



# Viking Voice

March 15, 2024

Kingsburg High School

Issue 3, Volume 101

## Viking Wrestlers Win League for First Time since 2002



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## VIKING VOICE



Kingsburg High School 2023-2024

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Special Thanks to Samuel Marshall for Photography!

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## Letters to the Editors

Email your comments, opinions, and ideas on this issue's articles to the Viking Voice at 6005196@stu.kingsburghigh.com. Your responses may be published next issue!

Check out the Viking Valor page at kingsburghigh.com

## Sweetheart Dance Brings Back Sadies

By Kaitlyn Sanchez  
Staff Writer

For the first time since spring of 2022, KHS held a Sadie Hawkins Dance on February 9th. This year the theme was Sweetheart Dance for Valentine's Day.



Traditionally for a Sadie Hawkins dance the roles are switched and the girls ask the guys, a tradition our school has held up.

Generally the Sadie Hawkins dance is much less formal than the traditional dance with girls dressing in simple dresses, and guys in slacks and a nice shirt.

As someone who has never gone to Sadie's, Senior Mikayla Rosales, who is attended with Senior John Rooney, said "I am looking forward to being semi-formal."

Freshman Chase Van Doren, who is went



with Freshman Kabella Coolidge said, "I am looking forward to spending time with the people in my group as friends." He also added, "I'm looking forward to finding out what it's like."

Compared to last year where the school had to cancel the Sadie's dance due to lack of interest, this year had better attendance. The dance had a turn out of 245 people with the dance floor full with people dancing.

The theme of Sweethearts was also clearly evident. From the moment students walked in and saw the red, white, and pink balloons to the large "LOVE" sign by the DJ stand.

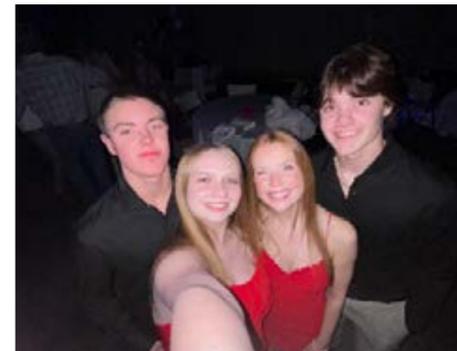
As for the DJ, senior Max Warkentin took over. Our planned DJ had to cancel due to an injury a few days before. Since it was such late notice Vice Principal Mrs. Warkentin, senior Max Warkentin, senior Bodhi Verners, and more

people from the KHS family compiled the playlist. Mrs. Warkentin said, "It really was a whole KHS effort."

When asked about the experience as DJ, Warkentin said he was nervous. "I didn't want to play bad music that people didn't like. It was fun at the same time though." Warkentin also expressed his opinion on if it was challenging or not, "Yeah, I definitely wouldn't want to do it again."

Senior Bodhi Verners, who also helped create the playlist said, "It was fun, kind of challenging when you have like 300 people you're trying to impress and kind of difficult to find songs everyone will like."

He also added that he "I have always had a positive attitude towards Sadies and normally like it." When asked if he would do anything to make



Sadies a better dance he said, "I want to make it more serious because recently people take it less seriously. I want to make it more of a priority. I think better themes are also something, like this one was Valentines and it was taken more seriously."

From a student's perspective, Freshman Kayden Penner said, "I had a really fun time. It was a good experience because I got to spend time with friends. It was something I had never done before." She also added that her favorite song from the night was "Low" by Flo Rida.



Overall the return of the Sadie Hawkins dance was really fun! Even though there were some problems, the school worked through them to pull together a great dance. Hopefully the school can continue this tradition because students really do loved it.

## Floral Design Field Trip to Mayesh Wholesale

By Victoriana Dimas  
Production Editor

This January, Kingsburg High School's Floral Design Class took a field trip to Mayesh Wholesale Florist in Bakersfield, California.

Mayesh is a family based company that started in 1978 when Roy Dahlson took a job at the LA Flower Market.

Later, The Dahlson's purchased a few flower shops and had their children work by making arrangements and doing local deliveries.

Now, Mayesh has 21 locations nationwide. They became the first importers from Columbia and were the first to import flowers from Holland.

Ag Teacher Amanda Ferguson has been

the Floral Design teacher here at Kingsburg High for over 10 years.

This Semester, the Ag Department also has a student teacher, Grace O'Callaghan, from Fresno State who also got to attend the Floral trip.

Thirty-two Floral students got to attend this trip. They learned about wholesale buying and shipping of flowers around the world.

Students got to see over 30 different flowers Mayesh had in their supply. And they even got to bring flowers home to make bouquets in their upcoming floral classes.

The Ag department was so happy that the Floral Class got to experience this and got to learn more about Floral Design!



## Math Club Annual Valentines Grams

By Daylynn Fynaut  
Staff Writer

During the month of February the Math Club and Gail Williams had their annual Valentines Day Gram sale where students could buy them and give them to friends, loved ones, or teachers. They sold a cookie for \$2.50, a bear for \$4.00, or a combo with both items for \$5.00.

Items were sold by members of the Math Club in front of the Math Building during break and lunch for KHS students to buy. The process started off with the buyer writing down the name of the recipient and what they wanted to buy. They moved to the next worker and gave the buyer an envelope and card to write to who they were sending to.

Junior Nicolas Lindgren, the President of Math Club, was interviewed and stated, "The students favorite part about it is distributing to a valentine."

The average sold is the 2-3 combos and the students found them affordable. This is mostly sold because of their cuteness and less of how it tastes. The purpose of the fundraiser that goes into the candies being sold, the proceeds goes into future fundraisers and senior scholarships."

Junior Gracie Davis, a member of Math Club, was interviewed and said, "The club makes around 600 Valentines, and my favorite part about it is that it's fun and I like seeing all the cute things. More guys purchase the item, than girls, and then give it to the girls."

This money raised goes to support the Math Club with their travel expenses, and scholarships for the Seniors. They managed to gross \$1400 with a profit of \$700.

This is a yearly fundraiser for Math Club that benefits them greatly. Keep this fundraiser in mind when February roles around next year!



## Spring Play Swims into View

By Ethan Anguiano  
Staff Writer



Kingsburg High School is having a play production of the famous story of *The Little Mermaid*. The cast of the play was interviewed and they broke down the process of auditioning and preparing for their roles.

When Senior Kristen Pacheco was asked how students audition she said, "You don't really audition for a specific role. They just place you based on your audition and that alone."

Junior Jaebok Noh and Pacheco play Ariel and Sebastian have also been in plays in the past.

Pacheco said, "I've done it every year so do it for senior year. I'm excited. I've never played a Disney princess, so it will be a good experience."

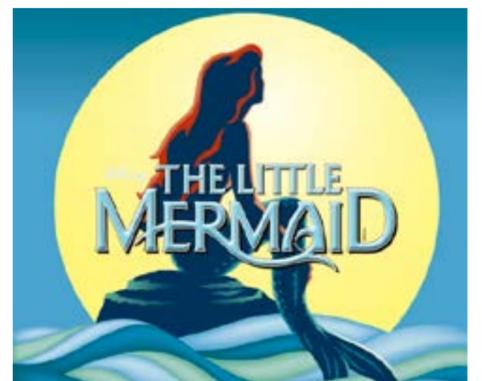
Noh was asked why he decided to audition for another play he stated, "What made me want to join was because last year's play was fun and I decided to join again this year."

The cast surprisingly relates to their character. Pacheco also added, "A lot of people go through that and a sense of belonging somewhere."

When Noh was asked if he felt happy about getting the male lead he said, "I do because Prince Eric was one of my choices. He's a real genuine person."

When Pacheco was asked what her favorite character is she said that Ursula was her favorite simply because, "Unfortunate Souls is my favorite song."

The cast hopes to see students there as they prepare to perform very soon. The play is set to begin on April 22th and it will run through April 27th at the KHS Little Theater.



# KHS Honors Vikings of the Month

By Kirrah Morton  
Editor-in-Chief

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 "Viking of the Month."

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

## Janurary

### Emily Ayala Gonzalez

Spanish teacher Martha Gudino nominated Emily saying, "Emily is a great example of kindness and dedication. She works very hard in class and she is very kind to others."



**Ayleen Bermudez Torres** English teacher Jacob Simmons nominated Ayleen saying, "Ayleen shows such seriousness of purpose and academic curiosity in our class. She is a thoughtful reader and writer, and she is always willing to take intellectual risks. She's also gracious and helpful to her peers. Her professional and courteous approach to our class should be commended."

### Angie Casarez

Math teacher Ken Harvey nominated Angie saying, "Angie is a hard-working, fun, and kind student. She takes initiative and is outgoing, contributing positively to the academic environment."

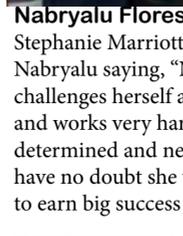


### Sophia Diaz

Math teacher Mike Manley nominated Sophia saying, "Sophia has been consistent in her studies and has had great success. It is a pleasure to work with her in class."



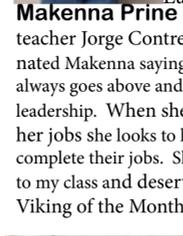
**Blend Sharam** P.E. teacher Marci Cranford nominated Blend saying, "I am impressed by how hard he works in the weight room. Blend has shown improvement and continues to show determination in his max data. He is a hard working student athlete!"



**Nabryalu Flores** Admin Stephanie Marriott nominated Nabryalu saying, "Nabryalu challenges herself academically and works very hard. She is kind, determined and never gives up. I have no doubt she will continue to earn big success in her future."



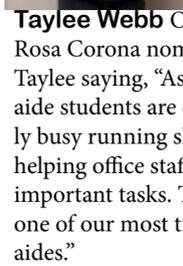
**Amayah Nutt** Science teacher Amanda Manuzak nominated Amayah saying, "Amayah is always respectful and responsible. Every class period she is hard working and she is also helpful to other students. She's been a pleasure to have in AVID and Earth Science this year."



**Makenna Prine** Spanish teacher Jorge Contreras nominated Makenna saying, "Makenna always goes above and beyond in leadership. When she completes her jobs she looks to help her peer's complete their jobs. She is an asset to my class and deserving of the Viking of the Month award."



**Kate Guerrero** Art teacher Art Velarde nominated Kate saying, "Kate is a student who consistently models Kindness, Honor, Success, and Determination. She is always helpful and respectful to others around her and she puts forth a strong work ethic in her artwork for a successful outcome."



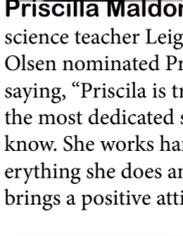
**Taylee Webb** Office staff Rosa Corona nominated Taylee saying, "As an office aide students are constantly busy running slips and helping office staff with important tasks. Taylee is one of our most trusted aides."



**Lilliana Cordova** Art teacher Art Velarde nominated Lilliana saying, "Lilliana has demonstrated the act of kindness many times during art class by giving assistance on projects to others in need without hesitation."



**Anthony Vasquez** P.E. teacher Marci Cranford nominated Anothy saying, "Anthony has shown great strides during his Freshman year. He has played all of the sports during PE and has been working on the weight room. He is a pleasure to have in class!"



**Priscilla Maldonado** science teacher Leigh-ann Olsen nominated Priscilla saying, "Priscila is truly one of the most dedicated students I know. She works hard in everything she does and always brings a positive attitude."



**Teddy Lehn** P.E. teacher Marci Cranford nominated Teddy saying, "He is always there to help out others and his kindness is unmatched!"

## Febrauary

**Macario Garcia** Math teacher Gail Williams nominated Macario saying, "Macario has impressed me with his great attitude and commitment to learning. I admire his class participation and his desire to do his best in class."

**Crystal Carrazco** Counselor Stephanie Marriot nominated Crystal saying, "Crystal is a hard working student who takes very challenging classes. Crystal is kind, respectful and determined."

**Anika Gakvez** English teach Diana Crass nominated Anika saying, "Anika is such a hard-working student! She has demonstrated her determination in her English class by going above and beyond in her essays, short answer questions and in her participation in class. She has shown incredible kindness to those around her with her generosity and smile."

**Carli Burkhalter** English teacher Michele Schiller saying, "Carli desires a career in teaching, and she is already in training based on the interactions I see she has with her peers. She is quick to offer help and holds group members accountable. Carli is able to soften her peers' harsh personalities with her welcoming and encouraging nature. She is also a model student who is engaged and puts forth the greatest effort. Carli is an exceptional student and will be a great teacher one day."

**Esmeralda Hernandez** ROP teacher Benjamin Gonzalez nominated Esmeralda saying, "I nominate Esmeralda Hernandez for her unwavering determination, genuine kindness, and relentless hard work, embodying the epitome of excellence in criminal justice and making a lasting impact on those around her."

**Sophia Quintana** Spanish teacher Jorge Contreras nominated Sophia saying, "Sophia is an exceptional student in class. She is always willing to help others as well as people in her group without me having to ask her. Her kindness is expressed when she interacts with her group members."

**Carlos Camacho Ortiz** English teacher Michelle Schiller nominated Carlos, "Carlos has been a great help this year in my class. He sets a good example for his peers and assists when asked to translate or offer further explanation. He is so kind in his interactions. Carlos has also made great improvements in his English abilities as well. I am so proud of what he is accomplishing."

**Sophia Liu** Science teacher Darren Peterson nominated Sophia saying, "Sophia Liu does exceptional work day in and day out on every assignment and test. She is a model student who sets high standards for herself and is kind to others. Her work ethic and self determination will lead to much success."

**Ralph Morfin-Gonzales** Chemistry teacher Pauline Phillips nominated Ralph saying, "Ralph is a hard working and dedicated student. He always comes prepared to Chemistry and always does his best."

**Juniper Bergstrom** Chemistry teacher Britini Boyaijan nominated Juniper saying, "Juniper is a conscientious, hardworking student who commits herself to excellency. She is kind, dedicated, and always puts forth her best effort. It is a privilege to have Juniper as a student."

**Addison Murgia** Science teacher Darin Peterson nominated Addison saying, "Addison Murgia consistently works hard in Anatomy and Physiology on every assignment and test. She does meticulous work in lab and is thorough. Her personality, work ethic, and kindness to me and her peers is exemplary. These traits will make her successful as she takes them with her and applies them in her future career in health medicine."

## Two KHS Students Accepted Into Fresno City College Future Nurses Program

By Jenna Rogers  
Page Editor

The Fresno City College Future Nurses Program has officially accepted two KHS Senior CNA students. These two hard working students are Sullivan Phelan and Macie Oehlschlaeger.

The program at Fresno City College serves a cohort of 20 students every year. The Future Nurses program is a collaborative effort between Fresno City College and Fresno and Valley Regional Occupational Programs (VROP).

Benefits of the program include academic support, guidance and mentorship, as well as, priority registration for classes and special courses. One of the biggest advantages to being accepted into this program is being pushed right into the RN program as soon as students finish the required classes and there is availability in the program.

In order to apply to the program students must be in an ROP CNA class, have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA, and write an essay explaining why they want to be a nurse. Candidates must also fill out and submit an application.

Senior Sullivan Phelan was asked about what it takes to get to the top of the candidate pool and be selected. She said, "In hopes of becoming a top candidate in a very large pool of contestants, I wanted to make sure that the Program Directors knew how much I wanted to be a part of their program."

**Parker Woods** Math teacher Ingrid Morris nominated Parker saying, "Parker is a real team member. In math 2 when anyone asks her a question she take the time to give a full and deep explanation so her peer(s) will have a better understanding of the concepts we are learning. Parker works hard to be her best and that includes making those in her team better as well."

**Ragan Boen** English teacher Patti Crass nominated Ragan saying, "Ragan is a kind and thoughtful student. He demonstrates success in the classroom by taking initiative and starting early on assignments. The work he turns in is creative and explores topics at a high level of critical thinking. He makes those around him feel welcome in the classroom and helps others when needed."

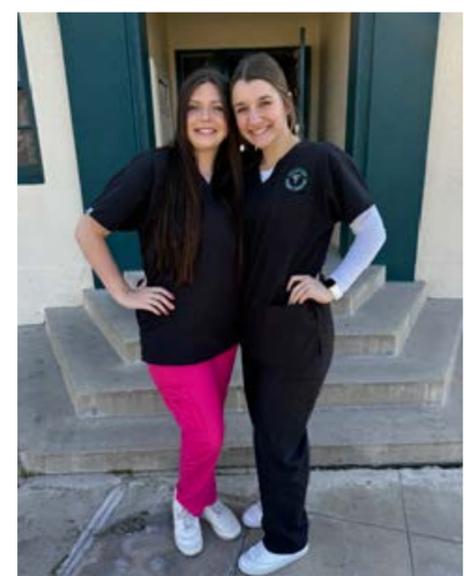
**Rafael Sanchez Salinas** Math teacher Bill Jensen nominated Rafael saying, "Rafael performs at an excellent level in our math class. He is eager to learn and has improved his performance since the beginning of the year. He participates well and is a pleasure to have in class. I am very proud of him,"

**Andy Crass** Civics/Econ teacher Doug Davis nominated Andy saying, "Andy is a hard worker, currently getting a huge 101.5% in my class; he actively talks and contributes to those around him."

**Jasmine Jauregui** Special education teacher Bre Lopes nominated Jasmine saying, "Jasmine has really stepped up this semester to keep her grades where they need to be. I appreciate her willingness to attempt hard tasks, something that has been a struggle for her in the past. From when I first met Jasmyrn when she transferred to KHS to now, she has not only matured socially but in her academics as well. Jasmyrn has been making the steps and movement in the right direction. I know that she will be successful if she continues on the path she is on. I notice how hard you are working Jasmyrn. You must be proud of yourself!"

**Alexis Gagnon** Math teacher Bryan Peterson nominated Alexis saying, "Alexis is doing a fantastic job and is at the top of her class right now in Math Analysis. She also works well with the others around her in class."

Phelan continued to say, "I showed this by listing my volunteer hours at a nearby hospital, talking about my commitment to sports, and telling



them why I wanted to be a nurse. It took a lot of hard work in the classroom, sports field, and the facility that my CNA class goes to. It was so worth it though,

**Bonnie DeMoss** Special Education teacher Elizabeth VanderVelde nominated Bonnie saying, "Bonnie ha done a great job advocating for herself. As a student athlete, she is committed to keeping her grades up despite challenges. In addition, she lifts up her fellow classmates and challenges them to do better. We are proud of Bonnie. Keep it up!"

**Faith Casarez** Spanish teacher Martha Gudino nominated Faith saying, "Faith is a hard working student. She is doing a great job in all of her classes. She is kind, respectful, and determined. She is such a pleasure to have in class."

**Sienna Chaparro** Art teacher Art Velarde nominated Sienna saying, "Sienna is a hardworking, responsible, and creative student. She consistently does a great job in all of her art assignments. She is kind, respectful, and helpful to those she interacts with. She is a pleasure to have in class."

**Eric Johnson** P.E. teachers Marci and Jim Cranford nominated Eric saying, "Kindness- EJ is always encouraging and helpful to other students in the gym and in the weight room."

**Gisell Rangell** P.E. teachers Marci and Jim Cranford nominated Gisell saying, "Honor- Gisell is always on task and does everything with a smile. She is such a please to have in class."

**Jocelyn Gonzalez** P.E. teachers Marci and Jim Cranford nominated Jocelyn saying, "Determination- She is always on top of her studies and is continually trying to improve as she is a very determined young lady. I have had her in class for 4 years and she is such a hard worker."

**Max Warkentin** P.E. teachers Marci and Jim Cranford nominated Max saying, "Max is a very detrmned young man. When he sets his mind on doing something he sticks with it until he has completed the chalenge. He give it his all and conquer any obstacles in his way."

and I am so grateful for a teacher like Mrs. Gomez who has truly prepared me for this opportunity."

When Senior Macie Oehlschlaeger was asked how she felt when she found out that she was accepted into the Fresno City College Future Nurses Program she said, "When I found out I was accepted into the future nurses program I was extremely excited, Fresno City's nursing program was my first choice, so when I found out I was accepted I was overjoyed. Getting into the program has been a long term goal of mine. My dearest thank you to Mrs. Gomez and all the other teachers who have helped me to reach my goal."

ROP CNA teacher, Diana Gomez was asked what stands out about Macie and Sullivan that got them accepted into the program. She said, "Macie and Sullivan's acceptance into the program was likely influenced by their combination of factors, including their passion for nursing, strong academic performance, involvement in community service, completion of relevant ROP (Regional Occupational Program) classes, and compelling personal statements outlining their motivations for pursuing a career in nursing. These aspects collectively showcased their dedication, skills, and readiness for the program."

Getting accepted into this program will help them get a headstart on their career and open many doors down the road.

## Kingsburg High School: Teacher of the Year Award

Ethan Chagoya  
Staff Writer

The teacher of the year award is given out to the teacher who works to make the school a better place for their students and who teaches their students to have a positive impact on the school, as well.

The 2023-24 KHS recipient was Civics and Economics teacher Mr. Jensen. Jensen said that "I'm very honored to have been chosen. I thank my senior classes because someone must have said something nice about me. I put my best effort into this job and try my best."

Mr. Jensen has been teaching for 26 years and teaches Civics and Economics. Jensen said that his favorite thing about teaching is when he sees students improve.

When asked why he became a teacher Mr. Jensen answered with "I decided to become a teacher because I wanted to make a difference in people's lives."

There were multiple runner ups for this award, Mrs. Crass being one of them. When asked why she thinks she was a nominee for teacher of the year, she said "Honestly, there are so many teachers

represent all of us for our dedication to the students in Kingsburg."

Mrs. Crass said "I became a teacher because I had fantastic teachers growing up in Clovis. I was inspired by what they taught me and I loved what they did in the classroom. I wanted to do the same thing."



Crass has been teaching for 25 years. She has also been teaching English for all her 25 years of teaching. At KHS she is teaching English 1, AP Language and Composition, and Study Skills.

Crass said that over her 25 years of teaching it has changed a lot. "Teaching has changed over the years. When I first started teaching students did not have cell phones, email was something new for teachers to use, and grade books were not online. As education has changed and evolved over the years it has improved in many ways and I have learned to embrace many of these changes."

Another one of the nominees for Teacher of the Year was Michelle Schiller. Schiller was asked why she thought she was a runner up for teacher of the year.

She stated, "I'm not quite sure why I was chosen, but I like to think it is because I work hard to offer my students a quality education."

When asked why she became a teacher, she responded with "I always knew I wanted to work with teenagers, and teaching seemed like a perfect opportunity for me to do so, especially in an English class that offers self-expression."

Many teachers at KHS work hard every year and it is great that they are recognized for their hard work and effort.

## Kingsburg High School: Employees of the Year

Abigail Berry  
Production Editor

On January 22nd, Kingsburg's Board of Directors nominated six different employees for the honor of Employee of the Year aside from Teacher's of the Year. An awards dinner party was hosted at Fugazzi's on February 13th, where each nominee was celebrated.

The nominee list was as follows: Erica Avila (Classified Employee of the Year), Gilbert Badilla (Classified Employee of the Year Honoree), Kristine Johnston (Classified Employee of the Year Honoree), Heather Apgar (Administrator of the Year), Erik Schlick (Coach of the Year), and Mike Nelson, Nelson's Ace Hardware (Community Member of the Year).

Each of these members excelled in performing to fulfill their job as a staff member of KHS; Kingsburg High School is undoubtedly fortunate to have such diligent staff members, not just those listed here.

Mrs. Johnston, an Honoree of Classified Employee of the Year, has shared more input on her position as a KHS staff member and her thoughts on her position and nomination. She stated, "I am the SARB Liaison here at Kingsburg High School. I have been working here for 3 1/2 years. My favorite part about this position is

the relationships that I get to make with the students and their families. I felt very honored that I was nominated and I still feel very thankful."

Employees of KHS are like family; as we see with Mrs. Johnston's statement, many of them feel connected to their coworkers and their families, which undoubtedly showcases KHS's commitment to coming together and forming



relationships with one another.

Mr. Badilla, who was also awarded Classified Employee of the Year, was commended at the awards ceremony by Mr. Campos, who is the Head Maintenance of Operations & Transportation, who stated, "It's been an honor to work alongside Gilbert. He started on our PM custodial crew almost 5 years ago and is now on our day

crew. I can honestly say he has made those around him feel important whether it's coworkers, staff, or students. He always has a smile on his face and ready for whatever the day may bring."

Another nominee, Mrs. Avila, has also shared her thoughts and opinions about her position and nomination, in which she states, "I am a secretary at Kingsburg Alt Ed. I have been here for ten years. My favorite part about my position is the interactions and getting to know the students. It took me by surprise when I received the news and felt very honored to receive this award."

Employees at KHS also tend to form connections with KHS students, as we hear from Mrs. Avila, students are comfortable enough around KHS staff members to express their feelings and emotions, along with showcasing their personalities and talking to KHS staff like they are a friend of theirs.

KHS continues to uphold a sense of community among its staff members and students, which is why it takes numerous decision-making processes to decide which KHS staff members best suit the roles of Employees of the Year, as so many KHS staff members have displayed gratitude for their jobs and community. KHS will continue to excel in its sense of community, as it shows no sign of stopping soon.

## Computer Club's E-Waste Recycle Event a Success!

Leon Bennett  
Staff Writer

On January 20, 2024, an E-Waste Recycling Event was hosted by Joshua Woods' Computer club. It ran from 8am to 2pm, with three different shifts for the Computer Club's students to sign up for.

When asking Woods what this E-Waste Recycling event was hoping to accomplish, Woods said that "The Computer Club partnered with Xtreme Green Recycling to offer this event to the community. This is our 2nd year offering the event and we've had positive feedback from the community. The data destruction that we perform at the event involves crushing the hard drives."

In total, twenty-three of the Computer Club's students came to help throughout the six hours that the recycling event took place for. A variety of electronic devices were brought in, with the most common ones being TVs, desktop computers, laptops, and cell phones. Computer monitors and T.V.s were taken to be

cycled, with the computer harddrives being taken out and destroyed.

When asked how the electronics were repurposed, Woods said "Some of the electronics are refurbished and resold. Others are dismantled so that valuable metals like silver, palladium, and platinum can be salvaged and reused to make new devices. On the environmental side, many electronics contain toxic substances like lead and mercury that can pollute the soil, water, and air if not recycled properly."

Following that question up, he was asked roughly how many devices were recycled. He responded with "I don't have a number of how many electronics devices were recycled, but we did have approximately 100 community members drop off electronics to be recycled."

With this E-Waste Recycling event (and hopefully more in the future) repurposing and recycling old technology has gotten easier. Hopefully, this and events similar to this can help reduce the amount of electronic waste.



## KHS Academic Decathlon Thirteenth in Competition

Sophia Spate  
Staff Writer

Kingsburg High School's Academic Decathlon team came in thirteenth in the overall competition and won medals for seven out of ten events.

There are three levels of the Academic Decathlon, all of which are needed to have a complete team. The Honors level is for students with a 3.80 GPA or higher, Scholastic is for GPAs between 3.2 and 3.8, and Varsity is for GPAs less than 3.2. A practice team is also offered. Anyone can join, no matter what their grade is.

Every year they have a different theme, and most of the materials they use follow that theme. This year's theme was Technology and Humanity.

There are ten events: Language and Literature, Science, Social Science, Essay, Speech, Interview, Mathematics, Economics, Music, and Art.

The competition is split into three different days. The first day was on January 22, and it took place on Kingsburg's campus. They did the Language and Literature, Science, Social Science, and Essay events.

The second competition day was on January 27 at Fresno State. The events they did were Speech and Interview. On February 3, the team went to Sunnyside High School located in Fresno. They did Mathematics, Economics, Music, Art, and the Super Quiz.

The Academic Decathlon won medals in Essay,

Interview, Speech, Art, Economics, Mathematics, and Music at the end of the competition.

Daniel Albers, the Academic Decathlon coach, was asked how participating in the Academic Decathlon helps students presently and in the future. He responded, "Academic Decathlon will help students in a number of ways. For one thing, it looks good on college applications. It will also help students to develop study skills, ability at writing and public speaking, and interview practice."

Albers said students can earn individual medals along with the team awards. He also stated, "It is only a three day competition, so it gives students an opportunity to participate in something that won't conflict with most other events at the school."

Junior Jasleen Gill shared how she felt about the recent competition. "I felt proud and accomplished at my hard work

paying off," she said.

She was asked what her favorite part of being in the Academic Decathlon is. "I love to be able to experience the competition alongside like-minded students," Gill responded.

Gill was also asked if she would recommend joining the Academic Decathlon to other students. She said, "Yes, it is honestly super fun and the competitions make it all worthwhile."



## Band Festivals in Bloom

Mariah Rodela  
Staff Writer

Spring is already here which means band festival season is in full force. Band festivals are when our band goes to play songs they have learned at different schools.

The band director, Mike Schofield, is leading the band to the festivals. These festivals will be located at different high schools and college campuses around our county such as Clovis High, Fresno State, and more. The Jazz Band is also having festivals, such as performing at the Mid Valley Jazz Festival in Tulare on February 22nd during school hours. The band festivals are a big event. It is the last event of the school year.

It is important to support our high school band the best we can. The first Jazz festival will be February 22nd. The Jazz band performed very well and earned a Superior rating. The judges gave special recognition to Senior Emilie Parker, Junior Reed Yokota, Junior Sophia Quintana and Sophomore James Ergo.

The first concert band festival will be March 4th. During the festival, the Symphonic Band played first. They played their songs that they have been practicing for upcoming festivals. Then, the Wind Ensemble played. It was a pre-festival so other schools didn't come. The band and the audience got to see what a festival would look like.

Most people aren't able to make it during the day. That is why this festival was important. It was for the adults who aren't able to see their students play during work hours. Students could have also come to support the band. Instead of being at the Little Theater for other concerts, the band will play at different schools.

There is a Wind Ensemble Festival on March 6th. It is during school in the Little Theater. There will be bands from other schools coming to perform in the theater. There is a Symphonic Band festival on the 7th. It is the CMEA festival. These are both located in the Little Theater.

In conclusion, the band festivals are a way to conclude the school year. It is an important event. It would be great if people could come to support the band when they can. The band puts a lot of effort into their performances. These are the seniors' last festivals and band experiences before they graduate. It is a fun and challenging way to end the school year. It is something for everyone to look forward to.

Band festivals are an important part of the band. It is truly a bonding experience. It is to learn and still have a nice time while doing so. These festivals are good for the band to become more known. Our band can play for other students.

# Are Movie Theaters Declining in Popularity?

By Makenna Kemplin-Gonzales  
Staff Writer

We normally know movie theaters to have popcorn, soda, and great movies to show, but lately there's been a decline in theaters being very popular and relevant. That could be due to studios not pushing out good movies, or streaming platforms taking movies and throwing it on to their platforms before they have a chance to go to the theaters. It could all come from people just not having the time or money to go to the movies anymore.

Through 2023 and 2024 there have been only a handful of movies in the theater that have been memorable, such as Spiderman into the Spider-Verse, Barbie, Oppenheimer, The Beekeeper, Mean Girls, Night Swim, and Wish.

The movie Wish from Disney has to do with a girl named Ash stopping an evil wizard king.

With that context it sounds like it could be a good setup for a movie being Disney's 100th anniversary, but it really was forgettable with only a handful of memorable moments. This is mainly due to the storytelling not being up to par as Disney's former movies.

Many will say Disney is for children when really it is for any age. If you compared Wish to The Princess and the Frog it would not stand a chance, but the memory parts where such as Ash's song called This Wish was one of or not just one of the best songs out of this movie. This shows big companies are getting lazy and throwing out movies to just keep kids entertained for five minutes instead of masterpieces like The Little Mermaid, Cinderella, and Sleeping Beauty.



Not all of these movies are bad such as the Barbie movie. This movie has strong themes of womanhood for mothers and daughters to enjoy. The movie stars Margot Robbie as Barbie and tells the story of Barbie becoming a real person, but the movie holds so much more to it. I feel the Barbie movie had great promotion and was something new to offer to viewers.

Similarly, the Barbie movie was shown on billboards and was advertised in ads with all sorts of companies. However, with Wish they just released the villain's song and that did not get much good press. This shows that some companies are losing good ways to advertise.

There is also the problem with streaming platforms. We now have Disney+, Hulu, Netflix, Prime Video and many more that have the ability to show us all these movies and shows without having to leave our houses. This is a good thing, but for movie theaters it is a problem. Many people now can watch these movies from home without having to buy tickets and snacks and drinks.

As Sophomore Christopher Kitauchi says, "Streaming services allow you to rewatch movies without paying to watch them again."

Senior Gir Brewer says "Everything is on streaming services now; especially after Covid everything was digitized."

In the long run, will movie theaters go out of style or business? They may one day in bigger cities. I do feel that over time people will get bored of what Disney and some other studios have to offer, and I do have hope that it will get better.

# Students See Need For Financial Literacy Classes

By Ashni Purewal  
Staff Writer

At KHS there's many classes offered, but there's still many others that students think would be useful to have. At KHS we already have basic classes like math, english, science, and history. We also have more enjoyable classes including Floral Design, computer science, Ag Mechanics, leadership, etc.

Three students including Junior Peyton Maxfield, Sophomore Lucas Baca, and Freshman Krystin Merlo have more input for classes that should be offered at KHS.

Peyton Maxfield said, "I want more classes that could help me with things in the future. Like money management, job application, finance, etc."

I think this is a good idea because most kids come out of high school, going into college, not knowing many things about "adulting."

Classes like this would help students be more successful in the future. Personally, I don't know much about money management or finance. This class would be very helpful and useful for me also.

Lucas Baca said, "French would be cool to have since I can only take Spanish."

I agree with Baca and think there should be more foreign language options. Lots of students at KHS want to go to a four year university and in order to do that you need 2 years of a foreign language. We all

and then getting to eat it afterwards would be enjoyable but also a learning experience."

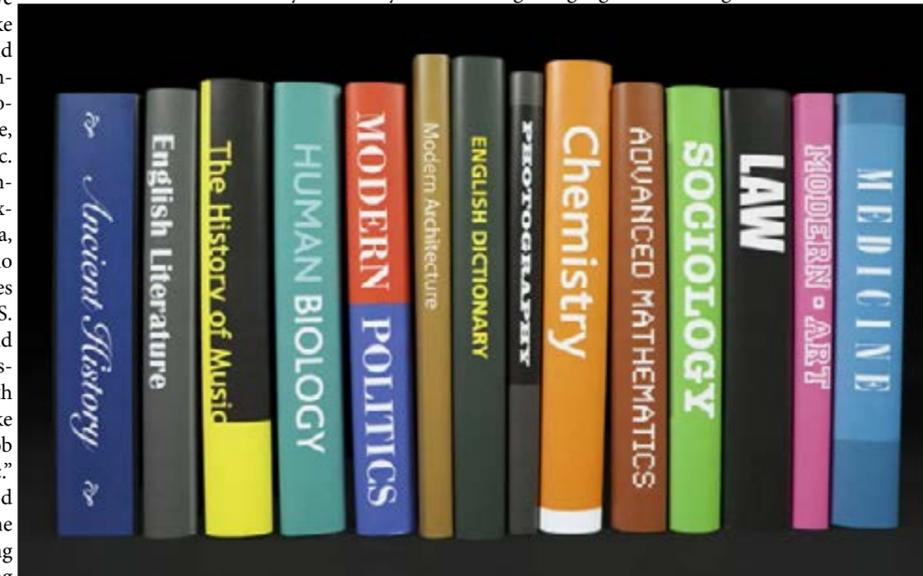
I agree with Merlo and think that a cooking class would be nice to have. Trying the food for me, would be the best part. Also, just learning how to cook different types of food from different cultures would be interesting.

In my opinion, I think an interesting class we could offer here at KHS is Home Economics. This will teach students how to do normal daily things like cooking, budgeting, cleaning, laundry, etc. There's lots of kids that I know personally that don't know how to do a simple thing like laundry. Some families don't teach basic things that should be taught due to other difficulties, and this class would help.

There are so many beneficial classes that we could add to the class list to be more inclusive and prepare students for life after graduation. Although our class list is pretty extensive, there are classes that could better prepare students.

ready offer Spanish, but another class would be nice to have if you don't like Spanish, since it's our only option. Personally, I think taking French would be fun and if I had the opportunity to do so, I would.

Krystin Merlo said, "I think a chef class would be fun to have. Making the food



# KHS Math Team Success at Bakersfield Math Field Day



By Abigail Berry  
Production Editor

Members of the KHS math team saw great success at their competition on Saturday, February 17th, at California State University

Bakersfield, where both JV and Varsity competed in a variety of different competitions, such as the individual test for both 9-10th grade students and 11-12th grade students.

Then, 9-10th grade students participated in the Jr. Varsity Math Bowl and a Rubix Cube Competition. They then ate lunch and moved onto the team tests for both JV and Varsity teams, where then 11-12th grade students competed in the Varsity Math Bowl. The day ended with an awards ceremony.

All members of the Math Club competed fairly well in the competition, particularly individuals of both JV and Varsity.

On JV, Sophomore Landon Manley placed 5th on the individual test, and Freshman Manuel Gutierrez got an honorable mention. On the team test, Sophomores Grace Fan and Landon Manley, Freshman Manuel Gutierrez, and Junior Maddy Essegian won an honorable mention.

On varsity, Junior Nicholas Lindgren placed 1st on the individual test. For the team test, seniors Alonso Salvador Hernandez, Derrick Chan, and Zhenhong Li placed 1st, and

Junior Nicholas Lindgren and Senior Jaxon Ahumada placed 2nd. Alonso Salvador Hernandez, Derrick Chan, Nicholas Lindgren, and Jaxon Ahumada placed 3rd in the Varsity Math Bowl.



Gail Williams, who has been advising the math team for 35 years, was the assistant coach along with Ken Harvey, who is the head coach. She conveyed enthusiasm for her student's results in the competition, in which she stated, "I was very pleased with the outcome. We have a strong team and I'm glad they were each recognized at the competition. The core of our team has been practicing together twice a month during lunch on Wednesdays and some at home to get ready. Their commitment has helped prepare them."

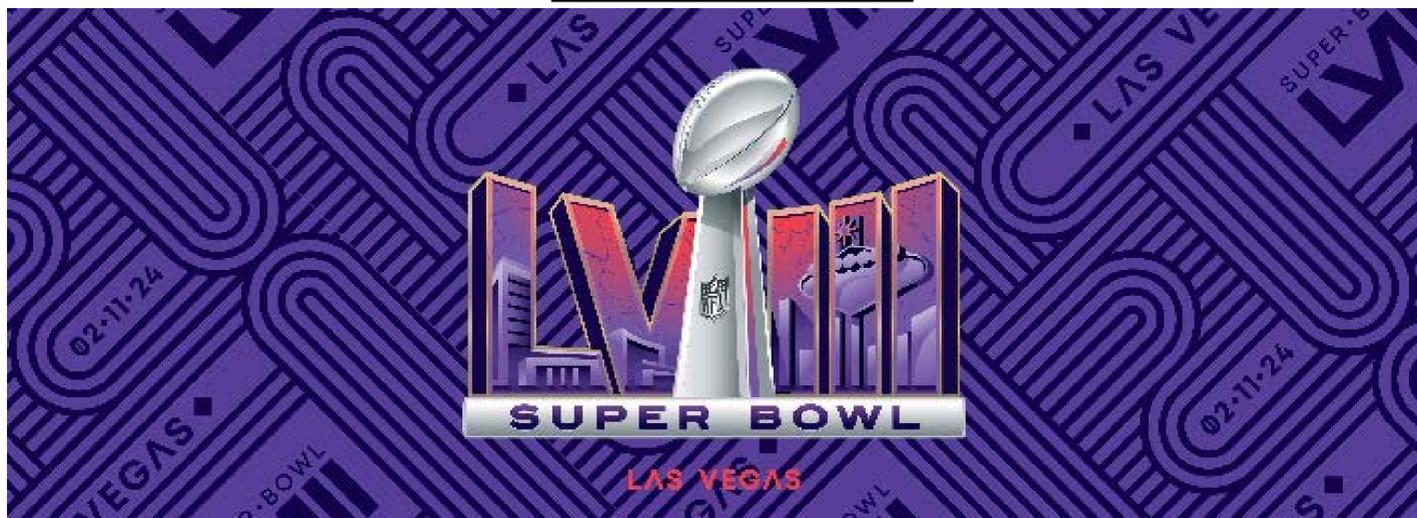
Not only did students witness much success at the competition, they also had much fun at the competition. Grace Fan, a JV member of the Math Team said, "The competition was actually a lot more fun than I expected it to be. I thought it'd be more serious than it actually was. My favorite part was the Math Bowl; it was kind of like a speed pop quiz in



front of everyone. The most challenging part of this was the Individual Test since I went in without practicing. I look forward to participating again next year, so I'll definitely be spending some lunches studying the material. I haven't competed in the Bakersfield Math Field Day before, but I have gone with the team to some competitions at Fresno State. This one was obviously further away, and I think more schools went. This time, I participated in different events than I did at Fresno State. It was more exciting and memorable to compete in the Team Medley since I was with my friends Maddie, Landon, and Emmanuel. We also got to interact with students from other schools, which was amusing."

The Bakersfield Competition brought members of the Team closer just by having them compete side by side, as we saw with what Grace Fan said.

Overall, KHS students show great enthusiasm for events like these, especially members of the Math Team. Due to KHS's students active determination to ensure success at such events like these, it's no surprise that the KHS Math Team saw similar success in previous years. The KHS Math Team will hopefully see more success like this in other competitions following this one.



## Superbowl LVIII: Chiefs Win Back-to-Back in Overtime

By Landon Manley  
Production Editor

### Quarters 1 + 2

The last six seconds of overtime resulted in the Kansas City Chiefs win of Super Bowl LVIII. The most popular showdown of the year occurred on February 11, 2024 between the San Francisco 49ers and the Kansas City Chiefs in Las Vegas, Nevada at Allegiant Stadium.

The Chiefs won the coin flip where they deferred and decided to kick off, letting the 49ers have the ball in the opening play.

The 49ers quickly flew through the field until Leo Chanel, the Chief's linebacker, stripped Geroge Karlaftis causing the ball to fall for the Chiefs at the 27-yard line.

Soon after, 49ers defensive end Chase Young reached the O-line, reaching Mahomes which led to a forced second-and-14, leading to a Chiefs punt.

With the start of the second quarter, Brock Purdy completed a pair of competitions to wide receivers Chris Conely and Ray-Ray McCloud that had a combined 37-yards, allowing the 49ers to get close to Moody. This action allowed Moody to set a Super Bowl record setting field goal of 55 yards.

Immediately after the field goal, Patrick Mahomes completed a 52-yard pass, getting the Chiefs into the red zone.

Nearing the end of the second quarter Purdy threw the ball to Jennings, who bolted through Chiefs defense for a 21-yard touchdown setting the score to 10-0 with 49ers in the lead.

Within the last 23 seconds of the second quarter Butler from the Kansas City Chiefs got a 28-yard field goal setting the score to 10-3 leading the game into Usher's halftime.

### Usher Halftime

The 2000's R&B artist known for hits such as "Yeah!" and "DJ Got us Fallin' in Love," Usher took the stage to perform the 2024 halftime show.

Usher presented a show stopping 13-minute concert bringing on fellow collaborators and friends such as Alicia Keys, H.E.R., Will.i.am,

Lil Jon, Jermaine Dupri and Ludacris. Usher also played 13 of his classic songs like "My Boo" with Alicia Keys and "Bad Girl" while roller skating across the stage.

Usher did not disappoint fans with his show and was a great addition to the game.

### Quarters 3, 4, and Overtime

With the start of the third quarter Mahomes was intercepted by Ji'Air Brown which quickly turned into the 49ers taking over the Chief's 44-yard line.

With 5 minutes on the clock, Mahomes thundered through a 22-yard carry and passed the ball onto Butler who made a 57-yard field goal setting another new Super Bowl record, setting the score at 10-6. Three minutes later Mahomes followed through and got a 16-yard touchdown for the Chiefs with a score of 10-13, ending the third quarter.

With that, the fourth quarter began where Purdy hit Jennings, Deebo Samuel, and Brandon Aiyuk for three completions for a combined 46 yards. After two plays, Purdy and Jennings joined together for a 10-yard touchdown, but the extra point was blocked only giving them 6 points.

Mahomes and Kelce joined together for two completions for a combined 29-yards before the quarterback connected with Justin Watson for a 25-yard gain leading to a 24-yard field goal causing the game to be tied 16-16.

With two minutes left, the 49ers completed a 23-yard completion to Jauan Jennings, which later stalled, but Jake Moody continued it on with a 53-yard field goal breaking the tie at 19-16.

Within the last minute of the game, the Chiefs were able to reach the red zone when Mahomes hit Kelce for a 22-yard gain with only nine seconds left of the game. A 29-yard field goal from Butler sent the game into overtime, only the second time ever in NFL history, 19-19.

The 49ers started off overtime and entered Chiefs territory where Purdy hit McCaffery and sprinted back for a 24-yard gain. Jake Moody hit a

27-yard field goal, his fifth of the game and making the score 22-19.

Soon came the last 13 seconds of the first quarter in overtime where Mahomes extended the game for the Chiefs with an 8-yard carry which got them into the red zone with a 19-yard carry. After 3 short plays, Mahomes got a touchdown making the final score 22-25. This touchdown both marked Mahomes as MVP for two years in a row, but also marked the Chiefs win for the second year in the row, and the third within five years.

### Taylor Swift Controversy

American Popstar Taylor Swift has entered the NFL scene due to her new relationship with Travis Kelce, the Chiefs' tight end. Her entrance into the NFL has come with mixed reviews though between die hard "Swifties," football fans, and the NFL itself.

Swift's fans, titled "Swifties" have loved seeing their favorite singer on live television and outside of her world tour titled "The Eras Tour." They've enjoyed seeing her in a perspective that hasn't been shown in years, her being a human living an average life.

Young fans' parents have also enjoyed Swift being shown during Chief's games as they can both bond over topics they are interested in being shown at the same time.

Other's though have not appreciated Swift's 53 second appearances in three hour games though believing it is "Ruining the NFL," one user stated on X (formerly known as Twitter).

The NFL though has benefited from showing Swift on screen for short periods of time as it's drastically increased their viewership. Back in 2020, when the same two teams played against each other at the Super Bowl, the Chiefs and the 49ers, only had on average 99 million people watching the game nationwide, while this year had 124.4 people watching.

Swift, though causing some minor discourse online, has brought massive benefits to the NFL and to families.

# The Arising Conflicts In Ecuador

By Alliah Rodriguez  
Staff Writer

The uprising and retaliations of inmates in prisons of Ecuador lead to new records and military responses.

Ecuador, a country in South America, has recently issued a state of emergency with a curfew set to be effective January 25.

These curfews will affect many different Canton regions that have a risk of gang violence. The Canton regions that are high-risk are under a 12:00 to 5:00 AM curfew. Medium risk regions are under a 02:00 to 5:00 AM curfew, and low risk regions are no longer under a curfew.

Ecuador is sliding into a new wave of violence, with record breaking crime rates with the assassination of presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio being a major highlight.

On January 7, prison authorities made an announcement that José Adolfo Macias, incarcerated leader of Los Lobos, a criminal organization specializing in drug trafficking and hitmen for allied groups, disappeared from custody and governments were unsure of his whereabouts. The announcement had come before Macias' schedule to be transported to a higher security prison.

The news of Macias' escape quickly set off riots in Ecuador's prison systems, with inmates taking hostage of their guards at several penitentiaries.

On January 9, these organized crime groups had detonated improvised explosive devices in places like Cuenca, Los Rios, Esmeraldas,



El Guabo, Loja, and Quito, as well as kidnapped police officers in Los Rios, Machala and Quito.

Another criminal group had raided the TC Television studios in Guayaquil, where the Criminals broadcasted live footage of themselves holding journalists at gunpoint as well as carrying explosives with them.

In one of the prisons, at least one guard has been executed, which was caught on video and uploaded to social media by inmates.

With the dangerous crimes by these groups, there is no easy solution to the problem. The largest groups are engaged in smuggling vast amounts of Colombian cocaine through Ecuadorian ports; the money they make off these imports allows them to continue to corrupt the authorities.

In addition, President Daniel Noboa has declared internal armed conflict and listed 22 criminal groups to be targeted using military force. This list includes major criminal groups such as Los Lobos, Los Choneros, and Los Tuguerones, as well as minor groups operating as gangs.

Since most of these people involved in these organized crimes have been arrested before and prisons are now largely controlled by incarcerated groups and individuals, armed forces can now deploy lethal force against them, treating them as combatants in war.

A National Assembly approved president Noboa's declaration of war as well as leaders of Ecuador's various political parties that announced their support.

## Recent School Shootings in America

By: Julian Garcia  
Staff Writer

Many communities all over the United States have been devastated by recent school shootings. Gun violence has left many families traumatized, and communities are searching for a way to prevent school shootings from happening.

According to CNN, there have been 16 school shootings so far in 2024. These incidents occurred in universities, colleges, high schools, and elementary schools. Georgia, California, Florida, and many more states saw more than 1 within 6 months.

Sandy Hook Promise published a report stating that in 4 out of 5 school shootings, at least one other person had knowledge of the attacker's plan but failed to report it.

Families have been left with trauma from the aftermath of these shootings and students have been left with mental scars. When returning to school, some students stated they fear for their safety.

One solution may be stricter gun control. According to NPR, background checks and banning assault weapons help prevent and lower the risk of a school shooting from happening. Another solution may be better support services, helping



any students with mental health issues that can result in violence.

Acknowledging the issue of poor mental

health between students is another strong way of preventing any future school shootings from happening. Psychology Today put out an article showing the significance of giving support to students who are struggling with their mental health.

Counseling, therapy, and support services help with seeing an early sign of violence, preventing it before it is able to happen.

After the Oakridge High School shooting in Florida, many students helped to raise awareness, telling lawmakers to make changes to prevent gun violence. Students were able to get their point across with a protest.

Communities are coming together to support each other and mourn for their losses. Through fundraisers to aid people in need after these incidents, acts of kindness and unity help.

Persistence and effort can prevent school shootings in the future. Issues like mental health and gun control can be helped through the community so we can make schools like KHS safer so students never fear being at

school to learn. Recent gun violence helps us to understand how to prevent any future incidents.

## Swim And Dive Team Swims With a Winning Streak

By Anabelle McFadden  
Staff Writer

The KHS swim and dive team are in their season currently. So far they are on a winning streak and have won 4 meets in a row at time of publication.

On their first meet, February 13th, the team won against Hanford. The team said they had fun, but the water was pretty cold.

Junior Emily Leanos on the JV, the team says she chose the sport because she's liked swimming since she was little.

"This sport is pretty fun. Competing and racing against others at your level is so much fun," she stated when asked why she likes the sport.

Leanos is proud of how her team is on a winning streak and that she has made best times every meet.

In their meet that was on February 20th,



the team against Tulare Western at KHS. They won again and continue to have a good season.

On the 24th, the team competed against Monache. They also won this and had fun in the pool.

The coaches are Adam Hughes, Susie, Ryan, and Morgan Coddington. They are working hard to make sure their team does well this season.

In their meet on February 28th, the team went up against El Diamante at the KHS pool. They gained another win in their season so far.

Coach Morgan Coddington coaches swim and dive because she said she has been swimming since she was 10.

"I swam for the Kingsburg Seawolves and then when I was about 10. I decided to swim for a club team and then I ended up going all the way through

college with the sport."

Coddington feels confident in her team because they have so many strong leaders. They come to practice everyday looking for ways to get better.

## KHS Color Guard Flurry to the Winter Season

By Audrey Laney  
Production Editor

The Guard had an awarding Marching Band season in the fall, honorably winning 'Best Color Guard,' at the WBA Championships/Viking Classic. They wish to maintain this title during the current Winter Guard season, as they are working more diligently than ever.

Under the direction of Sarah Dezso, the Kingsburg High School Color Guard has presented their majestic 2024 Winter show, *Flurry to the Crown*. The chosen song is, "Let it go," by the Piano Guys, a cover of the original "Let it go" from the hit movie, *Frozen*. The show's narrative takes place in a world of ice and snow, where everyone is in a race to win the crown. To truly illustrate this story, the props they utilize include a snowy mountain, winter trees, and a bejeweled, royal crown. Additionally, they use flags with images of snowflakes on them. At the end of the show, these flags are bombastically sent out with confetti falling from them to imitate snow.



On January 27th, they revealed their show at South Valley Winter Arts Association's (SVWAA) first competition of the season in Lemoore. While going against two other teams, they were awarded 2nd place with a score of 64.010. The second SVWAA competition held at Hanford West High School portrayed their improvement, as they jumped to a score of 67.110. However, even though they received a higher score, they landed in last place against five other Guards.

Nonetheless, they did not let this placement dictate the rest of the season. Instead of discouraging them, it motivated them into working even harder. They demonstrated this at the following show, a Pep & Pageantry Arts Association of Central California (PPAACC) competition held at Frontier High School. As they went up against a total of 7 Guards in their Scholastic A division, they placed 1st. Their score was 69.150, with 2.49 between them and second place. This point margin is notable, considering how competitive their class.

The Guard even had the opportunity to perform at a 2 day long Winter Guard International (WGI) regional held in Manhattan Beach on March 2nd-3rd. One of their main goals this season was to advance to finals at this particular competition, as they never have before. Out of 36 Guards in Scholastic A, only 15 of them gain a spot as finalists. Our Guard exceptionally placed 11th in Preliminary with a score of 77.14, indicating they would progress to finals. They made KHS his-



tory, as their score was the highest they have ever achieved in any WGI regional they've attended. Sophomore AJ Nichols expresses how proud she is, stating, "We worked really hard to make finals, and constantly pushed ourselves to get better after every rep we did."

For many individuals, this is their last Winter Guard season at KHS. Emotions are starting to arise among the seniors as the end nears. Senior Alexis Gagnon confesses that acknowledging the fact that this is her last winter season at KHS evokes, "a very surreal feeling." She explains, "I feel like I just started Guard... I wish that I had more time." Nonetheless, she recognizes the everlasting unity the KHS Guard possesses. "While it is going to be difficult to let go of what I had here, I know I will always have this little family."

As the Guard approaches the remaining part of their season, marked by SVWAA Championships on April 6th, they are continuing to push forward with intense enthusiasm and dedication.

## Wrestling Has Most Successful Season in Last 22 Years

By Amia Mathis  
Page Editor



This year's wrestling team are league champions this season for the first time in 22 years. At the TCC League tournament they had 10 champions out of 14 weight classes.

They qualified 1 female and 5 male to the state tournament this year which ended up tying the record of state qualifiers since 1997.

The qualifiers consisted of Josie Benitez, Carlos Melgoza, junior Leo Macias, Alek VanBebber, L J Lorento, and junior Max Austin.

VanBebber won 5th place with a 5-2 record at state. Benitez had a 4-3 record at state and won 6th place.

The coach of this year's wrestling team is Vince Palomar. After asking Palomar how he thinks his team did this season he replied with, "The 2023-2024 wrestling season has been one of the most successful seasons in Kingsburg history. I am proud of every wrestler on our team and congratulate them on all their hard work and success this season. I am looking forward to next year and having our team win more state medals for Kingsburg Wrestling."

Junior Leo Macias was asked how he thinks the team did this season and he responded with, "This wrestling season was amazing. Our team put their all into this season and I definitely saw the progress that was made with everyone. I think we good this season

and I am happy with the results at the end of the season."

The first wrestling match of the season was against Kerman and the Vikings won with a score of 69-0. After this game they beat Exeter with a score of 63-6. Then they wrestled Selma with a score of 60-9 the vikings winning.



Senior night was a game against Reedley with a winning score of 64-3.

After winning these games the boys wrestling team earned 8th place at the Masters, which qualified 5 male wrestlers for the state champion-

ship.

The CIF State Championship was held on Thursday through Saturday, February 22-24. On the 22nd the girls Championships began at 9:00 a.m. and Boys began at 12:00 p.m. On the 23rd consolations began at 9:00 a.m. and at 1:00 p.m. Quarterfinals began. On the 24th conolations began at 9:00 a.m. and Semifinals at 10:30 a.m. Finally the Championship finals began at 6:15 p.m.

The CIF Championships took place at Mechanics Bank Arena in Bakersfield, CA.

After a little more than 2 decades the wrestling team made it to League Championships. This is a big win in our books and we are very proud of the wrestling team for putting so much effort into their training.

After asking Junior Emilio Ayala how he thinks about setting a new record for the next wrestling season he replied with, "I think it's incredible that we were able to accomplish what we did this season. It was amazing watching my team compete and fulfill what we were training for. I think our team did excellent this season."

This year's wrestling season ended very well and they set a new record for the next KHS wrestling season. We are very proud of how they did this season and what the team accomplished.

# Boys Basketball End Season

By Aliya Ayers  
Copy Editor

Genesis Majors, Nick Palm, and Isaac Smith were honored during senior night, in which they beat



With a record of 14-15, the KHS boy's basketball team has brought their season to a strong end.

The basketball team started off in League in Division 3, but in Play-offs were able to rise to Division 2.

The most recent season-concluding game in the first round of playoffs was a loss against Sunnyside 43-55. "We played strong defense, but our shots just didn't fall," said Senior Max Warkentin. "Overall I feel like we laid it all out on the court."

On February 5, the boys lost to Sierra Pacific by only 3, 60-63.

Similarly, on February 8, the boys lost to Selma by 6, once again suffering a close loss.

Seniors Max Warkentin, Denis Gagnon,

Hanford West 73-65. Senior Isaak Smith said, "It felt really good to win, we had a good game overall."

Speaking on the season as a whole, he also shared, "We had a lot of games that we only lost by a couple of points, so it especially felt good to win on senior night. We did play against the one-seed team so that was an especially satisfying game."

Commenting on the season as a whole, senior Max Warkentin shared, "This year was definitely a growing year. It took us a while to find our identity as a team, but once we did we found some good success."

Both seniors expressed how much they'll miss the team, as they had a good time playing basketball with their classmates.

All in all, Kingsburg Boy's Basketball has had a good season filled with much growth,

showing itself in their successful season and near winning record. Hopefully, next year will be an even better season filled with more wins and obstacles overcome.

## Girls Basketball Wraps Up Season With New, Young Team

By Nicole Gomez  
Staff Writer

Beer, and Ava Irigoyen, as well as Freshman Ashni Purewall and Hailey Dunn.

The KHS Varsity Girls basketball team season has come to an end, as they have pushed hard to finish off the season strong.

Unfortunately, the KHS Varsity Girls Basketball lost their last game before winter break against Washington Union, scoring 37-43. They continued to work hard and try to improve for their following game, against Fresno.

The girl's team continued to push through the games, looking back at the game they had against Parlier winning 40-35 as a way to motivate themselves. Junior Alyanna Gonzales stated, "When you make a mistake, you are usually taken out of the game. However, my teammates always find a way to lift me up."

The team took a turn, and won the game against Yosemite, with a score of 46-26. The girls were proud of their win and continued to work hard to improve. Senior Rachelle Ureno said, "The way the team moves forward after a win is focusing on how to improve. We don't dwell on our win, but focus on our next game."

Senior Rachelle Ureno has been playing basketball for 3 years. She started playing basketball her sophomore year, currently playing the post position.

This year, the team consists of Seniors Aliya Ayers, Edye Bejerano, and Rachelle Ureno, as well as Juniors Anabel Avila, Katie Bishop, Madison Carnes, Kaylynn Fridolfs, and Alyanna Gonzales. There are also Sophomores Sofia Amariei, Emily

during practice to try and improve. Sophomore Sophia Amariei stated, "Every player always walks into practice with the same working mindset, knowing that it will one day pay off with a win." Unfortunately, the girls currently are placing 0-8 in the league and 3-22 overall.

The girls have had a losing streak of 11, and Junior Kiara Zarate expressed how they have been handling these losses. "Our team has been struggling this season, but seeing how hard each girl on

our team works is encouraging. At the end of the day, our goal is to grow from each game win or loss and our team has been able to do that. We can fix our mistakes at practice the next day so that we can get better. In the end, we can move on from the loss by applying it so that we can succeed in the future."

The team's latest games were on Wednesday the 7th, against Sierra Pacific losing with a score of 73-40, as well as their last game with Selma. Even though the team has had a rough season this year, Junior Alyanna Gonzales also states, "We all work to uplift each other, which is what makes this team so special."

The Varsity Girls' last game was on Friday against Selma. Even though Selma took the win with a score of 33 to 52, the girls still fought hard and cherished each of the memories they had this season with the team.

This was also a very special night for all the seniors, as they celebrated their senior night.

Senior Edye Bejerano stated "My favorite memory of this season was our trip to Morro Bay and visiting the beach as a team."

Edye Bejerano played wing and post position and also stated, "I will truly miss the girls on my team and the bond we created throughout the season." The seniors who accompanied Edye on senior night were Aliya Ayers and Rachelle Ureno.

As the season has come to an end, the girls worked hard throughout the season and enjoyed every moment that was cherished in playing a sport they enjoyed.

# Boys Soccer Ends Their 2023-2024 Season

By Eliana Roman  
Staff Writer

Kingsburg Varsity boys. The score being 3-4.

A home game against Immanuel (Reedley) took place on January 12, 2024. For the first time in a while the score led to a loss. The score was 1-2. "I feel like we're progressively getting worse," input given by Dalyn Brekenridge, Junior on the Kingsburg High School Varsity boys soccer team.

A home game against Hanford west (Hanford) took place Wednesday, January 17, 2024. This

The Kingsburg High School Boys Varsity soccer team started off the season with a clear path to victory, but sadly ended the season on a rocky road.

The total wins of league and non-league combined that Kingsburg Vikings Varsity boys won was four wins in total. The total losses that Varsity endured was 14 for both league and non-league combined. The total ties are 6, for both league and non-league combined. An away game against Central Valley Christian resulted in Kingsburg Varsity boys soccer taking the win with a score of 2-0.

Thursday December 14, 2023, Kingsburg Varsity boys had a game against Woodlake. This game was a home game and the score ended up being, 0-2. The Varsity boys sadly took this loss.

On Tuesday, December 19, 2023, Varsity boys soccer had a game against El Diamante (Visalia). This game was an away game and the Varsity boys took another loss with the score being, 1-6.

A home game against Bakersfield Christian (Bakersfield). Took place on January 3, 2024, sadly leading to another loss for Kingsburg Varsity boys soccer. With the losing score being 1-2.

On Thursday, January 4, 2024, Varsity had an away game against Clovis North (Fresno). This game also resulted in a loss for Kingsburg Varsity boys. The losing score being 1-9.

Wednesday, January 10, 2024, Varsity boys had an away game against Exeter. Another loss for the



game resulted in a loss. The score was 0-2. Junior Dalyn Brekenridge, Kingsburg Varsity soccer player said "Our intensity wasn't there", after the game was played.

Friday January 19, 2024, Kingsburg Varsity boys had an away game. Varsity played against Cen-

tral Valley Christian (Visalia). Kingsburg Varsity boys took the win with a score of 2-0.

January 23, 2024, on a Tuesday Kingsburg Varsity had a home game. Their opponent was Selma. They lost this rough game with the score of 0-7.

"Our team struggled with communication and scoring. We also struggled a lot with formation", this input was given by Junior Dalyn Brekenridge and Senior Frankie Espinoza.

In home game taking place January 25, 2024 on a Thursday, boys Varsity played against Exeter. This game against Exeter led to Kingsburg Varsity boys to a tie. The tied score being 1-1. Junior Dalyn Brekenridge, Kingsburg Varsity boys soccer player had some input about how they played. "We played a lot better than the second game."

January 30, 2024 on a Tuesday Varsity boys had a game against Immanuel (Reedley). This game was an away game. Kingsburg Varsity sadly took the loss with the score being 1-2.

January 31, 2024 on a Wednesday Kingsburg Varsity had a game against Hanford West (Hanford). This game was originally supposed to be played on the first, but was moved to the 31. This game was an away game. Kingsburg Varsity took another loss with the losing score

,0-2.

A home game Kingsburg Varsity boys played against was Central Valley Christian (Visalia). This game took place February 6, 2024 on Tuesday. This game's score resulted in a tie. The tied score was 4-4.

## Girls Varsity Soccer Team Makes Division 2 Playoffs

By Amia Mathis  
Page Editor

This year's girls Varsity Soccer team is 2nd in the league. Overall they have a 15-7-3 with all of their games and their win rate is 0.66%.

The team all together has scored a total of 54 goals and has had 27 scored against them. They are ranked 508 in National and 198 in California. They are in Central Section Division 2.

Their first game of the season took place in Kerman with a score of 4-1. Their last game of the season was in Kingsburg against Kerman with a score of 1-1.

They then went to the Championships in Division II. Their first Championship game was against Hanford and the Vikings won with a score of 3-0. It took place on Tuesday at 6:00 pm. Their second Championship game was against Clovis West with a score of 1-0 the Vikings losing. It took place on Thursday February 15.

They won a total of 8-2 away games and 6-4-2 home games. With neutral games being a 1-1-1 score. Starting on January 18th until Feb-



bruary 15th they played a total of 7 games losing their streak when they lost against Clovis West in the Championships.

They played a total of 35 games and two championship games in their 2024 season. Their

season started with their first game on 11/16 and ended on 2/15.

Their head coach is Scott Hodges with two assistant coaches being Kerlee Hodges and Ryan Bergstrom.

After asking Mr. Hodges how he thinks the team did this season he replied with, "It is such a blessing having an opportunity to coach our Girls Soccer Team. For the first time in Program history the team won a Division 2 Playoff Game without the need for penalty kicks. I am so proud of each one of the student-athletes."

The girls Varsity team played really well this season and played amazing,

This year the girls varsity soccer team played really well and practiced hard. This is shown with their game scores and making it to Division 2.

The girls made it through their first playoff game, but unfortunately they lost their second game. The KHS girls varsity soccer had an overall school 15-7-3 at the end of the year.