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Lamorinda Girls Volleyball preview

By Jon Kingdon



Photos Gint Federas



Miramonte's Kaylyn Goode at practice

want to be better in the gym prior to league play. As the season progresses, I am looking for consistency in our play. I want us to play at a high level all the team and see us come together as a team."

Acalanes made it to the second round of the playoffs, losing 3-2 to Moreau Catholic. In their opening game this season, they got some revenge by defeating Moreau Catholic 3-1. Said Rodriguez: "Last season we let our last match slip away and defeating Moreau Catholic in our opening match was a big statement for our team."

Playing in front of an enthusiastic home crowd has become a tradition at Acalanes. The team shares that enthusiasm, says Rodriguez: "They bring the energy. Our players take pride in being louder than the other team."

With a record of 169-59 over the last six seasons at Campolindo, head coach John Vuong has established a standard of excellence that is to be envied.

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oach Peter Chao brings 25 years of experience to his first-year coaching at Miramonte. Miramonte finished last season with a 16-12 record and a spot in the state tournament is a veteran squad that brings a lot of experience to this year's team says Chao appreciatively: "We have a good core of seniors that are providing push themselves to the limit. They great leadership for the younger are willing to learn new techniques. players. Our co-captains are opposite (right side) hitter Meaghan and speed more than they did previ-Hohman, outside hitter Jennifer Giously. It is important because we ron and libero Lauren Lim."

Hohman led the team last seasecond with 168 kills and digs (316). Lim led the team with 504 season and will be looked up to reany way she can this season. place Tati Luevano, who was last year's assist leader.

nior libero Lauren Lim and her sister, sophomore Haley Lim.

Senior Kaylyn Goode, who led the team last season with 27 blocks, leyball intelligence and should imwill team with junior Mackenzie Gripp as middle blockers.

Playing young players is not

freshman who were both standouts on their club teams, outside hitters, Casey Roy and Kate Swan."

The Matadors opened their season with a dominating 3-0 win over San Leandro. Chao is very positive about what he has seen so far: "This is a very good group of young women that are willing to They are utilizing their athleticism are not the biggest team out there."

Junior Julia Martin, who sufson with 255 kills and Giron was fered a serious knee injury last season, will be unable to play this season as she continues her rehadigs. Gracie Guidotti was second bilitation but will be serving as the ter Madi Risch and Roxie Cumon the team in assists with 158 last team's manager and contributing

Chou sees this team as a work in progress: "As the season moves on, The defense is being led by se- I am looking for increased chemistry on the team. I am impressed who Rodriguez describes as "a with the girls' willingness to learn and improve. We have good volprove in our ability to adjust on the league, Acalanes is playing in three

Two years ago, Acalanes won

they finished with a 13-16 record. Winning the state tournament put a lot of pressure on Acalanes according to head coach Ernie Rodriguez: "There is definitely less pressure on us this season than there was last year when we were coming off a championship season when we had the bullseye on our back and everyone wanted a piece of us."

There are still five seniors who were members of that championship team and Rodriguez is counting on them to provide the leadership for his team. Says Rodriguez: "We're a young team with only five seniors, three sophomores and six

juniors, but we are ready to go." On offense, seniors outside hitmings and middle hitter Elsa Clever are the leaders up front. Junior Lane Webster is the starting setter

for the team. Senior libero Cailey Mcvay, very good defender and passer," is the key player on the Don's defense

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Campolindo played Bishop O'Dowd on Aug. 28, pictured Elizabeth Canon.

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