

IT IS WHAT IT IS

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30

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FACE IT / Smashing a plate of shaving cream into science teacher Mr. Christopher Porter's face, sophomore Jensine Reyes helps raise \$100 for the sophomore class at the first tailgate festival Sept. 26 behind the school. Prior to the Richland rivalry game, various organizations ran booths to fundraise while students waited for the free buses principal Mr. Clarence Simmons provided to the varsity football game. "The shaving cream was really worse than I expected because even though I was wearing goggles, I had a reaction and my eyes burned," Porter said. *Photo by Dana McCurdy*



RALLY TOGETHER / Celebrating a spike by fellow teammate junior Sarah Bapeli, senior varsity volleyball players Courtney Cantrell and Cecilia Contreras take on Richland Oct. 21 in the main gym. Although the varsity team lost the game against Richland 3-0, the team remained motivated throughout the season. "We had to adjust to a completely new team this year which was difficult, but we encouraged each other to keep pushing no matter what the score was," Cantrell said. "That personally made me feel like we were more than just a team." *Photo by Ashley Harrison*



UNITED NATION / "Sammy! Sammy!" Roles reverse as football players gather in support of Samuel Ramon-Hunter, the sophomore manager of the football team. The Buff Nation community chanted his name at a vigil in front of Cook Children's hospital Jan. 28 after Ramon-Hunter underwent open-heart surgery to replace a damaged valve. "We wanted to show our support because he's a big inspiration for all of us," sophomore Braden Webb said. "He helped me become a better athlete by pushing my limits on the field." *Photo by Dana McCurdy*



FIRE IT UP / As "My Songs Know What You Did in the Dark" by Fall Out Boy plays in the background, students stand around the sink in room 303 waiting to cover their hands in methane soap while sophomore Noah Wilsterman volunteers to hold fire. Chemistry teacher Mrs. Marcie Duley conducted an experiment Feb. 20 to teach safety when using the Bunsen burners. After students tested the fire out individually, they passed the flames between one another. "It was really warm," Wilsterman said. "It didn't burn me, but the flames left a soft and weird feeling." *Photo by Daisy Lo*



EXTRA MILE / After passing the finish line at the last district cross country meet Oct. 23 at Meadowmere Park in Grapevine, juniors Ana Maria Brown and Gabriela Gomez celebrate the end of the cross country season. "We were proud of each other finishing the race and the season," Gomez said. "That meet was especially difficult because of how hot it was, but we pushed ourselves all the way," Brown said. "I finished and beat my personal record by two minutes." *Photo illustration by Laura Perez*



BLOW THEM AWAY / Taking center stage, sophomore Haley Kimbrough and junior Nathan Young blow chalk dust into the audience during the final scene of the first play of the theatre season. Theatre Select students performed "Chalk Dust," an original play written by senior Shane Smith, Aug. 30 in the Black Box Theatre. "The most difficult part of the show was the fact that we are all very creative people with tons of ideas on how we should do the show," Young said. "Sometimes these ideas butted heads, but overall it was an amazing time." *Photo by Hannah Gonzalez*