

V.I. Pace Runners Bulletin: November 4, 2018

Bohlke goes old school to take V.I. Cross-Country Championship title...Smith goes under 6 minutes for the first time...



The featured race for Saturday's V.I. Cross-Country Championships held at the Albert Sheen St. Croix Campus was the Veterans Day 5K. Billy Bohlke has won this title on more than a few occasions and he added additional success to his week's portfolio which included the winning of the National Business Aviation Award for his company Bohlke International Airways started by his grandfather making him the third generation CEO.

Bohlke went old school with his LSU teen shirt which could have both motivated him and inspired him the use tactics which made him a successful walk-on middle distance runner at the Southeast Conference powerhouse. He trailed V.I. Youth Olympian Dominique Pugliese of Good Hope Country Day School by at least 40 meters at the mile mark, he closed the gap, took the lead and extended it to the same distance into the two mile. Pugliese stayed the course and closed the gap; Bohlke would take the win in 17:40 with Pugliese ever closing with a fine effort to take first Under 20 in the junior 5k and second overall in 17:50;

Mike Klein Jolly Roger Track Club finished second in the open category in 22:55 and Rob Kuznski of Free Will Baptist was third in 23:14. Keyshawn Ferrel of St. Croix Educational Complex High School was the second junior male finisher in 18:46 and Isiah Caul his teammate was third in 20:10. Rob Wolf was the masters 5k winner in 26:06 and Florendo Astrofabio was second in 28:14. Ruth Ann David of St. Thomas was the female 5k winner with a time of 20:57; Mireille Smith St. Track Club was second in 24:21. Jusenja Tuitt of St. Croix Educational Complex High School was the first female Under 20 junior finisher

with a time of 22:00; Kelsey Bohla GHCD was second in 26:08 and her teammate Mayah Russell was third in 26:34.

In the boys Under 16 2 mile Brice Richards GHCD overtook teammate Makari Mathew to win in 11:55; Mathew was second in 12:11 and teammate Jackson Archambault was third in 13:48. Shaiah David of St. Thomas won the girls Under 16 2 mile in 13:56; Rory Ramsdale GHCD was second in 16:14 and Ashlyn Morrel SCTC was third in 19:33.

The boys under 14 mile was won by Joseph Freeman GHCD 6:23; Aleak Miller SCTC was second in 6:33 and Michael Liburd of Lew Muckle School was third in 6:36. The fastest mile of the day 5:51 and her first time under 6 minutes was run by Michelle Smith SCTC to win the Under 14 girls race; her teammate Akyra Joseph was second in 6:32 and teammate Amiyah Eddy was third in 7:15.

The boys under 10 mile winner was Elioneai Etienne SCTC in 7:37; second was Jerrel James LM in 7:58 and third was Jaquan Creque Alfredo Andrews School in 8:07. The girls Under 10 mile a close race, was won by Barecia Brooks of Lew Muckle School in 8:08; second was Jeniqua Weeks SCTC in 8:10; third was Kyliz Osorio LM in 8:32.



Notes:

- 1] runners were classed in age groups and by organization
- 2] Billy Bohlke wears a wrist band and dedicated his race to the memory of 9 of his fellow Airman who lost their lives in the crash one of their C-130 cargo planes in their Puerto Rico Air National Guard of the U.S. Air Force.
- 3] The first running event for the Virgin Islands Pace Runners was 40 years ago on the campus of known then as The College of the Virgin Islands on basically a similar one mile course as Saturday's event. V.I.Pace partnered with the 4H program to stage "Run for Fun, Run for Health, Run for Life" fitness runs on Saturday mornings.

4] The V.I.Pace Runners and the Virgin Islands Track and Field Federation extends sincere thanks to the Univ. of the Virgin Islands and the 4H Program of the Cooperative Extension Service for being a great host on this great running course for the past 40 years.