

# this? **OR** that?

Do students with long hair prefer shaving or cutting their hair?



"I decided to cut my hair instead of shaving it because it takes a lot of courage for girls to shave their head, but since I didn't have the guts to do that I still wanted to show my support in any way I can."

**-Jasmin Roman '22**

"I decided to shave [my hair] because I thought it was for a good reason and I've always wanted to shave my head."

**-Kyla-Lee Gray '24**



**Personal connection.** Sitting with a smile on his face while getting his head shaved, **Logan Rowan '23** feels the fresh breeze. Rowan's support stems from a personal connection to the disease. "I had an aunt, grandma, and cousin that had Leukemia, so I wanted to shave my head and support them," he said.

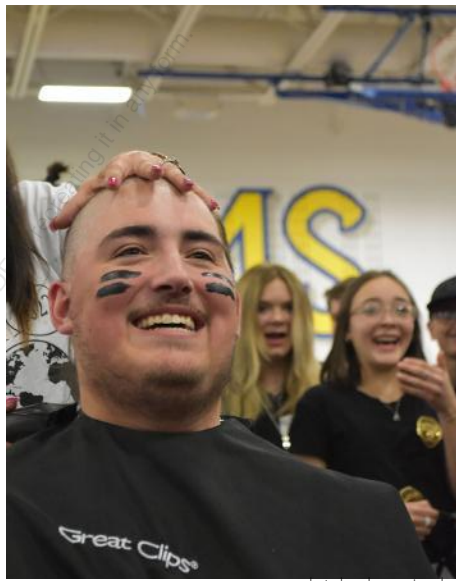


photo by: devyn miranda

**Unity in adversity.** Bald 4 Bucks unites the entire school to support those in a tough situation. Many students, like **Sydney Watts '23**, raised money to cut their hair and show their support for the cancer community, which inspires many students. Watts said, "Bald 4 Bucks just brings our whole community together and it's a way that we connect to help something bigger than ourselves."

**Together again.** Getting his head shaved by a number of friends, **Quinten Lyons '23** enjoyed letting others participate in his experience. While the Bald 4 Bucks experience of last year was limited, the return of the assembly returned better than ever. Lyons said, "We were really separated last year and I think that being able to do Bald 4 Bucks again really brought us back together."



photo by: olivia alaska



photo by: kalani cruz

**Feeling fresh.** Admiring her freshly shaved head, **Elizabeth Schechner '23** understands the freedoms that come with making this decision. Shaving off more than eight inches of hair can be a difficult decision for some. "I kept going back and forth... but when our hero child Jalen gave his speech, I had no doubt in my mind, and I was like, 'I have to do it now!'" Schechner said. **Building courage.** Getting her head shaved, **Ashlee Warren '22** worked up the courage to go all the way and shave her head for her senior year. After cutting her hair the year before, she went a step further to show her support. Warren said, "It was a very relieving feeling, but I was also definitely a little nervous."



photo by: parker hamel



**Rush of emotions.** Inspired by the community, **Roewyn Korwek '24** feels their freshly shaved head for the first time after making a day-of decision to shave during the assembly. Korwek said, "It was really cathartic, I would say. There were a lot of emotions because of what it was for and the actual act of getting your head shaved, it's just a really weird feeling."

**There it goes.** Staring at a chunk of her freshly cut hair, **Prarthana Mathad '24**, covers her mouth in shock. Mathad, like many others, experienced many emotions. "I cried a lot; the energy in that room was really overwhelming in a good way and it moved me to tears. It was just a really nice experience for me," said Mathad.



photo by: olivia alaska



photo by: olivia alaska



photo by: olivia alaska

**Always progressing.** Shaving his head for the 9th year, **Mr. Casey Bartels** shows his astonishment for the continuous success of the event. Over the course of 15 years, Bald 4 Bucks has grown from a few shaving their heads to hundreds of participants. "The thing that has gone through all these years is this Bald 4 Bucks and the willingness of all those years of kids to shave off their heads, blows my mind," said Bartels.

photo by: olivia alaska



# better TOGETHER

The motivation behind one devoted family's desire to support B4B.



photo by: olivia alaska

**Gathering the generations.** Though some participants shave their heads every year, certain people like **Mrs. Jennifer Gorbea**, shave when the spark comes around. Gorbea shares vivid memories from when she shaved in the past. "When I did it the first time [in 2011], there were three teachers that had cancer in the building [at the time] and so it was just this incredible feeling of solidarity with them... they took off their wigs and they took off their hats and they were bald with us and it was beautiful," she said. This experience influenced Mrs. Gorbea and, has since shifted her perspective on the personal aspect of the event. Each participant has a personal motive and reason as to why they participate in Bald 4 Bucks, and how it impacts them personally. This year, Mrs. Gorbea had a new incentive as to why she participated again. Joined by her daughter, senior **Silvia del Mar Gorbea '22** and husband, the family had many emotions flowing as they went under the clippers. The shared experience created a new bond, especially for the mother-daughter duo. "I loved being able to share this with Silvia... it is just a really fun way to bond with her as family," said Mrs. Gorbea.

# SHAVE the day

Bald 4 Bucks is an annual fundraiser that brings the community together to fight against cancer.

Bald 4 Bucks (B4B) is a highly anticipated annual event. Though B4B is authentic to Rampart, supporting the greater foundation of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is a nationwide effort. Being the number one school donor in the nation for the LLS is no small feat and the entire community is to thank. The event allows for participants to cut or shave their hair to raise awareness for cancer, donate to LLS, and support our hero family. All of the cash donations are given directly to the LLS, and the hair cut for wigs is sent to the organization Children with Hair Loss. This year marked the beginning of "Bald 4 Bucks Day," a longtime goal of our student body and staff. **Mrs. Lyn Osburne**, an avid supporter of the cause, said, "Every year, we have put in a request to the city, and this year we've been really

lucky that we received the official proclamation from the city of Colorado Springs, in El Paso County, that March 4, 2022, is Bald 4 Bucks Day." Participating in Bald 4 Bucks can be an eye-opening experience about the struggles that some in the community face and is an opportunity to show support. Cutting one's hair may be seen as trivial, but it has a different meaning for everyone participating. **Gavin Carter '24** said, "This is the ninth year I've done Bald 4 Bucks. I started in second grade and it just seemed like a good cause and I haven't stopped doing it because it is a lot of fun." Bald 4 Bucks is a very meaningful day where the community can come together for a good cause while having fun and spreading positivity. **story by: olivia alaska, kalani cruz, & devyn miranda**