

Valley and Mesa Battle for Title at Brubaker Invitational

Saturday, October 11 at Irvine Regional Park in Irvine

Meeting for the second time in two weeks, San Bernardino Valley and San Diego Mesa squared off to see who was the front runner for the state title at the Howard Brubaker Invitational. Running on the Irvine Regional Park four mile course, Carlos Perez and Muluken Berresa waged a fierce battle for the individual title as they ran side by side to the finish. The lean by Perez was not enough as he came up 27 hundredths of a second short clocking 20:17.65. Valley placed two other runners in the top ten with Art Parra in 8th at 20:49 and Manuel Bueno in 9th at 20:52. Jared Bain finished 14th at 21:04 and Matt Sartori claimed 16th at 21:07. Ankur Joshi (21st-21:16), Ronell El-Amin (25th-21:22) and Jose Lara (28th-21:25) rounded out the top finishers for Valley. The depth of Valley was not enough to overcome Mesa's three runners in the top four finishers, as Valley fell 40-49.

SB Dominates Foothill Conference on Way to 13th Straight Title!

Wednesday, October 30 in Barstow

The late October heat could not slow down the Wolverines as they captured their 13th straight Foothill Conference Cross Country Championships in dominating fashion. Placing seven runners in the top nine, Valley amassed 22 points to easily outdistance runner-up Rio Hondo (50 points). The individual title was never in question as Carlos Perez pulled away slightly after the one mile mark to win his second straight conference title clocking 20 minutes 27 seconds over the four mile distance. Jared Bain (Rialto) ran superbly to finish third in 20:55, with Manuel Bueno in 5th at 21:05, Matt Sartori in 6th at 21:17 and Ankur Joshi at 21:19 for 7th to round out the scoring five. Jose Lara ran 21:25 for 8th with Ronell El-Amin in 9th at 21:26.

SB Valley Runs Away with Third Straight So Cal Title!

Friday, November 8 at Kern River Soccer Complex in Bakersfield

The expected pre-state meet showdown with San Diego Mesa never materialized, as the Valley harriers ran to a dominating victory scoring just 52 points to easily outdistance runner-up Orange Coast (105) and third place Mesa (126). Carlos Perez took third at 20:11, with Matt Sartori just two places behind at 20:15. Jared Bain continued his late season surge with a 7th place finish at 20:21. Manuel Bueno, aka Mr. Consistent, captured 13th for the second consecutive year at 20:29. Ankur Joshi and Ronell El-Amin placed 24th and 26th respectively in 20:46 and 20:48. Jose Lara rounded out the Wolverine top seven at 21:07, good for 47th. The Wolverines now had two weeks to train and get ready for Mesa, which would definitely show up to race in Fresno.

3-PEAT! 3-PEAT! 3-PEAT! Valley Runners Accomplish Season Goal at State Championships!

Saturday, November 22 at Woodward Park in Fresno

Winning one state title is an accomplishment. Winning back to back titles is impressive. But winning three in a row is amazing! That is just what the San Bernardino Valley College men's team cross country team did in dominating fashion at Fresno's Woodward Park. Placing their seven runners in the top 35 finishers, the Wolverines defeated runner-up San Diego Mesa by 27 points in what could be argued as the best 1-7 team performance in state meet history. Sophomore Carlos Perez ran to a school record 20:19 over the 4 mile course in claiming third individually. Matt Sartori was close behind in 5th at 20:23, with Jared Bain running quite possibly his best race of his Valley career, claiming 10th in 20:36. Freshman Art Parra ran 20:56 to finish 18th, the third fastest true freshman in the race. Manuel Bueno claimed 21st in 20:59, a 30 second improvement from last years state meet, to round out the scoring five. Ankur Joshi and Ronell El-Amin were close behind in 21:02 and 21:09, good for 25th and 35th place. Valley's performance as a team was extremely impressive in that they placed six runners ahead of Mesa's 4th scorer. Valley proved to the state that they run best at the end of the season were it matters most. Let's get ready to reload for 2009!

