

Faculty takes it home

Faculty team wins intramural basketball tourney

by Brandon Pizano



*The Faculty team celebrates their win over the Patriots.
Photo provided by Mr. Bucsa.*

Special education teacher Mr. Bucsa is back at it again with the 2nd annual Intramural basketball tournament. This year there were 15 teams consisting of at most 10 players each. This allowed for five starters and up to five subs.

The 15 teams were: Wasted Potential, Monstars, Free Ballers, Chop, Slice, Young Bullz, Splash Bros, Warriors, 2K Ballers, Faculty (staff team), Prime Time, XC Boys, Super Dawgs, Patriots, and finally Sauce Gods.

There were 5 dates for each round of the tournament. For the first 3 dates, Round Robin occurred. Bucsa explained, "Round Robin is basically for teams to get their record, so come tournament time the best team will face the worst team."

The refs were freshman Andrew Montavon, junior Brendon Croom, junior Matthew Montavon, and sophomore Glenn Williams.

A notable stand out team for the first 2 days of Round Robin was the Faculty team, They proved that both their experience and body mass are big factors against high school teenagers. Players included dean Mr. McDavid, foods teacher Mr. Bjelk, math teacher Mr. Judkins, P.E. teacher Mr. Kerkman, along with a number of school security guards and teacher assistants. They were simply smarter and stronger than the competition. Bucsa stated that he believes the Faculty were a heavy favorite going into the elimination round.

However due to the faculty's absence on the last day of Round Robin, they had to drop three games. That left them behind other teams for the top seed.

For a few teams, the goal of this tournament is just to go out there and have fun. However, there are also many teams looking to win. Their intensity has been keeping them at the top of the standings for most of the tournament.

At the start of the elimination round the most notable teams included: Primetime, Chop, Patriots, Faculty, 2k Ballers and Freeballers.

The rules for elimination round were simple, double elimination, meaning you lose twice, you are out. If one game is lost in the elimination round you would be put into the loser's bracket.

After losing early on due to their absence, the faculty was put into the losing bracket. On the other side of the bracket was the Patriots. These two

teams would meet up later on in the championship game.

The faculty team would be at a disadvantage due to them being in the loser's bracket. With the team in the loser's bracket, the Patriots only had to win one game in order to secure the championship. The faculty had to win two games.

It was a series for the ages. With the faculty needing two games opposed to their opponents one, they needed to up the intensity. The faculty team showed their basketball IQ once again by simply playing smarter than the Patriots. The faculty would walk away from game one with a score 12-8.

The tides seemed to turn with the faculty having the momentum going into the final game of the tournament. With things not going their way in game one, the Patriots realized they needed to go into game two and match the faculty's intensity. What held the patriots back was the team losing a little hope.

In the second game, the Patriots would lose to the Faculty with a score of 6-14. This game would make the Faculty the champions of the Intramural basketball tournament.

Sophomore Brandon Pitts was on the Patriots and had very few words to say about the loss. He said " I think (the team) did good. We could have communicated more."

When asked what the team could have done differently Pitts said "We could have talked more and overall just moved the ball around better." Although he was overall happy with his performance through out the tournament, Pitts said "You know, I could have took more shots."

Congratulations to the faculty team. Better luck next year to those players who will sign up again.

As for Intramurals, next up is volleyball.