

2011 PANTHER CROSS COUNTRY

The 2011 cross country season saw no change in the total number of participants, with both the boys and girls fielding full teams. Twenty-eight athletes in grades 7-12 participated. The breakdown was 16 girls (an increase of 2 from 2010) and 12 boys (a decrease of 2 from 2010). There were 2 senior girls (Paxton Klein and Sydney Kraft) and 4 senior boys (Taylor DeMers, Andrew Hershey, Kyle Volk, and Erik Wangler).

The teams participated in 10 meets. The varsity girls won 2 meets and finished in the top five as a team 10 times. The girls were Region Runner-Up for the fourth time in school history, the last time being 2008, and State 3rd place for the seventh time in school history, the last time being in 2006. This is the twelfth time in school history they finished in the top five at State. The varsity boys won 6 meets and finished in the top five as a team 10 times. The boys were Region Champion for the fourth consecutive year and for the fourth time in school history, and State Champion for the second time in school history and the second time in the last three years. This is the seventh year in a row that the boys team has finished in the top 5 at State and the ninth time in school history. This is the second year in a row that both the boys and girls finished in the top 3 at state and the fifth time in school history that both teams finished in the top 5. The girls team received the Team Scholar Award given by the NDHSAA.

The girls placed 2 runners on the All-Region team (Sydney Kraft - 6th - fifth year, Lauren Christenson - 9th - second year) and 2 runners on the All-State team (Sydney Kraft - 11th - fifth year - first girl in Rugby school history to be all-state 5 times, Lauren Christenson - 14th - second year). The boys had 5 All-Region runners (Erik Wangler - 4th - fourth year, Kyle Halvorson - 7th - first year, Kyle Volk - 9th - fifth year, Andrew Hershey - 11th - second year, Tanner Bernhardt - 15th - first year) and three runners on the All-State team (Erik Wangler - 8th - fourth year, Kyle Halvorson - 9th - first year, Tanner Bernhardt - 18th - first year). Sydney Kraft was chosen as one of the East Region nominees for the State Outstanding Senior Cross Country Athlete of the Year award. Erik Wangler and Kyle Volk were chosen as East Region nominees for the State Outstanding Senior Cross Country Athlete of the Year award. Sydney Kraft was chosen as the State Class B Girls Senior Cross Country Athlete of the Year.

An elementary race was run at the 18th Annual Rugby Booster Club Invitational for the 13th straight year. 22 girls and 23 boys from Rugby participated in the elementary race of 1600 meters which was open to all the schools that attended the meet. A total of 81 girls and 73 boys ran in the races. Triston Lunde was the top Rugby elementary girl finishing in 5th place. Dawson Schepp was the top Rugby elementary boy finishing in 7th place.

Head Coach Bill Jansen
Assistant Coach Christine Schmaltz
Elementary Coach/Volunteer Kellie Meyer

AWARDS

| | <u>Girls</u> | <u>Boys</u> |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Most Valuable..... | Sydney Kraft (Senior) | Erik Wangler (Senior) Kyle Volk (Senior) |
| Most Dedicated | Sydney Kraft (Senior) Hannah Christenson (Sophomore) | Andrew Hershey (Senior) Erik Wangler (Senior) |
| Most Improved..... | Allison Foster (Freshman) Bailey Nelson (Freshman) | Kyle Halvorson (Junior) Tanner Bernhardt (Freshman) |

LETTER WINNERS

| <u>Girls</u> | <u>Boys</u> |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Paxton Klein - Senior (3 years) | Taylor DeMers - Senior (4 years) |
| Sydney Kraft - Senior (5 years) | Andrew Hershey - Senior (4 years) |
| Natalie Bahr - Junior (1 year) | Kyle Volk - Senior (6 years) |
| Aubrey Hovland - Junior (4 years) | Erik Wangler - Senior (5 years) |
| Tashal Trottier - Junior (1 year) | Kyle Halvorson - Junior (4 years) |
| Hannah Christenson - Sophomore (3 years) | Tanner Bernhardt - Freshman (3 years) |
| Shanaya Fred - Sophomore (2 years) | Nolan Hovland - Freshman (1 year) |
| Cassandra Jaeger - Sophomore (2 years) | Noah Kraft - Freshman (1 year) |
| Canya Fly - Freshman (1 year) | Tyler Schmaltz - 8th Grade (1 year) |
| Allison Foster - Freshman (2 years) | John Mueller - 7th Grade (1 year) |
| McKenzie Johnson - Freshman (2 years) | |
| Camille Klein - Freshman (2 years) | |
| Bailey Nelson - Freshman (1 year) | |
| Alexis Thompson - Freshman (2 years) | |
| Lauren Christenson - 8th Grade (2 years) | |

Non-Lettering Participants

Xylan Fly - Sophomore
Breanna Thompson - 7th Grade
Preston Tryba - 7th Grade