



SPORTS

LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

Matadors Dismantle Knights in Walnut Creek

By Kevin D. Shallat



Davis Louis finishes his drive with a finger roll in Mats win against Alhambra, 61-41

The Miramonte Matadors boys' basketball team took their five game DFAL winning streak on the road on Friday, January 23, facing Walnut Creek's Las Lomas Knights. The Knights focused on shutting down 6'9" Eric Obeysekere and kept him to 14 points. But all that attention on Obeysekere cleared space for Jared O'Leary who scored five 3-pointers and was 4-4 at the foul line. The Mats finished off the Knights, 70-56, upping their DFAL record to 5-0.

The Knights got off to a 5-0 lead, and soon after extended their lead to 16-10. Obeysekere did his best to get his teammates going early, but they were unable to knock down their shots.

Las Lomas power forward Kyle Klinck got open for easy looks early on, scoring the majority of his 14 points in the opening minutes of the game. After the Matadors found a way to stop Klinck, it was only a matter of time before their shooters warmed up. After a three-pointer by Payam Vadi, and a jumper by Obeysekere, Las Lomas' Davis Louie was able to tie the game at 20-20 on a steal and a finger roll. Louie (one of three Las Lomas captains) finished with 11 points and 9 assists.

After tying up the game, the Matador shooters made themselves right at home, and with long time Miramonte fan and supporter Jim Stockholm in the

stands, it looked a little like home, too.

Spenser McDonald was a big reason the Mats were able to break out to a comfortable lead before halftime. McDonald knocked down all three of his three-pointers in the first half, as Miramonte cruised to a 34-22 halftime lead. He finished the game with nine points, nine rebounds, three assists, and three blocks.

In the second half, the Knights endured a steady dose of Obeysekere and Jared O'Leary. Obeysekere played a very patient, unselfish game. He could have shot the ball more, but he seemed determined to keep his hot shooters involved.

When asked if his team felt at home on the road, Obeysekere was absolute: "We're battle tested. We start five returning players from last year. We know what to do. We had a very good year last year. Two of our main scorers are back. We're ready to go. We can play anyone on any night."

That proved true Friday when the Mats beat Alhambra 61-41.

Miramonte heads into the second half of league play, including away games at Campo, Dougherty Valley and Alhambra. Campo and Dublin are currently next behind Miramonte in league standings, each with a 4-2 record.

When the Line Between Safety and Showboating Blurs

By Robin Schoettler Fox



Photo Jordan Fong

In his first of several dunks during Friday's Mats game against Alhambra, 6'9" Eric Obeysekere got a technical foul for what the referee felt was unsportsmanlike behavior - hanging on the rim for too long. Or maybe it was pulling himself above the rim (not seen in this picture) on the backswing after his legs had gone nearly parallel to the baseline, having approached the dunk full-throttle. No official details were released.

Safety, hang time, even the lift to get over another player. It's all a judgment call - for referee and player. When is it showboating?

"The rules allow Eric to pro-

tect himself and the player underneath," said Mats Coach Dave Brown, the day after the game. "It's a judgment call whenever a player hangs on the rim, so I won't second guess the referees. However, I know that Eric was only concerned with safety, and not interested in making a statement."

The technical did not impact the outcome of the game, which Miramonte won, 61-41. But when he made his next dunk, Obeysekere released nearly immediately. And fell on a teammate.

Two technical fouls in a single game would have meant ejection, and a one game suspension.

Coach Angilly to Host Free Lacrosse Clinic for Middle School Boys

By Robin Schoettler Fox



Photo submitted by Emily Haas

Lacrosse coach Greg Angilly will host a free, two-hour lacrosse clinic for all Bay Area 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys on Saturday, February 7, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The clinic will be held rain or shine on the Bentley School lacrosse field, located just off Highway 24, in Lafayette.

All players need to bring their own pads, helmet, gloves and stick.

Angilly has recently been named Bentley School's boys varsity lacrosse head coach. Previously, he was head coach at lacrosse powerhouse St. Ignatius Prep (San Francisco), where he compiled a 6-year record of 107-15 with a dominant California lacrosse program that sent numerous players to NCAA Division I teams.

Angilly stepped down from the St. Ignatius head coach position several months ago, citing a desire to spend more time with his family and focus on growing his business.

But it was hard to stay away from lacrosse, and Bentley held special appeal.

"Lacrosse has played a large part in my life and I'm excited to work with the young men at the Bentley School," says Angilly. "The opportunity to work and learn from (Bentley Athletic Director) Rusty Taylor was something I couldn't pass on. Equally compelling was the chance to build a new program predicated on hard work and honoring the game, principals which should lead to great success."

The clinic? It's a chance, says Angilly, for participants to work on some stick drills while furthering a passion for "the fastest game on foot."

For more information about Bentley and the lacrosse clinic, please contact Emily Haas, Associate Athletic Director of Bentley School at hass@bentleyschool.net



SMC Gaels Home Games

- Thu, Feb 5**
Men's Basketball (McKeon Pavilion)
San Francisco, 8:30PM
- Fri, Feb 6**
Women's Tennis
Rice, 12:00PM
- Sat, Feb 7**
Women's Basketball
Santa Clara, 2:00PM

- Wed, Feb 11**
Men's Tennis
Hawaii, 3:00PM
- Thurs, Feb 12**
Men's Basketball (McKeon Pavilion)
Gonzaga, 8:00PM
- Sat, Feb 14**
Women's Tennis
Pacific, 1:00PM
- Men's Basketball
Portland, 7:00PM
- Sun, Feb 15**
Women's Tennis
Nevada, 11:00AM
- Women's Lacross (Saint Mary's Stadium)
Albany, 3:00PM

- Tue, Feb 17**
Softball
Pacific, 1:00PM
- Pacific, 3:00PM
- Wed, Feb 18**
Men's Tennis
San Francisco, 3:00PM
- Thurs, Feb 19**
Men's Basketball (McKeon Pavilion)
San Diego, 8:00PM
- Fri, Feb 20**
Baseball
Oregon, 2:00PM
- Sat, Feb 21**
Baseball
Oregon, 11:00AM

- Men's Tennis
Loyola Marymount, 12:00PM
- Baseball
Oregon, 2:30PM
- Men's Basketball (McKeon Pavilion)
TBA
- Sun, Feb 22**
Men's Tennis
UC Davis, 1:00PM
- Baseball
Oregon, 1:00PM
- Women's Lacross (Saint Mary's Stadium)
UC Davis, 1:00PM

For up to date schedules see: www.smcgaels.com

Varsity Home Game Calendar ••• High School Varsity @ Home •••

- Wednesday, February 4**
Girls Basketball
Acalanes @ Miramonte, 7pm
Boys Basketball
Acalanes @ Miramonte, 5:30pm
Boys Soccer
Ygnacio @ Acalanes, 6:15pm
Las Lomas @ Campolindo, 6:15pm
Dougherty Valley @ Miramonte, 6:15pm
- Thursday, February 5**
Wrestling
Alhambra @ Campolindo, 6pm
Dublin @ Acalanes, 6pm

- Friday, February 6**
Girls Basketball
Alhambra @ Acalanes, 7pm
Dougherty Valley @ Campolindo, 7pm
Dublin @ Miramonte, 7pm
Boys Basketball
Alhambra @ Acalanes, 5:30pm
Dougherty Valley @ Campolindo, 5:30pm
Dublin @ Miramonte, 5:30 pm
- Girls Soccer
Las Lomas @ Miramonte, 6:15pm
- Boys Soccer
Dougherty Valley @ Acalanes, 6:15pm

- Wednesday, February 11**
Boys Soccer
Dublin @ Acalanes, 6:15pm
Alhambra @ Campolindo, 6:15pm
- Thursday, February 12**
Girls Basketball
Las Lomas @ Miramonte, 7pm
Boys Basketball
Las Lomas @ Miramonte, 5:30pm
- Wrestling
Acalanes @ Campolindo, 6pm
Alhambra @ Miramonte, 6pm
- Friday, February 13**
Girls Soccer
Campo @ Acalanes, 6:15 pm

- Boys Soccer
Acalanes @ Campolindo, 6:15pm
Alhambra @ Miramonte, 6:15pm
- Wednesday, February 18**
Girls Soccer
NCS playoffs start, games tbd
- Boys Soccer
NCS playoffs start, games tbd
- Friday, February 20**
Girls Basketball
Campolindo @ Acalanes, 7pm
Boys Basketball
Campolindo @ Acalanes, 5:30pm

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