

# Miramonte Seniors Win LMYA High School Hoops

By Jack Fernbacher



Mavericks player Rob Grier is swarmed by the Nads twin towers Lincoln Haley (10) and Sammy Karp. Photo Doug Kohen

After winning the OYA High School Basketball League in 2007, the unstoppable force made up of eight determined seniors nicknamed the Nadadores took the LMYA by surprise.

"I'll be honest. I really didn't

expect to do very well," said Nadador point guard Scott Williams. "None of our players are on the varsity basketball team at Miramonte. Some of the players on our team couldn't even make the freshman team and we are going against teams

like the Cavaliers that has four varsity players."

The Nadadores, who played as the Timberwolves in the LMYA, went 8-1 on the season and won first place in LMYA that ended on June 7. The Nads won their first seven games, winning two of those games by on two points.

"We had good chemistry on the team the whole season and used a strategic play called cherry-picking," said third-year Nadador Lincoln Haley. "We would out-run our opponents and score easy layups the entire game and nobody ever caught on."

The one team that did catch on to the Nads' brilliant game plan was the Cavaliers. When the Nads faced off with the Cavs, the Stanley Middle School gym was sold-out thirty minutes before the tip-off. Miramonte students represented both teams, but the Cavaliers featured four varsity players including one player in John Toman who can dunk.

"I was guarding John and let him go baseline on me and he dunked the ball," said fourth-year Nad Timothy Eckhert-Fong. "Players that can dunk shouldn't play in LMYA because no one can stop them."

In the game against the heavily favored Cavs, the Nads trailed the Cavs by fourteen points at halftime, but they didn't give up. In the game, the Nads were brilliant from the free-throw line making thirteen of fourteen attempts.

Yale-Bound Nadador Sudiptho Paul and fellow teammate Sammy Karp took the game into their own hands in the second half and led an unbelievable comeback to put the Nads up by one point with seventeen seconds left in the game. Shaky free throw shooting for the Cavs

allowed the Nads to get back in the game.

"Sudiptho drove the ball to the basket and all the defenders swarmed him, so he dished it off to me," said Sammy Karp about the drive that put the Nads in the lead. "I couldn't believe they left me open and I made an easy layup."

As the crowd went crazy in the final seconds, Miramonte varsity point guard Zachary Akin drove to the hoop and was fouled with a controversial one second left on the game clock. Akin calmly made his first three throw to tie the game, but the Nads point guard Williams rattled him with his smack talk to make him miss the second free throw.

"Zac missed the second free throw, but my man John Toman tipped the ball in and we defeated one of the best basketball organizations of this century," said Cavs general manager and six foot four shooting guard Wilson Cheung.

After losing to the Cavs in week 8, the Nads needed a win in the final game of the season to clinch first place in the league. In week 9 the Nads faced the Mavericks, a team consisting of juniors from Miramonte. With stellar playing in the first quarter by their amazing shooting guard who scored 14 points in the first quarter, the Nads easily rolled over the Mavs and won the LMYA title.

When shooting guard Matt Randleman was asked about what the future lies for the Nads players in basketball he said, "we are all going off to different colleges, so we won't be playing with each other. We all hope that basketball will make us successful in life."