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News

A Night of "Dancin' With The Stars"

By Minnel Vega, Editor in Chief/Opinion Editor

Cypress Dance had its final show of the school year, 'Dancing with the Stars' on April 9th and April 10th at Kennedy Performing Arts Center. The show highlighted the dances that students have learned this semester. Songs from this show included 'Keep Me Satisfied' by Jungle, 'Lip Gloss' by Lil Mama, 'Figure 8' by Junny, 'Attention' by Todrick Hall, 'Bittersuite' by Billie Eilish, and 'Snakes' by PVRIS & MIYAVI.

Putting together a dance show is not simple; there is a lot of planning that goes on in the background. Even though the planning plays a huge part in putting a dance show together, each dancer's personal growth is important, too. When asked how her students have improved, Mrs. **Kerri Fenton** said they improved, "In so many ways, all the little things, as far as all the attention to detail."She continued, "The performance level has leveled up immensely. I think their confidence has greatly improved."

There were many dance performances the audience enjoyed, but one that resonated with many people's hearts was 'Smooth Criminal' performed by senior **Ann Lee**.

For each dance show, each student might have something they're looking forward to. Sophomore **Iris Chem** shared, "Something I'm excited for about this dance concert is watching all the performances and seeing how everyone is growing so much from last year." Freshman **Kaitlyn Clark** added, "I'm looking forward to the whole dance show in general, because I get to be with my friends."



Jayda Juanillo performed with a lot of energy along with her classmates in Advanced Dance. (photo by Reina Takagi)

The spring dance show was the last show for many of the seniors who have been part of the program since their freshman year. Fenton expressed, "It makes me so sad. This is a super incredible group of seniors. They're really great examples for everyone. They just don't say it, they do it. I'm super proud of them, and it's going to be hard to say goodbye." Many of the students like the dance program, whether it's the community or the teacher. Chem remarked, "It's very fun, and the community is very good. The community helps a lot with enjoying dance." Clark said, "I like how Mrs. Fenton has really positive energy and is very motivating."

Overall, the spring dance show allowed students to bond with their friends and allowed them to gain new experiences they might not be able to get in other classes.

Sink or Sail?

By Jino Cruz, Business Manager/Sports Editor and Reina Takagi, Student Activities Editor



Cypress Physics and Green Tech participated in this year's boat races where students were allowed to customize their boats. (photo by Reina Takagi)

Cypress High School held its annual boat races on April 24, 2026. These races allow Green Tech and Physics students to show off what they've learned in class and apply it to compete against each other. Teams of students were tasked with making boats out of cardboard and duct tape with the goal of making it across the pool with people inside.

There was a wide variety of characters and themes for the boats, ranging from niche to well-known. Senior **Serina Min**'s boat theme was Despicable Me, and they dressed up as minions. "We were going to do Avatar, but we ran out of blue spray, so we just got yellow and made it minions," Min said.

Many students were successful in this competition. **Tresta Jadoc** and her team's boat was able to complete the boat races without sinking. Their theme was Finding Nemo, and Jadoc's team customized their boat by making it a turtle. Before and during the race, Jadoc felt excitement for her teammates, mostly since she wasn't going to be inside the boat. Although her team wasn't able to finish first, Jadoc says, "I don't really care about [winning], I was just thinking about if they were going to sink or not, and they didn't."

Physics teacher, **Justin Fournier**, who officiated this event said his favorite part of this project every year is seeing all the creativity that the students have with their boats. "I always really admire efficient boats that use the minimum amount of things..." he said. To Fournier, the boat races are an amazing way for students to help with building and actually applying the 5C's to a real, physical scenario.

From Pantry to Plate: A Comfort Kitchen for Students in Need

By Lauren Kimura, Social Media Manager/Video Editor

In March, Cypress High School celebrated the official opening of the student-led Comfort Kitchen. This on-campus pantry, located in the media center, provides various nutritious meals that are free and accessible to all students.

Put in motion by Senior **Parsmi Rajput** and teacher **Shelley Hawkins**, this kitchen aims to "make sure that nutrition or food insecurity doesn't get in a student's way of being able to thrive at school," said Rajput. With the support of the Bezos Scholars Program, a year-long leadership program for high-school students and educators, they were given the ability to launch the "Community Change Project" that became Cypress' Comfort Kitchen. "After spending a couple months with my educator and community members, researching what issue would be the best to tackle for our community, we realized a lot of things fell into place regarding food insecurity," Rajput described, realizing just how important this issue was to Cypress' community. In a similar way, this problem was also acknowledged by Sophomore and club President **Amelia Dinh**, who decided to start the Pantry Project. "I noticed that none of the clubs on campus focused on food specifically, so I wanted to fill in that gap because I knew food was a struggle for many people," Dinh said. She described the Pantry Project as a club that, "raises awareness, hosts events, and offers volunteer hours that are all related to food with the main objective of improving people's lives and helping in any way we can." Dinh emphasized how important it is to bring light to this issue, encouraging students to donate and participate in their events with the greater goal of expanding this club to schools across the country. For now, they are increasing their presence at Cypress High School with a combination of social media posts and on-campus advertising as well as a partnership with Rajput and Hawkins. Together, the Pantry Project helps keep the Comfort Kitchen stocked– a collaboration built from the shared commitment of addressing food inequalities.

In addition to the support from the Pantry Project and Bezos Foundation, the Comfort Kitchen also received a second grant from the food company, Sodexo. With this additional fund, the Comfort Kitchen is expanding to not only provide packaged goods but also fresh produce. Hawkins described how they used this second grant to partner with Cypress' Green Tech classes, run by teacher **Matthew Bidwell**. "His students are going to build hydroponic grow towers… so we can start growing fresh produce that kids can actually take home with them," Hawkins stated. Set to complete the garden before the end of the school year, the Comfort Kitchen looks to bring Cypress a new era of change where no student goes hungry.



Senior Parsami Rajput's efforts led to the official opening of Cypress' Comfort Kitchen. (photo by Yearbook)

AUHSD Steamapalooza Informs Students

By Jino Cruz, Business Manager/Sports Editor

Steamapalooza showcased many opportunities and exhibits at Magnolia High this year on April 18th. Students at this event had the opportunity to see what schools, internships and programs they could participate in.

Activities included things like information booths, food and performances such as lion dances and short theater shows, to things like Esports and robotics competitions.

A wide variety of people attended this event. Students from different schools checked out the exhibits, or future schools they may attend and adults and teachers helped out.

she said. Junior **Joey Martinez** participated in this year's Steamapalooza to perform in a dance by the Cypress Tinikling team. This year, Martinez liked how there were lots of events and booths for the students to visit, and she especially enjoyed the performances, such as Western Tinikling. Martinez was nervous performing at the event, but also felt accomplished. "I was able to realize that I'm a part of this and I'm a part of the program, so it was just a fun idea."

Principal **Jennifer Brown** went to this year's Steamapalooza to represent Cypress as well as meet other people and share everything she can about our



Cypress High's exhibit showcased things such as their newspapers, yearbooks, and CTV broadcasts. (photo by Jino Cruz)

Sophomore **Joy Kim** has attended Steamapalooza since 7th grade. Kim has enjoyed participating in the event every year because of the interesting booths offered to the students. This year, Kim enjoyed watching cultural dances such as the Lion dance and Tinikling (Filipino Dance) performances. Although this year, Kim found it hard to navigate through the event, she still found it fun to go to, and also a good resource for students to help aid in their future. "Steamapalooza helps cultivate students' knowledge about different careers/schools they may be interested in," school. Brown loves going to Steamapalooza, but wasn't fond of it being on the same day as prom. Despite this, she still loved seeing all the projects and other things, and she heavily encourages more students to come to the event to show off their skills and abilities. "We could help our students, especially our underclassmen, understand what Steamapalooza is about so that they can experience it as well." Steamapalooza creates amazing and authentic opportunities for the students and helps them grow in their passions.

Cypress Percussion "Embers" Ignites A New Record

By Jerry Tran, Social Media/Video Editor and Jayden Kay Editor in Chief /Photo Editor



Cypress Upper Battery drums before finals. (photo by Jerry Tran)

Cypress High School's indoor percussion became trail-"blazers" for their program with its show "Embers," earning record-breaking scores and a fourth-place finish at the SCPA Scholastic A Championships after months of rigorous preparation and competition.

The program, led by Front Ensemble Caption Head **Nicholas "Nick" Quan**, Battery Caption Head **Lorenzo "Lonzo" Everett**, Visual Design Caption Head **Johnny Jagerman**, built its production around a phoenix rising from the ashes, using soundtracks from The Dear Hunter to bring the show to life. The main lyric vocal from the show, "the flame is gone, the fire remains" became a defining central message for the group throughout the season.

Cypress reached a major milestone on March 28 at Los Osos High School in Temecula, where the Centurions earned a school record-breaking score of 92.30 during preliminary competition. Embers marked their highest score in program history since the percussion ensemble scored 90.25 on March 14, 2010 at Aliso Niguel High School, in the SCPA Scholastic A Class Championships. This secured their place among other top schools like Arcadia High School and previous winners Upland High School in the SCPA Scholastic A division championships.

Following their record-setting performance, the group advanced to the SCPA Championships, where they placed fourth with a score of 92.21. "[I] felt a sense of relief that we finished the show earlier than in years past," Quan explained.

Members credited their success to an intense rehearsal schedule that included early morning practices and extended after-school sessions. The dedication paid off as the ensemble steadily improved their scores at each competition, culminating in their championship appearance.

Beyond the group's competition success, the season carried emotional weight for many of the program's seniors, many of whom have spent four years in the percussion ensemble. "Being a part of the seniors that have been here for four years in the percussion program, it's amazing to see how far we've come and everything we've established…it's been an honor being the first drum set player at Cypress in around five years. I felt like I had a huge responsibility, not only as a section leader or as a senior, but my position in the ensemble as a drumset player,"

Senior **Ezra Jarvis**, explained. Their final performances marked the end of a significant chapter filled with long rehearsals, shared challenges, and lasting friendships. Senior **Jayden Vuong** "I felt kinda sad because it was the last time I was going to play in the same time as these guys." Junior **Mahi Patel** experienced her first year competing in indoor percussion as a part of the visual ensemble. "I was hesitant about joining, I wasn't sure if this program was for me, but after a while, I created such a great bond with the team. I definitely think that joining was the right decision for this season." Patel initially focused on tuba throughout her marching season, but decided to try something new for the winter season.

Cypress High's "Embers" leaves behind more than just scores and placements, it tells a story of resilience, growth, and renewal, proving that even when the flame is gone, the fire remains. Percussion members recall Everett's words of motivation before performing, "hearts on fire, minds on ice."

Comic

Spring Cleaning

By Ryan Alsop, Comic Illustrator



The Devil Wears Prada Is Back

By Arwen Kim, Photo Assistant



Anne Hathaway, Meryl Streep, and Stanley Tucci return after 20 years. (photo by gq.com)

One of the most iconic fashion films of the 2000s is once again in the spotlight. Nearly two decades after the release of The Devil Wears Prada, an upcoming sequel is on the way. Following the release of a new trailer, fans are already forming predictions about what the film will bring. With its May 1 release approaching in theaters, audiences are excited to see whether the new movie will live up to its expectations.

The original movie follows the protagonist, Andy Sachs, an aspiring journalist who lands a job as an assistant to a tyrannical editor-in-chief of a top fashion magazine, Miranda Priestly. Set in New York City's competitive work environment, Andy is thrown into a fast-paced environment with immense pressure. As Andy settles into her new job, she struggles to balance her work and personal life. The film quickly became a hit among viewers, portraying a glamorous inside look at the fashion industry.

The newly released trailers hint at a major scandal involving Miranda Priestly. Some believe Andy will return to help fix the situation, bringing the two back together. The scenes from the trailer suggest a mix of humor and fashion, staying true to the original film. Student reactions highlight the excitement of the upcoming movie. **Collette Terrebonne** (12) shared her long-standing connection to the movie. "I'm really excited for the new Devil Wears Prada sequel," she said. "I grew up with the first one and I just love everything about it."

When asked about the trailer, **Alyssa Park** (9) commented, "I think it looked really fun, and there's a lot of parallels to the first movie."

With a fresh storyline, the sequel to The Devil Wears Prada is becoming a highly anticipated movie. Audiences will soon find out whether the new film meets high expectations when it is released on May 1.

Mario and Luigi's New Cosmic Adventure

By Ryan Alsop, Comic Illustrator

The Super Mario Galaxy Movie, directed by the iconic duo, Micheal Jelenic, and Aaron Horvath has officially taken over our feeds, sending the Mario brothers into search of a new cosmic adventure. This time, the movie from Universal Pictures released on April 1st. Mario, voiced by Chris Pratt, and Luigi, voiced by Charlie Day, find themselves one step closer to saving the universe after teaming up with fan favorite Princess Rosalina. On the way to stop a new threat from consuming the galaxy. Adding to the adventure is the debut of another classic character, Yoshi, voiced by Donald Glover.

The Galaxies have come to save the day as Mario travels beyond the Mushroom Kingdom in search of new challenges for the brothers. Where the first movie in the Mario franchise opened up the universe via the origins of the plumber, the sequel uncovers a universe significantly bigger than the one belonging to the Mario brothers. A new emotional story for Rosalina and Yoshi blasts off with an energy that fans have been waiting for. Despite the significant challenges of the new animated adventure, the pacing of The Super Mario Galaxy Movie is significantly faster than the original movie. The desire to include as many Easter eggs as possible has clearly influenced the filmmakers in crafting this story, like old soundtracks from games. Which has a debate among fans of the franchise. While some fans call it a masterpiece, others find it does too much in the time they had. Freshman **Jayden Acosta** said, "It was super fun to watch a movie about my childhood game." Another freshman, **Brendan Ricalde** said, "I hope it's as interesting as the last mario movie." Sophomore **Jakob Sucatre** said, "They could've made it more game accurate, but I get why they veered that way for the plot." Meanwhile, other online fans of the movie are stuck on whether Yoshi has one or two eyes. Overall, the film has gained 6.4/10 stars on IMDb, and 43% on Rotten Tomatoes.

With a third Mario movie in the works and rumors of spin offs already circulating between fans, it seems that the hype for Mario and his brother is not dying anytime soon.



The Super Mario Galaxy is an animated film adventure comedy inspired by older Mario games. (photo by Illumination)

Coming This Summer - Spider-Man: Brand New Day

By Emma Sanes, Features/Sports Editor

"Spider-Man: Brand New Day," starring Tom Holland as Peter Parker, released its trailer on March 18, 2026, hinting at a brand-new chapter in the MCU. Just 24 hours after its debut, the trailer surpassed "Deadpool & Wolverine" with a new record of 718.6 million views. Four days later, it became the first movie trailer to hit over a billion views, standing at 1.1 billion as of March 25, 2026. The movie is already generating intense speculation, with many considering it greater than or similar to "No Way Home," Tom Holland's last Spider-Man movie, which includes other Spider-Men from the Spider-Verse: Andrew Garfield and Tobey Maguire.



Spider-Man's "Brand New Day" opens on July 31, 2026. (photo by Marvel.com)

For this upcoming movie, we already have a couple of familiar faces getting introduced, such as Bruce Banner (Mark Ruffalo) and The Punisher (Jon Bernthal). Additionally, rumors are spreading of new villains, like Scorpion or Tombstone, and other fan theories, such as Man-Spider, all of which could alter the plot tremendously. From the trailer posted, the information shown only makes the fan theories grow. It starts with MJ (Zendaya Coleman), Peter Parker's previous love interest, who is now "together" with Paul Rabin (Eman Esfandi). Paul is from Amazing-Spiderman (Vol. 6) comics, where he was there for MJ when she was trapped in another dimension, leading to a long-term split between the two main characters.

Another comic theory involves our new actor, Sadie Sink, who is rumored to be playing Jean Grey, one of the original "X-Men", who is known as Marvel Girl, with telepathic and telekinetic abilities, or potentially Spider Queen. Spider Queen is a victim of experiments who desires revenge and has mind control, and if this theory is correct, it will make her involved in "Secret Wars" (2027). With all these new villains, Spider-Man needed development, which explains the organic webs in the trailer. But with that small peek, we still do not know how far Spider-Man will mutate, or if he will at all. One of the biggest similarities, though, suggests Peter's evolution marks organic webbing as proof that Spider-Man is fully matured. Tobey Maguire had them, and Andrew Garfield's trauma kept him from developing them, but it could also mean a "rebirth," potentially undergoing a mutating cocoon phase, making him Man-Spider.

Although we do not fully know what will happen to Peter Parker or "Brand New Day," these insights and comic portrayals will make this movie a major hit for Marvel, and if you want to see this film, it will be released on July 31, 2026.


2016
BRING BACK 2016
" I was happy to see the 'bring back 2016' thing on TikTok. I loved everything about 2016, especially the music. "
Jayda Juanillo
what was YOUR favorite trend?
Fidget spinners
skinny jeans
Mannequin challenge
Rainbow cracked phone
Pen-Pineapple-Apple-Pen (PPAP)
Pepe the Frog
The Dab

S.

NEE DOH

85% prefers 2016

15%

cypress students

2026

NEE DOH : Consumerism or stress reliever?

cept.!!!

"I love my Needoh. It's so nice to have when I'm driving or feeling anxious."

RAYA ALLISON

d!!

"...the people yearn for sensory, and... honestly, I'm all about it. At the end of the day, it's still consumerism."

NANCY PHAN

cline.

"Why are [Needohs] so squishy, I don't understand why they're so popular... and squishy.

OMAR MORENO

New School Year, New Leaders

By Minnel Vega, Editor in Chief/Opinion Editor



The ASB president and vice president of the 2026-2027 school year hope to increase school spirit. (photo by Minnel Vega)

With this school year coming to an end, ASB has started planning for the 2026-2027 school year. Students on campus got to vote for next year's ASB board officers, such as the new president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and class presidents.

The ASB officers who were elected by students include **Risha Rajkumar** (ASB President), **Jasslyn Kwong** (ASB Vice President), **Taryn Imai** (ASB Treasurer), **Emmaly Santos** (ASB Secretary), **Dylan Ramirez** (Senior Class President), **Jessica Yon** (Junior Class President), and **Nihal Bhasuru** (Sophomore Class President). The ASB officers' goals for next year are diverse. Rajkumar said, "As ASB president, I hope to bring our community closer together and make sure our school spirit is long and everlasting, and I want our last year on campus to be the best one yet." Kwong echoed, "I hope to accomplish increasing school spirit and making sure each event is super organized and fun for the whole school." ASB means many different things to students. Ramirez said ASB is important to him, "Because we're just a community of people that don't worry about grades so much, and we don't let grades define us. And we all work together to accomplish something bigger than ourselves." Kwong stated, "I believe ASB has really formed me into the person I've become and really strengthened my leadership skills." Rajkumar added, "ASB is important to me because it transformed me into a leader, and I've made so many amazing connections that are going to last so much."

Not only does ASB work with students, but they also work with the teachers and administrators. Assistant Principal Mrs. **Lauren Choi** said, "I love working with ASB. They are really motivated, and they're really good at communicating. I enjoy seeing the ideas they have to come up with."

As the new ASB officers step up into their new positions, they hope that students have school spirit and hope to make events enjoyable for all students here at Cypress High School.

Winter Magic Hits Cypress Stage

By Reina Takagi, Student Activities Editor

On April 23 and 24, 2026, The Cypress High School Theater Department, under the guidance of **Marianne Stewart**, put Frozen JR. on the stage, a musical production based on the award-winning Disney film, Frozen. The Centurion Theater, where the play was held, sold out of tickets on opening night, shortly after doors opened at 6:30 P.M. Lead roles included **Josie Beltran** as Princess Elsa, **Ethan Garcia** as Young Princess Elsa, **Megan Hu** as Princess Anna, **Alyssa Park** as Young Princess Anna, **Finn Cooper** as Olaf, **Cruz Manzo** as Oaken, **Dorian Carillo Ferrer** as Kristoph, **Addison Archer** as Sven, and **Shourya Chaurasia** as Hans. The musical adaptation featured songs from the original animated film and Broadway production, including "Let It Go," "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?," and "Love Is an Open Door." Enhancing the experience, multiple Cypress High School ASL (American Sign Language) students, as well as ASL teacher **Tanya Winterton**, interpreted for deaf or hard of hearing audience members.



Alyssa Park played Young Princess Anna, and Ethan Garcia played Young Princess Elsa in the musical theater production, Frozen JR. (photo by Reina Takagi)

Hu said, "Ever since I was a child, I feel like I almost plagiarized [Princess Anna's] personality, from her joy and energy, to her naivety," she said. "It was very easy for me to get into character and find her within myself." For Hu, playing the role of Princess Anna was a dream come true. She talked about her social media profile picture, which is a younger picture of herself in an Anna costume. "To that little girl, the one in that picture [as a kid,] I would tell her that her biggest dream has come true, and she's made it," she said with a smile. Hu's favorite memory was the end of the show, because of the feeling of, "Having all those memories, having all of that collection and being able to sit there and reminisce with everyone and cry together. The stage managers and directors of Frozen JR. were **AK Pandya** and **Collette Terrebonne**. Pandya, a three-year theater junior, said his "biggest goal as a director was making sure that everybody was having the same vision…we've got to guide the whole team." Pandya and Terrebonne, along with the technical director, art directors, assistant directors, dance captain, designers, the crew, and staff, worked behind the scenes to bring the audience Frozen JR. "Our job as a student director is to make sure that the student's ideas make it to the board, and we get [their ideas] on stage," Pandya stated. Terrebonne, a four-year theater senior, added, "It was really fantastic to be able to watch the full run of the play for the first time; it was so good to see the product when we step back completely."

From handling sets and props, costumes and make-up, sound and lights, to singing, dancing, and acting on stage, the cast and crew of Cypress Theater brought Frozen JR. to life.



Cruz Manzo as Oaken brought the audience to laughter with his high energy performance of "Hygge." (photo by Reina Takagi)

Track & Field Races to Success

By Sofia Velasco, Social Media/Video Editor & Leslie Choi, Social Media Manager



Cale Payton and Nathan Rodriguez celebrate after their Track and Field events. (photo by Kayla Ketsan)

This year's Track and Field team started with hard work and dedication, dominating in events such as distance running, throwing, hurdling, sprinting, and jumping.

"I've been running for four years and came to really love the sport," said **Kyle Choe**, one of the captains. "My role is only a small part of a larger team effort, but for me it's important to show up every week for my team." He explained some of the responsibilities of being one of the team captains. "It isn't really anything special. It's about how you conduct yourself and lead by example."

Team spirit is on an all time high this year, working together harder than ever to succeed. "My favorite part about track is the friends I've made," said freshman **Siri Umeh**. "They give me motivation by cheering me on when I run and teach me tips on how to get better." Even though it's her first time competing with the Cypress team, they already feel like family.

Junior **Katrina Sokolowski**, another captain, jumped a mark of five feet and four inches at her first meet of the season. "I opened at my PR (personal record), which is pretty good, but it's been challenging. I feel like opening the season strong gave me lots of pressure to succeed and many expectations." This year Cypress moved up to the Crestview League, a more competitive and difficult league. "I definitely think we can improve, but I think we're doing pretty good."

League prelims and finals are coming up soon, determining who gets in the CIF. Head Coach **John Eyman** encourages his athletes. "Even if sometimes things don't go the right way, hard work is going to always pay off at the end." Eyman's favorite part about coaching at Cypress is watching his athletes succeed. "Watching the kids improve after how hard they worked and seeing the smile on their face when they have a PR, which is a personal record, is great."

Cypress also had recently installed a new track, improving the team's performance. In the past with Cypress' dirt track, practice was often cancelled due to mud and puddles after rain. "We don't lose practice days, that's the best thing about having a facility," said Eyman. Cypress High School is also hosting league prelims and the junior high meet this year.

The season is also coming to an end with the Canyon Dual Meet and Crestview League Preliminaries coming up. The team is striving for the best to finish off strong with much more to come.

Baseball Once Again Clinches League Title

By Klara Jones, Copy Editor & Bryana Bennett, Layout Editor

Cypress varsity baseball is currently ranked first in Crestview League--with Villa Park second--and 13th in the state of California. The team won against La Habra on April 7 and April 8 and their current record is 17-5.

During their April 7 game against La Habra, tensions were high as the game lasted for 13 innings until Cypress won with a score of 2-1, leaving them exhausted but proud. The day after, Cypress came back to crush La Habra by the wide margin of 14-3. Senior captain **Jake Delaquil** emphasized the "mentality difference" between the two games, while senior and pitcher **Drew Slevcove** said that after their coaches "put some pressure on them," they gained more confidence in themselves, which shone through in their performance.

Many of the baseball players have personal goals for their futures in baseball. Delaquil signed with the United States Air Force and Slevcove signed with UC Santa Barbara. According to Delaquil, the high level of competition in California baseball keeps him motivated, and he's proud to be part of "represent[ing] the school as the top team in the county."



Cypress baseball finished in first place in league. (photo by Bryana Bennett)

Junior **Ben Martinez** mentioned his big dreams for a career in baseball but emphasized being focused on more short-term goals like being "locked in" this summer. His motivation is being a good mentor and role model to his younger siblings.

Pitcher **Landon Smith**, a sophomore, is "excited for CIF and seeing how far [they] can go. [He's] expecting [the team] to go far and [is] excited to come back next year and do the same." Their championship mentality is rooted both in a history of winning and in their strong team community. Smith talked about how his teammates "really helped [him] a lot and they always have [his] back," adding that "we're all brothers and I wouldn't have it any other way." Martinez similarly noted how the baseball team is "a great environment to be in, everybody wants to learn and everyone is rooting for each other."

Boys Volleyball Seniors Pass Torch To Underclassmen

By Jerry Tran, Social Media/Video Editor & Jayden Kay Linayao, Editor in Chief/Photo Editor



The boys volleyball team focused a lot on working togther and team bonding this season. (photo by Jerry Tran)

The Cypress High School Boys Volleyball team holds a 14-6 record this season, placing second in the Division 2 league. As the season comes to an end, their strong performance has reflected both experienced leadership and developing young athletic talent. "[Our season] is going pretty good, we've had a couple losses, but it's not them beating us, it's us beating ourselves," said senior Varsity middle blocker **Saugat Shrestha**. "I've had a lot of fun hanging out with my team, and practicing with them every day," added senior Varsity outside hitter **Ryan Kim**.

As their season winds down, the seniors are approaching the final stretch of their high school athletic careers, bringing a new, yet familiar energy to each match. "My journey with volleyball has changed me and helped me develop into who I am. I would always say, 'I hate this sport,' and how much I want to quit, but deep down I knew, I fell in love... As hard as it was on my mentality, it helped me realize what would happen if I push myself to my limits… If I had the chance to start from the beginning, I would take it," senior Varsity opposite hitter **Leon Kim** said.



Sophomore Logan Flores soars to make the kill against Yorba Linda. (photo by Jerry Tran)

"This team is pretty new, so we've been working on our relationship and team bonding. I think we're going to CIF, we're going pretty strong," senior Varsity libero **Jaiden Ramos** said. Meanwhile, underclassmen are preparing to take on larger roles as they look ahead to future seasons, using the last few closing games as an opportunity to grow and adjust.

With playoffs around the corner, the team remains focused on maintaining its standing and keeping their eyes on league championships, leaning on their senior's leadership to guide the way.

Boy's Tennis Looking For A CIF Run

By David Garcia, Distribution Chief/Equipment Manager



Varsity Boy's Tennis fights valiantly against El Modena. (photo by David Garcia)

Boy's Tennis has been pushing through the 2026 season, and is now looking forward to a CIF run. They stand at first place in the league, with a 13-2 record. The team has been working hard coming into the latter half of the season, by making sure to hone in on their consistency and focus during games.

Junior **Sidd Ganapathy**, a varsity player for two years and tennis player since 7th grade, talked about the season overall. "Our season this year has been going really good. I think last year we had a way tougher league, but this year, I think we went down a league, so it's way easier for us." Senior **Dylan Phan** added, "From last year, we improved a lot, so I'll say this league is pretty good for us, and we should be winning a lot."

The year started with some difficult matchups. Boys tennis coach **Joseph Paul** commented, "Our most challenging matches were during our preseason with teams like Los Al and a couple of schools like that, that gave us a little run for our money, but since then, our league has been pretty much an easy go for us." Phan added, "Our preseason was pretty difficult. One particular, I would say, was Millikan. Last year we barely lost, but this year, we got better." As with every sport, there's always room for improvement. Phan commented, "It all just starts from our mental." Coming into a new league, the team came with a new mindset as well. "Our footwork, our serves, all our shots got better." Phan said. Ganapathy adds on to this. "I think I've been looking to improve my doubles play because that's something that I specialize in as a player." Ganapathy, along with his doubles partner Phan, are the number one doubles team, with a 32-4 record, and undefeated in league.

The mentality boy's tennis wants to hone in on is focus. Paul said, "The easy thing to do is, when you're being successful, is to lose focus and to not try as hard. So we're trying to teach our players to always try their best against no matter who they play, so that they always keep their defensive edge and their strive to win." Going into this part of the season, the boys are sure to put up a fight. Paul adds, "It's been a really good season, really fun. It's a good group of boys, and I look forward to seeing how far they can get into CIF this year."

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Adviser

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