

Advocate staff photo by ROBIN FAMBROUGH

St. Thomas Aquinas' Malla Cali won the girls division of the Walker Shootout with a time of 17 minutes, 50 seconds.

Runners deal with familiar conditions

Catholic, St. Scholastica claim team titles on soggy Walker course

BY ROBIN FAMBROUGH
Advocate sportswriter

WALKER — Competitors who came to the Walker Shootout cross country meet expecting to run personal-best times on a flat course got more than they bargained for on Saturday.

The Livingston Parish course and site were very different than Baton Rouge's Highland Road Park course.

But the battle with the elements was the same for high school runners. And so were the results, for the most part.

Catholic High won the boys title, while Covington's St. Scholastica came away with the girls crown on a rain-soaked course at the Walker Recreation Park.

"I thought our second, third and fourth guys ran extremely well and that made the difference," Catholic coach Pete Boudreaux said. "It was just one of those days where it was

wet and that's nobody's fault.

"We've had a lot of those this year. You just have to get through it and we did."

The Bears finished with 65 points, placing ahead of St. Paul's (91), Mandeville (119), Episcopal (164) and Jewel Sumner (206) in the boys varsity race that featured 282 runners. With the wet conditions, the race had a feel similar to meets held previously at Highland. A week ago, the Bears' Philip Primeaux edged Matthew Rice of Rannels for the individual title at the Catholic High Invitational.

This time around the roles were reversed with Rice, a sophomore, surging into the lead in the final 150 to 200 meters to win the three-mile race in 15 minutes, 51 seconds. Primeaux was second in 16:01.

"For a while there was a group running together and then it was Philip and me," Rice

said. "It was tough ... really muddy in the wooded areas. I made my move close to the end."

The trio of Barrett Miller (seventh), Taylor Sanford (eighth) and Cole Stafford (ninth) came across the finish at nearly the same time to give the Bears a big advantage. Joseph LeGrange of Redemptorist (fourth), Michael Gomez of host Walker (fifth) and Jared Chapman of Episcopal (sixth) were other local runners in the top 10.

St. Scholastica took the girls varsity title in a race that featured 192 runners with a low score of 48 points. Mount Carmel Academy-New Orleans (67), Walker (165), Hanson Memorial of Franklin (184) and Episcopal (188) were the other top finishers.

It was the first three-mile race of the season for St. Thomas Aquinas' record-set-

ting senior Malla Cali, who won in 17:50. Cali was the lone competitor for Hammond's STA, the defending Class 2A state champion.

"We've run a lot of 5Ks this year," Cali said. "I was hoping to get a really fast time, so I was a little disappointed when I saw the course."

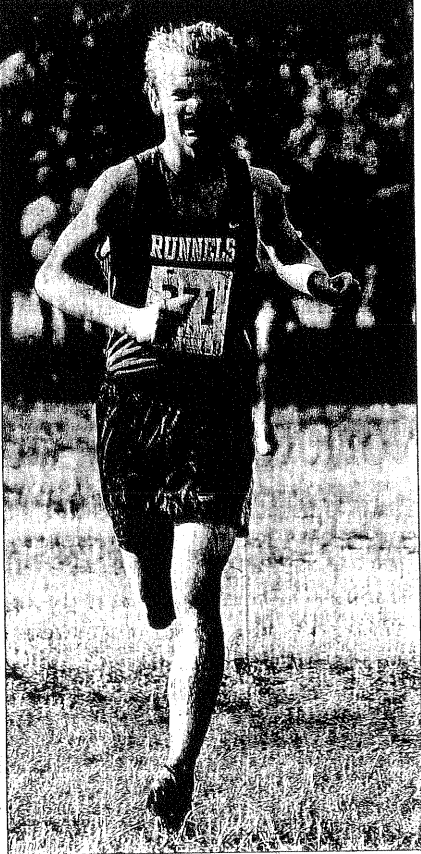
"But I'll take what I did here and hopefully build on it the rest of the season."

Episcopal's Abby Ter Haar was second in 19:07. Angela LaBorde placed fourth to lead St. Scholastica.

Anna Katherine Devitt of Christian Life (sixth) and Morgan Schuetz of Parkview Baptist (ninth) were other local finishers in the top 10.

"Our girls do a good job of focusing on the goals we give them every week," SSA coach Chris Pool said.

"I was pleased with the effort they put forth."



Advocate staff photo by ROBIN FAMBROUGH

Rannels' Matthew Rice won the boys division of the Walker Shootout with a time of 15 minutes, 51 seconds.

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

Walker Shootout

At Walker Recreation Park
Varsity races three miles

GIRLS
Team totals: 1. St. Scholastica 48, 2. Mount Carmel 67, 3. Walker 165, 4. Hanson Memorial 184, 5. Episcopal 188, 6. Cabinni 212, 7. Dutchtown 216, 8. Newman 245, 9. Sacred Heart-N.O. 246, 10. E.D. White 254, 11. Fontainebleau 303, 12. Zachary 314, 13. Mandeville 326, 14. Vandebilt Catholic 397, 15. St. Amant 427, 16. Rannels 429, 17. Parkview Baptist 435, 18. Belle Chasse 445, 19. Sildell

446, 20. Northshore 447, 21. Teurlings Catholic 532, 22. Thibodaux 600.

Top individuals

1. M. Cali, St. Thomas Aquinas, 17:50, 2. A. Ter Haar, Episcopal, 19:07, 3. C. Flotte, Mount Carmel, 19:11, 4. A. LaBorde, SSA, 19:21, 5. G. Jennings, First Baptist, 19:23, 6. A. Devitt, Christian Life, 19:35, 7. A. Deebie, Fontainebleau, 19:45, 8. C. Pereira, SSA, 19:48, 9. M. Schuetz, Parkview, 19:51, 10. Airdi Aguilar, Mount Carmel, 19:55.

BOYS

Team totals: 1. Catholic 65, 2. St. Paul's 91, 3.

Mandeville 119, 4. Episcopal 164, 5. Jewel Sumner 206, 6. Holy Cross 219, 7. Walker 219, 8. St. Thomas Aquinas 289, 9. Fontainebleau 330, 10. Archbishop Rummel 365, 11. Ponchartroula 395, 12. Hanson Memorial 400, 13. East Ascension 400, 14. E.D. White 408, 15. Redemptorist 416, 16. Choudrant 476, 17. Newman 484, 18. University 510, 19. Vandebilt Catholic 533, 20. Thibodaux 555, 21. South Lafourche 579, 22. Belle Chasse 597, 23. East St. John 609, 24. West Feliciana 614, 25. Rannels 617, 26. Dutchtown 621, 27. Teurlings Catholic 653, 28. Archbishop Shaw 704, 29. Northshore 786, 30. Delcambre 789, 31. Cov-

ington 803, 32. Sildell 833, 33. Live Oak 854, 34. Zachary 946, 35. Arnite 976, 36. St. Amant 1,012, 37. Erath 1,061, 38. Lakeshore 1,068, 39. Albany, 1,105.

Top individuals

1. M. Rice, Rannels, 15:51, 2. P. Primeaux, Catholic, 16:01, 3. M. Mouton, St. Paul's, 16:07, 4. J. LeGrange, Redemptorist, 16:33, 5. M. Gomez, Walker, 16:35, 6. J. Chapman, Episcopal, 16:36, 7. B. Miller, Catholic, 16:45, 8. T. Sanford, 16:48, 9. C. Stafford, 16:49, 10. T. Sadler, Choudrant, 16:51.