

NEENAH HIGH SCHOOL

1973

CROSS COUNTRY

SHATTUCK CAMPUS - ARMSTRONG CAMPUS



Improvement is Rocket harriers' key

BY GEORGE MANCOSKY
Post-Crescent staff writer

NEENAH — "It should be the best state meet in the last several years," Neenah High School cross country coach Tom Jensen says of Saturday's WIAA large school run in Milwaukee.

Jensen didn't say so but his ever improving Rockets could be in the middle of the action and are expected to have plenty to say about the eventual outcome.

The Rocket mentor based his prediction on the fact that nine of the 10 ranked schools in the final poll of the coaches association will make up the field. The only exception is Milwaukee Thomas More, a private school.

The Rockets finished second to Appleton East in the Wausau Sectional last weekend, exchanging places with Manitowoc, which nipped them in the Kaukauna Regional earlier in the week.

"We've come so far since the Shawano meet," Jensen said. "We all ran well in the sectional," and "we're healthy," he added.

Referring back to the Shawano Invitational on Sept. 15, the Twin Citians, who started the season with only two veterans, finished in third place with 85 points, 32 more than the Patriots and Ships, who shared first.



Tom Jensen

Since then the Rockets have come on to challenge the two area powers, defeating the Patriots in a triangular and finishing ahead of both in one tourney. These events have been of considerable satisfaction to the successful Neenah coach.

Tom Smith and Bob Menning were the only returnees from last year's fourth place state meet team when Jensen called practice this fall.

Help, however, came in a hurry from

boys who weren't out for the sport last year and from others who developed rapidly.

The Rockets' leading runner, Eric Murphy, didn't compete at all last year. He went out for track in spring and finished fourth in the conference mile.

Reporting for the long-distance sport, he became an instant success, coping five of his first six races. A siege of illness early this month set him back but at no time has he finished lower than fourth.

Smith has been consistent and, in triangulars, Invitations and tourney competition, has done no worse than ninth place. Menning has come on strong the last two weeks and was in the top 10 in the FVA meet as well as the regional and sectional.

Also showing vast improvement were Steven Emmrich and Mark Salsieder. Jim Goodman and Mike Edmonds complete the first seven.

Bill Murray, No. 3 man early in the season, missed the tourney series because of an injury.

The Rockets' overall record for the year includes seconds in the FVA, sectional and Oshkosh, Grafton and Rhinelander invitations, third in the regional and Shawano and Fort Atkinson "invites" and four triangular victories in as many outings.

'Caps season beautifully'

Neenah runners fourth

NEENAH — "The state meet capped off the season beautifully," Neenah High School cross country Coach Tom Jensen declared this morning.

The Rockets, ranked ninth in the final coaches poll, finished fourth in the large school division, outscoring Appleton East and Manitowoc in the process.

The Rockets posted 122 points, three points away from third place Madison West. Favored Racine Cudahy was first with 48 and West Allis Hale was second with 90.

Other totals were Menomonie Falls 124, Waukesha and Manitowoc 145, Appleton East 156 and Milwaukee Custer 176.

Tom Smith was Neenah's leading individual finisher with a ninth place. Eric Murphy took 11th, Bob Menning 34th, Steve Emmrich 26th, Mark Salsieder 40th, Jim Goodman 65th and Mike Edmonds 69th.

"We were probably the only team to do better in the meet than was expected," Jensen said. "We beat teams like Manitowoc East and Waukesha that handled us before." He also was pleased that the Rockets outdistanced Custer and Menomonie Falls, other teams ranked ahead of them in the ratings.

"It was an awfully tough meet," Jensen said, referring to weather conditions and competition, "which makes our fourth look great." It was a tremendous way to end the season. The boys did a superb job," he added.

Jensen declared that Smith had a tremendous race and that Murphy also ran well.

Smith and Murphy are the only seniors on the team. Also back will be Bill Murray, who was injured late in the season and unable to compete in the state tourney series.

NM runners gain sectional berths

NEENAH — The Neenah High School cross country team, by placing a close third in the Kaukauna Sectional at Oakwood Hills Tuesday afternoon, qualified its full team for Saturday's WIAA sectional at Wausau.

Menasha failed to qualify its team but Tom Reinbold finished second among the individual runners and gained a sectional berth, also at Wausau Saturday.

The Bluejays compete in the COM or medium school division while the Rockets are in the CCL (large school) group.

Appleton East won the regional with 35 points. Manitowoc collected 45, Neenah 48, Fond du Lac 98, Appleton West 151, Oshkosh North 174 and Kaukauna 179. Only four Oshkosh West runners finished so they didn't figure in the scoring.

De Pere finished first in the CCM division with 63 points. Ashwaubenon had 76, Pulaski 86, Hortonville 88, Luxemburg-Casco 112, Menasha 117, Kimberly 165, Seymour 179, Howard 265, West De Pere 274 and Denmark 287.

East's Jeff Stracks took the large school race in 12:49. Neenah's Eric

Murphy was second in 12:47.

Other Neenah places and their times were Tom Smith seventh 13:17, Bob Menning eighth 13:20, Steve Emmrich 13th 13:38, Mark Salsieder 16th 13:41, Jim Goodman 28th 14:00 and Mike Edmonds 44th 15:03.

Manitowoc runners placed third, fifth, sixth, 12th, 19th, 21st and 39th.

Coach Tom Jensen was pleased with his team's effort, but had special praise for Menning and Salsieder.

"We're really coming around," Jensen said, noting that both East and Manitowoc defeated the Rockets by 21 points in the Shawano Invitational.

Steve Hahn of De Pere won the medium school race in 12:55. Reinbold was second in 13:13, placing 17 seconds ahead of Gary Kroes of Hortonville.

Other places for Menasha were Bill Hills 15th, John Straw 30th, Jim Danielson 31st, Rick Hills 33rd and John Klassinger 43rd. Scott Abel didn't finish.

"It's the poorest we've run all year," Bluejay Coach Russ Leitz said. Leitz explained that the spread between Menasha's first and fifth place runners in recent races was some 30 seconds while it was more than a minute Tuesday.

Murphy wins Hodag event; Rockets 2nd

RHINELANDER — Neenah's Eric Murphy captured first place and the Rocket team was second in the Hodag Invitational cross country meet here Saturday.

Murphy, in his first varsity cross country run, led the 86 harriers across the finish line in 12:04, only five seconds slower than the time posted by Dave Johnson last year.

Thomas More of Milwaukee won the meet with 32 points. Neenah had 81, Wausau East 106, Wausau West 120, Rhinelander 121, Antigo 165, Stevens Point 175, Appleton West 194, Wisconsin Rapids 278, Schofield 302 and Marshfield 347.

Tom Smith was second for the Rockets and 12th in the meet in 12:30.

Other Neenah finishes included Bill Murray 17th to 12:30; Bob Menning 22nd in 12:07, Mike Edmonds 28th in 13:17, Jim Goodman 32nd in 13:22, Mike Salsieder 46th in 13:49 and Kevin Dickson 47th in 13:49.

Matt Kyler of Wausau East was second in the meet, one second behind Murphy. Greg Faitek and Jim Walden of Thomas More were third and fourth and Mike Kenawsky, Stevens Point, fifth.

Rocket Coach Tom Jensen was pleased with the second place finish because the team was "such an unknown quantity" going into the meet. "They really did a job," Jensen said.

Neenah opens Fox Valley Association competition against Appleton West and Oshkosh West at Appleton's Pierce Park Tuesday.

Murphy bids for sixth triumph

NEENAH — Neenah High School's Eric Murphy was slated to go after his sixth straight victory in a home meet against Kimberly and Appleton East this afternoon.

Murphy won his fifth in a row and set his third course record in the recent Oshkosh Invitational. His time was 11:46.

Manitowoc placed first in the team standings with 29 points, followed by Neenah 50, Sheboygan South 63, Menasha 107, Wausau West 158, Kaukauna 190, Kimberly 230, Oshkosh North 238, Sheboygan North 249, St. Mary 253, Milwaukee West 257 and Oshkosh West 268.

Other Neenah places were Tom Smith sixth, Bill Murray 11th, Bob Menning 15th, Steve Emmrich 17th, Jim Goodman 22nd and Mark Salsieder 25th.

Menasha's places were Tom Reinbold eighth, Jim Danielson 18th, Bill Hills 24th, John Straw 28th, John Klassinger 29th, Rick Hills 37th and Larry Bevers 54th.

Manitowoc also won the jayvee meet with 48 points. Wausau West had 49, Sheboygan South 60, Kaukauna 68th, St. Mary 136, Neenah 173, Sheboygan North 193, Oshkosh North 195, Menasha 212 and Oshkosh West 221.

Neenah's Mike Charroo was ninth to lead Twin City Invaders. Steve Schuval led Menasha with a 34th place.

Rockets seventh in state harrier poll

NEENAH — Neenah High School's cross country team is ranked seventh in the big school division of the latest Wisconsin Cross Country Coaches Association poll.

The Rockets, who were rated eighth last week, exchanged places with Appleton East. They'll challenge the Patriots here Tuesday afternoon.

Racine Central is ranked No. 1, followed by Milwaukee Thomas More, Menomonee Falls North, West Allis Hale, Manitowoc, East, Neenah, Madison West, Milwaukee South and Greendale.

Neenah, Menasha runners win triangulars; Hawks edge SMHS

NEENAH-MENASHA — The Neenah and Menasha High School cross country squads swept Fox Valley Association triangulars while St. Mary Central was edged by Xavier in meets Tuesday afternoon.

The Rockets racked up a perfect score of 15 points in defeating Kaukauna (83)

and Oshkosh North (65) at Oshkosh.

Menasha registered 23 points to Kimberly's 43 and 81 for Oshkosh West at Kimberly.

St. Mary fell victim to the Hawks, 24-33, on a 3-mile Jefferson Park course.

Eric Murphy led the Rockets to their sweep in 11:59. Bob Menning was second in 12:15, followed by Steve Emmrich 12:21, Tom Smith 12:27, and Bill Murray 12:30. Mark Selsieder was sixth in 12:31 and Jim Goodman finished eighth.

Tim Bloechl led Oshkosh North with seventh place while Kaukauna's best finish was a 10th.

Kimberly's Jeff Fritz posted a 12:26 to win the Menasha meet. Tom Reinbold of the Bluejays placed second, four seconds behind the winner. He has been hampered by a cold.

Jim Danielson was third, Bill Hills fifth, John Straw sixth, John Kissinger seventh, Rick Hills ninth and Scott Abel 10th.

Coach Russ Leitz reported that Kissinger has been named "runner of the week" among the varsity runners and Dave Jacobson for the jayvees, as the result of last week's meets.

John Hale of St. Mary won the Jefferson Park dual in 13:08. He was followed by Jeff Romenesko, Ray Losse and Steve Lueck of the Hawks.

Other St. Mary finishers were Tom Henschel fifth, Chris Fahrbach sixth, John Probst 10th, Terry Engel fifth, Ron Zoromski 13th and Tim McCrone 14th.

Neenah captured the junior varsity meet at Oshkosh with 21 points. Kaukauna had 44 and North 70.

Mike Charron of the Rockets finished first in 13:14 with Kevin Dickson second in 13:15 and Dave Klerstead third in 13:24.

Other places were Pete Danielson seventh, Scott Voiss eighth, Ross

Hollander ninth, Tom Hicks 13th, Larry Wanserski 16th and Fritz Hildebrand 17th.

Xavier's Jayvees posted a 23 to 32 decision over St. Mary. Ken Spang of the Zephyrs won the race in 16:20. George Rotzenberg placed fourth, Tim Miller eighth, John Schultz ninth and Chuck Friedrichs 10th.

Because Oshkosh West and Kimberly only had one jayvee runner, there wasn't an official race at Kimberly.

Menasha bids for its second victory of the week in a triangular with New London and Clintonville at New London Thursday.

St. Mary is scheduled to visit Peckings Thursday while Neenah is idle until Saturday when it competes in the Fort Atkinson Invitational.

NHS harriers place 3rd at Fort Atkinson

FORT ATKINSON — Neenah's cross country team garnered a third place finish in the Fort Atkinson Invitational Saturday.

St. Thomas More of Milwaukee won the meet with 48 points. Waukesha had 68, Neenah 77, Appleton East 81, Madison Memorial 150, Madison East 181, Kenosha Tremper 188, Kenosha Bradford 207, Beloit Memorial 261, Janesville Parker 281, Janesville Craig 287 and Madison LaFollette 334.

Jeff Stracka of Appleton East won the meet in 12:45. Neenah's was led by Eric Murphy with a fourth place in 13:01.

Tom Smith was eighth, Steve Emmrich 13th, Bob Menning 22nd, Bill Murray 28th, Mark Selsieder 31st, Jim Goodman 43rd and Kevin Dickson 78th.

Coach Tom Jensen was pleased that the Rockets had outscored Appleton East. "Beating East was a big one," Jensen said, adding that in a dual meet on comparative places the Rockets also would have won.

Jayvee finishes included Waukesha 38, Appleton East 64, Thomas More 73, Madison Memorial 118 and Neenah 117.

Mike Charron was ninth, Dave Klerstead 12th, Scott Voiss 26th, Pete Danielson 3rd, Russ Hollander 8th, Larry Wanserski 50th, Tom Hicks 56th and Fritz Hildebrand 75th.

Coach Russ Leitz reported that Kissinger has been named "runner of the week" among the varsity runners and Dave Jacobson for the jayvees, as the result of last week's meets.

John Hale of St. Mary won the Jefferson Park dual in 13:08. He was followed by Jeff Romenesko, Ray Losse and Steve Lueck of the Hawks.

Other St. Mary finishers were Tom Henschel fifth, Chris Fahrbach sixth, John Probst 10th, Terry Engel fifth, Ron Zoromski 13th and Tim McCrone 14th.

Neenah captured the junior varsity meet at Oshkosh with 21 points. Kaukauna had 44 and North 70.

Mike Charron of the Rockets finished first in 13:14 with Kevin Dickson second in 13:15 and Dave Klerstead third in 13:24.

Other places were Pete Danielson seventh, Scott Voiss eighth, Ross

Rockets ranked 6th

NEENAH — Neenah High School's cross country team is ranked sixth in the large school division in the first fall poll issued by the Wisconsin High School Cross Country Coaches Association.

In order from one to 10 the finishers are Racine Case, Menomonee Falls North, West Allis Hale, Milwaukee Thomas More, Mukwonago, Neenah, Appleton East, Madison West, Greendale and West Allis Central.

NM harriers compete in KHS Regional

NEENAH-MENASHA — The Neenah and Menasha High School cross country squads enter WIAA tournament activity with the Kaukauna Regional at Oakwood Hills Tuesday afternoon.

The Rockets will compete in the CCL or large school division while the Bluejays are in the CCM medium school category.

Joining Neenah, in what shapes up as a "little state meet" are Fox Valley Association champion Appleton East, Fox River Valley Conference power Manitowoc, Appleton West, Fond du Lac, Kaukauna and Oshkosh North and West.

The field in the CCM division, in addition to the Bluejays, includes Ashwaubenon, Bay Conference champion, Denmark, De Pere, East Central champ Hortonville, Howard-Suamico, Kimberly, Luxemburg-Casco, Piusi, Seymour and West De Pere.

The three low-scoring teams and first five individuals, regardless of team finish, qualify for the sectional meet Saturday. Both sectionals will be held at Wausau East.

Neenah entries are expected to be Eric Murphy, Tom Smith, Steve Emmrich, Mark Selsieder, Jim Goodman, Bob Menning and Kevin Dickson.

Racing for Menasha will be Billard, Rich Rilla, Tom Reinbold, Jim Danielson, John Straw, John Kissinger and Scott Abel.

Neenah 2nd, Bluejays 4th in Grafton meet

GRAFTON — Neenah High School finished second in division IV, or the large-school division, and Menasha was fourth in Division II in the Grafton Invitational cross country meet here Saturday.

Waukesha collected 41 points to lead the big schools. Neenah posted 43, Fond du Lac 29, Racine Horlick 26, Milwaukee Pulaski 132, Kenosha Tremper 139, Kenosha Bradford 161, Milwaukee Hamilton 182, Milwaukee Bay View 227 and Milwaukee King 303.

Eric Murphy led the Rockers with a third place finish in 13:38. Waukesha runners were first and second.

It was Murphy's first loss but he missed most of last week's practices because of illness.

Other Neenah places were Tom Smith 6th, Steve Emrich 10th, Bob Menning 11th, Bill Murray 13th, Jim Goodman 24th and Mark Selsieder 32nd.

"We didn't get any help," Rocket Coach Tom Jensen said. He noted that there was a 40-yard difference between Murray, Neenah's fifth place finisher, and Waukesha's fifth runner and had runners from other schools been able to fill in, Neenah would have won the meet.

Menomonee Falls North, ranked third in the state, won Division II with 37 points. Monona Grove had 56, Port Washington 70, Menasha 107, Sussex Hamilton 132, New Berlin West 184, Cedarburg 218, West Bend West 218, Germantown 223, Arrowhead 334 and

NHS ranked 9th in last harrier poll

NEENAH — Neenah High School finished ninth in the final state poll of the Wisconsin High School Cross Country Coaches Association.

Ranked one through 10 in the large school division were Racine Case, Milwaukee Thomas More, Menomonee Falls North, West Allis Hale, Appleton East, Madison West, Waukesha, Milwaukee, Neenah and Milwaukee Custer.

Monroe led the medium school division in which Fox Valley Christian Conference champion Roncalli was rated seventh and regional champion De Pere 10th.

Clintonville was first and Little Chouteau sixth in the small school category.

Brown Deer 251.

Tom Reinbold paced Menasha with a 12th place finish. Bill Hills was 21st, Jim Danielson 22nd, John Kissinger 23rd, John Straw 29th and Rick Hills 41st. The Jays didn't run a seventh man.

The Rocket Jayvees wound up second in Division IV with 89 points. Waukesha was first with 32 and Kenosha Bradford third with 81.

Neenah places were Mike Charbonneau 9th, Kevin Dickson 10th, David Kierstad 11th, Russ Hollander 27th, Scott Voiss 32nd, Tom Hicks 39th and Pete Danielson 41st.

Junior varsity scores in Division II

included Menomonee Falls North 4; Hamilton 54, Brown Deer 93, Port Washington 103, Arrowhead 141, West Bend West 148, New Berlin West 153, Monona Grove and Menasha 200 and Germantown 256.

Dave Jacobson's 29th place paced the Jays. Mark Keilnhauser was 34th, Mark Pelton 41st, Bill Brandtmeyer 42nd, Kevin Buss 54th, Bill Wojahn 59th and Steve Schmalz 69th.

Coach Russ Leitz reported that the "harrier of the week" honors for the first three weeks went to Reinbold, Straw and Danielson on the varsity and Mark Pelton, Schmalz and Scott Abel for the Jayvees.

Rockets finish 2nd, Bluejays 3rd in FVA cross country test

APPLETON — Only three points separated first place Appleton East from runnerup Neenah in the fourth Fox Valley Association cross country meet at Pierce Park Wednesday afternoon.

The Patriots, landing all of their top scorers in the top 10, collected 27 points to the Rockets' 30.

Menasha finished third with 93, followed by Appleton West 106, Kaukauna 138, Kimberly 151, Oshkosh North 181 and Oshkosh West 206.

The title was the third straight for the Pats, who won it alone last fall after sharing with the Rockets two years ago.

For Menasha, the third place finish was its best in FVA competition. It was fifth in 1973 and seventh the previous two seasons.

Jeff Stracka of Appleton East took individual honors in 13:28, finished ahead of Neenah's Eric Murphy by a substantial margin.

The winners managed third, sixth, eighth and ninth places while Rockets were fourth, fifth and seventh but their fifth runner finished 12th.

Tom Smith was Neenah's second runner in fourth place while Steve Emrich garnered fifth, Bob Menning seventh, Mark Selsieder 12th, Bill

Murray 20th and Jim Goodman 24th. Bill Hills led the Bluejays with a 13th place. Tom Reinbold was 14th, Dave Straw 15th, John Kissinger 21st, Rick Hills 30th and Scott Abel 47th.

Jim Danielson, who was the leading Jay scorer in the Ashwaubenon meet last weekend, came up with knee problems and didn't finish.

Appleton East also came in first in the junior varsity meet with 24 points.

Neenah had 47, Kaukauna 72, Appleton West 98, Two Rivers 182 and Menasha 181. Kimberly and Oshkosh West didn't field full teams.

John VandenBrandt of East won the meet in 14:41.

Neenah places included Mike Charbonneau 3rd, Kevin Dickson 11th, Dave Kierstad 6th, Larry Wanserski 16th, Russ Hollander 17th, Scott Voiss 19th and Pete Danielson 26th.

Menasha finishes included Mark Keilnhauser 27th, Dave Jacobson 34th, Greg Skibba 37th, Bill Brandtmeyer 40th, Mark Pelton 43rd, Bill Wojahn 48th and Kevin Buss 66th.

Both the Rockets and Bluejays will run in the Kaukauna Regional at Oconomowoc Hills Tuesday. Neenah competes in the large school division while Menasha are in the medium school.

WISAA meet Saturday, too

Thursday, October 25, 1973

NHS runners seek state honors

MILWAUKEE — The top four teams from last year's meet, including Neenah, are in the large school field in the WIAA cross country meet at Dretzka Park here Saturday morning.

They include defending champion Appleton East, Racine Case and Manitowoc, who finished one-two-three a year ago. The Rockets placed fourth while West Allis Hale, eighth, also returns.

Also in the field is Menomonee Falls North, which finished third in the medium school division in 1972.

Madison West, Milwaukee Custer, West Allis Hale and Waukesha complete the 9-team field.

In addition, Nicolet will have two individual runners and Homestead, Milwaukee South, Wausau West and Whitefish Bay one each.

Neenah's runners are Eric Murphy, Tom Smith, Bob Menning, Jim Goodman, Steve Emmrich, Mark Salsieder and Mike Edmonds.

Appleton East's Jeff Stracka, seventh a year ago, is the top returnee in the large school division. For the Rockets, Smith finished 26th and Menning 59th.

Neenah's Dave Johnson and Dave Schaller were fourth and fifth, respectively.

The Rockets are making their fourth straight trip to the state meet. The 1970 team was third and the 1971 club apparently was victorious in the large school class but didn't have enough finishers to score after three boys were disqualified for making a wrong turn.

Neenah won the medium school division championship in 1963.

Teams in the CCM (581-1,200 enrollment) are Campbellsport, the defend-

ing champion, De Pere, Dodgeville, Hudson, Kettle Moraine, Monona Grove, Monroe, Port Washington, River Falls and Wittenberg-Birnamwood. There also will be individual runners from Fort Atkinson, Kewaskum, New Richmond, Richland Center, Sauk Prairie and Wilmot.

The small school field is composed of Aniary, Clinton, Horicon Harley, Little Chute, Loyal, Reedsville, Verona and Wisconsin Heights plus individuals from Belmont, Gresham, Lomira, McFarland, Nellsville, Port Edwards, St. Croix Falls, Stanley-Boyd, Westby and Westfield.

The Wisconsin Independent Schools Athletic Association tourney also will be staged Saturday at Milwaukee Dretzka Park, but in the afternoon.

St. Mary Central competes in the Class B meet, which starts at 2:15.

Other entries are St. Lawrence, Xavier, Fox Valley Lutheran, Dominican, University School De Sales Prep, Assumption, Lourdes, St. John Military, Marshfield Columbus, Greendale Martin Luther, St. Bonaventure, Madison Queen of Apostles and Holy Name, Wayland Academy, Burlington St. Mary and Roucall.

The Zephyrs finished seventh last year, led by Paul Krautkramer's 11th place. John Hale, their leading runner this fall, was 27th.

Rocket harriers race at Shawano

NEENAH — The Neenah High School cross country team competes in its second invitational meet when it journeys to Shawano Saturday morning.

The Rockets, who finished second in

the Hodag Invitational at Rhinelander last weekend, were third in the 1972 Shawano meet.

Other entries are Antigo, Appleton East, Appleton West, Green Bay Preble, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Manitowoc, Marinette, Oshkosh North and West, Wausau East and West, Stevens Point, Rhinelander, Two Rivers, Wisconsin Rapids and Green Bay West.

The confrontation will be the first against Appleton East, defending state and conference champions.

Manitowoc was second and East third in the Brookfield Invitational last weekend.

NHS defends 'Hodag' title

NEENAH — The Neenah High School cross country team — with only two returning lettermen — defends its championship in the Hodag Invitational at Rhinelander Saturday morning.

Tom Jensen, who has been the Rockets' coach since 1968, because of the so few returnees, calls this the most significant change from one year to another since he's been coach here.

The only lettermen are Tom Smith, a senior, and junior Bob Menning. Both ran on the Neenah team which placed fourth in the state large school run last fall.

In all, there are about 19 candidates out of the squad but Jensen expects an eventual turnout of about 25. The freshmen and sophomores are working with Glen Severson at Shattuck.

The squad includes only three seniors but there are seven juniors.

Heading the promising newcomers is senior Eric Murphy, who was out for track for the first time last spring but finished fourth in the mile run. He was 10th among more than 150 runners in the state track and field federation cross country meet at Madison last Saturday.

Other leading candidates include Cliff Johnson, runnerup behind Menning in the Fox Valley Association javelin throw a year ago. Bill Murray, a junior out for

the first time, Dave Staeves, Mike Edmonds, Steve Emerich, Mark Salsieder and Bo Sussel, AFS student from Sweden.

Smith ran 1,000 miles during the summer while several of the other candidates clicked off between 400 and 500 miles. Smith was 12th in the Hodag Invitational last year.

Graduation cleared out Dave Johnson, state Class A mile champion, now at the University of Colorado, Dave Schaller, Mark Goodman, Dick Smith and Dick Ryan, all of whom ran in the state meet. Johnson finished fourth and Schaller was fifth.

The Rockets took last year's Rhinelander meet with 27 points and the "B" team was third.

Others in the field are Antigo, Schofield, Wausau East and West, Marshfield, Thomas More of Milwaukee, Winona, Winona, Winona, Rhinelander, Merrill and Sheboygan South.

The Rockets, who finished second to Appleton East in the conference meet last year, open league competition against Oshkosh West and Appleton West at Appleton next Tuesday.

Their home meets will be held on the Armstrong campus adjacent to the Fieldhouse and open stage: 18 against Menasha and St. Mary.

NHS, East favored in FVA meet

NEENAH-MENASHA — Defending champion Appleton East and Neenah are favored to battle it out for the Fox Valley Association's cross country title Wednesday afternoon at Appleton's Pierce Park.

The junior varsity meet is slated to start at 4:30 p.m. and the varsity run at 5 o'clock.

Menasha has defeated every team in the league except the Patriots and Rockets and is favored to lead the rest of the pack.

The Rockets beat East, 14-37, in their head-to-head meet but Eric Murphy and Jeff Stracka, who are expected to duel for individual honors, didn't run.

Neenah also finished ahead of the

Patriots in the Fort Atkinson Invitational last weekend.

Rocket runners in addition to Murphy are Tom Smith, Bill Murray, Bob Menning, Steve Emerich, Mark Salsieder and Jim Goodman.

Shady entries include Tom Reinhold, Bill Bills, Jim Danielson, John Straw, John Kliminger, Rick Bills and Mark Kellahnauer.

The Rockets have won four triangulars, placed second in three invitationals as well as two thirds.

Menasha, enjoying its best season in the history of the sport at the school, has come up with triumphs in three triangulars and one quadrangular, was second in two triangulars and second in one invitational and fourth in two others.

Menasha won the first FVA title in 1970, tied Appleton East in 1971 and surrendered the crown to the Patriots last fall.

Rocket harriers outscore FVA foes; Jays runnersup to A-East

NEENAH-MENASHA — The Neenah High School cross country team captured its initial Fox Valley Association triangular while Menasha finished second in its inaugural in meets at Appleton Tuesday afternoon.

The Rockets compiled 17 points compared to Appleton West's 50 and 74 by Oshkosh West in a 3-way test at Pierce Park.

Defending state and conference champion Appleton East netted 19 points to Menasha's 45 and 76 by Oshkosh North in a triangular at Telulah Park.

Neenah's Eric Murphy captured his second straight first place, finishing in 13:10. Teammate Bill Murray, a junior out for cross country for the first time, was runnerup in 14:12.

Third went to the Rockets' Tom Smith in 14:13. Jeff Hermansen of Appleton West took fourth and Neenah sophomore Jim Goodman was fifth in 14:23.

Other Neenah finishes included Mark Selsieder sixth in 14:28. Bob Menning seventh in 14:30 and Mark Edmonds eighth in 14:34. Tom Timmons and Dave Wallace, both of Appleton West, were ninth and 10th, respectively.

Jeff Stracks of Appleton East won the other Appleton meet in 12:45. The

Bluejays' Tom Reinbold was runnerup in 13:01.

Joe Neibigfeld, Pat Van Rielius and Bob Spoo, all of East, were third, fourth and fifth.

Other Menasha finishes were Bill Hills ninth, Jim Danielson 10th, John Straw 11th, John Kissinger 13th, Rick Hills 16th and Larry Bevers 19th.

Menasha defeated Appleton West, 23-33, in a jayvee meet, led by Steve Emmrich with a 14:54.

Dick Owens was second, Jeff Kohl fifth, Jack Champaigne sixth, Scott Voss eighth, Pete Danielson 11th and Fritz Hildebrand 14th.

Appleton East swept its jayvee meet with 18 points. Oshkosh North had 51 and Menasha 55.

Steve LeFever of East was the winner in 13:51. Menasha finishers included Steve Schmitz eighth, Mark Pelton ninth, Bill Brantmeier 11th, Dave Jacobson 12th, Scott Davel 14th, Kevin Dunn 19th and Bill Wojahn 20th.

Neenah, Menasha runners await Wausau Sectional

NEENAH-MENASHA — Trips to the state WIAA cross country meet at Milwaukee next week will be at stake for Neenah High School's team and Tom Reinbold of Menasha through the Wausau East Sectional Saturday.

Neenah's 7-man unit of Eric Murphy, Tom Smith, Bob Menning, Steve Emmrich, Mark Selsieder, Jim Goodman and Mike Edmonds will compete in the CCL or large school division while Reinbold runs in the medium school class.

The three lowest scoring teams and the first five individuals qualify for the state test.

The Rockets were third in the Kaukauna Regional Saturday, won by defending state champion Appleton East. Manitowoc was second.

Qualifying from the Clintonville Regional were Green Bay Preble, Rhinelander and Antigo while Superior, Stevens Point and LaCrosse Central qualified from Marshfield.

The Rockets outscored Rhinelander, Antigo and Stevens Point in invitational meets this fall. They haven't run against Preble, which was runnerup to Manitowoc in the Fox River Valley Conference meet, Superior or La Crosse Central.

Point totals at Kaukauna were East 35, Manitowoc 45 and Neenah 46. At Clintonville, Preble totaled 51,

Rhinelander 88 and Antigo 89 and at Marshfield, Superior had 42, Stevens Point 46 and La Crosse Central 48.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wausau West and Green Bay West qualified individual performers.

Reinbold qualified by placing second to De Pere's Steve Hahn in the regional.

Teams in the medium school field include De Pere, Ashwaubenon and Pulaski from the Kaukauna Regional, Wittenberg-Birnamwood, Tomahawk and Clintonville from Clintonville and Menomonie, Hudson and River Falls from Menomonie.

Single runners from New Richmond, Marinette, and Hortonville also qualified.

Neenah, Menasha cross country squads win multi-school meets

NEENAH-MENASHA — The Neenah and Menasha High School cross country teams walked off with convincing victories in three and 4-team meets here Tuesday afternoon.

The Rockets, in their final home meet, scored 22 points to 37 for defending Fox Valley Association champion Appleton East and Kimberly's 72.

Meanwhile at Jefferson Park, Coach Russ Leitz's improving Bluejays posted 21 points, to outscore Appleton West (57), Kaukauna (61), and New London (62).

The Rockets' Eric Murphy, unbeaten in five races, didn't compete because of a cold. East then held out Jeff Stracka and Joe Nabbeleid. Coach Tom Jensen thought the race would have been close if the three runners had competed.

Tom Smith won the race in 13:18, finishing one second ahead of the Patriot's Bob Spoo. Smith led all the way but Spoo came on fast at the finish.

Other Neenah finishers and their times were Bob Manning, third, 13:32; Bill Murray, fifth, 13:47; Mark Salsieder, sixth, 13:52; Steve Emrich, seventh, 13:53; and Jim Goodman, ninth, 13:59; and Kevin Dickson, 13th, 14:30.

Tom Reinbold of the Bluejays set a course record of 13:37 in the quadrangular triumph. The only mark of 14:04 was owned by Mike Moore of Appleton West.

Randy Inman of New London was second while other Menasha places included Jim Davidson third, Bill Hills fourth, John Stray sixth, John Klaesinger seventh, Rick Hills 14th and

Larry Bevers 20th.

Leitz was understandably pleased with his team's performance, noting that he expected a letdown after the Oshkosh Invitational. He pointed out that there was a 28-second spread between the Jays' first and fifth place runners. The space was 41 and 56 seconds in the previous two meets.

Kaukauna took the junior varsity meet with 37 points. New London had 50, Appleton West 57 and Menasha 58.

Shawn Barton of West was first in 13:52. Menasha finishers included Steve Schmitz ninth, Scott Abel 13th, Mark Haase 14th, Mark Kellhauser 16th, Dave Jacobson 17th and Bill Branchmeyer 20th.

Second in sectional

NHS runners qualify

NEENAH — A second place finish in the Wausau East Sectional Saturday enabled the Neenah High School cross country team to qualify for Saturday's WIAA state meet at Milwaukee.

The Patriots scored 58 points, only two less than the improving Rockets. Manitowoc had 97, La Crosse Central 108, Green Bay Preble 129, Superior 134, Antigo 144, Stevens Point 172 and Rhinelander 173.

Eric Murphy led the Rockets with a third place finish in 12:11. The winning time was 12:03.1 by East's Jeff Stracka.

Other Neenah finishers included Tom Smith sixth in 12:30, Bob Manning ninth in 12:38, Steve Emrich 16th in 12:40, Mark Salsieder 18th in 12:54, Jim Goodman 35th in 13:35 and Mike Edmonds 63rd in 14:30.

Coach Tom Jensen said all the runners did a fine job. "We've come so far since the Shawano meet, which was our worst meet of the year," the Rocket coach noted.

In that particular meet, the Rockets placed third to East and Manitowoc, both of whom finished 12 points ahead of them.

Jensen expects a tough state meet since nine of the top 10 ranked teams will be participating. The other ranked team is Thomas More of the Milwaukee Catholic Conference, rated second.

Menasha's Tom Reinbold, running in the CCM division, garnered an 11th place. The top five finishers qualified for the state run.

Reinbold's time was 13:47. First place went to De Pere's Steve Hahn in 13:04.5. Reinbold was runnerup to Hahn in the Kaukauna Regional last week. There were 87 runners in the sectional.

St. Mary's harriers were sixth in the Fox Valley Christian Conference meet Friday at Appleton with 134 points. John Hale placed sixth.

The Zephyrs closed their season with the WISAA state meet at Milwaukee next Saturday.

NHS harriers host Jays, Zephyrs

NEENAH — A historic first is scheduled Tuesday afternoon when the Neenah, Menasha and St. Mary Central High School cross country teams gather on the Armstrong Campus for a triangular meet.

Not only will it be the first meet on the new Armstrong course, but probably marks the first time the three Twin City schools have competed against each other in the same meet. It also will be the Zephyrs' first competition against the Rockets in about 25 years.

The Jayvee meet will start at 4:15 p.m. with the varsity test beginning about 20 minutes later. The starting and finish line is located just west of the Poldhouse.

The Rockets took third place in the Shawano Invitational last weekend while the Zephyrs were seventh in the small school division of the Roncalli Invitational.

The Jays have been idle since finishing second to Appleton East in a triangular at Appleton last Thursday. Leading Neenah at Shawano was senior Eric Murphy, who won his third straight race and tied the course record of 11:57 in the process.

The Neenah team finished a solid third with 83 points. Appleton East and Manitowoc tied for first with 33 and Wausau East was a distant fourth with 114.

Second place for Menasha went to Tom Smith, whose fifth place finish in 12:21 bettered by 30 seconds his 13:72 effort in the race.

Other Rocket finishers were Bill Murray 21st, Bob Manning 23rd, Jim Goodman 31st, Mark Salzieder 33rd and Mike Edmonds 45th.

"We should have done better as a team," Coach Tom Jensen said. "It hasn't been a good meet for us the last two years; we're capable of doing better."

Menasha's Jayvees tied for seventh. Top finishers included Kevin Dickson seventh, Jeff Kohl 11st and Jack Chapman 17th.

Paul Roncalli won the Class B Division at Manitowoc with 35 points. Spring had 34, Whitefish Bay Dominican 106, Menasha Columbus 102, Madison Holy Name 104, Xavier 146, Stevens Point Peck 102, St. Mary 208, St. Lawrence 209, Fox Valley Lutheran 200, Wausau Newman 200, Madison Sacred Heart 337, and Lourdes 410.

Rockets capture T-C harrier test

NEENAH — Neenah's Rockets, led by unbeaten Eric Murphy, claimed first place in the initial all-Twin Cities cross country meet Tuesday afternoon on the 2.5 mile Armstrong Campus course.

The Rockets tallied 31 points to 24 for Menasha's Bluejays and 73 for St. Mary Central.

The young Zephyrs surprised by winning the junior varsity meet with 27 points. The Rockets collected 48 and the Bluejays had 51.

Murphy, victorious in all four meets, in which he has run, led by 15 or more seconds all the way and finished in 12:58.

The Bluejays' Tom Reinbold finished second in 13:20 and Neenah's Bill Murray placed third in 13:21.

Bob Manning of Neenah placed fourth in 13:23 and the Zephyrs' John Hale was fifth in 13:40. Jim Daenlein was Menasha's second finisher in sixth place at 13:42.

Others in the first 10 were Bill Miles, Menasha; Steve Bimstich, Neenah; Mark Salzieder, Neenah; and John Kistinger, Menasha.

Tom Smith, Neenah's No. 2 runner, became ill before the race and didn't start.

All three schools were represented by young squads. Menasha only ran two seniors, Neenah one and St. Mary none.

The Rockets took the first two places in the junior varsity meet but St. Mary claimed the next four. Neenah's second place finisher was 10th and the third 16th.

Mike Chernay was first in 15 minutes

with teammate Scott Voss second.

Finishing from third to ninth for the Zephyrs were Kevin Spring, Chuck Friedrichs, Steve Rosallani and Tim Miller. Steve Schmitz was Menasha's top placer in seventh.

The meet, which for the first time in history involved the three Twin City high schools, was run in perfect weather conditions and was attended by good-sized crowd composed of backers for all three teams.

The three teams are included in the field of 11 for the Oshkosh Invitational Thursday afternoon.

Other entries are Oshkosh North and West, Wausau West, Neillsville, Kimberly, St. Cloud North and South, Appleton East and West, Manitowoc and Milwaukee West.

The results:

Junior varsity race
1. Bill Murray, W; 2. Scott Voss, W; 3. Kevin Spring, SA; 4. Chuck Friedrichs, SM; 5. Steve Rosallani, SM; 6. Tim Miller, SM; 7. Steve Schmitz, SM; 8. Dave Jacobson, W; 9. John Schultz, SM; 10. Jack Chomelone, W; 11. Mark Peltier, SM; 12. Scott Abel, W; 13. Bill Brondum, W; 14. Matt Zeffert, SM; 15. Mark Nease, W; 16. Mike Hagedorn, W; 17. Greg Seckes, SM; 18. Tim Jacobson, W; 19. Paul Donelson, W. Time - 43:00.

Varsity race

1. Eric Murphy, W; 2. Tom Reinbold, W; 3. Bill Murray, W; 4. Bob Manning, W; 5. John Hale, SM; 6. Jim Bimstich, SM; 7. Bill Miles, W; 8. Steve Bimstich, W; 9. Mark Salzieder, W; 10. John Kistinger, W; 11. Jim Goodman, W; 12. Mike Edmonds, W; 13. John Strom, W; 14. Chris Poldach, SM; 15. Rick Hille, W; 16. Jason Revers, SM; 17. Jim McCloskey, SM; 18. John Murphy, SM; 19. Tom Henrich, SM; 20. Terry Eberle, SM. W. Time - 12:58.