

TC cross country teams compete in Shawano run

The Neenah and Menasha boys' cross country teams were idle during the Labor Day weekend but they'll begin a string of invitationals at Shawano Saturday.

Through the years, the Shawano course has been good to the Rockets.

They've won the meet 14 times, including the last eight, under coaches Tom Jensen and John Morgen.

Menasha also will be at Shawano, but it will compete in a smaller enrollment division than the Rockets.

The Twin City runners have been idle since Sept. 1 when they participated in a Fox Valley Association grade-level meet at Fond du Lac.

For Neenah, the meet will be the first where the results will be determined on runners' finishes because the West Bend Invitational was decided on time and the harriers ran against opponents in their own classes in the grade level meet.

St. Mary Central will participate in Saturday's Manitowoc Roncalli Invitational after competing in multiple-school meets at Fond du Lac's Winnebago Lutheran and Marshfield Columbus last week.

A capsule synopsis of the local teams follows.

Neenah: Returning lettermen include seniors Jason Olson, Adam Christnovich, Al Henschel, Mike Hillstrom and Ryan Lenerz and sophomores Evan Bosetti and Andy Schaller.

Olson was second-team all-conference and Bosetti and Christnovich received honorable mention in 1997.

Christnovich was one of the top distance runners on the track team last spring and Bosetti ran well in

road meets this summer and was in his group in the FVA and West Bend meets.

Lost by graduation were Nick Madsen, first-team all-conference; Twannyan Carr and Paul Mason, who were named to the second unit; and Josh Olson, Jason Chapman and Jason Sickler.

The Rockets were third in the conference meet and fourth in the sectional, with no state qualifiers last October.

Rocket recap

CROSS COUNTRY

Neenah's boys won their eighth straight Shawano Invitational title last Saturday with a winning score of 37. Evan Bossetti led the field with a time of 16:33. Neenah's other top finishers included Al Henschel (5th - 17:03), Jason Olson (7th - 17:04.5), Adam Christnovich

(10th - 17:21), and Ben Johnson (14th - 17:33). Other Neenah varsity runners included Mike Hillstrom (18th), Prichard Keely (22nd) and Ryan Lenerz (24th).

Neenah's girls also took first place in the Shawano Invitational, with a team score of 36.

Neenah's top runner, Betsy McDonald, finished in second place with a time of 15:44. Other Neenah varsity runners included Amanda Smith (3rd - 15:49), Jenna Smith (9th - 16:31), Kate Peterson (10th - 16:33), Becky Probst (12th - 16:38), Kim Steffens (13th - 16:45), Sarah Schultz (14th - 16:55), and Kristine Berg (18th)

Cross country

PREP

SHAWANO INVITATIONAL

Girls' Division-Large

NEENAH 36, APPLETON WEST 43, GREEN BAY PREBLE 106, GREEN BAY EAST 120, OSHKOSH NORTH 120, MANITOWOC 151, ANTIGO 167, MENASHA 200, GREEN BAY WEST had an incomplete team.

Top 10 finishers

1, Sandy Fondow GBW 15:39; 2, Betsy McDonald NEE 15:44; 3, Amanda Smith NEE 15:49; 4, Jessica Riederer GBP 15:51; 5, Katie Olander MEN 15:55; 6, Natalie Brown AW 16:07; 7, Rachel Stoehr ANT 16:21; 8, Tracey Damerath GBE 16:23; 9, Jenna Smith NEE 16:31; 10, Kate Peterson NEE 16:33.

Neenah: 2, Betsy McDonald; 3, Amanda Smith; 9, Jenna Smith; 10, Kate Peterson; 12, Becky Probst; 13, Kim Steffens; 14, Sarah Schulz; 18, Kristine Berg.

Appleton West: 6, Natalie Brown; 15, Bethany Watry; 21, Tina Hickinbotham; 23, Amanda Hinkins; 28, Caire Koch; 40, Kara Huenink; 46, Lisa Schieble.

Oshkosh North: 11, Melissa Minerath; 26, Hannah Linse; 29, Tonya Lueffler; 30, Kristi Michelson; 31, Megan Lennon; 33, Tracey Whitney; 53, Gayle Gabert; 111, Erika Heglund.

Menasha: 5, Katie Olander; 42, Kristin Henning; 48, Jody Schmidt; 51, Jenny Hanson; 54, Christina Landwehr; 57, Brooke Wiegand; 58, Kristin Wrycha.

Boys' Division-Large

NEENAH 37, OSHKOSH NORTH 92, ANTIGO 104, APPLETON WEST 118, GREEN BAY PREBLE 120, GREEN BAY EAST 139, MANITOWOC 151, MENASHA 209, GREEN BAY WEST had an incomplete team.

Top 10 finishers

1, Evan Bossetti NEE 16:33; 2, John Leroy ON 16:35; 3, Pat Seger ON 16:57; 4, Eric Milinski GBW 17:02; 5, Al Henschel NEE 17:04; 6, Jaren Thomas ANT 17:04; 7, Jason Olson NEE 17:07; 8, T.J. Schmidt AW 17:12; 9, Brian Peters AW 17:14; 10, Adam Christnovich NEE 17:21.

Neenah: 1, Evan Bossetti; 5, Al Henschel; 7, Jason Olson; 10, Adam Christnovich; 14, Ben Johnson; 18, Mike Hillstrom; 22, Richard Keely; 24, Ryan Lenerz.

Oshkosh North: 2, John Leroy; 3, Pat Seger; 15, Matt Rego; 27, 41, Will McEnroe; Adam Pahl; 52, Chad Crawford; 53, Nick Hoffman; 59, Paul Stuber.

Marquette Invitational

The Neenah boys and girls each placed second behind Waukesha West in the eight-team meet.

The Rockets' Evan Bosetti was second overall in the boys' race, while Betsy McDonald placed fourth to lead Neenah in the girls' meet.

Cross country

PREP

Non-conference

Girls

WAUKESHA WEST 30, NEENAH 54, DIVINE SAVIOR HOLY ANGELS 78, MILWAUKEE PIUS 129, RACINE HORLICK 139, KENOSHA TREMPER 146, MILWAUKEE THOMAS MORE 214, RACINE CASE 219.

1, Shannon Carney KT 15:23.89; 2, Serena Ramsey WW 15:29.31; 3, Renee Pilon WW 15:31.56; 4, Betsy McDonald N 15:52.93; 5, Kristin Schulz WW 15:55.82; 6, Maggie Grum DSHA 15:59.70; 7, Amanda Smith N 16:12.11; 8, Ann Regnery MP 16:16.04; 9, Melanie Mikecz WW 16:19.58; 10, Megan Frank DSHA 16:29.88.

Other Neenah finishers: 13, Kate Petersen 16:43.77; 14, Jenna Smith 16:45.58; 16, Becky Probst 16:54.52; 18, Kristine Berg 17:02.09; 19, Kim Staffens 17:10.27; 23, Sarah Schultz 17:24.03.

Boys

WAUKESHA WEST 30, NEENAH 52, WAUKESHA CATHOLIC MEMORIAL 99, MILWAUKEE MARQUETTE 102, WEST BEND WEST 158, MENOMONEE FALLS 161, MILWAUKEE THOMAS MORE 184, RACINE HORLICK 176, PORT WASHINGTON 282, MARQUETTE GOLD 315, KENOSHA TREMPER 316.

1, Brett Angel RC 16:47; 2, Evan Bosetti NEE 16:54; 3, Scott Sadowski WCM 17:01; 4, Dan Haumschild WW 17:08; 5, Chris Martin WW 17:09; 6, Adam Shnare RH 17:13; 7, Billy Walkowicz WW 17:17; 8, Jason Olson NEE 17:18; 9, Tim Daley WW 17:22; 10, Matt Esche WW 17:25.

Other Neenah finishers: 12, Al Henschel 17:29.32; 17, Ben Johnson 17:45; 18, Adam Christovich 17:46.

McDonald and Bosetti pace Neenah runners

Both squads finish first overall at the Oshkosh North Invitational

Fours were wild for both the Neenah boys' and girls' cross country teams after each finished first at the Sept. 24 Oshkosh Invitational.

Both squads posted identical scores of 44 as the boys finished well in front of runners-up Appleton East, which had 90 points, while the girls' nearest challenger was Marshfield, who recorded a 56.



McDonald

In the meet's most exciting finish, Neenah freshman Betsy McDonald inched — literally — past Little Chute's Abby Hurst to claim the overall individual title on the girls' side.

McDonald posted a time of 15:25 while Hurst grabbed a 15:26. Menasha's Katie Olander was third after running in a time

of 15:35.

"It was very close," Neenah girls' coach Ron Fedenko said. "It was one of those finishes that the judges had to run up to the line and decide. From my angle, I thought (Betsy) was a little bit ahead, but it was close.

"(Betsy) has done a very good job for us this year. She's a very good competitor who has that 'hate-to-lose' mentality. I didn't know much about her at the beginning of the year, and I didn't expect her to be our number one runner, but she did a lot over the summer to prepare and it's show-

ing."

Sophomore Amanda Smith also ran well for the Rockets. The sophomore came in fourth overall with a time of 15:37.

"Overall, the team is doing a nice job," said Fedenko. "We've really got some good depth this year, and I like the leadership I've gotten from my juniors and seniors.

"We're running well as a team right now, and hopefully that will continue and we will get better."

Other top Neenah finishers included Jenna Smith (11th overall with a time of 16:05), Kate Peterson (12th, 16:06), Becky Probst (16th, 16:19), Kim Steffens (17th, 16:25), and Sarah Schultz

(19th, 16:30).

Evan Bosetti paced the Neenah boys with a third-place overall finish. Bosetti crossed the line in 16:33 while Wausau West's Drew Hohensee, who finished first, was 10 seconds faster with a time of 16:23. John LeRoy of Oshkosh North came in second in 16:25.

"Evan is a real gifted runner," boys' coach John Morgen said. "If he stays healthy and continues to work hard, he has a real bright future. I think he has a really good chance at winning the conference title this year."



Bosetti

Rockets cross country

The Rockets' Adam Christnovich followed Bosetti with a fourth-place finish after recording a time of 16:44.

Jason Olson (7th, 16:50), Al Henschel (13th, 16:56) and Ben Johnson (17th, 17:09) rounded out Neenah's other top-20 finishers.

"Adam and Jason and Ben have done real well for us this year," said Morgen. "And Al has really improve thanks to a lot of hard work in the offseason. (Henschel's time at (the) Oshkosh (North Invite) was a personal best.

"Overall, I can't complain. I'm really pleased with how we're running, and hopefully, we'll continue to get better as the season goes along."

JV: The Neenah boys' junior varsity cross country team finished first, as well, at the Oshkosh North Invitational thanks to an impressive score of 22.

A perfect score in cross country is 15, so Morgen was especially pleased with his team's effort.

"They really ran well," he said. "To have a score that low, I mean, 15 is a perfect score. So that was nice."

Bud Marks (18:12), Rockey Schafer (18:13), and Adam Buckingham (18:21) finished second, third, and fourth respectively, while Andy Turner (6th, 18:35) and Shau Albee (7th, 18:50) rounded out Neenah's top-five.

cross country teams all win Neenah boys, girls run to titles

By CARLOS MUNOZ
OF THE NORTHWESTERN

The Neenah boys' cross country team stormed through the finish line in bunches, scoring 44 points to steal the team trophy from the Marshfield Tigers at the Spartan Invitational cross country meet at Menominee Park on Thursday.

The host Oshkosh North Spartans finished fifth in the boys' portion, led by John LeRoy. LeRoy took second place with a time of 16 minutes, 25 seconds. Pat Seger placed 16th in 17:08 for the Spartans.

Wausau West's Drew Hohensee narrowly outran LeRoy in the last 100 meters to earn the individual title.

Not to be outdone, the Neenah girls also won the team title with 44 points. Betsy McDonald won the girls' race for the Rockets, narrowly crossing the finish line before Little Chute's Abby Hurst. Oshkosh North was seventh in the girls' race with 154 points, while Menasha finished ninth.

"John LeRoy did a nice job," Oshkosh North coach Chuck Reigel said. "The kid that beat him is probably one of the better runners in the state. John is too, and he was right there."

"I thought John did a heck of a job, and I thought Pat Seger ran a nice race. Our guys ran real well today. They ran as a group."

The Spartans, as well as many of the teams, were unable to keep pace with a strong Rockets contingent that saw Neenah's top five runners

place in the top 16.

"I was real pleased," Neenah coach John Morgan said. "There were some quality teams in Appleton East, and Marshfield I knows ranks highly in the state. I was really pleased to see the kids go out and compete well against some good competition."

The Rockets were paced by sophomore Evan Bosetti, who finished third in 16:33. Bosetti was part of a group of four runners that led for much of the race, with LeRoy and Hohensee leading much of the way.

"Evan Bosetti, he's a sophomore and he ran well," said Morgan. "It's something we haven't had in the past, someone who can place in the top three or go out and win a race. It will be really helpful for us to have that kind of a runner."

Menasha got a strong performance by junior Paul Spangle, who turned in a 20th-place finish.

The Neenah girls seemed to mirror the boys' results, placing all their runners in the top 16. McDonald was the overall winner for the Rockets in 15:25, while teammate Amanda Smith trailed in fourth place (15:37).

Neenah girls' coach Ron Fedenko believed his team may have benefited from a mistake that misdirected several runners.

"I guess there was some confusion on the course," Fedenko said. "I didn't see it because I was back at the finish line, but there was some misdirection and our girl kind of benefited from it and caught Hurst

CROSS COUNTRY

Prep boys' results Spartan Invite

Neenah 44, Marshfield 56, Appleton East 79, Green Bay Southwest 109, Oshkosh North 119, Wausau West 149, Little Chute 161, Beaver Dam 247, New London 255, Menasha 258

5,000 meters

Top 10 - 1. Drew Hohensee (WW) 16:23, 2. John LeRoy (ON) 16:25, 3. Evan Bosetti (NEE) 16:33, 4. Adam Christovich (NEE) 16:44, 5. Scott Harrington (MAR) 16:47, 6. Jeff Riege (MAR) 16:48, 7. Jason Olson (NEE) 16:50, 8. Dave Jansen (LC) 16:52, 9. Brandon Rasmussen (AE) 16:52, 9. Kirk DeWindt (GBS) 16:53

Neenah finishers - 13. Al Heaschel 16:56, 17. Ben Johnson 17:09, 25. Mike Hillstrom 17:39, 29. Prichard Keely 17:59, 34. Ryan Lenz 18:13

Oshkosh North finishers - 16. Pat Seger 17:08, 28. Matt Repo 17:54, 31. Adam Puhl 18:04, 42. Chad Crawford 18:28, 44. Will McEnroe 18:33, 73. Nick Hoffman 19:50

Menasha finishers - 20. Paul Spangle 17:23, 48. Jason Fast 18:39, 59. Tim Sauter 19:12, 70. Nate Borew 19:40, 72. Dave Groh 19:46

Neenah runners defend honors

The Neenah boys' and girls' cross country teams, both of whom were second in Saturday's Milwaukee Marquette Invitational, will defend their championships in Thursday's Oshkosh North Invitational.

Menasha also will participate in the Spartan meet and then will take part in Saturday's Manitowoc Invitational.

Menasha's Katie Olander seeks her third straight Manitowoc meet

title.

The Neenah boys and girls both trailed Waukesha West at Milwaukee.

Olander was fourth at New London and fifth at Schofield to lead the Menasha girls in last week's meets.

The girls were sixth at Schofield and ninth at New London.

The Menasha boys were seventh at Schofield and 10th at New London.

at the end.

"It was a tough sprint to the finish line, she just caught the girl, so it was really very close. Amanda Smith ran very well, and the rest of the runners I think had a good day."

Hannah Linse was the top runner for Oshkosh North, finishing 26th in 16:53. Tracie Whitney was 27th

(16:54) and Tanya Loeffler earned 29th (17:06) for North. Melissa Minerath was 32nd for North in 17:11.

Katie Olander finished third overall for Menasha in 15:35.

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McDonald wins by an inch as Neenah rolls

By Benjamin Wideman
Post-Crescent staff writer

OSHKOSH — One question remained following the girls' portion of the Oshkosh North Invitational cross country meet Thursday.

Who won?
Trailing by 10 meters with about 100 meters left, Neenah freshman Betsy McDonald shifted into high gear, tracking down Little Chute senior Abby Hurst as they simultaneously lunged across the finish line.

"It was so close they didn't know right away who won," McDonald said. "I didn't know, either."

Hurst, who held the lead for most of the race, was equally puzzled.

"(A meet official) held us up right when we got done. It was pretty close. He kept saying, 'Red or blue? Red or blue?'" said Hurst, referring to their uniform colors.

When the dust cleared, McDonald, the girl in the red, was declared the winner in a time of 15:25, officially one second ahead of Hurst. The winning margin was more "like

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

an inch," McDonald said.
The freshman's effort, combined with a fourth place by sophomore Amanda Smith, catapulted the Rockets to first place. Neenah's boys also won their race.

In fact, both the Neenah boys and girls scored 44 points, winning their respective races at the invitational for the second straight year.

Of all the competitors who ran near the zoo at Menominee Park, the 14-year-old McDonald proved to be the graceful gazelle, winning her first overall race in this her first varsity season.

"She just goes out there and runs and runs," Neenah girls' coach Ron Fedenko said. "She's a freshman, and I think she doesn't analyze the races too much, which is good. It's almost better if you just go out and run. It helped her today. That was one close race."

McDonald shot to the head of the pack out of the gate before Hurst maneuvered in front at the

"It was so close they didn't know right away who won. I didn't know, either."

BETSY McDONALD
Neenah freshman

one-mile mark.

Hurst, one of the area's top runners, was firmly in control until she literally took a wrong turn late in the race. And it cost her.

"I just went the wrong way and made some extra loops," she said. "Maybe I was too focused, and that's why I took the wrong turn. I tried to get back into it, but she caught me at the end."

As far as how much time Hurst squandered with the mistake, she didn't know.

"It's just a blur right now," she said.

Menasha senior Katie Olander came in third in 15:35.

Appleton East used two top-10 finishes to finish second with 90 points. Little Chute took fourth.

In the boys' race, the Rockets placed their top five runners in the first 17.

"Those top five runners really pave the way in practice as well as meets," Neenah boys' coach John Morgen said.

As with its girls, Neenah turned to a standout underclassman — sophomore Evan Bosetti — to lead the way.

Bosetti's third-place finish in 16:33, 10 seconds off the pace set by winner Drew Hohensee of Wausau West, spurred the Rockets to victory.

Neenah seniors Adam Christ-novich and Jason Olson placed fourth and seventh, respectively.

Oshkosh North's John Le Roy finished second overall, two seconds behind Hohensee.

GIRLS

NEENAH 44, APPLETON EAST 90, GREEN BAY SOUTHWEST 104, LITTLE CHUTE 115, BEAVER DAM 145, WAUSAU WEST 145, OSHKOSH NORTH 154, MARSHFIELD 195, MENASHA 231, NEW LONDON 308.

1. Betsy McDonald NEE 15:25; 2. Abby Hurst LC 15:26; 3. Katie Olander MEN 15:35; 4. Amanda Smith NEE 15:37; 5. Sandra Marquardt AE 15:42; 6. Kara

Vesters LC 15:45; 7. Tovah Mendzsa AE 15:47; Valene Schubing WW 15:58; 9. Laura Larson GBS 16:01; 10. Lindsey Duerst BD 16:02

Other top area finishers

Neenah: 11, Jenna Smith 16:05; 12, Kate Peters-16:06; 18, Becky Probst 16:19.

Lanohwehr and Brooks Wiegand 18:33; 67, Corni Garalato 19:33.

Appleton East:

14, Stephanie Brown 17:10; 23, Ne Westphal 16:45; 41, Darcia Rueden 17:30

Little Chute: 22, Angie DeBruin 16:42; 24, Ad Altonport 16:49; 61, Kaitly Feders 18:59

Oshkosh North: 25, Hanna Lose 16:53; 27, Tracie Whitby 18:54; 29, Tanya Louflier 17:06; 32, Melia Minerah 17:11; 40, Megan Lennon 17:28

New London: 48, Amber Otto 17:53; 55, Lashon Shinfeld 18:33; 64, Angela Koelen 19:15; 70, Linda Helgeson 20:10; 71, Sarah Measch 20:19

BOYS

NEENAH 44, MARSHFIELD 56, APPLETON EAST 71, GREEN BAY SOUTHWEST 109, OSHKOSH NORTH 119, WAUSAU WEST 149, LITTLE CHUTE 16

BEAVER DAM 247, NEW LONDON 255, MENASHA 258

1. Drew Hohensee WW 16:23; 2. John Le Roy O 16:25; 3. Evan Bosetti NEE 16:33; 4. Adam Chris-novich NEE 16:44; 5. Scott Harrington MARSH 16:4

6. Jeff Riepe MARSH 16:48; 7. Jason Olson NEE 16:54

8. Dave Jensen LC 16:52; 9. Brandon Raunuskaun A 16:52; 10. Kirk De Windt GBSW 16:53

Other top area finishers

Neenah: 13, AJ Henschel 16:56; 17, Ben Johnson 17:09

Menasha: 20, Paul Spangle 17:23; 48, Jason Fa 18:39; 59, Tim Sauter 19:12; 61, Noah Edelman, 7

Nate Boren 19:40.

Appleton East: 12, Dave Cameron 16:55; 14, Ki Localis 16:56; 21, Brian Furel 17:23; 23, Adam Koeps 17:29

Little Chute: 30, Brendan Jones 18:00; 35, Ken Mc 18:14; 45, Eric Valenyn 18:34; 49, Pat Ruten 18:2

Oshkosh North: 16, Pat Seger 17:08; 28, Matt Re 17:54; 31, Adam Puff 18:04; 42, Chad Crawford 18:

New London: 38, Josh Galis 18:18; 41, Todd Kopf 18:27; 54, John Wolla 18:53; 56, Chris Heidema 19:02; 86, Aaron Ferge 19:30

Neenah JV girls win Fondy relays; Rocket boys' team finishes second

FOND DU LAC - Neenah's junior varsity girls' cross country team won Saturday's Fond du Lac Relays with 37 points.

Stevens Point was second with 39 points and Brookfield East finished third with 58.

The other team totals were Brookfield Central 102, Appleton East 170, Sheboygan South 178, Sheboygan North 182 and Fond du Lac 203.

Appleton West and Manitowoc didn't field complete teams.

Neenah's Becky Ray finished first, Kristin Riching was third, Emily Burns placed fifth, Nicki Smith was 10th, Candice Nelson came in 18th and Theresa Foulks was 19th.

Stevens Point runners were fourth, sixth, seventh, ninth and 13th.

Stevens Point posted a perfect score of 15 points to win the junior varsity boys' event.

Neenah took second place with 52 points and was followed by She-

JV SPORTS

boygan South with 98, Menomonee Falls 146, Sheboygan North 157, Appleton West 196, Oshkosh West 200, Brookfield East 218 and Fond du Lac 276.

Neenah's places were Rocky Shafer, sixth; Adam Buckingham, seventh; Shaun Albee, 12th; Andy Turner, 13th; Chris Streufert, 14th; Mike Lashua, 17th; and Pat Weyenberg, 27th.

Boys' cross country: The boys were second in their division at Fond du Lac in 1:25.9 to trail Stevens Point by almost four minutes.

Evan Bosetti was sixth and Adam Christnovich seventh.

Bosetti placed fourth and Christnovich fifth in "varsity fastest" race; Ben Johnson was fifth in the "varsity faster" group; and Prichard Keely finished third and Ryan Lenerz fifth in the "varsity fast" division.

Rocket recap

CROSS COUNTRY

Rockets look good in Fond du Lac: Both the Neenah boys' and girls' cross country teams competed in the Fondy Relays last Saturday in Fond du Lac.

First, for the boys, Neenah finished second overall in the red division with a combined time of 1:25.09 behind Stevens Point, who posted a 1:21.55.

Evan Bosetti and Adam Christnovich led the Rockets with a sixth-and seventh-place finish,

respectively. Bosetti notched a time of 16:39 while Christnovich recorded a 16:45.

Ben Johnson added a 17th-place finish with a time of 17:09.

On the girls' side, the Rockets took first in the red division with a time of 1:19.17.

Betsy McDonald (15:17) was the top Neenah runner with a third-place finish. Amanda Smith was seventh with a time of 15:47 and Kate Petersen was eighth with a time of 15:51.

Also in the top-20 were Jenna Smith (15th with a time of 16:09) and Kristine Berg (20th, 16:13).

Rockets soar at FVA meet

Both squads sprint to first-place finishes

Neenah boys' varsity cross country coach John Morgen is excited these days because he thinks his squad's best meet is still to come.

Still to come? Yikes!

Rockets cross country

It's hard to imagine the Rockets doing much better than their first-place performance at the Oct. 15 Fox Valley Association meet in Kaukauna indicated, but Morgen — ever the coach — says they can indeed improve.

"We've been strong all year, but we certainly want to peak at the right time," he said after his Rockets recorded just 43 points en route to capturing the FVA tournament crown. "Not all seven of our runners have had their best races the same day, and that's exciting because then we can do a lot better. Our times are better than earlier in the season, so I think we've got a really good shot (to improve)."

Oshkosh West and Appleton

East, Neenah's main rivals, were second (63 points) and third (75 points), respectively.

"I was thrilled," Morgen said of the Rockets' showing. "We had several kids coming off of injuries or illness, so we had some kids step up and run well. It was a nice team effort."

Evan Bosetti paced the Rockets with a second-place overall finish. Bosetti wound up with a time of 16:15 while Oshkosh North's Jon Leroy was first with a time of 15:59.

"Evan has been our consistent number one runner in terms of his performance," said Morgen. "And we need that. That's extremely important for us. He's a very talented runner who has a bright future."

Following Bosetti were Adam Christnovich (fourth overall in a time of 16:28), Al Henschel (11th, 16:46), Jason Olson (14th, 16:52), and Mike Hillstrom (15th, 16:55).

Neenah Citizen Athlete of the Week — Evan Bosetti —



photo by Glenn Harisen for the Neenah Citizen

Bosetti finished second overall at the Oct. 15 Fox Valley Association meet in Kaukauna. The sophomore broke the tape in a time of 16:15, helping the Rockets capture the overall boys' cross-country crown.

LeRoy runs away with FVA title

BY CARLOS MUNOZ
OF THE NORTHWESTERN

KAUKAUNA — John LeRoy held nothing back at the Fox Valley Association cross country meet at Countryside Golf Course on Thursday.

LeRoy, a senior at Oshkosh North, won the boys' race with a time of 15 minutes, 59.1 seconds. LeRoy led most of the 5,000-meter boys' competition, and steadily ran away from second and third place finishers Evan Bosetti of Neenah (16:15) and Nick Buechel of Fond du Lac (16:18).

LeRoy's win helped North to a fifth-place finish. The Neenah boys won the FVA title with 46 points, while Oshkosh West was second with 63 points.

Sophomore James Anderson finished sixth (16:34) and senior Ryan Burwell was eighth (16:38) for West.

Fond du Lac finished fourth with

102 points, while Menasha was eighth with 215.

After finishing third last year at the FVA meet, Neenah coach John Morgen was pleased to have claimed the top spot.

"I'm thrilled with it," Morgen said. "There are a lot of kids that really ran well. Some kids that were sick and others stepped up and filled in the gaps.

"We're really pleased, especially when you beat teams like Oshkosh West, Appleton East and Oshkosh North. Last year was really disappointing for them and to be rewarding this year, it's a good feeling."

The Rockets grabbed five of the top 15 spots, which included Bosetti's second-place finish and Adam Christnovich's fourth-place effort (16:28).

"Evan has been consistently our No. 1 runner and Adam, as of late, has been a solid No. 2 performer for us this season," Morgen said. "All of the runners really had to be up there because you have teams like Oshkosh West and Appleton East."

LeRoy used an impressive surge to pull away from the pack after the first mile and built a secure lead to easily win the boys' race. LeRoy had battled with Bosetti numerous times this season but set the tone with a 16-second victory over the Neenah sophomore.

"It was a really nice race for John. He won it convincingly and he looked real strong throughout the whole race," North coach Chuck Reigel said. "John doesn't have a tremendous kick and he knew he had to really take control of things.

"From the get-go he really did that. He was the best guy out here today without a doubt and he really showed it."

Pat Seger (16:36) finished seventh

for the Spartans, followed by Matt Rego in 32nd (17:47) and Adam Puhl in 33rd (17:48).

"Overall I think they did a super job," Reigel said of his team. "They were right there. They're young. We weren't going to contend for the top spot here, but we wanted to be in the upper group."

Oshkosh West coach Russ Hoxtell was pleased with his team's effort.

"Well, we thought first or second place was realistic," Hoxtell said. "We felt that first was going to be tough. Neenah has been running very well.

"I actually thought we ran very well. This is our best race of the year so far. We just got beat. I don't have any excuses. They beat us and they ran very well."

The Indians title hopes were halted after losing the battle at No. 4 and

No. 5 to Neenah, which finished Jason Olson (14th, 16:52) and Mike Hillstrom (15th, 16:55) ahead of West's Wade Hoxtell (17th, 16:59) and Cory Lundquist (19th, 17:09). John Streblov finished 13th for the Indians with a time of 16:49.

"We had 29 seconds between our first and our fifth. We had almost five guys under 17 minutes," Hoxtell said. "It was an exceptional meet for us. We just got beat and that's the way it goes.

"It's really important now that we get over it and focus on next Saturday because that's what we really want, to get this group to state."

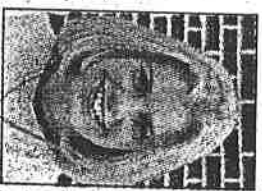
NOVAK LEAVES OTHERS RUNNING FOR SECOND PLACE

By Dick Knapinski
Post-Crescent staff writer

KAUKAUNA — Brooke Novak is starting to reach beyond talented-runner status to an area best described as just plain scary.

Other cross country conference meets: D-3

The Kaukauna sophomore, running on her home course at Countryside Golf Club, continued her domi-



NOVAK

nation of every meet so far this fall by running away from all competition at the Fox Valley Association meet.

"It's not a matter of who but by how much," one FVA coach was overheard as saying during the girls' varsity race Thursday. Novak finished 36 seconds

ahead of Tovah Mendoza of Appleton East to win the title, crossing the line in 14:38. That is the fastest time in at least four years on the Kaukauna course, which has hosted the FVA meet for the past 18 years.

"Coming into this race, I felt really nervous because I didn't want to disappoint anybody or myself," Novak said.

John LeRoy of Oshkosh North also pulled away for a win in the boys' race, finishing 16 seconds ahead of Neenah's Eyan Bosetti.

Neenah, however, had a perfect team day, sweeping the boys' and girls' titles in both the varsity and junior varsity meets.

Novak led from the start of the girls' meet, taking a 10-yard lead over Neenah's Betsy McDonald after 400 yards and steadily expanding it through the race.

"It was the same strategy I had all year," Novak said. "I tried to stay in front. I always think to myself that there's somebody right behind me when I hear people yelling for

FVA CONFERENCE MEET

RUNNING: Bosetti holds off Buechel for boys' individual title

From E-1

couldn't get his feet under him.

Mendoza's second place, however, may have been as satisfying as a title. The senior missed half the season with a stress fracture that emerged just before her knee late last spring. Mendoza ran her first varsity meet this fall in late September.

"Coach (Joe) Perez just kept telling me that I could do it because I had three years' experience, she said of her recovery, which included bicycling and swimming for much of the summer. "I hoped to do it, but I really wasn't sure."

"She's done a magnificent job coming back this season," Perez said. Mendoza followed Marquardt

for most of the race, moving in front in the final half mile to finish five seconds ahead of the junior.

"She's been leading me, all season after my injury," Mendoza said of Marquardt. "I came into this race not knowing what I was going to do. I just wanted to stay with the lead pack."

The Neenah girls, led by McDonald's fifth place, finished East, had 82 and Appleton North 83.

The Rockets got a sixth from Amanda Smith, 12th by Kate Peterson, 13th from Jenna Smith and 19th by Becky Probst.

McDonald's early pursuit of Novak surprised Rockets coach Ron Fedenko, who knew that the freshman's run would be in vain.

but he applauded the effort.

"I think she went out a little fast chasing Brooke," Fedenko said of McDonald. "It probably cost her later in the race, but she just has so much mental toughness for a freshman."

LeRoy surged into the boys' race lead at the mile mark and held a sizeable margin over the final 1 1/2 miles to win in 15:59.

Bosetti led Neenah's runners with his second-place finish, while Nick Buechel of Fond du Lac was third and Neenah's Adam Christ-novich fourth.

"I surged at about a mile and a half," LeRoy said.

"I was surprised that nobody went with me." Bosetti held off Buechel in a final race up the hill to the finish

line, beating the Cardinals senior by three seconds.

Al Henschel was 11th, Jason Olson 14th and Mike Hillstrom 15th for the Rockets, who won their second FVA title in three years.

"Each runner was where they had to be on the race course today," Neenah coach John Morgen said. "We had several people step up because Ben Johnson was real sick and Jason Olson wasn't feeling real well either."

Oshkosh West placed second with 63 points, while Appleton East was third with 75.

In the junior varsity race, the Neenah girls had a perfect score of 15 by taking the top five places, while the Rockets boys won the JV meet with 25 points, sweeping the top three spots.

Please see **RUNNING, E-3**

Cross country

PREP
Fox Valley Association
Conference Meet
At Kaukauna

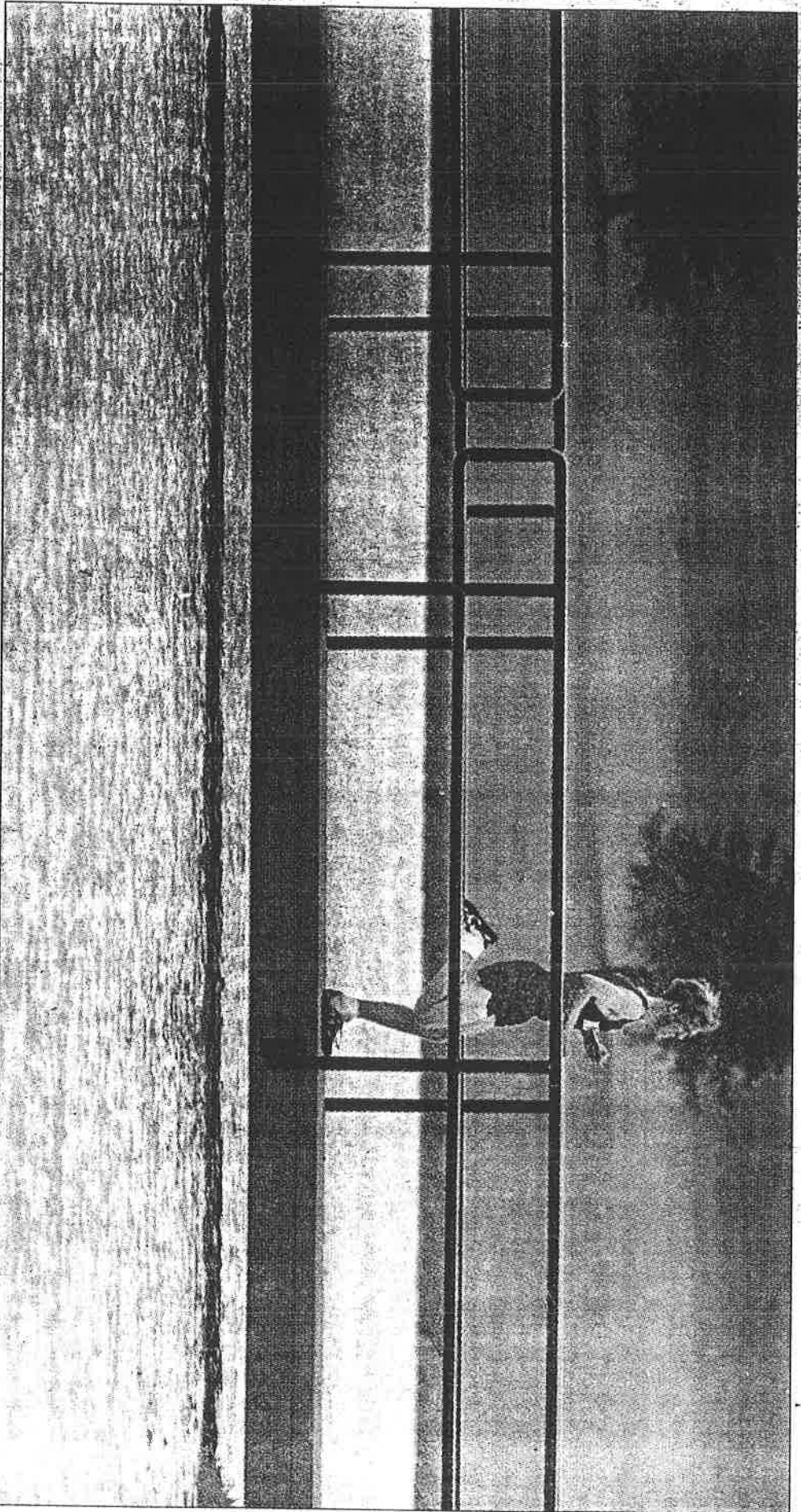
BOYS
NEENAH 45, OSHKOSH WEST 69, APPLETON EAST 75, FOND DU LAC 102, OSHKOSH NORTH 116, APPLETON WEST 132, APPLETON NORTH 210, MENASHA 215, KAUKAUNA 272, KIMBERLY 283

1. John LeRoy ON 15:59, 2. Eyan Bosetti N 16:15, 3. Nick Buechel F 16:18, 4. Adam Christnovich N 16:28, 5. B.J. Steeler F 16:31, 6. James Anderson ON 16:34, 7. Pat Seger ON 16:36, 8. Ryan Burnell OW 16:38, 9. Ken Loomis AE 16:39, 10. Dave Cameron AE 16:42, 11. Appleton East 15, Adam Komarski 18, Brian Furst 22, Brandon Thomsen 34, Andy Booher 46, Scott Meyer, Appleton North 37, Peter Maves 39, Ryan Gehrich 40, Matt Harer 42, Colin Volk 52, Aaron Schwartzenburg 55, David Donze 58, Ben Nelson, Appleton West 12, T.J. Schmidt 27, Brian Peters 28, Chad Koch 30, Matt Zimmerman 35, Greg Bessler 44, Nick Jacobson 54, Steve Martz, Kaukauna 35, Adam Nickel 47, Luke Hansen 52, Paul Vennerhoven 53, Joe Vennerhoven 54, Miles Weber 65, Ben Bleserfeld 68.

Girls: 38. Dave Deep 51, Cory Schmitz 61, Jon Steffel 65, Coli Brown 67, Kevin Vaughan 68, Pats Gasper, Menasha 25, Paul Spang 31, Jason East 50, Tom Bloom 53, Tim Sauter 56, Noah Edelstein 57, David Grom 59, Nate Boren, Neenah 11, Al Henschel 14, Jason Olson 15, Mike Hillstrom 20, Pritchard Keely 21, Ben Johnson, Oshkosh North 32, Matt Pego 33, Adam Punt 43, Chad Crawford 49, Will McCrone 60, Chris Plattner, Oshkosh West 13, John Streblov 17, Wade Hozell 19, Cory Lundquist 23, Adam Klems 24, Trevor Johnson

SWEEEP !!!!!

P R E P S P O R T S



NEENAH'S MIKE HILLSTROM crosses a bridge on the Countryside Golf Club in Kaukauna Thursday. **Mike finished 15th in the Boys' race.**

by Tim Greenway

Rocket runners



News-Record photo by Tim Greenway

NEENAH CROSS COUNTRY runners Ben Johnson (609) and Adam Christnovich run along the pond at the Countryside Golf Course at Kaukauna in Thursday's 29th annual Fox Valley Association meet. They helped the Rockets capture the conference crown.

Neenah, Menasha runners enter the WIAA sectional

Top finishers qualify for state meet Oct. 31

With the invitational and conference meets in the history book, the Menasha and Neenah boys' and girls' cross country teams begin WIAA tourney competition in Saturday's sectional at Manitowoc.

Neenah enters the sectional after sweeping the championship of both divisions in last week's Fox Valley Association meet.

The Twin Citians will run against FVA foes Appleton East, Appleton North, Appleton West, Kaukauna, Fond du Lac, Oshkosh North and Oshkosh West plus Ashwaubenon, Beaver Dam, Manitowoc, Plymouth, Sheboygan North and Sheboygan South.

The first- and second-place teams qualify for the state meet at Wisconsin Rapids on Oct. 31 along with the top seven individual finishers.

Also qualifying will be the first finisher from any non-qualifying team at any sectional where all sev-

en individual finishers are all members of the two state qualifying squads.

Neenah's Amanda Smith, who was seventh in the girls' race, was last year's only Twin City qualifier.

The leading FVA girls' finishers in the meet include Kaukauna's Brooke Novak (first), Appleton East's Tovah Mendoza (second) and Sandra Marquardt (third), Oshkosh West's Jackie Munoz (fourth) and Neenah's Betsy McDonald (fifth) and Smith (sixth).

The top boys' runners from the FVA are Oshkosh North's John LeRoy (first), Neenah's Evan Bosetti (second) and Adam Christnovich (fourth) and Fond du Lac's Nick Buechel (third) and B.J. Streeter (fifth).

Manitowoc and Sheboygan North finished one-two in the Fox River Valley Conference boys' race.

The leading runners were North's Adam Aguston (second), Dale Kloiber (third) and Jason Neehls (fifth).

Sheboygan North scored 23

points in winning the FRVC girls' crown.

The Ashwaubenon girls were sixth and the boys' seventh in the Bay Conference meet and the Plymouth boys were fourth and the girls took sixth in the East Central Wisconsin run.

Munoz, Novak and Mendoza were two-three-four in last year's sectional girls' race while fourth-place Buechel of Fond du Lac is the top boys' returnee among the non-graduates.

FVA: The dual championship won by the Neenah teams at the conference meet was the sixth in history.

The Rocket runners gained honors for the first time in 1977 but that year the boys also had to share its laurels with Appleton East.

Double championships also were recorded in 1981, 1982, 1991 and 1992.

Midwest meet: St. Mary Central will participate in the Midwest Conference meet Saturday at Milwaukee. About 13 schools are expected to take part.

1998 Fox Valley Association Boys Conference Honors

First Team All Conference

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Evan Bosetti	Neenah	10
Nick Buechel	Fond du Lac	12
Adam Christnovich	Neenah	12
B.J. Streeter	Fond du Lac	12
James Anderson	Oshkosh West	10
Ryan Burwell	Oshkosh West	12
Ken Loomis	Appleton East	11
Dave Cameron	Appleton East	12
Al Henschel	Neenah	12
T.J. Schmidt	Appleton West	12

Second Team All Conference

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
John Streblov	Oshkosh West	11
Jason Olson	Neenah	12
Mike Hillstrom	Neenah	12
Adam Koepsel	Appleton East	12
Wade Hoxtell	Oshkosh West	12
Brian Furst	Appleton East	12
Cody Lundquist	Oshkosh West	10

Honorable Mention

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Prichard Keely	Neenah	11
Ben Johnson	Neenah	11
Brandon Rasmussen	Appleton East	12
Andy Kleinschmidt	Oshkosh West	11
Ryan Leavitt	Fond du Lac	12
Paul Spangle	Menasha	11
Trevor Johnson	Oshkosh West	10

Neenah cross country coaches earn honors

Neenah's John Morgen was named the Fox Valley Association boys' cross country coach of the year, and the Rockets' Ron Fredinko was named girls' coach of the year.

Neenah placed three boys and two girls on the all-FVA first team.

Among the boys' first-team selections, two each were from Appleton East, Oshkosh West and Fond du Lac.

Appleton East, Appleton North and Kaukauna each placed two girls on the first team.

BOYS

First team

Evan Bosetti, so., Neenah
Nick Buechel, sr., Fond du Lac
Adam Christovich, sr., Neenah
D.J. Streeter, sr., Fond du Lac
James Anderson, so., Oshkosh West
Ryan Burwell, sr., Oshkosh West
Ken Loomis, jr., Appleton East
Dave Cameron, sr., Appleton East
Al Henschel, sr., Neenah
T.J. Schmidt, sr., Appleton West

Second team

John Streblov, jr., Oshkosh West; Jason Olson, sr., Neenah; Mike Hiltstrom, sr., Neenah; Adam Koepsel, sr., Appleton East; Wade Hoxtell, sr., Oshkosh West; Brian Furst, sr., Appleton East; Cody Lundquist, so.,

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Oshkosh West.

Honorable mention

Prichard Keeley, jr., Neenah; Ben Johnson, jr., Neenah; Brandon Rasmussen, sr., Appleton East; Adam Kleinschmidt, jr., Oshkosh West; Ryan Leavitt, sr., Fond du Lac; Paul Spangle, jr., Menasha; Trevor Johnson, so., Oshkosh West

Coach of the year: John Morgen, Neenah

GIRLS

First team

Brooke Novak, so., Kaukauna
Tovah Mendoza, sr., Appleton East
Sandra Marquardt, jr., Appleton East
Jackie Munoz, jr., Oshkosh West
Betsy McDonald, fr., Neenah
Amanda Smith, so., Neenah
Alison Hoff, so., Appleton North
Jenna Mitchler, fr., Kaukauna
Caiflan Cisler, so., Appleton North
Katie Olander, sr., Menasha

Second team

Mary Lanari, sr., Fond du Lac; Kate Peterson, jr., Neenah; Jenna Smith, jr., Neenah; Stephanie Brown, jr., Appleton East; Tracy Cushman, sr., Oshkosh West; Melissa Mlinerath, so., Oshkosh North; Missy Wright, jr., Kimberly.

Honorable mention

Bethany Watry, fr., Appleton West; Becky Probst, sr., Neenah; Katy Olson, fr., Appleton North; Natalie Shirkey, sr., Fond du Lac; Sarah Goff, so., Appleton North; Kristin Berg, sr., Neenah; Hannah Linse, sr., Oshkosh North; Natalie Brown, fr., Appleton West.

Coach of the year: Ron Fredinko, Neenah

NEENAH: Rockets boys and girls combine high finishes to capture a pair of sectional titles

Neenah turns sectional into a double feature

By Jim Oskola

Post-Crescent staff writer

MANITOWOC - After winning the boys' and girls' titles at the Fox Valley Association cross country meet last week, Neenah decided the WIAA Division 1 Manitowoc sectional would be perfect for an encore.

The Rockets pulled it off, again winning both team titles Saturday to advance to the WIAA state meet Oct. 31 at Wisconsin Rapids.

Neenah's boys had their first five runners place in the top 15, while its top five girls finished no worse than 21st.

The top two teams and top seven individuals advance to the state meet.

Neenah's Evan Bosetti avenged a second place finish to Oshkosh North's John LeRoy at the FVA conference meet by winning in 16:34 on a hilly course at the University of Wisconsin-Manitowoc County.

LeRoy finished second, eight seconds behind Bosetti. Neenah's Adam Christnovich was sixth.

Kaukauna's Brooke Novak put on a show-stopping performance, leading from start to finish to win in 14:42, easily outdistancing second-place Sandra Marquardt of Appleton East.

East's Tovah Mendoza was third, followed by Betsy McDonald of Neenah, Mary Lanari of Fond du Lac, Jackie Munoz of Oshkosh West and Amanda Smith of Neenah.

In addition to the first and sixth-place finishes by the Rockets' Bosetti and Christnovich, Al Henschel finished 13th, Mike Hillstrom 14th, Jason Olson 15th,

Ben Johnson 18th and Prichard Keely 23rd.

"We had seven runners with only about a minute between all of them," Rockets coach John Morgan said. "We had five runners with only 40 seconds between them. For this type of course, I thought their times were good and they really went out and did what they had to to bring home a first-place sectional plaque. Everyone really came through."

Rich Gosz of Manitowoc and Doug Amel of Plymouth dueled for the lead for the first three-quarters of a mile before Bosetti assumed the lead about one mile into the race, with LeRoy close behind.

Bosetti wasn't able to break free until the downhill stretch beginning the final half-mile.

"I used the downhill to my advantage," Bosetti said. "On pavement, it's a lot faster than grass. I knew that LeRoy was running on grass so I tried to make a move running downhill and I just got away from him."

"I could hear the fans from Neenah saying, '(LeRoy) is getting tired.' I was a little fatigued also but I just gave it all I could because I knew I had to make my move."

BOYS

NEENAH 49, OSHKOSH WEST 67, APPLETON EAST 105, MANITOWOC 153, SHEBOYGAN NORTH 153, OSHKOSH NORTH 163, APPLETON WEST 187, SHEBOYGAN SOUTH 195, FOND DU LAC 202, PLYMOUTH 228, BEAVER DAM 322, APPLETON NORTH 324, MENASHA 357, ASHWAUBENON 361, KAUKAUNA 396.

State qualifiers: 1, Evan Bosetti N 16:34; 2, John LeRoy ON 16:42; 3, Ryan Burwell OW 16:43; 4, Adam Augustson SN 16:49; 5, Dale Kloiber SN 16:50; 6,

Adam Christnovich N 16:51; 7, Nick Buechel FDL 16:53.

Appleton East: 12, Dave Cameron; 17, Ken Loomis; 21, Adam Koepsel; 26, Brandon Rasmussen; 29, Brian Furst; 48, Scott Meyer; 64, Andy Booher.

Appleton North: 47, Peter Maves; 58, Ryan Gerlach; 67, Colin Volk; 76, Ben Nelson; 79, Aaron Schwartzbart; 90, David Donze.

Appleton West: 10, T.J. Schmidt; 40, Brian Peters; 42, Matt Zimmerman; 46, Chad Koch; 49, Greg Baptist; 62, Steve Marta; 78, Nick Jacobson.

Kaukauna: 51, Adam Nickel; 55, Luke Hansen; 93, Paul Vanavenhoven; 96, Joe Vanavenhoven; 101, Ben Blesteveid; 102, Henry Dunphy; 103, Dave Vanavenhoven.

Menasha: 37, Paul Spangle; 57, Jason Fast; 85, Tim Sauter; 87, Noah Edelstein; 91, Tom Bloom; 95, David Groh.

Neenah: 13, Al Henschel; 14, Mike Hillstrom; 15, Jason Olson; 18, Ben Johnson; 23, Prichard Keely.

Oshkosh North: 22, Pat Seger; 34, Adam Puhl; 45, Will McEnroe; 60, Matt Rego; 99, Chad Crawford.

Oshkosh West: 8, John Streblov; 11, James Anderson; 20, Adam Kleinschmidt; 25, Wade Hoxtell; 27, Cody Lundquist; 32, Trevor Johnson.

West boys run to state as Neenah wins sectional title

By Carlos Munoz
OF THE NORTHWESTERN

MANITOWOC — The Oshkosh West and Neenah boys' cross country teams won't be packing away their running shoes quite yet.

Paced by sophomore Evan Bosetti's WIAA Division 1 sectional title run of 16 minutes and 34 seconds and a sixth-place effort by Adam Christovich (16:51), the Rockets claimed the sectional championship Saturday with 49 points to qualify their team for the WIAA Division 1 State Championship Meet next Saturday at The Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids.

West got contributions from top-10 finishers Ryan Burwell (third, 16:43) and John Strelbow (eighth,

16:56), in addition to an 11th-place finish by sophomore James Anderson (17:02), en route to West's first back-to-back state appearances and only its third trip to the state meet.

Oshkosh North junior John LeRoy, coming off his first individual Fox Valley Association title last Thursday over Bosetti, was unable to pull away from the speedy Neenah runner. But he finished second in 16:42 and was North's lone state qualifier. The Spartans finished sixth in the meet with 163 points.

"The kids really ran well, starting with Evan (Bosetti) our sectional champion," Neenah coach John Morgen said. "He came back to beat a really good runner in John LeRoy, who won at conference. There were

only 40 seconds between our first and fifth runner and a minute between our first and seventh runner. If you're going to get to state, that's what you need to do."

The Rockets were able to maintain a modest distance between their Nos. 3, 4 and 5 runners, including consecutive finishes by Al Henschel (13th, 17:10), Mike Hillstrom (14th, 17:12) and Jason Olson (15th, 17:14).

"I thought I ran well for today," Bosetti said. "It was warm, windy and I wasn't feeling the best, but I just put forth the best effort that I could find. I know that LeRoy is a good runner, but I was just trying to pace off him because I know he sets a good pace. It was some motivation from the conference meet."

West coach Russ Hoxtell, meanwhile, was happy with his team's return trip to state in what, some thought would be a rebuilding year for the Indians.

"These guys accepted the challenge, they ran well all year, no one knew where we were at the beginning of the year or who we were and as the pressure built they kept responding every week," Hoxtell said. "We're getting some talented runners now and we have them at every level. The team believes in what they're doing and they believe in each other."

"That's tough to beat when you have talent."

The Indians received a great deal of support from their Nos. 3 through 5 runners, but were influ-

enced amply by senior Wade Hoxtell and Cody Lundquist at Nos. 6 and 7. Hoxtell finished 25th (17:38) and Lundquist was 27th (17:40) to put West in position to beat several teams' scoring runners.

"Ryan Burwell, John Strelbow and James Anderson had just terrific races," Hoxtell said. "They got up there and held it and Wade, Cody and Adam Kleinschmidt pounded people the last mile. It's just like it was a track meet, we just moved so well. This is a big, big meet for us."

LeRoy was disappointed with his performance but thought that he may have been a little fatigued entering the meet. LeRoy was still able to run a strong race for the Spartans with his second-place finish and has his eye on earning a

medal in Wisconsin Rapids.

"I don't think I raced the best, but I felt a little tired coming in and did what I could to qualify," LeRoy said. "Usually I try to pull away from him (Bosetti) but it didn't work out that way. About the two-mile mark he probably started to pull away."

Pat Seger also finished well for North, completing the race in 17:32 to finish 22nd.

Other top area finishers included Fond du Lac's Nick Buechel, who acquired the seventh and final state qualifying berth for the Cardinals in a time of 16:53, while Menasha's Paul Spangle ran to 37th in 18:14.

Carlos Munoz may be reached at (920) 426-6655.

IT'S ON TO RAPIDS!

Neenah's cross country teams advance to state

By Brett Christopherson
Neenah Citizen

John Morgen credited last year's disappointment and Ron Fedenko said it was leadership.

Whatever works, right?

Equalling their impressive performances at the Oct. 15 Fox Valley Association meet, the Neenah boys' and girls' cross country teams each earned a berth in the WIAA Division 1 state tournament after both finished first in their respective sectional meets last Saturday in Manitowoc.

Rockets cross country

The Neenah boys wound up with 49 points, well in front of runners-up Oshkosh West, who had 67, while the girls finished with 55 points. Sheboygan North was second with 80.

The top two teams and the top seven individuals from sectional competition qualified for state.

It's the first trip to state for the boys since 1996. Last year, the Rockets struggled in the conference and sectional meets which ultimately cost them a berth.

"It was good meet for us," Morgen, the boys' coach, said. "The encouraging thing is that we still had runners step up in the places of others. Hopefully at state, everyone of our runners will have their best day. It will be interesting to see where we can place."

"Last year, things just fell apart for us at conference and sectionals. The kids really focused this year to make sure that didn't happen again. We've had a strong season throughout, and our emphasis has been on the later meets." "Our leadership has just been exceptional," said Fedenko, who coaches the girls. "Our seniors worked hard last year, and even though some of them don't run on var-

sity, they set the tone. They pushed our younger girls and have been a real key."

The state meet takes place Saturday, Oct. 31, at Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids. The boys begin at 11 a.m. while the girls get started at 12:45 p.m.

Neenah's Evan Bosetti finished first individually at the sectional meet with a time of 16:34, out-dueling his main rival, Oshkosh North's John LeRoy, who was second in 16:42.

At the FVA meet, LeRoy was first and Bosetti second. "Evan was real prepared (for the sectional meet)," said Morgen. "At the FVA meet, he was boxed in a little. At the mile mark, LeRoy surged ahead. At sectionals, Evan really did a nice job positioning himself, and he was able to go with John."

Adam Christovich was next with a time of 16:51, good enough for a sixth-place finish. Rounding things out were Al Henschel (13th, in a time of 17:10), Mike Hillstrom (14th, 17:12), and Jason Olson (15th, 17:14).

Betsy McDonald paced the Neenah girls with a fourth-place finish thanks to a time of 15:20. Amanda Smith was seventh in a time of 15:33.

Jenna Smith (10th, 15:53), Kate Petersen (13th, 15:59), and Becky Probst (21st, 16:22) rounded out the Rockets' scorers.

As for state, both coaches feel confident their squads will fair well.

"Well, it's difficult to say," Morgen said. "You try to compare the different (sectional) times (from the other teams at state), but the courses are different. The clear-cut favorite is Stevens Point, and then there is a pack of teams who can finish from second to sixth. I think we're one of those teams."

Said Fedenko: "I really don't know how we'll do. It really depends on how we run. If we're aggressive, like we were at sectionals, then we'll do well. If we lay back, then we'll struggle. Overall, though, I expect us to finish among the top-half of teams, maybe even higher."



Neenah's Evan Bosetti finished first overall at the WIAA Division 1 sectional cross country meet last Saturday in Manitowoc.

photo by Glenn Hansen for the Neenah Citizen

WIAA STATE CROSS COUNTRY MEET
 RIDGES GOLF COURSE
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1998

TEAM SCORES

Place	Team	Score	Place	Team	Score
1 st	Stevens Point	68	9 th	D.C. Everest	242
2 nd	Homestead	139	10 th	West Bend East	254
3 rd	La Crosse Central	150	11 th	Beloit	257
4 th	Verona Area	169	12 th	Marshfield	263
5 th	Waukesha West	170	13 th	Madison La Follette	284
6 th	Neenah	183	14 th	Oshkosh West	287
7 th	Arrowhead	189	15 th	Westosha Central	332
8 th	Franklin	198	16 th	Marinette	370

NEENAH VARSITY

Name	Mile One	Mile Two	Final Mile	Indiv. Fin.	Team Fin.
Evan Bossetti	5:05	10:27	16:33	22 nd	14 th
Mike Hillstrom	5:16	10:46	16:54	53 rd	35 th
Al Henschel	5:15	10:45	17:00	65 th	42 nd
Adam Christnovich	5:07	10:39	17:02	68 th	43 rd
Jason Olson	5:17	10:48	17:07	75 th	49 th
Ben Johnson	5:12	10:44	17:14	84 th	56 th
Prichard Keely	5:23	11:06	17:41	115 th	85 th

