

They're double trouble



SIZZLING SIBLINGS: Megan, left, and Amber Pezzolla, 15-year-old twin sisters, are key members of Bonita High School's girls water polo team this season.

Twins lead Bonita's water polo team

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LA VERNE — A sister act at Bonita High School is getting rave reviews.

Twin sisters Megan and Amber Pezzolla, 15, have helped lead the Bearcats' girls water polo team to the top of the Miramonte League standings.

The sophomore duo vows to win a CIF-Southern Section Division III title before their playing days at Bonita are over.

For the time being, Megan spends her time in goal blocking almost every shot that comes her way and Amber is the team leader in scoring with 47 goals, including seven in the Bearcats' victory over Charter Oak Wednesday.

Bonita (9-3, 5-0) likely will run through Miramonte League play undefeated after sweeping Walnut but looks to improve on last season's run to the CIF-SS semifinals.

But if the Bearcats are to make a deep run in the postseason, Bonita coach John Ashby knows Amber and Megan will have to be the main ingredients to the team's success.

"How they go, we go," Ashby

said. "They both push each other to get accolades and to do well. Even at school they are always together."

Megan is the most dominant goalie in league with more than 120 saves. She averages at least 10 blocks per game.

"When she's (Megan) on, she lifts the entire team," Ashby said. "She's

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through and that he knows what he's talking about, so the players take it to heart when he's teaching us something," Megan said.

Since Amber is dominant in the water, Ashby feels her chances of becoming one of the elite players in girls water polo are strong.

Said Ashby: "Amber has a pin-point shot and her potential to improve is exponential. She could become one of the top recruits out of high school. She is very quick and has a good reaction to the ball on offense and defense."

Amber sees her role as "playing her best game every game and not allowing anything to distract me."

"I don't have to score all the time, because we have a lot of players that contribute," Amber said.

Desire Wilson is credited by Ashby and the sisters for her senior leadership. Wilson is second in scoring for the Bearcats with 40 goals.

Megan believes her job is to "block as many shots as possible, but I know if I'm not on the top of my game, my defense will help me."

"Water polo is my life, so I am going to play it as long as I can," Megan said about wanting to play the sport in college.

If the Bearcats are able to capture that elusive CIF title, it will have an extra sentimental value to the sisters because of their closeness.

"It would be so special [to win this together] because we share every moment in life together, good and bad," Amber said.

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very talented and has a natural instinct in the water. Megan's also a heck of a passer and helps out a lot on our counter-attacks."

They credit each other with calming their nerves and helping the other to prosper in the pool.

"It's nice to have Amber with me because I know I can always count on her," Megan said.

"I count on Megan a lot and it's nice to know she's there, because she's there for me outside of the water, too," Amber said.

When one hears about water polo over the past four years at Bonita, Brett Hays is the name most often mentioned. Hays finished his run with three CIF titles in four years.

The Pezzolla sisters hope to bring as much attention to the girls' team, which boasts a young core of players that has Ashby excited about the immediate future.

"They are very good-natured and absorb everything you teach them," Ashby said. "The foundation [of a good team] is a goalie and someone you can get the ball to."

Ashby coaches the boys and girls teams and has the respect of his players after playing at the collegiate level.

"We all know that he's been going through what we're going