

The Huskie Times

Vol. 2, Issue 5, May 2023

ASB and Class Officer Elections

Congratulations to our newly elected 23-24 ASB Executive Council: President Ruby Escamilla, Vice President Riley Rodriguez, Secretary Riley Farman, Treasurer Ana Rojas, Publicity Manager Sara Hernandez, and Assistant Publicity Manager Mason Perez.

Class Officer elections will be held May 19th. These positions are specific to each grade band and include a class president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and class representative.

MECLA Hosts Cinco de Mayo Event

By: Paul Firth

The OHS MECLA club hosted a Cinco de Mayo dinner and dance in the OHS corridor on Friday, May 5th.

We served enchiladas, tamales, tacos, rice, and beans from Lighthouse Cafe and Ramirez Restaurant. Everyone was impressed by the quality of the meal. During the dinner, Mr. Pruneda spoke giving some background history of Cinco de Mayo and why it is an important celebration in Mexican culture even though it is not an independence day. The battle of Puebla was a turning point for Mexican forces fighting against French occupation at that time. Many people don't celebrate it, while others go all out. Mr. Pruneda also spoke about how Latinos in our area need to work together to lift each other up to make the future better than what has come before. His mom, Graciela Pruneda, was a long time (ESL) teacher at Othello High School and made sure that her students took pride in their work and strived for a better future.

After the dinner, the dance was on full blast! Just under 100 students turned out and the dance floor was never empty. The band, Aferrados de Tierra Caliente, played straight through from 8 until 10. A big shout out to Salvador and his crew. They were great especially considering that they packed up and left for Yakima to play for the rest of the night right after they finished.

The MECLA club did a great job planning (since January), setting up, making decorations, and cleaning up. This definitely would not have happened without them. Also a shout out to Mrs. Montejano, Mrs. Wilson, and their leadership students for their support and guidance. They made sure we had everything we needed. Now that we've had a successful event, we hope to make this a yearly tradition. Viva la Raza!



Photos Courtesy of Paul Firth



Othello's Got Talent!

By: Allison Armfield

Friday, April 28th was our Annual Othello's Got Talent Assembly! There were 15 acts ranging from singing, dancing, and playing musical instruments with a grand finale of a teacher versus student lip sync battle. The judges were Heidi Klum (Mrs. Wilson), Simon Powell (Mr. Rocha), Boss Baby (Mr. Uber), and Howie Mandel (Sean).

Big Tank aka Aaron Ruezga Serna received the Golden Buzzer for his rapping of Post Malone. The runner up went to Grupo C.D.G. for their band's live performance and the 2023 Othello's Got Talent Winner was Ben Schenck and his guitar solo. The staff, along with help from OHS Cheer, won the lip sync battle with their routine to Taylor Swift's "Shake it Off."

When asked about the talent show, many students had positive feedback and enjoyed watch their peers and teachers perform.



Photos Courtesy of Araceli Cedeno-Cortez



Senior Presentations

By: Allison Armfield

Monday April 24th and Tuesday April 25th Senior Presentations were held here at OHS from 6-8pm both nights. These presentations are the culmination of their school experience and High School Beyond Plan and go over students' experience in high school and their post-high school plans. Each presentation was 5-7 minutes long and given in front of a group of judges made up of teachers and community members. The Judges gave scores/feedback based on the rubric provided and asked questions at the end of each presentation.

The Royal Ball

By: Elizabeth Sanchez

Saturday May 15 was prom night, and the final dance for our 2023 seniors. This year's theme was "Royal Ball", and everybody looked absolutely impressive in their on-theme ball gowns and tuxedos. Prom was located in the back of CBHA, and lasted from 8pm - 12am. We had over 200 students in attendance. This was a junior/senior event, but underclassmen were allowed to attend as the date to an upperclassman.

There were professional photos available for purchase as well as a selfie station for digital photos or boomerangs. Candy and fruit with chamoy, cookies, brownies, other baked goods, and bottled water were provided free of charge, and of course a live DJ!

The music was a mix of popular hits, country music, slow songs, and cumbia so there was a little something for everyone! Teachers and students alike had their time on the dance floor.

Saying goodbye to our seniors will be a bitter sweet experience, but OHS is glad to have given them one final night of fun, music, dancing, and joy.

Special thanks Mrs. Wilson, the class of 2023 parent boosters, and to all of our chaperones for volunteering your time to help chaperone and make such a fun event a success.



This year, the passing grade was raised from a 60% to 80% and our students rose to the occasion with an average score of 89.55%! 266 students were presenting, and only 21 didn't pass or were a no show. Students who did not pass have the opportunity to to redo their presentation for a better score.

Many of our seniors were nervous to present in front of a panel but they worked hard and did a fantastic job. When asked about their presentation, students said, "

Congratulations on this last hurdle before graduation - your teachers and families are so proud of you!



Photos Courtesy of: Allison Armfield and Photo Booth



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School Events

FBLA Goes to State!

By: Matthew Perez

On April 19th-22nd, our FBLA students traveled to Spokane to compete in their State Business Leader Conference against thousands of students! While competing, Melissa Sanchez, Leslie Pineda, and Ruby Escamilla placed 6th for their Partnership with Business Project, Jerry Alvarado-Sosa and Cesar Basurto placed 6th for the website they designed for our local food bank, Steven Carmona placed 7th for Social Media Marketing, and Matthew Perez placed 8th for Organizational Leadership. SBLC provided amazing opportunities to meet students from across Washington and experience new things and our members are already looking forward to next year's competition!



Photo Courtesy of Othello School District Facebook Page

AVID Night

By: Elizabeth Sanchez

On Monday May 16th OHS held its annual AVID Night celebration, where AVID students are rewarded for their hard work, and AVID seniors say their final goodbyes. Genesis Castro gave a beautiful and moving speech on the topic of expectations, self-priority, and passion. There were many awards given out that night under the topics of "Best Inquiring Mind", "Most Organized", "Most Improved", "Best Tutor", and more!

One of the top awards of the night was given to Mariza Gonzalez, who was chosen out of all of the AVID classes 8th through 12th grade, for "Best All Around Student". Make sure to congratulate our AVID seniors on their journey to a higher education!

On April 22 our FFA Trap Team competed at the State level. Out of 39 competing teams Othello Placed 10th. During individual competitions CJ Martinez placed 4th in Annie Oakley. We are proud of these members as they have competed in several competitions throughout the year and have spent several days practicing after school.



Pictured left to right: Brody Billman, Robbie, CJ Martinez, Sami Shade, Kyle Rasor, Hector Lamas-ocampo, Ryder Jorgenson, Ryder Henley, and Brendan Getz. Photo courtesy of Meagan Haight.



FFA News

By: Meagan Haight

Members competed in State Horse judging in Kittitas on April 26th. This team worked really hard and put in a lot of time studying. We are so proud of all their efforts. Out of 32 teams our team placed 17th and out of 158 individuals competing Abby Durepo placed 30th.



Team pictured left to right: Alizay Pruneda, America Gonzalez, Abby Durepo, Sami Shade, Whittle Hollenbeck. Photo courtesy of Meagan Haight.

We had our Annual Plant sale April 28th and 29th and May 12th and 13th. It was a huge success and great turnout. We appreciate everyone who came out and supported our Annual fundraiser.

All proceeds go towards FFA yearly activities like state travel, FFA dues, community service events and so much more. This year we traveled to more than 15 different places to compete and came home with banners from 10 of them!

We will be having a fall sale in September selling mums, celosia, and marigolds to help spruce up porches and flower beds. Be on the lookout come next school year for more information.

Staff Spotlight

By: Maria Olmedo

Kevin Hensley was a teacher at Wahitis elementary and McFarland Middle School before coming to OHS and, according to some, also a former astronaut for NASA.

According to Hensley, coaching high school football and soccer is a big part of his life. He says that it's challenging but also rewarding at the same time because through the grind of practice and the wins and losses, he sees young men start developing their character.

"There's nothing else like it" says Mr. Hensley. One of Mr. Hensley's greatest achievements is having five awesome sons - he believes that being a parent is the most important thing you can be in life.

A few words Mr. Hensley would like to say to the students of OHS is a quote from Winston S. Churchill: "Success is not fatal; Failure is not fatal; it is courage to continue that counts."



Students of the Month

Artistic April

An artistic student is someone who shows artistic skill through any means--drawing, music, writing, performance, etc. Artistic students are devoted to their craft, and their talent, creativity and passion shines through in their work

Senior: Pedro Francisco-Pedro
Junior: Amaris Mendez
Sophomore: Benji Garza
Freshman: Sawyer Roylance



Senior Section

By: Brianna Corona

Wendy Cisneros-Vazquez's plan after highschool is to either attend Columbia Basin Community College or attend a dental assistant program at CBHA.

Her long-term career goal is to become a dentist, when asked about her goals and plans.

Wendy said "After visiting a dentistry office, I realized that this career was the one I wanted to pursue. I am aware that many people believe that is looks gross or it wouldn't be a fun job, but from what I witnessed and experienced



I believe that the dentistry route is the one for me and could make my future work life enjoyable."

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Sports

Soccer

Congrats to the OHS Boys's soccer team for another great season! The boys made it to the District 5/6 Championship game but lost to East Valley. The team ended the season with a record of 12-6-1



Photo Courtesy of OHS Soccer Facebook

Tennis

By: Caleb Tovar



Photo Courtesy of OSD Athletics Facebook

At the District tournament at East Valley on Tuesday, May 16th Maleyna Alvarez and Mia Carlson placed 4th overall as a doubles team. Ashton Pruneda and Forrest Roylance placed 2nd overall as a doubles team and will be advancing to a crossover match vs. Pullman on May 20th @ East Valley. The winner of that match will move on to the state tournament in Seattle

Both boys and girls varsity tennis teams received the Outstanding Academic Award this year: the girls team had a GPA of 3.6 and the boys 3.5. Forrest and Ashton received 1st team all league and the girls, Maleyna and Mia received 2nd team all league.

Apple Blossom Parade

By: Araceli Cedeno-Cortez

On Saturday, May 6, the OHS band traveled to Wenatchee and participated in the Apple Blossom parade. The Apple Blossom Parade is one of the oldest parades in the Pacific Northwest. There were 19 bands and they got 1st place in their division. It was a fun day full of experiences and exciting moments!

Golf

Congrats to Sami Shade (3rd place with a 99), Mariah Murdock (10th place with a 108) and Rachael Bates (1st alternate with a 115)!! These wonderful ladies have qualified for the WIAA State Golf Tournament and will be representing Othello!



Photo and Text Courtesy of OSD Athletics Facebook

OHS Boys Golf took second place as a team at the District Tournament on Monday May 15th. Will Parrish, Spencer Lawson, and TJ Murdock are heading to the WIAA State Tournament with TJ Murdock being the District Champion!



Photo Courtesy of OSD Athletics Facebook

Farewell to coach Rudy!

By: Ed Petersen



Photo Courtesy of Ed Petersen

After 27 successful years at the helm of Othello High School's fastpitch program, coach Rudy Ochoa has announced his retirement. Rudy coached his last regular season home game at OHS on April 28. An event in his honor was held at the end of a doubleheader with Grandview.

Dubbed "the Godfather of Softball" by Sammy Rocha, the event MC, Rudy was honored by alumni players, district officials including Dr. Pete Perez, and a large crowd that gathered at the field. His influence on the sport far outlasts his 27 years at OHS. Rudy began coaching youth leagues in 1986.

Rudy has led Othello to four state titles in 1999, 2002, 2008, and 2016. He's been named Washington Coach of the Year five times and was inducted into the WSCA Hall of Fame in 2011.

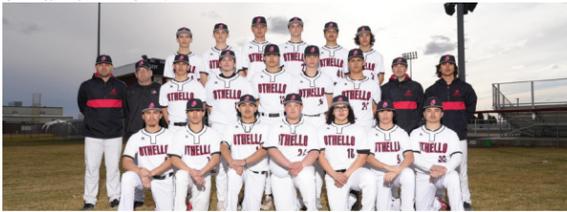


Photo Courtesy of OSD Athletics Facebook

Unified Soccer vs Staff!



Photo Courtesy of OSD Athletics Facebook

The Unified Soccer team's last home game was cancelled on Wednesday May 17th OHS hosted a Unified Soccer versus Staff match!

The match was also senior night, where Andrew Arellano, Omar Bravo, Zair Cambren, Josiah Escamilla, Jesus Hernandez, Eliseo Resendiz, and Annalee Vasequez were recognized. The students beat the staff 6-5. Congrats on your season!

Track and Field

OHS hosted 7 schools for the 2A District Track Meet on May 13th. Thank you to all of our volunteers and local businesses who donated or helped make the day a success!

Kim Alcaraz, Samantha Arreola, Abigail Douglas, Bella Garza, Lacey Garza, Josie Gentry, Kiara Haertling, Dayanara Medina, Sonny Asu, and Terrill Freeman are advancing to Regionals at Ephrata on May 19th

Congrats to Othello's Bella Garza, Josephine Gentry, Abigail Douglas and Lacey Garza for earning All-League honors!

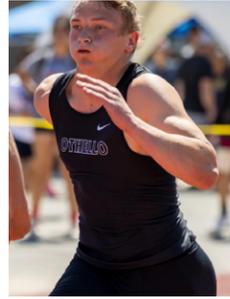


Photo Courtesy of OSD Athletics Facebook

Baseball

By: Mark Bailey

The OHS baseball team closed out another great season! Some highlights include the Varsity Boys team landing 3rd place (8-4) in the league, and 15-8 overall. JV ended the season with a record of 13-5 (8-4 in league) and "C" Team with an overall record of 5-6-1 (1-3-1 in league.)

Sonny Salazar received 1st team All League, while Xzyan Martinez, Jordan Montemayer, and Quade Gonzalez made 2nd Team All League. Honorable mentions for Kal-el Ozuna and Ezra Gonzalez.

Fast-Pitch Softball

Our OHS Lady Huskies advanced to the District 5/6 Championship game against Selah on Tuesday May 16th. The girls lost 11-1 but will play again this Saturday, May 20th in the crossover game against Clarkston. Good luck this weekend, girls, and thanks for a great season!



Photo Courtesy of OSD Athletics Facebook

May Sports Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Boys Jv Golf Boys Baseball	2 Boys Varsity Golf Girls JV & Varsity Golf	3 Girls C-Team Softball	4 Girls JV & Varsity Tennis Boys JV & Varsity Tennis Unified soccer Boys & Girls Varsity track	5 Girls Softball JV & Varsity Girls Tennis JV & Varsity Boys Tennis JV & Varsity	6
7	8 Girls Softball C-Team	9 Boys Varsity Golf Girls Varsity Golf	10	11 Girls Tennis Jv & Varsity Boys Tennis JV & Varsity Unified Soccer	12	13 Girls Varsity Tennis Boys Varsity Tennis Girls & Boys Varsity Track
14	15 Boys Varsity Golf Unified soccer	16 Boys Varsity Tennis Girls Varsity Tennis	17 Girls Varsity Golf	18	19 Boys & Girls Varsity Track	20 Boys Varsity Tennis Girls Varsity Tennis
21	22	23	24	25 Unified Soccer	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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Local News

OHS Teachers Run Bloomsday!

By: Allison Armfield

The Lilac Bloomsday run, also known as Bloomsday, is a 12k (7.46 mile) road race held annually on the first Sunday in May in Spokane, Washington. This race attracts thousands of runners, typically drawing over 30,000 people from across the country and globe. The course starts in downtown Spokane and heads west before heading up the infamous "Doomsday Hill."

While the course is difficult, and many elite athletes are competing for time, the event is also a fun celebration. Many people dress up in costumes and walk the course, spectators line the streets of Spokane with homemade signs, there are bands at several points along the course, and people even set up concessions to sell popsicles, donuts, and beverages.

Ms. Armfield is involved in the Spokane running community and has participated in Bloomsday for the last decade. "I have been running Bloomsday for the past 10 years and don't want to lose my streak now! I used to be in much better shape, but this year I'm just hoping to go out there, do my best, and have a good time running with thousands of my friends."

Mr. Shafer said, "This will be my 8th time to run it. It has become a tradition for me and my family. I run with my wife, while my kids hang out at my brother's house a few blocks from the route. They sit out and cheer for people. My parents are in a cover band, and they have played at Bloomsday for the last few years. It is fun to see them play. After the race, we all go back to my brother's house for a cookout."

This year several OHS teachers participated in the race: Bob Kehret, Paul Firth, Hector Aranzazu, Eric Shafer, Allison Armfield, and Brisa Montejano.

Mr. Kehret has ran Bloomsday for over 20 years, "I got started in 1993, my brother in law got me involved. My brother in law is no longer able to do it so I either do it with myself or other friends. I love the tradition of it (doomsday hill, the nuns that come out to say hi, the guessing of what color the t-shirt will be, running through the cups, etc). I also love that Bloomsday is the "unofficial" start of spring."

This is Mr. Firth's third year running the race - his first being a virtual run during COVID where he and Mr. Aranzazu recreated a course here in Othello!

Student Submission

By: Amilcar Romero, Senior



Events Calendar

May

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Snr Presentation make-ups	3	4 STAR 360 Math	5 Cinco De Mayo Dance	6
7	8 Teacher	9 2Hr Late Start SBA ELA	10 Appreciation 3Hr Late Start SBA ELA/AP Spanish Test	11 3Hr Late Start SBA MATH	12 Week!	13 The Royal Ball 8pm-12am
14	15 AVID Night	16 3Hr Late Start WCAS	17	18 Scholarship Night @ 7pm	19	20
21	22	23	24 Senior Award Assembly	25 Senior Finals 4 & 5	26 Senior Finals 1, 2, & 3	27
28	29 No School Memorial Day	30 Senior Check out/Cap decorating	31 Senior Check out			

June

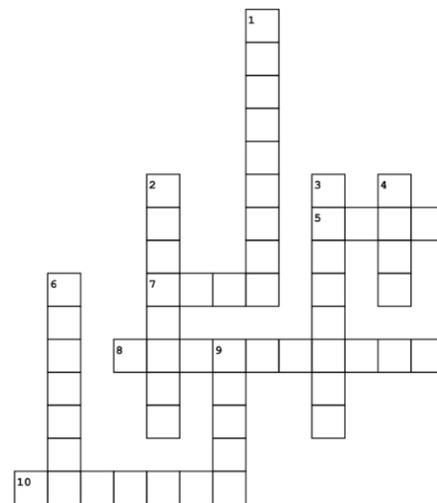
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Grad Walk @8:30am and Senior BBQ @11:07am	2 OHS Graduation Ceremony @7pm	3
4	5 Final Late Work Deadline	6 Super Student Assembly	7	8 Finals Peiods 1, 3, & 5	9 Finals Periods 2 & 4	10
11	12 Field Day	13 Last Day of School - Early Release	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Story Ideas?

If you see or think of anything you think the Huskie Times should be reporting, please submit your story ideas to our new Google Form by using the QR code to the right.



OHS Trivia Crossword Puzzle



Across

5. First name of your 2023/24 ASB President
7. The first name of the softball coach who retired this year
8. 2023 Othello's Got Talent Winner
10. This issue's teacher spotlight: Mr. _____

Down

1. The name of the race that 6 OHS teachers ran this month.
2. The Last day of school is June __, 2023 (spell out)
3. Huskie Times Club Advisor: Ms. _____
4. First name of student who placed 30th in State Horse Judging
6. City where FBLA students competed in their state business leader conference
9. First name of student who got First Team All-League for baseball

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- Pay in 3 easy payments.*
- Signing day is the best day.
- SO. MANY. MEMORIES.