

Title IX Provides Girls More Opportunities in Athletics



WORDS OF INSPIRATION (Left to right) Principal Brad Walsh, Cheer Coach Sarah Fong, guest speaker Peter Caparis, Athletic Director Gerald DeSantis and Aerobics teacher Eileen Kaiser speak to girls in the large gym about the opportunities that athletics brings and to encourage them to join to raise the number of girls currently in sports teams.

DAVID TAN
Staff Writer

For the past few years, Title IX has been a big factor in AHS' athletics. Title IX is an Education Amendment established in 1972 that prohibits discrimination based on sex. It guarantees that no students are excluded from or denied the benefits of any educational program or activity that is receiving federal financial assistance.

It has been required for many years by Title IX that boys' and girls' athletic programs have equal facilities, equal privileges and up to only a four percent difference between the total amount of male and female athletes in a sports team.

To comply with Title IX, the school has been looking for more female athletes to join athletic programs. In addition, Title IX essentially creates more opportunities for girls to play a sport or try out different sports to add to their high school experience.

"It does provide equal oppor-

tunity for everybody, which is a good thing [because] that is what education is about, providing an education and a positive experience in high school," Athletic Director Gerald DeSantis said.

To accommodate for Title IX's policies, the school has spent money to improve its facilities, such as adding a new weight room, increasing the number of girls' locker rooms and renovating the softball field. Additional girls' sports teams were also started so that girls would have the opportunity to join.

"We have expanded our opportunities for female athletes. We have added a new girls' golf team and an additional girls' volleyball team," Assistant Principal of Business and Activities Jeremy Infranca said.

Although the main focus this year is to gain more female athletes and help them become more aware of the opportunities they have, male athletes have also been affected by the changes made due to Title IX. Some

male athletes were not able to join a team due to an insufficient amount of female athletes. Other male athletes were cut from teams because there were not enough female athletes to balance them out.

"In the cross-country team, a lot of new-coming males, such as myself, were not accepted initially until we were able to get more girls to join the team," cross-country member Jesse Portillo said.

The faculty and administration has been trying to get more girls interested in different athletic programs.

On Sept. 20, girls currently enrolled in physical education were given a presentation during their respective periods on the different sports programs available, as well as the benefits of being in a sport.

The administration's goal this year is to have a close to an equal amount of male and female athletes represented in the school.

Many different people came to present at the assembly. They shared their experiences in sports and how sports affected their lives.

The presenters also talked about the things that they were able to learn by being in sports teams.

Among the presenters was a friend of physical education teacher Eileen Kaiser, Jessica Doucette. Doucette was a softball player who played for the University of Georgia. She encouraged girls to join the athletic programs available at school by informing them about the benefits of joining a sport.

"[Sports] has a lot to do with self-confidence, accountability and self-esteem," Doucette said.

Changes have been made and opportunities have been created to make athletics in education more equal. Girls are strongly encouraged to be more involved and try out the different options they have in athletics this upcoming year.

"I think Title IX is a good way to support the female athletes and not make it seem like the male athletes are getting all the attention," Director of Girls' Athletics and Girls' Basketball Captain Lauren Wong said.

Anhayte's Antics:
Title IX Persuades Girls to
Join Athletics

ANHAYTE GUAJARDO
Staff Writer

Title IX was created to give females and males equal opportunities in sports, but in order to comply, there must be a four percent or less difference between male and female athletes. The issue of the Title IX law has required many sports teams to make changes to their rosters by cutting male athletes from the team because of the insufficient number of female athletes.

Most male players work hard to be part of an athletic program and do not deserve to be cut. Title IX pressures girls to compete when they aren't passionate about sports in order for boys to continue to participate. In order to comply with Title IX, there needs to be more exposure to sports in middle schools.

The lack of exposure to sports and motivation in middle school makes the recruitment of females difficult to meet the terms of Title IX. There is not enough information available for the students to be informed about the different kinds of athletic programs that are available in high school. Allowing team captains to expose their sport and letting the kids ask questions about the athletic programs will help gain more female athletes.

Every school year, Title IX brings stress to athletes, coaches and teams in general, since they are focusing more on compiling on the number of athletes rather than on the team's performance. Therefore this tends to neglect the fact that the athletes who are there to perform do it for their passion of the sport.

Varsity Football Falls Short of Win Against South Pasadena Tigers

ANHAYTE GUAJARDO
Staff Writer

The last preseason varsity football game was on Sept. 21 against South Pasadena High School. Prior to the game, the team was in an optimistic mood. They were eager to show how hard they have been working every day during practice. The game ended with the Moors losing 10-24.

"We've kept the intensity during practice high, and during lunch we watch film[s] of our opponents to dissect their schemes," senior captain Christian Caraveo said.

The game began positively for the Moors, who won the coin toss and kicked off. However, it followed with the Tigers scoring their first touchdown and field goal. The first quarter ended with South Pasadena leading 7-0.

At the start of the second quarter, the Tigers received the ball; it was thirty seconds into the

quarter when South Pasadena scored another touchdown and field goal. It was followed by an additional three-point field goal. With time running out, free safety Sebastian Espinoza intercepted the ball and gained eighty-six yards until he was stopped at the four-yard line. This set up the Moors' first touchdown by running back Ezra Broadus and the one-point field goal kick by free safety Jesse Campos. With only six seconds left on the clock, the second quarter ended with South Pasadena leading 17-7.

"The ending touchdown [of the second quarter] gave momentum [and] it will hopefully help them to continue to play well and score more points," Athletic Director Gerald DeSantis said.

In the beginning of the third quarter, Alhambra had possession of the ball. With an attempt at another touchdown, there were only twenty yards left and on

their fourth down, the team decided on a three-point field goal kick by free safety Jesse Campos. By the fourth quarter, Pasadena completed another touchdown.

In the last twelve minutes of the game, both teams were unable to score. The game ended 24-10, in favor of South Pasadena.

"I think the boys did pretty well [and] with a couple of breaks, we could have had them. We were up against a good team," Principal Brad Walsh said.

The team's preseason record ended 2-3. Despite losing, the Moors were able to make valuable plays during the game, such as good passes and tackling.

"I thought we stopped what [South Pasadena] wanted to do most, which was run the ball. We stopped a lot of their plays. They just did better than we expected," Head Coach Joseph Kanach said.

MOOR graphic by SHARON XU

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Oct 16: Varsity Tennis vs. Schurr
at Alhambra - 3:00

Oct 18: Varsity Volleyball vs.
Montebello at Alhambra - 3:15

Oct 19: Varsity Football vs. Schurr
at Moor Field - 7:00

Oct 25: Varsity Volleyball vs. San
Gabriel at Alhambra - 3:15

MOOR graphic by SIMON ZHAO