

CROSS COUNTRY

NORTHWOOD GIRLS, WOODBRIDGE BOYS SHINE AT PCL FINALS

By Brent Shaver

The Northwood High girls cross country team and Woodbridge boys squad were ready to bounce back at the Pacific Coast League Finals on Nov. 1 at Irvine Regional Park in Orange.

Both teams were defeated by Corona del Mar at the first league cluster meet of the season three weeks ago at Mason Park in Irvine.

But that didn't happen this time around.

The Northwood girls ran one of their best team races of the season to come out on top and capture another league title.

Northwood won the girls title with 40 points, placing its five scoring runners in the top 13.

Corona del Mar finished second with 55 points and Beckman and University tied for third with 84 points. Beckman won the tiebreaker and will move on to the CIF prelims based on the finish of the sixth runner. It is the Beckman girls team's first ever trip to CIF.

But it was Northwood that ruled the day and Chloe Muller led the way.

Muller pulled away from the lead pack with just under a mile to go and won the three-mile race in 17:16.

Northwood also got strong finishes from Micaela O'Connell, who was seventh in 18:18, Mary King, who placed eighth in 18:19, Jazmin Esparza, who was 11th in 18:25, and Sasaiya Robles, who came in 13th in 18:38.

Aleks Crampton was right behind for Northwood, taking 15th in 18:47.

Beckman got a strong finish from its runners to earn a CIF berth. The Patriots were in fourth place as a team with a mile left, but turned it on at the end.

Mackenzie Eloee paced the Patriots, finishing 12th



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The Woodbridge boys team celebrated winning the Pacific Coast League title last week at Irvine Regional Park. The Warriors scored 29 points in defeating Corona del Mar (38 points) for the win.

in 18:29.

Olivia Knobbe was 14th in 18:39, Susana Ferro came in 16th in 19:00, Amy Lambert was 17th in 19:01 and Leila Manneh finished 25th in 19:34 to round out Beckman's scoring.

University just missed out on a team trip to CIF. The Trojans got solid efforts up front from Cecilia Langlois, who was second in 17:23, and battled Northwood's Muller to the end, freshman Collette Lowengrub, who took fourth in

17:54, and Avery Klauke, who came in 10th in 18:23.

Langlois and Lowengrub move on to CIF as individuals for the Trojans.

Woodbridge came in fifth with 105 points. Mar-iam Masud was sixth for the Warriors in 18:15 and qualified as an individual for CIF prelims.

Irvine placed sixth with 169 points.

On the boys side, Woodbridge stormed past Corona del Mar behind the winning-effort of sopho-

more Brett Knutson to take the team title. Woodbridge won with 29 points, placing five runners in the top nine and all six of its runners in the top 14.

Corona del Mar was second with 39 points and Beckman also made CIF as the third-place team with 68 points. Northwood was fourth with 113 points, University came in fifth with 125 points and Irvine was sixth with 130 points.

Knutson, who missed the first part of the season with

an injury, show his grit for the Warriors.

He battled to take the individual title in a time of 15:04.

Caleb Terefe was fourth in 15:13, Omar Adel was seventh in 15:39, Benjamin Choi came in eighth in 15:43 and John Pantigoso was ninth in 15:47 for the Warriors.

A healthy and peaking Woodbridge team should be a factor in the upcoming CIF meets.

Beckman earned its spot

at the CIF prelims this Saturday in Riverside with a third-place finish.

Caleb Suhr paced the Patriots. He finished sixth in 15:24. Rahul Aggarwal was 10th in 15:48 and Bailey Ipizade came in 15th in 15:57.

Mark Kim led Northwood with a solid time of 15:49. He placed 11th.

And Ryan Duffy was University's top runner, taking 17th in 15:59.

The CIF prelims are this Saturday at the Riverside City Cross Country Course