

Quick Q&A



Written By: **Christiana Plair** (11)

A Battle of the Classes

On Wednesday April 23, 2026, Twenty-seven girls competed in the annual **Powder Puff game** as one of the last chances to connect with their peers before graduation. Powder Puff is a fan-favorite event that presents juniors and seniors with the opportunity to either coach (males) or play (females) in a flag football game. Coached by **Deion Crawford, Grant Gordon, Jonathan Smith, Mark Wellington, and Rion Wishum**, juniors took home the win.

Q: Why did you participate in this event?

"I did it the year prior and it was very fun. I also joined to build more connections with my senior class."

-**Cam'ren Wattel** (12th)

"Football really brings a smile to my face, and I just really want to give someone else that experience of playing football."

-**Matt Wellington** (11th)

"To build a relationship with people I never met."

-**Robert Harrison** (12th)

"Because it's a one time thing, and I didn't take it for granted."

-**Deion Crawford** (11th)

"I chose to participate because I wanted to try a new sport, win against the seniors, and make memories."

- **Marigny Washington** (11th)

"To have a fun last event alongside my peers."

-**Kierstin Smith** (12th)

Q: What did you learn during this experience?

"Encouragement and communication is key."

-**Deion Crawford** (11th)

"It's not easy being a coach, especially when you guys are around the same age."

- **Matt Wellington** (11th)

"Teamwork is vital for sports"

-**Robert Harrison** (12th)

"I learned that you don't have to take everything so seriously, do your best and have fun."

-**Kierstin Smith** (12th)

"I learned how to run routes and meet new people for a bigger goal."

-**Sophie Joya** (11th)

"I learned how to be an exceptional football player and to strive to win."

-**Marigny Washington** (11th)

Q: How did it feel to win?

"It felt very good. The seniors will never feel what the juniors felt at that moment."

-**Deion Crawford** (11th)

"It felt amazing to win such an important game for our class."

-**Marigny Washington** (11th)

"When we won, I was happy because we worked hard to remember all our plays and routes. I was also ready to eat at Chick-fil-a afterwards."

-**Sophie Joya** (11th)

This past year has allowed me to grow in many ways. One of those being growing tremendously with the newspaper. I have enjoyed being a part in documenting moments of school history and capturing the lives of students this school year at Cy Ridge. I look forward to growing even more and continuing to strengthen our newspaper staff. Thank you to all of the staff members and students that contributed to the newspaper and helped to solidify our memories. With your support, the program has seen a huge increase in productivity and we are capable of continuing to spread information. Last but not least, a huge thank you to Ms. B. The show could not go on without you and I am very grateful for your dedication to this program and the support you provide for all of your students.



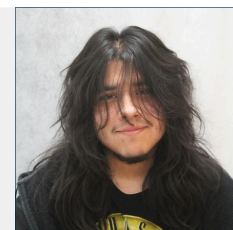
Christiana Plair
Editor-in-Chief

Hi, my name is Yoanna Ochoa. I'm a senior so this is my last year and to be honest it's kinda sad because I'm leaving this amazing program. Talking about the program, this program is the best program I have joined. Because of them, I wouldn't know all the people I know now. They made me laugh, smile and got me out of my comfort zone, and so for that I'm so grateful for them. Anyways, my advice to the people that are reading this is: join something you are interested in because you never know, so take the risk. Also, live life to the fullest no matter who comes and goes. Anyways, Yoanna signing out.



Yoanna Ochoa
Activities Manager

I have to thank both Christiana and Yoanna for carrying me during this year. They helped a lot especially during the final few weeks. The only reason I had even joined Newspaper was because it was familiar, which essentially meant I would be comfortable. Thankfully, I really wasn't. Talking to new people in a constant yet inconsistent manner really helped me burst out my shell. It's as if pieces of the egg are still lodged in my skin sometimes. Although with the many times I went and spoke to somebody new, it's kind of like those pieces fell out themselves. I had initially hoped I'd do way better, but you don't always get what you want. I wish I put more effort, but I like to think I did alright.



Briayan Campos
Design Editor

You three did an amazing job this year. **Thank you for all of the hard work, dedication, and for pushing through to make this print edition happen.** I know it isn't easy to split time with the yearbook crew, but you guys really managed it well. **Yoanna**, good luck as a reporter a university next year! **Briayan**, keep being your creative self. **Christiana**, thank you for your continued leadership. Looking forward to your continued efforts for your final year in newspaper. **おめでとう to you all!**

R. Baquero
Journalism
Adviser

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"I enjoyed learning to play a new sport with new people and seeing our hard work lead us to a win."

- **Shakira Jones** (11)

Photo By: Christiana Plair



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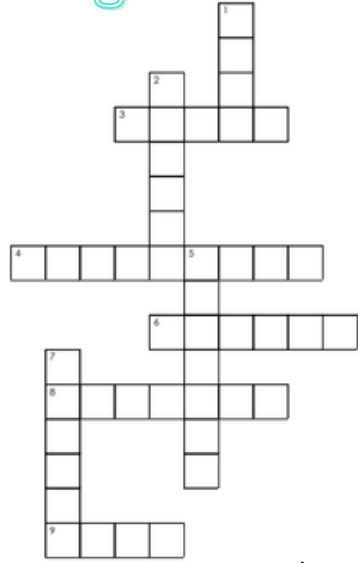
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Spring Crossword



Across: →

Down: ↓

- 3. What the lawn is made of.
- 4. An adult caterpillar.
- 6. A meal in the park.
- 8. A red insect with black spots.
- 9. It falls from the sky.

- 1. They make honey.
- 2. A little wind.
- 5. A colorful arc in the sky.
- 7. A plant with petals.

School Shoutouts



School Life

- **Evan Tran** and **Hanna Benamar** won 2026 Prom King and Queen at the dance on May 1.
- The 2026 Charge Yearbook sold out in record time!

Academics

- **Marinelle Devera**, R.D.A., **Lizel Pedraza**, R.D.A., **Elena Romero**, R.D.A., **Gia Solanki**, R.D.A., **Laina Zuniga**, R.D.A. became Registered Dental Assistants as of April 20th, after passing their certification exam. This semester, **Ariel Arambula**, C.N.A. and **Tayde Maldonado**, C.N.A. became Certified Nursing Assistants.

Competition

- **Key Club** members **Angela Wang** and **Nathalia Maqueira** were each awarded a \$1,000 Texas-Oklahoma Kiwanis Foundation Scholarship at the Leadership Conference (LEDCON) 2026 near the end of April. The club was ranked 5th place in all of Texas-Oklahoma (295 documented chapters) for their service hours, fundraising, and overall club involvement.
- **Six UIL Choirs** completed in 4-days of singing, with Sub Non-Varsity Girls, Non-Varsity Girls, Non-Varsity Boys, Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys choirs all receiving Superior Concert Performance ratings from every judge. These choirs also received Excellent ratings from their Sight-Reading judges. The combined Varsity Mixed choir earned Superior ratings in Concert & Sight Reading performances from all judges.

Athletics

- The **softball team** made it to the playoffs for the first time in school history and advanced to the regional semi round of the UIL tournament to play Pearland High school on May 6th-8th.
- At **Track Regionals** on May 1st and 2nd, **Jasmine Gambol** finished 3rd in the Long Jump, setting a new school record at 19 feet, 10 inches. At the Area meet, **Jonas Wilkins** broke the school record in the 110m hurdles (14.52), ranking top 10 in the area.
- NCAA Signing Day on May 6: **Jason Dinh**, Baseball with University of St. Thomas, **Joseph Spiller-Davidson**, Football with Culver-Stockton College, **Xavier Haynes**, Football with Texas A&M - Texarkana, **Ayleen Rasgado**, Women's Soccer with Nelson University, **Yohanna Tapia**, Women's Soccer with Wiley University, and **Chloe Atkins**, Wrestling with Lakeland University

Dazzling Dancers

Dancers across programs express emotion through dance while memorializing memories at the Spring Showcase on April 17, 2026.



Color guard, the 3rd place winning team from Area, show off a new, collaborative dance.

Kelly Flores (12) and her dad dance a Father-Daughter routine together.



Gianna Perez (12) performs her last solo. "It felt bittersweet, but also felt like a new chapter in my life. But also felt really good that there were people that love me around me, supporting me, and cheering me on." Perez said. "But overall, it made me feel loved and accomplished in life."

Gianna Perez (12) and **Juan Rodriguez** (12) perform partner dances specific to seniors, where there were about eight seniors on stage.



Seniors **Jada Wilson**, **Daniela Moreno** and **Karamjot Kour** do their last trio choreography together.

Pick a Ram!

Students and staff bid on seniors for one-day adoption.

Written by **Briayan Campos** (11)

Seniors stepped into a class tradition to be "adopted" for the day, where students or teachers could make cash bids on willing participants and assign their adoptee a task. On April 23rd at 3:00 PM at the school stadium, seniors sat in the stands, awaiting adoption and what they may be asked to do.

Layla Ward joined because she wanted to see if people would actually spend money on her. Her friends won the bid for her at \$21, and assigned her with the task of wearing a particular outfit.

"They put me in ridiculous make-up and a horrible, horrible outfit," Ward said. "I looked like a mix between a cowboy, train conductor, and a goth emo. And I had pictures that same day."

Regarding her time during the event, she was happy she joined.

"Honestly, I wouldn't change it for the world because senior adoption was really great. I'm glad I got that opportunity to be bought."



Sebastian Strange gets adopted.

Teachers and students wait for the opening bid.

A few other willing seniors, **Sebastian Strange**, **Mario Prieto**, and **Tegan Tran** had also entered in with anticipation and excitement.

Strange joined because he wanted to be adopted and was open to doing whatever for whoever paid the most. Though, he did not feel he would be worth more than a \$10 bid.

"It would make me feel so loved and so wanted if someone wanted to pay for my services," Strange said. "If somebody pays 100 for me, I might kiss 'em."

If he wasn't chosen to be adopted, Strange said he might, "go home and cry."

In contrast, Prieto joined because of the encouragement of his friends.

"They said they were gonna dress me up and put me in a maid outfit. So you know, if it happens it happens I guess!" Prieto said. He even said he was willing to wear a maid dress if asked.

"Yeah, it'll be cool. Bro, I'd rock that! That's the thing about me: I could rock anything," Prieto said.

Tran also joined to encourage her friends to support her. Tran was ready for whatever they hit her with. Going into it, she wanted her friend Allison to adopt her as she is one of her "closest junior friends".

"Honestly, I have no clue, but I'm ready for what she wants me to do," Tran said.

Written by **Yoanna Ochoa** (12) Photos by **Yoanna Ochoa** (12)