ROUND ROCK BOYS FINISH SIXTH AT UIL 6A STATE CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Andrew Esparza earns All-State honors with sixth-place individual finish as Dragons complete championship season among Texas' top teams

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ROUND ROCK, Texas — The Round Rock High School boys cross country team concluded its 2026 championship season with an impressive sixth-place finish at the UIL Conference 6A State Cross Country Championships on Friday, November 6, at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock.

Competing against the strongest Class 6A programs in Texas, the Dragons scored 168 points to finish sixth among 16 qualifying teams, securing a top-six state finish for the second consecutive season. The performance capped a campaign that included District 25-6A and Region IV-6A team championships.

Senior Andrew Esparza led the Dragons and earned All-State honors by finishing sixth individually in 14:52.2 over 5,000 meters.



Andrew Esparza celebrates his All-State recognition at the 2026 UIL Conference 6A State Championships.

Esparza Earns All-State Honors

Esparza's sixth-place state finish highlighted a stellar senior season and placed him among the elite Class 6A runners in Texas. He also captured the individual Region IV-6A championship in Corpus Christi on October 26, running 15:05.75 despite losing a shoe early in the race.

Earlier in the fall, Esparza recorded a season-best 14:30 at the Marcus Coach T Invitational and won the McNeil HOKA Gold race in 14:56.6. His All-State recognition adds another significant accomplishment to the Round Rock cross country program.

Three Dragons Among the State's Top 35

Junior Zachary Stevens finished 25th overall in 15:39.6, while junior Leo Brasil crossed the line 35th in 15:46.0. With Esparza's sixth-place finish, Round Rock placed three athletes among the top 35 in a highly competitive championship field.

Senior Devansh Garg finished 79th in 16:11.9. Junior Miles McDonald rounded out the scoring five in 101st place at 16:27.1. Seniors Cameron Pav (122nd, 16:49.7) and Ezekiel Guerra (133rd, 17:02.3) completed the Dragons' seven-runner lineup.

Round Rock State Championship Results

Finish	Athlete	5K time
6th	Andrew Esparza (Sr.) — All-State	14:52.2
25th	Zachary Stevens (Jr.)	15:39.6
35th	Leo Brasil (Jr.)	15:46.0
79th	Devansh Garg (Sr.)	16:11.9
101st	Miles McDonald (Jr.)	16:27.1
122nd	Cameron Pav (Sr.)	16:49.7
133rd	Ezekiel Guerra (Sr.)	17:02.3

Round Rock's five scoring runners averaged approximately 15:47 for 5,000 meters.

A Competitive State Championship

El Paso Eastwood won the boys team championship with 56 points, followed by Southlake Carroll (68) and Keller (109). Bridgeland took fourth (142), Austin Vandegrift fifth (153), and Round Rock sixth (168), ahead of The Woodlands (185) and Flower Mound (204).

Place	School	Points
1	El Paso Eastwood	56
2	Southlake Carroll	68
3	Keller	109
4	Bridgeland	142
5	Austin Vandegrift	153
6	Round Rock	168
7	The Woodlands	185
8	Flower Mound	204
9	The Woodlands College Park	233
10	Schertz Clemens	248

Denton Guyer's Ruel Newberry won the individual title in 14:36.3, ahead of Austin Vandegrift's Avinash Dewagan (14:39.8) and El Paso Eastwood's Noah Garcia (14:40.4).

Championship Season Built on Team Success

The Dragons won the District 25-6A team title and then scored 107 points to capture the Region IV-6A championship in Corpus Christi, finishing 36 points ahead of runner-up Schertz Clemens. Their state appearance marked another successful postseason against the best programs in the state.

The team combined experienced senior leadership from Esparza, Garg, Pav and Guerra with strong contributions from juniors Stevens, Brasil and McDonald. The three returning juniors give Round Rock a foundation of state championship experience for 2027.

A Tribute to the 2026 Seniors

The 2026 championship season also honors a senior class whose leadership, dedication and commitment helped shape the Round Rock cross country program. Their contributions extended beyond the seven state

championship competitors and helped build the team culture that made the Dragons' district title, regional title and sixth-place state finish possible.

The program recognizes the following 2026 seniors: Simon Baldwin, Jordan Connolly, Andrew Esparza, Devansh Garg, Jacob Gomez, Jayden Gomez, Ezekiel Guerra, Erik Hansen, Noah Hill, Cameron Pav, Ian Rockey, Jackson Sanchez, Ishan Ved and Joseph Williams.



2026 Round Rock Cross Country seniors honored on the Wall of Champions: District 25-6A champions, Region IV champions and sixth place at the UIL 6A State Meet.

The senior class leaves a lasting legacy of teamwork, resilience and pride in representing Round Rock High School. The program thanks each graduating Dragon for the time and effort invested in this championship season.

Dragons Continue a Tradition of Excellence

Round Rock concludes 2026 as District 25-6A champion, Region IV-6A champion and sixth-place finisher at the UIL Conference 6A State Championships. Esparza's All-State performance, three top-35 individual finishes and a second consecutive top-six state team result highlight an outstanding year for the Dragons.

Congratulations to the Round Rock Dragons on an outstanding 2026 cross country season!

Results sources: UIL State Cross Country Championships; Texas MileSplit; Athletic.net.