

# LAMORINDA SPORTS

## Campolindo and Acalanes baseball make it to NCS Championship and Semi-Finals

By Jon Kingdon



Acalanes pitcher Henry Souza Photo Richard O'Rourke

With Acalanes making it into the semi-final round in the Division NCS championship against the first seeded Granada and Campolindo playing the second seeded San Marin after earning a spot in the

Division Three championship game for the second consecutive year, each team met a similar fate being shut out by 6-0 scores.

### CAMPOLINDO

In a game where they

could not afford to make mistakes; a hit batter, errors, walks and a balk saw the Cougars down 4-0 after four innings. Campolindo was two-hit by Sean McGrath, who was 11-1 for the season along with three future Division I college bound players on the roster.

Starting pitcher Joey Checchin's control was off, but did have four strike outs in three innings. "Joey just didn't have his best stuff today and wasn't around the zone as much as we would have liked," Head Coach Julian Fiammengo said.

After the game, Fiammengo spoke at length to the team "I just said I was proud of them, and they should be proud of themselves in the way they competed and to use this as motivation. We

have a lot of youth and can use the experience that we got and the confidence that we gained from our success as good things to use to look forward to try and get it done next year."

Senior Andy Moon appreciated what Fiammengo has brought to the team these past two seasons. "Coach really instilled in us a work ethic and we showed how long hours and hard work resulted in us in playing for championships," Moon said. "There was a real sense of togetherness on the team and that really resonated with me. I'm really proud of the guys and I think that they're going to do good things next year."

### ACALANES

The Dons (23-4) facing a Granada team that would ultimately win the

NorCal Div. 1 Championship, missed on an early opportunity to score first when they had the bases loaded with one out, but left the bases full. "Going into the game, our mindset was on winning, but we missed an early opportunity, and they took advantage of our mistakes," Hornsby said. "We're a small group in Division One, which makes it challenging but it does make us focus on the little things. Winning our first two games in the playoffs and playing in the D1 semi-final for the first time was a huge accomplishment and showed we had a pretty special group of players."

The Don's ERA dropped from 3.09 to 1.82 and Hornsby credited the entire team for the improvement. "The mentality of our pitchers was

great," he said. "The goal for our pitchers was to throw strikes early, get ahead in the count and force the batters to hit our pitches and let one of the best defenses in the district make the plays without which the team's ERA could have been two runs higher."

It was also the team's intangibles that led to the success of the team. "Our seniors saw what needed to be done for us to have a good run," Hornsby said. "We were a relentless team that had twelve come from behind wins this year," Hornsby said. "We're going to have a really young squad next year along with a strong group of leaders from our junior class that will take the torch from there and we're going to be pretty scrappy next year."

## Rogers and Schnayer finish first at state track meet

By Jon Kingdon



Photo Andy Lindquist

Campolindo Girls team at state meet from left: Nora Lawrence, Angie Tseng, Claire Andrezjek, Shea Volkmer, Pinkie Schnauer, Kate Kabenina, and Kiona McCasland

With exemplary performances by each of the Lamorinda track teams at the NCS Meet of Champions, each school was represented at the state meet in Clovis, California.

Acalanes' Trevor Rogers and Campolindo's Pinkie Schnayer had great capstones to their high school careers when Rogers finished first with a long jump of 24'3.75" and Schnayer won the shot put with a throw of 47'3.75".

In addition to Rogers, representing Acalanes, Paul Kuhner competed in the 100 and the 4x100 relay along with Rogers, Colin Glick, and Matthew Schwarz. Deonte Littlejohn finished in third in the discus and Natalie Lyons finished in ninth place with a long jump of 18'3".

Along with Schnayer, Campolindo's Shea Volkmer finished in eighth in the 3,200 meters and the 4x800 meter team of Kate Kabenina, Claire Andrezjek, Angele Tseng, and Kaitlyn Kinsey competed as well.

For Miramonte, se-

nior Addison Breitberg jumped 5'3" in the high jump, finishing in tenth, and sophomore Milla Ohrbach competed in the shot put.

The Meet of Champions the prior week saw many exemplary performances from the aforementioned athletes and many others despite not qualifying for the state meet.

### ACALANES

It all came together for Rogers this year. "Trevor has just been perfect all year in the long jump and he had the supreme confidence that he was going to win," Head Coach Joe Escobar said. "Being a senior and having committed to the University of California, Trevor was able to compete without thinking about anything other than track and all those things contributed to him jumping and just letting it rip."

The boys' 4x100 once again won at the MOC led off by Glick, Kuhner, Schwarz, and anchored by Rogers. "We're very proud of how much Colin's improved," Escobar said. "We put Paul second in the longest leg

to use his speed as long as possible to give Trevor a chance, if it was close, to slam the door. Though trailing when he got the hand off from Schwarz, Trevor pulled away in the last twenty meters and he just was not going to lose. There has been a special bond between Paul and Trevor, and it's been really incredible to watch their performances."

Kuhner finished second in the 100 meters, Rogers second in the 200 meters, and Logan Farzan finished sixth in 1,600 meters.

After Littlejohn won the discus at the DAL with a throw of 132 feet, Littlejohn threw it 157 feet at the Meet of Champions. "It's just obscene what Deonte has been able to do," coach Chris Clark said. "He is a fantastically gifted athlete that can do so many things with his speed, balance, and power and as a sophomore, he's just scratching the surface."

Escobar was excited about the boys team finishing in third overall. "I believe it's our best finish in the modern era and scored the highest

among the public schools. If you look at the enrollments of some of the schools we were in there against, it's just absolutely incredible how well our kids did."

Natalie Lyons made it to the state meet for the first time, winning with a long jump of 18'6". "Natalie broke her personal record at the right time," Escobar said.

Other girls who scored points were Haley Chelemedos who high jumped 5'2" to finish in fifth, Olivia Williams, who concluded her illustrious career as a distance runner finishing in sixth in the 1600 meters and fifth in the 3200 meters, and with a total of 14 points, the Acalanes girls finished in fourteenth.

In the unified events, the highlights were Bethel Imasuem finishing second in the shot put, Emma Cain finishing third in the long jump, and the 4x100 relay team of Alyvia Decredico, Emma Cain, Ainsley Dodge, and Charlotte Sunderland finishing in second and fifth at the state meet with Chloe Boyle substituting for Cain.

### CAMPOLINDO

The Cougars were once again led by the girls team, finishing in second led by Schnayer winning the shot and discus.

Schnayer, who also played football for Campolindo, began training

immediately after the football season concluded. "My football coaches were very hard on me as they were with everyone, and it gave me the mentality to work really hard wherever possible and I owe them for that because it's stuck with track as well," Schnayer said.

Junior Aislinn Comerford finished seventh in the shot and sixteenth in the discus at the MOC.

The girls 4x800 meter relay of Shea Volkmer, Kate Kabenina, Claire Andrezjek, and Kiona McCasland missed winning by .23 seconds. "This is only the second year that this race has been competed in at a state level event and we set a new school record by 16 seconds," assistant

coach Andy Lindquist said.

Volkmer also won the 1,600 meters and finished in second in the 3,200. Kabenina also earned points with a fourth place finish and Rachel Moen finished twelfth in the 3,200.

Two sophomores, Sierra Worster and Malik Li, finished ninth in the girls and boys pole vault, respectively. "Sierra and Malik both improved considerably and for both of them to make it to the Meet of Champions as sophomores was very impressive," Lindquist said.

### MIRAMONTE

Sophomore Milla Orbach qualified for the state meet by finishing third ... continued on Page B2

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