

BASES LOADED: HOME RUN

By Sarah Rafiqi
Editor

It has happened again: we have gone through another year and another baseball season; this time, with even more victories and triumphs to our name.

Varsity baseball's recent season made Valencia High School proud by ending with 20 wins and 11 losses.

As times change, our baseball team has continually matured and progressed. Coach Scheetz, who has been coaching at Valencia for many years, finds it hard to compare year to year. Still, he had this to say about the change between last year and this year: "Both were pretty good. This time [they were] a little more resilient. We had some tough times in the middle of the season, but we pulled it together in the end. We made a good playoff run." He then went on to acknowledge that this year's team

had won ten out of the last eleven games.

Currently, we are in preseason, and the Valencia baseball team began summer baseball on Tuesday, June 8th. To stay sharp, they are also working out three days a week in the weight room. Our team will hopefully play about fifteen to eighteen games on the American legion schedule during the course of this summer, against about eleven other schools in the county.

Coach Scheetz feels confident that our baseball team will be even stronger next season. "For next season, we have a lot of returning players with playoff experience," he said. At the same time, however, Coach Scheetz realizes that there is always room for improvement, especially in pitching, hitting, and defense.

This summer, Coach Scheetz aims to "find the nine best players that will contribute to the team being successful," so that next season we can win league championship.

RUN KRINIK RUN

By Nathaly Ramones
Reporter

Sean Krinik. We have all heard the name some time or another. You also might have heard that he broke the high school record at the Masters Track Meet in the 800 meters. His time was 1:49.18, the best time in the nation. This advanced him to the State Meet in Fresno which happened the weekend of Friday and Saturday, the fourth and fifth of this month. Friday, which were the prelims, a high school student in Pennsylvania broke Krinik's record by .18th of a second. Saturday, when the nine best runners in the state were racing, Krinik seemingly effortlessly beat his previous record and proclaimed his title back; the fastest high school student in the nation.

Krinik has the eighth fastest national time, third fastest time in California and the fastest time in Orange County ever for the 800 meter (half a mile). Sharing his enthusi-

asm to have achieved this goal he declared, "Hitting 1:48 is one of my greatest accomplishments." Everyone that has worked with Sean is beyond proud of him. His assistant coach Brandon Frank shared that he is "immensely proud of Sean, not only because of his athletic ability, but because he is a humble, likeable, and passionate young man." Coach Pat Hadley, who spotted his talent since he was a freshman, also shared her feelings about Sean stating, "I feel honored to have worked with such a talented and hard working young man. I'm proud to have been part of Sean achieving his goals." This year he has also been titled the OC Track Athlete of the Year. Krinik will be competing in Nationals the 19th of this month. There is a campaign being planned to help pay for the finances where students will be able to donate what they can. It is an honor to have Sean Krinik be the first at our school to break a national record for track, as well as having him represent Valencia High School. The best of wishes from everyone to Krinik, for he will make an impact at Nationals.

A FLICK WITH THE WRIST

By Wan Po
Reporter

It is nothing but an abundance of passion and spirit that this year's Valencia Tennis players have left on the court.

Still practicing daily even though their seasons are over, the boys' and girls' tennis teams do not seem to be resting physically or mentally at any second, knowing that summer league will start right away after this school year officially ends. Coach McCall keeps an eye on his players at all times.

Regardless of any other challenge, it was getting players with lack of confidence to play that made Coach McCall's experience more indelible. It was the time for younger and bolder players to step out for the game since there were only about 3 seniors this year on the girls' tennis team. Coach McCall explained to us that he did not see any lack of skill or potential, but that he saw experience and assurance.

On the other hand, he is also glad that this became one of the goals that everyone, as a team, has achieved together. The shells that underclassmen have broke made this year more unforgettable. It is true that Valencia has one of the best tennis team in our CIF division. Thinking of the time for the last few months while the boys were dedicating their lives so much on practice everyday, Coach McCall honestly pointed out that to keep the hunger that his boys' team has for improvement seemed to be his main challenge throughout this season. With a big number of

players, the boy varsity team kept on doing better and better, coming close to becoming the best of our CIF division.

Most people were incredibly sad after being informed that the CIF championship has slipped away from our hands. However, this has definitely become a big part of the boys' experience; it was an ordeal, but none of them would go back and erase their endeavors. Nevertheless, that Valencia Boys' Tennis team is the Empire League Champion, and so too are the girls. As for the girls, the game against Pacifica High School seemed to be pierced into the memories that they all share together.



KEVIN PIKE (12) EXPRESSES VALIANT EFFORTS BY STRIKING THE BALL WITH CONFIDENCE. PHOTO BY VIVIAN HERNANDEZ.

er. It was not because their component showed better skill or mentality, but it was because of the close tie which brought all our lady tigers into ample competitiveness. This became an imperative turning point of their season.

As summer approaches us swiftly, it is announced that the Valencia Tennis Team Summer League

will begin on the 22nd of June, and will end on the 22nd of July. About three days a week during this time we will be seeing them practicing, both the old and new players. And this 5-week program will of course be opened to next year's freshmen.

Lastly, we are not going to let our seniors of the class of 2010 be forgotten as time passes. Bryanna Thompson, Sean De Young, David Kim, Aakash Mistry, Sarah Blair, Curtis Wu, Amanda Lee, Kevin Palk, John Paul Parcell, Corey Vuong, and Isheetta Bhatt will all be remembered with love.

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