



Viking Voice

October 29, 2021

Kingsburg High School

Issue 2, Volume 96

Vikings Make History



Valley Champs

In this Issue:

News

The One Act Play That Goes Wrong



BY HENRY LEWIS, JONATHAN SAYER & HENRY SHIELDS

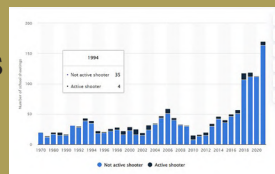
Features

Drum Majors of 2021



World News

School Shootings on the Rise



Features

KHS Green Club Members



VIKING VOICE



Kingsburg High School 2021-2022

Viking Voice Staff

Editor-in-Chief

Mary Palmer
Kalaya Schreiber

Staff Writers

Lily Cortez
Gracie Davis
Hex DeBaets
Victoriana Dimas
Maria Escoto
Nic Estrada
Odell Garza
Joyah Hernandez
Scarlett Laita
Audrey Laney
Amia Mathis
Asha Mohan
Kirrah Morton
Sophia Quintana
Jenna Rogers
Zack Shelby
Celina Taylor
Elias Velez

Special Thanks to Samuel Marshall for Photography!

Any opinions expressed are those of the author and in no way represent the position of the Kingsburg High Staff, administration, Board of Trustees, advertisers, or the Viking Voice advisor.

Letters to the Editors

Email your comments, opinions, and ideas on this issue's articles to the Viking Voice at 6004356@stu.kingsburghigh.com Your responses may be published next issue!

Check out the
Viking Valor page at
kingsburghigh.com



Jazz Band Makes a Grand Return to the Festival Scene

By Audrey Laney
Staff Writer

On Thursday, December 2nd, the KHS Jazz Band took the stage and performed for the first time in almost two years at the Fresno State Jazz Festival, providing the audience with three different pieces.

The Viking Jazz Band made a grand entrance with, "Easy to Love", an upbeat, exciting piece. Then, they brought the tempo down a bit and followed with a slower yet charming piece, "The Next Chapter". Finally, they concluded their performance with, "The Creole Love Call", a slow, bluesy piece.

The soloists in the band did remarkably well. Trumpeter Olivia Hale, pianist Chelsea Flood, and saxophonist Alyson Johnson each have their own featured solo during the first song, "Easy to Love". Alyson Johnson presents another effortless solo in the following song "The Next Chapter". Ultimately, Olivia Hale comes back to solo in the final song, "The Creole Love Call", along with solo's from Trumpeter Caleb Bahne, Trombonist Nathan Bishop, and Saxophonist Emilie Parker.

Senior and Trombone Soloist, Nathan Bishop, is a member who has been involved in jazz band all four years of highschool. Bishop faced many challenges last year during the pandemic, and says the limitations were the hardest obstacle to overcome throughout his Jazz Band experience. When asked how he felt about the restrictions enforced last year he responded, "It was difficult, but I'm glad I got to play at all."

Even though Nathan Bishop's final year experiencing the KHS Jazz Band has just begun, the school year is rapidly going by. When Bishop was asked how he feels about his experience, he expresses, "Thank you for all who have stuck with band through the low points and made it such a joy to play Trombone."

Moreover, these past months the Jazz Band

has directed all their efforts into working diligently and preparing their music. The members wake up early every Monday through Friday to attend their Jazz Band class during the Early Bird period.

A newcomer to the KHS Jazz Band, Freshman Sophia Quintana, says the class is the perfect kick-start before school. Quintana explains, "Even though I have to wake up earlier, it puts me in a good mood for the rest of the day."

The Jazz Band's dedication and hard work was shown significantly at the Fresno State Jazz Festival. They were viewed by three independent judges, and gathered scores of **86, 89, and 92**. All three ratings were considered "superior", indicating the band received the highest possible rankings for their performance.

After their performance, they met Jazz guitarist and composer, Mike Dana. Dana gave specific feedback to certain individuals in the KHS Jazz band, and feedback as an ensemble.

The constructive criticism the Jazz Band received beneficially helped every member improve at least one mistake they had during their performance. Quintana elaborates, "I thought that it was good hearing other perspectives and ideas from someone who wasn't Mr. Schofield." Bishop adds, "It was extra special since our band played one of his tunes Bad Dog a few years ago for a concert."

Furthermore, The director of the KHS Jazz Band, Michael Schofield, was thrilled with what the band has accomplished, "I'm very proud of how well they performed." Schofield elaborated, "It was a strong return to the jazz festival scene."

The KHS jazz band is noticeably off to a great start to the year and is actively working harder everyday to prepare for upcoming performances.

Band Ends The Season on A High Note



By Jenna Rogers
Staff Writer

Even through the fog and all of the last performance emotions, the KHS Marching Band placed third overall and second in their division at finals. This competition was called The Viking Classic.

The top five scores at the competition were: **1.Clovis High 92.775, 2.Clovis North 92.675, 3.Kingsburg 89.050, 4.Clovis East 88.3, 5.Clovis West 87.0.**

The Vikings were one of the seventeen bands that performed on November 13th at our home field for the competition.

The bands at this competition were ranked by size. For instance, Selma's band is smaller and in 1A, while Clovis East's band is larger and in 5A. Being a bigger band adds to the performance in some ways because bigger bands can produce more sound and do more visual choreography.

The 1A bands included Templeton High School, Selma High School and Exeter Union High school.

The 2A bands included Hanford High School, Madera South High School, and Sunnyside High School.

At this finals competition, there was only one 3A band which was Clovis West High School.

4A bands included El Diamante High School, Golden West High school, Hanford West High School, Redwood High School, Clovis High School and our very own Kingsburg Highschool.

There were three 5A bands competing which included Lemoore High School, Clovis North Educational Center, and Clovis East High School.

In the interview with Band Director Mike Schofield, Schofield gave a director's view on the show.

When asked what felt different about this season he said, "This season felt very special because it made us all realize how much we missed doing what we love. While the competitive aspect of the season was important to us, it was more important to be performing for live audiences and being the most impactful and entertaining band we could be."

When asked about his recap of the year he commented, "I felt that our band this year was one of the most responsive and teachable groups we've ever had. The amount of growth our band showed this season was incredible. My message to our band is that I could not be more proud of them for doing everything they did to not only live up to our past, but to set the bar at a new height for the future."

Senior Brittany Rangel said, "I think we performed a killer show at finals. We did everything to the best of our abilities and put on a show that we can be proud of. The crowd really enjoyed it and we enjoyed performing it."

Rangel went on to say, "The music was exciting to play and the drill was fun to do. It wasn't

easy, but everyone in the band put their full effort and emotion into finals."

Her senior message was, "I couldn't have asked for a better run to complete marching season. Our performance will definitely remain as one of my favorite memories and it will always reside in our hearts."

There are a lot of different views and perspectives in the band because all classes are in one mix. Freshman Haylee Contreras is in the drumline. When asked how she thinks KHS did at finals, Haylee said, "I feel like we did really good at finals, for me that was my best run. I had a lot of fun playing and I'm just really happy we won best percussion and got second place."

Contreras went on to recap her season and said, "This season was so much fun, I met so many new people and made lots of new memories. I was really happy to be part of the drumline. I definitely improved in percussion thanks to those amazing people around me, but I know I can get a lot better. I'm so excited for next year when we have marching band again!"

Rangel had a message she wanted to share for band supporters, "I want to thank all the staff, Mr. Schofield, Oliver, Sarah, Micah, Frances, Nelson, Luis, Ashton, and Candace. Thank you for always being there to support us and give us the knowledge to be able to perform such amazing field shows. The marching season would not be the same without any of you."

Winter Gala Dance

Tickets are on sale now for the KHS 2021 Winter Gala Dance scheduled for December 17th 8-11 at the Young Life Gym.

Winter Formal 2021 School Year

By staff writer: Asha Mohan

This year's Winter Formal is December 17th at the Young Life Building. ASB Officers and the Leadership Class are in charge of putting together the event.

The theme of this year's Formal is "The Winter Gala." ASB and the Student Council came up with the theme of the formal.

The event will start at 8pm-11pm and is located at the Young Life Gym.

Ticket sales started when students returned from Thanksgiving break, which was November 29 and the last day to buy tickets is December 15. Tickets are selling for \$18 with an ASB card and a canned good and \$20 without an ASB card and canned good. If students bought a ticket for the Fall Dance that was cancelled, they can get a discounted rate on the purchase of Formal tickets.

Commissioner of Activities Mirjana Quattin said, "We are planning to make this night successful by getting ideas from the student body, and making sure that the Young Life building is full of Christmas spirit."

Quattin also said, "My hope for winter formal is for everyone to have fun and dance the night away!"

Co-Commissioner of Activities Mackenzie Wilson added, "I hope that everyone will have fun and the night will be a success."

Freshman Jillian Penner commented, "I'm looking forward to getting ready with everyone, getting my hair done and taking pictures with everyone."

Freshman Madilynn Buendia says "I'm looking forward to seeing all my friends and how everything is going to turn out."



KHS The One Act Play That Goes Wrong

ONE-ACT THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

By staff writer: Celina Taylor

The KHS Drama Department performed its first play production since COVID-19 hit California in March 2020 by showcasing *The One Act Play That Goes Wrong*.

Being the first production in almost two years, preparation for the play was very intense and stressful. Everyone that was in the play and a part of the cast did an amazing job putting it together.

Most students are familiar with the classic murder mystery story genre. In the play, *The One Act Play That Goes Wrong*, there has been an untimely death at a country manor, where everyone is a suspect, and an inspector is set on the case to find out who the culprit is.

During their performance, the group of accident-prone thespians at The Cornley Drama Society incite chaos. Everything that can go wrong, does!

The actors and crew battle against all odds to make it through their final curtain call, but experience hilarious consequences! With all of the work that the actors and advisors put into the play, the audience was doubled over with laughter several times.

The cast included: Freshman Katie Bishop

as Christine; the Director, Freshman Reagan Boen as Cecil Haversham, Freshman Daniella Cacace as Maid Smith, Sophomore Kristen Pacheco as Maid Perkins, Sophomore Thomas Roman as Thomas Collymore, Senior Laney Dorrough as Florence Collymore, Junior Olivia Hale as the sound person, Freshman Ellie Ambriz as a stand in for Florence Collymore, Freshman Aaron Dorrough as Charles Haversham, and Senior Emma Berry as inspector Carter.

The cast worked really well together and it looked like they supported each other from the start of the practices and through the few shows that they did.

“Our team worked really well together, over the course of all our rehearsal. We all got really close and ended up getting along really well,” commented Bishop.

“There was a ton of improvement from beginning to the end, especially since we had a limited amount of time. Everyone was really committed and it showed,” added Bishop.

“The cast was really supportive of each other, we’d always give each other tips on what we could fix and little pep talks before each show. Definitely one of the best casts ever,” Bishop added.

They practiced every weekday after school until 5 P.M until the show got closer. Then, the cast



Waving Arms, Waving Leaders

By Sophia Quintana
Staff Writer

The Kingsburg High School Drum Majors, Kira Wilson and Olivia Hale put a tremendous amount of work, into this season, conducting their band towards numerous victories, with their exceptionally successful 2021 field show titled, “The Road To You.”

While it may seem that the duties of being Drum Major are limited to standing in front of the band and waving their arms, there’s a lot more to it. Drum Majors have to be experienced, strong leaders, who are willing to take control, and to instruct their band along the short competition



season.

This year’s head drum major is Senior Kira Wilson, this year being her second year as drum major. She has also performed and marched in two previous field shows, playing the tenor saxophone.

Wilson’s leadership skills were too great to be kept in the show, so she was chosen to be front and center, conducting the band as they perform, being able to switch tempos, and keep time for the eight minute field show.

“For me, it’s basically the same as any other position in band,” Wilson explains, “you have to learn your part, you have to practice, you have to listen to the people around you, and you have to pay attention to what’s going on. It’s just that my instrument is my voice.”

While there may be some pressure, and stress to their position, there’s definitely a good side to the job, because the drum majors have a whole other perspective being right up in front. “It allows me to see the band as a whole, and to completely see it all come together with all the different parts,” Wilson said while also explaining how she loves seeing everyone come together and create something spectacular.

This year, taking a huge step forward with

their field show performance, the band put in hours and hours of hard work into the challenging drill, choreography, and music. This year has been a year like no other in the past.

“The main thing is that everyone is constantly moving, and playing while marching,” Wilson explains, “Everyone is just constantly doing different things, and it was really impressive to be able to see all the hard work that goes

into it.”
Moving on to our

second Drum Major for the 2021 marching season, we have Junior Olivia Hale. This is her third year being in the KHS Marching Band, and first year being Drum Major.

Being involved in the marching band as well as Jazz Choir, and Jazz Band, this year, she was ready to take the next step in her High School music career. She loves the band with all her heart, and made an amazing leader this year.

Obviously, there’s a tremendous amount of pressure attached to being drum major, with the entire band looking towards them while performing as well as having to keep and change the tempo for an entire eight minute show. Also, having to stay in sync with the other drum major, who’s a far distance away.

“So personally, I think it’s a lot of pressure being right up in front of everyone,” Hale expanded on, “All 108 members of the band rely on me and Kira.”

Along with the stress and pressure that is thrown on the drum majors, there also can be some other downsides to the position.

According to Hale, the downsides are, “people not fully respecting me and not listening.” Then, being a junior, it was hard for her at times, saying it could feel “downgrading” with the

“My instrument is my voice.”

seniors being older, not listening to her but Kira instead.

There were even some moments where Hale even thought about maybe going back on the field for next season, stepping down from her position to avoid all of the negative things that went along with the title.

Instead of doing that though, she decided that the good parts outweighed the bad, saying that, “I really like marching, but I love being Drum Major.”

Senior Edgar Zaragoza says, “Even they were both new to this, they did an amazing job and kept the band going, even through the toughest parts, they were there for everyone who needed it.”

Both Wilson and Hale are disappointed that the marching season went by so fast, but are proud of their accomplishments, and all of their new trophies they were able to add to the band room shelves.



Day-by-Day Green Club Saves the Environment



By Mary Palmer
Editor-in-Chief

Green Club has been a part of KHS for many years. After Mrs. Peggy Foletta retired in 2013, Mrs. Leigh-Ann Olsen took over the advisor role for the club.

This campus club has a purpose to educate the campus and the community about issues related to the environment. The club strives to create sustainability on campus, and in the community as well. They also work to bring awareness of the importance of maintaining our wilderness areas.

Olsen was inspired by Mrs. Foletta to take over this club because she gave Olsen an instant love for the environment. Foletta was Olsen's teacher back when she attended KHS as a student. She decided to continue the club by taking on the leadership of the club after Foletta retired.

Other goals of this club are to "introduce easy, practical ways to help keep our skies,

grounds, and waterways clean; ways to reduce our impact on the wastestream; to promote preservation of our wilderness areas, and to encourage sustainable practices that benefit the environment," states Olsen.

The 2021-22 Green Club officers include: Junior Leila Zarate, President; Junior Lulu Abdelfattah, Vice President; Junior Camila Gutierrez, Secretary; Junior Alyson Johnson, Treasurer; and Senior Kira Wilson, Representative.

Junior Camila Gutierrez has been a member of the club since she was a freshman here at KHS. Her inspiration to join this club was seeing all the trash along the edges of the beaches and freeways in the state and wanting that to all change.

"I love getting fresh air, so I can imagine a world where it is not possible, especially with the already damaged air quality of the Valley where we live," shares Gutierrez. Being part of a group that

helps improve the earth is what she wanted to do.

Junior Destiny Delaisla enjoys her weekly campus clean ups. This is where the members of the club go around campus recycling and picking up all the trash. Delaisla has been a member of the club as of this year because her friend Lulu inspired her to join.

Senior Kira Wilson has been a member of the club for the past two years. Mrs. Olsen's enthusiasm for the environment has inspired her to care for the environment even more than what she already does.

Mrs. Olsen and Green Club members themselves try their best to persuade people in joining the club by helping out our school campus and environment. The club is very open and welcoming to all.

These members greatly appreciate the earth and spend time everyday to try and improve the environment for everyone.

Green Club Voices

What is your favorite aspect of the Green Club?

"My favorite aspect of the club is that I am doing something that benefits other people as well as the environment through different activities that this club offers."

Junior President
Leila Zarate

"My favorite aspect of the club is that it provides so many little things we can do to improve the environment, allowing anyone to take part."

Senior Representative
Kira Wilson

"I enjoy being a part of Green Club because of the rewarding feeling that comes with the knowledge that I'm contributing to something that will help the people and environment around me."

Junior Vice President
Lulu Abdelfattah

"I like being part of a club that helps the campus."

Junior Treasurer
Alyson Johnson

"My favorite part of the club is being able to do something good for the environment and help out our school and town."

Junior Secretary
Camila Gutierrez

October Student Vikings Honored



Johnathan Cortez Lopez



Gustavo Centent-Ocampo



Jacqueline Ruiz



Maria Nunez



Josiah Perez



Alyssa Joseph



Francisco De Dios



Prabhjot Mann



Ainsley Tos



Samuel Austin



Macy Viveros



Camille Zavala



Elena Dorrrough



Marc Davenport



Caleb Simmons



Jocelyn Borrayo



Edgar Navarro



Marilyn Alston



Grace Gamble



Nicholas Lindgren



Jaimy Murrietta

By: Kalaya Schreiber
Editor-in-Chief

At KHS, we honor students every month for exemplary actions, including kindness, determination, decency, and integrity.

Every week, the departments get together to discuss students who have been exhibiting outstanding behavior. Come the end of the month, one or a few students will be selected to represent each department.

Along with personalized certificates, all nominees for this award will receive a special message from whichever teacher nominated them.

For the month of October, Heather Manley nominated senior Maria Nunez for the English Department. Manley said, "She shows honor, success and determination through her dedication to her education. Maria has a strong work ethic and turns in quality work for all assignments. Maria strives for excellence and is a wonderful student."

In the Math department, Bryan Peterson nominated senior Edgar Navarro, and stated that "Edgar is in my Math Analysis class and just very quietly absorbs everything I teach him and then aces his homework and tests without saying a word."

Gail Williams nominated junior Samuel Austin. For the sophomore class, Macy Viveros was nominated by Gail Williams. Finally for the math department, Freshman Prabhjot Mann was nominated by Clemente Moreno.

Statinder Klair, a science teacher at KHS nominated sophomore Jonatan Cortez-Lopez. In her remarks, Klair said she had selected Jonathon because, "Jonathan exhibits excellent character and determination. He is hardworking and kind, and serves as a role model to his peers. I am honored to name Jonathan Cortez-Lopez sophomore science student of the month!"

Also in the Science department, Darin Peterson nominated freshman Nicholas Lindgren. Mr. Peterson shared, "Success - no matter the assignment, lab, test, or quiz...Nick nails it. He has a great work ethic both as an academic and an athlete."

This month, there were several nominations for characters coming from the Special Education/RSP department. Starting it off, Elizabeth VanderVelde nominated senior Marilyn Alston. She said, "Sometimes in special education

students have challenging behaviors in the classroom that their peers struggle to be accepting of. Marilyn has such a nice way of assisting her peers who are having a difficult time without judgement or condemnation of any sort. She is a great peer, mentor, and friend to all she meets."

Junior Grace Gamble was also nominated by Mrs. VanderVelde. When remarking on Grace, VanderVelde said, "Grace is kind, funny and light-hearted. She is determined to do her best and is working hard to maintain that focus."

Underclassmen Jacob Hoffman and Jaimy Murrietta were both nominated by Robert Hernandez for the Special Ed/RSP department. Mr. Hernandez has said both students work hard in school and strive for success in all of their classes.

For the Spanish department, Martha Gudino nominated junior Jacqueline Ruiz, and stated that she "Takes initiative to get things done and is not afraid to work hard. Jacqueline is an outstanding student. It is my pleasure to have her in AP Spanish class."

Also nominated in the Spanish department were sophomore Jocelyn Borrayo, nominated by Yanairy Espindola, and freshman Caleb Simmons, nominated by Jorge Contreras.

Coming from the Physical Education department, Jim Cranford nominated junior Francisco De Dios. Cranford said, "I selected Francisco because of his hardworking attitude."

From the last academic department, we had sophomore Camille Zavala nominated for Agriculture. She was nominated by Amanda Ferguson, who said Camille, "exudes kindness to every student she comes across. She is also one of the hardest working students we have in the Ag department."

Lastly we have students who were awarded from the Office/Administration department. Michelle Warkentin nominated senior Gustavo Centeno-Ocampo. Senior Elena Dorrrough was nominated by Albert Rosales. Coach Lund nominated freshman Ainsley Tos, and finally freshman Marc Davenport was nominated by Mrs. Marriott.

All across the board the students nominated for Office/Administration student of the month were left remarks on their exemplary kindness, and hardworking attitudes.

Unfortunately not all students can receive this award. Although we can't all be nominated, it's refreshing to see students be recognized for their excellence.

It also serves as a reminder to try your hardest all of the time, remain ethical and keep your integrity around the clock. Student of the Month awards allow us to reward students for their outstanding work, inside and outside of the classroom.

All of the named students have been shining examples of exemplary behavior, and have therefore been named by their teachers to receive the Student of the Month award and represent their departments.

November Student Vikings Honored



Cayla Diaz

KHS's new tradition succeeds in recognizing students monthly for accomplishments, success, kindness, and work ethic.

By: Odell Garza
Staff Writer

This November, 21 remarkable students were honored with the Viking of the Month award. These students have shown kindness, honor, determination, and success.



Rasheed Yehya Al Sayadi



Brisaac Rubalcaba



Nathanael Gong

Science teachers Leigh-Ann Olsen, Scott Hodges, and Amanda Manuszak nominated people for this award.

Olsen nominated Sophomore Flor Lopez for the Viking of the Month award. Olsen nominated Lopez because Lopez "has exhibited great kindness" by helping her classmates. This has been a great help to her Biology teacher, Olsen.



Madeleine Klein



Caleb Bahne



Flor Lopez

Science teacher Scott Hodges has elected Junior Elijah Rice. Elijah Rice was nominated by Hodges for the reason Rice has an "excellent work ethic".

Science teacher Amanda Manuszak selected Freshman Rasheed Yehya Al Sayadi. Yehya Al Sayadi was chosen for the Viking of the Month award because he is a very hard worker. Yehya Al Sayadi was also described as "always kind and friendly".

English teachers Patti Crass, Jacob Simmons, and Daniel Albert elected students for the Viking of the Month award. These teachers nominated students for a number of reasons. Some reasons are that the students recommended are thoughtful and helpful.



Elijah Rice



Susanne Martinez



Makela Cuen

P. Crass, an English teacher, nominated Junior Elijah Rice. P. Crass as well as other teachers have described Rice as Thoughtful, kind, and inspiring.

English teacher Simmons elected Sophomore Kristen Pacheco. Simmons decided to nominate this student because Pacheco is thoughtful and helpful. Pacheco's help "elevates the level of thinking in the room by her willingness to share ideas."



Kristen Pacheco



Dylan Henderson



Marianna Mendoza

Alberts, an English teacher, recommended Caleb Bahne for the Viking of the Month award. Bahne was nominated because Bahne has shown "kindness, honor, success, and determination on a daily basis".

For the math department, Bill Jensen, Mike Morris, Ingrid Morris and Ken Harvey made nominations for the Viking of the Month award.

Math teacher Jensen recommended Ana Sandoval. Jensen nominated Ana because Ana "is a positive influence" on her class.

Mike Morris, a math teacher, nominated Sophomore Cayla Diaz. Diaz was elected

because she is helpful and kind to all around her.

Math teacher Ingrid Morris selected Madeleine Klein for Viking of the Month. Klein was nominated because they are kind and thoughtful.

Math teacher Harvey recommended Junior Brisaac Rubalcaba. Rubalcaba was nominated by Harvey because of their determination.

From the Spanish department, Ana Parra, Matha Gudino, Yanairy Espindola, and Jim Contreras nominated students.

Spanish teacher Parra recommended Adrian Ruiz. Ruiz was nominated because he is considered a very hardworking student.

Spanish teachers Gudino and Espindola nominated Freshman Brianna Corona and Sophomore Cayla Diaz. Gudino recommended Corona because she is hardworking and helpful to fellow classmates. Espindola nominated Diaz for the reason that Diaz is helpful and a hard worker.

Finally from the Spanish department, Contreras nominated Junior Nathanael Gong. Gong was nominated because he is hardworking and always "eager to learn".

Social Ed teacher Elizabeth VanderVelde nominated Dylan Henderson. VanderVelde nominated Henderson because Henderson is very hardworking.

Special Ed teacher Nicole Comstock nominated Junior Marianna Mendoza, Sophomore Juan Lopez, and Freshman Ernesto Hernandez.

Overall Comstock nominated these students because they are all really hard workers. Stephanie Marriott nominated Freshman Ashley Perez. Perez was nominated because of her determination. Laura Vallenari the librarian nominated Susanne Martinez. Vallenari recommended Martinez because of her determination and all her hard work.

Finally Mark Jensen, a Social Studies teacher nominated Makela Cuen because of Cuen kindness.

All of these remarkable students have shown determination, success, honor, and kindness. That is why these students have gotten the honor of receiving the award Viking of the Month.

This year, KHS has even started a new tradition to better recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of each nominee.

All of the students are recognized in an awards ceremony in front of the teachers that nominated them, KHS staff, and their closest family and friends.

Following the ceremony, students and their families are invited to a luncheon in the gymnasium where they are permitted to socialize and eat during the lunch hour.



Adrian Ruiz



Brianna Corona



Ana Sandoval

Veterans Day Presentation Rally

Local Heros Educate Students on Service, Sacrafice



By Joyah Hernandez
Staff Writer

This year's Veterans Day Rally was one like no other. KHS has a tradition of honoring Veterans who served our country and to also explain to students and why the holiday is so important.

To start off the ceremony, students watched a 20 minute video of staff from KHS who represented their family members or themselves as people who served our country.

It was also very interesting because it was very surprising to find out how much staff from our school served our country. We have a lot of respect towards those staff members.

After the film, students went outside to see the outstanding ceremony presented by local veterans.

The rally was actually different this year, due to Covid restriction., so it was probably different for the Veterans and some students.

Especially since before students would meet up together in the gym to start off the ceremony. They would all also watch a video to represent the veterans and also show the perspectives of the families point of view.

KJUHSD school board member Steve Nagle led the ceremony. He started off by doing his performance and led the others to start. Retired Social Science teacher and coach Mike Newell also participated in this year's ceremony.

This ceremony was very important to our school and students appreciated Nagle and Newell for their dedication to our armed forces and their sacrifices.

KHS students also appreciated and wanted to say thank you to the service members. In fact, many students lined up after the ceremony to shake veterans' hands and thank them personally for their service.

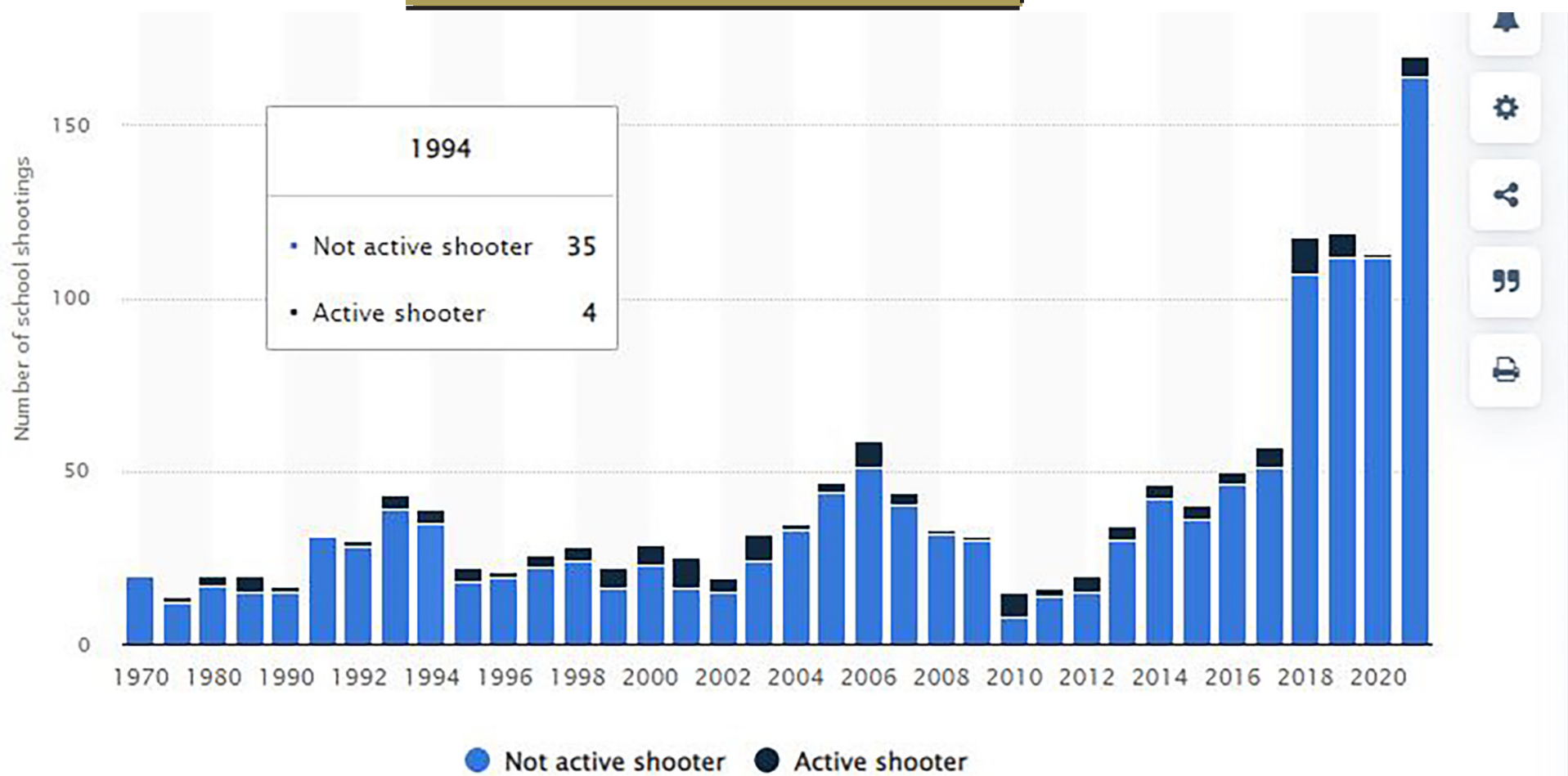
There are lots of different emotions students at

KHS felt about the ceremony.

"I liked how we learned about the people who served our country and honored them. I also liked the video and how it showed us how important it is to people," stated Freshman Gracie Davis.

"I really enjoyed the moment of silence that we had for those few minutes. I also liked the music that the trumpets played to honor the past veterans," stated Freshman Jenna Rodgers.

The ceremony lasted about 45 minutes and students were shown where to stand in the courtyard. The retired soldiers were standing in a row together and saluted their flag, brought out their rifles and shot in a 21 Gun Salute shot up into the air as remembrance to the fallen soldiers that served and sadly passed to the veterans that have served.



United States and its issue with School Shootings

By Staff Writer
Maria Escoto

In the United States there have been a rash of school shootings. According to CNN, "Since 2009, at least 177 of America's schools have experienced a shooting."

It's not disputed that too many people have lost their lives to the issue of schools being a hot zone for gun violence and these types of tragic events. Many advocates for gun reform say it's because of a lack of gun control and explain there should be more rules regarding individuals being able to get access to a gun. Gun proponents disagree.

Gun advocates argue that there isn't a problem with gun control, but the problem is the people. This argument has been around for a long time. "The earliest known United States shooting to happen on school property was the Pontiac's Rebellion school massacre on July 26, 1764," says K12academics.com.

The most recent American school shooting happened in Michigan at Oxford High School. The shooter is a 15 year old boy who killed four students and injured 7 people. His first court appearance was on December 1, 2021. He is getting tired as an adult.

The event happened on November 3, 2021 at 12:51 pm. The police received over nine-hundred calls alerting them to the violence, and the town was in a panic.

Prosecutors moved to charge the alleged shooter's parents with involuntary manslaughter, who allegedly purchased the gun for their son on Black Friday. Currently, the parents are each being held on a \$500,000 bond after being found hiding in a nearby warehouse.

Though the scenario behind school shootings is different, the thing that every school shooting has in common is that students end up feeling unsafe. Some schools have security and metal detectors put into place to avoid weapons being brought onto campuses. Other schools have had students use clear backpacks to make sure the students don't have any weapons.

In addition, there are starting to be more school shootings around the world and both kids and adults are having to consider this in their safety plans. In fact, there are drills students and teachers do to help them respond to the possibility of an active shooter on campus.

Students of all ages have been trained to respond to someone in the school.

They are told to turn off the light, lock the door and try to barricade it and sit in a corner with backpacks and knees in front of their chest to protect their body as much as they can.

There are other strategies students can use, like barricading classroom doors during an alert.

With campus gun violence a more and more common occurrence, schools have a lot to consider to help prevent school shootings and to practice drills with the students.

Kids at schools make jokes about how they are ready for something to happen.

There are videos of kids who hear a loud noise and they duck and cover as a reflex. Some kids think about their escape route to get out of the school if something happens.

There are some shows that talk about the subject of school shootings and try to show the extent of the issue through that. Some parents are scared of bad things happening to their kids going to school.

The Commercialization of the Christmas Season

By Gracie Davis
Staff Writer

It's December! As some people say, "The Most Wonderful Time of The Year." It's a season for family, friends, joy, tradition, and love when many people are getting ready for a day of giving.

A lot has changed throughout the years regarding how Christmas is celebrated. Technology has played a big role in how we view and celebrate Christmas today. Entrepreneurs, marketers, and small and large businesses have also played an important role in shaping the focus of the season.

For example, in the early twentieth century, Santa Claus was portrayed very differently from what he is today. He was spookier looking and definitely not the "jolly ole' fella" he is now. However, smallbiztrends says Coca-Cola ads began to feature Santa in the 1920s. By 1931, Coca-Cola decided to make a more wholesome Santa Claus, and that's how he stayed.

Everyone knows who Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer is. Not everyone knows that he was actually "born" from a huge marketing campaign in 1939 in a book written to attract newspaper coverage. The book was given out for free, and about two million copies were distributed.

Potterybarn.com says, in the early 1900s, Christmas became a widely celebrated holiday in the U.S. People started buying Christmas trees, and sending cards out to families. After the war, the economy grew and people started shopping at stores, giving gifts, and visiting family.

Then, the Great Depression hit, and Americans had to make the most of what they had. Par-

ents put surprise gifts in their children's stockings. Usually fruits, which were very hard to obtain. As the U.S. entered World War, families enjoyed spending time together, gathered around the radio listening to carols, exchanging gifts, and eating delicious meals.

After the second world war, families could buy boxes of Christmas decor, such as collections of machine-made ornaments. The holidays became bigger and brighter as families filled their homes and trees with glistening lights, as well as yard decorations.

Faux trees made their debut in the 1960s, and families picked out different colors, bringing a more futuristic look into the holiday. The 60s and 70s were times when pop culture referencing toys became must-haves for children. Families made memories watching their favorite actors and characters host Christmas specials on television.

These days, people spend days leading up to Christmas streaming their favorite holiday shows and movies, Doordashing favorite foods and browsing online to find the perfect gifts for friends and family, or browsing the things they'd like under the Christmas tree.

If family can't make it to celebrate, people will simply Facetime them instead. Buying loads of lights and decorations, so they can have the best decorated house on the street. Kids are told constantly to put their devices away and hang out with family, make memories. And stores are crowded with people, trying to get loads of gifts.

It seems that, while Christmas is still

the jolly, fun-filled holiday it's been, it's also causing more stress, anxiety, depression, and feelings of isolation. In the early 1900s Christmas seemed simpler. It wasn't as big, grand, and commercialized as it is now.

The rates of what Americans spend during the holiday season is absolutely absurd. CNBC says in 2020, U.S. online purchases during the holidays grew 32.3% from 2019 totaling a record of \$188.2 billion, as shoppers stayed home because of the pandemic.

Online spending during the holidays is on track to hit a total of \$207 billion for the first time ever. A ten percent year over year increase. In fact, this year's online sales for Thanksgiving Day was \$5.1 billion, matching last year. Roughly a 21% increase from 2019.

Adobe expects holiday shopping overall (both online and in-store) to hit between \$848.4 billion to \$859 billion. An all time high. This is what the Christmas season has started to become.

These years, people still celebrate with traditions, decorate trees with ornaments filled with memories, bake cookies together, and read holiday books. Christmas is still a great holiday, filled with joy.

However, Christmas has changed. Christmas is about spending genuine time with loved ones, giving, faith, and being joyful. It's time to take a step back, look at the bigger picture, and make Christmas what it's meant to be.



Harry Styles rocks his second tour “Love on Tour”

Staff Writer Victoriana Dimas

Singer and actor Harry styles went on his second tour around America. The tour started on September 2nd and ended November 20th, 2021.

Harry was first introduced to the music world by auditioning for X Factor UK. and sadly got sent home. He eventually got brought back and put into a group with 4 other boys. Those boys were Zayn Malik, Naill Horan, Liam Payne, and Louis Tomlinson. These five members made it far into the competition and later named the band One Direction.

After One Direction broke up in early 2015, Harry took a break from music and shows. And in 2017 Harry released his first debut album “Harry Styles” and went on his first world tour.

In 2019 Harry released his second album “Fine Line.” The same night Harry released his album, he had a one night only concert called “Fine Line Live at the Forum” and he confirmed that he would be going on his second tour aptly named “LOVE ON TOUR.”

The tour finally started again on September 2, 2021. His first show was in Las Vegas, Nevada, and he wore a pink fringe vest with pink pants. “Harry is an amazing performer and is able to captivate the crowd and include them in the show, I would 100% see him again given the opportunity,” said freshman Jasleen Gill

As the lights turned off the first word you heard was “STYLE”. With his song “Golden” playing in the background the volume slowly got louder and

louder. And as soon as you knew it Harry Styles rose up from the center of the stage with a new outfit every single show.

Junior Emily Rodriguez said, “My favorite song he sang was Golden. That’s my favorite song off his most recent album and since it was the opening song, it had amazing energy”



As the night went on Harry played songs from both his first and second album. Harry played a 17 song set list that ran about 90 minutes, and

did very well moving around the stage to interact with every single person in the room.

Harry always says at the beginning of every show, “For the next 90 minutes our job is to entertain each and every single one of you. I promise we are going to try our absolute very best. And also for the next 90 minutes you also have one job and that is to have as much fun as you possibly can. If you want to sing, if you want to dance, feel free to do whatever you want to do in this room tonight.”

Sophomore Camille Zavala said, ‘I have never felt more safe, accepted and happy than I did at that show. There’s absolutely no judgement and you can really see the heart and soul Harry puts into his work, even if you haven’t previously listened to him.’

After 42 shows around North America, Harry sadly ended his tour in Long Island, New York. Styles did not want to leave the stage so he performed his last song “Kiwi” 3 times in a row.

Harry showed all of his love and appreciation with his fans with a final post stating, “Thank you all so much for the love, I’ll see you very soon. Treat people with kindness. goodbye for now. I love you all. H”

Harry will hopefully continue making more music for people around the world. And we can’t wait to see what is in the future of music and tours for Harry Styles.

Vikings Share Opinions on School Rallys Post Covid

Staff Writer Amia Mathis

One of the most anticipated activities high school students have to look forward to are pep rallies. Unfortunately, the changes that have had to be made to ensure social distancing for the rallies since Covid-19 have made the students less enthusiastic and less motivated to be involved. Rallies have been moved to outside and the students for each grade are separated with caution tape. It has made the students less excited and more easily distracted.

Students can all agree that rallies would be better if it were to be moved inside, but students understand that it can’t be moved inside because of the Covid restrictions and mandates.

ASB officers and student council should continue to plan games to play during rallies and choose people that are in the crowds to make the students more invested in what is happening. The students have a problem with keeping their concentration on the rallies because they aren’t intrigued with the rally activities itself.

Commissioners of Activities should play more games and get more students involved. ASB officers and student council should have students vote on different things that the students want to happen at rallies just to help grab their attention. Getting the students involved will help them find

interest in what is happening. Even if it’s just little things like throwing prizes out into the crowd and having students that want to



be involved be able to do exactly that. When we go out for a rally we want to be excited for what’s going to happen. Having music and games to go along with the theme can help with that.

“It’s just a big crowd with no proper seating and nowhere to go, it’s harder for shorter people to see what is happening from being pushed to the back” - Maria Escoto a Freshman said.

“It shows that the school wants to interact with us

and show school spirit.”- Escoto said. “It would be better if more people were involved, and if they added a few more things to make it more exciting”- Victoriana Dimas, a freshman and cheerleader said.

This shows that the school rallies need some more improvement to get the students more excited and involved in what is happening.



So in conclusion the school and the ASB officers should work on interacting with the students more and getting them more involved with what is happening at the rally’s.

Vikings lose Third Round of Playoffs Against Bullard



By staff writer: Scarlett Laita

Vikings Lose 2nd round of Playoffs against Bullard

KHS Football Vikings advance to playoffs, 5-0 undefeated score in league.

The Vikings were going strong throughout the playoffs until they hit their third game.

The Vikings lost against Bullard Knights, the final score was 49-21. Bullard Knights were 3-1 in league. Even though they were disappointed in the outcome, many of the players were proud of their teammates and how great the season was.

The second playoff game, they faced Mission Oak. They were 4-0 in league and 10-0, until they played the Vikings. In the third quarter we were tied 19-19. Conner Mcfall broke the tie, by catching an 11 yard pass. The final score of the game was 32-26

The First playoff game, the Vikings faced Dos Palos who were 10-0 until they played KHS. The score of the game ended up being 64-13. The Vikings held off Dos Palos until the

second quarter where Dos Palos scored their first touchdown.

Junior Trace Jackson exclaimed "The idea that playoffs are do-or-die keeps us focused on the task at hand. If we don't go out there and get the win our season is over, and for the seniors on our



team it will be their last game. We prepare ourselves by focusing on one game at a time. We just

try to win one in a row each week, and if we can do that we can take it all the way".

Aaron Gacria, a freshman who was moved up to Varsity, during the playoffs, stated "I feel like it's a big accomplishment for me knowing I earned my way up to play with grown men I'm only 14, and not only that, but I helped my team and the town of Kingsburg."

"I feel sad about the season ending but there's always a way back and knowing I gave it my all as a freshman," added Garcia

Senior Chase Dias commented. "I feel sad about the season being over. We had a lot of good times..I'm happy about having a great and fun season this year. I feel like we've accomplished so much with a 5-0 league record and a great push in playoffs."

The season overall was great for the Vikings. Varsity being 10-3 and the JV team going 5-0-1. Before heading into the playoffs, the Vikings faced the Selma Bears. Gaining another win the final score was 41-0.

Boys Water Polo Makes KHS History

KHS varsity boys water polo wins valley championships for the first time in KHS history



by staff writer Kirrah Morton

This 2021 Varsity Boys Water polo team was the first water polo team at KHS to win the Valley Championships. They continued in playoff, but eventually lost to Lodi in the 2021 CIF NorCal Boys Water Polo Championship Division III match.

In the game when the team won Valley, the Vikings had a home match against San Luis Obispo. They defeated SLO, 11-9.

Being the first boys varsity team to win Valley Championships was a huge accomplishment.

Junior Cy Hammerstrom said, "It really feels amazing being a part of the first Valley Championship team as we made school history. Any time you can put down or say that you were a part of history, it's an incredible feeling.

Hammerstrom added, "It's almost surreal that we are the first in all of the years with so much good water polo coming through KHS, and it provides a really good feeling of accomplishment."

The boys had a good season based on scores with their closest game was a loss against

Sanger, 18-19. Their biggest win was a non-league game against Sunnyside. The Vikings won this game by 24 points and the end score was 25-1.

When asked about his favorite game of the season, Senior Shoji Shinkawa said, "My favorite



game this season is definitely the Valley Championship game. There were a ton of people who showed up to watch us play, so the energy from the crowd made the air of the game much different from any other."

Everyone knows that water polo is a grueling sport according to Hammerstrom, "The most grueling part about water polo is the dedication it takes both mentally and physically each day.

Being in the water really adds a whole other level of difficulty to play and it really strains the body. Water polo is all about physicality and not letting others' ability get in your head. No matter how big or small you are, you can succeed at polo."

After speaking to many of the players, it seems the team is more of a family. "This team was truly a family," stated Hammerstrom.

"It was never about winning the Valley; it was about bringing a culture of water polo to Kingsburg and the sense of brotherhood that we adopted resulted in just that. Being that close is what truly made us such a good team," he continued.

"I knew this was a true team when during the Valley Championship our defense would fall together and help shut down their best players," Shinkawa said.

Their season has come to an end, and the bonds they have made are like no other. Go Vikings