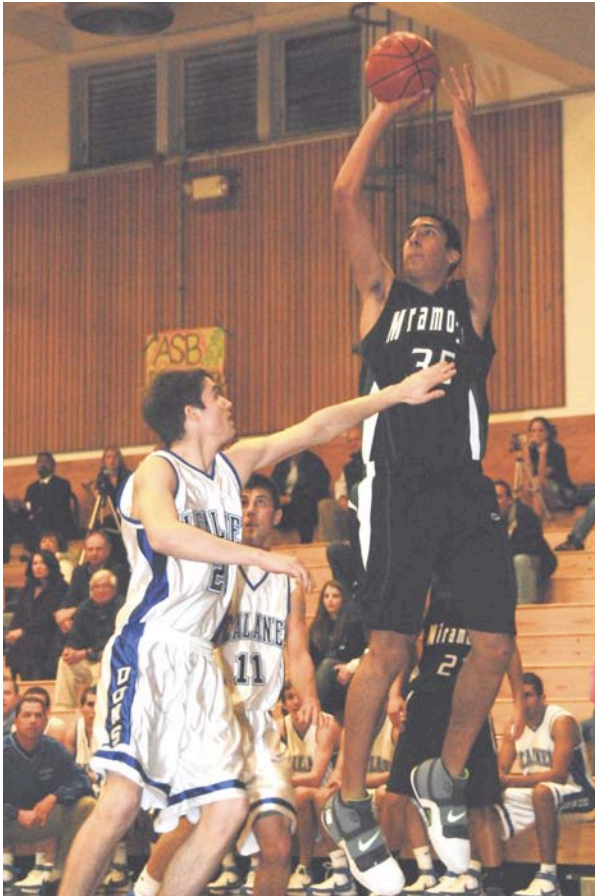


## Matadors Continue to Impress, Beat Acalanes

By David Anderson



Mats Eric Obeysekere (35)

Photo Gavin Schlissel



Photo Gavin Schlissel

The Miramonte Matadors improved their record to 14-2 and tied for first place in the DFAL standings as they commanded their way to a 67-49 victory over the Acalanes Dons on Wednesday, Jan. 16 in Lafayette.

Nothing could go wrong for the Matadors in the first quarter of play as they erupted to an early 23-12 lead. Led by Senior Zac Akin, shooting was the theme in the first quarter with four Matadors contributing three point field goals. Elliot Shoenbart continued the trend on defense taking an impressive charge in the first quarter that kept the momentum with the Mats.

The Dons mounted a comeback in the second quarter with aggressive play and good shooting from sophomore guard Donovan Christensen. All of Christensen's 11 points came in the second quarter including three 3-pointers that brought the Dons within five points at the half. Acalanes outscored the Mats 19-13 in the second quarter.

Led by Joey Anderson, who scored 11 of the Don's 18 second half points (including a team high 17 points), the Dons continued

their aggressive play into the second half but could only manage nine points in each of the final two quarters.

In the end, the Matadors proved to be too much for the Dons as Miramonte rolled through the fourth quarter to their largest leads of the night. The Matadors held a comfortable lead for much of the game resulting from hard fought defensive play and excellent shooting. Chris Hatfield led the scoring for the Mats with 15 points. Peter Briskey followed with 13 points while Zac Akin had 12 on the night. The Matadors improved to 4-0 while the Dons fell to 1-3 in DFAL play (10-6 overall).

The Matadors are currently ranked 16th in the North Coast Section and continue to improve upon their impressive and unexpected start this season. They are currently on a five game winning streak, undefeated in the Diablo Foothill Athletic League and have only lost one of their previous 15 games. The Mats next game is Jan. 18 at Dublin when they play for sole possession of first place in DFAL league play.