



# The Bulldog Bark

The Voice of Alhambra Cross Country

Wednesday, March 10, 2021



## Great Races

### Bulldogs Fare Well Against Campolindo & Miramonte

The mighty Bulldogs took on traditional powers Campolindo and Miramonte, and did well against these much larger programs. Even with Covid-compromised roster sizes, Campo had 41 runners today, Miramonte 29, and we had only our hardy 13 souls.

Despite what might have been seen as some steep odds, our brave bunch did very well. We were competitive in all races, and had a very strong impact especially in our Boys' Varsity race.

#### Weather no problem

The forecast was for rain and hail and then showers, but after a bit of cloudiness, the sun came out and it turned out to be a great day for running. The course was soggy in areas, which slowed down the times a bit, but in essence it was a great running venue.

#### Some great competition

We saw why Campolindo is consistently a top-rated state program, as they slammed the boys' race with top finishers. Their girls' team, also a ranked program, had a great challenge from Miramonte's girls, led by the dynamic Audrey Allen who blasted the course.

This is precisely the type of challenges we needed in order to sharpen our competitive experience going into Saturday's DAL-Valley championship event.

#### Girls 2.0 mile

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| Campolindo | 17         |
| Miramonte  | 46         |
| Alhambra   | incomplete |

|    |        |          |    |   |       |
|----|--------|----------|----|---|-------|
| 1. | Angeni | Lieben   | 11 | C | 13:56 |
| 2. | Bryn   | Hober    | 10 | C | 14:10 |
| 3. | Gracie | Woidat   | 12 | C | 14:25 |
| 4. | Grace  | Bell     | ?  | M | 15:13 |
| 5. | Emily  | Hatch    | 11 | C | 15:29 |
| 6. | Nina   | Damiiano | 9  | C | 15:44 |
| 7. | Jessi  | Rosiak   | 12 | C | 16:00 |

|     |           |            |    |   |       |
|-----|-----------|------------|----|---|-------|
| 8.  | Kate      | Kabenina   | 9  | C | 16:03 |
| 9.  | Mia       | Lawrence   | 9  | C | 16:07 |
| 10. | Katherine | Eberts     | ?  | M | 16:56 |
| 11. | Noura     | Sobhy      | 9  | A | 17:11 |
| 12. | Kaelyn    | Nguyen     | 11 | A | 17:13 |
| 13. | Reyna     | Arce       | 11 | A | 17:13 |
| 14. | Katie     | Strohmeyer | 12 | C | 17:32 |
| 15. | Lily      | Jones      | 10 | C | 17:38 |
| 16. | Isabella  | Velasquez  | 11 | M | 17:52 |
| 17. | Mia       | Padrique   | 11 | A | 18:36 |
| 18. | Ellie     | Gratzimus  | ?  | M | 18:47 |
| 19. | Gabrielle | Decareau   | ?  | M | 18:48 |
| 20. | Cailin    | Jenkins    | 11 | M | 19:15 |
| 21. | Anna      | Cervantes  | ?  | M | 19:16 |
| 22. | Erin      | Kosziel    | 11 | C | 19:43 |
| 23. | Elly      | Shandalov  | 11 | M | 22:26 |



Noura and Kaelyn grind up Finale Hill.

Kaelyn was our early team leader. She charged out aggressively into the first mile. Noura, Reyna, and Mia were not far behind.

Reyna led our still-clustered troop in the 2nd mile and up Finale Hill. At that point Noura turned on the jets to nip Kaelyn and Reyna. Mia held her own.

#### Boys 2.0 mile

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| Campolindo | 15         |
| Miramonte  | 49         |
| Alhambra   | incomplete |

|     |        |            |    |   |       |
|-----|--------|------------|----|---|-------|
| 1.  | Connor | Hughton    | 9  | C | 12:47 |
| 2.  | Paulo  | Trento     | 9  | C | 12:56 |
| 3.  | Cale   | Anderson   | 9  | C | 13:04 |
| 4.  | Alex   | Thomasson  | 9  | C | 13:09 |
| 5.  | Ethan  | Cho        | 11 | C | 13:12 |
| 6.  | Henry  | Jaffe      | 9  | C | 13:33 |
| 7.  | Casey  | Scheiner   | ?  | M | 13:33 |
| 8.  | Chase  | Kivelson   | 9  | C | 13:39 |
| 9.  | Max    | Marino     | 9  | C | 13:43 |
| 10. | Sam    | Rogers     | 11 | A | 13:46 |
| 11. | Tyler  | Ngo        | 9  | C | 13:47 |
| 12. | Cayde  | Schmedding | 11 | M | 14:01 |
| 13. | Toby   | Barton     | 10 | C | 14:05 |
| 14. | Emilio | Penate     | 9  | C | 14:27 |

|     |        |             |    |   |       |
|-----|--------|-------------|----|---|-------|
| 15. | Cole   | Hickey      | 9  | C | 14:41 |
| 16. | Ryan   | Lee         | 9  | C | 15:15 |
| 17. | James  | Guymon      | 11 | M | 15:25 |
| 18. | Tai    | Lee         | 10 | C | 15:43 |
| 19. | Cole   | Sasson      | ?  | M | 15:48 |
| 20. | Derek  | Roman       | 11 | M | 16:12 |
| 21. | Casey  | Dow         | 10 | C | 16:25 |
| 22. | Ethan  | Arnold-Muth | 11 | A | 16:25 |
| 23. | Byron  | Chan        | 11 | M | 17:33 |
| 24. | Kellen | Baker       | 10 | M | 18:44 |
| 25. | Kyle   | Odmark      | 10 | M | 18:52 |
| 26. | Luke   | Franklin    | 10 | M | 20:21 |



Sam powers to the finish line.

Sam may have gone out a bit conservatively, but worked his way up through the race to place himself well in the Miramonte group and nibble at the Campo crowd. Ethan settled into a pace early and held it to the end.

#### Girls 3.0 mile

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| Campolindo | 27         |
| Miramonte  | 28         |
| Alhambra   | incomplete |

|           |        |             |    |   |       |
|-----------|--------|-------------|----|---|-------|
| 1.        | Audrey | Allen       | 12 | M | 17:37 |
| 2.        | Ellie  | Buckley     | 10 | C | 19:41 |
| 3.        | Makena | Weberski    | 9  | C | 19:53 |
| 4.        | Kate   | Riley       | 11 | M | 20:47 |
| 5.        | Daisy  | Penney      | 9  | C | 20:58 |
| 6.        | Allie  | Dollard     | 12 | M | 21:19 |
| 7.        | Sadie  | Wayne       | 11 | M | 21:21 |
| 8.        | Sydney | Roberts     | 12 | C | 21:29 |
| 9.        | Quinn  | Guthrie     | 10 | C | 22:09 |
| 10.       | Alexia | Hisquieredo | 10 | A | 23:46 |
| (PR 2:10) |        |             |    |   |       |
| 11.       | Emma   | Wirz        | 11 | M | 23:56 |
| 12.       | Megan  | Kennedy     | 11 | M | 24:25 |
| 13.       | Maggie | Maurer      | 11 | M | 24:59 |
| 14.       | Renae  | Searls      | 9  | A | 26:37 |



Alexia strides out early in the race.

Alexia put on her game face today and ran right with the heart of the race against two very strong teams. She had a huge PR in chasing down runners from both Campo and Miramonte.

Alexia's race was all the more remarkable in that she beat Miramonte's #5 girl, and the Miramonte team today was only a point behind Campolindo.

### Boys 3.0 miles

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Campolindo | 25 |
| Alhambra   | 37 |
| Miramonte  | 73 |

|     |          |              |    |   |       |
|-----|----------|--------------|----|---|-------|
| 1.  | Dylan    | Gunn         | 12 | C | 15:54 |
| 2.  | Rhys     | Pullen       | 11 | C | 16:08 |
| 3.  | Owen     | Lekki        | 12 | C | 16:29 |
| 4.  | Ben      | Smyers       | 12 | A | 17:02 |
|     | (PR :15) |              |    |   |       |
| 5.  | Tyler    | Allen        | 10 | A | 17:26 |
|     | (PR :04) |              |    |   |       |
| 6.  | Nolin    | Searls       | 11 | A | 17:51 |
| 7.  | Ryan     | McCauley     | 12 | A | 17:55 |
| 8.  | Thomas   | Singh        | 11 | C | 18:12 |
| 9.  | Ricky    | Davis        | 10 | M | 18:15 |
| 10. | Asher    | Patel        | ?  | M | 18:18 |
| 11. | Alec     | Driver       | 12 | C | 18:22 |
| 12. | Connor   | McGhee       | 10 | C | 18:26 |
| 13. | Blake    | Webster      | 10 | C | 18:27 |
| 14. | Xander   | Dewhardt     | 12 | M | 19:09 |
| 15. | Baron    | Walsh        | 9  | C | 19:14 |
| 16. | Jack     | Pieper       | 12 | C | 19:21 |
| 17. | Vince    | Montegrando  | 11 | A | 19:41 |
| 18. | Hardesty | Dolge        | 11 | C | 19:45 |
| 19. | Roan     | Kazmierowski | 11 | M | 19:46 |
| 20. | Jason    | Wagner       | ?  | M | 20:17 |



Nolin, Tyler, and Ryan are a tight pack early.

This was the feature race of the day for us, as it has been all season. Of course

running against Campolindo brings out the competitive juices, so we expected some strong efforts. But to see our top 4 all bunched in right behind Campo's top 3 early in the race was a thrill right off the bat. Then the collective breath-holding until the race came back across the bridge . . .

And lo! Even with the race strung out over the three miles, we still held those 4 spots behind Campo's top three to the finish. Ben was our top gun again. Tyler had his best race of the season to chase Ben. A bit further back, Ryan was having his own breakthrough effort, and Nolin had his hands full to outpace him to the finish line.

Vince held on to beat Miramonte's 4th and 5th men to give us the big win over the Matadors.

### As a note:

Wow ! The race of the day had to go to Miramonte's Audrey Allen. Yes, she is defending NCS D-IV champion, and yes, she did finish 7th at the State Meet. And yes, she is defending DAL champion. But on a day when everyone else was running about 30-40 seconds slower on a soggy course, she ran 30 seconds faster than her previous best. She won by over 2 minutes.



### DAL-Valley Championships !

## Alhambra Hosts Final League Race

We are in full host mode for Saturday's races. Once again 5 Valley division teams will be racing, and this time on our very own Alhambra home course.

### Awards and hoopla

This event will feature not only the dulcet tones and quip-laced commentary of our home announcer Kevin Searls, but also the allure of awards to the top 7 runners in each race.

Coach Brewer has poached a number of course marking enhancements from the North Coast storage shed, so there will be banners and streamers and color in abundance.

### And hills !

It has been the observation of the coaches that our previous two DAL-Valley races have been on pancake-flat courses. Sure, we can run on flat courses, but we do train on hills. Apparently our league opponents do not.

It might be presumptuous to assume that the thought of a hilly course might strike

fear into the hearts of our opponents, but it certainly has been a concern of those coaches. Let them be concerned as we delight in the chance to romp on our own familiar hilly campus course.

### Team recognition

We will finish off the day with our very own team recognition event. There will be certificates, plaques, nice words, applause, and general all-around happiness.

The competitive season has been short, but the Covid complications stretched out the preparation phase into several disjointed chunks of time. It really has been a minor miracle that we have been able to have this level of success in as short of a season, given all the obstacles.

### And just because . . .

## D-IV NCS Boys' Varsity Rankings

Rankings are just that - - speculations, guesses, paper comparisons, personal opinion. Still, in the absence of head-to-head races, it is still interesting to see what those guesses might be.

Last season our boys' varsity team was 4th at the NCS D-IV championship. That was a good finish, even though we had hoped for a bit more. What does the crystal ball say about this season?

### Brewer's Best Guess:

1. Piedmont - - the Highlanders are blessed with a good #1 runner and then a pack of 5 more boys within 10 seconds of each other.
2. Acalanes - - a great # 1, and excellent 2 & 3. Their 4 & 5 are a bit erratic.
3. Bishop O'Dowd - - they haven't shown much, but in last week's virtual against Piedmont, they were able to get their 3-4-5-6 boys close to Piedmont's pack.
4. Alhambra - - our comparisons against Piedmont show that our 1-2-3-4 are a match for their 2-3-4-5-6, but that pushes our # 5 way back.
5. Fortuna - - from the North, they have raced several times and have prevailed against Eureka and Arcata in several races.
6. Eureka
7. Concord
8. Arcata
9. Miramonte

No other traditional contenders have posted results.