

1 CONCENTRATION.

Senior, Wyatt Evans keeps his focus just a few steps away for the finish line at a cross country meet.

PC: Asanay Vitoryo



1

2 STAYING FOCUSED.

Even though senior, Upendo Mmele is tired, he pushes through at the meet.

PC: Asanay Vitoryo



2

3 SHADES.

Junior, Joseph Routh keeps his pace when running in the last leg of the race.

PC: Irakiza Espoire



3

4 STAY STRONG.

Junior, Ikilas Hasan saying strong to finish up the race to beat her personal goal.

PC: Asanay Vitoryo



4

5 KEEP ON RUNNING.

Senior, Upendo Mmele doesn't stop until the finish line.

PC: Asanay Vitoryo



5

6 DISTANCE IS KEY.

Keeping a steady distance from the other girls, junior, Said Perez Diaz stays on track to race.

PC: Irakiza Espoire



6

7 DON'T LET HER PASS.

As the competition is close behind senior, Sofia Abwe, she rushes forward to finish before the rest.

PC: Irakiza Espoire



7

8 RUNNING AS A PACK.

As junior, Tesfanya Ponis is surrounded by her competition, she fights to stay ahead.

PC: Irakiza Espoire



8

9 PRACTICE RUN.

Moments before the meet starts, junior, Nyabashi Vital leads a warm-up to prepare for the big race.

PC: Asanay Vitoryo

WE ARE REACHING THE FINISH LINE

By: Gabriella Zanders

Ikilas Hasan, A True Born Leader

Cross Country is not an easy sport and it's not a sport for everyone. Not only is the physical side of it hard, but being on a team requires a strong leader who is willing to encourage and support everyone. Junior, Ikilas Hasan has been a great leader for the North team.

Hasan started running in 8th grade when her gym teacher chose her because she always got a higher score than everyone when doing the pacer test. Hasan said it wasn't easy at first, but showing up to practice and working hard made it easier.

Her freshman year, she took notes on leadership from a teammate. "She's quite a responsible person, very fun, exciting, caring and a loving person to be around," Hasan said.

Hasan said being a leader feels rewarding. "Me being around such beautiful, respectful and loving girls is very welcoming and it feels like home," she said.

In her gut, Hasan said she always felt like a natural leader. "I don't know who I got it from, but I love being a leader and it's fun!" she said.

Her inspiration comes from her teammates and her coach, Charlene Beattie. "[My coach] believes in me and pushing me and always pushing me to do my best, and I want to do the same," Hasan said.

Even though the practices are hard and leading isn't always easy, Hassan continues to do her best. "My family, my coach, my friends, I want to make them proud!"



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