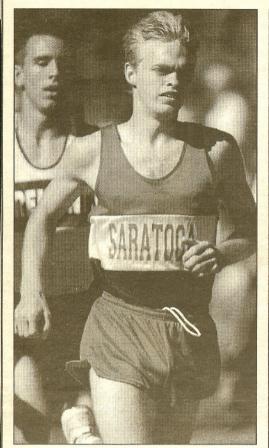
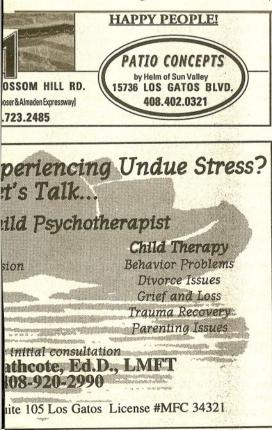
Records fall at Saratoga meet



Photograph by Kathy De La Torre

Saratoga's Jacob Christopherson ran to a seventh-place finish in the boys varsity division at the Saratoga Invitational.



By DICK SPARRER

Records are made to be broken. But this is getting ridiculous.

Matt Bates and Michelle Beritzhoff of Los Gatos are each off to impressive starts in the 2000 cross-country season. How impressive? Well, in back-to-back weeks the Gatos runners have written their names in the record books at neighboring schools.

Bates and Beritzhoff each set new course records on their way to victories at the Firebird Invitational at Fremont in Sunnyvale a couple of weeks back, and last Thursday the two were record-setters once again at the Saratoga Invitational.

Bates snapped the old course mark of 9:54.8 set in 1999 by Girmay Guangul of Santa Clara by covering the 2.0-mile Saratoga course in 9:52. A week earlier, he had set a new mark of 9:38 on the 2.05-mile course at Fremont.

Beritzhoff ran 11:56.4 to tie the Saratoga course record set in 1998 by Saratoga great Anne Ricketts. Beritzhoff had broken Ricketts' Firebird record of 12:14 a week earlier by running 11:29.

"She tied the course record, and she went off the course by at least eight seconds," said Los Gatos coach Willie Harmatz of the talented junior runner. "She is running fantastic."

Beritzhoff was the easy winner in the race with teammates Lynsey Harris fourth in

Cross-Country

Continued from page 35

with Ryan Deal 25th in 11:35.0, Eugene Berson 26th in 11:36.5 and Chad Smith 27th in 11:41.4.

In the boys frosh-soph division, Santa Clara finished first with 58 points and Fremont was a close second at 63.

Jacob Osborne ran strong for the Falcons. The sophomore was 12th overall in 12:12.8 with Steven Surrette 16th in 12:15.8.

Morgan Katz of Lynbrook was 14th in 12:14.1 with Allen Chang 19th and Jason Whitsett 22nd.

Matt Meyer was first in 11:53.9 to lead the Lynbrook boys to a junior varsity title at Saratoga. Ken Chung was fourth with Jonathan Choi fifth, Casey Courtney 12th and Chris Lum 13th.

Saratoga's Ian Kolb was sixth in the JV race in 12:16.5 with Lee Blair eighth, Takashi Tomonaga ninth and Tony Yiu 11th.

In the girls junior varsity division, Milpitas edged Saratoga by a point for the title with Lynbrook third and Fremont fourth.

Stephanie Morrison was seventh in 15:03.8 to lead the Falcons to the second-

12:56.7, Jen Rutnitz fifth in 13:00.9 and freshman Kristy Yackle eighth in 13:36.2.

But since Los Gatos did not field a complete team, the Wildcats did not place in the team standings.

Milpitas won the team title with Saratoga second and Lynbrook a close third.

Dernie Wang finished 11th in 14:02.0 with Joanna Burgess 13th in 14:07.3 and Carol Liu 17th in 14:34.2. Joanna Chan ended up 21st in 14:38.7 with Laura Lin 22nd in 14:41.3.

That was a good enough finish to help the Falcons edge the Vikings by a point in the team standings. Saratoga was second with 61 points and Lynbrook ended up second at 62.

Sophomore Francine Lee finished in the top 10 for the Vikings, running ninth in 13:46.3.

Freshman Sasoon Kim was 16th in 14:31.2 with Kate Bossange 18th in 14:35.7, Hyan Kim 19th in 14:37.0 and Evan Smith 24th in 15:02.6.

Los Gatos easily won the boys varsity title at Saratoga with Bates first, Tomas Viramontes second, Jeff Hoeft sixth, Darren Key eighth and Greg Tolan ninth for 23 team points.

Jacob Christopherson led Saratoga to a team second at the meet hosted by the Falcons. Christopherson finished seventh overall in 10:28.2.

Don Prolo was 12th in 10:50.3 for the Falcons with Richard La 13th in 10:52.9. David La was 15th in 10:54.5 and Brett Stanger was 21st in 11:19.9.

Lynbrook and Fremont finished fifth and sixth in the team standings.

Jeff Whitsett led Lynbrook to a team fifth by running 18th overall in 10:57.1. Teammate Chris Deal was close behind in 20th in 11:14.1

Please turn to page 36

place finish in the team standings. Judy Wang was ninth with Daphne Lo 10th, Priya Talrejo 12th, and Mary Elliott 14th.

Jessica Ignatius finished in the top 10 for Lynbrook, nailing sixth in 14:58.6. Linda Hung was 15th with Jessica Gall 16th, Lynn Chen 27th and Amber Ju 30th.

Football

Continued from page 35

the Falcons. The Vikes were throwing for a possible game-tying score in the final moments when Ryan Helmuth broke up a Lynbrook fourth-down pass.

Kirk Robinson led the Falcons' ground game with 69 yards on nine carries and Lii supported with 55 yards on nine tries.

Senior fullback Josh Huizar rambled for 69 yards on 14 attempts for the Vikings.

The win upped Saratoga's season record to 3-0 as the Falcons prepare to open league play this week. The Falcons will host Wilcox on Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m., at Los Gatos in the first game of the year in the De Anza Division of the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League. the Time!!! cogether to walk or run A's 4th Annual Memorial Memorial nd Relay TOBER 15th, 2000

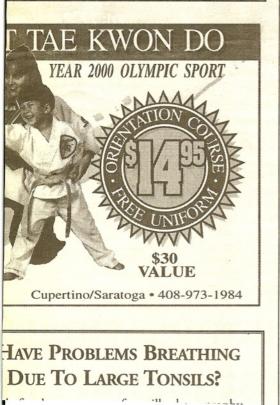
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Sports

Christopherson, Prolo lead Falcons to Central Park 5th

By DICK SPARRER

Oct 4,2000

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The best of the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League took a little run through the park in Santa Clara last week with the annual running of the Central Park Invitational.

Jacob Christopherson of Saratoga and Jeff Whitsett of Lynbrook each finished among the best with places in the top 20 in the boys division.

Christopherson continued his outstanding senior season for the Falcons by finishing seventh in 12:11 on the 2.3-mile course.

Saratoga nailed fifth in the team standings in the boys race, finishing behind Los Gatos, Wilcox, Los Altos and Milpitas. Christopherson led the Falcons by finishing seventh overall. Don Prolo was 23rd in 12:44 with David La 26th in 13:04, Brett Stanger 38th in 13:35 and Justin Gardner 47th in 13:44 and Trevor Adams 48th in 13:45.

Francine Lee was 24th in 15:45 for Lynbrook in the girls' race with Joanna Burgess of Saratoga 32nd in 15:57. Saratoga's Dernie Wang was 45th with teammate Carol Liu 46th in 16:47.

Freshman Chris Deal rambled to a second-place finish in 13:02 to lead Lynbrook to a team third in the boys frosh-soph division behind Santa Clara and Fremont.

Eugene Berson ended up sixth for the Vikes with Chad Smith 10th, Morgan Katz 35th and Jason Whitsett 38th.

Saratoga's Jacob Osborne ran a solid 12th in 14:09 with Daniel Yang 27th and Steven Surrette 32nd.

In the girls junior varsity division, Lynbrook ended up sixth overall behind the efforts Kim Sasoon, who was eighth in

Football

Continued from page 29

Warriors came charging from behind in the third quarter.

Snyder took off on a 10-yard touchdown run with 5:02 left in the third period, and period kicked the extra point that cut the Prospect lead to 19-14.

Snyder went to the air later in the period, finding Brandon Mazikowski for 40 yards and the go-ahead touchdown with 53 seconds left in the quarter.

Prospect jumped offsides on the conversion try, so with the football a yard and a half closer to the goalline, the Warriors decided to go for two. Snyder ran in for the



Photograph by Kathy De La Torre Saratoga's Donald Prolo finished 23rd to help the Falcons finish fifth at Central Park.

16:33, and Evan Smith, who finished 12th in 16:53. Stephanie Claussen was 41st.

Stephanie Le ended up 51st overall in 18:16 for Saratoga.

Saratoga finished third in the team standings in the boys junior varsity division behind Los Gatos and Wilcox. Ian Kolb led the Falcons with a sixth-place finish in 14:01. Lee Blair was 15th with Tony Yui 23rd, Devin Lui 30th, Clarence Tam 36th and Randy Scialabba 37th.

Kevin Perng was fifth in 13:59 to lead Lynbrook to a team fifth.

But Prospect would strike once more time before intermission. Wills tossed a touchdown pass to Mike Stephens to put the Panthers on top 19-7 with jsut 53 seconds left in the second quarter.

That just set the stage for Westmont's second-half comeback.

Snyder had a big night for the Warriors. He completed six of 18 passes for 109 yards, and he also carried nine times for 70 yards. He threw for one touchdown, ran for another and ran in for a 2-point conversion.

Mazikowski pulled down four passes for 90 yards to lead all receivers in the game.

Hilbert supported on the ground with 52 yards on 10 carries and Bill Stouffer added 40 yards on nine tries.

The Warriors finished the night 269 yards of total offense, working behind a

Saratoga girls win, boys fall in polo

By DICK SPARRER

Jacob Christopherson of Saratoga is a frontrunner.

That's not to say that he's jumping on the bandwagon to claim to be a backer of the New York Yankees for St. Louis Rams just because they are currently doing quite well.

No, it has nothing to do with Christopherson's affiliation as a sports fan. But it has everything to do with his performance as a high school cross-country runner.

Christopherson is a front-runner on the cross country course, and he proved it again last week when he covered the 2.95-mile course at Crystal Springs in Belmont to finish fifth overall in the Crystal Springs Center Meet.

Christopherson covered the distance in 16:15.8 to nail his spot in the top 10 and lead the Falcons to a team fifth behind Burlingame, Los Altos, Milpitas and Half Moon Bay.

The Saratoga senior finished fifth with teammates David La 24th in 17:17.2, Brett Stanger 29th in 17:30.5, Richard La 35th in 17:47.7 and Donald Prolo 36th in 17:49.6.

Joshua Miner of Prospect was 40th in 17:55.6.

Megumi Takahashi of Monta Vista was the top local finisher in the girls varsity division.

Joanna Burgess of Saratoga finished 21st in 21:29.4.

Lynbrook did well in the lower divisions at the meet.

Jeff Whitsett and Chris Deal finished onetwo in the boys junior varsity division. Whitsett covered the course in 17:06.3 for the win and Deal was second in 17:35.7.

Eugene Berson was fifth with Ryan Deal seventh, Chad Smith 14th and Daiki Kuwahara 15th.

Francine Lee was third in 21:45.9 to lead the Vikings to a solid finish in the girls junior varsity race. Sasoon Kim was ninth with Hyan Kim 11th, Stephanie Claussen 12th and Evan Smith 14th.

Lynbrook's Morgan Katz was 20th and Jason Whitsett 22nd in the boys freshman race.

A week earlier on the 2.25-mile course at the Artichoke Invitational at Half Moon Bay, teams from Saratoga, Lynbrook, Fremont, Cupertino and Monta Vista all turned in solid performances.

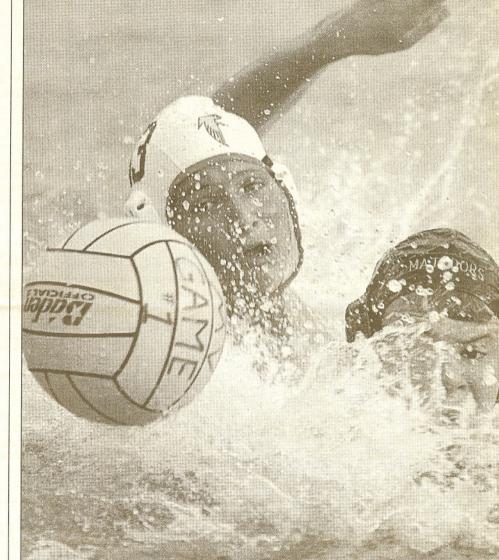
The Falcons finished seventh in the boys varsity division and 12th in the girls class running in the small school division at the meet.

Prolo led the Saratoga charge by finishing 25th in 13:09. D. La was 29th in 13:14 with R. La 36th, Stanger 39th and Justin Gardner 76th.

In the large school division, Lynbrook's J. Whitsett finished in a strong 12:49 to claim 31th overall and lead the Vikings to 17th in the team standings.

Westmont's Kevin Willis was 62nd in 13:21. In the girls small school division, Saratoga finished 12th overall behind Burgess and her 51st-place finish in 16:35. Dernie Wang was 62nd with Carol Liu 73rd.

In other action, Saratoga finished seventh in the boys freshman division with Steven Surrette nailing 14th in 14:50, Aaron Blair 48th and Michael Lin 49th.



Photograph by Franchesca Esquibel

Saratoga's Justin Lerman (left) races for the ball with Monta Vista's Eugene Rudenko in water polo action last week. The Matadors outlasted the Falcons 16-7 in the game.

In the large school division, Westmont nailed sixth place as a freshman boys team. Andrew Tupper was 28th in 15:09 with Chris Marsuland 39th, Yuta Nakata 48th and Brian Almeida 63rd.

Jacob Osborne was 20th in 14:12 to lead the Saratoga boys frosh-soph to a team 10th. Daniel Yang was 32nd with Jeremy Nelson 73rd, Ricky Lin 75th and Lawrence Hui 76th.

In the large school division, Lynbrook's Berson was 22nd in 13:37 with Westmont's Anthony Salazar 47th in 14:11.

The Saratoga boys were sixth as a team in the junior varsity division with Devin Lui 33th in 15:19, Randy Scialabba 34th and Steven Goldsworthy 35th.

In the large school division, Casey Courtney

was 34th in 14:51 to lead Lynbrook to 12th.

AnneMarie Apple was 25th in 18:19 with Priya Talreja 29th and Stephanie Morrison 41st for Saratoga in the girls junior varsity division.

Saratoga's Jackie Molzon was 47th in 18:17 with Sunita Kumar 87th in the girls frosh-soph race.

In the large school division, Lynbrook and Monta Vista finished among the top teams.

Lee was 10th in 16:13 to lead the Vikings to a team fourth in the girls frosh-soph large school division. S. Kim supported by finishing 16th in 16:48 with Kate Bossange 22nd, H. Kim 27th and Smith 34th.

Westmont freshman Jessie Heusser was 37th in the division in 17:45 with Schafer Trisa 52nd.

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Christopherson, La finish among top 10 boys

By DICK SPARRER

No one could keep up with Los Gatos at the cross country finals in the De Anza Division of the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League on Halloween Day.

But while the Wildcats were completing the trick of winning three of five league championships and finishing second in the other two divisions, there were plenty of treats to go around for the other teams in the De Anza Division field.

Saratoga finished second to Los Gatos in two races and added an impressive third in the girls varsity division behind the Wildcats and St. Francis, and Lynbrook managed to win a team title in the boys junior varsity race.

What's more, Saratoga and Lynbrook each had runners place among the top 10 in varsity competition.

Senior Jacob Christopherson and junior David La of Saratoga, and junior Jeff Whitsett of Lynbrook each won all-league honors by placing in the top 10 in the boys varsity race.

Christopherson covered the 2.95-mile course at Crystal Springs in Belmont in 16:37 to finish fifth overall and lead the Falcons to a team second behind the Wildcats.

Gatos ran up a low 17 points to win the team title, but Saratoga was a solid second with 61 points.

La was 10th overall in 17:33 for the Falcons with Brett Stanger 11th (17:39), Richard La 16th (17:47) and Donald Prolo 18th (18:12).

Whitsett starred for the Vikings at the finals, running sixth in 16:49. Matt Meyer was 24th (18:45) for the Vikings with Ryan Deal 26th, Daiki Kuwahara 27th and Ken Chung 39th.

Los Gatos and St. Francis dominated the girls varsity race, combining for eight finishers in the top 10 to finish 1-2 in the team poll. And it was Saratoga running third as a team to the Cats and Lancers.

"It was a great come-through performance for the girls," said Saratoga coach Marshall Clark. "They beat two teams that just last week finished in front of Saratoga at the Lynbrook Invitational."

Joanna Burgess led the Saratoga effort, finishing 14th in 21:19. Dernie Wang was 20th (21:57) with Paula McNally 22nd (22:17), Carol Liu 24th (22:26) and Laura Lin 25th (22:29).

Sophomore Francine Lee and freshman Sasoon Kim of Lynbrook also impressed at the finals be finishing the top 20 overall.

Lee was 13th in 21:11 for the Vikings with teammate Kim 18th in 21:35. Soph Hyan Kim was 21st for the Vikes in 22:11.

Saratoga was second to Gatos in the boys junior varsity race. Ian Kolb was fourth in 18:58 to lead the Falcons with Clarence Tam ninth, Takashi Tomanaga 12th, Tony Yiu 14th and Devin Lui 16th.

Casey Courtney of Lynbrook finished eighth in 19:32 with Calvin Wu 13th and Chris Lum 15th.

Freshman Chris Deal was first in 18:00 to

lead the Lynbrook boys frosh-soph team to a league championship.

Eugene Berson was second in 18:04 with Morgan Katz eighth in 19:11, Jason Whitsett 11th in 19:18 and Allen Chang 17th in 20:04. All five runners are freshmen.

Saratoga's Jacob Osborn was sixth overall in 18:58. Daniel Yang was 10th for the Falcons with Steven Surrette 14th, Aritoki Suzuki 28th and Lawrence Hui 32nd.

In the girls JV division, Los Gatos and St. Francis dominated the top 10.

Amber Ju was 21st for Lynbrook with Linda Hung 27th.

Daphne Lo was 29th for Saratoga with Jackie Molzon 32nd, Priya Talreja 35th, Mary Elliott 39th, Kate Boehm 40th and Stephanie Morrison 41st.

Lynbrook Invitational

A week earlier, runners sloshed through the mud in the annual Lynbrook Invitational, a 2.1-mile jaunt across the school's Johnson Avenue campus.

The race began with a shower creating a muddy course for the runners in the varsity boys division. But a downpour during the girls race left the terrain difficult for the rest of the field.

"The varsity boys race started off under muddy and slick conditions with a slight drizzle," said Lynbrook coach and race director Hank Lawson. "Midway through the varsity girls race the downpour began—and never let up. By the time the junior varsity boys toed the line, you couldn't even see the track [under inches of water]. The JV girls finished the day needing a paddle in order to finish."

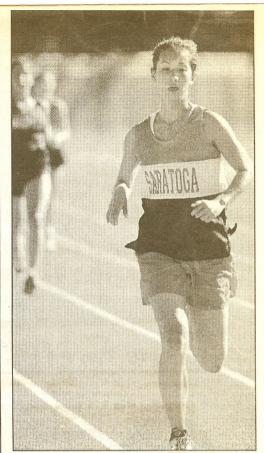
"That was the most rain I have seen during a cross country meet in over 40 years," added Saratoga's Clark.

Christopherson of Saratoga and Jeff Whitsett of Lynbrook managed solid efforts, in spite of the conditions. Christopherson was fourth in 11:09.8 and Whitsett was close behind in fifth in 11:29.4.

C. Deal raced home in ninth in 11:45.2 and R. La of Saratoga gained a place in the top 10, finishing 10th in 11:48.6. D. La was 11th in 11:49.8.

Stanger was 14th in 12:01.7 with Justin Gardner 20th in 12:31.3 to round out the top five for the Falcons, who finished second to Wilcox in the team standings. Kolb (21st in 12:32.2) and Trevor Adams (22nd in 12:33.7) were other top finishers for Saratoga.

Berson was 15th in 12:14.8, Kuwahara was 17th in 12:26 and R. Deal was 24th in 12:44.4 to



Photograph by Kathy De La Torre

Saratoga's Dernie Wang finished 20th overall and second for the Falcons in last week's league meet at Crystal Springs. Wang's effort helped the Falcons clinch a team third behind powers Los Gatos and St. Francis.

help Lynbrook to a third-place finish overall.

Despite the downpour that began a little later in the day, Monta Vista junior Megumi Takahashi romped to an individual victory, covering the wet course in 13:45.7. Takahashi led the Matadors to the team title with her individual performance.

F. Lee finished third overall in 14:20.2 to lead host Lynbrook to a team second. H. Kim was fourth in 14:30.6 with S. Kim seventh in 14:38.6, soph Jessica Ignaitis 15th in 15:13.3 and soph Kate Bossange 21st in 15:31.9.

Saratoga finished third as a team in the girls

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SARATOGA YOUTH BASKETBALL REGISTRATION IS UNDER WAY

The Saratoga Youth Basketball League is holding registration for players in grades 1–6. Games are played on Saturdays, Jan. 13 through March 17.

The instructional league stresses fundamentals, teamwork and sportsmanship. Each player will play at least two quarters a game. Third-and fourth-grade teams are formed by zones, and players in fifth-and sixthgrades must attend a skills assessment session on Dec. 9 at Saratoga High School. The first-and second-grade divisions feature shorter baskets and there is a practice prior to each Saturday game.

All players receive a uniform and a team photo. For information, call 408.868.1248.

Falcons run strong at finals

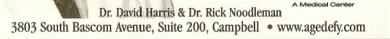
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Girls Softball

The Los Gatos-Saratoga girls softball program will hold signups for the 2001 season on Nov. 8 and 15, 7–9 p.m., in the cafeteria at Fisher Middle School.

The league is open to girls ages 7–16, and players must provide a birth certificate and proof of residency.

Cross-Country

Continued from page 33

race. Burgess was sixth in 14:35.1 with Paula McNally ninth in 14:47.1, Wang 11th in 14:50.4, Liu 14th in 15:06.7 and Lin 19th in 15:25.9.

The conditions worsened as the JV boys took to the course.

David Aubuchon of Wilcox sloshed to a win in 12:55.3 with Monta Vista's Stuart Jones second in 13:04.4 and Howard Chang third in 13:08.6

Jacob Osborne of Saratoga was fourth in 13:10.7.

Lynbrook's Matt Meyer, Morgan Katz, Jonathan Choi and Ken Chung finished six through nine with Casey Courtney 11th to help the Vikings clinch the team title.

Saratoga's Takishi Tomonaka (13th), Daniel Yang (15th), Clarence Tam (17th) and Steven Surrette (20th) rounded out the top five for the Falcons.

The heavy rain and muddy conditions couldn't keep the JV girls off the course for the final race of the day.

Morrison was seventh for Saratoga with Judy Wang ninth, Talreja 14th, Boehm 15th and Molzon 16th.

Jessica Gall was 10th for Lynbrook with Linda Hung 11th and Amber Ju 12th.

Zelinski stars

Danielle Zelinski of Prospect finished among the leaders in the girls division when the Blossom Valley Athletic League held its cross country finals on Oct. 30 on the 2.95-mile course at Crystal Springs in Belmont.

Zelinski, a junior, finished third in 19:38, running behind only Kristen Funck of Piedmont Hills (18:57) and Allison Stiller of Leland (19:00).

Zelinski led the Panthers to a team

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