

## Dyer Defense and See-Saw Battle Brings Campo the Win

By Conrad Bassett

Chris Dyer scored the first three points of the game and finished with four of the last six, but it was his tenacious defense and eye for his teammates that led the Campolindo boys basketball team to a 66-56 win over rival Miramonte before a packed house on Jan. 29 in Orinda.

The Cougars (14-6, 7-1 DFAL) jumped off to a 9-2 lead as Jack Trotter and Adam Mancebo also drained threes but the Matadors (17-3, 7-1 DFAL) fought back behind Chris Hatfield's eight points in the period and led by 22-19 after one.

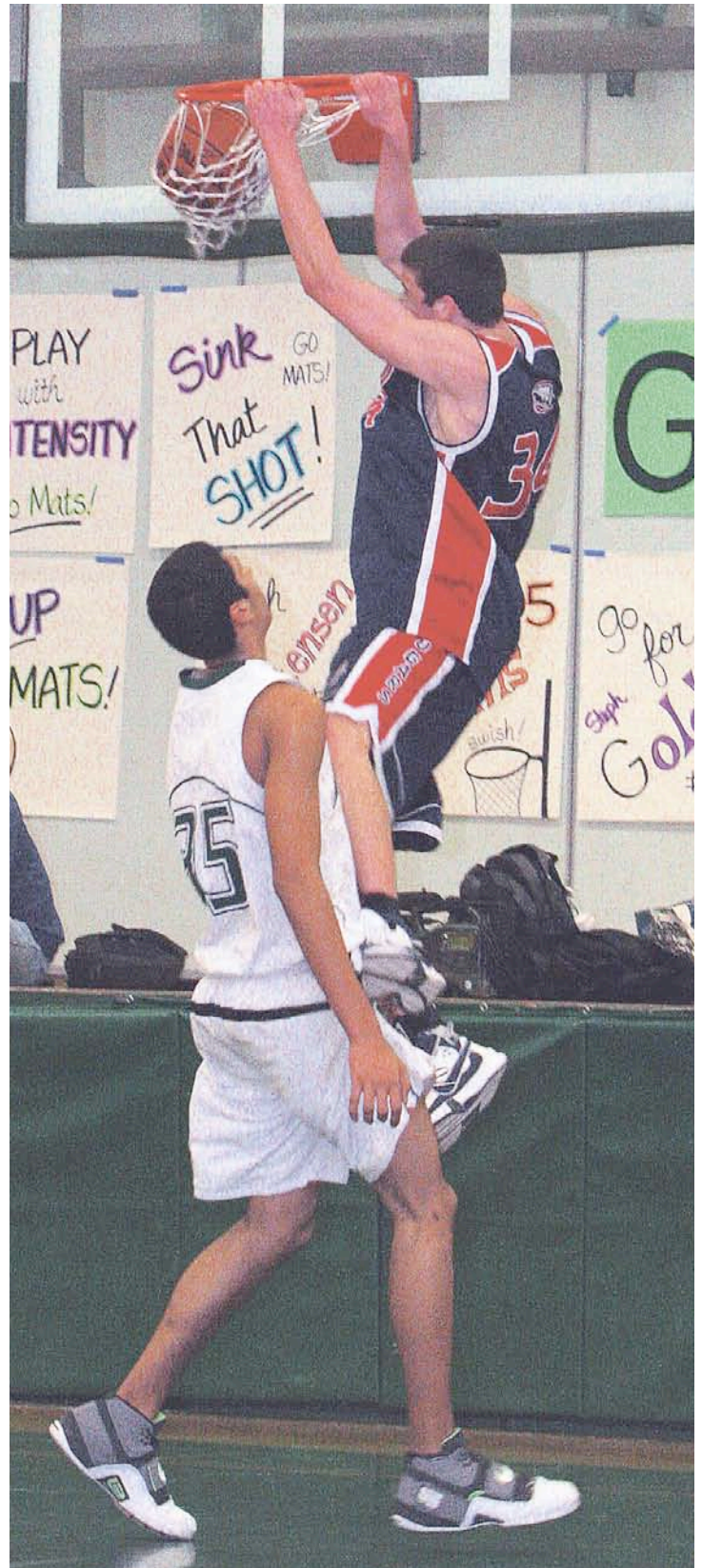
The second period remained a see-saw as neither team led by more than three. Jack Trotter scored 11 of his first half 21 points in the period the last two coming on a monster dunk to tie the game at 37-37 at the end of the half on a Tom Wraith assist.

In the third, each team made a run. Following a Mancebo score, Eric Obeysekere hit a two and Petar Madzerivic scored five straight and the Mats led 45-40 which would be their biggest lead of the game. The Cougars chipped away at the lead with Will Shields answering Zac Akin's three with one of his own to cut the lead to 48-46. Dyer then passed out two of his game high eight assists, one each to Trotter and one to Miles Macy and the Cougars had the lead. Hatfield added two and following three Dyer free throws and another Hatfield basket, the third period was over with Campo ahead by 53-52.

In the critical fourth period, Campo methodically pulled away from the Mats. Shields hit his fifth trey of the game on yet another Dyer pass and Trotter added two. An Obeysekere follow shot to cut the lead to 58-54 and an Obeysekere jumper at the 1:26 mark to keep it a four point deficit were the only Miramonte scores in the fourth period. The Cougs ended the game by scoring the last six points, one a Dyer steal and coast-to-coast layup with 1:06 to go to seal the win.

Trotter finished with 28 points and 14 rebounds and four blocks while his Matador counterpart Obeysekere scored 14 to go with 15 rebounds and 6 blocks. He led balanced Miramonte scoring which also included 14 from Hatfield who had seven rebounds, 13 from Akin, and ten from Madzerivic.

Shields finished with 15 for the Cougars and Dyer totaled 12 points and seven rebounds in the only DFAL matchup of the season between the two teams. As there are 10 teams in the league, each team only plays five teams twice. This will change next year when the DFAL drops to a seven team league as part of the new NCS realignment. If each team continues to win, however, a matchup in the NCS Division 3 playoffs is a distinct possibility.



Jack Trotter (34) and Eric Obeysekere (35)

Photo Jordan Fong

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Photo Jordan Fong