Written by By Tom Hartsock Sun Correspondent Gallup Sports
Friday, 08 September 2017 03:01

Gallup High didn’t have a lot going on this week as the Football team had a bye, and the Volleyball teams and Cross Country squads do not play until the weekend.

That leaves the two soccer teams, neither of which are doing all that well. There are some glimmers shining through though.

For the girls team, it is a spark plug freshman, Kennedy Smiley, who has already earned one Player of the Game Award this season. To be honest, I have not seen her play but I understand that she covers the field well and gives the opponents fits from whatever position she plays. Keep me informed on her progress as I likely will not attend too many games this month.

And the boys team finally earned a W, 2-1 over Grants. Fans can only hope for more as the season wears on.

Otherwise it was a dismal week. After the win by the boys, they went to E. Mountain and got clobbered 9-1. The girl didnt do any better, getting shut out twice, 4-0 by Grants and 9-0 by E. Mountain.

Smile, take a deep breath, and keep your fingers crossed!

Miyamura Sports

Soccer

Only the two soccer teams drew losses this last week, the boys losing to Piedra Vista 3-1 and Belen 2-1 while the girls went down 7-0 to Valencia and 6-1 to Belen. Otherwise, the week couldnt have been much more perfect.

Cross Country

The Lady Pats not only took first at the Rehoboth Invite but had runners in first place for both races. Freshman Kila Vicente (22:24) and junior Ty McCray (17:51) finished in first as Vicente pulled two more teammates into the top 15: seniors Lauryn Thomas (6th in 23:57) and Ashley Thomas (13th in 24:35). The other scorers for the Lady Patriots were sophomore Autumn Enot (27th in 26:39) and freshman Nikkie Nez (35th in 27:37).

The Miyamura boys placed fourth behind some very strong teams from Laguna-Acoma, Many Farms, and Zuni. Patriot sophomore Rylie Watson placed 11th in 19:39, and Elijah Begay was 14th in 20:15. Incomplete information was responsible for the lack of more places for the Pats in this story.

Football

A quick look at the football stats on Max Preps will let you know that the Patriots are playing well this year. The national stats show the Miyamura team is only slightly down in the rushing category but they are way up in passing and receiving, touchdowns, interceptions, and passing touchdowns.

Quarterback Matt Chavez is 25-38-1 in the air for an average toss of 16.7 yards. Chavez is also the teams leading rusher with 259 yards of the teams 324, though coach Wes Shanks attributes most of that to broken plays and a talent for scrambling. The only QB on the team that has better stats is the backup McFarland, who is 2-2 (100 percent) and his average yardage per pass is 19.5 yards. He has no touchdowns though, so well still list him at #2 for now.

The top receiver is Brandon Vidal with 145 yards on five catches and four touchdowns. He also has an interception return for another 82 yards.

AJ Silva has caught seven passes for 123 yards and one touchdown, while Giovanni Chioda has caught five passes for 51 yards and two touchdowns. Chioda also returned a kick 40 yards.

To be blunt, Rio Grande did not have a chance Saturday aftersoon against the Patriots. Miyamura scored the first 26 points of the contest, then took a prolonged time out for the

Ravens to score twice, holding the Pats to a three and out series for the first time this year.

Miyamura came back with the last 12 unanswered points and that was it.

Volleyball

Coach David Scott pushed his ladies to two wins lat Saturday, 3-0 over Santa Fe Indian School and 3-1 over Bosque and then ran his team record to 6-0 for the season with a 3-0 shutout over Laguna Acoma. Keep up the winning string, ladies!

Rehoboth Sports

Boys' Soccer

A tie at 2 in St. Johns and a narrow 2-1 loss to Round Valley will all be chalked up to experience since both games were against Arizona teams. Districts are upcoming though and the boys will have to start playing better and harder.

Cross Country

Could not get in touch with coach Elmer Yazzie today; stuck in a rut. Promise I'll do better next time. Devin Toddy was the highest place finisher for the boys at their home meet, coming in 13th in 19:58.

Girl' Soccer

The Lady Lynx only had one game on the pitch this week, losing to Round Valley 5-1.

Volleyball

The Lady Lynx beat Dulce and Cottonwood Classical Prep by identical 3-0 scores, running their record to 5-0 for the season.

Wingate Sports

It is a familiar story for Wingate, the only one of the four schools we cover that has absolutely no summer sports program to help prepare for the Fall season. Its a shame that most of the athletes at Wingate do not get much of a chance to practice until they move into their dorms when school starts.

This phenomenon occurs only in the Fall, after school has been dismissed for almost three months. It it the time of the year when almost every student has to regroup his mind and his body to the rigors they will face for the next nine months, in the classroom and on the fields of play.

I have a special place in my heart for the coaches and their athletes who endeavor to put their best efforts forward at this time of year.

The football Bears lost to Santa Fe Indian School 57-6, Crownpoint blanked the volleyball girls 3-0, but the best results may have been in Cross Country, where the scores from the Thoreau Meet were not reported.

Keep working, and dont forget, «Yeego, Shush, Yeego!»

By Tom Hartsock

Sun Correspondent

Gallup Sports