



## Sid's Spot

### Anna Kimball: Female Youth Introduced to Gender Discrimination

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Sports Editor

Gender bias has remained a prominent issue in society and is apparent in sports today; the bias is evident in the case of Anna Kimball, a 7-year-old girl from Allen, Texas. Kimball's mother, Tami, received a phone call from the team's baseball coach notifying her that Anna would not be allowed to participate because of her gender.

The unnamed coach's reasoning behind his exclusion of females from his baseball team is to ultimately make his team play in a "more competitive" league. His actions opened the door to various ethical issues. If the coach's actions were to go unquestioned, it would demonstrate that kicking an athlete off a team based purely on gender is reasonable, and that is unacceptable.

Participation in athletic activities should be based on the ability to play sports, not on factors that are out of a player's control. For the most part, school-affiliated sports accept both females and males. For example, high school wrestling consists of females, many of whom become extremely successful wrestlers and demonstrate that they are capable of accomplishing anything that a male can. Coaches today should allow athletes from all backgrounds to participate and receive the same opportunities.

In the case of Anna Kimball, what she had experienced was a demonstration of immoral gender discrimination. Sports should ultimately promote an equal opportunity for all athletes.

## Girls' Waterpolo Ends Season with New Goals

TINA CHEN  
Staff Writer

The AHS varsity girls' waterpolo team ends their season with an optimistic outlook and new goals for next year, and are emphasizing the importance of experience.

"The [new] players finally have a sense of the game now and understand how teamwork is an essential part of the game, so we'll see what happens next year," junior Vanessa Pena said.

The Lady Moors held a 0-4 Almont League record standing. During their last game against Montebello on Feb. 8, they lost with a score of 4-28. However, the team is hoping to overlook the score by stressing the importance of improvement through learning from their mistakes made during previous games.

"The girls have improved in communication with each other on the field, but we are still working on the many aspects of water polo," Head Coach Sarah Duran said.

As Pena continues to explain the importance of team work and how it was exerted differently at games, Duran explains her goal for next season: seeking new talents who are not afraid to learn from their mistakes and are able to work together as a team.

"We need support from the student body, so don't be intimidated by the physicality of the sport because some of you might actually like it," Duran said.

# Wrestling Team Falls Short in Almont League, Qualifying Eleven to CIF

KEVIN KONG  
Staff Writer

Having placed second last year to Schurr in the Almont League, the varsity wrestlers worked harder this year to make up for their previous shortcomings. Despite a strong motivation and hours of practice, the team placed second, once again, to Schurr after losing to them in the league championships in February. The Moors, overall, earned a season record of 4-1.

On Feb. 1, Schurr competed against Alhambra to decide who would take the league title. The match ended with a score of 34-36 with Schurr on top. The close score was not because of a lack of preparation; however, Head Coach Michael Williams had another explanation for the team's defeat.

"Our best 108-pounder, Nery Rodriguez, had a hernia. If he was in full health, he could have taken the three points needed for our win, which would have given us the championship over Schurr. We were weak in the middle [weights]. We can only try

harder [next year]," Williams said.

Despite losing first place, the Moors had to quickly prepare for league finals on Feb. 4

and continue their hard work. Alhambra preformed well in these match-ups as eleven of their players and two alternates advanced from the finals to move onto the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) matches. These exceptional wrestlers included Jairo Alcaraz, Justin Alcaraz, Sidney Aung, Matthew Avila, Mario Arredondo, Josue Garcia, Alfred Ginez, Ernie Ornelas, Stephen Ovsepiyan, Manny Reyes, Michael Robles, Peter Sosa and Victor Verduzco.

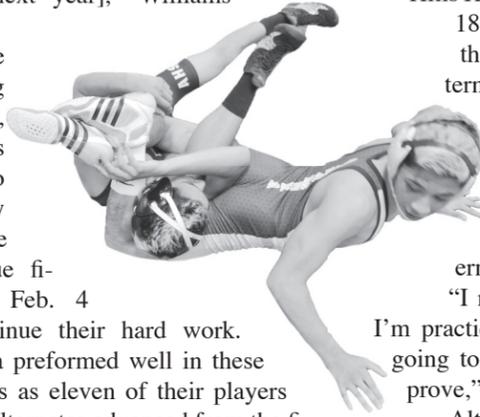
The qualifying Moors traveled to Oak

Hills High School on Feb. 17 and Feb. 18 to play CIF matches. Out of the eleven qualifiers and two alternates, only one wrestler, Ginez, won their match and moved onto the Masters tournament on Feb. 24, which comprises of top wrestlers from four-hundred schools in the Southern California region.

"I need to work hard to do well. I'm practicing with alumni and we are going to work on what I need to improve," Ginez said.

Although Alhambra fell at the end of the season, the team dominated at finals, resulting in a large number of CIF qualifiers. The team hopes to continue their success by preparing efficiently in the off-season and coming into the next season with a stronger mindset.

"I feel like we worked hard enough as a team, but we fell apart individually. We should have put in more effort to win by ourselves," Captain Jairo Alcaraz said.



MOOR photo by STEWART RYDMAN-ESPINOSA

## Player Spotlight

MOOR graphics by SHARON TRANG and ALISON TRAN

### WRESTLING

Jairo Alcaraz



MOOR photo by STEWART RYDMAN-ESPINOSA

ANGELYNE CHU  
Sports Editor

Another season has passed and the wrestling team has proven themselves once again by finishing second in Almont League with a record of 4-1. They also qualified thirteen wrestlers into the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) matches. Amongst one of the three captains this year is senior Jairo Alcaraz, a three-year member of the varsity wrestling team. Alcaraz has transitioned from JV to varsity team within three months during his sophomore year. His leadership has driven the team to where they are now, emphasizing the importance of respect and dedication. He believes that wrestling shapes a person's character and teaches the athletes on the importance of respecting others and themselves.

**What have you learned from being on the wrestling team?**

I have learned to be a leader and to stay committed. I also have a large amount of self-discipline because of wrestling.

**Do you plan to continue wrestling in the future?**

I do most likely plan to wrestle after high school. It just depends on the college I am going to, but I for sure will be coming back to work with some of the younger wrestlers.

**What are some of your favorite memories?**

Some of my favorite memories are just helping other team members get better and winning as a team as well. The relationship I have built with my new family has to be the best memory.

**What is your future career and how do you plan to pursue them?**

Right now I want to either become a history teacher or a registered nurse. I plan to just do everything that I can: take the right courses, talk to the right people, all that and more.

**What advice do you have for the future wrestlers?**

For any future wrestlers, all I can say is just stay strong and focus on the mat and in class. Being mentally prepared is half the battle. Go out there and do your best. Leave it all on the mat.

JIMMY TANG  
Copy Editor

With a first-place ranking in the Almont League at the end of their season, the varsity girls' soccer team demonstrated to their competitors that they were not a force to be reckoned with. Some of these successes included defeating the former league champion, Montebello High School. Despite their victory against Fraizer Mountain High School in the first round of the California Scholastic Federation (CIF), they were defeated in a close match against Viewpoint High School with a final score of 2-4. Many factors contributed to the team's success, including their powerful bonds that motivated them throughout the season, as well as the many hours they put into practicing for future games. Varsity Captain and right-midfielder, Courtney Moore, has been playing for the Moors since her freshman year. Moore has been at the forefront of the team's strong season as she ends her senior year with a string of success as one of the team's captains along with her fellow teammate and co-captain Karina Meza.

**What goals did you set for yourself prior to this season?**

To have a stronger team bond, win League and qualify for the CIF. I wanted to play my best, score a goal and work on my skills.

**Were you able to meet these goals?**

Yes, [we] bonded much more and I believe that it contributed to our success this season. We won League, and we made it to CIF!

**Do you still plan on playing after you graduate? Why or why not?**

No, soccer gave me so much to remember, [but] after I graduate, I would like to focus on school and my career.

**What have you learned from the sport?**

I learned how to be a leader and the sacrifices that came along with that. [I learned that with] hard work comes rewards and that my teammates are more than players to me, [rather] they are my family.

**What are some words of wisdom you would like to leave for players who will be returning next year?**

The sky is the limit and that even with the seniors gone you can accomplish a lot with a great coach and a well-connected team.



MOOR photo by STEWART RYDMAN-ESPINOSA

SOCCER

Courtney Moore