

Track and Field Striding Diligently For Almont League Championship



MOOR photo by SARA HERNANDEZ

THROWING TOWARDS SUCCESS Varsity discus thrower May Win attempts her first throw against in an Almont League away match against Schurr High School on Thursday, April 2.

WESLEY TSAI
Staff Writer

With practices everyday to work on individual and team efforts, the Alhambra track and field team is currently tied for first place in league with Schurr, Montebello and Bell Gardens.

"The season is going very well so far. Each school is tied at 1-1, so I think we can still try [to become] league champs. I think we need to work on our mentality," varsity distance runner Yaneli Guajardo said. "A lot of the rival schools we race are very aggressive and headstrong, but we have been practicing very

hard. We are no longer fearful, but instead we are ready to win."

The girls practice meticulously with challenging and serious drills to help each individual hit their best times.

The boys also have a current record of 1-1, meaning league championships are up for grabs and the boys will have to win the other games in order to do so. As the spring season comes close to an end, spring sports such as track and field are eager to be able to win league championships.

"The season is going great. we expect to either win league or be runner-up this year. Our practices [have been] very effective this

year, as proven by all the personal records [that have been broken]. However, we must focus more on techniques and instill greater confidence to the team in order to win league this year," varsity sprint captain Ryan Liang said.

Both the boys and the girls are neck-to-neck with other schools, so in order to be eligible for league title, both teams will have to push, knocking out the other competition, making them closer to first place. If the Moors make it to at least third place, both teams will be able to qualify for the California Interscholastic Federation Preliminaries.

I had trouble with hurdles...



SIM CITY



SIMEON LAM
Sports Editor

Collegiate Athletics As We Know It

In our world today, professional leagues reign over sports because of their popularity and entertainment value. Yet while many enjoy the highest level of professional sports, I find that college athletics bring a unique aspect that professional athletics rarely have.

In professional sports, upsets rarely occur because the level of competition has occurs on a much larger scale; often, the best team has a major advantage of over the other teams. However, in college sports, the range of skill is so small that even the best team has a reasonable chance to lose against other teams. This basically means that there is never a guaranteed win or championship for any university at the college level. That is what makes college sports different and much more interesting. As a sports fan, I'd much rather watch a good contest with unsung heroes that have no fame rather than the famous athletes playing the professionals everyday. Also, watching college athletics allows fans to see which athletes could go to the pros in the near future.

One of the biggest events every year is the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Basketball Tournament, in which 68 selected teams compete for a championship. With 16 seeds in four regions, the tournament offers a chance for fans to create a bracket for prizes, which receives great feedback from fans. Because of the monumental difficulty of predicting every single game, the tournament becomes a crazy event every year because of all the unlikely teams that battle it out with top-notch teams in the tournament. What makes it even more interesting is the one-game format in which anything can happen, which makes the game even more unpredictable. In fact, only once in tournament history have all Number 1 seeds made the "Final Four" in the tourney. This shows just how college athletics is much different than the pros. For instance, in the NBA, it is fairly predictable as to who will make the conference championships every year with rarely any surprises. Overall, as entertaining as the pros are, I'd rather be interested in college athletics because of the uncertainty that it brings. The fact that everyone has an almost equal chance of winning a championship brings a bigger thrill than the pros could ever offer.

MOOR graphic by LESLIE HWANG

Tennis Undergoes Exhaustive Preparation for League

KEVIN KONG
Sports Editor

Finishing the preseason with a record of 3-5, the varsity boys' tennis team has been advancing through the Almont League matches with a record of 0-2. To prepare for the upcoming Almont League Finals and hopefully the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) preliminaries, the boys hold practice daily on the tennis courts to focus on areas of weakness and enhance current strengths.

"[Our goals are] to produce wins [for the team] and be contenders in the [Almont] League, especially leading up to league finals. That's when it's time to show how we have progressed during season and progressed as individuals," senior captain Arie Quintanilla said.

According to junior doubles player Brendan Poon, the team has grown since the start of the season because many JV players had to move up due to the lack of varsity members. The JV athletes are said to have adapted

quickly to the level of play. As a team, players note that their ability to communicate with another has improved, whereas stamina toward the end of long matches poses an issue. Nevertheless, the Moors hope to strike an ace later on in the postseason.

"All the team needs to do is execute better. We already know about the game and [...] right now, we [just] need to try our hardest because all the teams in our league are really good," Poon said. "Anyone can be a contender for playoffs at this point."

Sister Team Represents Alhambra, Diving for Gold

ANHAYTE GUAJARDO
Staff Writer

With all spring sports jumping into their new seasons, there is a sport that AHS has recently introduced into their list of sports teams: varsity girls' diving.

The diving team is currently represented by sophomore Briana Thai and freshman Megan Thai, under the leadership of Adrian Lopez. Although their team seems small, they are a very powerful duo. After competing in their first competition on March 21,

they have already successfully scored high enough to qualify for the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Preliminaries, which will be held on May 11.

"Qualifying for CIF feels really good. Having put all my time and effort into practices and this meet, I really believe that it was one of my best competitions," Megan Thai said.

Last year, competing under AHS, Briana went on to individually win CIF and move from a division four level to an even

tougher division three level.

Practicing at Fullerton Community College's pool, the team will continue to work on their board techniques and form in order to fully prepare themselves for CIF. They must be able to learn to jump in every direction, with occasional twists and flips. They perfect these stunts by going to the gym and practicing on the trampolines, dry boards and spring floor.

MOOR graphic by LESLIE HWANG

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

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