

The Pearsall Mavericks Varsity Football Team

^Rebuild or reload? (Continued from page 5)

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better each and every day. The Maverick football team will be built around young men of character and focused on improving character in all of our athletes.

"We will not focus on winning, winning will be a by-product of everything else we do."

Of the major shake-ups Rivera brings to the program will be change on offense. Gone is the Cross-Buck and Jet-Sweep, run-heavy style of the last few years and in is a spread look out of a one-back or two-back set.

"We will be two-back and one-back spread," Rivera said

of the offense. "We will try and push the tempo at times. Our pass game will compliment our run game but we should be a fun offense to watch!

"We had a group of guys who came every single day over the summer for our Pride Camp and it really shows in those that put the work in over the summer," the coach said of his athletes. "We are adjusting to some new terminology of both sides of the ball but each day we are adding some new things and each day our kids are picking them up and starting to play faster."

Although the Mavericks lost one of its bigger senior classes in recent memory, the cupboard is hardly bare. Pearsall returns several weapons on offense that saw time at spots during last year's banner season.

"Sirr Delgado and Chris Martinez have both been working at quarterback this preseason with Delgado having the obvious passing arm and Martinez being the more mobile threat. Both are impact players calling plays and will likely each see action on the field. "They are both bringing great leadership and competing well," Rivera said of is signal-callers. "Meme Cuevas and Joey Amaya will be a great onetwo punch this season," Rivera noted of his running

> backs. "Both have great vision and speed." Pearsall's wide receiving corps is perhaps the greenest bunch on offense with Alex Enriquez, Jaedon Carrizales and Anfernee Reyes. Although Rivera said all three bring good hands and the ability to get open.

Most offenses move most effectively behind the play of their offensive line. The Mavericks will be young at this position, as well, but several players earned varsity experience a year ago.

Abraham Ortiz, Jonathon Morales, Marcos Gomez and Ruben Barrera all make up for a lack of experience with decent size up front.

"Our offensive line has good size and some great leaders," Rivera said of the unit.

Like its offensive counterpart, the defense likewise lost a ton of senior leadership with the graduation of seven starters.

Defensively, the Mavericks led the district in scoring, surrendering just under eight points per game in a ballhawking scheme led by former coach James Hawkins.

Pearsall promoted former Maverick Julian Hernandez to lead the unit this year and Hernandez will go with a

(See REBUILD OR RELOAD?, page 6)



PERFECT REGULAR SEASON: Pearsall completed the first 10-0 regular season since the 1998 team accomplished the same feat.

UIL ENROLLMENT - 668 '17 Record: 10-1 (5-0, 1st in District 14-4A, DII)

> BASE OFFENSE: Nasty Slot BASE DEFENSE:

> > 4-3

Top Returning Quarterback: Nathaniel Gandara

Top Returning Rusher: Oscar Cubriel & Manuel Ramos Top Returning Receiver:

Robert Maldonado Top Returning Defender:

Carson Neal

| 2017 | |
|------------------|-----------|
| SA Burbank | 27-19 W |
| | |
| SA Memorial | 20-14 W |
| Blanco | 14-13 W |
| Mathis | 28-7 W |
| Jourdanton | 43-6 W |
| OPEN | |
| Poteet | 35-0 W |
| Lytle | 34-6 W |
| Crystal City | 21-18ot W |
| Devine | 29-9 W |
| Carrizo Springs | 30-6 W |
| Hondo (Playoffs) | 26-18 L |
| | |

2018

Week 1 - SA Burbank Week 2 - Bye Week 3 - Pleasanton Week 4 - Eagle Pass Winn Week 5 - @St. Anthony Week 6 - @La Vernia Week 7 - Crystal City Week 8 - @Carrizo Springs Week 9 - Devine Week 10 - @Hondo Week 11 - Poteet

District 14-4A, D-II

| Team | 17 Record |
|--|---|
| Pearsall Crystal City Hondo (13-4A) Devine Carrizo Springs Poteet | 10-1 (5-0) 9-3 (4-1) 3-9 (1-4) 3-8 (3-2) 5 3-8 (2-3) 3-7 (1-4) |
| | 27 (11) |

Our kids are going to play with passion and excitement, **77** PHS HEAD COACH JOSEPH RIVERA