

Flag football team ends season with 16-12 win



Dahlia Osman returns one of her two interceptions with Piedmont’s sideline cheering her on. *Staff Photos*

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont High’s flag football team concluded its season on a high note, defeating Arroyo 16-12 at the Dons’ home field in San Lorenzo on Wednesday, Octo-

ber 23. The Highlanders finished with a 6-10 overall record and 5-8 in league, and did not qualify for the league playoffs. With 16 points, it marked the first time Piedmont got into the end zone more than once in six

games since a 13-12 win over Mt. Eden on October 2. Finishing drives was an emphasis by coach Beth Black, who had the squad do postgame pushups for missed scoring chances.

“We had them do pushups for the passes we dropped in the end zone. We’re going to find any way to get better. We did well executing some new looks and it panned out today,” Black said.

The Highlanders’ defense has kept them in games throughout the season. Despite finishing 6-10, the defense held teams to two touchdowns or less in eight games this season.

“I feel like one reason we’ve been clicking was a lot of our defense were returning players. We trust each other and know if I miss a tackle, I have someone to back me up,” junior defensive back Dahlia Osman said.

“We talk a lot and make sure everyone is on the same page and to always attack the football,” senior leader Mary Schickedanz said.

Both Schickedanz and Osman recorded critical interceptions against Arroyo to halt drives. Osman had two interceptions including returning a pick to the one-yard line, while Schickedanz notched her second pick-6 of the season.

“There were a couple of plays where they really floated the ball. I saw the ball and knew I could get it,” Schickedanz said of her interception.

In looking ahead to 2025, Piedmont will have to replace much of the current lineup with eight graduating players. However, they will bring back several key players, including Osman, pass rusher Elspeth Grippando, quarterback Edie Elmquist, and will call up speedy JV running back Riley Burton.

Game Recap

Piedmont led 8-0 through the first half and scored early in the second half to take a 16-0 lead with both of PHS’ being successful on its pair of two-point conversion tries. Arroyo two touchdowns from there, but it wasn’t enough to overtake the Highlanders.

In the first half, Arroyo took the opening possession all the way down to Piedmont’s one-yard line—where Osman made a critical tackle right before a Dons’ receiver crossed the goal line. On the Highlanders’ ensuing possession, they drove down to the Arroyo eight with help from a big 24 yard reception by Malia See [Flag Football](#) on page 29

Athletes of the Month: Sam Shelby, Mei Assalian

Honorable Mention: Elles Kreickhaus, Leighton Mand

By Jonathan Comeaux

We are naming Sam Shelby of the football team and Mei Assalian of the golf team as Athletes of the Month for October. Honorable mentions go to Elles Kreickhaus of the boys’ water polo team and Leighton Mand of the girls’ cross country team.



Staff Photo
We name Sam Shelby our Athlete of the Month for totaling 432 receiving yards and six touchdowns in October.

SAM SHELBY

Shelby has consistently been a main part of Piedmont’s offense, helping them build an 8-1 record entering the final game of the regular season. In four games in October, Shelby totaled 21 receptions for 432 receiving yards, 87 rushing yards, and six touchdowns. His best performances was nine receptions for 193 yards and two touchdowns in a win on October 4 over Dougherty Valley. He also had five pass receptions for 148 yards and three touchdowns on October 25 against Washington.

MEI ASSALIAN

Assalian will graduate from Piedmont High as perhaps the program’s best golfer in the last decade. At the Antioch Invitational on October 14, she finished third of 37 athletes with 81 strokes, helping Piedmont finish second of seven schools. Then at the WACC Tournament at Monarch Bay on October 21, Assalian shot an 87 to help PHS finish second overall. She qualified for the Div. 2 North Coast Section championship, and placed 13th of 144 athletes at Rooster Run in Santa Rosa on October 28 with an 82



We name Mei Assalian our Athlete of the Month for October for her performances at the WACC and NCS tournaments.

ELLES KREICKHAUS

Elles Kreickhaus has been a key member of the water polo team achieving a 15-9 record as it enters the NCS Tournament. He scored 15 goals in four games at the Monterey Invitational on October 4-5, and was part of Piedmont’s recent 14-9 win over rival Bishop O’Dowd in the first round of the WACC Tournament on October 28. In a dominant performance, he scored six goals and had three assists.

LEIGHTON MAND

Mand, a sophomore, earns an honorable mention for leading the girls’ cross-country team in several meets in October. She led PHS to the team championship at the Artichoke Invitational at Half Moon Bay, where she placed 11th in a field of 159 runners and posted a time of 15:29. At the Mariner Invitational at Hayward High, she led the team and was 43rd of 188 runners in 19:38.57.



Photo by Jenni Tsoi
Leighton Mand, a sophomore, earns our honorable mention for Athlete of the Month.



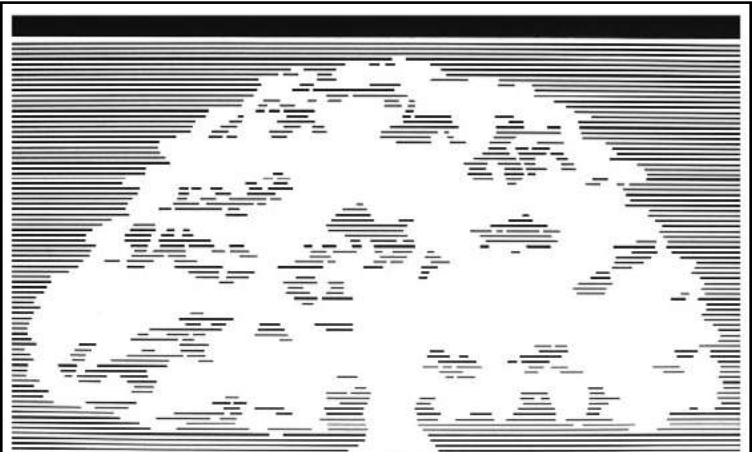
Elles Kreickhaus, a junior, earns our honorable mention for Athlete of the Month.



Mary Schickedanz had a pick-6 in the second-half against Arroyo, which proved critical in the win.



Miya Fujimoto had five receptions against Arroyo.



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Girls' Water Polo

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In the fourth, Jacoby drew a 5-meter penalty with 5:23 left, leading to Young scoring her penalty shot to take the 6-5 lead. From there, Graham had another big save with 4:50 remaining, then had another big save 40 seconds later. PHS' defense continued to force Encinal shots to go wide in the remaining time.



Staff Photos
Rachel Young scored the game-winning goal against Encinal on a penalty shot.

Final stats: Jacoby had three goals and one steal. Young had two goals and three steals. Burke had one goal. Olson had two assists and two steals. Sonja ten Grotenhuis had three steals. Krumins had one steal. Graham had four saves.

11-9 victory over Lick-Wilmerding

To reach fifth place in the consolations finals, Piedmont defeated Lick-Wilmerding 11-9 in the first round. PHS led 2-1 through the first quarter and jumped ahead 6-3 in the second. They pushed to a 10-6 lead through the third quarter, scoring once more and allowing three in the fourth.

Final stats: Burke had five goals. Jacoby had three goals and two assists. Olson had one goal. Krumins had two goals. Ten Grotenhuis had one assist. Julia Montes had one assist. Celeste Dickason had two assists. Graham had seven saves.

Flag Football

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Williams followed by a 22 yard reception by Dorothy Nemeth, but three straight incompletions killed the drive.

After forcing a turnover on downs at the Arroyo 34, Piedmont gained 1st-and-Goal at the 12, but tossed an interception in the end zone. On the Dons' next drive, Osman snatched an interception and returned it nearly 40 yards to the Arroyo one. The Highlanders then broke the deadlock on 2nd-and-Goal on a quick pass to Nemeth with 4:27 left. Elmquist then found Osman on a short pass for the two-point conversion, 8-0.

Both teams traded possession until the end of the half. Then at the start of the second half, Piedmont's defense forced a 4th-and-4 at the Arroyo 36 when Schickedanz jumped on pass to take an interception all the way to the end zone for a touchdown at the 21:55 mark of the second half. Miya Fujimoto then reeled in a catch for the two-point conversion, making it 16-0.

Arroyo drove down for a touchdown with 16:55 left, but

failed on its two-point conversion. PHS had a drive stall out at the Dons' 15, then Osman grabbed another interception, but Piedmont couldn't capitalize. Arroyo scored with 1:29 left in the game, but failed on its conversion attempt again, 16-12. Piedmont killed the clock on its next possession.

Final stats: Osman had two interceptions, one reception, one pass defense, and seven tackles. Schickedanz had an interception for a defensive touchdown. Gripando had one sack. Nemeth had one touchdown and three receptions. Fujimoto had five receptions.

Downton Abbey

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ter of the film. While the preparations upstairs and downstairs are vastly different, the fact of a royal visit is breathtaking news requiring much organization. There are protocols to be followed, endless arrangements to be made, and much discussion to be had. Plus, suddenly there is no hot water – a boiler problem, it seems.

So important is this visit, the Granthams call up their much relied upon head butler, Carson (Jim Carter), to take charge. He is a man of tradition and stature who is deeply pleased to briefly abandon his retirement and take a familiar walk up to the house.

A source of tension arises when it's learned that the royals will be arriving with their own chef and maids and butlers. Much to the chagrin of Downton's staff, who to a person take their service very seriously. But they have a plan which is both audacious and proves to be successful.

It's all gorgeous and wonderful. Houses such as Downton Abbey were houses divided, but those working upstairs and those down were not divided – at least not in this household. Each, in their own way, took pride in their roles and service. All were decent to a fault, even when mini-dramas erupted upstairs and were quietly solved in conversation in one of the fabulously appointed rooms.

Downton Abbey is a soufflé of a movie – a beautiful, soapy glimpse into England in early

20th century. To the writers' credit, there was never a hint of bias or prejudice regarding who worked downstairs and who lived upstairs: all seemed grounded in their own way.

I must say that the dress of the family upstairs was spectacular, with a spectrum of colors featuring burnt coral and cloud white and lush pink – and with beads and tiaras plus tweed and flannel by the yard. All a wonderful, quick glance into a life now all but gone.

Downton Abbey: The Movie. Directed by Michael Engler. Starring Hugh Bonneville, Jim Carter, Laura Carmichael, Maggie Smith and Michelle Dockery. 2 hrs. Rated PG. Streaming on Fandango/prime/NETFLIX/apple tv. Released in 9

The Rocketeer

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Unfortunately, the baddies (the thieves and the Nazis) hear that Cliff found the package and so begins a chase to get it back. There's even a big thug wearing a rubber mask who works for Valentine. And there's an exciting battle between Cliff and the Nazis on top of a zeppelin.

Not surprisingly, Cliff has a gorgeous girlfriend, Jenny Blake (Jennifer Connelly), who wants

to become a movie star in a film with a third-rate actor, Neville Sinclair (Timothy Dalton), a person who also has designs on the rockets. However, Jenny helps Cliff avoid the people who are desperate to get their hands on the rockets.

There are lots of special effects and excitement, car chases and gunfights. There is an *Indiana Jones* quality to the movie,

which is an adventure film that has stood the test of time. I have a feeling that *The Rocketeer*, a film reminiscent of the once popular Saturday matinees, will appeal to kids of all ages and stands up well even today.

The Rocketeer. Directed by Joe Johnson. Released by Walt Disney. Starring Bill Campbell, Jennifer Connelly, Timothy Dalton. 1 hr., 49 min. Rated PG. Now streaming on Fandango/Prime/Disney+/apple tv.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

GRAND AVE. PAVING PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bids shall be uploaded electronically to the BPX Printing & Graphics City of Piedmont planroom via the "Submit Bid Docs" tab on the Project page until the hour of **2:00 p.m., on the 5th day of December 2024** (no bids will be accepted after 2:00 p.m.) for the construction of the following project:

Grand Avenue Paving and Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project

Complete bid packages, including project plans, technical specifications, bid forms and contract documents may be secured from BPX Printing & Graphics by logging on to: www.piedmontplanroom.com or by calling 510-559-8299 or by email: Richmond@blueprinting.com There is a non-refundable fee of \$100 per set for a printed or electronic package, plus shipping and handling. As the project is being bid through BPX Printing & Graphics, any changes via addenda will be available on the BPX website for this project.

Bids shall be **uploaded electronically** to the BPX City of Piedmont planroom via the "Submit Bid Docs" tab on the Project page before **2:00 p.m., December 5th, 2024**. Bids will be publicly opened via an online Zoom meeting at 2:30 p.m. on December 5th, 2024. The Zoom meeting login information can be found in the bid documents.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1770 et seq. of the California Labor Code the Director of Industrial Relations for the State of California has ascertained the current general prevailing rate of wages for employer purposes, in Alameda County, State of California. Not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for work of a similar character in Alameda County and not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for holiday work fixed as provided in the California Labor Code shall be paid to all workers engaged in performing the project.

The City of Piedmont has obtained from the Alameda County Housing and Community Development, the Federal Wage Decision listing the general prevailing wages and fringes in the County in which said work is to be performed for each craft and type of worker or mechanic needed to execute the contract. A copy of the Federal Wage Decision is included in the bid documents. The successful Contractor shall post said prevailing wage rates in a prominent place at the job site. If there is a discrepancy or difference between the state prevailing wage rate and the federal prevailing wage rate, the higher rate will apply.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1771.1 of the California Labor Code, A contractor or subcontractor shall not be qualified to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, subject to the requirements of Section 4104 of the Public Contract Code, or engage in the performance of any contract for public work, as defined in Chapter 1 of Part 7 of Division 2 of the California Labor Code, unless currently registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to Civil Code Section 1725.5. **Please note: It is not a violation of Section 1771.1 for an unregistered contractor to submit a bid that is authorized by Section 7029.1 of the Business and Professions Code or by Section 10164 or 20103.5 of the Public Contract Code, provided the contractor is registered to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5 at the time the contract is awarded.** Any bids submitted without proof that Bidder and any listed subcontractor(s) are currently registered and qualified to perform public work, pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5, shall not be accepted by the City.

In accordance with California Civil Code Section 1771.4, the project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

In accordance with California Public Contract Code Section 3300, a valid class A California contractor's license is required to bid on the project.

The City of Piedmont reserves the right to postpone the date and time for the opening of proposals at any time prior to the date and time announced in the advertisement in accordance with applicable law.

The City of Piedmont reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any defects or irregularity in bidding in accordance with applicable law. In accordance with California Public Contract Code Section 20103.8, if the City elects to award a contract for performance of the project, the contract will be awarded in accordance with California Public Contract Code Section 20162 and other applicable law to the responsible bidder submitting a responsive bid with the lowest total bid price for the base bid without consideration of the bid price for any additive or deductive items. All bids will remain valid for 90 days after the bid opening. Except as permitted by law and subject to all applicable remedies, including forfeiture of bidder's security, bidders may not withdraw their bid during the 90-day period after the bid opening.

By order of the City Council of the City of Piedmont, Alameda County, California.

Daniel Gonzales
Public Works Director
City of Piedmont
120 Vista Avenue
Piedmont, CA 94611

Nov. 4, 2024