

THE TIGER CHRONICLE

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THE VOICE OF THE TIGERS

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Tigers begin school!

Osmond Community School started fresh on Monday, August 14. The first day of the fall semester began with a buzz of excitement.

To open the school day, seven through twelfth grade students convened in the gym where OCS Principal Mr. Kurt Polt addressed some of the expectations and policies implemented for the new school year.

Students then took part in class meetings where they received introductory paperwork from the school, chose class officers, etc.

Bus evacuation drills were held by OCS Transportation Director Mr. Dwight Kahny and the staff of bus drivers.

After the evacuation drills, students attended periods 1-8 on a 1:30 PM dismissal schedule.

So the 2017-2018 school year got out to a great start!



(OHS Principal Mr. Kurt Polt addressed high school students to begin the first day of school)

Students view solar eclipse

Osmond Community School students (K-12) participated in viewing the solar eclipse on Monday, August 21.

Students went to the school's football field from 12:00-1:15 PM to watch the event.

High school students grouped in their student learning teams (slts), which then paired with other slts.

Each pair of high school student learning teams entered the field guiding a class of elementary students.

The seniors went with the kindergarteners. Ms. Johnson and Mr. McKenna's learning teams went with the sixth graders.

Mr. Thies and Mrs. Morfeld's teams went with the fifth graders. Mr. Neitzel and Mr. Morrison's groups went with the fourth graders.

Mrs. Ginn and Mr. Ortmeier's groups helped the third graders. The students from Mr. Schmit and Mr. Schulze's groups went with the second graders.

Mrs. Conn and Mrs. Evans's student learning teams went with the first graders.

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(The Osmond Tigers K-12 students gaze safely at the eclipse.)

Many elementary students...

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...made devices to help view the sun without directly looking at it. Some made hats, while others made telescope-like instruments.

All K-12 students and staff were provided with glasses safe for allowing them to look directly at the eclipse.

Mrs. Conn's environmental science class used the experience to measure the effects it had in the area.

They measured surface temperatures periodically and announced them to the large group.

Students and staff came together at one point to take a group photo while looking up at the sun.



(Dillon Anderson-left- and Asher Parks-Wattier-right-read the temperature gauge during the eclipse.)

New faces begin at OCS

Excitement buzzed the halls of Osmond Community School during the first week of school. The Tigers welcomed nine new members to its staff.

This includes Principal Kurt Polt, Nancy Bessmer (paraprofessional), Leah Gubbels (special education), Eli Neitzel (business instructor), Dave Schmit (English), Tony Thies (history), Lauren Thompson (paraprofessional) Jennifer vonRenzell (special education), and Robin Wagner (administrative assistant),

Mr. Polt is currently living in Osmond with his wife Sarah and their two children (Diandra and Kaden).

He previously was employed by the Giltner School District in Giltner, NE.

There he served a variety of roles: K-12 physical education, athletic director, head coach, junior high coach, and K-12 principal.

Polt attended UNK for his bachelors and master's degrees.

"I am originally from Pierce and have three older brothers. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with family, outdoor activities, and traveling."

Nancy Bessmer is an Osmond native who lives with her husband James and their son Jared (11th).

Leah Gubbels is one two new special education instructors/coordinators. She is an Osmond native who is also helping coach volleyball and who will be coaching speech.

After graduating from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln last December, Gubbels did her student teaching in an elementary and special education room at Bel Air Elementary in Norfolk.

Gubbels has a golden retriever and enjoys watching sports and cheering for the Huskers, Vikings, and Minnesota Twins.



(TOP ROW-L-R-Mrs. Robin Wagner, Mr. Eli Neitzel, Mr. Tony Thies, Mr. Dave Schmit, Mr. Kurt Polt. BOTTOM ROW – Mrs. Lauren Thompson, Ms. Leah Gubbels, Mrs. Nancy Bessmer, and Mrs. Jenny vonRenzell)

She enjoys baking and running; she is engaged to be married in November.

She said, "I am very excited to start working with the students at Osmond Community School."

Eli Neitzel is the school's new business teacher. He lives in Hadar with his girlfriend Bailey. He spent his first year teaching at Ravenna High School.

Neitzel graduated from Midland University in 2015 with a double major in General Business and Business Education. He is originally from Weeping Water.

As well as teaching business...

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...Neitzel will also be teaching computers while also being the sponsor of the FBLA chapter, the O Club. He will be helping with wrestling this winter.

"I really look forward to working with all the different students and staff here at Osmond," Neitzel said.

Dave Schmit, a graduate of Osmond High School, will be teaching English and Spanish. Schmit will also be help coaching football.

He previously taught at Wallace and Dakota Valley (SD). He graduated from Mount Marty College.

Tony Thies is the school's new 7-11th grade social studies teacher. He graduated high school from Randolph (2012) and then from University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2017) with a Bachelor of Sciences degree in Secondary Education/Coaching.

He will help coach the girls basketball team. He enjoys golf, basketball, movies, and TV. (His favorite sports teams are the Nebraska Huskers, Kansas City Chiefs, and the Kansas Royals.)

"I am excited to begin my teaching journey close to home and in a great community!" Thies said. "The staff has made me feel right at home and I look forward to

having a fantastic school year."

Lauren Thompson is a paraprofessional and is looking forward to being part of the school year. She has lived in Osmond for five years with her husband, Jarod, and their four children.

After serving Osmond Community School as a paraprofessional last year, Robin is taking on the roll as the new administrative assistant.

She was born and raised in Osmond, and is a busy mom of four girls: Riley 14, Erin 10, Meagan 9, and Emerson 3.

"I look forward to working with the students and staff here in Osmond," Wagner said.

Jennifer vonRenzell is one of the new special education instructors/coordinators. This year begins her sixteenth year of teaching.

"My first fifteen years of teaching experience were at Bloomfield Community School and Plainview Public Schools," vonRenzell said.

Moving from her previous position as administrative assistant last year, she notes how excited about taking on this new role with the school she is.

vonRenzell lives with her husband, Aaron, on the family farm east of Osmond with their three children.

Tyler will begin classes at Northeast Community College in the Agricultural Transfer program.

From there, his plans are to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to major in AgBusiness.

"Our second son, Connor, is a freshman at Osmond High School. He is active in cross country, basketball, band, FBLA, and our church youth group, LYF," vonRenzell said.

The youngest of their children is their daughter, Ella, who is in fifth grade this year.

"I enjoy reading, camping, scrapbooking, and spending time with family, and friends," vonRenzell added.

Fall sports ready for action

The Osmond Tigers fall sports teams are ready to roll in 2017. The cross country, football, and volleyball teams were introduced in front of the K-12 students, including students from St. Mary's.



(Students and teachers applauded as the band played the school song.)

The "Meet the Teams" Rally began with...

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...the Osmond High School band playing a couple selections including the school song.

Athletic Director Mr. Brian Guenther then introduced the cross country team. Coach Joe Ortmeier talked about the team and discussed the upcoming season.

Then the volleyball team came out on the court. Ms. Johnson talked about her girls and then she introduced the junior high players.

Senior Shelby Stelling talked a little about the season as well.

Finally, the football team was introduced. Drew Krienert spoke on behalf of the team and Coach Schulze talked about the junior high.



(Shelby Stelling-microphone-speaks as seniors Caitlin Kumm, Emily Bolz, and Andrea Schmit listen.)

CC Tigers ready to run

BY MR. ORTMEIER

The Osmond Cross Country teams eagerly await their first

Invitational of the season which will be at the Niobrara State park on Thursday.

Leading the way will be State Cross Country Qualifier Jared Bessmer. Jared is a junior and had a good summer of racing.

Seniors on this season's team are Ethan Pfanstiel and Alex Kumm. Both have been training well.

Sophomore letterwinner is Aaron Chishiba joined by classmate Keaton Timmerman.

Freshmen joining the team are Johnson Chishiba, Alexander Heiman, and Connor vonRantzell.

The girls team will consist of three freshmen: Lexi Beacom, Hayle Krienert, and Jozi Kumm. All will be making the jump to the 5K distance.

"It has been a good pre-season and should be fun to see the team improve meet by meet" noted Coach Joe Ortmeier.



(TOP ROW (L-R): Connor vonRantzell, Keaton Timmerman, Jared Bessmer, and Alex Kumm. MIDDLE ROW: Alex Heiman, Johnson Chishiba, Ethan Pfanstiel, Aaron Chishiba. BOTTOW ROW: Hayle Krienert, Lexi Beacom, and Jozie Kumm.)

First Win Just Out of Reach for Lady Tigers

BY DIANDRA POLT and KENNEDY JOHNSON

OSMOND-- The Osmond Tigers volleyball team hosted the Plainview Lady Pirates in a jamboree contest on Monday, August 28.

The Pirates won the game 17-25, 29-27, 25-18, 25-22.

After coming out strong in the first set, the Tigers started to lose their momentum in the second set when they missed a few of their serves.

The third set continued much in the same way. However, they held their own against the Pirates in the last set and made an impressive comeback that almost won the match.

"Despite the service errors, I saw a lot of good things from this team. We had a lot of intensity, the girls worked hard, and it's going to be a great season!" said Coach Johnson.

All admission sales from the game will go to support the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The Tigers (0-0) will face Creighton and Niobrara-Verdigre in a triangular at Niobrara on Thursday, August 31.

Flyers derail Tigers in season opener

HUMPHREY—The Osmond Tigers football team opened their 2017 campaign with a 54-6 loss against the Humphrey-St. Francis Flyers on Friday, August 25 in Humphrey.

While neither team looked proficient right away, the Flyers got their feet underneath them first. They took advantage of Tiger mistakes and built a 38-0 lead going into the half.

Although the Tigers struggled early, they garnered some momentum near the end of the second quarter and built on it during the second half.

On the game's opening drive, the Tigers forced the Flyers to drive the length of the field before sophomore Justus Maertins (So., B/DB) scooped up an HSF fumble and returned it to the Tiger ten yard line.

The Tigers were a bit outmatched physically on the line of scrimmage and had a difficult time getting a feel for what would work offensively.

It took them a few drives to earn a first down, but once they did they began to run the ball downhill.

After punting their first possession, the Tigers forced the Flyers to drive the ball again. This time, however, HSF scored on a

one-yard run by senior quarterback Nathan Weidner.

The two-point conversion was good on a pass from Weidner to Riley Huetner making the score 8-0.

Being unable to materialize a drive the Tigers were forced to punt the ball back to the HSF. A Flyer defender came free on the line of scrimmage causing punter Brenden Hille (Sr., B/DB) to fumble the football.



(The Tiger offense works in the third quarter.)

While he recovered the ball, it was nowhere near the first down marker and HSF took possession. Ultimately the Flyers generated three big plays out of mistakes by the Tiger punt team.

"One of the biggest areas we're needing to improve is our punting game. We're a fairly inexperienced team; mistakes are going to happen, but learning to improve they areas we struggle with will help us become a better team," Tiger coach Scott Morrison said.

The Flyers scored quickly when Jarrett Weidner ran into the end zone from twelve yards out. Pierce Eisenmenger ran in the two-point conversion making the

score 16-0 headed into the second quarter.

Again, the Tiger offense sputtered a bit and was forced to punt the ball back to the Flyers. Again, the Flyers made the Tigers pay for mistakes.

Nathan Weidner fielded the punt on the Tigers thirty-seven-yard line and made a couple cuts before finding some open space and then following a clear path to the end zone.

Eisenmenger scored on the two-point conversion with a three-yard run (24-0 HSF).

Falling just short of earning their opening first down of the season, the Tigers were forced again to punt. On the opening play of the Flyers drive; however, Trevor Pfeifer found tight end Nolan Kosch for a fifty-yard catch and run.

The ball was underthrown and the Tigers had three men in the area, but Kosch came down with the football, broke a few tackles, and ran free for the touchdown.



(Alex Palu carries out a fake.)

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J. Weidner scored on the two-point conversion, and the Flyers were up 32-0 and weren't finished yet.

Facing a third-and-long on their next possession, the Tigers threw an interception that gave HSF the ball deep in Tiger territory (the Tiger eight).

This led to a three-yard run by Huetner. The Tigers fortune seemed to shift on the two-point conversion when Nick Reikofski (Jr., OL/LB) and Drew Krienert (Sr., E/DL) teamed up to stop the Flyers for no gain.



(The Tigers play on defense in the third quarter.)

They started to pick up some momentum offensively as Alex Palu (Sr., B/LB) followed his line for a six-yard gain.

After a loss on their next play, the Tigers drew the Flyers off-sides, setting up a manageable third down. Anthony Heiman (Jr., B/LB) cut off a block by Alex Alderson (Sr., OL/DL), picking up eleven yards and first down.

The Tigers did eventually have to punt and endured another difficult mistake that gave the Flyers

the ball on the Tigers twenty-yard line.

Their defense held strong and forced the Flyers to a 4-and-out. They took possession on their sixteen yard line.

They earned another first down after three and seven yard runs by Colton Beacom (Sr., B/LB). The offensive line got a great surge on both plays.

The half ended with an eight-yard gain by Beacom on a pass from Maertins.

Carrying momentum into half-time, the Tigers did a nice job banding together to produce their most solid quarter of the game in third quarter.

"Obviously no one was happy about being down 38-0 headed into half-time, but our players deserve credit for coming together and building on what they had done in the first half," Morrison said.

Receiving the opening kickoff of the third quarter, the Tigers did end up turnover the ball on downs. However, the Tigers forced their second consecutive four-and-out (getting the back at their own 23).

They then put together of couple of nice runs. Beacom used nice blocks on the edge by Reikofski, Maertins, and Palu for a seven-yard run.

Heiman then took the ball up the middle behind Alexis Solorzano (So., OL/DL)

and Alderson for eleven yards for a first down.

The Flyer defense stiffened; however, and the Tigers lost ground on their next four plays.



(The Tigers warmup on the field during halftime.)

HSF's offense was nearly stuffed again as the Tigers forced them to a fourth-and-inches play (on the Tiger 17 yard line).

Weidner picked up the first down on a qb sneak.

After moving the ball to the Tigers' three yard line, HSF's Jarrett Weidner lost the football.

In the brief moments that followed, the ball eluded the grasp of a pile of Tigers and rolled right to HSF's Pierce Eisenmenger.

The Flyers scored on the next play and added the two-point conversion to build their lead to 48-0.

It didn't take long for the Tigers to respond, though. On the kickoff, the Heiman returned the ball forty-five yards to right around the Flyer thirty-five yard line. (This was the first time they started in HSF territory.)

Heiman found a seam...

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...produced from a wedge in the middle led by Reikoski, Alderson, and Landon Stelling (So., OL/DL).

Beacom and Josh Gansebom (So., B/LB) were lead blockers, while Krienert and Zach Huwaldt (Fr., E/DL) came across the field to look for bodies to hit.

On the next play, Brenden Hille (Sr., B/DB) rolled to his left, set his feet and threw a strike to Heiman for a twenty-yard gain (to the Flyer fifteen yard line).

Beacom ran the ball for four yards behind Alderson and Krienert. Then, thanks to some outstanding blocking from all five men on the line, Heiman ran the ball eleven yards for a touchdown.

The play included some nice individual effort by Heiman who out-ran a couple Flyer defenders and dove into the end zone for the Tigers first touchdown of the season.

The Flyers intercepted the two-point conversion attempt and the score remained 46-6.

As HSF took possession, both teams began to sprinkle in substitutions. The Tigers had the Flyers pinned to a four-and-three situation (on the Tigers' thirty-five), but came offsidies and gave the HSF a first down.

This lead to a 28-yard scramble by N. Weidner, and

(after the two-point conversion by Justin Leifeld) the Flyers held a 54-6 lead.

The Tigers got the ball one more time and did a nice job of picking up a first down before the possession ended.

Graysen Schultze (Fr., B/DB) had a nice 8-yard run behind Logan Stelling (So., OL/DL), Landon Stelling, Huwaldt, and Alderson.

Connor Gutz (Fr., B/LB) then got a carry for a couple yards. The line then drove forward on fourth-and-one and picked up the first down.

The left side of the line (including Schultze, exchange student Louis Muschter (Sr., E/DL), and Parker Johnson (Fr., OL/LB)) help Gansebom pick up four yards on the last play of the game.

Blake Bahr (Fr., OL/DL) also got in for a play as a lineman.

"Overall, we are not satisfied with the result of the game, and the fact remains that we have a lot of work to do to get to our potential," Morrison said. "But there were very encouraging signs throughout the game. We look forward to improving as the season progresses."

PICTURE PAGE



