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## Matador Defense Shuts Down Dons

Lamorinda Teams Deadlocked for First Place

By Alex Crook



Don's goalkeeper Angela LaScala-Gruenwald

Acalanes girls' soccer boasts a large fan base—however; on Friday, January 8th the crowd's support was not enough to bolster the Dons offense. Acalanes took on Miramonte in a rivalry match-up and the Matadors defense, led by senior goalkeeper Shelby Church, shut out the Dons, 2-0. The shutout was Church's first of the season and Acalanes' first home loss on the year. Church made 12 saves.

Visiting Miramonte entered

the match with an even 2-2 record in league play, which now improves to 3-2. The Dons came in at 3-1, but dropped to 3-2. Both teams now find themselves in a three-way tie for first place in DFAL with Campolindo.

The match began slowly, with a couple of scoring opportunities for both teams. Then at the 17:32 mark, Matador senior forward and captain, McKenna Deback, found the far side of the net

open, beating Dons' senior goalkeeper Angela LaScala-Gruenwald for the easy 1-0 lead. Eleven minutes later at 6:31, Miramonte sophomore forward Katherine Fearing was denied a two-goal lead by LaScala-Gruenwald, who deflected the ball out of the goalie box.

Heading into halftime, Miramonte was up 1-0.

With 27:46 left in the second half, the visiting Mats struck again, this time the goal came off

the foot of junior forward MacKenzie Martin.

Acalanes offensive attack had multiple looks, but the Matadors defense prevented the Dons from capitalizing.

"We put in a good effort. We were coming off of a long break, we played well, and these were two good teams," said Acalanes coach Tom Ginocchio.

The Mats, riding a two-game winning streak, returned home to battle Las Lomas on January 13th; the game proved to be a defensive battle ending in a 0-0 tie. That same day Acalanes hit the road for a game at Dougherty Valley, which also resulted in a tie, 1-1. Campolindo beat Alhambra, 2-1, for the lead in the DFAL.

January 15th the three-way tie was restored. Acalanes defeated Dublin 2-0, Campolindo tied 0-0 with Las Lomas and Miramonte tied with Alhambra 0-0. All three Lamorinda teams are now 3-2-2.



Photo Peter Simonsen

## LMYA Volleyball Season to Start

Submitted by Eric Stranding



LMYA youngsters before a Saturday volleyball match. Photo Eric Stranding

Lafayette-Moraga Youth Association (LMYA) volleyball starts its fifth season with Evaluation Day January 31st. This year the season is nine weeks. It includes a number of perks to capture the excitement

of kids and parents alike: a volleyball picnic, free practice ball for kids, free club-quality game balls for coaches, clinics, and high school players to help parents design and run practice.

The league is open to boys

(two per team) and girls (up to ten per team) in three age groups: fifth graders (playing at JM middle school), sixth and seventh-eighth grades (playing at Stanley). For the pleasure of our youngest age division, we play matches with a special ball called a 'volley light.' In addition, we use special rules that help these players get their serve in.

At the end of the season there is an award ceremony. We give out beach-volleyball t-shirts for teams making it through playoffs to the finals of Gold, Silver, or Bronze. Everyone plays equally and we normally award nearly 100 t-shirts. LMYA volleyball is \$185 for March to June. Registration is on-going. For more information and registration go to www.lmyasports.com.



Photo Peter Simonsen

## Acalanes Boys' Soccer Second in DFAL

Submitted by Nancy Kaplan

Acalanes improves to 11-1-1 and 5-2-0 in league play and second in the DFAL behind Dublin.

Date	Opponent	Score	Goals	Saves
January 6	Alhambra	2-1	Chow-Daniel, ( Carda), 35' Carrillo, N, (Autran), 56'	Acalanes: 1 Alahambra: 2
January 8	Miramonte	3-0	A: Autran (Kloth), 7' A: Carda (Autran), 9' A: Helfrich (unassisted), 67'	Acalanes: 1 Miramonte: 6
January 11	Piedmont	0-0		
January 13	Dougherty Valley	1-0	Chow-Daniel (Kloth) 11'	Acalanes: 6 Dougherty Vally: 10
January 15	Dublin	0-1		Acalanes: 2 Dublin: 4

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