

Trojan Tribune



News From Ouray High School

Editor: Mackenzie Gibbs

Reporters: Scout Donovan, Sadie Dunham, Caeley Eddy, Audrey Gibbs, Haley Kunz, Maddi Meenan, Cliona Pasek

Instructor: John Kissingford

Calendar

Friday, January 26

All Day - HS KB Regionals in Bayfield

5:30 pm - HS Bball @ home vs Dolores

Saturday, January 27

All Day - HS KB Regionals in Bayfield

All Day - HS Speech in Delta

3:30 pm - HS Bball @ home vs Mancos

Monday, January 29

3:00 pm - HS KB League Comp in Telluride

Tuesday, January 30

5:30 pm - HS Bball in Telluride

Heard in the Halls

"I woke up this morning and I almost cried."

MS Boys Working Hard

by Audrey Gibbs

The Ouray middle school boys basketball team played their first home game of the season on January 16, 2018. This year they have enough players to field two squads: an A team and a B team. Both groups had a fun night against Naturita, with the A team pulling out a win and the B team working hard and learning a lot about how to be a successful team.

"With this team being made up of mostly sixth graders they have a long way to come, but I am excited about the flashes of great things they did against Naturita," said coach and assistant principal Kenneth Nelson. Coach Nelson and Coach Pearce both agree that the younger B team played very well, and although they have a lot of work ahead of them, they should be set to be very successful in the future.

"They did really well to score 18 points," said Bernie Pearce, coach and athletic director.

As for the A team, it has more experienced players, most of whom are in the eighth grade. One of these players, eighth grader Rock Gibbs, was proud of his team and felt they played well against the pressure that Naturita gave.

"I think we broke their press well considering we didn't practice it a lot," he said.

Coaches Pearce and Nelson seemed to agree with Rock and were impressed with the patience the A team showed.

"They showed good poise in the stretch down the game and followed instructions to secure the win," said Coach Pearce.

Coach Nelson thought no differently saying, "I was really pleased with the leadership and composure of our eighth grade players especially as the game grew tighter in the fourth quarter."

Coaches and players alike have high hopes for the remainder of the season and plan on continuing to work hard and take home some more victories.



Kai: a School-Wide Legend

by Mackenzie Gibbs

"Mr Chiang tells us that he let his cat outside and it almost immediately wanted back in because Charlie's fat cat was just sitting there in the dark. When I say fat, I mean giant." said eighth grader Rock Gibbs

The new 7-12th grade math teacher, Mr Chiang, has certainly gained a lot of attention from the students. From his string art project and gallery to his strange accents, he has shown up a lot in the Trojan Tribune. But one thing we have not reported on is quite possibly his dearest companion: his cat, Kai.

It was during his time in Japan that Mr Chiang acquired Kai. He left his house one morning to climb Mount Kaikoma. On his way out, he saw the cat in the alleyway. When he came back from the climb, the cat was still there.

"His full name is Kaikoma, after the mountain," said Mr Chiang. "When I'm mad at him, that's what I call him. Of course, he's so predictable that it's usually my fault when he's done something bad. So I never call him Kaikoma."

Students in Mr Chiang's classes report that

there is nearly a daily story concerning Kai. "I hear something new about that cat every single day," said Rock Gibbs.

The freshest news on Kai is his recently diagnosed diabetes. In fact, nearly every student interviewed started off by saying, "oh, Mr Chiang's cat? Oh yeah, it has diabetes."



Based on what we all hear, Kai seems to play a large role in Mr Chiang's life. "He talks about his cat more than his fiance," said junior Abbie Link.

Mr Chiang teaches many, many, students every day and Kai provides some comfort for him. "Almost every day when I get home from school, I grab my cat and lie on the floor with him. The cat purrs, but

not out of comfort and happiness; he just wants to be fed," said Mr Chiang.

Yet, despite all that we know of Kai, he still remains somewhat of a mystery to us. "I know plenty about him. He's a diabetic cat with one eye. But to this day, I have never seen a picture of him," said junior Ella Colpitts. Well, Ella, this one's for you.

Ouray Celebrates Ice Fest Weekend

by Caeley Eddy

Ice, ice climbers, and laughter filled Ouray's ice park during the Ice Fest which took place this past weekend, January 18th through 21st. There were competitions, food, merchandise, and lots of fun.

This year many people from around the world came to compete in the Ice Fests challenges. Despite how snowy it was, the ice climbers pushed through. "This year five people made it to the top," said Ouray Mountain Sports owner Bill Leo.

It was an eventful weekend. The winner of the mixed competition was Nathan Kutcher, a Canadian competitor returning for his second title. Following him up were Ryan Vachon who got second, and Angelika Rainer who took third. One local man, Chad Jukes, an amputee who leads climbs in the area, fell and broke his intact leg.

"The event brings national attention to the town of Ouray. The Ouray Ice Festival and Ouray Ice Park have been featured on national television on ESPN, NBC, Outdoor Life Network and numerous other broadcasts," said brewer Erin Eddy.

"The Ouray Ice Festival and Ouray Ice Park have been written up in too many national written publications to list. The Ice Park and Ice Festival

help market Ouray. In turn, climbers visit Ouray and spend their money with local businesses," Mr. Eddy added.

The Ice Fest is how many local businesses in Ouray survive during the winter months, since this event draws people from across the country.

The Ice Festival started back in 1995 as a fundraiser to help fund the operation of the Ice Park. Since then the festival has been run every year. It brings about 70% of the Ice Park's annual funds. The money collected pays the employees and helps make the park a better place. Outdoor education teacher Mr. Fagrelus said, "No single person runs the event. The Ice Park board of trustees organizes the festival and any money that is made helps to pay for the cost of operating the park."

Even some locals climb during the Ice Fest. "I started climbing last season for photography. It's easier to shoot climbers when you climb also," said the school's technology consultant Markus Van Meter.

Mr. F. is another enthusiast. "Why ice Climbing? It is unique, challenging, and kind of crazy, even though it is not as risky as it might seem," he said.

Speech Team Successful at Palisade

by Sadie Dunham

The atmosphere was tense with nervousness as the announcer called third, then second, and finally first. "And in first place... Joy Vann from Ouray High School." Hundreds of competitors, coaches and parents gave Joy a standing ovation.

Last Saturday, on January 13th, the Ouray High speech team joined a dozen other western slope schools at Palisade High School's speech tournament. Twenty to twenty five students competed in each category.

Ella Colpitts, competing in Original Oratory, and Joy, in poetry, both performed strongly all day. "I had watched the scores and knew they had the potential of both going to finals," said coach Kentee Pasek. Ella ended up taking fourth place in her event. "Well I, at first, was setting my expectation low, and I'm happy with fourth place," said Ella.

Joy's gold place in poetry took her by surprise. "First, I was very, very confused...until they got to

top three and I was like, oh, what the heck?" she said.

The other speech contestants from Ouray finished as follows: Cliona Pasek 10th (Drama), Sadie Dunham 17th (Creative Storytelling), Caeley Eddy 18th (Drama), and Scout Donovan 19th (Poetry).

"My most enjoyable part of the meet is watching this new young team improve with each meet," Kentee said, knowing that this was the first meet for some people with new pieces.

Speech is also a very social club/activity, some of the speech team members said. "They're pretty cool people," exclaimed Joy.

"At the meet it was great to see the team become a team by cheering each other on and helping each other out," said coach Kentee. "Great job by all the team and doing their personal bests at the meet!"

