

Football Team Rams Through Temple City

ALEC GREGORY
Staff Writer

After winning their first two games, the Alhambra football team was not prepared to stop in the face of the Temple City Rams on Friday night. The Rams came into the game with a season record of 1-0 after defeating Mark Keppel the week before. However, this did not seem to phase the Moors.

The Moors started off the game, only to have the ball deflected and intercepted two plays into their first possession. However, their defense was able to quickly get the ball back, and with almost nine minutes on the clock, Alhambra scored the first touchdown on a pass from the starting quarterback Noah Rodriguez to senior wide receiver Raul Cortez.

"There was nothing that surprised us... Coach [Bergstrom] predicted a couple plays that weren't on film. We knew everything," senior player Sebastian Velasco said.

The Moors kept a 7-0 lead over the Rams throughout the first quarter. The team's preparation paid off about seven

minutes into the second quarter when the Moors defense forced a fourth down deep on the Ram's side of the field.

"We prepared for them based on what we had seen them do and what we expected them to do," Head Coach Eric Bergstrom said.

With a couple of experienced blocks,

down on fourth and goal, with only a minute left to play in the half. The score was 20-0 in favor of the Moors as both teams marched off the field at half time.

The second half, while filled with excitement and close calls, was more a battle of defense. The Moor's offense was put on their heels near the end of the third quarter, as they suffered a safety, putting the score at 20-2 in Alhambra's favor. Although Alhambra kept the lead throughout the game, there was still room for improvement.

"I would've liked to see us be more productive, would like to see us finish games," Bergstrom said, "We're getting better on a weekly basis, which is really all that matters."

The Moors then intercepted the ball with just over one minute left to lead to

the end of the game. With their win over Temple City, the Moors improved their record to 3-0, while allowing only a combined 8 points in those three games.

The Moors next home game is against the South Pasadena Tigers on Sept. 13.



OFFENSE The Moors attempt to score a touchdown in their home game against the Temple City Rams

MOOR photo by AHYLIE ROSALES

Alhambra's wide receiver and defensive end Velasco was able to sneak past the Rams and gain another touchdown off of a punt return. Shortly after, a sixteen yard reception to junior wide receiver Daniel Catano, the Moors scored another touch-

Moors Run Jeff Nelson Invitational

JOSHUA THAI
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On Saturday, Sept. 1, the Alhambra Cross Country team attended their first meet at the Jeff Nelson Invitational. The team has been practicing since June, allowing them to have a sense of preparedness in time for the meet.

"I am excited to run our first meet at Griffith Park, because I know I can perform my best since I've had experience with this course," senior Captain Alyssa Romero said, "I feel confident."

The junior varsity boys placed fifth out of eight teams, with nine runners. However, the Frosh/Soph boys and varsity events did not place due to a shortage of runners.

The varsity girls portion of the group have proven themselves to be challenging competitors in the past. Being the previous league champions, the girls varsity team held high expectations of themselves.

"We are league champs for girls varsity so we need to defend our title," Coach Sandra Rodriguez said.

The girls varsity group placed third out of fourteen teams, with senior Captains Serena Duenas and Alyssa Romero placing eighteenth. Both Captains received medals of recognition in the girls varsity portion of the invitational. The rest of the girls on the team also played impressively, placing top 10 for at the meet. One notable junior frosh/soph player, Milan Cambon, also received a medal during the meet.

Saugus High School ended the event in first place with Burbank High School shortly behind.

The Cross Country team will next show their skills at the Whittier Narrows Leg Lake Invitational meet on Friday, Sept. 26.



The Rights of Minority Athletes

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Minority students that come from low income families have historically been disadvantaged by institutionalized bias and underfunding from the athletic community. As a result, minority student athletes have been stripped of their opportunities to find success through sports.

A recent example of this would be the case of Lisa Parks vs the city of New York. Parks was a local teen who moved to New York City from Georgia and hoped to continue her career in competing in CIF (California Interscholastic Federation) track and field.

Upon arrival, she learned that her school did not offer any athletic teams due to lack of funding. Parks decided to investigate how funding was distributed and found that P.S.L.A. (public community athletic sponsors) denied half of all schools that had a majority of minority students in New York. This meant that schools of dominantly white students received approval for funding every year without obstacles.

P.S.L.A. has denied institutionalized bias against minority students, but the numbers speak for themselves.

Parks has filed a lawsuit against the organization for failure to disclose how

they choose which schools receive funding. Although Parks was robbed of her opportunity to compete in CIF track and field, her efforts of working toward a permanent bill can help protect others against discrimination in any community.

There is no justification for racial bias through school funding, every student deserves the same opportunity to thrive in extracurricular activities.

For students like Parks, sports could be their ticket out of poverty or even a way to college. Failure to provide funding for minority populated schools deprives students of their chance of success outside the classroom.

Data collected from the P.S.L.A. website exposes how the organization intentionally chose schools with a majority population of white students.

Although there may be other lurking variables in their decisions on who to fund, failure to provide a written procedure of their selection process has left the public to jump to their own conclusions.

Sports may seem like an ordinary part of school, but for some, it is a lost opportunity.

It is unfortunate that minority students must attempt to take legal action to be equal to other highly funded schools.

JV Girls Volleyball Wipes-Out Alverno Heights Academy

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On Sept. 4, the Alhambra JV girls volleyball team went up against Alverno Heights Academy for their final preseason game.

With it being the game that would determine the quality of the team's performance this year, the Lady Moors ran onto the court with only one goal in their head: to win.

In the first few minutes of the match, the spectators could observe that the girls came in with confidence as they immediately scored the first five points.

"We were all nervous before [the game began] but as soon as we started

playing, everyone was psyched to play and be on that court," Captain Crissy Song said.

Soon after, the Alverno Girls scored another three points. The Lady Moors, however, followed by a scoring of another six points.

The first set ended with a score of 25-7 while the second set ended with a score of 25-15 in favor of Alhambra High School.

"Our confidence increases with the hours of practice we put in and we use it to prepare ourselves for the upcoming season," junior player Fiona Chan said, "Now we meet before practice in order to

improve our overall game performance."

The team has worked hard during the preseason to improve their record. With season approaching, the girls are hopeful about their improved performance.

"We want to become even better this season and we want our season to be reflective of our preseason record. We want to win at least six games out of the ten for the

Almost League standings," Song said.

The team hopes to achieve this by putting in more time into their practices and focusing a majority of their time in improving their skills.

The team also plans to learn a variety of plays in order to open up

more opportunities to spike the ball or to force the opposing team into accidentally creating a mistake.

Aside from improving the style they play, the team's expectations for this year are higher and their confidence is in the spot that they want it in.

The JV girls volleyball team will next put their preseason-gained skills to the test by going up against Schurr High School on the Spartan's home turf on Sept. 18 for an away game.

MOOR graphic by JENNIFER SU

