

Junior Olympians battle for female title at inaugural Camp Unusual 5K



The female runner-up in Saturday's (July 25) Camp Unusual 5K race in Arlington was 17-year-old Julie Reinwald (pictured). In a dramatic sprint finish, Julie finished just four seconds behind Brittany Smash, one of last week's featured athletes. The fact that this was only Julie's fourth attempt at the distance and that she had raced and won a 5K on Thursday evening at the Trinity 5000 in a road PR time of 19:40 made her strong finish all the more impressive.

On Aug. 1, Julie, an Arlington Bowie senior, went to the AAU Junior Olympics in Des Moines, Iowa, where she competed in the 1,500m, 3,000m, and 4 x 800m relay, along with teammate Brittany Smash. Despite being ranked first in the 3,000m, third in the 1,500m and first in the 4 x 800m relay in the Southwestern Texas region, Julie remains modest and grounded and is simply looking forward to the experience, determined to do her best for the team.

While she is clearly self-motivated and has a passion for the sport -- running 8 miles a day, 6 days a week -- she is looking for a coach specializing in long distances because her previous mentor, Andrew Matina, also a former Junior Olympian, recently moved to New York City. As for future career plans, she will be attending SMU next year where she plans to study education and chemistry.

Overall male winner at the Camp Unusual race was John McAllister, who crossed the finish line in 17:31. Masters winners were Blade Norman and Fiona Green.