THE CHARGER OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL

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35-DAY GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN PAGE 7 orry WE'RE STATE FLAG **SEPARATING KELSEY WILBORN DESIGN GAINS ARTISTS FROM FEATURE ART OP-ED** SUPPORT Chargers PAGE 5 PAGE 12 PAGE 3

2 News|January 2019|theCharger Debate team hosts first home tournament of season, annual Charger Challenge

By Karina Patel

staff writer

On Jan. 18 and 19, the OHS Speech and Debate team hosted its fourth annual Charger Challenge Speech and Debate Tournament on campus.

The team is led by debate teacher Dr. Barbara Lowe, and it has about 25 students involved. The team attended six tournaments last semester and is planning to attend seven more this semester. This past tournament, however, was different since Lowe and the students were in charge of running the tournament rather than competing in it.

"Schools from all over the state of Mississippi come, and it's fun for my students to be able to be the ones in charge. They're not competing at our tournament, so they're running around doing all the work," Lowe said.

For Lowe and the students, hosting a tournament was an incomparable experience from traveling and competing in tournaments.

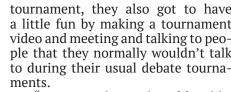
"It's very different because rather than researching a particular topic and writing a case and figuring out how you are going to block the opponent's arguments, we are doing things like making sure we have enough ballots for all the different events and making sure we have enough food to sell in the concession stand and putting signs outside rooms so people know where to go compete," Lowe said.

Rather than focusing on their topics and competing, OHS students worked together. Each student had a job that was essential to the success of the tournament, such as working in the ballot sorting room.

"After every round, the judge writes down their thoughts on a ballot. That ballot, at the end of the tournament, goes to the people who it was actually written about, and in a lot of tournaments, it is kind of difficult to get our ballots back because we might have a missing ballot here or there, so we went through and we made sure that everyone had the right ballots and everyone had the ballots they needed," junior and debate team member Donald Rogers said. "We just tried to make it easier for everyone, so we tried to make it to where all those problems weren't problems anymore."

Students got a chance to see all the behind the scenes work that goes in to successfully hosting a debate tournament. "When you're debating, a lot of times people feel like every round is just so important, but from this perspective, when you see how every round from literally every single person is coming out, you just understand how judges and everything just don't care as much as the students do," senior and debate team captain Cooper Thomason said. "So, it's kind of interesting to see the difference between how much you care about it when you are competing but like some of the people working are just [doing their job]."

While Lowe and the students had a lot of responsibility running the



"You get to have a lot of fun, like the video we ended up doing. So, it's kind of cool to see everybody get to use their talents because I know our team is extremely talented in all this different stuff," Thomason said. "I also really enjoyed getting to work behind the scenes with coaches from other schools that I never really get to talk to, but I found they were pretty funny people."



Senior **Gillian Meyers** and sophomore **Emma Teng** write out the results of the annual Charger Challenge debate tournament. Dr. Barbara Lowe and OHS debate students were in charge of running and hosting the annual tournament that occurred in Oxford High School on Jan. 18 and 19.

JROTC program builds new obstacle, agility course to challenge, train students

By Heath Stevens

staff writer

On Dec. 4, 2018, construction on the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) new obstacle course began as a way to better train students in the JROTC program.

Many of the JROTC students have wanted an obstacle course for years, but the Raiders Challenge team, along with the help of Major Brent Hampton and First Sergeant David Leach, is what really set the idea into motion.

"The First Sergeant David Leach presented the idea. They do a lot of things for PT, training, and they also have a raider team. They've gone to other places and now they can host events and train better here," Principal Chandler Gray said. "[Leach] brought the idea to me, and I thought it was a fantastic idea."

According to Hampton, one of the main issues delaying the course's construction was getting funding and obtaining building materials from the many different suppliers. Most of the building materials were donated by local lumber yards.

"Most of the funding is donations. We've reached out to community lumber yards and suppliers," Hampton said. "[The lumber yards] have made large donations of most of the materials you see out there."

Major Hampton believes the course will help students in a way that wasn't possible before the course was constructed.

"The course was built so that we can expand our physical capability [and] confidence levels," Hampton said. "It's new to them, and it's more challenging than what we've had in the past."

First Lieutenant and junior Lawson Brines has been able to try many parts of the course and has enjoyed them thoroughly.

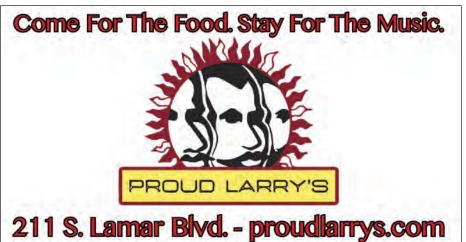
"It was freaking fantastic; it was awesome," Brines said. "It's a little scary right now because we don't have the soft footing, but we'll have that soon. It's just awesome."

The goal of the course was to push and challenge the students in JROTC. It also forces the students to use teamwork to overcome the obstacles. Brines believes the course will benefit students in these ways and will also help boost confidence.

"There are going to be kids that are scared, and, once they're done with that obstacle course, they're gonna have enough confidence to talk to whoever they want and to do whatever they want," Brines said. "The most challenging part is definitely the 10-foot wall. You're not doing it by yourself; you have to have a team."



The new JROTC agility and obstacle course was funded through donations. Many JROTC students have wanted an obstacle course for some time and construction has begun on the course.





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Stennis fights for changing of state flag, designs Stennis Flag

By Molly Archer

editor-in-chief

Is it part of Mississippi's history, or a symbol of hatred and separation? The ongoing controversy over whether the current Mississippi state flag should be replaced is still underway, and Jackson art-ist Laurin Stennis has introduced a new design to potentially replace the current flag.

After moving back to Mississippi from living in Louisiana, Alabama as well as North Carolina, Stennis decided a new design for the Mississippi flag was necessary. She wanted to fly a flag supporting her home state, but refused, as many others have, to fly the current flag as it portrays the confederate flag. Her design has gained considerable popularity throughout the state including support from Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives, Philip Gunn.

'A new logo is about marketing and branding a state," Stennis said. "We've really personalized what the role of a state flag is, and it's not

about honoring particular people's

families or particular people's stories, but it's marketing and branding a state; a place and its people collectively.'

While the Stennis Flag has not been officially chosen, Stennis says that because of its popularity, it has become the "people's choice."

In order for her flag to become the official state flag, the legislative branch would have to approve it as the official flag. There could also be a referendum, such as the vote taken in 2001 deciding to keep the 1894 version of the flag to represent the state.

'I wanted a design that was conservative. I wanted something that was classic, elegant, strong," Stennis said.

The debate on the need for a new flag is rooted in the use of the Confederate Battle Flag in the design of the flag. During the Civil War, the battle flag was flown by the Confederacy while fighting to preserve slavery as a part of American culture. This piece of history is embedded in the current flag representing Mississippi, and some believe

it is time for a change. Stennis designed her flag in hopes that it would still present its onlookers with a piece of the state's history as well as bring new expectations moving forward.

"I wanted something that captured our history, but was also hopeful and was not stuck in time in any one place," Stennis

said. "I also wanted to match the colors of the United States flag exactly so that when they were paired together, which they often

they

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in

strong

Flag Source

in Jackson.

According

to Stennis,

"We've really are, personalized looked rewhat the role ally strong of a state flag and handis, and it's not some about honor- gether ing particular addition people's fami- to it being lies or particu- a lar people's s t a n d stories, but alone." it's marketing The Stenand branding nis Flag is a state; a place the number and its people one selling collectively.' flag at the Complete

Laurin Stennis Stennis Flag designer

the store often finds it hard to keep the Stennis Flag in stock.

"We [Mississippi] have so much wonderful history as well as things to look forward to, and I think that this [Stennis] flag opens up that conversation and we can talk about our food and our music and our literature and our industry," Stennis said. "Our current flag does not allow the conversation to go in any of those directions, and we need a logo that allows us to brag about the state and have a more positive impression."

Many people, including Speaker Gunn, agree with Stennis and are fighting to change and adopt the Stennis flag as the official banner of Mississippi. According to Stennis, she is not only fighting to change the flag, but she is also "fighting to protect the private display of other symbols." The artist is optimistic that the flag will change, but does not want to shame anyone that feels differently.

We know that various symbols mean things to Mississippians, and we don't want to shame people about that," Stennis said. "We just want the state to have a new logo.

The goal of the Stennis Flag is to unite all people as well as start up positive discussions, which Stennis believes the current flag does not achieve.

'I wake up every day believing we'll have a new flag," Stennis said. "[The current flag] doesn't fly at our state universities. It doesn't fly at any of the major corporations in our state. It doesn't fly at many homes. It doesn't fly at many businesses, and it's because it's a bad logo. It's not welcoming. It's not hospitable. It's provocative, not evocative, so we need to address that."





O @lulusoxford

Molly Archer • the Charger



One year after Parkland shooting, changes continue at OHS

By Anna Barrett

associate editor

After almost one year since the Parkland shooting in Florida, where 17 students lost their lives, high schools across the country, including Oxford High School have taken measures to prevent school shootings.

"Over the course of time, we have met with local police and law enforcement to develop a safety plan for our school," Principal Chandler Gray said.

Junior Riley Merrell feels safe with the safety plan Oxford has in place, especially with the police and security that are stationed around the school. She believes that the safety plan is proactive in both keeping the students safe, while also teaching the students the importance of safety.

"I do feel safe, especially since adding the precautions we did in the past year," Merrell said. "The resource officers, who are very interactive with students, help us to feel like we are protected, and simple things like extra time during the fire drill, I think, is smart."

According to School Resource Officer (SRO) Zach Anderson, many officers have been trained and continue to train in case an event occurs.

"This past summer, myself and some other officers attended an in-depth training concerning the integrated response, and the Parkland shooting and other school shootings has put this at the forefront of everybody's minds," Anderson said. "There is more training

now and more officers are willing to go because this is something that we need to address."

Gray believes that education is the most important part to keeping the students and faculty safe.

"We have worked with Mike Martin, who is the director of safety, and he has worked really well with both the schools and local law enforcement to help develop the plans we have to ensure safety. We have had drills and situations where we want the students to know what it is like to have an ac-

"It is not a concern that students think of a shooter immediately when a lockdown is called. I would rather our minds go there and be proactively safe, than something bad ally happen. I am always a fan of airing on the side of caution."

Chandler Gray principal

many precautions as possible to ensure students' safety.

"We made some decisions on how we want our SROs to be stationed. We now moved them to the front of the school so they could see out of the front, just

tive shooter. We have educated teachers, and we brought in someone who specializes in those situations. They trained our teachers on some triage things, and

we are working with our SROs and law enforcement to provide some supplies for teachers to help them in case a situation like that occurs."

Oxford takes as kind of small safety things that help us," Gray said. "If there is someone in the school without a pass, myself or other administrators or an SRO officer will approach them, even someone we recognize who aren't students here or faculty here. We bring them to the office and explain to them the importance of checking in through the front office. We tell them the importance and explain to them we have to protect our kids, and most of the time they

people want to do things the right way." After a recent lockdown at the high school, many students' ideas about school shootings were put into perspective. There was some information that came out quickly to the officers on their radios

understand and are very cooperative. Generally

about a possible weapon at the school. The officers and administration acted how they felt was appropriate instead of not acting. It showed how serious things are for students even though the information was misinterpreted.

"It is not a concern that students think of a shooter immediately when a lockdown is called. I would rather our minds go there and be pro-

actively safe than something bad actually happen. I am always a fan of airing on the side of caution," Gray said.

Separating the artist from their art

it's time we discuss the **elephant** in the room.

Klaria Holmes || Opinions Editor

"When **** hit the fan, is you still a fan?" This lyric, spoken by Kendrick Lamar, in this age of technology, access to numerous news sources and in the throws of the #MeToo movement, rings true. When you're in the limelight, it's hard for your secrets to stay secrets. Especially the most controversial ones.

We've always lived in a society that places celebrities' lives under the lens of a microscope, but with the invention of the internet, it became much easier to judge them based on their actions. That metaphorical microscope brought way to 'cancel culture.'

'Cancel culture' is the idea that when someone, celebrity or not, does something problematic, they're cancelled.

There are several problems with 'cancel culture.'

For one, several influential celebrities have been deemed 'cancelled' for small actions, such as disagreeing with the norm. Another downside is that if you decide personally that you aren't going to 'cancel' someone, you yourself could be 'cancelled' or ostracized.

Living in a society now referred to as 'cancel culture' is not ideal. It makes the argument that humans are incapable of change, which is unrealistic.

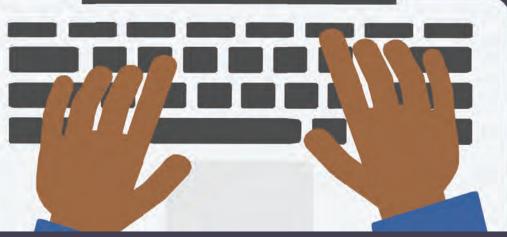
On the other side of that argument, one's actions hold a severe amount of weight in whether they're going to be 'cancelled' or not. It's not a shock that certain actions seem to be more unforgivable than others.

Did the person in question tweet something racist, ho-

mophobic or sexually assault their significant other? Did the person in question make misogynistic comments or force underwomen age into a secret sex cult that's been talked for about years with no real repercussions?

For brief period, #MeToo the movement hadn't af-l fected me personally. wasn't a fan of those accused before the allegations, and the allegations waved anv chance of me being a fan of those accused. It wasn't





until Kevin Spacey made the list that the #MeToo movement stood on my front porch.

After Kevin Spacey, I knew firsthand the difficulty of finding out that one of your favorite (insert occupation here) had been accused of horrendous crimes, especially the horror that comes when more than one victim appears.

After all, most of the assaulters are actors, producers, people who've created and perfected their art over the span of years. Some of us have grown up watching, listening or viewing their art, so when news breaks of the horrific crimes, we're shocked. One could even argue that it hurts.

As someone who can probably quote "The Usual Suspects" in her sleep, I was almost heartbroken when I heard the news. Suddenly, I couldn't watch the movie without feeling guilty about it.

Kevin Spacey has officially crossed the metaphorical line in the sand that I had drawn for other artists, and because I loved and respected him and his artwork, I didn't know where to stand.

Therein lies the main debate of separating the artist from their art.

On one hand, if you have loved an artist for years or even just followed their work, you've contributed to their success and their monthly paycheck, and you can't deny that some of the names on that list are talented people.

You also can't deny that people are capable of change and maturing. It's unrealistic to believe that how someone was in

high school is how they will be for the rest of their life.

On the other hand, some of the crimes that several artists have committed horrenare dous. On the official' list of #MeToo abusers, there are around 200 in total, are the likes of serial rapists, sexual abusers, crimes that cannot easily be for-

given. The list of abusers in various occupations continues to grow and with that being said, I have one question: "When ****

hit the fan, is you still a fan?"

the**Charger**

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Opinion January 2019 theCharger RTHER DIVIDES PART By Jesse Edge them truly meet that standard.

Unbiased news of American politics is currently inaccessible to the new voter.

The Democratic and Republican parnews organizations have taken sides disabling the new voter from comfortably and intelligently entering the political realm.

The two main news sources peo-Fox and CNN, are able places to cre-

feed off of each other's opposing

From the beginning Fox was not entirely credible because its foundation was created with the purpose of promoting the Republican

Trump's inauguration, CNN has fallen into an its credibility.

politics until President office in 2016. After CNN was consistently a reliable source for unbiased news.

news his inauguration political events,

Some would claim that BBC, The Washington Post and The New Yorker are the solu-

Fox and CNN are leaders in their journalistic realms and other news sources follow

or reporting bias,



ing divide in politics and news American

views, pointing out flaws and labeling one



1 curate or fake. While erupts, unbiased unavailable

young people, and the general public don't without their news sources being tented partisan. While these news organizations claim to be neutral and represent the truth, none of

candidates John McCain and Barack Obama courthouse using CNN due to the fact it rested in the middle between MSNBC and Fox.

While the Trump administration continues its dispute with news organizations like spokesmen for Trump's administrations. This historically Republican corporation has only drifted further and further right.

The failure of both popular news organizations to accurately and unbiasedly report

and



jointed government to which the people have no input or information on.

Today's America is in shambles and thats largely to blame for its inoperable news

When you are facing legal challenges, do not face them alone.



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GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN Effects of partial government shutdown hit close to home

By Eve Gershon

features editor

The latest government shutdown was the longest in history—lasting a total of 35 days. It affected hundreds of thousands of Americans across the country, including right here in Oxford. Though the shutdown is over for now, President Trump stated that things might change if plans for a border wall aren't set up by Feb. 15.

Assistant Principal Nikki Logan heard the stories of many students who were worried about the shutdown and are nervous about the government's insecure future.

"Usually based on the relationships I have with the students, they have shared some information with me about specific needs that they have based upon a trickle effect of the government shutdown," Logan said. "For example, had a student mention to me that she had a fear of not having enough food stamps to get through this government shutdown because those are issued, in her opinion, from the government."

This student, Student One, was not sure what her family would have done if the shutdown continued.

"My grandmother [was] worried about how she [was] going to feed my little sister and me," Student One said.

According to NBC News, Trump initiated the partial shutdown after he was unable to get funds allocated to allow the building of a border wall to prevent illegal immigrants from coming into the U.S. from Mexico.

Student One feels as though these reasons were unjustifiable for the stress the shutdown ______ caused her and so many others' families.

"I do not think [Trump] likes the [immigrants],

and he wants to stop them coming to the U.S. for the American dream of working and helping their families," Student One said. "A lot of people could get kicked out of the United States because of it."

Logan did what she could in her position as a principal to help Student One.

"In my role, I obviously can't control anything that's going on with the government, but I'm able to use the resources that we have in the community to help that specific child," Logan said. "In this case, I contacted Camille Bianco with the Lovepacks. I was able to get that child secured to get a Lovepack weekly as long as she needs it."

If another shutdown occurs and concerns about food stamps once again come into play, Logan talked about having a food drive specifically for OSD students.

Beyond those concerned about food stamps, Logan has came into contact with students who have families currently living in Mexico. They are worried that the building of a wall will mean that they won't be able to see their families.

"We do have some students that have families that are on the other side of the border, and we've watched them also have concerns about 'what does this look like for me?' 'Will I be able to see my family again?'" Logan said. "We just are able to counsel those kids and provide resources to them that can help their immediate needs here. You know, comfort them that whatever they need from us, just ask, and we'll try to find a solution to help them focus on their academics here and then help their families as well."

Logan is doing what she can to help the students here succeed, but she is disheartened by all that she can't do.

"I think what bothers me is watching the concern on students because of the unknown factors

that will come from this issue," Logan said.

Student Two shares similar worries about the unknown. Student Two's mother works for the government as a research scientist for the Southern Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service and has not been paid since the shutdown's start. Though she hopes to be paid soon, not a lot of definite information has been given out about when furloughed employees will receive their pay checks.

"We have savings, so it hasn't affected us that much, but my mom [was] home a lot more, and she had some work that she [had] to do, so she [was] just really annoyed a lot," Student Two said.

While Student Two's mom was able to catch up with some things at home with her lessened workload, Student Two found that the situation was not ideal.

"My mom is kind of an exempt part-time employee, so if there [was] something that [had] to be done for the shutdown, she [was] allowed to go in," Student Two said. "Because of that, she's not allowed to get another job, but I do know that one of her coworkers might quit because of it and [was] looking for another job."

Student Two cannot believe how long it took for the shutdown to end and is still worried about the government's future.

"I think it's kind of ridiculous because they refuse to compromise or even talk," Student Two said. "I just think that the two sides [Democrats and Republicans] should meet and come to a compromise and not act like children."

Though happy the shutdown is over, Student Two is concerned that the unrest on Capitol Hill is far from over.

"I'm hoping that a deal will be made in the next three weeks, "Student Two said. "But I have no confidence in that."



Courtesy of Stephen Strauss

junior Aaliyah Bough-

"The Last Goodbye" by junior Han-

nah Spillers won an Honorable

Mention and was created using acrylic paint. Spillers decided to

ton because she was her "muse.

"Rusty Roads" by senior Khyan

Freelon won a Silver Key and

was drawn using colored penciles.

The drawing features his aunt-in-

law's deceased brother doing what

he loves most, working on cars.

feature

Scholastic Art & Writing award-winners tell story through artwork

By Nadeen Al-Ostaz

staff writer

Thirteen students from OHS received awards from the Scholastic Art & Writing contest—some receiving as many as three. Each piece holds a story, but those stories took some motivation to go from the paintbrush to the canvas.

Three Gold Keys, five Silver Keys and nine Honorable Mentions were awarded. Art teacher Stephen Strauss says that 25 students from OHS entered a total of 62 pieces, but many of his students needed a push to enter.

"They deserve the awards and worked really hard on them. The hardest part was just motivating them to do it—to reach their highest potential," Strauss said. "As soon as you say awards, the students think to themselves, 'Is there money involved?' and if there's not, it's harder to motivate them. But, now that they've gotten [the awards], they feel way more motivation and confidence. They feel like they can do anything."

Junior Hannah Spillers, who earned an honorable mention for "The Last Goodbye," painted her piece as a way of portraying emotions, such as sadness, some people may be too scared to show. She was enthusiastic when she found out that she won.

"I was really excited because I was hoping that that painting would get an award because it's one of my favorite paintings that I've ever done," Spillers said. "So, I was just really excited about that because I wanted that specifically to get something, so that was just a really good feeling."

Students could submit work they made for the contest or just work they did throughout the semester. Senior Khyan Freelon, who is both a Silver Key and Gold Key winner, submitted "Rusty Roads," which got him the Silver Key. The drawing of his uncle, who passed away, was for his aunt-in-law. It features him going along with his everyday life, working on cars.

"This was a gift for [my aunt's] mother," Freelon said. "She wanted a way that she can remember her son in the environment of what he did and what he was good at."

Strauss says that this contest has allowed for students to grow, see what exactly they're capable of and build up their confidence.

'One who got a Gold Key, [junior] Maggie Sudduth, spent a long time on her painting, and I emailed her and told her she had a Gold Key," Strauss said. "She came up to me the next day in art class and she says, 'You know what, I want to do another competition. I want to do another piece of artwork.' I was like, 'Really? You don't usually talk like this,' because she never thought she would win a competition, and now she has so much confidence. So, the ones who have gotten awards just feel like they're on top of the world, so it has influenced them to try even better. I think that's an important thing because until you get an award for something, you don't know that you're able to accomplish it."

Sophomore Emma Teng, who won

a Gold Key for her piece "Clarity," says that her confidence has also grown as people recognized her for her hard work. She says that this has also taught her to encourage those around her.

"I think this whole experience has really made me realize that it's important to pay attention to other people's talent, you know," Teng said. "Because when you see someone doing something that you think is cool, you should tell them because it is really encouraging for them and will encourage them to do more of it in the future."

Teng says she has looked at the online submissions and that "it's really amazing how much talent is in the nation and even our state." Spillers agrees.

"All of the pieces that I saw that were submitted, I think that they all should have gotten awards," Spillers said. "They were just so good, and the ones that did definitely deserved it because they were just so phenomenal."

The students will receive their awards on Feb. 16, and those who got Gold Keys will progress to compete further throughout the nation. Strauss is happy to see that his students have seen their potential and their growth.

"It's hard to put into words how proud I am of the students," Strauss said. "The fact that I get to teach these students that got awards, it means the world to me, and I hope more and more people will look at the art nationally and put more and more people into it."



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theCharger January 2019 Entertainment

Dance Challenges

TREN

Ever since the electric slide, signature dances for songs have been very popular, but I'm sorry, there is no challenge in doing a dance.

Emo Rap

Emo Rap basically started on soundcloud with rappers like Lil Peep and Juice WRLD. Will people eventually get tired of people crying and moaning over beats? We will see.

Carpool Karaoke

The Late Late Show With James Corden shows no plan to slow down with this popular segment interviewing and singing with musical artists. Dance Challenges: 11.8%

CARPOOL KARAOKE: 0% EMO RAP: 16.7%

> FORTNITE: 43.8%



Fortnite

Fortnite has crept into the home of just about everyone who plays video games due to it being etremely accessible and a very simple battle Royale style game. Will it fall to the year 2019?

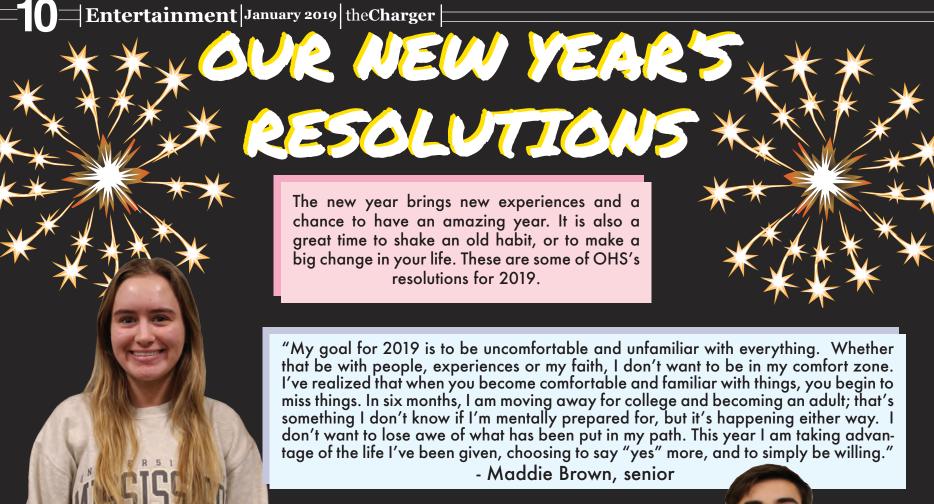
TikTok

TikTok is a social media platform that gives you the ability to record videos and edit and dub over them, leading to a Vine-like fad of an app. Will it have the same end?



TIKTOK:

23.2%



"I wanted to eat out less because I spent way too much money in 2018. During the last two months of 2018, I would be eating out two to three times a week, and it would cost a lot. My goal is to save money, and the best way for me to do that is to eat out less. I plan on putting this into action by only eating out when necessary, like if my friends are all eating out I will too, but if it's just because I'm too lazy to make something at home, I'll skip it. Unfortunately, I've already eaten out three times in the first week of 2019. But from now on, I will do my best to stick to it.

- Ethan Holben, junior



Ruth Bader Ginsburg's rise to power masterfully presented in "On the Basis of Sex"

By Ellis Farese

staff writer

A sea of well-dressed men with uptight personas swarm the screen at the start of the film, and in the midst of the suits is a petite, bright-eyed woman. The year was 1956, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg was one of nine women out of a class of five hundred at Harvard Law School. After her second year at Harvard, Ruth's husband, Marty Ginsburg, received a job offer in New York City. Ruth Ginsburg decided to complete her education at Columbia University, and by the end of her graduate education she had built up a very impressive resumé. In the '70s Ginsburg began her hunt for a position at a law firm in the city, but her flawless resumé was overlooked due to her sex. The position of her dreams was unattainable at this point, and she took a job teaching sex discrimination at Rutgers University. Ruth Bader Ginsburg, an accomplished student with undeniable credentials, was forced to settle as a professor. Today, Ruth sits as one out of the three women on the Supreme Court of the United States, a title that she did not receive from being a professor at Rutgers. "On the Basis of Sex" captures Ginsburg's passionate fight to overcome one of the nation's most important issues.

The movie succeeds in realistically placing us in the world of Ruth Ginsburg, with Felicity Jones perfectly capturing Ginsburg's essence. From her wittiness and cutting-edge determination, Jones encompasses Ginsburg's persona to a T. Her time at Harvard in the first act of the movie is the perfect environment to set a tone for and start the film. The administrators of the school are set up as antagonists, not only by not believing in Ginsburg, but intentionally making it harder for Ginsberg to get her degree. Our main character immediately has the forces of "the man" against her, but it becomes clear very early on that Ginsburg is surrounded by men that have no interest in helping her and would love to see her fail and fall back into the womanly stereotypes of the era. This setting placed on Ginsburg makes it all the more devastating when her support system and the one

man who has her back, her husband, is diagnosed with cancer. Ginsburg is all on her own, fighting the system, and completely overachieving in her school work. Her challenging start at Harvard and familial struggles do a marvelous job of compelling the audience with the ultimate underdog story.

Not only is the movie entertaining, but it maintains historically accurate information. The more accurate information and details included the better, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg herself has confirmed that the movie is an accurate depiction of her life and civil rights efforts. Ginsburg said during a panel discussion after the movie screening that the only scene of her portrayed inaccurately is when she is shown hesitating as she stands before the court. Which, out of all the scenes that could've been altered, is somewhat disappointing to me because it seems it is an effort to show Ginsburg less confident in her argument and more timid and unsure, which was not the case.

Including small but powerful and moving moments into the film re-

ally excelled the emotional aspect of the story. One of those scenes being when Ginsburg is shown walking up the steps of the courthouse, and then appears the real Ruth Bader Ginsburg in her place. Letting the audience recognize that this is a real story about a real woman makes the film a more personal experience. "On the Basis of Sex" managed to include enough, but not an overwhelming amount, of information throughout Ginsburg's lifetime. The cohesive timeline and plot give the audience an easy way to watch some of the most consequential moments in history unfold. Not only is this movie a nice, easy watch, but it is an important one too, due to the significance of Ginsburg's actions that still need to be recognized, especially in the current climate of our discriminatory world. I encourage everyone to take the time to see this film, and I can ensure you will leave fulfilled.





Blackmon chosen for 2019 North Mississippi All-Starteam

By Grace Logan

sports editor

Junior and OHS basketball team captain Kylan Blackmon has been chosen as one of the 12 players from 4A, 5A and 6A division to play for the North Mississippi team in the 2019 All-Star game.

"I think it is warranted based on his stats this year and from the way he represents his school and his team and now he will represent the North of the state," head coach Drew Tyler said.

Blackmon serves as captain as a junior and according to Tyler is "always eyes and ears."

"He is like a human sponge," Tyler said. "He is very coachable and teachable. He makes today count for tomorrow."

Blackmon believes that his role as captain means that he is capable.

"Being a captain this year just means that it is a leadership role for me on and off the court for my younger teammates but also the upperclassmen," Blackmon said.

Don Frugé, junior and Blackmon's fellow teammate, says he has respect for Blackmon.

"Kylan is a great captain and role model because he handles his business on and off the court, and is the first to congratulate others," Frugé said. "He leads by example. He pushes himself to be better and go harder in drills or games, and it makes the rest of the team follow."

From an injury his freshman year to leading the team as a junior, Blackmon, according to Tyler, has had to play different roles within the program.

"He understands and does not mind his leadership role because at times he has to take an approach with his teammates and say things that they may not like at the time but will respect," Tyler said.

but will respect," Tyler said. Along with Tyler, Frugé thinks that Blackmon is a reliable teammate and captain.

"He pushes himself, and that makes others around him better," Frugé said. "You can rely on Kylan to give 110 percent every time he is on the court. You can rely on him to meet you and help with anything, no matter how big or small the problem. His reliability helps make him a good teammate and captain."

For Blackmon, basketball has affected his life in many ways.

"It keeps me out of trouble and keeps my mind off of things," Blackmon said. "I know school comes first and all, but basketball just takes me to another place."

Blackmon wants to be known

by his teammates and community as a "hard worker and dedicated to whatever he does."

"Whatever I put my mind to, I just want to try my best at," Blackmon said.

The North-South 4A, 5A, 6A All-Star game will be Mar. 23 at Mississippi College af-

Wilborn combines skill, leadership in senior year

By Walker Bailey sports writer

The

Ox-

ford Lady Chargers basketball team has enjoyed a bounce back season to this point. Oxford went 4-24 last season, but they now find themselves



Junior **Kylan Blackmon** shoots a free throw earlier in the season while facing Lafayette. The Chargers defeated the Commodores in both of their matchups this year.

ter the conclusion of the regular season. For now, Blackmon said he is focusing on finishing out the season.

"This season we are going to make a run to Jackson," Blackmon said.

From a coach's perspective, the All-Star game will catapult Blackmon into his senior year.

"I really think he will take even a more serious approach since college is nearing, and he has the potential to play at a college level," Tyler said. with a 12-9 record with six division games remaining in the season. Senior Kelsey Wilborn has played a vital role in the season's quick recovery, and she has big goals for herself this year.

"I want to try and average more than 10 points per game this year," Wilborn said. "I also want to grow with my teammates on the court, but I also want to grow as individuals, too."

According to head coach Cliff Ormon, Wilborn's year-to-year development has just come with a lot of experience. While he knew her skill work would need to be refined, Wilborn's effort was never a question

"I knew when she tried out freshman year that she was a superb athlete," Ormon said. "She needed a lot of work as far as skill work, but she loved to compete. That's the one

"I knew when she tried out freshman year that she was a superb athlete. She needed a lot of work as far as skill work, but she loved to compete. That's the one thing that she sustained over the ourse of her career."

Cliff Ormon

head coach

thing that she sus tained over the course of her career, and even as a freshman, she hit one of the biggest shots of the year that won us district the champion ship.' According to

According to Wilborn, the team has yet to play their best game this season.

Her goal for the team is to have the chance to compete at the highest level at the end of the team's season.

"I want to make it all the way to state," Wilborn said. "I think we can do it as long as we play our best basketball consistently and continue to work hard as a team."

When playing, Wilborn notes that she has extremely selective hearing. While on the court, she can see everything going on around her but cannot hear the fans in the stands. This helps her when traveling to raucous environments on the road.

"I don't think people would know that I have very selective hearing," Wilborn said. "I always see people in the stands cheering, but I can never hear what they are saying directly. Like my mom, she yells at me all the time for the stands, but I never know until after the game when she says something to me about it."

Wilborn gives Ormon a lot of the credit for developing her as both a player and a person.

According to Wilborn, she wouldn't be where she is without her coach, and looks forward to finishing her basketball career with him as her head coach.

"Ormon has played a major role in my development," Wilborn said. "He did what every coach is supposed to do, which is push you beyond what you think you can do. I honestly didn't think that I would be scoring double digits, but after him calling me a goof a few times and yelling at me to be strong, I got in order."

theCharger | January 2019 | Sports = 13= Hickey, Gates-Powell begin Unified Sports during lunch

By Rosie Fruge

staff writer

During lunch, OHS hosted the Unified sports basketball game. Many students attended to cheer on the players. Students like junior Don Fruge helped referee and coach the game.

'I thought it was fun to see everyone involved and cheering." said Fruge.

The coaches and players, such as junior Ira Morgan signed up this October. There were times where the boys were able to practice, but some were not able to attend either out of school and in school practices.

"I signed up about two months ago and there was one practice before the game, but I could not attend," Morgan said.

The players in particular had multiple practices to get ready for the game.

"Players had practice a lot during lunch and after school," Fruge said. "The practices were both in and out of school, and some of them were there."

The coaches and referees signed up because they thought it would be a fun experience and it would give them an experience they hadn't had before.

"I was asked to volunteer by Mrs Minnie because she said she thought I would make a good referee." Morgan said.

This experience really was able to give them a chance to do something that they would not normally get to

do. Plus, they had a fun time with it according to many students and teachers.

"I would happily do it again and I got to help out some pretty great people. It definitely changed me as a person." Morgan said.

The coaches, referees, and the. Audience were entertained and happy to be there according to principal Chandler Gray.

"This year we really wanted to expand everything and really take it to the next level for everyone to enjoy. It has been fantastic for the kids with the girls basketball and boys basketball going on right now," Gray said, "Even the kids that get to be referees and get their whistles, and they get excited to be a part of that process. It is just really neat to see them have that opportunity."

The game consisted of students with intellectual disabilities and students without disabilities, and there were a few requirements to play according to Rose Hickey.

"They have to have good grades, no behavior issues or write-ups, just like any other sport." Hickey said.

All of the games were as expected. This is because the practice was good, and they worked very hard to get where they were.

'We practice during lunch a few days a week," Hickey said. "The game was Amazing."

This idea has been in the works for these students for about three year according to the Unified Sports Coordinator and Coach Minnie Gates-

Powell. "When I was Special Olympics, "The some of the inforand I was reading some of the information about unified sports, and I definitely knew it would be perfect for Oxford," said Gates-Powell.

This is a chance for these students to actually get to compete, and feel like they aren't like "other students."

"It helps to build friendships. It is social time for the players, and then they actually want to be competitive. They want to be competitive like the others; they enjoy the sports, so they enjoy basketball and being with their friends," said gates-Powell

The students are able to do something they haven't been able to do before, which is being a part of a team.

"They are finally able to feel like they are a part of something. Some-

times you have wanted to be a part of something your whole life, and you never really get a chance for no reason," Gray said, "This gives them a chance to do that, and it puts everyone on the same playing field, and what I really love from this experience is that you really just get to love on the people around you, and to see someone you might not see everyday in your classroom, but you find out that you love about or even more of some of the things that they do too."

They are now planning on having more Unified Sports games at OHS, especially basketball, since there was such a good reaction and turnout to this new event.

"Unified sports is a sport at OHS now, we will have more games in January and February," Hickey said.





PLANT LOVER OF THE MONTH... SIENA CIZDZIEL!





Top: Junior Cecil Turner dribbles the basketball for the blue team. Bottom: Juniors Ladorian Vaughn blocks Clayton Dabbs shot during the game Jan. 10. Left: Junior Embry Ellen Fox dribbles towards the goal.

= **4**=|Sports|January 2019|theCharger| Indoor track season begins this year with hopeful wins

By Edward Brown

sports writer

The year 2019 is underway and with it so is the indoor track season. The track team began practicing before students were let out for winter break, but the practices are now in full swing. Head coach Chris Patton feels confident about how the team will compete this season.

"I feel pretty well about this upcoming track season," Patton said. "We've been working very hard in training in the cold and rain just to get prepared for the season."

The team has lost multiple runners to graduation after last school year. Patton says his current seniors and many juniors will have to step up to help lead the team.

"Jaquan Webb and Tyrese Ivy will be missed this year," Patton said. "Those guys started contributing as underclassmen and gained the experience over the years to help our team."

Junior Walt Johnson is a long distance runner for the team and competes in the two mile and one mile events. Johnson has a positive outlook for the season but knows that it will be a challenge to ultimately win state against some of the other 6A schools and runners in Mississippi.

'Last year in the state track meet, when I was a sophomore, the overall winner of the two mile was a junior by the name of Clay Derrick," Johnson said. "He goes to Oak Grove and will be hard to beat this year."

Both Johnson and Patton foresee the long and short distance runners on the team to be very crucial to the success of the team. Patton says that some of the longer distance runners will have to keep running well for the team

"Jaquan Webb Ivy will be missed this year. Those guys started contributing as underclassment and gained the experience over the yeras to help our team."

Chris Patton head coach

to be successful. "If these guys can stay and Tyrese healthy, they can really have a special year" Patton said. "I think our strong areas this year will be in the 3200m, 1600m, 800m, the relays and hurdles."

Since he still has one year of high school and running after this 2019 season, Johnson will have a chance to help the team win state next year. But, Johnson knows that this team has the ability to beat every other team in the state.

'I feel that we will surprise a lot of teams at the state meet," Johnson said. "We have a lot of good sprinters this year,

which obviously plays a big part, and I believe me and a couple other distance runners will do our At an indoor track meet, 2018 graduate Tyrese Ivy jumps at one of part as well."



the meets last year. It is one of their many meets during the season.

Boys' soccer team continue to playoffs, finish 15-6

By Preston Hooker

sports writer

The boys' soccer team under head coach Charley Sabatier clinched a playoff berth after beating Columbus 7-0.

"I've been proud of the effort level that we've put forth. We have come up short in a few matches against some good teams," Sabatier said. "This is a team that doesn't have as many seniors as we had last year. One could say it's a rebuilding year, but this team has done almost exactly the same as last year's team."

Moving forward, the team wants to focus on improving offensively.

'The struggle with this year's team has been consistently scoring goals. There are days where our attack has been firing on all cylinders and we've beaten some good teams like Clinton 5-0," Sabatier said. "There have been games where we haven't been able to find the back of the net. If we can't score goals consistently, we can't win soccer games."

Junior forward Luke Freeman credited the improvement of the midfield and defensive play throughout the season to the success of the team



Junior Stone Tosh runs to get the ball against Tupelo High School; they at Bobby Holcomb Field and they lost 2-4 played Tupelo in overtime.

"Throughout the season our midfield has gotten a lot stronger. They've figured out how to make quicker and sharper passes," Freeman said. "Our defense has figured out how to play really strong too."

The team has dealt with some ups and downs, most notably losing twice to Tupelo and dealing with the loss of senior center back Joseph Robinson due to a fractured collarbone.

'It's tough when a kid goes skiing over Christmas break and breaks his collarbone even though there is a team policy against no skiing over Christmas break," Sabatier said. "Doctor said it's going to be three weeks, and then we'll check back in. It was a minor injury to his collarbone. It's definitely a huge loss. Anytime you lose a senior starter in your back line it's a tough position to fill."

Sabatier gives credit to junior Max Mobley and underclassmen Jack and Tannehill John West Perry for

stepping up to help fill the hole created by the loss of Robinson, who hopes to be healthy enough to return to action in time for the playoffs.

When I hurt my shoulder, the ski patrolmen advised me that it wasn't broken and said I could keep riding on it for the next few days. When I got home and it wasn't feeling any better, I went to get it checked out and found out that it was fractured," Robinson said. "Luckily, it's not as bad as it could've been. Hopefully I'll be able to return to help us make a playoff run."

The boys lost in the first round of playoffs 2-1 against Clinton High School. They finished the season with a 15-6 record.

theCharger | Enero 2019 | Las Noticias = 15 **STORIES FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE, NOW IN SPANISH** Efectos del cierre parcial del gobierno tocaron profundamente

Por Livvy Cohen y Sophia Wheeler

redactor jefe y escritora colaboradora

El cierre del gobierno actual es el más largo de la historia— duró más de 30 días. Este cierre ha afectado a cientos de miles de estadounidenses, incluyendo algunas personas en Oxford. Algunos estudiantes, sus familias, y aun la escuela podrían ser afectados si el cierre continúa.

Muchos estudiantes le han dicho a la vicerrectora Nikki Logan sus miedos de que el cierre afectará a sus familias y sus vidas.

Un estudiante le dijo a Logan que su familia podría verse afectada por el cierre. Su familia recibe estampillas de comida, y teme que se les salgan los sellos de comida emitidos durante este cierre. Ella no sabe cómo su abuela le dará de comer a ella y su hermana, el estudiante anónimo dice

Según NBC News, el presidente Trump inició el cierre después de que no recibió el financiamiento para un muro en la frontera mexicana, en un intento de detener la inmigración ilegal. Estudiante Uno cree que esto no es una razón justificable para cerrar el gobierno y causar estrés a las familias.

Logan está haciendo lo que puede con los recursos que tiene para ayudar al Estudiante Uno. Logan contactó a Camille Bianco para que el Estudiante Uno pudiera recibir a Lovepacks semanalmente durante el tiempo que lo necesite.

Si el cierre continua, Logan ha hablado de tener una unidad de alimentos específicamente para los estudiantes de OSD. Más allá de los cupones de alimentos, los estudiantes tienen familia viviendo en el lado mexicano de la frontera. Temen que no vuelvan a ver a sus familias.

Según Logan, la escuela solo puede aconsejarles a estos estudiantes y brindar recursos que pueden ayudarlos en sus necesidades inmediatas para que puedan concentrarse en sus estudios académicos y luego ayudar a sus familias también.

Logan está haciendo lo que puede para ayudar a que los estudiantes de aquí tengan éxito, pero está desanimada por todo lo que no puede hacer.

Según Logan, lo que más le molesta es observar la preocupación de los estudiantes, ya sea que estén afectados o no, debido a los factores desconocidos que surgirán de este tema, como las declaraciones de impuestos. Muchas familias dependen de que regresen dentro de ese período de enero a abril, lo que podría llevar a más problemas que deberán abordarse desde un aspecto escolar.

Estudiante Dos comparte preocupaciones sobre lo desconocido. Su madre trabaja para el gobierno como investigadora científica para la Estación de Investigación del Sur del Servicio Forestal y no se le ha pagado desde el inicio del cierre.

Estudiante Dos dice que su familia tiene ahorros, por lo que el cierre no les ha afectado mucho, pero su madre está en casa mucho más y no ha podido hacer cosas por su trabajo que deben completarse.

Mientras su madre ha podido hacer más cosas en casa sin los deberes y preocupaciones del trabajo, Estudiante Dos encuentra que la situación no es ideal.

La madre de Estudiante Dos es de una empleada de medio tiempo exenta, por lo que si hay algo que debe hacerse para el cierre, se le permite entrar. Debido a eso, no se le permite obtener otro trabajo, pero, según Estudiante Dos, uno de sus compañeros de trabajo podría renunciar por eso y está buscando otro trabajo.

Actualmente, la madre de Estudiante Dos no se le paga por ninguno de los trabajos que terminó haciendo, pero el Congreso aprobó un proyecto de ley que les pagará a los trabajadores federales por el tiempo perdido cuando finaliza el cierre. Aun así, al Estudiante Dos le cuesta creer cuánto demora el cierre, señalando que piensan que las dos partes (Demócratas y Republicanos) deben llegar a un acuerdo.

El equipo de debate acoge el primer torneo de temporada en casa, el anual Charger Challenge

Por Maggie Livingston y Kevin Quintana

escritoros colaboradoros

El 18 y 19 de enero, el equipo de discurso y debate del OHS organizó su cuarto anual "Charger Challenge Speech" y torneo de debate en campus.

El equipo de habla y debate de OHS está encabezado por la profesora de debate Dr. Barbara Lowe, y tiene alrededor de 25 estudiantes involucrados en él. El equipo asistió a seis torneos el semestre pasado y planea asistir a siete más este semestre. Sin embargo, este torneo pasado fue diferente ya que Lowe y los estudiantes estaban a cargo de ejecutar el torneo en lugar de competir en él.

Según la Dr. Barbara Lowe, las escuelas de todo el estado de Mississippi vienen, y es divertido para sus estudiantes ser capaces de ser los que están a cargo. Para Lowe y los estudiantes, organizar un torneo fue una experiencia incomparable de viajar y competir en torneos.

Según Lowe, Es muy diferente porque en lugar de investigar un tema en particular y escribir un caso y averiguar cómo vas a bloquear los argumentos del oponente, los estudiantes están haciendo cosas como asegurarse de que tienen suficientes papeletas para todos los diferentes eventos y asegurándose de que tienen suficiente comida para vender en el stand de concesión y poner carteles fuera de las habitaciones para que la gente pueda saber donde ir.

Según un estudiante, Donald Rogers, después de cada ronda, el juez anota sus pensamientos en una boleta electoral. Esa boleta, al final del torneo, va a la gente que en realidad se escribió sobre, y en muchos torneos, es un poco difícil conseguir nuestras papeletas de vuelta porque podríamos tener una boleta que falta aquí o allá. Así que pasamos a través y nos aseguramos de que todo el mundo tenía las papeletas correctas y todos tenían las papeletas que necesitaban para que sea más fácil para otros.

Los estudiantes tuvieron la oportunidad de ver todo el trabajo detrás de las escenas que va a acoger con éxito un torneo de debate.

Según el Capitan del Equipo, Cooper Thomason, cuando usted está debatiendo, muchas veces la gente se siente como cada ronda es tan importante, pero desde esta perspectiva, cuando se acaba de ver cómo cada ronda de literalmente cada persona está saliendo, porque tenemos que ir a través de él y ordenar todo, usted sólo entiende cómo los jueces y todo lo que no les importa tanto como lo hacen los estudiantes. Por lo tanto, es un poco interesante ver la diferencia entre lo mucho que te importa cuando estás compitiendo, pero como algunas de las personas que trabajan son sólo [haciendo su trabajo], lo diferente que es la situación.

Mientras Lowe y los estudiantes tenían mucha responsabilidad en el torneo, también tuvieron que divertirse un poco haciendo un video de torneo y reuniéndose y hablando con gente a quien normalmente no hablarían durante sus torneos habituales de debate.

Según Thomason, es muy divertido; como el video que terminaron de hacer. Por lo tanto, es un poco guay ver a todos aprovechar sus talentos porque sabe que su equipo es extremadamente talentoso en todas estas cosas diferentes. Pero ver a su equipo realiza tareas diferentes que lo normal fue muy especial.

La escuela comienza los deportes unificados durante el almuerzo

Por Joseph Robinson

escritoro colaboradoro

Durante almuerzo, un partido de básquetbol de los Deportes Unificados tuvo lugar en OHS. Muchos estudiantes asistieron al partido para animar a los jugadores. Estudiantes como Don Fruge, un junior, ayudó a arbitrar y entrenar para el partido.

Los entrenadores y jugadores como el junior Ira Morgan se inscribieron este octubre. Hay tiempos cuando los chichos pudieron practicar, pero algunos no pudieron asistir a las dos prácticas durante la escuela y afuera de la escuela.

Los jugadores en particular tuvieron múltiples prácticas para preparar para el partido.

Los entrenadores y árbitros se inscribieron porque pensaron que la experiencia sería divertida y diferente.

Esta experiencia les dieron a los estudiantes una oportunidad de hacer algo que normalmente no tenían. Además, se divirtieron con el partido, según Rose Hickey, una de las entrenadores asistentes.

El "Blanco" equipo ganó el partido. Según el director Chandler Gray, los entrenadores, los árbitros, y el público se divirtieron mucho.

El partido consistió en los estudiantes con las discapacidades intelectuales y estudiantes sin las discapacidades y hubo algunos requisitos para jugar.

Esta idea ha sido en curso por aproximadamente tres años, según el Coordinador de los Deportes Unificados y entrenador Mrs. Minnie Gates-Powell.

Esta es una oportunidad para los estudiantes competir y no sentirse diferente o como un marginado.

Los estudiantes son capaz de hacer algo que no pudieron hacer antes, cual está siendo parte de un equipo.

OHS está planeando en tener más Deportes Unificados, especialmente básquetbol, porque hubo una reacción buena este año.

"Los Deportes Unificados es un deporte de OHS ahora, y tendrán más partidos en enero y febrero," dijo Hickey.



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