



Numbers show Vols have a ‘terrible’ tackling problem

SPORTS, 6A

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MANHATTAN PROJECT 2.0

ORAU, AMSEF formalize partnership

The Oak Ridger
USA TODAY NETWORK

To conclude Nuclear Science Week, Oak Ridge Associated Universities and the American Museum of Science and Energy Foundation formalized their commitment to advancing nuclear science education by signing a memorandum of understanding.

This partnership is designed to sup-

port the development of the next generation of nuclear professionals, ensuring Oak Ridge and the United States maintain their leadership role on the global stage in the nuclear sector, according to a news release.

Meghan Millwood, ORAU president and CEO, and Alan Lowe, the museum foundation’s executive director and CEO, signed the agreement to establish a collaborative framework between the

organizations. By leveraging existing education and training resources, the partnership addresses the critical need for workforce development in the nuclear field.

ORAU’s Tennessee Nuclear Energy Workforce Center is positioned to drive this mission forward, preparing the nation to meet the demands of a growing and evolving nuclear workforce, the release said.

“Our world is experiencing a nuclear renaissance that many in Oak Ridge are calling the Manhattan Project 2.0, and ORAU is part of the solution needed to help ready our workforce for the challenges,” Millwood said. “This partnership also aligns with our ORAU STEM Accelerator, which was created to develop and accelerate solutions to address

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OAK RIDGE WILDCATS



The Oak Ridge High School WildBand earns Reserve Grand Champion of large schools and other top awards at the Foothills Classic. PROVIDED BY MICHAEL S. JOHNSON PHOTOGRAPHY

Wildcats play Maryville for Region 2-6A championship

David Clary
Special to The Oak Ridger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Editor’s Note: Oak Ridge High’s football team plays the one at Maryville at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30, at Maryville.

With the 35-7 win four weeks ago over Bearden, the Oak Ridge Wildcats ended the second longest active losing streak going against them. That streak ended at four straight losses to the Bulldogs.

Just about two months ago, the Wildcats vanquished the third longest losing streak when they destroyed a previously undefeated Dobyns-Bennett team, 33-7. That win ended a streak of three straight losses to the Indians.

There are now five teams that have beaten Oak Ridge two times in a row, but the odds of playing them anytime in the near future are remote. Chattanooga Baylor, Paducah Tilghman, Ooltewah, Red Bank and Catholic are those teams.

These streaks will just have to wait to be ended, if ever.

That brings us to the elephant in the room, which is in Blount County. The longest active losing streak for Oak Ridge stands at six frustrating losses in a row.

That elephant is Thursday night’s opponent, the perennial powerhouse Maryville Rebels. During the George Quarrels coaching days and beyond, this program has enjoyed unprecedented success at the highest level as they have won 13 state championships and have been runner-up four times since 2000.

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WildBand brings home 4 trophies from competition

Anne Brock
Special to The Oak Ridger | USA TODAY NETWORK

Four trophies came home with students to Oak Ridge High School over the weekend after the Wild-Band’s outstanding performance at the Foothills Classic in Seymour.

The marching band earned first place among 5A schools, plus Reserve Grand Champion among all

4A, 5A and 6A schools.

The percussion section earned a 5A first place, and the color guard’s high marks also earned it a first place 5A award.

Under the direction of Michael Spirko and Sean Rutherford, with assistant directors Alex Cantrell and Ashia Spencer, with the guard under the

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