

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

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by Jeff Stuart

Poolesville Boys, Clarksburg Girls Claim Division III XC Titles

On October 6 at Clarksburg High School, the Einstein, Poolesville, and Clarksburg cross country teams met to decide the Division III Championship. They were each tied with perfect 3-0 records. Poolesville was coming off a victory in the small school race at the Bull Run Invitational in Hereford on September 26, but they had not competed since. Nonetheless, led by a first place finish by junior Eric Holmstead (16.36), a fourth place finish by junior Sam Haque, a fifth place finish by Dave Wilson, an eighth place finish by senior Sam Widmayer, and a thirteenth place finish by senior Ken Shimomoto, the Falcons defeated Clarksburg 22-33 and Einstein 24-31. Jatin Narang of Clarksburg finished second in 16.39. Junior Russ Daley placed sixth, sophomore Brian O'Connor twelfth, senior Joel Hackett fourteenth, and senior Kelvin Wong fifteenth. Jatin had finished first in the tri meet against Magruder and Rockville on September 30 and was the top runner in every Clarksburg boys' meet this year.



Though not as compelling as the boys' matchup, the girls' side of the Einstein, Poolesville at Clarksburg meet featured the Clarksburg girls (5-0) winning their third division title in the four years the school has been in existence. Poolesville (2-3) defeated Einstein (0-5), 26-44, but were dominated by Clarksburg, 47-17.

Clarksburg's freshman Abbey Daley, senior Lauren Sumner, and sophomore Young, finished first, second, and third with times of 19:28, 21:07, and 22:01, respectively. Sophomore Megan Gerdes was the first to finish for the Falcons, finishing sixth overall. Senior Ellie Lalonde, freshman Anya Kabbes, junior Amy Keita, and sophomore Nicole Huffert also figured in the scoring for the Falcons.

Clarksburg freshman Abbey Daley won her first major invitational race with a time of 20:21 in the medium school girls' race at the Bull Run Invitational at Hereford High School on September 26. Over one hundred schools were represented at this event. Poolesville's Holmstead finished third in 17:15 leading his boys' team to victory. Dave Wilson of PHS finished sixteenth, Sam Widmayer seventeenth, and Shimomoto thirty-third. Clarksburg's Narang finished fifth against the top competition in the 3A division. He was named Clarksburg's Athlete of the Week.

At the Don Stoner Invitational at Smithsburg High School on October 10, the Poolesville boys' team finished first again in the small school division. Holmstead again led the way with a second place finish. Widmayer was fourth, senior Adam Altamirano thirteenth, freshman Joseph Werble fifteenth, and junior William Moffat thirty-sixth. The Poolesville girls finished seventh with Gerdes placing ninth, Keita seventeenth, Kabbes twenty-seventh, Huffert forty-second, and sophomore Anna Howard fiftyseventh.

"The boys' team had not run at full strength until the Bull Run Invitational," said Poolesville Head Coach James Vollmer. "I was expecting to do well and was not surprised that we won. At the Don Stoner Invitational, the boys were without three of our top runners. I did not expect to win and was surprised and very proud that they pulled out a victory. Megan Gerdes has been running very well this season and had outstanding performances at the Bull Run and the Stoner Invite." The team is looking forward to the region meet in November.