

Girls’ water polo suffers two league losses

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont High’s girls’ water polo team lost a pair of games to Western Alameda County Conference foes last week. They lost 11-3 at Berkeley on Tuesday, October 15 and then fell 19-2 to Alameda while playing at the Encinal pool on Thursday, October 17.

The pair of games brings the Highlanders’ record to 7-10 overall and 1-4 against league competition with just one game left in its regular season before the start of the WACC Tournament on Monday, October 28.

Piedmont will travel to San Rafael for the regular season-finale on Friday, October 25.



Photos by Lynne Wright

Abigail Jacoby had two goals, two steals, and an assist against Berkeley.

19-2 loss to Alameda

Alameda led 5-0 by the end of the first quarter and 11-0 by half-time. Piedmont scored once in the third and one more in the fourth.

Final scorers for the Highlanders included Viviane Burke and Zoe Waitkus.

11-3 loss to Berkeley

Berkeley went up 6-2 through the first quarter, while both teams

went scoreless through the second quarter. PHS scored once in the third quarter but conceded two to trail 8-3 entering the fourth, but couldn’t find the back of the net in the final going.

In the first quarter, Berkeley opened with three straight goals but Esme Krumins got Piedmont on the board at the 2:25 mark. Abigail Jacoby made it a 5-2 defi-

cit with 49 seconds left.

After a scoreless second quarter, Jacoby scored her second goal to make it 6-3 with 4:29 left in the third quarter. However, that marked the last time Piedmont scored.

Final stats: Jacoby had two goals, two steals, and an assist. Krumins scored once. Sonja ten Grotenhuis had seven steals and two assists. Sydney Olson had four steals. Burke had one steal, Waitkus had two steals. Goalie Chloe Graham had six saves and one steal.

Tuesday vs. Bishop O’Dowd

Piedmont faced Bishop O’Dowd on Tuesday, October 22. See next week’s Post for match details.

NEXT UP

Piedmont (7-10 overall, 1-4 league) travels to San Rafael on Friday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. The first round of the WACC Tournament starts on Monday, October 28; opponent and start time is still To Be Determined.



Sonja ten Grotenhuis had seven steals and two assists against Berkeley.

Girls’ golf team places 2nd at Antioch Invitational

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont’s girls’ golf team came away with an impressive second-place finish out of seven schools at the Antioch Invitational on Monday, October 14 at Lone Tree Golf Course. Playing a full round of 18 holes, Piedmont finished with a score of 393 strokes, well back of first-place

Dublin and three strokes ahead of third-place Liberty High of Brentwood.

Mei Assalian shot an 81 and was third among 37 golfers. She was four shy of second-place Chloe Giang of Dublin and nine behind first-place Callie McLoughlin of Dublin.

Other golfers scoring for Piedmont were Mackenzie Seto-

Nguyen, 12th (97), Gracey Ann Hatchell 17th (105), Peyton Watson, 21st (110).

Monday at WACC Tournament

Piedmont traveled to Monarch Bay on Monday this week in San Leandro for the Western Alameda County Conference Tournament. See next week’s Post for match results.

JV football team thumps Irvington

By Jonah Cha-Foster

After coming off of a tough loss at Hayward the previous week, Piedmont’s Junior Varsity football team looked to bounce back against the Irvington Vikings. They did just that in a dominant 48-6 blowout win over Irvington at Tak Fudenna Stadium in Fremont. The result was similar to the varsity’s 49-7 win.

Irvington had the first possession of the game and was immediately forced into a turnover on downs. Although the offense suffered a fumble on its first play, the defense forced a punt. The Highlanders marched down the field on the ensuing drive and capped it off with a 30-yard touchdown reception by Diego Hurwitz.

Piedmont’s defense continued to dominate and quickly get the

ball back. On its next drive PHS converted a 3rd-and-long situation with a 35-yard screen pass to Jonah Cha-Foster, who reversed field for a big run. After big carries by Noah Hussain and Eric Venner, Cha-Foster took a quarterback keeper into the end zone.

Irvington ended its next drive quickly after a pass was intercepted by Mateo Long, his first of the season, returning the ball to the five-yard line. The Highlanders took advantage on an end-around to Hurwitz for the touchdown.

Piedmont’s defense didn’t turn down the heat, recording another interception on Irvington’s next drive, this time with linebacker George Saunders returning the ball to the Irvington’s one-yard line. Quarterback Jimmy Lagios then connected with Xavier Laro-

che for a touchdown and his first reception of the season.

With one minute left in the half, Hussain ran in for a touchdown to make it 35-0, the same halftime score as the varsity.

The Highlanders came out of halftime excited to continue their dominance. Hurwitz returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown for his 14th touchdown of the year. Irvington scored its only touchdown late in the third. Cha-Foster came into the game at quarterback in the 4th quarter to end the game and Eric Venner put the cherry on top by rushing for a touchdown for the one-sided 48-6 victory.

NEXT UP

Piedmont (4-2-1 overall, 1-1 league) hosts Washington for a league game at Witter Field this on Friday, October 25, at 4:00 p.m.

Piedmont suffers three league losses



Staff Photos

Piedmont looks ahead to its final match of the season on October 24.

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont’s girls’ volleyball team is wrapping up its season after recently suffering three straight losses against Western Alameda County Conference teams. It has one remaining match. The Highlanders lost by scores of 3-0 to Berkeley on October 15, ng Encinal on October 16, and Castro Valley on October 18.

“We are low on numbers at this point and teams are attacking our weak points,” coach Mariah Cardenas said.

Despite taking the losses, Piedmont had some closely contested sets against all three teams. They went to an extra point in their third-set loss against Berkeley, which finished 26-24. They finished within four of Encinal in the third set, a 25-21 loss, while they finished within six points in all three sets versus Castro Valley, including a close 26-24 loss in the second set.

With a team of one junior, six sophomores, and two freshmen, Cardenas knew this would be a rebuilding year. Piedmont has shown glimpses of brilliance, including its 3-0 win over Alameda on October 11, but they are still working on building a fluid attack. With time, the goal is for players to continue molding together in time for 2025 and 2026 campaigns.

“I want us to swing and go crazy instead of tipping it and being tentative. You’ll see spurts of greatness where we are getting a hand on the ball, but then we’ll commit and error and get in our own heads a bit,” Cardenas said.

3-0 shutout by Berkeley

Piedmont fell by scores of 25-10, 25-18, 26-24. In the first set, PHS’ Jules DeYoung gained two kills while Fiona Olsen and Stella Wilks had one. Olsen added two more in the second set, while Charli Panico had a pair as well. Wilks and Mira Sachs had individual kills in the second set.

In the third set, Wilks led the

way with four spikes while Olsen had three. DeYoung and Sachs added individual kills.

Final stats: DeYoung had four kills and two blocks, Olsen had six kills and one block, Panico had two, Wilks had six, and Sachs had two.

3-0 loss to Encinal

Piedmont lost 3-0 by scores of 25-12, 25-17, 25-21. PHS kept things competitive in the first set until about midway through, then struggled to find consistency. They trailed 11-9 at one point, but only scored three more points from that point. Piedmont scored kills in the first set by Panico, Sachs, and Wilks, while Kalindi Kim scored an ace.

In the second set, Piedmont opened strongly and held a 5-1 lead before extending to 10-5. However, the Jets took the lead at 12-11 and never relinquished their advantage with PHS only scoring six more from that point. PHS’ Olsen scored three kills in the set and two aces, while DeYoung had one, Wilks had one, and freshman Julia Stokes had one.

In the third, Piedmont opened with a 6-3 lead but Encinal got to the front at 7-6 and never gave it away despite PHS pulling within a couple of points on several occasions. Piedmont got to one-point deficits at 12-11, 13-12, 18-17, and 20-19, but couldn’t find the equalizer. PHS got close at 23-21, but Encinal got its final two points on a kill and an ace.

Final stats: DeYoung had three kills and three blocks. Panico had two kills and one ace. Sachs had four kills. Wilks had tree kills. Olsen had three kills and two aces.

3-0 loss to Castro Valley

Piedmont lost 3-0 by scores of 25-18, 26-24, 25-19. Official stats were not provided.

NEXT UP

Piedmont (3-17 overall, 1-7 league) host Bishop O’Dowd for the season-finale on Thursday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m.



Fiona Olsen notched six kills against Berkeley and three in the match with Encinal.