



jonathan castro

STILL RUNNING

Stuffed by three Andress defenders, running back Cristian Euzarraga pushes for extra yardage. "I felt an arm wrapped around me," he said, "so I moved my arm up and out of the way to avoid having the ball stripped. Andress was the quickest, most athletic team we faced. It was homecoming, and I really wanted to play well because it was the first time my entire family was able to be in the stands to watch me play." Euzarraga had seven carries for 59 yards. His longest run on the night was 39 yards.



annabeth burgess

ROUGH NIGHT

Against the city's best team, running back Naquan Jones fights to keep his feet moving knowing Canutillo defenders are there to stop him. "Their defense was short but built," Jones said. They were fast getting to the ball and hit hard." Jones had 17 yards on 10 carries. He was second on the season scoring list with three touchdowns. His longest was a 94-yard kick-off return in a district game against El Paso High.



michael provenghi

STOPPED IN HIS TRACKS

Hands wrapped around a Santa Teresa running back, defensive end Pierre Darbonnier makes a critical stop in the fourth quarter against the Desert Warriors. "At that point I really thought we had the W," he said "but we came up short. I saw him run my way so I put my shoulder down and let my body take over." The Mustangs lost 18-6 in their home opener.

TOUGH yardage

by jonathan castro

"It's tough when you come off the field and you're beat up and soaking wet from all the sweat, and then you hear teammates making weekend plans, even before getting on the bus after losing a game."

-christian euzarraga-12

He felt like Superman. It's late in the third quarter in the first game of the season against state powerhouse Frenship. It's during this game senior Elias Licerio accomplishes a personal goal. He cuts a Frenship defensive end twice in the same play.

"Frenship was an indicator for my ability but also the team's ability," he said. "Frenship was supposed to be unbelievably talented but we handled ourselves pretty well against them. As a team, it was a bad start, but our bad season started before the first game. We knew we would have to work hard in the off-season to improve from last year. Everyone said they would be dedicated, but there's a difference between saying it and doing it. In the off-season we were in the weight room getting stronger, but as soon as the bell rang everyone was gone."

As the season progressed with no wins, the team began to shrink. Starting with a 35 man roster, the team finished with 26.

"Depth was bad," middle linebacker Anthony Macias said. "I had to play both ways along with most of my teammates. This was partially because so many people quit, seniors included. When I found out some of them had quit I was really appalled because they worked so hard every summer and season to just quit. I guess that's just how it is sometimes."

Late in the season, the team pulled out a 35-30 win against Jefferson at the Sun Bowl. It would be the team's only victory.

"It was disappointing to win only one game," sophomore quarterback Odell Graham said. "At that point our playoff chances were gone, but we were a lot better than our record. Starting as quarterback put a lot of pressure on me, but what I learned was that I have to set the tone. That means being a leader during a game and at practice, in the weight room as well as in the classroom."

SEASON

Frenship	L	59-7
Santa Teresa	L	18-16
Irvin	L	37-6
Bowie	L	27-13
Chapin	L	56-13
El Paso	L	18-16
Canutillo	L	52-0
Jefferson	W	35-30
Andress	L	49-8
Austin	L	42-35



adrian gil

FOOT RACE

Austin catches up with junior Darius Rosales-Streeter, but not before he gains 20 yards for an important first down. "I knew he was right behind me so it motivated me to run faster," he said. "I thought I was going to score because I had gotten to the outside, but the safety got me by my foot and left me disappointed." This was Rosales-Streeter's first year on varsity.

MILES AND MILES

278 miles to be exact. Head coach Marcus Graham requested to have Frenship on the schedule. A top state team, Graham wanted his players to experience what football is like outside of El Paso. The first game on the schedule, the team lost 57-6, but players said they liked the fact they got to travel.



genesis barraza

PACKED UP

Senior Aaron Ponce checks that he has everything before stuffing his bag in the under cargo area.

MOVIE TIME

To pass the time, junior Jovan Flores and junior Danny Madrid react to "Christmas Vacation" starring Chevy Chase.



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OFF THE HANDS

Early in the first quarter, wide receiver Jovan Flores just misses the pass. "I could have scored," he said. "I guess I took my eyes off the ball."

WIN OR LOSE

Players from both teams unite in prayer after the game. "They were the nicest team we played," senior Christian Hernandez said. "They never trash talked. They left it all out on the field."

CHOW TIME

Piles of chips and McDonald's hamburgers await tackle Elias Licerio and teammates before the five hour bus ride home.