

Boys' Soccer Falls Short in Tight Game Against Oilers

DAVID TAN
Staff Writer

On Jan. 29, the varsity boys' soccer team hosted a league competition against the Montebello Oilers. The Moors came into this match with a league record of 3-3 while the first place Montebello Oilers had a record of 5-0-1. After their 0-1 loss against the Oilers on Jan. 10, the Moors hoped to come back with a win in this game.

The team has been working hard in practice to prepare for this game. They worked on conditioning, decision making and communicating effectively during the game.

"We need to start strong, communicate and finish off our goals," captain Jaime Espinoza said.

The Moors started off the game with energy and determination. From the blow of the whistle to the end of the game, they were able to match up with Montebello with their offense and defense. However, Montebello's goal in the middle of the first half made the score 0-1. The rest of the half consisted



GOING FOR THE GOAL Right midfielder Joseph Pelayo fights for the ball against the Montebello Oilers in their Jan. 29 game. After an intense match, the Moors lost with a score of 0-1.

of good defense by both teams, with neither team giving an edge.

The second half continued with strong defense, including two crucial saves by goalie Ricky Arroyo, which kept the score at 0-1. The Moors eventually broke past the Oiler defense and came up with chances to score. However, the Moors were unable to score due to missed shots that

were either over the top or off to the side. Due to strong defense and missed opportunities, the game was decided by only one goal. At the end of the game, the score remained 0-1 with Montebello coming out on top.

The team felt that they defended fairly well against the Oilers, but the few mistakes that they made had cost them the game.

MOOR photo by JOYCE TSUI

"I think we had more chances to score than the other team. We had more energy and we dominated, [but] we just missed a couple shots on goal," Head Coach Netza Bravo said.

The Moors currently have a record of 4-5, and will continue to work on their defense and passing to prepare for their upcoming games.

Varsity Boys' Basketball Endeavors for Successful End to Season

KEVIN KONG
Sports Editor

Basketball requires thoroughness and athleticism, which is why the varsity boys' team practices their fundamentals in the gymnasium on a daily basis. They currently have a record of 4-5. One loss was a triple-overtime game against the Mark Keppel Aztecs on Jan. 11. However, the Moors defeated the Aztecs in a rematch on Jan. 30 with a score of 49-42. With this win, the team is determined to end the season strong.

"I always want to improve defensively. The team chemistry is good; we are playing well [together]. We have only ten guys playing, but all are solid," Head Coach Robert Blanchard said.

Despite a slightly reduced ros-

ter, captain Wai Sett and center and power-forward Carlos Barrios feel that the team is strong on offensive possessions, but agree with Blanchard about improving their defense. The team rotates between offense and defense in their practices for balance between the two virtues.

"I believe we are able to score whenever we want. We just need to focus on every defensive possession," Barrios said. The team's focus is currently on the league finals. Blanchard prepares the boys for the finals intensively because he believes rigor and routine will lead to progress.

"We're very good offensively when we control the tempo of the game. We just have too many mistakes that are more mental than physical," Sett said.

Lady Moors Prepare to End Their Season on a Positive Note

ANHAYTE GUAJARDO
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As the winter season comes to an end, the varsity girls' basketball team is working hard to hone their skills. Last year, the team finished their season with a 3-7 record. This year, they currently hold a record of 2-7 as the team continues to focus during practice to defeat their opponents.

"We need to improve on our communication and helping each other on the court," captain Samantha Garcia said.

Flexibility, conditioning, speed and agility, along with strength and power, are the areas of emphasis that the basketball team worked on to prepare for the season. The team is driven during practice, working on drills, such

as running, passing and shooting, while improving on their communication skills in order to enhance their performance in games.

In their recent game against Mark Keppel on Jan. 29, the team lost with a score of 16-92 but hopes to win their last game today against San Gabriel to finish the season strongly.

According to captain Lauren Wong, thanks to new Head Coach Erik Williams, the chemistry within the team has improved, placing the team in an optimistic mood towards the rest of their season.

"I think we are driven now for the second round. By the end [of the season] we will have improved on all the things we have lacked on," captain Tracy Yoshimizu said.

MOOR graphic by SIMON ZHAO

Varsity Girls' Water Polo Ends Regular Season as an Experienced, Unified Team

NATE GARCIA
Assistant Sports Editor

While students take cover from the thunderstorms or walk around in their tank tops during 2013's unpredictable weather, the varsity girls' water polo team is hard at work, rain or shine.

This season, they currently have a league record of 0-4, having lost to Montebello Oilers, Bell Gardens Lancers, Mark Keppel Aztecs, and the Schurr Spartans. However, the team feels they have neared their potential and have made great progress since their last season.

"We have improved a lot in terms of strength as a team, being able to understand each other better and communi-

cate well during games," senior Herschella Kozasky said.

The girls have followed their daily routine ever since the beginning of the season and hold practice as long as there is a pool filled with water. Their practices

"These girls are mostly seniors that have been together for most of their four years [...] they understand each other well and have a great knowledge of the game."

-Sarah Duran

are held at Granada Park consist of warming up their legs, treading water, improving the accuracy of their passing and shooting and enacting real-game scenarios with scrimmages against the JV

team. After all of the physical work is done, Head Coach Sarah Duran explains the key essentials to forming a successful team.

"Experience [...] plays a big role in our team. These girls are mostly seniors that have been together for most of their four years. They understand each other well and have a great knowledge of the game," Duran said.

As all teams have their glory days here and there, this one will be hard to miss with all of the varsity athletes graduating this year.

"I think the team has made huge progress from previous years. This year, we had many girls that are dedicated and passionate, I'm proud of our girls," senior Priscilla Alfaro said.



Congratulations to Christian Caraveo for making Pasadena All-Area Football, first team!

Caraveo started playing football at Park Elementary School in the sixth grade. When he earned his spot on the Alhambra varsity football team, he worked hard to become the best defensive player in his position. He finished his football career at AHS with an average of 14.5 sacks and a total of 77 tackles. Caraveo is most proud of his game against Wilson High School which consisted of his 95-yard touchdown and 5 sacks. Caraveo also qualified for the 2012 All-CIF team. At the moment, he looks forward to attending college, and, although he has not been offered a scholarship, Caraveo is confident he will play college football.

"I felt that I got noticed because I worked hard in the off-season and, when the time came, I performed better than anyone else in my position," Caraveo said. "I feel extremely proud and [feel] a huge sense of accomplishment."

MOOR graphic by SHARON XU
MOOR photo by JOYCE TSUI

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Sports: They Wander Off the Field and Into Your Life



NATE GARCIA
Assistant Sports Editor

We athletes have all heard it, "Focus! This is your time! Pain is temporary! Quitting is forever!" Those are the words that circle the locker room before a game. They can help you get at the top of your game when it is needed most. However, what happens after you win league or stand on the podium?

Whatever the reason for participating, the confidence achieved by excellence in a sport can sometimes wander into classrooms.

Confidence in sports can give students a reason to keep their grades up. In order to stay on a team, athletes must have a minimum 2.0 GPA. The requirement keeps most athletes striving to maintain their grades; no one wants to get kicked off a team before league finals.

Confidence is a fundamental building block of being an athlete. However, it shouldn't overpower them so much that it causes a significant change in the athlete's attitude towards other classmates. Being a varsity athlete, I know how hard it is not to have a smug attitude toward my friends when it comes to those "I'm faster than you" debates. The words that come out can lower the self-esteem of others, and can also create an arrogant picture of themselves.

Sports allow us to break away from school, to be set free where no pen is required. Nevertheless, it is important that every student-athlete maintain a humble nature and good study habits to achieve the full respect of others both in the classroom and on the field.

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