

# DESIRE THAT EQUALIZER

Varsity flag football loses 13-6  
to Rocklin Sept. 7

The time on the clock slipped away as the varsity flag football team looked for an equalizer to avoid a loss for the first home game. Quarterback Alex Moday found Natalia Takeuchi, who caught the ball while being swatted at. But it wasn't quite enough, and time ran out as the team experienced its second loss of the season. In the program's inaugural season, varsity finished with six wins and 10 losses while JV finished with one win and nine losses.

"We're making history. Actually, we have a shirt that says, 'Make History.' It's really special," Gaire Rungo said.

The teams grew closer through practicing together. Both teams conditioned together for 20 minutes each practice. They worked on drills such as opening their hips along with pulling drills and running angles. During practice, the varsity team's assistant coach, Casey Brown, had them talk about what they could've done better during their games.

"They would set us aside and we would stretch and talk about what happened in the last game and how we can fix it," Brionna Palmer said. Then varsity and JV would get into separate groups and talk about what else we wanted to improve in practices and what we don't need to improve anymore."

The players wanted students to recognize their sport and the work they put into pioneering the program.

Palmer said, "We're not like powder puff at all. We have wristbands that help us keep track of all the plays and what everything is. We actually take it really seriously."



## SEE YO SMILE

Teams celebrate their achievements



RUN FOR THE WIN: Playing a game in the Daddy Daughter Football cheer event, Cayden Breson runs towards the end zone Sept. 10. This was the fourth annual event. "It was hard that you couldn't push people or tackle them but it was still fun," Breson said.

USE YOUR VOICE: Encouraging from the sidelines, Rizz Regale cheers for the defensive sidekicks. Rizz Regale cheers for the defensive sidekicks. Rizz Regale cheers for the defensive sidekicks.

CELEBRATING THE GOOD: After scoring a touchdown against River Bay Cooper Freshkevics and Kylie Stone celebrate Oct. 5. The fresh-soph football team was 19-14. They were so happy because we had a big nose stroke. It was a really fun experience just because of the people," Regale said.

HIGH FIVE FUN: As her name is called, Sarah Choi walks through the two lines of her teammates while they high five her. She played with sidekicks in the game against River Valley. "I love this team, they're always there for everyone to support us," Choi said.



**WHATEVER IT TAKES.** At the first VFL meet of her fresh-soph season, Eva Sato ran the Sunset Whitney Reservation race course Sept. 20. She led the team to Second Place and finished First Place individually. "Halfway through the race, you're getting into it, but the adrenaline is kind of wearing off. So that's when it gets hard and you really have to mentally think 'you got to keep going and you can't stop to slow down,'" Sato said.

**UPHILL BATTLE.** During the women's JV cross country race at William Jessup Sept. 21, Robbie Kepp keeps pace with a Davis runner. She said she holds her pace back by 30 seconds to conserve energy due to the amount of hills on the course. "The hills make your legs really sore and you need a lot of leg strength." (She said,) "I kept telling myself that either way I would end up the finish line so I should just push on and give it my all."

**TIME FOR THE TEAM.** Before warm-ups of the Jessup Invitational, Tyler Kubota and Daniel Midj look at Kubota's phone Sept. 23. Meets usually last three to five hours, allowing members of the team to bond in between races. "We are really close, having to run together you have to become friends with your teammates," Kubota said.

**CATCH YOUR BREATH.** After running a five kilometer race, London Wheeler catches his breath Sept. 20. The men's varsity cross country team received Second Place, led by David Warren.

"It was right after a race so it was really tiring, but just knowing the fastest way out of the race is running faster helps me," Wheeler said.

## YOU MUST RUN FAST

Cross country runners race distances ranging from 3,000 to 5,000 meters



## BLOCK PARTY

What was your goal this season?



BEATRIZ LUNA



EVELYN HENDRIX



KAITLYN LEU



LEXI CLAREY

CHANNE RELOBA

## WHAT FUELS YOU?

"Some of us get Dutch [Bros.] before."

avery steinkamp

Dancers attend team dinners as part of pregame routines



"We do little team dinners, and it's whatever the host decides. Sometimes we'll have tocos or pasta. For Quarry Bowl, we got Chick-Fil-A."

lotten phillips

"When it's a game day I have energy drinks."

marissa girard

## PARKER PEREZ

"My favorite part about playing running back is the adrenaline rush before and during the game and the physicality. What goes through my head during the game is nothing but the game itself. My mind is focused 100% on the game."

JV football

## by the numbers

Women's varsity water polo



6 team breakfasts during school hours

2 tournaments: Sierra Shoot Out and the Woodcreek Invitational

4 boxes of Noah's Bagels bought by Coach Kari Ustaszewski for tournament setup

SOURCE: Luke Conrad and Natalie Benner