



Volume XVI, Issue 5:
January-February Issue

Twenty Voted as Senior Superlatives

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The Talon is a student publication of Ooltewah High School. We welcome articles and photos from students, teachers, and readers.

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By Melissa Dennis

Recently the Senior Class of 2014 voted for their Senior Superlatives. These twenty exceptional seniors are considered by their classmates to best represent their categories.

- **Best All Around:** Will Frisbee and Taylor Massey
- **Most Popular:** Brody Binder and Erica

Iannarone

- **Most Talented:** Andrew Rudolph and Shelby McMillian
- **Best Looking:** David Nobles and Sloan Sullivan
- **Friendliest:** John Coates and Maclain McGlohon
- **Best School Citizen:** Corey Williams and Sara Richard
- **Most School Spirit:** Kyle Molhusen and Destiny

Washington

- **Most Athletic:** Mikemike Williams and Holly Hall
- **Wittiest:** Matt Preston and Gina Orlic
- **Most Likely to Succeed:** Manuel Cruz and Faba Raju

Congratulations to these outstanding Seniors. You make OHS proud!

Principal: Jim Jarvis

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SCHOOL CALENDAR

January

9: First Day Back to School for students
20: MLK Jr. Day; no classes for students
24: Blood Drive
29: Red and Gray Game/Winter Sports Pep Rally

February

12: Club Picture Day
20: EHHS/OHS College Fair, 6- 8 P.M. at EHHS Gym
21: Military Ball on the Southern Belle
25: Talent Show, OHS Gym

April

14 - 18: Spring Break

May

1: Class Night/River Boat
3: Prom
17: Graduation
24: Last Day of School

Review: Laughs Abound In Drama Team's ZAP!

By Melissa Dennis

On December 13 and 14, 2013, Ooltewah High's Improv Team and Theater students performed *Zap!*, an amusing performance that switches from one classic play (such as Richard III) to another (such as Chekov). Don't be alarmed, however - everything was completely scripted.

Costumes were provided by OHS students and parents, Chattanooga State College, UTC, and East Hamilton High School. Set pieces were provided by OHS students and Ooltewah United Methodist Church.

The basis of the play is to show in live-action what would happen if a person were watching television, con-

stantly flipping channels. The play begins with a murder mystery unfolding in the turn of the century England as a party is awaiting a war hero... scene change to a disgruntled writer plotting his revenge on a fellow author that stole and published the protagonist's life story... scene change to the classic Shakespearean play, Richard III... scene change to a Russian woman as she is forced to live with her lover's family... scene change to a one woman show, a performance art... scene change to a stoic couple that doesn't mind a corpse being in their hotel room... scene change to an artist plotting to run away from his Southern home while his grandmother is dying... and the scenes continue changing every few minutes as the audience "loses

interest" in each act.

However, as the play progresses, the actors and actresses begin to lose their grip on the reality that they are, in fact, still performing. Actors and actresses break characters, forget lines, barge in when they're not supposed to, and speak out of place. The most interesting aspect was, however, that everything was completely scripted, and the performers were doing these things on purpose.

Despite the Christmas season and cold weather, many turned out for both performances at the Ooltewah United Methodist Church. "I was really happy with the turnout," said Theater teacher Casey Jackson. "I'll always want a bigger audience to come see our stu-

dents, but for our first play we've done in a long time, I was really happy." He should be. *Zap!* was a marvelous success. The students, although young, portrayed their characters in a believable manner and with straight faces (since there were periods where I was certain one would break character and laugh out loud). From drinking out of a fish bowl to smashing a set table to getting into stage altercations, *Zap!* kept the audience smiling, laughing and anticipating the next scene every minute.

If you were unable to attend this play, you missed out on an incredibly entertaining, quality theatrical experience.

ZAP! Keeps Audience Laughing



TOP ROW: Lauren Light, Kevin Nguyen, and Alphonso Richard discuss a murder mystery in the segment "A Tribute to Agatha Christie"; Nick Brown and Paige Bollinger make up after an argument in the "Brooding Russian Drama"; Matt Preston gives a monologue in the segment "Richard III."

MIDDLE ROW: Ryan Jensen and Summer Thomas discuss relationships in the segment "Samuel Beckett"; Jordan Cronin and Tripp Ladd ponder the body on the floor in the "The Odd Couple" segment; Austin Massey slowly treks across stage in the "Brooding Russian Drama."

BOTTOM ROW: Brandon McJunkin and Nick Brown argue as Abbie Godzwa watches on in the segment "Tennessee Williams"; Fabu Raju does performance art as an angst-filled teen; Nick Brown, Taylor Massey, Luke Varnell, and Paige Bollinger negotiate relocating their family in the "Brooding Russian Drama."



Choirs and Band Combine Talents for Holiday Concert

By Lexi Arterburn

The Ooltewah High School Department of Music presented its annual holiday performance "Carols by Candlelight," on December 15, 2013 in the ballroom at the Doubletree Hotel. The performance began with the Symphonic Band playing "Salvation Is Created," "Fanfare for Christmas," and "I Wonder as I Wander."

The Chamber Choir sang "Carol of the Bells," "Winter's Heart," "Candlelight Carol," and "Mary, Did You Know?"

The Symphonic Band continued the concert by playing "Sleigh Ride" and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." The Concert Choir joined with the Band and sang "Alleluia," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "Merry Christmas Darling," and "Winter Wonderland Medley." The Band concluded the event with "Christmas Recollections."

The concert was directed by Band Director Joel Denton and Choral Director Jon Miller with the assistance of Band intern Timothy Cook. The OHS Colorguard served dessert to guests during the event.

Carols by Candlelight is a delightful OHS tradition going back for many years.



The Band and Choir combine their talents to produce a wonderful holiday show.

December Students of the Month

By Vianey Gutierrez

thesiologist.

At Ooltewah High School, students are expected to do their best and excel in their studies. In the month of December, two seniors displayed exemplary academic performances and great attitudes.

Senior Destiny Washington is a member of the OHS Cheer Squad. She is involved in FBLA, Leadership Class, BETA Club, and Key Club, as well as cheering for All-American Cheer. Her hobbies include cheering, watching and playing sports, and running. OHS Secretary Desiree Smith, whom Destiny helps out in the bookkeeper's office, says of Destiny, "She is a true leader. She was instrumental in every project done during the first semester. She is always willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done, and she always works with a smile on her face." Destiny plans on attending the University of Tennessee of Knoxville to become an anes-

Senior Michael "Mikemike" Williams is a member of the Football Team and Chess Club. He has received the "Special Team Player of the Year" for his excellence in football. He plans to pursue a career in business when he graduates. He plans to attend either East Tennessee State University or the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Science teacher Bob Rogers commented, "I nominated Mr. Williams because he has made incredible progress and improvement at school, both academically and personally. I see a pleasant and positive leader in him." Mikemike's hobbies include playing pool, chess, and football.

Congratulations to both these students. You are the epitome of excellence at Ooltewah. Keep up the good work!



ABOVE: Mikemike Williams
BELOW: Destiny Washington



High Expectations for Wrestling Team

By Marinna Bethune

Wrestling coach Wendell Weathers says that he is eager and looking forward to the upcoming wrestling season. “We have a young team, but they compete exceptionally well. I expect they’ll have winning records, but there will be some challenges. This is a year of growth, but the team is still incredibly talented.”

Weathers says that he gives his props to Junior Jacob Keltch.

“Keltch is our returning State Tournament qualifier, and he is having a very good start.”

The wrestling captains are seniors Donovan Thomas and Damien King. Both boys are also returning for the tournaments this season.

“I believe that every wrestler that was on Junior Varsity last year has made much improvement; they are all on the Varsity Team now,” says Weathers.

OHS Wrestling will be participating in

two tournaments this season. The first was the Keith Johnson Memorial Tournament in early December, in which they finished 7th out of 16 teams.

On January 4th and 5th, the Wrestling Owls finished 4th among fourteen teams in the William Blount Tournament. Heavy-weight champion Jacob Keltch was the leading scorer. At this point, the team’s record is 7-7.

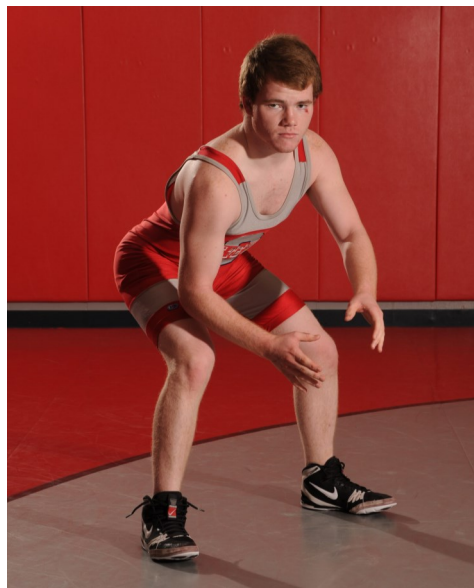
The Owls have lost a potential region medalist with the injury

of sophomore Tyler Reid, who is out for the year after breaking his forearm in three places during the football team’s playoff game with East Hamilton.

Coach Weathers says that he has high expectations for his players, as they have been phenomenal this season. “These students play their hardest. In fact, they play harder and with more devotion than almost all other teams that I have coached in the past. What they lack in experience, they make up for in their willingness to fight and win.”



Junior Jacob Keltch



Senior Donovan Thomas



Senior Damien King

What Is Your New Year's Resolution?

By JonLuke Jenkins and James Gouge

New Year's Resolutions are made by anyone with the drive to make some kind of change in their life, and the Ooltewah family is no different. We asked a variety of students and teachers what their favorite present was and what their New Year's Resolutions was, and we received some interesting answers.



Jimmy Rodate, Junior: "My resolution this year is to get a job, and I want it to be one that I will have for a while."



Isaac Avrilien, Junior: "This year I want to finally get my own car."



Ronni Holcombe, Junior: "My favorite present for Christmas was definitely getting to see my mother's grave. I haven't been in a while, and it was nice to see her and talk to her again."



Carrie Cook, Teacher: "The best present I got this season was waking up on Christmas morning to a brand new Kia Soul. I love my new car!"



Melissa Dennis, Senior: "In 2014, I am going to stop allowing people to dictate the kind of clothes I wear, and I am going to accept myself for who I am."



Madeline Gouge, Senior: "Going to Disney World this year was the best Christmas present I have ever received."



Herman Oden, Senior: "My resolution is to exercise more."



Brian Hitchcox, Coach: "I am currently preparing to run a marathon, and I hope to complete more than just one this year."

Basketball Boys Make Progress Through Season

By Shanyah Elliott

The Owls Basketball Team is in the middle of an exciting season. Over the Christmas holidays, they competed in the Best Of Preps Tournament at Chattanooga State. In a game against Ringgold High School, they had an 83-54 win that put them in the semifinals. JaMycal Johnson led the Owls with 20 points. Ben Snider and C.J. Fritz both helped by having 16 points, while Jarek Boyd added 12. The Boys went on to win over Notre Dame and finish third in the tournament.

On January 7, the Owls went up to Rhea County to play a second game after defeating the Golden Eagles 69-40 in November 2013. Unfortunately, the Owls ended up losing 70-50. JaMycal Johnson scored 6,

Jarek Boyd scored 7, Ron King and C.J. Fritz had 8. Rashun Freeman led all scorers with 13 points.

On January 10, the Owls played Soddy-Daisy and ended up with a 68-62 win. JaMycal Johnson and Dajuonta Ross each hit 35 in the same left corner. Dajuonta Ross made two free throws. JaMycal Johnson and Ron King put up lay-ups.

In the OHS vs East Ridge game on January 16, Ben Snider quickly got his teammates in game-mode as they raced past the East Ridge Pioneers. Snyder finished with 30 points, Fritz and Ron King finished with the double digits at 15 and 16 respectively. Altogether, the Owls worked hard to end in 90-66 victory. Coach Montgomery was proud of the Boys for staying in front of the ball in the second half.



Outstanding Owl Seniors #10 Ben Snider, #1 JaMycal Johnson, #5 Ron King.

Lady Owls Persevere Through Season

By Juan Francisco

Despite many ups and downs, the Lady Owls are keeping their spirits up and continuing to try to improve throughout their season.

December 10, 2013, the Lady Owls faced off against East Hamilton. East Hamilton kept its lead until the fourth quarter, where OHS's Bethany Spange scored a free throw and India Corley made a three-point play. With 41 seconds left on the clock, sophomore Tamiyah Baker scored three points

from the corner, and Allie Jones added a free throw for the tremendous two-point victory (39-37) against East Hamilton. "We played hard and like we've wanted to since the start of the season tonight," Girls' Basketball Coach Donnie Mullins said, "the Lady Owls did an outstanding job playing their best this game, and I'm very proud of them. I am confident they will be even better in the games to come."

On December 28, the Lady Owls played a non-conference game against Sono-

raville, but lost with a score of 74-43

The Lady Owls played a great game against Soddy-Daisy's Lady Trojans on January 10. India Corley led the Lady Owls with thirteen points. The Lady Owls outscored the Lady Trojans, 22-8. Heather Taylor finished with nine points in the game, including over half of Ooltewah's six threes. The final score was Ooltewah leading 54-47 against the Lady Trojans.

On January 17, the Lady Owls played McMinn County, but unfortunately, lost by a score of 64-29.



Senior Heather Taylor



Senior Ashunti Cooper

2014 Yearbooks On Sale Now

All OHS households will be receiving a letter from Bal-four Smart-Pay with instructions on how to order a 2014 Owl Yearbook. Yearbooks are \$80 for a plain cover book and \$85.46 for a book with your name engraved on the cover. You can pay with credit card or check. You can mail in your payment or pay online at www.smart-pay.com, or order by phone at 1-800-853-1337. Ordering early will ensure that your book will be waiting for you in August.

Remember - Yearbooks make great Christmas gifts!

Last Chance To Purchase Yearbook Ads

Yearbook staffers are currently selling business and personal ads for the 2014 Yearbook. Prices range from \$35 for an ad the size of a business card, \$50 for a quarter page, \$100 dollars for a half page, and \$200 dollars for a full page.



Contact any Yearbook Staff Member or Mrs. Pitts in Room 109 if you are interested, as spaces are filling up fast.



Go Greek!

A SORORITY INFORMATION SESSION

Presented by Chattanooga Alumnae Panhellenic Association



Learn about sorority recruitment for next year and what it means to join a sorority at all types of colleges. Bring a friend (and your Mom!) to Go Greek.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2014

2-4 PM

CHURCH ON MAIN

1601 ROSSVILLE AVENUE

RSVP: ChattPanhellenic@gmail.com

Go Greek will feature a Fashion Show by style consultant Kim Coulter, tips on etiquette by certified consultant Dawn Jumper, do's/don'ts for Recruitment success, how to secure letters of recommendation, conversation skills, Q & A opportunities and more



Visit ChattPanhellenic.com for more information

Chattanooga Alumnae Panhellenic Association is comprised of local sorority alumnae representing the 26 National Panhellenic conference member groups. We are not affiliated with any college or university Panhellenic.

