

Despite coaching changes and challenges from COVID-19, varsity football achieved a shutout home opener of 42-0 against the rival Heritage Eagles. COACH JOE NU'U, a former defensive coach, stepped up to head coach after COACH ROD SHERMAN took another position in California. "Since Coach Nu'u was with the team last year, it made for a very smooth transition. We haven't had to change our offense and defense that much, which makes it easier for us to just focus on the game," NATHAN MARCILLA, 12, said. From coaching styles to COVID-19 restrictions, change was a consistent theme for the season. JACKSON ADAMS, 12, reflected on how the change was often positive. "It's definitely been tough the last few years not having fans at games and having to generate our own energy. Having fans back gives us an enormous amount of energy. Celebrating with the crowd after the Heritage game is one of the best feelings there is," Adams said. Football took commitment and grit, which is what got COLE HANSEN, 12 the starting varsity quarterback, his role as team captain. "To be successful on the team you have to show up to everything from lifting before school in the spring, to the summer practices early in the morning. You have to be committed to be successful," Hansen said.