

Boys' Varsity Basketball Rebounds Into League Race, Beats Montebello 55-45



MOOR photo by SHANNON KHA

FRIDAY NIGHT VICTORY Senior captain Jonathan Barajas (bottom) runs the pick and roll with junior Dominic Wilson (top) in the first half. The Moors outscored the Oilers 21-6 in the second quarter.

ERIC HUANG
Staff Writer

The boys' varsity basketball squad picked up another win on

Jan. 22 as the Moors beat the Montebello Oilers 55-45, boosting their record 3-2 in league. The Moors began the game with

a backcourt of senior Jonathan Barajas, senior Simeon Lam and junior Marvin Chau, along with a front court of sophomore Wil-

liam Delgado and junior Dominic Wilson. Defensive intensity was evident from the start, as both teams were exchanging baskets throughout the quarter. With the band and the crowd cheering them on, however, the Moors slowly built momentum and ended the first quarter with a 12-8 lead.

The Moors continued into the second quarter strong, extending the lead to 14 points with six minutes remaining. Post play was dominant, as center Dominic Wilson became one of the focal points in the offense later in the game.

"[Post play] played an important role in the game plan because it allowed our shooters to get more open looks," Wilson said.

With a good inside-out game, coupled with strong defense and capitalizing off of fast breaks, the Moors were able to end the second quarter strong. Senior guard David Nunez recorded a steal off the bench and the Moors ended the first half leading by a score of 33-14.

The Oilers came back strong to begin the second half, going on a 12-0 run. The defensive intensity that was exhibited by the Moors coming into the game was not as evident in the second half as the Oilers were able to pull within 10 points. Center Dominic Wilson was able to end the run, adding to the score with a basket and foul shot. Defense, however, was still a struggle for most of the third quarter, and that proved to be costly.

"We came out underestimating [the Oilers] and relaxed on defense because of our lead," point guard Jonathan Barajas said. "They came out with much more energy than us and quickly cut the lead."

Towards the end of the game, Alhambra regained their focus and stepped up their defense. They were able to capitalize on fastbreaks throughout the game to earn the win, 55-45. Catch the Moors on their home court against the Bell Gardens Lancers on Feb. 2 and on senior night against rivals Mark Keppel Aztecs on Feb. 5!

Lady Moors Varsity Basketball Fall Short of Comeback in Loss Against Oilers 35-47

VIVIANNE LAM
Staff Writer

As both teams were warming up, the crowd was screaming and yelling with loud cheers. The Alhambra girls' varsity basketball team was playing against the Montebello Oilers on Friday, Jan. 22 in an important Almont league match.

The game commenced with the Oilers starting off with the ball. The Oilers then hit the first shot of the game. Alhambra's first three points were made by shooting guard Maya Rivera. Another timeout was called by the Oilers and the score was 3-6. The first quarter ended with a score of 5-6.

The Lady Moors had good defense on the court and were communicating with each other. There were many timeouts called by both teams to talk on keeping an eye on the ball. The second quarter finished with a score of 14-18, with the Oilers in the lead.

The game was starting to get more intense as both teams were starting to draw more fouls, getting many free

throw shots in the third quarter. The third quarter ended with a score of 24-31.

Toward the beginning of the fourth and final quarter, the teams were tied 34-34. The crowd went wild with loud cheers as the teams tried to push through to get in the lead. The Oilers ended up making a few more shots than the Moors did, ending the game with a score of 35-47.

"I felt that we could have done better; this is my third week with the girls and I'm trying to see the capacity of knowledge that they have because they were used to something different," assistant coach Efrain Muniz said.

It's a little different for the girls on the court because they now have a new coach and new plays. They prepare ahead of time to ensure that they know all the plays and rotations.

"My team did pretty well in last night's game. We all played hard, worked together and had a lot of fun," captain Ashley Beltran said.

The Lady Moors now play against the Bell Gardens Lancers at home on Feb. 2.



MOOR photo by SHANNON KHA

MOORS MEET OILERS Lady Moor sophomore Faye How (middle) prepares to pass the ball to her teammate in attempt in even out the score against the Montebello Oilers on Jan. 20.



Murrieta Murrieta Hot Springs & 215 Freeway	Rancho Cucamonga Foothill & 15 Freeway
Pasadena Lake & Villa	Brea Imperial & State College
Glendora Route 66 & Grand	Upland 11th & Central
Lake Forest Lake Forest & Rockfield	Simi Valley Los Angeles & Williams
Alhambra Garfield & Valley	Monterey Park Atlantic & Riggin
	Temple City Rosemead & Broadway



BENJAMIN LANGE
Staff Writer



Professional Sports: The Ethics Of Tanking

Tanking in sports is when a professional sports team purposely loses a key game so they may position themselves in a better position later on. Tanking is present in almost all sports and while it may have some form of impact in it all, the NBA faces the biggest impact of tanking. In the NBA, a player just two years removed from high school is allowed to start and diversify their team's performance immediately. There are plenty of examples of the draft causing a huge impact with players such as NBA stars, Blake Griffin and Derrick Rose, who immediately made significant changes in their teams.

Tanking in sports has two large aspects, the ethics and the business. The ethics of tanking is not so much as a fan issue or even an issue for the player, but a management issue. Ultimately, the decision comes down to the big brass that are designed to make the team a money making business. Fans often hate tanking in sports because it will usually involve the managers trading fan favorite players or creating inconsistent lineups for designated games. But while fans may be disgusted by the decision, their main concern is fielding a team that will eventually bring you and your money back. To do that you have to win championships.

The bottom line is that tanking can be useful in sports but one must make their own judgement. While one may construct a subpar roster, the transactions are made with the intent of creating a successful team at some point in the future. In the end, it seems the results are all that matter. Overall, tanking may be considered morally wrong by most fans of sports, it is undeniable that in certain situations, some teams may benefit from a loss early on so that they may be stronger at a later time. Ultimately, it is up to the managers if such drastic moves will be made for the betterment of the team.