



## Big man on the block

Waschak eyes D1 football  
By Sebastian Manzanares

Alex Waschak '20 is a beast on the offensive line for the Coyotes football team. Opposing linemen fear him, and colleges want him.

He has played football for eight years now, starting his football career when he was nine for the Louisville Pirates youth football organization. Now, Waschak has the potential to reach the next level: Division 1 football.

"There's a whole lot of pressure, but it's also great because I'm very different," Waschak said. "Not many people have the opportunity like I do, so I'm very thankful, as well."

At six feet and eight inches, and weighing 270 pounds, Waschak is a pure big man. Not only his size, but his intelligence and athleticism is what intrigues college scouts.

He is considering three schools to play for: University of Wyoming, Kansas State University, and the University of Colorado.



# Anything can happen

Four hot predictions for winter sports

By Grant Myers

**1 Hot Take 1:** Wrestling wins State. The wrestling team is already off to a hot start and are primed to make a championship run at State with their senior leadership and talent.

**2 Hot Take 2:** The boys basketball team scores 90 points in a game. The team has a tremendous amount of offensive weapons, so if they could come together and get hot, they could score 90 points in a game.

**3 Hot Take 3:** The Given brothers both score 5+ goals this season. Both Given brothers are tremendous hockey players on both sides of the puck, so five or more goals from both of them is attainable.

**4 Hot Take 4:** The girls varsity basketball team has two players average a double double. The team has a lot of veteran leaders that pass, rebound, and score very well. So having two players average double doubles is possible.



## Rivalry alert

The must see game of the winter

By Grant Myers

On Feb. 14, the Monarch Coyotes travel to Broomfield to take the court in a battle against the Broomfield Eagles. The Coyotes will bring a very talented team to a hostile environment and will be looking to end the regular season on a high note.

The Coyotes team will bring four players over 6 feet 5 inches which will give them the size advantage over the smaller Broomfield team. The Coyotes sharpshooters will also look to have a good day behind the 3-point line to get them over the hump.

This game could also determine the Coyotes playoff fate so it is essential that fans pack the stands to support your Coyotes on Feb. 14.

January 11



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Four hot predictions for spring sports

By Grant Myers

**1** Girls tennis beats Fairview for the second year. One of the best parts of the girls tennis teams season last year was beating rival Fairview for the first time. The Knights lost little talent to graduation, so growing the win streak to two is achievable.

**2** Girls golf takes their varsity team to State. The team is lead by two seniors, Jamie Thompson and Hannah Spracklin. Senior leadership is crucial, and if the team can play well in league, taking a team to state is definitely a possibility.

**3** Girls soccer averages four goals a game. The Lady Coyotes have several experienced goal scorers that are dangerous from any part of the field. If the Coyotes can establish an offensive presence, then four goals a game is highly attainable.

**4** Boys baseball repeats as Front Range League Champs. With a team built around a pitching staff lead by Zach Given and a strong defense, they have the chance to become back-to-back champs.

# Rivalry Alert

The must see game of the spring

By Grant Myers

The boys baseball team goes to battle against the rival Broomfield Eagles on Apr. 25. This game is always a nail biter that comes down to the final innings and always produces excitement. Bad blood fuels this rivalry, as several players have transferred to the opposing school, betraying their old team.

Every year these teams circle each other's names. Since the Coyotes are the defending League Champs, Broomfield will be gunning for them. Come out and support your Coyotes at 4:00 p.m. Apr. 25. at the Monarch baseball field.



## Ponder the pinner

Multi-sport athlete thrives on the mat

By Lincoln Roch



Will Ponder '19 has made his name as a wrestler. Ranked 3rd in the 5A classification for his weight class of 220, and qualifying for state, he is feared by his opponents.

He's been wrestling for Monarch since his freshman year and hasn't let anything, even an injury that kept him from completing a full season, get in his way.

Ponder, who also plays football and rugby, believes wrestling is harder than other sports, because it requires more than just skills.

"Mentally, wrestling's the hardest sport I do," Ponder said. "I think it's one of the hardest sports out there. Overcoming the urge to quit, or to give up and roll over on your back is one of the hardest things I've had to do."

Next year, Ponder plans on attending BYU-Hawaii where he will be taking a break from athletics, although he is grateful for how his athletics have helped him.

"I'm not going to play any sports," Ponder said. "But a large part of the reason I think they accepted me was because of my sports, and especially because of the lessons and hard work that I learned from them."



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Four hot predictions for spring sports

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**1** Yulim Kim '20 will shoot under 82 three times for girls golf. The team will play in at least twelve tournaments, so she will have plenty of chances to do this. However, some of the courses the team will play at are tough, so she will have to bring her best stuff.

**3** Girls tennis will qualify at least three teams in the state tournament. The girls tennis team is made up of young talent, lead by Marina Youngdahl '21. This young team will be looking to prove that there is some top talent and the qualifying three teams will prove this.

**2** Luke Martin '19 will hit six home runs during the baseball season. Martin has pop in his bat, and there is no other way to put it. If he gets enough plate appearances, he can definitely leave the yard six or more times.

**4** Girls soccer team will finish in the top 15 in the state. The team has a notable amount of college level talent. This college level talent will translate well onto the field and hopefully make them one of the best teams in Colorado.

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The girls soccer team will take the field against 49th ranked Legacy on May 25 at the Monarch turf. The Coyotes and Lightning have always been two of the best teams in the Front Range League, so, naturally, this will be a great game.

This game could also have a say in who wins the Front Range League, so it is imperative that the girls team comes ready to play and beat Legacy. Come support your 16th ranked Coyotes as they play the 49th ranked Legacy Lightning at 6:00 p.m. on May 25.



## Life on the bench

What it means to live life on the bench

By Sebastian Manzanares and Grant Myers

One of the hardest things for any student-athlete is sitting on the bench. Benchwarmers spend their time waiting on the sideline. Waiting for their shot at glory, or even a little recognition.

These players can play a much larger role than most people see. Most coaches always talk about having a positive bench presence. Players on the bench can contribute a positive bench energy and this can uplift teams during their hardest times.

Nick Santman '19 aims to provide a positive energy on the bench. "During games, I try and have a positive energy on the bench because it not only gets the team more involved in the game, but it also prepares all of the other guys on the bench in case they get into the game," he said. "It also pumps up the starters more, which makes them play more focused and in turn better."

Providing a positive energy on the bench is very important to a team because it not only helps the starters stay focused on the game, but it also helps the other players on the bench stay in the game.

"Sometimes the kids who you don't expect to do much come off the bench and save a game," Santman said. "I've played in games where the kid who doesn't have the most talent in the world comes in and makes a game saving play. Those are some of the best moments."

Bench players contribute much more to a team than meets the eye. These players help the starters get better in practice whether its holding blocking dummies or constantly running the bases so the starting baseball team can get practice with real life situations. These players are what hold a team together and are more important than people think.

