



PHOTO BY GIOVANNI MACHADO

FROM FAR AWAY: Varsity soccer (now 3-5-1) tied 1-1 on Sept. 4 against Mountain Vista. This is the first year of the Varsity team under Barrera's coaching. Barrera, who is from Honduras, pushed his players to make sure they had a cause for dying their hair this year "This year they are going to collect some money, and with the money they are going to buy soccer balls, and other equipments, and donate to any unprofitable organizations."

Boys' soccer preparing for a new era

BY: GIOVANNI MACHADO
Sports Editor

After sixteen years under Marcelo Curi's (Chelo) coaching, William Barrera is the new boys' soccer coach this year. And with the coach's changing, the coaching style, after a long time, changes as well.

In the team this year, there are some experienced players that were coached by both Chelo and Coach Barrera, and they agree that the practices and the coaching styles are different, and that each coach have his own strength.

"There are definitely different things in their coaching style," Junior Cody Wellington said.

"Chelo was very intense, and I appreciate that. I like the way he played, and he understands the game very well," Junior Blake Bennett said. "Coach Barrera is a great coach. I like him a lot and I appreciate what he does here at Creek."

Even though there are some differences between the coaches, Senior Jordan Sabatier sees some good similarities between them.

"They are both passionate. They both really

love the game, and they play in a similar fashion," Sabatier said.

Even though he has been living here for a very long time, he is still very impressed with the structure that the school provides him to coach and play soccer here at Creek, compared with Honduras

"It's tough over there [Honduras]. Everything that we have here, like equipment, and soccer balls is great. It's a thousand time easier here than in Honduras," Barrera said.

When Barrera took the position of varsity coach, he saw himself in the middle of a discussion that he was not expecting; whether the players would dye their hair or not.

"It was a big discussion, and we ended up deciding to do it again and a lot of the guys were happy about it," Sabatier said.

Most of the player wanted to do it; however, at first Barrera didn't see a reason why the varsity team dyed their hair every year, so he decided to give it a meaning.

"I asked what was the meaning behind it, and nobody knew it. So now if they want

to dye their hair, there must be a meaning," Barrera said. "This year they are going to collect some money, and with the money they are going to buy soccer balls, and other equipments, and donate to any unprofitable organizations."

The players know that even though they have already made the varsity team, the hard work should still be the same as the tryouts. And they know that the beginning of the season is the most important time to show work to the coach.

"[Practice] is super intense, especially in the beginning of the season where we were all fighting for positions," Bennett said.

"As a team, we do a great job; we compete on the field, but of the field we are all really close friends," Sabatier said.

All this hard work does not go unnoticed by coach Barrera, who has coached multiple teams throughout his life, including some from the district, such as Grandview High School.

"The kids are way more dedicated here at

Creek," Barrera said.

Barrera knows that he has a really tough job to do ahead; however, his goals, with the varsity team, are to be as victorious as Chelo was.

"It takes some time to fit in, but my expectations are always high," Barrera said.

"I want to win the championship and win everything we can win, including the league, the conference and state."

With a record of 2-4, Barrera is hoping for a strong finish to the season. He also has other goals as the new coach.

Some of goals those are not completely related to soccer, but to the players of the team.

"My philosophy is that the two most important things is to win and develop the player's character. So, a simple win in a game will not define our program," Barrera said

"This program is more than just about soccer. So my philosophy is a program where we can develop men with good characters."