

Tri-City Champions Defeated After Tenacious Homecoming Game Against Schurr Spartans



MOOR photo by SHANNON KHA

A TIGHT GRIP During the 2014 AHS Homecoming game against the Schurr Spartans, senior running back Fernando Guerrero attempts to surpass the herd of persisting opponents.

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On the dark and gloomy night of Halloween, fog moved in and rain began to drop as the Moors started their annual Homecoming game with their usual chant. As

the rain began pouring more and more, the crowd grew with excitement as the game against the Schurr Spartans prepared to kick off.

In the beginning of the first quarter, the Spartans kicked the ball and the Moors started off the game at the 35-yard line. Hoping to take advantage of the run,

junior running back Joey Santana initiated the first play by running seven yards. With an electric passion displayed by the crowd, the Moors clinched tight and the score remained 0-0. The second quarter started, and the Moors strengthened their defense and pushed the Spartan's first possession

to be turned over. As the Moors turned the ball over, they punted the ball to the Spartans' and the Spartan's offense overwhelmed the Moors as they ran into the endzone. After countless turnovers from both sides of the field, the Moors intercepted the pass and returned the ball back to the team giving them their first down.

The game escalated rapidly during the third and fourth quarters. As Schurr received the ball, the Spartans made another touchdown making the score 0-14. The Moors then fumbled the ball and Spartans took a big chance in yard gainage. This did not stop the Moors but rather inspired them to play harder when the band began to play and the audience began to cheer for them. Going back and forth during the second half of the game, the Spartans received the ball again after the Moors' fourth down and gained another touchdown, making the score 0-21. As the bleachers began to do the Moor clap, the Moors pushed for safety but failed at fourth down and returned the ball back to Spartans. Towards the middle of the fourth quarter, the Spartans quickly ran their plays and scored two touchdowns, finalizing the score at 0-34.

The Moors suffered two ankle

sprain injuries from Simon Poon and James Giambalvo, but they will both be playing their last game, also known as Senior Night.

"Senior night is a very important game because its the last opportunity I would ever have to play [high school] football. Due to unfortunate circumstances, I have been recommended by doctors not to play. Despite my injury, I know that the only right thing to do is to persist through the pain and finish off my high school football career knowing I gave it my all with no regrets," Poon said.

Despite suffering a tough defeat, Alhambra is still considered to be the Tri City champions and the seniors continue to practice with effort as their last game will be against the Montebello Oilers.

"It's a tough loss, especially [for] our Homecoming [game]. We didn't execute the way we should, but now it is all about beating Montebello. We have to fix the little mistakes [that occur during the games]. For seniors, there is only one game left. We want to make playoffs as bad as any other team in this league, we have to remain positive for the rest of the season. I want to contribute everything I have for the team and leave no regrets," senior offensive cornerback Alan Cheng said.

JV Boys' Water Polo Team Swims to End of Almont League Season



MOOR photo by SARA HERNANDEZ

SCORING FOR MOOR The JV boys' water polo team practices towards their match against U.S. Miliken Community.

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Three months of workouts and games have finally led to this moment: the JV boys water polo team's last game of the season. The team currently holds a 4-12 overall record and a 1-3 Almont League record. Their final game was on Nov. 5 against the Mark Keppel Aztecs finishing with a score of 1-16.

"We have really improved since the beginning of the season; I think we have the

potential to beat Mark Keppel and end with a great season," senior flat Jack Fong said.

According to the team, now

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- Jack Fong

that their season is almost over, their main focus for their last

game is to be more responsive in the water and to work together under pressure. Overall, the team is very proud of their achievements. Even though many seniors are leaving the team this year, they are positive that the upcoming JV team will work just as hard to try and be the best in the Almont League.

"Personally, I really enjoyed meeting and cooperating with my teammates. Without them, water polo would be really tiring and boring," senior set Calvin Wan said.

Varsity Cross Country Perseveres Through Almont League Finals

WILLIAM RODRIGUEZ
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Although the regular season has dwindled down, some varsity cross country members have moved on into the postseason. However, the team ranks in both the frosh soph and varsity divisions for the Moors have improved from the 2013 season, respectfully.

At the start of the season, team members and Head Coach Sandra Rodriguez had high hopes for the season and receiving better results than the 2013 team. After two of three league meets, the girls' varsity team tied for second, while the boys held a solid third place. Apart from the varsity teams, the boys' and girls' frosh soph teams were both ranked third.

"This is the first time I've had such a strong frosh soph team. All [of the divisions] will definitely have excellent results at finals," Rodriguez said.

On Nov. 6, the last race of the season took place. At the 2014 Almont League Cross Country Finals, the boys' frosh soph placed third, while the girls placed fourth. In the varsity races, the girls ended the season in second place while the boys took

third. Individually at finals, there were top finishers from Alhambra in both varsity races. From the boys race, senior Gabriel Castro strided in for the win in a time of 15:58. He was then named the 2014 Almont League Boys' Champion.

"It feels great to win, but I'm more grateful that I was able to help my team move on to the [postseason]," Castro said.

In the girls' race there were also top finishers from Alhambra. After their second and third place finishes last season, Alhambra's top runners and sisters, sophomore Yaneli Guajardo and senior captain Anhayte Guajardo triumphed to a win and second place finish in their race. Apart from the duo, freshman Kelly Luu finished finished in 10th place.

"I am so proud of everyone on the team and for meeting my expectations. I am also very excited to know [both] league champions came from my team," Rodriguez said.

In comparison to the last season, the Moors improved by moving up their rankings. According to senior Gabriel Castro, the varsity girls' team may even be able to win the 2015 Almont League Championship.

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