

Cross Country Team Advances into League Finals as Fortified Team



MOOR photos by YIBEI LIU

ADRENALINE RUSH The Alhambra cross country team continues to strive for better results in addition to their excellent placing in their first league meet on Oct. 2.

KAYIU WONG
Staff Writer

After their second league race on Oct. 23, the Alhambra cross country team advanced in Almont League rankings. Out of the six competing league schools, the varsity girls' team currently stands in third place, while the varsity boys are in third, frosh-soph girls in fifth and the frosh-soph boys in third.

During the race at Legg Lake, junior Anhayte Guajardo placed second and freshman Yaneli Guajardo ended in fourth place for the varsity girls' team. Additionally, junior Gabriel Castro finished third and junior Daniel Ramirez placed fifth on the varsity boys' team.

"I felt scared going into the

race because I wasn't so sure how I would do and a lot of people were counting on me. Now, I am proud of [myself for] placing and achieving a new personal best time," Anhayte Guajardo said.

The team is on a road toward finishing strong and Head Coach Sandra Rodriguez believes that progressing into the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) preliminaries will be the next big step. The athletes' ability to work together smoothly and show great teamwork is what she describes as the biggest improvement this season.

"They have learned to really support one another during a race and with this, the team has matured and become more confident in their ability to complete

three miles," Rodriguez said.

During practice, the runners are primarily focusing on increasing speed and endurance and properly implementing drills. Running times have been their focal points to reduce and establish personal records during each race is another focus. To junior captain Raymond Chau, for example, reaching his season goal time of less than 18 minutes has been the driving force for him to enhance his speed.

"When finals come, it will all pay off," Chau said.

Almont League finals are on Nov. 7 for the team and cross country's accomplishing strides have made advancing into CIF preliminaries a hopeful possibility in the coming week.

Varsity Waterpolo Anxiously Awaiting End of Season



MOOR photo by YIBEI LIU

STEPPING UP DEFENSE On their Oct. 29 game against the Mark Keppel Aztecs, the Alhambra boys' varsity team strategically focuses on their defense in order to combat Mark Keppel's offence.

ANHAYTE GUAJARDO
Staff Writer

As the fall season rapidly comes to an end, all fall sports are preparing for the last league games.

The varsity boys' water polo team is no exception, currently holding a season record of 0-3 after losing against Mark Keppel on Oct. 29 with a score of 5-16. The team is continuing to get ready for their last league game against the Schurr Spartans on Nov. 5 at Granada Park.

"Overall, our team has im-

proved greatly during this season. Our style of play had become much more aggressive both on offence and defense," Head Coach Adrian Lopez said. "[However], Schurr will definitely be one of our hardest challenges all season."

To get ready for the game against the Spartans, Lopez continues to focus on fine tuning their defensive and offensive plays during practice. The team is also working on running a new strategy called

'umbrella' which is a new faster pace offence. Lopez also explains that the team is making great strides in improving their decision-making by speeding up plays during games. Consistently working on their stamina and communication between teammates, the team is optimistic for the last upcoming league game.

"We are still lacking on our communication skills during the game, but our defense has improved, and I'm sure we will do [well] this upcoming game," senior setter Keane Ong said.

SIMEON LAM
Staff Writer

In hopes of bringing back golf, the girls' team was reestablished last year. This season has been a testing year with the Lady Moors only competing in tournaments; they will compete in a league like

other sports next year. However, only four girls had joined the team.

"One of the big problems is that golf is not a spectator sport," Head Coach Luis Brambila said. "However, I think that [more] girls should consider golf because it doesn't require much athletic ability and not as much pressure."

Of the few players, all of them had good, if not spectacular, seasons. Even though golf is not a popular sport, the girls were interested in trying a new sport.

"I wanted to join golf because I have played the sport since I was a kid," freshman Yaneli Guajardo said. "I wanted to use this

Attendance at Alhambra Games Falters, ASB in Efforts to Raise Student Support

KEVIN KONG
Sports Editor

Imagine Homecoming night. Hundreds sat together under Friday Night Lights as they cheered on the football team. However, for many athletes, a crowd can be a rare sight.

In fact, many athletes perform without an audience. There are a variety of reasons for a decline in attendance, such as a lack of transportation to games and the cost of tickets.

Most teams play at offsite locations like Moor Field, Granada Park or Almansor Park. For example, out of the seven fall sports, only volleyball and tennis have on-campus games. Furthermore, the cost can increase as students begin to attend more events. However, the Associated Student Body (ASB) card allows a student unlimited entry to games so that they are able to support their Moors. Another issue that vexes many students' efforts to attend games has been time restraints.

"No one has the time to go to a game and then come back home and do homework. If games were [played at an] earlier [time], then more people would [go]," junior Nourhan Ateout said.

Though there are multiple reasons students may not go to games, students may benefit from being in the stands. They are able to show support for their fellow Moors, have the opportunity to get involved in the community and earn service hours for their club by watching a game. Athletes benefit in the sense that they gain confidence when they see supporters who believe in them.

"Although [an audience] may put [...] pressure on players, I feel like it also boosts their confidence as they think that all these people came out [...] because they [...] have confidence in us," junior volleyball player Kiyomi Takemoto said.

ASB has also been raising support by having pep rallies for teams during lunch on Third Street. During these rallies, athletes introduce themselves, announce future games and play interactive games with a few audience members.

"[ASB] want[s] players to feel like the school supports them in every single way. It also brings school spirit if kids take part in

encouraging our athletes as a community and a school. Being encouraged by fellow student[s] brings encouragement, motivation and excitement," ASB Director of Athletics Ricky Martinez said.

TSA Ibertron Says

Russia's Discriminatory Law Contradictory to Overall Message of the Olympics

WESLEY TSAI
Staff Writer



The Winter Olympics was created in 1921, and like its fellow competition, the Summer Olympics was created with the regards to uphold the spirit of competition.

Sports are all about love of games and that is what comes between athletes and players but discrimination against homosexuality does not justify what the Olympics are really about. In 2014, Russia will hold the winter Olympics at Sochi. With the knowledge that Russia being one of the most anti-homosexual countries, Vladimir Putin pressed laws against exhibiting homosexual performance in front of minors. However, why is homosexuality the main basis of the Winter Olympics? What happened to just the general interest of sports and competition? Furthermore, banning anti-gay demonstrations not only takes away from the culture, but also the spirit of sports as well.

The whole idea of the Olympics doesn't comply with the meaning or message that the Russians are trying to input behind it. I remember watching my first Olympics on TV, it was held at Athens, Greece in 2004. Russia contradicts the definition of unity in an event where sports are always about meeting new people and having fun. No matter what sex, race, ethnicity or sexuality you are, athletes are competing for the fun and passion of it. The main idea of unity is bringing the athletes together to compete with no strings attached, whereas this year, the law against displaying homosexual conduct deprecates the true meaning of being united.

The whole spirit of the Olympics is really stripped away since Putin discriminates homosexuals. What is the point of calling it the Olympics when the Russians are more focused about the athletes that conduct homosexual activities? It is melancholy how athletes who have been practicing and devoting their entire lives to place in this competition be arrested or prohibited to perform in the competition simply because of their sexual orientation. The fact that athletes showing their true charisma at a worldwide event are being punished for doing so, is truly unacceptable.

AHS Girls' Golf Team Continues with High Hopes for Seasons to Come

SIMEON LAM
Staff Writer

In hopes of bringing back golf, the girls' team was reestablished last year. This season has been a testing year with the Lady Moors only competing in tournaments; they will compete in a league like

other sports next year. However, only four girls had joined the team.

"One of the big problems is that golf is not a spectator sport," Head Coach Luis Brambila said. "However, I think that [more] girls should consider golf because it doesn't require much athletic ability and not as much pressure."

Of the few players, all of them had good, if not spectacular, seasons. Even though golf is not a popular sport, the girls were interested in trying a new sport.

"I wanted to join golf because I have played the sport since I was a kid," freshman Yaneli Guajardo said. "I wanted to use this

experience to support our school."

During the season, the team practiced every Friday, beginning with warm-ups then stretching. The players would then work on individual skills, depending on their needs. This included putting, chipping and chipping out of sand bunks. At around 5:00 pm, practice

would end with approximately 75 shots at the driving range.

"We have done pretty good considering it's our first year, we hope that more girls come to try out next year. [We] ended the season on a good note," sophomore Amanda Beal said.