

LAMORINDA SPORTS

Acalanes Lady Dons Dominate Dublin

Young Team Comes Together in Win

By Abby Klinkenberg



Seniors Natalie Chan (#4) and Gaby Gaubert (#7) watch teammate spike the ball.

The Acalanes girls' varsity volleyball team has extended their interleague win streak to three games in an impressive exhibit at home over Dublin on Tuesday, October 5. After a bleak start to the season, falling to both Miramonte and Campolindo, the Lady Dons now improve to 3-2 in DFAL play and 4-6 overall.

Acalanes is a team budding with young talent; of the fourteen players, nine juniors dominate the list in addition to three sophomores. Senior co-captains, outside hitter Natalie Chan and setter Gaby Gaubert, along with senior Jessica Henry, provide leadership and experience for the team.

The first set against Dublin was tightly contested, as Acalanes

just scraped by to win the 26-24. The Lady Dons served first but dropped the point, setting the tone for what would turn out to be a rough beginning. Despite getting down 1-5 and trailing for much of the set, they turned on their focus to even the score at 15-15. After trading points in an intense rally, they fell behind 23-24. After that, Acalanes buckled down went on a run to finish out the set.

Acalanes lost the second set 21-25. This set was close as well. There were many long rallies and some difficult calls. However, the Lady Dons' lack of communication left a problematic hole in the middle that lead to their downfall. Due to their strong offense, Acalanes stayed in it until the end; the teams



Megan Daziel (#3) looks for a kill

were tied, 20-20, but after some miss-hits, Dublin went on a 5-1 run to seal the set.

With new vengeance, the Acalanes took to the court for the third set, eager to redeem themselves. At one point, dominating 19-9, Acalanes was clearly in control. After letting four points in a row slide past them, acting coach Jennifer Moore called a time out. The Lady Dons quickly recovered and finished off the third set strongly, winning 25-17. In this last set, 72 percent of their points came off kills or aces.

Junior opposite hitter Tyanna Roy had a set-high five kills in an overpowering performance. Sophomore middle Lila Schoenfield came off the bench and impressed

fans by contributing four kills and two aces.

Acalanes rode the momentum of the third set to close out the match, finishing the fourth set 25-17. Continuing their dominant offense: 68 percent of their points came off kills or aces in the set. Gaubert played an integral role in the win by contributing sets. She applauds her teammates for their morale: "We didn't get down on ourselves and stayed positive," she notes.

Coach Moore is also optimistic about the season and although hoping to establish more "focus coming into the [matches]," she anticipates continued "communication and intensity," characteristics exhibited by the Lady Dons in their impressive win.



Junior hitter Tyranna Roy had five kills in the third set. Photos Doug Kohen

Lamorinda Petanque Hosts National Tournament

By Sophie Braccini



Photo Gilbert Sonet

During the weekend of October 9th-10th, the Lamorinda Petanque Club hosted a national competition at the Lafayette Community Center's beautiful petanque courts on Saint Mary's Road, across from S. Lucille Lane.

"More than 75 people from

all over California came to compete and have a great time at our beautiful location," said Lafayette resident and petanque player Gilbert Sonet, "they fought hard on the sunny courts, then relaxed and had a picnic under the ancient pear trees that make our location so special."

Singles men's and women's were played on Saturday, and the mixed triplets on Sunday. The winners of the men's singles was By Vang of Fresno, the winner of the women's single was Liza Vaughan from San Francisco. Carolina Jones from Lamorinda

Petanque came in second.

"Lamorinda has in the past been privileged to host Regionals and Nationals since moving to its new field in 2007," said club president Mary Albright. The field is open to everyone; Club members can be found at the courts every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and every Thursday afternoon at 2:30 p.m., and are happy to introduce new players to the sport.

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Bridge-to-Bridge Run

Submitted by Daniel Mader



Photo Daniel Mader

Jack Mader, a Del Rey fifth grader, placed first in his age group and 453rd out of 2,320 total 12k runners on October 3rd in San Francisco at the Bridge

to Bridge run. The event benefitted Northern California Special Olympics. His chip time was 1:03:46 and a pace of 8:34/M for the seven mile race.

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