



Zack Carney was solid on defense and hit .368 for the Mustangs.

Mustangs 2008-09 Year in Review Part II

By Gregg McMullin

The Mira Costa Mustangs enjoyed another solid year even though a national championship or CIF championship banner wasn't hoisted during the fall or winter sports. Even so, the Mustangs' athletic department was envied by most of the other South Bay schools for its competitive nature and it continued during the second part of the year during the spring sports.

Girls' Volleyball

Second-year coach Lisa Zimmerman was faced with an inexperienced team returning after winning a CIF and national championship the year before. With All-CIF outside hitter junior Falyn Fonoimona returning, the Mustangs had a dominant inside force for the opposition to defend. Fonoimona led the Mustangs to a fifth consecutive CIF championship game and another appearance in the state playoffs. The Mustangs ended with a 28-6 record and each loss came to nationally ranked teams. The Mustangs, with a team of just four seniors on the roster, were coming off back-to-back national championships and they ended their season ranked 18th in the nation.

The Mustangs started their year by winning seven straight before bowing to national powerhouses Assumption (KY.), ranked 10th in the country, and Archbishop Mitty (San Jose), ranked second, in the Durango Fall Classic. The Mustangs went on to win another Bay League title and were confident going into the playoffs. The number one-seeded Mustangs defeated San Clemente, Orange Lutheran and Los Alamitos before getting beat in the finals by fourth-ranked Santa Margarita.

Wrestling

Mustang wrestlers continued to excel as the team was led by Will Ladnier (125), Ramsey Chahine (171) and Karsten Kaczman. All three wrestlers won medals in the CIF finals with Ladnier placing second, Chahine taking third place and Kaczman finishing fifth. The team placed a respectable 13th overall.

Lacrosse

The boys' team was 6-9 in 2008. Coach Dave Vinci vowed to turn that record around for 2009 and the Mustangs responded with a 14-5 record and a Bay League title. The Mustangs, who were led by Dakota Randall and Austin Dorr, reached the Los Angeles County Finals, but were defeated by top-ranked Loyola 8-7 in a game that went into overtime. Nick Delaespriella scored the tying goal with under two minutes in regulation, but the Cubs scored in the overtime period for the win.

The girls' team started off slowly, dropping three of their first four games, but then went on to win eight in a row. The Mustangs, who were 9-2 in league play, were led by the Bay

League's Most Outstanding Player goalkeeper Rachael Nguyen as well as standouts like Lauren Baron, Robin Brown and Olivia Archer. The Mustangs defeated previously undefeated Redondo in the finale of the Bay League, but were left out of the playoffs.

Boys' Volleyball

The Mustangs' volleyball program, whether it's the girls' or boys' team, has a long and storied history. Both teams have enjoyed championship seasons and the boys' team was once again in the national spotlight. The Mustangs were at one time during the season ranked second in the nation by more than one publication. Led by Ian Satterfield, the Mustangs won the Best in the West Tournament and ran off 10 straight victories before losing to nationally-ranked Loyola.

The Mustangs went on to win the Bay League and were one of the top-seeded teams heading into the CIF playoffs. The Mustangs swept Buena and Huntington Beach in the first two rounds and then held off Esperanza in the quarterfinals. In the semifinals, Mira Costa faced Mater Dei on the road, but was swept in three games to a team the Mustangs had beaten earlier in the year. Still the Mustangs had a great year (31-2) and return 11 players next year. So they'll once again reload for another stellar year in 2010.

Surf Team

The Mustangs won another South Bay Surf League title and then went on to win their first national title by winning the Red Bull Riders Cup. They defeated San Dieguito Academy and teams from Florida, New Jersey and Texas in overtime to capture the title. To get to the national championship, the Mustangs, led by brothers Dane and Kelly Zaun and Dayton Silva, won the South Bay Regional Championships and then beat Santa Cruz in the regionals.

Golf

The Mustangs were once again one of the top teams in the CIF as well as Southern California, led by juniors Kyle Nakazaki, David Kim and William Chryar and sophomore J.P. Harper.

Track and Field

With a state-of-the-art track, it's no wonder that Mira Costa has had a successful track program in place. Couple that with a knowledgeable coaching staff and overachieving athletes willing to push their limits, the Mustangs were once again one of the top teams in the area. On the boys' side, the 1,600-meter relay team of Michael Koger, Kyle Nunn, Brett Douville and Rico Wright won the Bay League title with a time of 3:25.21. Nunn was also the winner in the long jump, high



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