

# pure pride

Freshmen reflected on their first Raider Pride Day.



“It was really nice seeing everybody representing our school's pride and wearing all their Hoco shirts.”  
**MATTHEW TOLEDO '27**



“I found it really fun because more people show spirit at the high school than at the middle school. I found it interesting that everyone wore the same shirt.”  
**MIA FEO '27**

# high SPIRIT

The student body gathered for the Homecoming Pep Rally during Community Time.

**WRESTLING TO WIN**, sophomores **Victor Lefebvre Dargence** and **Juan Sebastian Ibarra** struggle to qualify for the next round of musical chairs. Upper School EDGE Program Principal **Melissa Sullivan** served as one of the “judges” during the spirited event. “My favorite thing about being an educator is our students,” Sullivan said. Photo by **Valentina Mouhaffel**.



While an 80's classic hit played then suddenly paused, the crowd roared with excitement as sophomores Victor Lefebvre Dargence and Juan Sebastian Ibarra tried to take the same seat during the musical chairs game at the Homecoming pep rally on Sept. 27. Upper School EDGE Program Principal Melissa Sullivan was there to call the win for Ibarra while the sophomore class cheered in support.

“I love our students' excitement and energy as we all share such special moments together,” Sullivan said.

The Homecoming pep rally celebrated the unity of the school community. Students from all grade levels participated in games and activities that showcased their spirit and pride.

“It's important to organize pep rallies because it makes the school come together and increases our school spirit,” Student Body President Anya Gruener said.

After the games, the Sundancers provided a glimpse into their Homecoming game halftime performance. During their dance, they also introduced the members of their team. Having the opportunity to perform at the pep rally helped calm freshman Sofia Mehech's nerves.

“Performing at the pep rally made me less nervous for the Hoco game,” Mehech said.

The pep rally concluded with the popular class skits. Cheers erupted with the senior skit, as senior Daniel Lipof went through the parking lot trying to figure out which cars were left unlocked.

“I loved the reception I got from the skit. My math teacher even put a comment on my mid-quarter report saying that the skit was amazing, and that made me feel proud,” Lipof said.



## bringing it BACK

Popular Homecoming t-shirts made a comeback after two years.

For the first time since 2021, students were united on Raider Pride Day, by wearing exclusive Homecoming t-shirts as part of the celebration on Sept. 29. Senior class secretary **Annabella Cordovez** was in charge of designing the t-shirts. She combined different elements that aligned with the year's “Time Travel” Homecoming theme, getting her inspiration from “Back to the Future” and “Dr. Who”. “Student government really liked it and that helped me feel confident in my design,” Cordovez said.



**THE SUNDANCERS PERFORM** their pep rally choreography for the student body. They hyped students up throughout the dance, by including everyone in the audience. “The most important thing for us is entertaining the crowd, so we really like it when everyone gets involved,” sundancer **Fernanda Aizemberg** said. Photo by **Sophi Massoumi**.



**GOING FOR THE WIN**, junior **Nicolas Pineros** and sophomore **Juan Sebastian Ibarra** fight for the last chair during musical chairs. As the student government rushed to determine a winner, they gave their best to claim victory. “Being a finalist allowed me to show freshmen not to be scared to go up in front of everyone and show their Raider spirit,” Pineros said. Photo by **Sophi Massoumi**.



**AS PART OF THE HOMECOMING PEP RALLY TRADITION**, football players prepare to be introduced to the student body. Each player went up to be recognized by their name and position. The crowd cheered for the team in anticipation of the Homecoming game on Sept. 29. Photo by **Francesca Binello**.

STORY | **ANDREA MALPICA**

“Raider pride is distinct because everyone is united and happy as we enjoy the activities at school.”  
**SOPHIA HARARI '26**



**for the WIN** The football team claimed victory at the Homecoming game. Senior **Dylan Calero** encourages his teammates as they faced Miami Killian High School at their Homecoming game on Sept. 29. The team stayed together as they went for the win. “Coach Sims helped us a lot to remain focused and many team members helped us stay positive throughout the game,” senior **Diego Collazo** said. Photos by **Sadie Scheiner** and **Fox Mar**.