

Cross Country | Bon Homme Invitational

Nelson: Invite A Good Pre-State Test

BY JEREMY HOECK
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TYNDALL — Laura Nelson had already handily won her varsity girls' race, but her day was done yet.

The Gayville-Volin sophomore immediately became a cheerleader for her team, which went on to win — surprisingly to those involved — Monday's Bon Homme cross country invitational, which was held at Bon Homme Country Club near Tyndall.

Nelson, last year's Class B state champion, dominated the field with a winning time of 15:01, and then watched her Raiders make up for the loss of two missing varsity runners.

"The team was sitting great, and they all stepped up," Nelson said.

Because the meet was scored as a Class B event, Gayville-Volin only needed to score three runners to qualify for the team title. The Raiders moved freshman Lanny Clark and eighth-grader Ashley Emnick up to the varsity race, and they responded by finishing eighth and 11th, respectively.

Not bad considering Bon Homme has a hilly course, Nelson said.

"I love this course, it's a great atmosphere," she said.

It was also rather competitive on the girls' side. Hartington-Newcastle (Nebraska) was second in the team race with 22 points, two in front of Freeman. Bon Homme (37), Burke-South Central (40) and Platte-Geddes (41) weren't far back.

The course terrain was good training for the state meet, which is set for Oct. 25 at Broadland Creek Golf Course in Huron.

"It's good to run here, because Huron is somewhat similar, from what I remember," Nelson said. "It's good training, no matter how fast you run."

Behind Nelson, the individual finishes in the girls' race were rather close.

Freeman's Cailey Roth was second at 16:17, followed by Sierra Votaw of Burke-South Central (16:23) and Maddison Hajek of Bon Homme (16:27).

On the boys' side, Nebraska runners dominated the race.

Hartington-Newcastle, a new consolidation, put four runners in the top 10, while North Central (Bassett, Nebraska) had two and Creighton one.

In the team standings, Hartington-Newcastle was first with six points, followed by Burke-South Central (27), Bon Homme (30), Creighton (34) and Platte-Geddes (43).

The Bon Homme Country Club 5,000-meter course was nothing new to champion Colin Erickson of North Central, but the competition was



as challenging as ever, he said.

"I've been up here before, and in the past, it's always been a very tough meet," said Erickson, who crossed the finish line with a winning time of 17:05.

Hartington-Newcastle had places 2-3-4, with Noah Noecker (17:52), Jared Fuelberth (17:57) and Brian Santiago (18:01), respectively. Creighton's Garrison Hazen was eighth, followed by Hartington-Newcastle's Seth Wiebelhaus and North Central's Phillip Lewis.

Monday's meet was good practice for those Nebraska runners, according to Erickson.

The North Central Knights run a meet next week in Kearney, which also boasts a hill-filled course — it's also the site of the Nebraska state meet.

"It's great to see something like that today," Erickson said.

Even if the hills near Tyndall are a little higher, he added with a smile.

"Down where we run, there aren't huge hills," Erickson said. "That's what makes this pretty challenging."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

Record Win Hasn't Set In For State's Stiegelmeier

BY JEREMY HOECK
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John Stiegelmeier clearly remembers his first game as head coach of his alma mater. September 13, 1997 at UC Davis.

It wasn't so much the outcome — South Dakota State won 17-7 — that he remembers most, it was what happened later that sticks out to Stiegelmeier, who was making his head coaching debut that day in California.

"I got a big hug from my dad and he told me he loved me," Stiegelmeier recalled. "He told me, 'God's blessed you.'"

"And he was right."

One hundred thirteen victories later, the Selby native and 1979 SDSU graduate became the school's all-time wins leader.

With the Jackrabbits' 41-3 victory over Wisconsin-Oshkosh on Saturday night, Stiegelmeier earned career win No. 114, passing Ralph Ginn (113-89-9 from 1947-68) in the history books.

Two days later, has the record set in yet?

"Not really," Stiegelmeier said Monday in an interview with the *Press & Dakotan*. "I felt blessed on day one being here and I still feel blessed."

"I've been surrounded by so many neat, hard-working people," he added. "To me, it was an accumulation of a lot of people working hard."

Stiegelmeier's career record now stands at 114-82 in his 18th season in Brookings, and in that span, he has guided the Jackrabbits through the Division I transition.

But it was those D-II days back in the North Central Conference that set the stage for SDSU to become a three-time FCS playoff participant at the next level, he said.

"I use the term 'unbelievable,' but it doesn't do it justice," Stiegelmeier said. "It's been unbelievable to see where the program has gone, from a new level, to new facilities, to a larger budget."

Not to mention the support from fans, he added.

A crowd of 13,731 filed into Coughlin-Alumni Stadium for Saturday's game against Wisconsin-Oshkosh, an NCAA Division III program. That was proof that the fanbase has followed the Jackrabbits on its progression up the FCS ladder, Stiegelmeier said.

"Those things sneak up on you, and it takes people to remind you," he said.

In that way, Stiegelmeier is a lot like his standout running back Zach Zenner.

Zenner, who rushed for 209 yards Saturday, earlier this season became the all-time leading rusher in the Missouri Valley Football Conference. Stiegelmeier joked that Zenner is "better at deflecting praise than I am," but pointed to the senior's humility as similar to what Stiegelmeier feels after setting the wins record.

"The linemen, the tight ends, they won't have their name on Zach's record, but he understands it's a team sport," Stiegelmeier said. Which makes it difficult to stop and talk about your own accomplishments, he added.

"You hardly ever get the chance to look back," said Stiegelmeier, whose Jackrabbits are off this week. "You essentially get three days to prepare for your next opponent."

"And when you're not looking back, you're trying to take a deep breath."

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Inter-State Showdown

Several teams from both South Dakota and Nebraska converged on Bon Homme Country Club near Tyndall for the annual Bon Homme Invitational on Monday.

ABOVE: Laura Nelson of Gayville-Volin crosses the hill during Monday's Bon Homme Invitational at Bon Homme Country Club near Tyndall. Nelson, the defending Class B state champion, won the girls' race and helped the Raiders to the team title in the event.

LEFT: Noah Noecker, right, of Hartington-Newcastle leads eventual champion Colin Erickson of North Central during the boys' race Monday at the Bon Homme Invitational, held at Bon Homme Country Club near Tyndall. Noecker finished second, helping the Wildcats to the boys' team title.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D



Tennis: Gazelles Split At Madison

MADISON — The Yankton Gazelles split a triangular at Madison, beating Madison 6-3 and dropping a 7-2 decision to Brandon Valley in girls' tennis action on Monday.

Against Madison, Kaitlyn Frank, Mimi Garcia, Anne Knoff and Anna Kokesh each earned singles victories. Sarah Rockne and Frank, and Kim Cap and Kokesh each scored doubles wins.

Rockne and Kokesh won in singles play for Yankton against Brandon Valley.

The Gazelles continue a busy final week for the regular season, traveling to Sioux Falls Washington on Thursday. Start time is set for 2 p.m.

YANKTON 6, MADISON 3

SINGLES: Elle Graham M def. Sarah Rockne 10-1; Simone Droge M def. Maddie Logue 10-1; Kaitlyn Frank Y def. Hannah Olson 10-2; Mimi Garcia Y def. Sydney Swenson 10-2; Anne Knoff Y def. Laece Fedeler 10-2; Anna Kokesh Y def. Katie Berghelm 10-3

DOUBLES: Rockne-Frank Y def. Graham-Droge 10-6; Kim Cap-Kokesh Y def. Olson-Swenson 10-7; Fedeler-Berghelm M def. Knoff-Garcia 10-0

JV: C.C. Graham M def. Sophie Kouri 10-4; C.C. Graham-Morgon Wroy M def. Kouri-Logue 10-7

BRANDON VALLEY 7, YANKTON 2

SINGLES: Sarah Rockne Y def. Jessica Sadler 10-8; Makenzie Marso BV def. Maddie Logue 10-0; Hanna Mutschelknaus BV def. Kaitlyn Frank 10-4; Marie Schmitz BV def. Mimi Garcia 10-1; Logan Hawkins BV def. Anne Knoff 10-7; Anna Kokesh Y def. Chandler Harstad 11-10 (7-4)

DOUBLES: Sadler-Mutschelknaus BV def. Rockne-Frank 10-6; Marso-Schmitz BV def. Kim Cap-Kokesh 10-1; Hawkins-Harstad BV def. Knoff-Garcia 10-5



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Vermillion's Maddie Lavin claimed the varsity girls' race at the Alcester-Hudson Invitational on Monday in Alcester.

Lavin, Paulsen Take AH Titles

ALCESTER — Vermillion's Maddie Lavin and Elk Point-Jefferson's Hunter Paulsen claimed medalist honors in the Alcester-Hudson Invitational on Monday at Alcester Golf Club.

Lavin won the girls' race, clocking a 15:41.17 over the 4,000-meter course. West Central's Hanna Wahl (16:08.43) finished second, with Elk Point-Jefferson's Josie Heeren (16:28.90) placing third.

Canton won the team title with 19 points in the Class B format race (three scored). Sioux Falls Christian (30) finished second, followed by West Central (33), Elk Point-Jefferson (34) and Dakota Valley (40).

Paulsen continued his strong start, battling past West Central's Derick Peters for the title. Paulsen finished in 15:24.52 over the 5,000-meter race, nine seconds faster than Peters.

West Central put seven runners in the top 10 to easily take team honors, 12-19 over Sioux Falls Christian. Freeman Academy finished third with 49 points.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Elk Point-Jefferson's Hunter Paulsen claims the boys' race at the Alcester-Hudson Invitational.

No Date For Yankton-Aberdeen Central Football Game

Despite conversations Monday between both schools, Yankton and Aberdeen Central have yet to find a solution to last Friday night's postponed football game, according to Yankton activities director Ryan Mors.

The game at Crane-Youngworth Field was eventually postponed following a two-hour weather delay. Aberdeen Central held a 20-17 lead on the Bucks at halftime.

Officials from both schools will resume discussions today (Tuesday) in an attempt to find a date and time that works for both parties, Mors said.

"Patience is a virtue in this case," he said.

Aberdeen Central is open the week of Oct. 3, but Yankton — which visits Sioux Falls O'Gorman on Friday — has its open week during the final week of the regular season (Oct. 23).

Dell Rapids Tops Tangers For Dakota XII Title

DAKOTA DUNES — Led by medalist Ty Hoglund, Dell Rapids beat out Vermillion for team honors in the Dakota XII Conference boys' golf tournament, held Monday at Two Rivers Golf Course at Dakota Dunes.

Dell Rapids finished at 305, beating out the Tangers (313) and Canton (320). Madison finished third at 327.

Hoglund shot a 72 to beat teammate Devon Weber and Madison's Tanner Burg by two strokes. Dell Rapids' Adam Karst shot 76 to finish fourth.

Vermillion was led by Jacob Odens, in a group tied for fifth at 77.

TEAM SCORES: Dell Rapids 305, Vermillion 313, Canton 320, Madison 327, Sioux Falls Christian 341, Tea Area 347, Dakota Valley 349, West Central 354, Lennox 365, Elk Point-Jefferson 366, Tri-Valley 454

TOP 15: Ty Hoglund, Dell Rapids 72; Devon Weber, Dell Rapids 74; Tanner Burg, Madison 74; Adam Karst, Dell Rapids 76; Jacob Odens, Vermillion 77; Jordan Sehr, Canton 77; Alex DeJong, Canton 77; Devlin Rue, West Central 78; Cooper Williams, Vermillion 78; Andrew Heine, Vermillion 78; Lee Wynja, S.F. Christian 79; Kevin Frick, Canton 80; Carter Andre, Vermillion 80; Hunter Jamison, Madison 81; Kolby Newborg, Tea Area 81

The USD men shot rounds of 290 and 280 on Monday to hold an 11-stroke lead on host South Dakota State. NDSU sits in third at 582, 12 strokes back.

USD's Jordan Rykal and SDSU's Dylan Baker each sit at 4-under 138 after two rounds. Baker posted the low score of the first round, a 66. Rykal's 68 was the low score of the second round.

USD's Sam Matthew is the only other golfer under par through two rounds, three strokes off the leaders.

In the women's division, NDSU sits at 601 through two rounds, 18 strokes ahead of

Drake. SDSU sits third at 620. USD and Creighton are tied at fourth with scores of 642.

NDSU's Alex Schmid shot rounds of 77 and 70 for a score of 147, three strokes ahead of SDSU's Hallie Getz. NDSU's Sarah Strandt and Natalie Roth sit at 151, four strokes off the pace.

Also for SDSU, sophomore Megan Mingo (Yankton) shot 157 to tie for 11th.

USD was led by Abby Dufrane's 156. Brenna Lervik shot 158 on the day.

The third and final round begins today (Tuesday) at 9 a.m.