

●●● STRIVING FOR NET ACTION

Scoring as a Team

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Dribbling and shooting hoops may be taught regularly in schools across the globe, but only the few people who are able to change those typical skills into an art form have earned their place as members of the boys varsity basketball team.

Just as Picasso painted a picture and just as Tolstoy wrote a world famous novel, these guys dominated the gym, one dribble and shot at a time.

"I played basketball my whole life and I love playing in front of a crowded gym with lots of noise and cheering," said **Michael Kimmey, 12**.

Although on actual game night, excitement is in the air, practice is no joke. Who did not hear those sounds of balls dribbling after school and shoes squeaking across the floor when walking by the gym?

"It's intense, fun, spontaneous, and addictive," said **Alexander Young, 12**.

Mr. Matula, the coach, is the support for the team, as well as a guide.

"He teaches us more than the game of basketball. He teaches us the game of life," said **Young**.

To add to the lessons that the coach taught, it included the lesson of self-belief.

"Coach Matula helped me out big this year when I injured myself early on in the season and lost some confidence. He helped me gain it back and improve to be a better player," said **Matthew Jordan, 12**.

Many practices and games later, one might ask what inspired these team members?

"The motion picture Hoosiers and University of North Carolina's greatest coach, Dean Smith," said **A.J. Donaldson, 12**.

No matter what drove these players, it worked, because their success shone through. Tiring out game after game was not this team's motto. Working hard endlessly, well, that just might have been, because that's exactly what they did.



Huddle up! The boys varsity basketball team discovered early in the season what it took to win. They began each game with a group huddle to pump each other up. The team worked hard and improved together, which tightened the players' relationships.



Two-year varsity junior, Robert Peters, dominated throughout the season. With his height he was able to rebound, guard, and easily shoot three-pointers. Peters was also the second team All-League squad.