

PRESS RELEASE

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Veclotch, Hamvas Cruise to Victory in 31st Annual Walton Raider Chase

Walton Girls Lacrosse wins 1st Raider Chase Challenge Cup

Oshust, Ference top Masters Divisions

Jason Veclotch was the men's winner in the Walton Raider Chase 5K with a 17:11 time in Saturday's race while Lena Hamvas of the Walton Track Team won the overall women's field with a time of 23:11.

In the masters divisions, Greg Oshust won with a strong time of 18:29 while Ruth Ference won the women's masters division with a time of 25:34.

The Girls Lacrosse team won a new event within the race this year – the Raider Chase Challenge – which pitted groups of Walton alumni, administrators, parents, student clubs and sports teams against the Walton Track Team. Girls Lacrosse took home the Challenge Cup for the fastest team time and a \$250 prize for the most runners.



The 31st running of the Raider Chase – one of Cobb County's longest running community traditions – kicked off on Saturday with 35 degree temperatures and occasional rain. Despite the gloomy weather, the field was 250 strong, a significant increase versus last year.



Nicholas Townsend, age 9, won the 1-mile under-12 race with an excellent time of 7:05 while Jocelyn Brown, age 11, won the girls 1-mile with a great time of 7:11.

Veclotch ran as part of a multi-state team coined "Runnin' Wreck" which took home the Chick-fil-A prize for fastest overall time for a team not affiliated with Walton.

"We were thrilled about the turnout for the race this year. Veclotch and Hamvas ran really

terrific races." said Coach Travis Gower, who is in his first year as Head Coach of the Track & Field program at Walton.

The race is the principal fundraiser for the Walton Cross Country and Track & Field programs.

Full race results and photos can be found at www.waltonfx.com.