

STORM REPORT



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Volleyball

By: Danna Quezada

The Oakes Tornadoes are playing their first game of the season against the Lisbon Broncos. The Lisbon Broncos are a class A school. Last year their record was 2-18-1. The two teams had a match-up last season for their first games. Oakes ended up winning in 5 sets.

I asked the coaches and some seniors a few questions about how they think the first games will be and the rest of the season. When asked about what strengths they think the team has, Tori Meehl said, "Our girls work well together and bring a lot of energy! They are a hardworking group and are willing to learn." Senior, Marley Foss said, "How versatile our players are. We have a few girls that play all around." I asked both interviewers what they hoped to see for the game. Coach Tori said, "I hope to see the girls communicate, or together, and play confidently. Most importantly, I want them to have fun and compete." Senior Marley Foss said, "I hope we will win in fewer sets this time we play Lisbon. Last year we took to 5 sets, and we won, but this year we will in 3 sets."



"We played Lisbon on Tuesday and lost in 3 sets. The first set was (22-25), the second set was (18-25) and the third set (21-25). We had some rallies and stayed with them throughout the whole game. I asked the coaches some questions about the game on Tuesday and this was their response. When asked about what is one thing they are proud of the team for after the first game? Coach Roxanne Miller said, "I am proud that we never gave up and kept working hard. We need to get the first game out of the way." Coach Taylor Voightman responded with, "I think that all the girls on all 3 teams communicated with each other really well. Serves were good all around!" Another question I asked was "How do you think this first game set the tone for the rest of the season?" Coach Miller said "We all need to contribute, and I know we are a good team that will continue to work and we will keep battling for wins. Coach Voightman said, "This game showed us some things we need to work on, but it also shows that we are fierce competitors and do not give up. All the girls want to improve and keep getting better, which will lead to a successful team and season ahead." I think all around the team played great, and this was just the first game. We will continue to grow as a team and win games."



Tornadoes Fall to Top-Ranked Langdon Area-Munich

By: Garret Meehl



Photo taken by Monica Ptacek

The Oakes Tornadoes struggled to get their offense on August 21 as they dropped their season opener 40-14 to the top-ranked Langdon Area-Munich Cardinals. Lack of offense and turnovers put the Tornadoes in a tough spot for most of the night.

Oakes opened the game with a strong defensive stand, forcing Langdon to turn the ball over on downs on its first possession. The Cardinal's defense went to work early, though, as sophomore quarterback Owen Iverson, in his first career start, was intercepted by Maddux Stremick, who returned the pick 6 yards for a touchdown. That gave Langdon a 7-0 lead with 7:18 remaining in the first quarter.

The Tornadoes then turned the ball over on the first play of their next possession, setting Langdon up at the Oakes 3-yard line. Eastyn Schaefer finished the short drive with a quarterback keeper, extending the Cardinal lead to 14-0.

Langdon added to its lead in the second quarter when Schaefer connected with TJ Henderson on a 7-yard touchdown pass with 7:59 left in the half. Another Oakes fumble gave the Cardinals another scoring opportunity, and Evan Ottem took advantage with a 1-yard touchdown run to make it 27-0.

Oakes found their first touchdown of the season on special teams when Andrew Rosendahl returned a kickoff 90 yards, putting the Tornadoes on the board and cutting the deficit to 27-6.

Langdon would score once more before half, making their lead 33-6 going into half. Neither side would create any scoring in the 3rd quarter. However, Oakes did force a turnover as Landon Titus would intercept a pass from Langdon QB Schaefer.

The Cardinals added their final touchdown early in the fourth quarter, making it 40-6 with 5:01 remaining.

Oakes would respond quickly as Matthias Dahlstrom broke loose for a 76-yard touchdown run. The Tornadoes converted the ensuing two-point attempt to bring the score to 40-14, which would end up being the final score.

The Tornadoes will face Hillsboro C-V (0-2) on the road on September 4th.

Student Section 101



By: Dani Lee

There's something about a packed student section that makes a game more exciting. Whether it's a close game or a team is dominating, the crowd and its energy makes a total difference. A good student section isn't just about showing up, it's about being involved. So, let's show up, get loud, and show our support.

The biggest expectation is simple: be "hyped" and "stay involved" with the game as junior Jillian Miller said. Cheer after big plays, encourage when we're down, and react to what's going on with the court/field. An energetic section boosts our team through adrenaline, causing them to continue to work hard and efficiently, bringing us to victory. And exactly as Jillian put it, "a hyped student section just makes games way more enjoyable for everyone!"

Secondly, don't be afraid to be loud. I can assure you, nobody will judge you because they'll be doing what you're doing...cheering of course! Get involved and have fun. The louder the crowd, the more exciting the game becomes.

Next, the front row sets the tone. Those sitting in the front row should be the loudest since they're easier to hear on the court/field. The front row isn't just a spot to sit, you're also signing up to be the hyped head cheerleaders. Your job is to ask other students what cheer is next and or to start a new cheer. Jillian replied, "the boys love any of the shanked ball cheers as for the girls, they enjoy the defense cheers." It can definitely keep the team encouraged and others wanting to join.

There aren't any rules to being a great student section. It just depends on how you apply those few rules. Jillian said, "if you have time, show up for the other sports teams and ages too." Showing up for the younger ones makes their season even more special as they feel like more people care about them and the cool kids they look up to...the highschoolers of course...makes them feel cool too. It teaches them how to show up for others as they go through their JH + HS years. So, show up. Get loud. Show your support!



New Coaches

By:Matvei Dimitrov



Coach Meehl

Junior High football has gained two new coaches after the resignation of Coach Schneider. Bryce Meehl and Cory Anderson, although these two are new to coaching junior high. They have made a great impact on me as they answered their questions that I asked. Just talking about their greatness

wouldn't be enough, instead I'll show you, first up is Coach Meehl. You may be wondering why exactly coach Meehl wanted to coach junior high kids. Here's why. "The first reason is that I just had that itch to be involved again." as he finished his last snap back in 2018 at Minnesota State-Moorhead. He must've been longing for some action on that field again, no matter how he got it, even if it was through coaching. His second reason is he grew up in Oakes, having multiple people sharing their time and energy in making his experience in sports a good one. So, he took it upon himself to, "pay that forward to the next generation so they have the same great experience I had." Now that we have finished finding the why, he's going to tell us how it feels to be coaching and some challenges he's facing. First, coach says, "It feels exciting being involved in football again." I mentioned earlier that he hasn't been involved in football since 2018. Counting this fact, it must play a huge factor in his excitement. Although he may have said this coaching isn't just exciting, it's also quite challenging. First, he hasn't done any coaching in his career, so getting practice plans, schedules, logistics, and questions from parents and athletes to which he doesn't have any answers for has all been a huge learning experience for him. His second challenge is he only played quarterback in college, so he doesn't have any real in-depth knowledge of the other positions. So, as a coach, he has to "go back and re-learn positions, technique, and drills for skills that all other positions on the field do." .

Coach Anderson

I had asked Coach Anderson the exact same questions as Coach Meehl, so let's get straight into it. Coach Anderson's reasoning towards coaching junior high football isn't so different from Coach Meehl's. First is his outright love for football.



Second, "It gives me a chance to give these young athletes what I was given when I played as a young athlete." Just like Coach Meehl's giving back what he got as a youngun. These two aren't really different from each other when it comes to football. Although their reasons for coaching are the same, their excitements are pretty different. "It's an honor to be coaching 7th and 8th grade football this year. Especially after coaching the kids as 5th and 6th graders the last two years". His love for coaching comes from seeing how much those 5th and 6th grades have improved. Not just as football players but also as people, aren't they great football coaches? Now onto his challenges during coaching. "Getting all 20 players ready for a new opponent each and every week. And to make sure we as coaches put each kid in the best possible situation to succeed." Unlike coach Meehl, who has to learn the fundamentals of coaching. Coach Anderson's challenges are providing the training to get his team to be at its very best. These two are putting their all into coaching junior high football. Based on their responses to my questions, I personally believe that our junior high football team is going to have a great season with these two as their coaches.

The Great Classroom Move

By: Bode



Mr Peterson chose to move classrooms because of the new 7th grade class with numerous students that would not fit into 2 periods in his small classroom. Mr Peterson moved from the 2nd floor to the old teacher's workroom since that is a large classroom. Mr Peterson moved almost all his stuff by himself just a few days before school started, so it must have been a long day moving all the classroom supplies from room to room. Mr Peterson said he does enjoy his new classroom because it's double the size of his old classroom. Also, Mr Lynch, the high school principal, helped Peterson move the classroom tables. Moving classrooms did not only affect Mr Peterson, it also affected Mr Sell and Mr Sagert.

Shawn Sagert, the high school gym teacher, also moved classrooms. Mr Sagert had moved from his classroom to Mr Peterson's old room because Mr Sagert's classroom was turned into the new teacher's workroom. Mr Sagert is loving his new classroom. But Mr Sagert had to move his collection of football cards to his new room, and he said the move was filled with hard work and sweat and tears. But the room change was well worth it quote from Mr Sagert himself: "The move was filled with a lot of hard work, sweat, and tears. But it was well worth it because I'm in a room that has carpet."

Mr Sell doesn't mind the switch of classrooms and the copy machine being moved to the 2nd floor. At first, it sounded like he wasn't a fan, but now he says that he doesn't mind it. Mr Sell said that now with the copy machine being on the 2nd floor, he explores parts of the school he never would have before. Mr Sell said it's also nice because "it allows him to get my steps in for the day." Overall, everyone seems to be happy about the switch of classrooms.





Summer Trip

By: Aliyah Friedt

Catch a glimpse of their trip!

[Peru Video](#)

Early this June, 24 people from St. Charles church took a mission trip to Chimbote, Peru. Their main project was helping two families build new sturdy houses, and tear down the old. I interviewed Mrs. Warren about her experience in Peru and she stated, "All of these experiences make one realize just how fortunate we are living in the U.S."

The trip changed the people who were able to go. In just two weeks they were able to change the lives of two families. The group didn't just work, they celebrated and danced with the villagers, spent time in prayer, and even learned to salsa.

This trip was an eye opener for many. Lily Thorpe, former OPS student, said, "You would never know how much less they have compared to us because of how genuinely happy they are to just be alive."

With 420,000 to 460,000 people living around or in Chimbote, 80% of its population live impoverished. That being said, it's the little things that brought them joy. The group brought things like trinkets, stickers, soccer balls, and other items.

Thorpe said her favorite part was the last day when they gave the families their keys. Also, they apparently don't have any road rules. Mrs. Warren said, "There was lots of honking." Despite that fact, it sounded like it was a great trip, and both Mrs. Warren and Thorpe would both be willing to go on another mission trip.





A/C update

By: Tristin Hill

OHS is preparing for a major HVAC and air-conditioning upgrade that will improve the building's heating, cooling, and ventilation systems. The HVAC portion of the project is currently estimated to cost around \$5.3 million while voters approved a 6.3 million referendum to help fund the overall project. The exact cost will not be known until the project is put out for bids and contractors are selected. Kraus-Anderson Construction is currently working with the architects and engineers on the design and planning process. Construction is expected to begin once school ends in May, with the major HVAC work taking place over one to two summers, in 2027 and 2028. The goal is to create a more comfortable environment for students and staff while improving the building's overall ventilation and temperature control. Although the exact contractors, final cost, and detailed construction schedule have not been determined yet, the project is moving forward and represents a major investment in improving the OHS facilities. We plan to keep you all updated during the school year.

Hygiene

By Lewis Nava

I know some kids in school might not have good hygiene or might not have good hygiene because of their situation. Some kids might not be able to afford good hygiene products because money is tight for their family. If you can talk to the teachers or Mr Wentworth, they can provide you with hygiene products.

Good hygiene is important because it can help us stay healthy and clean. Some simple habits are washing your hands for 20 seconds, brushing your teeth for 2 minutes and taking a shower on a daily basis can prevent the spread of germs. Good hygiene also keeps our surroundings clean and makes us feel comfortable around others without spreading germs that can make you and others sick.

Poor hygiene can cause problems. We will get sick more often, spread germs to other people or our surroundings. You can also have bad body odor and feel less confident. Keeping ourselves and our surroundings clean is an easy way to protect our health and the health of others.

If you are a student, please do not feel afraid to reach out to Mr. Wentworth or a teacher and talk to them. If you are an adult, do not feel afraid to reach out and if you can't, you can contact some food pantries, your local social service officers or a charity they will help you if you need any hygiene, products or anything else.

Senior Spotlight

By: Mrs. Haafke



If there's one thing Eli Dinger has learned during high school, it's that there's always time to be involved, and apparently, there's also time to do a little bit of everything.

For the past two years, Eli has been a starter on the football team while also competing in basketball and throwing for the track team. He is also entering his third year as a member of the Oakes Vision Zero crew. Between sports, activities, and everything in between, Eli has definitely kept himself busy throughout high school.

One of the things Eli will miss most after graduation is seeing the people he has grown up with every day. One of his favorite high school memories was making it back to the state basketball tournament during his sophomore year. High school has also taught him an important life lesson: get your work done two days before it's due. Future Eli will probably appreciate that advice.

When he isn't busy with school and activities, Eli knows exactly what belongs on his lunch tray: a chicken patty. His biggest pet peeve? People with extremely long natural fingernails, which is a very specific hill to die on. If he could sit down to dinner with anyone, he would choose Gordon Ramsay, although it might be best to make sure the chicken patty is cooked correctly first. His dream destination is Costa Rica, where hopefully there are plenty of beaches and absolutely no extremely long fingernails.

After graduation, Eli plans to attend South Dakota State University to pursue a degree in natural resource law enforcement. Go Jackrabbits! As he looks toward the future, he hopes the Class of 2027 will be remembered as a class that participated in everything they could and made the most of their time together. From athletics and activities to the everyday moments with friends, Eli has certainly played his part in making the Class of 2027 memorable.

As graduation approaches, Eli is ready to trade Friday night lights and school lunches for a new adventure at SDSU. Whatever comes next, one thing is certain: he'll be busy, involved, and hopefully getting his work done two days early.