

Desert Mountain League Finals 11/5/2009

Mammoth Lakes

Distance: 3.19 miles at an elevation of 7,800 feet

51 degrees with 35 mph winds

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HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

DESERT MOUNTAIN LEAGUE FINALS

DC runners sweep DML finals

MAMMOTH LAKES — The Desert Christian boys and girls cross country teams swept the Desert Mountain League titles at the league finals Thursday at Mammoth.

The Desert Christian boys claimed the first four spots, all by sophomores, in the 3.2-mile race to claim its approximately 15th consecutive title.

Sophomore Scott Acton won the boys race with a time of 18 minutes, 65 seconds to finish the season undefeated in the DML.

Teammate Thomas Waters finished second in 19:16, followed by Ray Biggerstaff (19:20) and Bryan Curtis (19:28). Senior Aaron Acosta finished seventh in 20:08.

Coach Andy Visokey said the course was challenging, especially since it was a little longer and at an elevation of 7,800 feet.

"I'm very pleased," Visokey said. "A couple of the boys struggled at the elevation. Ray Biggerstaff really shined. When you are six strong, you know you are deep."

Desert Christian sophomore

Emily Kennedy won the girls race with a time of 22:04, followed by junior teammate Kristen Parson (22:39). Senior Kylie Hall of Desert Christian finished sixth and senior Charity Schroeder placed seventh.

It is the sixth consecutive title for the Desert Christian girls team, according to Visokey.

Kayla Martz of Boron finished fifth and qualified for CIF as an individual.

Mammoth Lakes resident Deena Kastor, who won the bronze medal in the marathon in the 2004 Athens Olympics, started the race. Kastor is the last American to win a medal in the marathon.

"I think it was pretty neat she took her time out to do it," Visokey said.

Next up for Desert Christian is the CIF Prelims on Nov. 14 at Mt. SAC.

"We should be able to advance to Southern Section finals," Visokey said. "Our goal is to make it to the top seven, so we make it to state. I think we have a good shot at that."

—ALAN HENDRY

The Desert Mountain League held its League Finals at Mammoth Lakes on Thursday, November 5, 2009. The Desert Christian boys and girls dominated the five team competition. Scott Acton and Emily Kennedy of Desert Christian were named League MVPs because of their wins in all three of the League competitions. Deena Kastor, 2004 Athens Olympic marathon bronze medalist was on hand to start the race and give out the awards.



2004 Olympic Bronze Medalist Deena Kastor and Desert Mountain League MVP Scott Acton of Desert Christian.