



SPORTS LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS

Saint Mary's Falls 1-2 on the Road

By Bryant West



Rob Jones (#22) Photo Tod Fierner

Facing three of the best squads they will play all season, the Saint Mary's Gaels went 1-2 over the past week and a half, defeating Texas Tech 88-68 on Nov. 26 but

losing to #23 BYU 74-73 and #17 San Diego State 69-55.

These three games – especially the road contests against ranked BYU and San Diego State

– were important games for the Gaels, who hope to make it back into the NCAA Tournament again this year. With the exception of a 76-71 win over St. Johns on Nov. 15, the Gaels had played a weak non-conference schedule to begin the season, with wins against two NAIA teams and a 121-52 win at home against Chicago State.

Texas Tech may not have been up to the standard of the ranked BYU and San Diego State squads, but the Gaels 88-68 victory was one of the better of the season. The contest against the Red Raiders, held in South Padre Island, Texas, was the third round of the South Padre Island Invitational and earned the Gaels a spot in the Invitational Championship.

The Gaels dominated the Red Raiders down low with 48 points in the paint and shot 59.3 percent from the field. Backup big Tim Williams led the way with 20 points and 10 boards for his second double-double on the season, while senior guard Mickey McConnell had 18 points and sophomore Matthew Dellavedova had 10 points and eight assists.

The contest with BYU was the championship of the Invitational but also a preview of seasons to come. BYU will join the West Coast Conference next season and, along with Gonzaga and Saint

Mary's, makes the conference one of the more respectable mid-majors in the NCAA.

Saint Mary's took the largest lead of the game – 66-63 with 4:08 remaining – after two layups from Young. Dellavedova gave the Gaels a 70-69 lead with 25 seconds left after he sank two free throws.

Saint Mary's duelled the Cougars to a stand-still, but a three by Jimmer Fredette with ten seconds left put BYU up 74-70. Dellavedova missed a runner in the paint, and a three in the closing seconds from McConnell put the final score at 74-73.

"I was proud of the team, they played well and competed hard," head coach Randy Bennett said. "They know they played a good team and we played pretty well. If the shot doesn't go in it's a different feeling."

Junior forward Rob Jones had 18 points, while sophomore big Mitchell Young and McConnell had 12 points and Dellavedova had 11 points and five assists.

The Gaels fell behind early and couldn't come back in the 69-55 loss to #17 San Diego on Thursday. The Aztecs started the contest with a 14-2 run, capped off by a jumper from Billy White with 15:21 left in the half.

"We came in here and spotted them 10 points at the start of the game," Bennett said. "This was our

first true road game and it showed. I give them credit though. They exposed us. They exposed a lot of things. Most of all we have to get mentally tougher and be better competitors on the road."

Saint Mary's got back into the game – a layup from Dellavedova cut the lead to 23-19 – but the Aztecs pulled away after that and the Gaels couldn't recover.

"We started off flat and gave them a lead," Jones said after the loss. "We got back in the game, and then let them get away with it again. That's maturity on our part. We have to be tougher than that." Jones led the Gaels with 17 points, and Dellavedova chipped in 15, but the Aztec's

Chase Tapley had 14 and big man Thomas Malcolm had 12 points, six boards and six blocks.

The matchup against the Aztecs was the third meeting in three years for the Gaels, who saw their season end two years ago with an NIT loss at San Diego, but won a home contest against the Aztecs last season.

The Gaels return home to meet Denver tonight, Wednesday, December 8th. Saint Mary's has two more strong non-conference opponents – an away contest at New Mexico State on December 23rd, and a matchup against Mississippi State in Las Vegas on December 29th – before the start of conference play.

Lamorinda Soccer Pre-Season Recap

DFAL Play Kicks Off Today

By Alex Kozela



Marco Tavecchio (#22) passed the ball to Matt Reshke (#6 far left) who scored for Campolindo in the 3-1 win over Northgate Photo Andy Scheck

The boys' high school soccer season has begun, and today serves as a big day for all the teams in the area – the Diablo Foothill Athletic League matchups start today. Campolindo, Acalanes, and Miramonte are all in action; here is how they have fared in the nonleague games leading up to DFAL play.

Campolindo

The Cougars have begun their new season in stellar fashion with an impressive 6-0-0 record, conceding only three goals thus far while scoring 21. One year

after finishing with a 13-9-3 overall record, and a 4-6-2 league record, Campolindo is poised to build off their strong start. The team has overwhelmed opponents, racking up whopping non-league wins over Hercules (5-1), Northgate (3-1 and 4-0), and Mission San Jose (6-1). The Cougars open conference play today in San Ramon against Dougherty Valley, who they defeated last Saturday, 2-0, thanks to goals by Marco Tavecchio, who leads the team in assists with five, and Sam Palano. Matt Reshke leads Cam-

polindo in goals with seven, nabbing a hat-trick in the Mission San Jose win.

Acalanes

After losing only four times last season, the Dons appear to be on the right track early on in their new campaign; they have maintained an undefeated record of 2-0-2 in non-league match-ups. The team has picked up resounding wins over Northgate (3-0) and De Anza (7-0), a game in which junior midfielder Bryan Berlier, who leads the team in goals, scored a hat-trick and senior forward Nick

Pereira added a deuce. The Dons also picked up draws against Heritage (2-2) and Las Lomas (0-0). The team has a big week ahead of them with rivalry games at Miramonte today and at home against Campolindo on Friday.

Miramonte

After a disappointing year of finishing winless, the Matadors can only improve – they have started the year 1-2-1. After dropping the first two non-league games to McFarland (4-1) and Bishop O'Dowd (0-2), Miramonte has reclaimed its form with a 2-0 win over Irvington and a 1-1 draw with Heritage. The team will look to build on its two-game unbeaten streak today against local rival Acalanes.

Lamorinda United 95 Girls Win League

Submitted by Benson Chan



Back row (from left): Lindsay Wilson, Jane Fessenden, Sarah Mills, Mali Tehaney, Carly Moran, Jordan Rowley, Julia Reshke, Megan Reid, Tori Kallerud
Front row (from left): Annie Loose, Emily Orwig, Stephanie Munoz, Sam Martin, Kristen Chan, Maddy Jones, Regan Gong
Not pictured - Coach Pedro Osorio

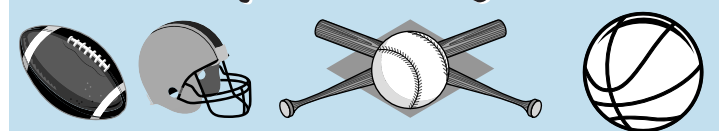
The Lamorinda Soccer Club (LMSC) girls' United 95 team won the Golden State Soccer League Under 15 Silver division. Building on a successful summer tournament season, the team went unde-

feated during the ten-game Fall 2010 league season -winning nine games while tying one (9-1-0). Employing "possession-style" play, the team's high powered offense scored a league-leading 43 goals while

the stingy "shutdown defense" surrendered a league-low nine goals. With only a brief break for the high school soccer season, the girls will be preparing for the State Cup championship tournament in March 2011.

Photo Brian Fessenden

Youth Sports Registration



PLAY RUGBY! Grades 1-12

Registration for Lamorinda Rugby Club is now open for the 2011 season! No prior rugby experience necessary, just a love of fast-paced contact sports. Practices start after Thanksgiving, Nov. 29. Youth season runs through March; High School finishes regular season end of April. Come on out! Register online at www.LamoRugby.com. For more info contact Nancy Taylor 925-253-1435, or check the website for FAQ and schedule info.

Lamorinda Soccer Club 2011 Winter Weekend Clinics begin in January for kids ages 6-13 years old. If you have a player who loved fall soccer, wants to try a new sport, or wants to see if traveling soccer is a good fit, come out to Bentley school to learn new skills, meet the coaches and have fun! For more information and to sign up, go to the LMSC website at lamorindasc.com registrar@lamorindasc.com

If you would like to list the registration information for a youth sports club please email wendy@lamorindaweekly.com or call (925) 377-0977. B&W listing \$24 per inch, Color listing \$34 per inch.

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