

**Record Crowds and Record Runs**  
**Highlight the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Run for Zimbabwe**  
**Orphans and Fair on Sunday April 5, 2009**

This year's Zimbabwe Run was blessed with great weather, countless spectators and a record number of participants—407 runners for the 12 races! Gabe Harris and James Garlick, both of St. Joseph Mtn. View, placed 1-2 in the Kinder \_ mile. However, once their times were rounded up, they both were credited with 3:36 for the record. The previous record was held by Nicholas Sabato of Stratford who ran 3:52 in 2008. A long standing record in the boy's 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade mile was broken by Giorgio Liantono of Cupertino Middle School. He ran a blazing 5:11 for the mile, 5 seconds under the time of Chris Reis and Matt Bordoni, the previous record holders. Only a 7<sup>th</sup> grader & age 12, Liantono has a chance to set another record for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Zimbabwe Run in 2010. The last record of the day was set by Nicole Campbell of West Valley Track Club. She ran 5:25 to beat her own record of 5:36 and place 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. The second to largest field was the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Boys' Mile (52 runners) and the largest was the 220 Yard Pre-School Race with 68 runners. All three timers jammed during the Pre-School race so, unfortunately, we were not able to get times although we have the places. Even Start kids took the top spot for boys and girls—Hannia Gomez and David Sollis. For next year, the plan is to split the field into girls and boys for both pre-school and Kinder.



Dennis Mardudzo  
 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>  
 Winner  
 6:10 mile  
 holding aloft \$30 Million Zim \$\$'s, trophy & ribbon.  
 Elephant: Tinashe Choto.

About the only "down side" to this year's Zimbabwe Run was that Mr. Gray Mavhera (the #1 Runner from Zimbabwe in the 90's) couldn't make it to the 2009 run. He and his buddy, Mohamed Ali-Noah had car trouble two hours outside Los Angeles and had to be towed back home. They promise, though, a good race for Mr. Chris Reis (5:06 winner for '09) next year. Nonetheless, Zimbabwe was well represented in 2009 as Dennis Mardudzo won the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> race. Dennis and his family are from Zimbabwe. We are sure you will appreciate **all** the performances of the finishers. We had many familiar faces at the run, including Tanay Menezes (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> winner, 7:34); Kellie Duran (3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> winner, 6:55) and John Giagiari (3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> winner, 6:26). Yet, we also had many new comers win—Sheya Ganti (Kinder \_ mi. 3:57),

Angella Qian (5/6 winner 6:26) of Kennedy Middle School and Heather Rohrer from Columbia Middle School, winner of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> mile in 6:05. Stratford (Sunnyvale) was a dominant force in the team competition winning races 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>, both boys & girls. Our Lady of Grace girls (San Jose), though, won 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>. The team was led by Luz Maria De Anda who ran a very quick 6:37. St. Andrew took five of the eight top spots for their team to win the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> boys' mile. If there is any doubt as to the great aerobic fitness of Zimbabwe runners, log on to [www.PresidentsChallenge.org](http://www.PresidentsChallenge.org) and click on the national standards for the mile run for kids ages 6-17!



**Zimbabwean Fair**

This year, Rosette Ribbons were awarded for the top Cultural Exhibits. Sixth grader Scott Sprouse of St. Joseph, MV completed a model of Zimbabwean Rocks for 1<sup>st</sup> place in the "individual presentation". The Kindergarten Class at Presbyterian Early Learning Center (Sunnyvale) took 1<sup>st</sup> place for the best "team presentation". The class did a beautiful art display of African animals. Nicola Santoro of St. Francis HS sang the USA anthem and Annel Garcia of St. Joseph, MV sang the African Anthem. Three musical groups—World Harmony Chorus, Chinyakare Ensemble and Sadza Band—entertained the crowd. Piwayi Magaya & Angela Gora along with E Cubed Youth Philanthropy served the traditional food of Zimbabwe, Sadza, to the crowd. Please go to our web site: [www.ZimbabweParaguay.org](http://www.ZimbabweParaguay.org) for a listing of business & orphan sponsors, results, photographs & an update on the proceeds for the 2009! It appears that, at this time, we will be sending **over** \$30,000 to Makumbi Children's Home! We'll see you at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Run in the spring of 2010! Mazvita! The Board of The Sustainable Living Foundation—Ellen, Bill, Teresa, Will Clark & Dee Gibson— & soon to be installed members- Kristin Milliman & Dave Ruminski.