

SPORTS LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS



Middle School Track Championships



Alex Hennies (Stanley) jumps to 1st place Photo Andy Scheck

Lamorinda Athletes Go to State

Submitted by Craig Isaacs



Eva Isaacs



Ross Geiger

Photos Craig Isaacs

Lamorinda was represented at the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) State Track and Field Championships on June 5th and 6th by Ross Geiger (Campolindo) in the 1600m run, Eva Isaacs (Campolindo) in the shot put, Nick Vedovi (Miramonte) in the 800m run, and the Acalanes girls 4x400 meter squad (Katie Barton, Katie Bruzzone, Anja Sorenson.)

Ross Geiger is currently 6th all-time at Campo in the 1600m. He ran a 4:20.74, good for 23rd

place at State. On the road to State, Ross placed 3rd in the 1600m race at the CIF North Coast Section Meet of Champions (NCS MOC). He's also 8th all-time at Campo in the 800m run. Next year, he will attend Brown University.

Eva Isaacs placed 21st in the shot put with a 35' 7.75" throw. She went undefeated in both shot put and discus during league events and at the DFAL Championships. She placed 4th in shot put at the NCS MOC to qualify for State and earned a 6th place for discus, just

shy of qualifying in that event. She's currently a junior and 3rd all-time in discus, and is looking forward to working closely with the new Campolindo Throws coach and Lafayette resident Jeff Thomas.

Nick Vedovi placed 19th in the 800m with a time of 1:56.64, and the Acalanes girls squad placed 26th in the 4x400m relay 4:02.47. Vedovi had placed 5th in the NCS MOC, and the Acalanes girls had placed 4th.

The 47th annual Track and Field middle school championships were held June 1-2 at Acalanes High School. Lafayette's Stanley Middle School came in 2nd place overall, losing out to Martinez Junior High by one point, and Joaquin Moraga Intermediate placed 3rd overall. Eight middle schools participated in the meet. Some of the event highlights include:

Stanley
The 8th grade girls relay of Caroline Wilcox, Kendall Coffee, Alia Shafi and Nicolette Sorensen beat a league record by 13 seconds to come in first in the 4x400. Nicolette Sorensen won the 800m and 1600m, while Caroline Wilcox came in first in the triple jump. The 1st place 7th grade boys, led by Alex Hennies (who took 1st in the 100m, 200m, and long

jump), won both 4x100 and 4x400 relays with teammates Michael Wang, Peter Lee and Daniel Cardiff. Peter Lee then took 1st in the 400m.

Joaquin Moraga Intermediate
The 8th grade girls, led by Hadley Swanson (1st place 200m, long jump), took 1st place for the 3rd year in a row. Swanson took high point honors among the 8th grade female athletes. The 8th grade girls won the 4x100m relay. No competitor came close to touching 8th grader Jack Evans in the boys' triple jump. Evans came in first at 35-01.00.

The 7th grade boys came in 2nd overall. Harrison Hughes had the second highest point total.

Orinda Intermediate
8th grader Anna Boer took first place in the girls 100m.

For the boys, 7th grader Charles Zamanian won first place in the 1600 meter run and Charles Loudon took the top spot in the high jump. Zamanian was in a three-way tie for 3rd place among high-point earners.

L.Borrowman

Saint Mary's Connecting with Youth

By Mikaela Cowles



Coach Rob Browning with members of the volleyball team Photo Tod Fierner

Summer is here and camps are starting. The Saint Mary's Women's Volleyball team is very excited to be hosting a number of camps again. Head coach, and Moraga local, Rob Browning has finished his fourth year at Saint Mary's and doesn't hesitate to comment on how the community "is a big part of the program." In his first year as head coach, he not only led the Gaels to their first NCAA Tournament, but also began his work in the community.

Saint Mary's hosts several clinics for the area throughout the

year and most of the players help coach local Nor Cal teams. Browning has also made an effort to find gym space for many of the Lafayette Moraga Youth Association teams. As Browning acknowledges, "The Lamorinda area is a tight knit community and Saint Mary's is an integral part of it." Living in Moraga with his wife Michelle and his two young children Madison and John, Browning sees on a personal level the difference role models make for our youth.

The VolleyGaels, a fan club specifically for the Saint Mary's

women's volleyball team, brings a screaming crowd of children to all of the games. "The community is a huge part of the success of the team," Browning says, "the team wants and feels the support of the community." After many of the games Browning makes the girls accessible to the kids, so they can meet their heroes one on one.

At summer camps the Gaels get to spend more individual time with their young fans and impart important direction about fundamentals the game. At a Saint Mary's volleyball camp, Browning says, "You are going to have fun. On top of that we want to make sure that you receive instruction and walk away feeling like this is one of the best volleyball camps you've ever been to." With instruction from top-notch players such as Megan York, one of the best outside hitters in the West Coast Conference and Megan Burton and Shannon Lowell, who made the West Coast Conference All Academic Team, the Gaels provide a knowledgeable and enthusiastic staff at all of their camps.

Enrollment is still open. If you don't make it to meet this wonderful group of people during the summer, stop by McKeon Pavilion in the fall to watch them in action.



Lafayette's Paul Griessel, Jr. took First Place in the Northern California Junior Golf Tournament that took place in Napa on May 10, 2009. The 10 year-old, who is in 4th grade at Saklan Valley School, beat out other players in the 9-10 age group by one stroke on 18 holes. The Northern California Junior Golf Tour is open to boys and girls ages 9-18.

Submitted by Jennifer Griessel

A note from Tony McKenzie, President, Lamorinda RFC (excerpted from a letter to the Lamorinda Rugby Club):

The Lamorinda Rugby family is deeply saddened to hear of the tragic passing of Joseph Loudon. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the whole Loudon family at this difficult time. As we all search for answers, may the comfort of Joe's memories bring you strength. Joe was a great athlete and a wonderful team player. He was always willing to assist new players in teaching them the game while being keen to improve his skills by learning from the experienced players. He respected the opposing team on the field and took great delight in being able to outrun their fastest players. His gentle smile, quiet sense of humor and contribution to the success of his team will be greatly missed.



Joseph Loudon

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