



2020 U.S. Bank State Swimming & Diving Championships



ABQ Academy Girls' Win Fourth Straight

For the 4th year in a row the Albuquerque Academy girls swim team lifted the blue trophy at the U.S. Bank State Swimming and Diving Championships. It was quite the team effort as the Chargers finished first without winning one individual championship. Academy finished with 390 total points. The Eldorado girls were second with 220 points and Clovis third with 196. For the second year in a row, Santa Fe Prep was the highest small school finisher with 77 points.

Albuquerque Academy claimed the first win of the day capturing the 200-yard medley relay in a time of 1:50.32 behind the efforts of Coraline Norenberg, Asiana Lee, Sowang Kundeling and Sofia Taylor. The Charger girls also won the 200-yard freestyle relay (1:39.12) with the team of Taylor, Mackenzie Jarrell, Kundeling and Allison Bernier.

Eldorado's Gehlert sisters won some hardware on the day, combining for three individual state titles. Emma, a junior, won the 200-yard individual medley (2:06.75) and 100-yard breaststroke (1:04.02). Her older sister, Grace, finished first in the 50-yard freestyle (24.33). The two were also a part of Eldorado's winning team in the 400-yard freestyle race (3:36.60).

Hope Christian freshman Reese Hinnerichs was a dual event winner. She finished first in the 200-yard freestyle race (1:52.09) and the 500-yard freestyle (5:01.85). Sandia senior Fiona Trotz-Chavez won the 100-yard butterfly in a time of 57.82 seconds. La Cueva junior Hannah Meek won the 100-yard freestyle event (52.34). Sandia Prep sophomore Emma Kelly took top honors in the 100-yard backstroke (58.42). The girls diving champion was Albuquerque High sophomore Nadine Coulie with a total of 471.95 points.



Los Alamos Boys Earn Blue Trophy – First Since 2005

It wasn't decided until the very last event of the day and in the end the Los Alamos Hilltoppers claimed the boys state title at the 2020 U.S. Bank State Swimming and Diving Championships. It's their first blue trophy in the sport since 2005. Los Alamos finished with 377 points. Albuquerque Academy was a close second with 372 points and La Cueva was third with 246. Los Alamos only had one individual title on the day; Orion Henderson touched the wall first in the 500-yard freestyle event (4:38.42). The St. Michael's boys posted the highest score for a small school with 34 points.

Albuquerque Academy senior and University of Arizona-bound Jake Hand tried to lift his team to the title with a pair of individual championships. Hand won the 200-yard individual medley (1:53.37) and the 100-yard breaststroke (56.43-All American Consideration). Hand also swam on Academy's winning group in the 200-yard (1:26.42) and 400-yard (3:09.84) freestyle relays.

The La Cueva boys won the first event of the day, the 200-yard medley relay in a time of 1:36.70 (Mario Sumali, Henry Li, Quanwei Lei and Greyson Ulibarri). After coming up short the previous year, Cibola sophomore Jamin Harlan finished first in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:41.27. Eldorado junior Darien O'Donnell was a dual winner in both the 50-yard freestyle (21.08) and 100-yard butterfly (50.66). The 100-yard freestyle title went to Las Cruces senior Asa Mynatt with a time of 47.01 seconds. La Cueva sophomore Mario Sumali won the 100-yard backstroke in 52 seconds flat.

The highlight of the weekend was in boys diving. Eldorado senior and defending state champ Isaac Newman was out to break the state record set by Cibola's Kurt Burgeson back in 1981. The previous mark was 575.40 points. Newman not only broke the record, he shattered it with a score of 624.65 and Burgeson in attendance watching the event.

