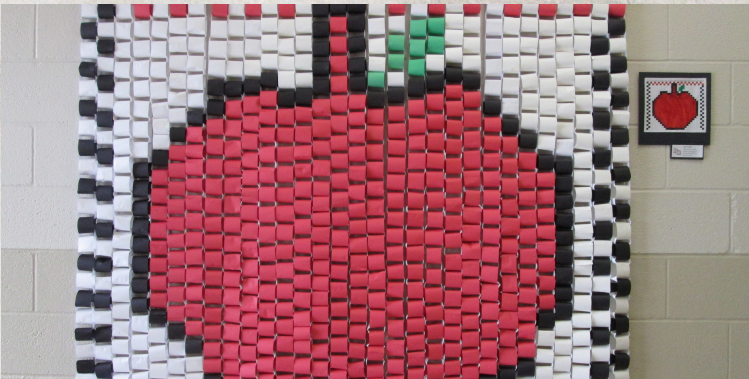
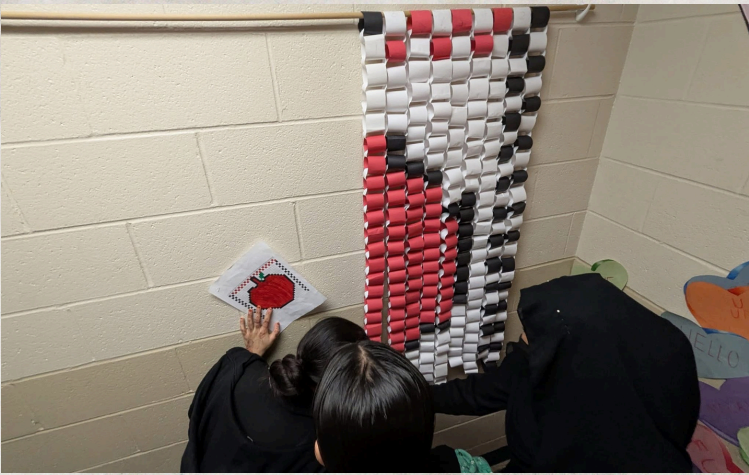


# RANGER RECORD

Sponsored By: Ms. Madelyn Lopez and Mrs. Audrey Johnson



## ARTSTIC TALENT AT RUDDER

By: Ameriee Santos and Darian Riggins

Rudder Middle School's latest art project is a vibrant celebration of student creativity, transforming ordinary hallways into a dynamic gallery of expression. This school-wide initiative showcases an impressive collection of pixel art, large-scale murals, and colorful displays that now line the walls, bringing new life and energy to the campus. The artwork not only beautifies the school but also highlights the unique talents and artistic voices of Rudder's young creators.

Each piece tells a story. From bold, imaginative designs to more detailed and precise works, students poured time, effort, and creativity into their art. Standout pieces include a strikingly realistic blue eye that captures intricate shading and depth, and a fan-favorite rendering of Steve from Minecraft, connecting student interests with visual storytelling. These works demonstrate how students were able to combine pop culture influences with their own artistic visions.

Through this project, students explored the power of imagination, precision, and collaboration. They carefully crafted small, individual pixel pieces—each one infused with personality—that come together to form large, eye-catching compositions. What began as tiny, colorful squares grew into meaningful artwork that now leaves a lasting impression on anyone who walks through the halls. This project is a powerful reminder that even the smallest ideas, when nurtured with creativity and passion, can grow into something truly extraordinary.



# Band's Remarkable Wind Ensemble

By: Isaac Sanchez Cabello and Max Quintero



The auditorium buzzed with nervous excitement as the Ridgeview Middle School Wind Ensemble stepped onto the brightly lit stage. For months, these dedicated young musicians had practiced tirelessly—perfecting every note, refining each dynamic change, and mastering every transition. Now, the moment had arrived: the UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation, the most important event of the year for middle school bands across the state.

Under the guidance of their conductor, Mr. Vanegas, the ensemble was well-prepared to shine. His leadership and encouragement had pushed the students to reach their full potential, and they were ready to give it their all. The band performed three musical pieces, beginning with the spirited “Reveille March.” This lively piece set the tone for their performance, featuring a strong, steady beat and an energetic tempo that showcased their discipline and enthusiasm.

Next came “Prairie Dance,” a musical composition that captured the vibrant spirit and rustic charm of life on the open plains. The students conveyed its joyful rhythm and pastoral mood with confidence and heart. The final piece, “The House of Lords,” was a dramatic and ceremonial composition. Its rich harmonies and stately elegance evoked images of historic institutions and formal traditions, demonstrating the ensemble’s ability to handle sophisticated music with maturity and precision.

After the concert portion, the most challenging part of the event began: sight-reading. In this round, the ensemble had just 11 minutes to study and rehearse a brand-new piece they had never seen before. During this time, Mr. Vanegas reviewed the music with them—no playing allowed—helping them prepare for a one-time-only performance in front of the judges. It was a true test of focus, musicianship, and teamwork. The students knew the judges would be listening closely for every detail.

Dressed to impress, the boys wore tuxedos while the girls wore elegant concert dresses, presenting a professional and unified appearance on stage.

In the end, all their hard work paid off. The Ridgeview Middle School Wind Ensemble earned top scores—straight 1s from all the judges—and took home the trophy. It was a proud and unforgettable moment for the band, proving that dedication, passion, and teamwork truly lead to success.

Good job Rangers!



# Lady Ranger Soccer

By: Jackie Reyna and Aaliyah-Espinoza-Moore

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At Rudder Middle School, the girls' soccer team is gearing up for an exciting and competitive season. With a strong combination of talent, teamwork, and determination, these athletes are ready to make their mark on the field. The team has been training hard, and their first game officially kicked off the season on April 3rd against Jefferson Middle School.

Although the Lady Rangers didn't secure a win in their opening match, they played with heart and gave it their all. Their effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship were clear throughout the game, and they're more motivated than ever to improve and push forward.

Looking ahead, the team is preparing for upcoming matchups against Vale, Jordan, and Zachary, with each game promising to be a thrilling test of their skills. These student-athletes are committed to growing stronger with each performance and representing Rudder with pride.

We encourage all students, staff, and families to come out and support the team. Let's cheer on our Lady Rangers as they continue their season with enthusiasm and the determination to succeed!





# Readers are Leaders

By: Lauren Blocker, Jacob Zavala, and Delylah Hawk

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Rudder Middle School's Book Club is one of the newest additions to the school's list of extracurricular activities, and it's already making a meaningful impact. Sponsored by Mr. Garza, the club meets every Tuesday after school in Portable 308. Its goal is to help students discover the joy of reading through engaging discussions and a commitment to literature. Although still a small group, the Book Club provides a welcoming and relaxed environment where students can explore different genres and express their opinions freely. The current focus is on teen horror, a genre that captivates young readers with suspense, mystery, and excitement. Members recently selected their first group read—an exciting step that reflects their growing interest in storytelling and collaboration.

Mr. Garza shared more about how the club operates and what students can expect. "So far, the club is going well," he said. "Students have picked a book they are going to read together, and that's a great start." With a laid-back structure, the club allows members to read at their own pace while still coming together to discuss themes, characters, and plot developments. "It's very small, and people seem to be doing their own thing, but the goal is to build commitment and spark conversation," Mr. Garza added. When asked what he hopes students take away from the club, Mr. Garza emphasized the importance of dedication. "I want members to learn commitment—not just to the club, but to reading itself." The group will continue exploring teen horror this semester, but there are plans to branch out into other genres depending on student interest.

Whether it's through thrilling stories or thoughtful conversations, the Rudder Middle School Book Club is helping students become more confident and thoughtful readers—one chapter at a time.

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## Journalism Department

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As we publish this final issue, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our readers, writers, and supporters who have been part of this incredible journey. Each article, photo, and headline has been a reflection of our shared dedication to truth, storytelling, and community. Though this chapter closes, the spirit of journalism lives on—in every question asked, every voice amplified, and every story told. Thank you for being part of the story.  
— The Journalism Department

