

Photo by Manuel Azocar III

COTULLA COWBOYS

A NEW CHAPTER

By Manuel Azocar III

Cotulla was on the brink of the playoffs last season in what proved to be the final of Kelly Shull's storied coaching career. The Cowboys dropped a tie-breaker decision to Mathis for the fourth and final playoff spot, despite topping the Pirates in the season-finale.

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CHS HEAD COACH DAVID SILVA

“I want our kids to have confidence in themselves,” Silva said. “We have a good group of young men that, if we can get them to believe in themselves, that'll be half the battle!”

“Battling during adversity, which they did a good job of during 7-on-7 this past summer. Cotulla has always brought a tough game, so, I want opponents to know we will bring it every play for four quarters.”

Silva feels that having implemented his system so early has been extremely beneficial.

“Again, coming in during the spring was extremely important, so the hard part is done,” he said. “Now, we just have to perfect and know the ‘ins and outs’ of the schemes.

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Cotulla brought in another of Shull's disciples in former Pearsall Athletic Director and Head Football Coach David Silva early in the year in the hopes that he could bring his success to the Cowboys.

“We're looking good, coming aboard in February was important to get the offensive system in and have players get familiar with the terminology,” Silva said. “Defensively, defensive coordinator Lupe Hernandez and the defensive staff have done a great job of keeping it simple and allowing the kids to fly to the ball.

Implementing the offense is only half the battle for Silva as he must change the mentality of a program that has not been to the playoffs since 2015 and has not posted a winning record since 2012.