

## Mats Boys' Water Polo Win NCS

The Miramonte Matadors defeated the Acalanes Dons 12-6 in the semifinals of the NCS tournament, before taking on San Ramon Valley in the finals for the second year in a row. The Mats eeked out a 9-8 win to earn the title. Junior Tyler

Kirchberg sunk the game-winning goal with 1.53 seconds remaining in the game. This is the seventh time in eight years that Miramonte has earned the title, 13th in 18 years.  
*C.Graveson*

## Campolindo Girls Win Water Polo Title

Submitted by Lyle Nishimi



Front row, from left: Allison Stevens, Head Coach Kim Everist, Christy Faoro; second row: Assistant Coach Cat von Schwarz-Arroyo, Sam Flower, Brooke Presten, Rachael Lewin; third row: Dennae Wiczynski, Anya Morrill, Marley Thuma, Bailey Moran, Madison Tagg, Sara Torchio, Hannah Buck; back row: Annika Jensen, Sarah Rasmussen, Natalie Seidemann, Cessie Nishimi, Assistant Coach Jessie Cima.  
Photo Lyle Nishimi

The members of the Campolindo High School girls' water polo team began their preseason with preparation. The players committed themselves to working together, like the parts of a hand, as a single unit. In doing so, they adopted the motto "one hand, one team, one vision."

Under the guidance of head coach Kim Everist and assistant coach Cat von Schwarz-Arroyo, and led by the team captains, seniors Sam Flower, Christy Faoro, and Sara Torchio, the play-

ers worked as a cohesive team all season long. Displaying a balanced offensive attack and solid defense against many of the finest teams in northern California, Campolindo compiled a 26-1 record. The Cougars captured the league title in the always competitive DFAL and won the Nor-Cal Water Polo Championships title. Last Saturday, Campolindo capped off its season by winning its second NCS Division II championship in the past three seasons in a thrilling, 8-7 victory over a formidable team from Acalanes High School.

## Lafayette Aces Repeat as State Champs

Submitted by Shannon Vicencio



Top row, from left: Ryan Burnett, Charlie Konstantino, Coach John Whelehan, Matt Burns, Gavin Shipp, Matty Vicencio, Jarrett Leon, Ty Whelehan, Manager Mark Vicencio; bottom row: Kevin Clancy, Robby Rowell, Sam Mink, Bryan Woo, Henry Canalin.

The Lafayette Aces repeated as Fall State Champions at the USSSA tournament in Manteca. The Aces played solid baseball all weekend, going undefeated against a strong field. The 13U Open Title was achieved with a combi-

nation of a relentless offense, flawless defense and great pitching. The Aces totaled 49 hits to their opponent's 19, while outscoring them 33 to 14. In their final fall tournament, the Aces went on to beat Petaluma 5-4 in a thrilling win in Sunnyvale.

## For the Love of the Game

Submitted by Corinna Bekiers-Sassano



From left: Coach Roberto Zambrano, Brett Donat, Shane Nelson, Mark McCurdy, Owen Hansen, Vince Bianchina, Nicholas Bamont, Kyle Jasper, Kai Digrande, Jack Daugherty, Sean Donovan, Kellen Clancy, Erik Voss, Luke Miles, Jack Muren.  
Photo Matt Hansen

For the LMSC BU 11 Navy team it isn't about winning or losing. Most of the boys have played together for nearly four years in the Lamorinda Soccer Club's competitive program. The rewards of fun and friendship and the passion of soccer have kept these players coming

back, despite having won only two league games last year. However, the team's hard work and commitment has paid off this year. They are currently 17-2-1 (9-0), sitting in first place in the Nor-Cal Gold Division. They placed second in two northern California fall tournaments

## Lamorinda Football Season Ends in NCS Playoffs

By Simon Tryzna



Andrew Zolintakis

Photo Karen Drinkwater

The first week of November marks not only the start of the playoffs for high school football, but the beginning of poor weather and Lamorinda teams fought both opponents and conditions in the first two rounds of NCS playoffs.

On Nov. 9, while cross-town rival Campolindo defeated Terra Linda 38-19 in Moraga, the No. 8 Acalanes Dons battled No. 9 Bishop O'Dowd. In frigid conditions, neither team was able to get anything going on offense.

Bishop O'Dowd was set to take the lead in the first quarter but their fake field goal attempt was stuffed by Acalanes.

Acalanes mustered offense behind its two solid running backs. Deshawn Johnson followed a 26-yard run with a 16-yard run. After a 22-yard scramble by Don's quarterback Robbie Stern, Peter Mitchell was able to break loose and score on a 27-yard run. Behind its strong defense, Acalanes took its 7-0 lead into halftime.

However, as the game wore on, Bishop O'Dowd was able to make big plays on offense. Facing fourth and ten, the Dragons converted and scored with 1:22 left in the third quarter. However, O'Dowd was unable to convert the point after and still trailed 7-6.

The Dragons took the lead momentarily in the fourth quarter, but Mitchell scored once more to give the Dons a 13-9 lead. Clinging to the four point lead, Acalanes forced the Dragons into a fourth and 21 on the Acalanes 36-yard line late in the game. However, Dominic Mirogolio was able to convert with Kevin King, who caught the pass on the one-yard line and stretched in for the 16-13 win.

"We played really well," said Acalanes coach Mike Ivankovich. "We didn't lose that game. [O'Dowd] made the play. Their two best guys were able to convert."

Despite losing in the first round, there were numerous positives moving forward for the Dons. With 11 starters coming back, and roster openings being filled by members of the junior varsity team that went 9-1, Acalanes will once again be in the mix for a league title next season.

"We lost a total of four games by a total of fourteen points," said Ivankovich. "There isn't much space between where we are now and where we want to play for a league championship."

After dismantling Terra Linda, No. 4 Campolindo hosted Analy. The momentum was short-lived as the Tigers raced out to a quick 14-0 lead in the first quarter.

Andrew Zolintakis, filling in for senior quarterback Brett Stephens, got a touchdown for the Cougars on a seven-yard pass to Phillip Rei, but the Tigers responded with a touchdown of their own.

Zolintakis combined with Rei once more before the end of the first half to bring the Cougars within seven at half time, 21-14.

After an Analy field goal, Zolintakis connected with Matt Yoklavich on a 40-yard score to bring the Cougars within three points, 21-24. The teams then traded touchdowns.

Later, a 65-yard touchdown drive in 58 seconds, orchestrated by Zolintakis, gave the Cougars hope. A blocked point-after attempt forced the Cougars to score a touchdown to win the game, instead of being only down a field goal.

On cue, the Campolindo defense forced Analy to go three and out and give Zolintakis one last drive to give the Cougars a win. But Analy's defense held on to the lead to earn the 38-34 win.

Despite the loss, in Coach Kevin Macy's eyes, this was a good year for his squad. "It was an eerie year," said Macy. "No one came to the games. Everyone thought this year was going to be ugly. Everyone anticipated that nothing right would happen."

After winning the Division III NCS Championship last year, the Cougars returned few starters, including Stephens. However, after Stephens was lost to an injury, the team faced adversity. Zolintakis stepped up big and, combined with a young receiving corps, kept the Cougars in the playoffs.

"You look at everything we have done this year," said Macy, "it has been an incredible performance by the team. Every game we won was a surprise."

After a 35-7 win over No. 10 Tennyson, No. 7 Miramonte traveled to face No. 2 Marin Catholic. After an 82-yard touchdown from quarterback Drew Anderson to Zati Williams, everything went south for the Mats. After a blocked point-after attempt, the Wildcats scored 59 unanswered points to blow out Miramonte 59-6.

## Signing Day at Campolindo

Submitted by Sue Tenerowicz



From left: Trent Shelton, Robbie Tenerowicz, Brett Stephens, Shannon Stabler, Sophie Leksan, Sven Campbell and Camille Triebisch (not pictured Steven Stumph) Photo Ohlen Alexander  
Several Campolindo athletes sealed the deal Nov. 14, signing letters of intent to play their respective sport at the collegiate level:

- Sophie Leksan** - Loyola Marymount - Soccer
- Robbie Tenerowicz** - CAL - Baseball
- Trent Shelton** - Oregon State - Baseball
- Brett Stephens** - UCLA - Baseball
- Camille Triebisch** - UCLA - Crew
- Steven Stumph** - USC
- Shannon Stabler** - Cal Poly - Soccer