



FAVORITE MEMORIES

Emily Baba: "When we danced & banged on the walls before the Lynbrook game."

Ashley Cole: "Hearing the buzzer sound at the end of the Lynbrook game."

Shannon Fung: "When we shoved Sheeva into a locker before the game to see if she would fit and she almost got locked inside."

Katie Gasik: "After we lost our 2nd Round CCS game and everyone started crying it showed how close we were."

Nicole Gragnola: "Annoying Diana and kicking Lynbrook's butt."

Hanna Nielson: doing karaoke at the beach during team bonding party and beating Lynbrook.

Laura Ruddy: "When Katie asked a ridiculous question about what to do if the ball came down on the line and coach said that would never happen and then it happened on the next possession."

Sheeva Hamidieh: "When for a brief moment on Senior Night Alex tipped the ball to me and I experienced the rush of being in my element again. It was so meaningful to me to be part of the team again."

Melissa Lin: "Seeing us completely frustrate Diana and beating Lynbrook at home in front of the huge crowd."

Hanna Nielson: doing karaoke at the beach during team bonding party and beating Lynbrook in front of a huge crowd.

Uma Sambasivam: "The first time I danced with the girls during our pre-game dance ritual."

Anna Schroeder: "We were playing catch phrase on the beach trip and everyone was yelling and laughing so loud that no one could hear the clues."

Alex Sclavos: "When the final horn sounded and we had beaten Lynbrook."

Baylee Yates: "Katie coming out on the beach trip and flexing in her muscle suit."



TEAM AND LEAGUE HONORS

Most Improved Player

UMA SAMBASIVAM

Hon Mention: Ashley Cole

Outstanding Defensive Player

NICOLE GRAGNOLA

Hon Mention: Melissa Lin

Most Inspirational

KATIE GASIK

Scholar Athlete

MELISSA LIN

Most Valuable Player

ASHLEY COLE & ALEX SCLAVOS

2ND TEAM ALL LEAGUE

NICOLE GRAGNOLA

HANNA NIELSON

HONORABLE MENTION ALL LEAGUE

ALEX SCLAVOS

SARATOGA

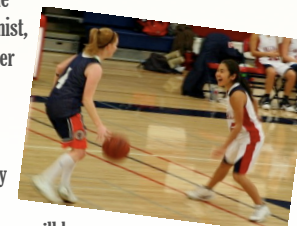
BASKETBALL 2008-2009

SEASON IN REVIEW



ALUMNI GAME

Saratoga initiated two new traditions this year with the Alumni Game and Midnight Madness. The Alumni game was played November 26th. The inaugural game featured a waxing of the Alumni by the Varsity Girls. One alumnist, who called it the "Alumni Shame" rather than game vowed to have the alumni ready for next year's game (the Friday after Thanksgiving). Despite the lopsided score, the game featured many hugs, laughs, and sisters trying to get the best of each other. We hope this game will be an annual event which brings our basketball community together.



SHS Girls Basketball Season Summary

PRE-SEASON

The first four games of the season began with matchups against future CCS teams two of which were ranked. The team struggled mightily against Valley Christian but finished the swing 2-2 and garnered third place in the Monta Vista Tournament. The next week the team seemed to hit their stride giving #11 North Salinas a good run for three quarters and taking 3rd place in the Salinas tournament by defeating the host by a score of 50-45. The season seemed to spiral out of control shortly after this tournament when Sheeva tore her ACL during practice and the team played their worst basketball of the season



losing two games during the Half Moon Bay tournament. After a few practices Ashley Cole emerged as the new point guard and the team again started improving. In the final

pre-season contests the Falcons beat another CCS team Pioneer (21-4) and then trounced two opponents and seemed ready for the challenge of the difficult De Anza league play.

League

Starting off the season in the A league this year was tough for the Lady Falcons. The first game was against the league favorites the Gunn Titans (27-0). We lost to them by just a few points, umm 40. The next game gave the girls a boost of confidence though with a dominating performance on the road over Milpitas 52 to 14. O YA!!! Then the girls rolled over Palo Alto 59 to 48. Next the team faced one of our rivals, Lynbrook, and led down the stretch until a couple of calls went against them and the team fell 51 to 44. The girls again played well in the next game against Wilcox, the 6th ranked team in the CCS. Tough defense held Wilcox to just 38 points but the Falcons were unfortunately unable to manage much offense and still lost the game. A huge Los Gatos team thought they would handle the Falcons, but their egos were crushed in a game that was not as close as the final score 61 to 48. Unfortunately Saratoga had a tough loss to Palo Alto by a point the week afterwards and faced a must win game again Lynbrook. It would be one of the most exciting games of the team's career. With lock down defense on first team all-leaguer Diana Lee the Falcons cruised to a 56 to 47 upset of the Vikings. SUCKA!!! Gunn and Wilcox were the next two games and beat the Falcons soundly causing a temporary loss of morale. But the following Wednesday, the Falcons rebounded and crushed the Wildcats on their senior night which was an absolute thrill. The Lady Falcons' senior night was a complete annihilation of Milpitas 57 to 17 where Sheeva scored her first basket in 2 months. The Falcons placed third in their league this year making them the best team in the Universe!! GO FALCONS.

-paragraph written by Katie Gasik

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STATISTICS

	PPG	RP G	ASST	STEALS	CHAR GES
BABA	0.2	0.6	11	9	2
COLE	3.1	3.0	81	70	6
FUNG	3.1	0.8	8	7	1
GASIK	3.3	2.7	32	51	0
GRAGNOLA	8.1	5.1	7	38	1
HAMIDIEH	5.4	1.2	36	21	4
LIN	4.7	2.9	44	41	8
KNIGHT	0.8	1.1	0	0	0
NAGPAL	0.7	0.3	2	2	0
NIELSON	8.0	6.8	33	56	0
RUDDY	1.5	2.0	5	9	1
SAMBASIVAM	3.9	3.3	7	38	2
SCHROEDER	0.9	0.3	10	4	1
SCLAVOS	9.7	6.5	15	30	1
YATES	3.8	3.5	6	15	1

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MIDNIGHT MADNESS

Midnight madness was an optional open gym in December for the girls to just play and enjoy a night of basketball. The night allowed JV, Varsity, and Alum players to play with and against the parents. The event culminated at midnight with pizza, dessert, drinks, the Ruddy sisters tackling each other on the floor and lots of smack talk between the players and their parents. This event will repeat every December. Please check our website www.saratogabasketball.com for details on time and date.

