



football returns  
with a hunger for  
redemption

# iHOPPING

**HOG RIDER**  
Offensive lineman and team captain Keegan Hamilton '22 jumps on fellow captain Camden Messenger '22 to celebrate the win over Castle View at Echo Park Oct. 28. The 21-14 win was key to get the Jags into the playoffs and capped off a historic regular season with lots of pancakes (where a player blocks the defender onto the ground) for the two offensive linemen. "I can't really describe how it felt to win, just pure excitement really. My favorite memory was the Ranch game personally. It was great to put up 50 on our rivals," Messenger said.  
photo by: m. evans



**IF IT FLIES, IT DIES**  
Quarterback Luke Wennogle '23 yells to celebrate a touchdown against Highlands Ranch at Echo Park Oct. 8. The 49-28 win over Ranch sparked a 3-1 record from then on, and before heading into the playoffs and it spoiled the Falcons Homecoming game. "It felt amazing to beat Ranch since we haven't beat them in a few years, and beating them by a lot was a huge statement for us, especially because they are one of our main rivals. The Ranch game was a huge turning point for us and the culture of RC Football," Wennogle said.  
photo by: m. evans

**49-28**  
rock canyon vs  
highlands ranch  
oct. 8



**WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE**  
Lineman Erick Lenzi '23 runs the ball during the homecoming game against Castle View at Echo Park Oct. 28. The 21-14 win on Senior Night solidified a playoff berth. "The energy was pretty high before the game, but I could definitely tell everyone was nervous. I was just thinking about my job and what I had to do to make us win and hype everyone up. It takes a lot of work and drains you, but those Friday nights feel amazing once you get that win," Lenzi said.  
photo by: m. evans



**HAPPY HOGS**  
Senior offensive linemen Jacob Naibauer and Brady Kilponen come off the field laughing after a touchdown against Highlands Ranch at Shea Stadium Oct. 8. The 49-28 win marked the first of three conference wins. "It meant a lot to be successful coming from the last few years where we were not good," Kilponen said. "Making it far just made it that more special. Everyone on the team bought in to the program, and with a great coach, we managed to make it where we wanted to end up."  
photo by: m. evans

## BEYOND THE STATS

stats from the best season  
in RC Football history

**3,477**  
total rushing yards and 5A rushing title led by senior offensive linemen Keegan Hamilton, Jacob Naibauer, Brady Kilponen, and Camden Messenger and junior Duke Holter.

**1,000**  
total interceptions led by Treyvien Rosendhal '22, Ryland Mill '23, and Aiden Duda '23.

**2**  
seniors, Keegan Hamilton and Croix Burney recieved Second Team All-State and All-State Honorable Mention honors.

**4**  
players, Aidan Duda '23, Croix Burney '22, Luke Wennogle '23, and Deandre Horn '23, had at least one 100 yard rushing game.

**1st**  
playoff win in school history. the team beat smoky hill 52-49 on Nov. 5.

**26.0**  
total sacks led by Brady Campbell '24 with 10 sacks (5th in 5A) followed by Bobby McCabe '23 with 7 sacks

## DIVING INTO AMERICA

volleyball manager shares her experiences  
as a foreign exchange student

Elena Didier '22 poses for a photo with her fellow seniors at girls volleyball's Senior Night at Highlands Ranch Oct. 27. Didier was a foreign exchange student from France and was a manager for girls volleyball. "I think the biggest struggle I had to face when first arriving to the United States was adapting to American habits and traditions. At first, I was constantly out of my comfort zone, which in retrospect really helped me grow and be more confident, but in

the moment it was scary and uncomfortable. Being a part of the varsity volleyball team has been awesome. Being around girls my age, who are interested in the same sport as I am, has made the process of making friends really easy for me," Didier said. "The girls and coaches made me feel a part of the team by treating me as an equal. Even though I was just the manager, I got to experience everything as a player. I got to participate in every practice and cheer on my team in

every game. The girls didn't just welcome me to the team, but also welcomed me to the school. Taylor Cary '22 was especially helpful showing me and explaining American traditions when I was new to everything. I learned about spirit weeks, Taylor took me to my first football games, she helped me get around during the back-to-school dance, etc." photos by: r. hart



## DARE TO LEAD

senior leadership helps  
volleyball make it to state



**HYPE IN THE HUDDLE**  
Senior Taylor Cary leads her team in their pregame huddle before Senior Night at Highlands Ranch Oct. 27. The team had a shared senior night with Highlands Ranch due to the gym being out of commission. "For me, as a senior this season was so important because it was my last chance to make a difference in the program. This season was so much more memorable than other seasons because I was able to lead the team to State for the first time in four years," Cary said.  
photo by: r. hart