

Miramonte Girls Water Polo end Acalanes' 59-game winning streak



Photo Gint Federas

ramonte came out on top 8-6, stopping the Acalanes winning streak at 59 games.

Miramonte coach Lance Morrison appreciated the quality of the win but was not going to allow the team to bask too long in it: "Any time you get to beat a team that snaps a winning streak as impressive as Acalanes' was, you're going to be pretty happy and proud. You can't say enough good things about Acalanes, their coaching staff and program. We celebrated and then we quickly changed our eyes towards our next opponent."

Acalanes head coach Misha Buchel always knew that the streak would end at some point and shared that from the beginning of the year

with the team: "We talked about the possibility of losing in advance. We once broke another team's long-term winning streak, and they were devastated by the loss. I thought no team should have this expectation based on the cycle of sports. We did not want the players to think of the season as a failure if we were to lose a game. That's not healthy."

For Morrison, it was a team victory and some individual standouts. "All the credit goes to the girls," Morrison said. "We played a lot of people and their ability to play together is what really got the job done. Lindsay (Lucas) had a really good game in the goal and Fiona (Young) had an outstanding

game and was really the heartbeat of our play."

Buchel and the players took the loss in stride. "The streak was a lot of fun, but we learned from it and take the mistakes that we made as individuals, coaches and as a team and try to improve next time. We play sports for these games because they're so much fun and you don't know what's going to happen and that was the message we gave the team."

Message received. The next day Acalanes began a new streak defeating Davis and Miramonte continued their own streak defeating San Ramon Valley 13-2.

The teams will meet again on May 19 at Miramonte.

By Jon Kingdon

On April 10, in a game looked forward to all season by both Miramonte and Acalanes, Mi-

Kevin Macy – 25 years at Campolindo



Kevin Macy at the 2014 Championship game



Photos Gint Federas

By Jon Kingdon

This was to be a celebratory 25th season for Campolindo Head Football Coach Kevin Macy but the coronavirus split it in thirds. "In December, I finished season 25A. The season in the spring was 25B. You're doing this story in now 25C."

The Macy coaching career began 41 years ago at Skyline (1980-85) to College Park (1986-1988) to Oakland Tech (1989-1994) to Bishop O'Dowd (1995) to Campolindo (1996 - present).

Macy's coaching career began when he was a senior at UC Berkeley. He was interning at a nuclear engineering firm, working half days, which freed up his afternoons to become the JV head coach at Skyline where his brother

Mark was playing.

Macy's first varsity head coaching job at Oakland Tech was memorable, in that getting enough players on the team was a battle. Even with limited numbers, Macy and Tech went on to break a six-year league losing streak.

Getting the head job at Campolindo was due to a fortunate set of circumstances for Macy. Dan Hagen, the Campolindo coach, recommend Macy to Mike McGinnis, the Campolindo athletic director. "John Knox, who has been my friend since high school, was working out with McGinnis who said we can't find this guy we're looking to hire at Campo. Finally, he dropped the name Kevin Macy and John told him that he knew how to contact me. It's possible that if it weren't

for that conversation, I may never have made it to Campolindo."

Like at Tech, it was an uphill battle for Macy at the start. "I was the head coach for the varsity and JV teams my first year," Macy said. We had about 42 kids all together. They were a warrior group that had to go both ways."

When Bob Wilson became Campolindo's athletic director, it pulled things together for Macy. "Bob was awesome," Macy said. "He was the real deal in getting things done and we have a real good athletic director now in Ray Meadows."

If there is an operative term for his coaching staff, it would be family – literally in many cases. Macy's brother Matt and their brother-in-law Bill Leavy have been with him

since Oakland Tech, along with his son Miles.

Macy's wife, Claire, has been with him through thick and thin. "I keep joking as to why my wife is still with me," Macy said. "When I started, we just had a baby, and I was putting in crazy hours. I don't know why she kept me."

There were good and bad seasons during Macy's first 15 years at Campolindo when football was not that important to the community. "It was just a high school sport to play," Macy said. "Winning was not the mentality. So, we started a youth summer camp where we put kids in full gear. We began with fourth-graders on up. By the time they got to high school, it was in their blood."

Macy's career record at Campolindo is 215-89 (.707).

These past 10 years it's 113-20 (.850) with a 30-6 playoff record, two East Bay Coach of the Year awards (2011 and 2014), five NCS championships and two state championships in four appearances.

What is his secret? "We've built into our program that our goal is to surprise every team with our toughness," Macy said. "Who can expect a little school from Moraga with kids that do not look like football players to play tough. That's part of our hidden formula."

Macy is not one to oversell the team, said his brother Matt: "Kevin likes to play the underdog. After winning the state title, he had to find another way to do that. Now that's creative – that's Coach Macy."

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