

Wichita County CC: Girls and Wells Champions, 7 Named All-League

Last season illness robbed the Lady Indians from claiming a league title, this season there was no excuse as the Lady Harriers placed five runners in the top 15 to easily win the title, underscoring runner-up Meade 30 – 55. In addition sophomore Paige Wells claimed individual honors with a dominating 46 second victory over Sublette’s Gentry Hibbard. Our focus for this meet was to run an even pace throughout the race and focus on passing competitors over the final ½ mile of the event. The girls ran the plan to perfection as each team member pushed through the final stretch passing runners. That effort was good enough to earn All-League top 15 places for Wells (1), sophomore Nicole Huber (5), senior Rachel Busch (8), senior Hannah Mehl (11) and junior Makenna Clark (15). Freshman Katie Bailey (27) and junior Lindsay Schumacher (29) completed the team effort with solid runs and helping the team collect first place medals, a team league champion shingle and the travelling plaque that stays with the victorious team until the next season’s championship race. Zahily Sandoval competed in the JV division and claimed 2nd place with a 20:10 over the 2.3 mile course.

The boys team members claimed two spots in the top 15 as freshman Joshua Mehl ran even throughout the 3 mile course in claiming 3rd place, behind champion Seph Iman of Elkhart and Cole Gardiner, an Ashland runner running for Meade, and senior Jesus Holguin claimed 11th with easily his best run of the season. Freshman Lane Ridder, senior Mario Mancillas and junior Justin Kiser ran season’s best races in claiming 22nd, 32nd and 34th respectively. The team scored 81 points to place 4th of six teams as Meade edged Johnson 39 - 47 for the title.

Girls Team: Wichita County 30, Meade 55, Johnson 70, Syracuse 73, Cimarron 112

Boys Team: Meade 39, Johnson 47, Syracuse 76, Wichita County 81, Cimarron 122, Sublette 130

| Girls: (2.3 M) | time | pl | Boys: (3.0 M) | time | pl |
|--------------------|-------|------|--------------------|-------|----|
| Paige Wells-so | 15:01 | 1 | Joshua Mehl-fr | 17:08 | 3 |
| Nicole Huber-so | 16:06 | 5 | Jesus Holguin-sr | 18:08 | 11 |
| Rachel Busch-sr | 16:20 | 8 | Lane Ridder-fr | 18:52 | 22 |
| Hannah Mehl-sr | 16:23 | 11 | Mario Mancillas-sr | 20:40 | 32 |
| Makenna Clark-jr | 16:46 | 15 | Justin Kiser-jr | 20:46 | 34 |
| Zahily Sandoval-fr | 20:10 | 2-jv | | | |

Seventh grader Hannah Martin secured a 4th place and All-League placing with a personal record time of 6:56 in the mile run. Hannah really ran well the last two weeks and cut her PR by 46 seconds, that’s a remarkable improvement over the mile distance. Eight graders Brittany Hermosillo and Jacob Schumacher ended their season with nice races, as Jacob was only 2 seconds over his PR and 1 place out of the top 5 medal positions. The middle school runners showed all season a willingness to work hard and learn about the sport of cross country running, for that I am very grateful, thank you runners.

| Mile Run | time | pl | | time | pl |
|--------------------------------------|------|----|-----------------------------------|------|----|
| Brittany Hermosillo -8 th | 7:34 | 9 | Jacob Schumacher- 7 th | 6:28 | 6 |
| Hannah Martin- 7 th | 6:56 | 4 | | | |