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LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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**Acalanes girls soccer team with their NCS trophy.** Photo provided

# Acalanes girls win NCS soccer championship

**By Jon Kingdon**

In a game that will be long remembered and not soon forgotten, the second seeded Acalanes Dons defeated the No. 1 seeded Branson High School 1-1, a game that was decided by a shootout. After finishing regulation time tied at one and two scoreless 10-minute overtime periods, the game was ultimately decided in the third period of a penalty shoot-out with both teams combining for 29 shots with Acalanes finally coming out on top 10-9.

Branson had won the Northern California Regional championship last year and three North Coast Section titles in the last four years. "I aged about 20 years from this game. In the first half, we were definitely nervous," said Acalanes head coach Nick Barbarino. "It was the first time that we have been there but our defense did a great job holding them scoreless in the first half while our offense was creating our own scoring opportunities."

Coming into the game, Branson was averaging just under three goals a game but were shut out in the first half by a stifling Acalanes defense led by goalie Kate Carter and defensemen Chloe Quintella, Sami Hansen, Aliya Wingate and Dylan Hagglund. "Kate made some fantastic saves and was the vocal leader on the team, keeping us set, being the driving positive force on the field and lifting everyone up," said Barbarino. "Chloe did a really good job in shutting down their best forward. Sami and Aliya handled the middle getting to balls in the air and not allowing the Branson forwards getting in front of them and Dylan Hagglund at left back was phenomenal."

Acalanes scored with nine minutes left in the first half off a free kick by freshman Tatum Zuber, who led the team in scoring, from 25 yards out going into halftime leading 1-0. In the locker room, Barbarino stressed to the team to keep their eye on the prize: "We were very excited at the half but we knew that the next 40 minutes of the game would be a battle (60 minutes with the two overtime periods) with them coming out as hard as they could with their season on the line. ... continued on Page A9

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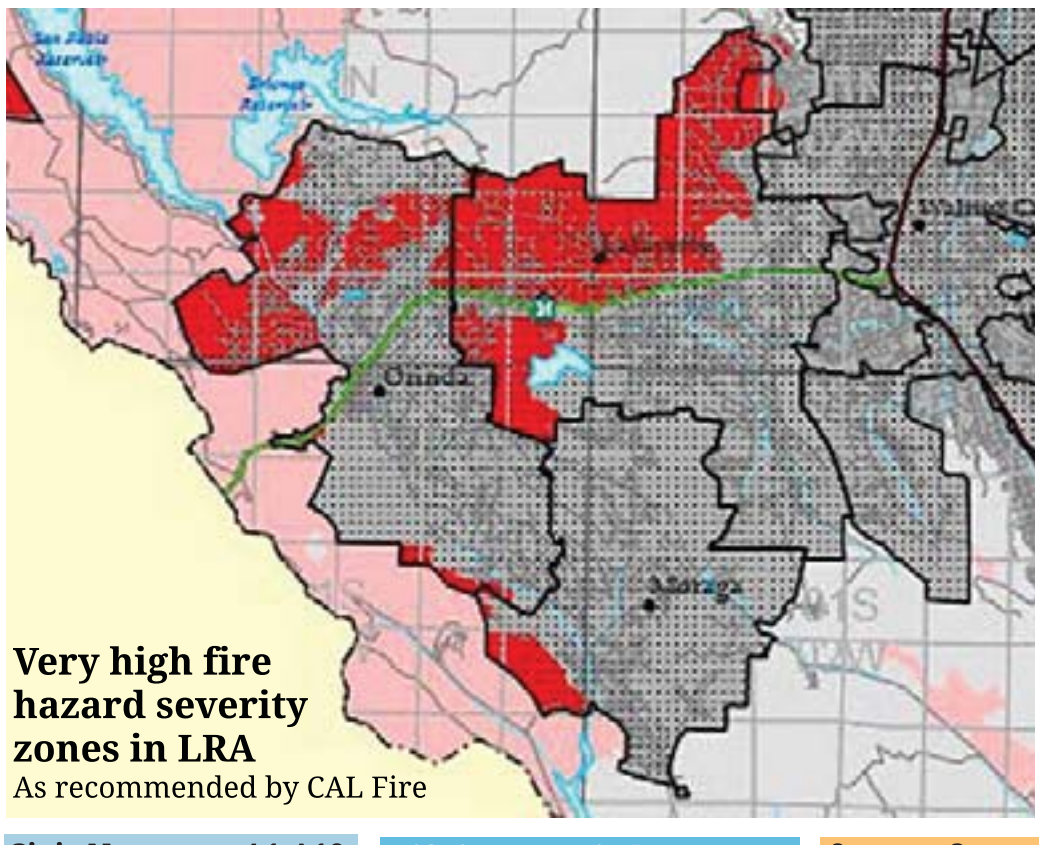
# MOFD Chief pushes to sell new fire code to councils




**Very high fire hazard severity zones in LRA**
As recommended by CAL Fire

**By Sora O'Doherty**

Very tall, very determined, Moraga-Orinda Fire District Chief Dave Winnacker spoke for over two hours at the podium during what was described as the longest ever "items for the good of the city" at the Feb. 18 Orinda City Council meeting. Winnacker would like to see changes that he proposes to the fire code be implemented, which require approval by the Orinda City Council, the Moraga Town Council, the MOFD board of directors and Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. Winnacker explained his ambitious and controversial plan and answered every question raised by the public and council members.

The first item on the chief's list – declaring all areas of the district Wildland Urban Interface for purposes of the fire code – caused concern among members of the public and the council members who feared such a declaration could give insurers a reason to refuse to reissue fire insurance policies in the area. Winnacker said that in fact the area has been designated WUI for years. He said that he has consulted with insurers who tell him that the change would actually encourage them to continue to provide fire insurance because they would be reassured that steps are being taken to reduce the risks of wildfire damage.

Winnacker pressed the council to act quickly, saying, "We have a limited period of time to change the profile to prevent insurance cancellations." He said that that the district has a 90% under-insurance rate, but that insurance premiums can only be increased by 3% per year, and suggested that insurers face a stark choice.

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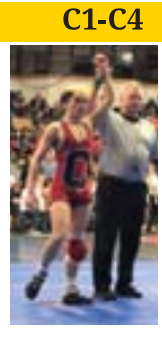
Campo and Acalanes wrestling place at NCS - Page C1



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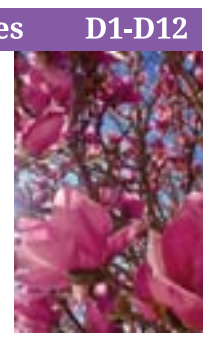
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