

More Than Just a Game: Principia's Varsity Volleyball Team Honors the Power of Unity

By Syd Mau

It's another win for The Principia Varsity Volleyball team on Friday night. The volleyball team won all three sets with each set winning by more than 10 points. It was extra special because it was the girls' senior night, where the seniors get recognized for their hard work and accomplishments. The bond on the volleyball team looks stronger this year compared to years past, and there was lots of support and cheering on the court from everyone on the team.

Senior volleyball player Yanahni Hatwaizika said, "I try to talk and make sure that people pick up their heads when they mess up. I'll be like 'next one' or 'you got this' just to build better morale on the team." Hatwaizika has been on the team since freshman year and has seen the team grow and is always supporting others on and off the court.

The team's collective effort on Friday night was impressive against their opponent. If someone made a mistake, others would cheer for her to let her know that there's always the next one. If someone does well, everyone on the team celebrates it and tells her to do it again. The team is very united on the court showing that they work really well together and they encourage each other.

Sophia Imrie, a junior on the team, said, "I think we're all just a family and very cohesive, and the chemistry between



Varsity Girls Volleyball Team celebrates a point against Kipp High School on Friday, October 10, 2025. (Photo Credit: Syd Mau)

our team is very strong." Imrie has been on the volleyball team for 3 years and has contributed greatly by encouraging others on and off the court and connecting with the people on the team. The team has been working hard and they hope to finish off the rest of the season with more wins.

Cameron Crosby, a senior on the volleyball team says, "Saying words of encouragement and to 'BE the Change you want to see'." Crosby is a valuable player on the team who contributes a lot of words of encouragement to the team.

With their teamwork, energy, and encouragement, the Panthers show that volleyball at Principia is more than just a game—it's a family.

One Last Kick: Seniors Shine Under the Lights on Senior Night

By Tristin Coon

The Principia Panthers took on St. Louis UnitedA in a soccer match up on Family Weekend. This was a home game for the Panthers, but not any regular-season game. It was Principia's senior night. The players were feeling a little more emotions pregame. "It definitely hit us hard knowing it was one of our last times playing on this field together. We wanted to leave it all out there and make it count, so we played with extra heart," senior Shepherd Thomas said.

Senior night in any sport is a lot to comprehend and is definitely something to remember. Senior Frank Vasquez said, "I hope people remember how close we were as a team and how much heart we played with. Even if we win or lose, we always had each other's backs and gave everything we had. This season wasn't just about soc-

cer, it was about family and making memories that'll stick with us."

Going into the game, all the players on Principia were ready and excited. Senior Sydney Mau stated that "We all drink plenty of water and eat good nutrition to make sure our minds and bodies are ready for the game."

Athletic trainer, Emily Karlskint, had this to say about the soccer team. "They have stayed very healthy this season, making my job a lot easier. Players only come in for slight tweaks and bruises, but nothing serious."

"Staying healthy and injury-free has really helped this season," said Vasquez.

With all the hot weather and constant running, the teams must also be in the right mindset for anything to happen. "I try to stay calm and focus on what I can control. It's easy to get

in your head when things get intense, but I just remind myself to trust my teammates and all the work we've put in. Honestly, hearing the crowd and my teammates' voices helps me lock in and keep pushing," senior Alberto Hernández Cristales said.

The stands were packed for the game Saturday with families and friends ready to watch the match up. After the game, Thomas said, "It was honestly amazing seeing everyone up there. Yelling our names and holding signs meant everything. It made me realize how much love and support we have. Hearing the crowd cheer after a good play just made me want to push even harder and make them proud." After a high-emotion and hard-played game, the Panthers succeeded with a final score of 5-0, marking them as the senior night victors!