



2021 U.S. Bank Swimming & Diving State Championships

Los Alamos Boys Swimming & Diving Team Captures 20th State Title in School History

The Los Alamos Hilltoppers earned the school's 20th blue trophy in program history at the 2021 U.S. Bank Boys Swimming & Diving State Championships with 397 points, placing first in four of the 12 events.

Eldorado (316), La Cueva (270.5), Albuquerque Academy (240) and Cibola (136) rounded out the top-5.

Santa Fe Prep continued their dominance in the A-3A division with their fourth title in five year, earning 40 points, followed by St. Michael's (34) and Cottonwood Classical (31).

The Hilltoppers wasted no time taking the early lead with a win in the 200-Yard Medley Relay in a time of 1:35.56, just over a second away from a state record. Teammate Orion Henderson placed first in the 200-Yard IM with a time of 1:50.69, while also earning a gold medal in the 500-Yard Freestyle. Max Corliss won his second gold in the 100-Yard Breaststroke, touching the pad in a time of 57.54.

Cibola's Jamin Harlan was a winner in two events, the 200-Yard Freestyle (1:40.22) and the 100-Yard Backstroke (51.41). Eldorado's Darien O'Donnell also took home two individual gold medals in the 50-Yard Freestyle (20.85), an All-American Consideration time and the 100-Yard Butterfly (49.53). O'Donnell was also a member of the Golden Eagles' 400-Yard Freestyle Relay team, who finished in a time of 3:09.53.

Albuquerque Academy also had a pair of winners, as Aidan McKinley took first in the 100-Yard Freestyle (46.97) and the 200-Yard Freestyle Relay team earned the gold in a time of 1:27.21. In the 1-Meter Diving event, Farmington's Mosiah Seavey won by over 20 points, earning gold with a score of 470.15.



Albuquerque Academy Girls Capture 21st State Blue Trophy

2021 marked another victory for the Albuquerque Academy girls swim team and a final one for longtime Hall of Fame head coach Dave Barney who announced he was retiring. The Chargers claimed the blue trophy for an astounding 21st time in program history! It was Academy's fifth straight state championship in girls swimming. Academy racked up 392 points on the way to another first-place finish. Eldorado was second with 250 points and Los Alamos was third. Santa Fe Prep was named the small-school state champion.

For the 89-year old Barney, winning one more girls state championship provided a fitting symmetry to an impressive career. "Finishing this way has a nice feel to it," said Barney. "I have 21 with the boys and now 21 with the girls. There's something about that balance I really like."

Academy senior Allison Bernier helped anchor the Charger squad with an individual victory in the 500-yard freestyle, winning the event in a time of 5:08.39. Bernier also swam a leg on two of Academy's relay wins: the 200-yard medley (1:50.24) and the 200-yard freestyle (1:41.35).

There were a pair of double state champions. Eldorado High School's Emma Gehlert successfully defending her state titles in the 200-yard individual medley (2:05.54) and the 100-yard breaststroke (1:05.31). Gehlert also swam a leg on Eldorado's first place 400-yard freestyle relay (3:38.72) in the final event of the day.

Sarah Gormley of Las Cruces High School swept the freestyle sprints with a time of 24.49 seconds in the 50-yard race and 52.65 in the 100 free.

Other individual winners included: Hope Christian sophomore Reese Hinnerichs in the 200-yard freestyle (1:54.05), Sandia senior Grace Pino in the 100-yard butterfly (59.17), Eldorado freshman Makaela Perea in the 100-yard backstroke (58.01), and Albuquerque High's Nadine Coulee who repeated as state diving champ (476.95 points).

