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Disabled Runner a Victor in NYC Marathon

By Chris Lavin



Amy Morosini of Moraga, left, with her official escort, Natalie DiBlasio, at the finish line of the New York City Marathon. Photos provided

that marked her as part of the disabled group. She got out a Sharpie and wrote a big AMY. She hadn't known what to expect, and what she found blew her away.

"As we walked to the start, all the other runners gave us a standing ovation," she said. People starting yelling her name: "Go, Amy! You can do this, Amy." She said she must have heard her name called out 300 times along the route. And unlike the other four marathons she has run, she was amazed at the level of support and organization.

"As soon as you got off the Verrazano Bridge, the fans were 10 people deep," she said. Besides having rehydration and nutrition stations every mile, "the people of New York just came out and handed things out - like bananas, and it was the day after Halloween so they had candy."

Morosini and her escort, Natalie DiBlasio, had to stop at a medical tent around the halfway mark. "My right ankle was hurting really badly," Morosini said. She thought she might have a stress fracture. She had it wrapped, but from then on, there was a lot of walking.

"But when we got to Central Park, and saw the finish line, I grabbed Natalie's hand and said, 'Let's do this,'" Morosini said. They ran the rest of the way, crossed the line, and raised their arms in victory, 7 hours and 17 minutes since their standing ovation.

"I went to complete, not compete," she said. Mission accomplished.



Amy Morosini of Moraga at the New York City Marathon with Kyle Pease of Atlanta, Georgia, who has cerebral palsy, and whose wheelchair broke at Mile 16 and he ended up being carried the rest of the way by other marathoners.

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Campolindo's Debate Team Ranked No. 2 in the Nation for Parliamentary Debate

Submitted by Monica Moore



From left (with national ranking): Peter Moore (6th), Kevin Deng, Austen Li (25th), Kaveh Boostanpour (7th), Conor Hanvey (6th), Ming Qian, Thomas Liao (7th) and Richard Gong (25th) Photo Fay Lin

Campolindo Debate was founded in 2012 by three Joaquin Moraga Middle School students who wanted to continue pursuing their passion for Parliamentary debate in high school. They were initially inspired by JM's Debate teacher Don Read, Moraga School District's 2015 Teacher of the Year. "We started the club at Campo because we really enjoyed JM's debate class but we did not know so many students felt the

same way," said Peter Moore and Thomas Liao, the co-founders of the club. "The debaters are very dedicated, attending year round practices two to four times a week."

The success of Campo Debate has been infectious; it is already the largest academic club at the high school, with over 60 members and is ranked the No. 2 high school parliamentary debate team in the nation. The ranking is based on points scored by the team's

varsity duos at invitationals held at local high schools and universities. Campolindo's junior varsity teams have also competed very well, consistently finishing with strong records and speaker points, and earning Campo the sweepstakes award at the prestigious National Parliamentary Debate Institute Invitational at Berkeley. For a full list of rankings, visit <http://www.parli.org/2015-2016-club-rankings>.

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