



Red Raider Surfers Return from California

The OCHS Surf Team A-squad returned home early Monday morning from their whirlwind tour of southern California and the NSSA National High School Championships.

The planning of the trip began back in October after the team earned second place overall in the NSSA Northeast Conference Championship. Since then the A-squad, their parents, and their coach, Mark Miedama, have working feverishly on planning, logistics, and fundraising.

The team stayed in the famed surf town of San Clemente, located in Orange County. This allowed the team the opportunity to walk to the legendary Trestles State Park. This park boasts several of California's best surf breaks, as well as providing for an undeveloped wetlands ecosystem.

The national competition was held at Salt Creek State Park in beautiful Dana Point. The competition lasted the entire days of Saturday and Sunday and included 16 high schools from throughout California, Florida, and New Jersey. (Hawaii was not in attendance this year.)

The best waves of the trip were seen mid-day Saturday and Sunday as a ground swell began to approach from the south. OCHS achieved two "team bests" with the talents of sophomores Nick Brady and Aspen Lawler. Nick made it into the third round, but was eliminated in the quarters. Aspen climbed to within reach of the women's finals, but was eliminated in the women's repurchase that determines the last three slots in the finals.

Lastly, the team, parents, and coach would like to thank Dr. Taylor, the Board, and Dr. Jamison for their support of our student surfer-athletes. Without their backing, the trip to Nationals would not be possible. Thanks also go out to the establishments of "Steve and Cookies" and "Bocca", both of Margate, for their generous support and help with fundraising.