

Mats Again Win Prep Section Run

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It was like a remake of an old classic. The same plot, same stars and same ending.

For the second year in a row Mira Loma High School — playing the role of the underdog — rose to the occasion to capture the Sac-Joaquin Section Cross-Country Championships at California State University, Sacramento.

Last year, ranked second behind Jesuit, the Matadors came on for a one-point victory. Going into yesterday's showdown, the Mats were No. 3 behind rival Jesuit and South Tahoe.

Nick Breuer took a well as could be expected third place and the Mats captured five of the top 17 places to total 54 points and knock off Jesuit by a mere two points. Jesuit has now lost the coveted section crown two years in a row by a total of three points.

Tim Holmes, the talented distanceman from Modesto's Downey High School, continued his dominance of the section. Holmes captured the varsity title with a three-mile clocking of 14:39. He still has never been beaten by a Sac-Joaquin Section runner in his three years of competition.

South Tahoe's Greg Hitchcock gave Holmes the best race of the season. The Sierra Nevadan stayed on Holmes's shoulder for the first two-and-a-half miles but Holmes always seems to have that something extra. Hitchcock turned in his best time of the season (14:46) but it wasn't quite enough. Last week he set the course record at Gibson Ranch at 15:15.

The Vikings were given a good chance of taking their first-ever crown back "up the hill", but their fifth man could do no better than a damaging 30th place.

Rio Americano's veteran runner Karen Bain was voted the most outstanding girl runner during the event. Bain won the girl's competition with an impressive 11:38 clocking in leading the Raiders to the team crown.

Yuba City captured four of the top 11 spots to win the junior title, while Merced did the same to take the sophomore crown.

Merced also won the frosh title by 14 points over Mills Junior High of Rancho Cordova.

VARSITY TEAM

Mira Loma 54, Jesuit 56, South Tahoe 83, Franklin 109, Cordova 140, Oakmont 185, McClatchy 191, Bella Vista 214.

1. Holmes, Downey, 14:39; 2. Hitchcock, South Tahoe, 14:36; 3. Breuer, Mira Loma, 14:55; 4. Navarro, Oakmont, 15:06; 5. O'Neil, Jesuit, 15:13; 6. Aguilar, Manteca, 15:13; 7. McInturf, McClatchy, 15:17; 8. Gaul, Jesuit, 15:18; 9. Maxwell, El Camino, 15:25; 10. Munoz, Franklin, 15:25.

Individual — 1. Galligan, Marysville, 15:22; 2. Lee, Napa, 15:29; 3. Winkles, Hughson, 15:34; 4. Thomas, Lincoln (Stockton), 15:51; 5. T. Lee, Vintage, 15:59.

GIRL'S TEAM

Rio Americano 55, La Sierra 95, Lincoln 114, South Tahoe 129, Oakmont 139.

1. Bain, RA, 11:38; 2. Cardell, Yuba City, 12:01; 3. Young, Oakmont, 12:07; 4. Ailred, LS, 12:13; 5. Linn, RA, 12:22.

Individual — 1. Robertson, Franklin, 12:22; 2. McKeen, Mills, 12:22; 3. Webb, Lindhurst, 12:30; 4. Briscoe, Somersville, 12:34; 5. Smith, Ponderosa, 12:37.

JUNIOR TEAM

Yuba City 63, Beyer 79, Davis 100, Cordova 102, Elk Grove 102.

1. Will, Encina, 15:32; 2. Lopez, Davis, 15:41; 3. Allen, Beyer (Modesto), 15:53; 4. Zehnder, Elk Grove, 15:53; 5. Mackey, Davis, 16:09.

Individual — 1. Swan, Lincoln, 16:00; 2. Hurst, Downey, 16:03; 3. Bird, CBS, 16:12; 4. Dixon, Lincoln, 16:13; 5. Hale, Stage, 16:21.

SOPHOMORE TEAM

Merced 39, Cordova 92, Mira Loma 97, McClatchy 100, Jesuit 105.

1. Heple, Mira Loma, 10:04; 2. B. Ochoa, Merced, 10:20; 3. Steherash, Cordova, 10:21; 4. Oliveira, Riverbank, 10:24; 5. G. Ochoa, Merced, 10:25.

Individual — 1. Walentschka, Johnson, 10:05; 2. Powell, Ponderosa, 10:29; 3. Gary, El Camino, 10:35; 4. Alberto, Modesto, 10:36; 5. Holdener, Vacaville, 10:39.

FROSH TEAM

Merced 54, Mills 66, Nevada Union 133, Ponderosa 139, Don Julio 139.

1. Shillet, Mills, 10:45; 2. Riddle, Mills, 10:47; 3. Caseysmith, NU, 10:48; 4. Guillermo, Merced, 10:49; 5. Fernandez, DJ, 10:49.

Individual — 1. Simental, Modesto, 10:41; 2. Fairchild, Ruffer, 10:49; 3. Marshall, Encina, 11:03; 4. Larson, Lincoln, 11:04; 5. Forner, CBS, 11:06.

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Bee Photo by Skip Shuman

