

Individual and team success for Lamorinda at Meet of Champions



Photo Jon Kingdon

Acalanes' Carly Harriman Young clears the bar at 5'3" at the NCS Meet.

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Testa would go on to finish eighth in the state meet in the 100-meter hurdles, the highest among the locals that went on to compete in that meet.

Ellie Buckley, Shea Volkmer and Angeni Lieben finished in fourth, eighth and 15th in the 3,200-meter run. Namratha Kasalanti finished in sixth with a career best of 36'1" in the triple jump. Pinkie Schnayer finished ninth in the shot put, contributing to the final point totals for the Cougars.

For the boys, Mason Fara finished second in the 400 meters, qualifying for state, and sixth in the 200 meters. The boys 4 x 100 meters finished in sixth with Kyle Fossen, Fara, Joshua Lee and Garrett Nelson and Alexander Lodewick finished in 10th in the 3,200 me-

ters.

There was a bigger turnout for Campolindo (100) this year. "We had a lot of freshmen, sophomores and juniors that were participating for the first time," Woolridge said. "To be a smaller school and be in contention for that title is remarkable for our program."

Acalanes

Coming into the season, there were more questions than answers for the Acalanes Dons with a roster of 130. "There were no expectations coming this season," Escobar said. "We had 52 kids that weren't freshmen that had never run track before and still the boys won their first league title in 10 years. (Sophomore) Mike Kuhner really grew since his freshman year and took over this year to the point where everyone on the team knew him by sight and respected him. To have someone big like him in charge of everything really helped us out."

Heading to the state tournament are Carly Harriman Young and Haley Chelemedos who finished second and third in the high jump and Kuhner who finished third in the 100 meters and Trevor Rogers also a third-place finisher in the long jump. Sisters Lauren (senior) and Megan (sophomore) finished in fifth and ninth in the 800 meters.

Escobar saw a lot this season to be proud of. "Our boys' team was successful due to the number of football players (around 20) that came out for our team," Escobar said.

The 4 x 100 relay for the boys of Ethan Torres, Paul Kuhner, Trevor Rogers, and Kyle Bielawski were the favorite to make it to the state tournament but lost out in the Tri-Valley tournament due to a fumbled exchange. It was particularly frustrating for the Dons because the eventual winner El Cerrito had lost twice to the Acalanes team earlier in the season. With no seniors on the relay team, there is much to look forward to.

The two sisters, senior Lauren Yee and her sister, sophomore Megan Yee both competed in the 800 meters, finishing in fifth and eighth respectively, in the same heat. "It was kind of cool for Lauren to go out with her sister in the same heat," Escobar said. "It was very impressive for Lauren, who competed in that race as a freshman and then missed the next two years due to the COVID virus and then come back and compete again."

"We had a terrific girl's high jump team," assistant coach David Kohls said. "They were all over 5 feet and

three of them were over 5'2" (Harriman-Young, Chelemedos and Dulci Vail) making us the only high school in California with three that could jump that high and we're very proud about that. Trevor Rogers is an outstanding long jumper and is developing into a high jumper."

Miramonte

For Coach Tool, there were some outstanding individual performances and a feeling of real optimism on the team. "Because of the virus, we had a number of sophomores and juniors that we had not known about prior to this season because they did not participate the last two years," Tool said. "Sophomore Asher Patel has been our top runner. He is very raw and untapped. He was brand new to running and got hurt running cross country. He has still been battling some injuries and has had to do half of his running on an elliptical and is now one of the better sophomores in the state." Patel finished in sixth in the 1600 meters and 12th in the 3200 meters. Senior Roan Sandhu finished in eighth place in the boys' pole vault.

The girls' team was led by a freshman Victoria Chatter, who set school records this year and finished second in the 200 meters and will be competing in the state tournament. "Tori is fast, coachable and has been great to have on the team and should continue to improve," Tool said.

The strength of the team, the distance runners was a combination of seniors and underclassmen. "Our younger distance runners really showed up this year," Tool said. "It was good to see because we are graduating six of our top eight girls this year and it's been great to see the younger girls and boys coming through the pipe. Our seniors really passed the baton, taking it all seriously and showing the passion for running and showing the ropes to the younger athletes."

Tool did not want to overlook the career of senior Kate Riley. "Kate had a tough go this season, but she is a phenomenal 800 runner and was number one on our winning cross-country team," Tool said. "Kate got sick a couple of times and suffered a hip injury but will be running for American University next year."

Leading the boys team next year will be Patel, Ricky Davis, Jason Wagner. Besides Chatter, the Matadors will be counting on Zoey Schmidt and Grace Bell.

Tool is already looking forward to next year: "We had a smaller team than we were used to, but it is growing and it's a very positive environment and I'm optimistic for what is going to happen in the future."



Acalanes celebrates 2022 senior recruited athletes

Submitted by Bob Sverak

Acalanes Athletics Boosters were thrilled to celebrate five graduating seniors who are continuing their student-athlete journey at an NCAA college next year. Families and friends gathered to hear the amazing stories behind each of these athletes and to recognize their considerable accomplishments as Acalanes student-athletes.

From left: Devon Christensen (UC Berkeley Field Hockey), Tommy Bieker (Concordia University Volleyball), Heidi Heffelfinger (Harvard University Water Polo), Miles Bergman (Pacific University Baseball). Not pictured: Natalie Means (Georgetown University Soccer).

Photo provided

Each of these students demonstrated strong perseverance and commitment that helped them excel at their sport and earn the opportunity to continue their athletic careers at respected college programs. Acalanes Athletics Boosters is proud to have supported the efforts of these outstanding student-athletes over the past four years and wish them all the best in their college endeavors. They will always be part of the Dons family!

First place for MBA Moraga 10U All Stars

Submitted by Meghan Gerber

The MBA Moraga 10U All Stars kicked off their summer all-star season with a first place win in Pittsburg, Calif., over Memorial Day week-

end. The three-day Pittsburg Little League (LL) All Star Memorial Day Tournament was back after a two-year break due to COVID. Ten teams played in the 10U division and the MBA Moraga 10U All Stars came out on top.

Back row, from left: Will Childers, Darren Yee, Dresden Gerber, Jason Fok, Jake Beckwith, Mike Beckwith; front row from left: Tripp Browne, Charlie Erickson, Callan Op't Holt, Robbie Simpkins, Andrew Wang, AJ Pinedo

Photo Rob Gerber



Fourth-grade warriors win MVP Flight Championship



Photo provided

Top row, from left: coaches Michaela Thomas, Ace Wright, Kenji McCrae, Tony Druppall; bottom row: Raaghav Agarwal, Tanner Reinhart, Farah Falahati, Cameron Greer, Benjamin Moran, Mateo Potts, Jeremiah Musoke, Ethan Rogin, Lucas Madamba; not pictured: Gavin Paige

Submitted by Aria Falahati

The fourth grade Gold Warriors Basketball Team won the Spring League MVP Flight Championship on May 22 against ASA. The Warriors fourth-

grade team practiced on Mondays and Fridays at Springhill Elementary Gym and Ultimate Fieldhouse. They ended the season with a 10-0 record. They played most of their games and their championship game at Ultimate Fieldhouse in Walnut Creek.

14U baseball champions, Lafayette Oaks



Photo provided

First row, from left: Zach Tabibian, Leo McDonough, Eli Dudum, Cody Michlitsch, Ian Hughes, Blake Robison; back row: Andrew Upp, Tommy Terhar, Jimmy Cusumano, Branson Smith, Reid Habas, Gavin Beers, Coach Jon Zuber

Submitted by Catherine Habas

The Lafayette Oaks 14U Gold team won the 680 League Championship on May 22 at Lower Community Field, closing out their spring season. Coached for

two years by Jon Zuber, the team is the first to win back-to-back 680 League Championships as both a 13U and 14U squad. The Oaks beat No. 1 seed Danville Crushers 2-1 before defeating Walnut Creek Bulldogs 11-0 in the championship game.