

# Campolindo and Acalanes Girls' Volleyball Teams Set to Meet in NCS Semifinal

By Karl Buscheck



Kristen Sibley

Photo Jimmy Pak

The Campolindo and Acalanes girls' volleyball teams are headed for a showdown in the NCS Division III semifinals after both squads advanced through the opening rounds of the tournament.

Campo, who snagged the DFAL title by turning in a perfect 12-0 record in league play, earned a bye in the opening round of NCS before smashing past Albany (No. 8 seed) 25-19, 25-22, 25-16 on Nov. 14 in the quarterfinals in Moraga.

Junior middle hitter Sabrina Smith has been the biggest star for the top-seeded Lady Cougars, but the key to the team's success is that everyone on the roster has been chipping in.

"We have a pretty well-rounded team and everybody has really stepped up this year," head coach John Vuong said after Campo took down Albany. "And that's why, when you see the (news)paper, we don't have dominant players who get like 20 kills a night."

Before Saturday's match, Vuong and co-head coach Dave Chen were awarded the NCS Honor Coach Award.

As the Lady Cougars continue to pile up decisive wins, Vuong can't help but notice that his team just keeps getting stronger.

"They're improving at the right time," Vuong said. "So, I think we're on the right track of continuing to improve as a team."

Acalanes will be aiming to knock their local rivals off that track after landing in second place in the DFAL standings and earning the No. 4 seed in the postseason.

"Our goal is an NCS title," head coach Todd Travis said. "We're trying to win one. Obviously, one match at a time."

On the path to the semifinals, the Lady

Dons have already topped the reigning NCS champions, beating the No. 5 seed Sonoma Valley 25-20, 25-21, 25-13 in Lafayette on Nov. 14.

"They're the NCS champs from a year ago," Travis said. "They've been at the highest level."

In the opening round of the playoffs, Acalanes cruised past the No. 13 seed Moreau Catholic by a score of 24-14, 25-16, 25-18 at home.

Sophomore setter Maddie Kalil, junior outside hitter Parker Jones and senior middle blocker Mimi White have led the way for the Lady Dons, but like Campo, Acalanes will be relying on its entire squad to keep on advancing.

"Our depth is great. We've got 17 girls suiting up for us," Travis said. "We had one of our senior captains go down against Moreau and we didn't miss a beat. We still beat them in three—pretty soundly."

While Campo and Acalanes continue to roll along, Miramonte bowed out of NCS in the quarterfinals. On Nov. 14, the No. 7 seed Lady Mats lost 25-15, 25-17, 25-17 to the No. 2 seed Bishop O'Dowd.

"This team was a very close group and played with great chemistry," head coach Lisa Bachtold said. "Although we would have liked to go further it was great to host a home match during the first round against Petaluma."

In the opening round of NCS, the Lady Mats made quick work of the No. 10 seed Petaluma, winning 25-23, 25-11, 25-16.

"Our fans were a big part of our success this season and playing at home was definitely an advantage for us."

# St. Perpetua American Girls Win MVP Fall Classic

Submitted by Jon Zuber



Photo provided

The St. Perpetua fifth grade American Girls basketball team won the MVP Flight Fall Classic with a 3-0 record. Every girl

scored during the three games. The girls played strong defense with great ball handling and movement.

# Campo Sweeps DFAL Cross Country Championships

Submitted by Sherman Lee

At the DFAL Cross Country Championships on Nov. 7, the Campolindo cross country teams defended all six of their team titles and won five of six individual races.

In the girls' varsity race, Campo senior Hana Sun made a push up the final hill to beat Miramonte freshman phenom Cassidy Haskell and defending state champion, Chloe Hansel of Las Lomas. It was Sun's first varsity win.

Jared Yabu, a Campo junior, notched the first league victory of his career as he used a blistering final mile to beat Dublin's Anirudh Surapaneni by 17 seconds. Defending league champion Cameron Gaskell of Acalanes finished third.

Campo sophomore Jessie Foxworthy ran away from the field to win the girls' frosh-soph race. Teammates Kira Riegelhuth and Elizabeth Garcia also finished in the top five to help secure the team title.

In the boys' frosh-soph race, a tandem of Dublin runners finished first and second with Acalanes' Christian Lyons taking third. However, Campo runners Colin Lekki, Timothy Sams, Teddy Buckley, and Casey Chambers took the next four spots to lead their team to victory.

Campo senior Robin Powell repeated as the JV girls' champion as she led wire-to-wire to outdistance Las Lomas' Cassidy Powell and Campo's Maria Forest.

The Campo JV boys continued their league dominance as they won their ninth consecutive team title. Juniors Kyle Flett and Navid Boozarpour led the way finishing first and second.

The varsity teams will now move onto NCS in Hayward

this Saturday (Nov. 21), and if they qualify, would participate in the State Meet in Fresno on Nov. 28.



Campolindo's Hana Sun and Miramonte's Cassidy Haskell begin their ascent up "Finale Hill" Photo James Woidat



Campolindo's Jared Yabu leads Acalanes' Cameron Gaskell going into the final mile Photo Bruce Burns

# Buffaloes Win MLO Super Bowl

Submitted by Chris Hession



Photo provided

The Colorado Buffaloes flag football team won the third- and fourth-grade MOL Super Bowl at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School on Nov. 8, ending the season with a perfect 9-0 record.

# U10 MVP Flight Win Fall League

Submitted by Jason Runckel



Photo provided

Front, from left: Graham Volk, Finley Keeffe, Patrick O'Brien, Luke Isaak, Rylen Salvi, Luke Bonardi, Jason Runckel, Jayden Doty, Chris Fallgren, Luke Claussen. Back: Chase Johnson, coach Kenji McCrae

The MVP Flight Black U10 basketball team won the fourth grade MVP Fall League in stunning fashion, beating the previously undefeated Wildcats (San Ramon) in double overtime in front of a jam-packed crowd at Tice Valley Gymnasium on Nov. 15.