

Campolindo Girls Volleyball Captures NCS D2 Crown

By Karl Buscheck



Photos Gint Fedaras

Way back in August, John Vuong – the head coach of the Campolindo girls’ volleyball team – laid out the blueprint for his squad.

“I told them right at the beginning of the season that the hardest-working team will finish on top,” Vuong recalled. “If you can prove to me and prove to everyone else that you’re the hardest-working team, good things will happen.”

The players were listening to their coach, as the Campo beat Bishop O’Dowd on Nov. 12 to capture the Northern California Sectionals Division 2 title with a 3-0 win at their gym in Moraga.

“I thought our back row did a very good job passing,” said Vuong, whose team was bumped into the D2 bracket for the first time this fall as a result of the program’s postseason success in recent seasons.

“(Senior) Emily VanKoll really controlled the back as far as passing goes,” Vuong added. “Seniors Sabrina Smith, Janelle

Gong and Lauren Pak were also contributors for us and I thought (senior) Josie Cole played well too.”

The Cougars, who landed the No. 1 seed after winning the DAL with a flawless 10-0 record (29-10 overall), carved through NCS action. After a Round 1 bye, Campo hammered all three of the school’s opponents – Carondolet, Windsor and Bishop O’Dowd – by the same score line: 3-0.

“I’m very pleased, but the girls put a lot of work into it,” Vuong said. “We prepared very well for (Bishop) O’Dowd, but O’Dowd is a really good team. They have a lot of good hitters, but we focused and I’m very happy with mindset they had coming into the game.”

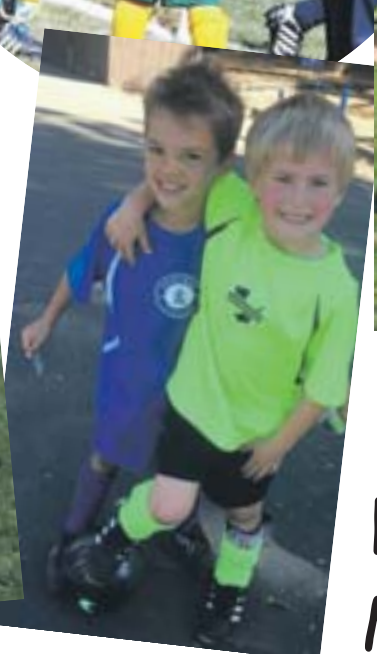
While Campo topped the D2 bracket, Miramonte came up just short in D3 play, losing 3-0 to Marin Catholic on the No. 1 seed’s home court in Kentfield on Nov. 12.

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Sabrina Smith (1)

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