



### **JHS Intrams Enthronement Student Champions**

*by: Loreese Sapico, Johann Arcon, Aaron Nepomuceno, William Duarte*

The Junior High School Intramurals 2024 has just ended, but the legacy and memories the students have shaped will never fade. Every player deserves to be recognized despite what took place at the court. From first-time experiences to inspirations, meet some of the most valuable players that marked a standard at the tournaments!

A new edition that is added to the Intramurals is the Swimming Competition. There are two events for the boys and girls namely Freestyle and Backstroke. The champion of Girls' Freestyle, **Hananiah Medrano** of Yellow Tigers expressed her thoughts about joining a swimming competition for the first time.

*"I was scared because my opponents were good and I never had proper training before."*

Other remarkable winners of the swimming competition were White's **Yhurie Cunanan** for Girls' Backstroke, White's **Mhyke Manalili** for Boys' Freestyle, and Red's **Raven Ramiscal** for Boys' Backstroke.

A true queen's gambit occurred during the boys' chess championship as the Blue Eagles' **Rock Rollo** claimed victory for the 2nd time in a row since last year's intramurals. He played against White Hawks' Johann Arcon for the championship, ending it victoriously after a quick game. Rollo stated that his inspiration was,

*"I'd say The Queen's Gambit and my friend who is in grade 11 who really pushed me to play chess,"*

Rollo stated his inspiration was and how he remained vigilant throughout the game and abused any upcoming opportunities that may happen due to the opponents' moves.

Moving to the girls, the Red Tamaraw's **Misjah Villegas** won against White Hawks' Breindel Danglosi. After failing to grab the championship last year, she was able to redeem her skills and gave the Red Tamaraws their first win. Villegas stated how her dad was her main inspiration in playing the board game due to her curiosity. She expressed how she felt during the play.

*"I was very nervous because this is actually the first time that I got in the championships. I've been playing in the intrams for 3 years."*

White Teams' **Abbey Catalan and Dan Butawan** were acclaimed champions for the scrabble game after a long game between other pairs. Their teamwork and diligence led them to lead the White Hawks through flying colors. While for the girls, Yellow Teams' **Elyssa Maun and Jewel Torino** won the tournament. Through their strategy, they managed to continuously review the words. They also expressed how they encountered difficulties during the game.

*"It was hard at the last part because all we got were low-level words."*

Students' roars harmonized within the gymnasium as the Basketball championship began between the Yellow Tigers and the White Hawks. White's **Rojo Santor** gave hope to the Hawks as they opened the scoring with a layup. The Tigers refused to give in to the banter as Yellow's **Shawn Maya** scored crucial points for the team to shorten the gap between the scores. Eventually, the White Hawks emerged victorious in the last 30 seconds of the game. Yellow's Shawn Maya, White's **Jasper Vistal**, and Rojo Santor's names were all included in the Mythical Five, with Santor being acclaimed as the Basketball Boys' MVP for this year's tournament, quoting that his inspiration came from his family, and also added that people should never give up.

*"My family always inspires me to play basketball, because they are the ones who are always keeping my head up to continue fighting and pursuing my dreams, and when the time is still ticking, you are still a fighter, not a loser."*

The championship game between the Red Tamaraws and the Blue Eagles managed to get all the students to stand up from their seats. The first set was won by the Blue Eagles but the Tamaraws got back up from their feet and fought with the incredible **Gilliane and Gabrielle Diestro**. The nerve-wracking third set came along and the applause-worthy spikes of team captain **Jomanah Bernadez** gave the Tamaraws their win. The awarded Mythical Six included Yellow's Pearl Rigor, Whites' Shellah Sotejo, Blues' Janella Rivera, Red's Jomanah Bernadez, and the overall MVP, Red's Gilliane Diestro. Team captain Bernadez of the Red Tamaraws quoted how she felt during the match.

*"A specific emotion I felt during the two matches was anger. It's simply because of my mistakes. It seemed like in school, all my skills disappeared."*

The Volleyball Boys Championship match was an intense battle between the Red Tamaraws and Blue Eagles. Spectators were on the edge of their seats as their respective teams contended for the trophy and clashed in the final volleyball game of this year's intrams. The showdown begins in Set 1 wherein the Tamaraws came out strong, attacking the open spots in the court and making sure of their serves. However, the Eagles were not backing down as they regrouped and retaliated fiercely in set 2. The final set displayed an ultimate test of confidence and endurance. The Red Tamaraws clinched the championship title with a final score of 15-6. This match highlighted the teams' passion for the game and to leave their fans inspired and satisfied.

**Kaeil Mui** of the Red Tamaraws, a member of the Mythical 6 was asked about their team's secret to winning the championship match and stated,

*"Our team's strategy was to focus on receiving and dropping the ball into open spaces on the opponent's side. Communication was another key factor. We encouraged everyone to speak up because many players tend to tense up when they see the ball towards them making it hard. To keep it simple, we told them to use simple calls like "mine" or "yours" ensuring no confusion about who would receive the ball."*

Team Captain and overall MVP, **Shawn Aquino** stated some challenges he faced as a leader that the team eventually overcame.

*"It was definitely teaching my teammates and also explaining how the rotation would happen during the game."*

All these champions started from scratch and faced moments of wanting to give up. Their stories inspire others, leaving a legacy in this school. May they motivate you to pursue your own athletic journey, and who knows, you might be the next MVP of the intramurals! Congratulations and God bless everyone involved in the JHS Intramurals 2024! As Sir Chad says, Physical Education is both an art and a science—so keep learning, enjoying, and never give up!