

# in all **honesty...**

New traditions help to make a year worth remembering, so when the varsity volleyball team set up court under the sweltering sun for the Battle at Buell, we came in 4000 **strong** to watch them win three of their four sets against our district **rivals**.

It was really **different** because it was really hot out, and the team connected really well, [but] it was a lot, [and] it was very **nerve-wracking**. There were a lot of people there, sophomore Ava Whitmarsh said.

We opened up our **familiar** social media apps and found a sea of the same two numbers flooding our feeds. And when the trend became part of our lives outside the screen, it turned into a **constant** presence in our halls, one which we could never quite seem to **escape**.

I think that **67** is funny **sometimes**, but it really is a lot, especially with the whole dictionary definition, or **word of the year**. I thought that was so **stupid**, junior Grace Harding said.

Hallway traffic ground to a **halt** as the student body stampeded through the narrow doors to the gym for our **HOCO** pep rally. We couldn't help but cheer as our classmates **scrambled** to drag their friends across the floor on beach towels, only to groan whenever someone tumbled off.

Obviously, it's not to the **level** that you see at all the Texas schools, with all the big lights and huge **pep rallies**. But I think we still can **cheer** for our grades and our friends, and I think it's really fun, senior Gowtham Sathi said.

Stores were overwhelmed when we **rushed** in to find the perfect dress or suit for HOCO, and it felt like the world was ending when we were looking for the right people to go with. But the senseless **drama** came to an end when we made it to the **cityscape** of the Golden Gala, where we could enjoy the night.

The music was really **interesting**, some of the songs I've never heard before, so it was kind of like my **first** hearing of the music. I also saw all my friends, and I got to take **pictures** with all of them, freshman Amelia Atkinson said.

Even though **Q1** reminded us of the **repetitive** day-to-day life that comes with high school, and of the math tests and presentations that we didn't quite **prepare** enough for, we still got to take in the last of the summer heat together with the community we've built. And that's what really matters,

# TBH

## first quarter