

Mira Costa Football: Exciting Finish Dooms Mustangs

By Gregg McMullin

The football match-up between Mira Costa and Esperanza, in a non-league contest, was something more than two good teams getting together. This was also a game between two teams that have conflicting styles, yet both have something to prove. This was an epic game that the Mustangs dominated in the first half, but in which Esperanza came up with two fourth quarter scores to erase a 20-7 deficit and beat the Mustangs 21-20. The game was in doubt until 13.9 seconds left when Esperanza quarterback Drew Huusfeldt connected with Grant Stubblefield for what would be the game-winning touchdown.

This was supposed to be a game that would pit two highly-touted teams against each other with a high level of intensity from both sidelines. The Mustangs’ approach on offense was to balance out their playbook while moving the ball up and down the field. On the other hand, Esperanza relies on an option-type offense in which Huusfeldt will carry the ball more than he throws it.

The Mustangs’ defense was dominating in the first half, and time and time again held their own against the Aztecs’ running game. With 6:41 left in the first quarter, Rico Wright recovered a fumble near midfield for the Mustangs. The offense moved the ball well enough, but its drive stalled at the Esperanza 30 yard line. The Mira Costa kicking game has been outstanding in the first two games, and once again Alex Noroce proved that all of his summer workouts have paid off. The senior place-kicker split the uprights from 47 yards, with plenty of distance, to give the Mustangs a 3-0 lead.

Mira Costa’s defense continued to force Esperanza to go three and out and punt back to the Mustangs. With the first quarter winding down, Mustang quarterback Kyle Demarco connected with Morgan Reece for a 51-yard gain. Later on during the drive and on fourth and inches, Demarco picked up a first down to keep the drive alive. “I got a great block from Chad (Jensen) and he pushed the line forward so I could get the first down,” Demarco said.

The Mustangs scored a short time later when Demarco hooked up with his tight end Mike Miller on a 15-yard touchdown pass. It was an impressive drive that saw the Mustangs not relying on any one area of their offense, but rather mixing up their play calling.

The defense once again came up with some big plays, including one in which Mustang defensive end Jake Jelmini tackled Mike Manibusan for a two-yard loss. On third down, defensive back Jackson Morrow leveled

Aztec James Cahill as Cahill was attempting to make a catch near the first down marker. The ball was jarred loose for an incomplete pass and the Mustangs once again turned Esperanza away.

Even with Mira Costa seemingly in control, Esperanza found a way to get back into the game despite trailing 10-0. Jelmini came up with a four-yard sack, but the Aztecs came up with a trick play to get a first down. Then Manibusan found an opening for a 32-yard pickup. With 3:01 left in the half, Huusfeldt ran the option and ran 38 yards for a touchdown to close the gap to 10-7.

With less than three minutes to go in the half, the Mustangs were forced to punt the ball back to Esperanza. When junior punter Brendan Sofen’s punt sailed over the Aztecs’ Dewayne Richardson’s head, the Mustangs downed the ball inside the 15 yard line for an eye-popping 62-yard net punt. The Mustang defense forced the Aztecs to punt the ball back and Demarco made good use of the great field position after their short punt. On the first play from scrimmage, he found Kyle Nunn open on the right sideline. Nunn made a great over-the-shoulder reception for a 39-yard catch and run touchdown and a 17-7 halftime lead.

The Mustangs moved the ball at will in the first half and the defense limited Esperanza throughout the first two quarters. But the second half would be a different story. The Aztecs were content on holding on to the ball and going to their ground game extensively. And when they did go to the air, Mustang linebacker Kellen Lockwood came up with

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Tuesday

5:30-6:45pm	Yin Yoga – All Level	Via
7:00-8:15pm	Vinyasa Flow - Level I	Leticia

Wednesday

6:00-7:15am	Vinyasa Flow – All Level	Jamie
5:30-6:45pm	Hatha Basics – Level I-II	Andy
7:00-8:15pm	Hatha Basics – All Level	Teri

Thursday

5:30-6:45pm	Forrest - All Level	Theresa
7:00-8:15pm	Beginner Hatha	Robyn

Friday

6:00-7:15am	Vinyasa Flow – All Level	Jamie
6:15-7:30pm	Vinyasa Flow – All Level	Alex

Saturday

9:30-10:45am	Hatha Basics – All Level	Andy
11:00-12:15pm	Tai Chi – All Level	Ara

Sunday

8:00-9:15am	Hatha Basics – All Level	Cathy
9:30-10:45am	Yoga Tune-Up® - All Level	Theresa
5:30-6:45pm	Hatha Basics – All Level	Andy

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Spotlight on Seniors

Mary Jane Casey Shares Her Talent with Seniors

By Karen King Russo

From having her artwork in the Library of Congress to giving free art lessons to seniors in Manhattan Beach, Mary Jane Casey has had a full life as an artist. It all began when, as a kid in Catholic girls’ schools in New York City and later in San Diego, she could draw. She spent all her time drawing people and portraits as realistically as she could. Then she entered Immaculate Heart College, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree. Under the tutelage of soon-to-be world-renowned serigrapher Sister Corita, she was encouraged to see differently. And for that, she was ready.

Sister Magdelyn Mary was also a booster, and entered Mary Jane’s work in exhibits, galleries and contests. At the California State Fair, her prints won second prize in 1954 and first prize in 1955, while her painting won first place in 1956. She said her biggest thrill came not from the prizes, but when she was still a young student and was introduced to a patron who admired her art. It was the first time she was introduced as “the artist.” She was off and running.

Like most artists, whether they are painters, drawers, photographers or even writers, Casey will say, “Art is an exercise in seeing. Most of us see in consensus, which is necessary in part, or we could not communicate. But this would be boring if that is the extent of it. Seeing with our own eyes is a vehicle to expanding our world.” To implement that, she gives credit to Nicolaides in his book *The Natural Way to Draw*. “The goal,” she says, “is to feel your subject with your eyes. That

is to project a sense of touch, by feeling the edges, surface and volume of your subject. To draw what you feel.”

When I asked her about capturing a landscape, she says she relaxes her eyes and then focuses on one object, with some attention to the bigger picture. Most of her work is abstract, using both watercolor and acrylic. “I am an organized person in life and as a teacher,” she says, “but not in my art. I do not work sequentially. I don’t see a picture in my mind. If I do, it is done; I don’t need to paint it.” Rather, she starts with an idea and sees where it goes. It’s a surprise.

At San Diego State, Mary Jane earned a Master’s degree in fine arts. Further training took her to study in Tokyo, Greece and San Miguel de Allende in Mexico, as well as at UCLA and the Otis Art Institute. Living in Manhattan Beach starting in 1966 and as a single mother during part of that time, she taught art for 30 years in the public schools of the Valley, Westchester, and the inner city. Since retiring, she has taught art to private students, both individuals and small groups, at her in-home studio in Manhattan Beach. Light and airy, the studio dazzles with color from her paintings, collages, serigraphs, figures and masks.

Besides her private students, she has volunteered for about six years by giving free lessons to seniors at the Joslyn Community Center. Her next session of classes, once a week for 10 weeks, starts on Thursday, September 15, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. If you haven’t signed up and missed the first

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