



Patrick Mi | El Estoque

**OUT OF REACH** A Gunn player knocks the ball out of junior Alex Chiu's possession during a league game on Jan. 27. After a close match, Matadors still managed to defeat the titans 50-48.

**MONTA VISTA  
MATADORS 50**

**GUNN  
TITANS 48**

by **Sahana Sridhara** and **Christine Chang**

The girls varsity basketball team took on Gunn in their sixth league game on Jan. 27 at MVHS. With Gunn maintaining a bare lead during most of the game, the game played on the nerves of both those on the court and the spectators in the bleachers.

Matadors barely eked out a lead in the first quarter, finishing the eight minutes two points ahead of Gunn at 13-11. Their winning streak seemed to fade out, however, as Gunn secured multiple shots in the second quarter. The Matadors fought to keep up as junior Alex Chiu made a crucial pass to senior Victoria Lee, who scored a two pointer early on in the quarter. Still, the two free throws made by senior Kelli Sum, followed by another two pointer scored by Chiu weren't enough to meet the Titans' aggression. By the end of the second quarter, Matadors had fallen behind Gunn 22-27.

"We knew if we won we would be tied for first in the league," Chiu said. "We also knew that this team was pretty beatable, so we really just had to pick it up, especially defense, and work toward making a lot of those shots."

Sum and Chiu remained integral players throughout the third quarter, scoring a three pointer

and two pointer respectively. Mid-quarter, the Matadors blocked the ball to change possession, and senior Amy Lin proceeded to score another two points for the team. Still, the 33-39 score that ended the quarter left the Matadors even further behind.

Returning to the game with a six point difference at the beginning of the fourth period was enough of a wake up call for the Matadors. Lee scored a series of two pointers for the Matadors four consecutive times, bringing up the score to a near tie, the Matadors only one away from an even score with Gunn. The breakthrough came when Lin scored two free throws, finally toppling the scoring streak Gunn had maintained for most of the game.

Nonetheless, they continued to face fierce opposition. Gunn scored a three-pointer, bringing the score to a nerve-wracking 49-48.

With 12 seconds left in the game, the ninth foul of the night was called on Gunn. The bleachers were dead silent as junior Alex Chiu stood at the free throw line, prepared to make a shot. One swish later, the crowd erupted into cheers as the Matadors' score was bumped up another point. Chiu's shot finalized the game's scoreboard, leaving a victory for the Matadors at 50-48.