

Lady Moors Clash into Battle With The Oilers



MOOR photo by YIBEI LIU

SPIKE IT During the Oct. 8 game against the Montebello Oilers, the Lady Moors volleyball team put up a fight, the game resulted in a 0-3 loss.

WESLEY TSAI
Staff Writer

Montebello competed in a strong rally against the Moors in a summer tournament, but the Lady Moors fought and won with a set score of 3-0 in their Oct. 8 game.

"I expect the Oilers to play hard, have good hits and serve great serves. Another thing that they seem to be really good at is passing," junior back-side hitter Abby Reyes said.

In the beginning of the game, Montebello managed to acquire the first point off the rally due to passing errors from the Lady Moors. After a numerous amount of rallies and points scored, the Oilers had two aces which pushed the score to 4-11. The

Oilers libero continued to go on an eight ace streak, resulting in a score of 4-18. When the game seemed to be going downhill due to mental mistakes, senior middle blocker Tiffany Sum had a monstrous block that made the gym go wild. The set ended with the score of 8-25 due to a passing error from the Lady Moors.

"Though we are down one set, I believe we can come back strong and win today because we managed to beat them in the summer with the score of 3-0," captain Catalina Veronica Lee Kim said after the first set.

The second set was a turnaround for the Moors as the score started with the Moors shanking a pass but coming back strong, Sum had three straight kills mak-

ing the score 6-3. As the Lady Moors pushed their score diligently, sophomore outside hitter Melody Luo got a kill resulting with a score of 12-6. After constantly rallying, the Oilers minimize the score difference to 20-21. With countless errors from both sides of the team, the Moors also made a passing error which made the score 25-27.

In the beginning of set three, junior outside hitter Kaile Wu got four consecutive kills and pushed the score to 4-0. The Oilers pushed and had five straight aces after the four-point deficit. Making the score 12-9, sophomore outside hitter Nadia Gov hit a ten-footer that filled the gym with excitement. After many errors made by both sides, Sum blocked the Oilers middle hitter, giving them their final push. The rally ended with 17-25 after the Moors got a hitting error thus making the set score 0-3.

"The Moors performed well today and they have a lot of talent; they were a good match but we were able to capitalize more on the mistakes which gave us an advantage," Montebello Head Coach Felix Alverado said.

Head Coach Coach Charles Tran felt that the game was frustrating, because the girls weren't playing to the full potential that they should have.

Should the 2.0 GPA requirement for athletes to participate in sports be raised or stay the same?

**Bigger Requirement,
Bigger Success**

SIMEON LAM
Staff Writer



Did you know that there are over seven million high school athletes around the nation? How exactly do they balance such time-consuming activities? Of course, since most athletes prefer sports over academics, they are forced to earn decent grades. The California Interscholastic Federation Rule 205 states that participation in extracurriculars are limited to those who earn a grade point average of 2.0. From a distance, this requirement seems reasonable since policies are being enforced, but it is evident that this 2.0 requirement is too easy to maintain.

From a different perspective, that's the same as a student averaging a C in all their classes. People who slack off and don't get their homework done can be athletes just as easily as overachievers. It's logical to say that this is an unfair issue to athletes who put academics first.

Now let's imagine if the GPA requirement was raised to 3.0. Not surprisingly, most students would go berserk over this change, but is it really that ridiculous? A 3.0 GPA basically requires a B average in each student's classes. Many would argue that some students are just not "smart enough". This is just another excuse, because a level of aptitude is truly determined by one's work ethic and dedication. If this change happened, it would prove whether they are worthy enough to be an athlete. It could also serve as motivation to student athletes to work harder and reveal that they can do better than the bare minimum. Similarly, students often underestimate their ability to accomplish a goal. But when they are tested, they discover their genuine potential. For many athletes, a 3.0 GPA is only a tiny bit away. Adding an open mindset and inputting hard work is all it takes to attain that. If all students believed in their potential, it's almost a promise that each and every one could be successful.

**2.0:
Best for Success**

ANHAYTE GUAJARDO
Staff Writer



Many student athletes in high school are expected to meet or exceed requirements in order to participate in their school's sport team. The strict rules that the different states enforce for their student athletes is sometimes called "no pass, no play." The CIF (California Scholastic Federation) ruling in California states that students are required to maintain at least a 2.0 GPA out of a 4.0 in all enrolled classes in order to participate in a sports team, and although many schools want to impose a tougher standard, leaving the rule at 2.0 is more reasonable.

Every semester, one thing that most student athletes worry about is whether or not they will be able to maintain a C average in their classes to participate in their sport. Many talented athletes are already under extreme pressure and work hard. There are many kids who are talented at a certain sport, but must sit on the sidelines because of their low GPA. If the GPA requirement were to be raised, it will diminish the number of athletes on a sports team. If left the same, it would give more athletes a greater opportunity to participate in sports.

Being a high school athlete comes with its own expectations, with coaches wanting athletes to perform at their highest potential every day. Their teachers expect just as much from them, by completing all their work, studying and finishing all homework. With athletes combining both commitments and their personal life, a C average is a more realistic grade to maintain.

Leaving the requirement at a 2.0 GPA is a realistic and fair goal for all athletes. Realistic goals spur positive results, and the expectations won't scare them off. If the standard GPA to participate stayed at a 2.0 minimum, it will encourage the athletes to work to their potential and become more successful.

Varsity Boys' Water Polo Brings Winning Spirit into Season



MOOR photo by YIBEI LIU

REACHING FOR DEFENSE The AHS' boys' water polo team struggle through intense training to redeem themselves from the loss against Montebello.

KAYIU WONG
Staff Writer

The start of October is the start of league matches for all of AHS' fall sports. In the world of water polo, the boys' varsity team ended preseason with a record of 1-7. Season started officially on Oct. 1 with a game against Montebello, and the team moved into playing three other Almont League schools with a determined attitude and strategic in-field tactics.

"We have such a busy game schedule this year [that] we don't have a lot of time to improve or show what we can do during practice. Our goal is to contest with the other teams with the strengths we see and know in each other. We just have to play to these advantages to win," captain Wesley Han said.

During practice, Head Coach Adrian Lopez works equally on defensive and offensive plays. Daily drills and sprinting exercises push the varsity athletes to

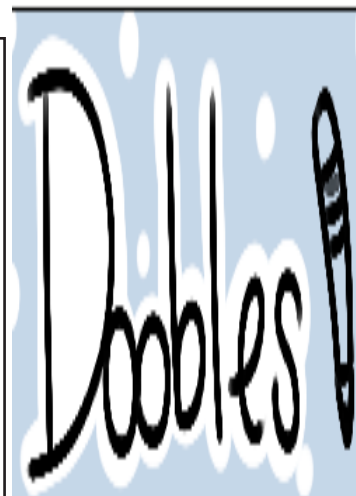
reach their maximum speed and endurance. When it came to preparing for the season's first game, reaction drills, counter attack plays and specific blocking tactics were primarily emphasized.

According to captain Daniel Lindley, the Montebello Oilers have a vigorous year-round season and are among the top schools when it comes to scoring goals. Knowing their style of play was an advantage to our Moors, but eventually, a score of 1-17 concluded the match.

League matches bring a much faster pace to the game of water polo and, so, setting strategic lineups has become second nature to the athletes.

"I have my team consistently work on communication between teammates, and [spread] the field so that we have space to drive or make good passes," Lopez said.

The next upcoming water polo games are on Oct. 29 against Mark Keppel and Nov. 5 against Schurr, both at Granada Park.



JV Tennis Continues Assiduous Regimen as End of Season Approaches

KEVIN KONG
Sports Editor

While most students continue their routine of returning home and doing homework once the school bell sounds off, the JV girls' tennis team practices in order to improve themselves as they play through their present fall season. Though the team currently holds an overall record of 5-10, they look to the future for acquiring victories and learning vital skill sets.

"Our chemistry is really good. We help each other when a teammate is not doing well. We give helpful tips to each other to im-

prove [our own] skills," sophomore doubles player May Win said.

According to Win and others, the team has significantly meshed together in terms of chemistry and learning to build off of one another's strengths. One strategy implemented is observing a player's techniques so that they and their teammates can improve by sharing comments and suggestions.

In a recent match against Mark Keppel on Oct. 10, the Moors faced a defeat of 7-11. Though many may view the loss negatively, JV Coach Bill Yee notes that it shows growth because the team had lost by a margin twice

as large in their first game against Mark Keppel on Sept. 24. Thus, in only 17 days, the team made changes in combinations and techniques that provided them with a slight boost in the next game.

One recurring theme in the team is the ability to work as one though matches are played in singles or doubles.

"I feel like we are really meshed together. Every time we have practice, we watch each other and we compliment each other for team morale," junior doubles player Michelle Yan said.

MOOR graphic by GEN THIPATIMA