

NEW START

girls varsity basketball plays in the season opener



MEET AT THE RIM

Nella Castaneda '23 reaches for the ball at the Varsity home opener against Liberty High School Nov. 30. The team won two of the three games in the tournament hosted by Mountain Vista. "I think I played okay in the Liberty game, but I was also a little nervous about it being the first game," Emily Feiman '24 said.

photo by: j. horan



BE A GOLDFISH

Sophomore Alyssa Goode fights for possession of the ball at home against Liberty Nov. 30. The team had a new head coach for the year, implementing new high tempo practices. "This year, we changed our mindset and teamwork. When we make a mistake, we have to 'Be a goldfish.' Let it go. Forget about it. Focus on the play," Goode said.

photo by: j. horan



STRIDE FOR SUCCESS

Senior Emma Pillsbury strides down the court during the first round of the combine tip off tournament Nov. 30, at home. The team played Liberty in the first round of the tournament and resulted in a 68-38 win, this led the Jags to the next round. "My favorite team we played in the tournament was D'evelyn because it really showed us what type of basketball we needed to play for the season," Pillsbury said.

photo by: a. jaeger

68pts

against liberty nov. 30



girls volleyball knocks off four teams in the 5A state tournament

PASS TO FINALS

PASS AND PLAY

Defensive specialist Ava Blanco '24 squats to bump the ball at the 5A Championship Nov. 11. The day before the jags won 3-1 against Chaparral, then played two more games on the final day. "None of us went in expecting to win because Valor was so good, but we wanted to see how far we could go," Hannah Staples '23 said.

photo by: l. thomsen



BLOCK THIS!

Junior middle Gannon Figueroa and senior Alina Hajewski block no. 7 Cherry Creek in the great eight of the state tournament at the Denver Coliseum Nov. 10. Figueroa had four blocks during the game and helped secure a 3-2 win. "One of the many highlights from state was going 37-35 against Grandview to go to the finals and winning the game," Figueroa said.

photo by: l. thomsen

SHOOK IN SHOCK

Setter Addie Waller '24 celebrates with Outside Hitter Alivia Eikenberg '25 at girls varsity state Nov. 11 at the Denver Coliseum. Despite the 0-3 loss to Valor Christian High School, the Jags celebrated their title as state runner-up. "We fought through multiple high-pressure, tough games to get to where we ended, but I feel like winning the state runner-up title for the first time in [school] volleyball history made it all worth it," Waller said.

photo by: l. thomsen



REACH FOR THE TITLE

Outside Hitter and captain Alina Hajewski '23 jumps to serve against no. 1 Valor Nov. 11, at the Denver Coliseum. Varsity accomplished an overall 24-5 record for the season, and was second in the 5A Continental League. "It felt so surreal and I was so happy that everything we worked for paid off." "We were able to be consistent by working hard and [having] constant communication throughout the season," Hajewski said.

photo by: l. thomsen

JAGS FAST FACTS

four facts and traditions about Jaguar volleyball from

- 1 The Lady jags have a dance party in the locker room to get hyped up for games
- 2 The Jaguars make small things in the game about cats to put in some fun
- 3 First year varsity players are "kidnapped" as a warm welcome to the team
- 4 We have our coach back for the season, Angela Nylund-Hanson, She came all the way back from Alaska.

"A lot of new traditions started this year and all of them are something small that really only means something to Rock Canyon volleyball."
-Ava Blanco '24

STICK IT TO 'EM

varsity combined hockey plays in turkey bowl tournament



PUSH PAST THE PUCK

Sophomore Jack Moore attempts to gain control of the puck against Lewis Palmer during the Turkey Bowl Tournament Nov. 19, at South Suburban Sports Complex. The team played in the Bowl to prepare for the Best of the West Tourney in Texas the following week. "When I play I think about doing my job as a player and not worry about making mistakes," Moore said.

photo courtesy: a.woods



FACEOFF TO PLAYOFF

Senior Rocco Chartrand scans the ice for an open teammate to pass to Nov. 19, at South Suburban Sports Complex against Ralston Valley. The knockout game went into overtime with a tie of 3-3, the Mustangs scored, ending the game 4-3. "Ever since I was little I've played defense because it suits my style of play. I've always been defensive minded," Chartrand said.

photo courtesy: a.woods



POWER PLAY

Varsity defenseman Sam Ballantine '24 skates up the ice with control of the puck at South Suburban Sports Complex, Nov. 19. The Varsity hockey team played against Lewis Palmer in the Turkey Bowl Tournament during Thanksgiving Break. "Playing Lewis Palmer was slow, we took them lightly at the start and then tried to pick it up later in the game," Ballantine said.

photo courtesy: a.woods

6 fall teams made it to playoffs

"It felt pretty good when the cross country team qualified for state. I felt like I was on top of the world because I'm just a sophomore and I just really had this big impact on our team when we won."
- Owen Whitney '25

"There was a lot of emotions going through my head when that football team won. I was really grateful that I'd made it to that moment."
- Cooper Chase '23

"The student section is amazing and makes the experience so fun, I loved seeing all of the signs and hearing all of the cheers."
- Morgan buston '25

"Being at state was so fun we got in this big arena and were on TV and we got our names announced being there and seeing the crowd made be really proud to be there."
- Reece Waller '25

PLAY IT OUT

football, volleyball, , boys golf, cross country, boys soccer and gymnastics head to playoffs