The Air Academy High School Mountain Bike Team debuted in the Colorado High School League at Leadville, CO Sunday, August 29. After over a month of hard work and practice it was time for AAHS let everyone know that we are in the house.

It was a magical weekend as the team met on Saturday to pre-ride the course. The course is perfect mix of single-track, double-track, fire roads, climbing and descending. The course received a thumbs up from everyone. Following the pre-ride, the team gathered at the Sugarloafin Campground for a pot-luck dinner, selfie sock puppets, and smores. Although nervous, the whole team was in good spirits and looking forward to a day of racing.

Race day started with Varsity and JV riders racing in the morning. Being that this is the first year AAHS is in the league, we had no one racing in the varsity category. Senior Sequoia Harris changed that by finishing with a time that placed her 6<sup>th</sup> over all in the Varsity Girls category. She was promoted and scored with the Varsity Girls!



Sequoia Harris on her way to the Varsity Team

Juniors Daniel Harris and Willem Dodd rocked the JV boys race with Daniel finishing 19<sup>th</sup> and Willem 89<sup>th</sup> of 98 starters.



Daniel Harris Flying through the Finish!

Willem Dodd heading out on a second Lap

The Sophomore boys started the afternoon off, with all of our Sophomore boys finishing within or close to the top half. Reed McAfee broke the top ten with a 9<sup>th</sup> place finish and JT Graybeal was right behind him breaking the top 20 at 13th. Carson Pevoteaux, in his first race ever, made a great debut, finishing 37 of 63.



Reed McAfee putting the Hammer Down

JT Graybeal rounding the Climb toward the Finish



Carson Pevoteaux railing the Descent

Next on the line were the sophomore girls, with Raegan Agrimson, our only sophomore girl, absolutely rocked it, placing second among 19.



Raegan Agrimson Climbing her way to 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Next came the Freshmen girls, with our lone freshmen girl, Avery Harris, taking the overall win in her first race ever! She will be wearing the Points Leader Jersey at Snowmass.



Avery Harris Flying to a Freshmen Win

The Freshman boys finished up the day, with Keegan Hale leading the way finishing 17<sup>th</sup> of 97. Boaz Galliart, after racing the day before in Winter Park was next at 33<sup>rd</sup>, Noa Winder, Lawrence Rawe, Simon Scheid and Colon Grunwell all finished in or close to the top half of the 97 starters. Aslan Rivenburg had one of the more inspirational rides. Given that he is new to mountain biking and struggled throughout the race, he did not quit, and finished with whole team cheering him at the finish. Truly a show of grit and awe-inspiring team spirit.



Freshmen Keegan Hale, Boaz Galliart, & Colon Grunwell ripping through the Start Area



Aslan Rivenburg Hero of the Day

It was truly a magical weekend with Air Academy High School Mountain Bike Team making a huge splash into the Colorado High School Cycling League. This team has huge potential, great team spirit, and we are looking forward to the next race in Snowmass, CO on Saturday, September 25.

Lastly, this team could not exist without the generous contributions from our sponsors: ProCycling, All Things New Roofing & Restoration, Colorado Foot & Ankle, and AllAboutEndurance.

