

<u>RUNNER</u>	<u>ONE MILE</u>	<u>TWO MILE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>TEAM PLACE</u>	<u>IND. PLACE</u>
John Carpenter	4:58	10:22	16:26	9	16
Tom Syverud	5:22	10:50	16:54	20	33
Jason Jacobs	5:17	10:52	17:12	33	52
Jim Swenson	5:26	11:09	17:29	55	75
Tyler Schultz	5:34	11:21	17:43	71	94
Bret Weyenberg	5:32	11:18	17:52	81	104
Eric Drumm	5:30	11:25	18:14	99	123

<u>TOP TEN</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>TIME</u>
1. Phil Downs	Madison Memorial	15:43
2. Andy Esten	La Crosse Logan	15:47
3. Andy Bosley	Homestead	15:55
4. Scott Brinen	Racine Horlick	15:57
5. John Wenzel	Sparta	15:58
6. Brian Wagner	Waukesha South	16:02
7. Todd Agger	La Crosse Central	16:04
8. Aaron Bouplon	Marinette	16:07
9. Jon Cooper	Stevens Point	16:17
10. Jamie Hassinger	Grafton	16:18

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
1. La Crosse Cen.	84
2. Stevens Point	131
3. Waukesha South	149
4. Wisconsin Rapids	177
5. Madison Memorial	179
6. Neenah	188
7. Green Bay Preble	197
8. Homestead	205
9. Racine Case	210
10. Wauwatosa East	245
11. Janesville Craig	248
12. Lakeland	265
13. Fond du Lac	269
14. Racine Park	271
15. Watertown	276
16. Monroe	326

State-bound runners still have hills to climb

By Dick Knapinski
Of The Post-Crescent

The ruffles at the Ridges seem to be the biggest hurdles for local high school cross country teams heading to Saturday's WIAA State Meet in Wisconsin Rapids.

"We had to change our training for state," said Wrightstown Coach McKim Boyd. "We don't see that many hills on the courses around home."

"We can't train for it in Neenah," chuckled Rockets Coach Tom Jensen.

The Ridges Country Club course features a number of large hills, including one less than a quarter-mile from the finish. The hills have influenced many of the races during the last two state runs.

"I don't think it's a difficult course, but it has a different character," said Appleton East Coach Joe Perez. "It's a fair course, and we have to be ready to run it."

The Patriot girls are making their fourth straight state meet trip and their sixth overall, and Perez thinks this year's squad is one of his better editions.

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✓ Hills

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"Sophomores Jen Dickson and Becki Cone have filled in well for last year's seniors," said Perez. "And getting Sarah Trigg back from an early-season injury made a big difference for us."

That difference almost wasn't enough, however.

"We underestimated the pace of the race," Perez said of last Saturday's Division 1 sectional at Fond du Lac, where East won the title. "We started too slow, got caught in the pack and nearly lost the state trip."

The Patriots' coach won't make any firm predictions.

"The field is full of good teams," he said. "La Crosse Central will be strong and Marinette has a good team. We hope to finish in the top eight, but we have to go into the race thinking we can win."

The Division 1 boys' race will be a new experience for Neenah, which sent teams to state in the 1970s but none recently.

"I think not running at state before will help this team," said Jensen. "They have been improving all season, and they're ready for anything."

The Rockets are led by John Carpenter, who finished second at sectionals.

"He has a chance to break into the top 10-15 places," said Jensen. "If we put a couple of runners in the low 20s (positions) and two more in the 40s we should be in good shape. Our goal is to break into the top half of the 16 teams."

Twin City runners seek state titles

By George Mancosky

News-Record sports editor

The Neenah and St. Mary Central boys' cross country teams hope to follow up their impressive victories of last weekend with state championships Saturday.

The Zephyrs, who won their first Fox Valley Christian Conference championship in history, will participate in the WISSA Class B state meet on the University of Wisconsin-Parkside course at Kenosha.

WISAA teams advance to the state meet without going through regional or sectional tournaments.

The Rockets, who followed their Fox Valley Association championship by winning the sectional crown at Fond du Lac last Saturday, next venture to Wisconsin Rapids to bid for WIAA honors.

A Neenah boys team is making its first state meet trek since 1981. The Twin Cities were 11th that year.

The Rockets compiled 48 points to edge defending champion Fond du Lac by five and Sheboygan North, last year's runner-up by 28, in the sectional.

Individually, John Carpenter finished second to Beaver Dam's Pat Gorman. Carpenter was timed in 16:08; Gorman in 15:54.

Jason Jacobs was fourth, Tom Syverud fifth, Eric Nelsen 16th, Jim Swanson 21st, Tyler Schultz 32nd and Brett Weyenberg 35th.

"I kind of thought we could beat one of the two (Fond du Lac or Sheboygan North). Fond du Lac beat us

twice before we beat them in the conference meet," Rocket Coach Tom Jensen said.

"I knew we would probably run well, but I didn't expect to defeat both teams. We ran super-well in the conference, and I didn't know if we could come back and be at that high emotional peak again."

Jensen added that all seven of his harriers ran well and felt that it was an achievement for the entire unit to finish among the top 35 in a field of 112 entrants.

He noted that Jacobs was ill most of the week and missed some practices, adding "when the gun goes off, he is a competitor."

"Gorman was highly motivated," he said. "He was disqualified for false starting last year, and there was no way he was going to be denied. John (Carpenter) led for two miles and then it was two-man race after that."

Carpenter finished 22 seconds ahead of Fond du Lac's Parker Zimmer.

Racine Case is the defending state champion in Division I, which a year ago was known as Class A.

The Rockets won their only state crown in 1963 when they competed in the medium school division. The 1971 team apparently won the Class A championship but three runners were disqualified because they took a wrong turn and deviated from the course.

The Zephyrs, who are gunning for their first WISAA state meet ti-

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News-Record photo
JOHN CARPENTER will lead Neenah into Saturday's WIAA state run at Wisconsin Rapids.

Rockets, Patriots top FVA cross country honor team

Neenah and Appleton East topped area schools on All-Fox Valley Association boys and girls cross country teams selected by league coaches.

Neenah selections to the boys' first team were John Carpenter, Jason Jacobs, Jim Swenson and Tom Syverud. Neenah's Tom Jensen was named Coach of the Year.

Carpenter, who placed first in the FVA Meet, and Syverud also made the team last year. Scott Kreil of Appleton East also made the first team.

Making the girls' first team from Appleton East were Alison McKee, Sarah Trigg, Becki Cone and Jen Dickson.

Appleton West's Dana Babcock and Molly Hickenbottom, Neenah's Julie Olson and Karen Schaper and Kaukauna's Peggy McGinnis also made the first team.

McKee and Trigg made the first

team for the third straight year. They were honorable mention as freshmen. Babcock also is a repeater from last year. Trigg set the pace in the FVA Meet this year.

Girls' Coach of the Year honors went to Joe Perez of Appleton East.

Boys

First team: Scott Kreil, sr., Appleton East; Ray Ibarra, sr., Fond du Lac; Mike Wagner, sr., Fond du Lac; Parker Zimmer, sr., Fond du Lac; Adam McCullough, Jr., Fond du Lac; John Carpenter, sr., Neenah; Jason Jacobs, sr., Neenah; Jim Swenson, sr., Neenah; Tom Syverud, Jr., Neenah; Rusty Burns, sr., Oshkosh West.

Honorable mention: Scott Herrmann, sr., Appleton East; Eric Olson, Jr., Appleton East; Luke Reitz, Jr., Fond du Lac; Wade Thorson, soph., Kaukauna; Mike Lamers, Jr., Kimberly; Erik Nelson, Jr., Neenah.

Coach of Year: Tom Jensen, Neenah.

Girls

First team: Alison McKee, sr., Appleton East; Sarah Trigg, sr., Appleton East; Becki Cone, soph., Appleton East; Jen Dickson, soph., Appleton East; Dana Babcock, sr., Appleton West; Molly Hickenbottom, soph., Appleton West; Peggy McGinnis, soph., Kaukauna; Julie Olson, Jr., Neenah; Karen Schaper, Jr., Neenah; Shelly Weston, soph., Oshkosh North.

Honorable mention: Jill Season, Jr., Appleton East; Cara Gresenz, soph., Appleton West; Anne Koenigs, Jr., Fond du Lac; Lacy Van Zealand, soph., Kimberly; Pally Tietz, Jr., Menasha; Jenny Disch, sr., Oshkosh North.

Coach of Year: Joe Perez, Appleton East.

East, Neenah fare well at state cross country

By Dick Knapinski

Of The Post-Crescent

WISCONSIN RAPIDS — It looked as if Saturday's WIAA State Cross Country Meet might be unusual for one big reason.

The weather might be nice.

True to the tradition established in past years, however, the winds picked up and the temperature dropped just before the first race started.

But the typical state meet weather couldn't keep several area coaches from smiling afterward. Even though no local teams won championships at The Ridges Country Club course, the coaches were happy with their team's performances.

"We were thinking that breaking into the top eight (of the 16-team field) would be a good meet for us," said Neenah Coach Tom Jensen. "Finishing sixth was probably as well as we could do, so I'm very pleased with the way we came together over the confer-

ence, sectional and state meets. We beat several teams that outran us earlier in the season."

La Crosse Central swept the Division 1 titles, winning the boys' championship with 84 points, and grabbing the girls' crown with 74.

Appleton East placed seventh in the girls' field with 196 points, but Patriots Coach Joe Perez was just happy to be at state.

"A lot of people wouldn't have given us a chance to be back at state at the start of the season," said Perez, whose team was ranked 11th in the state coming into the meet. "It took time for the team to get used to some new training methods, but we knew we would be improved during the second half of the year."

Freshman Janet Westphal of Marinette was the individual champion in a time of 11:35.

Phil Downs of Madison Memorial won his second straight individual boys' title on the 5,000-meter course in 15:43.

Neenah boys reach goal

By MARK BERGLUND
of the Northwestern

WISCONSIN RAPIDS — The Neenah Rockets set a goal and accomplished it at the 78th WIAA state cross country championships at the Ridges Country Club Saturday. The Rockets finished sixth in the boys' Division 1 field with 188 points. "I don't know what more we could ask for," said Neenah coach Tom Jensen. "Our goal was to finish in the top half and finish as well as we did at sectionals."

La Crosse Central won the 16-team Division 1 meet with 84 points,

John Carpenter, a senior, led Neenah with a 16th-place finish. He covered the blustery 5,000-meter course in 16 minutes, 26 seconds. Junior Tom Syverud was 33rd in 16:54.

"The first mile was fast," Carpenter said. "I was right where I wanted to be, but I was really tired."

Junior Phil Downs of Madison Memorial won the individual title in 15:43. It was his second consecutive title and third top-two finish.

Jason Jacobs, a senior for the Rockets, was 52nd in 17:12, senior Jim

Boys' cross country

Swenson was 75th in 17:29, and sophomore Tyler Schultz finished 94th.

Freshmen Brett Weyenberg and Eric Drumm also ran for Neenah.

"We beat Fond du Lac, and that was one of our goals," Carpenter said. "We weren't even ranked until after sectionals."

Wautoma finished 12th in the Division 2 meet with 275 points after a sixth-place finish last year.

"We had a couple of guys that didn't run as well as usual," said Wautoma coach Robert Barbarich. "We were a little nervous. Everybody says it, but we were just happy to be down here."

Wautoma was led by a surprising performance from Dan Hefko, who finished 57th in 17:56.

"When Rod was hurt this year, I usually ran No. 1," Hefko said.

Hefko, who ran 58th last year, edged Parker Will of Mc Farland by five seconds. Will beat Hefko by one spot last year.

Rod Semrow finished 70th in his third state meet in 18:20. Sophomore Joe Garza was 75th in 18:27; Shane Koch, 77th (18:38); and Justin Anderson, 91st (19:16).

Shad Cooper (94th) and Chad Caswell (99th) also ran for Wautoma.

Phillips won the Division 2 meet with 63 points. Kurt Kenas, a junior from Viroqua, won the meet in 15:54.

Westfield junior Troy Gorton had the top area finish in Division 2. He was 14th in 17:06.

"I was moving up all the way," Gorton said. "I had a good pace, and I liked the course."

Sam Benjamin, a sophomore from Winneconne, finished 47th in 17:45.

"I was stuck outside (at the start) and I had to start faster than I wanted to," Benjamin said. "It was windy, but I felt OK."

Frank Zimbeck from Plainfield Tri-County was the only area runner in Division 3, finishing 22nd in 17:37.

"My pace was a little slow, but I finished about where I wanted to be," he said.

Jeremy Johnson of South Shore won the Division 3 meet in 16:28.