

# JUST SO YOU KNOW, WE NEVER BACK DOWN

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design by j.ripko & z.stanley

Varsity football makes State playoffs under new head coach

**WHILE** PLAYERS LIKE BRODY SMITH '23 AND KEVIN DAY '24 ARRIVED AT SUMMER PRACTICE,

they were greeted by new head coach Chris Flynn. According to Day, it didn't feel much different because Flynn had been an assistant coach for years, so the team didn't have to get used to him and could get down to business.

At each practice, athletes would stretch and do warmups first and then they would go off into their individual practice of skills and fundamentals. Then they would go into a 7-on-7 hitting period so that the wide receivers and defense could get practice with the quarterback.

"The practices helped me mentally and feel more prepared going into a game knowing I had a job to do and I could do that job well," Day said.

The team faced their first opponent on Aug. 27, their crosstown rivals Prairie View

in the Superintendent's Cup game. The team came out on top winning the game 34-6 and keeping the Rivalry Trophy.

"The PV game was real big for us. It was the first game where we had a new coach and didn't know how the season would go. There's no better feeling beating your crosstown rivals," Avery Clark '23 said.

By November, the team found themselves traveling to Fruita to play Fruita Monument in the first round of playoffs. Though they lost 26-63, players like Payton Paplow '22 hoped he made alumni coaches like Joe Jackson proud.

"Coach Joe made the high school Wall of Fame and he would tell us every day that to get up there you have to work hard, so me and the guys did just that," Payton Paplow '22 said.

**JUST A FEW MORE YARDS.** Quarterback Nathaniel Griffith '22 escapes the pressure of the Prairie View defensive line to run for a first down during the first quarter of the Rivalry game on Aug. 27. "Winning against PV put us in a good spot. We wanted to bring home the win and keep the trophy here at the school where it belongs," Griffith said. **WE DID IT COACH.** Lucas Munoz '22 stands up in front of his teammates to put his hand on Head Coach Chris Flynn's shoulder to get him to speak after the team won their first game of the season against rivals

Prairie View on Aug. 27. "Coach Flynn gave us a lot of motivation, especially before games like PV and even Falcon," Munoz said. "Coach Joe [Jackson] really helped us with our tackling and competitiveness." **FAKE LEFT.** After taking the handoff from quarterback Nathaniel Griffith '22, Max Cisneros '22 cuts across the field to break free from the Silver Creek defenders Oct. 29. "I worked out every single day. I worked on my speed, agility and weight training every day of the summer. I only took 5 or 6 days off of the summer," Cisneros said. photos by r. weidemann

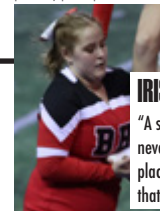


## MAX CISNEROS '22

"We wanted to make this season count and treat every game as if it was our last time we would play on that field. When it was my last time, I realized I will miss the brotherhood we created."



photo by j.bishop



**DESCRIBE JUST ONE CHALLENGE YOU'VE OVERCOME SO FAR THIS SCHOOL YEAR?**

**MILLA EPELBAUM '25**

"The challenge I had to overcome was my procrastination. I had to learn how to balance out my school work and being part of the Drama Club to force myself to do my work."

**SAMANTHA ADAMS '25**

"I had to overcome working on difficult math because I was taking Integrated Math I. To overcome this obstacle, I got a math tutor and that has helped me so much."

**SKYLAR RATLIFF '24**

"The challenge I faced this year was probably just getting all my work done with all the honors and AP classes I was taking and trying to do things other than school."

**IRIS FRESE '22**

"A struggle that I've overcome was that I've never fit in anywhere so I have to find a place that I'd be welcomed in. I have found that with different people and groups."

**NEVEAH DOCKTER '23**

"One challenge I had to overcome was trying to make new friends. I just had to talk to people in my classes and figure out our similarities to find out who would be a good friend."

**CONNER FEDEROCKO '23**

"The challenge I've overcome was the adjustment to the quarter system. It was just less time to go get your work done and there was more work and higher expectations."

**RYLIE SHEA '24**

"The challenge I faced this year was having to switch between houses because my parents got divorced. It was hard to have a social life as well with constantly moving."

**AND THIS SHOULD CONVINCE YOU TO CATCH WHAT'S THROWN AT YOU**

Football, 5A and 5B Election

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## WHEN THE FINAL RESULTS ARE MIXED

story/photo by j.ripko & design by z.stanley



Brighton voters approve 5B bond, turn down 5A mill

**ADAMS** County residents voted by mail in the November election for the District 27] 5A and 5B measures on the ballot. According to Superintendent of Schools Christopher Fielder, the mill levy override (5A) failed 52.7% to 47.3% (10,996 votes to 9,870 votes), and the bond (5B) passed 51.56% to 48.44% (10,720 votes to 10,071 votes).

"With the bond passing, we will have the ability to build a fourth comprehensive high school and additional elementary and middle schools to keep up with our rapid growth as well as build new CTE centers at each of our comprehensive high schools," Fielder

said. "I am disappointed that the mill levy failed. Disappointed isn't a strong enough word. I am grateful for the members of the lam27] Planning Campaign Committee and for all of the District 27] staff for running a strong campaign. We will continue to make District27] a great place to be."

Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers met with architects throughout the year to start planning the additional CTE center for the high school. The construction will occur at the beginning of summer and continue through the next school year. The plan was for the center to be ready by the fall of 2023.



**GET THAT FIRST DOWN.** After receiving the football from quarterback Nathaniel Griffith '22, Noah Canale '22 makes moves past the Greeley West defenders before getting tackled during quarter three on Oct. 1, resulting with a first down. The Bulldogs beat the Spartans 58-7 in their Homecoming Game. "Winning our Homecoming Game meant a lot to us because we wanted to bring the win to our school," Canale said. "Over the season I tried to stay in shape and keep muscle on me so I wouldn't lose any muscle mass. I wanted to keep my strength up so I could play well on the field." **LISTEN UP.** Assistant Coach Tyler Andrzejewski pulls Dylan Bravo Packer '23 aside during the second quarter of the Erie football game on Oct. 8 to get him ready to go back into the game. Andrzejewski has been an assistant coach for three years. "If there is one thing that I want my players to leave

with, it's that I want them to have the motivation and work ethic to succeed in whatever they do," Andrzejewski said. "If they can succeed on the field, I want them to take the drive, motivation and love for the game and take that with them into real life." **TIME TO CELEBRATE.** After Max Cisneros '22 scored a touchdown in the third quarter against Erie High School, William Martin '23 runs to him and gets lifted up on Oct. 8. Though the touchdown closed the gap between the two teams, the Tigers defeated the Bulldogs 27-47. "The seniors taught me how to truly enjoy playing the game. They treated every game like it was our last game, but they didn't put too much worry into winning. They just had fun and enjoyed every moment they could," Martin said. photos by r. weidemann



photo by n.nevarez

