

# JV football falls to Miramonte Matadors



Photos by Anne Murphy  
Piedmont's JV football team took a tough 40-18 loss to Miramonte.

By Colby Hong, Diego Hurwitz, and Layth Haddawy

Piedmont's junior varsity football team survived a 40-18 loss to Miramonte on Friday, September 1 in Orinda. The JV team, much like varsity, is working its way through difficult non-league opponents ahead of its league schedule in the Western Alameda County Conference.

It was rough from the get-go, with the Matadors ending the first half with a 20-0 lead. Miramonte played exceptional defense to thwart the Highlander offense through much of the first half. Piedmont's defense, however, had a strong performance with an interception by sophomores Marius Arno and Ryan Ridell forcing a fumble.

The Scots turned up their intensity in the second half. Toward the end of the third quarter, sophomore receiver Marius Arno took a short slant route for a 46-yard touchdown, the team's first of the season. That moment

seemed to build Piedmont's confidence. Sophomore defensive back George Bishop made a spectacular interception.

After conceding a touchdown, freshman Diego Hurwitz received the ball at the 20-yard line and follow his blockers, finding the gaps through Miramonte's kickoff coverage for an 80-yard touchdown return. On Miramonte's next possession, freshman defensive back Colby Hong made a highlight-reel one-handed interception grab to get the ball back for Piedmont.

With four minutes left in the game, freshman backup quarterback Rehan Mumtaz entered the game after starting quarterback Cash Panico suffered a leg injury. Mumtaz didn't show any nerves and made an instant impact, scoring on a 20-yard rushing touchdown while evading several Miramonte tacklers,

**NEXT UP**  
Piedmont (0-2) head to Mt. Eden in Hayward on Friday, September for a game at 5:00 p.m.



Diego Hurwitz celebrates after scoring on an 80-yard kickoff return.



Photo by Nancy Brahm  
Piedmont High's water polo team is back finishing fifth in the WACC Tournament last season.

# Girls' water polo team has new coach, Georgia Lewis

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont's girls' water polo team is under new leadership with head coach Georgia Lewis, who was promoted from leading the junior varsity for the last two years. The varsity squad went 8-11 last season with a fifth-place finish in the Western Alameda County Conference tournament.

"I'm really excited, it comes with a lot of responsibility. It feels like I have 20 children who are my own and that feels amazing and very stressful at the same time," said Lewis. "For me, coaching and having this role is about finding the balance between love, support, and improving their water polo skills."

Lewis recently completed her senior year as a member of Santa Clara University's water polo team after spending the first two years of her collegiate career at Bucknell University. Her time at Santa Clara was concurrent with her two seasons coaching Piedmont's JV team, giving her an interesting perspective as a teacher and current player.

"I was at Bucknell and transferred to Santa Clara. It gave me a unique opportunity to have two very different types of coaching styles at the Division 1 level. Because that was so recent, I think I was really able to choose the things I liked or didn't like and apply that to coaching," said Lewis.



Georgia Lewis takes over as head coach of Piedmont's girls' water polo team. She recently finished her senior year on Santa Clara University's water polo team and was the junior varsity head coach at Piedmont the previous two years.

Walking into the head coaching role, she wants to observe players and determine where they fit best on the team.

"We have a lot of talent. I'm not going to force anyone to play a position they don't want to play and I want everyone to get a chance to play new positions. We have work to do to make it all fit together and be cohesive, but I know we have the talent and are working on the skills. The more

*See Girls' Water Polo on page 26*



Staff Photo  
Kat Melian returns as a senior leader on Piedmont's water polo team.

# PHS girls golf team tops Berkeley

By Gary Lorin

Piedmont's girls' golf team beat Berkeley 241-260 last week at Tilden Golf Course, led by Mei Assalian whose 37 was the low round of the match. Other Piedmont scores were Mackenzie Seto-Nguyen, with a 44, Henley Lorin 50, Lily Caldwell 51; and Stella Izakson 59.

According to Piedmont Coach Gary Lorin, the second match showed some team improvement, with everyone reaching new personal bests.

The team is back on the links today, September 6, with a match against Alameda at Sequoyah Country Club in Oakland, the toughest course on the circuit.



Mei Assalian and Mackenzie Seto-Nguyen were low medalists for Piedmont's golf team.

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Quarterback Cash Panico throws a screen pass against Miramonte.