



NEW COACH, NEW ERA

FOR APACHE FOOTBALL

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches will have a new face as head coach for the 2022 football season. New head football coach and athletic director Joey Rivera will take over an Apaches team that finished 2-8 the previous season and 0-5 in district. The future is a bright for the first-year head coach. Rivera immediately got to work and began preparations with his new team and players.

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At the top, Apache linebacker Josh Esparza (12) blasts through the line and sacks the Giddings Buffalo quarterback during a 2021 game. Esparza is expected to be one of the leaders on defense for Gonzales. Apache quarterback Jarren “Bug” Johnson (7) scoots down the sideline against Giddings on a long run. Johnson will start behind center again in 2022. Running back Derrick Garza (5) scores a TD after breaking several tackles. Garza is expected to touch the ball 25-30 times a game for Gonzales. Finally, T.J. Riojas takes advantage of help from a teammate to put a big hit on a ball carrier. Riojas is one of eight returning starters on defense.

LEW K. COHN

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VARSITY FOOTBALL



JESSIAH BARR



JAYDON BLACKWELL



OMAR BORJON



BRODY BORRER



HADLEY BORRER



BRYCE BROWN



AIDEN CAMARILLO



JACOB CLACK



JOSH ESPARZA



IVAN GALLEGOS



ROCKY GALLEGOS



DERRICK GARZA



AIDAN HERNANDEZ



EDWARD HERRERA



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EMILIANO LOPEZ



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KAEL LOPEZ



MASON NAVEJAR



MIGUEL ROMERO RAMOS



TJ RIOJAS



RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ



WESTON RUDDOCK



JASON SANCHEZ



TYLER SHAVER



DAVONTE SMITH



KASON TIEKEN



JERMANE UPSHAW



CARLOS VERASTEGUI



TYRANN WEBB



CORBEN WOLFF



BLAKE WRIGHT

FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

“The kids, they have bought in since I got here and started putting in a little bit at a time since I’ve been here, and it’s really been about putting down the base of our foundation of being disciplined and doing what we’re supposed to do,” Rivera said.

As a new first-year head coach, Rivera had struggles filling coaching positions, because of a shortage of Texas high school coaches.

Rivera said, as the AD, his top priority was getting coaches hired, not just for football, but all sports.

“I want coaches that are here that care about Gonzales and care about kids, so that has been the challenge,” Rivera stated.

The Apaches football team will have a tough schedule for 2022, kicking the season off with Bastrop Cedar Creek, La Vernia, Marion, Pleasanton and Yoakum, but Rivera knows the importance of starting off on a tough schedule before district play.

Rivera said those local trips around the area “are going to be very competitive.”

The Apaches will compete in District 12-4A Division II, with rival Cuero, La Grange, Giddings, Caldwell and Smithville.

Rivera is excited for the competition in district and the overall schedule, knowing “every week is going to be fun.”

“As a new coach, I could easily have come in and gone and looked for some easy wins and travel to [non-district] but I said I want great games that our fans can be around,” Rivera said.

Rivera will join Mike Adams of Giddings and Jerod Fikac of Cuero as new head coaches inside the district.

The district is the same as last season except for Navasota leaving with the addition of Caldwell, but Rivera believes his team can compete inside the district.

“Obviously Cuero and La Grange are probably the two picks to be favorites [to win district]. But I don’t see why we can’t compete with every single team in our district,” Rivera said.

The Apaches will have quarterback Jarren “Bug” Johnson and running back Derrick Garza back for the 2022 season and their leadership will be key for the offense.



JOEY RIVERA
Gonzales
Head Football Coach

“That’s the good thing about those two is they’re up there with being the hardest working kids in the program,” Rivera stated.

Johnson has taken the leadership role in the summer and his teammates have rallied around him.

Rivera said Garza came up to him about what his role would be on the offense, and he told his running back that he is going to get the ball 20 to 30 times, either running or receiving passes.

“Derrick qualified for five events in the area track meet and he is a great athlete. And I know him; he’s not going to want to come off the field, so just because he’s on offense doesn’t mean he’s not playing much on defense as well [as a linebacker],” River said.

For the defense, Rivera will have returning faces in new roles, including Kason Tieken, Landon Holub, Jason Sanchez and Hadley Borrer.

Rivera expects some players to play both offense and defense this season, but his “philosophy” is to have his skill players to play both sides of the ball, including Garza and Josh Esparza.

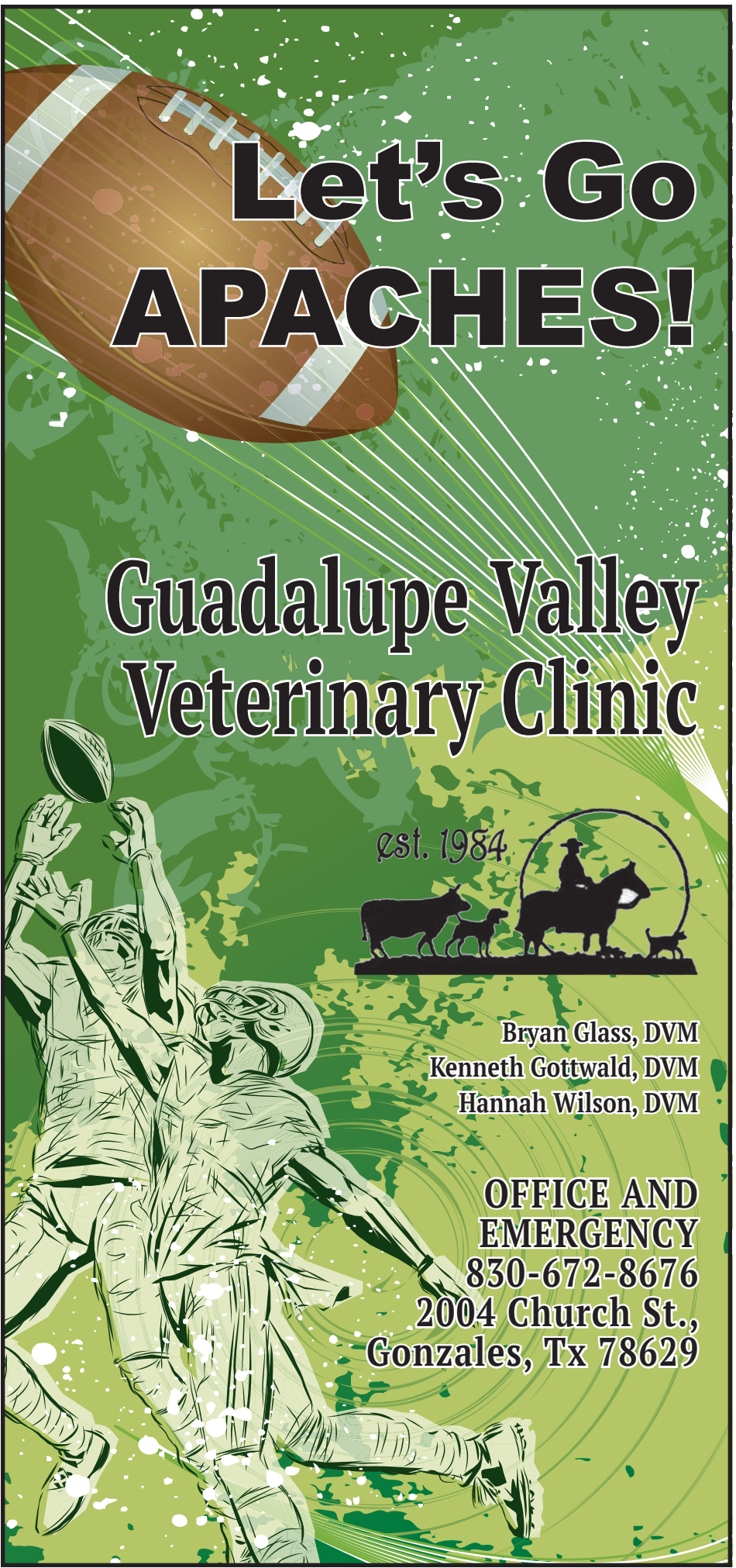
The Apaches will have a couple of wild cards on defense this season: Bryce Brown, who was injured last year, will be returning to the secondary, and Carlos Verastegui is also expected to contribute heavily.

“He’s [Brown] had a tremendous recovery and a tremendous spring and Carlos Verastegui has had an excellent summer; that guy is up here every single day,” Rivera said.

Rivera’s expectation for his first season with Gonzales is competing every single week for the 2022 season.

“I see us competing in every single game. I’ve told our guys. I’ve told our coaches. I intend on making the playoffs,” Rivera said. “From day one. I’ve told these guys, ‘Yes, we want to compete for state championship, but if you’re not playing for that, if that’s not the end goal in mind, then what are we doing?’” Rivera continued.


The Apaches kick off their season at home against Bastrop Cedar Creek this Friday, Aug. 26, and will kick off their district games on the road against Caldwell on Friday, Oct. 7.



Let’s Go APACHES!

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 GARY LEWIS	 EDEN LOPEZ	 TRAVIS MALVEAUX	 EMMANUEL MATAMOROS
 AYDEN MCFADIN	 GABRIEL MOSELEY	 DALLAS NAVEJAR	 JORDAN PADILLA
 JOSE PALACIOS	 DAEVIEN PITTS	 LANOM RHOADES	 COLT ROBINSON
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 KEVIN VELIZ	 DANGELO VIGIL	 RAYDEN WEBB	 WYATT WITHERS

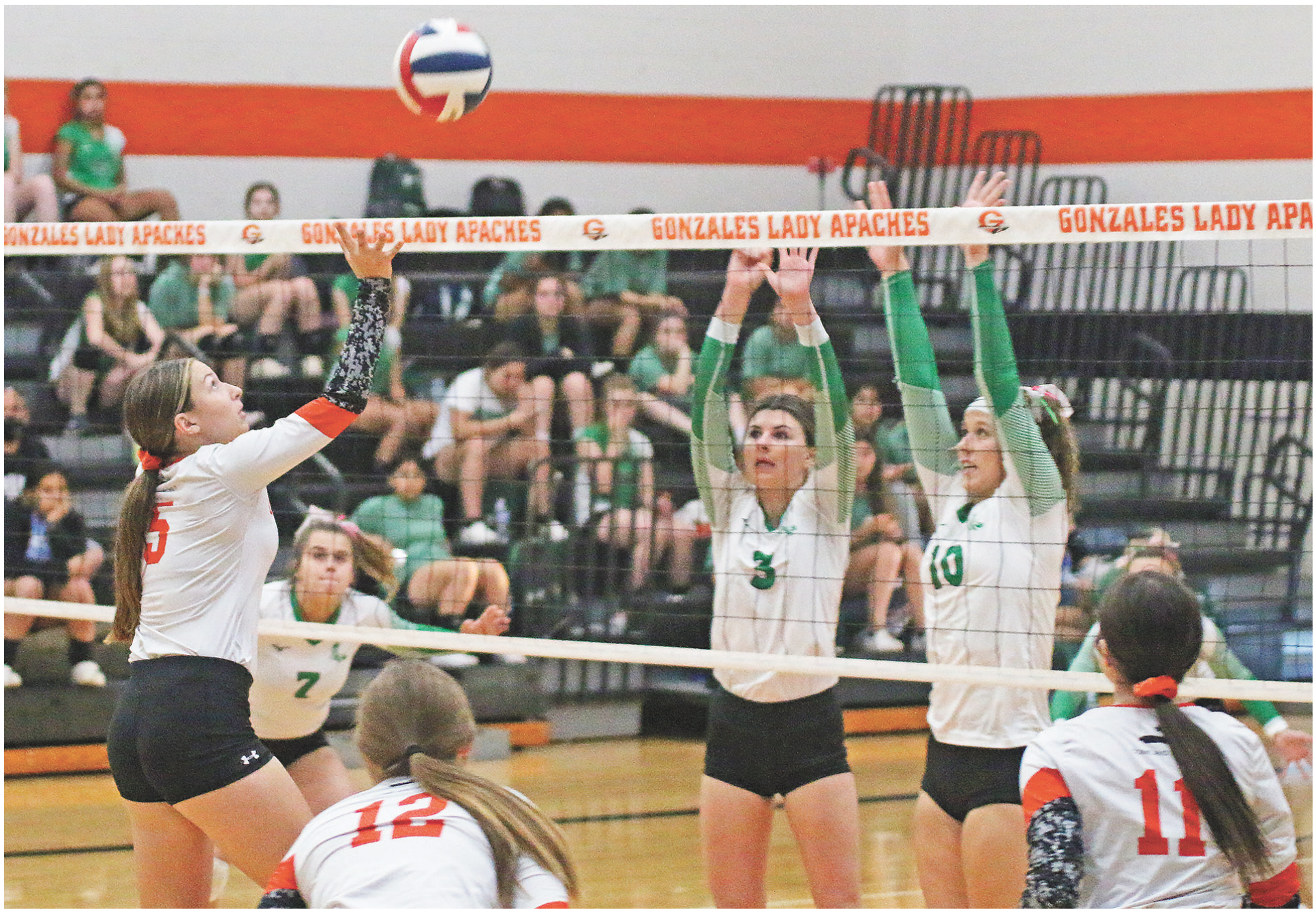


Let's Go,
Apaches!



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Sydney McCray (5) tips a ball over the net during a match against Pleasanton in 2021, while Macy Sample (12) and Tara Lester (11) get ready for any return volley. There are four seniors on Gonzales Lady Apaches volleyball squad, but juniors like McCray, Sample and Lester are also expected to contribute heavily this year.

New coach excited for Lady Apache volleyball

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches volleyball team will have a new coach for the 2022 season. Former Flatonia and Victoria College volleyball stand-out Erin Miller will begin her coaching career with the Lady Apaches this season and she is looking forward to the opportunity to work with the team.

“Now that we’ve started two days, I see a lot of potential in them; as far as the talent it’s definitely there,” Miller said. “We’re working on picking up our tempo, getting things moving faster, so we’re setting the tempo for every game. We’re not playing to the other team’s tempo.” The Lady Apaches have four senior players in McKenzie Hodges, Madison York, Kristyn

Baker and Carlee Ramos and Miller knows she has great leaders in those four players. “They are great leaders all the time that we’ve been working out. They’ve been getting after it on the track, in the weight room and on the court, really motivating our younger ones to really work hard and show up every day to get better,” Miller said. Miller has a big task, chang-

ing the culture of Gonzales volleyball, with a team that has been in a playoff drought since 2011 and with only three playoff appearances in the program’s history. The Lady Apaches are working to learn the philosophy of their new head coach and that philosophy is to grow as a team. Miller has been telling her players since day one about

growing as a team and learning to grow by making mistakes. “I’ve really been really pushing to help them understand that their job is not to be perfect. They can make mistakes; it’s my job to correct their mistakes,” Miller said. Gonzales will have a tough schedule heading into district, facing teams from Flatonia, See **VOLLEYBALL**, page B5



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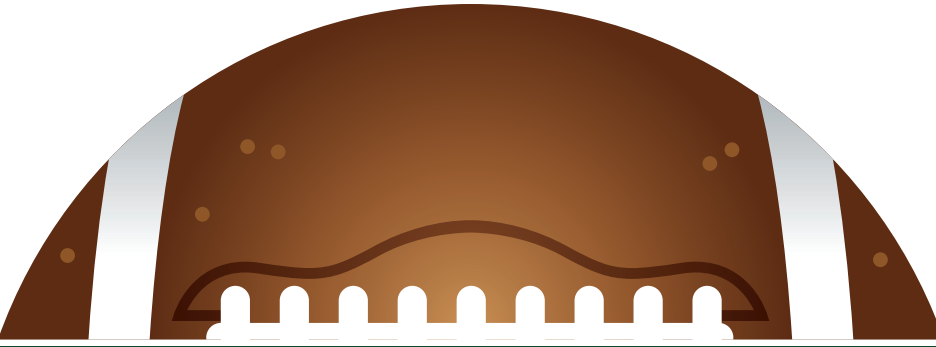
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SYDNEY MCCRAY

CARLEE RAMOS

CHRISTIE REYNA

MACY SAMPLE

DAKOTA SCHMIDT

MADDY YORK

ERIN MILLER
Head Volleyball Coach



Macy Sample (12) serves the ball during a 2021 match for the Lady Apaches. Meanwhile, senior Kristyn Baker goes up for a kill against Pleasanton. Baker is one of four seniors on the team, with the others being Mckenzie Hodges, Maddy York and Carlee Ramos.

LEW K. COHN



VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B4

Yoakum, Luling, Lehman and Smithville.

In district, Gonzales faces Cuero, La Vernia, San Antonio Young Women’s Leadership, San Antonio Fox Tech, San Antonio Kennedy and San Antonio Memorial.

“I’m really excited to see this year. That’s a lot of new schools. Our opportunity to capitalize is going to be this year with our redistricting, as far as these are some newer schools,” Miller said.

The Apaches kicked off the season against Flatonia, and Miller is looking forward to facing teams like La Vernia and Cuero in district play.

“The competition is great. The energy is great from the girls; the energy is great from the crowd. Those are the ones that really good and

exciting,” Miller stated.

The Lady Apaches new coach has big expectations for her first year and has plans to put another banner up.

“We have so many good things that we can capitalize on this year. There’s a lot of new, but I think that all of it brings great opportunities, and we are getting out of the district this year (into the playoffs),” Miller stated.

The Lady Apaches continue their season as they play in the Cuero tournament this Friday, Aug. 26, and Saturday, Aug. 27.

JUNIOR VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

KYLEE BAIRRINGTON

SAMANTHA BAKER

MADDIE BLACKWELL

HAILEY CAMARILLO

SKARLETT CERDA

KRISSY HODGES

ISABELLA IKARD

MARISKA LEAL

JOLEE LESTER

AUBREY LINDEMANN

LOERA KARYME

ARIELLE MITCHELLE

SARAH PADILLA

FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL

YAZMIN BARRIENTOS

MCKENZIE GILLETTE

PAIGE KUNTSCHIK

TENLEY MATIAS

MALAIYAH MAYO

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GONZALES

APACHES



2022/2023

Gonzales High School - Football (M) Varsity

Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 12	6:30 PM	@ Beeville	Beeville High School	
Aug 19	7:00 PM	@ Poteet	Poteet HS	
Aug 26	7:00 PM	vs Bastrop Cedar Creek	Apache Field	Youth League/Junior High Appreciation
Sep 2	7:00 PM	@ La Vernia	La Vernia High School	
Sep 9	7:00 PM	vs Marion	Apache Field	Homecoming
Sep 16	7:00 PM	vs Pleasanton	Apache Field	First Responders and Military Appreciation Night
Sep 23	7:30 PM	@ Yoakum	Yoakum High School	
Oct 7	7:30 PM	@ Caldwell	Caldwell High School	
Oct 14	7:30 PM	@ Cuero	Cuero High School	
Oct 21	7:30 PM	vs Smithville	Apache Field	Pink Out
Oct 28	7:30 PM	@ La Grange	La Grange High School	
Nov 4	7:30 PM	vs Giddings	Apache Field	Senior Night



2022/2023

Gonzales High School - Football (M) 9th grade

Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 12	5:00 PM	@ Beeville	Beeville High School	
Aug 19	6:00 PM	@ Poteet	Poteet HS	
Aug 25	5:30 PM	@ Bastrop Cedar Creek	Cedar Creek High School	
Sep 1	5:00 PM	vs La Vernia	Apache Field	
Sep 8	5:00 PM	@ Marion	Marion High School	
Sep 15	5:00 PM	@ Pleasanton	Pleasanton High School	
Sep 22	5:00 PM	vs Yoakum	Apache Field	
Sep 29	TBA	vs BYE		
Oct 6	5:00 PM	vs Caldwell	Apache Field	
Oct 13	5:00 PM	vs Cuero	Apache Field	
Oct 20	5:00 PM	@ Smithville	Smithville High School	
Oct 27	5:00 PM	vs La Grange	Apache Field	
Nov 3	5:30 PM	@ Giddings	Giddings High School	



2022/2023

Gonzales High School - Volleyball (F) 9th grade

Lady Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 5	10:00 AM	@ @Flatonia		
Aug 9	TBA	@ @Yoakum HS	Yoakum High School	
Aug 10	TBA	@ @Schulenburg (F) Tournament		
Aug 16	5:00 PM	vs Smithville	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	
Aug 23	4:30 PM	vs Lehman/Luling Dual		Junior High New Gym
Aug 30	5:30 PM	vs Edna	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	
Sep 2	4:30 PM	vs Ganado	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	
Sep 6	TBA	@ Yoakum	Yoakum High School	
Sep 9	5:30 PM	vs LaVernia	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	
Sep 13	5:30 PM	@ SA Fox Tech		
Sep 16	5:30 PM	vs SAYWL	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	
Sep 20	5:30 PM	@ SA Memorial		
Sep 23	5:30 PM	vs SA Kennedy	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	Jr High Night
Sep 27	5:30 PM	@ Cuero	Cuero High School	
Oct 4	5:30 PM	@ LaVernia		
Oct 7	5:30 PM	vs SA Fox Tech	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	
Oct 11	5:30 PM	@ SAYWL		
Oct 14	5:30 PM	vs SA Memorial	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	
Oct 18	5:30 PM	@ SA Kennedy		
Oct 21	5:30 PM	vs Cuero	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	Senior Night
Oct 25	TBA	@		



2022/2023

Gonzales High School - Cross Country (C) Varsity

Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 13	8:00 AM	@ Victoria	Barnes Middle School	
Aug 27	8:00 AM	@ La Vernia	La Vernia High School	JV / Varsity
Sep 1	5:00 PM	@ Schulenburg	Schulenburg Sports Complex	JV / Varsity
Sep 10	8:30 AM	@ Moulton	Moulton City Park	JV / Varsity
Sep 17	10:50 AM	@ Islander Splash	Dugan Track and Soccer Stadium	Varsity only
Sep 24	8:30 AM	vs Gonzales Invitational		JV / Varsity
Sep 28	9:00 AM	@ Wimberley	Wimberley Quicksand Golf Course	JV / Varsity
Oct 6	5:00 PM	@ Seguin-Starke Park	Seguin - Starke Park	JV / Varsity Practice
Oct 11	9:00 AM	@ District- Seguin Starke Park	Seguin - Starke Park	JV / Varsity



2022/2023

Gonzales High School - Football (M) Junior Varsity

Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 12	5:00 PM	@ Beeville	Beeville High School	
Aug 19	6:00 PM	@ Poteet	Poteet HS	
Aug 25	7:00 PM	@ Bastrop Cedar Creek	Cedar Creek High School	
Sep 1	6:30 PM	vs La Vernia	Apache Field	
Sep 8	6:30 PM	@ Marion	Marion High School	
Sep 15	6:30 PM	@ Pleasanton	Pleasanton High School	
Sep 22	6:30 PM	vs Yoakum	Apache Field	
Sep 29	6:30 PM	vs Bye		
Oct 6	6:30 PM	vs Caldwell	Apache Field	
Oct 13	6:30 PM	vs Cuero	Apache Field	
Oct 20	6:30 PM	@ Smithville	Smithville High School	
Oct 27	6:30 PM	vs La Grange	Apache Field	
Nov 3	6:30 PM	@ Giddings	Giddings High School	



2022/2023
Gonzales High School - Volleyball (F) Varsity
Lady Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 5	10:00 AM	@ Flatonia		
Aug 6	10:00 AM	vs Alumni	Apache Gymnasium	
Aug 9	5:00 PM	@ Yoakum	Yoakum High School	
Aug 12	8:00 AM	@ Shiner Tournament		
Aug 16	6:00 PM	vs Smithville	Apache Gymnasium	
Aug 18	8:00 AM	@ Schulenburg Tournament		
Aug 23	4:30 PM	vs Lehman/Luling	Apache Gymnasium	
Aug 26	8:00 AM	@ Cuero Tournament	Cuero High School	
Aug 30	6:30 PM	vs Edna	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 2	6:30 PM	vs Ganado	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 6	6:30 PM	@ Yoakum	Yoakum High School	
Sep 9	6:30 PM	vs LaVernia	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 13	6:30 PM	@ SA FoxTech		
Sep 16	6:30 PM	vs SAYWL	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 20	7:00 PM	@ SA Memorial		
Sep 23	6:30 PM	vs SA Kennedy	Apache Gymnasium	Junior High Night
Sep 27	6:30 PM	@ Cuero	Cuero High School	
Oct 4	6:30 PM	@ LaVernia	La Vernia High School	
Oct 7	6:30 PM	vs SA FoxTech	Apache Gymnasium	
Oct 11	7:30 PM	@ SAYWL		
Oct 14	6:30 PM	vs SA Memorial	Apache Gymnasium	
Oct 18	6:30 PM	@ SA Kennedy		



2022/2023

Gonzales High School - Volleyball (F) Junior Varsity

Lady Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 5	10:00 AM	@ Flatonia		
Aug 8	TBA	@ Schulenburg Tournament		JV A
Aug 9	TBA	@ Yoakum/Shiner Dual	Yoakum High School	
Aug 10	TBA	@ Schulenburg Tournament		JV B
Aug 16	5:00 PM	vs Smithville	Apache Gymnasium	
Aug 23	4:30 PM	vs Luling/Lehman	Apache Auxiliary Gym HS	Dual Match
Aug 30	5:30 PM	vs Edna	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 2	4:30 PM	vs Ganado	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 6	TBA	@ Yoakum	Yoakum High School	
Sep 9	5:30 PM	vs La Vernia	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 13	5:30 PM	@ SA Fox Tech		
Sep 16	5:30 PM	vs SAYWL	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 20	6:30 PM	@ SA Memorial		
Sep 23	5:30 PM	vs SA Kennedy	Apache Gymnasium	Jr. High Night
Sep 27	5:30 PM	@ Cuero	Cuero High School	
Oct 4	5:30 PM	@ LaVernia	La Vernia High School	
Oct 7	5:30 PM	vs SA FoxTech	Apache Gymnasium	
Oct 11	6:15 PM	@ SAYWL		
Oct 14	5:30 PM	vs SA Memorial	Apache Gymnasium	
Oct 18	5:30 PM	@ SA Kennedy		
Oct 21	5:30 PM	vs Cuero	Apache Gymnasium	Sr Night

VOLLEYBALL

Date	Opponent
8/16	@ Buckholts (Buckholts, TX)
5:00p	Location: Buckholts High School
8/30	Austwell-Tivoli (Tivoli, TX)
5:00p	Location: Waelder High School
9/2	Flatonia (Flatonia, TX)
4:00p	Location: Waelder High School
9/9	Austwell-Tivoli (Tivoli, TX)
5:00p	Location: Waelder High School
9/13	Bartlett (Bartlett, TX)
5:00p	Game Details: Varsity Only
9/16	@ Flatonia (Flatonia, TX)
4:00p	Location: Flatonia High School
9/20	Dime Box (Dime Box, TX)
5:00p	Location: Waelder High School
9/27	McDade (McDade, TX) *
6:00p	Location: Waelder High School
9/30	@ Fayetteville (Fayetteville, TX) *
5:00p	Location: Fayetteville High School
10/14	@ McDade (McDade, TX) *
5:00p	Location: McDade High School
10/18	Fayetteville (Fayetteville, TX) *
6:00p	Location: Waelder High School



NIXON-SMILEY MUSTANGS



NIXON-SMILEY MUSTANGS 2022 Lady Mustang Volleyball MIDDLE SCHOOL



Date		Opponent	Site	Time
Aug. 22	Monday	Marion	AWAY	5:00
Aug. 29	Monday	Cole	AWAY	5:00
Sept. 8	Thursday	Randolph	HOME	5:00
Sept. 12	Monday	Luling	HOME	5:00
Sept. 19	Monday	Stockdale	HOME	5:00
Sept. 24	Saturday	Yoakum Tournament	AWAY	TBD
Sept. 26	Monday	Marion	HOME	5:00
Oct. 3	Monday	Cole	HOME	5:00
Oct. 13	Thursday	Randolph	AWAY	5:00
Oct. 17	Monday	Luling	AWAY	5:00
Oct. 24	Monday	Stockdale	AWAY	5:00
Oct. 29	Saturday	District Tournament	TBD	TBD

*Both tournaments will be 'A' teams only

Middle School Coaches: Tai Apisa, Douglas Boatright, Katarina Leal

Athletic Director: Carlton McKinney

Head Volleyball Coach: Loraine Zuniga

Principal: Brittany Rogers

Superintendent: Jeff VanAuken



Lady Mustang Volleyball Schedule 2022

Date	Opponent	Place	Times	Teams
Mon. 8/1	Two-A-Days	Gym	7 am	ALL
Sat. 8/6	Cuero Scrimmage	Cuero	TBD	F/JV/V
Tues. 8/9	Yorktown	Yorktown	6/7pm	JV/V
Thur. 8/11-8/13	Yorktown Tournament	Yorktown	TBD	V
Tues. 8/16	Falls City	Nixon	5/6/7pm	F/JV/V
Fri. 8/19-8/20	Nixon-Smiley Tournament	Nixon	TBD	V
Tues. 8/23	Stockdale	Stockdale	5/6/7pm	F/JV/V
Fri. 8/26-8/27	Cuero Tournament	Cuero	TBD	V
Tues. 8/30	Yoakum	Yoakum	5/5/6pm	F/JV/V
Fri. 9/2	Three Rivers	Nixon	4:30 pm	V
Tues. 9/6	Shiner	Shiner	5/6/7pm	F/JV/V
Fri. 9/9	Marion	Marion	5/6/7pm	V/JV/F
Tues. 9/13	Cole	Nixon	5/6/7pm	F/JV/V
Fri. 9/16	Monte Vista	Nixon	5/6/7pm	V/JV/F
Tues. 9/20	OPEN			
Fri. 9/23	Northern Oaks	Nixon	5/6/6pm	V/JV/F
Tues. 9/27	Luling	Nixon	5/6/7pm	F/JV/V
Fri. 9/30	Randolph	Randolph	5/6/7pm	V/JV/F
^Tues. 10/4	Marion	Nixon	5/6/7pm	F/JV/V
Fri. 10/7	Cole	Cole	5/6/6pm	V/JV/F
Tues. 10/11	Monte Vista	Monte Vista	5/5/6pm	F/JV/V
Fri. 10/14	OPEN			
Tues. 10/18	Northern Oaks	Northern Oaks	5/6/7pm	F/JV/V
Fri. 10/21	Luling	Luling	5/6/7pm	V/JV/F
^^Tues. 10/25	Randolph	Nixon	5/6/7pm	F/JV/V

NIXON-SMILEY MUSTANGS 2022 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



VARSITY

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Aug. 11	*Shiner St. Paul (Scrimmage)	HOME	5:00
Aug. 18	*Kenedy (scrimmage)	HOME	6:00
Aug. 26	SA Christian (Meet The Mustangs / Parent's Night)	AWAY	7:30
Sept. 2	Three Rivers	HOME	7:30
Sept. 9	Flatonia	HOME	7:30
Sept. 16	Wallos Brazos	AWAY	7:00
Sept. 23	**Comfort	AWAY	7:30
Sept. 30	**Karnes City (Pink Out Game)	HOME	7:30
Oct. 7	**Dilley	AWAY	7:30
Oct. 14	**Poth (Homecoming)	HOME	7:30
Oct. 21	**SA West Campus	AWAY	7:30
Oct.. 28	OPEN		
Nov. 4	**Natalia (Senior Night)	HOME	7:30

JUNIOR VARSITY

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Aug. 12	*Shiner St. Paul (Scrimmage)	HOME	5:00
Aug. 18	*Kenedy (scrimmage)	HOME	6:00
Aug. 25	SA Christian	HOME	5:30
Sept.1	Three Rivers	AWAY	5:30
Sept. 8	Flatonia	AWAY	5:30
Sept. 15	Wallos Brazos	HOME	6:00
Sept. 22	**Comfort	HOME	5:30
Sept. 29	Karnes City	AWAY	5:30
Oct. 6	Dilley	HOME	5:30
Oct. 13	**Poth	AWAY	5:30
Oct. 20	**Karnes City	HOME	5:30
Oct..27	Open		
Nov. 3	**Natalia	AWAY	5:30

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Sept. 8	Flatonia	HOME	5, 6:15
Sept. 15	Open		
Sept. 22	**Comfort	AWAY	5,6:15
Sept.29	**Karnes City	HOME	5, 6:15
Oct. 6	**Dilley	AWAY	5,6:15
Oct. 13	**Poth	HOME	5, 6:15
Oct. 20	**Karnes City	AWAY	5, 6:15
Oct. 27	Navarro	AWAY	5, 6:15
Nov. 3	**Natalia	HOME	5, 6:15

* scrimmage ** district game

**Meet the Mustangs and Parent's Night will take place
on Wednesday the week of the first game**
Revised 7/28/22

2022 MUSTANG CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE



DATE	SPONSOR	PLACE	
Aug. 20	Kenedy Inv.	Kenedy, Texas	HS/MS
Sept. 3	S.A. FEAST Inv.	San Antonio, Texas	HS/MS
Sept. 10	Moulton Inv.	Moulton, Texas	HS & MS
Sept. 17	Shiner Inv.	Shiner, Texas	HS & MS
Oct. 1	Poth Inv.	Poth, Texas	HS & MS
Oct.	DISTRICT	TBA	HS & MS
Oct.	REGIONAL	TBA	HS
Nov.	STATE	TBA	HS

SUPERINTENDENT: JEFF VANAUKEN
PRINCIPAL: JIM WEAVER
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: CARLTON MCKINNEY
HEAD COACH: TBA

2022 St. Paul Cardinal Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
August 11	Nixon Smiley (Scrimmage)	Away	6:00 PM
August 18/19	TBD	Away	
August 26	Flatonia	Home	7:30 PM
September 2	TMI	Away	7:00 PM
September 10	Muenster Sacred Heart	The Star at Frisco	9:00 PM
September 16	Woodlands Legacy Homecoming	Home	7:30 PM
September 23	Geneva Boerne	Home	7:30 PM
September 30	Austin Brentwood	Away	7:00 PM
October 7	Holy Cross	Home	7:30 PM
October 14	Sacred Heart*	Away	7:30 PM
October 21	Temple CTC* Parent's Night	Home	7:30 PM
October 28	Open		
November 4	New Braunfels Christian*	Away	7:30 PM

November 11/12
November 18/19
November 25/26
December 2/3

*District Game

2022 SLE Cardinal Football Schedule

September 7	Nazareth	Away	5:30 PM
September 15	Sacred Heart	Home	5:00 PM
September 28	OLV	Away	5:00 PM
October 5	St. Anthony	Away	6:00 PM
October 13	St. Philip	Home	5:30 PM
October 27	St. Rose	Home	5:00 PM

SHINER ST. PAUL CARDINALS

2022 St. Paul Volleyball Schedule



Date	Opponent	Location	Teams	Time
August				
5	Yoakum (scrimmage)	There	JV1/JV2/V	9:00(3 courts)
6	Bryan Brazos(scrim)	Home	JV1/JV2/V	
16	Flatonia	There	JV/ V	5/6:00
19-20	Hill Country Christian (Tour)	There	V	TBD
19	Giddings	Home	JV/ V	4/5:00
23	Edna	Home	JV/ V	5/6:00
25-27	Rice (Tour)	There	V	TBD
30	Shiner	There	JV1/JV2/V	5/6:/7:00
September				
1	Cedar Park Summit*	Home	V	6:00
1 and 3	Flatonia (Tour)	There	JV1/ JV2	TBD
2	Hallettsville	There	JV/V	4/5:00
6	Austin San Juan Diego*	There		
8	Bulverde Bracken*	Home	JV1/JV2/V	5/6:/7:00
13	Kerrville Our Lady of the Hills*	There	JV/V	5/6:00
15	Austin Waldorf*	Home	JV/V	5:30/6:30
16-17	Hill Country Christian (Tour)	There	JV	TBD
20	Pflugerville Concordia *	Home	JV/V	6:30/7:30
22	Sacred Heart*	Home	JV/V	5/6:00
27	Cedar Park Summit*	There	V	
29	Austin San Juan Diego*	Home		
30	Brentwood	There	JV/V	4/5:00
October				
4	Bulverde Bracken*	There	JV1/JV2/V	5/6:/7:00
6	Kerrville Our Lady of the Hills*	Home	JV/V	5/6:00
13	Pflugerville Concordia*	There	JV/V	6:30/7:30
15	Austin Waldorf*	There	JV/V	12/1:00
18	Sacred Heart*	There	JV1/JV2/V	5/6:/7:00
27	District Certification			

Physical Addresses:

Austin SJD
2512 S. First Street
Austin, Tx 78704

Kerrville OLH
235 Peterson Farm Road
Kerrville, Tx 78028

Pflugerville Concordia
500 Immanuel Rd
Pflugerville, Tx 78660

Sacred Heart
313 S. Texana St.
Hallettsville, Tx 77964

Bulverde Bracken
670 Old Boerne Road
Bulverde, Tx 78163

Cedar Park Summit
2121 Cypress Creek Rd.
Cedar Park, 78613

Date	Opponent	Location	Start Time	Teams
Wednesday, August 17	St. Rose - Schulenburg	405 Black St., Schulenburg, TX 78956	5:30	A/B/C
Monday, August 22	Bloomington Middle School	2781 FM 616, Victoria, TX 77905	5:30	A/B/C
Thursday, August 25	St. Anthony - Columbus	HOME	5:00	A/B
Saturday, August 27	TOURNAMENT Our Lady of Victoria - Victoria	1311 E. Mesquite Ln., Victoria, TX 77901	TBD	A
Monday, August 29	Our Lady of the Gulf - Port Lavaca	415 W Austin St, Port Lavaca, TX 77979	6:00	A
Tuesday, September 13	Nazareth Academy - Victoria	HOME	5:00	A/B
Wednesday, September 14	Sacred Heart - Hallettsville	313 S Texana St, Hallettsville, TX 77964	5:00	A/B
Saturday, September 17	TOURNAMENT St. Rose - Schulenburg	405 Black St., Schulenburg, TX 78956	TBD	B
Monday, September 26	St. Joseph - Yoakum	210 Schrimsher St., Yoakum, TX 77995	5:00	A only
Saturday, October 1	TOURNAMENT Our Lady Victory - Victoria	1311 E. Mesquite Ln., Victoria, TX 77901	TBD	B
Monday, October 3	Our Lady of Victory - Victoria	1311 E. Mesquite Ln., Victoria, TX 77901	5:00	A/B/C
Monday, October 10	St. Philip - El Campo	HOME	5:00	A/B/C
Saturday, October 15	TOURNAMENT St. Michael - Weimar	103 East North Street, Weimar, TX 78962	TBD	A
Thursday, October 20	St. Michael - Weimar	HOME	5:00	A/B
Wednesday, October 26	Trinity Episcopal - Victoria	1504 N Moody St, Victoria, TX 77901	5:00	A/B/C

Shiner St. Paul Cross Country Schedule 2022

August 20	Yoakum	VB, VG, JHB, JHG
September 1st	Schulenburg	JHB, JHG
September 3rd	Feast Patriot (SA)	VB, VG
September 10th	OFF	
September 17th	Shiner.	VB, VG, JHB, JHG
September 24th	Gonzales	VB, VG, JHB, JHG
October 1st	Shiner (JH last meet)	VB, VG, JHB, JHG
October 8th	Round Top	VB, VG
October 15th	OFF	VB, VG
October 22nd	Victoria Citizens (Race for Cure)	VB, VG
October 31st	STATE (Cottonwood @ Waco)	VB, VG
	Race times: boys 1:15/ girls 2:20	

NIXON-SMILEY VARSITY FOOTBALL ROSTER



1 TRISTAN MIKESH



2 LUKE MOSES



3 AIDEN FLORES



5 GEORGE RODRIGUEZ



9 JOHN GARZA



10 OSCAR ACOSTA



11 KADE DIXON



14 BRANDYN MARTINEZ



17 CARL WHITE



32 OMAR MORALES



50 MIGUEL VALERIO



53 SEBASTIAN ORTIZ



54 RYAN PAEZ



55 KEVIN ZAVALA



60 DAKOTA ONEAL



62 JESUS ESPINO



63 DEREK MALDONADO



70 FERNANDO MEJIA



73 JOSE PEREZ



88 HOLDEN CANION

NOT PICTURED

4 ORLANDO FLORES
8 ARMANDO MARTINEZ
24 AJ ZAMORA
66 GRACEN MARTIN

Moses preps year two with Mustangs

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs looking to improve and learn from second-year head football coach Troy Moses.

Moses said he and his team are taking it “day by day” and “trying to get better every day” in preparation for the 2022 season.

“Our kids are showing up with excitement and a since of urgency every day,” Moses said.

The Mustangs will be under year two of Moses’s slot-T offense and Moses said the team

is miles ahead from where they were last season.

“The kids understand what we are trying to accomplish with each play and how that play is a part of each package,” Moses said. “That understanding is what makes our offense work. We never really made it to that point last year, because we were having to teach everything brand new.”



TROY MOSES
Nixon-Smiley
Head Football Coach

Division II, since the district realignment happened early this year.

The team’s defense be basing out of the split defense, Moses said, and added that it will give them a better chance to stop the run and beat the opponent with their passing game.

The Mustangs will be in a tough and competitive in District 15-3A,

Nixon-Smiley will have No. 7 ranked Poth, Natalia, Karnes City, Comfort, Dilley, and South San Antonio West in their district, and Moses is looking forward to these teams.

“The district is a very competitive district, with Poth being the front runner every year. The addition of Comfort makes the district that much tougher,” Moses said.

Moses and his team are raising the bar in their non-district matches with SA Christian, Three Rivers, Flatonia and Wallis Brazos.

“I’m not going to schedule

teams just so we can try to get a W,” Moses stated “I want to raise the level of play, and in order to do that, we must play better competition. We will be challenged every week and that is good for our team.”

The Mustangs will have nine seniors on the team this year and they have been the driving force since the end of last season, Moses said.

“They want to be successful and it shows every day. They are leading with their actions on the field and our younger

See **MUSTANGS**, page B9

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Jesus Espino grapples down a running back during a 2021 game. Espino is expected to be a force for the Mustangs on the offensive line and on defense.

PHOTOS BY LOUIS DECKER



Bradyn Martinez (14) directs his lead blocker to help protect him as he seeks more yards for the Mustangs in a game against George West. Martinez is the team's top returning rusher and a two-way starter. Below, Nixon-Smiley running back George Rodriguez (5) is flipped into the air by a George West tackler in a 2021 game. Rodriguez is expected to be one of the main ball carriers for the Mustangs.



MUSTANGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B8

players see this, and they are making a big change here in Nixon," Moses said.

Moses went over the strengths and weaknesses of this year's team and one of the things they'll be working on is being successful.

"I think our weakness is that our kids haven't experienced success before and sometimes not knowing how to get there can hold you back," Moses said. "We have a ton of poten-

tial on this team and we will have to work hard to get over these speed bumps."

The two biggest strengths of the 2022 Mustangs are their speed and quickness, Moses said, and they'll be taking advantage of those strengths on their offense and defense.

Moses' expectations for the 2022 Mustang is to give everything they've got for this season.

"We don't worry too much

about the scoreboard. We just want to control what we can control, and that is our effort and attitude," Moses said. "If, at the end of the season, we can look back and honestly say we gave great effort and had a great attitude, then I think we're going to look at our record and say this was a great season — one to remember."

The Mustangs kick off their season on the road against San Antonio Christian this Friday,

Aug. 26, and they kick off district play at Comfort on Friday, Sept. 23.

STARTING OFFENSE: Quarterback Luke Moses, fullback Aiden Flores, halfback George Rodriguez, tight back Bradyn Martinez, split end Holden Canion, strong tackle Dakota O'Neil, strong guard Jesus Espino, center Kevin Zavala, quick guard Ryan Paez, quick tackle Fernando Mejia, and

swing man Kade Dixon.

STARTING DEFENSE: free safety Bradyn Martinez, cornerback Mikes Tristen, cornerback Carl White, linebacker Sebastian Ortiz, linebacker Armando Martinez, middle linebacker George Rodriguez, strong safety John Garza, defensive end Holden Canion, defensive end Fernando Mejia, defensive tackle Derek Maldonado, and defensive tackle Jesus Espino.



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Lady Mustangs look to improve from last season

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs are looking to continue and improve where they left off from their 2021 season.

The Lady Mustangs finished with a 12-2 district record last season and were a bi-district finalist. Head volleyball coach Loraine Zuniga was pleased with last season, but the team fell short of a bi-district title.

“We were very pleased with our season last year, but also realize how close we were to becoming bi-district champions. It hit us all very hard to fall just short of that accomplishment,” Zuniga said.

Zuniga is looking forward to the 2022 season, especially with different players in different positions this season, and working on building the team’s strength.

“Our mindset when we step onto the court every day is to use every touch we can get on the ball as an opportunity to get better and prepare for a run in the playoffs,” Zuniga said.

There are five seniors on this year’s team — Madisyne Rice, Kaidence Pecina, Mary Kate Garcia, Natalee Mendez and Haven Davis — and Zuniga said their leadership will take the team to the next level.

“They really push our underclassmen to strive for perfection and are very vocal on the court. Many of them put in a substantial amount of extra work this summer to build upon their skills as a player,” Zuniga said.

District 26-3A remains competitive from last season, despite the district realignment. The Lady Mustangs will face Luling, Marion, SA Great Hearts Monte Vista North, SA Great Hearts Northern Oaks, San Antonio Cole, and defending district champion Universal City Randolph.

“Our district will remain competitive. All of the teams that we face in district will be a test to our ability to play our game and limit the amount of mistakes



HAILEE HOUSETON



KAIDENCE PECINA



KYLEIGH MCKISSACK



MADISYNE RICE



EMMERSYN STONE



MARY KATE GARCIA



DEANNA AMAYA



ARIEL VILLANUEVA



NATALEE MENDEZ



KENDALL AMAYA

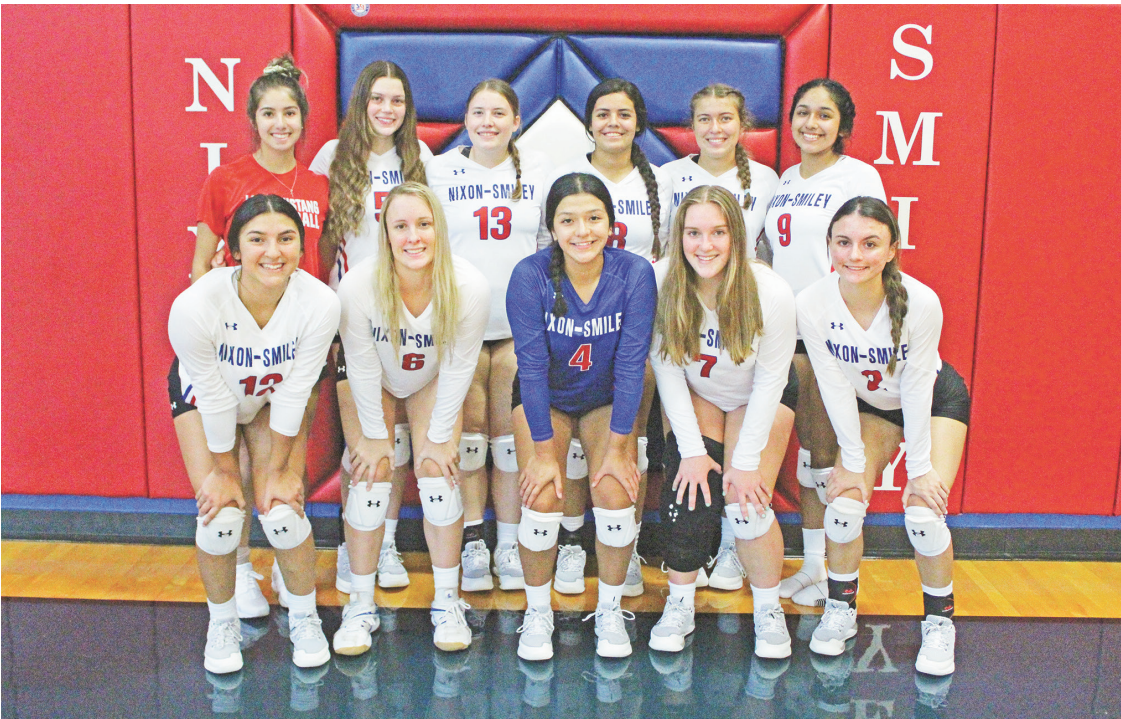


HAVEN DAVIS



HEAD COACH
Loraine Zuniga

ASSISTANT COACHES
John Hoelter
Kyla Linton



VANDY VAN EPPS

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs are looking to do more than just make the playoffs in 2022 — they want to go deep into the postseason. Team members are, front row from left, Kendall Amaya, Madisyne Rice, Kaidence Pecina, Emmersyn Stone and Hailee Houseton. Back row are Ariel Villanueva, Kyleigh McKissack, Haven Davis, Mary Kate Garcia, Natalee Mendez and Deanna Amaya.

we make and points we give to other teams,” Zuniga said.

The Lady Mustangs’s only two district losses came from Randolph, and Zuniga is look-

ing forward to facing them again this season.

“We enjoy playing Randolph. They are a very skilled and talented team. We are aware of

some returning players that they have on their roster and know what their tendencies are,” Zuniga said. “As district approaches, we will work to

make adjustments that are suitable to challenge them to earn every point.”

When mentioning the strengths and weaknesses of the team, Zuniga said her team doesn’t have much weakness, but she believes they can always improve on their current skills.

On strengths, Zuniga said everyone on the team is committed 100 percent, no matter what role they have.

“We have some players that have really stepped up when asked to play a new position. They trust the process and want to do their best for the team,” Zuniga said.

The expectations are set for Zuniga’s Lady Mustangs this season, and believe they can go all they way this season.

“We believe that we can go all the way and have each committed to doing our part to get there,” Zuniga said. “I am looking forward to the remainder of our season and can’t wait to see what all this team can accomplish.”

The Lady Mustangs continue their season in the Cuero Tournament this weekend. They kick-off district play against Marion on the road Friday, Sept. 9.

Best of Luck, Apaches, for a successful season!



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Shiner St. Paul looks to extend historic title streak

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The Shiner St. Paul Cardinals football team will have a lot to live up to in 2022, based on recent history.

The Cardinals won the TAPPS Division IV state title in 2021 with an 11-1 record overall. It was the feather in the cap for a vaunted nine-man senior class that won four straight state titles — part of a run of seven state championships in 10 years for Shiner St. Paul.

“We have to replace some very talented players that graduated last year,” said head football coach and athletic director Jake Wachsmuth, who has instilled a tradition of excellence at the Catholic private school. “I think we have players that are ready to step up and do that. I think we have an opportunity to be a good football team, but that never happens right away. We are making improvement every day.”

The cupboard is far from bare for Wachsmuth when it comes to building another team for a long playoff run. A total of eight starters return on both offense and defense. It all starts in the trenches with senior Elliott Peters, a 6-2, 240-pound returning starter on both the offensive and defensive line who has been tabbed a pre-season All-State selection by Dave Campbell’s Texas



LORI RAABE

Front Row: From left to right Elijah Rodriguez, Kash McNabb, Gabe Darilek, Jude Boedeker ; Second row from left is Jacob Seibert, Matthew Wagner, Tate Anders, Zeke Rodriguez, Zane Barta, Alex Brown, Zeke Basquez, Sam Perez, Gus Collins, Jackson Seibert and Brayden Slaughter. Third row from left is Brody Biehunko, Thomas Klozik, Nathan Timmons, Cody Malinovsky, Wyatt Siegel, Joseph Peters, Kaleb Linn, Vance Lucas, Jackson Ulcak, Carson McNabb, Holden Jacobs, Josh Bonorden and Nate Boedeker. Top row from left is Jake Wachsmuth, Ron Johnson, Elliot Peters, Jacob Wachsmuth, Joseph Twyford, Carter Novak, Charlie Pilat, Gage Anders, Trent Brown, Ryan Geiger, Charlie Mieschen and Lance Giese.

Football magazine.

Peters, along with fellow returning seniors Carson McNabb (center/DL) and Jackson Ulcak and Jason Siebert (OL/DL), is expected to provide protection up front for returning senior quarterback Jacob Wachsmuth and junior

running back Nate Boedeker, who also starts at linebacker on defense. Junior Zane Barta, who played significantly at linebacker last year, also could see snaps on offense at running back.

Jacob Wachsmuth’s receiving targets will include senior

returning starting receiver Trent Brown, who also excels on defense at cornerback, and senior returning starting tight end Josh Bonorden, who also is expected to contribute on the defense.

Wachsmuth also said he will be relying on senior Matthew

Wager, a returning starter at cornerback, as well as Joseph Twyford, who has played significantly on both offensive and defensive line the past three years, and Brayden Slaughter, who played significantly at linebacker the past two years, to take on leadership roles on the team.

Texas Football has projected the Cardinals will finish first in District II, ahead of the Hallettsville Sacred Heart Indians, Temple Central Texas Christian Lions and New Braunfels Christian Wildcats, and will go on to win state again. St. Paul is ranked No. 15 overall in TAPPS, but is the highest-ranked Division IV team, just ahead of Lubbock Christian.

The Cards begin their season this Friday, Aug. 26, at home against Flatonia. Every year, Wachsmuth schedules at least one non-conference game against a larger secular school to help get his team ready for district play. Shiner St. Paul will face Muenster Sacred Heart on Saturday, Sept. 10, in a rematch of last year’s state finalists. Other non-conference games include away at TMI Episcopal in San Antonio, at home with Legacy Prep Christian Academy, at home against Boerne Geneva, and on the road at Brentwood Christian in Austin and at San Antonio Holy Cross. District play begins at Hallettsville Sacred Heart on Friday, Oct. 14.

New coach hopes to lead Lady Cards to greater heights

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The Shiner St. Paul Lady Cards volleyball team will have the luxury of having the TAPPS 2A Girls Coach of the Year as their new head coach this season.

Nicco Brown, who was an assistant for last year’s squad which made it to the regional finals in Class 2A, has taken over the head coaching duties for 2022. Brown’s girls cross country and golf teams won state championships last season and her boy’s golf team finished fifth in state. She also was an assistant on the girls state basketball squad which won state and the girls track team, which finished as Class 2A runners-up.

Brown said her squad of Lady Cards has “been working hard to sharpen their skills and

get ready for a new season, new team and a new year.”

This year’s squad is led by senior Ashlyn Pesek. Brown noted “she has been a part of the varsity team for three years and it shows.” Pesek is expected to lead the team in kills from an outside hitter and middle blocker position.

She also spoke about sophomore Dallyn Pesek as a “returning setter that feels more comfortable in her role this year” as well as returning strong middle blocker Faith Machart. Others expected to contribute are Avery Pesek, Emily Stamport, Maurin Knesek and Tori Walker.

“We are working on finding that team chemistry,” Brown said as the team prepared for a tournament in Seguin and a trip to Altair Rice Consolidated this week. “We are looking forward to great season.”



COURTESY LORI RAABE

From left are Avery Pesek, Stefany Pokluda, Emily Stamport, Riley Mozisek, Ashlyn Pesek, Tori Walker, Faith Machart, Dallyn Pesek and Maurin Knesek.



MUSTANGS IN ACTION

Above: Madsyane Rice (6) tries to misdirect a San Antonio Cole player by tipping the ball over the net during a Lady Mustang district match in 2021. Rice is one of the team’s senior leaders this season. Left: Natalee Mendez (11) prepares to hit a ball back over the net during a district volleyball match in 2021 while Kendall Amaya (12) watches. Mendez is one of several seniors on the Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs this season. Far left: Libero Kaidence Pecina serves during a match for Nixon-Smiley in 2021. Pecina is a senior this season, a returning starter and one of the sparkplugs for the Lady Mustangs.

PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN





New Lady Wildcats coach gets ready for season

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Waelder Lady Wildcats volleyball team are looking to improve their record from last season under their new head coach.

New head volleyball coach and former Shiner volleyball standout Mackinly Pilat is taking over a Wildcats team that finished with an 0-7 district record and were bi-district finalists last season.

This season Pilat and her team has been focusing on strength and conditioning for the 2022 team.

“In prior years, they [previous teams] really didn’t focus too much on getting in shape, working on their endurance, building muscles and stuff. I am a personal trainer. I believe that is very important in the foundation [of volleyball], so we’ve been breaking down a lot of footwork, trying to work more on communication and working together to reach our goal,” Pilat said.

As a former volleyball player, Pilat is using her experience as a player to connect with her players.

“I learned to play every position, so I am really good at reading people, just in general, like on tips of how they’re going to line up across court,” Pilat said.

The Lady Wildcats play in District 28-A with Fayetteville, McDade, Prairie Lea, and Round Top-Carmine, and Pilat is looking forward to facing the teams in the district.

“So looking at the district, our two top teams are going to be Fayetteville and Round Top,” Pilat said.

“But I tell (my team) every day, it’s how you show up. It doesn’t matter if you’re the best team in the state or you’re the worst team. It is how you show up that day and that’s how you’re gonna play,” Pilat continued.

The Lady Wildcats have three seniors this season, but the leadership Pilat has noticed is the leadership from her younger players.

“I think the younger ones are more



Above: The 2022 Waelder Lady Wildcats.
At right: Waelder head coach volleyball and former Shiner volleyball player Mackinly Pilat at practice in prep for her first season with the Lady Wildcats

leaders than the older ones right now, which I love just because I have them longer, so they can start that foundation. We can kind of start a program and they’ll still be here next year,” Pilat said.

The expectations for Pilat’s first season is to get the volleyball program going. She said before she got there, Waelder didn’t have a serious program, but she wants to build the program up.



Good luck to all of our Athletes!



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