

Pollard sets records Tennis works to be better and succeed

BY LAURENCE REYES
Staff Reporter

The track teams have just begun their quest for domination. When they went up against Golden Valley, the boys' track team lost 97-39, and the girls managed to tie, 68-68. They also went up against John Muir and the boys lost, 69-54 while the girls won, 98-26. Both teams defeated Pasadena last week. David Hernandez and Randy Legaspi were double winners to lead the Nitros to a 79-41 win. Other winners were Robert Weathers, John Canlas, Ronnie Marquez, Matt Bogatz and Jorge Barriga.

The girls demolished PHS, 99-26. The Lady Nitros were paced by Frances Pasamba, Pollard, Arielle Cubero, Natalie Queally, Melisa Sanchez, Alin Jabourian, Jennifer Movsessian and Arleen Tumasian and Eileen Tumasian.

Against Muir, Daniela Pollard tied the school record in the long jump at 17'8". She then broke the school record for triple jump setting it higher at 38'1". As coach Bob Bailey would put it: "Both teams are competing well. We are about to start the difficult part of our league schedule, we shall see how we hold up."

There are still several league meets left, including Burbank, Crescenta Valley and Burroughs. But the most anticipated meet is against Hoover. That meet has changed dates and will now take place at GHS on Tuesday, April 28 starting at 3:15 p.m.



Photo Courtesy of Stylus

JUMP: Daniela Pollard ties the school record in the long jump.

Softball ready for league

BY TAYLOR WEAVER
Staff Reporter

The Glendale softball team is onto a steady start. Although they have beaten Pasadena, 6-5, they have lost to Burbank, 12-0. They are ready to take on every team that stands in their path. On March 23, the they lost to Azusa, 7-6.

With the Nitros spring season finally here, they still have high hopes for themselves. The team feels like they have gotten a lot closer since pre-season but are even closer when they play as a unit. They have had many positive changes and additions. The Nitros hope to have a better season than last year. "I think there is a greater sense of unity. We get along much better and are familiar with each other's strengths and weaknesses," said first baseman Dominique Fuster.

Since the new coaching staff from last year, it seems like the team has been heading in the right direction. When asked about the 2009 team, head coach Chrissy Paknik said, "I think everyone will be in for a surprise."

Although the team lost four starting players, they have brought up nine JV players. "They are babies but a huge part to the team. They may be the smallest links on the chain but they really hold everything together," said four-year varsity second baseman Samantha Dickens.

Pitching is looking great with starters Angie Mejia, returning senior, Abigail Nagy, coming up from JV, and Casey Ramirez, coming up from JV. Senior Angie Mejia said, "Our pitching is looking great this year since we have three consistent pitchers to rotate around the mound. The two new great additions to the team have been doing well. They seem to have gotten over their nerves and are getting strikeouts."

Ramirez and Nagy are ready to show the teams that they aren't going to go easy on them. "Although these girls are young they're a great help. I'm glad with this decision of them being added because it would have been an extremely tough season for me with out them," said Mejia.

The Nitros are prepared for the rest of their season. When asked about the key players for the 2009 team Paknik said,

"Everyone will be a key player this year. I think everybody this year will have the opportunity to prove themselves as a key player."

The team will play rival Hoover on April 23.



Photo Courtesy of Stylus

FASTBALL: Senior Angie Mejia pitches the ball to the opposing team.

BY MICHAEL ASTORIAN
Staff Reporter

The boys' varsity tennis team has started off well this season. They have played five teams so far, two of which were Arcadia. Their only two losses came from Arcadia because of how strong they are this year. The team plans on keeping it this way in order to reach league prelims with only two losses. With a little bit of work and sharpening up, there is no doubt that the team can beat any team in their league.

There is a strong singles lineup but an even stronger doubles lineup. The number one doubles were rated the best doubles duo last year in their league. They plan on finishing their streak this year by winning the individual league finals. As far as the rest of the team goes, everyone has been improving and playing much better within the past few months.

The team has many seniors in it, so it is their time to shine in their last year. They have to make a name for themselves in order to show that we are one of the toughest teams in the league. The main plan is to demolish in doubles and get a good three of four games in singles. If the doubles teams

do their job and the singles players step up in order to support the doubles, the team is unbeatable. Also, the amount of diversity we have on the team adds on to our advantages.

With different techniques our players use, it is more likely for our opponents to get confused and wonder how the next shot will be hit. We have amazing potential and heart in order to succeed throughout the rest of our season.

We will be playing Burroughs soon, who is said to have a monstrous singles lineup. Like it was mentioned earlier, the doubles have to conquer and the singles have to pull off at least one game in order for us to win. We plan on keeping it at only two losses until the end of the season in order have a decent seed for CIF.

As far as individual CIF spots go, we also have a decent amount of players that are capable of making it if they keep up what they are doing for the rest of the season.

The team has its advantages and disadvantages, but if we play well and do what we are supposed to do, we will win the rest of the season and have potential in making it to CIF and succeeding in those competitions also.



Photo Courtesy of Stylus

SWING: Senior Michael Astorian, along with partner Nick Daka, were the best doubles team in the Pacific League last season.