

# achieving the unexpected

The varsity football team makes it into playoffs, but a loss in the second round against Cherry Creek brings their season to an end.

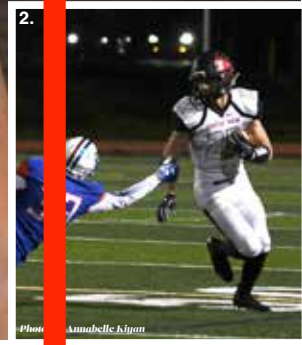
**a**s the 2018 season came to a close, the varsity football team ended the year stronger than ever before. "Making it to the playoffs was a huge accomplishment. Not every team plays into November and it's a special feeling. Everything changed, the culture in particular. Every player and coach bought into the program to make it successful," Cole Oster '19 said.

The team ended the season with a state ranking of 24, better than they had done since 2011. Many players believed the change happened because of the overall team effort. "It really took a lot of work from our players to our coaching staff. A huge mindset change was in place from 'being hopeful to win' to 'winning is the expectation.' That really helped us all out," Ryan Joas '19 said. "We also played really smart and tough football, so that was a change from last year."

The 5A varsity football team went into playoffs following their 7-3 regular season. In the first round of playoffs they beat Fountain Fort Carson 35 to 20. "Winning against Fountain Fort Carson was really something special to all of us because that had been our first home playoff game in a long time and it was special to be a part of the team that made the accomplishment," Joas said. After the win, the team knew they needed to get ready for their next competitor: Cherry Creek High School. "After we won against Fountain Fort Carson, I felt like we were ready to play with the big dogs," Mark Kyrimis '19 said. "I was ready to move to the next week and prove that we are here to stay."

In an abrupt end to the season, the team lost to Cherry Creek 41-14. "My overall thoughts on the season are that it went well, but it didn't go well enough. I was happy that we played as well as we did, but I wanted to win more and go further into the playoffs. It was an accomplishment but there was more we could've done to make it better," Kyrimis said. For a team that hadn't carried great records in previous seasons, they made it further than anyone had expected. "We accomplished what no one thought we could and that's a special feeling," Oster said.

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**1. FINAL GAME:** Moments after the final whistle blew, Ryan Joas '19 walks to the sidelines in tears. The game was an emotional one - it was the last time many of the boys would play football. "I knew I wouldn't have an opportunity to play with all the guys I've been playing with since 8th grade," Joas said. **2. EMOTIONAL END:** After the game ended, Coach Todd Casebier consoles quarterback Joshua Mullenix '19. Mullenix threw for 1090 yards this season, and was one of the teams' captains. "When the final whistle blew I felt a mix of emotions because it was over and that was our last time on a field," Mullenix said. **3. RUNNING THE FIELD:** Running back Zane Wodark '21 tries to escape a tackle to get a first-down. Throughout the year, Wodark scored one touchdown and had 495 total rushing yards. "The season felt good since we did so much better than last season," Wodark said.



Photo by: Annabelle Kijan

"You need to be able to want to get better every day. To be on the best team, you've got to act like you want to be the best," Benjamin Taylor '22 said.

## 8 freshman on cross country

aces are  
**3.2**  
miles

"It's a sport that isn't centered around ability, it's majority about how hard you're willing to work and how hard you're willing to push yourself." **Alana Mann '22**

**19.07**  
MINUTES

Benjamin Taylor's personal record.

## learning the TRAILS

Freshmen runners figure out what cross country at the high school level is all about.

## TO A Tee

By the last tournament, golf players find different reasons for playing the sport.

### Why do you play golf?

"It's in my family. Both of my parents are golf professionals, so they just got me into the game," Jacob Hardman '21 said.

"The reason I really play a lot is just so I can learn the lessons of life. It teaches you how to get through life in a good mindset," Garrett Garcia '21 said.



Photo by: Nicolas Alvarez



Photo by: Nicolas Alvarez



Photo by: Nayel Zarate

## one moment

As the season comes to an end, tennis players remember their favorite memory from the year.

Pictured: Tanner Janda '20



Photo by: Ariani Chapman

### HEALED TEAMMATE

"My favorite moment was when my partner came back after a leg injury and we won multiple matches during state qualifying," David Wagnon '19 said.



Photo by: Griffin Palomera

### BUS RIDES

"During regionals, the bus rides were pretty cool. We ate a lot of beef jerky and talked about our matches. It was the end of the season and it was just fun to recount memories," Luke Amann '21 said.



Photo by: Alexander Lind

## ballin'

Jared Snow '22, talks about his favorite unified sport.

### basketball

"Basketball is more fun because you actually get to shoot, pass and dribble with [the unified players]," Snow said.