

Oxford City Schools

Proud of our past  *Preparing for the future*

THE NEW LOOK

VOLUME II ISSUE III

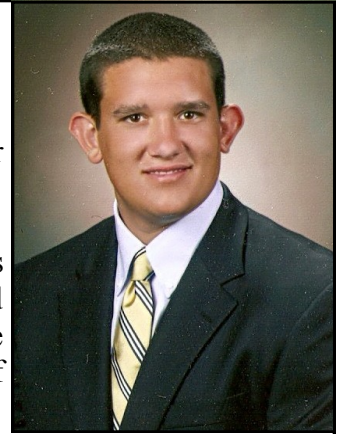
SPRING, 2010

OUTSTANDING SCHOLAR-ATHLETE

The Bryant-Jordan Foundation *OUTSTANDING SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD*

M.K. Taylor, a senior at Oxford High School, has been selected as a regional winner of the Bryant-Jordan Foundation's *Outstanding Scholar-Athlete Award*.

The Bryant-Jordan Foundation recognizes one of the state's greatest resources – its youth, the future leaders of Alabama. It honors those students who have achieved excellence in both academics and athletics and encourages all students to strive to be the best they can be. Nominated students must have the highest standards of academic performance, as well as athletic honors and student and civic leadership.



M.K. and his parents, along with all regional winners in the state, will attend the Bryant-Jordan Student Athlete Scholarship Program Banquet and Awards ceremony to be held in Birmingham on Monday, April 5, 2010. Principal, Trey Holladay, states, "M.K. is just a great all-around student who has excelled in academics, athletics, and leadership. We are very excited to have him represent Oxford High School as one of the state's regional winners and compete for the state winner of the Bryant-Jordan *Outstanding Scholar-Athlete Award*."

OMS Scholars Bowl— District Champs



Oxford Middle School's 8th grade Scholars Bowl team placed first in their division at district on January 30, 2010. They went undefeated, beating Ohatchee, Wellborn, Emma Sansom, Pleasant Valley, and Donoho. This first place finish advances them to the state playoffs at Hoover on March 6, 2010. This is the fifth straight year OMS has advanced to state.

Team Members: Zach Lee, Regan Roberston—captains, Noah Huckeba, Ryan Shedrick, Harshil Patel, Andrew Seltzer, and Cassandra Bush.

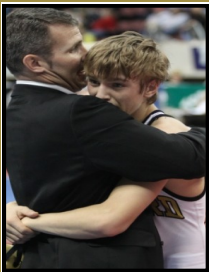
HIGH TECH MICROSCOPES



Oxford High School students are discovering a new level of scientific exploration through the school's purchase of binocular microscopes. OHS students in Advanced Placement Biology, Dual Enrollment Biology, Zoology, Anatomy, Environmental Science, Dual Enrollment Chemistry, General Chemistry, Physics and Advanced Placement Physics will observe organisms using this newer technology. Implementing the change from the monocular microscope to the more advanced binocular microscope empowers learners to achieve a superior level of microscopy skills, as well as to complete more complex and exciting labs. The purchase, funded by the Oxford City Board of Education and a grant from Senator Del Marsh, includes thirty binocular microscopes, carrying cases, and a teaching trinocular microscope. To complete and enhance the microscopy system, a digital camera, specific for the teaching microscope, captures live digital video images on the computer. Downloaded images may then be used on research projects, tests, and lab reports. OHS Zoology teacher, Lisa Robertson, says the implementation of this technology is "the ultimate Christmas present for OHS science educators and students."



"6A State Wrestling Champ"



Jordan Simpson accomplished the ultimate prize in wrestling by winning an individual STATE title on Saturday, February 13th. Simpson, a freshman wrestled Tanner Moon, a senior 4-time All-American. No one gave Simpson a chance to win, but Jordan had a different plan. He embraced the challenge ahead of him with full confidence. He amazed the crowd and won the match by the score of 2 -1. Simpson clinched the first class 6A State wrestling championship in Oxford High School history! Eric Lee, an OHS junior, placed 3rd in his weight class in the 6A State championship for the 3rd year in a row. Eric, an outstanding wrestler was a contender for the State title going into the State tournament with a record of 45-0 this year. Coach Thompson stated, "I am very proud for both of these guys. They have a tremendous work ethic." Both Jordan and Eric will be back again next year as State contenders in their respective weight classes.

Tech Teams-Taking It To State

C.E. Hanna students and Oxford High School students competed in the Central East Regional Technology Fair sponsored by the Alabama Council for Technology in Education and Jacksonville State University. The competition was held on February 19th on the JSU campus. Students competed against schools in Calhoun, Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Macon, Randolph, Russell, Tallapoosa, and Talladega counties.

C.E. Hanna entered 18 projects with 33 students participating and OHS entered 4 projects with 10 students participating. Projects were entered in both group and individual categories in General Applications, Multi-Media, Video Production, Web Site Creation, and Hardware-Robotics. All students participated in the Information Technology Test. "This was our first competition, so we were at a disadvantage in not knowing what to expect. However, the students' creativity, hard work, and perseverance paid off!" said C.E. Hanna team sponsor, Cindy Lynch. Fourteen C.E. Hanna and seven OHS students will compete in the State Technology Fair on May 1 in Montgomery. OHS teachers, Griffin and Fowler, stated, "We are so glad our students received the recognition they deserved."

CE Hanna Winners:

Information Technology

1st - Reagan Payne, 2nd - Annabeth Mellon, 3rd - Austin Osborn, Honorable Mention - Abby McDow

General Applications - Individual-Honorable Mention - Sara Connell

General Applications - Group

1st - Anna Livingston, Anna Bowen, Brittany Lee, 2nd - Kaylynn Garrett, Trinity Houston

Multimedia - Group

3rd - Laura Davenport, Olivia Humphrey, Hailye Hatton, Emily Robertson, Reagan Payne, Winter Taylor, Avery Rogers; Video Production - Individual- 3rd - Allie Higgins

Web Site Creation - Individual- 2nd - Annabeth Mellon, 3rd - Lauren Curry

Web Site Creation - Group- 1st - Austin Osborn, Christopher Jarmon, Dillen Miller, 2nd

Place: Jordan Ramey and Andrew Muncher

Hardware Robotics - Group- 2nd - Caden Higgins & Dawson Guess

Oxford High School Winners:

Video Production-1st- Jerrod Finlay, Christopher Clowers, Demetric Johnson, Daniel Gaffin

Website Creation-1st- Michael Roberts; Multimedia - Group-1st- Kyle Holland, Kyle Gordon

Information Technology Testing-2nd - Michael Roberts



Jr. BETA Club Induction Ceremony

On February 4, 2010 the Oxford High School Freshman Academy held its annual National Jr. BETA induction ceremony in the sports arena. This year 87 members of the Freshman Academy (30%) qualified for induction into Jr. BETA. An invitation to join the Jr. BETA Club is considered one of the highest forms of student recognition in the Freshman Academy. Inductees must possess a GPA of 90 or above, exhibit strong character traits, and participate in leadership opportunities in the Academy. Following the induction ceremony both friends and family of the inductees gathered in the school cafeteria for a reception in honor of the new BETA members and their families.



JSU TEACHER HALL OF FAME



Dana Webb, Lorrie Cooper, Connie Brooks

Jacksonville State University's Teacher Hall of Fame recognizes exceptional classroom teachers in the State of Alabama. Teachers must maintain exemplary standards of behavior and ethics, exhibit leadership, be enthusiastic concerning teaching, demonstrate competency in subject matter, work well with colleagues and administrators, and constantly seek to encourage, inspire, and motivate students toward greater accomplishment. We are honored to recognize Oxford City Schools' recipients: elementary teacher— Connie Brooks, DeArmanville Kindergarten teacher; middle level teacher— Lori Cooper, C.E.Hanna 6th grade teacher; secondary teacher— Dana Webb, OHS P.E. teacher. These teachers certainly exemplify the "Hall of Fame" attributes.

Teacher of the Month



Coldwater teacher, Ms. Sherri Williams, received K98's Teacher of the Month. "When you are little, going to school makes you nervous. Ms. Williams was just like another mom to me. She loved all the children in her classroom. She is the reason I love to learn." said one of Ms. Williams' former students.



*Welcome Mr. King
We're so glad you're here
We've been expecting your arrival
2010 is the year.*

*We wanted you to know
In the scheme of things
Your dream didn't die
You see, We are the Dream.*

*We're the children that you mentioned
In your speech that day
Our hands are joined together
And we're on our way.*

*Equality's among us
Hispanic, Black and white
Asian, India
We all have equal rights.*

*We know that there are still some
Who want to stay in the past
Creating animosity
Trying to make the hatred last.*

*But we wanted you to know
You, and others on your team
We are free to love each other
You see, We are the Dream.*

*We are free to love each other
You see, We are the Dream!*

Composed by: OMS teacher, Rosa Manns



"We Care"



Grant Recipients: Pam Haynes, Jean Deal, Brandi Gray, Cindy Lynch

Westinghouse Anniston held a presentation ceremony and reception to announce that 25 education projects had been selected to receive education grants totaling \$12,500 as a way to recognize and support excellence in teaching within Calhoun County. Four Oxford City School educators were among this year's recipients. The "We Care" grants, worth \$500 each, were awarded to teachers to provide funding for innovative approaches to teaching science, math, and technology. "We are delighted to provide teachers with the opportunity to carry out creative and innovative classroom experiences with their students," said Bob Love, Westinghouse Anniston project manager. Among this year's winning proposals is a project that will help students learn Algebra with hands-on activities and another that would allow students to observe the life cycles of various plants and animals. C.E. Hanna, **Jean Deal, Cynthia Lynch**; Oxford Elementary School, **Brandi Gray, Pam Haynes**.

Players Sign Scholarships



Three Oxford High School football players signed athletic scholarship letters on the National College Football Signing Day on February 3. "I'm proud of each of these guys for what they have achieved and for what they have given Oxford High School," stated OHS head football coach John Grass. Jarred Morse, an All County MVP defensive lineman signed with the Vanderbilt Commodores. "The perfect life for me would be to finish college with a double major and play defensive line in the NFL," Morse said. Dmitri Orr, an All County defensive end, will play football at Mississippi Gulf Coast with hopes of transferring to a major college program in two years. Orr said that his goals are to earn a college degree and play in the NFL. Ryan Preston, OHS team captain and four-year starting offensive lineman signed with The Citadel, a four-year military-affiliated college in Charleston, South Carolina. Preston stated, "I thought The Citadel provided the best opportunity for me for life after football." Congratulations to these players on their achievement!



Jarred Morse signs with Vanderbilt



Dmitri Orr signs with Mississippi Gulf



Ryan Preston signs with The Citadel

\$\$\$ Young Entrepreneurs \$\$\$

Did you ever think learning principles of economics could be fun? Ask a second grader at Oxford Elementary School! Over 166 second grade students learned about being a producer, distributor, and consumer. The problem is...no one can decide which job was more fun!

It all started with a \$500 grant used for start up costs associated with second grade's Market Day. First, students took home crafts to be assembled. They returned attractive items such as wooden cars, snakes, planes, necklaces, yoyos, and banks. Next, students created advertisements in the forms of posters, flyers, and business cards. Finally, students, parents, and members of the community joined us for two very special Market Days. Marketing efforts were so successful that nearly all of the products were sold. Profits totaling \$150 provided holiday meals to parents caring for their sick children at Children's Hospital.

Naturally, second grade teachers used teaching moments throughout the unit. Bar graphs predicting growth, line plots showing the two days of selling, counting and making change, estimating the number of crafts to be ordered, and determining profits provided many math opportunities. Graphic organizers and semantic webs helped with student vocabulary and comprehension. Teachers read stories about children starting a business. A field trip to Blue Bell Creamery provided an overall picture of how to run a successful business. It worked! Congratulations to Oxford's youngest entrepreneurs!



Scoring Points for Attendance and Grades



Coaches:
Michael Darden and Steven Cruse



Commentators:
Charles Miller and Nick Fink

Perfect attendance and good grades are encouraged at Oxford Middle School. Honor roll students and those who have perfect attendance receive a certificate and are recognized among their peers. Each nine weeks, Oxford Middle School counselor, Ms. Gooden, organizes an incentive for students who have perfect attendance and/or make the honor roll. The 2nd nine weeks, these well-deserving 7th and 8th grade students were rewarded with an in-school basketball game. Yes, that's right!... The faculty and students enjoyed watching a 50 minute basketball game as the 7th grade honorees took the court against the 8th grade recipients. "The basketball game is an incentive for students to strive for better attendance and improving or maintaining their good grades. Students are encouraged to come to school everyday if possible and give 100% towards their academics," stated Ms. Gooden.

RUNNING FOR OXFORD



Cross Country is a sport that keeps students fit and healthy, not just during their high school years but beyond—a sport the entire family can enjoy. This year's Cross Country team under the leadership of Coach Reagan Chase and Matt Brick trained hard and received much recognition. The boys' and girls' teams won County. Nathan Thrasher took the ribbon for the fastest boys' time in the county and Cory Green, the fastest girl. This was the first year an Oxford High School Cross Country team competed in the state 6A finals. The boys' team qualified as a team for state and the girls competed individually. The boys' team: Nathan Thrasher, Landon Delozier, Alec Young, Jacob Schwynn, Tanner Ingram, Jayson Parkhurst, Wesley Hyatt, Dustin Gaskins, Zach Flynn, and Ryan Shedrick. The girls competing at state were Cori Green, Elizabeth Ogle, Katie Flynn, Diana Villalobos, Carlie Lambert, and Ryan Green. **Keep Running for OHS!**

COLDWATER CARES

Third grade students at Coldwater Elementary School got into the spirit of Christmas. They collected over 100 pounds of snacks, personal health items, games, and surprises to fill a care package for a team of soldiers in Afghanistan. Each student designed and decorated a Christmas card adding their own heartfelt message to the soldiers. With Christmas mailing delays and the unpredictability of receiving packages in Afghanistan, teachers and students were anxious about the care packages arriving in time for the holidays. When teachers received a message the day before Christmas saying the packages made it, the worry turned to excitement and joy.



Teachers could not wait to share the good news with students when they returned after the holidays.

This project is one example of how the students and teachers at Coldwater think of others and give back to the community.

One Class at a Time



Ms. Brown receives check from Ken Lass

Syprina Brown, OES 3rd grade teacher, was the winner of the "One Class at a Time" \$1000 grant. She received 2 new computers and a printer for her classroom. "Technology is important to the way children learn," stated Ms. Brown. Now her students will have more opportunities to research topics and create PowerPoint presentations.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Oxford City Board of Education that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, disability, sex, religion, creed, national origin or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity, or employment.