

Flying Turtles Volleyball -

[24.Oct.20] Yesterday, our boys faced Burlington on a beautiful Vermont autumn day. Four closely-fought sets brought us to a gut-checking 5th set tie-breaker. A little bit of history; we've played six 5-set matches against BHS in the past 5 years, and lost them all (twice changing out playoff-standing on the last week). Anchored by inspired defense by co-captain **Riley T. ('21) (GAMEBALL)**, and finished with a three point service run by **Emmett CL. ('23)**, we finally got the best of the Seahorses.

Today, the 2020 season ended with another wonderful chapter in our 15-year rivalry with Enosburg Falls. The morning started with the girls facing heavy heavy rain and blowing wind. On the upside, it dried out over the course of the girls match, ...but the temperature went from mid-50's to mid-40's by the time the boys started. Our semi-amphibious Flying Turtles clearly fared better than the ectothermic Hornets in the conditions, as we fought our way to a fifth set. We were able to see a bit of the future of VCS Volleyball as **Georgia S. ('24)** and **Celia ('24) & Beaven R. ('22)** played two full sets for us, winning both of them! However, the day belonged to our Seniors, the Class of 2021; **Morgan P.** (injured in the first match of the season), was back on the court to provide us some much-needed serving power. **Sophie L.'s** white libero jersey was most definitely NOT white by the end of the match (equal parts grass & mud), **Rachel B.** played every role on the floor except libero, **Candace H.** was our 5-star General on offense, and **Catherine K.** our Secretary of Defense on the net. After getting out to a commanding 8-2 lead at the turn-over (in a 5th set, the score only goes to 15 points, and you switch sides at 8points....really impactful outside). Enosburg fought back to a 10-10 tie, but we held on for the match-win behind the steady serving of **Mickaela C. ('23)**.

As we changed the nets over, we took a moment to recognize our graduating Seniors and their families. Many thanks to our Juniors (**Magnus, Beaven, and especially Iris**) for organizing the event, and families of the Seniors for contributing to the effort. During the recognition, we surprised the team by announcing our **2020 VYVA** (Vermont Youth Volleyball Association) **All-Stars; Austin ('21), Candace ('21), Catherine ('21), and Magnus ('22)**.

Our boys played a great match against the strongest team Enosburg has ever fielded (they are probably the second best team in the state behind Essex), but lost three close sets (22, 23, and

22 to 25). Coach **Bill Orleans** believes this is the best boys team we've ever fielded...and I'm inclined to agree with him. It's certainly the best 2-day stretch a VCS boys team has ever played!!

We started this season by creating a team Credo; **We will have fun learning and competing as a team....mission accomplished.**



Thank you all. -Peter & Bill

