be on the lookout for Sheetz trucks on the highways as Mr. Wymer won a national contest covering the trailers with art.

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### WOM

#### Trivia Contest

The first three current OHA students to correctly respond via email (mhaas@oak-hill.net) will receive 10 Monster Cookies (Triple Chip, Iced Confetti, or Snickerdoodle) from Ms. Haas.

Question—When did the first student newspaper appear on the OHA website? (Month and Year required to win.)



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# Wrestling cont.

## Meet the Team

Senior Isaiah King has been wrestling for a year. He is from Mayfield, Kentucky. He wanted to try something new, so he joined the wrestling team. Isaiah wrestles in the 145-weight class. Isaiah's favorite wrestling moment during the season was when he won his first official match by pin.



Josh Ziegler from Bethany Beach, Delaware, is a 6'1 junior who enjoys swimming, fishing, hunting, and going to parties. Josh wrestles in the 152-weight class and likes to participate in the ironman body drill during practice. Josh has been to Australia and likes it very much there. His favorite class in school is English, and this is his second year at Oak Hill Academy.



Junior Gideon Wepner from Newton, North Carolina, wrestles in the 220-weight class and has been wrestling for about three years in total. Gideon enjoys eating Spanish food and listening to rap music, specifically King Von.



Bridget Hoffman has been wrestling for two years and has attended Oak Hill for four years. Bridget was born in Greensboro, North Carolina. She enjoys listening to rock music, visiting Bentonville, Arkansas, and



eating pizza. Bridget's favorite wrestling moment was almost winning a take down contest with another coach.

Manager Campbell Hunroe is a junior from Richmond, Virginia. This is her second year on 'The Hill.' Campbell enjoys shopping and country music. Campbell loves to watch *Space Jam* and *Grey's Anatomy*.



# Cheerleading on 'The Hill'

By Ms. Haas

Coach Bowen has a long standing relationship with cheerleading. She cheered for nine years, all through high school and college. Mrs. Bowen attended Emory and Henry College, where the cheer team was coed. While at Emory and Henry, Mrs. Bowen earned two Bachelor's degrees – English with a concentration in Education and Economics with a concentration in Business Management. Mrs. Bowen is celebrating 38½ years as part of the Oak Hill family. During her tenure on 'The Hill,' Mrs. Bowen has filled many roles. She is currently the Director of Financial Affairs. She coached cheerleading from 1982 through 1990 and then periodically through to the present. Coach Bowen shared, "My job at Oak Hill now doesn't always lend itself to frequent personal interaction with the students, and coaching cheer gives me that opportunity. Not only do I get to build a relationship with the cheerleaders, I also get to bond with the rest of the



student body during basketball games." Mrs. Bowen met her husband at OHA. Mr. Bowen is the Director of Technology. They have two sons and two daughters-in-law. However, the house is not an empty nest as they also have Gus, the dog, and Sassy, the cat. Mrs. Bowen enjoys gardening and making hand crafted jewelry and accessories. She has even turned her jewelry passion into a business, Mupsey's Baubles.

## Meet the Team

Anisa Alvanza is a senior from Fairview, New York, who has been at Oak Hill for two years. She has also participated in volleyball and basketball. On campus, Anisa enjoys the Honors World Religions class taught by Rev. Turnmire. She is a talented singer often sharing her voice by singing the National Anthem at basketball games and custom composing music and performing music compilations for Parents' Days. Her favorite genre of music is R & B.

Senior Wendy Hu has been part of the Oak Hill family for four years. This is



also her fourth year as a cheerleader. Wendy also enjoys playing volleyball and riding horses. Her favorite class is Sculpture with Mr. Wymer. Outside of the classroom, Wendy also likes drawing and dancing. She is a fan of the movie *Iron Man*. Something not many people know about Wendy is that she is a twin. Her twin sister is still in Hangzhou, China, their hometown.

Cindy Hua hails from Qingdao, China, and has been a student here for two years.



Cindy has been a cheerleader for four years. She enjoys reading books, swimming, and math class. With its math theme, it isn't hard to see why Cindy took a liking to the movie *Hidden Figures*. Although her favorite food is Korean BBQ, Cindy's true cultural love is traveling through Japan.



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## Cheerleading cont.

Sofia Xu is a senior from Shanghai, China, in her fourth year at OHA. She has been a cheerleader for three of those years. Sofia can often be found behind the camera as she loves taking and editing photos. Her favorite foods are Hot Pot and Sushi. With those tastes, it is no surprise that Sofia loves to travel to Korea and Japan. She is also a fan of Hip-Hop music.



Senior and captain Tobi Salami is from Media, Pennsylvania. Throughout her four year tenure at OHA, she has been involved in many activities including singing the National Anthem at ball games, custom composing and performing music compilations for Parents' Days, writing for this student newspaper, and even lending her keen understanding of argument to the Debate Team. Tobi also enjoys cooking – especially lasagna -



running, and R & B music.

Raina Wang '20 comes from Taiyuan, China, and has been at Oak Hill for three years. She has been a part of the cheerleading program her entire time on campus. Raina's favorite class is Speech with Mr. Pease. She enjoys listening to both Rap and R & B music. When asked about foods, Raina was quick to share that she loves ice cream. Raina would like others to know that she is very funny.

Sophomore Haley Vestri is a first year student from Austin, Texas. She is embracing this year's theme of 'Opportunity' to try new things like cheerleading and volleyball. Haley has many musical talents and interests including playing both the ukulele and piano and singing. She also enjoys acting and playing softball. When asked about her favorite class at OHA, Haley shared, "Earth Science.

Definitely, Earth Science!" Haley likes watching *Doctor Who* and *Maze Runner*.

Coming from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Candace Drew



is in her second year at OHA and fourth year as a cheerleader. Candace enjoys watching the competitive cheer team California Allstars Bullets Smoed Elite Cheerleading, division world champions four years in a row. Her favorite class is Beginner Guitar with Mr. Conn. This is no surprise as Candace often shares her talent for singing by performing the National Anthem at ball games and custom composing and performing music compilations for Parents' Days. Candace also likes to try her hand at fashion design.

This year's team manager is Lydia Haimanot, a senior out of Ethiopia. Lydia has been part of the OHA family for four years. She has also been a manager for the White Team and a volleyball player. R & B music and singing are two of her passions. Lydia likes to unwind watching some of her favorite TV shows, *The 100*, *Power*, and *The Originals*. Her favorite class is Chemistry.



## Gold Team Basketball at OHA

By AJ Burrows and  
Darrick Jones



Coach Steve Smith has been at Oak Hill for 37 years. During Coach Smith's first two years, he served as the assistant coach for the Gold Team. For the past 35 years, he has been the Head Coach and Athletic Director. Coach Smith has a career coaching record of 1151-79. He has been awarded the Naismith National High School Coach of the Year Award three times and has been the USA Today High School Coach of the year four times. He has guided nine teams to the National Championships, 1993, 1994, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2012, and 2016. Coach Smith has achieved eight 40+ win seasons as well as a 65 game win streak from 2000-2002. He has also been tapped to serve as a Head Coach for High School All Stars Games 17 times. "Coaching young people allows you to have an influence like no other profession. I value and appreciate the opportunity to



connect with so many young people with a passion for basketball," stated Coach Smith. He is a 1977 graduate of Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky with a BS in Physical Education and Biology and earned a Master's degree in Physical Education from Eastern Kentucky University. He is married to Lisa McBride Smith, and they currently reside in Piney Creek, North Carolina with their English springer spaniel, Arnie. He is also the father of two, Stephanie Atkins and Sean Smith, and the grandfather of two, Miles and Hayes. When not in the gym, Coach Smith enjoys walking Arnie and playing golf. His favorite courses include Jefferson Landing in Jefferson, North Carolina, Pebble Beach in California, and Augusta National in Georgia.



Assistant Coach Bryan Meagher is currently in his 17th year at Oak Hill. He is also the Assistant Athletic Director and teaches Boys' Advanced Fitness. Coach Meagher is a 5-time National



Champion who majored in sports management at Medaille College in Buffalo, New York. He played basketball in college and scored 1000 points throughout his college career. He also holds records in assists, steals, and 3-point field goal percentage. Coaching is a passion of Coach Meagher's as he enjoys the chance to change the guys through strength training. One of his favorite parts of coaching is simply getting to be part of the guys' lives every day. Coach Meagher is a passionate person with a positive mindset as evidenced during workouts passionately yelling to students, "You got this!" In addition to working out, Coach Meagher also loves golf and the course at Jefferson Landing. He is married to Karli Miniclier Meagher, and they are parents to Mya, age 3.

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## Gold Team Basketball cont.

Taylor Conn has been an Assistant Coach for the Oak Hill Academy Gold Team for the past 12



years. He is a two-time National Champion. Coach Conn graduated from Radford University with a major in Physical

Education. When asked about his coaching experience at Oak Hill Academy, Coach Conn stated, "I enjoy being a part of the greatest high school basketball program in the nation. The history of Oak Hill basketball, Coach Smith, and the relationships I have developed with the players, is unreal." He first saw OHA on the court when they came to his hometown in 1994. The Warriors easily defeated their college opponents that evening winning a Warriors' fan for life in Coach Conn. He currently teaches Sports Medicine, Music Lab, String Band, Beginning Guitar, and History through Music at OHA. He is married to Kayln Thornburg Conn, and they are proud parents of two beautiful daughters, Taya, age 3, and Lyla, age 2. Coach Conn enjoys reading and spending time with his

daughters. When he thinks about retirement, Coach Conn enjoys the ideas of owning a car lot or buying and selling houses.

Assistant Coach Cory Alexander has been coaching at Oak Hill for six years. Coach Alexander was an Oak Hill Warrior and an OHA Honor Graduate in 1991, who also was recognized as a McDonald's and Parade All-American as well as the 1991 Gatorade Virginia Player of the Year, and Mr. Basketball in Virginia. He went on to the University of Virginia earning a BS in Psychology. At UVA, Coach Alexander played basketball all four years, ranking 8<sup>th</sup> in UVA history with 401 assists and 24<sup>th</sup> in all-time scoring with 1,286 points. In 1995, Coach Alexander was a first round draft pick by the San Antonio Spurs. He spent seven seasons in the NBA playing for the Spurs, the Denver Nuggets, the Orlando Magic, and the Charlotte



Bobcats. In 2009, Coach Alexander joined ESPN and the ACC network as a Color Commentator. Coach Alexander loves coaching because of the relationships he builds with the players. "I like hanging out with the guys, building relationships, talking trash, and seeing them achieve as I have achieved," stated Coach Alexander. He is also fond of HGTV and DIY home improvement projects which prompted his recollection of an architecture project from his senior year of high school. He was given the opportunity to design his own home. One of his favorite things to do is to watch his son Cory, Jr. (age 22) play baseball in California. He is excited for his son's prospects to be drafted into the MLB.

Dion Dacons is a familiar face on 'The Hill.' This year, he joined the OHA staff as an Assistant Coach for the Gold Team and the Resident Manager in Dixon Hall. Coach Dacons is a 'Warrior for Life' having graduated from OHA in 2003. During his





# Gold Team cont.

tenure with the Red and Gold, Coach Dacons was the 2003 Gold Team MVP as well as winning the field goal percentage and rebounding awards. Coach Dacons attended Temple University and earned the 2007 Temple University Team MVP honors as well as being named Big 5 Academic Athlete of the Year. He earned a BA in Sociology and Masters of Education in Sports & Recreation Administration from Temple University. He also earned an MBA in Business Systems, Analytics, and Finance from La Salle University. Coach Dacons served as the Assistant Coach at Temple University and UNC-Asheville before returning to OHA. He loves coaching because it provides an opportunity to help young guys with passions similar to his own. "I value the chance

to use my experiences and what I have learned along the way to help these guys," stated Coach Dacons. He and wife Martha Kutteh Dacons, OHA Learning Specialist, live on campus with their daughter, Cameron, age 1, and Muggsy, their beagle. During time off, Coach Dacons enjoys spending time with his family, especially little Cameron. He also likes traveling and watching all types of sports.



## Meet the Team

Senior Darrick Jones, Jr. is a small forward and has been at OHA for three years. On

the court, Darrick has collected eight slam dunk trophies while playing for Coach Smith. He wouldn't mind being a Los Angeles Laker sharing the court with his favorite player LeBron James. Off the court, Darrick enjoys listening to Hip Hop and watching *Rush Hour 2*.

Two year veteran, Cam Thomas '20 is a shooting guard much like his favorite player Kobe Bryant. Although playing the game since the age of two, Cam has many other interests including Ethics with Rev. Turnmire. He would like to one day travel to China. While relaxing, Cam enjoys playing video games.



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# Gold Team cont.



Hailing from Little Rock, Arkansas, KK Robinson is a senior point guard. What many may not

know is that KK used to be a football player. He enjoys home and spending time with his four brothers. He is always ready for some shrimp fried rice. During down time, KK likes sleeping or watching the TV show, *Power*.

Delaney Heard is a senior left-handed shooting guard from Canton, Georgia. This is his second year at OHA, and his favorite class is AP Calculus. He enjoys Rap and R-n-B music. In his free time, Delaney likes to watch movies, especially *Rush Hour 2*. One of his favorite places to visit is Universal Studios.



Senior Darius Maddox resides in Washington, D.C. His favorite class at OHA is African American History. He has played basketball since he was four years old. He has also run track and played football. His favorite basketball team is the Timberwolves; although, his



favorite basketball player is Dwight Howard. When he is not playing basketball or studying, you can find Darius watching his favorite show *YOU* on Netflix or watching movies such as *Scarface*.

Coming from Los Angeles, California, Bradley Ezewiro '20 is a power forward for the Warriors. His favorite class is Anatomy with Mr. Johnson. Outside of school, he enjoys watching *Prison Break* and *White Chicks*. Bradley's other hobbies include playing video games such as *Madden 20*.



Point guard Evan Johnson '20 hails from Durham, North Carolina. He started playing basketball at the age of three. His favorite team is



the Boston Celtics. It is no surprise that Boston is the place that he would most like to visit. Off the court, Evan's hobbies include playing video games and music production with rap being his 'go to' music preference.

Emmanuel Okpomo from Jackson, Mississippi, is a six foot nine inch center. He started playing basketball at the age of five. His favorite player is Joel Embiid while his favorite team is the Golden State Warriors. On campus, Emma enjoys speech class with Mr. Pease. He would like to travel to Delaware.



Senior Jamari Sibley is a forward in his first year at OHA. He's been playing basketball for six-plus years. Besides basketball, he has also played baseball. During his downtime, he enjoys listening to rap music, watching his favorite show, *Super Natural*, shopping, and spending time with his friends.



## Gold Team cont.



First-year student, junior Jalen Ricks is a guard. He is from Sherwood, Arkansas, and has been playing basketball for 11 years.

During his downtime, he likes to listen to hip hop music and enjoys his favorite movie, *Fast and Furious*. Jalen loved traveling to Hawaii with the team and hopes to get back there to vacation.

From Jackson, Mississippi, Jalen Reed is a sophomore in his first year on 'The Hill.' He loves the game of basketball and has been playing for five years. Jalen is a guard. During his time away from the classroom and the court, he's playing video games, listening

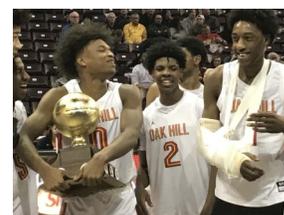


to music, and watching TV, especially *Rick and Morty*.

Three year student and sophomore Landon Fisher is a team manager. He is from Midland, Texas. Landon really loves Algebra 2. When he's not working in class or for the team, Landon is either enjoying his favorite show called a *Man in the High Castle* or the movie *V for Vendetta*. Landon is unique in that he is a dual citizen of the USA and Canada.



Team manager Yuejun "Evan" Deng is a sophomore from Shenzhen, China. He enjoys the game of basketball and was a huge fan of Kobe Bryant. During his free time, Evan enjoys playing video games, watching *Xiao Huan Xi*, a TV show, listening to Chinese music, and biking.



# Red Team Basketball at OHA

By Tobi Salami & Ms. Haas

Coach Hebold is the head coach of the Red Team. Coach Hebold has been at Oak Hill Academy for ten years. He holds a BS in Distributive Education from Western Michigan University and an MS in Exercise Science and PE from the University of Michigan Ann Arbor. Coach Hebold played basketball at the University of North Dakota as well as professionally in South America and Europe. Before coming to Oak Hill, he coached professionally in international circles. He was the coach of the national teams for Denmark and Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Coach Hebold also coached at the highest level of play in Austria (Bundisliga). At that time, he was named the Head Coach of the Austrian All-Star team. He also has



coaching experience at the collegiate level here in the United States. Of Oak Hill Academy, Coach Hebold shared, “It has been a blessing to coach at Oak Hill and work with the great coaches we have. We are a family of coaches, and we help each other however we can. I love the positive atmosphere of growth here. I especially love seeing the players grow.” Coach Hebold also has a full complement of courses to teach, teaching many sections of Government and

Geography. When not in the gym or his classroom, Coach Hebold is an avid golfer. He enjoys golfing with the coaches and often sponsors golfing trips for students. Coach enjoys skiing – downhill and cross country skiing in winter and waterskiing in summer.

Coach Burns is the assistant coach for Red Team and has been at Oak Hill for seven years. He holds a BS in Sports Ministry from Campbellsville University, obtained in 2012. Coach Burns continued his education earning a Master’s degree in Executive Leadership from Liberty University in 2016. In addition to coaching, Mr. Burns is also the Assistant Dean of Boys and the Resident Manager for Fields Dorm. His family lives in Hartford, Kentucky. His mom and dad follow every Oak Hill home game by watching the



## Red Team cont.

live broadcasts. Coach Burns climbed Whitetop Mountain to surprise Marilyn Taggart with a wedding proposal. The two plan to wed October 10, 2020. Coach Burns also enjoys golfing, reading books, and watching movies. He said, "The best part of coaching is building relationships with the players that last long after they are done playing for you. It is also special when you see a player accomplish goals or play at a high level." No surprise, Coach's favorite college basketball team is the Kentucky Wildcats.

The newest Red Team assistant coach is Coach Conley. Coach Conley grew up in Virginia, finishing his high school basketball career at Galax City High School where he was named to the All-State Team twice. He was also a seven-time state champion in track and field. Coach Conley continued his

basketball career in college playing for both Emory & Henry and Asbury University. As a 6'2" guard, Coach Conley met with much success on the court having many double digit scoring games each season. His drive to be his best was also evident in the classroom as he was named to the 2018-19 River States Conference Men's Basketball Scholar Athlete Team, requiring a 3.25 or higher GPA. He earned a BA in Business Administration from Asbury University. Although this is his first year of coaching, Coach Conley has a long history with OHA working at basketball camps here for many years. Coach Conley is excited to be at Oak Hill as his family still resides in Galax, Virginia. This summer, Coach Conley will wed Miss Lauren Fleming. Coach Conley enjoys an active lifestyle, working out,

running, and playing basketball. He is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes as well as an active member at First Baptist Church in Galax. Music is also a passion of Coach Conley's as he very much enjoys singing and listening to music.

### Meet the Team

Susheel Vishwa is a senior from Herndon, Virginia. He is in his second year at Oak Hill and as a member of the Red Team. He has played basketball for ten years as a shooting guard. Sushi enjoys working out and staying fit for the season in Boys' Advanced Fitness. Besides playing basketball, he participates in the games of chess and football. Sushi is family-oriented and visiting his grandparents is what he loves best.

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## Red Team cont.

Senior Amar Diouf is a second-year student from Indianapolis. He has played the sport for seven years in the guard position. Off the court, Amar loves listening to music, swimming, and watching *Mind Hunter*. During the off-season, Amar lends his athletic prowess to the school's soccer team.

Jack Zammit is a senior in his second year playing on the team as a guard. Besides playing basketball, Jack keeps fit by also participating in soccer and baseball. When school is out, he enjoys



returning to his home country, Malta and vacationing in London, England. His favorite movie is *Like -Mike*, and *YOU* on Netflix greatly amuses him.

Francesco Brusadin of Latina, Italy, is a senior in his first year at Oak Hill. He has been playing basketball for six years, and he is a point guard. He spends time watching the Los Angeles Lakers play and admires the skill and personality of the late Kobe Bryant. Fran, as he is fondly called by his teammates, is heavily involved in watching and playing soccer in his free time.

Michael Hill of Richmond, Virginia, has played basketball

for four years, two of which he has spent playing for the Red Team as a small forward. Besides basketball, Michael is also a member of the baseball and soccer teams. To stay in shape, he runs three miles every day. Mike can be found watching the Boston Celtics play, and he admires the talent and athleticism of Kevin Durant.



Toronto native, Thomas Cunanan-Reid is a senior in his first year playing on the Red Team as a guard. Other than basketball, Thomas enjoys soccer, volleyball, and hockey. Eating Asian cuisine and traveling to the Philippines hold some of his most cherished memories. Thomas is experienced in chess, and his favorite TV show is *Stranger Things*.



Senior Anees Abdul-Raheem is a point guard from Newark, New Jersey, in his second year at OHA. His most favored basketball players are Russell Westbrook and Kyrie Irving,



whom he enjoys watching because of the great

skill they exhibit on the court. Anees likes comedies; his favorite of which is *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*. Nigerian jollof rice is the food he loves the most. Getting in shape with Coach Meagher in his Advanced Fitness class and learning new things in College Credit English 12 are aspects of school he highly values.



Clement Kimani is a junior from Worcester, Massachusetts. He has played basketball for five years, and this is his second year playing at Oak Hill as a shooting guard. His favorite basketball team is the Boston Celtics, and watching Russell Westbrook play greatly inspires him. Aside from basketball, Clement has a strong interest in soccer and football.



Second-year junior Paul Molay is a forward from Toronto, Canada. He is a fan of his hometown's team, the Toronto Raptors, but his favorite player is LeBron James. Paul has a variety of hobbies including dancing and volleyball. He enjoys spending time with friends and watching *The Blacklist*.

Tre Chatman is a junior from Atlanta, Georgia, in his first year at Oak Hill. He has played basketball for 12 years

## Red Team cont.

and is a power forward. Soccer and baseball are just some of the hobbies he is involved in off the court. Tre loves his hometown because of the familiarity and the relationships he has. In his free time, he likes to hang out with friends and to watch the Netflix original *YOU*.



Markus Malleschitz is a long-time OHA student and a junior from Austria. Markus plays the position of guard and has been playing basketball for eight years. Markus's favorite team is the Trail Blazers, and his favorite



player is Damien Lillard. Markus especially enjoys Advanced Fitness with Coach Meagher. Markus also likes surfing and skiing. He loves returning to Austria to spend time with family and friends.

First-year junior Justin Banks is a center from Illinois. He has played basketball for 14 years. He loves watching Derrick Rose play. Off the court, Justin dedicates his time to playing baseball and video games as well as watching his favorite show *SpongeBob SquarePants*. He also enjoys hanging



out with the people he loves.

Aston Korth of California is a sophomore in his first semester at OHA. He has



been playing basketball for five years and is a shooting guard. His favorite class is African American History with Mr. P. Fisher. He loves the Marvel movie, *Black Panther*. He likes

breakfast food; his favorite of which is waffles. He also enjoys vacationing in Hawaii.

Owen Chen is a shooting guard from Taiwan. He is in his second year at OHA.



Owen has been playing basketball for seven years with two of those being on the Red Team. His favorite team is the Houston Rockets. Owen enjoys a variety of food, but fried chicken remains his most loved. Owen enjoys the work of the Biology class with Mr. Johnson.

Eren Ozcan is a Turkish freshman in his first year at Oak Hill. He has been playing basketball for eight years, and he plays the position of point guard. He enjoys traveling around Europe and trying new foods, his favorite being risotto. He



likes to keep his mind working after school by reading books and playing video games. His favorite movie is *The Pursuit of Happyness*, and he loves to watch *La Casa de Papel*.

Tyler Levine is a second-year senior from Herndon, Virginia, and he is a manager for the team. He plays baseball and lacrosse. He enjoys the sciences and aspires to one day become an engineer. He passes time by collecting rocks and watching anime.

A.J. Burrows is also a manager for the Red Team. A.J. has been at Oak Hill for three years and is from the Bahamas. A.J.'s favorite basketball player is Steph Curry, and he loves the Golden State Warriors. If he could travel anywhere in the world, A.J. would go to Miami, Florida. He likes many different kinds of food with pizza being his favorite. A.J. listens to all types of music.

Justin Mauney is another of the Red Team's managers. He is a senior from Los Angeles in his second year at Oak Hill. Justin's sport of choice is track which he has participated in for six years. He likes to watch the Dallas Mavericks play and is heavily invested in Giannis Antetokounmpo. In his free time, he spends time with his friends and watches his favorite anime *Black Clover*.



# White Team Basketball at OHA

By Lauren Oberman & Ms. Haas

Andy Smith of Point Pleasant, New Jersey, is the White Team's head coach. It is his 13th year coaching basketball and his second year coaching at Oak Hill Academy. While at the University of Hawaii at Hilo, 'Coach Andy' was a success on the basketball court as well as in the classroom. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. His coaching career began at Ocean County College in New Jersey where one of his teams was ranked number three by the East Coast Basketball Writers Association. Afterwards, he was the assistant coach at Northwest Christian University in Eugene, Oregon. Next, Coach Andy founded Hawaii Island Hoops, a non-profit organization focused

on helping young student athletes to continue their dreams of earning a college degree and playing basketball as well. At OHA, he teaches Health and PE, Basketball Training, Sports Management, and Girls' Advanced Fitness. He lives on campus with his wife Zara, who is from New Zealand, and their growing puppy, Kona. Coach Andy enjoys vegan cooking, surfing, and returning to Hawaii each year. He also likes art and playing the guitar. His favorite sport is basketball, and Kevin Garnett is his favorite player.

## Meet the Team

Watching Russell Westbrook has inspired Nate Akade '20 to pursue basketball playing in the point guard position. Nate has been playing for eight years and has been at Oak Hill for one year. He has played volleyball,

soccer, and football but enjoys basketball the most. When choosing music his go-to is always rap. In his free time, he likes to hang out with his friends or watch *Naruto*.

Josh Mosely is in the eleventh grade and has been at Oak Hill for one year. He is the center. Josh is originally from Cheyenne, Wyoming, and has been playing basketball for about five years. Josh likes hanging out with childhood friends when not at Oak Hill.

Besides basketball, he likes to spend time in the weight room and listening to rap music.

Playing for as long as he can remember, Ben Clark '21 is a shooting guard. Ben is fond of basketball player Steph Curry who plays for the Golden State Warriors. Aside from basketball, he enjoys staying active and watching *The Office* or *South Park*. He fancies eating kale salads with strawberries on top.



## White Team cont.

Cole Murphy is from Independence, Virginia, and plays point guard. Cole enjoys video games over most other activities. His favorite basketball player is Trae Young. When listening to music he chooses classic rock. At home, he likes to watch the show *Friends*.



Shakeim Outten is in the 11th grade playing as a small forward. This is his first year at Oak Hill. He is from Turks and Caicos and enjoys music in the Hip Hop and Rap genres. Other than basketball, Shakeim is also involved in soccer and track and field. Off-court Shakeim likes to watch *Family Guy* and play 2k with his friends.

Also from Turks and Caicos, Jervonio Rigby '21 plays both small forward and power forward. He has played basketball for nine years. He has also played baseball, soccer, and football. When asked what he enjoys in his free time, Rigby said he likes to play drums, eat, and do backflips.



James Siegling, a tenth grader, has been playing basketball for two years. From Chapel Hill, North Carolina, he currently plays

the position of center for Oak Hill. He has been at Oak Hill for two years and is heavily invested in his basketball class. He listens to most genres of music, when he isn't watching *Criminal Minds*. When it comes to traveling, he is quite fond of his family trips to Costa Rica.



Player Jasper Wang has been attending Oak Hill Academy for the last two years. He is currently in tenth grade and is a shooting guard. Jasper started playing basketball in middle school, and he looks up to player Chris Paul. Other than basketball, he likes to sleep and listen to Hip-Hop. Jasper said that his favorite class has to be Advanced Fitness where he can work on burning off his favorite food, fried chicken.



From Washington D.C., Elijah Mosby plays the position of small forward and shooting guard. Although this is Elijah's first year at OHA, he has been playing basketball for seven years. He is currently an eighth-grader. He enjoys watching his favorite player Kyrie Irving.



When not playing basketball, he can be found drawing and watching *The Flash*. At Oak Hill, he likes his Ancient World History class the most.

Gideon Wepner is a team manager from Newton, North Carolina, and has been at Oak Hill for one year. Gideon is in the 11th grade and is also part of the OHA wrestling team. Gideon finds that he enjoys Mr. Fisher's African American History class the most.

From Nigeria, Emeka Nnamani is also a manager. This is his first year at Oak Hill, and he is in the eleventh grade. Emeka has enjoyed basketball since he was young and is motivated by the LA Lakers. Outside of basketball, he likes to play FIFA and watch the show *Power*. To Emeka, Afro Beats is his favorite genre of music.

Alex Palmer, from Windsor, Colorado, has been at Oak Hill for two years and is also a manager for the team. He is a self-professed 'tech-head' and is most interested in his AP Computer Science class. In his free time, he either plays video games or watches *Rick and Morty*. While out to eat, he is most likely to order a steak with a side of fries. He enjoys traveling to the mountains and hiking, doing it all for the beautiful views.



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**OAK HILL ACADEMY**

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## Spirit Days

