

Changing With the Times

Oak Hill High/Collins High Alumni Association

P.O. Box 462 Oak Hill, WV 25901

oakhillreddevilalumni.org

ohhsalumni@yahoo.com

1996 Red Devil Graduate, Marshall Basketball Coach Cornelius “Corny” Jackson Named 2024 Grand Honoree

This year’s honoree grew up wanting to be a Red Devil. During his youth, he played in as many games as he could on “The Court” at Harlem Heights, and then he started playing at Oak Hill High. Seeing his talent and drive, schools like Oak Hill Academy in Ohio recruited him, but according to the Fayette Tribune, Jackson stayed true to the only Oak Hill he knew. He flourished as a Red Devil and was the State Player of the Year in 1996.

During his freshman year at the University of Tennessee, where he started in 20 of 27 games, a coaching change prompted him to look to Marshall where he started every game for the next three years. During that time he achieved the 4th-highest all-time assist record.

After playing professional ball in Europe he began college coaching. When he was hired as an assistant coach at Marshall it was like a dream, and when he was named head coach, the dream was fulfilled. “It was my dream to coach at Marshall when I was a 19-year-old kid living in Twin Towers.” He says that he is ecstatic and that he looks forward to seeing old friends.

As much as we enjoy our time together, don’t forget that the primary purpose of the Alumni Association is to support OHHS and provide scholarships. This year, we awarded \$95,000—thanks to so many of you. Keep on giving!

New Date, New Format Couple Reunion With Homecoming; Plans Include Tailgate, After-Party, Saturday Activities

Remember how exciting it was to hear On Red Devils or to be a cheerleader or member of the band as we cheered wildly when the football team entered the field? You have a chance to relive that exhilaration at this year’s reunion.

As we received many concerns about the difficulty of traveling during Labor Day Weekend and fewer younger people, attending, the Board of Directors decided to take the annual alumni reunion in a different direction. This year, the reunion is scheduled for October 11-12 to coincide with OHHS homecoming and we hope you are as excited about it as we are. Because of lack of space in this newsletter, specific details will be posted on Facebook and the web-site. In addition, alums for whom we have email addresses will be sent periodic updates.

Grand Honoree Cornelius Jackson will ride in the Homecoming Parade, and former band members are invited to march with the Red Devil Band in the parade and/or to perform On Red Devils on the football field. Details will be sent to those who are interested. Let us know by emailing ohhsalumni@yahoo.com. The same goes for former cheerleaders who want to spend some time on the sideline. See the box below for a synopsis of the weekend’s activities.

Mobility should not be an issue. Golf carts and special parking will be provided by the high school.

Friday, October 11

5 p.m. Homecoming parade

5:30-game time Tail Gate with hot dogs, bbq’s and “the fixins.”

7 p.m. Red Devils vs Greenbrier East

Post-game—After Party at the Three Gables with more visiting and light snacks. Write to ohhsalumni@yahoo.com for other details

Saturday, October 12

9 a.m. Breakfast buffet at the Lewis Community Center. Key-note speaker will be Grand Honoree Cornelius “Corny” Jackson. The memorial slide show will also be part of this event.

12 noon-4 p.m. Entertainment, games, food on Alumni Lane (the top part of Kelly Avenue) and refreshments at the Alumni Center

BE PART OF THE ACTION. BE PART OF THE FUN!

Christy Treadway, class of 1974, created a magnificent quilt and has donated it to the Alumni Association as a fundraiser. Tickets are \$5 or 6 for \$25. There is not a checkbox for it on P.3, but you can still include it in your check and simply write a note on the form on page three saying how many tickets you want and include it in your total.