

# Comal Independent School District

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Hawks rockin' the playoff scene

Exactly one year ago, the Canyon Lake High football and volleyball teams were coming off inaugural varsity seasons where they combined to win only one district game.

The playoffs weren't on the radar of even the most optimistic Hawks fans heading into the fall of 2009.

Canyon Lake High athletes weren't content, however, on being a part of teams that were building for success down the road – they wanted to achieve greatness now.

That's exactly what both the CLHS football and volleyball teams have done, turning things around in a big way this season by qualifying for the postseason.

The Hawks football team, which went 1-9 last year, has been on a great run of late. After first knocking off district foe Liberty Hill, which won Class 3A state titles in 2006 and 2007, CLHS clinched a playoff spot with a win over Fredericksburg Friday night.

The Hawks improved to 6-3 overall and 3-1 in District 30-3A. They have a shot at the district crown with a win at Burnet on Friday, Nov. 6, and will play a first-round playoff game on Nov. 13 or Nov. 14 against an opponent to be determined.

"To be honest, I don't think you can ever expect to go from 1-9 to the playoffs the very next year," CLHS head football coach Matt Monzingo said. "It was a great feeling Friday night because these kids have invested a lot of time in our program and we've invested a lot of time in them. That commitment has paid off."

The Canyon Lake High volleyball team went 0-10 in district play last year. This year, they finished the regular season 25-13 overall and 5-5 in District 30-3A, which sends the Lady Hawks into the postseason as the third place team.

The Lady Hawks will play Devine on Tuesday, Nov. 3, at the Alamo Convocation Center (110 Tuleta St., San Antonio, TX 78212, right behind Alamo Stadium), in the first round of the playoffs beginning at 6:30 p.m. The winner will advance to play La Feria in the second round.

The volleyball team clinched its playoff berth with a thrilling five-game win against Bandera on Oct. 23.

“When we knew we were in the playoffs the girls were in tears,” said CLHS head volleyball coach Nicole Creek. “All of them grabbed their cell phones and started texting their friends and relatives.”

Creek said it was a big relief because she knew her team had worked so hard all season for a chance to play in the postseason.

“I couldn’t sleep at all the week before that game,” Creek said. “I was so proud of my team. I’ve seen the confidence level in this group get higher and higher from the first day of practice.”

Both teams have helped create a buzz around Canyon Lake High rarely seen in a school that’s been open just over two years.

“To go to the playoffs after the difficult time we had competing last year is amazing,” said CLHS senior Andrew Clark. “The excitement level in this area is as high as I’ve ever seen it.”

Canyon Lake High principal Cheryl Koury agreed.

“We’re ecstatic,” Koury said. “The community is saying ‘Wow!’ A turnaround like this in one sport, let alone two, is just unheard of.”

-CISD-

TEAM PHOTOS: By Sam Roberts Photography