

Wichita County CC: School Record Falls at Lakin

To be a champion you must finish first. At the Lakin Cross Country Invitational on Saturday the 9th sophomore Paige Wells won her first meet of the year in a school record breaking time of 16:19 eclipsing her previous mark of 16:28 for the 4K distance (2.48 miles). Trailing in 3rd place after the opening half mile Paige caught the leaders near the 1 mile mark. At 1.5 miles Wells broke away and was never threatened as she cruised to a 22 second victory over runner-up Destyni Lucero of Liberal. Teammate Nicole Huber grabbed an 8th place finish as she narrowly defeated two Colby runners down the stretch finish into the chute. The racing format at Lakin is divided into a freshman/sophomore race followed by a junior/senior race. In the upperclassman race the Indian pack of Rachel Busch, Makenna Clark and Hannah Mehl finished within 19 seconds of each other, all grabbing top 15 medal positions. Clark established and personal record (PR) with a minute and 28 second improvement. Emily Finley of Colby won this race with a 16:24 giving Wells the fastest time of the day.

The boys underclassman race saw freshman Joshua Mehl come from the 22nd position after ½ mile to catch all but one competitor, Angel Viveros of Liberal, while finishing 2nd in a PR of 17:32, a 5:39 average over the 3.1 mile, 5K course. The overall winner was Israel Mendoza of Ulysses who ran a 16:57 in the upperclassman race. Senior Mario Mancillas toured the course while establishing a 68 second PR of 21:08.

Team results were awarded to a combined score of all races with the lowest 7 runner's places added together, both girls and boys. This format rewards a true team champion as 2A powerhouse Ness City edged 5A Liberal 32 to 33. Our 65 point placed us 5th behind addition 4A schools Hugoton and Ulysses. 16 teams fielded the seven runners required to score.

Team Scores: Ness City 32, Liberal 33, Hugoton 53, Ulysses 59, **Wichita County 65**, Colby 84, Stanton County 105, Scott City 122, Syracuse 151, Oakley 195, Garden City JV 197, Sublette 214, Cimarron 218, South Gray 244, Lakin 245, Goodland JV 400

Girls: 4K (2.48 M)	time	pl	Boys: 5K (3.1 M)	time	pl
Paige Wells-so	16:19	1	Joshua Mehl-fr	17:32	2
Nicole Huber-so	17:50	8	Lane Ridder-fr	19:27	27
Rachel Busch-sr	18:21	9	Jesus Holguin-sr	19:10	22
Makenna Clark-jr	18:25	11	Mario Mancillas-sr	21:08	37
Hannah Mehl-sr	18:40	12	Justin Kiser-jr	21:25	42

The middle school races were run by classes and gender. Dylon Niswonger ended his 7th grade season having medaled in all races concluding with a 6th place performance. Also medaling with a PR by 42 seconds was Hannah Martin in the 7th girls division. Eighth graders Brittany Hermosillo, Joshua Clark and Jacob Clark all ran to personal record times. Due to scheduling conflicts this Thursday Niswonger, Clark, Clark, Kyler Long, Evan Ridder and Autumn Smades all competed in their final meet of the season. The remaining middle school runners will conclude their season Thursday at the High Plains League Meet to be held in Syracuse with races starting at 5 pm cst.

Mile Run	time	pl		time	pl
Autumn Smades- 8th	6:57	12	Dylon Niswonger- 7 th	6:03	6
Brittany Hermosillo -8 th	7:12	15	Kyler Long- 7 th	6:37	26
Hannah Martin- 7 th	7:01	9	Jacob Schumacher- 7 th	6:43	29
			Evan Ridder- 7 th	6:54	34
			Joshua Clark-8 th	6:31	22
			Jacob Clark-8 th	6:39	28