

News & Notes

From the Director

January 23, 2009

BUILDING UPDATE

On Thursday, January 8 I met with Tom Slobodnik, the general contractor of our construction project at the new school location. He provided me with the following report as to how the work is progressing:

Work Completed:

1. Exterior masonry work has been completed.
2. Iron work has been completed.
3. Roofing has been installed over almost all of the project.
4. Storm Shelter floors have been poured.
5. Connection to the existing building is almost complete.
6. Window frames are in process of being installed.
7. Electrical workers can now start the extension of the service from the existing building to the new building.

There have been a total of 79 working days that no work has taken place since the start of the project due to rain, mud and extremely cold temperatures. On the 20th of January we completed our 6th month of construction. Including make up days we have only been able to work a total of 77 days. Construction workers have worked many 10 hour days with as

many as 16 employees on site at any given time. With help from OCA volunteers, we have worked weekends to keep the job site clean and as dry as possible. Currently we have frozen ground about 2 feet deep inside the building and can not finish pouring concrete until we have heat inside the structure. That is the next priority. Once the concrete floor is poured, work should proceed at a regular pace.

Tom concluded by saying that, due to the many delays in construction, we should not expect to occupy the building before May. While this may be disappointing, it probably isn't surprising. So, now it's official. **OCA will finish the current school year at our current location and will plan to move as soon as feasible once the school year is completed.**

I am currently working on schedule adjustments for May. We should be able to finish this school year earlier than originally planned. This revised schedule will be released as soon as possible – probably early next week.

Please continue to pray for OCA and for the successful completion of this construction project.

Tim Thompson
Director

School Calendar	
Jan. 24	Speech & Drama Concordia Classic @ Concordia College - 7:00 am
Jan. 24	V BBB NFC 1st Round @ Prague - 1:45
Jan. 26	AP English to The Greek Island Restaurant - 11:49 am
Jan. 26	V GBB NFC 1st Round @ Parkview - 7:00 pm
Jan. 27	V BBB NFC @ College of St. Marys
Jan. 29	V GBB NFC @ College of St. Marys
Jan. 29	Kdg.-3rd Grade Field Trip - 9:00 am
Jan. 31	V G&B BB NFC Finals @ SE Community College - TBA
Feb. 3	Association Meeting - 7:00 pm
Feb. 5	V G/JV B BB @ St. Peter Claver - 5:30/7:00 pm
Feb. 5	Quiz Bowl @ Education Service Unit - 9:00 am
Feb. 6	ACSI Spelling Bee
Feb. 6	MS GBB vs Prague - 5:00 pm
Feb. 6	V G&B BB vs Prague - 6:15/8:00 pm Senior Night NHS Servant Auction
Feb. 9	NFC Speech @ Parkview - 4:00 pm
Feb. 10	JV B/VG&B BB @ Concordia
Feb. 12	Elementary Valentine Parties - 2:00 pm
Feb. 13 &	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Feb. 13	JV B & V G&B BB @ Mead - 5:00/6:30/8:00 pm
Feb. 18	4th-6th grade to Omaha Symphony Concerts for Youth at the Holland Performing Arts Center - 9:15 am
Feb. 19	Kindergarten Roundup - 6:30 pm
Feb. 20	JV/V BBB vs Omaha Nation @ College of St. Marys - 6:15/8:00 pm
Feb. 26	Preschool Parent/Teacher Conferences



YOUTH SPORTS SOCCER SIGN-UPS



Now through Jan. 31 - No Late Fee
February 1st-3rd - \$10 late fee

Spring K-8 Soccer Season is March 21-May 23
Cost: \$52.00 per player

- **Registration forms can be found on the OCA Website, on the home page of Sycamore Education (simply click on the documents tab at the top) or attached to this News & Notes.**
- **OCA families, friends and neighbors are all welcome to sign-up on an OCA team.**
- **We will deposit checks no sooner than Wednesday, February 3.**

Mail in Sign-ups only:

Register Now through Jan. 31 with no late fee
All items postmarked Feb. 1-3 will have a \$10.00 late fee


Send a completed Registration Forms with check made payable to:

Youth Sports
c/o Joyce West

6813 N 102nd Avenue Circle
Omaha, NE 68122

SIGN UP TODAY!

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Teacher Appreciation Week begins Monday, March 2nd. We will be honoring our employees throughout the week. Room parents will be organizing activities for the elementary teachers. Parents of middle school and high school students may send monetary donations to school (checks made payable to OCA are tax deductible). Gift certificates will be purchased and distributed to the middle school and high school teachers. A luncheon will be provided for all school staff on Tuesday, March 3rd. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Margie Thierstein at 763-9978 or Pass-a-Note. 

High School Boys Basketball



Friday, January 16

JV BBB Home (Grace U.) vs. Brownell Talbot

The JV Eagles came out and played a good BT Raiders team. The boys started slow but then came on stronger in the second quarter. The third quarter was probably the best quarter of the year so far as the boys played with emotion and fire. After being down by more than 16 the Eagles stormed back to close the gap to under 8. The fourth quarter the Raiders battled back to win the game 39-26. The rebound war was close but the Eagles pulled out a rebound war win by 22-20. The leading scorer for the team was Sam Minturn with 7. Other scorers: Josh Buckingham-Weibel – 6, Nick Jenkins – 4, Phil Perkins 3, Josh Binko – 2, Nathan Lyle – 2, Steve Putnam -2.

Friday, January 16

Varsity BBB Home (Grace U.) vs. Brownell Talbot

The varsity played one of the best games of the year against the Raiders. We came up with an up tempo game that rocked the Raiders. The team pressured the Raiders all over the court and the score at the end of the first quarter was 10-7 Raider. At half the Eagles were ahead 21-19. The start of the second half the Raiders hit 3 three pointers that gave them a lead. The Eagles battled back and closed the gap a few times but the Raiders held on for a win 47-36. Dillon Runyon was the top scorer with 10. Other players scoring: Gideon Ubben – 9, Blaize Smith – 6, Ben Deaver – 5, Jacob Richards – 2, Garrett Wirges – 2, and Titus Hamilton 2.

Saturday, January 17

JV BBB Home (College of St. Mary's Gym) vs. Nebraska Lutheran Knights

The JV Eagles came out motivated to play a good tough game. The game was set at 3 quarters due to the number players NE Lutheran had available. The young men were challenged with winning the rebound war; playing with godly intensity; and winning the game outright. The JV Eagles fell behind 2-9 right off the bat. They challenged each other to turn up the level on defense. They put on a $\frac{3}{4}$ court press and stifled the Knights only allowing 10 more points the rest of the game. The JV Eagles won 26-21. The rebound war was close but the Eagles pulled out another rebound war win by 28-25. This brings our rebounding war record to 3-1. An area

for improvement is our free-throw shooting. The JV Eagles were 6-15 (40%) from the charity stripe. The leading scorer for the team was Nathan Lyle with 7. Other scorers: Cameron Deckett – 6, Titus Hamilton – 5, Nick Jenkins – 3, Kyle Krumweide – 2, Josh Buckingham-Weibel – 2 and Josh Binko – 1.

Saturday, January 17

Varsity BBB Home (College of St. Mary's) vs. Nebraska Lutheran Knights

The varsity finished up the home stand with some hard fought basketball. The Eagles were only down by 3 (21-24) at half-time and got down by 9 in the late 3rd quarter and the start of the 4th. The Eagles laid it on the line and played with great heart to battle back and push the Knights to the limit. The Eagles rallied to take the lead in the fourth quarter and had an opportunity to win the game in regulation. Blaize Smith pulled up from half-court at the end of regulation but missed the shot as time expired. As the overtime period began the Eagles fell behind again but rallied to take the lead. With 40 seconds left the Eagles were up by 2 but missed a fast-break layup. The Knights responded and tied the game, then took the lead by 2. Junior Ben Deaver stepped up and nailed two free throws to tie the game again. The Knights responded with another two points that put them ahead again. The Eagles called timeout with 19 seconds to try and tie or win the game. Ben Deaver was fouled and once again had to make both free throws to tie the game again. Ben calmly nailed the first three throw to bring the score to 49-50 in favor of the Knights. The Knights called timeout to ice Deaver but Ben the "Ice Man" Deaver stepped up to the line and calmly made the second bringing the score to 50-50 with 9 seconds lefts. The last few seconds will play out in people's minds for years to come. The Eagles were coached to not foul and to put light pressure on the ball to make them take up the time. The Eagles did so well and forced a 25 foot shot from a player who only had 2 free throws during the game. As God's providence allowed, he nailed the 3 pointer as time expired and the Eagles lost 53-50. The coaches, fans and parents were proud of the Varsity Eagles as they played with heart and battled back into the game. Only with God's help we hope to continue this level of play the rest of the year. Ben Deaver was the top scorer with 17. Other players scoring: Dillon Runyon – 10, Gideon Ubben – 8, Blaize Smith – 7, Jacob Richards – 4, Garrett Wirges – 2, and Titus Hamilton - 2.

National Honor Society ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canned Food Drive

To all who participated in this year's canned food and coat drive, thank you so much for your servants heart toward those in need this winter. Special congratulations to the 4th grade, 8th grade and seniors who were our elementary, middle school and high school winners. Thank you for all your hard work!

Servant Auction

This year's NHS servant auction will be held on February 6 during half-time of both the girls' and boys' varsity basketball games. First-year NHS members will perform four hours of service for the highest bidder, so see you there!

Booster Club's Fan of the Game

Congratulations to Rick Sweeney, winner of the Booster Club's Fan of the Game drawing on Pack the Gym night. Thank you to all the OCA Eagle Fans who are showing their School Spirit by wearing Navy Blue to the home basketball games. Don't miss your chance to win at our next home game on Friday, February 6.



Guidance Corner

The Omaha Public Library subscribes to LearningExpress Library, and online service with practice tests and prep courses for the ACT, GRE, GED and subject-specific and career areas.

Library patrons can access it on any internet-connected computer by going to the library's home page, www.omahapubliclibrary.org. Click on the "Research" tab at the top of the page and then click on the "LearningExpress" link. The username is the library card number and a password is chosen when registering as a user.

Below is a brief description of this database and the resources offered:

Online practice test that are true previews of the official exams.

- Instant scoring and individual analysis help you improve your test scores.
- Explanations of both right and wrong answers to promote understanding and retention.
- Access to exams for an unlimited number of patrons simultaneously.
- The ability for patrons to proceed at their own pace.

Calendar:

Feb. 2 - Northwestern (Orange City, IA) Rep Visit
Feb. 10. - SAT Reg. Deadline for March 14 Test
Feb. 24 - Late SAT Reg. Deadline for March 14 Test
Feb. 27 - ACT Reg. Deadline for April 4 Test

Deanne Jenkins
Guidance Counselor
Omaha Christian Academy
402-399-9565



OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

5612 "L" Street
Omaha, NE 68117

Phone: 402-399-9565
Fax: 402-399-0248

E-mail: ktulsie@ocamail.org

www.omahachristianacademy.org



Excellence in Christ-centered Education

A Letter from Cedar Bluffs Public School

On behalf of the Cedar Bluffs faculty and staff, I would like to thank all of your parents who generously donated money to the Leedom family whose home burnt down in Cedar Bluffs on December 16th.

I think it is extraordinary how people that do not know one another can be so supportive in a time of need. The compassion and kindness demonstrated by your school and parents truly embodies the spirit of Christianity.

Sincerely,
Dan Cleveland, Principal

Cub Scout Corner

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Scouts who earned award's at our last Pack Meeting:

Wolf Advancement Beads:
Noah Krehbiel, Levi Rapaich, Zach Willars

Bear Advancement Beads:
Eli King, Trey Morales, Mitch Taylor

Webelos Citizenship Pin:
Joseph Anderson, Daniel Hempel, Matt Kempkes, Lyle Reinholz, Stephen Reinholz, Chris Smith, Bryce Taylor, Xristian Willars

WOW! We are so proud of you!

CALLING ALL CUB SCOUT MOMS...
There will be a Moms Only meeting this Sunday, January 25 from 4:00-5:00 pm at the Hempel's to plan for the Blue & Gold Banquet on February 20. Please "Do Your Best" to come.

School Lunch Menu

	Entree	Sides/Dessert
Jan. 26	HOT— Chicken Lo Mein COLD—Cottage Cheese and Fruit Box	Oriental Vegetables Mandarin Oranges & Pineapple Salad Cookie
Jan. 27	HOT— Macaroni & Cheese COLD—Chicken Picnic Box	Baby Carrots Atomic Blue Apple Slices Soft Pretzel Chocolate Cake with Chocolate Frosting
Jan. 28	HOT— Beef Stew COLD—Oriental Chicken Salad Box	Mashed Potatoes Blood Oranges Fluffy Potato Dinner Roll Tea Cookie w/ Sprinkles
Jan. 29	HOT— Smoke-house BBQ Chicken Sandwich with Bacon & Cheese COLD—Turkey & Swiss Wrap	Potato Rounds Strawberry Shortcake
Jan. 30	HOT— Sloppy Joe on a Bun COLD—BBQ Chicken Salad Box	Green Beans Fresh Fruit Fruiti 'O Bar

Students may choose yogurt & cheese stick as a main dish alternative.

Milk will be served with all meals.

Cost: \$2.60(Pre-K-5); \$2.75 (5-12); \$1.00 Extra Entrees

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

HyVee Receipts

Please turn in your HyVee receipts dated through December 31, 2008 to the box outside of the school office by January 29, 2009.

Thank you to everyone who has saved their receipts and turned them in to OCA. Your contribution is appreciated.



OCA/YMCA Youth Sports K-8 Spring Co-ed Soccer Sign-ups!



Season: March 21 – May 23, 2009

REGISTRATION:

Open-Registration-Mail-In-Sign-Ups: January 20th to January 31st No late fee
 Final-Opportunity-Mail-In-Sign-Ups: February 1st to February 3rd \$10.00 late fee
 No-More-OCA-Sign-Ups: February 4th

Send COMPLETED Forms to: Youth Sports, c/o Joyce West, 6813 N. 102nd Ave. Cir. Omaha, NE 68122
NO REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER POSTMARKED DATE OF February 3rd.

*Your child will only be put on a Y team, or moved up a grade, if specified "Yes" on registration, default is NO.
 All OCA teams K-6 will be co-ed playing against boys' teams on Saturdays, unless girls' team requested.*

PRACTICES:

You will be contacted about practices the week before games begin. Practices will be at various Public schools around town. Before the season starts the Y allows 2 practices a week. After the season starts only one practice is allowed to be held per week. Team coaches will be picking the night, location, and time for practices.

MISC INFO:

K-4th teams will probably be played on Saturdays at the West YMCA.
 5th – 8th grade teams may have some games during the week and due to space may play at a different location.
Teams are formed by Grade Level of the child – not age level.

WEST YMCA INFO:

The YMCA will provide game balls.
 K (Play 4vs4), 1st (Play 5vs5), 2nd (Play 6vs6), 3rd & 4th (Play 7vs7), 5th & 6th (Play 9vs9), 7th & 8th (Play 8vs8)
 Everyone will play at least 1/2 of every game, there will be an emphasis of participation, teamwork & fair play. At the YMCA & the OCA/YMCA Youth Sports programs winning is not emphasized at the recreational level. You must provide your players own medical insurance & personal equipment as needed.

COACHES:

There must be a volunteer coach for every OCA team!

Sports specific knowledge is helpful to be a coach, but not mandatory: enjoying children, wanting to teach, and being a positive role model is the most important qualifications. Each coach must be able to hold practices once a week.
If there is not a coach and you want your player to be on a Y team; you must mark Yes to YMCA.

NEW SHIRTS:

All soccer players must have a number on their shirt. If you have a navy and gold shirt with a number on it, you're all set. If not, you will need to purchase an OCA shirt for **\$9.00**. This shirt will be worn for all Youth Sports events. Shirts are available for adults and coaches to purchase too.
 Youth Sizes: YS 6-8, YM 10-12, YLG 14-16 and Adult Sizes: AS, AM, AL, AXL

No one may sign up more than 2 kids that are not their own. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. OCA families will always have priority. If we can not put your child on a team matching your requirements; a full refund will be sent within three weeks of our "No-More-OCA Sign-Ups" date. Help form OCA teams – Sign-Up Early! You should hear from your child's coach by March 16; if you haven't, please call the West YMCA at that time.

OCA Youth Sports Spring Soccer Registration Form

Child's Name (one per form please) _____

Address: _____ **Zip:** _____ **HM #:** _____ **Cell #:** _____

Email Address: _____ **Interested in Coaching or Assistant Coaching?** _____

Birth date	SEX	GRADE	Move Up a Grade?	Shirt \$9.00?	Girls Team Only?	YMCA Team OK?
__/__/__	B G	_____	Yes or No	Size: _____	Yes	Yes or No

Soccer Fee \$ 52.00

OCA Shirt Fee \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: "Youth Sports" Total: \$ _____

I have read and understand the above and give my permission for my child to participate:

Date: _____ Parent Signature: _____ Parent's Names(s): _____

Any Questions do not call the school! Call Joyce West, Youth Sports Committee Co-coordinator at 659-0492 or email: joycewest@workware.com. Watch "News & Notes" for updates!