



Jaguar Basketball Finishes the Season

JT Bowen | Staff Writer

SPORTS OPINION

Despite the tough loss against Grand Prairie in the second round of the playoff circuit, by most standards Flower Mound Basketball enjoyed a generally successful year, toppling both last year's totals in both season and district wins and generally exceeding most expectations in many regards. The highs of the season cannot be forgotten due to the season's unfortunate end, as well: A 2-0 sweep of the rival Marcus Marauders and a pair of thrilling wins over Lewisville, a blowout victory against Keller in the postseason's opening round, and the framework being laid for the program's future with eight seniors (nine, if you count the midseason addition of former quarterback Blake Short) set to depart. Most notable, though, was the massive improvement in play displayed by the team, as the team posted their first 25-win season since the 2015-16 campaign, which helped to revive the program following a down year.

As expected, the roster featured meaningful contributions from front to back. The scoring load was spearheaded by Air Force commit and

captain Jeffrey Mills on a nightly basis, but wins undoubtedly stemmed from a holistic effort across the team. Guard tandem Gavin Green and Jack Richter added a dynamic three-point shooting duo as well as playmaking and scrappy defense. Senior Robert Cieri anchored the paint for the Jags, and was a vital floor-stretcher and board-grabber. Juniors Preston Vandermyde and Hayden Lacy provide

Like most Eric Littleton-coached teams, the Jags fast-paced offense was built on launching threes and moving quickly in transition. Green and Richter almost exclusively scored from beyond the arc and were arguably the team's premier shooters, but every player was more or less a threat from three-point range. The run-and-gun mentality of the team often overwhelmed more traditional

teams, and the explosive scoring output frequently displayed carried the team to victory. Teams like MacArthur and Coppell, opponents that accounted for four of the Jaguars' losses this year, were often benefactors of the rare poor shooting night, a testament to the truly



The Varsity Team at the February 18th game in Irving

much-needed clarity for the team and a sense of direction for the future, while contributing with refined post moves and defense. Jonathan Ryan and Preston Evans excelled as spark-plugs off the bench, with an injection of shot creation and passing. Finally, Grayson Downs, Hamza Kazi, and Blake Short rounded out the roster, playing well in reserve minutes.

explosive offense that Flower Mound trotted out the majority of nights.

The team, though, won't dwell on the season's conclusion, turning their focus to enjoying their remaining months as Jaguars and helping to foster in the next era of Flower Mound Basketball.

Goals for the Soccer Season

Shelly Lim | Staff Writer

The Flower Mound High School soccer team had their first game of the season on January 24, 2020 against Lewisville High School. Before the first game Sebastian Palma, a junior, playing for the varsity soccer team with a position as a defender was interviewed. Palma senses a lot of dubs in the future. His goals for this season are to push each other and do the best they can, which could lead to making the playoffs. For their first game of the season, the Flower Mound Varsity soccer team finished the evening with a loss 0-2, even though; the first game wasn't

the best. During their second game against Irving High School, the varsity jags took the win 2-0.

Janek Floack is a junior playing for the varsity soccer as a mid-field. Floack's goal for the season is going to the playoffs. In the previous year, Varsity Jags won against Marcus, but this year Marcus scored 4-0 against Flower Mound, which leaves the two teams equal in winning. March 6th is going to be the game where challenge and excitement will spread throughout the game. He has been scoring a few goals throughout the season to help the dream come true.



Floack's final wish for the season is to beat Marcus as all of the team members are hoping

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- Gannon Shaffer

for as well.

The team is willing to put in the time and hard work it takes to fulfill their goal to the playoffs. Junior, Landon Leach's goal for this year's season is going to playoffs. Landon stated that "the varsity team is always pushing each other

to get dubs, though all the members except two people are new." The Flower Mound Varsity soccer team certainly plays as one on the field. Although the team is exhausted, they never fail to push and encourage each other through the last seconds of the game. Leach, the team goalie, has been determined and committed to the team and has put in countless hours of practice to excel.

This season is a year where the members get to know each other and learn how one plays, but it has not lessened their enthusiasm to win state in years to come. Gabe Smith wants "to come out and get the best record that Flower Mound has ever gotten." Smith has been taking the opening and put the Jags up 2-0 against the Irving Tigers. As well as scoring a few goals, he will score his way through playoffs.

The Flower Mound Varsity Soccer members have the same kind of team goal for this season. "We have a lot expected of us, coming off the state run from last year, but we're trying to win as many games as we can and take things step by step." Senior, Gannon Shaffer responded. Shaffer has been on the Varsity team for a couple of years and he knows that's best for the team. He has been trusting the team to reach the goal of making states again this year. Flower Mound Varsity do as they say and will continue to push each other and become the state champions.

1/24

0-2

Lewisville

1/28

2-2

Irving Tigers

1/31

2-0

Irving Nemitz

2/4

0-3

Hebron

2/7

0-4

Marcus

2/11

0-0

Coppell

2/18

2-2

MacArthur

2/21

2-2

Lewisville

2/25

1-2

Irving Tigers

2/28

1-3

Nimitz Vikings

How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying

Scott Convery | Editor-in-Chief

In the late months of a Texas winter, students sleep shorter nights and leave the school premises after dark only when the musical season has begun, but this year, the principles of hard work and ambition are not only landmarks of the process, but of the show's content itself, with *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

The show tells the fast-paced, clever, and deviously funny tale of a wide-eyed window washer named J. Pierpont Finch (Trey Bumpass) with eyes for the executive suite and his uncharacteristically fast climb up the corporate ladder. Along Finch's journey from floor to floor of the World Wide Wickets offices, he encounters a young secretary, Rosemary (Camryn Parnitke and Carlie Mcghee) who seems glued to Finch's side since the

moment they meet, despite Finch's greater interest in a promotion than a partner. As Finch's journey through

"A part of me was stressing that everything went correctly, but I soon realized some of the best parts of the show was when something didn't go exactly according to plan. Those are the moments that are going to last."

the cutthroat cubicles of mid-20th century corporate America progress-

es, he butts heads with an ensemble of hilarious characters, like the boss's nephew, Bud Frump (Gavin Hill), the new secretary getting everybody's attention, Hedy LaRue (Courtney Parnitke and Madison Page), and the company president himself, J.B. Biggley (Zachary Rohwer). Like all things too good to be true usually turn, Finch's expedient rise is met with disaster towards the end as an advertising blunder puts the whole company in dire straits.

Peeking behind the velvet curtain, the student performing as Finch, Trey Bumpass, offered his thoughts on the show's production.

"Starting all the way back in September every rehearsal brought something new to the character. It was a process of making the character someone who definitely uses

trickery and cunning to get what he wants, but is still someone that the audience likes", Bumpass explained about his role.

For Bumpass and the other performers, this entire process began far earlier than some may think.

"Rehearsals started in September and things were being changed and polished even the night before the show opened. About half the entire winter break was spent at school going over dances and scenes", he explained. "It gives everyone a new meaning for the word dedication with how much rehearsal is required, even though all the rehearsals were pretty fun."

It is clear that this performance has been a labor of love for the theatre department, as every involved student, regardless of their exhaustion, still insists on seeing it through to the end to the full extent of their abilities. Through the years,

the musical is always an event that brings the school together for a night full of stunning performances and familiar faces. In contrast with the shows of previous years, many in the department think *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* is some of their best work.

"As stressful as the creation of this show was, I think it has earned a high standing compared to past performances" Bumpass added.

"This show had some of the best male dance numbers that our department has had in probably the past five or six years, and the set was beautifully constructed. Even if we had our doubts at some points, I think I can speak for the whole cast when I say that it was definitely one for the books."

