



SPORTS

LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

Matador Pass Attack Too Much For Campo

By Alex Crook
(contributing: Jennifer Wake)



left to right: Meghan Ringer (44), Katie Reid (2), Katie Evans (5), Alyssa Belloumini (20) Photo Jordan Fong

The Campolindo and Miramonte girls basketball squads met last Tuesday, Jan. 29 in a highly anticipated contest between local rivals. The powerful Matadors proved to be too much for the Cougars, however, cruising to a convincing 78-36 home victory at the packed "Matadome".

The victory was the fourth straight for the Miramonte squad and the fourth straight loss for the Campolindo girls. The win moved Miramonte to a 17-3 overall record and left them in control of the DFAL with an undefeated 8-0 league record. Campolindo fell to 7-13 on the year and left them struggling in the DFAL with a 2-6 mark.

Miramonte used a size advantage coupled with a precise passing attack to overwhelm the Cougars. Ashlee Burns was everywhere for Miramonte. She took advantage of every opportunity she could possibly find with steals, assists, and especially passing. Burns added 18 and a pair of steals in the one-sided contest while sophomore Katie Batlin – the three-time defending Diablo Foothill League shot-put champion – had 19 points. The Cougars were led by 6-foot freshman center Meghan Ringer, who had 9 points.

Campolindo bounced back from the tough loss with a 60-32 drubbing of Concord, while Miramonte continued their reign as the North Coast Section's number one team with a 61-48 victory over Alhambra.



Katie Batlin (21) and Stephanie Triggas (3) Photo Jordan Fong

Dyer Defense and See-Saw Battle Brings Campo the Win

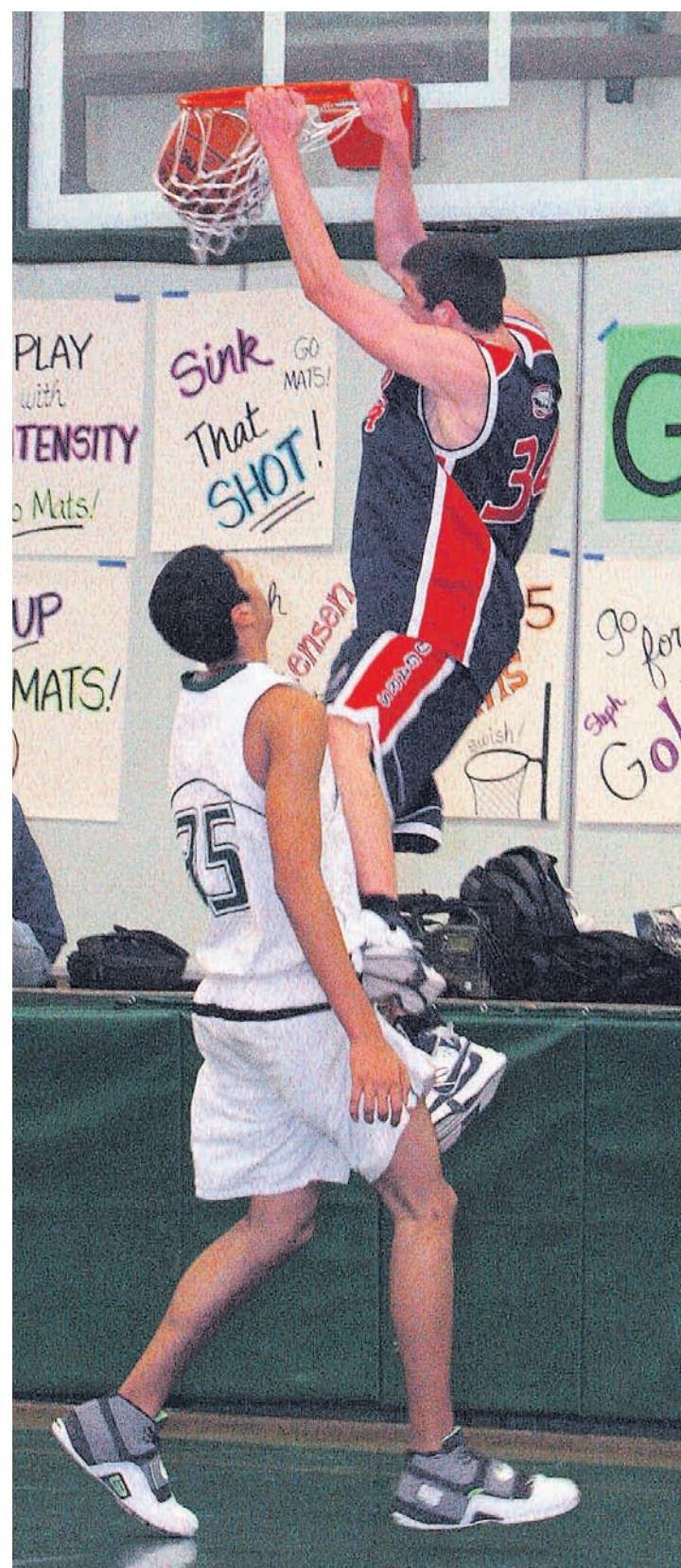
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The second period remained a see-saw as neither team led by more than three. Jack Trotter scored 11 of his first half 21 points in the period the last two coming on a monster dunk to tie the game at 37-37 at the end of the half on a Tom Wraith assist.

In the third, each team made a run. Following a Mancebo score, Eric Obeysekere hit a two and Petar Madzerivic scored five straight and the Mats led 45-40 which would be their biggest lead of the game. The Cougars chipped away at the lead with Will Shields answering Zac Akin's three with one of his own to cut the lead to 48-46. Dyer then passed out two of his game high eight assists, one each to Trotter and one to Miles Macy and the Cougars had the lead. Hatfield added two and following three Dyer free throws and another Hatfield basket, the third period was over with Campo ahead by 53-52.

In the critical fourth period, Campo methodically pulled away from the Mats. Shields hit his fifth trey of the game on yet another Dyer pass and Trotter added two. An Obeysekere follow shot to cut the lead to 58-54 and an Obeysekere jumper at the 1:26 mark to keep it a four point deficit were the only Miramonte scores in the fourth period. The Cougs ended the game by scoring the last six points, one a Dyer steal and coast-to-coast layup with 1:06 to go to seal the win.

Trotter finished with 28



Jack Trotter (34) and Eric Obeysekere (35) Photo Jordan Fong



Jack Trotter (34) and Eric Obeysekere (35) Photo Jordan Fong

points and 14 rebounds and four blocks while his Matador counterpart Obeysekere scored 14 to go with 15 rebounds and 6 blocks. He led balanced Miramonte scoring which also included 14 from Hatfield who had seven rebounds, 13 from Akin, and ten from Madzerivic.

Shields finished with 15 for the Cougars and Dyer totaled 12 points and seven rebounds in the only DFAL matchup of the season between the two teams. As there are 10 teams in the league, each team only plays five teams twice. This will change next year when the DFAL drops to a seven team league as part of the new NCS re-alignment. If each team continues to win, however, a matchup in the NCS Division 3 playoffs is a distinct possibility.

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