

FÚTBOL & FOOTBALL



JV SOCCER AND FOOTBALL PLAYERS WORK TOWARDS THE NEXT LEVEL **BY ROBERT DICKER & AVERY PETERLIN**

With a massive portion of the varsity team set to graduate, the competition for their spots was fierce among JV soccer players such as **ZACHARY BABBS, 11**. "The new people on the varsity and JV teams will only help the program. Past JV players wishing they had participated in the playoffs will be highly motivated going into the next season. With a large amount of new spots on varsity, many will be working extra hard to be able and participate in the varsity season where we will defend and attempt to take the championship again," Babbs said.

1. MARSHALL GUELLER, 09, deftly avoids defenders on the opposing team as he sprints down the field. "I was chasing a ball down and I was feeling the adrenaline pumping in my blood. I love the game, my family are big soccer players and I've been playing soccer for all my life," Gueller said. Photo by A. Peterlin.

2. CENTER MIDFIELDER BEN STEPHENSON, 09, prepares to settle the ball during a game against Ralston Valley. Stephenson started playing when he was around five or six years old. "My dad grew up playing soccer, and he just kind of led me into it when I was young" Stephenson said. Photo by A. Peterlin.

3. WITH A DEFENDER TO HIS RIGHT, ALEXANDER "AJ" HANSEN, 10, takes the ball down the field. The JV team went on to win their game against Ralston Valley. Photo by A. Peterlin. **4. ON THE TEAM'S HOME FIELD, RAMZI MAALOUF, 9**, chases down a ball. The Fresh/Soph team only lost 2 games during the season. "I was looking for an open pass, trying to get my friend a

said. Photo courtesy of John Dicker. **5. IN MID AIR, ISAAC GLOVER, 09**, makes a catch with a defender right on his heels. Glover proceeded to escape the defender and sprint across the goal line for his first touchdown of the season. "I feel our season went pretty well, our record might not show it, but we definitely have the talent to be the team that we want to be" Glover said. Photo by R. Dicker.



6. IN A FACE OFF, JOHN BENSON, 09, braces against a Cherry Creek player. Benson has been playing football for 5 years. "It's [High School football] cool, it's a lot more fast paced [than middle school football]... and it only gets more fast paced as you go up, but I like it," Benson said. Photo by R. Dicker. **7. WITH A FIRM GRASP ON THE BALL JADEN SCHMELING, 11**, barrels through opposing defenders. The JV football team had a spectacular season after hours of hard work and a strong bond with each other. Photo by K. Tejero.



With only one loss on the season, the JV team was a force to be reckoned with. "Everyone worked hard at practice every day and we always pushed each other to get better. We had mentor groups with our coaches which helped us bond and get to know each other. Our coaches were awesome and did so much for us on and off the football field to help us improve our skills for our positions and in academics if we needed it. Pre-game talks in the locker room also helped hype us up for the games," **EVAN TEJERO, 10** said. The team formed a tight knit unit that lead them to their winning season with a record of 10 wins.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY OF THE SEASON?

"My favorite moment of the season was when we scored in overtime to beat Creek." **-WILLIAM GRAUBERGER, 09**

"Practicing in the mud on the slippery wet days." **-NATHANIEL HARDY, 09**

"Just having a brother-like bond [with the team] and enjoying every moment on the field." **-HUSSEIN SAFTIEDDINE, 10**

-NAME NAME, 11

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