

2015 Laguna Development Corporation State Cross Country Championships

Hobbs Eagles Back on Top of Boys' 6A Cross Country

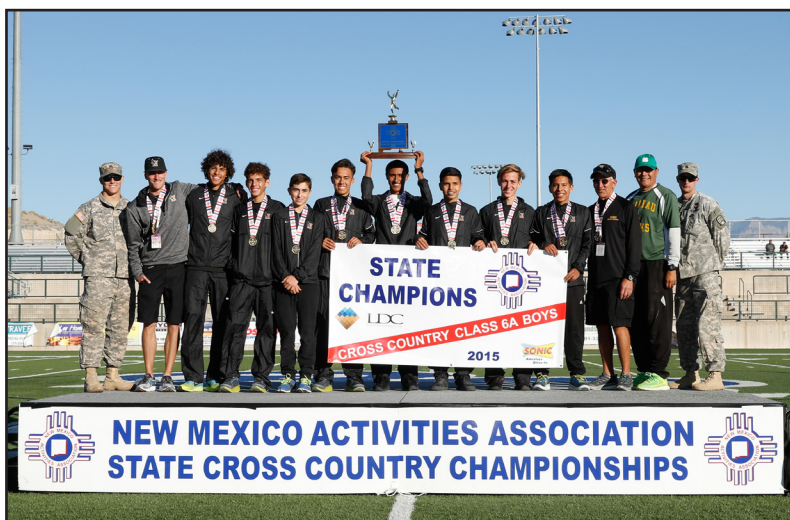
The Hobbs Eagles returned to the victory stand exactly 50 years after their last cross country state championship at the 2015 Laguna Development Corporation State Cross Country Championships. This marked the Eagles' second blue trophy in school history and the first since 1965.

As a team, Hobbs tallied 49 points with four of their five scoring runners finishing in the top-10. Rio Rancho finished second with 56 points, followed by Eldorado (81), Oñate (109) and Cleveland (110) rounding out the top-5.

Individually, junior Andrew Bosquez was crowned the 2015 individual champion, crossing the finish line in a time of 15:54.70. Bosquez became the second Eagles' boys cross country runner to win the state event. Chris Hollis was the first to accomplish the feat back in 1965. He also became the first runner since 2012 to win the race in under 16 minutes.

Eldorado's Connor Laktasic placed second in a time of 16:12.55, followed by Jericho Cleveland of Volcano Vista, who crossed the finish line in a time of 16:19.30. Thomas Salas (16:26.55) and Nathaniel Montemayor (16:27.65) of Oñate completed the top-10.

Other medalists included Mike Goke (Rio Rancho), Jessie Madrid (Hobbs), Daniel Acosta (Hobbs), Devin Paredes (Rio Rancho) and Adam Zemek (Oñate).



Chargers Win 5A Boys' Blue Trophy for First Time since 2010

The 2015 Laguna Development Corporation Boys' State Cross Country Championships in class 5A featured a repeat champion and a return to the top for one team, making this race one of the most exciting of the championships.

The Chargers of Albuquerque Academy took home the team title for the first time since 2010, marking the 11th state title under head coach Adam Kedge since 1999.

As a team, Academy recorded 45 points with three runners in the top-10, just three points ahead of second place finisher Los Alamos (48). One of those two teams has won the blue trophy each of the past 17 years. Los Alamos also had three runners in the top-10.

Miyamura took third place (119), as Roswell (152) and Piedra Vista (173) rounded out the top-5.

Senior Niles Thomas repeated as the state's individual champion in class 5A, crossing the finish line in a time of

15:54.00, followed by his teammate Nicholas Jami-son, who placed second in a time of 16:16.60.

Jordan Lesansee of Albuquerque Academy led the Chargers with a third place finish, in a time of 16:20.10. Additional medalists included Alex is Mata (Lovington), Connor Bailey (Los Alamos), Mason Clugston (Albuquerque Academy), Hayden Walker (Los Alamos), Joh Rees (Los Alamos), Bryce Olvera (Roswell) and Mark Harrington (Albuquerque Academy).



Zuni Boys' Wins Third Straight State Title

The Zuni Thunderbirds maintained their dominance of boys' 4A division, winning their third straight blue trophy at the 2015 Laguna Development Corporation State Cross Country Championships. It marked the 17th blue trophy for the boys' program in school history, with their first in 1968.

By race's end, the Thunderbirds had tallied 68 points as a team, winning the title by 36 points over second place finisher East Mountain (92). Kirtland Central finished third with 107 points, followed by West Las Vegas (139) and Pojoaque Valley (140).

East Mountain's Alex Heffelfinger successfully defended his state individual crown, crossing the finish line almost 16 seconds before the closest competitor with a time of 16:01.40. Heffelfinger shaved nearly five seconds off his winning time from the previous year.

Michael Tenorio of Santa Fe Indian School finished second in a time of 16:15.80, followed by Kashon Harrison of Kirtland Central (16:23.40). Hope Christian's Peter Siminski finished fourth overall (16:39.80), followed by Isiah Padilla of East Mountain (16:42.35).

Other medalists included Austin Luttrell (St. Michael's) and Cody Latone (Zuni), as Miguel Coca, Kevin Villanueva and James Esquibel of West Las Vegas finished 8-9-10.



Pecos Wins Second Boys' State Title in School History

Pecos High School hoisted the blue trophy at the 2015 Laguna Development Corporation State Cross Country Championships, winning their second state title in school history. The first title came in 1999.

The Panthers recorded the best team score of any classification on the day, scoring 19 points, as all five scoring runners finished in the top-8. In fact, Pecos had six runners in the top-10 and all seven finished in the top-17.

Laguna Acoma, who previously had won four of the last five state titles entering the 2015 state championships, finished second with a team score of 43.

Navajo Prep (94), Santa Fe Prep (129) and Rehoboth Christian (156) rounded out the top-5 in the team competition.

Junior Julian Garcia of Pecos won the individual title in a time of 16:35.00, finishing ahead of teammate and 2014 individual champion Joshua DeHerrera, who crossed the finish line in a time of 16:59.25. Ryan Sandoval and Michael Montañño, also of Pecos, finished third and fifth respectively. Colton Salvador, Laguna Acoma's top finisher, placed fourth.

Additional medalists included Aaron Lee (NACA), Cameron Sanchez (Laguna Acoma), Isaiah Armijo (Pecos), Deion Lukee (Laguna Acoma) and Angel Gomez (Pecos).

Mesa Vista Boys' Hoists Blue Trophy for First Time

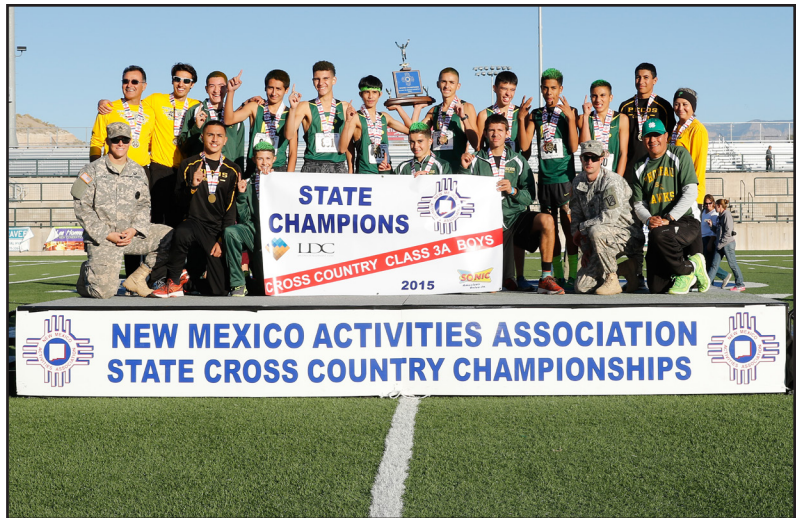
Mesa Vista High School lifted the blue trophy overhead for the first time in school history at the 2015 Laguna Development Corporation State Cross Country Championships. The Trojans scored 52 points to capture the boys' A-2A state title, 11 points in front of Jemez Valley (63).

The Trojans had two runners in the top-10 and all five scoring runners placed 17th or better. Maxwell (66), Hagerman (100) and Alamo Navajo (114) rounded out the top-5 teams.

Peñasco's Isaiah Rodarte captured the individual crown with a time of 16:41.15, crossing the finish line one full minute before the closest competitor. Rodarte became just the third runner from Peñasco to win the boys' individual state title and the first since Wilfred Griego in 1986.

Maxwell's Andrew Archuleta placed second overall in a time of 17:37.65, followed by Trevor Armijo of Jemez Valley (17:49.45). Terrence Lee and Keenan Nez of Alamo Navajo placed third and fourth respectively.

Rounding out the top-10 on the podium were Cisco Bob III (Mescalero Apache), Brian Gollas (Mesa Vista), Justin Madalena (Jemez Valley), Martin Flores (Hagerman) and Jeremiah Atencio (Maxwell).



Cleveland Edges Rio Rancho for 6A Girls' Title

It was a photo finish in the class 6A girls' 2015 Laguna Development Corporation State Cross Country Championships, as Cleveland edged in-town rival Rio Rancho for their second blue trophy in girls' cross country.

The Storm won the 2015 championship over Rio Rancho by one point, scoring 52 points compared to the Rams' 53 points. It the first state title for the Storm since 2011.

Volcano Vista (70), Oñate (105) and La Cueva (106) rounded out the top-5 teams.

Cleveland's Amanda Mayoral won the individual title, crossing the finish line in a time of 18:12.00, almost 45 seconds in front of the closest competitor. It marked the third time in the last five years a runner from Cleveland has been the state's 6A champ.

Renee Baldwin of Oñate placed second overall with a time of 18:54.00, followed by Juanita Johnson of Cibola (18:59.05). Faith Lovato (Cleveland) and Irene Fernald (Las Cruces) completed the top-5 runners.

Other medalists included Toni Marie Gonzales (Volcano Vista), Reina Paredes (Rio Rancho), Molly Klein (Rio Rancho), Amerhyst Aguirre (Onate) and Gabriel Pineda-Dominque (Volcano Vista).



Los Alamos Wins Seventh Girls' Cross Country Championship

The Los Alamos Lady Hilltoppers won the 2015 Laguna Development Corporation 5A Girls' State Cross Country Championships, marking their seventh straight state title. Los Alamos earned 27 points, as four of the first five placers were Hilltoppers.

It was Los Alamos' 17th overall blue trophy.

The Hilltoppers' 5A rival, Albuquerque Academy, placed second as a team with 67 points, followed by St. Pius X (79), Gallup (113) and Centennial (143).

Belen's Arena Lewis was crowned the 2015 individual 5A girls' champion with a time of 18:29.00, followed by a trio of Hilltoppers in Talia Dreicer (18:37.20), Sophia Galvez (18:50.65) and Maddy Foley (18:52.65).

Lewis became the first girls' cross country runner from Belen to win the state individual title.

Also standing on the podium was Jacque Pinon (St. Pius X), Zoe Hemez (Los Alamos), Hannah Baca (St. Pius X), McKenzey Allee (Farmington), Erin Archibeck (Albuquerque Academy) and Elana Kresl (Aztec).



Chieftains Win 2015 4A Girls' Cross Country Championship

The Shiprock Chieftians hoisted the girls' 4A blue trophy for the first time since 2012 and the fourth time in school history at the 2015 Laguna Development Corporation 5A Girls' State Cross Country Championships.

Shiprock earned 58 points, holding off Taos (60), who had won the previous two team championships. Pojoaque Valley placed third with 65 points, followed by Hope Christian (112) and Robertson (151).

East Mountain's Addison Raush earned the 2015 individual honor, crossing the finish line in a time of 19:11.95. She is the first Timberwolf to win the honor since 2011. Cora Cannedy of Taos, who won the 2014 state race, finished second in a time of 19:24.20, followed by Lacey Howe of Shiprock (19:31.00).

Megan Herrera and Jenae Bobchak of Pojoaque Valley placed fourth and fifth respectively.

Other medalists included Elizabeth Reyes (Taos), Khadija Lapahie (Shiprock), Lykyla Yazzie (Kirtland Central), Cassandra Ruiz (Taos) and Makayla Quintana (Robertson).



ATC Earns Girls' 3A Title for First Time

Academy for Technology & the Classics captured their first blue trophy in girls' cross country at the 2015 Laguna Development Corporation State Cross Country Championships.

The Phoenix tallied 50 points in the win, 22 points more than Cottonwood Classical (72), the second place team. Laguna Acoma finished third with 97 points, followed by Navajo Prep (102) and Santa Fe Prep to complete the top-5.

ATC's Alizabeth Williams crossed the finish line first to win the 3A individual crown in a time of 20:00.90. Terri Dailey of Laguna Acoma finished second with a time of 20:01.10, followed by Jaimy Fastnacht of Estancia (20:32.70).

Rhylyn Jones and Eva Phillips of Cottonwood Classics placed fourth and fifth respectively. Lia Kane (Desert Academy), Roslyn Coriz (Laguna Acoma), Veronica Hutchinson (ATC), Sarah Chacon (Navajo Prep) and Hayden Colfax (Santa Fe Prep) finished off the top-10, earning individual medals.



Mountainair Wins Girls' A-2A Cross Country Championships

The Mountainair Mustangs placed three runners in the top-10 on their way to the school's first ever girls' cross country state title at the 2015 Laguna Development Corporation State Cross Country Championships.

Jemez Valley, who had won the previous three years, finished second with a team score of 88, followed by Peñasco (91), Ramah (114) and Hagerman (139).

Carly Gonzales of Peñasco was the individual state champion, crossing the finish line in a time of 20:47.80. She became the first runner from Peñasco High School to win the state title since 1985 when Elizabeth Gonzales took home her fourth straight crown.

Kiana Chavez of Ramah placed second with a time of 21:24.65, followed by Kalika Bryant (Navajo Pine). Taylor Gikas (Mountainair) and Amber Lajeunesse (Mountainair) capped the top-5.

Also stepping onto the podium that day was Cerria Lucero (Hagerman), Anjelika Garcia (Coronado), Adrianna Tafoya (Peñasco), Magyn Balok (Gateway Christian) and Alyiah Padilla (Mountainair).

