



Viking Voice

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Kingsburg High School

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We Are the Champions!

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VOICE

Kingsburg High School 2023-2024

Viking Voice Staff

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Aliya Ayers

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Ethan Anguiano
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Mariah Rodela
Eliana Roman
Kaitlyn Sanchez
Sophia Spate
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Abigail Berry
Audrey Laney
Landon Manley
Amia Mathis
Jenna Rogers
Victoriana Dimas

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Letters to the Editors

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KHS Marching Band and Color Guard End Their 2023 Marching Season on a High Note



By Jenna Rogers
Production Editor

Even through all of the last performance emotions, the KHS Marching Band placed second in their division and 6th overall at the 2023 Western Band Association (WBA) finals, only losing by 1.65 points at the Viking Classic.

The top six scores at the competition were Clovis High School at 88.725, Clovis East High School at 88.250, Clovis North Educational Center at 87.975, Clovis West High School at 82.325 Redwood High School at 81.950, and Kingsburg High School at 80.675.

The top band in 1A was Selma High School, the top band in 2A was Justin Garza High School the top band in 3A was Clovis West High School, the top school in 4A was Clovis High School, and the top band in 5A was Clovis East High School.

The Viking Marching Band was one of the nineteen bands that performed on November 11th at their home field for the competition.

The bands in any WBA competition are ranked by size. For instance, Sunnyside's band is smaller and in 1A, while Clovis North's band is significantly larger and in 5A.

Being a bigger band can add to the performance in some ways because bigger bands can project a louder sound and most of the time add more visual choreography.

The 1A bands included Sunnyside High School, Central East High School, Dos Palos High School and Selma High School.

The 2A bands included Mt. Whitney High school, Parlier High School, Hanford High School, Madera South High School and Justin Garza High School.

This year there were only two 3A bands,

Kingsburg High School and Clovis West High School.

4A bands included Lemoore High School, Redwood High School, Hanford West High School, Madera High School, Torres High school and Clovis High School.

There were only two 5A bands this 2023 marching season and the schools are Clovis North Educational Center and Clovis East High School.

Band Director Mike Schofield commented about the year as a whole "I felt good about this year's marching season. I feel like we've stretched ourselves musically more than in the past, and it is always a great experience to see students work together to create performances at the highest level possible."

Senior Judith Rivera shared "I felt that finals was the best run of the season. We were all satisfied with our run and I can't imagine a better end to our season. We performed really well the whole season and continued advancing. Overall our season went well and I am happy with how our season went."

Senior Drum Major Piper Protzmann expressed her gratefulness for her time in the band. "Band was the best experience of my life, and I am grateful that the other future bands will get to enjoy that too." She said to her fellow band members "Enjoy every moment of it!"

There are a lot of different views and perspectives in the band because all classes are in one mix. Freshman Milania Mendoza said about her experience "The season was amazing and I can't believe I got to be part of such a thrilling experience my first year of high school."

Overall, the band is proud of their success and looks forward to a bright future of high-level performances.

Jazz Choir Takes Trip to Cuesta Jazz Festival

By Chloe Delgado
Staff Writer

On November 3rd, Kingsburg High School's own Jazz Choir took off on their trip to the Cuesta College Vocal Jazz Festival held in San Luis Obispo.

The Cuesta College has held this event since 1998, also holding many other events for middle schools, high schools, and colleges.

John Knutson, the choral head of Cuesta College hosts it along with help from his students. The goal of this event is to give helpful feedback to choirs to improve their performances. It's a great way for students to hear critiques and improve as a whole. There are headliners that come every year to provide their professional opinions and help, holding small groups called "clinics."

This year's group of professionals were called "M-Pact," a 6-man jazz/pop group located in Los Angeles. The 2023 years vocal jazz festival was M-Pact's fifth year there. This group has been around for 28 years and have accomplished and done many things. They have taught at summer camps, jazz festivals, and have done plenty of concerts.

All of this allows for their teaching to be very credible and experienced. The Jazz Choir students have all expressed having a great time with M-Pact during the clinic. Even a few stated it was the highlight of their trip to Cuesta College.

The jazz choir is made up of a group of 14 students. 11 of these students are upperclassmen, with 4 being seniors. Emily Ayala Gonzalez, Damian Mendoza, Jonathan Mynderup, and Kristen Pacheco are all the current seniors in this group.

This year Junior JB Noh had a solo in the song "So Danco Samba" by Joah Gilberto and Stan Getz. This is JB's first year in jazz choir. He also performed this solo in the Fall Concert at KHS.

His peers say he is talented and does an incredible job with this solo. JB states, "I was extremely surprised and felt very honored being chosen for the solo." Getting a solo is an amazing opportunity and being able to show off your talent in the spotlight is a moment not many would skip out on.

JB has shown his talents in Fiddler on the Roof, last school year's spring musical where he had the lead role. Now this year his talents have shined through performances alongside his fellow jazz choir members.

The mastermind behind every great song and

performance is none other than Mr. Mynderup, the school's jazz choir teacher. He teaches an assortment of other things as well, such as theater and concert choir. He has been a teacher here at KHS for 25 years.

This year is his retirement year. Mr. Mynderup has an extensive knowledge of exactly how to teach and mentor his students. His jazz choir is something that sticks out dramatically.



Cuesta is a non-competitive jazz festival as many other similar festivals are. However, they give excellent feedback and comments to the choirs. This group of students work very hard to be the best they can be. Cuesta Vocal Jazz Festival is a really enjoyable event as are a majority of the jazz choirs field trips.

This year they are looking forward to Orlando Florida, Columbia Vocal Jazz festival and Fullerton Jazz Festival.

Senior Kristen Pacheco gave a comment on her experience at the Cuesta College festival, "The clinic was great, we got a lot of tips and helpful advice from a member of M-Pact (Gregory)."

Freshman Alejandra Jimenez spoke on her experience as a freshman in this group. "It's been really good, we have really good chemistry with each other, I'm looking forward to making good music with this group because we're like one big family." Being one of two freshmen in this group of upperclassmen leads to unique experiences. She has expressed how the group is close and really fun to be around.

Senior Damian Mendoza shared his excitement from this trip, expressing "It was an incredible experience and one

that definitely will benefit our future performances." He has been in the jazz choir for 2 years now. He thinks this year will be a lot better than his previous year due to him being a senior.

Mr. Mynderup was questioned on how he feels about his final jazz choir group performance at the Cuesta College Jazz Festival. "The choir is performing extremely well. For the most part they all get along and work very hard to be the best they

can be. I'm really looking forward to taking them to Orlando Florida this spring to perform in a World-Strides Heritage Choral Festival. They deserve it."

Mr. Mynderup is a beloved teacher and mentor. This group is the last jazz choir to be taught by Mr. Mynderup as his retirement will be at the end of this year.

As the school year continues we are looking forward to witnessing their future accomplishments and watching them flourish as individuals and as a group. The Jazz Choir is extremely close and have a bond that helps their performances. This talented group continues to strive to be great and that will continue on throughout this school year.

The heightened ability they show in their musical talents is noticeable. From any outsider's point of view they are immaculate at what they do.

The talent they have flourishes when performances are put on. That is why this Cuesta College Vocal Jazz Festival was and is so important to them. It allowed for them to experience important critiques, show off their talent, and grow in vocal maturity. A majority of the jazz choir was asked about their time at Cuesta College and all that was given was positive feedback about their experience.

This is the jazz choir's second year attending this festival. The jazz choir has previously performed exceedingly well.

Dickens Carolers Bring the Sounds of the Season

By Evalicia Cruz
Staff Writer

What is Dickens Caroling? Mr Mynderup said "Caroling has been around since the 13th Century but was not necessarily attributed to the Christmas season. In England the act of caroling emerged from the term wassail which means "to be well and in good health". Carolers would travel from neighbor to neighbor wishing them good health. Eventually these sayings evolved into such well known songs as "The Wassail Song - Here We Come a Caroling" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas".

The Kingsburg High School Dickens Carolers are continuing this tradition of singing well wishes to their audiences each Christmas season. "Dickens" comes from Charles Dickens, who wrote "A Christmas Carol". Figurines were created that had carolers and other characters in period clothing as was worn in England during the Victorian era."

What is the history of Dickens' Caroling? Mr Mynderup said "Caroling has been around since the 13th Century but was not necessarily attributed to the Christmas season. In England the act of caroling emerged from the term wassail which means "to be well and in good health". Carolers would travel from neighbor to neighbor wishing them good health. Eventually these sayings evolved into such well known songs as "The Wassail Song - Here We Come a Caroling" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas". The Kingsburg High



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Where do you go to perform? Mr Mynderup said "We perform wherever the party is. The Kingsburg Senior Center, various restaurants in Kingsburg

and Selma. Hillcrest Tree Farm and various homes and businesses." What's the next event? Mr Mynderup said "Depending on when this article is published we could be at the Kingsburg Senior Center, the Smoke-House Bar and Grill, Park Kingsburg, Kingsburg Covenant Church, or at Mr. Mynderup's home. The stu-

dents have had a total of 18 performances and have done a super job. Many in-coming choir students say they joined choir because they saw the Dickens Carolers come to their school and sing. The KHS Dickens Carolers have had a rich tradition of providing quality entertainment to many many people over the years. It is a fact that the carolers themselves really enjoy working this hard!! They are always a little sad to see the season end. But as always...there's always next year."

Where do you get the music from? Mr Mynderup said "99% of the music the carolers perform is purchased from a sheet music company named JWPepper. JWPepper sells many, many types of choral, band, and orchestra music from many different music publishers."

What's your favorite thing about Dickens' Caroling? Junior Megan George said "One of my favorite things about Dickens' caroling is seeing people's faces light up and sing along when we sing."

How do you guys prepare for your next performance? Sophomore Presley Pattersen said "In the class period before our performance, or sometimes at a lunch rehearsal, we will sing through our songs with our full sound system if we will be using it during the performance and Mr. Mynderup will clarify any notes that we may be missing or give us pointers on how to sound better." What's the best part about dickens caroling?

Junior Dennis Fan said "being able to spread and bring the Christmas spirit to many groups and communities around here".

Kingsburg FFA Members Attend National Covention

By Victoriana Dimas
Production Editor

Kingsburg High School's Agriculture Department had two members attend the National FFA Convention.

The National Convention is a 4-day event held in Indianapolis, Indiana. This event is the nation's largest annual gathering of students.

Members have the opportunity to explore career and educational opportunities. This year, more than 69,000 members, advisors, and guests attended.

Every other year Kingsburg FFA attends the National Convention. Since our chapter at-



tended last year, it wasn't available to attend this year as a school.

Senior Camille Zavala was one person who went to the National Convention. Camille is extremely involved in the FFA Industry. Her Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) includes raising and showing market goats and helping at the school farm. She also competes on the Floral Team.

At Kingsburg High School, Zavala is FFA President. Last year she was East Fresno Madera's Sectional Secretary. This year, Camille took a step up and is now the San Joaquin Regional Secretary.

Since Camille is San Joaquin Secretary, she was invited to the National Convention and attended with her fellow San Joaquin peers.

Next up is Senior Mikayla Rosales who is also involved in the FFA industry. Mikayla has been a part of Kingsburg FFA all four years of her high school career. She competes on the Advanced Parli Pro, Vine Pruning, and Livestock Judging teams. Her favorite thing to do is raise and show market lambs and goats.

This year, Mikayla is the Kingsburg Chapter's Vice President, and she is also the reporter for the East Fresno Madera Section.

Rosales attended the national conference with her brother and graduate Tanner Rosales. Rosales is a graduate from Kingsburg High School. This year

Tanner got to walk across the stage and accept his American FFA Degree.

An American FFA Degree is a big accomplishment for anybody who is in FFA. During your freshman

year of high school you can apply for your Green-hand Degree.

Then, throughout high school candidates can then apply for their Chapter Degree, followed



by their State Degree.

After candidates complete all the degrees, they can apply for the National FFA Degree, which is considered an elite group of members on the national level.

Achieving the American Degree is the highest honor an FFA member can complete. Graduates Noble Kahion and Jared Viewer also accepted their National FFA Degree, and KHS would like to congratulate all Kingsburg FFA members who achieved the honor!

Mikayla and Camille represented Kingsburg FFA's local chapter with honor.

KHS Theater Presents Man Who Came To Dinner



By Audrey Laney
Production Editor

Kingsburg Highschool's Theatre department recently showcased their late 2023 performance, *The Man who Came to Dinner*, originally written by George F. Kaufman and Moss Hart, and directed by Laura Vallenari. Their successful opening night occurred on November 14, followed with performances through the 16th and concluding on the 18th.

Through a total of 3 acts equating to 2 hours and 15 minutes, the entirety of the play surrounds Sheridan Whiteside: an eccentric, witty man who dines at the home of the Stanley's. The plot begins with Whiteside slipping on ice outside their doorstep and breaking his hip, causing him to stay longer than expected (6 long weeks).

The hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley (played by Presley Patterson and Ragan Boen) are originally thrilled to invite Whiteside over for dinner, as he is an idolized radio celebrity. However, during Whiteside's stay, he mischievously raises the telephone bill, gifts numerous penguins and cockroaches, and invites three paroled criminals over for lunch. On top of it all, he is suing Mr. Stanley \$150,000 for his injuries. Whiteside's evidently entitled and erratic behavior causes the Stanley's to become displeased with his new presence in the household.

The lead role of Sheridan Whiteside is played by Elijah Allen, who flawlessly embodied the character and delivered his rapid-fire dialogue. It is notable to compare Allen and his role to his background in Theatre, as he has only been an extra in one other show. He explained in an interview, "it at least gave me an idea of what to expect"

The supporting cast, including Katie Bishop as Maggie Cutler, Damian Mendoza as Bert Jefferson, and Kristen Pacheco as Lorraine Sheldon, perfectly complemented the lead, which helped bring the script to life. A main plot point surrounding these characters is the sudden romance between Maggie, Whiteside's assistant, and Bert, a local reporter. Ultimately, Mr. Whiteside disappears and gets himself involved, as he schemingly gets Lorraine, a glamorous celebrity, to steal Bert's heart.



As Maggie's grounded personality juxtaposed with Lorraine's self centeredness and flamboyance, their contrasting dynamic undeniably serves as a captivating, humorous subplot in the play. Actresses Bishop and Pacheco both agree their favorite highlight of the play was performing the scenes encompassing Maggie and Lorraine. Bishop illustrates, "we had to hate each other's

character, so it was fun making snide comments."

Moreover, the KHS Theatre department holds a musical annually, which tends to occur in the fall. This season, they chose to delay the musical until spring and perform, *The Man who Came to Dinner*, a comedic play instead. Allen views this difference positively, as he highlights, "I'm not as talented as some of the others on the cast when it comes to singing, so with it not being a musical, I was able to feel more comfortable in my own talents." Conversely, Pacheco provides a different perspective. She expresses, "even though I would have much rather preferred a musical, I like being challenged by my directors."

The majority of the cast members agree that their biggest individual accomplishment was memorizing their lines and cues in under a month. Allen was given 86 pages of lines to memorize, yet felt, "very happy once [he] could go through each scene without having to look at [his] script." To achieve this level of success, Kristen Pacheco shares, "it took a lot of tears and late nights, but running through lines daily was definitely needed..."

Vallenari made huge efforts towards perfecting the play as well. For instance, she spent time doing one-on-one character sessions with the cast members, asking them numerous questions about the specific character they play. This had a significant impact on the cast's understanding of the characters, which enhanced their chemistry and comedic effect overall.

The students' dedication, the director's vision, and the entire production's collaboration harmoniously made it a memorable theatrical experience for all fortunate enough to witness.

Yearly Winter Formal Dance 2023-2024

By Nehemiah Zapien
Production Editor

As the semester is coming to an end, finals are coming, but the yearly Winter Formal Dance is also going to be held. The winter formal will be held on December 21, 2023, at the old gym. The last day of the semester and also the last day of finals.

In years past, Winter Formal has been a school event that students enjoy attending. It's a place where students can hang out with their friends and enjoy themselves by dancing, relaxing, or socializing with other students. It also serves as a reward for all the hard work students have done throughout the semester and on their finals. Winter Formal is a place where students can make new memories throughout their time here at KHS. Unlike Prom, Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors are all allowed to attend.

Sophomore Yerly Ramirez replied when asked what her favorite thing about Winter Formal was "I would have to say the decorations that are used are my favorite part about Winter Formal. They just make the setting look a lot nicer."

She was also asked if she enjoyed attending the event and said, "I do like going to Formal because I like how everyone dresses nice and tries to look their best for the night."

She was asked if she thought that there should be anything added to make the night feel better and responded with, "I don't really think there is anything big to add but I feel like they should play better music than what they played last year."



Sophomore Adriana Solis was also asked to give her thoughts on Winter Formal. She shared "Even though this is my second year going, I would say I do enjoy attending because it

gives me a reason to get out of the house, get all dolled up, and have a good night with my friends."

She was also asked if she thought anything should be added to make it better and replied saying, "I feel like if they did add anything, they should probably add more sitting room and food because you're there for a while and you eventually get hungry."

She was asked what her favorite thing about Formal was in which she said, "I think my favorite thing about it is being able to go home and get dressed and be able to look all pretty for the night."

The final person interviewed was Sophomore Natalie Hernandez. Hernandez was asked what her favorite thing was about formal, in which she stated, "My favorite thing about formal is probably the decorations they use to make the place look nice."

She was also asked if she thought that there was anything that should be added to Formal and responded saying, "I think they should add food and probably add some better music to make it more fun."

Hernandez was also asked if she liked attending and said, "I wouldn't say I don't enjoy attending but it gets a little crowded and I feel like they should make it just a little more entertaining."

Community Christmas Ice Skating Rink

Makenna Gonzalez
Staff Writer

Kingsburg is back for the holiday season, which means the ice skating rink. It was being hosted by Kingsburg Baptist Church on 1615 Draper St.

This year there were many things to do there, not just Ice skating. There were vendors with food, like steak and sweet treats and tacos as well.

There was also hot chocolate, served at a discount.

There also were places where attendees could sit and eat if you didn't want to sit next to the fires, where they could buy or bring crackers and marshmallows and chocolate to make s'mores by the fire or, people could have bought some at a baker spot that is local to here that cost around three dollars.

There were little craft stations for the kids to do stuff like Lego building and card making as well as Gaga ball. There was a hay ride that went all around downtown as well.

They also had live performances throughout the night, such as the KHS jazz choir dressed in Victorian outfits singing carols.

The ice skating rink was open from December second to the ninth, and the event went from four PM to nine, offering an evening in a winter wonderland.



Throughout the week they have themes for the days and the nights, being Santa Lucia Day, Santa Comes to Town, Ugly Christmas Sweat-

er Jamboree, Honoring the Call of Duty, Hayride with the Grinch, Storytime with Grandma Jingle, Light of the World, Community Christmas Stage

and the last night is Christmas Candlelight Service. The rink was open to children of all ages, with skates provided in all sizes.

We even had some of our own KHS Vikings there at the skating rink. Junior Ragen Boen said "I enjoyed the surrounding of the place and how if you didn't like skating, but still went to the place you would be able to do other activities."

They changed the themes up every night so you never knew what you're getting until you get there.

They also set up lights when it started to get dark, making it fun to skate on.

KHS student Zoey Yacconi, a senior said "If I do go again I would go more towards the nights because the lights they put on at night are very fun to skate in."

And of course, there's Santa Claus. He rode in on the Fire Truck and you could take pictures with him. He even brought Mrs. Claus too, and the day after that, the Grinch was there on the hayride.

Throughout the night attendants will experience lots of fun and get in the mood for Christmas. Hopefully the skating rink will be back next year.

A Kingsburg Tradition: Santa Lucia Parade Returns

By Kaitlyn Sanchez
Staff Writer

Since the return of winter is here, it means that Kingsburg is in full Christmas spirit. One way Kingsburg shows our Christmas spirit is through the Santa Lucia Parade. This year the parade was on December 2.

The Santa Lucia Parade has been a tradition here in Little Sweden since 1980 on the first Saturday of December. The parade isn't just a silly thing we do here to kick off the holiday season, but it actually has a deep rooted history.

In Sweden, Norway, and the Swedish-speaking areas of Finland celebrate Santa Lucia on the 13th of December. It is celebrated on December 13th, because in 304 Saint Lucy died a Christian martyr. Since Lucy's name is derived from the Latin root 'lux' meaning light, Santa Lucia is celebrated with a multitude of lights.

In Norway, Sweden, and Swedish-speaking areas of Finland, there is a designated Lucia who wears light in her hair. To achieve the candle lit look, the Lucia wears electric candles atop her head and her maidens carry a candle in their hands. Along with the maidens, there are also star boys who have stars on their heads. All of the participants are dressed in white and



rade also keeps the theme of "festival of light" by Inc, and Finally our Grand Winner: Lincoln School.

incorporating countless uses of Christmas lights, from decked out floats, to our very own KHS band. Similarly, in Kingsburg the parade is started off by our Swedish Queen with a candle headband with her maidens and star boys. The parade also keeps the theme of "festival of light" by

The Santa Lucia Parade isn't just flashing lights and colors. Our Swedish Queen, Emilee Parker, lets us know what else happens. Parker stated, "I walk around the restaurants in the morning with other Lucia girls and sing in Swedish."

The Santa Lucia Parade is a way for all of us to remember the roots of the place where we all live. This year the theme was Festival of Lights, however attendees might have thought that it was gingerbread because many of the floats sported a Christmas favorite, Gingerbread, as an obvious part of their theme.

Maybe this is the reason that Mayor Palomar's favorite part of the parade is, "seeing how creative the parade participants can be."

Luckily this year brought a clear night sky, a good change from last year when it was raining. Not only was the weather clear and not too cold, but the parade had an extremely good turnout. The streets were lined with people on both sides waiting to watch the parade take place.

This year, the parade had many winners for the participants including, Best Nativity 1st Place: Holy Family Catholic Church, Best Swedish 1st: Rafer Johnson Jr. High Leadership, Children's Category 1st: Bills Auto-Cozy Coop, General 1st: Kings River Tractor Inc, and Finally our Grand Winner: Lincoln School.

Kingsburg Vikings Continue to Spread Christmas Joy

By Abigail Berry
Production Editor

Key club and CIA (Catholics and Action) are truly the gift that keeps giving, as this Christmas season they are hosting a blanket drive for those in need, with students willingly donating slightly used or completely brand new blankets that would be then donated to residents of the Kingsburg Center.

Blankets were dropped off at room 84 and 71 in both Mrs. Gomez's and Mrs. Manuszak's room, the blanket drive ran for 2 weeks from November 27th to December 15th, 2023.

But this is not the only delightful Christmas on-campus organization that plans to give to those in need. The KHS Office, all of Ms. Lopes classes, Avid 9,10,11,12, Key Club, all of Mr. Simmons's classes, and the Math Club plan on participating in an Adopt-a-Family.

Adopt-a-Family is a program that offers to help local families with limited financial



sources by providing gifts for both the parents and the children. Students can either choose to gift the family general necessities or an individual member of the family.

Mrs. Klair, a teacher of one of the many AVID classes who are participating in an Adopt-A-Family has some more insight on how the Adopt-A-Family works in her AVID class. She shares, "This is the fourth consecutive year my AVID class has participated in adopting Christmas families. This experience has proven to be very positive."

"In my class, students are divided into groups and given details such as the ages and clothing sizes of family members, along with a wishlist for Christmas gifts. My students get excited about getting gifts for their families. The gifts include both gently used and brand new items. Additionally, students gather and organize food items to assemble grocery bags for the adopted families."

Not only does these events bring members of the community together, but also students together. Many students were seen gathering together, presenting their presents, before working together to wrap it up. This shows that KHS students have a lot of Christmas magic to share, and serves as encouragement for students to keep doing good.

KHS vikings Honor Students of the Months

By Kirrah Morton
Editor-in-Cheif

Each month, KHS teachers honor students for their exceptional character, positive attitude towards school, determination, and perseverance.

The different Academic departments have a meeting to discuss how the month is going, things to improve on, and talk about which students they believe deserve this honor and recognition. Each department nominates a student from each grade level to be honored as "Student of the Month."

Each recipient is given a personalized certificate, as well as a special message from the nominating teacher.

October

Meadow Hollis Math teacher Sarah Alvarado nominated Meadow saying, "Meadow has been working really hard this year in math. She is always actively participating in class and has done well on both of our tests. I am proud of the work that she's putting. I love how she is not afraid to ask questions when she doesn't understand something and she is also good at helping her friends when they don't get it. Love having you in my class, Meadow. Keep it up!"



Madison Palm Spanish teacher Selene Morrales nominated Madison saying, "Madison is a determinate student that always gives 100% for every class assignment. Always demonstrates kindness to her peers in the classroom and is always prepare to participate and follow class directions."



Makenna Kemplin-Gonzalez Special Ed teacher Brie Lopes nominated Makenna saying, "Makenna has been an exceptional leader in class, she always volunteers to share and will help her classmates out when she can. Makenna has a great work ethic and is always on top of all her assignments. She has been determined to keep her grades where they are and is putting in the work to do so, she puts pride in her work. Makenna has hit the ground running this school year; if she keeps it up, she will have no problem reaching her goals! Be proud of yourself Makenna!"



Steve Hernandez Spanish teacher Jorge Contreras nominated Steve saying, "Steve is an exceptional student. He is always willing to lend a hand to others and is always looking to improve as a person. Kindness, Honor, Success, and Determination is a reflection of how he carries himself in and out of the classroom. Overall great to have in class."



Sebastian Espinoza English teacher Joelle Swenning nominated Sebastian saying, "Sebastian is always focused on learning and his personal success. He is determined to do well in his classes and conscientious about giving his best effort. He is an excellent role model for his peers because he is always on task, he takes pride in his work and he is serious about learning."



Ian Stype English teacher Jacob Simmons nominated Ian saying, "Ian shows up to our class every day with a willingness to learn and to be of service to others. He is a compassionate and critical thinker who elevates the intellectual performance of his peers, and he's always quick to champion the ideas of others. He inspires his classmates, and he works hard to leave nobody behind."



Aubrey Hammon History teacher Frank Carbajal nominated Aubrey saying, "Aubrey is so helpful with other students and is always attentive. I am excited to nominate her."



Isaac Baca-Oseguera Science teacher Amanda Manuszak nominated Isaac saying, "Isaac Baca-Oseguera has always been a hard working student in Earth Science. He is also a kind and helpful group member when someone around him needs help!"



Jaxon Ahumada Math teacher Bryan Peterson nominated Jaxon saying, "Jaxon has shown a lot of interest and initiative in AP Calculus and just seems to really enjoy the subject."



Alejandra Arellano-Gutierrez Spanish teacher Martha Gudino nominated Alejandra saying, "Alejandra is an excellent student she is always ready to learn and attentive. She is very respectful and hard working. She is always on task and helps her classmates when needed. It is a pleasure to have her in AP Spanish class."



Alexander Estrada Science teacher Satinder Klair nominated Alexander saying, "Determination: Alex has shown determination over the last month. He has slowly and steadily improved his grade, and he works hard to stay organized. I am very proud of the improvements he has made, and I also appreciate how well he works with his peers. It is a pleasure to have Alex as my student."



Alondra Alvarez Luna English teacher Patti Crass nominated Alondra saying, "Alondra is a kind and thoughtful student who works hard in class contributing towards her success and the success of others. When she needs clarification, she makes sure to have her questions ready. She always has a smile on her face and projects positivity. I enjoy having her in class."



Caden Alston Math teacher Bill Jensen nominated Caden saying, "Caden is very conscientious and gives quality effort on all tasks. He has a positive attitude and contributes well during class activities."



Reygan Jones Math teacher Ken Harvey nominated Reygan saying, "Reygan willingly helps other students when they ask her for further clarification. She also initiates conversations to help others when they seem to struggle. She is kind, joyful, and a true leader."



November

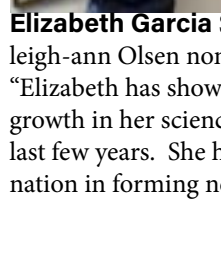
Sophia Quintana Band teacher Mike Schofeild nominated Sophia saying, "Sucess."



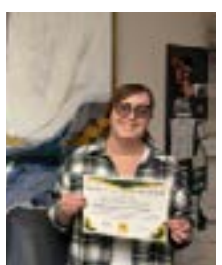
Sabrina Frandsen Math teacher Mike Manley nominated Sabrina saying, "Sabrina is always focused on her learning and being successful in class. She is determined, works well with classmates, and a fun addition to the class."



Zayury Tehandon English teacher Michelle Schiller nominated Zayury saying, "Zayury works so hard on every assignment. She is attentive to class instruction and to her classmates during group work and discussions. It is clear that Zayury wants to do well and puts forth the greatest effort to produce quality work."



Elizabeth Garcia Science teacher Leigh-ann Olsen nominated saying, "Elizabeth has shown tremendous growth in her science classes over the last few years. She has shown determination in forming new study habits in"



Rachelle Ureno Spanish teacher Martha Gudino nominated Rachelle saying, "Rachelle is a student who always enters the classroom prepare and ready to learn. She works very hard in all of her classes. She is very respectful, attentive and kind to others. It is a pleasure to have her in AP Spanish."



Bryson Brandon Special Ed teacher Brie Lopes nominated Bryson saying, "Bryson is a Special Service Aide and he has been an exceptional leader and role model for his peers enrolled in life skills. Bryson takes the initiative to direct and show the students how to complete a task rather than just doing it for them. He is patient and kind with each student, a skill that not everyone has."



Natalie Mireles Spanish teacher Jorge Contreras nominated Natalie saying, "Natalie shows exceptional Viking characteristics. She is always willing to help those around her without having me to ask her. Natalie is always participating and is approachable by other students who may need help."



Nissy Salazar Science teacher Satinder Klair nominated Nissy saying, "Nissy is a hard working, conscientious student. She is focused in class and works to the best of her ability on every single assignment. Nissy is respectful towards her peers and shows maturity. It is a pleasure having her as a student this year."



Faith Flynn Spanish teacher Selene Morales nominated Faith saying, "Faith is a student that always enters the classroom with a smile and is always ready to learn. Faith is a determined student that always gives 100% for every task and demonstrates kindness to her peers in the classroom."



Israel Barragan English teacher Patti Crass nominated Israel saying, "Israel is a kind and conscientious student who seeks to include others in a group setting. He often asks clarifying questions which helps other students. He always has a positive attitude and I am thankful to have him in my class."



Jasman-singh Pama-Ghuman English teacher Joelle Swenning nominated Jasman saying, "Jasman is such a conscientious and dedicated student. He is always willing to learn and contribute to class discussions and activities."



Carson Gonzales Science teacher Leigh-ann nominated Carson saying, "Carson is very hard-working and asks great questions. I appreciate his strong commitment to learning in such a challenging class."



Grant He Math teacher Ingrid Morris nominated Grant saying, "Grant is a ray of sunshine. He is kind to me and students in his group. He works hard and asks good questions."



Anthony Sandoval Vrop teacher Benjamin Gonzalez nominated Anthony saying, "Anthony has consistently displayed a strong work ethic and integrity. Anthony has a proven track record of delivering his assignments on time."



Maximillion Austin Math teacher Gail Williams nominated Max saying, "Austin is a naturally talented student who has been working to encourage his classmates to see the beauty in mathematics. He is a valued group member and he enhances all of their understandings with his keen insights. His selfless efforts are greatly admired."



2023 Fall Viking of the Month Luncheon Teachers, Staff and Families Celebrate Outstanding Vikings of the Fall Semester

By Amia Mathis
Production Editor

This year's student of the month recognition is taking place on Wednesday, December 20, 2023. This is an event that happens after every semester for the students that were honored with Student of the Month for September, October, November and December.

Between students, families, and KHS staff, there should be around 150 people attending the luncheon. This event is taking place in the new gym from 1-2 PM. The gym will be decorated according to the event. The floral class will be making flower arrangements that will be on each table at this event as part of decorations.

Each student and their family will receive a meal of spaghetti, bread, and salad. After this students will be called up individually and presented with a banner, water bottle, and pin.

After speaking to Mrs. Warkentin she said, "This event is a time that we get to recognize students who have shown kindness, honor, success, or determination. Students are from all different backgrounds and academic levels but have stood out in an amazing way to our staff here at KHS. This is a time to celebrate and honor them with their family and teachers."

The students that will be attending this event including: Alina Martinez, Kaylee Reich, Mia Gonzales, Aiden Lopez, Jasman Pama-Ghuman, Presley Patterson, Zhenhong Li, Alexis Villagomez, Isabella Valenzuela, Ryan Martinez, Brielle Benslay, Dennis Fan, Ethan Harrison, Layla Vasquez, Evelyn Maldonado, Molly Reddell, Sebastian Espinoza, Aubrey Hammon, Alondra Alvarez Luna, Makenna Kemplin-Gonzalez, Viren Gonzalez, Reygan Jones, Steve Hernandez, Caden Aiston, Meadow Hollis, Madison Palm. Alejandra Arellano-Gutierrez, Ian Stype, Jazon Ahumada, Isaac

Baca-Oseguera, Alexander Estrada, Kaitlyn Kaitfors, Sophia Quintana, Bryson Brandon, Zayury Tehandon, Israel Barragan, Grant He, Maximillian Austin, Nissy Salazar, Anthony Sandoval, Elizabeth Garcia, Carson Gonzales,

Faith Flynn, Natalie Mireles, Sabrina Frandsen, Rachelle Ureno, Kaitlyn Sanches, Isabella Ochoa, Francisco Nunez, Bridget Harrell, Isaiah Herrera, AInsley Tos, Isabella Ramirez, Ella Ehoff, Martinez and Makendra Lynn.



Is November too Early for Christmas Decorations?

By Anabelle McFadden
Staff Writer

One of the many controversial questions about holidays is when do you start setting up Christmas decorations?

Since there's 3 holidays in a row, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, and since Christmas is the most popular, people decorate for Christmas the most.

Thanksgiving isn't as popular decoration wise as Halloween and Christmas, so many people decorate their house with Christmas decorations after Halloween. Some people say that it is too early to decorate for Christmas while others disagree.

Some people range from putting Christmas decorations from even before Halloween to before Thanksgiving or after.

From my personal experience, I say that it is not too early. We usually have the tree up the day after Halloween because we are big Christmas fans. Since I am also a picky eater I'm not the biggest fan of Thanksgiving, so I do not mind decorating early for Christmas.

Senior Bradley Harder, despite his favorite holiday out of the last 3 in the year being Christmas, said, "November is too early for Christmas decorations."

"My family normally starts to put up things out around the house at the start of December," Harder shared.

I also think it is strange if you decorate for



Christmas before Halloween. Christmas and Halloween are two very different holidays. Halloween is spooky and dark, while Christmas is bright and

happy.

Freshman Caleb Castillo's favorite holiday out of Christmas, Thanksgiving, and Halloween is Christmas because he likes the gatherings that his family has.

"In my opinion, I like to adorn our surroundings with Christmas decorations during November," Castillo stated.

Castillo decorates Christmas decorations during the first week of November with his family.

Decorating after Halloween, but before Thanksgiving is a good time to decorate. Most stores put out their decorations after Halloween, so it's a good time to get decor before it all gets bought. And there also aren't many decorations for Thanksgiving.

Sophomore Amelia Rios says that she decorates for Christmas the second week of November.

"Uh, I guess I don't have that much of a problem with it," she said after being asked if November is too early for Christmas decor.

She enjoys decorating and thinks it is fun but not to do it quickly depending on if you have Halloween decorations up before.

School Uniforms, Makes sense?

By Elvalicia Cruz
Staff Writer

There is always a debate in schools whether adopting uniforms would improve the environment. Students have a lot to say about this idea so I asked students and a teacher on campus what they thought.

The question at hand "Would our school and students like the idea of uniforms?"

Junior Felicity Gaytan said, "I wouldn't mind because I won't have to wash clothes at home, but at the same time I am comfortable in my own clothes."

Uniforms are used at schools to decrease violence and theft, prevent gang members from wearing their gang colors, and promote discipline.

The change to uniforms would also create an environment where teachers wouldn't have to worry about dress code and the school would be able to better recognize school intruders.

When asked about the downside of uniforms, freshman Azayla Vann said, "The uniforms don't give students freedom to express them-

selves and to wear whatever they are comfortable in."

Freshman Gracie Cunningham said, "I feel like that is not very suitable for kids. Some people might be uncomfortable wearing the same thing

and everyone is not the same."

I feel like students should be able to express themselves in their outfits spiritually and religiously, restricting apparel only takes that away.

Uniforms also don't allow students to follow any of the current fashion trends and they won't be able to discover their own fashion. Clothing is an important part of first impression and also lets them express their emotions with what they wear.

Uniforms can also cost less and prevent bullying. People bully other students for not being able to buy trendy clothes. Once everyone starts wearing the same clothes, there will be less bullying in the school.

In my opinion, students will be more focused on their schoolwork rather than spending their time on shopping and picking out clothes for school.

Though there has been a lot of disagreement with uniforms, it's clear that wearing uniforms could also help build a sense of unity within the school since everyone would be wearing the same thing.

everyday and it's unhygienic."

Math Teacher Sarah Alvarado said, "I say no to school uniforms because people don't get to show who they are, everyone has to be the same



Conflict in Middle East Heightens: Israel Refuses to Back Down



Photo Credits Mohammed Salem/Reuters

By Landon Manley
Production Editor

On October 7th, 2023, Hamas attacked Israel, which eventually escalated into a series of conflicts that has continued constantly with few breaks.

The attack on Israel began with a surprise invasion from a Hamas-led Palestinian militant group targeting Israel with a barrage of rockets. Three thousand other militants invaded the Gaza-Israel border in order to attack Israel military bases, cities, and towns.

The surprise attack caused at least 1,400 deaths of Israeli citizens and soldiers combined, and 240 Israeli and foreign nationals were taken as hostages to the Gaza strip.

During Hamas' first attack on Israel, innocent civilians were at some of Israel's most popular events such as music festivals. The Hamas attackers sexually assaulted, killed, and harassed attendees of these events.

Though it took several hours for Israeli forces to respond, they soon answered the attack with an aerial bombing campaign that dropped over 6,000 bombs on Gaza targets over the span of 6 days. During this time, Israel put a total blockade on the Gaza strip in order to launch their ground invasion of Gaza. The invasion's goal was to free the hostages taken by Hamas

and eliminate Hamas military capabilities.

Recent data from December 3rd directly from the Gaza Health Ministry stated that 18,000 civilians have been killed, 7,000 of which being children, which has led to Israel and Gaza being accused of war crimes.

Israel then instructed the people of Gaza to evacuate from northern to southern Gaza, but then bombed the locations it told Palestinians to leave. It's been said by many that there is currently "no safe place in Gaza".

The Israel-Gaza conflict has led to a humanitarian crisis in Gaza involving the partial collapse of the health system. Many Gazan hospitals are currently out of service, and acute shortages in drinking water, food, fuel, and medical supplies.

Conversations between Israel and Hamas led to a temporary pause in the battle, but an agreement called for hostages to be released from Hamas in an exchange for 150 Palestinian prisoners. On December 1st war resumed after the ceasefire ended.

Another conflict between the two is Israel's suspicion of Hamas use of human shields and creating bases in tunnels under Gaza's main hospital system. Israel has had some evidence to back their claims, because one area does seem

to have once held hostages. This area contained a bullet hole in the wall, a toilet, airvent, baby bottle, and a motorcycle.

Hamas is an extremist group formed in the late 1970's, that began to split apart from other Palestinian organizations which led to acts of violence in their attacks against Israel. Hamas soon made their goal to attack Israelis as they believe it's their religious duty to destroy Jews. This belief has continued on and is the driving factor starting the war.

Political figures around the world have discussed ways to resolve or help innocent citizens to escape the midst of the war. The United States has tried twice to call for a humanitarian ceasefire to send aid and help residents escape Gaza, but both efforts have been vetoed.

The U.S. has recently stated a warning on December 11th, that Israel was losing international support due to its bombing of innocent citizens. However, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is showing little desire to slow retaliation of forces and is set on destroying Hamas.

President Joe Biden's Security Adviser, Jake Sullivan, are scheduled to head toward Israel later this week to consult the issue at hand, but a quick resolution seems unlikely.

Wrestling Places 7th in Tournament

By Ethan Cahgyon
Staff Writer

KHS Varsity Wrestling started earlier this year in the Fall and have been training hard since then.

Coach Hamnand has been training and working the team hard every Monday through Friday since early September.

Senior Alek VanBebber stated that during practices the team does many activities together such as warm-up drills, conditioning and wrestling.

VanBebber also said that some bonding activities that the varsity team does together are playing Ultimate Frisbee, SpeedBall, or Football together.

The KHS Wrestling Varsity team will usually have tournaments during the winter, almost every Saturday until late February.

Since the season started the team has been practicing and training hard every weekday for their upcoming tournaments.

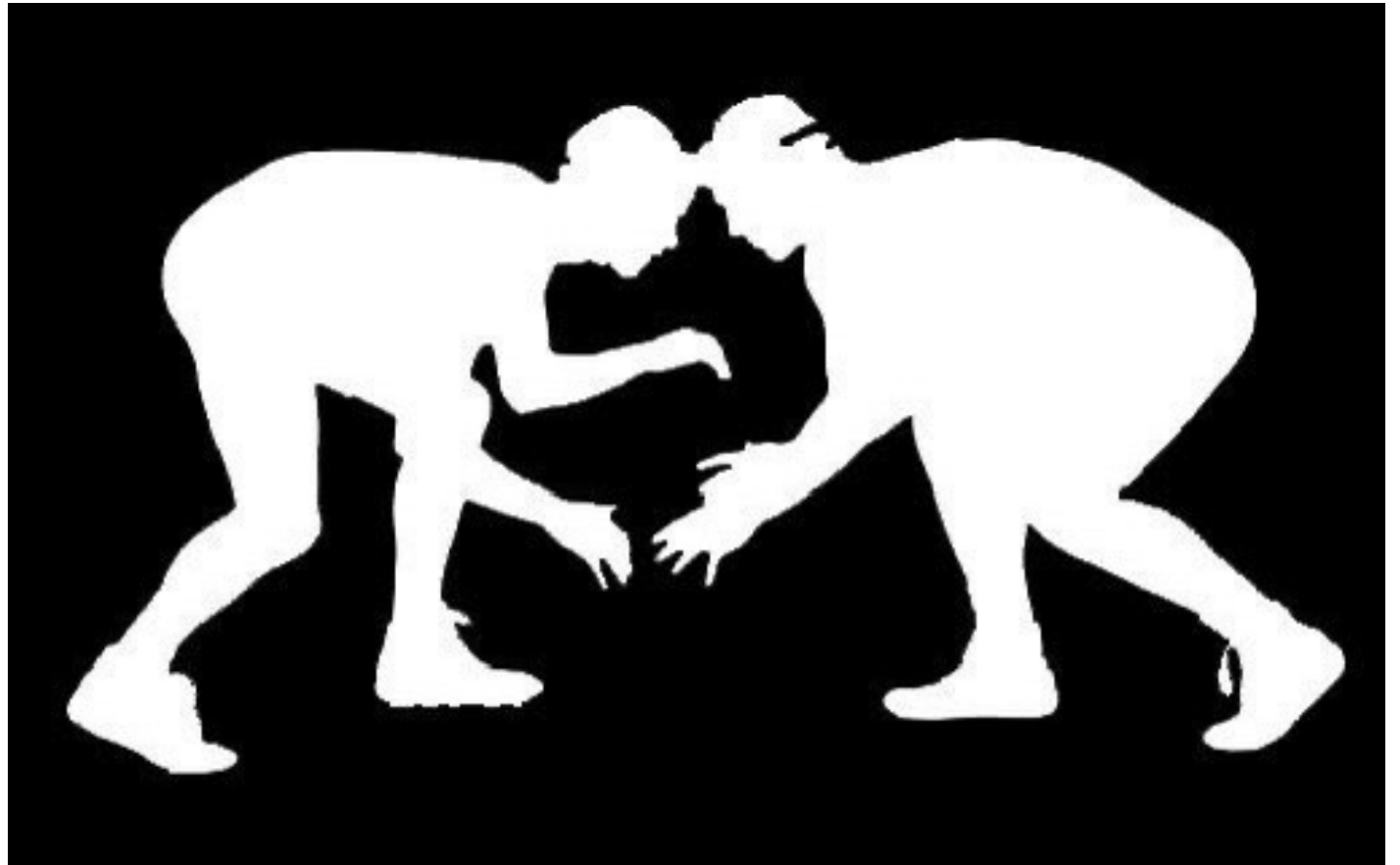
The Varsity team had their first tournament of the season on December 2nd at Bakersfield high school.

The team placed 7th as a whole and got a score of 74.0. There were 5 KHS students that

The teams next tournament is on the 15th of December at Buchanan High School.

The KHS Varsity Wrestling teams first

home tournament is on January 10th. The team hopes to see you there!



Cross Country Makes Valley

By: Daylynn Fynaut & Victoriana Dimas
Staff Writer & Production Editor

The Cross Country team had an exciting year as a result of their hard work and diligence. With 9 Boys and 14 Girls, the team made it to Valley led by Coach Joshua Woods.

One of the first cross country meets was held at Orange Cove. In a 2 mile race Freshman Brielle Benslay got 2nd in her race. For the boys, Sophomore James Ergo got 4th and Sophomore Emmanuel Gutierrez got 5th.

One of the runners Chase Van Doren shared, "This year's experience as a freshman was a great learning opportunity."

Other Cross Country meets included Central Valley Classic, Kingsburg 2 mile, Waller Park Goose Chase Invitational 5k, Tri County Conference Championships and CIF Central Section Cross Country Championships.

Senior Night was held at Kingsburg High School celebrating and honoring 8 seniors this year.

Seniors Annika Bishop, Katelynn Corne-

jo, Brenda Marquez, Judith Rivera, Wren Wilson, Madelyn Wiest, and Evan Reich were honored. We would like to congratulate all of the Seniors and their accomplishments they have achieved this

Cross Country Championship, Held in Woodward Park. Sadly our Cross Country team did not place in the Valley, but they still did an outstanding job.



Head coach Joshua Woods said about his years coaching "I just completed my 5th season coaching Cross Country at Kingsburg High School. My goal as a coach is to develop a team culture where my runners can improve individually, but also support each other and have fun in the process.

"I also want my runners to see how running can be an activity they can do to stay in shape and healthy well beyond high school. It was a great season where everyone improved," added Woods.

season and past seasons for Cross Country.

The last meet was the CIF Central Section

We congratulate the Whole Cross Country Team and their Accomplishments this year. We can't wait to see how the team will grow in the years to come!

Football Season Ends, Vikings Strong



By Sophia Spate
Staff Writer

The Kingsburg Varsity football team fought as hard as they could this football season. On November 10, 2023, they played their final playoff game against Tulare Union and lost 49-42.

The first quarter of the game ended with the Vikings scoring 7 points and Tulare scoring 14.

Both teams scored 21 points in the second quarter. The total score before halftime was 35-28, with Tulare in the lead.

The Vikings fought back in the third quarter, scoring 7 points. Tulare wasn't able to score any points. The total score was a tie, 35-35.

The fourth quarter was what would decide who won or lost the game. The Vikings scored 7, but Tulare got 14 points and won the game. The final score was very close, 49-42.

The Vikings did a really good job this game, and also the whole season. They had gone 3-1 in league and had an overall record of 9-3.

On November 3, 2023, the Vikings won their first playoff game, which was against the Dinuba Emperors. The total score had been 42-8, giving the Vikings a win.

The Vikings started off the game in the lead, scoring 14 points and Dinuba 0. The score at the end of the first quarter was 14-0.

In the second quarter, the Vikings scored 21 more points with Dinuba still at 0. The Vikings were far in the lead with the score being 35-0.

Dinuba was still behind with 0 points, and the Vikings had scored another touchdown in the

third quarter. The total score was changed to 42-0.

In the fourth quarter, Dinuba was able to get 8 points, but it wasn't enough. The fourth quarter score was 42-8, a great win for the Kingsburg Vikings.

Before playoffs began, the Vikings won their rivalry game against the Selma Bears on October 27, 2023. The final score was 44-6.

The Vikings started off the game strong, earning 21 points. Selma didn't score any points, making the first quarter score 21-0.

In the second quarter, the Vikings scored 14 more points, with Selma still behind with 0. The

football team," Wilson shared.

Wilson's favorite parts of being a football coach are building relationships and helping the players build theirs. He also loves how the football games bring the community together.

Wilson also shared, "There is nothing better than Kingsburg Viking Football. All who participate are better for it. It teaches humility, trust and responsibility. All virtues that are needed in the world we live in today."

Senior Max Warkentin, one of the players on the football team, shared his favorite part of playing football. "My favorite part about playing football this year was just being around the guys and being able to compete every single day and get better," he said.

After he was asked what the biggest challenge he faced this year, Warkentin responded, "The biggest challenge I faced this year was just when games got tough. Our team never backed down and we kept fighting even when we were down."

Warkentin was sad when the season ended because the playoff game against Tulare Union was the last game he will ever play for Kingsburg High.

"I felt really good about the entire season and how we played. There were many ups and downs along the way but we kept fighting till the end," he said.

Warkentin also shared some advice he would give to future football players.

"Cherish the moments you are given and don't take anything for granted because time flies and you never know when it will be your last game," he shared.



second quarter score was 35-0.

After halftime, Selma scored 6 points, while Kingsburg scored 3. 38-6 was the third quarter score, with the Vikings in the lead.

The Vikings scored 6 more points in the fourth quarter and won the game, the score being 44-6.

Football coach David Wilson shared his thoughts on this season. "The 2023 season was filled with multiple emotions. I am very proud of this year's

Boy's Soccer Begins Season

By: Eliana Roman
Staff Writer

A home game playing against Mt Whitney, KHS Vikings Boys Varsity Soccer took their most recent win on Tuesday, December 12th. Varsity took the win with the score being 3-1.

The Kingsburg High School Boys Varsity Soccer Team consists of these players: Sophomore Zachary Amaral, Junior Dalyn Brekenridge, Freshman Angel Castellanos, Senior Damian Cerna, Sophomore Christian Crabb, Senior Frankie Espinoza, Senior Emmanuel Iniguez, Sophomore Caleb Johnson, and Junior Andrew Maldonado.

As well as, Junior Ralph Gonzales, Sophomore Jordan Ontoni, Sophomore Oliver Protzmann, Senior Amador Rebollero, Junior Finley Rodgers, Junior Alexander Rosario, Freshman Sebastian Solorio, Junior Tristan Flores, Sophomore Emmanuel gutierrez, and Junior Reed Yakota.

The season just started and these are the games, tournaments, scores, and schools that KHS has played:

Varsity's first game of the season was an away game on Tuesday, November 7, against Dinuba on Dinubas campus. This game was a scrim-

mage game so it doesn't count for official records.

Varsity had their first official game Tuesday November 14, against Chowchilla, and it was an away game. The final score was 1-0. Kingsburg Vikings won.



Varsity had another game, but this time it was a home game against Fresno Christian on Thursday, November 16. The score was tied, being

1-1.

Varsity later had another game on Monday November 20th, playing against Clovis at home. The score was 0-4, Clovis took the win.

Varsity also played against Farmersville at home on Tuesday, November 28th. Kingsburg Vikings took the loss again with the score, 1-3.

On Tuesday, December 5, KHS had a home game against Cesar E. Chavez. Kingsburg Vikings took the loss with the score, 0-4.

Varsity had a tournament against Woodlake on December 8th. The score was tied, 0-0. Varsity had another tournament later that day at Justin Garza. This was an away tournament. KHS boys took the loss with the score 0-2.

December 9th, KHS had a tournament with Porterville and they sadly took another loss, with this time to score being 1-4.

KHS Varsity boys played Mt Whitney on Tuesday December 12. KHS Varsity won with the score being 3-1. The game was also a home

game.

Thursday December 14th, KHS boys had a home game against Woodlake. KHS Varsity boys lost, the losing score was 0-2.

Lady Vikings Set sights on Valley Championship Title

By Mariah Rodela
Staff Writer

The KHS Girls Varsity Soccer team has begun their season with 4-3-1 record, at the time of print.

Senior Wren Wilson thinks the biggest challenge for this season is beating Clovis North. She wants the Girls' Varsity Soccer team to work hard.

She stated, "We started around early November."

They had their first two scrimmages in November. The season ends around February.

They won league their last year and they are hoping to win Valley this year.

The Varsity soccer team has 7 seniors returning which makes them an experienced team.

Senior Kelcey Brett hopes that "they win league, and hopeful to be prepared to beat Clovis North. One of her goals for her team is to become a family and make core memories."

Currently, as of December 8, they have a 0.56% win ratio. Overall is 4-3-1.

On November 16th, the Kingsburg Varsity Girls Soccer team won their game against Clovis

East High School by a score of 3-1.

On Tuesday, Nov 21, 2023, the Kingsburg Varsity Girls Soccer team won their game against Tulare Union High School by a score of 2-0.

On Tuesday, Nov 28, 2023, the Kingsburg



Varsity Girls Soccer team lost their game against Clovis North High School by a score of 0-4.

On Thursday, Nov 30, 2023, the Kingsburg Varsity Girls Soccer team tied their Back Bay Invitational @ Corona Del Mar (Turf) game against

Diamond Bar High School by a score of 1-1. They had a tie.

On Friday, Dec 1, 2023, the Kingsburg Varsity Girls Soccer team won their game against Flintridge Sacred Heart High School by a score of 3-0.

On Saturday, Dec 2, 2023, the Kingsburg Varsity Girls Soccer team lost their @ Newport Harbor High School game against Esperanza High School by a score of 0-2.

On Tuesday, Dec 5, 2023, the Kingsburg Varsity Girls Soccer team won their game against Bullard High School by a score of 5-3.

On December 7th, the Kingsburg Varsity Girls Soccer team lost their game against Tulare Western High by a score of 2-3.

The biggest challenge is understanding that they can't control anything besides themselves.

This season, they have three games for the rest of the month. They currently

have 22 games scheduled.

Brett thinks that the game against Clovis North will be the hardest competition they face because there will be difficulties trying to beat them.

Girls Basketball Kicks Off Season

By Aliya Ayers
Copy Editor

As KHS Girl's Basketball kicks off their season, they've had to fight for every victory with a tough schedule, having a record of 2-9.

The girls faced a rough start in a tournament at Sierra Pacific, starting with a record of 0-3. They lost to skilled Sanger and Tehachapi teams, continuing to only lose to Lindsey by one.

While the first home game ended in a tough loss against Sierra, the second resulted in a victory against Parlier.

The girls continued to play in another tournament at Golden West, losing to Chavez, Justin Garza, and Golden West before getting a hard-earned victory against Lemoore by one point.

Junior Alyanna Gonzales expressed "After winning, I initially thought 'ho-ly cow.' After a rough start of the tournament, this was an amazing way to wrap it up."

The girls had another tough loss at home against Sanger, although they are improving in their ability to play tough, growing a lot as a team.

Senior Rachelle Ureno shared "We put up a tough fight and were doing well, we just



got distracted and it ended in a tough loss."

"I hope that we'll develop our team dynamic and improve, hopefully going on a winning streak," she added.

Gonzales shared a similar sentiment, saying "I hope we can continue securing wins and playing with lots of heart."

The team then went on to take an overnight trip to Morro Bay, playing their very skilled team.

Gonzales said about the trip "Sadly we lost the game and yes that did hurt. But looking back at the entirety of the weekend, that trip was so much fun. We grew as players of the game but also as friends on a team!"

The girls will go on to play Washington Union before Christmas break. Then, they will defend their championship in the Reedley Holiday Tournament, first playing Fresno High.

Head Coach Nate Ayers shared "I hope that we keep improving every practice and every game. We have a chance to do well in league play if we are able to keep improving."

In all, although the beginning has been tough, there are yet hopes for success in the future.

Boys Basketball Start of Season

By Ashni Purewal
Staff Writer

The Kingsburg Boys Basketball official season started on November 15, at Hoover High School. The Frosh, Jv, and Varsity teams had two scrimmages before their season against Madera and El Diamante.

Philip Bergstrom, the Head Coach for Varsity, was interviewed about his team and this upcoming season. The first question we asked him was how his first scrimmage went against Madera.

He said, "Our first scrimmage against Madera went well, winning 63-42. We were still missing 5 varsity players that also play football, but we have a strong core group that have been working hard in the gym all fall. We were led by strong performances from Bryce Cornett, Jensen Hirschorn, and Isaak Smith.

He also said, "Nick Palm and Tejbir Purewal also had strong performances helping us control the paint. We still have a long way to go to meet our potential, and will need time to integrate our football players, but it was nice to see the boys' hard work show up from our very first scrimmage."

Another one of the questions we asked was how he felt about this upcoming season with his team. He replied, "I am very excited about this upcoming season. This is a team that is just very fun to coach. They work hard. They have been completely bought in. Those are the two biggest keys to reaching a team's potential, in my opinion. Even

though we are losing three core players from last season's team, I feel very confident in the players that will be stepping into bigger roles this season.



Bergstrom added, "We will be led by returning juniors Chris Browe and Bryce Cornett, senior Isaak Smith, sophomore Jensen Hirschorn, with leadership and toughness being brought by

Nick Palm, Max Warkentin, and Denis Gagnon. Juniors Carlos Blanca, Tejbir Purewal, and Enzo Lane have been putting in a ton of work and will play key roles on our team this season.

He said, "Senior Genesis Majors and juniors John Peterson, Christian Croissant, Dillon Unruh, and Adam Navarro all have unique and important skills that are going to show that we will have one of the deepest rosters in our section."

Bergstrom is very positive about his team and he's assured with hope that they are going to do well.

We also interviewed Sophomore JV player, pointguard, Ethan Bui. He told us that his team won the scrimmage against Madera, but lost to El Diamante. Ethan's been playing basketball for 10 years and he described that he is confident about his team's upcoming season.

"I'm looking forward to being able to compete and I'm confident that my team will work together and do whatever it takes to win," he said.

Lastly, we interviewed Senior Varsity player, center, Isaak Smith. He told us that his team's record was 3-2. Smith's team has had two real season games. His team lost to Hoover but beat Reedley. Smith said, "I feel confident and good about winning this season."

The most recent games for the Varsity team were against Hanford, Santa Maria, Delano, Tulare Western, and Frontier. The record for them is now 5-3 overall.

Volleyball Clenches Back To Back Wins

By Nicole Gomez
Staff Writer



The KHS Varsity Volleyball season has come to an end. The Lady Vikings clinched a Valley Championship title for the second year in a row and finished with a record of 24-14 overall and 6-4 in the league.

The team also won their third playoff game on Tuesday against Reedley 3-0. “write what Addi Murgia states about how they prepared for the valley championship.”

The girls worked hard throughout the season to win Valley Championships against Bullard on November 2, winning 3-1. Senior Jalissa Arevalo stated, “As a team I think we were really excited and proud of ourselves that we were able to take the win for Valley Champs two years in a row. It felt nice to know that we worked as a team to accomplish that. This led the girls to win the Valley Championships and go on to State Championships.”

The girls continued their season strong as they advanced in the State playoffs. They won their first three rounds of pay-off. The first against Balboa High School on Nov. 7, 3-0. Then, on Nov. 9th the Vikings dominated Fresno Christian, 3-1.

Then, the lady’s had to take it on the road to challenge El Dorado Hills high school where they triumphed, 3-2.

Unfortunately, the girls lost their fourth round of State Playoffs against Marin Academy, 0-3.

Even though the girls didn’t get the win, they played their hearts out and made the final four in the State for their division. Senior Macey Visser stated, “As a team I think we were really excited and proud of ourselves that we were able to take the win for Valley Champs two years in a row. It felt nice to know that we worked as a team to accomplish that.”

The KHS Girls Varsity Volleyball team made school history making it to the Regional Finals and fighting until the last serve.

Coach Becca Swenning stated, “I think the level of experience our seniors brought to the team really helped boost our confidence. Some of them have been playing together since Jr High and so the chemistry has been there for a long time! They are a really great group of girls!”

The girls always kept on pushing and will never forget their last high school volleyball season.

Senior Sydnee Wilson Stated “My favorite highlight from this season would probably be winning another Valley Cham-

pionship and traveling everywhere for state and making the best memories with my teammates.”

The coaches are extremely proud of the girls and all of the work they have put into it to get this far.

Other highlights of this volleyball season have been the players of the year. Seniors Asia Allen, Sydnee Wilson, Kelcey Brett, and Addy Murgia represented well in the Tri County Conference Kings Division.

Senior Asia Allen stated, “ Winning Defensive Player of the year was extremely rewarding. Not many people get this reward especially considering how small Kingsburg is. I am really grateful for it.”

Allen really had a great time this season. She stated, “ My favorite highlight of the volleyball season was winning the Valley Championships for the second year in a row. It was fun to be able to do it again with almost all of the same girls. Something like this doesn’t usually happen often so I was glad I got to experience it.”

The KHS Varsity Volleyball team became very successful this season, winning Valley Championships and making it to the fourth round of State Championship playoffs.