

Varsity Football Plays Assiduously in Homecoming, yet Unable to Qualify for CIF



MOOR photo by JOYCE TSUI

MOOR DEFENSE Safety Sebastian Espinosa intercepts the San Gabriel Matador's pass during the second quarter of the Moors' Homecoming game. After an intense battle, the Moors took a loss with a score of 9-15.

ANHAYTE GUAJARDO
Staff Writer

The varsity football game that determined whether AHS was guaranteed a spot in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) playoffs was on Nov. 2.

The team fought valiantly against the San Gabriel Matadors, but lost with a score of 9-15.

The game began with the Matadors winning the coin toss and the Moors kicking off. The first quarter consisted of skillful defense from the Moors, causing the Matadors to have many incomplete passes. The quarter tied with a score of 0-0.

During the second quarter, the Moors did an excellent job of keeping the ball in their possession. The clock was at four minutes and 34 seconds when the Moors completed their first touchdown scored by quarterback Armando Amaya, gaining a

six-point lead over the Matadors. Missing their one-point field-goal kick, the team concluded the second quarter with two interceptions by wide receiver Sebastian Espinosa, only for it to be recovered by the Matadors once again. There were 18 seconds left on the clock when wide receiver Oscar Gaytan made the last interception, ending the second half with a favorable score of 6-0.

The following quarter, the Moors started off with the ball. Toward the end, the Matadors failed to complete a three-point field goal attempt. There were two minutes and 30 seconds left on the clock when the Matadors scored their first touchdown, as well as their first one-point field-goal kick, ending with the Matadors leading 6-7.

The Moors entered the fourth quarter by running the ball to the seven-yard line by tail back Ezra Broadus. This play set up

a three-point field-goal kick by Jesse Campos. With eight minutes left, one of the Moors' key players, Broadus, was injured and removed from the game. This setback soon led to another touchdown by the Matadors and, instead of a field-goal kick, they ran the ball, gaining them another two-point touchdown. With five minutes remaining in the game, the Matadors intercepted the ball yet again. The Moors, unable to retrieve the ball, ended the game with a score of 9-15.

The football team's season ended with a record of 2-3, preventing them from advancing to CIF finals. Despite losing, the team was able to acknowledge that they played great defense against the Matadors but needed improvement in some areas.

"We could have improved with a better offense, but we worked very hard and never gave up," running back Jason Lee-Raza said.

Cross-Country Boys Rank Third, Girls Qualify for CIF Preliminaries

NATE GARCIA
Assistant Sports Editor

On Nov. 3, the boys' and girls' varsity cross-country teams entered the Almont League finals ranked number three behind the Schurr Spartans and the Montebello Oilers. Both teams needed to maintain their third-place spots in order to advance to the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) preliminaries.

"I am very proud of the entire cross-country team this year [...] no one complained and [everyone] put in their full effort to place in this league meet," senior Maria Virgen said.

At the end of the race, the girls maintained third, which led them to CIF on Nov. 11. At the preliminaries, junior co-captain Luz Badillo came in first at 22:34,

followed by sophomore Anhayte Guajardo who came in at 22:43.

"It was a fun experience knowing that we did not only motivate each other, but we [also] challenged each other to become better," sophomore Karen Tran said.

The boys ended up tying for third alongside the Bell Gardens Lancers, but did not qualify for CIF since the Lancers had defeated Alhambra in the first league meet. Although the boys did not advance to CIF, Head Coach Sandra Rodriguez felt that both teams met their full potential.

"I am very satisfied with the [team's] performance. They all improved from last year and we are gradually moving up," Rodriguez said.

MOOR graphic by SIMON ZHAO

Varsity Boys' Water Polo Concludes Almont League with a Record of 0-4

NATE GARCIA
Assistant Sports Editor

The boys' water polo team ended their Almont League season in fourth place with a record of 0-4. They played their final league game against the Schurr Spartans on Oct. 31, ending with a score of 1-17, and their last season game against Milken Community on Nov. 1, ending with a score of 5-18.

"We had a really good year with the new players and learned from our [past] mistakes," junior driver Daniel Lindley said.

Even though the season did not end as expected, the boys have learned from their mistakes to improve their skills for next season.

"They started off really rusty [...] Toward the end is when they endured more and were more confident [...] They began to coach themselves and have come a long way from the start," Assistant Coach Nathan Duran said.

Many varsity players had graduated last year, which meant that spots needed to be filled in the varsity team.

"We always tried to play our best but most of our varsity players had graduated last year. This led to most, if not all, of the JV players being moved up to fill the spots," junior flat Wesley Han said.

The boys have overcome many challenges and will continue to enhance their skills for next season.

MOOR graphic by SHARON XU

Spotlights

Taylor Warren

1. What have you enjoyed most about playing volleyball?

[I've enjoyed] the people that I meet when I play. I just fell in love with this sport and meeting different people made me love it even more.

2. What life lessons has playing volleyball taught you?

[I learned] that if you work hard at something, there is nothing that you can't accomplish. Ever since I started playing, I've always worked hard because I always wanted to be good at [volleyball] and I have pushed myself all this time.

3. What will you miss most about playing volleyball?

I will definitely miss Coach Charles Tran; he is the best coach I have ever had. I will [also] miss practicing because it keeps me in shape and I can't work out by myself.



- Served one year as varsity captain
- Qualified for CIF
- One year in JV
- One year in frosh/soph
- Two years in varsity

Jessica Phung

1. How has being captain of varsity tennis influenced your high school career?

It has really helped [me] connect with more of my teammates and [taught me to] step up to help lead them.

2. When did you start playing tennis and when did you know you liked the sport?

I started playing in [the summer after] eighth grade and it was just for fun, but after being with the team, I learned a lot and enjoyed playing with them.

3. What was your favorite memory in high school tennis?

The league matches where everyone brought a lot of food and [the team] all connected there.

4. Is there any advice you would like to give to your underclassmen teammates?

Keep playing, even though [you] want to quit sometimes, because it is worth it in the end.



- Served one year as varsity captain
- Qualified for CIF twice
- Two years in JV
- Two years in varsity

HALL OF FAME

Jim Wetmore

KEVIN KONG
Sports Editor

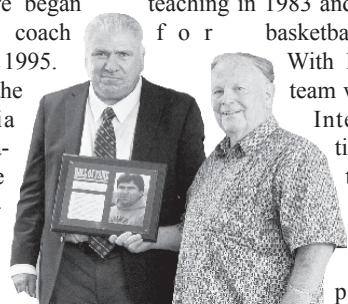
After 29 years of teaching and 11 years of coaching boys' varsity basketball, Jim Wetmore was recently inducted into the AHS Hall of Fame.

Wetmore attended California State University, Los Angeles and received his master's degree in education from Azusa Pacific University.

Wetmore began teaching in 1983 and served as the head coach for basketball from 1984 to 1995.

With his leadership, the California Interscholastic Federation quarter-finals three times, won 14 tournaments, Foothill League Championship and won Almont League in 1995. Wetmore retired as coach with a record of 172-82. He has been named "Coach of the Year" by Pasadena Star News and San Gabriel Valley Tribune and "Post-Advocate Coach of the Year" four times.

"I really enjoyed [...] coaching. I had a lot of good student athletes [...] that have gone on to be successful in their lives, such as Hung Duong and Han Trieu," Wetmore said.



Jim Wetmore and Owen Guenthard

Tom Hall

ANHAYTE GUAJARDO
Staff Writer

Tom Hall has been at AHS for 29 years, as a physical education teacher and a coach for baseball, football and basketball. This year, he has been awarded with the honor of being inducted into the Hall of Fame for his performance. Hall was born on Feb. 28, 1959 and grew up in Alhambra. As a teenager, he attended AHS and participated in baseball and football. In 1975, he was voted the most inspirational player on the football team and a year later, as a defensive tackle, was named Most Valuable Player. In 1977 as a catcher in baseball, he was the captain for cific League Champs. Once graduated in 1977 attended Pasadena City College and San Francisco State University and participated in the baseball team. In 1988, he returned to AHS as a physical education teacher. In 1995, as baseball's head coach, the team won Almont League Title. He also has two league titles as the JV coach in baseball. When asked how he felt about being inducted into the Hall of Fame, he stated, "It is a great honor."

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Tom Hall and Owen Guenthard