

SPIFFY GEAR UP

"When we have home games, we usually dress up to represent our school by wearing dress pants and a nice shirt. If it's an away game, I usually come to school representing the team, like wearing sweats, a hoodie or a school t-shirt. We do it out of respect for our program."

-Jordan Thorson-11



DEFENSIVE TRAP
Two against one, junior Martin Varela struggles to get a better view of his teammates so he can successfully pass the ball. "When the ball is in my hands, I feel pressured to make a good move," Varela said. "I just try to be confident in every decision. Coach [Paul] Gutierrez has helped us prepare for situations like these." This is Varela's first year on varsity.



adrian gi



genesis barraza



annabeth burges

DRIVE IN
Sophomore Deion Bauman looks for the rim off a fast break. "We didn't underestimate them," Bauman said. "Jefferson came off strong. They were not a bad team, but we felt pretty confident. We played well as a team. It got us ready for the next games." Bauman made all district first team.

DOWN TO BUSINESS
Consumed by the intensity of the game against Andress, the top district team, junior Ivan Cazares and teammates listen to head coach Paul Gutierrez's strategy. "During a timeout, Coach told us we deserved the win," Cazares said. "We worked harder to get where we needed to be. He understands us and knows what we can do to become an amazing team."

DISTRICT

Chapin	W	61-55
El Paso	W	43-31
Jefferson	W	47-36
Canutillo	W	47-43
Andress	L	40-25
Austin	W	53-39
Irvin	W	55-28
Bowie	W	48-37
Chapin	L	37-29
El Paso	W	48-42
Jefferson	W	46-27
Canutillo	L	43-40
Andress	L	65-41
Austin	W	66-40
Irvin	W	38-34
Bowie	L	45-43

PLAYOFF SEEDING

Bowie	L	58-56
BI - DISTRICT		
Bel Air	L	45-36



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FAST AND FURIOUS
Defensive skills make it possible for guard Adam Cruz to steal the ball and take it to the basket. "When I am playing defense, I feel like no one can get by me," Cruz said. "I can stop anybody on the court. Against Bowie I did pretty well, but I could have made more of my shots."

BEYOND expectations

by luisa herrera

"I think this season was a success. We struggled at the end of the season but played a strong first round of playoffs." -Odell Graham-10

Emotion strikes. The visiting crowd begins to get out of control. With the fourth quarter in full swing, senior Diego Oropeza and teammates regain focus and block all negative vibes. Every possession of the ball counts. The Bowie Bears might have to go home with a loss. "It was an intense atmosphere," senior Diego Oropeza said. "The crowd was unbelievably crazy. As a team, we were able to get that win because we kept our composure and played strong and smart. It was a tough game."

The team got off to a fast start in district, losing just one game to powerhouse Andress. That left players in a good spot, tied for second in district.

"We were a small team," junior Jo-el Hornbaker said. "That doesn't mean anything. It doesn't take away the skill each player has. We didn't really

care what other teams thought about us, we just went out there and played our game. When a team is faster and taller, you just have to be smarter. It just comes down to how much each player wants it. Our season had its ups and downs. It was good, but it ended up not going as I planned."

Suffering a loss to Chapin in the second round was the turning point in the season. What started off as a close to perfect season unraveled near the end, as the team lost four of its eight remaining games.

"We didn't execute the way we were supposed to," senior Christian Sanchez said. "Our opponents realized that our best scorer had to be slowed down, and that's what they started to do. The rest of us couldn't hit our shots and make free throws. It was all we could have given as a team. I wouldn't have wanted to go down with any other team."



mikey provenghi

AIMING HIGH
Eyes on the basket, senior Naquan Jones goes for two. "I had a pretty good game," Jones said. "Our offensive skills were there, and we were getting down the court easily. Since it was my last year playing, I felt like I had to do everything in my control to help my team make it to playoffs." Jones scored 11 points that night.



POSITIVE DIRECTION
Pressured by his opponents, senior Benjamin Vega helps break the press. "There were some jitters," Vega said. "First game of the season, you want to start off strong. You want to get that win, and we did a good job executing. I felt rusty, but that's how every first game is." Vega averaged 3.2 points per game. (photo by genesis barraza)

"For a young team, we surprised a lot of people. I love the program, and I am thankful to be a part of it." -Ricardo Abascal-10