

The Talon Presents: St. Pattys Edition



- Honoring longtime Teacher Dina Dasilva
- Mr. Mission Oak
- Photo Collages
- Profiles
- St. Patricks



MARCH in photos



In Loving Memory Of Dina DaSilva



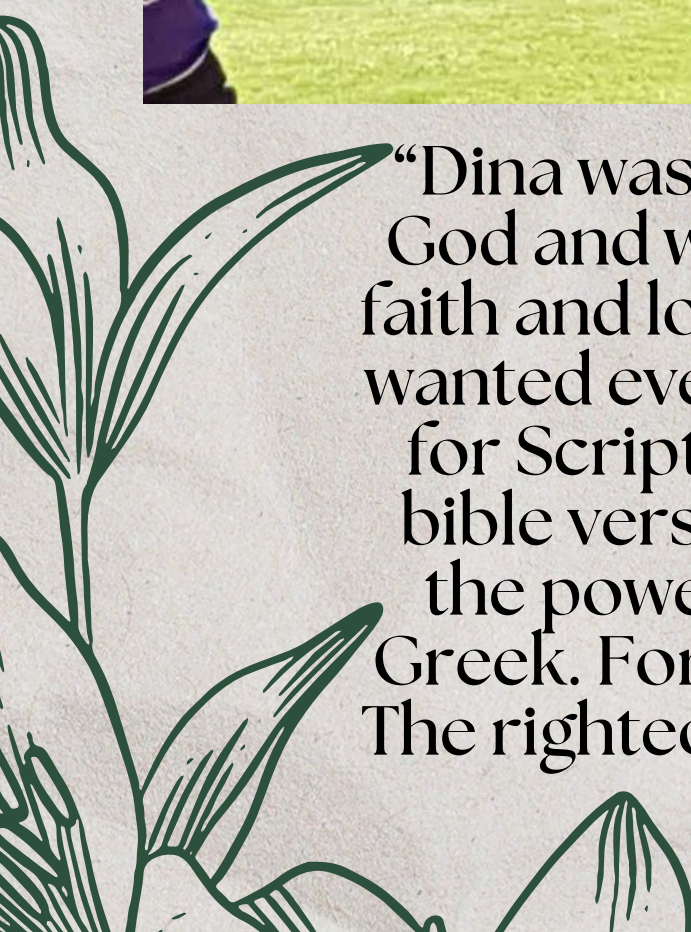
“Mrs. DaSilva was my mentor, my sister, and one of my very closest friends. She taught me to lead with love and give everything I have in everything I do. She was a true inspiration and it is my mission to keep her legacy alive here at Mission Oak.”

-Kymber DeLaCruz



“Dina was not only my friend but also my sister in Christ. I got to be part of her walk with God and witness her testimony in real-time every day for the last 4 years, seeing how her faith and love for God changed how she viewed the world. She was so loving and giving and wanted everyone to know Jesus the way she did. Although I've been a Christian, Dina's love for Scripture inspired me to get more into the word of God. If I could describe Dina in a bible verse, it would be Romans 1:16-17 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of god for salvation to everyone who believes first to the Jew and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith, just as it is written: The righteous will live by faith.” She lived by faith, unashamed of telling people about Jesus, and it really showed.”

-Bridgett Enriquez



THE HEART OF THE LOCKER ROOM

CRUZ

In the bustling locker room, one figure tends to stand out the most, not because of his many touchdowns, goals, or assists but because of his dedication and passion for his job. Cruz, the locker attendant and football equipment manager, has been involved in Mission Oak sports since 2009. He arrived a year after Mission Oak High School opened up. Since then, he has been pretty involved with sports and making connections with students. He is always ready to help any coach or PE teacher when needed. Especially the athletes since they tend to forget their equipment many times. When asked what Cruz's most rewarding part of his job he says, " Being able to help students and provide for them with whatever they may have forgotten for their game, since it tended to happen a lot, even for one of the most important games which was a State Football game".

Since Cruz has been apart of the hawks sports, the boys have not won a Valley Championship until last year when things took a turn for them. They have been close a numerous of times but never actually got the title. Last year Cruz was able to be apart of it with the football boys. When asked about how he felt he says " It felt really amazing, making it through the whole season and every game after playoffs was really exciting because we never knew what the outcome would be."



After many years of dedicated service as a locker room attendant and football equipment manager, Cruz finds himself contemplating retirement within the next year or two. He hopes whoever comes after him can keep it up, enjoy it for the most part, and continue to build on the legacy he will leave behind.





A MATH TEACHER WHO CONNECTS AND INSPIRES



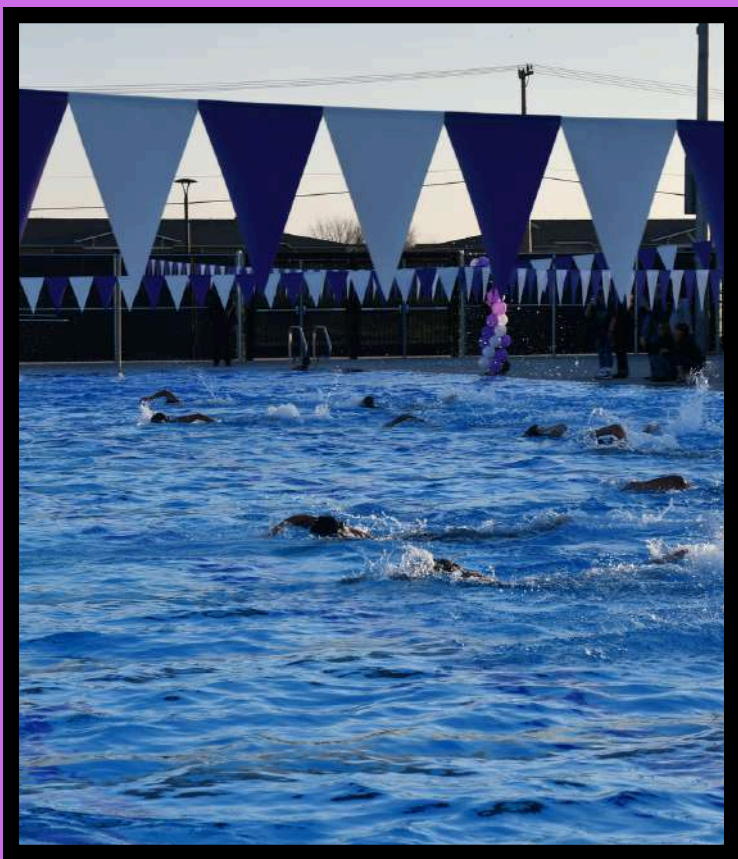
Students across campus would best describe Mr. Maness as a bubbly, energetic teacher. Mr. Maness is one of our Mission Oaks favorite math teachers and is also a big part of our Avid students. Mr. Maness focuses a lot on making his students think outside the box, and explaining in ways for every student to understand, he also mentions that he likes preparing his Avid and Stats students for college. He believes Avid truly prepares students for college, “Avid gets students thinking about life after highschool, who they are and what they want out of their college experience and life after college.”

He shares his favorite part about his job are the relationships he builds with his co workers which he considers “lifelong friends” and says, “I also really appreciate the connections I make with students.” Outside of school, Mr. Maness finds joy in spending his time with friends, and family. He shares, “I actually stopped coaching at MO so that I could start coaching my two older boys in soccer, and have been really involved in their activities.”

Besides sports he also spends time traveling and enjoying the outdoors with his family. Mr. Maness over the years has done a lot to build school spirit and helped develop the Avid program in a way that has created a lot more opportunities for our students. With this year being his 16th year at Mission Oak he plans to be a part of MO for the next 24 years.



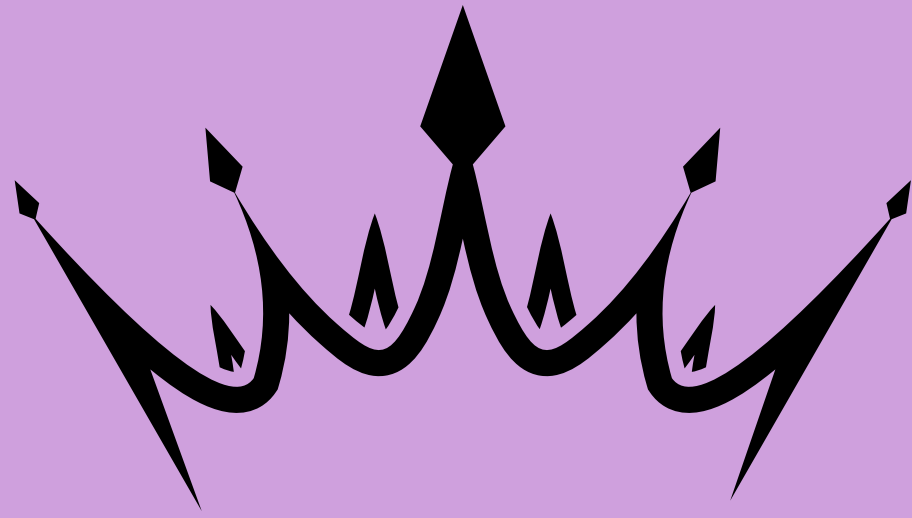
A new beginning for aquatics



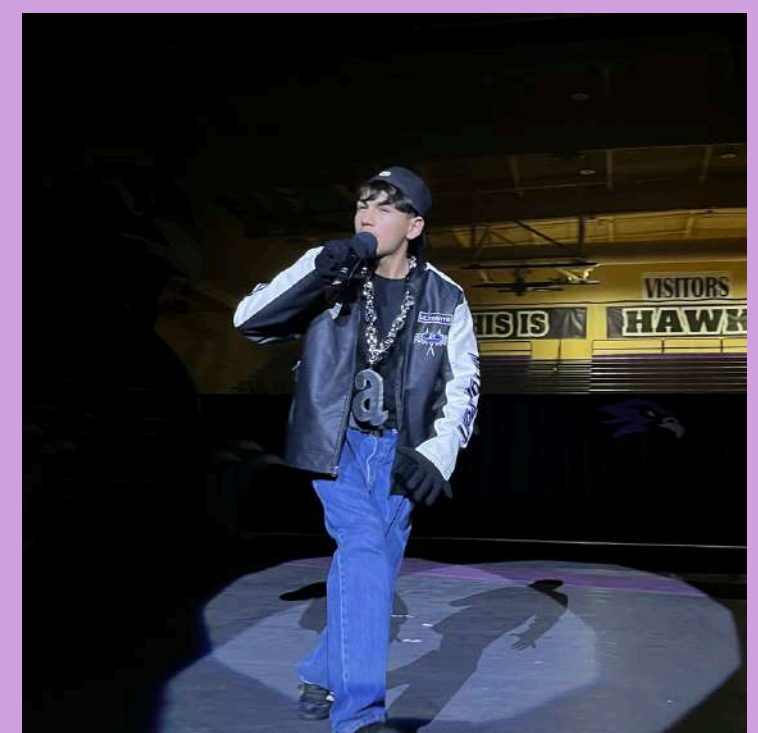
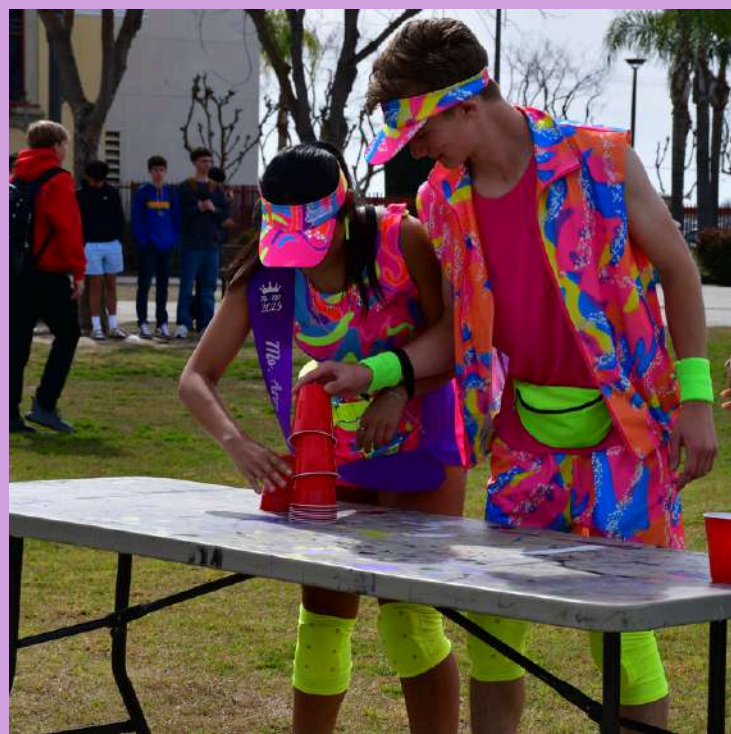
The well awaited pool complex opened on February 25th, resembling an important moment in Mission Oak History. Our very own aquatics program is now open to our students, athletes and community. It has embellished a new chapter for our Hawks to grow and excel in a unique space.



Mr. Mission Oak Pageant

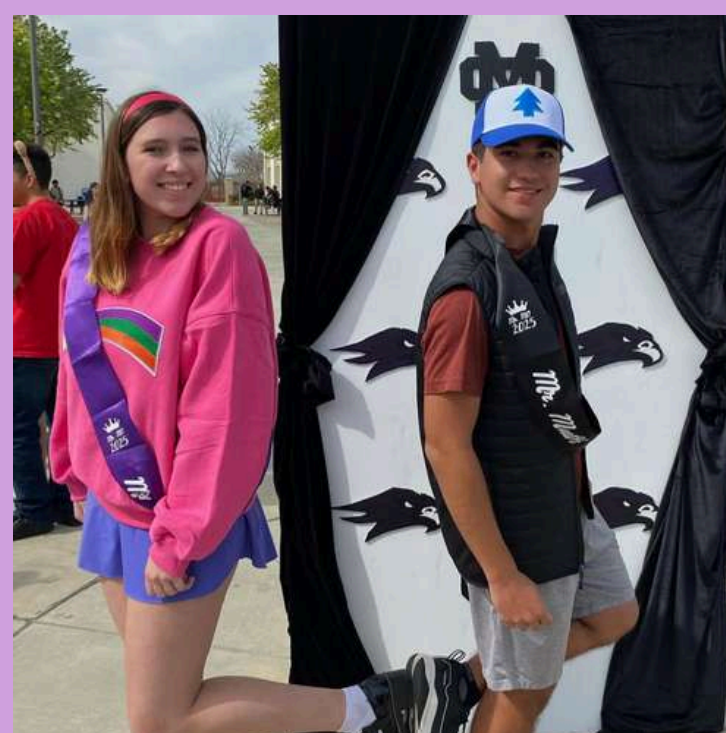


Nathan Steed



"I enjoyed the costumes and lunch activities. My favorite part was the talent portion. I'm happy I won. I got a cool hat. I thought the overall experience was great!"

5





Mrs. Padilla

A counselor should be patient, compassionate, and understanding like the person I am going to mention. Mrs. Padilla believes that every student is special and has something special to do in their life. From her time working here, she has changed many lives of the students she has come across. Just as she impacts her students, they have also helped her be more empathetic than she already is. Her passion for assisting students came from early in her life when she was a tutor. From then on, Mrs. Padilla knew the career she wanted would have to do with helping guide students in the right direction.

“I hope if anything, when students leave my office they feel even a little bit better than where they were when they came in.”

“I hope to instill a sense of kindness and goodness because I believe that’s why I’m here on this earth.”

“I would love to just spread positivity and for people to see me and remember my smile and how I made them feel.”

Just bring a Leprechaun

Green Leprechaun suit

(short friends wearing green also works)

Green Eggs and Ham shirt



DON'T GET PINCHED

A cartoon illustration of a leprechaun's face. He has a green complexion, a wide grin showing teeth, and is wearing a green top hat with a gold buckle. A gold coin is floating near his head.

Mike Wazoski Dress



Pull up with a chia pet



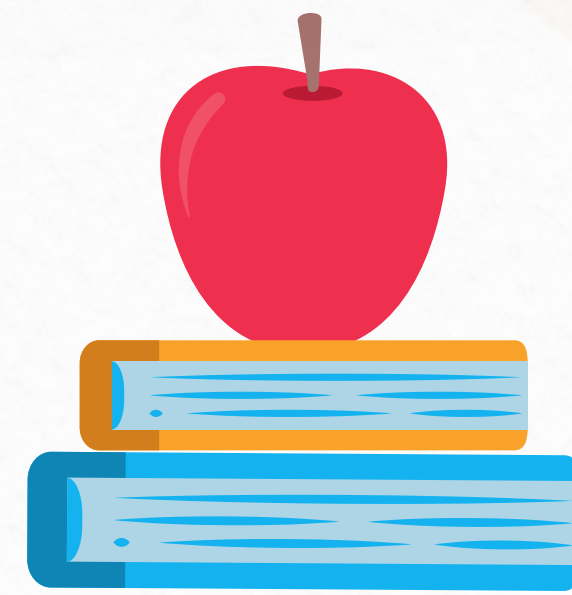
Shrek Crocs



Mrs. Dueck

Our Deticated Teacher

Mrs. Dueck has been teaching at Mission Oak High School for officially 10 years. Before she became a teacher she worked in produce sales. But she felt as if she was in a negative space and wanted to work in a place that made a positive impact. Believe it or not, she's not only a teacher but a diving instructor as well. She loves both jobs for very different reasons. In the classroom the subjects and readings are enjoyable but, coaching is so much fun, it's more about the student. Her teaching style consists of both old and new school, there are many different types of students and her goal is to make the classroom comfortable for them. School can be exhausting so to motivate her students she starts exciting conversations and discussions to get her students to participate. Not only is school tiring for students but for the faculty. Mrs. Dueck likes to paint and read which help bring back that emotional energy. She also loves spending time with her two mastiff dogs!



Fun Fact About Mrs. Dueck!

Mrs. Dueck Loves Tattoos! Infact she has some of her own. Most are Japanese traditional tattoos that represent loyalty & love. She also has a Cherry Blossom tattoo, which stands for beauty and strength. But if she could get any tattoo she would get two arm sleeves, a Snake & and tiger!

Soccer boys setting the bar high for the future

This season, the Mission Oak Boys Soccer has left many speechless. Despite their previous seasons, in which they came short in the playoffs, the boys have gone pretty far, even though they faced some challenging contenders. The Hawks have set the bar high for next year, possibilities are they can even be valley champs. The Hawks had their season cut short by the number one seed Lindsay Cardinals in a heartbreaker. The Cardinals then advanced to regionals and all the way to the state title game. The young MO boys' soccer team fought hard, and they envision greener pastures in the future. "I thought this season was past our standards, and we performed pretty well. Hopefully, next season we perform just as good if not better and secure the valley title", Said Junior Austin Cardoza.



This year, sophomore Alexander Gutierrez has already made a significant impact on leading the Hawks to a record of 14-6-3. He scored 25 goals and had 7 assists to end the season. Their passion for soccer has stood out this season and has set high standards for their peers. We can't wait to see what our Boys are capable of achieving next season!

By: Evelyn & Ruben Llamas

St. Patrick's Day

history



ST PATRICKS DAY WAS
ORIGINALLY CELEBRATED IN
IRELAND



THE HOLIDAY ORIGINALLY
BEGAN AS A FEAST DAY IN
IRELAND

IT HONORS IRELAND'S MOST
WELL KNOWN PATRON SAINT,
ST. PATRICK





St. Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick's Day is the one day a year for all things Irish. It is widely known for parades, shamrocks, dancing, and obviously green.

Some famous traditional foods include colcannon, Irish soda bread, fried cabbage, shepherd's pie, and Irish stew.

Leprechauns are the reason you should wear green, to avoid them pinching you. This tradition comes from folklore, where green supposedly makes you invisible to leprechauns. Others may say that sporting the color brings you good luck.

Aside from these supposed acts of luck, the color green is also a representation of the lush landscape of Ireland itself. Even though we now celebrate the holiday with parades and wearing green, it goes back ages ago to St. Patrick himself. St. Patrick was the patron Saint of Ireland, and the holiday commemorates his death and celebrates the arrival of Christianity in Ireland.

Over the years, Americans have taken up their own catch of the holiday steering away from the religious area. One of the most well-known traditions is dyeing the Chicago River Green, which is followed by massive parades.

St. Patrick's day may be one of the most festive holidays that brings mass numbers of people together to celebrate good luck. So to all, make sure to wear your green and Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

BY: Ayla Draper, Valeria Alcaraz, Addi Dennis and Josephine Gutierrez