

SHINER
COMANCHES

ST. PAUL
CARDINALS



FALL SPORTS
preview
2026

Shiner has majority of running backs return for 2026, needs to fill a few holes on the line

The 2026 Shiner Comanches football team will need to replace a couple of lineman and will return a majority of their running backs.

The Comanches are coming off a 15-1 2025 that saw them reach the state final for the second straight season.

2026 will be a little different as Shiner was moved up from 2ADII to 2ADI and looks to have a competitive district with Ganado, Kenedy, Flatonia, Weimar, Danbury and Bloomington.

On the offensive line, Shiner has about three holes to fill.

"We have to replace two interior linemen, a tight end and some starters," Comanches head coach Daniel Boedeker said. "We have some guys that got playing time last year, on sub varsity or were backups on varsity, that we are looking at to fill those roles."

During the first week, we gave all the linemen looks and hopefully after the first couple of scrimmages, we will have a better idea of who could fill those important pieces."

The Comanches lost just two or three

running backs to graduation.

Quincy Jones, Clayton Fric, Caleb Cowan, Tyler Harvey and Triston Vesely had a majority of the Shiner rushing yards from last year.

"Definitely, that is the most depth we have had on the team for running back. Those guys are picking up from where they left off last year," Boedeker said. "We are fortunate to have that many guys that can fit in at any time and do some good things."

The Comanches will be looking for a new starting signal caller this year. Levi Werner and Harvey are the two players that got reps with the first-team offense during the first practices.

"We'll see how they do during the scrimmages and there is a chance we could use both of them," Boedeker said. "They both have a good skill set and both can do different things for us, and Tyler is also part of our running backs group."

At tight end will be returning starter Landen Christensen and backup Kaden Neskora with Brycen Rosales and Carson Brown joining the mix as well.

"Kaden was a backup but got a lot of playing time and we know we will get good things out of him," Boedeker said. "We have some options there and hopefully those guys will be able to contribute."

Stephon Bradley and Anthony Hernandez will play wide receiver, and the running backs could also line up in receiver spots as well.

"We have a lot of options at receiver that we feel like we can use with some different packages," Boedeker said. Options at center are Luke Dierlam, Grant Baros and Hunter Hopkins. Working for spots at the guard and tackle positions are Elijah Mesa, Baros and Dierlam.

"Mixing and matching with the guard and tackle spots on the offensive line right now," Boedeker said. Baros, Hopkins and Mesa will also play on the defensive line as will Suly Lopez, Jayden Malina, Gavyn Lopez, Ismael Zamora and Neskora.

"We've been rotating all of them among the four spots on the defensive line, depending on the situation such as needing to be big or needing speed," Boedeker said.

At linebacker is Brody Popp (middle), Fric (outside) and Vesely; Dierlam was moved from the defensive line and Baros got some experience from last year. Shiner also has Mesa, Colby Nichols and Brayden Garner available for the position.

For the secondary, there are some positions to replace. Jones and Harvey return with Cowan playing a backup role last year. Werner and Bradley are getting reps as safety.

Shiner has Hernandez, Christensen and Neskora all working at the punter spot while Bode Werner, who is back from injury, is slated to handle the place kicking duties.

The Comanches' senior class for this school year has 14 members.

"They starting developing their leadership role during the offseason and it carried over during the summer," Boedeker said. "Some of them are good vocal leaders, others lead by example. We are happy with what we have seen from the seniors' leadership."

Shiner plays Industrial, Orange Grove, Poth and Boling in non district. The Cobras and Pirates have played Shiner for the last few years.

"We have had battles with Industrial. Orange Grove had a very successful 2025; Poth will always play physical. We have not played Boling in a while but they are a similar team to us," Boedeker said. Those four games will get us ready for district."

Boedeker and Shiner expect a challenging but exciting district campaign.

"It will be one of the toughest district we have been in for a while," he said. "It will be a challenge but fun for the kids and the fans. Flatonia and Weimar games always draw good crowds because of their proximity to us. We are familiar with Ganado (2024 2ADI state champs) because of playing them in district or scrimmages in recent seasons."

Kenedy went several rounds deep in 2025. Our open date is the last week of district which is little odd and that gives us 10 straight games. We are going to have to manage the players and keep them healthy through those first 10 games."



Shiner Football Coaches: from left are Patrick Walker, Connor Stefka, Jordan Rehak, Jacob Gutierrez, Jeff Akin, John Peterson, Daniel Boedeker (head coach), Ty Boedeker and Jason Keller. Photo by Mark Lube.

Wachsmuth returns to head up Cardinals football team that is thin on numbers

Former St. Paul football head coach Jake Wachsmuth is now back at his old post.

Wachsmuth will now rally to get the Cardinals back to the playoffs and to compete for a state title as they have under his guidance in his two previous tenures.

He is very pleased about returning to the Cardinal community and to Shiner itself.

"I am happy to be back. St. Paul has been really good to my family and myself," Wachsmuth said. "The community of Shiner is just a good place to live and work. Both the public school and Catholic school in Shiner are good places. I really appreciate the school."

The biggest challenge facing the Cardinals in 2026 is their program numbers.

Wachsmuth said he has 23 athletes out for football this season.

"This season's numbers are one of the lowest we've ever had in recent years," he said. "That presents some challenges in both games and practices. We have athletes with very good attitudes and work ethic."

For the St. Paul offense, Tyler Pendley took majority of the Cardinals' snaps in 2025 but this season he will be one of four players vying for the position.

"I've had Jace Matias, Andy Nunez and Elijah Rodriguez all taking snaps in practice," Wachsmuth said. "Early on, we want them all to feel like they will have a chance to play. I know Tyler started last year and did good things. I feel having competition makes you better."

"Obviously, you would like some leadership and somebody who has played the position before."

The players that see action at run-

ning back could play more than spot during the season

"Right now (first week of practice), there are a lot of positions that are open," Wachsmuth said. "We have had a lot of different kids at running back and almost every single one of them has seen reps at slotback, full-back and tailback"

St. Paul is working Gabe Darilek and Jacob Arriola at the tight-end spot.

Wachsmuth said those two will likely be the ones at the position due to not having too many options.

The running backs could also play wide receiver as well as whoever out of Pendley, Nunez, Matias and Rodriguez is not taking the snaps. Carter Chilek and Jack Ehrig will contribute there as well.

Offensive and defensive linemen for the Cardinals this year are Jack Leonard, Evan Rother, Easton Jalufka, Kash McNabb, Michael DeSarro, Trevor Garcia, Levi Leonard and Hudson Siegel.

Wachsmuth said because of the numbers, there will be plenty of interchangeable parts on the lines throughout the season.

At linebacker will likely be Jude Boedeker, Chilek, Arriola and Rother.

Candidates for positions in the secondary are Matias and Pendley at the safety spots; Nunez and Ehrig are at the cornerback spots. They will be backed up by some younger players.

Wachsmuth said St. Paul definitely needs a little time in practice and during non-district games to figure out where all the pieces were going to fit.

The Cardinals, because of an adjustment in the TAPPS athletic calendar, open the season at Victoria St. Joseph on Aug. 21, and also take

on Austin St. Andrews Episcopal, Bloomington, Geneva Boerne and Katy St. John XXIII in non-district.

"I'm not sure exactly what all those teams have or are bringing back but we are going to use those games is to get ready for the district games," Wachsmuth said. "By the time we get through the non-district schedule, we want to be healthy and want to have figured out where all the pieces go. I think all of our non-district games are very win-able; we are going to be more focused on our health and getting things set before district."

In district, St. Paul will face very-familiar Hallettsville Sacred Heart, Central Texas Christian and Rosehill Christian while new faces Houston Northland Christian and 11-man debutant Westbury Christian also join the district fray.

The Cardinals went 1-4 in district games last year but in some of those losses, were still in the game, falling to Rosehill Christian 24-13 and to Sacred Heart by single digits 28-20.

"That's not exactly were you want to be but you can say those teams were not unreachable," he said.

SCS 2026 football schedule				
ST. PAUL				
Aug. 14	Frassati Catholic Scrim	SCS	5 p.m.	
Aug. 21	Victoria St. Joseph	There	7	
Aug. 28	Austin St. Andrews Episc.	There	7	
Sept. 4	Bloomington	Here	7	
Sept. 11	Geneva Boerne	Here	7	
Sept. 18	Katy St. John XXIII	There	7	
Sept. 25	Open			
Oct. 2	Northland Christian • +	Here	7	
Oct. 9	Hall. Sacred Heart •	There	7	
Oct. 16	Central Texas Chris. •	Here	7	
Oct. 23	Rosehill Christian •	There	7	
Oct. 30	Westbury Chris. •••	Here	7	
• District game				
+ Homecoming				
•• Parent's Night				
ST. LUDMILA				
Sept. 3	Sacred Heart (Scrimmage)	Here	5 pm	
Sept. 10	Nazareth	There	5	
Sept. 17	Sacred Heart	There	5	
Sept. 24	St. Philip	Here	5	
Oct. 1	Open			
Oct. 7	St. Rose	There	5	
Oct. 15	OLV	Here	5	
Oct. 22	TBD		5	
Oct. 29	TBD		5	

Good Luck Cardinals & Comanches



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SHINER COMANCHE FOOTBALL



2026 Shiner Comanches Varsity Football team. Kneeling from left are Luke Dierlam, Anthony Hernandez, Jayden Malina, Hunter Hopkins, Levi Werner, Brayden Garner and Colby Nichols. Middle row from left are Jordan Rehak, Connor Stefka, Jason Keller, Ismael Zamora, Keegan Eaton, Brody Popp, Brycen Rosales, Kaden Neskora, Triston Vesely, Suly Lopez, KaDarius Scott, Ace Gardner, Jacob Gutierrez, Patrick Walker, Ty Boedeker and Jeff Akin. Top row from left is Daniel Boedeker (head coach), Caleb Cowan, Elijah Mesa, Grant Baros, Gavyn Lopez, Stephon Bradley, Kaleb Matula, Landen Christensen, Carson Brown, Joseph Moore, Bode Werner, Quincy Jones, Marquise Upshaw, Clayton Fric, Clay Spann and John Peterson. Photo by Mark Lube.

A look at the 2026 Shiner Comanche football opponents

A brief peek into the 2026 regular-season opponents for the Shiner Comanche football team.

VS INDUSTRIAL AUG. 28, 7:30 P.M.

LAST YEAR'S RESULT: SHINER 27, INDUSTRIAL 21 (OVERTIME)

Players to watch: WR-DB Bryce Sykes, OL-DL Archer Burnett, K-LB Mason Hunt, QB-DB Cooper Francis, RB-LB Easton Larew, WR-DB Mason Galbraith, RB-DB Wyatt Kurtz, WR-DB Joey Smith, ATH Ashton Mendoza, WR-DB John Franz.

The Comanches kick off the 2026 campaign at home to Vanderbilt Industrial.

The Cobras were 3-8 (3-3) and made the playoffs in 2025. They return 24 lettermen, six offensive and five defensive starters.

Industrial is hoping experienced lines led by Burnett and a productive season from Sykes (22-213 receiving yards; one interception) as well as a good season from Francis (313 passing yards). Hunt (68 tackles) will

lead the defense and handle the kicking duties.

The Cobras are picked to place third in 14-3ADII, behind favorites Tidehaven and East Bernard, and above Wallis Brazos.

Last season, the Comanches escaped Industrial with a 27-21 win in overtime.

AT ORANGE GROVE SEPT. 4, 7:30

LAST YEAR'S RESULT: DID NOT PLAY.

Players to watch: RB-LB Daniel Bohn, OL-DL Landon Del Alamo, LB Damian Bennett, WR-DB Daniel Martinez, QB Hughes Klatt, RB Ander Schimdt, DL Jordan Martinez, OL Isreal Solis, DL Carson Frnka, DB Orlando Carrilo.

The Comanches start a two-game road trip with Orange Groves.

Orange Grove finished 9-3 (5-2) and advanced to the area round, and 24 players, seven offensive and six defensive starters return for 2026.

The Bulldogs will be bolstered by the return of Bahn who ran for 1,243 yards and 19 touchdowns despite having part of his season cut short because of injury. Schimdt will contribute to the offense as well; Del Alamo and Solis will lead the lines; Bennett (88 tackles) and Jordan Martinez (five sacks) will be key for the defense.

The 'Dogs are predicted to place third in 15-3ADI which also includes Sinto, Goliad, Corpus Christi West Oso, Mathis and Aransas Pass.

AT POTH SEPT. 11, 7:30 LAST YEAR'S RESULT: SHINER 41, POTH 19

Players to watch: QB Payton Helford, WR-DB Ethan Kopecki, TE-LB Walker Stevens, OL-DL Jaden Stewart, OL-DL Adam Cano, LB-RB Bradley Lathan, DL-OL Urijah Gonzales, RB-DB Aidan Pena, OL-Wyatt Blandford, OL-TE Colton Garza.

Shiner wraps up the road trip at Poth.

The Pirates went 10-2 (7-0) and reached the area round in 2025. They have 20 players back along with five offensive and three defensive starters.

The biggest concern for Poth will be replacing all-state quarterback Major Luna and Helford has the potential to fill those cleats.

Poth will hold residence in 15-3ADII with Blanco, Stockdale, Comfort, Nixon-Smiley, Karnes City and San Antonio YMLA for the next two seasons. Poth is picked to finish in second behind favorites Blanco.

Shiner routed Poth 41-19 in 2025, halting a two-game win streak by the Pirates.

VS BOLING SEPT. 18, 7:30 LAST YEAR'S RESULT: DID NOT PLAY.

Players to watch: RB-LB Jerren Salinas, RB-LB Trenton Ross, OL-DL Tyler Arriaga, LB Morgan Mahalitic, OL-DL Oscar Gonzalez, OL-DL Brayden Macek, QB-DB Jace

SHINER COMANCHE FOOTBALL

Urbanek, TE-DL Da'mon Heard.

The Comanches host Boling Bulldogs for 2026 Homecoming and the first game of a two-game home stand. Boling was 2-8 (2-4) in 2025 and return 17 lettermen from that team as well as five offensive and seven defensive starters.

The play of Urbanek (600 passing yards, five touchdowns) will be crucial to Boling's chance at making the playoffs. They will also count on offensive linemen Arriaga, Gonzalez and Macek. Mahalitic (76 tackles) will head up the 'Dog defensive effort.

Boling is predicted to place fifth in 14-3ADII which also includes, Tidehaven, East Bernard, Industrial, Brazos, Rice Consolidated and Van Vleck.

VS DANBURY

SEPT. 25, 7.

**LAST YEAR'S RESULT:
DID NOT PLAY.**

Players to watch: WR-DB Ruben Guzman, QB-DB Cash Lamb, OL-DL Mark Tomlinson, QB-LB Cameron Price, WR-DB Andrew Palacios.

The Comanches close out the home stand with the 15-2ADI opener against Danbury.

The Panthers went 3-7 (0-6) last year but return 16 lettermen, and five starters on each side of the ball.

Danbury will look to Lamb, a four-year starter, to help them halt a 10-game district losing streak. Wideouts Guzman and Palacios will provide offensive spark; Tomlinson will anchor both lines.

Danbury is picked to place seventh in the district.

AT WEIMAR

OCT. 2, 7

**LAST YEAR'S RESULT:
DID NOT PLAY.**

Players to watch: FB-LB Mikael Shifatu, QB-FS Collin Morrison, RB-LB Ace Mesa, RB-LB Ty Chmelik, OL-DL Cullen Schimcek, OL-DL Brady Montgomery.

The Comanches play at Weimar in the second district game.

The Wildcats went 8-3 (4-2) and were bi-district finalists, and return 11 lettermen, six offensive and five defensive starters.

Weimar has experience at offensive skill positions with Morrison, Shifatu, Mesa and Chmelik all returning. Weimar will construct the lines around Schimcek and Montgomery.

The 'Cats are slated to grab the final playoff spot in the district.

Shiner has not played Weimar since 2021.

VS BLOOMINGTON

OCT. 9, 7

**LAST YEAR'S RESULT:
DID NOT PLAY.**

Players to watch: RB-LB Don Reyes, RB-DB Kenny Flood, OL-DL Jordan Longoria, OL-DL Raymond Baladez, OL-DL Henry Rodriguez, RB-DB Ayden Gardner, OL-DL Kameron Wyatt, OL-DL Xavier Milian, TE-DL Tre McKinney, RB-LB Gabriel De Los Santos.

Shiner hosts Bloomington on Oct. 9. The Bobcats went 4-6 (1-5) last year but return 22 lettermen, eight offensive and seven defensive starters.

Bloomington has not made the playoffs since 1998 and not had a winning season since 1999. Longoria, Baladez, Rodriguez, Wyatt and Milian will lead both lines while Reyes and Flood will provide experience in the backfield.

The 'Cats are predicted to place sixth in the district.

The Comanches last faced Bloomington

in the 2023 season.

AT GANADO

OCT. 16, 7:30

**LAST YEAR'S RESULT:
DID NOT PLAY**

Players to watch: RB-LB Logan Bures, QB-LB Landyn Arriaga, WR-DB Sean Willis, WR-DB Cade Nixon, WR-DB Zaeden Dilworth, DL Kole Bures, OL-DL Tyler Henderson, OL-DL Michael Tristan, OL-DL Connor Toddish, WR-LB Beau Bures.

The Indians were in rebuilding mode last year but made the regional semifinals, going 11-2 (6-0). They return 20 lettemen and nine starters on each side of the football.

Arriaga (2,183 passing yards, 34 touchdowns) played five games as a freshman during the state championship season and was the starter last year. Logan Bures battled injuries last year but still ran for 1,413 yards and 14 touchdowns; Henderson was the leading defender in 2025 (84 tackles).

The Indians are predicted to win the district. Shiner's last game against Ganado was in 2023.

VS FLATONIA

OCT. 23, 7:30.

**LAST YEAR'S RESULT:
DID NOT PLAY.**

Players to watch: OL-DL Kevin Ramirez, OL-DL Gabe Aguillon, RB-LB Zayden Perez, LB-RB Carmine Valdez, OL-DL Alex Castro, WR-DB Freddy Manzano, QB-DB Jaylon Andersen, RB-DB Nate Aguillon, RB-DB Adrian Anderson, K/WR/DB Josemaria Garcia.

Shiner plays Flatonia in the 'Senior Night' game on Oct. 23.

The Bulldogs return 16 lettermen, seven offensive and nine defensive starters from a team that went 5-5 (2-4) last year.

Flatonia will hope an improved defense

can help get it to the playoffs as they gave up just under 20 points a game in 2025, compared to 40 points a game in 2024. Ramirez (50 tackles, one sack), Gabe Aguillon (70 tackles, two sacks) and Castro (92 tackles) will lead that effort.

The 'Dogs are picked to place fifth in district.

Shiner's last game against their rivals to the north came in 2021.

AT KENEDY

OCT. 30, 7:30.

**LAST YEAR'S RESULT:
DID NOT PLAY.**

Players to watch: WR-DB Dylan Russell, QB Jericho Jackson, DB-RB Dehlay Salas, TE-LB Isiah Morin, OL-DL David Cantu, LB Joel Garcia, DB Logan White, TE-DE Dennis Lopez, RB-LB Ruben Solis, RB-LB Izaiah Maldonado.

Shiner closes out the regular season at Kenedy Oct. 30 before having a bye on Nov. 6.

The Lions were 10-3 (4-2) and regional semifinalists in the second year of head coach Mike Jackson, who has coached Shiner St. Paul on two occasions during his coaching career. Jackson welcomes back 17 lettermen and seven starters on both sides of the ball.

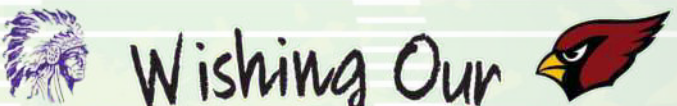
Jericho Jackson (2,224 passing yards, 36 touchdowns) was district newcomer last year and will look to have a better sophomore year. His play will be complemented by all-state Russell (63-805, 14 receiving touchdowns). Morin (90 tackles), Garcia (five sacks) and Salas (five interceptions) will anchor the Lion defense.

Kenedy is slated to place third in the district.

Shiner and Kenedy last faced off on the field in 2023.



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Taking a look at the Cardinals' football opponents

A brief look at St. Paul's opponents for the 2026 football season.

AT VICTORIA ST. JOSEPH AUG. 21, 7 P.M. LAST YEAR'S RESULT: DID NOT PLAY

Players to watch: ATH Charlie Stefka, TE-DL Nick Bludau, OL-DL Isaiah Padierna, ATH Aidan Hamilton, RB-LB Mason DeMontarnal, OL AJ Jeson, RB-DB Brady Parker, RB-LB Hunter Janak, OL Jamari Johnson, QB Moren New.

The Cardinals open the season a week earlier than usual due to changes in the TAPPS calendar. They play at TAPPS Division II member Victoria St. Joseph.

The Flyers went 8-3 and 2-1 in district, and return 15 lettermen, five offensive and seven defensive starters.

St. Joe will be breaking in a new starting quarterback who will have help from athlete Stefka (601 receiving yards, eight touchdowns; 327 rushing yards, four touchdowns) and Bludau (395 receiving yards, six touchdowns). Stefka (59 tackles) and Bludau (43 tackles) will also help the defensive effort.

Padierna will be a key on both lines.

St. Joe is predicted to place third in district.

AT AUSTIN ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL AUG. 28, 7. LAST YEAR'S RESULT: DID NOT PLAY

Players to watch: WR-DB Marcos Erlanson, ATH Jack Dial, DB Ethan Horvath, LB Chase Near, RB-LB Hayes Paddock, QB Charlie Greenberg, ATH Jackson Taylor, WR-DB Chance Fresch, TE-LB Wills Yarnell, RB-DB Grayson Walrath.

St. Paul is on the road for a second game in a row, playing at Austin St. Andrews Episcopal. The Highlanders went 4-6 (1-5) but return 30 players, eight offensive and nine defensive starters.

St. Andrews has some powerful weapons on offense in Paddock (1,235 rushing yards, 18 touchdowns), Erlanson (455 receiving yards, 10 touchdowns) and Greenberg (1,592 passing yards, 18 touchdowns). The Highlanders are also looking for depth on both lines.

St. Andrews competes in 3A of the South-west Preparatory Conference.

VS BLOOMINGTON SEPT. 4, 7 LAST YEAR'S RESULT: DID NOT PLAY

Players to watch: RB-LB Don Reyes, RB-DB Kenny Flood, OL-DL Jordan Longoria, OL-DL Raymond Baladez, OL-DL Henry Rodriguez, RB-DB Ayden Gardner, OL-DL Kameron Wyatt, OL-DL Xavier Milian, TE-DL Tre McKinney, RB-LB Gabriel De Los Santos.

The Cardinals host Bloomington on Sept. 4 in the first of two consecutive home games.

The Bobcats went 4-6 (1-5) last year but return 22 lettermen, eight offensive and seven defensive starters.

Bloomington has not made the playoffs since 1998 and not had a winning season since 1999. Longoria, Baladez, Rodriguez, Wyatt and Milian will lead both lines while Reyes and Flood will provide experience in the backfield.

The 'Cats are predicted to place sixth in the 15-2ADI which also includes power-

houses Ganado and Shiner.

VS GENEVA BOERNE SEPT. 11, 7 LAST YEAR'S RESULT: DID NOT PLAY

Players to watch: QB Caleb Quitadamo, RB-LB Shae McNew, WR-DB Chase Doran, WR-DB Reid Aderholt.

St. Paul closes out the home stand with Geneva Boerne.

The Eagles went 10-3 (4-1) and will be just as solid this year with 24 lettermen, six offensive and five defensive starters.

The Eagles will be stout with several veteran players at skill positions: Quitadamo (3,597 passing yards, 36 touchdowns; 437 rushing yards, 11 touchdowns) was All-State last year; McNew (1,197 rushing yards, 14 touchdowns, 63 tackles, two interceptions), Doran (995 receiving yards, 12 touchdowns, 80 tackles) and Aderholt (1,361 receiving yards, 13 touchdowns, 40 tackles, six interceptions) will make plays on both sides of the football.

Geneva is picked to place fourth in TAPPS III-3.



St. Paul Cardinals Football Team: Bottom row from left are Matt DeSarro, Brody Blaschke, Wyatt Decker, Andrew Machacek, Caleb Werner, Ayden McCord, Paul Filip, Hank Janecek, Sam Werner and Luke Nunez. Middle row from left are Emori Rodriguez, Skylar Mozisek, Gabe Werner, Jude Boedeker, Easton Jalufka, Levi Leonard, Levi Morkovsky, Trevor Garcia, Wesley Miller, Jace Matias, Kash McNabb, Hudson Siegel, Deuce Blaschke, Elijah Rodriguez, Casen Watts, Rebecca Brown and Lexie Ulcak. Top row from left are Ron Johnson, Chris Migl, Jake Wachsmuth (head coach), Evan Rother, Andy Nunez, Donnie Jones IV, Jack Leonard, Carter Chilek, Gabe Darilek, Tyler Pendley, Jack Ehrig, Michael DeSarro, Jacob Arriola, Jeremy Rodriguez, BJ Terrill and Barry Wolf. Photo by Mark Lube.

ST. PAUL CARDINALS FOOTBALL

AT KATY ST. JOHN XXIII SEPT. 18, 7

LAST YEAR'S RESULT: ST. PAUL 44, KATY ST. JOHN XXIII

Players to watch: TE-LB Nik Scott, WR-DB Sebastien Crossen, OL-LB Travis Hammonds, RB-LB Max Aguilera, RB-LB Sebastian Martinez, TE-DL Jace Vincent, OL Tomas Phelan.

The Cardinals play at Katy St. John XXIII Sept. 18 to close out non district prior to an open date on Sept. 25.

The Lions went winless in 10 games with 22 lettermen, four offensive and five defensive starters returning to hope for greener pastures in 2026.

Scott and Vincent are keys for the Lions on both sides of the football.

Katy St. John XXIII is a TAPPS 11-man Non Aligned program.

St. Paul won last year's contest 44-0.

VS HOUSTON NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN OCT. 2, 7

LAST YEAR'S RESULT: DID NOT PLAY

St. Paul opens district at home against Houston Northland Christian.

The Cougars competed as an independent TAPPS program last season.

Northland Christian posted a 4-2 record in 2025, scored an average of 44.33 points a game and conceded 37.33 points per game.

AT HALLETTVILLE SACRED HEART OCT. 9, 7

LAST YEAR'S RESULT: SACRED HEART 28, ST. PAUL 20

Players to watch: RB-DB Layne Sevcik,

QB-DB Trent Sevcik, RB-LB Arlene Henke, RB-LB Wyatt Matura, WR-OL Dillion Goedrich, TE-OL-K Kolby Haas, OL-LB Tatum Beach, OL-DL Brennon Ralston, RB-DB Colsen Dworsky, OL-DL Brock Seger.

St. Paul's second game is a close road trip to rival Sacred Heart.

The Indians were 4-7 (2-3) in 2025 but return 21 lettermen, eight offensive and seven defensive starters

The Indians are not all that big but have a lot of speed at the skill positions with Layne Sevcik (375 all-purpose yards, 29 tackles), Henke (207 rushing yards, 31 tackles) and Trent Sevcik (276 rushing yards, 25 tackles). Sacred Heart is looking to build their lines.

The Indians are picked for second place in the district and were the winners, 28-20, in last year's game.

VS CENTRAL TEXAS CHRISTIAN OCT. 16, 7

LAST YEAR'S RESULT: CENTRAL TEXAS CHRISTIAN 47, ST. PAUL 7

Players to watch: QB Coulter Ragsdale, WR Princeton Schneider, LB Hunter Evans, OL-DL Rowdy Dolgener, OL-DL Colt Cross,

RB Nicholas Istre.

The Cards host Central Texas Christian on Oct. 16.

The Lions return 14 lettermen and seven starters on each side of the ball from a 2025 10-2 (4-1) team.

Ragsdale is a dual-threat quarterback and will be backed up by Schneider (380 receiving yards, five touchdowns).

Evans (121 tackles) will lead the defense with Dolgener and Cross anchoring both lines.

The Lions are predicted to win the district and beat St. Paul 47-7 last year.

AT TOMBALL ROSEHILL CHRISTIAN OCT. 23, 7

LAST YEAR'S RESULT: ROSEHILL CHRISTIAN 24, ST. PAUL 13.

Players to watch: RB-WR Caleb Davis, DL Bo Smith, LB Devin Gay, RB Ben Moore, OL-DL Alexander Johnston, DL Jackson Lundgren, ATH Landon Henderson, LB Banks Thorton, QB Hudson Hurst, WR-DB Ty Lebouef.

St. Paul plays at Tomball Rosehill Christian in the penultimate game of the regular

season.

The Eagles went 7-5 (3-2) last season and return 29 lettermen, eight offensive and nine defensive starters.

Smith (53 tackles, six sacks), Gay (102 tackles) and Lundgren (50 tackles) will head up the defense while Davis (840 rushing yards, seven touchdowns) will be the focal point of the offense.

Rosehill Christian held off St. Paul 24-13 last year; the Eagles are picked for a third-place district finish.

VS WESTBURY CHRISTIAN OCT. 30, 7

LAST YEAR'S RESULT: DID NOT PLAY

Players to watch: RB-LB Drake Caesar
St. Paul closes the regular season at home to Westbury Christian.

The Wildcats went 3-6 (1-3) in their final season of six-man football and make the transition to 11-man football with 12 returning players and six starters on each side of the ball.

Caesar (1,000 rushing yards) will be a key on both sides of the ball.

Westbury is picked to place last in district.



St. Paul football coaches. From left are Ron Johnson (head trainer), Chris Migl, Jake Wachsmuth (head coach), Jeremy Rodriguez, BJ Terrill and Barry Wolf. Photo by Mark Lube.

ST. PAUL LADY CARDINALS VOLLEYBALL



2026 St. Paul Lady Cardinals Varsity Volleyball team. Front row from left are Lexie Ulcak, Presley Rother, Annabelle Collins and McKinley Jacob. Top row from left are Emery Kennedy, Tatum Walker, Faith Brown, Addy Matias, Skylar Mozisek, Ashlin DeSarro and Reese Chilek. Photo by Mark Lube.

St. Paul has the talent and experience to make another run to state

The St. Paul varsity volleyball team entered the 2026 season on the heels of back-to-back trips to the TAPPS state tournament.

From last year's team, they lost just one player to graduation and look for a three-peat qualification to state.

New Lady Cardinals head coach Taylor Hudson sees the potential for the Lady Cards to return to state but also can see where that expectation might bring on unnecessary pressure.

"There are definitely high expectations for this group. Our biggest challenge will be staying consistent and not allowing those expectations to become pressure," she said. We have a very talented group, but talent alone won't get us back to state."

The chances of third successive trip to the state tournament is good but only if the Lady Cards work hard, work together and stay focused.

"We have to continue working hard, stay disciplined, play together as a team, and take the season one game at a time," Hudson said. "We want to build off the success this program has already had while continuing to grow and improve throughout the season."

St. Paul's seniors are Skylar Mozisek, Addy Matias, Tatum Walker and Faith Brown.

Hudson is expecting the seniors to lead with more than just their voices and actions on the court.

"Our seniors have a huge opportunity to

set the tone for our team this year. I expect them to lead by example through their work ethic, attitude, accountability, and how they respond in difficult situations," she said. "Leadership isn't always about being the loudest person on the court; it's also about being someone your teammates can depend on.

"I want our seniors to help hold the team to a high standard on the court, in the classroom, and in how they represent our program."

The Lady Cardinals are strengthened by their talent and having experienced two trips to the state tournament.

"One of our biggest strengths is the amount of talent and experience we have

returning," Hudson said. "These girls are athletic, competitive, and capable of playing at a very high level. We also have players who have been in big matches before, which is something we can use to our advantage."

Hudson noted she wants to see the ladies play with consistency and confidence.

"I want the girls to trust their abilities and understand how talented they are," she said. "We are working on being able to play with the same confidence and intensity regardless of who is on the other side of the net or what the score is."

At setter, Hudson has two options in Mozisek and sophomore Annabelle Collins. Mozisek will also join sophomore McKinley Jacobs at outside hitter.

ST. PAUL LADY CARDINALS VOLLEYBALL

At middle will be Matias and junior Emery Kennedy; Brown will play at libero. Walker, juniors Lexie Ulcak and Reese Chilek, and sophomores Presley Rother and Ashlin DeSarro round out the roster to provide depth.

St. Paul has the Schulenburg and Rice Tournaments on the schedule as well as Georgetown Grace Academy, New Braunfels Thunder, Edna, Fayetteville and San Marcos Hill Country.

"I like our non-district schedule because it gives us an opportunity to compete against different levels and styles of teams and figure out where we need to improve before district play," Hudson said.

"I want our non-district matches to challenge us and

prepare us for the situations we'll face later in the season."

In district St. Paul will play Missouri City Divine Savior Academy, Cypress Houston Adventist Academy, Houston School of the Woods, Houston Second Baptist School UM and Hallettsville Sacred Heart in district.

"When it comes to district, we aren't going to overlook anyone. Every team presents a different challenge, and we have to show up prepared to compete every night," Hudson said.

"Our focus is going to be on what we can control, continuing to improve throughout the season, and putting ourselves in the best position possible heading into postseason play."

St. Paul 2026 CC Schedule

Aug. 15	Yoakum	There	V/JH
Aug. 29	Cuero	There	V/JH
Sept. 5	Shiner	Here	V/JH
Sept. 12	St. Joe-Coleto Creek	There	V/JH
Sept. 19	Gonzales	There	V/JH
Sept. 26	Port Aransas/Goliad	There	V
Oct. 3	Hall. Sacred Heart	There	V/JH
Oct. 10	Victoria Race for Cure	There	V/8th
Oct. 26	State Meet	Waco	V

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SHINER LADY COMANCHE VOLLEYBALL



2026 Shiner Lady Comanches Varsity Volleyball team: front row from left are Marie Johnson, Kallee Kifer, Savannah Durrett, Tinsley Vasek, Emersyn Boehm and Addie Prove. Top row from left are Maddi Hubbard, Taylor Kocian, Kayden Smith, Harper Lenehan, Harlee Sevcik, Kiera Curtis, Lexi Boner, Paisly Wallace and Kayson Fleeman. Not pictured is Reagan Fluitt. Photo by Mark Lube.



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St. Paul 2026 Cross-Country team. Front row, from left are Keaton Helweg, McKinley Jacobs, Skylar Mozisek, Emma Marshall, Clara Kinney, Frances Filip and Faith Brown. Back row, from left are Gabe Darilek, Jacob Arriola, Carter Chilek, Wesley Miller and Eli Barton. Photo by Mark Lube.

St. Paul cross-country program will benefit for intra-squad competition

The St. Paul cross-country team will have around a total of 13 athletes in the high-school program and will need to have competition within the teams to be competitive this year.

The Lady Cardinals return four who are seniors in Skylar Mozisek, Frances Filip, Clara Kinney and Faith Brown as well as junior Emma Marshall. Newcomers are sophomores McKinley Jacobs and Keaton Helweg.

“Running is not a new thing for Keaton but running cross country is,” head coach Nicco Brown said. “Our team is not the size it usually is and the girls are going to have push each other within the squad. I love the fact we get to run with the high school and junior high teams, and the other girls teams. This will help to push them to compete.”

On the boys side, seniors Gabe Darilek, Carter Chilek and Jacob Arriola all return. New to the team this season is junior Wesley

Miller and sophomore Eli Barton.

Several of the Cardinals cross-country team pull double duty as they play football as well.

“It will be a challenge to find a way to wake up on Saturday morning and be ready to run,” Nicco Brown said. “They will push through it.”

The state course at Cottonwood Creek Golf Course in Waco is very familiar to the Cardinals.

“This is the fourth year we have run the same course at the state meet,” Nicco Brown said. “Experience is on our side. With the new alignment of schools, it will be a great race to watch.”

The St. Paul schedule includes meets in Yoakum, Cuero, two in Victoria including the Race for Cure, Gonzales, Port Aransas or Goliad, Hallettsville Sacred Heart and a home meet (hosted by Shiner ISD) on Sept. 5.

The state meet will be Oct. 26.

The Life We Chose: A Coach's Wife, A Coach's Kid, A Coaching Family

By: Michelle Price

I never planned on this life. No one really does. You don't grow up imagining a calendar ruled by practice schedules, late-night games, missed holidays, and seasons that blur together before you can catch your breath.. And suddenly before you fully understand it, you're already living it.

I've worn many titles in my life, but one of the most meaningful is the one I never saw coming: coach's wife. I've come to learn, the title isn't the beginning of the story, it's the doorway into everything that follows.

Saying Yes to More Than a Person

When I met my husband, he was already a coach. I started as the girlfriend who quickly learned that love in this world doesn't belong to just two people. It belongs to teams, seasons, communities, and the constant movement of a life built around the game. When I said yes to him, I said yes to all of it. I thought I understood what that meant. I didn't.

I knew the seasons wouldn't look like everyone else's. Fall, winter, spring, and summer would blur into football, basketball, track, and softball. I knew there would be wins that lifted you and losses that stayed with you longer than they should.

I knew we'd wear colors that weren't always "ours" and that our closets would eventually reflect school spirit more than personal style. However, understanding it and living it are also very different things and what I didn't yet understand was how completely this life would shape every part of our days.

The Calendar That Runs Everything

This life isn't really about uniforms or games. It's about everything in between. It's a constant juggling act from practice, meetings, travel, school events, family obligations then layered on top of two careers and then children with lives of their own. There is no perfect balance. Only adjustment. Only sacrifice. Only learning how to stretch yourself in ways you didn't know were possible. Dinner isn't always dinner. Weekends aren't always weekends.

And "family time" often shows up in the small gaps between everything else. You learn to live by the calendar instead of fighting it. You learn that flexibility isn't optional, it's survival. And you learn that the most meaningful moments rarely arrive on schedule, but they matter just the same.

What People Don't See From the Stands

People see the games. What they don't always see is what it takes to get there. Most people don't go to their spouses office and watch them work and cheer them on. However, I do go to my husband's office in the form of bleachers, folding chairs, and sidelines and of course I cheer him on. I've sat through heat

that drains you, cold that stiffens you, wind that cuts through you, and rain that soaks everything except your decision to stay. I've watched my husband pour everything he has, his time, his energy, his heart all into other people's children, and that kind of giving doesn't come without weight.

The Weight Coaches Carry

The weight is the hard part people don't always understand. A coach teaches. A coach encourages. A coach pushes. A coach believes in kids long before they believe in themselves, but at the end of the day, the performance belongs to the athlete. And too often, so does the judgment, it sounds unfair when you say it out loud. Because it is. I've learned something important watching my husband all these years: coaches don't choose this life because it's easy.

They choose it because they love it. They love the growth, the challenge, and the moment a kid finally realizes what they're capable of. When things go wrong, they look inward first. That responsibility is heavy. Nonetheless, the reward runs deeper than any scoreboard, and even with that reward, there are sacrifices that come with every season.

The Sacrifices Behind the Seasons

Of course, there are sacrifices. Birthdays missed. Holidays spent apart. First steps, first games, first moments that don't wait for a timeout or a free week-end. There are many times our children looked into the stands for their dad and he simply wasn't there. I used to joke that seeing my husband during a season was like a solar eclipse: rare, brief, and unforgettable when it happened. It is hard on him. Hard on me. Hard on our kids and yet, even in that difficulty, something important was taking shape in our home.

Learning to Share a Father

Somewhere along the way, our children learned something beautiful in the middle of the hard. They learned how to share their dad. They learned that when he wasn't there, it wasn't because they mattered less, it was because he was pouring into someone else who needed him too. And over time, those "someone else's" became part of our family.

When Seasons End, the Bonds Don't

All seasons end, kids graduate, when coaches move on and those relationships don't disappear. They stay. Once you've shared early mornings, late nights, wins, losses, heartbreak, and joy, you don't just walk away from it. You carry it with you. Sometimes, they're the only people who understand your story without explanation.

Those connections don't just stay in memory, they continue to shape your life moving forward. Over the years, life has taken all of us in different directions, but the connection remains. We celebrate marriages,

babies, graduations. We grieve losses. We show up for each other in ways that go far beyond the game. Once you've been part of a coaching family, you don't really leave it.

The Lessons for Our Children

As a mom, there were times I wanted to apologize to my children. I wanted to say I was sorry their life didn't always look like everyone else's. Sorry for the empty seats. Sorry for the missed moments. Sorry for having to share their dad. I don't say that anymore, because when I look at who they are, I see something stronger than what they've missed. I see how they understand teamwork in its truest form.

They have learned how to give effort when no one is watching. How to understand that every role matters, whether you're scoring the points or cheering the loudest from the bench. They've learned that success isn't just about winning. It's about showing up. Those lessons don't just stay on the field or court, it becomes the foundation for everything that comes next.

What This Life Really Teaches

Being part of a coaching family teaches you that success isn't just what happens on the scoreboard, it's who you become in the process. It's the people you meet. The relationships you build. The resilience you develop. The compassion you carry. And the ability to keep going when it's hard. And along the way, you realize you don't walk this road alone.

The Women Who Showed the Way

I've also been blessed to learn from incredible coaching wives who came before me. Women who made this life look steady even when it wasn't. Women who held families together quietly while their husbands gave everything to their teams.

One of those women is Gayle Henke, wife of long-time Sacred Heart coach, Pat Henke. I've often watched her and wondered how she does it with such grace, strength, and consistency. She may never fully know the impact she's had, but she has been a steady example of what it means to live this life well. She taught me something without ever saying it directly: once you become a coaching family, you always are one.

Marcie Appelt, wife of legendary Hallettsville High School baseball coach Jimmy Appelt, shared some great advice: whatever people say about you, let it roll off your skin like a frog. It is a simple reminder not to let other people's words define you, hurt your confidence or distract you from who you are and what you are trying to accomplish. You cannot control what others say, but you can control how much power you give their words. Sometimes the best thing you can do is let it roll right off and keep moving forward.

Looking Back With Gratitude

So when I look back now, I don't see what we lost. I see what we gained. I see the people who filled the empty seats. I see the teams who became family. I see the moments that mattered more than convenience ever could. More than anything I see a life that, while not always easy, has been deeply meaningful.

There have been tears. There has been exhaustion. There have been seasons I wasn't sure we'd get through yet there has been more joy than I can count. More laughter than I expected. More love than I imagined. And more people who became part of our story than I ever could have planned for and because of that, I wouldn't change a thing.

A Life I Wouldn't Trade

And today, I wouldn't trade it. Not the long nights. Not the early mornings. Not the missed moments. Not the chaos. Not the sacrifice. Because somewhere along the way, we stopped just surviving it. We became something bigger, we became a coaching family.

I am prouder than I can put into words to be part of a coaching family. I am proud to be Coach Price's wife, and now, even more proudly, the mother of a coach.

Sometimes life's journey is about more than the paths we choose, it is about what we are called to do. For our family, coaching has always felt like that calling. It has shaped our lives, our values and the way we see the world. And now, that calling continues through our son, which makes my heart incredibly proud.

I'm not sure what is completely in store for our daughter or where her own journey will lead her, but I can say with confidence that the person she is, the athlete she has become and the teammate she is today are all a reflection of the coaching family she was raised in.

She has grown up understanding that sports are about so much more than wins and losses. They are about commitment, accountability, teamwork, perseverance, leadership and learning how to show up for others. Those lessons have become part of who she is. The lessons don't stop when the season ends. They become a way of life, passed from one generation to the next.

I thank God for this life, not only in its victories, but in its hardest seasons, too. Because even the hardest seasons shaped us into who we are.

To every coach, athlete, parent, coach's wife, coach's kid, and family who has walked even a small part of this journey with us, you became part of our story. And because of that, we never really say goodbye.

We simply carry you forward with us into every new season, every new team, and every new chapter of who we are becoming.

We are, and always will be, a coaching family.

Shiner cross-country team looks to be very committed and focused



2026 Shiner Cross Country team. Photo by Mark Lube.

With another small-sized roster, the Shiner cross-country team will need to be committed and focused on their running.

Returning Lady Comanches runners are Jewel Caka and Megan Burns, who did not compete in 2026.

Alaina Sofka will be a newcomer to the team and incoming freshmen Paisley Todd, Dawn Bishop, Kendyl Boehm and Addison Tudyk are all joining the team.

Returning for the boys are Hudson Koncaba, Tobias Gipson, Logan Benavidez and Joshua Lecon.

They will be joined by newcomer Brandes Gemmel.

“To be successful, we need five athletes to commit to doing the best they can do, improve times each

week, and with our smaller numbers, avoid injuries,” Shiner head coach Michelle Winkenwerder said.

“Definitely have to work on endurance and getting into shape as quickly as we can. We have a couple of new schools this year in the district, so collecting times from meets will be a priority.”

On the docket for Shiner are meets in Yoakum, Cuero, a home meet, Moulton, Gonzales and Luling.

District meet will be in mid-October; regionals will be Oct. 26 at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and state meet will be in Round Rock on Nov. 6.

In 2025, the Lady Comanches placed third in the district and earned No. 20 at the regional meet while the Comanches won the district last year and came in at No. 22 in the regional meet.

Shiner 2026 CC Schedule				
Aug. 15	Yoakum	There	HS	
Aug. 29	Cuero	There	HS/JH	
Sept. 3	Shiner	Here	HS/JH	
Sept. 12	Moulton	There	HS/JH	
Sept. 16	Shiner	Here	JH	
Sept. 19	Gonzales	There	HS	
Sept. 23	Shiner	Here	JH	
Sept. 26	Luling	There	HS	
Oct. 3	Shiner (JH District)	Here	HS/JH	
TBA	Shiner-District	Here	HS	
Oct. 26	Regional	Corpus Christi	V	
Nov. 6	State Meet	Round Rock	V	

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Help me to play with good sportsmanship. I pray that I do not seek individual glory or accolades, but rather that I play for your glory and for the good of my team. I pray that all who play in games are protected from physical harm. And, my Lord, help me to accept the bad breaks as part of the game and be gracious in the good parts of the game. Lead us all to the rewards of your kingdom where you live and reign for ever.

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SPH Cheerleaders: left to right, Celestine Filip, Emery Kennedy, Annie Werner, Emma Marshall, Jacey Picha, Eden Rodriguez, Tatum Walker, Faith Brown, Annabelle Collins, Reese Chilek, Hayden Rother, August Dodson, Evie Chilek, Ashlin Desarro and Presley Rother. Photo courtesy of Courtney Rea Photography.

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Shiner High School Varsity Cheerleaders: left to right, Claire Stefka, Alaina Sofka, Patricia Price, Pyper Neskora, Molly June Akin, Harlee Sevcik, Lexi Boner, Lily Prove, Hannah Coleman, Jaeleigh Ramirez, Reagan Horn, Addie Prove, Maddi Hubbard, Dawn Bishop, Kendyl Boehm, Trista Furrh and Ellie Migl. Photo courtesy of Lori Raabe.



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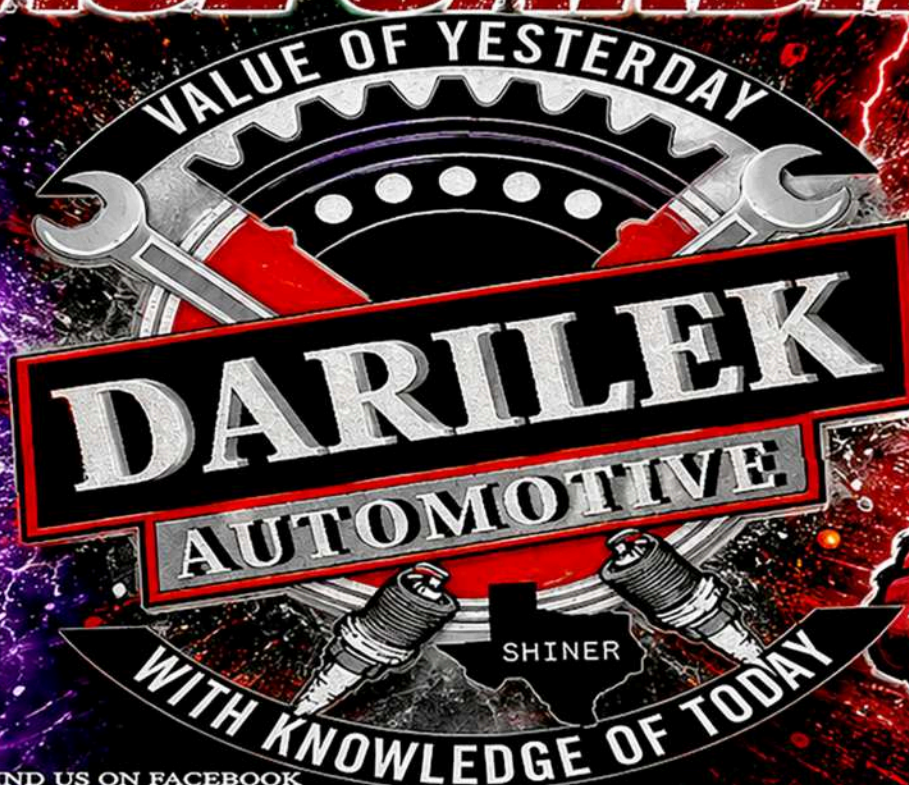
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